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Sommario/riassunto	As part of a cooperation project between the German Archaeological Institute, the University of Vienna and the Syrian Antiquities Directorate, archaeological investigations were carried out between 1998 and 2010 under the direction of the editor in the area of the pre-Roman-Hellenistic settlement of Palmyra. On the one hand, a continuous settlement from the 3rd century BC was first established for Palmyra. Proven until the 3rd century AD, on the other hand a monumental building was uncovered, which can be referred to as the residence of a caravan master. The unusually rich furnishings of the architecture of this building as well as the numerous so-called small finds highlight the almost global trade relations of Palmyra and the resulting material and cultural wealth of the city. The results of these investigations are presented here in a final, complete publication.