

# **“Tall Hisban”**

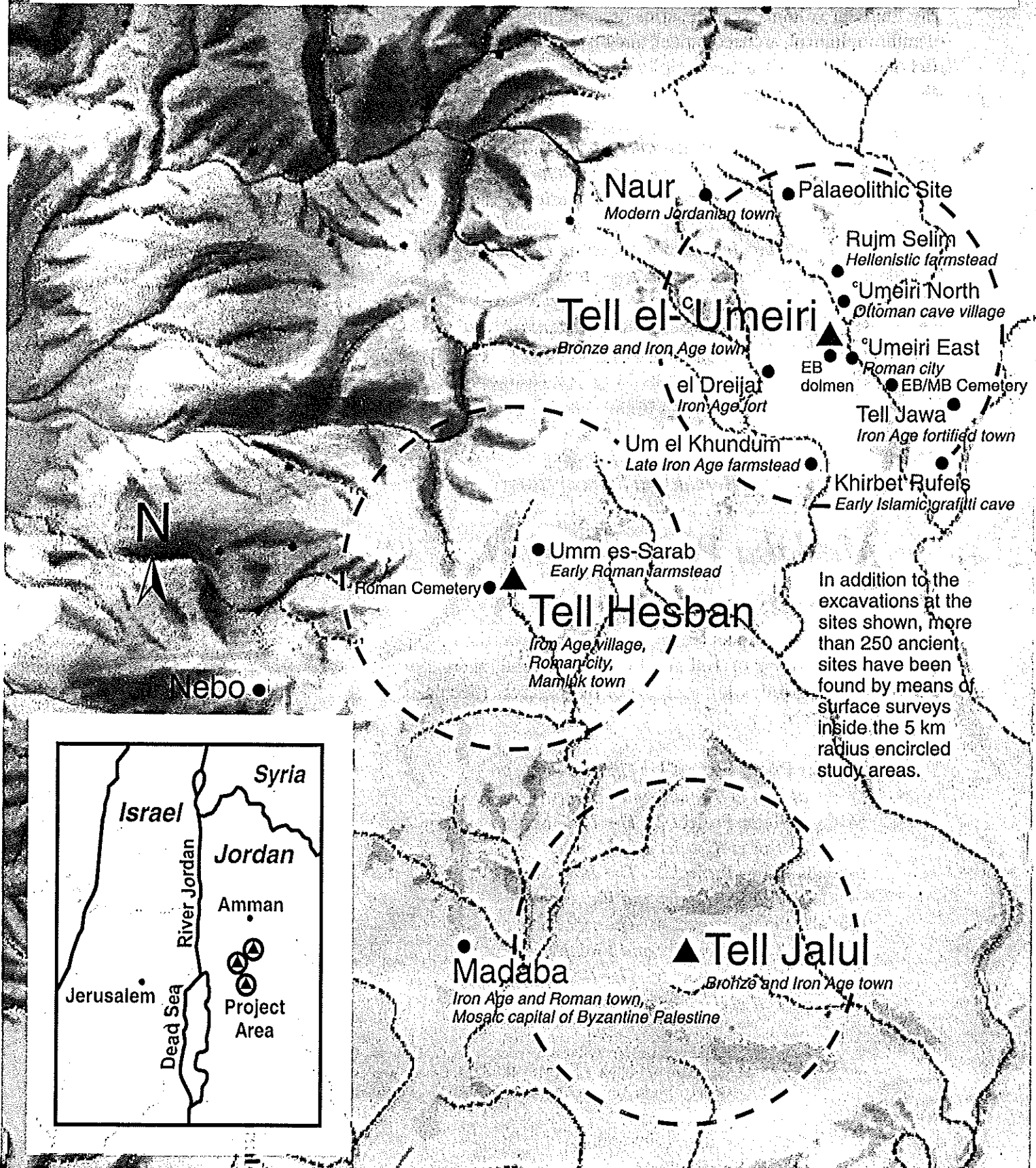
## **Guide for Guides**

**Prepared by Oystein S. LaBianca,  
Director of Hisban Excavation  
and Lawrence T. Geraty,  
Director, Hesbon 1974-76**

**With technical assistance from Erik LaBianca, Dana Langlois, Michael  
Russell, Sharon Prest, Tony Zappia**

# Madaba Plains Project, Jordan

Areas surveyed and sites excavated (begun 1968)



# Contributors

## Hesban Final Publications

The fourteen volume Hesban series presents the final results of anthropological, archaeological, and historical research carried out at Tell Hesban and vicinity between 1968 and 1978. (See enclosed form to order.)

- Hesban 1: *Sedentarization and Nomadization.*  
Hesban 2: *Environmental Foundations*  
Hesban 3: *Historical Foundations*  
Hesban 4: *Ethnoarchaeological Foundations*  
Hesban 5: *Archaeological Survey of the Hesban Region*  
Hesban 6: *Iron Age Strata*  
Hesban 7: *Hellenistic and Roman Strata*  
Hesban 8: *Byzantine and Early Islamic Strata*  
Hesban 9: *Ayyubid-Mamluk Strata*  
Hesban 10: *The Necropolis of Tell Hesban*  
Hesban 11: *Ceramic Finds*  
Hesban 12: *Small Finds*  
Hesban 13: *Faunal Remains*  
Hesban 14: *Hesban and Biblical History*

## Madaba Plains Project Seasonal Reports

The Madaba Plains Project seasonal reports presents the findings of investigations of Tell el-'Umeiri, Tell Jalul, and surrounding regions following each major field season. (See enclosed form to order.)

- Madaba Plains Project 1: *The 1984 Season at Tell el-'Umeiri and Vicinity*  
Madaba Plains Project 2: *The 1987 Season at Tell el-'Umeiri and Vicinity*  
Madaba Plains Project 3: *The 1989 Season at Tell el-'Umeiri and Vicinity*  
Madaba Plains Project 4: *The 1992 Season at Tell el-'Umeiri and Vicinity*  
Madaba Plains Project 5: *The 1994 Season at Tell el-'Umeiri and Vicinity*

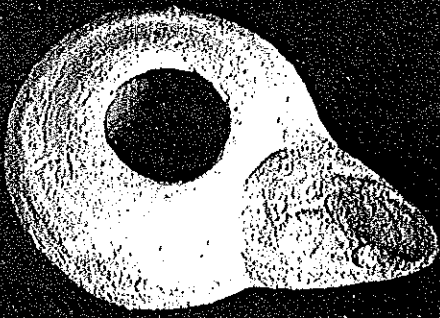
- Raouf Sad Abujaber, Ph.D.  
*Amman, Jordan*  
George Armelagos, Ph.D.  
*University of Massachusetts*  
Ghazi Bishch, Ph.D.  
*Department of Antiquities of Jordan*  
Joachim Boessneck, Ph.D.  
*University of Munich*  
Robert G. Boling, Ph.D.  
*McCormick Theological Seminary*  
Gary L. Christopherson, Ph.D. cand.  
*University of Arizona*  
Douglas R. Clark, Ph.D.  
*Walla Walla College*  
Jon A. Cole, Ph.D.  
*Walla Walla College*  
Frank Moore Cross, Ph.D.  
*Harvard University*  
Bogslaw Dabrowski, Ph.D. cand.  
*University of Warsaw*  
Michelle Daviau, Ph.D.  
*Wilfrid Laurier University*  
Bert DeVries, Ph.D.  
*Calvin College*  
Henk J. Franken, Ph.D.  
*University of Leiden*  
Lawrence T. Geraty, Ph.D.  
*La Sierra University*  
Timothy P. Harrison, Ph.D. cand.  
*University of Chicago*  
Larry G. Herr, Ph.D.  
*Canadian Union College*  
Siegfried S. Horn, Ph.D.  
*Andrews University*  
Robert D. Ibach, Jr., Ph.D.  
*Dallas Theological Seminary*  
Øystein S. LaBianca, Ph.D.  
*Andrews University*  
John I. Lawler, Ph.D.  
*Baptist Bible Seminary*  
Johannes Lepiksaar, Ph.D.  
*Gothenburg Museum of Natural History*  
Gloria A. London, Ph.D.  
*University of Washington*  
David Merling, Ph.D. cand.  
*Andrews University*  
Elisabeth E. Platt, Ph.D.  
*Dubuque Theological Seminary*  
James A. Sauer, Ph.D.  
*Harvard University Semitic Museum*  
Douglas W. Schurrenburger, Ph.D.  
*University of Maryland*  
Bjornar Storfjell, Ph.D.  
*Andrews University*  
Bastian Van Elderen, Ph.D.  
*Vrije Universiteit*  
Angela von den Driesch, Ph.D.  
*Maximilian University*  
Randall W. Younker, Ph.D. cand.  
*Andrews University*

Andrews University Press, Berrien Springs, Michigan, 49104-1700  
Phone: (616) 471-3392, Fax: (616) 471-6224, E-mail: aupress@andrews.edu  
Gopher: North America/USA/Michigan/Andrews University/AU Press

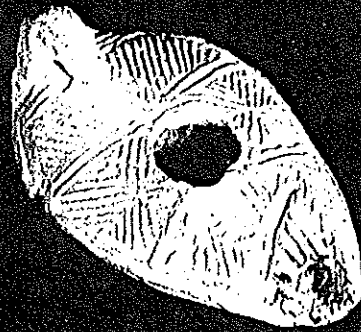


# Role of Pottery

- Pottery a feature of human life since Neolithic times
- Pottery is ubiquitous, regardless of culture or class
- Pottery can be a useful indicator of chronology based on its form, ware and decoration
- When a pot is broken, it produces potsherds which are discarded and for the most part, useless except to archaeologists
- Pottery can be indicative of the food system in use, lifestyle, trade, and standard of living
- Whole forms are found usually in cemeteries while tall sites produce mostly potsherds
- Some potsherds were used in pottery production (as grit), as scrapers, or for ostraca



**Hellenistic**



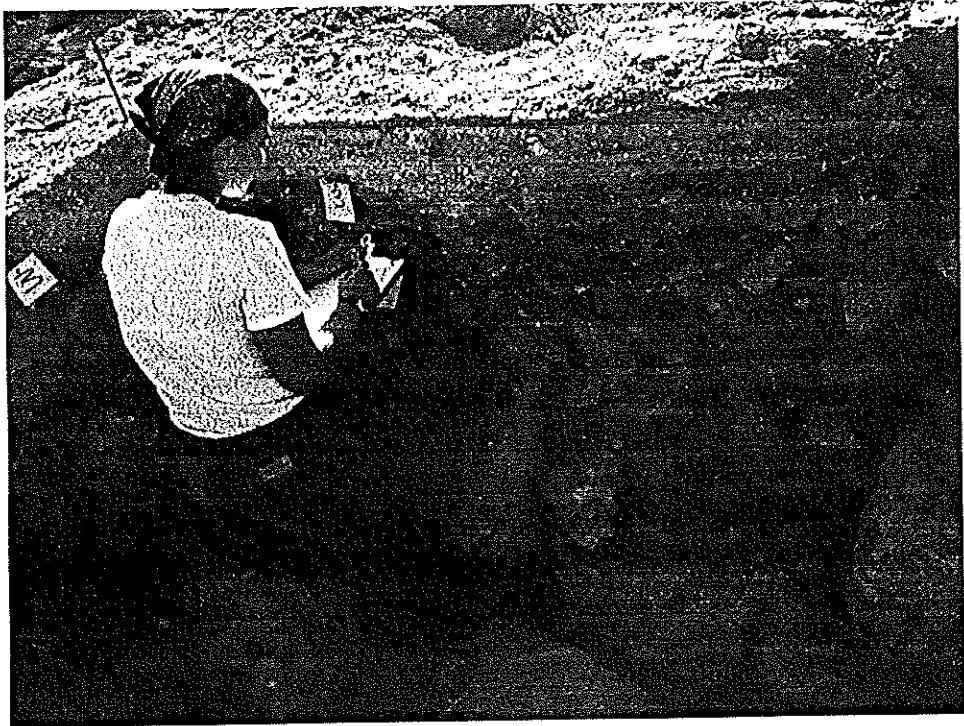
**Early Islamic**



**Mamluk**

# Concept of Stratigraphy

- Just as the earth is composed of multiple layers of rock, so a tall site is composed of successive layers of human settlement and occupation debris
- Human occupation and use of a site produced remains that were often covered by subsequent occupation and use of the same site
- Archaeologists work by starting to dig from the top of this sequence of layers, separating out each layer from the layer below - therefore archaeologists work from the most recent (modern) occupation of a site back to the earliest in time, usually founded on geological bedrock
- This method of excavation is called stratigraphic because it is based on separation of the strata or layers
- Archaeologists date the contents of each stratum or layer by its latest finds (in terms of time)





## Prehistoric Hisban

- The most likely location of prehistoric activity at Tall Hisban is in and around its caves
- Evidence of flintknapping, or manufacture of stone tools, has been found in the Hardy People Cave. Three hammer tools and several cores have been found, along with debitage (or scraps) from flintknapping
- Also, numerous fragments such as Paleolithic (Old Stone Age) scrapers, hand axes, and Neolithic (New Stone Age) arrowheads have been found at the site.
- A total of 57 prehistoric sites have been located in the region within 5 km radius of Tall Hisban. From these sites, over 1729 stone tool fragments have been identified

**Madaba Plain Project**  
**Hesban Survey: Preliminary report**  
**By:**  
**Ghattas Jeries Sayej; BZU**

This report includes the preliminary analysis and classification of the lithic artifacts that have been collected from the survey. The final analysis however, will be done, hopefully, before the end of this year.

The following table presents the analyzed artifacts of the survey as well as the number of sites, which have been visited and recorded.

| No. of sites | No. of tools | No. of debitage | Total no. of artifacts |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| 57           | 1729         | 2327            | 4053                   |

In addition to these 57 sites where lithic were found, the survey team was not able to visit 8 other sites because of the rejection of the landowners, while the rest of the sites that have been surveyed (19 sites) do not have lithic (all together are 84 sites).

The following table shows the prehistoric sites as well as the possible economy in Hesban region, based on lithic analysis.

| Site no. | No of artifacts | Economy                                   | Possible dating               |
|----------|-----------------|---|-------------------------------|
| HS003    | 114             | Farming + slaughtering.                   | Neolithic.                    |
| HS005    | 100             | Slaughtering                              | Epi-Palcolithic / Neolithic.  |
| HS010    | 124             | Slaughtering + farming + quarry.          | Neolithic.                    |
| HS018    | 138             | Farming + hunting.                        | Neolithic.                    |
| HS021    | 187             | Farming + hunting.                        | Neolithic / Early Bronze.     |
| HS028    | 090             | Farming.                                  | Neolithic.                    |
| HS045    | 164             | Farming + hunting + slaughtering.         | Early Bronze.                 |
| HS061    | 129             | Farming.                                  | Neolithic + an obsidian tool. |
| HS070    | 383             | Slaughtering + farming + quarry.          | Epi-Palcolithic / Neolithic.  |
| HS071    | 189             | Slaughtering + farming + quarry           | Epi-Palcolithic / Neolithic.  |
| HS104    | 390             | Hunting + farming + quarry + slaughtering | Epi-Palcolithic / E Bronze.   |
| HS226    | 264             | Hunting + farming + slaughtering          | Epi-Palcolithic / Neolithic.  |
| HS229    | 195             | Farming + slaughtering                    | Epi-Palcolithic / Neolithic.  |
| HS235    | 194             | Farming + slaughtering                    | Epi-Palcolithic / Neolithic.  |
| HS245    | 239             | Farming + slaughtering + hunting.         | Neolithic.                    |

Site's economy was determined based on the probable function of the tools, while the possible dating of these sites has been selected based on the typological features of these tools.

This is in short the result of the preliminary analysis and classification of the lithic artifacts of Hesban survey.

## **Bronze Age Hisban**

- Excavators have to date only found a few potsherds dating to the Bronze Age at Tall Hisban
- Early Bronze Age tombs are found in numerous locations within 1 km of the site
- Inside the Hardy People Cave, two shafts can be seen which may originally have been used as tombs during Early Bronze

**Hardy People**

**cave entrance photo.1**



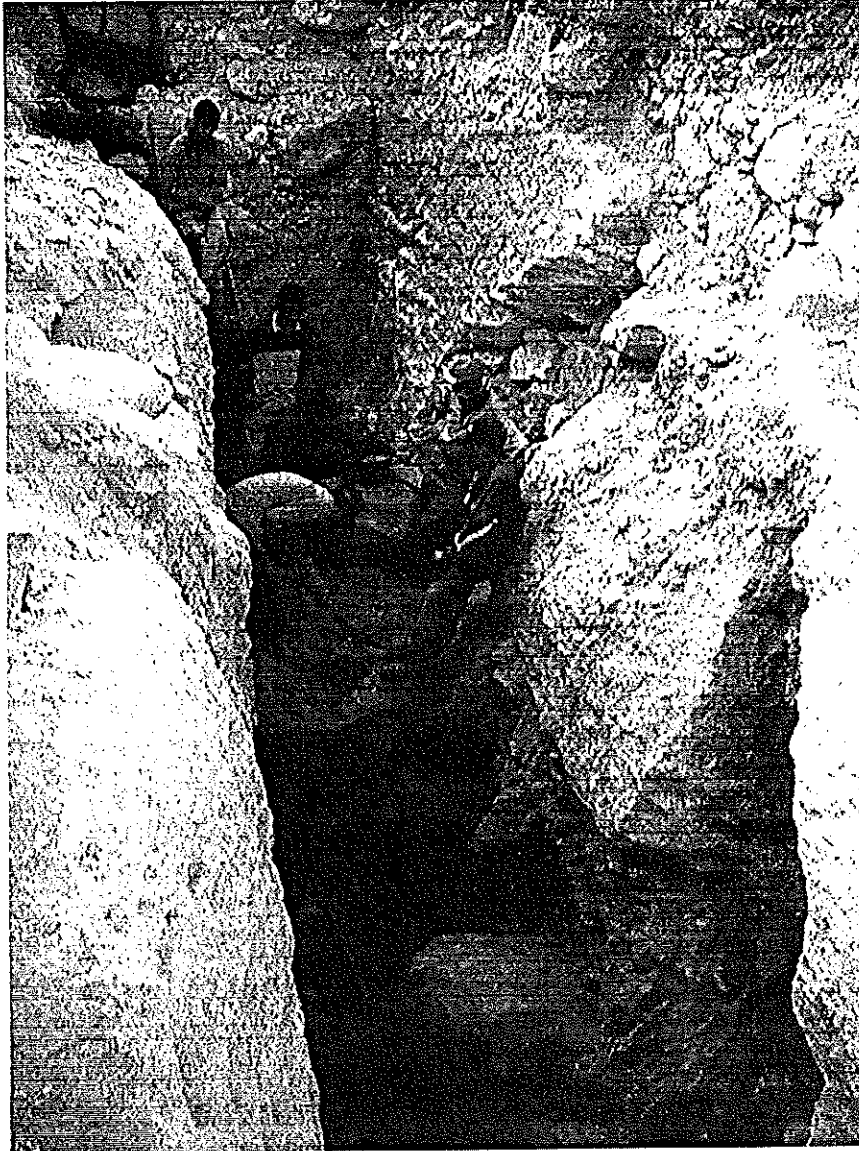
**Here is the entrance to the cave of the Hardy People.**

## **Early Iron I Dry Moat**

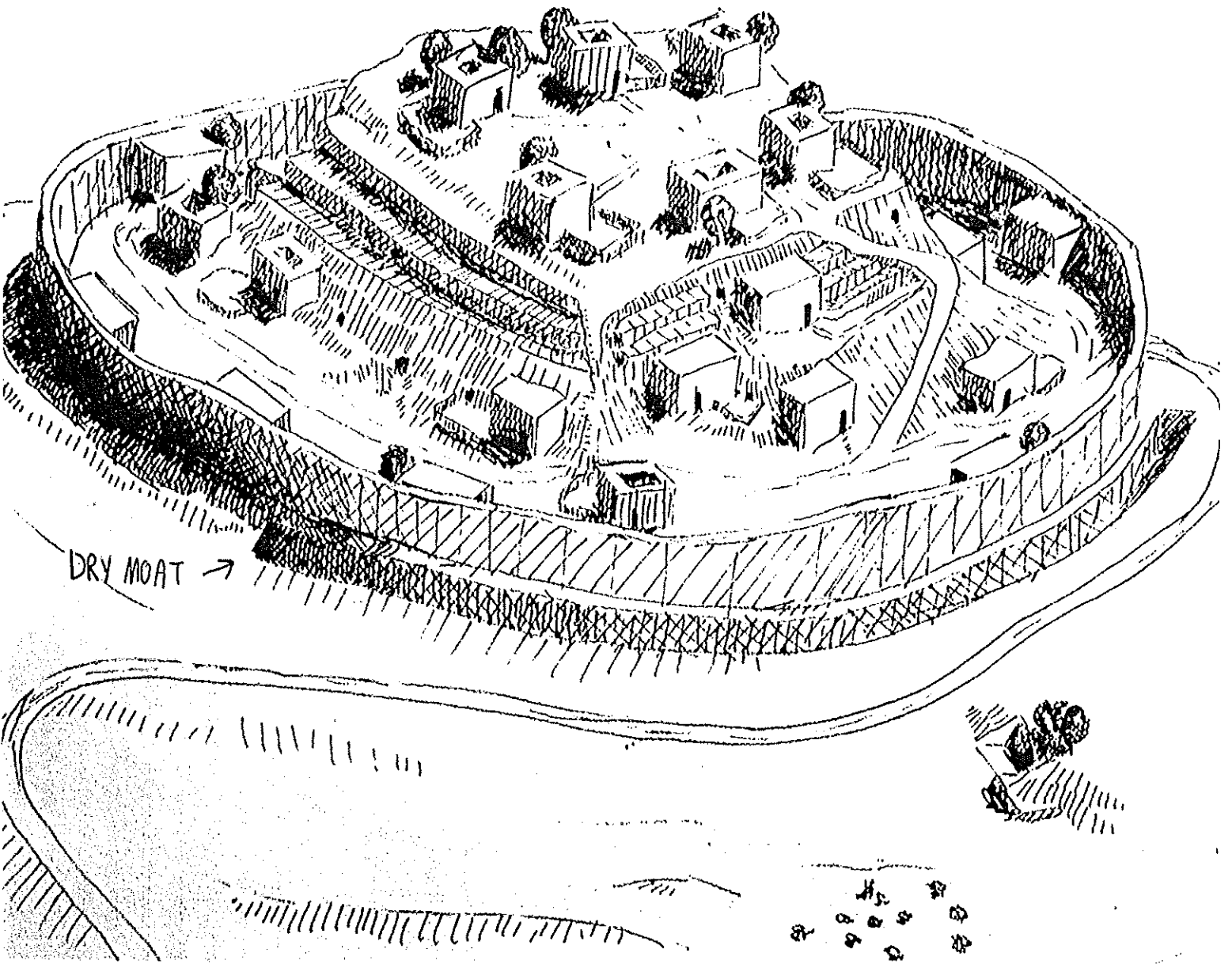
- Dated ca. 1250-1200 B.C.
- Designed to protect the weakest point on the wall
- A similar moat can be seen at Tall el-Umayri
- The moat was combined with a retaining wall and rampart on its upper side; the combination provided an effective defense system
- The dry moat was cut off by the construction of the later Iron Age reservoir whose builders blocked the moat with huge stones

**Dry Moat**

**moat photo.2**

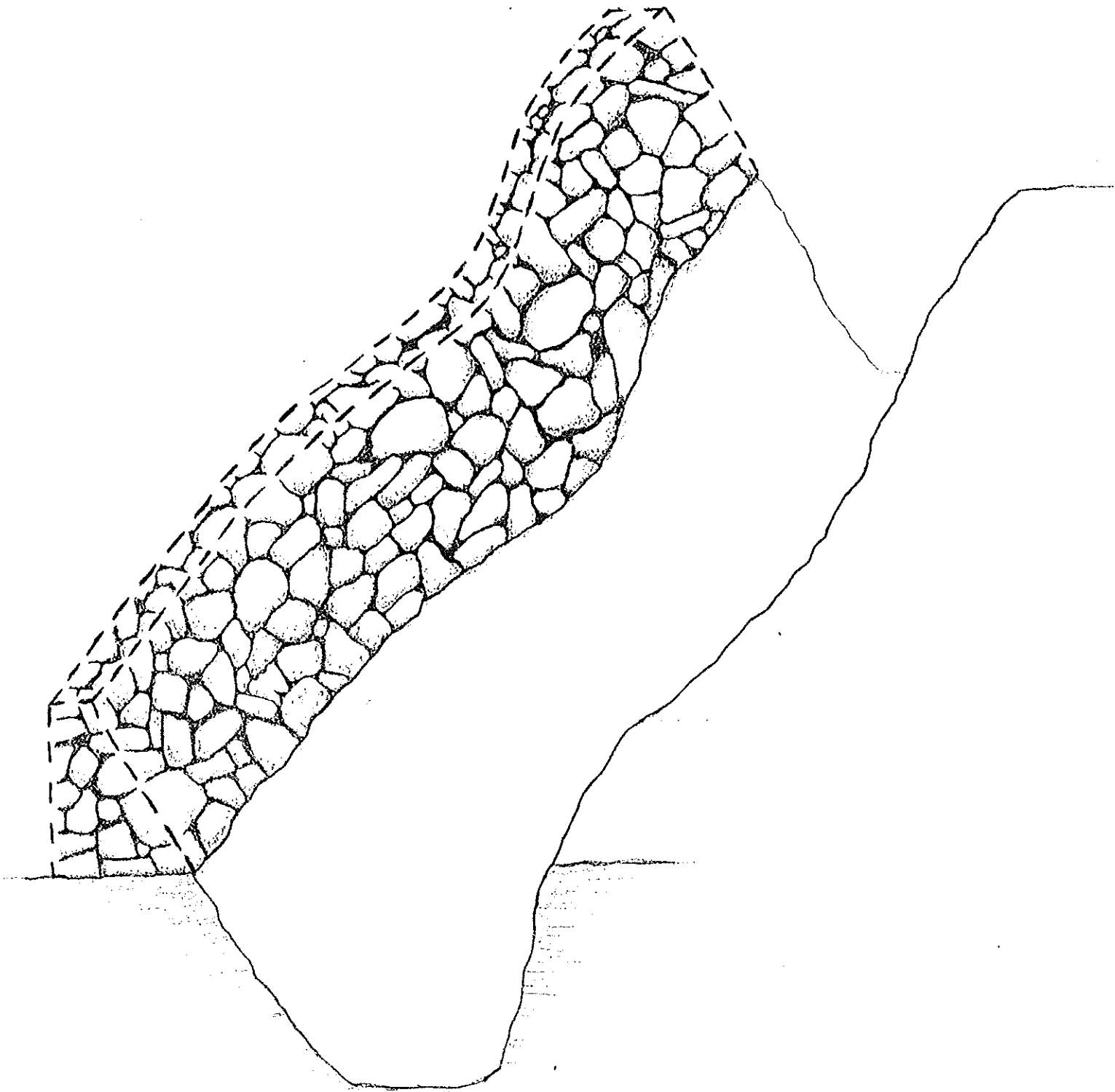


**The dry moat was designed to protect the residents of the palace.**



DRY MOAT →

IRON I HISBAN



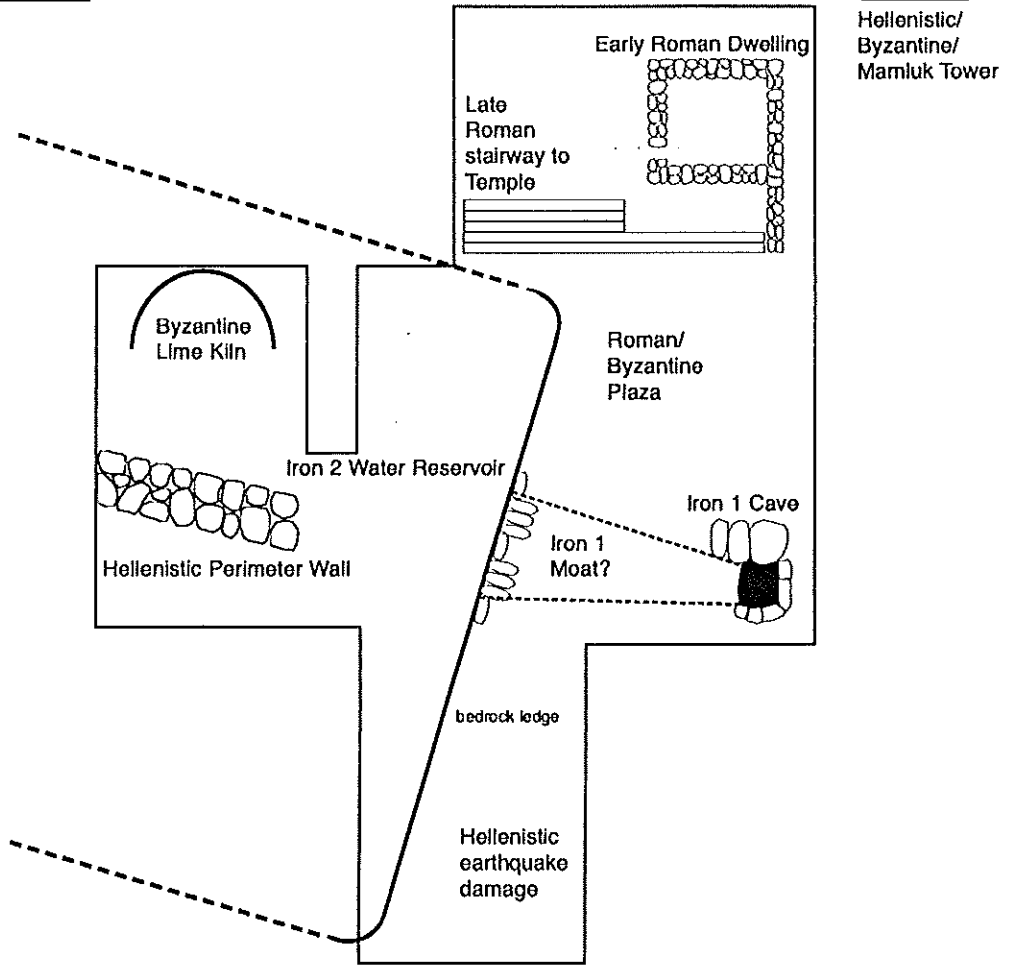
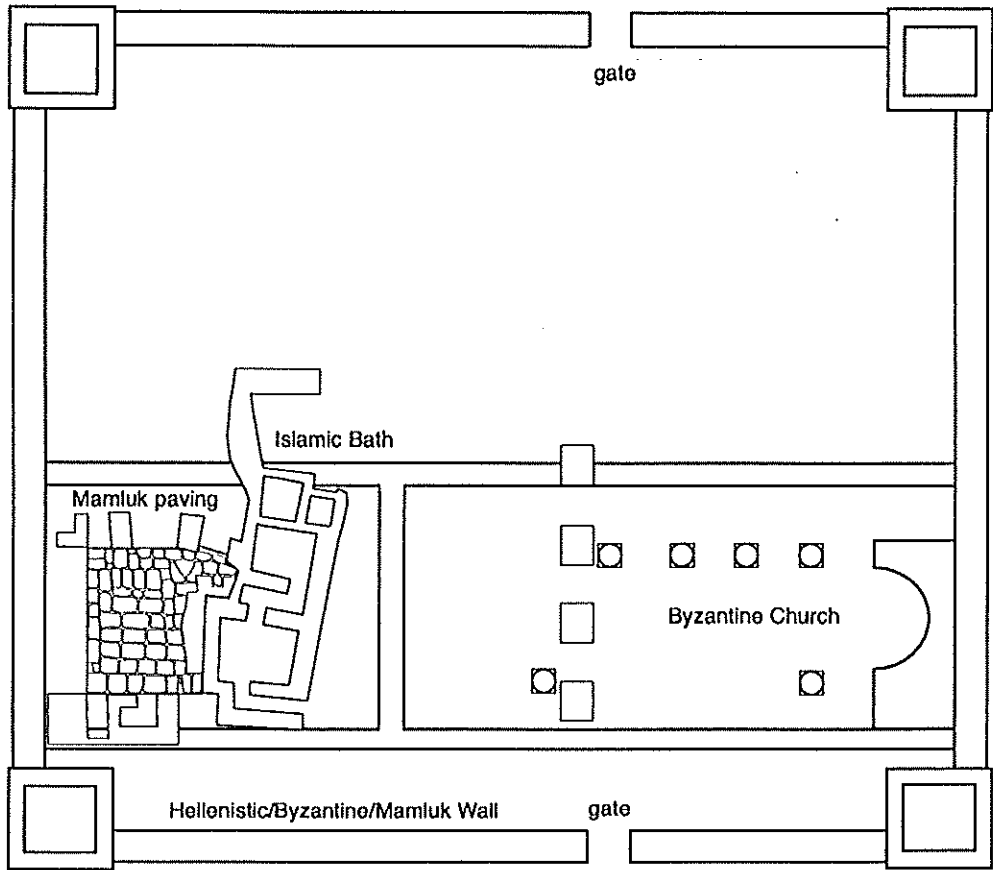
IRON I Dry MOUNT

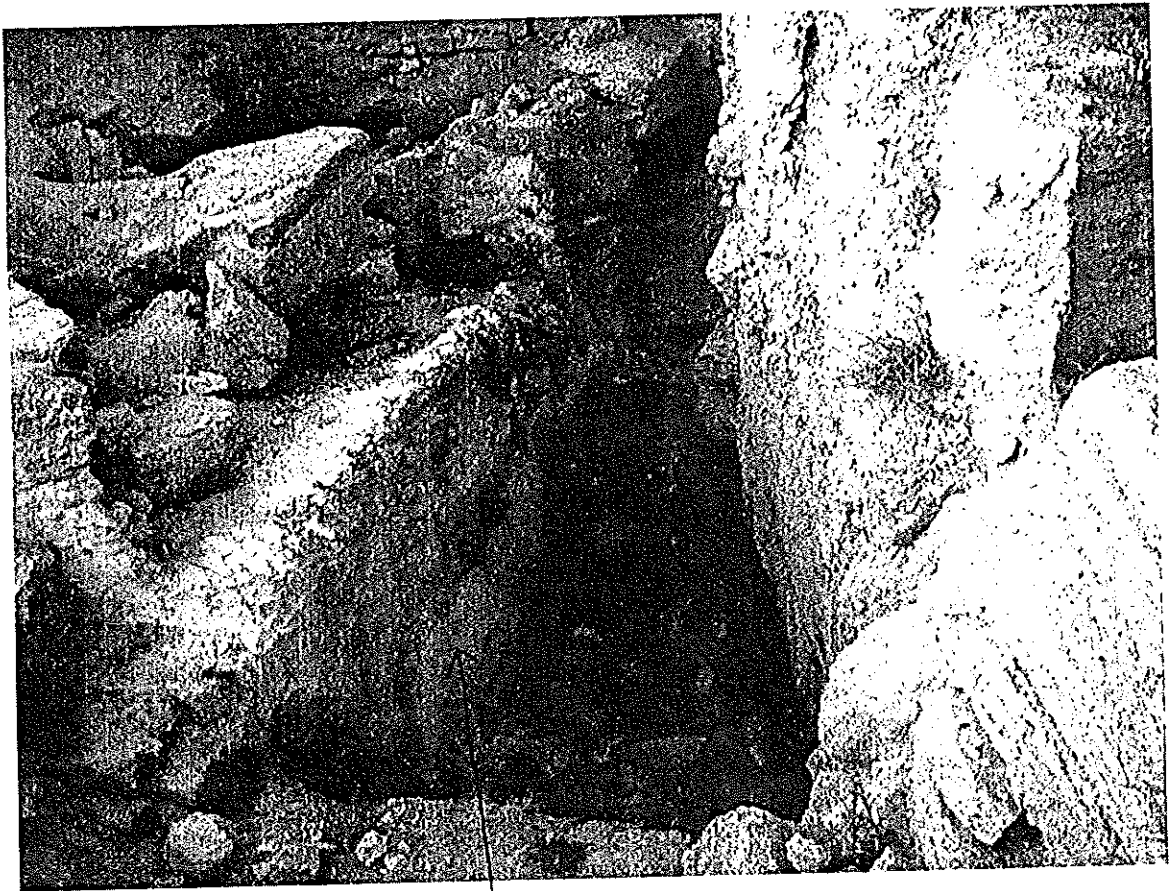
Tony Zilber  
98



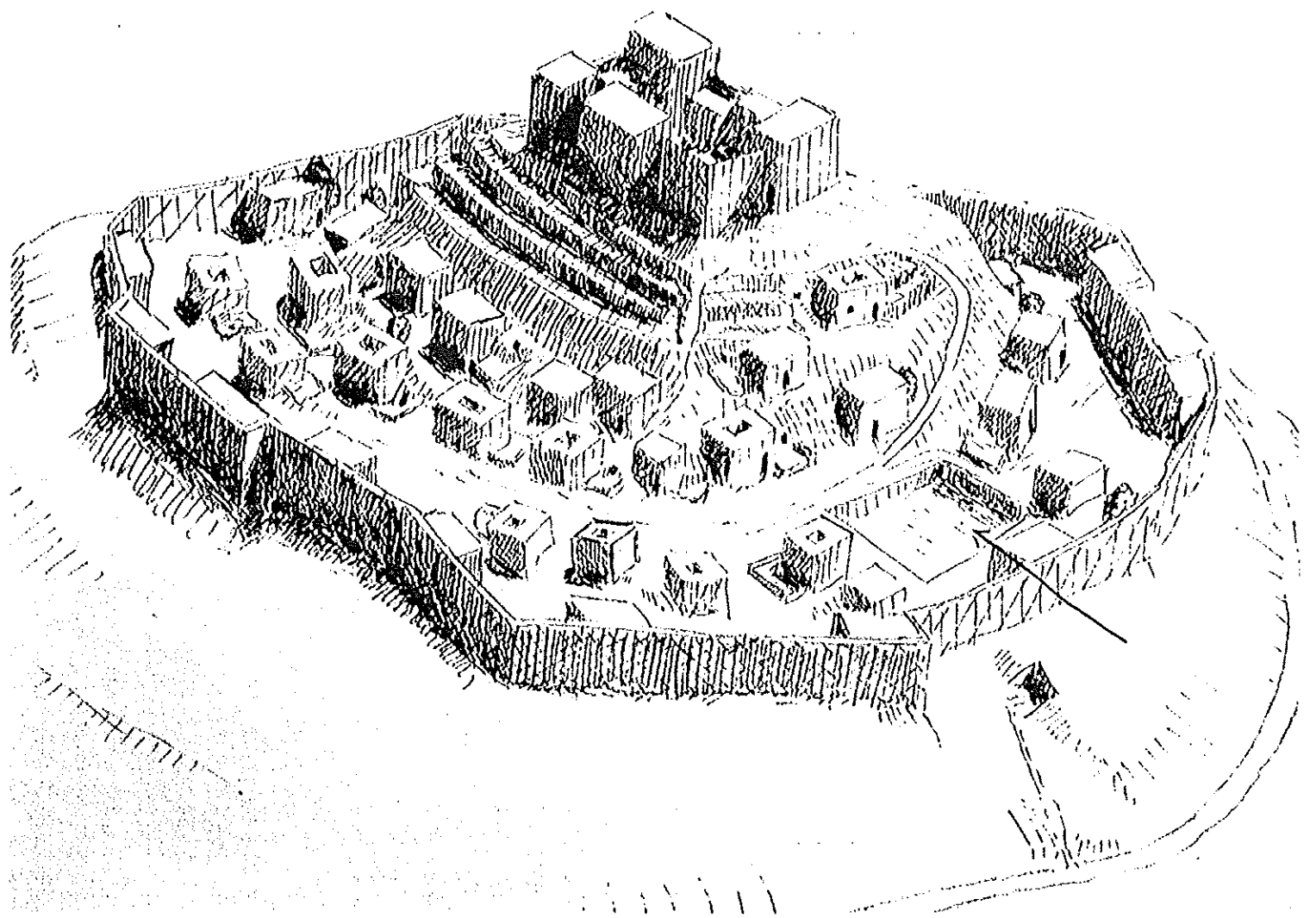
## Iron II Reservoir

- Dated possibly as early as the tenth century B.C.
- Its dimensions were 17.5 m on a side and 7 m deep
- Capacity was 2,200,00 L
- Mesha, King of Moab mentions the importance of such installations in this region during the Iron Age
- This installation may be referenced in the Bible (Song of Songs 7:4) “Your eyes are like the pools at Heshbon.”





RESERVOIR WALL



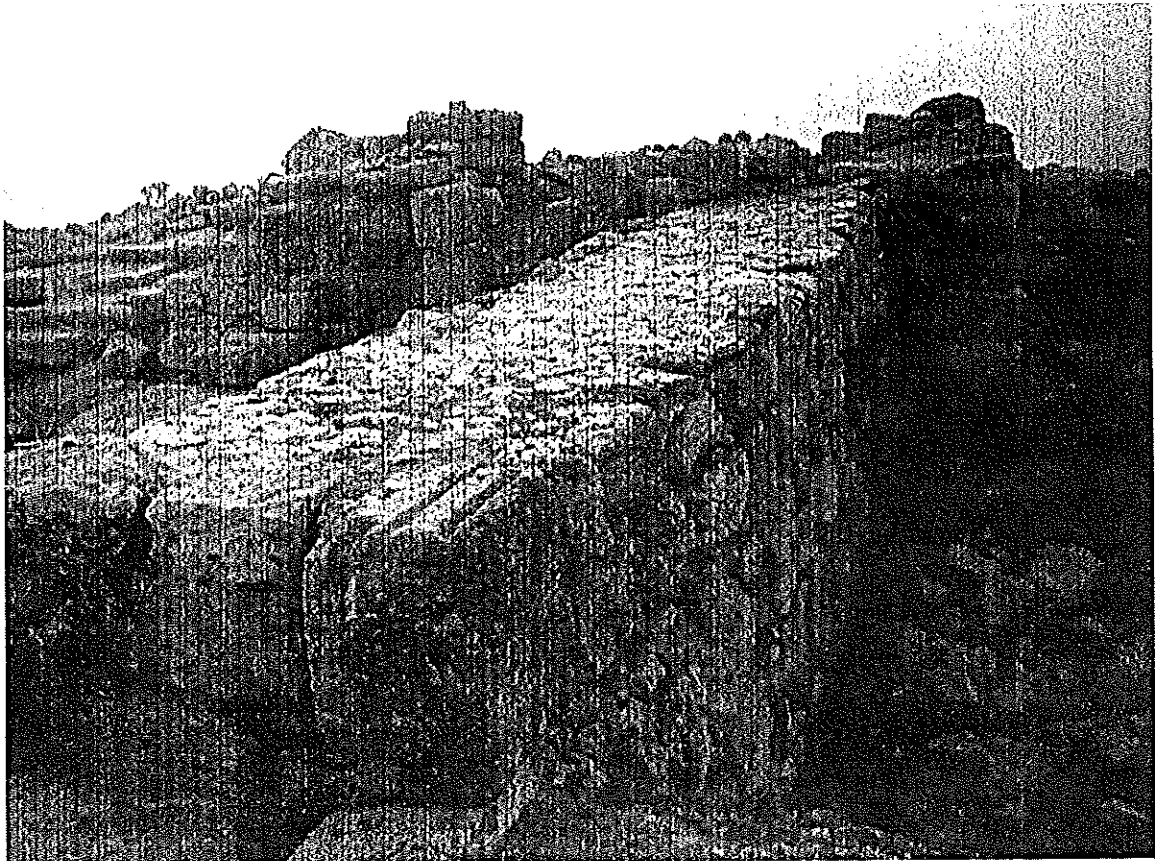
IRON II HISBAN

# Hellenistic Acropolis

- In the Late Hellenistic Period, between ca. 198-63 B.C., the inhabitants of Hesban reconfigured the summit of the site as an acropolis by building a square perimeter wall
- These builders may have been Hasmonean herders and farmers, certainly people who accepted as part of their daily existence the hardship involved in life on the military-political frontier
- The walled structure on the Acropolis may have been a fort; nearly a fifth of all objects found were military in nature

Hellenistic Wall

wall photo.1



The Hellenistic wall was part of a square enclosure with four towers.

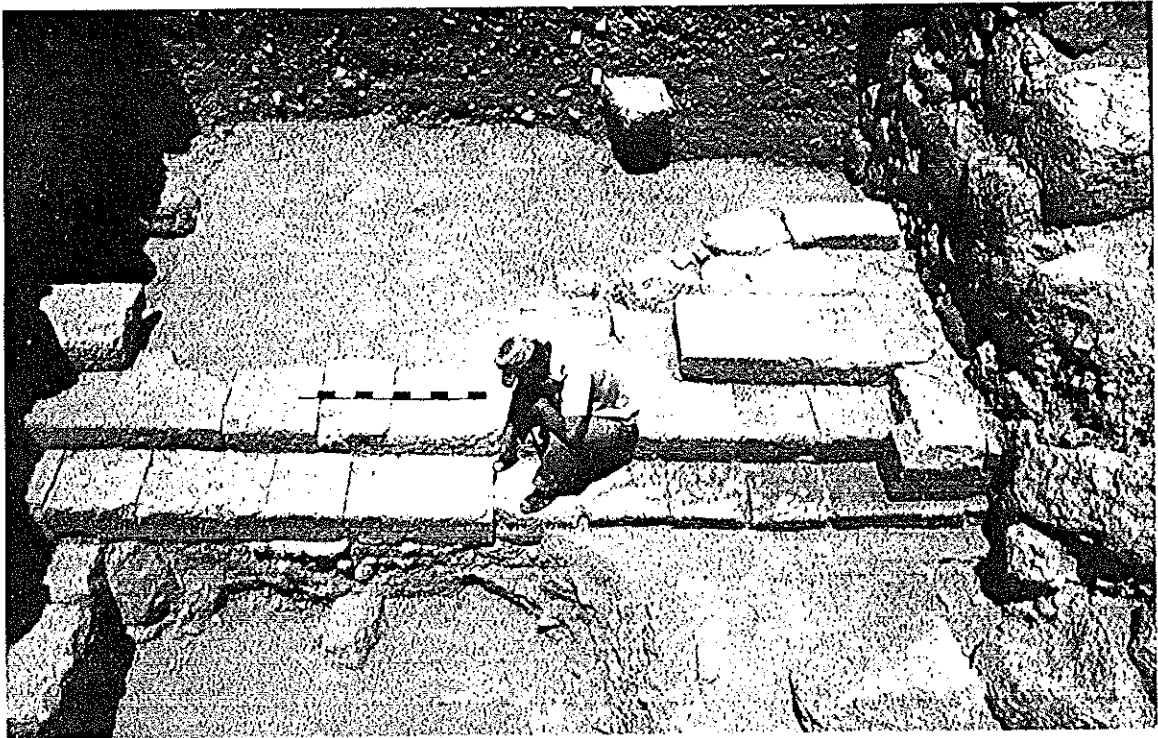


Hellenistic Walls and Towers

Hellenistic Period ca 198-63 BC

## **Roman Stairway and Plaza**

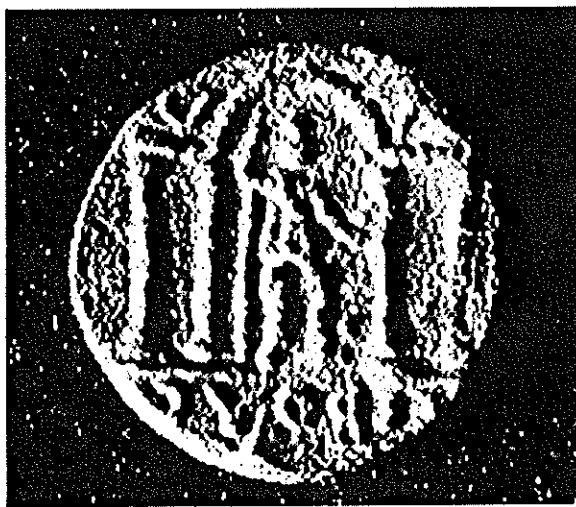
- In the Early Roman Period, after the Iron Age Reservoir had gone out of use and was filled, the flat terrace it created to the south of the acropolis was used a plaza or market
- The acropolis area was connected to the plaza by a monumental stairway complete with ballustrade on its eastern end
- Successive “plaster” layers build up in this area between 63 B.C. and A.D. 135 and even later, as the plaza was resurfaced numerous times - each resurfacing covering up part of the lower portion of the stairway
- On this stairway was found a bone carving of Prometheus





## **Late Roman Temple**

- A coin minted at “Esbaus” during the reign of Elagabalus (A.D. 218-222) was found at Hesban
- On the coin’s reverse was found a city goddess standing before a four-columned temple facade
- The foundation for such a four-columned temple facade was excavated on the acropolis between the later Islamic bath house and the entrance to the Byzantine church
- The fine ashlar masonry of this Late Roman temple was also exposed along its northern side
- Most of the temple is covered by later, unexcavated, Mamluk remains, though the columned processional way leading up to the temple from the east was re-used for the Byzantine basilica



"Esbus" coin showing "temple"

# Byzantine Church

- In Stratum 9 (A.D. 408-527) a Christian basilica with an inscribed apse was constructed in the place of the previous Roman Temple
- The nave was 7 m wide
- Extensive reuse of Roman architecture characterized the Byzantine church
- A room was found on each side of the apse, the diaconicon (for offerings, records, vestiments) on the south side and the protheses (Evcharist preparations and storage) on the north side
- Remnants of the mosaic floors were found though out the church
- Several associated cisterns supplied the church with water
- The church came to an end during the Sassanid invasion of A.D. 614

Plate 6.7 Architect's sketches of tentative reconstruction of Early Christian church at Heshbon (after Boraas and Horn 1969). Top: view southwest—entrance. Bottom: view northeast—apsidal end

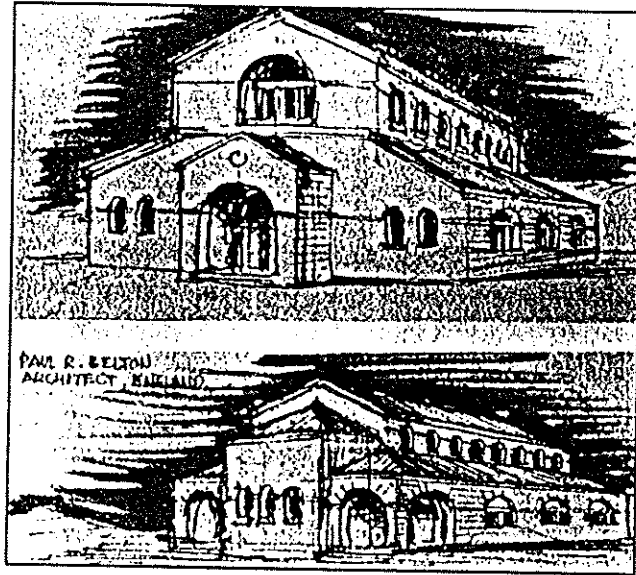
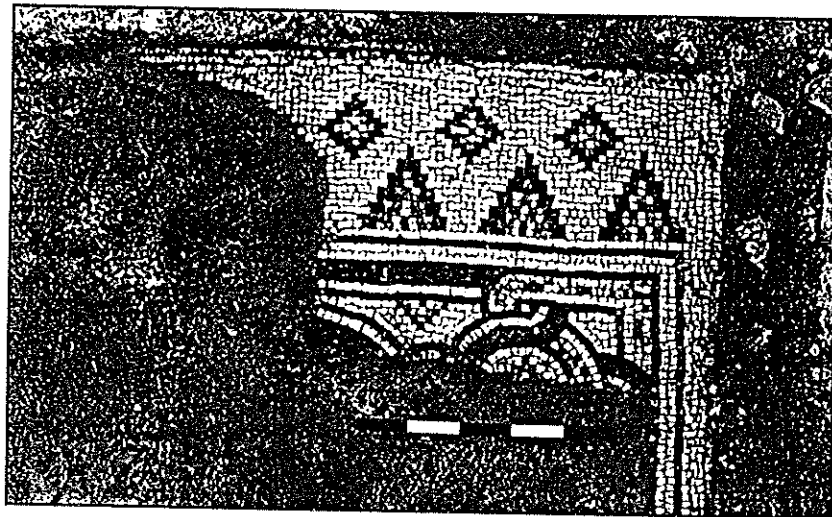
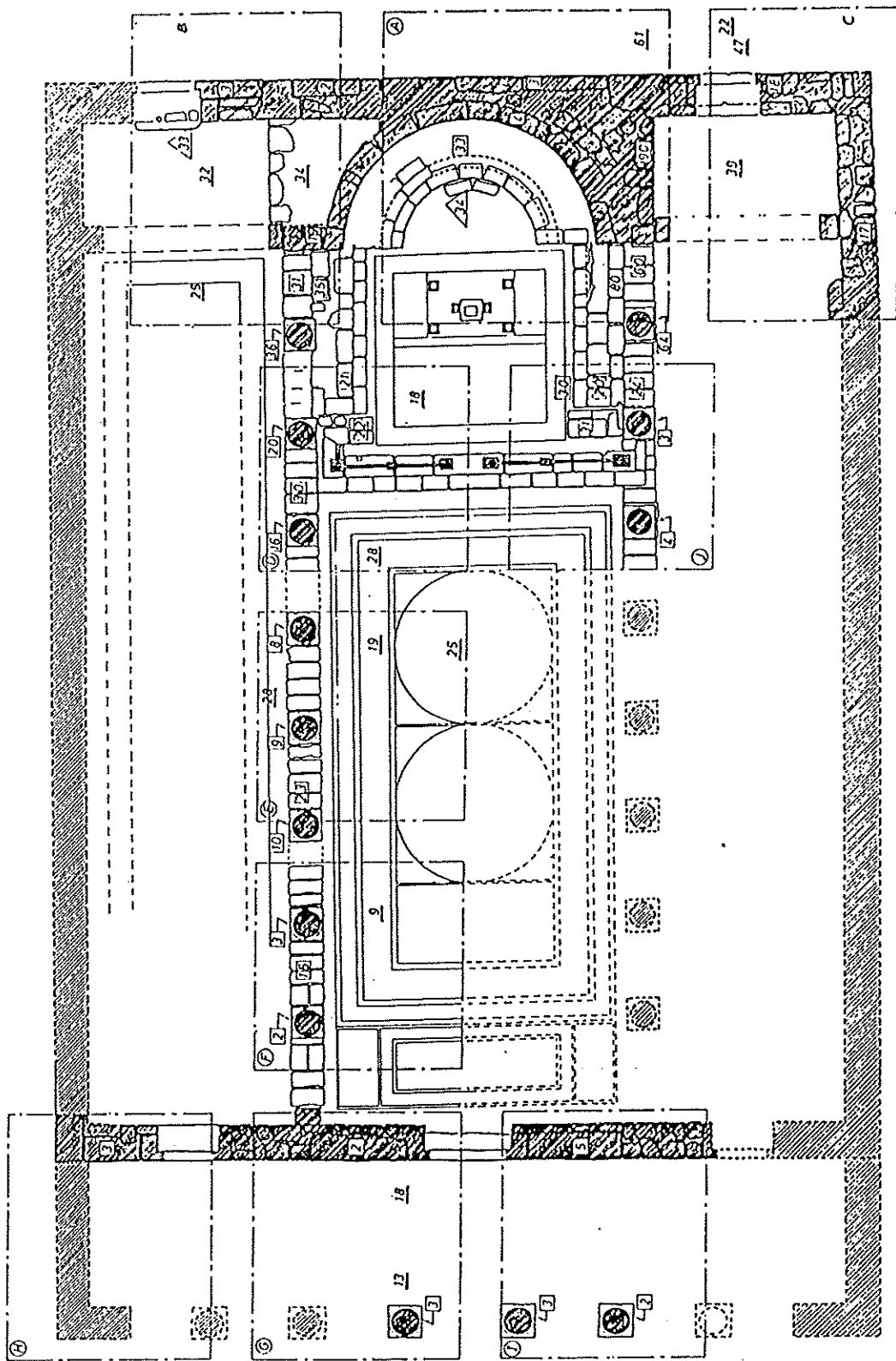


Plate 6.8 Byzantine mosaic Floor A.4:8 from Heshban



## North Church

- Located on the lower slope on the north side
- Excavated in 1978 by John Lawton and Larry Herr
- Large Mosaic found and relics underneath the alter
- The church had three use phases:
- Upper phase dates to early 7<sup>th</sup> century showing that it survived the Islamic conquest
- One of three Byzantine churches in Hisban

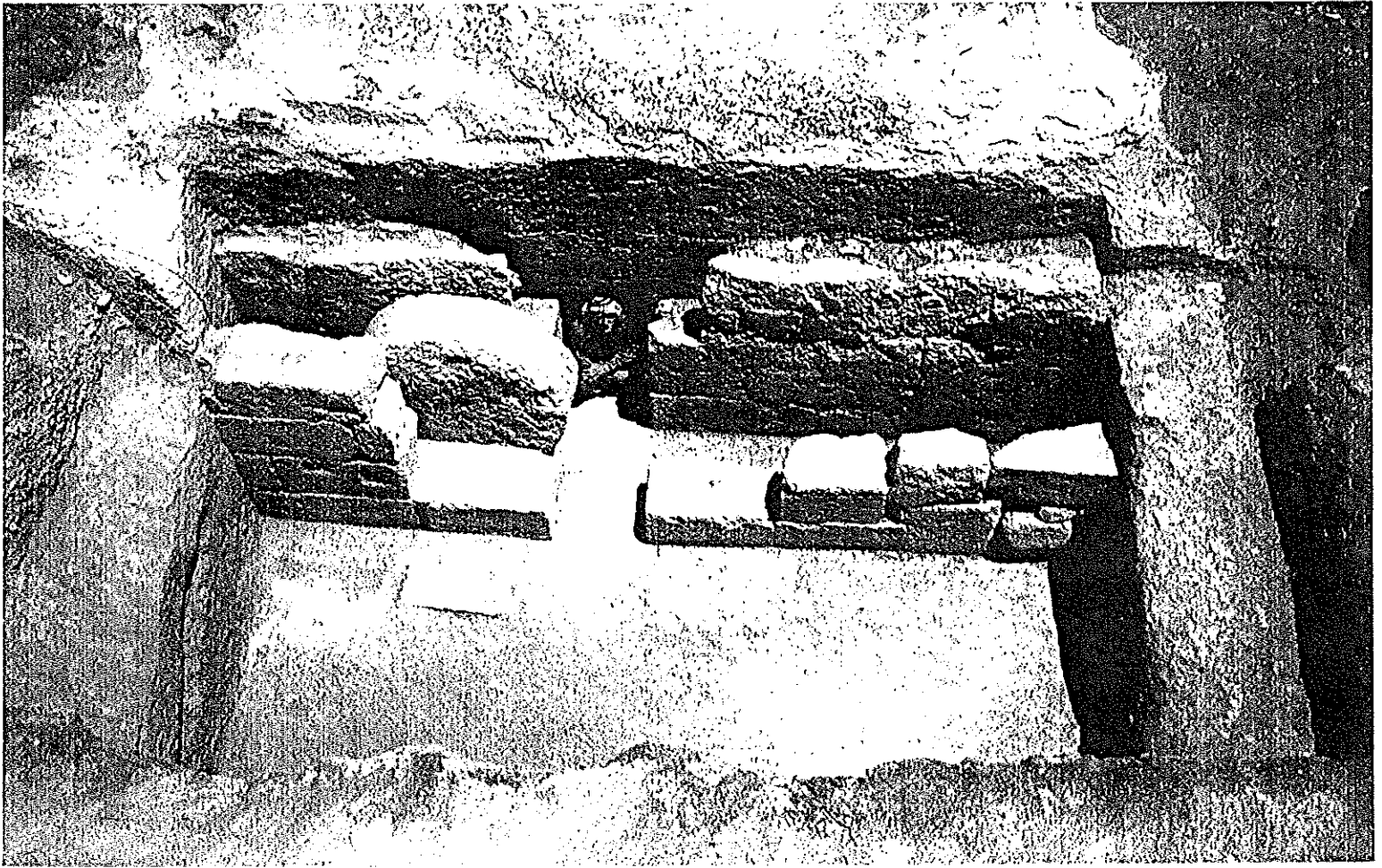


N  
 31°15'  
 AXIS  
 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 M.  
 ARCHITECT: BERT DEVRIES JULY 1978

HESBÁN NORTH CHURCH PROJECT

## **Roman/Byzantine Cemeteries**

- The majority of the excavated tombs are located on a southwestern spur of Hesban, some 660 m. southwest of the acropolis
- Altogether some 29 tombs were dug
- Six tombs types were identified
- Most of the tombs were family tombs for multiple burials
- Two of the family tombs were sealed with rolling stones - The only two such tombs of this type found in Jordan; these are of interest because they are similar to the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea in which Jesus was buried



ROLLING STONE TOMB



# Mamluk Regional Capital

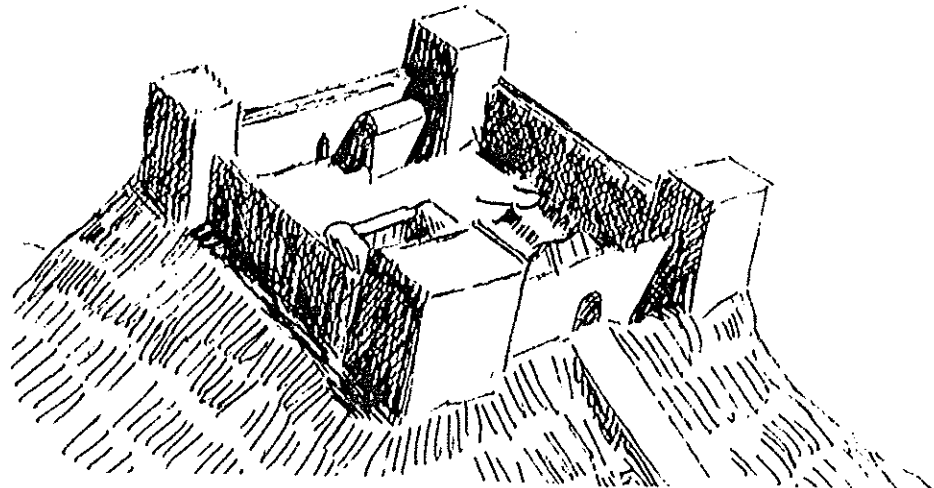
ca AD 1260-1500

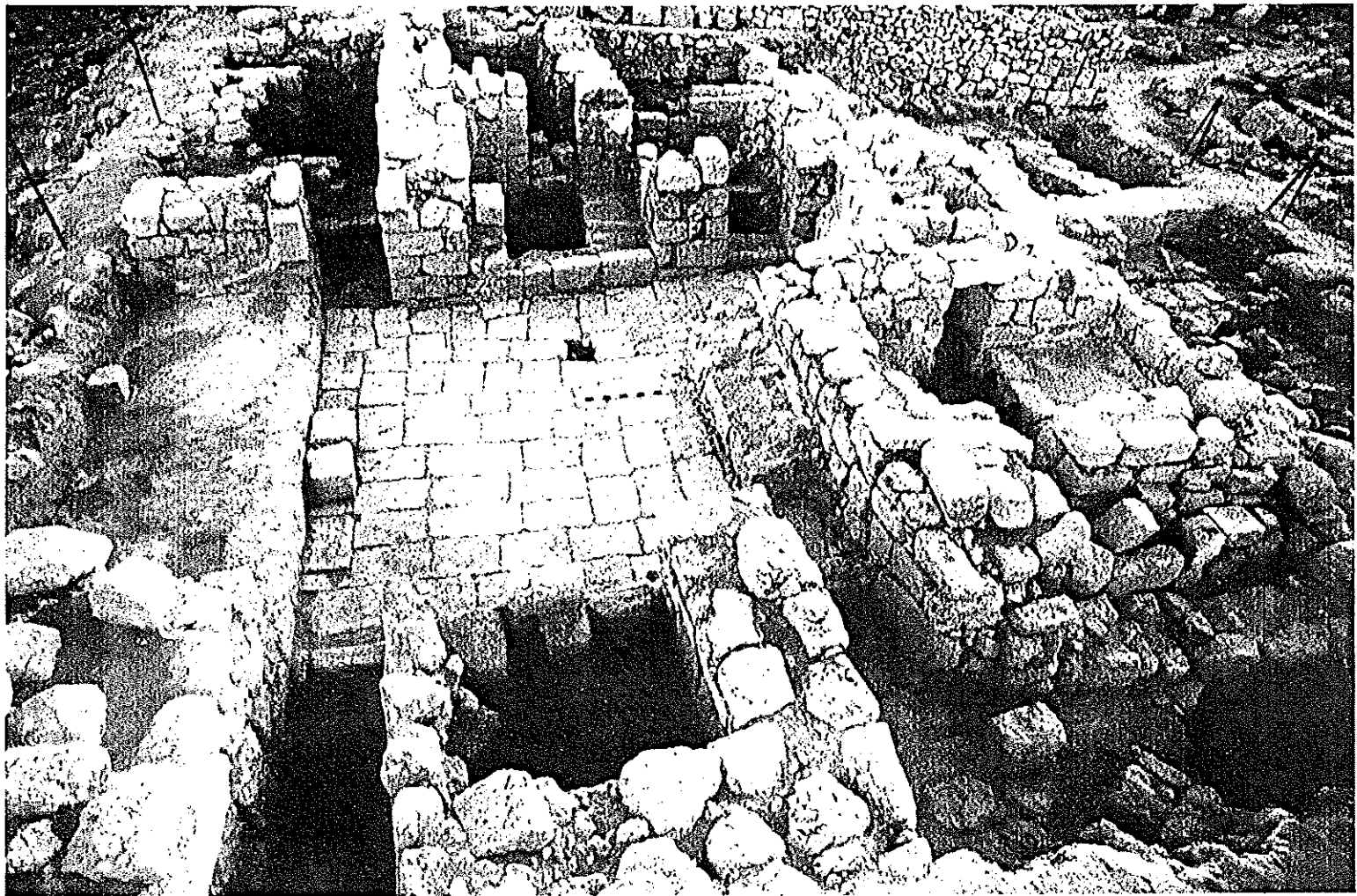
## Mamluk Tower

- Earlier southwest tower reused and heavily reinforced now (one side 18m long)
- Envelopes and protects the palace
- Probably close to original Mamluk professional gateway

## Mamluk Palace

- Dated to 14th century, same time when Sultan al-Nasis Muhammad built his palace at Kerak
- Typical Egyptian courtyard iwan palace plan:
  1. open central courtyard
  2. high-ceiling barrel-vaulted rooms around it
  3. also contains a small, private bathhouse



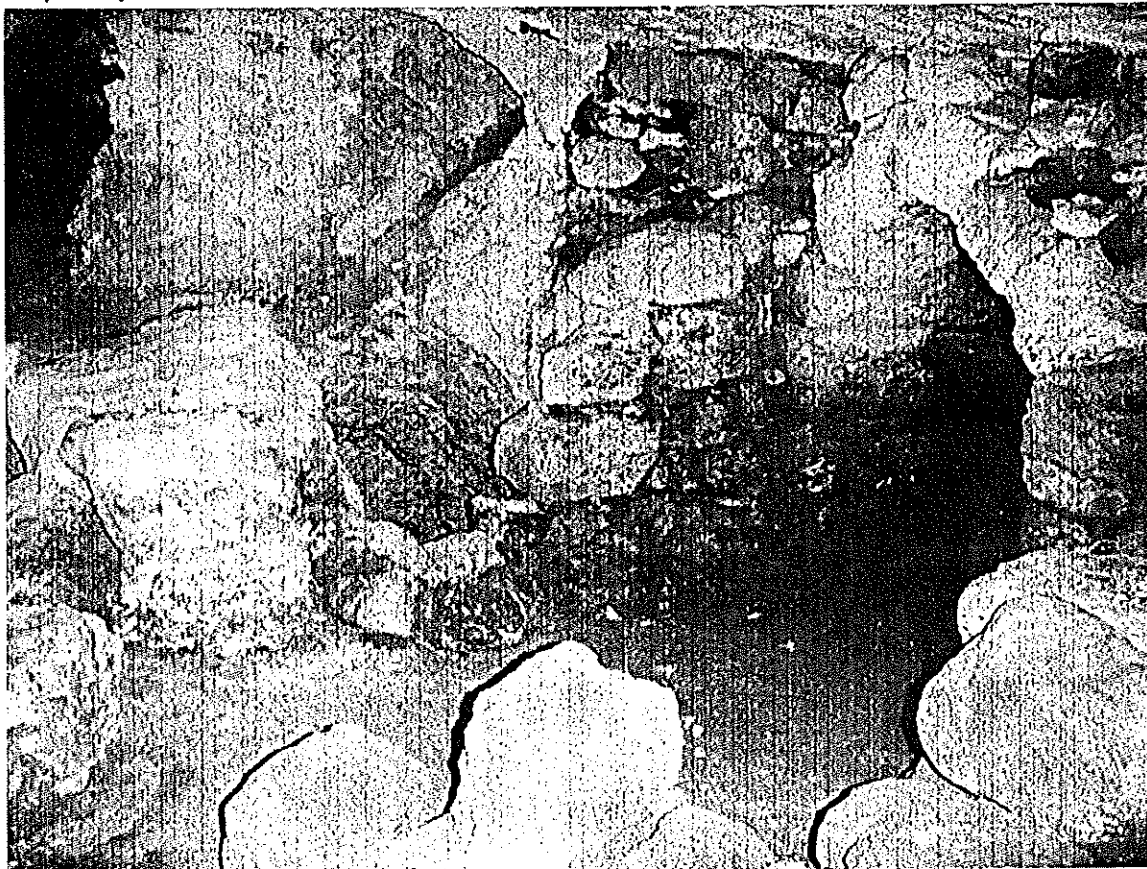


# Hardy People Cave

- The extensive evidence of cave dwellings in Hisban attest their importance throughout the history of the site
- This cave has produced evidence of human occupation and use since Paleolithic times down to the present
- The cave was extensively enhanced and modified during Hellenistic and Roman times. Several arches mark the entrances to rooms which are also separated by masonry walls
- Such use of caves attest the hardiness of the Jordanian people. They have survived through good times and bad by being flexible, resourceful, admirably self-reliant and courageous
- Keys to their success as a hardy people include:
  1. Kin-based social organization centered in the family and tribe
  2. Ability to join together under leadership of centralized governments when needed
  3. Reliance on a diversity of crops and animals for their livelihood
  4. Willingness to live in caves and tents if necessary to maintain their livelihoods
  5. Intimate knowledge of sources of water and of rainwater collection techniques
  6. Reliance on honor as a means to assure law and order
  7. Reliance on hospitality to maintain bonds of cooperation and to “keep up on the news”

**Hardy People**

**arches photo.2**



**Several arches mark the entrances to rooms in the cave.**

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL PERIODS IN PALESTINE AND TRANSJORDAN\*

Larry G. Herr

1. **Paleolithic** (ca. 1,000,000 BP - 18,000 BC)  
 Lower-Acheulian--Ubeidiya  
 Middle--Mousterian--Azraq  
 Upper--Aurignacian--Ein Gev  
     Hand axes  
 MPP: Azraq
2. **Epipaleolithic** (ca. 18,000 - 8500 BC)--Mesolithic,  
     Natufian  
 Kebara Cave, Mt. Carmel  
     Microliths  
 MPP: Zero
3. **Neolithic** (ca. 8500 - 4500 BC)  
 Pre-pottery--Jericho, Ain Ghazal  
     Neo. revolution; plaster  
 Pottery (Yarmukian)--Jericho, Ain Ghazal  
 MPP: Radio field
4. **Chalcolithic** (ca. 4500 - 3300 BC)  
 Regionalism: Ghassul, Negev, Golan  
 MPP: Beneath highway E of Umayri
5. **Early Bronze** (ca. 3300 - 2000 BC); OK in Egypt; ED  
     in Mesopotamia  
     High point  
     Urbanization: Arad, Ai, Megiddo, Zeitraqun  
     MPP: I--Some at Umayri in Field D (3300 -  
     3000)  
     MPP: II-III--Most prosperous at Umayri (3000 -  
     2250)  
     MPP: IV (MB I)--ephemeral settlement and  
     Tombs (2250 - 2000)
6. **Middle Bronze** (ca. 2000 - 1550 BC); MK in Egypt,  
     MB I.A.-C  
     Low Point  
     Shechem, Gazer, Hazer  
     MPP: IC (ca. 1600) rampart at Umayri (chocolate  
     on white)
7. **Late Bronze** (ca. 1550 - 1200 BC); NK in Egypt;  
     Hittites  
     Low point continued  
     City states & cultural collapse; international trade  
     Egyptian control  
     Megiddo, Hazer, Beth Shan  
     MPP: LB IIB small settlement in rampart bowl
8. **Iron I** (ca. 1200 - 925); high point in MPP region  
     Rise of small ethnic groups: Israel, Phils, Ammon,  
     Moab, etc  
     Canaanite centers continue in reduced prosperity  
     Small villages develop to cities in hilly areas  
     United monarch & Shishak  
     MPP: Large hill settlement at Umayri; pots at  
     Jalul
9. **Iron II** (ca. 925 - 525); Assyria, Babylon  
     High point  
     Divided Monarchy & development of nations  
     Language, script, pottery  
     MPP: Stutter at Umayri, then resettled  
     Roadways and pillared bldg. at Jalul
10. **Persian** (ca. 525 - 325 BC); moves to low point  
     Another international age: Greeks, Phoenicians  
     Coastal sites & Phoenician trade  
     MPP: Umayri continues as provincial  
     administrative center  
     Jalul seems to stop
11. **Hellenistic** (ca. 325 - 50 BC); begins move to high  
     point  
     Hellenism, Seleucids; Ptolemies; Hasmonaeans  
     MPP: Hisban fortress and small settlements in  
     Umayri region
12. **Roman** (ca. 50 BC - 325 AD); Pax Romana &  
     gradual growth  
     ER: Herodian; Masada, Jerusalem, Jericho,  
     Caesarea, Herodium, Machaerus  
     Decapolis begins; Dead Sea scrolls; NT;  
     Bar Kochba  
     Nabataeans & Petra  
     MPP: Milkveh at Umayri
13. **Byzantine** (ca. 325 - 640 AD); great high point  
     MPP: few remains at Umayri E  
     Umm Qeis  
     LR: Decapolis prospers (Hadrian); Jerash, Pella,  
     Umm Qeis  
     MPP: few remains at Umayri E  
     Christianity
14. **Early Islamic** (ca. 640 - 1100 AD); low point  
     I: Umayyad (640-750); castles, churches; Umm er-  
     Reas  
     II: Abbasid (750-969); vast reduction in  
     settlements  
     III: Fatimid/Crusader (696-1100); virtually nothing  
     Kerak, Shobak, Ajlun  
     MPP: Hisban, Inscription cave; Umayri E
15. **Middle Islamic** (ca. 1100 - 1516 AD); Crusader;  
     Ayyubid/Mamluk  
     Glazed & painted pottery (handmade); sugar  
     industry  
     Jerusalem (Holy Sepulcher), markets  
     MPP: Hisban; Umayri N and region near  
     Yadudah
16. **Late Islamic** (1516 - 1918); Ottoman; clay pipe  
     Weak political system with pashas & local  
     rebellions  
     Cave villages; rise of bedouin  
     19th c: interest of European powers & rise of  
     archaeology
17. **Modern** (1918 - ); fantastic rise in settlement &  
     prosperity  
     Destruction of archaeological remains; completing  
     the circle

\*conventional dates

**Available Directly from AU Press** (Prices noted are retail):

To order these titles, please contact AU Press directly: [aupress@andrews.edu](mailto:aupress@andrews.edu); fax 616-471-6224 or phone 616-471-6915.

**Institute of Archaeology Assyriological Series**

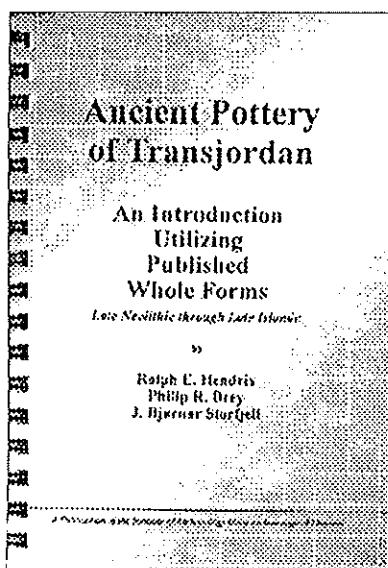
- Concordance of the Isin-Larsa Year Names. AS I.* A.H. Kromholz and M. Sigrist. 1986. (iv + 173pp). ISBN 0-943872-26-X paper \$29.99
- Isin Year Names. AS II.* M. Sigrist. 1988. (iv + 63pp). ISBN 0-943872-94-4 paper \$29.99
- Larsa Year Names. AS III.* M. Sigrist. 1990. (about 87pp). ISBN 0-943872-54-5 paper \$29.99
- Neo-Sumerian Account Texts in the Horn Archaeological Museum. AS IV.* M. Sigrist. 1984. (x + 198pp). ISBN 0-943872-25-1 cloth \$29.99
- Neo-Sumerian Account Texts in the Horn Archaeological Museum. AS V.* M. Sigrist. 1990. (about 138pp). ISBN 0-943872-32-4 (misprinted: -53-7) cloth \$29.99
- Neo-Sumerian Account Texts in the Horn Archaeological Museum. AS VI.* M. Sigrist. 1988. (about 200pp). ISBN 0-943872-31-6 cloth \$39.99
- Old Babylonian Account Texts in the Horn Archaeological Museum. AS VII.* M. Sigrist. 1990. (vi + 138pp). ISBN 0-943872-53-7 cloth \$39.99

**Hesban Final Publication Series**

- Sedentarization and Nomadization: Food System Cycles at Hesban and Vicinity in Transjordan. Hesban 1.* Ø.S. LaBianca. 1990. (xx + 353pp). ISBN 0-943872-00-6 cloth \$45.99
- Environmental Foundations: Studies of Climatological, Geological, Hydrological, and Phyto-logical Conditions in Hesban and Vicinity. Hesban 2.* eds. Ø.S. LaBianca and L. Lacelle. 1986. (xii + 174pp). ISBN 0-943872-15-4 cloth \$45.99
- Historical Foundations: Studies of Literary References to Hesban and Vicinity. Hesban 3.* eds. L.T. Geraty and L.G. Running. 1989. (x + 97pp). ISBN 0-943872-17-0 cloth \$45.99
- Archaeological Survey of the Hesban Region: Catalogue of Sites and Characterization of Periods. Hesban 5.* R.D. Ibach, Jr. 1987. (xiv + 299pp). ISBN 0-943872-16-2 cloth \$45.99
- Hellenistic and Roman Strata: A Study of the Stratigraphy of Tell Hesban from the 2d Century B.C. to the 4th Century A.D. Hesban 7.* L.A. Mitchel. (xvi + 189pp). ISBN 0-943872-20-0 cloth \$45.99
- Faunal Remains: Taphonomical and Zooarchaeological Studies of the Animal Remains from Tell Hesban and Vicinity. Hesban 13.* Eds. Ø. S. LaBianca and A. von den Driesch. (xxv + 236pp). ISBN 0-943872-29-4 cloth \$45.99

**Madaba Plains Project Series**

- The 1984 Season at Tell el-'Umeiri and Vicinity and Subsequent Studies. Madaba Plains Project 1.* eds. L.T. Geraty, L.G. Herr, Ø.S. LaBianca, R.W. Younker. 1989. (xii + 614pp). ISBN 0-943872-96-0 cloth \$79.99
- The 1987 Season at Tell el-'Umeiri and Vicinity and Subsequent Studies. Madaba Plains Project 2.* eds. L.G. Herr, L.T. Geraty, Ø.S. LaBianca, R.W. Younker. 1991. (x + 623pp). ISBN 0-943872-98-7 cloth \$79.99
- The 1989 Season at Tell el-'Umeiri and Vicinity and Subsequent Studies. Madaba Plains Project 3.* eds. L.G. Herr, L.T. Geraty, Ø.S. LaBianca, R.W. Younker. 1997. (x + 374pp). ISBN 0-943872-71-5 cloth \$79.99



**ANCIENT POTTERY OF TRANSJORDAN—An Introduction Utilizing Published Whole Forms: Late Neolithic Through Late Islamic.** By Ralph E. Hendrix, Philip R. Drey, and J. Bjørnar Storfjell (In consultation with: Piotr Bienkowski, Joseph A. Greene, Timothy P. Harrison, Larry G. Herr, Nancy Lapp, Gloria London, Burton MacDonald, Gerald L. Mattingly, Mohammad Najjar, Friedbert Ninow, Kay Prag, Paul J. Ray, Jr., R. Thomas Schaub, Robert Schick, Udo Worschech); Wirebound text manual; 356 pages; glossary; bibliography; indexed; (0-9642060-1-3); \$18.95

APOT standardizes pottery terminology and provides an introduction to the study of the typology and relative chronology of ancient Transjordanian pottery. The teaching corpus was selected from over 4000 published vessels representing 23 periods from 55 sites. **Chapter 1:** Researching Pottery Morphology delineates why archaeologists collect and study pottery. **Chapter 2:** Analyzing Ancient Pottery (11 figures, 3 tables) describes vessel parts/surface treatments introducing basic vessel morphology. **Chapter 3:** Standardizing Pottery Terminology (18 figures, 4 tables) standardizes vessel names, objectifies size terminology, and categorizes pottery forms. **Chapter 4:**

Summarizing Ancient Chronology (1 table) provides a brief background for each archaeological period. **Chapter 5:** Characterizing Archaeological Periods (2 maps; 469 pottery examples) describes for each period how the pottery was made (technique), its aesthetic qualities (surface treatment), and provides 469 pottery examples scaled to 20% each with a full description and individual bibliography. Also included are a Glossary (329 entries), a Bibliography (228 entries), and a complete Index.

**The Luchnaria: Inscribed Lamps of the Byzantine Period.** By Eugenia L. Nitowski. Horn Museum Occasional Papers, No. 4. No ISBN; (64 pages); 5 × 8 inches; 1986; paper, \$5.00

Early Christian lamps are described in detail. Over a hundred examples are illustrated in detailed line drawings, many with multiple views. The lamp inscriptions analyzed and associated with their historical context. Nitowski provides a very interesting typology which attempts to associate not only the morphology of the lamp but also the theological content of its impressed faith-statements. This book provides dynamic evidence of everyday religious belief and practice during the very first centuries of the Christian faith.

**Archaeological Notebook.** Compiled by David Merling. No ISBN; 8.5 × 11 inches; paper; \$7.50

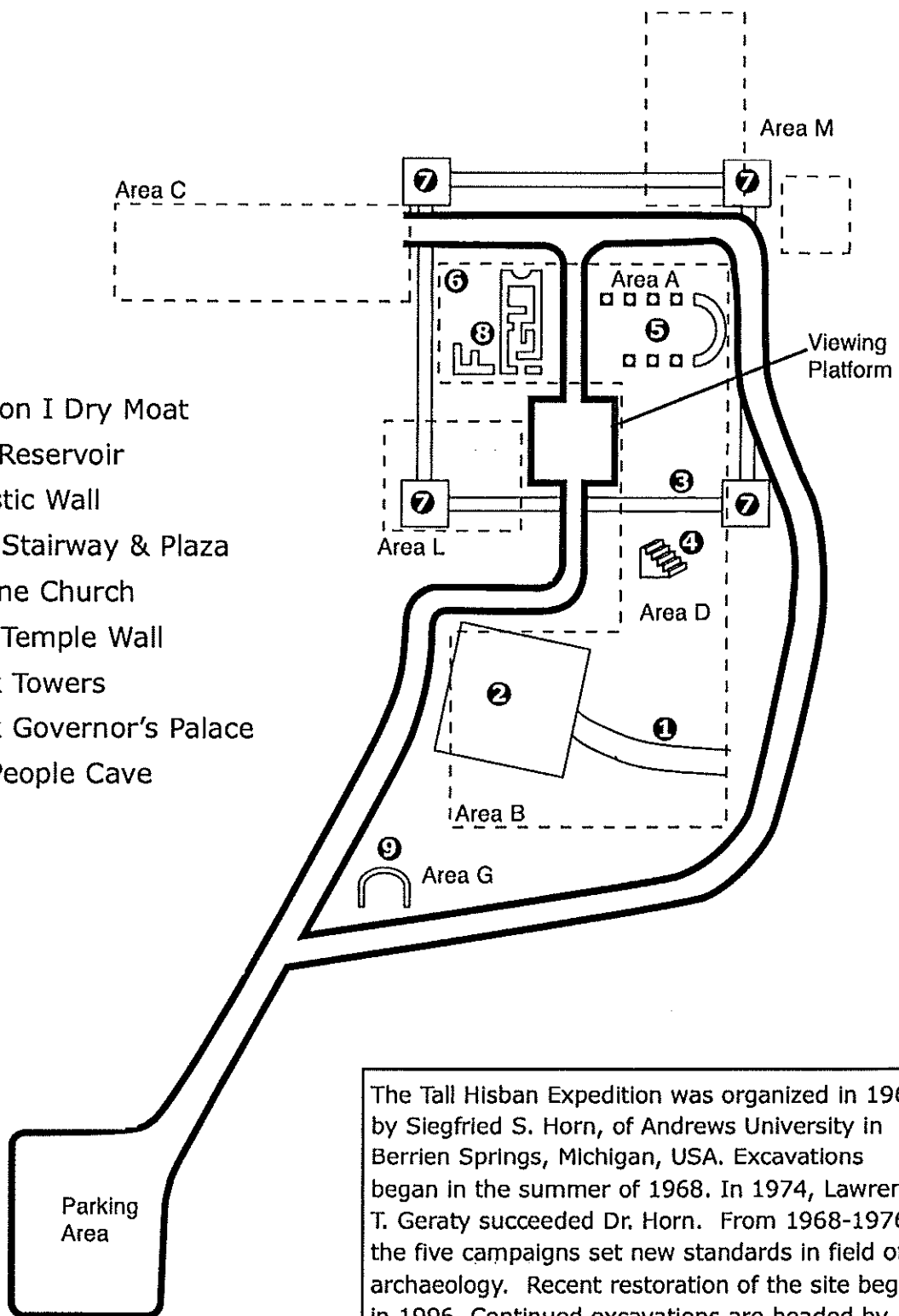
This spiral-bound field notebook is designed for use by area and square supervisors to record top plans, sections, and notes. Each two-page spread includes a cm-ruled graph paper on the left page and notebook ruled paper on the right page. The graph paper is printed in non-reproducing ink to facilitate publication. Included in the frontis pages is a brief glossary of archaeological terms, a table of archaeological periodization, and a sample top plan with archaeological symbols.

### Reprints In Stock

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| <i>Geological Study of the Heshbon Area.</i> R. Bullard.                                 | paper \$0.50 |
| <i>True or False? Genuine and False Cylinder Seals at Andrews University.</i> E. Porada. | paper \$1.00 |
| <i>Heshbon in the Bible and Archaeology.</i> S.H. Horn. 1982. (26 pp)                    | paper \$2.00 |
| <i>A Symposium ... Bible, Oriental Studies, and Archaeology.</i> Perkins, et al.         | paper \$2.00 |

# TALL HISBAN EXCAVATION SITE MAP

- 1 Early Iron I Dry Moat
- 2 Iron II Reservoir
- 3 Hellenistic Wall
- 4 Roman Stairway & Plaza
- 5 Byzantine Church
- 6 Roman Temple Wall
- 7 Mamluk Towers
- 8 Mamluk Governor's Palace
- 9 Hardy People Cave



The Tall Hisban Expedition was organized in 1967 by Siegfried S. Horn, of Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan, USA. Excavations began in the summer of 1968. In 1974, Lawrence T. Geraty succeeded Dr. Horn. From 1968-1976, the five campaigns set new standards in field of archaeology. Recent restoration of the site began in 1996. Continued excavations are headed by Øystein S. LaBianca, from Andrews University.



## **Tall Hisban: An open-air Classroom**

- At the base of Tall Hisban, near the parking lot, an archaeology education area has been set aside. It is a pilot project established by the excavators in cooperation with the Hisban schools, the Friends of Archaeology, and the Department of Antiquities. This classroom will allow visitors to experience archaeology firsthand.
- The advantages of Tall Hisban as an education area include the following:
  1. The site is easily accessible to the schools in Jordan's major population areas.
  2. The ruins at Tall Hisban are representative of most of Jordan's major cultural periods.
  3. The site's history is very well known thanks to over 30 years of research.
  4. The site is owned by the Department of Antiquities.
  5. The excavators are committed to education as a key to enhancing local cooperation to protect archaeological sites.