

C H A P T E R [V]

SITE AND LOCATION OF RURAL SETTLEMENTS

Any settlement when establish at a particular point, the occupance of the land is directly related to the physical environment of the area, its natural resources, the social conditions and selection of actual location of the site of the rural settlements (A.P.Kumbhar - 1984). Number of writers have recently emphasized the point that, the purely locational relationship of rural settlements is affected by the factor of distance as the locational decisions are generally taken in order to minimise the movements.

All locations are the points with higher degree of accessibility. But some of them are more accessible than other. Garner (1967)& Petar Haggett (1965) have pointed out that the traditional requirements of any settlement are land, water, buildings, fuel and accessibility. All these factors exert their influence on the locations of the settlements and develop a theoretically regular distribution of settlements.

Chisholm (1962) has also described the relationship between man and his physical environment. It is always essential to study the rural settlements systems developed in relation to resource localization. Rural settlement systems may be seen as adjustment to a mixture of physical, biological and cultural inputs so that a change in one or

more inputs may be expected to lead to a readjustment within the system (Barker, 1969).

SITE OF RURAL SETTLEMENT IN THE STUDY REGION :

The term 'Site' should not be confused with 'situation'. The former refers to the actual ground on which a place is built, and it is, therefore, concerned with local relief features and perhaps also with rivers and springs, with soil and rock, with coastal features, even with micro-climate and weather. The latter has to do with wider positional aspects, e.g. location with respect to communications, agricultural, industrial and political areas, social and cultural regions and so on.

Initially, the immediate environment is of commanding importance but as settlements grows its situation and the use of its inhabitants make and it becomes predominant.

Here, an attempt has been made to study the sites of rural settlements with the help of one inch topographical maps. The study region is covered by mountain ranges, so physiography of the region plays an important role in determining the site and location of rural settlements. Rivers have always attracted man since the ancient times. Most of the settlements are established along the river sites. River sites settlements can be of following types.

- [1] River Bank site
- [2] Confluence site
- [3] Convex Bank site
- [4] Stream site

- [5] Dam site
 [6] Bridge site etc...

Besides these, there are other favourable sites for the location of rural settlements :

- [1] Tank site
 [2] Well site
 [3] Canal site
 [4] Spring site etc.

With the help of topographical map of the study region, which is covered into ¹⁰toposheets, the sites of the rural settlements have observed but some toposheets are not available due to restricted areas of dams. From these toposheets various sites have been observed, most of the rural settlements have located near water bodies such as river, streams, tanks, spring and canal etc. Some of the rural settlements are located on the hill slope, foot hill, valley bottoms, mountain gaps, hill tops etc. The table No.V-I gives the distribution of sites of the rural settlements.

T A B L E NO. [V-I]

SATARA DISTRICT

DISTRIBUTION OF SITES OF THE RURAL SETTLEMENTS

Sr.No.	Site	No.of settlements	% to settlements
1]	River site	449	29
2]	Stream site	402	26
3]	Tank site	46	03
4]	Spring site	77	05
5]	Canal site	186	12
6]	Hill site	387	25
	Total ..	1547	100

SITES OF RURAL SETTLEMENTS

1] RIVER SITE

From ancient time most of the rural settlements have established along the river site. In the study region nearly 29 percent of the rural settlements are located on the river bank, the toposheet No. 47 $\frac{K}{2}$, 47 $\frac{K}{3}$, 47 $\frac{K}{5}$, 47 $\frac{K}{6}$, 47 $\frac{K}{7}$, 47 $\frac{K}{10}$, 47 $\frac{K}{11}$, 47 $\frac{K}{13}$, 47 $\frac{J}{8}$, and 47 $\frac{L}{5}$ are the important toposheet which give several illustration of the river bank settlements. Fig. 5.1 and Fig. No. 5.2, which have been prepared from toposheet, indicates the site of Karad, Umbraj and other small settlements. Besides this, Shirwal, Phaltan, Wai, Bhuij, Nagthane, Kashil, Chinchner, Lasurne, Shirgaon, Kameri are the important examples of the river banks settlements.

2] CONFLUENCE SITE :

There are several rural settlements which are located on the confluence of the rivers. In every toposheets of the study region gives an example of confluence site Karad and Sangam Mahuli and Kshetra Mahuli. There are also other confluence sites in the study region for example Manglapur (on the confluence of Krishna and Vasana river), Kashil (Umbraj and Krishna) and Umbraj (Tarali and Krishna).

3] STREAM SITE

There are several rural settlements which are developed along the streams. In the study region, nearly 26 percent of the rural settlements are stream site settlements. The Fig. No. 5.4 gives the example of stream

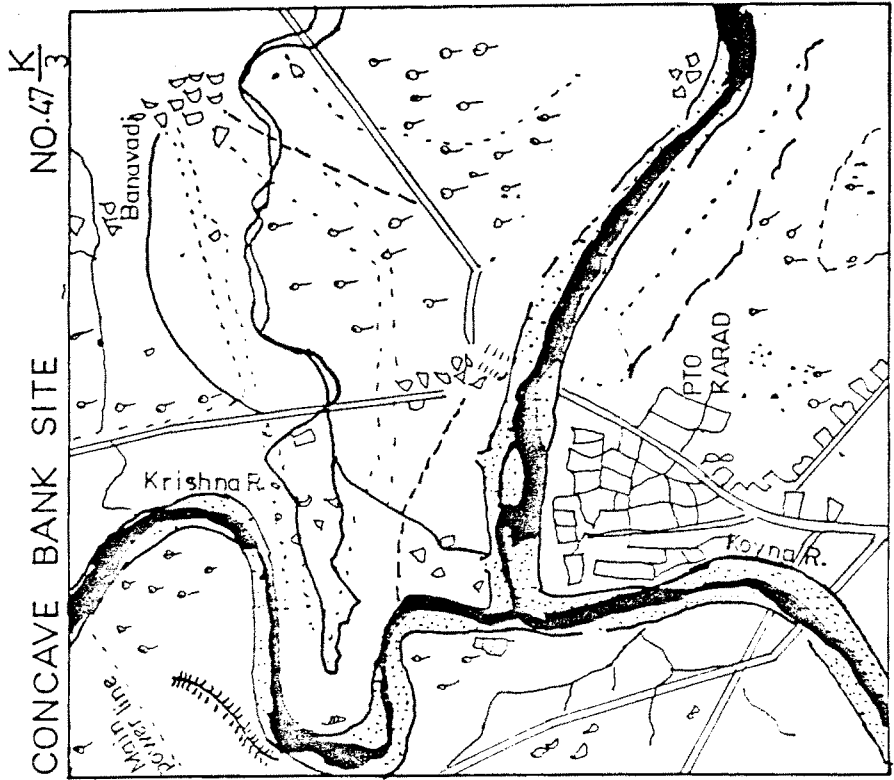


Fig-5.2

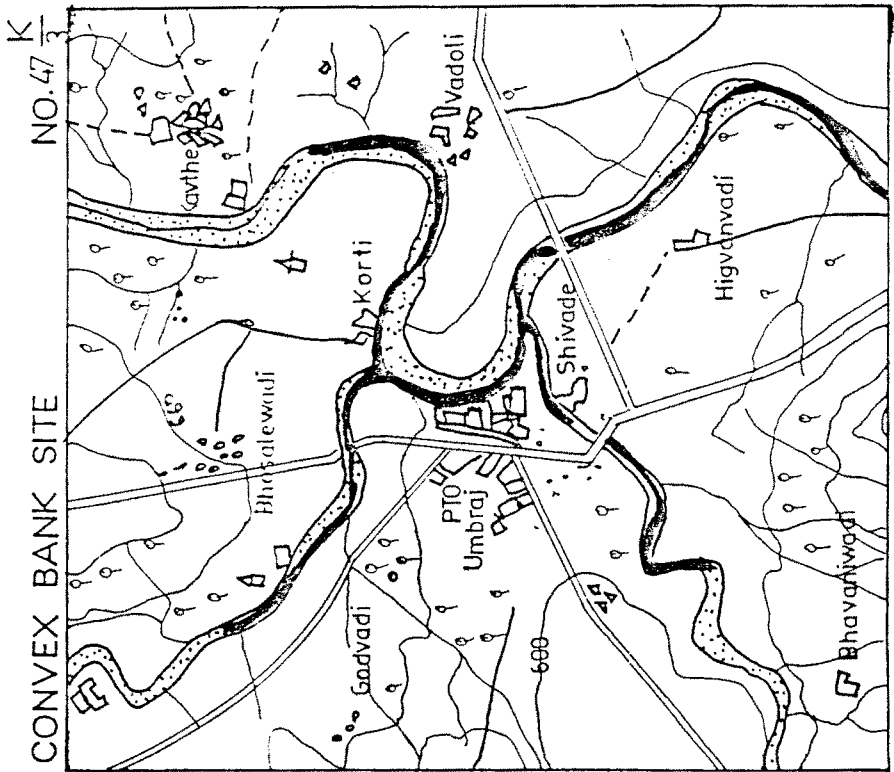
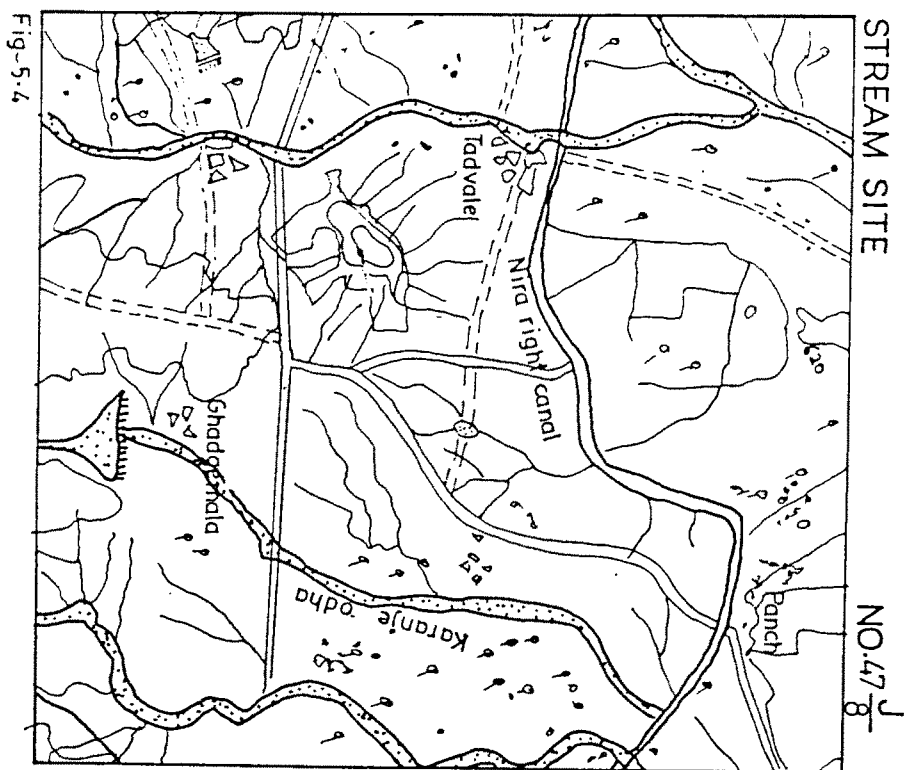
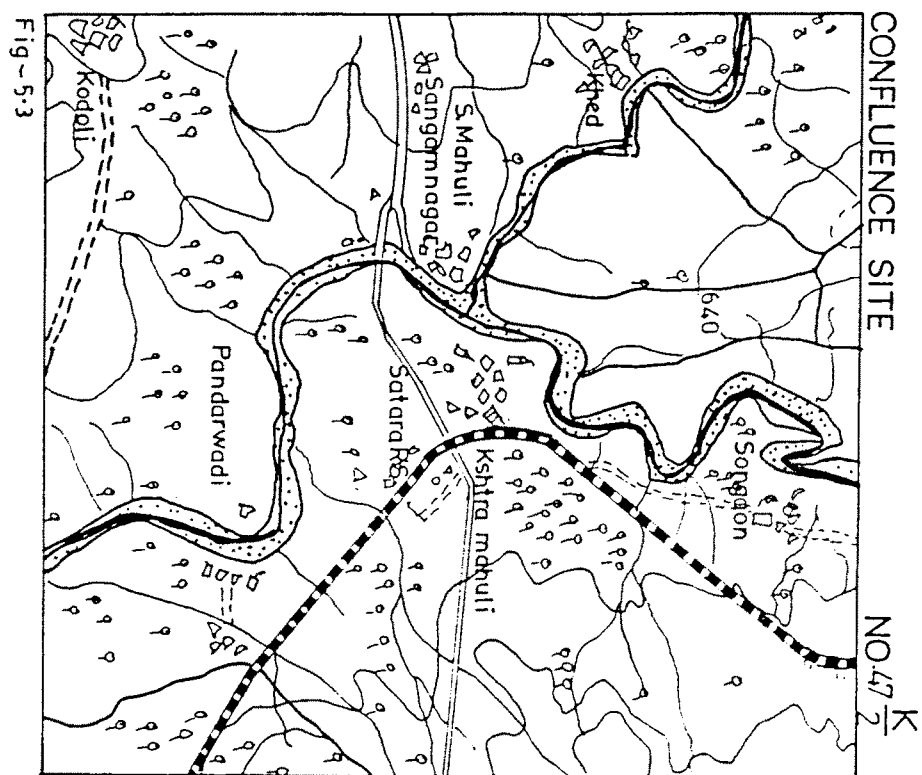


Fig-5.1



settlements. In the western part of the study region most of the rural settlements along the stream site, for example Tadvale, Sawrat, Bhilar, Singdola, etc.

4] TANK SITE

Tank or dam site settlements are found in the study region. Now a days number of dams have been constructed on various rivers. After construction of the dams several settlements remain into the catchment area of the dam. Naturally these settlements are shifted to protected sites of hill slopes, such settlements are found in the river basins of Krishna (Dhom dam), Koyna (Koyna dam), Kanher (Kanher dam) Yerala (Yeralwadi Dharan). Fig. No.5.5 and 5.6 gives the example of dam and tank site rural settlements.

5] SPRING SITE

In the western part of the study region which is covered by Sahyadri hill ranges, dense forest so the small rural settlements are located at the point of spring. It is observed that nearly 5 percent of the total rural settlements are located near spring. For example - Malvadi, Korale, Vadgaon etc. The Fig. No.5.7 gives the example of the spring site.

6] HILL SITE

In the western and northern part of the study region, which is occupied by Sahyadri hill ranges, so the land under agriculture is very limited, therefore most are the rural settlements are located on hill slope. Wai, Mahabaleshwar,

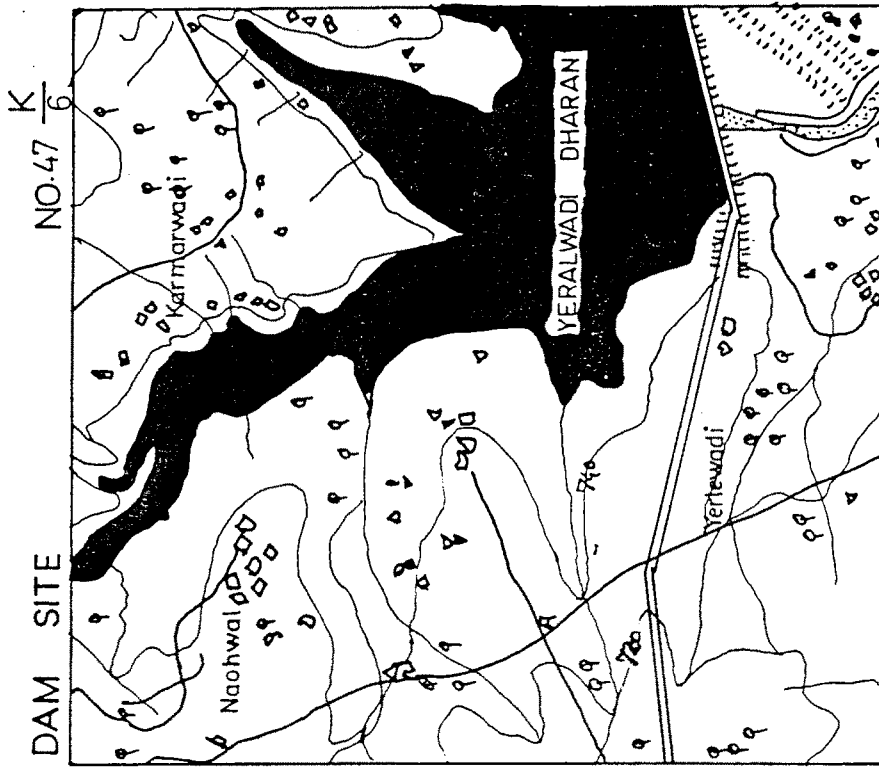


Fig-5.6



Fig-5.5

SPRING SITE

NO.47 $\frac{K}{3}$

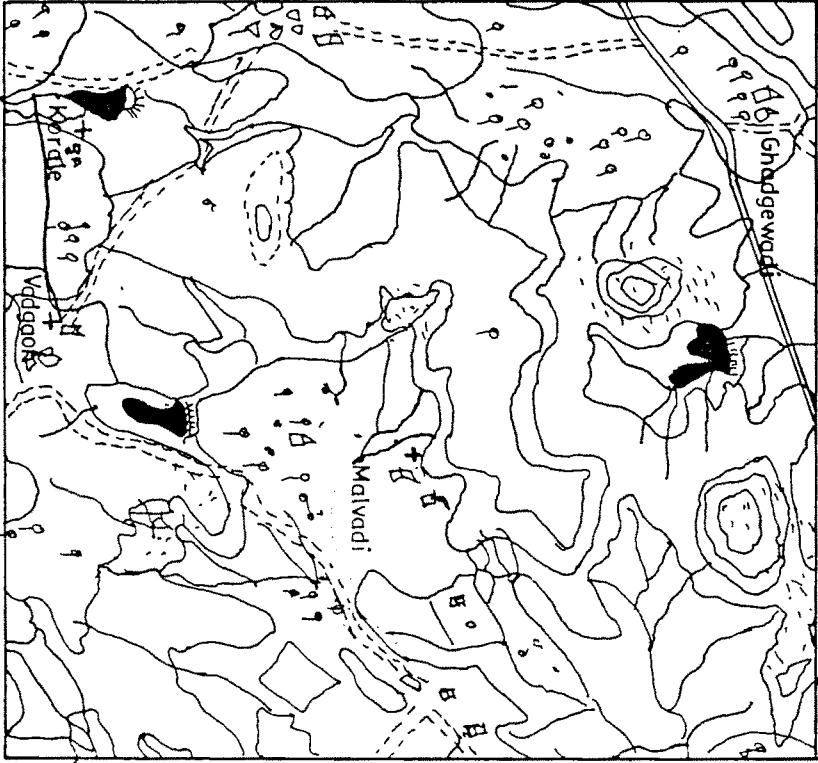


Fig-5.7

HILL SLOPE & FOOT HILL SITE

NO.47 $\frac{K}{5}$

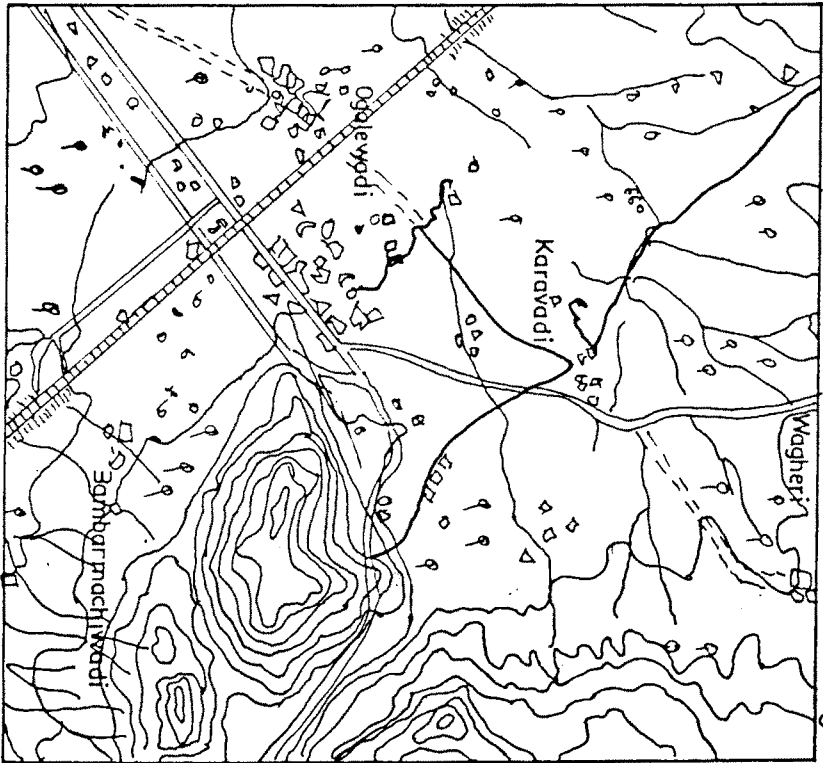


Fig-5.8

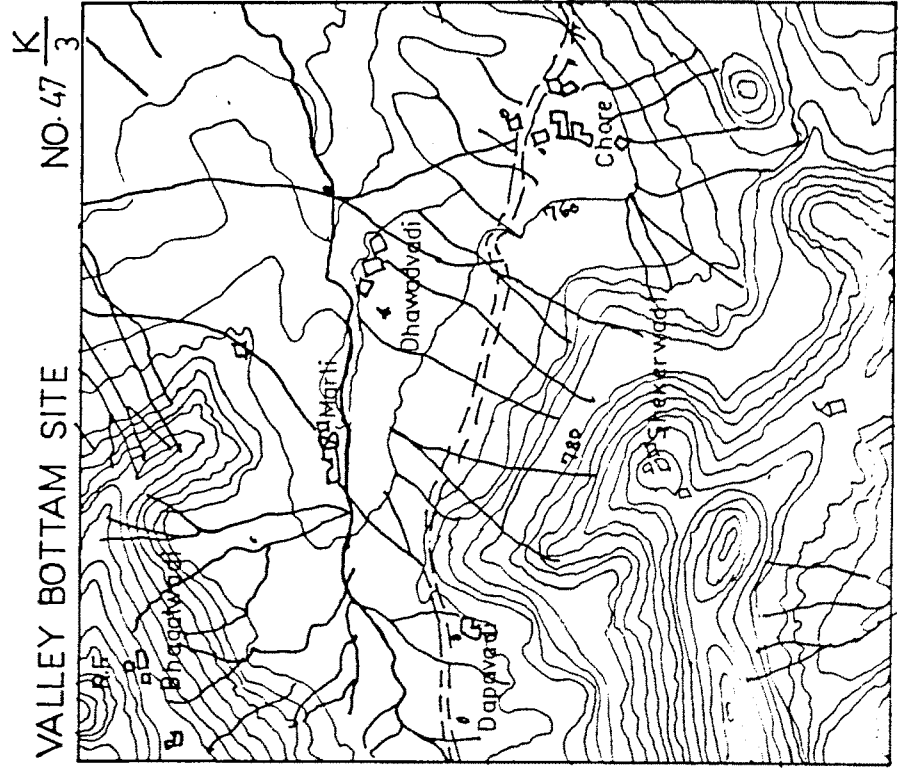


Fig-5-10

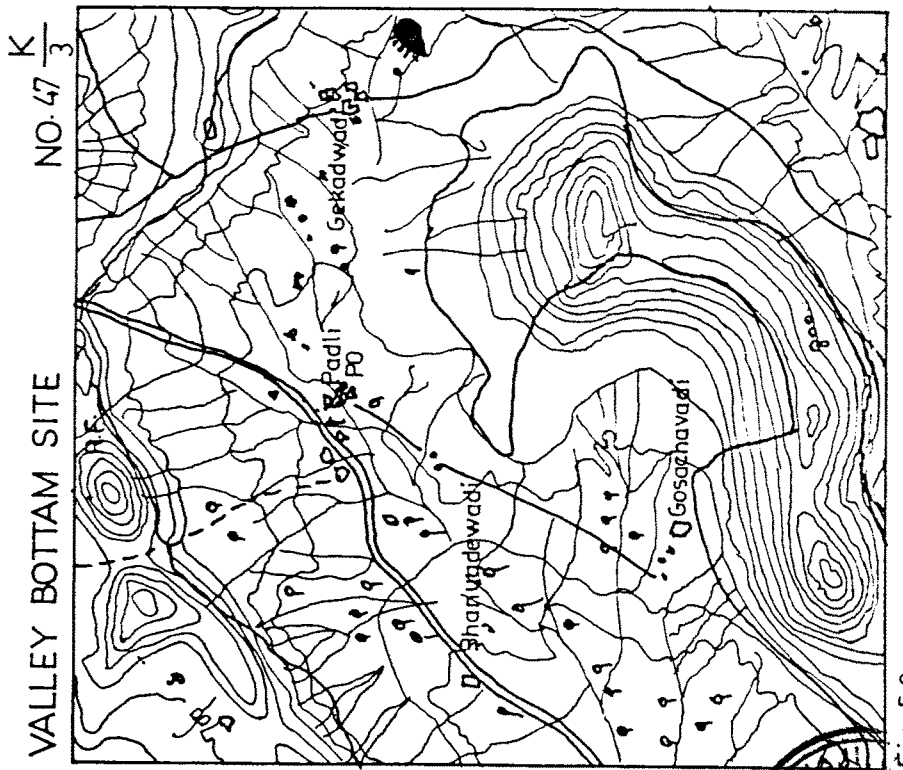


Fig-5-9



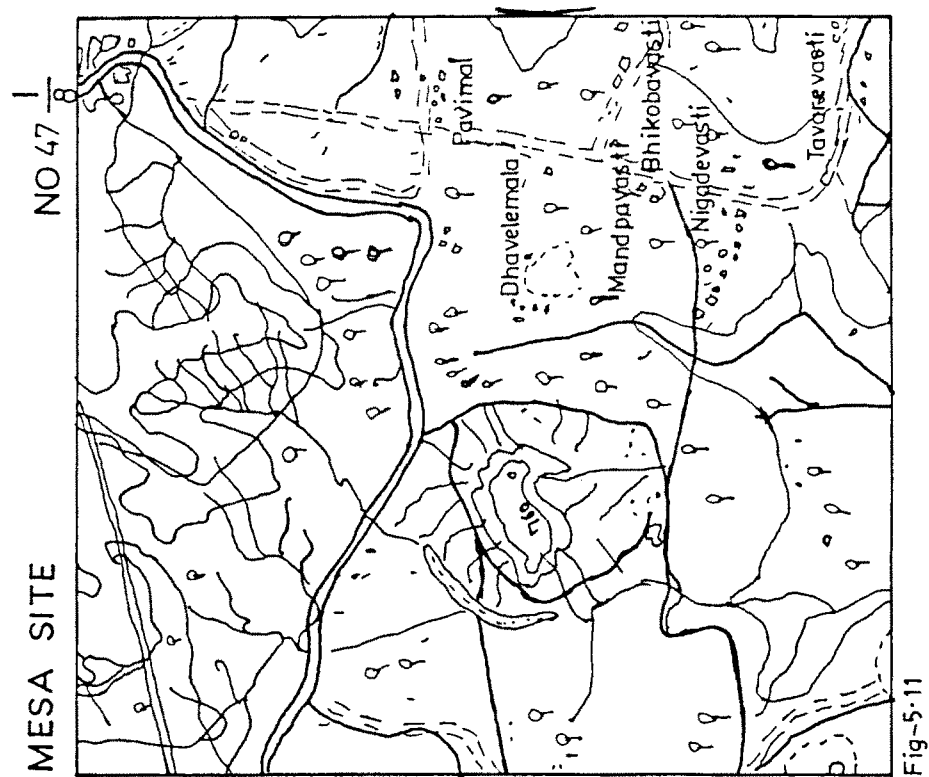
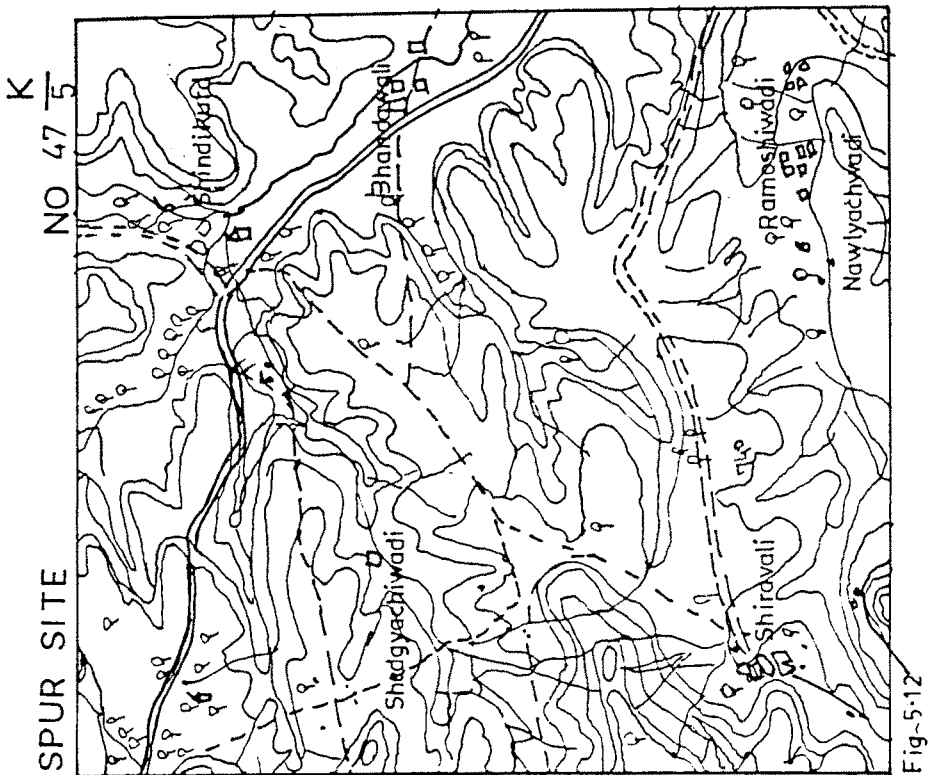
Jawali, Satara, Patan talukas have several such type of rural settlements. The Fig. No. 5.8 gives examples of hill slopes and foot hill site of rural settlements.

There are more number of rural settlements which are observed in the river valleys such settlements are known as valley bottom rural settlements. The Fig.No.5.9 and 5.10 gives best example of such type of rural settlements.

In the western part of the study region, where most of the rural settlements are located at the foot hill, on the spur and on the top of the small hills. Such settlements are called spur site and Mesa site rural settlements. For example, Pratapgad, Mahabaleshwar, Yewateshwar, Pachgani etc. Fig. 5.11 and Fig. No.5.12 give the examples of such Mesa, Spur type of rural settlements.

7] CANAL SITE

Canal is a cultural feature, which affects on the human activity as well as on the site of rural settlements. Construction of several canals in the study region, several settlements have developed along the canal site. The Nira left bank canal and its distributaries have developed number of rural settlements in the Phaltan taluka. Along the left and right bank canal of Dhom dam, Khodashi dam and Kanher dam gives rise to several canal site rural settlements. The toposheet No. 47 $\frac{1}{8}$, 47 $\frac{K}{2}$, & 47 $\frac{K}{3}$ shows such type of rural settlements. The Fig.No.5.13 gives the example of canal site settlements.



8] ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL SITE OF
RURAL SETTLEMENTS

Like canal, several cultural sites having economic importance, offer favourable site for the rural settlements. The nodal point, cross road site, rail-road site, industrial site are the important sites, which are observed in the study region. Shirwal, Lonand, Pusegaon, Dahiwadi, Khatav, Aundh are the important nodal point settlements. These settlements are called as cross road site rural settlements.

The introduction of canals in the study region which gives rise to agro-based industries. There are several sugar factories which are develop in the various basins of rivers, for example, Satara, Ajinkyatara, Sahyadri, Krishna, Marali, Sakharwadi and Shriram sugar factories. The Fig.5.14 gives the example of economical and cultural site of rural settlements.

It is found that, in the study region, most of the rural settlements are located near the water bodies. These settlements are called wet point rural settlements. In the western part of the study region more number of rural settlements are located in hilly areas on the spur and foot hill site away from the water bodies such settlements are called dry point rural settlements. The rural settlements of Phaltan, Wai, Satara and Karad have affected by development of agricultural land scape which have changed their sites.

ECONOMIC & CULTURAL SITE NO.47 $\frac{K}{8}$

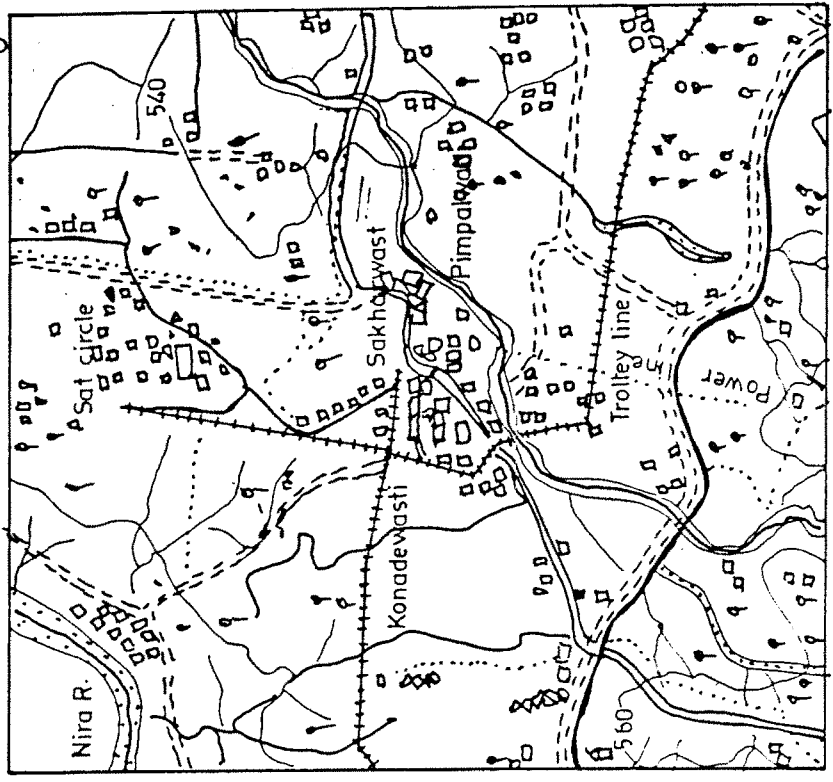


Fig-514

CANAL SITE NO.47 $\frac{K}{8}$

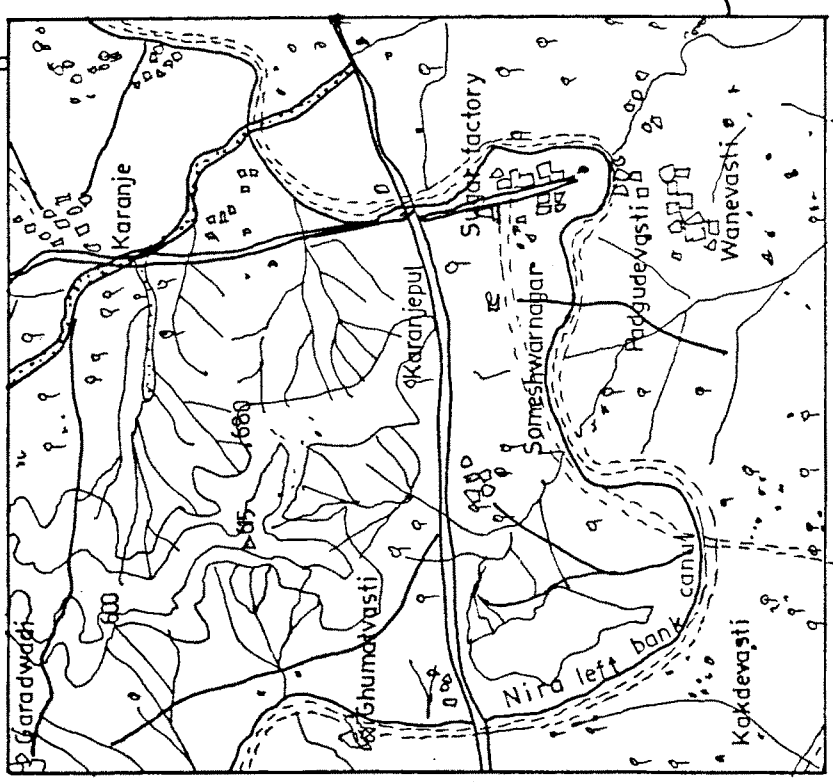


Fig-513

R E F E R E N C E S

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