

## **HIPPOS - SUSSITA**

# Seventh Season of Excavations (July 2006)

**Arthur Segal** 

University of Haifa

Jolanta Młynarczyk

Polish Academy of Sciences and Warsaw University

Mariusz Burdajewicz

National Museum, Warsaw

**Mark Schuler** 

Concordia University, St. Paul, MN

**Michael Eisenberg** 

University of Haifa

December 2006

This volume is dedicated with heartfelt thanks to the scholars, students and volunteers who, in those troubled and painful days of July 2006, remained with us to the very last day of the dig.



#### Design and Production: M. Eisenberg

Printed by A.A.A. Printers (Bar-Haim Itzhak) Ltd., Haifa

ISBN 978-965-90418-5-5

**©** 

All rights reserved to the authors

Published by Zinman Institute of Archaeology, University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel 2006

E-mail: <a href="mailto:hippos@research.haifa.ac.il">hippos@research.haifa.ac.il</a>
Web site: <a href="http://hippos.haifa.ac.il">http://hippos.haifa.ac.il</a>

#### **Table of Contents**

| INTRODUCTION                                                                   | 4        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| THE <i>DECUMANUS MAXIMUS</i> (DME) ARTHUR SEGAL                                | 9        |
| THE AREA EAST OF THE HELLENISTIC COMPOUND (HLC) ARTHUR SEGAL                   | 14       |
| THE SOUTH CITY WALL (SWL) MICHAEL EISENBERG                                    | 23       |
| TWO GREEK INSCRIPTIONS FROM THE DECUMANUS MAXIMUS ADAM ŁAJTAR                  | 35       |
| AN EARLY ARABIC INSCRIPTION FROM THE DECUMANUS MAXIMU MOSHE SHARON             | JS<br>43 |
| NORTH-WEST CHURCH COMPLEX (NWC) JOLANTA MŁYNARCZYK & MARIUSZ BURDAJEWICZ       | 47       |
| CONSERVATION WORK IN THE NORTH-WEST CHURCH COMPLEX JULIA BURDAJEWICZ           | 60       |
| NORTH-EAST CHURCH COMPLEX (NEC) MARK SCHULER                                   | 66       |
| CONSERVATION REPORT FOR THE 7 <sup>TH</sup> SEASON EWA RADZIEJOWSKA            | 79       |
| RADIOCARBON AGE DETERMINATION DANUTA NAWROCKA, ANNA PAZDUR, DANUTA MICHCZYNSKA | 82       |
| POTTERY REPORT JOLANTA MŁYNARCZYK                                              | 91       |
| GLASS FINDS FROM THE NORTH-WEST CHURCH COMPLEX MARIUSZ BURDAJEWICZ             | _127     |
| THE COINS CATALOGUE ARIEL BERMAN                                               | 144      |

## Report on the Seventh Season of Excavations at Hippos-Sussita (July 2006)

#### Introduction

The seventh season of excavations at Sussita began on July 2, 2006 and ended on July 27. The excavations were carried out in four week-periods of five days each. There were altogether 20 full days of excavation work. This seventh season, as all the previous ones, was conducted as a study excavation and in each of the four week-periods there was a participation average of about 10 students from the Department of Archaeology of Haifa University. The different excavation areas (see below) were supervised by students studying for their M.A. and Ph. D degrees.

The expedition was headed by Prof. Arthur Segal of the Zinman Institute of Archaeology at the University of Haifa, and was co-directed by Prof. Jolanta Młynarczyk of the Research Centre for Mediterranean Archaeology at the Polish Academy of Sciences, Dr. Mariusz Burdajewicz of the National Museum in Warsaw, and Prof. Mark Schuler of Concordia University in St. Paul, Minnesota, USA.

In addition to the students from the University of Haifa, there were students from the University of Warsaw, from Concordia University, from Keio University in Tokyo, as well as volunteers from Israel and abroad. Most of the volunteers from Israel came from Kibbutz Ein Gev and from surrounding settlements. Participants in the excavations included many youngsters belonging to the UJA scout group named after Uri Maimon. In this season as well we were fortunate in having a significant number of volunteers from Israel and abroad.

The expedition was joined in this season as well by Mrs. Ewa Radziejowska, Senior Conservator of the National Museum in Warsaw, who was accompanied by a number of students studying conservation at the Warsaw Academy of Fine Arts. Mr. Kimi Maman, Senior Conservator of the National Parks Authority also assisted Mrs. Radziejowska in the conservation and restoration work that was conducted alongside the excavation work in all the areas that were being excavated during this season.

The Haifa University excavation team included Mr. Michael Eisenberg who served as the senior assistant of the head of the expedition, and was mainly responsible for coordination among the different excavation areas. Mr. Brian Cannon of the USA was the surveyor and architect of the expedition while Ms. Ranin Noufi served as log registrar and was responsible for the organization of the excavation data. Ms. Noufi was also in charge of computerized scanning and processing. Mr. Itamar Mitler was the administrator of the expedition. The conservation and cleaning of small finds was assigned to Mr. J.J. Gottlieb.

As a study excavation, the work was conducted according to the following schedule. Fieldwork was carried out between 0500-1200 hours, and the afternoon and evening hours were devoted to supplementary activities that included the analysis and classification of pottery finds and a lecture and exercise class in surveying and architectural sketching. In addition, a number of lectures were given by guest speakers. During the course of the season a few tours were conducted to nearby excavation sites. As is usually done annually at the end of each season, the head of the expedition gave a comprehensive tour of the excavation site for the excavators, volunteers and guests.

It should be mentioned here that, during the second half of the seventh excavation season in Sussita (from July 12 onwards), work was conducted under the shadow of dire events in the northern part of the country along the Lebanese border. Beginning on that date and until the end of the excavation period on July 27, many areas around the Kinneret were ceaselessly bombarded by rocket fire, and this necessarily had their effect on the excavation progress. Some of the students from the Polish and American teams were forced to leave, and a small number of volunteers decided to return to their home countries. During the last two weeks of the excavation season about half of the original number of excavators remained with us. In spite of these events and the atmosphere of tension that prevailed in the country, we decided to continue with full- scale excavation work and to complete it according to schedule on July 27, 2006. We take this opportunity to thank those who participated in the excavation work throughout the seventh season – the team members, students and volunteers – both those who were forced to leave and those who remained with us until the end of the season.

#### Acknowledgements

The seventh season of excavation was facilitated thanks to the assistance and support of various individuals and organizations. First and foremost we would like to acknowledge the assistance provided by the Faculty of Humanities, Haifa University. The Dean of the Faculty, Prof. Menachem Mor, has extended his generous help at various stages of the

excavation and in everything connected with the preparation of this report on the seventh season. We are also greatly indebted to Mr. Aharon Repter, Administrative Head of the Faculty of Humanities, for the help and support given to our excavation project.

During this seventh season, our excavation project has benefited, even more so than in past seasons, from the valuable help of the National Parks Authority in funding a significant share of the expenditure on conservation work. The National Parks Authority has once again placed at our disposal two mechanical tools without which the work of clearing and preparing the various excavation areas would not have been possible.

We take this opportunity to thank the architect, Mr. Zeev Margalit as well as Dr. Zvika Tsuk for their help and for the interest they have shown in the Sussita excavation project. We would also like to thank Mr. Gil Ben-Nun and Mr. Nissim Mazig for the extensive assistance they have granted us throughout the seventh season. The Zinman Institute of Archaeology has also provided much support during this excavation season, and we would like to thank the Head of the Institute, Prof. Mina Evron. Her help is gratefully acknowledged.

The publication of the report for the seventh season was generously funded by the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, Prof. Menachem Mor, and the Dean of Research, Prof. Majid Al-Haj. We are most thankful to them.

Finally, we would like to note the reception of two special contributions granted to us during the excavation season. Our heartfelt thanks are extended to the members of the Society for Eretz Israel Studies, Haifa and to Mr. Sam Turner of the USA for their generous contributions.

#### **Excavation areas**

The areas of excavation during the seventh season are as follows (see fig. 1):

**Decumanus Maximus** (Area Supervisor: Mr. Ran Abramovitch)

**Area to the east of the** (Area Supervisors: Mrs. Vered Raz-

**Hellenistic Compound** Romeo and Mrs. Adi Golan)

The South City Wall (Area Supervisors: Ms. Ranin

Noufi and Mr. Ran Visen)

The North-West Church (Area Supervisors: Dr. Adam Łajtar

and Ms. Emilia Jastrzebska)

**The North-East Church** (Area Supervisor: Prof. Mark Schuler)

The description of the excavation areas given below is based on detailed reports accompanied by photographs and sketches prepared by the area supervisors. The two teams from abroad have submitted their excavation reports and they are presented here in their original language in the English section of this report. The same applies to the conservation report that was prepared by the senior conservator, Mrs. Ewa Radziejowska. The excavation reports by the teams from abroad were translated from English into Hebrew by the head of the expedition and are presented in summarized form in the Hebrew section of this report.

The head of the expedition wishes to thank the excavation team of Haifa University, and especially the area supervisors, for their serious and devoted work.

#### Conservation

During the seventh season, as in the previous seasons, considerable effort was invested in all that related to conservation. From the very first day of the excavation until the end of the season, throughout the 20 work days, conservation activity was carried out in all the excavation areas under the supervision of Mrs. Ewa Radziejowska and Mr. Kimi Maman. Each of these senior conservators was accompanied by a team of assistants in order to perform the conservation work immediately following the exposure of the excavated objects. In the course of the seventh season, more so than in previous seasons, a real effort made with regard to restoration as well. This is impressively evidenced by the rapid restoration of the monumental base (the *podium*) of the Roman period that was exposed in a state of partial destruction in the area to the east of the Hellenistic Compound, and was fully restored during a few work days (see below).

#### New roads in the excavation area

The expansion of the excavation areas in the centre of the site had already made it necessary in the sixth season and even more so in the seventh season to lay down new roads in the excavation site and to eliminate some of the roads we had used so far. There used to be a road between the North-West Church and the North-East Church that allowed for transition between the northern part of the site and the *Decumanus* 

Maximus. The expansion of the excavation in the area of the atrium of the North-East Church and the opening of new excavation squares on the east side of the Hellenistic Compound, necessitated the elimination of the old road that passed through this area and the laying out of an alternative route. Significant effort was invested in the preparation of this route that encircled the enter area of excavation in the centre of the site, and extended along the northern cliff from west to east. This route allowed for free movement from the area of the Kalybe on the west to the area northeast of the IDF building that serves as the dining room and storehouse for the expedition. We intend to continue the route eastward to an additional length of 300 m. towards the East Gate of the city In this area which extends from the west and in the vicinity of the gate, we intend to prepare a broad expanse in which all the architectural items that have been unearthed in the various excavation areas will be concentrated. These architectural items will, in time, serve to reconstruct the various buildings in Sussita.

The opening of new excavation areas in the southern part of the city, close to and parallel with the South Wall, required the laying of a new road from the area of the Forum and the Kalybe in the direction of the South Wall. This area slopes steeply towards the south, making it difficult to lay the road. In addition, in the area that stretches close to and parallel with the Forum on the south side, there are wall sections protruding from the surface that indicate the presence of large building complexes. This means that the road laying had to be done carefully with regard to the difficult terrain and maximum consideration for the significant amount of building ruins found on the surface. Needless to say, without the laying of the road, excavation in the area of the South Wall would not have been feasible.



The Decumanus Maximus (DME)

**Arthur Segal** 

Supervisor: Mr. Ran Abramovitch

Roman-Byzantine Sussita, was continued this season from the stage it had concluded at the end of the previous season (July 2005). During the seventh season, about one hundred additional meters of the street were uncovered, and today 165 m. of the street, about a third of the entire length of the *Decumanus Maximus*, have been completely exposed (see figs. 2, 4-6). It should be noted that at present there remains a distance of only 12 m. between the eastern end of the road section exposed during the seventh season and the most western of the squares dug at the beginning of the 1990s in search of the water supply system for Sussita. A series of about 20 squares had been dug by a team of excavators head by Zeev Meshel, Zvika Tsuk, Henning Fahlbush and Yehuda Peleg in an attempt to trace the water conduit extending under the *Decumanus Maximus* in a westerly direction towards the central water reservoir under the *Forum* (see fig. 2). We intend in the coming season, in the summer of 2007, to connect these squares and to expose the *Decumanus Maximus* in continuous line from the *Forum* up to the East Gate of the city.

As in the former seasons, the excavation of the *Decumanus Maximus* included mainly the exposure of the street paving and the cleaning of the walls that enclosed the street on the north and south sides of it. The exposure of the street was carried out with the help of a mechanical tool that removed the upper levels of the fillings that had been piled over the street during the IDF fortification activities in this area of the site during the late 1940s and early 1950s. The clearing away of the earth lying upon the paving stones was done by hand.

During the exposure of the paving and the cleaning of the walls, quite a large number of finds were made, mainly consisting of various architectural items (see below) and even of a Greek inscription engraved on a column drum (see below). Some of these items were found lying upon the street surface and some were found embedded within the enclosing walls on the north and south sides.

In the northern enclosing wall of the *Decumanus Maximus* (W1022), two doorways were exposed: the western one (L103) that was located at a distance of 66 m. from the

eastern end of the *forum*, and the eastern one (L105) at a distance of 135 m. from the end of the *forum*. It may be than these doorways led towards shops or residences that have not yet been exposed. This wall that was exposed during the seventh season resembled the sections exposed during previous seasons, since it was also built in a careless and irregular manner with some sections constructed of ashlars adjoining sections of unworked stones. A few architectural items of the Roman and Byzantine periods embedded within the wall give evidence that the building of this wall did not predate the Umayyad period (see figs. 5-7).

The wall than encloses the *Decumanus Maximus* on its southern side is not essentially different from the northern wall. It is also build of alternate sections of ashlars and unworked stones. However, in this wall as compared with the northern one, there are even more signs that that various sections of its construction belong to buildings that were merged with the southern wall. This is especially evident in the wall section (W803) (see fig. 7) where the northern wall of the Baptistery was embedded within the southern enclosing wall of the street with a wall section extending westward (W102) and another one eastward (W104). The quality of the construction of these two walls sections, W102 and W104, is far worse than that of the north wall of the Baptistery, W803. It is also worth noting the eastward continuation of the southern wall extending from the eastern end of the wall section W104. We apparently have here a public building of considerable size, with its northwestern corner merged into the wall that enclosed the *Decumanus Maximus* on the south side. This corner, which is located at a distance of 149 m. from the eastern end of the forum, was created by a joining together of two walls, wall W 108 running in north-south direction and wall W 107 running in an east-west direction. The latter is characterized by its strong construction of fairly large ashlars.

Some of the architectural items that were embedded both within the southern as well as in the northern walls belonged almost certainly to the Roman period, and some of them belonged to the Byzantine period, and were evidently taken from the churches (see figs. 7-9). In the southern wall, in its eastward continuation, there was a doorway (L106) that was 2 m. wide and led southward. At this stage it is not known whether this doorway led to a shop or whether it was an entrance into one of the streets (*cardines?*) running southward from the *Decumanus Maximus*.

During the seventh season, the drainage channel, the westernmost parts near the *forum* having already been exposed in previous seasons, continued to be excavated in the eastern sections of the street (see fig. 7). The channel is well plastered, and it 0.40 m. wide and 0.40 m. deep. It was covered over with a roofing of irregularly shaped stone slabs and in some places these had remained *in situ*. In one of the sections of the channel that was exposed in this season, at a distance of 104 m. from the eastern end of the *forum*, a coin was picked up (C1228) together with round and uniform game chips made of clay.

As noted above, during the seventh season a number of unique finds were discovered on the street surface, including a pedestal (B1226) that was found lying on its side near the southern wall of the Decumanus Maximus, in the section adjoining the northern wall of the Baptistery (W804 and W104) (see fig. 6). The square-shaped pedestal (0.57 x 0.57 m., height 0.80 m.) is built solidly of basalt. On the lower part of it and also at the top there are a few mouldings executed in a rather crude manner. It should be noted that the mouldings on the lower part, on the base of the pedestal, are identical in shape and size to those on the upper part, at the top of the pedestal. The combined height of these mouldings both in the lower and upper parts is about 0.30 m. On the upper surface at the top of the pedestal, measuring 0.57 x 0.57 m., there are 4 round indentations placed in the four corners of the upper surface. It seems safe to assume that these indentations served to anchor a statue that had once stood at the top of the pedestal. It should be noted that one of the four sides of the pedestal was not processed and not smoothed, which means that the pedestal originally stood with one side against a wall. To the disappointment of the excavators, no inscription was found on the pedestal that could have indicated the nature of the statue or emblem that it carried. To the east of the pedestal, on the surface of the *Decumanus Maximus*, there were a number of cornices (B1235, B1236, B1237, and B1238) that obviously belonged to a single building (see figs. 8-9). These cornice fragments are made of basalt and are noted for their meticulous workmanship. According to first impressions and before any in-depth typological research, it is possible to determine with a high degree of probability that we have here the fragments of a cornice that belong to a monumental Roman building, perhaps a temple, that was erected in the time period between the second half of the second

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In this connection it should be mentioned that all along the Curetes Street in Roman-Byzantine Ephesus, scores of pedestals of this kind were found, and inscriptions were found on all of them. See: W. Alzinger, *Die Ruinen von Ephesos*, Berlin-Wien 1972, p. 73-76, figures on p. 66-70. For this reason, the absence of an inscription on the pedestal found on the *Decumanus Maximus* in Sussita could only have been disappointing.

century and the beginning of the third century CE. The ornamental components of the cornice are of a standard type and include the bead and reel pattern or astragal pattern, the egg and dart pattern, and the dentils. In addition, the floral patterns of stylized flower leaves and poppies are prominent for their pleasant and charming design. These patterns are located between the consoles, replacing the rather common coffers (see figs. 8-9).<sup>2</sup>

Near the cornice fragments, and a little to the east of them, a section of a water pipe was discovered broken into two (B1239) (see fig. 10) This is not the first time that sections of a water pipe were found either displaced or in secondary use during the excavation work in Sussita (see for example, the North-West Church).<sup>3</sup> And additional find that was exposed on the street surface were lower millstones belonging to various grinding installations (B1232, B1233, B1237).

#### **Two Greek inscriptions**

On the surface of the *Decumanus Maximus*, at a distance of 164 m. from the eastern corner of the *Forum*, two limestone column drums were found, with the taller one (B 1242) standing on its base and the shorter one (B 1243) lying near it under the fallen debris. Inscribed upon the shorter column drum, 0.40 m. in height and 0.44 m. in diameter was a well-preserved Greek inscription of 6 lines with all its letters remarkably clear (see fig. 11). <sup>4</sup>

Another Greek inscription was found on one of the paving slabs of the *Decumanus Maximus*, at a distance of 6.80 m. from the western corner of the stairway leading from the *Decumanus Maximus* to a narrow street that separated the South-East Church (the Cathedral) and the central bathhouse. The paving slab on which the inscription was made (measurements: 0.33 x 0.59 m.) was only 0.13 m. distant from the lowest step of the stairway. Because of the careless way in which the inscription was engraved and in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> R. Jacoby, R. Talgam, *Ancient Jewish Synagogues: Architectural Glossary*, Jerusalem 1988, fig. 5; J.-P. Adam, *Roman Building-Materials and Techniques*, London 1994, p. 331, fig. 1; J.B. Ward-Perkins, *Roman Imperial Architecture*, Harmondsworth 1981, p. 32, fug. 9 (*Forum Augustum*), p. 40, fig. 16. See also J. Turnheim, *Architectural Decoration in Northern Eretz-Israel in the Roman and Byzantine Periods*, Tel-Aviv 1987 (unpublished Ph.D. thesis), vol. II (Catalogue of the Architectural Decoration), plate 5,

figs. 1-2, plate 6, fig. 2, plate 7, figs. 1-2.

A. Segal et al., *Hippos-Sussita Sixth Season of Excavations (July 2005)*, Haifa 2005,p. 66, fig. 92; Y. Peleg, "The Stone Pipeline of Sussita-Hippos", *ARAM* 13-14 (2001-2002), p. 423-441.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See A. Łajtar's article in this volume, p. 37.

view of the poor conservation of the paving stone, it is difficult to decipher the writing. It seems to have been a brief inscription of three words.<sup>5</sup>

#### Examination of the Decumanus Maximus section to the west of the Forum

Before the examination in area, at a distance of about 20 m. to the west of the *kalybe*, a section of a structure composed of ashlars and the top of an Ionic-Attic base made of basalt protruded from the surface. It was decided this season to make a trial excavation of limited scope, with the aim of tracing the continuing path of the *Decumanus Maximus*. We assumed that in this section, unlike the sections of the *Decumanus Maximus* that had been exposed to the east of the *forum*, there was not later construction and that it would be possible to determine the essential nature of the *Decumanus Maximus* in its original state, before the additions of Byzantine and Umayyad structures.

During the trial excavation a section of a stylobate about 7 m. in total length was exposed (see figs. 12, 13). This stylobate was built of basalt ashlars of fairly equal measurements (0.37 x 0.85 m.). The rectangular blocks were placed perpendicular to the course of the *Decumanus Maximus*. It appears that the basalt base, the top of which had protruded on the surface before excavation, was actually *in situ*. The measurements of the square lower section (the plinth) of the base are 0.78 x 0.78 m. and the diameter of the upper torus is 0.67 m. The base is of precise craftsmanship and has the characteristic cross-section of *torus-trochilus/scotia-torus* (see fig. 13). Because of the limited scope of the examination and the lack of time, we did not expose the southern stylobate that is covered at present by a pile of stone debris heaped up here by the IDF forces during the fortification of the mountain. We intend in the next excavation season (Summer 2007) to expose the southern stylobate as well. The importance of the examination is that in this section we have *in situ* evidence that the *Decumanus Maximus* was indeed a colonnaded street lined on both sides with rows of columns.

#### **Arthur Segal**

Zinman Institute of Archaeology University of Haifa

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Idem n 35

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> J.-P. Adam, *Roman Building: Materials and Techniques*, London 1994, p. 328 (Illustrated Lexicon of Mouldings), J. McKenzie, *The Architecture of Petra*, Oxford 1990, p. 188, diagram 12.

## The Area East of the Hellenistic Compound (HLC) Arthur Segal

Supervisors: Mrs. Vered Raz-Romeo and Ms. Adi Golan

#### Introduction

he definition and boundaries of this excavation area is rather problematic. It is a wide-ranging area that extends from the Hellenistic Compound on the west to the area near the North-East Church on the east (see figs. 1, 3, 28). The southern boundary of this area is the eastern continuation of the south wall of the Hellenistic Compound (W156) while the northern boundary remains as yet undetermined. Before describing what was excavated in this area during the seventh season, it should be noted that even before the excavation work we knew that this was a central area in the heart of the city where one could expect to find important building complexes. On the surface, prior to our excavation, we found a number of architectural items made of basalt. These items were exceptional for their sizeable proportions and careful workmanship. The very presence of these items in this area indicated that we would find here a highly impressive monumental structure. Even before we began the excavation we called this area the Roman sanctuary compound in order to stress the contrast between it and the Hellenistic sanctuary compound to the west of it. Over the past three seasons we have tried to determine the exact eastern boundary of the Hellenistic Compound, but unfortunately this has not been possible so far, and even today we are unable to determine the exact location of the eastern boundary of the Hellenistic Compound. The "pilasters hall" that was partially excavated during the past two seasons constitutes a kind of transition area between the Hellenistic Compound and the area extending towards the east of it. We tried in this season to begin the exposure of the area to the east of the "pilasters hall" with the aim of locating the monumental structure to which the architectural items found scattered on the surface once belonged. At the same time we hoped to complete the exposure of the "pilasters hall" and to examine its relationship to the Hellenistic Compound. This task remained uncompleted and we intend to complete it during the eighth season (Summer 2007).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> A. Segal et al., *Hippos-Sussita: Fifth Season of Excavations, September-October 2004 and Summary of All Five Seasons (2000-2004)*, Haifa 2004, p. 25, fig. 9; A. Segal et al., *Hippos-Sussita: Sixth Season of Excavations (July 2005)*, Haifa 2005, p. 26-28, fig. 5.

The excavations in the area to the east of the Hellenistic Compound were conducted in this season in three squares arranged as follows: Square 1 (5 x 5 m.) extends in the north near the pilasters hall, while Squares 2 and 3 are located in the east part of this area at a distance of 19 m. from Square 1. These two squares are adjacent to each other along a north-south axis separated only by an unexcavated balk of 1 m. in width. These squares are also of the standard size of  $5 \times 5$  m.

#### Square 1

The southern edge of this square is at a distance of 6 m. north of the south wall of the Hellenistic Compound (W156) and includes the northern part of the "pilasters hall" (see figs. 3, 30) Passing through the centre of this area is a solid wall (W1151) on a northsouth axis, the southern part of which had already been excavated in previous seasons. During this season we wished to continue exposing the continuation of this wall towards the north, and we did indeed manage to expose a few meters of this wall. The upper layers of this wall are built very carelessly both with unworked stones and ashlars, and at its most northern end we were able to expose the Attic column base made of basalt that had been embedded among the stones of the wall. The base is of excellent workmanship and it seems possible to date it with a high degree of certainty to the 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> century CE. The impressive size of this base (base diameter: 1.13 m., height: 0.42 m.) and the quality of its superior dressing indicate that it had belonged to a monumental public building of the Roman period. The way in which this column base was embedded within wall W1151 is rather strange and unusual. In most cases the bases that were embedded in the walls were placed vertically among the rectangular ashlars. Such is the case, for example, in the northern wall of the North-West Church. At this stage it cannot be determined from where exactly this base was taken.

In the northern part of the wall W1151, on its eastern side, we opened a trial square (2 x 1 m.) at a distance of c. 8 m. from the south wall of the Hellenistic Compound (W156) to a depth of 1.60 m. under the top of the exposed wall (see fig. 31). In this trial excavation a number of painted plaster sections were found with remnants of red and white coloring. According to our impressions it seems that we have here the remains of a wall painting in the First Pompeian Style, that is to say, decorations of colored surfaces that imitate marble paneling. <sup>8</sup> Near these plaster sections, at a height of 127.24

.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> A. Maiuri, *Roman Painting*, New York 1957, p. 37-47, S. Rozenberg, *Enchanted Landscapes – Wall Paintings from the Roman Era*, Jerusalem 1993, p. 9-14.

m. above sea level, and at a distance of 1.42 m. under the wall end, plastered flooring was found. Under this floor there was a layer of brown earth with burnt remains. We continued to delve below this floor, and at a height of 127.05 m. above sea level we found another floor made of plaster mixed with large unworked stones. The limited scope of this trial excavation did not allow us to reach any definite conclusions regarding the nature of this area that extends eastward and adjacent to the wall W1151. The pottery finds to the east of wall W1151 were mainly Byzantine (L1184) while in the nearby location (L1191) Roman pottery material of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> century CE were dug up. This also applies to the material found in the location L1194 (see fig. 31). The excavation of this square is only in its initial stages, and we intend to continue exposing wall W1151 down to the level of the floor in the "pilasters hall" that lies adjacent to and to the south of Square 1.

#### Squares 2 and 3

The location of these two squares was determined quite arbitrarily at the centre of the area in which impressive architectural items protruded even before excavation. We assumed that beneath these items we would soon find the remains of a monumental public structure to which the scattered architectural decorations had once belonged. It should be noted here that even the topography of the area extending from the Hellenistic Compound to the North-East Church in the east, encouraged us to think that the remains of a large-sized structure would be found here. In fact, the surface of this area is raised a few meters above its nearby surroundings (see fig. 3). As said earlier, the two squares were aligned on a north-south axis with only a one-meter wide balk separating them.

#### Square 2

This is the more northerly one of the two squares in which the main find of this season was discovered that justified at least in part our hopes to expose here the monumental structure of the Roman period (see figs. 3, 28). Already in the initial days of excavation, the exposure of the upper part of a building constructed of basalt ashlars of superior dressing was made (B2589) (see fig. 14). At first we were convinced that according to the shape of the exposed section, that we had here a terminating wall (*anta*) of a stairway fronting the *podium* of a typical Roman temple. Continued excavation at this site showed that we were mistaken, and that with the exposure of an additional part of the structure, we found it to be of a square shape measuring 1.48 x 1.50 m. This means

that it was not part of a larger structure but some construction that stood on its own, detached from its surroundings. Although it was a disappointment, since it was difficult for us to forgo the Roman temple we had hoped to find there, we did not despair. We raised the possibility that the temple was located further away, and that the structure here was of an altar that was placed at the front of the *podium* in line with the entrance to the temple. We clung to this version for several days until the complete exposure of the structure. At the end of the excavation we found that it was built like a *podium* constructed of well-dressed ashlars of excellent quality. The structure was erected on a foundation layer of basalt ashlars that were placed on the bedrock surface (see figs. 14-17).

The lower courses of the structure were made of concave moulding (*cyma recta*) and so was the upper layer. The walls of the *podium* were smooth and there still remain some sections of high quality plaster on which there are remnants of faded coloring (see fig. 18). The shape of this *podium* is certainly worth noticing, since surprisingly enough it is neither rectangular nor square in shape as in the usual case. At its northwestern corner there is a recess that created an internal recessed right-angled corner: 24.5 x 24.5 cm (see figs. 15, 16). The very presence of this recessed corner led us to the conclusion that the structure could not have been used as an altar since there is no logical reason for a corner of this kind in an altar structure. We therefore have before us a *podium* that was part of a complex that included at least one other, or possibly another three *podia* arranged in a square formation creating a spatial relationship between them. What has been exposed here is not an isolated structure standing by itself, but one of two or more probably of four *podia* arranged in a square formation with a distance of a few meters separating one from the other. Structures of this kind called *tetrakionia* are well known

\_

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> In most Roman sanctuaries, the altars were erected on the middle axis opposite the stairway at the entrance front of the temple. See, for example, the location of the altar in the compound of Qasr al-Bint in Petra: F. Zayadine, F. Larché, J. Dentzer-Feydy, *Le Qasr Al-Bint De Petra*, Paris 2000, p. 107-114, pl. 1. See also H. Kähler, *Der römische Tempel*, Berlin 1970; J. B. Ward-Perkins, *Roman Imperial Architecture*, Harmondsworth 1981, p. 21-44, fig. 6; B. Fletcher, *A History of Architecture on the Comparative Method*, London 1963 (17<sup>th</sup> ed.).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> J.-P. Adam, *Roman Building: Materials and Techniques*, London 1994, p. 328 (Illustrated Lexicon of Mouldings), J. McKenzie, *The Architecture of Petra*, Oxford 1990, p. 191-192, diagrams 15, 16. The mouldings on the upper and lower parts of the *podium* are not identical, but they are very similar in the way the mouldings are designed in the rectangular *podia* in the Arch of Hadrian in Ephesus. See H. Thür, *Das Hadrianstor in Ephesos*. Wien 1989, plate 7, figs. 6, 9-10, 15-22.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> It was the architect, Mr. Zeev Margalit, during the exposure of the *podium*, who drew my attention to the spatial implications in the very existence of the recessed corner in the *podium*.

in urban landscapes of the Roman East during the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries CE.<sup>12</sup> Tetrakionia of this kind have been found, for example, in Gerasa, Bosra and Palmyra, all having a common factor: four *podia* standing alone in a square formation, each having a column or pier standing upon it and supporting some kind of richly decorated entablature (see figs. 26-27). These tetrakionia belong to a group of monumental buildings that had not real function in the urban landscape except to create an impression of grandeur and magnificence. Like the triumphal arches or *nymphaea*, they were usually set up in the centre of cities, mostly in the city squares or at the intersections of the main colonnaded streets. It may be that the podium exposed in Square 2 is merely a section of a structure of this kind, but it may also be that it is not part of a tetrakionion but of a quadrifrons, a structure composed of four podia, each of which carries a pier connected to the others by arches (see fig. 25).<sup>13</sup> In this way, a structure was created with four identical facades facing the four directions of the compass. According to the architectural items mentioned above that were found partly on the surface and partly during the excavation of Square 2 (see the list of items on p. 21) it may be possible to assume that we have here a quadrifrons and not a tetrakionion, since among all these architectural items there was not a single column but only piers, bases and capitals. Yet, in spite of what has been said above, it is not entirely implausible that the exposed *podium* belongs to neither of the structures suggested, that it is not part of a tetrakionion or a quadrifrons, but is rather a decorative gateway, a structure resembling a triumphal arch made of two podia carrying rectangular piers joined together by an arch. Such structures are not rare in the urban landscapes of the Roman Empire, mainly in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries CE. 14 They were located mostly at the entrance to imposing public compounds with the aim of indicating to passersby that

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> A. Segal, From Function to Monument: Urban Landscapes of Roman Palestine, Syria and Provincia Arabia, Oxford 1997, p. 144-146, figs. 174-177 (Gerasa), p. 142, figs. 20, 67 (Bosra), p. 141, note 144, fig. 180; W. MacDonald, The Architecture of the Roman Empire: An Urban Appraisal, New Haven 1986, p. 75-86, fig. 85.

p. 75-86, fig. 85.

<sup>13</sup> A *quadrifrons* is simply a more solid form of the *tetrakioni*on because it is more enclosed and is roofed. The internal space of a *quadrifrons* usually had a domed roof that was supported by pendentives. See for example, the *quadrifons* erected in Leptis Magna at the beginning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century CE on the occasion of the visit to the city by the Emperor Septimius Severus. See A. Di Vita, G. Di Vita-Evrard, L. Bachielli, *Libya:The Lost Cities of the Roman Empire*, Cambridge 1999, p. 112-116, figs. 114-115. Another *quadrifrons*, though of more modest size and ornamentation was erected in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century CE at the intersection of the *Cardo Maximus* and the northern *decumanus* in the north part of Gerasa. This *quadrifrons*, like the one in Leptis Magna, has been reconstructed in recent years. See A. Segal, op. cit., p. 142-144, figs, 171-173.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> A. Segal, op. cit., p. 83-140; W. MacDonald, *The Architecture of the Roman Empire: An Urban Appraisal*, New Haven 1986, p. 75-86. See also: G. Mazor, *Free Standing City Gates in the Eastern Provinces during the Roman Imperial Period*, Ramat-Gan 2004 (unpublished Ph.D. thesis).

they were close to a passageway from the street or plaza to a certain compound. A decorative gateway of this kind that was erected during the reign of Emperor Hadrian (117-138 CE) has survived in its entirety in Athens.<sup>15</sup> A very similar gate to the one in Athens was discovered in Ephesus in the heart of the city near the Celsus Library. The preservation of this gateway, which had also been erected during the days of Hadrian, was far inferior in comparison with the Hadrian gate in Athens, but it is at present in the process of conservation and reconstruction.<sup>16</sup> Of these two decorative gates, the one in Athens is closer in design to the structure in Sussita, since its main feature is two piers joined by an arch, while the gateway in Ephesus is constructed of two low *podia*, each carrying two narrow rectangular piers.

Professor Yoram Tsafrir who visited Sussita on July 26, showed great interest in the podium and in the impressive architectural items that were found in its vicinity. During his tour of the area he raised the possibility that our *podium* was part of a colonnade that surrounded some kind of public plaza. The shape and design of the architectural items found near the *podium* indicate, in his opinion, that we have here a corner *podium*, that is to say a meeting point of two colonnades, and that the corner pier is expected to be a heart shaped pier. <sup>17</sup> This claim by Professor Tsafrir was based on the resemblance between what had been found in Sussita and similar finds in the excavations of Beth Shean (see fig. 21). In his view, there are actual points of similarity between the design and decorative details of the colonnades that surrounded the Caesaerum, large public plaza, in the northern part of Beth Shean and the *podium* and architectural items that were found in Sussita. 18 No heart shaped piers, similar to those of Beth Shean, were found in the vicinity of the *podium* in Sussita, but we did find rectangular pier drums that were semi-circular on one side of them. We also found (see the list of architectural items below) half-column drums that apparently were originally engaged in the rectangular pier drums.<sup>19</sup> It may be that both of them, that is to say the rectangular

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> J. Travlos, *Pictorial Dictionary of Ancient Athens*, London 1971, p. 253, figs. 325-329.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> H. Thür, *Das Hadrianstor in Ephesos*, Wien 1989. See especially plates 1-4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> A heart shaped pier is a pier with a heart shaped cross section formed by engaging two half columns to a pier at right angles. See: J. McKenzie, op. cit. p. 183, 187, diagram 12.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup>W. Atrash, *Entertainment Structures in the Civic* Centre of Nysa-Scythopolis (Beth-She'an) during the Roman and Byzantine Periods, Haifa 2006 (unpublished Ph.D. thesis), figs. 269, 393.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> In this connection it is interesting to compare the rectangular piers found in Sussita that were rounded on one of their narrow sides with the rectangular piers in the Hadrian gate in Ephesus. Although the latter were rectangular, one of their narrow sides was semicircular in shape as those in Sussita, but the other narrow side was designed as two thirds of a column. See H. Thür, op. cit., plate 7, figs. 19-22. In the centre expanse in Palmyra's *agora*, in a colonnade parallel to one of the agora's walls, there survived a rectangular pier with one of its narrow sides rounded. The perfectly preserved pier made of drums is placed on an Attic base and crowned with a Corinthian capital (fig. 24. Compare to fig. 20). It formed,

drums with one semi-circular side and the semi-circular drums – together created a pier that closely resembled the heart shaped pier of Beth Shean.<sup>20</sup> The assumptions raised here are merely initial ideas, and there still remains considerable work in the typological analysis of the architectural items before we can proposed any real solution regarding the essential nature and style of design of the structure to which the podium discovered in Sussita had once belonged.

#### Conservation and reconstruction of the podium

During the exposure of the *podium* we found that the southern part of it had survived intact, but its northern part was destroyed with the ashlars lying scattered in its immediate vicinity among the fallen debris. As soon as the structure was completely exposed we managed to replace all the ashlars and to reconstruct the *podium* to its original form. The work of reconstruction was carried out within a few days under the supervision of Mr. Kimi Maman, the senior conservator of the National Parks Authority, assisted by students and volunteers (figs. 14, 19 a-d).

At this stage of the excavation, the *podium* stands at the centre of Square 2 detached from its nearby surroundings, and only when excavation continues mainly towards the west and north will it become clear whether we have one of two *podia* belonging to a structure resembling a decorative gate, one of four *podia* arranged in a square formation. Whatever the essential nature of the structure that was placed here at one time, the very location of this *podium* in close proximity to the south wall of the Hellenistic Compound (W156) can only arouse a feeling of discomfort since it is visibly clear that the area extending between the Hellenistic Compound in the west and the complex of the North-East Church on the east, could not have served as a street intersection or a wide city square where structures such as these are usually erected. An analysis, however superficial, of the architectural items (20 in all) that were found in the near vicinity of the *podium* allows us to determine that they all belong to the same monumental structure resembling a gate, whether it is a *quadrifrons*, *tetrakionion*, decorative gate or a corner section of a colonnade. These architectural items include mainly drums of rectangular piers that had one of its narrow sides semi-circular in shape. Among these items were a

with another pier, which did not survive, a monumental doorway to the agora. The shape, dimensions and details of its architectural décor are very reminiscent of those of the pier whose fragments were exposed next to the monumental *podium* in Hippos. See: Ch. Deplace et J. Denzer-Feydy, *L'Agora de Palmyre*,

Bordeaux-Beyrouth 2005, p. 23-116, figs. 32, 123-124, 131-133.

<sup>20</sup> Semi-circular drums of this kind were also found in Beth Shean in the corner pier in the *Caesareum*.

See W. Atrash, op. cit., fig. 269.

few bases and also the capital of a pier that indicate it to be a free-standing pier and not one attached to the wall of some structure. This means that on the exposed *podium* there once stood a tall and imposing pier crowned by an impressive Corinthian capital (fig. 23).<sup>21</sup>

Below are the coordinated data for the 20 architectural items found near the *podium* and that appear to belong to a structure that had once stood above the *podium*:

| No. | Locus | Basket | Name                                                              | Width | Length | Height | Diameter |
|-----|-------|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|--------|----------|
| 1   | 1182  | 4056   | Corinthian pier capital                                           | 90    | 120    | 49     |          |
| 2   | 1182  | 4057   | Corinthian pier capital                                           | 90    | 120    | 45     | 74       |
| 3   | 1182  | 4058   | Semi-circular column drum                                         | 76    | 113    | 41     | 40       |
| 4   | 1182  | 4059   | Semi-circular column drum                                         | 78    | 120    | 43     | 40       |
| 5   | 1182  | 4068   | Semi-circular column drum                                         | 78    | 120    | 40     | 40       |
| 6   | 1182  | 4069   | Fragment of a pier base with one of its sides rounded             | 80    | 37     |        | 40       |
| 7   | 1182  | 4070   | Drum of a half-column                                             |       |        | 37     | 74       |
| 8   | 1182  | 4071   | Drum of a half-column                                             |       |        | 40     | 77       |
| 9   | 1182  | 4072   | Drum of a half-column                                             |       |        | 28     | 70       |
| 10  | 1182  | 4073   | Drum of a half-column                                             |       |        | 37     | 74       |
| 11  | 1186  | 4060   | Drum of a half-column                                             | 70    |        | 32     | 70       |
| 12  | 1186  | 4061   | Drum of a half-column                                             | 75    |        | 38     | 76       |
| 13  | 1186  | 4062   | Drum of a half-column                                             | 73    | 110    | 35     | 40       |
| 14  | 1186  | 4063   | Drum of a half-column                                             | 75    | 116    | 30     | 40       |
| 15  | 1186  | 4065   | Drum of a half-column                                             | 78    | 107    | 40     | 40       |
| 16  | 1186  | 4067   | Fragment of a pier base with recessed corner                      | 50    | 86     | 33     |          |
| 17  | 1188  | 4087   | Pier with one of its sides rounded                                | 52    | 118    |        | 40       |
| 18  | 1188  | 4089   | Fragment of a rectangular ashlar with plaster on one of its sides | 54    | 106    | 19     |          |

\_

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> As in some capitals of the Roman Period, the one that was found near the *podium* was made of two parts. In the lower part of it, which was slightly taller than the upper part, there were two rows of sculpted acanthus (*ima folia & secunda folia*), whole in the upper part there were three sculpted *calyx* ornaments: the volute, *abacus* and *fleuron*. The capital is of superior workmanship despite being of basalt. It is interesting to compare it with the capital of a pier very similar in design and measurement from the arch of Hadrian in Ephesus. See H. Thür, op. cit., plates 15-17, figs. 29-36. See also: M.L Fischer, *Das korintische Kapitell im Altem Israel in der hellenistischen und römischen Periode*, Mainz am Rhein 1990; M. Fischer, *The Development of the Corinthian Capital in Palestine from its Beginning until the Constantinian Period*, Tel Aviv 1979 (unpublished Ph.D. thesis).

| 19 | 1188 | 4088 | Pier drum with of its sides rounded | 77 | 114 | 36 | 40 |
|----|------|------|-------------------------------------|----|-----|----|----|
| 20 | 1195 | 2590 | Corinthian capital                  |    | 50  | 49 | 90 |

#### Square 3

This square is located to the south of and adjacent to Square 2, with a one-meter balk separating the two squares (see figs. 3, 28). As excavation in this square progressed, the balk was removed, and towards the end of the seventh season the two squares were combined into one large rectangle of 5 x 10 m. In the southern part of this square, before excavation, there protruded from the surface the top of a wall very carelessly built of both ashlars and unworked stones. The top of this wall that lies an east-west axis was initially numbered as W1190, but as its excavation progressed, when it became clear beyond all doubt that this wall was the continuation of wall W156 that borders the Hellenistic Compound on the south side, it was decided to call this wall W156 as well.

Excavation in this square focused on the exposure of wall W156 on both its northern and southern sides at one and the same time. Altogether we managed to expose 5 layers of the wall, with its upper layers of excellent limestone ashlars and its lower layers of high quality basalt ashlars, similar to the sections of wall W156 that had been exposed in previous seasons, in those sections that were an eastward continuation of the Hellenistic wall (see figs. 28, 29). One of the surprises that awaited us in the final days of excavation was that wall W156 ends exactly in the eastern part of the square, but does not create a corner. This means that this cannot be the southeastern corner of the Hellenistic Compound, but simply a space in the wall that may have served as a doorway into the compound on a north-south axis. The northern side of wall W156 is especially well preserved. We have here a construction of limestone ashlars with the layers that alternate between headers and stretchers. The southern and outer side of wall W156 is less well preserved, but we exposed here the two upper courses of the lower part of the wall built in *opus quadratum* of smooth basalt ashlars very carefully dressed.

#### **Arthur Segal**

Zinman Institute of Archaeology University of Haifa The South City Wall (SWL) Michael Eisenberg

The Western Section (SWL-I)

Supervisor: Ms. Ranin Noufi

he excavation of this area, located about 55 m. south of the *forum* and adjacent to the south city wall had already begun in the previous season in July 2005. This area was chosen for excavation since we assumed that we would find here the artillery ramp on which the heavy missile machinery of the city defenses was placed. We also wished to study the method of construction and to date the wall in the section that had been surveyed previously but had not been excavated. Noted below are the variables that led us to the decision to focus on the excavation of this particular section of the wall:

- Analysis of old and new aerial photographs a study of an aerial photograph took in 1945 by the RAF and new aerial photographs in addition to survey flights by members of the expedition, indicated a leveled area relatively free of building debris in this part of the city (see figs. 1-3)
- **Topographical analysis** a study of topographical maps and intimate knowledge of the area showed that the only direction from which the enemy could bring forward heavy missile machinery capable of overcoming the challenge posed by gorges surrounding the mountain was from the direction of Sussita Stream that runs south of the mountain.
- The Ancient Road Our estimation is that the ancient road leading to the main gate of Sussita in the east as well as in the direction of the Syrian cities, passed adjacent to and south of the southern cliff.<sup>24</sup> It was only natural for the enemy to

\_

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> A. Segal et al., *Hippos-Sussita: Sixth Season of Excavations (July 2005)*, Haifa 2005, p. 13-14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> For a discussion about the system of fortifications in Sussita and the fortifications in question, See: M. Eisenberg, *The System of Fortifications in Sussita in Relation to City Fortifications in the Roman East during the Hellenistic-Roman Period* (M.A. Thesis), University of Haifa, Haifa 2003, p. 54-63, figs. 53-55, 60-64. See also: M. Eisenberg, *Sussita: First Season of Excavation along a Segment of the Northern City Wall*, Haifa 2001 (Heb.). A survey of the fortification system in Sussita is being conducted in the framework of a doctoral dissertation by M. Eisenberg, with a focus on early fortification systems.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> In addition to the oral evidence regarding the milestones to the south of the city, some of which bore inscriptions, three milestones can be discerned that are standing not *in situ* on the saddle to the southeast of the mountain.

transfer through here the main part of the army and the war machines in the direction of the saddle and the main gate of Sussita.

The southern section of the city wall had not yet been excavated in contrast to the northern wall near the North-West Church where a section of 20 m. had previously been excavated.<sup>25</sup> We wanted to examine the wall ruins in this area and to find out whether it would be possible to identify a fortification from the Hellenistic and Roman Periods under the remains of the Byzantine and Umayyad structures that were noticed during the survey. The section of the southern wall that was selected could be well noted for its good state of preservation by any observer looking up the walls from the south. This section was built solely of basalt ashlars, with the foundation material made of mortar and field stones washed out from the outer side of the western section so that the basalt foundations were held only by their inner ends. Another corner was destroyed on the east side in the center of the section. We were not able to explain the cause for the destruction of the two corners of the fortification section. The collapse of the western one caused erosion and the destruction of the foundation on which the wall substructure had been laid (see figs. 33, 39).<sup>26</sup>

At the end of the previous season, in July 2005, after the exposure of the Byzantine caldarium adjacent to the south city wall, a pit appeared. In this pit, about 30 cm. wide and about one meter in depth, under the hard mortar foundation on of which the hypocaust was built, we had placed our hopes of finding earlier remains of the fortifications. During this season we exposed here an extended section of about 21 m. But the excavation was not extended northwards along the full length of the section, except for selected parts of it.

An extended section of about 21 m. and of varying widths of 3.40-7.50 m. was exposed near the south wall in continuation of the excavation during the previous season (hereafter Section I). Another fortification section of about 7 m. in length was exposed 15 m. to the north of the wall and north of Section I (hereafter Section II). A third section of 6 m. in length and 7.50 m. in width was exposed near the wall and to the east of Section I (hereafter Section III) (see figs. 1, 3). Below is a description of the three sections:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> See above, note 22, Eisenberg 2001.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Conservation works must be carried out urgently in this section of the fortification. Such conservation plan is already in full swing.

#### **Section I**

This is the main excavation section in direct continuation of the excavation of the hypocaust of the Byzantine bathhouse carried out during the last season. We now removed the hard mortar foundation on which the floor of the *caldarium* (L1029) had been based. It seems that this mortar foundation had been poured over the remains of previous fortifications, eliminating them entirely and creating a level surface up to the wall on which the *caldarium* and the other rooms of the bathhouse complex could be built. The section that was excavated here is about 21 m. in length and with a varying width of 2.40 - 5.50 m. going from the line of the south wall northwards.

To our great surprise we exposed here a well-preserved fortification system that rises to a height of up to 2.90 m. (see figs. 32-33, 37). It appears that the city wall at this straight section is from the Roman Period. The whole section of the wall in question (W1018) is founded upon the basalt bedrock that had occasionally been smoothed out but was almost entirely rippled. A layer of mortar, earth and field stones was placed over the bedrock creating a leveled surface on which the substructure of the wall was laid. The foundations of the wall were constructed of basalt beams of 1.80 m. long and 0.50 m. wide that were laid upon the foundations in close header construction without any binding material. The narrow fronts of the stone, those that protruded outward and inward were dressed. This section of the wall was surveyed and its total length is about 45 m. Placed upon this foundation were the layers of the wall constructed of basalt ashlars. A small number of these were in secondary use, and some were found decorated with finely dressed margins of the style that was common in the 1st century CE and similar to those we had excavated in the pilaster of the East Gate.<sup>27</sup> The basalt courses survived in this section to a maximum height of nearly four meters (without including the height of the mortar foundation) (see figs. 33, 39). The width of the wall at its base, where the basalt beams were placed, is 1.87 m. and 1.55 m. in the upper surviving parts.

A tower, integrated in the city wall, was located in the western part of the excavated section (see figs. 34, 38, 40-43). The western wall of the tower (W1059) survived better than the others, rising to a maximum height of 2.90 m (see fig. 45). The eastern wall of the tower (W1015) survived to a height of 2.60 m., and the southern one (W1018), which is part of the southern city wall, to the height of 2.70 m. In the center of the

\_

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> See M. Eisenberg, *The Fortifications of Hippos (Sussita) in Light of the Hellenistic-Roman City Fortifications in the Roman East* (M.A. Thesis) University of Haifa, Haifa 2003, p. 66-67, fig. 29.

southern tower wall a rectangular doorway was found (0.60 m. width and 0.80 m. height). The northern tower wall has not yet been excavated. The western and eastern walls were well built, and except for the infrequent secondary use of basalt ashlars, it seems to have been a unified construction. By contrast, the southern wall of the tower underwent many alterations. This wall was built by a number of construction methods. During the course of the various construction stages the main section of the wall above the entrance was sealed up. Ashlars with dressed margins that were in secondary use and limestone blocks of irregular sizes were merged in this construction (see figs. 38, 40) It is not unlikely that this section has simply collapsed and had been rebuilt. A doorway was located in the center of the northern wall. This doorway was found at the bottom of the wall, with its floor being the upper part of the clay foundation and its top being roofed with a lintel. The length of the lintel facing into the tower was 1.60 m. and that of the lintel facing outward was 0.60 m. (see fig. 38). The doorway was planned during the first stage of the wall since it was based on the space created by the absence of a number of foundation basalt beams (the depth of the doorway is the same as the depth of a basalt beam -1.80 m.). The purpose of the doorway is uncertain, and it may have served as a drain for water accumulating at this section of the wall and tower, or that it was a postern, since it could definitely allow a human to pass through it (see fig. 42, 43). Support for this second assumption can be derived from the wall ruins on the cliff to the south and outside the wall at this section. The doorway is located exactly at the center of an outer post that survived in a bad state on the cliff outside the doorway (on the south). This post could have served as part of a fortification wall or a frontline position intended to minimize the "dead areas" and to improve the firing abilities of the city protectors in the direction of the slope.

At the bottom of the tower that was excavated and 0.60 m. to the north of wall W1018, exactly opposite the postern, a short section of another wall was exposed. This wall (W1051), exposed to a length of about 2 m., survived to a height of two courses above its foundations (height: 1.15 m.). The wall was built of basalt ashlars and the stones were crudely fashioned (which should probably be ascribed to the fact that this was a foundation layer with only one course above it). The foundation layer was ranged in header construction and the one above it in an alternate pattern of header and stretcher. Wall 1051 is dated prior to the walls of the tower as well as the wall section of the south wall and is part of the earlier fortifications. The foundations of the wall, its direction (east-west, 284°) and also its method of construction differ from the walls of the tower (see figs. 34, 35, 42-43) The builders of the tower were aware of the existence of the

wall and did not dismantle it, but we have not succeeded in understanding for what purpose they decided to leave it in place. Nor does this wall resemble the construction and direction of the earlier walls that were exposed 4.70 m. to the east of it and which will be discussed below. The very few sherds unearthed from the foundation of the wall (L1067) have been dated from 1<sup>st</sup> century to early 2<sup>nd</sup> century CE.

To the east of wall W1015 and adjacent to the city wall, a trial excavation has been opened (measuring 0.90 x 5.60 m.). Here, 0.60 m. north of and parallel to the south wall (W1018), another wall, W1047 (direction 104°), was exposed to a height of 0.40 m. and a length of 4.50 m. Because of time limitations, the wall was not excavated to its foundations and we were unable to date it. However, the foundation trench of wall W1044 (L1054) cuts through this wall and this implies that it is of a later date (see figs. 34, 44). The construction of wall W1047 is also different from the other walls that were exposed here. It is built of basalt ashlars of excellent quality in an alternate pattern of two headers and one stretcher, with the outer face of the layers dressed as a shallow embossment (see fig. 34). To the east and near wall 1047, at the edge of the trial excavation, a wall W1041 was exposed progressing generally in a north-south direction (19°). Only three ashlars survived from this wall. This wall predates the south city wall and it seems to be of a later date than wall 1047. On the level of the upper course of wall W1041 an unusual phenomenon was discovered. Here, in an eastward direction, seven basalt ashlars (F1043) were exposed with their outer dressed sides facing downward while their undressed sides faced upward. This phenomenon is consistent for all the ashlars here, so that a non-leveled surface was created for some obscure reason.

To the west and adjacent to the western wall of the tower (W1059), another wall W1063 was exposed. It was built of basalt ashlars and had a general north-south orientation (19°). The wall was exposed to a height of a single course – 0.50 m. and to a length of 1.90 m. A white clay floor (F1064) meets it on its west side. The wall creates a right angle with the south city wall (W1018), but does not join or merge into it. A gap of a few centimeters separates the two walls, and it seems that wall 1063 predates the city wall.

#### **Section II**

Section II is a section of construction exposed to a length of about 7 m. and a width of about 1.30 m. at a distance of 15 m. to the north of Section I (see fig. 46). The excavation here focused on the exposure of the surface and the tops of the walls, and did

not go deep. Wall 1068 was exposed here as the continuation of wall 1044 and wall 1034 that formed a corner with it, and it had a general east-west orientation. The wall is built of basalt ashlars in an alternate pattern of header and stretcher or two headers and a stretcher. The eastern continuation of wall 1034 was exposed to its foundations in Section III as described below. On the top of the wall we discovered the remains of a structure built of local limestone. The remains of this structure were placed upon a thin and uniform foundation of rough stones. As said earlier, only a surface exposure was conducted here, but it is already possible to discern a doorway (of 3 m. in width) and a wall of the southern front of a building that was about 7.25 m. in length. The doorway faces south, and to its north there is a partial exposure of a pavement made of stone fragments of varying sizes.

#### **Section III**

This section is located about 8.5 m. east of Section II. The maximum width of the section (east-west) is about 6 m. and its maximum length (north-south) is about 7.50 m. (see fig. 47). In the northern part of the excavation we found the continuation of the wall 1034 excavated in Section II, which constitutes part of the system of fortifications of the south wall and the walls of the tower excavated in Section I. The aim of the excavation here was to expose wall 1034 to its foundations and to date it, as well as to carry out a trial excavation as far as the city wall itself to the south. Eight layers of wall 1034 had survived (height: 2.95 m.), anchored on the basalt bedrock (L1074) (see figs. 47-48, 51-52). A few centimeters above the foundation layer of the wall, above the basalt rock, the remains of a clay floor (F1071) were exposed. Wall 1080 is of a later date than this and adjoins it on the west. Adjacent to and south of wall 1034 we found the beginnings of a flat vault (W1077) carried by wall 1050 on its western side. The eastern end of the vault was not exposed, nor was this area excavated (see figs. 47-48, 51). A short section of an additional wall (W1081) was partially exposed under the later wall W1080. It seems that this wall served as a supporting wall for the western wall of the vault (W1050). A trial excavation was begun adjacent the wall W 1050 that carried the vault and in the direction of the south wall. The vault opening in the south wall of the city is 4.17 m. wide. Here it can be ascertained that the vault opening was narrowed. During the Byzantine period this opening was entirely blocked (see figs. 49-50).

Assuming that the distance from the western corner of the opening to the western supporting wall was identical to the distance between that of the exposed eastern corner

to the eastern supporting wall, we may determine that the vault width is of 6.05 m (see fig. 51).

The stones of the vault are fine ashlars and their average size is 0.35 x 0.43 m. Above the remains of the vault and on top of the western supporting wall (W1050) a filling of rough stone and ashlars immersed in binding material. The upper part of this filling is a uniform and leveled hard, gray-colored mortar (see fig. 47). During the previous excavation season in July 2005, we assumed that this was of a later, Byzantine stage, of the same period as the bathhouse adjoining the wall. We now think that the mortar leveling was of the same period as the vault and served as a level surface for the construction of the upper parts of the city wall and perhaps even for the placement of missile projectiles above the gallery formed by the vault (see fig. 52). Additional nearby remains of identical mortar leveling raise the possibility that we have here a complete series of vaults that constitute a gallery for the second floor of the fortifications.

The space created by the vaults could have served a number of purposes, including the storing of ammunition, equipment or even the missile projectile itself. Thus, it is not unlikely that the space roofed by the vault was used as a position for heavy projectile machinery that guarded the road leading up to the East Gate. If this assumption is correct, there must have been a number of openings in the city wall for projectile missiles to allow for one large machine or a number of medium-sized ones to fire in the direction of the attackers. The range of the projectiles (catapults and ballistae) was at least 250 m. which makes them effective for protecting the city against an enemy advancing on the ancient road that descends eastward.<sup>28</sup>

#### **Summary**

The main finds that were excavated during this season in this section of the south city wall, to the south of the forum, were dated to the Roman Period. They include a uniform wall section of 45 m. in length based on a foundation of clay mixture and limestone covering the rippled basalt bedrock that formed a level surface on which the substructure of the walls were laid. This substructure was composed of basalt beams of 1.80 m. in length upon which the wall of basalt ashlars, 1.55 m. in width, was constructed. This section of the city wall had several walls abutting it at right angles,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> For a detailed study regarding the development of projectile machinery and their technical capabilities see: E.W. Marsden, Greek and Roman Artillery: Technical Treatises, Oxford 1999.

three of which create a kind of recess adjacent to the south wall (walls: 1034, 1050, and 1015). The function of this wide recess is still obscure and it is not clear whether it is part of a recurring fortification plan throughout the entire length of the city wall of Sussita during Roman times.

Under the main segment walls of the city that have been exposed, a number walls were found that predate the whole section of fortifications, but at this stage we have not managed to date the walls (except for W1051 that should be dated to the 1<sup>st</sup>- early 2<sup>nd</sup> century CE) and to understand the earlier fortification plan.

#### The Eastern Section (SWL-II)

Supervisor: Mr. Ran Vizen <sup>29</sup>

wo excavation areas were opened up adjacent to the line of the south wall, about 50 m. east of the SWL-I area. The area more to the west was opened at the place where the tower was identified before excavation, and the other area, 19 m. to the east, at the place where two loopholes had previously been located (see fig. 3).

#### The Western Area – The Tower

Even before excavation, it was possible to discern here a number of walls protruding from the line of the city wall that we assumed to be part of a tower. On the top of these walls an IDF position had been built, overlooking the southern slopes. After the dismantling of the position, the remains of the early tower were exposed.

The tower has a rectangular shape, its external measurements are 5.28 x 12.80 m., and it is divided into two rooms (see figs. 53-55). The tower is founded upon a rock that juts out a little from cliffs on which the south city wall is based (W288) and which constitutes the northern wall of the tower. Wall W195 is the outer southern wall of the tower, the western wall is W862, the eastern wall is W866, and wall 199 is a wide inner wall that divides the area of the tower into two rooms. The walls of the tower are built mainly of rough stones and binding materials merged with ashlars in secondary use. The walls were based upon a thin platform of rough stones laid upon the bedrock. This

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> In the third week of the excavation Ran Visen was called up for military service and Gabriel Haloon replaced him as area supervisor until the end of the excavation season. This is a good opportunity to thank him for his efforts.

platform protrudes inward from the walls and creates a kind of bench (W863, W867) (see figs. 53-57).

Entrance from the paved surface F295 into the western room was through a doorway in wall W288 (see figs. 54-55). From this doorway there remains the threshold and a doorpost on either side. The internal measurements of the room was 2.80 x 5.33 m. Entrance into the eastern room (internal measurements: 3.25 x 3.25 m.) was through a similar doorway in wall 288. Its hinge sockets indicate that it had double doors, and there were remains of a base for doorposts. When entering through the doorway, one does not reach the floor level of the tower but only thickenings in the wall. The floor of the room here excavated is 1.20 m. lower than the entrance level. After a thorough examination of the room and its walls it seems that the following solution should be offered. The level of the paving that was excavated constitutes the ground floor. From the entrance one descended to the ground floor by means of two or three stairs that were located in the northwestern corner of the room. What remains of these stairs is a Byzantine capital in secondary use (see figs. 53, 55). Turning to the right of the entrance, one mounts a ramp (F869) built on the eastern part of wall 199 that divides the two areas of the tower. Of this ramp, which leads to the outer southern wall of the tower, there remains two basalt blocks. Here one could go upstairs to the second floor of the tower and/or stand opposite the window of a loophole. It was possible for small projectiles to be moved about on the ramp (see figs. 53-55).

The tower can be dated to the Byzantine period on the basis of its secondary construction in which Byzantine architectural items have been incorporated, as well as on the basis of the pottery found in it (see Pottery Report). It is possible that only the square eastern room, with its thickened walls protruding slightly beyond the line of the wall, served as a tower, and that the western wall adjacent did not belong to the fortifications.

To the north of the tower we discovered a fine stone pavement (F295) that nearly reached wall 288 at only a space of about 20 cm. from it, which seems to imply that the pavement predated the wall. The pavement has been exposed to a width of 1.50 m. and a length of 5.60 m. (see figs. 53-56). We have not yet exposed the northern end of it. The pavement is made of rectangular basalt slabs (average measurements: 0.30 x 0.50 m.) resembling those that pave the *cardo* leading to the North-West Church (F406). No signs of dressing were found on the pavement slabs. At this stage it is not known

whether this was a plaza adjacent to the tower or perhaps part of the street along the wall. In the coming seasons we intend to open additional areas to the north of the wall in order to resolve the question.

Under the walls of the tower we exposed a number of wall segments of a structure, apparently of an earlier tower founded upon the basalt bedrock (see figs. 54-55, 57). The course of these walls does not overlap with the walls of the later tower. Wall 863 was located in the eastern part of the western room. Its general direction is north-south and only the foundations, constructed of rough stone immersed in binding material, were exposed. The width of the wall was 0.75 m. and it was exposed to a length of 2.35 m. In the eastern room, the eastern wall (W865) of an earlier structure was exposed. Of this wall there survive only two layers constructed of basalt ashlars. This wall creates a corner with the remains of wall 864 that runs in a westerly direction and creates a corner with wall 863. The internal length of the earlier structure is 3.45 m.

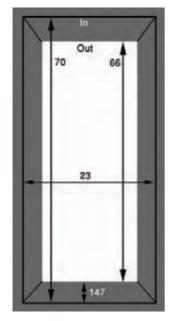
#### The Eastern Area – The Loopholes

As mentioned above, two narrow loopholes were located in the outer part of the city wall. These loopholes are in a well-preserved segment of the city wall with up to ten courses in height in the southeastern part of the city (see fig. 58). The loopholes are at a distance of 5.60 m. from each other and their level in the wall is identical, about 1.60 m. above the level of the basalt bedrock (external measurements: height -0.20 m., width -0.17 m.).

On the inner side of the city wall, opposite the eastern loophole, an excavation square was opened measuring  $2.50 \times 5$  m. m. that was later widened to  $2.50 \times 10$  m. in order to include the area opposite the western loophole (see figs. 59-60). The aim of the excavation here was to determine the fortification plan in this section of the wall and to examine whether these were indeed firing embrasures.

After the excavation of the layers of filling that contained many rough stones, we reached the occupation *strata* of the rooms adjacent to the wall. The inner side of the south wall (W195) was exposed here to a height of five courses (1.70 m.) (see figs. 59-60). The wall was built mainly of ashlars, with each course separated from the other by a layer of small rough stones intended to fill in the gap between the uneven stone courses. Near the eastern section a plastered channel was found that was bordered by two thin walls (W851 and W852), running in a general north-south direction (see fig.

61). The channel should be dated to the latest stage of construction exposed in this area. It begins at the upper level, penetrates down to the levels below and moves in the direction of the south wall although it does not reach it but stops 0.30 m. away from the city wall. The eastern loophole has been exposed in its entirety (the western one is almost identical) (see fig. 60). It is trapezoid in shape and measures (in cm):



Under the loophole there is a large basalt block with a flattened upper part to serve as a paving or position from which a soldier could fire through the loophole (see fig. 60). In an experiment we conducted, we found that a person kneeling on one leg and leaning over the other leg to fire an arrow from

his bow, could easily fire through the loophole. However, the person firing did not have a direct view of the attackers below on the slope and the firing would have to be indirect. The large stone block under the loophole was adjoined by a wall running in a general north-south direction and beginning from the northern section (see fig. 61). This wall was built carelessly of medium to large sized basalt blocks without any binding material. Adjacent to this wall was a pavement (F854) constructed of unprocessed basalt slabs that had smooth upper surfaces. The slabs were matched together to form a uniform expanse (see fig. 60). The pavement extended from wall W851 to the western section of the square. Under the pavement, and on the western side of it, a round shaped oven was found (see figs. 60-61). The oven has survived only in its lower parts but its contour is intact (W857), its diameter is 0.90 m. and the thickness of its sides is 5 cm. Undisturbed layers of ash were found in it (L856) that allow us to date it on the basis of the pottery finds discovered here. The oven was built on a base of rough stones and fragments of bricks placed haphazardly. Near the oven was a broken clay vessel with most of its parts located and later restored.

Towards the end of the season it was decided to enlarge the excavation area westward in order to expose the western loophole, but we were unable to complete this task for lack of time.

#### **Michael Eisenberg**

Zinman Institute of Archaeology University of Haifa



## Two Greek Inscriptions from the *Decumanus Maximus* Adam Lajtar

In the previous volume of the report from the excavations at Hippos/Susita, I published a basalt slab with the acclamation  $\varepsilon \tilde{v} \pi \rho \acute{\alpha} \tau \tau \sigma \iota \zeta =$  "You should do well". The slab was discovered while clearing the main street which cuts the ancient town in the eastwest direction (decumanus maximus). It was inserted in the late (6th/7th century CE) paving of the street, some 20 metres to the east of the agora. The inscription may be dated to the 3rd/4th century CE on palaeographical grounds. The discrepancy between the date of the inscription and that of the paving shows that the present location of the inscribed slab is secondary. Originally it must have been placed elsewhere within the town, most probably in a public place, either as an element of street pavement or a building.

Further clearing of the decumanus maximus towards the east brought to light a similar find. It is a basalt slab inserted in the same late paving of the street, some 50 metres east of the agora, midway between the agora and the so-called cathedral, near the southern frontage of the street. The slab is roughly rectangular in shape. It measures 61.5 cm in width and 35.5 cm in height. It carries a Greek inscription in two lines. The script is mostly erased, presumably through walking. Letters represent round epigraphic majuscules. Their height varies from 4 cm (" $\eta$ " in line 2) to 7 cm (" $\beta$ " in line 1). Generally letters are bigger and more widely spaced in line 1 than in line 2. The script is neither nice nor careful. The shape of letters suggests a date in the 3rd/4th century CE.

The inscription is clearly incomplete on the right-hand side (cf. especially line 2). It obviously continued on another stone (a slab) which is lacking now. Originally, the two slabs were placed near each other in a location within the town of Hippos, perhaps in the vicinity of the slab with the acclamation  $\epsilon \hat{v} \pi \rho \acute{\alpha} \tau \tau \sigma \iota \varsigma$ . At some point the two slabs were separated from each other and the left-hand one was inserted, script upwards, in the late pavement of the decumanus maximus.

αύξι – "up with" standing at the beginning of the inscription indicates that we are dealing with an acclamatory formula. The αύξι acclamatory formulae were especially widespread in Late Antiquity (4th/6th century CE) as is attested by both literary evidence and inscriptions. They combine the acclamation αύξι (with variants αύξε and αύξε(τω))

<sup>\*</sup>I would like to express my sincere thanks to Prof. Dr. Arthur Segal, the Director of the Hippos/Susita archaeological project, for his invitation to publish these two inscriptions and for supplying me with all necessary information. I also highly appreciate Prof. Segal's help which I profited from during my stay in Hippos/Susita in July 2006. I thank Prof. Dr. Jolanta Mlynarczyk and Dr. Mariusz Burdajewicz for making my visit to Hippos/Susita possible, and Prof. Dr. Tadeusz Sarnowski for discussion of matters connected with the Roman army. Dorota Dzierzbicka was kind enough to correct the English of this paper.

For αὖξι acclamations, see E. Peterson, Εἶς θεός. Epigraphische, Formgeschichtliche und religionsgeschichtliche Untersuchungen, Göttingen 1926, pp. 181-183; L. Robert, Hellenica XI-XII, Paris

with the designation of an addressee in the nominative, more rarely in the vocative. The αὕξι acclamations were normally addressed to people, therefore the addressee is usually a person², but we also come across names of cities³ and corporate bodies⁴ or even common nouns, mostly with an abstract meaning⁵. As a rule, the name of the addressee of the acclamation comes immediately after the verb αὕξι. This means that in the inscription from Hippos studied here it should be hidden behind the group of letters EIEBAAI[ - - ]. I am unable to make any reasonable proper name or noun of these letters even admitting a mistake committed by the redactor of the inscription or by the person who wrote it on the stone⁶. With EIEBAAI[ - - - ] as the subject of the acclamation, the only certain fact is that the acclamation was not addressed to the city of Hippos itself. EIEBAAI[ - - - ] being the subject of the acclamation, line 2 probably contained information referring to the subject. However, there exists a possibility that the

1960, p. 23; Th. Klauser, RAC 1, Stuttgart 1950, col. 228, s.v. "Akklamation"; Ch. Roueché, JRS 74,

A series of acclamations from Aphrodisias in Caria praising the city's benefactor Albinus is

LEphesos 2045: αὕξι 'Αμβρ[όσιος] ὁ λαμ(πρότατος) ἀνθ[ύπατος] ὁ ἀνανεω[της] τοῦ ἔργ[ου τούτου]; S. Mitchell, Anat. Stud. 27, 1977, p. 91, no. 36: αὕξι Ἰωάννης ὁ εὐπάροχος τῆς πατρίδος (Ankyra, 4th century CE); IGLSyr II 671 Β: αὕξη 'Αστηρόνα ποιέσας τὰ αὐτὰ ἐροεῖον; IGLSyr XIII 1, 9441: αὕξι, Δῶρε, μετὰ τῶν τέκνων (Bostra); LBW 2415: αὕξι, Μαρκελλῖνε, ὁ θεός σε ἐβοήθησεν (Syria).

αύξι Θεοδόσ[ιος (Corinth, 5th/6th century CE); *I.Ephesos* 1313: αύξι 'Ασκλήπις ὁ μεγαλοπρεπέστατος ἀνθύπατος; *I.Ephesos* 1321: αὕξι Βιβιανὸς ὁ μεγαλοπ(ρεπέστατος) κόμ(ης);

3 Here one should mention in the first line a series of acclamations in honour of Perge inscribed at the time when Perge was the headquarters of Emperor Tacitus in his war against the Goths in 275/6 CE; for the publication of these acclamations, see I. Kaygusuz, "Perge unter Kaiser Tacitus Mittelpunkt der Welt", Epigr. Anatol. 4, 1984, p. 1-4 (reprinted as SEG XXXIV 1306). Among the altogether 14 acclamations, 12 start with the words αΰξε Πέργη. An acclamation in hour of Perge also in Hammat Gader in the nearest vicinity of Hippos; cf. L. Di Segni [in:] Y. Hirschfeld (ed.), The Roman Baths of Hammat Gader, Jerusalem 1997, p. 213, no. 1 (reprinted as SEG XLVII 2012): αΰξίτω Πέργη, ἡ πρώτη τῆς Παμφυλίας. Acclamations for other cities: IG X 2, 1 789 = D. Feissel, Recueil des inscriptions chrétiennes de Macédoine du IIIe au VIe siècle [= BCH Supplement 8], Paris 1983, no. 291: αΰξι Νεάπολις μετὰ τῶν φιλούντων (Thessalonike, 4th/5th century CE ?); I. Ephesos 3090: [εἰς τοὺς αίῶνας] αΰξι ἡ μεγάλη 'Εφε[σίων πόλις]; G. Dagron, D. Feissel, Inscriptions de Cilicie [= Travaux et mémoires du Centre de recherche d'histoire et civilisation de Byzance, Monographies 4], Paris 1987, no. 6: αΰξη 'Αστερή[α] ὑκωδωμουμένη ὡς πώλης (small island of Bağşakada, some 20 kilometres south of Seleukeia on Kalykadnos [Silifke], 5th/6th century CE); D. G. Hogarth, PEQ 54, 1922, p. 23: αΰξι 'Ασκάλων, αὕξι 'Ρόμη.

4 Cf. e.g. I. Ephesos 565: αὕξει τ[ο] πληθος [τ]ῶν ἀργυροχόων.

6 Considering that it is dangerous to admit a mistake where the meaning is unknown.

especially instructive here; cf. Ch. Roueché, with contributions by. J. M. Reynolds, Aphrodisias in Late Antiquity. The Late Roman and Byzantine Inscriptions Including Texts from the Excavations at Aphrodisias conducted by Kenan Erim [= Journal of Roman Studies Monographs no. 5], London 1989 (cited further as Roueché, Aphrodisias), no. 83 vi: ΠΕΡΔΕ 'Αλβῖνε αὕξι ὁ κτίστης τῆς στοᾶς; no. 83 xiii: αὕξι 'Αλβῖνος ὁ λανπρ(ότατος) τῆ συνκλήτφ; no 83 xv: αὕξι 'Αλβῖνος ὁ κτίστης καὶ τούτου τοῦ ἔργου, Acclamations to Albinus from Aphrodisias were studied on a wide background in an exhaustive article by Ch. Roueché, "Acclamations in the Later Roman Empire: New Evidence from Aphrodisias", JRS 74, 1984, pp. 181-199. Aphrodisias also yielded acclamations in honour of other people; see Roueché, Aphrodisias, no. 12: αὕξι Οὐρανία ἡ μεγάλη τύχη τοῦ δούλου σου, αὕξι ὁ Χροσόμαλλος ὁ πῆξας τὸ μάρμαρον; no. 55: [αὕ]ξι Πυθέας [ὁ μ]εγαλοπρ(επέστατος) [καὶ ἰλλ]ούστριος; no, 89: α]ὕξι Θεόπομπος [ὁ μ]εγαλοπρ(επέστταος) πολι[τευόμ(ενος)] σὺν θ(ε)ῷ πα[τὴρ τῆς πόλεως]. Acclamations originating from other sites praising people: SEG XXII 222, 4:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Cf. e.g. Roueché, Aphrodisias, no. 186 ii: αὕξι ἡ τύχη τῆς πό(λεως); IGLSyr I 145: Βιβλισαρίου στρατελάτου αὕξι νίκη (Cyrrhus in the Euphratensis, 542 CE); G. Wagner, Les Oasis d'Égypte à l'époque grecque, romaine et byzantine d'après les documents grecs (Recherches de papyrologie ed d'épigraphie grecque) [= Institut français d'archéologie orientale, Bibliothèque d'étude 100], Le Caire 1987, no. 53: αὕξη τύχη παρὰ τῶι ἀναγινώσκωντι "Αμπιο[ς] (Graet Oasis, 3rd century CE).

acclamation in the inscription from Hippos was composed in a different way than the standard  $\alpha \tilde{v} \xi_1$  acclamations. The subject of the acclamation would not have immediately followed the verb  $\alpha \tilde{v} \xi_1$  but would have been placed at the very end of the text preceded by a series of verbs starting with  $\alpha \tilde{v} \xi_1$ . Were it so, we should have to read either

```
αὕξι ΕΙΕΒΑΛΙ[ - - - ]
[ 1-2 ] , ρη εὐσεβ[ῆ - - - ].

or

αὕξι ΕΙΕΒΑΛΙ[ - - - ] |
[ 1-2 ]  P ἡ εὐσέβ[εια - - - ].
```

In the first case, the subject of the acclamation remains unknown; it could have well been the city of Hippos. The letters ]  $\rho\eta$  at the beginning of line 2 have a good chance of being the end of the third person singular subjunctive of present active of  $\chi\alpha i\rho\omega$ :  $[\chi]\alpha i\rho\eta$ . Tentative translation: "Should (e.g. the city of Hippos) grow up, [ - - - ] rejoice, be pious". In the second case, the translation reads: "Should piousness [ - - - ] grow up [ - - - ]". The second of these two possibilities seems less probable to me as it produces a word ending with ]. P at the beginning of line 2 which would be difficult to explain in the given context.

Still further to the east, yet another interesting find was unearthed when clearing the decumanus maximus. It is a drum of a column made of hard limestone. It is 40 cm in height and 44 cm in diameter. The drum is relatively well preserved though the stone surface is weathered and the edges, especially the upper one, are chipped out. The drum carries a Greek inscription in six lines. The text measures 35 cm in width and 23 cm in height. The average height of letters amounts to 2.8 cm. The letters are round epigraphic majuscules, not very nice though quite careful. The text may be read as follows:

```
'Αγαθῆ Τ[ύχη]-
'Ισίδωρος καὶ Δο-
μιττιανός, οὐετ(ρανοὶ)
4 ἐξ ἱεροῦ πρετω-
ρίου, τῆ κυρία πα-
τρίδι.
```

2-3. read Δομιτιανός | 4-5. read πραιτωρίου

To the Good Fortune. Isidoros and Domitianos, veterans from the sacred praetorium, (have dedicated this) to the Sovereign Fatherland.

2-3. The gemination of consonants (here Δομιττιανός instead of Δομιτιανός) is common in post-Classical Greek irrespective of the actual ethnolinguistic or

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The drum was found near another drum, slightly larger in diameter. It is uncertain whether the two drums belong together or not.

sociolinguistic context<sup>8</sup>. It probably is of purely graphic character and does not reflect the pronunciation. The appearance of the name  $\Delta$ ομιτιανός (a Greek transcription of the Latin *cognomen* Domitianus which in turn derives from the *nomen gentile* Domitius) in Hippos is not without interest. A Greek inscription of 238/239 CE written on a honorary column found in the north-eastern corner of the agora of Hippos<sup>9</sup> makes known a Domitia Oulpia thus indicating that the *gens* Domitia had its residents in the city on the eastern shore of the Lake of Galilee. The presence of Domitii in Hippos surely facilitated the establishment and diffusion of the name Domitianus ( $\Delta$ ομιτιανός) in the same area<sup>10</sup>.

The inscription published here has a word for word counterpart. The text stands on a basalt column capital discovered in Kafr 'Ayyun, a village in the south Golan, and now kept in the Prehistoric Museum of Qibbutz She'ar Ha-Golan<sup>11</sup>. It reads:

'Αγαθῆ Τύχη·
'Ισίδωρος καὶ
Δομιττιανός, οὐεττ(ρανοὶ)
4 ἐξ ἱεροῦ πρετωρίου,
τῆ κυρία πατρίδι.

The two inscriptions share not only the same text, but also the spelling variants Δομιττιανός and πρετωρίου. Also the arrangement of the text is astoundingly similar in both. Obviously the two men – Isidoros and Domitianos – set up two identical dedications to their Sovereign Fatherland at the same time: one in the town of Hippos itself, another one in Kafr 'Ayyun which most probably is to be considered as the place of their permanent stay within the territory of Hippos. Thus the two Greek inscriptions of Isidoros and Domitianos provide clear proof that the area around the modern village Kafr 'Ayyun on the southern outskirts of the Golan Heights belonged to the *chora* of Hippos, a

<sup>8</sup> For the description of the phenomenon and its analysis, see Cl. Brixhe, Essai sur le grec anatolien au début de notre ere², Nancy 1987, pp. 31-33, especially p. 33 where he cites the name Δομεττία (in Cilicia); F. Th. Gignac, A Grammar of the Greek Pappri of the Roman and Byzantine Periods, vol. I: Phonology [= Testi e documenti per lo studio dell'antichità 55], Milano 1976, pp. 156-165, especially p. 161 (about τ ) ττ). It should be observed the doubling of "τ" occurs with a particular frequency within the names Δομίτιος, Δομιτιανός, etc. in the language of the Greek pappri from Egypt; for references, see Preisigke, Namenbuch and Foraboschi, Onomasticon, s.vv. For other, extra-Egyptian examples of the same spelling, see C.S. Lightfoot, J.F. Healey, Epigr. Anatol. 17, 1991, p. 3, n. 11 where the inscription from Kafr 'Ayyun is also cited.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> For the publication of the inscription, see A. Lajtar [in:] A. Segal et alii, Hippos – Sussita. Fifth Season of Excavations, September – October 2004, And Summary of All Five Seasons (2000-2004), Haifa 2004, pp. 43-48

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> A certain Ἰοῦλις Δομιττιανοῦ (note the double "τ") occurs in an inscription found in Khisfin, a modern village lying within the territory of Hippos; cf. R.G. Gregg, D. Urman, Jews, Pagans and Christians in the Golan Heights: Greek and Other Inscriptions of the Roman and Byzantine Eras, Atlanta 1996 (further on cited as Gregg-Urman, Jews, Pagans and Christians), p. 86, no. 88 (reprinted as SEG XLVI 1947).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Published for the first time by S. Applebaum, B. Isaac, Y. Landau, SCI 4, 1978, pp. 134-135, no. 3, with photo on p. 157. The text of the editio princeps was reprinted as SEG XXVIII 1427. Republished by Gregg-Urman, Jews. Pagans and Christians, pp. 19-20, no. 14. The latter publication was a subject of remarks by B. Isaac [in:] J.H. Humphrey (ed.), The Roman and Byzantine Near East 2. Some Recent Archaeological Research [= Journal of Roman Archaeology Supplementary Series Number 31], Portsmouth 1999, p. 181.

fact which also is attested by Rabbinic sources<sup>12</sup>. One can suppose that the civic territory of Hippos encompassed the whole massif of the south Golan reaching, on the south-east, the Yarmuq river from where it extended westwards to the Lake of Galilee leaving on the left Hammat Gader which already belonged to the territory of Gadara.

Isidoros and Domitianos style themselves veterans from the sacred praetorium. The term "sacred praetorium" (ἰερὸν πραιτώριον) was subject to different interpretations by the editors of the inscription from Kafr 'Ayyun. Basing on Justinian's Novellae and some papyrological evidence, Applebaum, Isaac and Landau observed in the editio princeps that "the use of the term (ἰερὸν πραιτώριον A.Ł.) does not seem to precede the 4th century", and "may well be subsequent to Constantius II's reunification of the empire in 350"13. They concluded with the statement that the term in question designates "the headquarters of the Praefectus Praetorio Orientis at Constantinople"14. Gregg and Urman expressed doubts concerning this interpretation and suggested that "the praetorium served by our two veterans may have been simply a small fortified installation of the sort often used (as residence or stopping place) by provincial governors"15. Their interpretation was criticized in turn by B. Isaac, one of the authors of the editio princeps of the inscription from Kafr 'Ayyun16. He rightly called attention to two facts: 1) the adjective ιερός was reserved only for institutions connected with the emperor; 2) one cannot be, logically, discharged from a military installation but only from a military service. In view of that, the praetorium from our inscriptions cannot designate just any fortified place, but only a military office or a military formation directly related to the imperial house. The only office which comes into question here is that headed by the praetorian prefect (praefectus praetorio).

It is known that the office of praefectus praetorio was created by Augustus in 2 BCE to give command to the imperial guard which assured the emperor's safety in his headquarters (praetorium)<sup>17</sup>. With time, this initially military office was endowed with other, mainly civilian competencies which made the praefectus praetorio one of the highest officials of the Empire, standing in the nearest vicinity of the emperor and acting on behalf of the latter. He was the main judge and emperor's adviser in juristic matters, he exercised control over the collection of some taxes and had power over the administrative personnel in the imperial house and in provinces. Nevertheless, he beheld important

15 Gregg-Urman, Jews, Pagans and Christians, p. 20.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Tosefta Shevi'ith 4.10 (66.4-6) and Yerushalmi D'mai 2.1.22d where Kafr 'Ayyun is included among the "townlets in the district of Susita" (non vidi; cited after Gregg-Urman, Jews, Pagans and Christians, p. 20).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Applebaum, Isaac, Landau, SCI 4, 1978, p. 135. Following their reasoning, the inscription from Kafr 'Ayyun was dated to 350-400 CE in later works, e.g. in SEG XXVIII 1427.

<sup>14</sup> Loc. cit.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> B. Isaac [in:] J.H. Humphrey (ed.), The Roman and Byzantine Near East 2. Some Recent Archaeological Research [= Journal of Roman Archaeology Supplementary Series Number 31], Portsmouth 1999, p. 181.

<sup>17</sup> For the office of praefectus praetorio, see M. Absil, Les préfets du prétoire d'Auguste à Commode, 2 av. J.-C. – 192 ap. J.-C., Paris 1997; L. L. Howe, The Pretorian Prefect from Commodus to Diocletian (A.D. 180–305), Chicago 1942; E. Stein, Untersuchungen über das Officium der Prätorianerpräfektur seit Diokletian, Wien 1922; A. Gutsfeld, Die Macht des Prätorianerpräfekten. Studien zum praefectus praetorio Orientis von 313 bis 395 n. Chr., Berlin 1997; id., "Der Prätorianerpräfekt und der kaiserliche Hof im 4. Jahrhundert n. Chr." [in:] A. Winterling (ed.), Comitatus. Beiträge zur Erforschung des spätantiken Kaiserhofes, Berlin 1998, pp. 75-102.

military competencies throughout the entire Principate. As a commander of the praetorian guard he performed the role of the head of the General Staff in various civil and border wars, and occasionally even commanded legions in the troublesome times of the 3rd century CE. In Late Antiquity, the office of praefectus praetorio underwent far reaching changes. Constantine disbanded the praetorian guard in 312 CE and deprived praefectus praetorio of command over other troops probably ca. 330 CE. At the same time, the civilian competencies of the praefectus praetorio including the exercising of justice, levying of taxes and general control over the administration ceased to be extraordinary and were transformed into his ordinary duties. The division of the Empire into parts reigned by co-emperors led to the creation of regional prefectures according to the principle that each co-emperor had his own praetorian prefect. The number and the territorial range of these regional prefectures changed throughout the 4th century CE until it was established as Galliae, Italia, Illyricum and Oriens sometime in the 5th century CE.

Several terms were used to describe the office of praefectus praetorio in Greek texts of the early imperial period. One notes among others: ἔπαρχος τῶν δορυφόρων. ἔπαρχος τῶν στρατευμάτων, ἔπαρχος τῆς αὐλῆς, etc. In Late Antiquity, the term ἔπαρχος τοῦ (ἰεροῦ) πραιτωρίου prevailed. We have already seen that Applebaum, Issac and Landau, the first editors of the inscription from Kafr 'Ayyun, tentatively placed the appearance of the term ιερὸν πραιτώριον only in the 4th century CE. This is not exactly true. As far as I can ascertain, the oldest attestation of the term in question comes from an inscription from Thessalonike containing an invitation to munera18. The text, dated to 252 CE, has in the address (II. 4-5): καὶ τῶν διασημοτά[των ἐπάρχων] τοῦ ίεροῦ πραιτωρίου. Slightly more recent are two honorary inscriptions from Stara Zagora in Bulgaria. Both of them were set up by a certain Moukianos probably during the invasion of the Balkans by the Goths in 267 CE19. The first inscription bestows honours on Aurelios Heraklianos who is styled as ὁ ἐξοχώτατος ἔπαρχος τοῦ ἱεροῦ πραιτωρίου, the second one - on Markos Aurelios Apollinarios, governor of the province of Thrace, ἀδελφὸς τοῦ ἐξογωτάτου ἐπάρχου τοῦ ἱεροῦ πραιτωρίου (a brother of the latter). Mention should be made also of an inscription from Termessos in Pisidia set up in honour of an εξοχώτατος έπαρχος τοῦ ἱεροῦ πραιτωρίου Λ(name not preserved)<sup>20</sup>. The inscription was left undated by the editors but the epithet ἐξοχώτατος ascribed to the praefectus praetorio indicates that it should come from the second half of the 3rd century CE, i.e. more or less from the same time as the inscriptions from Stara Zagora<sup>21</sup>. It is in the 4th century CE that the attestations multiply considerably, both in

<sup>18</sup> SEG XLIX 815.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> The ultimate publication of the inscriptions is IGBulg. III 2, 1568 and 1569. The figure of the author of the honours – Moukianos – was studied in a separate article by M. Christol, "La carrière de Traianus Mucianus et l'origine de protectores", Chiron 7, 1977, pp.393-408. The two inscriptions which concern us here are quoted there in extenso on p. 398.

<sup>20</sup> TAM III 126.

<sup>21</sup> On the epithet ἐξοχώτατος which translates the Latin eminentissimus, see O. Hornickel, Ehren- und Rangprädikate in den Papyrusurkunden. Ein Beitrag zum römischen und byzantinischen Titelwesen, Dissertation Gießen 1930, p. 12. I do not take into consideration here P. Gissen Univ. I 16 dated to 276-282 CE which in lines 4-5 has: καὶ τοὺς ἔξοχωτάτους Ι [ ἐπάρχους τοῦ ἰερωτάτου πραιτωρίου as the term τὸ ἰερωτατον πραιτώριον is in the lacuna (though the text surely refers to praefectus praetorio as the epithet ἔξοχώτατος clearly shows).

literary and documentary sources (papyri and inscriptions), and not start to appear as Applebaum, Isaac and Landau were inclined to think. The above reasoning shows that the occurrence of the term ιερὸν πραιτώριον cannot be taken for an indicator of a late 4th century CE date of the inscription from Kafr 'Ayyun (and the newly discovered inscription from Hippos). Its use rather points to a much broader period from the middle of the 3rd century CE onwards. For such a long period, we have no possibility of stating which service were Isidoros and Domitianos actually discharged from. Were they on duty before 312 CE, they were probably soldiers of the practorian guard (cohortes praetorianae), were they on duty after that date, they were employees in the office of the praefectus praetorio, no matter if the Praefectus Praetorio Orientis is at issue or not22. Unfortunately the two inscriptions yield no other data which would allow to solve the problem of their dating. The abbreviation OYETT = οὐετ(ρανοί) in the inscription from Kafr 'Ayyun suggests a date no earlier than the 3rd century CE23. The general character of the inscriptions - dedications to the Sovereign Fatherland paralleled by the dedication of Ailios Kalpournianos and his wife Domitia Oulpia of 238/239 CE discovered recently on the agora of Hippos<sup>24</sup> - advocates for a date in the 3rd century CE. Also the shape of letters rather suits the 3rd than the 4th century CE. On the other hand, the use of single names instead of tria (or duo) nomina by the two men is in favour of a 4th century CE date. In this state of affairs, we have to content ourselves with a non liquet as far as the exact date of the Isidoros' and Domitianos' inscriptions is concerned.

The two inscriptions of Isidoros and Domitianos raise a general question of the presence of veterans of the Roman army in the civic corps of Hippos. The epigraphic corpus of Hippos (including the civic territory) makes known at least six veterans. In addition to Isidoros and Domitianos, the authors of the two dedications discussed in this paper, the following persons can be mentioned: 1) Ailios Kalpournianos, a former cornicularius in the office of the procurator summarum rationum, who, together with his wife Domitia Oulpia set up a dedication to the Sovereign Fatherland in 238/239 CE<sup>25</sup>; 2) Gaios Loukios Markellos, veteran of the 1st Legion, commemorated by the epitaph of 225/226 CE found in el-'Al<sup>26</sup>; 3) Aulos Oulpios Aurelianos, veteran of the Legio III Cyrenaica, the author of a dedication to Zeus Belos (palaeographically 2nd/3rd century CE) found in Khisfin<sup>27</sup>; 4) A man whose metric epitaph was found in el-'Al. According to this epitaph dated to the 3rd/4th century CE, he, as a soldier, was on duty in the office

22 It is well known that the civil service of the Late Roman Empire was thoroughly militarized. The officials were milites who took a sacramentum upon entering the service and left it through an honesta missio thus having the full right to call themselves veterans.

<sup>26</sup> H. Seyrig, Syria 27, 1950, p. 247, no. 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> The method of abbreviating plural nouns through doubling the last preserved letter developed in Greek inscriptions under the influence of the Roman epigraphic habits. According to M. Avi-Yonah, Abbreviations in Greek Inscriptions (The Near East, 200 B.C. – A.D. 1100) [= The Quarterly of the Department of Antiquities in Palestine, Supplement to volume IX], Jerusalem 1940, p. 41, this method of abbreviating is attested in Greek inscriptions from the turn of the 2nd to the 3rd century CE and through the Byzantine times.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Cf. above, note 9.
<sup>25</sup> Cf. above, note 9.

<sup>27</sup> Gregg-Urman, Jews, Pagans and Christians, p. 75, no. 71 (reprinted as SEG XLVI 1949). Gregg and Urman followed by the editors of SEG read the name of the man in the following way: Α(ὑλος) Οὕλπιος Α[ὑ]|ρήλ(ιος). This reading is difficult to accept as it produces two nomina gentilia and no cognomen. One should definitely read Α(ὑλος) Οὕλπιος Α[ὑ]|ρηλ(ιανός).

of the governor of a province<sup>28</sup>; 5) A certain Gaius son of Lucius for whom the military diploma CIL XVI 87 of 139 CE was prepared. According to the text of this diploma, its owner originated from Nikaia (in Bithynia) but he obviously settled in Hippos after he had been discharged from the army as the diploma was found in Fiq (Apheka); 6) A standard-bearer of the 10th legion mentioned in an inscription (an epitaph?) from Kafr Ḥarib<sup>29</sup>; note, however, that it is uncertain whether the man mentioned in this inscription was a veteran or was on active duty. The above list which has no ambitions for completeness shows that Hippos provided the army with recruits at least since the Severan times up to the 4th century CE. Some of them, probably those belonging to middle and upper classes of the civic society – one can mention Ailios Kalpournianos, Isidoros, Domitianos and the men commemorated by the metric epitaph from el-'Al – did not enter the regular army but were sent, some as non-commissioned officers, to serve in the offices of high Roman officials. After their discharge from the army, those men came back to their native city and, provided with the prestige of the veteran and having the financial security, played an active part in civic life.

Adam Łajtar Warsaw University Department of Papyrology

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Gregg-Urman, Jews, Pagans and Christians, pp. 63-64, no. 65 (SEG XLVI 1940. R. Merkelbach, J. Stauber, Steinepigramme aus dem griechischen Osten, 4. Die Südküste Kleinasiens, Syrien und Palaestina, München – Leipzig 2002, pp. 344–345, no. 21/21/02). Cf. D. Feissel, "Bull. ép." 1997, 648, p. 595 at the top.

R. Schumacher, ZDPV 9, 1886, p. 338 with drawing fig. 121 (Gildemeister, ZDPV 11, 1888, p. 44). Gregg-Urman, Jews, Pagans and Christians, p. 7, no. 1 (SEG XLVI 1945). Cf. B. Isaac, [in:] J.H. Humphrey (ed.), The Roman and Byzantine Near East 2. Some Recent Archaeological Research [= Journal of Roman Archaeology Supplementary Series Number 31], Portsmouth 1999, p. 181, who corrects some inaccuracies of the publication of the inscription by Gregg and Urman.

# An Early Arabic Inscription from the *Decumanus Maximus* Moshe Sharon

# SUSITA - HIPPOS - QAL'AT AL-HUŞN

Is. Gr. 211 242 (N. Is. Gr. 261 742)

he ancient town of Hippos (Aram. Susītah) had been already in ruins for quite a while before the Arabs occupied Syria. There is no mention of the place under the name of Qal'at al-Ḥuṣn in the classical Arabic sources, however a village called Sūsiyah, as well as a whole district (Kūrat Sūsiyah) in the province of Urdunn, which included the Golan, has appeared a few times in the Arabic sources. The village is mentioned in an anecdote enumerating various alcoholic beverages and wines, as being the origin of a certain intoxicating drink called after it – "baskarat sūsiyah" (Aghānī, 21:24-25).

In 176/792 this village and other places around Damascus was the scene of protracted bloody encounters between the quarreling tribal groups of Mudar on the one hand and Yaman on the other. Sūsiyah seems to have been a Yamanite village that avoided fighting and asked for the protection of the Mudarite leader and received it.

The Arab geographer Ibn Kurradādhbih (d. c. 300/912) mentions the district of Sūsiyah in the list of the districts of Syrian provinces (Ibn Khurradādhbih, 1889:78) and so also Yāqūt in his Geographical Dictionary (Muʻjam al-Buldān) under the entry of Sūsiyah. One or two other sources mention the village as the dwelling place of a certain scholar. (Ibn Manzūr, *Mukhtaṣar* 1988, in the biography of Waḍīn b. 'Atā' b. Kinānah).

The name Sūsiyah appears to reflect the ancient name of Susitah, and the fact that a whole district in the pre-Crusaders time was called after this village indicates its importance. However, the village is not mentioned as one of the stations on the way to Damascus and it seems that it was secondary to Fīq.

The inscription below was engraved of one of the columns of ancient Susitah-Hippos when it was already lying broken on the ground. There is a tendency to attribute the ruins of many places around the country to the earthquake of 749, especially in the Upper Jordan valley, the Galilee, and the Golan. The inscription below suggests that it could not have been written later than this date, or perhaps even a good few years

earlier. Therefore, this brings me to the conclusion that the town was in ruins long before the earthquake.

#### **Invocation**

c.100/717-132/749

A gray granite column 4.11 m. long, (diameter: 1 m. at the base), broken in two, was discovered during the seventh season (July 2006). It is one of numerous columns which had been brought from Aswān in Upper Egypt, as one of the columns of the *Decumanus Maximus* of Roman-Byzantine Hippos. The column was found about 1.5m away from its pedestal from which it fell either before, or soon after, the Islamic conquest. The inscription 0.46 x 0.34 m. was engraved on the lower part of the column shaft some 0.50 m. from its base, most probably after it had already fallen and broken. There are seven lines engraved in an angular, primitive, early 8<sup>th</sup> or even late 7<sup>th</sup> century, provincial script. Shallow letters were produced by a non-professional hand, with no points or vowels. The following reading is based on photographs supplied by M. Eisenberg. Three words at least in lines 1 and 2 were destroyed later.



اللهم اغفر(؟)...  $\Upsilon$ )بن ... مغفرةً لا تعذ  $\Upsilon$ )ر ذنبا(؟) امين ثم امين  $\Upsilon$ )رب العلمين رب  $\Gamma$  موسى ورب  $\Gamma$  ون رحم  $\Gamma$  ون رحم  $\Gamma$  الله على من قال امين

O, Allah! forgive (?) al-(one word deleted)....son of (one word deleted) such forgiveness that does not excuse sin. Amen! And again Amen! O Lord of the Universe, O Lord of Moses and the Lord of Hārūn. And the mercy of Allah should be (bestowed) on whomever says Amen.

The site and position of the column do not allow for a good reproduction. However, the photograph from which I prepared this reading is not bad and enables almost complete deciphering. The few words that were deliberately destroyed are the names of the person for whom this inscription was written and the name of his father, as well as the word opening the invocation, to which I offered a reading based on similar inscriptions. The ends of the lines in few places were badly engraved because of the position of column, and the bending down of the column's surface. I am not sure about the reading of the end of line 2 and its connection to line 3, but the meaning is clear, and I offer here the most plausible reading as I see it at the moment. If this reading is correct then we have here a new formula and an interesting idea: the writer is asking Allah's forgiveness but at the same time he acknowledges that this forgiveness, bestowed on him by the All-Merciful, does not mean an automatic absolution of sins.

The formula of this invocation resembles many other formulae of the same type, which are common in graffiti or semi-graffiti inscription from this period. They are found in Bethshean (Baysān), 'Ein Marzeb ('Ein Zurayb) and on rocks in the Negev and Sinai which are discussed in CIAP II 1999:226, and CIAP III (2004:161ff.; Ancient Rock inscriptions 1990:14\*-18\*) and in others (see. Hoyland 1997: passim).

#### **Bibliography**

Ancient Rock Inscriptions = M. Sharon, 1990. "Arabic Rock inscriptions from the Negev" Archeological Survey of Israel Supplement to Map of *Har Nafḥa* (196) 12-01. The Israel Antiquities Authority, Jerusalem.

*Aghānī =* Abū Faraj al-Işfahānī, 1285/1868. *Kitāb al-Aghānī*, Bulaq.

CIAP = Sharon, M. 1999-2004. Corpus Inscriptionum Arabicarum Palaestinae. Brill, Leiden.

Hoyland, R.G. 1997. "The content and context of early Arabic Inscriptions." Jerusalem Studies in Arabic and Islam, 21:77-102.

Ibn Khurradādhbih 1889. Kitāb al-masālik wa-al-Mamālik. Ed. M. J. de Goeje, Brill, Leiden.

Ibn Manzūr, 1988. Mukhtaşar Ta'rīkh Dimashq, dār al-Fikr, Beirut.

Yāqūt al-Ḥamawī, *Muʻjam al-Buldān.* Dār Ṣādir, Beirut, n.d.

#### **Moshe Sharon**

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem Publications of the *Corpus Inscriptionum Arabicarum Palaestinae* 



# North-West Church Complex (NWC) Jolanta Młynarczyk & Mariusz Burdajewicz

Supervisors: Dr. Adam Łajtar and Ms. Emilia Jastrzebska

rchaeological work in the NWC area during the season in question was devoted to the uncovering of two porticoes of the church's *atrium*, the western and the northern ones, which had so far remained unexplored.<sup>30</sup> Unfortunately, with the outbreak of the War in the North, a number of our students participating in the dig left the country, which prevented us from completing the exploration of the church compound. However, despite an untypical situation in which the fieldwork was continued, we were able to obtain some interesting results.<sup>31</sup>

## **1. The western portico of the** *atrium* (see figs. 62, 67-69)

In the western portico of the *atrium*, the surface layer was removed to expose a single layer of building material (stones, dressed blocks and architectural fragments) collapsed during the earthquake of 749 CE. We will be able to remove them only during the next season (2007), yet their careful cleaning allowed us to note the presence of a stone floor in this portico, paved with basalt slabs (F564). The portico is 3.50 m wide, and it was entered from the west by a doorway situated on the axis of the portico; the lower part of its southern doorjamb was found standing *in situ* (see figs. 62, 67).

The south-western corner of the *atrium* has been cleaned down to its floor level (see figs. 63, 68). It is paved with a plain (non-patterned) mosaic (F449, at 126.89 – 126.97 m ASL<sup>32</sup>), a part of which has already been discovered in 2002.<sup>33</sup> Composed of big cubes (mostly white-coloured ones), laid rather carelessly, the mosaic was found covered with a layer of lime, virtually impossible to remove. Parts of this floor must have been destroyed still before the earthquake of 749 CE as suggested by a semi-

<sup>- 2</sup> 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> The Polish team included, beside the authors of the present report and the area supervisors, a group of students of archaeology and art history from the Warsaw University, the Cardinal S. Wyszynski, University in Warsaw and the Catholic University in Lublin, as well as from the Conservation Department of the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw. Our fieldwork was sponsored by the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities, as well as the Warsaw University; the research required for the present report was supported by the Polish Komitet Badan Naukowych, Grant no. 1 H01 B009 29 in the years 2005-2007.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> We would like to thank our Israeli and American partners for their cooperation throughout the entire excavation season, as well as the inhabitants of kibbutz Ein Gev for their unfailing help and warm friendly attitude toward the Polish team.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> ASL standing for "above sea level".

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> A. Segal *et al.*, *Hippos*, *Third Season of Excavations*, *July 2002*, University of Haifa, November 2002, fig. 3.

circular *lacuna* in the mosaic (Diam. ca. 0.50 m), which was found framed by a double row of fieldstones, apparently marking the place of some domestic installation. During the final period of the *atrium* this must have been a shallow pit (L554, deep 0.30 m below the mosaic level) of unknown purpose. It was filled with soil containing few insignificant potsherds and an iron knife blade (inv. no. MU 06.04).

A basalt column drum set on a base (NWC 181) was found standing *in situ*, but clearly in a secondary position, abutting the western wall of the *atrium* (W799). This secondary spatial arrangement should be attributed to the final utilization phase of the *atrium*. In a corner between the wall and the column base a large ceramic funnel of an Umayyad type (inv. no. P 06.01) was found (see fig. 69). This south-western part of the *atrium* most probably continued to have some kind of a roofing till the earthquake of 749 CE as suggested by a concentration of broken rooftiles' fragments, both *tegulae* and *imbrices*.

At a distance of 3.40 m from the southern wall (W479) of the *atrium*, the mosaic floor gives way to the basalt flagstones of the western portico. The transition area between the two different kinds of floor appears to be quite deeply sunken (see fig. 68), but the reason for this phenomenon cannot be explained before the next season, when the collapsed blocks are removed and the floor is cleaned. A level stretch of the basalt pavement (F564, at 127.03 m ASL) has been noted in a probe at the northern end of the portico. The outer western wall of the *atrium* (W799) could have been cleaned in its entire width (amounting to 0.90 – 1.00 m) only at its southern end. It is constructed of basalt blocks and smaller semi-dressed stones. What will definitely be needed during the next season of fieldwork, is not only to excavate the whole length of the wall, but also to identify and record the walking level on its outer (western) side.

#### 2. The northern portico of the atrium (see figs. 62, 64-65, 70-71)

Most puzzling and, at the same time, very difficult to interpret are results of the exploration of the northern portico. The north-eastern corner of the *atrium* (the join between the eastern and the northern porticoes) revealed the existence of an underground water cistern (L798) right in front of a blocked doorway in the eastern wall of the *atrium* (W792) (see fig. 70); this blockage has already been recorded at the eastern face of the wall during the previous season.<sup>34</sup> The logical conclusion is that the water cistern could have been installed in this specific place only after the eastern

\_

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> J. Młynarczyk and M. Burdajewicz, in A. Segal *et al.*, *Hippos – Sussita, Sixth season of Excavations, July 2005*, University of Haifa, December 2005 (henceforth: Report 2005), 40 and fig. 71.

entrance to the *atrium* had been sealed, that is, not earlier than in the 7<sup>th</sup> century CE. Not a slightest remnant has been left of the mosaic which in all probability used to cover the original floor, as attested for the southern and central sections of the eastern portico (F297).<sup>35</sup> The floor of this corner area, damaged while constructing the cistern, was subsequently repaired by means of limestone blocks of unequal dimensions, used as flagstones (F797); however, they failed to provide any level surface, which instead was uneven (at the highest point amounting to *ca.* 127. 45 m ASL as compared with 127.39 m ASL at the top of the threshold of the blocked door) and roughly sloping from north to south. One of these blocks served as a capstone; however, both the lack of a well-head and the arrangement of the stones sealing the opening suggest that during the final period of the church the cistern either was abandoned and permanently sealed, or it was not used on a daily basis.

The cistern is of a bottle-shape type. Its circular mouth (Diam. *ca.* 0.75 m) is crowned by four basalt blocks making a square frame. The cylindrical shaft is ca. 2.00 m deep, before it widens to a bell-shaped form, to reach a diametre of *ca.* 3.80 m near the bottom which is covered with an earthen fill of unknown thickness. The outline of the bottom is rather oval than circular, measuring ca. 3.80 m from north to south and ca. 2.20 m from east to west. The total depth of the cistern, as taken from its mouth to the top of the fill, amounts to 5.30 m. The walls are covered with well preserved thick whitish mortar; it has not been ascertained where precisely the masonry ends and the rock-cut wall begins.

In the narrow space between the corner of the walls (W292 and W795) and the mouth of the cistern, remnants of a floor (F555) were found at the height of 126.90 m ASL. Composed of lime mortar mixed with some pebbles and small basalt stones, it seems to pre-date not only the construction of the cistern, but also that of the two walls which apparently rest upon this floor. This suggests that F555 should be connected with the utilization period of the *cella* building before it was converted into the church. If so, this would be the same walking level as F268 recorded in two probes opened in the eastern portico during the previous seasons.<sup>36</sup>

In the original phase of the church, a doorway 1.10 m wide used to connect the *atrium* with the area on the northern side of the *basilica*, where the winery was to be arranged

\_

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup>J. Młynarczyk and M. Burdajewicz, in A. Segal *et al.*, *Hippos – Sussita, Fifth Season of Excavations September – October 2004*, University of Haifa, December 2004 (henceforth: Report 2004), 59-60 and fig. 67.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Ibidem, 63 and fig. 22; Młynarczyk and Burdajewicz, Report 2005, 47.

during the final phase of the compound. The construction of the doorway, which lacks doorjambs, closely resembles that of the entrance to the northern aisle hinting at their contemporaneous origin (see fig. 70). A basalt lintel, apparently pertaining to this doorway, is 1.38 m long. The threshold is composed of two basalt blocks, possibly reused architectural elements, as was the case with the architrave blocks secondarily used for the construction of the thresholds of the three western doorways to the *basilica*. As stated above, the doorway must have been blocked at the same time when the cistern was constructed, doubtlessly during the second phase of the church.

Another entrance led to the northern portico of the *atrium* from the outside. Located in wall W795, it is 1.00 m wide and 0.85 m deep. The doorsill (at 127.45 m ASL) is *ca*. 0.40 m deep, provided with a slot for a wooden door. On the inner (southern) side of the doorway and at a lower level (127.19 m ASL) there is a doorstep 0.20 m deep, elevated only 5 cm above the basalt-paved floor of the portico (F545). Both the doorsill and the inner doorstep are constructed of two blocks each. The eastern half of the portico, entered through this door, was paved with basalt slabs (F545) which ended in line with the stylobate of the eastern portico. An inner part of a basalt hand-mill was discovered standing to the east of the door, close to the northern wall (see fig. 71). It should be noted that in its final phase the northern portico, unlike the eastern one, was virtually unroofed. Right to the north of the column, in the north-east corner of the stylobate (NWC 165), another column (NWC 174) was placed clearly in order to bridge the distance between the stylobate and wall W795. However, further to the west the stylobate lacks as many as three column bases.

The construction of the northern wall of the *atrium* is not homogeneous (see fig. 69). The section to the east of the doorway actually consists of two contiguous walls: the southern wall (W795), which is 0.77-0.80 m wide, and the northern one (W544), 0.90 m wide. To the west of the doorway there is only a single stretch of the wall (W795 west). The reason for such solution remains to be explained; one possible answer is that the eastern section of W795 had perhaps to be reinforced in order to support a flight of steps (leading presumably onto an upper floor of the northern wing and/or the northern aisle of the *basilica*?); however, no elements suggestive of the presence of such stairs were found. On the outer side of the northern wall(s), in front of the entrance to the *atrium*, parts of a simple earthen walking surface were identified (L543) with some domestic pottery found against the wall; a more thorough investigation of this area, however, has to be conducted in the coming season to elucidate the relative chronology and function of the walls.

At a distance of 3.70 m to the west of the northern entrance to the atrium, a mouth of another water cistern (L546) was found under the northern wall (W795 west). There can be no doubt that this cistern pre-dates the construction of the wall in question; in other words, it must be earlier than the construction of the atrium. It also seems improbable that it would be used for collecting drinkable water after the wall had been constructed, because actually there was no way to draw water from it anymore. However, it is also clear that even then the cistern continued to be used, this time as a drain. This is suggested by the presence of a makeshift open channel modelled in plaster mortar and running from the pavement of the atrium courtyard through the stylobate (in which one of the basalt blocks is replaced with a limestone slab provided with a groove), to slightly slope towards the cistern (see fig. 72). The outlet of this open drain, however, is concealed under a basalt slab (a sort of cistern framing?) set parallel to the southern face of W795. In this part of the portico, the basalt pavement (F545) is clearly sunken in relation to the eastern part (126.93 m ASL versus 127.14 – 127.22 m ASL). Right to the west of the cistern, the northern wall of the atrium (W795) is met by a north-south wall (W547), parallel to the open drain. This wall, a western limit of the basalt-paved section of the northern portico, apparently served as a low partition wall, probably consisting of a wooden parapet set on a stone base, as suggested by shallow slots in the top surface of the blocks.

The cistern was preliminarily examined by Dr. Tsvika Tsuk to whom we owe the following description. The cistern represents a bottle-shaped type of a small size (ca. 13 cubic meters in volume). The mouth (0.58-0.60 m wide) and the shaft of the cistern are angular from the east and semicircular from the west. The cistern's neck is 2.8 m deep (including the stone framing on the top, apparently incorporated into W795) down to a point where it widens assuming a bell-like form. This lower part of the cistern is not more than ca. 3 m deep, including an earthen fill on its floor, the thickness of which is estimated as ca. 1 m. The bottom is rounded oval in outline (measuring ca. 4.00 m from north to south and 3.00 m from east to west). Since the cistern is carved in the basaltic rock, its walls are rough, full of cavities and projections. They are covered with a waterproof plaster consisting of a pink layer upon a grey-coloured one, a kind of plaster that should not be earlier than the  $2^{nd}$  century CE, but also it can be considerably later (Byzantine). The floor, which is covered with very soft soil, free of stones, gently slopes from the sides towards the centre. The comparison of the two cisterns, L546 and L798, demonstrates that they represent the same "bottle-shaped" type of a similar size; even

the outline of their bottoms is oval rather than circular.<sup>37</sup> However, their internal proportions are clearly different. The earlier cistern (L546) has a very long "neck" (shaft), nearly as deep as the lower bell-shaped part of the cistern, while in the later cistern (L798) the lower part is definitely deeper than the shaft. Also the kind of the waterproof mortar revetting the walls appears to be different in either case. An interesting feature of cistern L546 is an oval-sectioned plastered opening on the western side of its wall right below the neck, in the upper part of the chamber. There is little doubt that this was an outlet of a water conduit feeding the cistern with water.

#### **3. The cellar in the northern portico** (see figs. 64-65, 73-80)

Even before the exploration of the northern portico began, a difference between its eastern and the western halves could clearly be seen. The eastern half of the portico contained a heap of collapsed building material, while the western one was a low and flat area, densely covered by a layer of rather small to medium-size fieldstones. After the latter had been removed, a thin layer of dark brown-coloured soil appeared, containing patches of yellowish clay, soon followed by a fill of building stones. To our surprise, no floor was found in this part of the portico at the level which would correspond to that of F545 (in the same portico) and F564 (in the western portico). In search for a walking level of the portico, the foundation of its stylobate was exposed down to ca. 0.45 m below the top of the crowning blocks. The construction technique of the stylobate is identical to that noted in the western and the southern porticoes. It is only at this depth (126.59 ASL) that a sort of a walking surface appeared (F556). Paved with small and medium-size stones without use of mortar, it resembles a platform 0.90 – 1.00 m. wide, contained in between the stylobate foundation and an east-west wall (W551), which constitutes its northern edge (see figs. 64-65). The latter is only 0.50 m wide and consists of a single row of blocks. The short sides of the "platform" abut the outer wall of the atrium (W799) on the West, and the early Roman precinct wall on the East (W157, located in the previous season also under the southern portico and the courtyard of the atrium).<sup>38</sup> This Early Roman wall was clearly re-used by the builders of the NWC to serve as a substructure for the partition wall W547.

In the fill above the western end of the "platform" (L556), at *ca.* 126.80 ASL (*i.e.*, *ca.* 0.20 m below the level of the basalt flagstones of the adjoining western portico), a

52

\_

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> For an oval-bottomed cistern under the neighboring North-East Church, see M. Schuler, in A. Segal *et al.*, 74 and fig. 21 (cistern C).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Młynarczyk and Burdajewicz, Report 2005, 46-47 and fig. 14.

concentration of artifacts occurred. It included a hoard of ten bronze Umayyad coins (C 06.01 – 06.10, cf. Coin Report by A. Berman, this volume) an ornamented bronze buckle (MU 06.05), two iron handles of *situlae* (MU 06.06, MU 06.16), bone pins (BN 06.01-02), fragments of iron pins or needles (MU 06.08; MU 06.11), three small glass bottles (G 06.01 – 03, one of them found upside down in a body of a commonware juglet) and several tools of iron and bronze, including an iron pruning hook with remains of a wooden handle (MU 06.14 (see fig. 73). The context of these finds (L549 west, B1179) consisted of several collapsed blocks, many small stones and pieces of white plaster in a pale beige-coloured soil (suggestive of a large amount of lime mortar), all these accompanied by a large piece of what appears to be a part of a ceiling (?) or of upper floor(?) composed of lime mortar on clayey layer, perhaps with some organic admixture. The plausible explanation is that the objects in question fell down an unspecified kind of upper level (be it an upper floor or just a shelf on the wall) as suggested also by an upside-down position of a broken jar.

W551, which borders the "platform" on the north at 126.63 – 126.65 m ASL, turned out to be the southern wall of a corridor-like cellar (L552) (see fig. 74). This underground room is 1.60 m wide, 8.50 m long and 1.75 – 1.80 m deep. From the top course of the corresponding northern wall (W557) there protrude three basalt blocks perpendicularly inserted in unequal intervals (1.30 and 1.60 m) to serve as corbels. There must have been a fourth corbel block at some point of the wall closer to its eastern end; however, the top of the eastern section of that wall has severely been damaged. Only one out of three extant corbel blocks was an original moulded corbel (NWC 201), obviously reused from some earlier construction.

In general, the fill of the cellar consisted of several layers of collapsed blocks mixed with rather soft, light-coloured soil filling the spaces between the stones. However, the difference between the contents of the eastern and the western sections of the room was immediately conspicuous. In the eastern part, the soil was paler in colour and very soft, powder-like in consistence, with admixture of only few potsherds. The western and central sections of the cellar were characterized by more dense concentration of stone blocks and fragments of wall plaster, accompanied by numerous sherds of storage jars, especially in the lower part of the fill. The westernmost section of the cellar, abutting the western *atrium* wall (W799), contained exceptionally dense fill of stone blocks including two basalt column drums (NWC202, NWC203) which collapsed to nearly vertical position (see fig. 75). This detail strongly suggests the presence of an empty (unroofed) space in this part of the cellar, apparently serving as an entrance shaft. Such

a shaft, however, could not have accommodated any staircase, since it yielded no traces of constructed steps, not even the wooden ones; on the other hand, the space available was too narrow to contain even a steep flight of steps. The conclusion is that the shaft must have been equipped with a simple ladder for descending into the cellar. Under the larger of the column shafts (NWC202, 0.87 m long, 0.54 m in diameter), at *ca.* 0.65 m below the level of the "platform" (F556), a human skull was found (B1188). It should most probably be identified as that of a victim of the earthquake of 749 CE, to our knowledge, the first one ever discovered at Sussita.

The skull was examined by Prof. Israel Hershkovitz from the Tel Aviv University to whose kindness we owe the following report. The skull remains consist "mainly of the calvaria with missing parts of the left side" and it must have "belonged to a young female (not older than 30 years of age). The skull is very small in size. The facial region is missing and so are the teeth (which could help in determining the age). Interesting is the post mortem damage (circular defect) at the vertex (the upper part of the skull). This kind of damage is often seen in burials where the dead was lying supine and therefore the damage appear on the occipital region of the skull (this damage is due to the disintegration of the brain)." The occurrence of "such damage at the upper parietal region" means that "the head must have been positioned upside down". One possible explanation we can offer on archaeological grounds is that the young woman must have fallen into the entrance shaft (just like the two column drums did), her head down, during the fatal earthquake. However, the fate of the remainder of the victim's body is not known. Was it found among the debris by local survivors and retrieved to be laid to rest in a burial ground even without the head which had been trapped under the column shaft? Or was it found and devoured by wild animals?

From the depth of 0.90 m. below the level of the paved "platform", in the stone fill of the western and central sections of the cellar there occurred some broken pieces of a pebble floor, as well as concentration of broken wall plaster of fairly high quality, decorated with ornamental motifs painted in red against the white background (see fig. 76). The presence of many broken but apparently restorable storage jars leaves no doubt that the western/central section of the cellar was used as a storage area, presumably for wine coming from the winery installed in the northern wing of the church. The nature of the fill in the eastern section of the cellar was entirely different. Stones and blocks, clearly fewer than those noted in the central and western section, were accompanied by very soft soil, beige-grey in colour (admixture of lime mortar? crushed clay? ashes?). At the eastern end of the cellar, a doorway (1.50 m high, 0.65 m wide) broken through the

Early Roman precinct wall, leads to under the basalt pavement of the northern portico (see fig. 77). Only 0.80 m of this passage (L553) was excavated; its lower part has been found intentionally blocked by a huge column drum, its ceiling consists of basalt beams. This doorway to an unexplored room under the northern portico is preceded by a sort of a stone *podium* or doorstep (L561), 0.40 m high and 0.64 m deep (long). Its top has a kind of an earthen floor (125.30 m ASL), on which (as well as on the adjoining part of the cellar's floor) small pieces of charcoal were found (see figs. 77, 78).

The floor of the cellar (F558), reached at 124.86 – 124.90 m ASL, is composed of lime mortar mixed with earth. In its eastern part, the join between a two-metres long section of the northern wall (W557) and F558 exposes remains of what seems to be a floor made of pebbles set in lime mortar (several pieces of which were found at the midheight of the cellar's fill); the northern wall appears to have been built upon this floor. Against the southern wall (W551) of the cellar, at a distance of *ca.* 4.50 m from the western wall (W799), there is a mouth of an underground cistern (L559), sealed by a large irregular stone (possibly collapsed during the earthquake?) (see fig. 78). The cistern has a rectangular frame of roughly dressed blocks exposed on three sides: the East, North and West; the fourth, southern part of the framing appears to be concealed under the southern wall of the cellar (W551). The frame in question is 0.84 m long (North to South) and 0.64 m wide (East to West). The northern framing block has a groove, apparently to facilitate drawing of water.

Inside the floor (F558), a row of stones mark the course of a channel (L562) which slopes from the location of the cistern towards the entrance of the unexplored underground chamber and disappears under the "podium" in front of it (*ca* 0.55 m below the top of the "podium"). An initial section of the channel has been examined so that its total width can be determined as amounting to 0.32 m, the inner one - to just 0.10 m, and the depth – only to 0.09 m. The channel is tightly covered by small basalt stones joint with mortar. The 8<sup>th</sup>-century floor of the cellar concealed also remains of a small trapezoid basin (L563), constructed between the cistern (L559) and the northern wall (W557) (see fig. 79). The basin, only 0.20 m deep (?), is 0.80 m long, with its short sides measuring 0.38 m (north) and 0.33 m (south); its inner walls are revetted with a good quality mortar, while its floor is composed of flat stones. Obviously, we are dealing here with a water supply system, consisting of a cistern (a well?), an adjoining basin and an underground channel. The water was being drawn from the cistern and poured into the basin from which it was immediately directed into the channel and

transferred eastwards, doubtlessly in order to fed the other cistern (L546) through a plastered outlet visible in the cistern's western wall (see above).

The western end of the cellar seems to be separated from the remainder of the room by a sort of a stone fence, 0.50 m high, outlining a trapezoidal space (L560) 1.05 m wide at the southern wall and 0.85 wide at the northern one (see fig. 74). Inside this space, which would correspond with the bottom of a presumed entrance shaft to the cellar, the floor has not yet been reached. However, it is clear that the western and the northern walls of the cellar are bound to each other, which means they were contemporaneous. At the western end of the latter (W557), a sealed doorway, 1.00 m wide, can be seen (see fig. 80). This feature testifies that in the original planning of the cellar, the entrance was from the north. The westernmost section of the southern wall (W551) also looks as a secondarily filled space as it is not bound with the western wall (W799).

The phasing of the cellar will remain hypothetical at least till the next season of fieldwork when an additional research will be undertaken inside this room. One thing is certain: the builders of the atrium took advantage of the height difference between the walking level outside the Roman precinct wall and that on the temple platform in order to arrange an underground cellar within the western half of the northern portico. However, the chronology, even a relative one, of the water system remains obscure. The cistern or well (L546) in the cellar might, of course, go back to as early as the Hellenistic period, while the small pool and the channel might have been added later. The other possibility is that all the three features were contemporaneous. As to the channel linking the two cisterns and passing under the temenos wall (W157), it could have been constructed either together with that wall in the Early Roman (probably Augustan) period, or only when the temenos wall was broken through in order to build an underground chamber as a part of the church project, contemporaneously with the cellar. In the former case, there is a possibility that the water system would go out of use when the church cellar was built. However, the basic question if these installations are Early Roman or Byzantine in date, still remains unanswered. At a first glance, it would seem that the southern and northern walls of the cellar were built respectively above the pre-existing cistern and basin, but definite answer to this question calls for a further detailed analysis. Cleaning of an outer join between the eastern frame of the pool and the northern wall of the cellar yielded a couple of potsherds of the African Red Slip ware, of the forms dated to between the early 5<sup>th</sup> century and the mid-6<sup>th</sup> century CE (see Pottery Report, this volume). They supply us the dating for the construction of either both the basin and the wall, or (as we believe) the northern wall (and the whole cellar), provided that the basin is earlier than the church construction. These finds seem to push the construction date of the *atrium* and its cellar down to the mid-6<sup>th</sup> century.

# **4.** The original northern annexe of the church (see figs. 66, 81-82)

Exploration was undertaken of a modern military trench (L796) in the northern one of the twin storage compartments in the winery discovered in 2005.<sup>39</sup> The trench destroyed a crescent-shaped part of the plastered floor of this compartment. A cemented floor of the trench, 0.65-0.75 m. wide, was reached at ca. 0.20-0.25 m. below the floor level of L783. The trench floor was sloping northwards, toward the dismantled section of the northern wall of the winery (W245). Under the bottom of the trench, at ca. 0.40 m below the floor level of L783, the continuation of the mosaic floor F785 (originally found in compartment L780) was located (see fig. 81). We could note that the division wall between the two grape containers had been built directly on this mosaic floor. The latter was abutting the negative of the northern outer wall of the compound (W245), dismantled at this spot while making the trench. The mosaic was covered by a whitish layer ca. 0.20 m thick; apparently composed mostly of lime mortar, this should perhaps be interpreted as a destruction layer of the room.

In order to trace the extent of the original mosaic room, several basalt slabs of the treading platform (L775) were lifted. The slabs were ca. 0.15 m. thick, and they rested on a 0.05 - 0.10 m thick layer of fine lime mortar. The latter was directly overlaying the mosaic floor located at 127.19 - 127.21 ASL. A stretch of the mosaic was found destroyed, apparently during the installation of a basalt press-bed (0.37 m high) for the screw device, whose base rested 0.11 m below the mosaic level. When this *lacuna* in the mosaic was investigated (L548), we noted that it contained several layers sealed by the mosaic bedding, including one with the traces of conflagration.

The eastern edge of the mosaic has also been located under the basalt flagstones. The eastern wall of the room it once abutted had been dismantled when the wine press was built. The removal of the lime mortar bedding under the slabs of the treading floor allowed us to record a short section of this eastern wall (W565), its extant top at ca. 127.10 m ASL, that is, ca. 0.07 m below the mosaic level (see fig. 82). The wall's western edge is concealed under the mosaic, proving that the wall must have belonged to an architectural phase older than that of the mosaic room. There can be no doubt that the wall in question should be identified as the stylobate for the eastern portico of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Ibidem, 39-40, fig. 68.

Roman-period *temenos*, apparently the same wall has served as a basis for the western wall of the main *apsis* of the church (W256). 40 The builders of the northern annex of the church used the stylobate as a substructure for the eastern wall, reducing its width to 0.60 m. The original width of the wall cannot be ascertained, but it could not essentially differ from that of the northern stylobate (W264) which amounts to 0.85 m. 41

Thanks to the mentioned probes, the extent of the mosaic room (an original northern annexe of the church) can now be safely reconstructed as measuring 4.60 – 4.65 m from North to South and 6.60 – 6.65 m from East to West. The mosaic F785 displays a "carpet" of very simple geometrical motifs: a diagonal grid of squares outlined with a double row of dark grey cubes, each square containing a small square in the centre. <sup>42</sup> The enclosing border consists of double dark grey line framed by three rows of widely spaced tiny crosslets. The width of this border as established at the northern side of the room (below the military trench) amounts to 0.69 m; it must have been similar on the West, where it clearly exceeds the width of the "corridor" L780 (0.60 m). However, along the eastern wall the enclosing border is just 0.52 m wide. The function of the mosaic room unfortunately remains unknown. It is tempting to consider the location of an original baptistery there (such a location of the baptistery to the north of the northern aisle is known from Khirbet Karak, not to mention the "cathedral" of Sussita), <sup>43</sup> yet our mosaic room yielded no finds connected with its usage which could have supported or excluded such identification.

#### **Conclusions**

Once again, the focus of the research has been the final period of the church existence, specifically, the last decades of the Umayyad period. The architecture of the northern portico of the *atrium* reflects a number of practical solutions (suitable for changes in the functioning of different parts of the complex) such as sealed entrances, additional walls, domestic installations. Dramatic testimony to the disastrous earthquake of 749 CE has been the skull of a young woman trapped under the column shaft, as well as a modest

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> J. Młynarczyk and M. Burdajewicz, In A. Segal *et al.*, *Hippos – Sussita*, *Fourth Season of Excavations June – July 2003*, University of Haifa, December 2003, 32, figs. 19 and 56-58.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Młynarczyk and Burdajewicz, Report 2005, 45

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Cf. the narthex decoration of the church in Nebha in Lebanon, probably of the first half of 7th century: P. Donceel-Voûte, *Les pavements des églises byzantines de Syrie et du Liban*, Louvain-la-Neuve 1988, 396, 404, fig. 381; see also the 6<sup>th</sup> century monastery of Kyra Maria at Bet Shean, G.M. Fitzgerald, *A Sixth Century Monastery at Beth Shan*, Philadelphia 1939, pl. XII. The same pattern adorns the 6<sup>th</sup> century floor of the southern portico in the *atrium* of the NWC.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> P.Delougaz and R.C. Haines, *A Byzantine Church at Khirbat al-Karak*, Chicago 1960, 17-18, pl. 13; C.Epstein and V. Tzaferis, The Baptistery at Sussita-Hippos, *Atiqot* XX (1991), 89-94.

hoard of copper coins and other objects (tools, glass bottles) abandoned at a random spot (?). Another interesting point is the chronology of the cisterns, of which L559 (perhaps a well rather than artificial cistern?) apparently was connected to cistern L546 (situated at a higher level) by a carefully constructed channel. Exploration of the two cisterns as well as of the chamber under the pavement of the northern portico is definitely of crucial significance for elucidating the chronology of the NWC complex. Finally, the cistern (L798) in the north-east corner of the *atrium* apparently pertains to the final phase of the church complex.

An important question to be posed at the present stage of the research regards the usage of the area during the period of transition between the cultic functioning of the pagan temple and the construction of the North-West church. A "dark period" in question is the 5<sup>th</sup> century. If the church was built, as it appears now, only in the 6<sup>th</sup> century, it is highly improbable that the temple, situated in the very centre of Hippos, the capital of a bishopric, would continue as a pagan cult place till that time! Therefore, one has to consider a period during which the temple walls were still standing (as attested for the northern wall of the *cella* which was *in extenso* adopted by the church builders), yet the usage of the building (if any) must have been different than the pagan cult. It may be useful to quote the story of Joseph from Tiberias (first half of the 4<sup>th</sup> century CE) who struggled (and eventually succeeded) to erect a church inside an unfinished pagan temple (the "Adrianeum") in Tiberias, simply because its walls already stood to significant height; in doing this, he acted against the will of the other inhabitants of Tiberias, who preferred to turn that building into a public bath.<sup>44</sup>

# Jolanta Młynarczyk

Research Centre for Mediterranean Archaeology at the Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw

Mariusz Burdajewicz National Museum in Warsaw

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> Epiphanius of Salamis, *Panarion* II, 30, 12, 2-3, cf. *The Panarion of Epiphanius of Salamis Book I* translated by F. Williams, Nag Hammadi Studies XXXV, 1987.

# Conservation Work in the North-West Church Complex Julia Burdajewicz

In accordance with the conservation schedule prepared for the 2006 season, a variety of treatments were applied to the structures uncovered in previous years, such as condition checking, consolidation of weakened or detached plaster and mosaic fragments, protection of the edges of plasters and mosaics, cleaning and protection of polychrome plaster surfaces. At the same time, the uncovering of new rooms of the church compound was accompanied by emergency protective actions. The team, supervised by Mrs. Ewa Radziejowska, was composed of Ms. Julia Burdajewicz, Ms. Maria Bator, Mr. Jan Morzycki–Markowski, students at the Conservation Department of the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw, as well as Mr. Michael Aniszewski, MA student at the Institute of Archeology, Warsaw University.

### 1. Wall plasters

# a) Winery in the northern wing of the NWC

Conservation action in the winery began from the twin plastered compartments for storing grapes (L782-783). Since these compartments were unearthed only during the last days of the previous (2005) season, they had to be left virtually without any protective intervention. However, due to a fairly good quality of their plaster revetment, no serious plaster losses were recorded over the past months. Stabilization treatments conducted there in 2006 included strengthening of the broken plaster edges with bands of lime-based mortar as well as applying a number of glue injections (Primal AC-33). As a result, the preservation state of the plaster lining has been estimated as satisfactory; it is only in the northern compartment (L783), which was partly destroyed by a military trench, that a danger of partial plaster loss on the edges of the modern trench has not entirely been eliminated (see fig.1).

Stabilization treatments begun in 2005 season inside the wine collection pool (L776) had to be continued during the season of 2006 as well. Numerous voids and blisters recorded on the surface of the hydraulic plaster coating the walls were cleaned and consolidated with the use of a liquid mortar based on hydraulic lime, while the plaster edges were being fixed and reinforced by means of bands of lime-based mortar. The whole process was complex and time-consuming due to the fact that the pool coating

consists of as many as three layers of plaster differing in quality and thickness. Also the fragility of plaster layers, with big blisters hidden underneath, prevented us from injecting too much mortar at one time. These treatments need to be continued also during the next season (see fig. 2). Finally, poor remains of hydraulic plaster surviving on the walls of the wine press platform (L775) and the fermentation room (L210) were cleaned and protected by applying lime-based mortar bands.

### b) Columns' drums and capitals stored in a lapidarium

Five drums (NWC06 – 11) and five column capitals of basalt (NWC03 - 05, NWC16 – 17) uncovered in the *basilica* during the seasons of 2000-2001 and buried since then under an earthen mound, were re-exposed during this season and moved to a safe storing place by the northern entrance to the *atrium*. All these architectural elements were covered with remains of plaster. During routine cleaning and removing of a thick layer of dirt, a green applied colouring was discovered on columns' drums, and a red one - on capitals. The surface was cleaned using dental tools, scalpels and soft brushes, after which the coloured plasters were protected with 3% Paraloid B-72 solution in aceton (see fig. 3).

# c) Conservation schedule for plasters in 2007 season includes:

- Completing of the stabilization treatments in the collecting vat of the winery begun in previous seasons: consolidation of detached fragments and protection of the edges.
- Checking of the condition of plastered parts of walls treated during previous seasons and subsequent consolidation and strengthening actions on weakened or detached fragments wherever required.
- Recording and describing of any changes in the condition of the plaster that might have occurred since the end of 2006 season.
- Emergency work following exploration of new areas wherever required.

#### 2. Mosaic floors

During the season of 2006 the conservation actions on mosaic floors embraced the following areas: the northern wing (F768 in the fermentation room 210W as well as F785 in a small corridor L780 and under the military trench L796), the south-western

corner of the *atrium* (F449), and the southern aisle of the church. In the fermentation room, the mosaic floor F768 has been preserved in a very good condition, as its industrial character required strength and resistance to possible damage occurring during the exploitation. Conservation treatment focused on the south-western corner of the room where intentional gap in the mosaic was provided with a sort of sink. The edges of this gap have been protected by means of a lime-based mortar. The bedding under the mosaic was also strengthened using Primal E-330 injections. In the coming season, it is recommended to reconstruct an original arrangement of mosaic cubes in the missing part of the framing to the "sink" area, due to its significance for understanding of this room's functions. Basic stabilization treatment was applied also to the mosaic of an original northern annexe of the church (F785) the parts of which were discovered under the small corridor (L780) and military trench (L796). The undertaken actions included the edges' reinforcement with lime-based mortar bands and injections with Primal E-330.

In the south-west corner of the porticoes of the *atrium*, where an "industrial" (made of big cubes) mosaic was discovered, the actions were virtually limited to the cleaning. Despite the scanty cube wastage, mosaic floor in this area is in bad condition due to the low quality of the bedding and probably to ground movements during the earthquake and throughout the years. As a result, the whole floor structure became wavy with many bulges and depressions. Moreover, the whole mosaic surface in this area is covered by a thick and very hard layer of probably calcium salt incrustations. Wide range of cleaning tests, including the use of mechanical and chemical means, were made in order to find the best cleaning method and identify the pattern of the floor. The mosaic turned out to be plain white. No further cleaning actions were taken due to a time-consuming character of this intervention. Mosaic was covered with 20 centimeters of sieved earth.

Protective layer of sand and fabric covering the floor of the southern aisle of the church was lifted during this season in order to record condition of the mosaic and any changes that may have occurred since year 2004 when it was covered. All structural and surface conditions as well as results of the previous conservators' interventions have been described and recorded both as a text and as graphic documentation (see fig. 4).

Conservation schedule for mosaic floors in 2007 season includes:

- Completing of work in the south-west corner of the fermentation room: reconstruction of the mosaic border of the sunken area and overall documentation of the mosaic floor in this room.
- Uncovering of the mosaic floor in the southern aisle at the places where damage processes were noticed during the 2006 season and undertaking stabilization actions.
- Recording of the condition of the mosaics throughout the church complex and proceeding with further documentation activities, especially in the northern aisle of the church.

Julia Burdajewicz
Conservation Department,
Academy of Fine Arts,
Warsaw





Fig. 1, Twin plastered compartments for storing grapes in the winery in northern wing of North-West Church. State of preservation after treatments conducted in 2006 season.

Note military trench in the northern compartment.



Fig. 2, Collecting vat in the northern annexe of the North-West Church. State of preservation after the conservation treatments applied in 2006 season.



Fig. 3, Remains of green-coloured plaster covering columns' drums stored in the *lapidarium* by the northern entrance to the *atrium*. State of preservation after routine cleaning and removing of a thick layer of dirt (close-up).

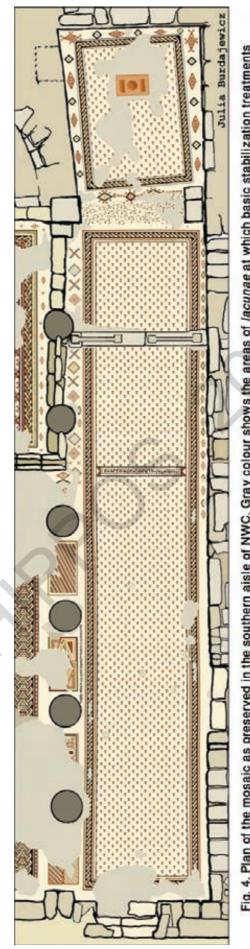


Fig. 4, Plan of the mosaic as preserved in the southern aisle of NWC. Gray colour shows the areas of lacunae at which basic stabilization treatments were conducted during previous seasons.

**North-East Church Complex (NEC)** 

**Mark Schuler** 

**Supervisor: Mark Schuler** 

n 2006, excavation continued work on areas surrounding the domus of the North-East Church complex, completed work on the masonry tomb, and continued conservation and cleaning of the earlier nave mosaic (F544). This report will address work done in the following areas (see figs. 83, 84):

- The North Gate Area
- The Southern Street
- The South Hall and Related Chambers
- The Chambers West of the Portico
- Cistern D
- The Masonry Tomb
- The Nave Mosaic

#### The North Gate Area

In the 2004 season, a gate had been identified at the north end of the portico. The relationship of the gate to surrounding structures was clarified in 2006 with work done in squares E0, E1, and D0. The gate itself is approximately 1.4 m. wide and was closed by two doors on pivots. About 1 m. was exposed to the north of the gate, but there was no evidence of a paved street as at the south gate.

The west end of the gate was bounded by a column base and a substantive Byzantine wall (W553) to the west (0.80 m wide). That column base sits on the north end of the stylobate that forms the western border of the church's portico (see figs. 83, 84). To date, no indications of a presumed atrium have yet to be unearthed. To the north of this column base is a later wall of poor quality (W594) that floats above the level of the stylobate. It is probably contemporaneous with other floating walls (W513, W541, W586, W592, W593, and W1209) that were removed in the course of excavation.

The full extent of the stylobate can now be documented (see figs. 83-86). It is a single course of basalt stones 18 m from north to south and varying between 0.90 and 1.10 m in width. The stylobate pre-existed the *domus*, the south-west corner of which was aligned the southern end of the stylobate. Six of a presumed eight column bases are still in-situ with an average *intercolumnium* of 1.96 m.<sup>45</sup>

A column base protruding from W540 at an approximate right angle (93°) to the north end of the stylobate motivated excavation of a narrow area (1 m.) north of W540 is square D0. The column base is in secondary use as part of the construction of the wall, as it does not sit on a stylobate. Column drums are also used in the wall. The base sits on a crudely paved stone floor of a room to the north of the north lateral chamber. A bench abuts the west wall of the room (0.40 m wide and 0.28 m high). A broken but relatively complete cooking pot was recovered on the bench. Complete excavation of this room is restricted by an access road to the north.

#### **The Southern Street**

Work in 2006 continued the exposure of the small street proceeding from the south gate of the North-East Church complex toward the *Decumanus Maximus*. A 5 m section was exposed to the level of the street (see figs. 83-85) and significant surface fill was cleared in preparation for exposure of the remaining 25 meters. A junction with the *decumanus Maximus* had been previously identified. Comparative elevations indicate a slope of about 8 cm per meter.

The street is 2.20-2.40 m wide and is surfaced with basalt pavers is rows 0.30 to 0.50 m wide. Most pavers are 0.60 to 1 m in length. To the east, the street is bounded by W585. The wall is constructed with basalt ashlars on its western face that survive to three and four courses in height. The street abuts the wall and was laid subsequently to the wall's construction. To the west, the edge of the street is less clearly defined. A threshold of a doorway is visible south of W569 and west of the street. The rest of the wall of which the threshold may be a part awaits exposure.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> Column diameters and intercolumniations are listed from south to north. Those measurements in parentheses represent missing column bases and assumed intercolumniations. 0.52, 1.74, 0.54, (2.1, 0.53, 2.1), 0.55, 1.94, 0.53, 2.05, 0.52, (1.92, 0.53, 1.92), 0.53.

#### The South Hall and Related Chambers

Initial work in squares C4 and D4 exposed three crudely build walls floating above the ruins of the North-East Church complex (W592, W593, W1209; see fig. 83). These walls were likely part of later agrarian use of the site and were removed. Below were portions of two chambers, a hall, and an antechamber.

The antechamber is 2 x 5 m and provides access to the street from the other rooms (see figs. 83, 87). It consists of two sections separated by a low wall (W1219; 0.24 m tall and 0.60 m wide). The outer section next to the street is 2 x 1.20 m. In the north-east corner of W510 and W1210 and in the south-east corner of W1210 and W1201 are two basins of hard plaster similar to the one in the north lateral chamber. As with the later example, these basins collected water from the roof and channelled it under the street to another channel running under the western edge of the street to cistern C. The channels confirm the use of cistern C during the active phases of the North-East Church complex.<sup>46</sup>

The inner section of the antechamber is 2 x 3.30 m and has a stone surface (F1213) overlaying an earlier floor of soft ceramic tiles. At its east end is a threshold leading to a chamber (2 x 2.60 m). A *lacuna* in W510 indicates that the wall (W1217) of which the threshold is a part was constructed at the same time as the south wall of the *domus* (W510). The door for the chamber locked from the inside, suggesting that the chamber served as sleeping quarters for an individual. It is one of three such chambers identified this season. Some fill remain to be excavated before reaching its floor.

In the south-east corner of the antechamber is a threshold providing access to a large hall. The hall is bounded on the north by W1201 (see fig. 87). W1201 runs from the street to W559 of the south vaulted chamber. Again a *lacuna* in W559 indicates that W1201 and W559 were constructed at the same time. The *lacunae* in W559 and W510 are significant, for they confirm that these southerly chambers were part of the original construction of the church. From the beginning, the *domus* was part of a significantly larger complex.

\_

use now unknown due to relocation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> The drainage channel leading to cistern C on the surface of the street has no apparent function, although it terminates at the mouth of the cistern. While it may have provided a means of catching overflow and runoff from the street, it seems more likely that the pavers here were reused and the channel had an earlier

The hall to the south of W1201 has only been partially excavated (see fig. 88). But a seam in W585 at 6.10 m from the north line of W1201 suggests that the hall's internal dimension is 4.50 m north-south. The hall is bounded to the east by W1218 yielding an internal dimension east to west of 5.40 m. The hall is only slightly smaller than the south vaulted chamber, but the hall lacks any piers to support such vaulting. Other than destruction fill, the hall was empty. Its floor was packed mud and plaster. A probe next to W1201 traced the cruder foundation stones to a depth of approximately 1 m.

A threshold in W1218 provides access to another inner chamber between W1218 and W559. The threshold is of poorer quality than those previously mentioned in this section (see fig. 88). But this threshold also would hold a door that locks from inside the small chamber. The chamber is 1.50 m wide with an uncertain dimension north-south. It too seems to be a chamber that served as sleeping quarters for an individual. Further excavation to the south will be necessary to clarify the full extent of the complex. The discovery of such quarters may support that theory that the North-East Church complex was an urban monastic compound. Rooms of similar small dimensions can be seen in the plans of the Kyria Maria Monastery at Scythopolis<sup>47</sup> and in the plan of the Monastery of St. Martyrius. Y. Hirschfeld points to an internal dimension of about 7 m<sup>2</sup> for cells in the *cenobia* at Khirbet et-Tina and Khirbet ed-Deir. 49

#### The Chambers West of the Portico

In 2005, easterly entrances to two rooms were discovered on the line of the portico's stylobate (see figs. 83, 84). The entrance to the southerly room is south of the gate. The internal width of the room is 3.20 m. Just inside the south gate is the entrance to a second larger room 3.90 m. wide. The doors from both rooms could be closed and locked from the inside. In 2006 the western extent of both rooms was exposed. A common wall (W591) serves as the westerly demarcation for both rooms, yielding in internal east-west dimension of 5.20 m. The common wall allows us to conclude that the southerly room is part of the North-East Church complex and not merely abutting it. The southerly room had a 20-25 cm plaster floor (F568) overlaying a stone floor (F571) of basalt and limestone pieces (see fig. 89). The chamber inside the gate had a similar

\_

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> G. M. Fitzgerald, *A Sixth Century Monastery at Beth-Shan* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1939) Plate 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> Y. Magen, "The Monastery of St. Martyrius at Ma'ale Adummim," in *Ancient Churches Revealed*, edited by Y. Tsafrir (Jerusalem: Israel Exploration Society, 1993) 171.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> Y. Hirschfeld, *The Judean Desert Monasteries in the Byzantine Period* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1992) 177.

plaster floor but in poorer condition. Of note is a bench along the western wall of this larger room (40 cm wide and 25 cm tall).

The North-East Church complex has benches of similar proportions in a large number of its rooms. In the *domus* benches line both aisles. The south vaulted chamber has benches on three walls. The west chamber inside the gate and a partially excavated chamber on the north side of the church have benches on their western walls. Small benches have been found in the north medial chamber and in the *skeuophylakion*. *Lacunae* for several benches can be seen along the east edge of the portico on the west side of W511. We suspect that the benches may be indicative of the memorial nature of the complex. The entrance hall for the church (L200) of the Monastery of St. Martyrius at Ma'ale Adummim has benches on three sides. At the centre of the hall is a tombstone with the inscription, "Tomb of Paul, the priest and archimandrite." Likewise, the mortuary church at Jerash has benches on three sides.

We note, in addition to its size, that this room stands opposite the only entrance to the church kept open after other usage ceased. This entrance provided access to the tomb of the elderly woman, whose ongoing veneration has been previously discussed. Last year we posited that the large *diakonicon* with its cistern may have been part of a healing cult centred at the tomb of the woman. We therefore speculate that this western chamber served as a place for *incubatio* – prayer, fasting and even deprivation of sleep prior to participation in healing rites.<sup>52</sup>

A least one wall has been identified going west from W591 (see fig. 83). A large pot (45-50 cm) containing several cooking pots and egg shells was retrieved from the area west of W591. To the north of the putative incubation chamber is a north-south wall (W1207) tied in to W574. It is the eastern wall of a small chamber (1.60 x 2.20 m) with a threshold facing west. The door closed from inside this cell and provided access to a paved surface where a hand mill was recovered. To the east of W1207 is a partially exposed fixture of uncertain usage approached by a plaster floor at a level slightly higher than the stylobate. A limestone block that may have been part of a protruding

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> Magen 178.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> H. C. Butler, Early Churches of Syria (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1929) 213.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup>For a parallel example of a place of incubation, see the discussion of the *basilica* at Dor along with pertinent citations from Greek and early Christian healing sources in C. Dauphin, "On the Pilgrim's Way to the Holy City of Jerusalem: The *Basilica* of Dor in Israel," in *Archaeology and Biblical Interpretation*, edited by John R. Bartlett (New York: Routledge, 1997) 159-160.

shelf was recovered from the fill. The shelf was inscribed with a flared cross (17 x 17 cm). The full extent of the chambers west of the portico has yet to be revealed.

#### **Cistern D** (with contributions by Kristina Naumann)

The cistern in the north-east corner of the south vaulted chamber was excavated and documented in 2006. It is the smallest of the four cisterns so far identified in the North-East Church complex, measuring approximately 4.77 m³ (see figs. 83, 90). The was constructed by digging a pit down and slightly into the bedrock. Crudely worked stone blocks were stacked in layers to construct the cavity and neck of the cistern. The cistern was then sealed with two layers of plaster, the second perhaps being applied later. The initial layer was hard grayish plaster with fine agate particles (1-2 mm; medium sand No. 10-40). The secondary layer was softer and lighter with larger agate (4-7 mm; fine gravel).

Recovered from the top layer of destruction fill in the cistern was a gold belt element likely from the same hoard recovered last year. However its shape and patterning are distinctly different. The shape of the obverse is similar to a tulip flower (2.12 x 2.21 cm). The metal is 0.1 cm thick. The bent edges yield a thickness of 0.36 cm. The obverse has an outer decorative border interspersed with squares and half moons. Tiny jewels seem to be impressed into the border. Within the border are outlines of two tears with their upper points turned outwards. Inside each tear are stylistic representations of a young plant coming forth from a bulb. On the reverse are two eyehooks protruding 1.1 cm from the metal. A small repair to one of the tear drops is also visible, marked with a cruciform jeweller's stamp. A dating to the late 6<sup>th</sup> or early 7<sup>th</sup> century seems plausible. 54

The topmost part of the fill contained many large pieces of crumbling limestone and basalt. The thinner pieces of basalt (under 10 cm) may be from the broken cistern cover, as the 2005 excavation found no lid. A large concentration of bones was uncovered in the southeast section of the floor. Several pieces of skull, a canine molar and numerous ribs and leg bones were among the pieces removed. Considering the size and shape of the bones, they may come from a dog or jackal. Other pieces of animal bones were

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> The other cisterns of the NEC are larger: Cistern A is about 15 m<sup>3</sup>, Cistern B is about 13 m<sup>3</sup>, and Cistern C is about 29 m<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> For a fuller discussion, see A. Segal et al., *Hippos-Sussita: Sixth Season of Excavations July 2005* (Haifa, Israel: Zinman Institute of Archaeology, 2005), p. 69-70.

found in the upper fill, including a large tooth (bovine?), several rat or small mammal skulls and some vertebrae (possibly goat or sheep).

Numerous pieces of a roof tile were removed from the southwest section of the cistern. Several large pieces and numerous small pieces of pottery were also taken from the floor. A field reading placed these as Byzantine/Umayyad. As the excavation continued downward, the soil became finer. Fewer pieces of pottery were unearthed, but more pieces of tesserae (some in clusters) were found. The number of bones also decreased, although many tiny bones from a rat or mouse were still brought up. In this middle layer a heavily oxidized, circular coin was discovered (elevation 128.46 m; see coin report for NEC #169). Several two-to-three inch narrow pieces of rusted metal were removed from this lower fill layer. At elevation 128.44 m, a layer of highly-compact, grayish silt was found (L1204), likely formed during the cistern's use as a collector of water in Byzantine times. The silt layer was no more than 20-25 cm thick.

#### **Central Masonry Tomb**

After work on the masonry tomb in the 2004 season, we speculated that the sarcophagus inside the chamber was perched above an earlier burial. This season, we removed the sarcophagus in order to excavate the rest of the chamber (see fig. 91). The sarcophagus had been placed on rough stones that lined the north, west, and south edges of the masonry chamber (see figs. 91-94). Discoloration of the remaining soil (2.5 YR 5/1) indicates the outline of a decayed wooden box (see fig. 92). Twenty six fragments of iron nails are supportive of this proposal, as is a lead corner bracket (7 x 6 cm) recovered from the fill. Other flat fragments of lead were also recovered, one as large as 20 x 8 cm. However, this lead was not from any identifiable item. It is smooth on one side, and speckled with soil and fine to medium sand on the other side, as if it were poured out on soil. We speculate that this lead may have come from the manufacture of the lead pipe used to convey liquid offerings into the sarcophagus.

Numerous bone fragments were recovered in the area beside and under the sarcophagus.<sup>55</sup> In the collection are three lunate bones of which there are only two in a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> The following field catalogue is courtesy of Drs. Jay Anders and Susan Pratt:

| Square/Locus | Date     | Basket |                    |
|--------------|----------|--------|--------------------|
| B2 L543      | 3-Jul-06 | 2033   | Left temporal bone |
|              |          |        | 8cm distal tibia   |
|              |          |        |                    |

|         |          |      | <b>,</b>                                         |
|---------|----------|------|--------------------------------------------------|
| B2 L543 | 4-Jul-06 | 2039 | 4cm distal radius                                |
|         |          |      | 4cm of ? Scapula                                 |
|         |          |      | metatarsal bone                                  |
|         |          |      | distal metatarsal                                |
|         |          |      | ? Upper extremity articular surface              |
|         |          |      | 2cm rib fragment                                 |
|         |          |      | fibula fragment ? Juvenile                       |
|         |          |      | fibula fragment ? Juvenile                       |
|         |          |      | skull fragment 3cm x 2cm                         |
|         |          |      | 24 bone fragments                                |
|         |          |      |                                                  |
| B2 L543 | 5-Jul-06 | 2044 | Meta tarsal complete?adult                       |
|         |          |      | 5 cm rib fragment                                |
|         |          |      | 6 cm clavicle fragment                           |
|         |          |      | ?naviclular bone complete                        |
|         |          |      | 19 bone fragments                                |
|         |          |      | 1) bone nagments                                 |
| B2 L590 | 5-Jul-06 | 2047 | 10 cm long bone fragment                         |
| D2 L390 | 3-341-00 | 2047 | distal metatarsal                                |
|         |          |      | 6 metatarsal bones                               |
|         |          |      | ? Cuneiform bone                                 |
|         |          |      |                                                  |
|         |          |      | skull fragment                                   |
|         |          |      | 2 vertbral body fragments                        |
|         |          |      | metarsal bone large most likely male             |
|         |          |      | ?fibula                                          |
|         |          |      | distal fibula                                    |
|         |          |      | ? First cuneiform                                |
|         |          |      | ? Cunieform bone                                 |
|         |          |      | 3 teeth                                          |
|         |          |      | 45 bone fragments                                |
|         | $\wedge$ |      |                                                  |
| B2 L590 | 6-Jul-06 | 2051 | 7 upper extremity phalanges mixture of adult and |
|         |          |      | juvenile                                         |
|         |          |      | 1 adult metacarpal                               |
|         |          |      | 2 lower extremity metatarsal                     |
|         |          |      | 1 lower extremity distal metatarsal              |
|         |          |      | 1 upper extremity distal phalange? Juvenile      |
|         |          |      | 6 teeth                                          |
|         |          |      | 2 partial teeth                                  |
|         |          |      | 1 first metatarsal                               |
|         |          |      | 2 navicular bones                                |
|         |          |      | 3 lunate bones of differing sizes ? Adult and    |
|         |          |      | juvenile                                         |
|         |          |      | 3 caral bones type unknown                       |
|         |          |      | ? partial talus                                  |
|         |          |      | 56 bone fragments                                |
|         |          |      | <u> </u>                                         |
| B2 L590 | 9-Jul-06 | 2057 | 5 metatarsels                                    |
|         |          |      | 2 distal metatarsals                             |
|         |          |      | 7 metacarpals                                    |
|         |          |      | 3 distal metacarpals                             |
|         |          |      | 5 teeth                                          |
|         | 1        | 1    |                                                  |

human body. The bones also seem to represent both an adult and a juvenile. A large metatarsal bone likely belongs to a male. So we have remains from an adult male and a juvenile of indeterminate sex.

We recovered no major bones, so we surmise that the two burials were removed leaving only fragments and the above listed items. Nevertheless, those who inserted the sarcophagus on top of the remains of a coffin intentionally raised the sarcophagus above the coffin about 20-25cm. That which was below was too revered to be crushed or to be swept away. It is possible that the removal reflect the practice of extracting relics, already observed in the tomb of the elderly women. But we also have to consider the possibility that the bodies interred below were mostly exhumed and placed into the sarcophagus along with the last burial. These final burials in the sarcophagus were revered with oil/wine through a lead pipe and no provision was made for ongoing reverence of what was below.

Complete excavation of the chamber also allowed for clarification of its relationship to the North-East Church complex. Cross sections (see figs. 93-94) and measurements<sup>56</sup> show that the gap between F516 and the plaster layer of F517 is 18-20cm. The gap between the plaster layer of F517 and the top course of masonry stones is 13-17cm. The plaster of F517 covers over the top course of the masonry tomb. The thickness of the

|         |           |      | 2 partial teeth            |
|---------|-----------|------|----------------------------|
|         |           |      | 1 navicular bone           |
|         |           |      | 1 partial vertebra         |
|         |           |      | 9 bone fragments           |
|         |           |      |                            |
| B2 L596 | 10-Jul-06 | 2064 | 2 metacarpals              |
|         |           |      | 1 partial metacarpal       |
|         |           |      | 1 distal metacarpal        |
|         |           |      | 1 fragment of a metacarpal |
|         |           |      | 1 rib fragment             |
|         |           |      | 9 bone fragments           |

| 56 | Elev  | zati | ons. |
|----|-------|------|------|
|    | 13101 | v au | uns. |

| Plaster floor of the chamber east end       | 129.227 |
|---------------------------------------------|---------|
| Plaster floor of the chamber west end       | 129.151 |
| Bedrock lowest exposed level                | 129.053 |
| Cross section examining floors on west end: |         |
| F516                                        | 130.854 |
| Plaster layer of F517                       | 130.650 |
| Top course of masonry tomb                  | 130.521 |
| Cross section examining floors on east end  |         |
| F516                                        | 130.941 |
| Plaster layer of F517                       | 130.760 |
| Top course of masonry tomb                  | 130.596 |
|                                             |         |

covering stones is 18-20 cm, the middle surviving stone of which has a piece of *opus* sectile paving adhering to its upper side. So the masonry tomb was constructed prior to the laying of the original chancel floor (F517). Subsequently, when the sarcophagus was inserted, a later floor (F516) was placed over the top of the tomb, likely reusing some of the *opus* sectile tiles and holding in place the lead pipe used to reverence the burials below. As no previous construction has been discovered around the masonry tomb, we conclude that the masonry tomb is contemporaneous with the original floor of the chancel. As the tomb of the elderly woman in the south section of the chancel is also contemporaneous with F517, the church must have been built to house both tombs. Seemly over time the cult of the woman overshadowed the primacy of position of the masonry tomb.

#### **Nave Mosaic**

Major conservation and cleaning of the nave mosaic was conducted under the direction of Mrs. Ewa Radziejowska.

Only small fragments of the upper F589 remain. It seems to have been entirely geometric in design. At the east end along the chancel screen base and next to the southern stylobate was a border of crosswise arrangements (Avi-Yonah patterns F4 and F9<sup>57</sup>) framed by a white field with random *tesserae* in orange and yellow and by a black square border two *tesserae* wide with decorative corners. Other major portions of the eastern part were covered with geometric patterns. The square-in-square pattern is similar to the one previously observed in the north aisle of the NEC and in intercolumnar panel 2 at Kursi.<sup>58</sup> Western portions of the nave were apparently covered with Avi-Yonah pattern J3<sup>59</sup> beginning at about 6.8 m west of the base of the chancel screen. A white field some 14 *tesserae* in width abutted W510. The field is interspersed with randomly placed colored *tesserae*. A border of two bands of single rows of black *tesserae* separated by five rows of white *tesserae* initiate a field of diamond geometrics bordered by black *tesserae*. Portions of this F589 were lifted to reveal the lower F544.

\_

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> M. Avi-Yonah, "Mosaic Pavements in Palestine," *Quarterly of the Department of Antiquities of Palestine* 2 (1933): 139.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> V. Tzaferis, "The Excavations of Kursi-Gerasa," 'Antiqot (English Series) volume 16 (Ministry of Education and Culture: Israel Department of Antiquities and Museums, 1983) Plate 8.5. <sup>59</sup> Avi-Yonah 141.

The late sixth-century date of the mosaics at Kursi suggests a similar date for the geometric floor of the North-East Church complex. As Karen Britt has discussed in her recent dissertation, geometric compositions and uniform carpet patterns are part of a "stylistic shift in the pavements of the fifth and sixth centuries. The compositional arrangement of fifth century mosaics displays a degree of spontaneity and liveliness that gave way to predictability and repetitiveness during the sixth century." The geometric patterns of F589 covered over the complexity and beauty of F544.

Only fragments of the western five meters of F544 remain (see figs. 95-96). A complex series of borders surround two rows of six overlapping medallions on the east, south, and west. The outermost border is a band of three black *tesserae*. Inside is a double band of swastikas, the arms of which are composed of a double row of black *tesserae*. Fourteen such swastikas would have spanned the width of the nave. A double row of eight swastikas separate the easterly and westerly bands (see fig. 97). The swastikas alternate between left- and right-facing, some of which are more complex than others. *Lacunae* make it difficult to determine a precise pattern of alternation between the four forms (right-facing, left-facing, right-facing complex, and left-facing complex). The corners of each swastika and the outer borders are linked by diagonals composed of two by two clusters of black *tesserae*. In the centre of the hexagonal spaces created by the diagonals and the edges of the swastikas are crosswise arrangements in Avi-Yonah pattern F2.<sup>61</sup> This border is somewhat reminiscent of the field of the south aisle at Shavei Zion which was dated by Avi-Yonah to the beginning of the fifth century.<sup>62</sup>

Inside the band of mosaics are three plains bands: the first consisting of three black *tesserae*, the second of five white *tesserae*, and the third of three black *tesserae*. Moving inward, the next band is Avi-Yonah B8 in red, separated by a bank of four white *tesserae* from a guilloche (Avi-Yonah B4) with alternating strands of five *tesserae*. One strand is black, white, pink, red, black; the other is black, white, yellow, orange, black. A single row of white *tesserae* separate the guilloche from a band of red triangles

-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> K. Britt, *Mosaics in the Byzantine Churches of Palestine: Innovation or Replication?* (Bloomington, Indiana: unpublished PhD dissertation at Indiana University, 2003) 251.

<sup>61</sup> Avi-Yonah 139.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>62</sup> M. Prausnitz, *Excavations at Shavei Zion: The Early Christian* Church (Rome: Centro per le antichita e la storia dell'arte del Vicino Oriente, 1967) 51-53. See also the Portico of the Rivers in the House of Porticos in D. Levi, *Antioch Mosaic Pavements* (Rome: L'Erma di Bretschneider, 1971) vol.2, plate 98c. <sup>63</sup> Avi-Yonah 138.

(Avi-Yonah A6<sup>64</sup>). Two rows of white *tesserae* and two rows of black *tesserae* complete the border (see fig. 98).

Only fragments of the medallions remain. Each medallion was surrounded by a border of eleven *tesserae* (see figs. 96-98). The borders overlap neighbouring medallions. Some borders were a spectrum of colors (black to blues to whites to pinks to reds to black). Others are a background spectrum (black to pink to red to pink to black) overlain by alternating half circles (white to gray to blue to white). Still others show gold and brown fish on a field of red.

The spaces between the medallions and the external border are filled with birds. Visible between easterly medallions are a duck with raised wings (see figs. 99-100) and a walking bird (see fig. 99). Between the two southerly medallions, a head of another duck may be detected. These birds are strikingly similar to the birds adorning the floor of the Kyria Maria memorial chapel in a monastery at Scythopolis. Karen Britt writes that the birds confirm the commemorative function of the space and "should be interpreted as the blessed who take flight to heaven."

In the centre of the mosaic, the fragmentary borders of four medallions overlap leaving a field of thirteen by nineteen white *tesserae* bounded by a row of single black *tesserae*. In the centre of the field is a crosswise arrangement (Avi-Yonah F11<sup>67</sup>). The cross is a single row of black *tesserae* with a white centre (see fig. 101). Each corner arrangement begins with a white *tesserae* and proceeds outward through yellow to brown. We presume similar crosswise arrangements between other overlapping medallions.

The two southerly medallions are partially intact. The westerly medallion seems to be a feline creature, perhaps a young lion, as suggested by the claws in the feet. In the background of the medallion is a palm tree with three branches (see fig. 98). The easterly animal has small hoofs. It may be a gazelle. In the background is a palm tree of five or more branches. Likely, the other medallions displayed similar animals. Some calendric function may be implied by the presence of twelve medallions.

<sup>64</sup> Ibid

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>65</sup> G. M. Fitzgerald, *A Sixth Century Monastery at Beth-Shan* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1939), Plate XIV.

<sup>66</sup> Britt 315.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>67</sup> Avi-Yonah 139.

While the cleaning of F544 did not reveal inscriptional insight into the church's function, the beauty of the remaining fragments is significant and suggestive of an early fifth century date for the floor. Perhaps future probes under the floor will provide sought-for confirmation.

#### Conservation

Conservation efforts during the 2006 season focused exclusively on the stabilization and cleaning of the floors in the nave of the North-East Church complex. The work was supervised by Mrs. Ewa Radziejowska. Unfortunately, the outbreak of the second Lebanon War led to the departure of many volunteers including the conservation supervisor. The floor was recovered with layers of plastic, fine dirt and fabric. Conservation work will resume in 2007.

Mark Schuler Concordia University Saint Paul, Minnesota



# CONSERVATION REPORT FOR THE 7<sup>th</sup> SEASON

## Ewa Radziejowska

uring the seventh season of excavation at Sussita the conservation works were continued in three areas:

- Mosaic floors in the nave of North-East Church (works supervised by Mrs. Ewa Radziejowska senior conservator from the National Museum in Warsaw).
- Plasters and mosaics in the rooms of the northern annexe of the North-West Church (details in the report of Mrs. Julia Burdajewicz student of Conservation Department at the Academy of Fine Art in Warsaw).
- Waterproof plasters and stone structures in the Industrial Complex and the Hellenistic compound (works supervised by Mr. Kimi Maman senior conservator on behalf of the National Parks Authority).

As it was planned in 2005, the conservation treatment focused on stabilization "in situ" already exposed structures excavated in previous seasons – protection of wall and floor plasters, consolidation of mosaic pavements and reinforcement of stone blocks.

### North-East Church (see fig. 1 a-b)

### **State of preservation**

Excavations during 2004-2005 seasons revealed two levels of mosaic floor, rest one upon another. Both layers preserved only in fragments, were covered with a thick layer of dirt and mud. In many areas *tesserae* were detached of the bedding layer, trembling and moving.

The malls and plants roots worsened the situation.

Poor condition of mosaics survived in a fragmentary form, with many *lacunae* caused by an earthquake and deep deformation of the surface due to a subsiding of the ground, made it difficult to determine a precise pattern of decoration .However, uncovered fragments proof a high artistic quality of execution ,especially of earlier layer.

The treatment during this season was limited to the floors in the nave of the church and focused on the cleaning, consolidation and documentation of all preserved mosaics fragments.

The practical approach consisted of:

- Unearthing and removal of all protective layers left temporarily last year on the mosaics.
- Mechanical removal of a layer of 0.5 cm thick dirt and careful cleaning and washing of the surface of mosaic fragments.
- Documentation and recording of the mosaics condition.
- Retrieval of all detached and loose *tesserae* (collected *tesserae* were cleaned of the old cements remnants and divided according to the color and size).
- Protection of *lacunae* edges with a band mortar composed of slaked lime, sand and stone powder.
- Filling of small gaps with the same mortar based on lime.
- Consolidation of deteriorated bedding layers and re-attaching of the detached *tesserae*.
- Reconstruction of earlier mosaic patterns by filling small lacunae with the use of original *tesserae* and substitution of the disintegrated bedding with a new mortar.
- Lifting of two portions of the upper mosaic with geometric pattern from the
  western part of the nave. After cleaning and protection with layers of gaze
  material and cotton canvas glued with PVA on the surface and were lifted and
  transported to the kibbutz workshop for further treatment with a target to transfer
  it to a new support.

At the end of the working season all mosaic floors were covered for temporary protection with geotextile, polyethylene sheets and subsequently with a layer of sand and soil 10-15 cm. thick.

The conservation activity planned for 2006 was not completed due to the outbreak of the Lebanon war and departure of many students, volunteers and members of the staff. The conservation plan for 2007 will include the continuation of works started in previous seasons.

Mrs. Ewa Radziejowska Senior Conservator National Museum in Warsaw



Fig. 1 a - b. North-East Church, two fragments of F544 mosaic, following the conservation treatment.



# Radiocarbon Age Determination Danuta Nawrocka, Anna Pazdur, Danuta Michczynska

Danuta Nawrocka<sup>(1)</sup>, Anna Pazdur<sup>(2)</sup>, Danuta J. Michczynska<sup>(2)</sup>
(1) Institute of Geology, Department of Dynamic and Regional Geology, Adam Mickiewicz University,
Poznan, Poland; e-mail: danutamich@go2.pl

(2) Institute of Physics, Department of Radioisotopes (GADAM Centre of Excellence), Gliwice Radiocarbon Laboratory, Silesian University of Technology, Gliwice, Poland

he carbonate binder from mortars and plasters as well as the charcoal fragments sampled at the ancient settlement Hippos (Sussita) have been subjected to radiocarbon dating by gas proportional counting technique and accelerator mass spectrometry. Thanks to the numerous works devoted to the methods of determining the age of mortars we know that the presence of aggregate (especially a carbonatious one) in the mortar has an enormous influence on the precision of dating (Van Strydonck *et al.*, 1986; Sonninen and Jungner, 2001; Zouridakis *et al.*, 1987; Heinemeier *et al.*, 1997, Nawrocka et al., 2005). The appropriate sample selection and preparation based on the results of petrographic observations permitted i.e. for distinguishing different phases of the settlement extension.

# Applied techniques of <sup>14</sup>C measurements

There are different techniques of <sup>14</sup>C radiocarbon concentration measurements. The main trend in the development of those techniques is an aspiration to determine the C isotope content in small-sized samples, to widen the dating range and to diminish measurement errors. Two basic measurement techniques of <sup>14</sup>C activity have been used for dating of the samples of lime mortars and charcoal from Sussita:

- Gas Proportional Counting technique (radiometric GPC technique, Gliwice Radiocarbon Laboratory)
- Accelerator Mass Spectrometry technique (AMS).

The dating by the radiometric GPC technique has been carried out in the Gliwice Radiocarbon Laboratory using carbon dioxide as working gas (Pazdur *et al.*, 2000; Pazdur *et al.*, 2004), whereas measurements by AMS technique, using graphite targets, in the Poznan Radiocarbon Laboratory equipped with the accelerator mass spectrometer 1.5 SDH-Pelletron Model "Compact Carbon AMS" (Goslar and Czernik 2000, Goslar *et al.* 2004). The result of the measurement is a conventional radiocarbon age, given in years BP (BP – Before Present). It represents the time, that passed since the finish of

carbon exchange between environment and the material, from which the studied sample comes from, until so called "recent time". It is a calendar year 1950 AD, assumed as the date until which human didn't have a strong influence on the concentration of the isotope in the atmosphere. The <sup>14</sup>C concentration in the atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> has not been constant during the Earth history, so the radiocarbon age obtained from the measurements requires calibration (Goslar 1997; Goslar *et al.*, 2004; Pazdur *et al.*, 1999, Pazdur *et al.*, 2000). The calibration of radiocarbon time scale enables scientists to establish the calibrated age, which is the best approximation of the calendar age.

## Sample selection

The dating has been performed both on lime binder from the mortars and on the charcoal fragments separated from them. The dating has been carried out for the following samples (Fig. 1):

2-collection pool in the agricultural installation to the south of the diakonikon;

10-southern aisle, by the balustrade, northern face; NWC;

14-floor pour of channel exposed at the chancel area;

61-facade of the pastophorium northern wall;

A1-NE church, plaster from the apse.

Dating of carbonate binders from the mortars requires special preparation, preceded by precise petrographic observations (Fig.3), because of the problems connected with elimination of so called *dead carbon* (Folk, Valastro, 1979; Van Strydonck, 1986; Heinemeier, 1997; Sonninen and Jungner, 2001; Nawrocka *et al.*, 2005; Nawrocka *et al.*, in press). Both the separated binder in different fractions and the samples of bulk plasters and mortars, have been prepared from the carbonate samples.

#### Results

The obtained results are compiled in the tables, together with an indication of the type of the dated material and the applied technique. The calibrations have been performed by *OxCal* calibration programme v. 3.10 (Bronk Ramsey, 2005).

The Sussita town collapsed into ruin during the earthquake in 749 AD. The earthquake date is known from geological data information (Amiran et~al., 1994; Ellenblum, Marco, 1998; Ben Abraham et~al., 2005). This event defines a terminus~ante~quem~(TAQ) - i.e. any sample should not be older than 749 AD. The sample 10 was dated in two laboratories (Gd-12823, 1310  $\pm$  45 and Poz-7417, 1245 $\pm$ 35). Because these dates are from the same sample we combined them using option R\_Combine of OxCal programme. The radiocarbon dates were combined with the above-mentioned information about the earthquake, using option TAQ in the OXCal programme. The results of calibration (Nawrocka et~al., in press) are presented in Table 1.

Tab.1. Results of radiocarbon dating and calibration in the tabular version.

| Sample | Lab. code  | Dating    | Type of       | δ13 <b>C</b> | <sup>14</sup> C age | Cal age               | Cal age             |
|--------|------------|-----------|---------------|--------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| name   |            | technique | dated         | (‰)          | (BP)                | 68.2% conf. intervals | 95.4% conf.         |
|        |            | AMS/GPC   | material      |              |                     |                       | intervals           |
| Hip14  | Poz-5088   | AMS       | charcoal      | -42,9        | 2025±80             | 160BC ( 5.4%) 130BC   | 350BC (95.4%) 200AD |
|        |            |           |               |              |                     | 120BC (62.8%) 70AD    |                     |
| Hip2   | Poz-5087   | AMS       | charcoal      | -42,4        | 1570±70             |                       | 340AD (95.4%) 640AD |
|        |            |           |               |              |                     | 410AD (68.2%) 570AD   |                     |
| 61Hip  | Poz-16078  | AMS       | carbonate     | 0,2          | 1490±30             | 550AD (68.2%) 610AD   | 460AD ( 1.4%) 480AD |
|        |            |           | binder        |              |                     |                       | 530AD (94.0%) 650AD |
|        |            |           | (film coating |              |                     |                       |                     |
|        |            |           | aggregate     |              |                     |                       |                     |
|        |            |           | fragments)    |              |                     |                       |                     |
| Hip2   | Poz-5016   | AMS       | carbonate     | -10,8        | 1295±30             | 665AD (65.4%) 715AD   | 660AD (95.4%) 750AD |
|        |            |           | binder        |              |                     | 740AD ( 2.8%) 750AD   |                     |
| A1     | Gd-17381   | GPC       | carbonate     | -14,45       | 1140±130            | 675AD (68.2%) 750AD   | 600AD (95.4%) 760AD |
|        |            |           | binder,       |              |                     |                       |                     |
|        |            |           | fraction 45-  |              |                     |                       |                     |
|        |            |           | 100μm         |              |                     |                       |                     |
| 61H    | Gd-18388   | GPC       | carbonate     | -7,41        | 1080±100            | 690AD (68.2%) 750AD   | 665AD (95.4%) 755AD |
|        |            |           | binder        |              |                     |                       |                     |
|        |            | •         | 80-100μm      |              |                     |                       |                     |
| Hip10  | Poz-7417   | AMS       | carbonate     | -9,5         | 1245±35             | 685AD (58.4%) 730AD   | 670AD (95.4%) 750AD |
|        |            |           | binder        |              |                     | 735AD ( 9.8%) 745AD   |                     |
|        | Gd-12823   | GPC       | carbonate     | -10,35       | 1310±45             |                       |                     |
|        |            |           | binder        |              |                     |                       |                     |
|        | R_Combine, |           |               |              |                     |                       |                     |
|        | 1270±28    |           |               |              |                     |                       |                     |
|        | 12/0-20    |           |               | 1            |                     |                       |                     |

### **Conclusions**

The results show that radiocarbon dating of lime mortars, despite known difficulties (e.g. presence of carbonate aggregate) is possible. It enables to obtain the real age of the given building construction after careful sample selection, recognition of petrographic composition of binder and aggregate (possible exclusion of the samples which do not fit for dating) and suitable preparation.

The dating has been performed both by AMS and GPC. The advantages of the AMS technique application are very low requirements concerning sample size, the speed of work. The international programs of precision control document full comparability of the AMS technique with the classical methods. Everything depends on the amount of material we dispose. If we are not very restricted by the size of samples, the GPC technique can be successfully applied.

The chosen samples (e.g. Hip10) have been dated both by the GPC (Gd-12823), and the AMS technique (poz-7417). Even after different ways of sample preparation (taking into account requirements of the particular technique) the measurements gave similar results (Hip10). However, there is puzzling discrepancy in the results of the radiocarbon measurement results for the mortar sample 61. From this sample for the AMS measurement, the fragments of basaltic aggregate coated with a thin film of lime binder have been selected. For the conventional technique measurement, the fraction of 80-100 micrometers from the same sample has been delivered. The petrographic observations indicated higher content of fine carbonate aggregate comparing with the rest of the dated samples (Fig.3). Thus, in order to verify the impact of this aggregate on the dating results, this sample was dated twice, each time prepared in a different way. Taking into consideration its composition, one should conclude, that the result acquired by the AMS measurement, which is older than the age obtained by GPC technique, is overestimated. The film which coated the aggregate grains, after previous delicate crushing of the mortar, was thin. However, the acquired results (and their comparison with the GPC result for the fraction 80-100) indicate that, most probably, the film was not devoid of fine, "old" lime aggregate. In the case of the GPC dating, this aggregate had been separated by sifting out the coarser fraction. After that procedure, only the fine fraction range of 80-100 micrometers has been dated. Thus, one should imply that the real age of this sample is the most probably the result obtained by the GPC measurement (61H, Gd18388, cal. age 690AD (68.2%) 750AD, 68.2% conf. intervals). To confirm this conclusion, one may perform <sup>14</sup>C measurement for another sample from the same wall or date the same sample (61H) again, after separation of the same fraction as for the GPC. The next possible variant is to separate charcoal from that sample and compare the results.

The measurements performed for the samples of the finish plasters from the interior of the NW church (HIP10) and the adjacent NE church (A1), gave very similar results (Hip 10-cal. age 685AD (58.4%) 730AD, 735AD (9.8%) 745AD; A1-675AD (68.2%) 750AD; 68% conf. intervals). The obtained result can suggest that the walls are contemporaneous. However, one should remember, that while the age of mortars is closely bound with the construction age of a building, in case of plasters the obtained age is not strictly connected with the moment of building erection. Plasters may represent different phases of renovation or reconstruction, thereby they can be much younger in comparison to the age of the building. Therefore, their dating gives us the information about the moment of applying the plaster on the wall, not about the time of the building erection, what takes place in the instance of mortars, applied during the construction. The sample no. 70 (passage between the main and northern aisle; NWC) after the detailed analysis indicates (low) content of carbonatious aggregate, what demands the necessity of taking into consideration the reservoir age correction. The archaeological consultations and chronology of walls also evidence younger (not obtained) age of the sample (thus, the calculation of reservoir age will be necessary, which effect, together with another dating results-samples 5; 76; 80; 151,2 NWC, will be published in the next study).

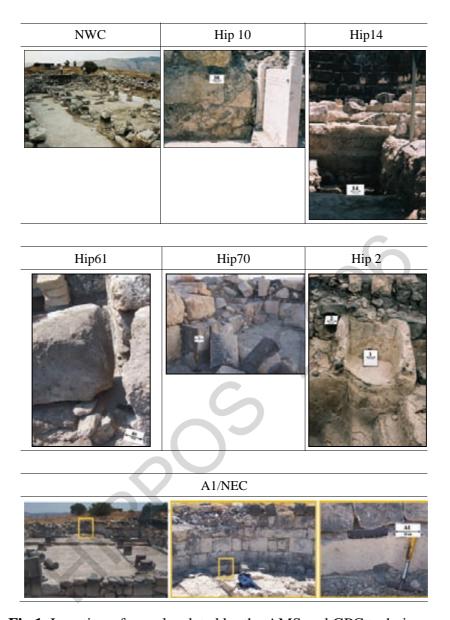


Fig.1. Location of samples dated by the AMS and GPC techniques.

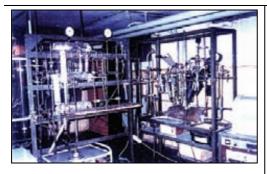
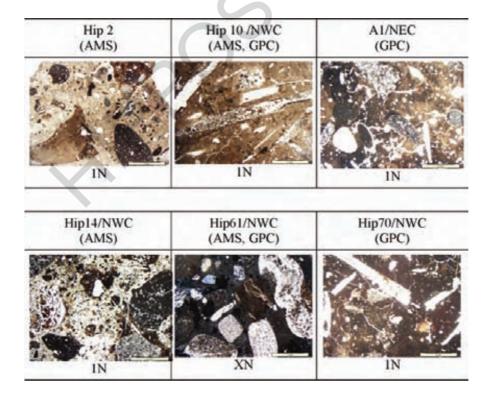




Fig.2a. The fragment of the vacuum-apparatus for production and purification of CO<sub>2</sub> in the Gliwice Radiocarbon Laboratory.

Fig.2b Vacuum line for sample graphitisation in the Poznań Radiocarbon Laboratory.

**Fig.2**. a-The fragment of the vacuum- apparatus for production and purification of CO<sub>2</sub> obtained from dating samples in the Gliwice Radiocarbon Laboratory; b- Vacuum line for samples graphitisation in the Poznań Radiocarbon Laboratory.



**Fig.3**. Microscopic view of the chosen mortar samples (the polarizing light microscopy, 1N-parallel, XN-crossed polarizers); Hip2 (AMS) -sample name (applied technique of dating).

# Acknowledgements

We express thanks to Ms. Roman Kinas, for her help and patience.

We sincerely thank the employees of the teams from the <sup>14</sup>C laboratories in Gliwice and Poznan.

The research was partially supported by the Polish Scientific Research Committee (Komitet Badan Naukowych), grant no 3 P04D 053 25, realized in the years 2003-2005.

#### References

Amiran DHK., Arieh E., et al., 1994. Earthquakes in Israel and adjacent areas: Macroseismic observations since 100BC. *Israel Exploration Journal*, vol. 44:260-305.

Ben-Avraham, Z., M. Lazar, U. Schattner and S. Marco, 2005. The Dead Sea Fault and its effect on civilization, in: Springer Special Volume 'Challenges for Earth Sciences in the 21st Century, (in press).

Bronk Ramsey C., 2005: OxCal v.3.10. <a href="http://www.rlaha.ox.ac.uk/orau/calibration.html">http://www.rlaha.ox.ac.uk/orau/calibration.html</a>

Ellenblum R., Marco S., 1998. Crusader castle torn apart by earthquake at dawn, 20 May 1202. *Geology*, vol.26; no.4, p.303-306.

- Folk R.L. and Valastro S., 1979: Dating of lime mortar by <sup>14</sup>C. In *Radiocarbon Dating: Proceedings of the Ninth International Conference*, Berger R, Suess H, eds. University of California Press, Berkeley. 721-730.
- Goslar T.,1997: Modelling Atmospheric Radiocarbon Concentrations in the Late Glacial and Early Holocene. 16th International Radiocarbon Conference, Groningen University, 16-20 June 1997: 57
- Goslar T., Czernik J., 2000. Sample preparation in the Gliwice Radiocarbon Laboratory for AMS <sup>14</sup>C dating. *Geochronometria*, vol. 18: 1-8.
- Goslar T., Czernik J., Goslar E., 2004: Low-energy <sup>14</sup>C AMS in Poznan Radiocarbon Laboratory, Poland. *Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research Section B*, vol. 223, p. 5-11.

- Heinemeier J., Jungner H., Lindroos A., Ringbom A., von Konow T. and Rud N., 1997: AMS <sup>14</sup>C dating of lime mortar. *Nuclear Insttruments and Methods in Physics Research* B, vol. 123: 487-495.
- Nawrocka D., Michniewicz J., Pawlyta J., Pazdur A., 2005: Application of radiocarbon method for dating of lime mortars. *Geochronometria*, vol. 24, pp 109-115, 2005. Journal on Methods and Applications of Absolute Chronology.
- Nawrocka, Pazdur, Michczynska, Radiocarbon chronology of the ancient settlement on the Golan Heights. *Radiocarbon*. (*in press*)
- Pazdur A., Bluszcz A., Stankowski W., Starkel L., 1999: Geochronologia górnego czwartorzędu Polski, w świetle datowania radioweglowego i luminescencyjnego. WIND J. Wojewoda-Wrocław. (*in polish*).
- Pazdur A., Michczynski A., Pawlyta J. and Spahiu P., 2000: Comparision of the radiocarbon dating methods used in the Gliwice Radiocarbon Laboratory. *Geochronometria*, vol. 18: 9-14.
- Pazdur A., Fogtman M., Michczynski A. and Pawlyta J., 2004: Precision of <sup>14</sup>C dating in Gliwice Radiocarbon Laboratory. FIRI Programme. *Geochronometria*, vol. 22.
- Sonninen E. and Jungner H., 2001: An improvement in preparation of mortar for radiocarbon dating. *Radiocarbon*, vol. 43 (2A): 271-273.
- Van Strydonck M., Dupas M., Dauchot-Dehon M., Pachiaudi Ch. and Marechal J., 1986: The influence of contaminating carbonate and the variations of  $\delta^{13}$ C in mortar dating. *Radiocarbon*, vol. 28 (2A): 702-710.
- Zouridakis, Saliege J.,F., Person A., Filippakis S.E, 1987: Radiocarbon Dating of Mortars from Ancient Greek Palaces, *Archaeometry*, vol. 29, Oxford U.K.

# Pottery Report Jolanta Młynarczyk

### **Abbreviations:**

ARS: African Red Slip ware

BG: Black Gloss wares

CC: Colour-Coated ware

CRS: Cypriote Red Slip ware

ESA: Eastern Sigillata A ware

FBW: Fine Byzantine ware

ICW: Islamic Cream Ware

LRC: Late Roman C (Phocaean) ware

## **Bibliographical references:**

**Adan-Bayewitz 1993**: D. Adan-Bayewitz, *Common Pottery in Roman Galilee*, Ramat Gan

**Adan-Bayewitz and Perlman 1990**: D. Adan-Bayewitz and I. Perlman, "The Local Trade of Sepphoris in the Roman Period", *IEJ* 40, 153-172

**Amir 2004a**: R. Amir, "Pottery and small finds", in Y. Hirschfeld *et al.*, *Excavations at Tiberias*, 1989-1994, Jerusalem, 31-56

Amir 2004b: R. Amir, "Pottery", in Y. Hirschfeld et al., Excavations at Tiberias, 1989-1994, Jerusalem, 153-167

**Ball** *et al.* **1986**: W. Ball, J. Bowsher, I. Kehrberg, A. Walmsley and P. Watson, "The North Decumanus and North Tetrapylon at Jerash: An Archaeological and Architectural Report", in F. Zayadine (ed.), *Jerash Archaeological Project 1981-1983*, Amman 1986, 351-395

**Ben-Arieh 1997**: R. Ben-Arieh, "The Roman, Byzantine and Ummayad Pottery", in Y. Hirschfeld, *The Roman Baths of Hammat Gader*, Jerusalem, 347-381

**Berlin and Warner Slane 1997**: A. Berlin and K. Warner Slane, *Tel Anafa* II,1: *The Hellenistic and Roman Pottery*, ed. by S. Herbert, JRA Supplement 10

Broneer 1930: O. Broneer, Corinth IV:2. Terracotta Lamps, Harvard

Clark and Falkner 1986: V.A. Clark and R.K. Falkner, "The Pottery", in V.A. Clark *et al.*, "The Jerash North Theatre. Architecture and Archaeology 1982-1983", in F. Zayadine (ed.), *Jerash Archaeological Project 1981-1983*, Amman 1986, 247-251

da Costa et al. 2002: K. da Costa et al., "New Light on Late Antique Pella", ADAJ 46, 503-533

**Delougaz and Haines 1960**: P. Delougaz and R.C. Haines, *A Byzantine Church at Khirbat al-Karak*, Chicago

**Diez Fernandez 1983**: F. Diez Fernandez, *Ceramica comun romana de la Galilea*, Jerusalén - Madrid

**Hadad 2002**: S. Hadad, *The Oil Lamps from the Hebrew University Excavations at Bet Shean*, Jerusalem

Hayes 1972: J.W. Hayes, Late Roman Pottery, London

**Hayes 1985**: J.W. Hayes, "Sigillata Orientale A (Eastern Sigillata A)", in: *EAA*, *Atlante delle forme ceramiche* II, Roma, 9-48

**Loffreda 1974**: S. Loffreda, *Cafarnao* II: *La ceramica*, Jerusalem

Magness 1993: J. Magness, Jerusalem Ceramic Chronology c. 200-800 A.D., Shieffield

McNicoll et al. 1982: A.McNicoll, R.H. Smith and B. Hennessy, Pella in Jordan, I, Canberra

McNicoll et al. 1992: A.McNicoll et al., Pella in Jordan 2, Sydney

**de Montlivaut 1986**: E. de Montlivaut, "Remarques sur un lot de céramique d'époque byzantine", in F. Zayadine (ed.), *Jerash Archaeological Project 1981-1983*, Amman 1986, 71-73

**Peacock and Williams 1986**: D.P.S. Peacock and D.F. Williams, *Amphorae and the Roman economy, an introductory guide*, London and New York 1986

**Peleg 1989**: M. Peleg, "Domestic pottery", in V. Tzaferis, *Excavations at Capernaum* I 1978-1982, Winona Lake, 30-113

**Peleg 2004**: M. Peleg, "A Late Roman Byzantine Bathhouse at Bet She'an", *Atiqot* 46, 59-75

Rasson 1986: A.M. Rasson, "Matériel céramique de la deuxième moitié du IIIème siècle ap.J.-C.", in F. Zayadine (ed.), *Jerash Archaeological Project 1981-1983*, Amman 1986, 67-69

Smith 1973: R.H. Smith, Pella of the Decapolis I, The College of Wooster

Smith and Day 1989: R.H. Smith and L.P. Day, *Pella of the Decapolis*, II, The College of Wooster

**Stacey 2004**: D. Stacey, Excavations at Tiberias, 1973-1974. The Early Islamic Periods, IAA Reports 21, Jerusalem

**SusReport 2000**: J. Mlynarczyk, "Pottery report, Susita 2000", in A. Segal, J. Mlynarczyk, M. Burdajewicz, *Hippos (Sussita), First Season of Excavations, July 2000*, University of Haifa, November 2000, 1-8, figs. 1-6

**SusReport 2001**: J. Mlynarczyk, "Pottery Report", in A. Segal, J. Mlynarczyk, M. Burdajewicz, *Hippos (Sussita), Second Season of Excavations, July 2001*, University of Haifa, 15-26

**SusReport 2002**: J. Mlynarczyk, *Hippos (Sussita), Third Season of Excavations. Pottery Report, July 2002*, University of Haifa

SusReport 2003: J. Mlynarczyk, "Pottery Report", in A. Segal et al., Hippos-Sussita. Fourth Season of Excavations, June-July 2003, University of Haifa, 50-88

SusReport 2004: J. Mlynarczyk, "Pottery Report", in A. Segal et al., Hippos-Sussita. Fifth Season of Excavations September – October 2004 and Summary of All Five Seasons (2000-2004), University of Haifa 2004, 140-163

**SusReport 2005**: J. Mlynarczyk, "Pottery Report", in A. Segal *et al.*, *Hippos-Sussita*. *Sixth Season of Excavations (July 2005)*, University of Haifa, December 2005, 113-139

**Tzaferis 1983**: V. Tzaferis, *The Excavations of Kursi-Gergesa. Atiqot* XVI, Jerusalem

**Uscatescu 2001**: "L'apport des fouilles du macellum (Jérash, Jordanie) à la connaissance des céramiques byzantines tardives de Gérasa", in E. Villeneuve and P.M. Watson (eds), *La céramique byzantine et proto-islamique en Syrie-Jordanie (IVe – VIIIe siècles apr. J.-C.)*, Beyrouth 2001, 59-76

**Uscatescu 2003**: A. Uscatescu, "Report on the Levant Pottery (5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> century AD)", in 7 Diethnes Synedrio Mesaionikes Keramikes tes Mesogeiou, Thessalonike 11-16.X. 1999, Praktika, Athena, 546-558

**Vieweger 2002**: D. Vieweger, "Tall Zar'a in Wadi al-'Arab: The "Gadara Region Project", *ADAJ* 46 (2002), 157-177

# I. Pottery research in individual areas<sup>68</sup>

#### I.1. HLC

I.1.a. Topsoil, upper layers and disturbed fills (Figs. 1-3)

HLC area range in date from the Hellenistic and Early Roman through the Byzantine and Umayyad periods. The main value of this chronologically heterogeneous assemblage is the expanding of the corpus of forms and wares present at Sussita and providing information on their frequency. In the repertoire of the fine wares, especially worthy of note is the presence of a *mastos* bowl in BSP (no. 1) and of a table jar(?) no. 3, the latter possibly product of a Jerash workshop of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century CE. A new occurrence in the Sussita corpus is also that of a FBW bowl (no. 23) of a type attested in the *Decapolis* lands (Gadara, Pella, Jerash) and in Tiberias, while it is common in Judea. Rich repertoire of the Late Roman fine wares typically includes LRC forms 3 and 10 (nos. 6-9) of 6<sup>th</sup> to mid-7<sup>th</sup> centuries CE, but also LRC form 2 (no. 5) of the 4th to 5<sup>th</sup> century, hitherto rare at Sussita. Among the CRS ware vessels, especially common are examples of forms 2 and 9 (nos. 10-16) ranging between the mid-5<sup>th</sup> and late 7<sup>th</sup>

<sup>-</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>68</sup> The writing of this report was greatly facilitated by making it possible to me to stay in the Albright Institute of Archaeological Research in Jerusalem for two weeks in December 2006 and to use the library resources of that institution, for which I am grateful to the Director, Prof. Sy Gitin.

centuries, while the ARS ware, represented by forms 81, 91, 93 and 105 (nos. 18-21) cover the period between the second half of 5<sup>th</sup> and mid-7<sup>th</sup> century.

The cooking pots include both Early Roman types (no. 24) and Late Roman ones, the latter representing a variety of forms (nos. 25-28). A large fragment of cooking-ware bowl (no. 30) is a good illustration of a type characteristic of the *Decapolis* region, probably of a 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> century date. Several fragments pertain to cooking-ware jugs (nos. 31-33) of Roman and Late Roman date. Other domestic shapes include what appears to be a bell-shaped lid (no. 34) and a funnel (or perhaps casserole?) (no. 35), as well as basins/deep bowls (nos. 36-37). Among the storage/transport jars (amphorae) fragments there are some examples of rare forms and wares such as a jar no. 40 of a peculiar fabric, close to so-called Phoenician Semi-Fine ware of the Hellenistic and the Roman periods; two hole-mouth jars apparently of Byzantine period (nos. 41-42, of which the latter can be identified as a "Gazan" amphora), and a base of an Aegean amphora of a Roman date (no. 43).

## I.1.b. Late Roman/Byzantine layers (nos. 44-47, Fig. 3)

A stratum in HLC which can be described as pertaining to the Late Roman - Byzantine periods and which included a number of 4<sup>th</sup>- 5<sup>th</sup> century coins, yielded types of pottery well-known from our previous reports. In this context, a few examples of domestic wares are worthy of mention, such as a casserole of an apparently Jerash fabric (no. 44), jug fragments (nos. 45-46) and a neck/rim of what was either a jar or a pipe (no. 47).

# I.1.c. Material associated with floors in the HLC (nos. 48-61, Figs. 3-4)

Distinct groups are those of ceramic fragments found in association with floors as identified in the HLC area. The material collected above F1196 (nos. 48-50) can be dated to between late 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> century CE. The fine wares from under that floor (nos. 51-53) appear to date F1196 to not later than 4<sup>th</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> century. To the contrary, the dating of the commonware ceramics (nos. 54-59) is much more problematic, since some of the forms have been dated after their contexts at the sites other than Sussita to a later Byzantine and even Umayyad periods. Of course, one should remember that if a ceramic form known already from 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> century contexts (e.g. nos. 55, 58), continues to appear in the 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> century contexts, in the latter case this may be considered as residual. Further, fragment of jar no. 59, if rightly identified as an Umayyad-period

vessel, is probably an intrusion into the context in question. Finally, the ceramic material associated with F1194 (nos. 60-61) appears to be of a Roman date, not later than 3<sup>rd</sup> century CE, and possibly earlier.

## I.2. North-West Church compound

## I.2.a. Destruction deposits (nos. 62-63, Fig. 5)

Pottery deposits connected with the destruction of the church compound in 749 CE yielded two "new" forms of commonware vessels which had not yet been attested at Sussita. One of them is a large funnel (no. 62) of a heavy coarse fabric characteristic of the Umayyad period basins/kraters, and the other is a spouted jug in cooking ware (no. 63). The presence of the restorable funnel strongly suggests that many of similar rims found in the previous years (mostly in NWC and NEC), especially those of a smaller mouth diametre (ranging between 18.0 and 28.0 cms, see, for instance, SusReport 2005, fig. 8:114 from the *diakonikon* of NEC, perhaps also fig. 4:59 from the northern winery of NWC), which used to be described as parts of basins/kraters, did in fact pertain to the funnels. It is interesting to note the occurrence of funnels in ecclesiatical contexts (Hippos, Kh el Waziya in Galilee, and Petra) as an evidence for distributing of the liquids such as wine and/or oil to be used for the ritual purposes and/or to be divided among the needy of the community.

An important destruction deposit is that composed of storage jars, which possibly used to contain wine produced in the winery in the northern wing of the church compound. These jars, discovered in the cellar of the northern portico of the *atrium*, have not yet been counted, restored and drawn, so their illustrations have been not included into the present report. As far as their form and decoration are concerned, they represent a well-known type of late Umayyad "Beisan" local/regional jars, attested in other mid-8<sup>th</sup> century destruction deposits in Hippos (*e.g.* SusReport 2000, fig. 1; SusReport 2002, fig. 2:3). This specific variant is also known from Pella, where it occurred in well-dated deposits such as, for instance, McNicoll *et al.* 1982, pl. 62b, pl. 141:4 (ca. 720 CE), pl. 146:3 ("Assemblage 1": 746/7 CE) and pl. 148: 4,6 (first half of 8<sup>th</sup> century CE); Smith and Day 1989, pl. 54:2 ("dark jar ware", first quarter of the 8<sup>th</sup> century).

### I.2.b. Material connected with a construction phase of the cellar (?)

Three ARS ware sherds (nos. 64-66) come from an apparently unsealed locus whose origin may chronologically be connected either with some re-arrangement of the cellar (execution of floor F558) or with construction period of the northern wall of it (W557). They represent two different forms distant from each other by at least a century, and possibly by as much as two centuries; the later of the forms (Hayes' form 109 or perhaps 104C?) can not be earlier than the mid-6<sup>th</sup> century. Therefore, if the small deposit in question is indeed contemporary to the construction of the cellar, and provided the latter was a part of the original planning of the church (which seems to be the case) the foundation date of the North-West Church should be pushed down to as late as mid-6<sup>th</sup> century CE.

## I.2.c. Pottery from unsealed/disturbed contexts of NWC (nos. 67-74)

Remaining contexts of NWC yielded rather moderate amount of pottery fragments, of which some must have been associated with the final period of the church compound (nos. 67-70) while others date back to the earlier centuries (nos. 71-74). Among the former, worthy of note is a sizeable body fragment of a small amphora (jar, no. 67), possibly of an Egyptian origin (cf. SusReport 2003, fig. 11:1 from the destruction deposit at the *diakonikon* of NWC). To judge by the parallels, this object should be dated to the first half of 8<sup>th</sup> century CE. A rounded, slightly in-turned rim of a bowl with green glaze inside (no. 69), found in the upper unsealed level, pertains to an Early Islamic repertoire of local/regional pottery.

### I.3. North-East Church Compound

The ceramic material from NEC can be divided into several groups. A new addition to the *corpus* of the pottery forms at Sussita is provided by a pithos (or heavy basin) fragment no. 75 retrieved from the upper layer. This regional type of vessel has hitherto been known from Tiberias, with related objects discovered at both Capernaum and Pella.

An interesting group of pottery comes from square F3, including both fine wares and common wares. The examples of fine wares (nos. 76-79) which are mainly LRC, with fewer CRS ware sherds, date this group to the  $6^{th}/7^{th}$  century. The commonware ceramics (nos. 80-85) seem to confirm this date, although some of them (like no. 82) are

sometimes dated to a later period, on the basis of their occurrence in the Umayyadperiod strata.

Another group of ceramics (nos.86-93) is interesting, among others, for the types of cooking pottery which include a cooking pot (no. 88, actually the same form as no. 84, of a Byzantine date, between 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> century), a casserole (no. 87) and two types of casserole lids (nos. 85-86). Fine wares' examples, specifically, LRC, CRS and ARS (nos. 90-93) are not posterior to the second quarter of 6<sup>th</sup> century suggesting that also the accompanying cooking vessels should not be later than the 6<sup>th</sup> century. In a layer immediately below, a fragment of ARS bowl (no. 94) was found, dated to not later than the beginning of the 6<sup>th</sup> century.

Many cooking vessels come from B2088, samples of which (nos. 95-98) are illustrated in this report; they pertain to the Byzantine and Umayyad periods. Finally, a cooking pot no. 99, the only ceramic object retrieved from the cistern in the *diakonikon* of the NEC, should be attributed to the Byzantine period, probably 6<sup>th</sup> century CE.

#### I.4. South-West Wall

## I.4.a. "SWL" sector (nos. 100-106, Fig. 8)

This sector yielded only few pottery fragments. Two of its *loci* were considered by the excavators as the crucial ones for the chronology of the southern city wall; unfortunately, both of them were extremely poor in ceramic material. One of the *loci* in question is L1048 from which there come cooking pots' fragments nos. 100-101 determining the date of their context at not earlier than mid-4<sup>th</sup> century CE and possibly not later than the early 5<sup>th</sup> century CE. The other *locus*, L1067, yielded a handful of very small sherds, mostly non-diagnostic (of which no illustration could be provided), among which the only diagnostic piece was a small rim fragment of cooking pot of Kefar Hananya form 4A (Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 125); to judge by this sherd together with the non-diagnostic ones, this context appears to be an early Roman one (1<sup>st</sup> century or early 2<sup>nd</sup> century CE). Among the other finds from the SWL sector, especially noteworthy are examples of commonware open forms: a large bowl (no. 103) of an Umayyad date(?) and a rim part of a krater/lekane (no. 104), apparently from a Roman-period pottery workshop known to have been active in the area of Sepphoris.

### I.4.b. "SWL2" sector (nos. 107-133, Figs. 8-9)

This area yielded a considerable amount of pottery, importantly expanding the repertoire of the ceramic forms attested at Sussita. Fine wares in this assemblage (Nos. 107-112) cover the time span from the Late Hellenistic (ESA) to the Abbasid (Fatimid?) period; they comprise some items so far rare at our site such as LRC forms 2A (no. 110) and 6 (no.108), ARS form 84 (no. 109) or glazed bowl no. 112. Among the common wares, one can note a few interesting groups, characterized by a high ratio of cooking wares. One such group (nos. 115-121 and no. 140 from B1437, and 130-133 from B1443) comes from L293, clearly dating from not later than 4<sup>th</sup> or the very beginning of 5<sup>th</sup> century CE. Apart from well-known Kefar Hananya forms (nos. 118-120 and 131), the group in question includes several examples of cooking vessels from some other potmaking centre (nos. 115-117). Among the latter, noteworthy is a fragment of cooking bowl/casserole (no. 115) which, to judge by the resemblance of its shape and fabric to no. 113 (found in another locus of the same area), apparently had horizontal handles rather than vertical ones. Fragment no. 117 represents the "Decapolis type" of cooking bowl, while the shape of no. 116 has been distributed throughout the Late Roman Galilee. Among important pottery examples from other loci of the "SWL2" area, one should mention fragmentary jar no. 114 and base of jug no.129: they represent ICW (earlier known as "Mefjar ware") which is not common at Sussita, since its *floruit* began only after the mid-8<sup>th</sup> century CE.

# Terracotta lamp fragments from different areas (Fig. 10)

From among the terracotta lamp fragments discovered in various areas excavated in 2006, this report illustrates examples of both local/regional production and foreign importations. In the former group, which includes products originating in general from the north-western area of the *Decapolis* (Bet Shean, Pella, Abila, Gadara, Hippos), one should mention a "Herodian" lamp fragment (no. 134) as well as examples of north Palestinian types of lamps (nos. 136-139), including a northern imitation of Beit Nattif type, dated to 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> centuries (no. 136). The sources of importations can tentatively be identified as Cyprus, for a 1<sup>st</sup> century CE lamp fragment (no. 135), and Greece, for a 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> century lamp (no. 140). The latter belongs to the same context as vessels fragments nos. 115-121 and 130-133.

## II. Description of illustrated ceramics

### II.1. HLC

## II.1.a. Topsoil and upper layers (unsealed fills) (Figs. 1-3)

- **1.** Rim fragment of *mastos* bowl (4092.61); BSP ware: "white", clean fabric; black-to-brown semi-matt slip; form 17B (Hayes 1985, tav. III:4), second half of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BCE; cf. Berlin and Warner Slane 1997, 279, 314-315, FW 30 (TA Type 6).
- **2**. Rim fragment of small plate (4222.2); ESA form 36 (Hayes 1985, tav. V:10), 60-100 CE.
- **3.** Rim of mug or table jar (4207.4) in CC ware: reddish-brown fabric (5 YR 6/4) with lots of tiny white grits; brownish-red matt slip outside and inside on rim. Cf. Rasson 1986, 67, fig. 17:9 (Jerash, from a layer of the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> century CE); Vieweger 2002, 167, fig. 17 (Gadara region).
- **4.** Fragment of ring base of plate (4226.3); brown fabric with lots of fine white grits and fine voids; brown semi-matt selfslip at surface.
- **5.** Rim fragment of bowl (4049.2), light orange fabric with orange-red matt slip; LRC form 2A (Hayes 1972, 327-329), late 4<sup>th</sup> to mid-5<sup>th</sup> century CE.
- **6.** Rim fragment of dish/bowl (4079.11), LRC form 3F (Hayes 1972, fig. 69:24), 6<sup>th</sup> century CE.
- 7. Rim fragment of dish/bowl (4086.5); LRC form 10A, late 6<sup>th</sup> early 7<sup>th</sup> century CE.
- 8. Rim fragment of dish/bowl (4092.16); LRC form 10C, early to mid-7<sup>th</sup> century CE.
- **9**. Rim fragment of dish/bowl (4086.6); LRC form 10C (Hayes 1972, fig. 71:13), early to mid-7<sup>th</sup> century CE.
- **10**. Rim fragment of dish (4096.3); CRS, presumably form 2 (Hayes 1972, 373-375, fig. 80), mainly late 5<sup>th</sup> and early 6<sup>th</sup> century CE.
- **11**. Rim fragment of dish (4227.2); CRS form 2 (Hayes 1972, 376, fig. 80:9-10), late 6<sup>th</sup> century CE.

- **12**. Rim fragment of dish (4047.1); CRS, presumably form 2 (Hayes 1972, 373-376), mid-5<sup>th</sup> to mid-6<sup>th</sup> century CE.
- **13**. Rim fragment of dish (4049.18); CRS form 9A (Hayes 1972, fig. 81:1), *ca.* 550-600 CE.
- **14**. Rim fragment of dish (4079.10); CRS, presumably form 9B (Hayes 1972, 378-382), dated between ca. 580/600 and the end of  $7^{th}$  century CE.
- **15**. Rim fragment of dish (4212.2); CRS form 9C (Hayes 1972, 379-382), dated between ca. 580/600 and the end of  $7^{th}$  century CE.
- **16**. Base fragment of dish or basin (4075.3); CRS form 9 or 10 (Hayes 1972, 379-383), between ca. 550 and the end of  $7^{th}$  century CE.
- **17**. Rim fragment of basin (4078.17); CRS form 11 (Hayes 1972, 383), dated to *ca.* 550 650+.
- **18**. Rim fragment of bowl (4212.1); ARS, presumably form 81B (Hayes 1972, 128, fig. 22:7-8), dated to the second half of 5<sup>th</sup> century (?).
- **19**. Rim fragment of large bowl (4047.4); ARS form 93A (Hayes 1972, 145-148), dated to 470-540 CE.
- **20**. Rim fragment of flanged bowl (4080.12); ARS form 91 (A-C), dated to between mid-5<sup>th</sup> century and after 600 CE.
- **21**. Rim fragment of large plate (4219.1); ARS form 105 (Hayes 1972, 169, fig. 31:17), *ca.* 660 CE.
- **22**. Rim fragment of commonware saucer (4086.15); fine red fabric with brown surface, very dark gray at rim; cf. Amir 2004a, 35-36, fig. 3.4:9 from Tiberias, "apparently an imitation of Hayes' (ARS) Form 73, dated to the 5<sup>th</sup> century CE".
- **23**. Rim fragment of bowl (4048.21); fine yellowish red fabric (5 YR 7/8), surface smooth (self-slip?), greyish pink (near 5 YR 7/4); cf. Uscatescu 2001, 64, fig. 10:1 (Jerash production) and references in n. 76, apparently corresponding to FBW Bowls form 1A (Magness 1993, 193-194, nos. 1 and 6), mid-6<sup>th</sup> to late 7<sup>th</sup>/early 8<sup>th</sup> century CE; cf. also Smith 1973, pl. 28:1233 (Pella, Byzantine stratum); Amir 2004a, 34-36, fig.

- 3.4:4 (Tiberias), Ben-Arieh 1997, pl. III:19-21 and 363, pl. VIII:16-17 (Hammat Gader), and Vieweger 2002, 169, fig. 19 (Gadara region).
- **24**. Rim fragment of cooking pot (4086.17); fabric dark grey banded red, with dark grey surface; Roman period. Resembling Diez Fernandez 1983, T 10.10, of 1<sup>st</sup> century BCE 1<sup>st</sup> century CE; also Ben-Arieh 1997, pl. III:24 (4<sup>th</sup> century CE?).
- **25**. Rim and handle fragment of cooking pot (4091.12); grey fabric, very dense; reddish brown surface. Competing Form C4B (Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 162-164), latter 4<sup>th</sup> to latter 6<sup>th</sup> century (and later); cf. Loffreda 1974, fig. 10:1-2 (type C2, Late Roman, from Capernaum); Peleg 1989, fig. 52:8-9 (Capernaum); Smith and Day 1989, pl. 53:10 (Pella, 6<sup>th</sup> to early 7<sup>th</sup> century CE); McNicoll *et al.* 1992, pl. 111:4 (Pella, ca. 525-550 CE); Amir 2004a, 38, 40, fig. 3.7:4-5 (Tiberias).
- **26**. Rim fragment of cooking pot (4078.12); very gritty fabric, orange/brick-red (pronounced yellow tone inside), rough at the surface. Competing Form C4A2 (Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 159-162), mid-4<sup>th</sup> to earlier 5<sup>th</sup> century CE.
- **27**. Rim fragment with handle (4215.1); gritty red fabric with some black nodules and occasional white grits; brownish-red surface with dark brown and blackened spots. Competing Form C4A1 (Adan-Bayewitz 1993, *loc. cit.*), mid-4<sup>th</sup> to earlier 5<sup>th</sup> century CE; cf. Loffreda 1974, 46-47, fig. 10:7-9 (type C4, Late Roman to early Byzantine, Capernaum); also Peleg 1989, fig. 52:19 (Capernaum); Ben-Arieh 1997, pl. III:25 (Hammat Gader).
- **28**. Rim fragment of cooking pot (4208.9); gritty and dense red fabric with thin dark grey core, fine lime and some dark grits; surface dark red. Cf. Clark and Falkner 1986, fig. 20:6 (from Jerash North Theatre, dated to 4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> century CE); McNicoll *et* al. 1992, pl. 109:2 (Pella, *ca.* mid-5<sup>th</sup> century); related to Amir 2004a, 38, 40, fig. 3.7:2, from Tiberias.
- **29**. Rim fragment with handle of casserole (4079.25); gritty dark brown fabric, exterior blackened; competing form C3A (Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 156-159): mid-4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> century (and later); cf. Loffreda 1974, 48-49, fig. 11:1 (type C5, Capernaum); Delougaz and Haines 1960, pl. 54:10 (Khirbet Karak).
- **30**. Fragment of commonware (cooking) bowl (4092.11); very dense fabric with dark grey core; surface red (10 R 5/6 outside, 2.5 YR 5/6 inside). For the form, see: Ben-

- Arieh 1997, 348-349, pl. I:15-18 (Hammat Gader, of a pre-455 CE date); Vieweger 2002, fig. 17 (Gadara region); Smith 1973, pl. 28:1208 and pl. 30:1138 (Pella, Byzantine and Umayyad stratum respectively); McNicoll *et al.* 1992, pl. 109:9-10 (Pella, ca. mid-5<sup>th</sup> century); da Costa *et al.* 2002, 507-509, fig. 6:3 (Pella: 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> century CE); cf. SusReport 2004, 159, fig. 5:22; SusReport 2005, fig. 1:8, fig. 12:159.
- **31**. Rim of cooking ware jug *bollitore* (4239.1); granular red fabric (2.5 YR 6/6 light red) with fine voids; surface light reddish-brown (5 YR 6/4), blackened at lip; perhaps related to Kefar Hananya form 5B1 (Golan form G5?) (Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 139-141 and 178-179) of early 4<sup>th</sup> to early 5<sup>th</sup> century; cf. Diez Fernandez 1983, T 9.7, of late 1<sup>st</sup> century CE to early 4<sup>th</sup> century CE.
- **32**. Rim fragment of cooking ware jug (4207.1); Kefar Hananya form 6C (Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 145, no. 4), early 4<sup>th</sup> to early 5<sup>th</sup> century CE; cf. Loffreda 1974, 33-34, fig. 3, type A8; Amir 2004a, 41, fig. 3.8:9 (from Tiberias, in different fabric?).
- **33**. Rim and neck fragment of cooking ware jug (4080.3); dense red fabric with occasional fine white grits; exterior fired reddish brown. Form corresponding to Kefar Hananya form 6A (Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 142-143: first half of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century CE); cf. also Loffreda 1974, 35-36, fig. 4:10, type A10b; Diez Fernandez 1983, T 9.9, of late 1<sup>st</sup> to mid-4<sup>th</sup> century CE; SusReport 2001, fig. 6:12; SusReport 2005, fig. 2:16 and fig. 7:101.
- **34**. Rim of bell-shaped bowl/lid? (4222.3); grey-brown fabric with some fine voids; surface fired pale pinkish-brown with lime eruptions, blackened (mostly exterior); Diez Fernandez 1983, T 19 (*ca.* 200 CE till the end of 4<sup>th</sup> century CE)
- **35**. Fragment of funnel(?) with a root of handle (4239.2); red fabric with many lime eruptions and some voids; red surface (10 R 5/6).
- **36**. Rim fragment of basin (4052.12); pale grey fabric (10 YR 6/4: light yellow-brown); surface yellow-beige (7.5 YR 7/4: pink); cf. SusReport 2005, fig. 11:148.
- **37**. Rim fragment of deep bowl (4049.29), commonware: pale brown fabric with fine sand admixture. Cf. SusReport 2005, fig. 5:62 (larger size); Peleg 2004, fig. 25:6 (more shallow, from Bet Shean, Late Roman/Byzantine).

- **38**. Rim of jar (4079.16), overfired; fabric with grey core, banded red; surface with lime eruptions, dark grey with brick-red spots outside, brown inside; cf. SusReport 2005, fig. 7:88-89 and fig. 12:153; Loffreda 1974, 43-44, fig. 8:1 and 3 (Late Roman to Byzantine); Diez Fernandez 1983, T 1.9 (mid-1<sup>st</sup> to early 4<sup>th</sup> century CE); Smith and Day 1989, pls. 48:5, 8-9, 11 and 52:19, from contexts of 6<sup>th</sup> to early 7<sup>th</sup> century; McNicoll *et al.* 1992, pl. 92:4 (from a tomb in Pella used between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> century CE); Amir 2004a, 40-41, fig. 3.8:1 from Tiberias; Peleg 2004, 71-73, fig. 29:10, from Bet Shean (same fabric), Late Roman/Byzantine.
- **39**. Rim fragment of jar (4075.21); light red fabric with lime grits; surface light red inside, grey-brown outside; cf. Delougaz and Haines 1960, pl. 55:2 (Khirbet Karak); Peleg 1989, fig. 60:33 in different fabric (Capernaum, Strata IV-III (650 CE to mid-9<sup>th</sup> century)
- **40**. Rim fragment of jug or jar? (4096.4), fabric resembling the Phoenician Semi-Fine ware: pale pink with fine voids and red grits. For the form, see Clark and Falkner 1986, fig. 20:10 (different fabric) from Jerash North Theatre, dated to 3<sup>rd</sup> century CE; Ball *et al.* 1986, 361, fig. 3:6 (different fabric) from Jerash, dated to 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> century.
- **41**. Rim fragment of large jar (4208.5); pinkish beige fabric with abundant sand and voids (7.5 YR 7/2: pinkish-grey); surface beige; related to: Smith 1973, pl. 32:1121 (Pella, Umayyad stratum) and Ben-Arieh 1997, 353, 358-359, pl. IV:16 (Hammat Gader).
- **42**. Rim fragment of Gaza jar (4079.24); crispy brown fabric with voids; surface brown (5 YR 6/4: light red-brown); cf. many finds of Gaza jars in the *macellum* at Jerash, Uscatescu 2001, 62 and fig. 3:2; see also Ben-Arieh 1997, pl. XIII:13 (described as "pithos, grey ware") and Smith 1973, pl. 29:1190 and colour plate 90D (Pella, Byzantine, West Church complex).
- **43**. Fragment of amphora toe (4083.6); brick-red fabric, very hard-baked with many voids (mostly the oblong ones), some white (small to medium) grits and large oval brown grits; surface the same colour as the break. Probably an Aegean amphora of Peacock and Williams Class 47 (Peacock and Williams 1986, 193-195), 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> century CE.

## II.1.b. HLC: Late Roman/Byzantine layers (Fig. 3)

- **44.** Rim fragment with handle of a thin-walled casserole (4248.1); fabric "sandwiched" in section: dark grayish-brown inside, red outside, with lots of fine white grits; surface fired dark brown through reddish brown to red on rim; cf. SusReport 2005, fig. 10:132, parallel to Uscatescu 2003, fig. 4:39 and de Montlivault 1986, 71, fig. 19:2 (first half of 6<sup>th</sup> century CE), both Jerash products.
- **45**. Rim and neck fragment with handle of commonware jug (4241.1); fine granular brick-red fabric with voids; some surface with a black spot; cf. Diez Fernandez 1983, T 6.3 (*ca.* 225 till second half of 4<sup>th</sup> century CE); SusReport 2005, fig. 7:98.
- **46**. Rim and neck fragment of commonware jug (4224.3); Kefar Hananya ware (?); red fabric (10 R 5/6) with dark grey grains (including one big lump); cf. Diez Fernandez 1983, T 9.5 (*ca.* 200 to early 4<sup>th</sup> century CE) or T 9.12 (*ca.* 125 300 CE).
- **47**. Rim fragment of jar (?) (5000.1); light red, very sandy fabric with voids; surface pale red through reddish yellow to beige. Form perhaps related to Ball *et al.* 1986, 363, fig. 4:9 (different fabric), from Jerash, dated to 6<sup>th</sup> century, but see also Ben-Arieh 1997, pl. IV:21 (a pipe fragment from Hammat Gader, "orange ware").

### II.1.c. HLC: material associated with floors (Figs. 3-4)

- **48**. Fragment of dish (2579.2), CRS form 1 (Hayes 1972, 372-374, no.2), late 4<sup>th</sup> century to about third quarter of 5<sup>th</sup> century CE.
- **49**. Rim fragment of cooking pot (2579.6); cf. no. 27 above; very gritty red-brown fabric (2.5 YR 4/6: red) with some sand; surface reddish-brown (2.5 YR 5/4); related to Competing Form C4A1 (Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 160), mid-4<sup>th</sup> to early 5<sup>th</sup> century CE. Cf. no. 27 above.
- **50**. Rim fragment of jar (2579.27); crispy brown fabric (5 YR 6/6: reddish-yellow) with some small white grits; surface pinkish brown (7.5 YR 7/4: pink)
- **51**. Rim fragment of dish (2591.8), CRS form 1 (Hayes 1972, 372-374, nos. 1 and 4), late 4<sup>th</sup> century to about third quarter of 5<sup>th</sup> century CE.
- **52**. Base fragment of dish (2591.20), CRS form 1 (see no. 51).

- **53**. Rim fragment of dish (2591.7), ARS form 61A (Hayes 1972, 100-105, 107), *ca.* 325 400/420 CE
- **54**. Fragment of cooking pot (2591.15); dark reddish brown fabric with some tiny white grits and occasional large lumps of lime; surface reddish brown. Cf. Amir 2004b, 156-157, fig. 9.3:10 ("Late Byzantine and Umayyad periods"); but also Diez Fernandez 1983, T 10.12 (*ca.* 125 CE first half of 4<sup>th</sup> century)
- **55**. Rim fragment of cooking pot (2591.9); very gritty brick-red fabric with dark grey core; surface orange-brown inside, very dark grey outside; cf. SusReport 2005, fig. 7:92: Competing Form C4A1 (Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 159-162: mid-4<sup>th</sup> to earlier 5<sup>th</sup> century) or Diez Fernandez 1983, T 11.4 (dated *ca.* 75 300 CE); cf. Smith and Day 1989, pl. 53:7 and 15 (Pella, 6<sup>th</sup> to early 7<sup>th</sup> century); Ben-Arieh 1997, pl. III:22-23 (Hammat Gader).
- **56.** Rim of lid or casserole? (2591.21); very gritty dark red fabric; surface with lime eruptions, dark brownish red outside, dark red inside; cf. Smith and Day 1989, pl. 53:17 and McNicoll *et al.* 1992, pl. 98:14 (Pella, 6<sup>th</sup> to early 7<sup>th</sup> century); Ben-Arieh 1997, casseroles pl. III:30-31 (Hammat Gader, Late Roman to Byzantine), and "bowls or lids", 359-361, pl. VII:21-22 (Byzantine).
- **57**. Fragment of casserole (2591.1); brownish grey fabric with fine voids; surface (with many multi-coloured mineral eruptions) pale pink inside, beige pink (near 5 YR 7/4) outside, blackened at upper part; cf. Ben-Arieh 1997, pl. III:33 (Hammat Gader).
- **58**. Rim fragment of jar or jug (2591.22); light red fabric (5 YR 7/6) with occasional fine sand and some large voids; surface very pale yellow (10 YR 8/3). For the form, see no. 40 above, and Clark and Falkner 1986, fig. 20:10 (the same fabric?) from Jerash North Theatre, dated to 3<sup>rd</sup> century CE; also Ball *et al.* 1986, 367, fig. 4:11, from Jerash, 6<sup>th</sup> century phase; McNicoll *et al.* 1992, pl. 92:5 (jug from a tomb in Pella used between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> centuries CE) and pl. 98:3 (6<sup>th</sup> to early 7<sup>th</sup> century; cf. Smith and Day 1989, pl. 52:15); da Costa *et al.* 2002, 515, fig. 10:7 (Pella, 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> century).
- **59**. Rim and shoulder fragment of jar (2591.4); beige fabric with many voids and some sand grits; surface beige (10 YR 7/4: very pale brown); cf. of the same fabric, Smith 1973, pl. 32:1130 (Pella, Umayyad stratum).

- **60**. Rim fragment of cooking ("Galilean") bowl (2578.2), Kefar Hananya form 1A (Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 88-91), "latter first to latter third century".
- **61**. Rim fragment of jar (2578.4), Lower Galilean ware: dense light grey fabric (10 YR 6/1) with small white grits; surface wet-smoothed, fired beige (10 YR 8/3: very pale brown). Cf. Diez Fernandez 1983, T 1.3, dated *ca.* 30 BCE 70 CE.

### II.2. North-West Church compound (fig. 5)

## II.2.a. Destruction deposits (nos. 62-63)

- **62**. Funnel P06.01, missing edge of spout (1174.1); coarse light orange-brown fabric, pink at surface. Closely similar (although smaller) funnel was found associated with four-handled jars in the *basilica* in Petra, cf. Kh. 'Amr, "Storage Jars (Phase VII)", in: Z.T. Fiema, C. Kannellopoulos, T. Waliszewski, and R. Schick, *The Petra Church*, Amman 2001, 367, fig. 1 (tentatively dated to the second half of 6<sup>th</sup> century); related (with white-painted decoration): Smith and Day 1989, pl. 59:1 (Pella, described as "coarse metallic ware"); cf. McNicoll *et al.* 1992, pl. 107b (dated to 717-747 CE). See also a funnel with a different rim profile found with storage jars in a cellar at the church in Kh. el Waziya in Galilee, in M. Aviam, *Jews, Pagans and Christians in the Galilee*, Rochester 2004, 186-187, fig. 17.9.
- **63**. Upper part of spouted jug P06.02 (1176.1); dark reddish-brown fabric with abundant fine sand (pale grey grits) and voids; surface reddish brown; cf. Delougaz and Haines 1960, pl. 32:11 and pl. 57:2 (Khirbet Karak).

#### II.2.b. Material connected with a construction phase of the cellar(?) (nos. 64-66)

- **64**. Fragment of floor of a dish (1195.2) decorated with a row of concentric circles in between grooved lines; ARS ware, decoration Style A (Hayes 1972, fig. 40, cat. 32:n); late 4<sup>th</sup> to mid-5<sup>th</sup> century.
- **65**. Rim fragment of large bowl (1195.1; possibly the same object as the previous one); ARS ware, form 67 (Hayes 1972, 112-116, fig. 19:4), first group, dated to 360-420 CE.
- **66**. Rim fragment of large bowl/dish (1195.3); ARS ware, probably form 109 (Hayes 1972, 172, fig. 33: *ca.* 580/600 to mid-7<sup>th</sup> century CE) or form 104C (Hayes 1972, 160-166: *ca.* 550-625 CE).

### II.2.c. Pottery from unsealed/disturbed contexts at NWC (nos. 67-74)

- 67. Body and handle fragment of jar (1169.2); fabric brown banded bright red, surface orange-brown (with some mica: an Egyptian workshop?); the same ware as Delougaz and Haines 1960, pl. 55:5 (Khirbet Karak)? cf. Peleg 1989, fig. 60:11, red fabric (Capernaum, Stratum V: 7<sup>th</sup> century: the dating amended as mid-8<sup>th</sup> century by A. Walmsley, in E. Villeneuve and P.M. Watson (eds), *La céramique byzantine et proto-islamique en Syrie-Jordanie (IVe VIIIe siècles apr. J.-C.)*, Beyrouth 2001, 309-313, fig. 2:1-2); cf. Tzaferis 1983, 33, fig. 7:16 and pl. XV:3, from Kursi.
- **68**. Rim fragment of basin/krater (1172.5); brown fabric (10 YR 5/3) with occasional sand grits; outer surface with thin coating, very pale brown (10 YR 8/3); cf. SusReport 2005, fig. 8:113; Tzaferis 1983, fig. 5:10-11 (Kursi); Peleg 1989, fig. 48:2 (Capernaum, assigned to 7<sup>th</sup> century); Stacey 2004, 97, fig. 5.11 (Tiberias, with references to Capernaum, Kursi, Khirbet Karak and Hammat Gader); from Tiberias also Amir 2004b, 155, fig. 9.2:10.
- **69**. Rim fragment of bowl (1172.4); glazed ware: pale beige fabric with pink core and deep voids; surface brownish yellow (5 YR 6/6: reddish yellow) outside, brown (5 YR 4/2: dark reddish-gray) inside; dark brown at rim (5 YR 4/2); dark green glaze on the inside. For form and ware(?) see Stacey 2004, 117-118, fig. 5.25:2, from Tiberias, Stratum I (Fatimid?).
- **70**. Rim fragment of dish with an incised wavy line (1181.3); CRS ware form 9B (Hayes 1972, 379-382, fig. 82:10), ca. 580/600 to end of  $7^{th}$  century CE.
- **71**. Fragmentary dish (1183.1); CRS form 2 (Hayes 1972, 373-375, fig. 80:2), mainly of late  $5^{th}$  and early  $6^{th}$  century CE.
- **72**. Rim fragment of commonware bowl (1167.1); brick-red fabric with large black grits; surface brownish red, with many black eruptions; cf. SusReport 2005, fig. 7:102 (of different? fabric with remains of red slip); similar to: Peleg 1989, fig. 43:28 (Capernaum); Ben-Arieh 1997, 348-350, pl. I:20
- **73**. Rim fragment of plate (1168.23); ESA form 30 (Hayes 1985, tav. IV:14), *ca.* 10-50 CE. **74**. Rim fragment of hemispherical bowl (1190.5); ESA form 19A (Hayes 1985, tav. III:6), first half of 1<sup>st</sup> century BCE.

# II.3. North-East Church Compound (Figs. 6-7)

- **75**. Rim fragment of pithos ("krater") (2101A); coarse brownish-yellow fabric with many small pebbles, surface pale brick-red to yellow on rim. Cf. Amir 2004a, 38-39, fig. 3.6:3 (Tiberias, Byzantine or Umayyad period); related to Loffreda 1974, 54-55 and phots 11-12 (type D1 from Capernaum, dated there to Late Roman-to-Byzantine period), to Smith 1973, pl. 441243 (Pella, Byzantine stratum) and to McNicoll *et al.* 1992, pl. 109:12 (Pella, dated to *ca.* mid-5<sup>th</sup> century CE).
- **76**. Rim fragment of dish/bowl (2099A); LRC form 10A (Hayes 1972, 343-346), late 6<sup>th</sup> early 7<sup>th</sup> century CE.
- 77. Rim fragment of dish/bowl (2099C); LRC form 10B (Hayes 1972, 343-346, fig. 71:7), late  $6^{th}$  early  $7^{th}$  century CE.
- **78**. Rim fragment of dish/bowl (2095F + 2099B); LRC form 10C (Hayes 1972, 343-346, fig. 71:13), early to mid-7<sup>th</sup> century CE.
- **79**. Rim fragment of dish (2099D + 2099E); CRS form 9C (Hayes 1972, 381-382, fig. 82:13), ca. 580/600 to end of  $7^{th}$  century CE.
- **80**. Fragmentary body with stump-base of juglet (2099H2 + 2099I); finely gritty, pale yellow fabric, surface worn. Cf. Diez Fernandez 1983, T 8.3 (*ca.* 75 275 CE).
- **81**. Rim and neck fragment of thin-walled jug (2095B); dense fabric fired grey, with some tiny white grits; surface pale beige outside, light brown inside. Possibly related to juglet from a Jerash workshop, cf. de Montlivault 1986, 71, fig. 19:3, first half of 6<sup>th</sup> century CE (?); Smith and Day 1989, pl. 48:1 and/or pl. 52:9 (both in "metallic ware" from Pella, 6<sup>th</sup> to early 7<sup>th</sup> century CE); Peleg 2004, fig. 29:6, from Beth Shean (different fabric).
- **82**. Rim fragment of jar (2099G); fabric with dark grey core banded red, with occasional large white lumps; surface red inside, brown outside; cf. SusReport 2005, fig. 4:51; Smith 1973, pl. 31:284, 1155 (Pella, Umayyad stratum); Smith and Day 1989, pl. 48:12 (Pella, 6<sup>th</sup> to early 7<sup>th</sup> century CE); Peleg 1989, fig. 60:2-3 (Capernaum, Strata III I: 750 1033 CE); Peleg 2004, 72-73, fig. 29:5 (Bet Shean).

- **83**. Rim of "Beisan" jar (2095D); hard, light red, fabric with occasional large white lumps; surface very dark grey. Cf. Loffreda 1974, 44-45, fig. 9:5, type C1 of Capernaum, Byzantine period; McNicoll *et al.* 1982, pl. 139:5 (Assembage 2 at Pella: late 6<sup>th</sup> to early 7<sup>th</sup> centuries)
- **84**. Rim and shoulder fragments of cooking pot (2095C); gritty reddish brown fabric, surface reddish brown inside, dark brownish grey outside; cf. Peleg 1989, fig. 52:8-10 (Capernaum): apparently derivative of no. 25 above.
- **85**. Fragment of lid (2099F); gritty, dark reddish brown fabric with occasional large white eruptions; cf. Loffreda 1974, 49-51, fig. 11:13 (type C9, Capernaum): Late Roman and Byzantine.
- **86**. Fragment of lid (2098D); reddish brown fabric; surface smoothed, with grooved decoration outside; cf. Delougaz and Haines 1960, pl. 43:35 (Khirbet Karak); Loffreda 1974, 50-51 (Type C8, Capernaum, with the *floruit* in the Late Roman period); Amir 2004a, 38, 40, fig. 3.7:13 (Tiberias); Ball *et al.* 1986, fig. 2:6 (Jerash, dated to second quarter of 8<sup>th</sup> century)
- **87**. Fragmentary casserole (2098B); gritty, light reddish-brown fabric; bottom blackened by fire; see no. 29 above.
- **88**. Upper part of cooking pot (2098H); gritty reddish-brown fabric; surface light reddish-brown, rather smooth; see no. 84 above.
- **89**. Rim fragment of table amphora(?) (2098F); yellowish-pink fabric with occasional dark grey grits; surface paler yellowish-pink, very smooth; cf. Smith and Day 1989, pl. 44:17 (fragmentary, but the same fabric) from Pella, Early Roman period. The form may be related to that of Berlin and Warner Slane 1997, 154, "spatter squared rim jar" PW 472 (a water jar?) at Tel Anafa which first appears there *ca.* 98 75 BCE;
- **90**. Rim fragment of dish/bowl (2098G); LRC form 3F (Hayes 1972, 338, fig. 69:25), second quarter of the 6<sup>th</sup> century CE.
- **91**. Fragmentary dish (2098E + 2100A); CRS form 2 (Hayes 1972, 375), probably early version, *ca.* 450 CE.

- **92**. Fragment of large bowl (2098C); ARS form 67 (Hayes 1972, 112-116); *ca.* 360-470 CE
- 93. Rim fragment of large bowl (2098A); ware, form and dating as previous.
- **94**. Rim fragment of flanged bowl (2106A); ARS form 91A-B (Hayes 1972, 140-144); mid- to late 5<sup>th</sup> century (type A) or *ca.* 450-530 CE (type B).
- **95**. Fragmentary lid (2088B); fabric "sandwiched" in section: dark grey (inside) to reddish brown (outside); surface dark reddish-brown
- **96**. Fragment of casserole (2088C); gritty dark brown fabric; cf. Ben-Arieh 1997, pl. III:34 (Hammat Gader).
- **97**. Upper part of cooking pot (2088A); very gritty, reddish-brown fabric with occasional large white eruptions; surface reddish-brown inside, greyish-brown outside. Cf. Delougaz and Haines 1960, pl. 53:35, 38 and 40 (Khirbet Karak); Ball *et al.* 1986, fig. 2:3 (Jerash, second quarter of 8<sup>th</sup> century).
- **98**. Body fragment of spouted jug (2088D); gritty reddish-brown fabric, banded red at break; cf. no. 63 above.
- **99**. Upper part of cooking pot (2071B); very gritty, reddish-brown fabric; surface brick-red inside, "black" outside.

# I.4. South City Wall

# II.4.a. SWL-I sector (Fig. 8, nos. 100-106)

- **100**. Fragment of rim and handle of cooking pot (5032.2); gritty bright red fabric (2.5 YR 6/8 light red) with some small and medium-sized white grits, and very fine oblong voids; surface fired brown (5 YR 5/2 reddish gray) outside to orange-red on rim and inside. Competing Form C4A (Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 159-162), mid-4<sup>th</sup> to earlier 5<sup>th</sup> century.
- **101**. Rim fragment of cooking pot (5032.3); fine and dense fabric, bright red (5 YR 5/8 yellowish red), with occasional small white grits; outer surface slightly weathered. Presumably imitation of Kefar Hananya ware: Golan form G4C? (Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 178), early 2<sup>nd</sup> to mid-4<sup>th</sup> century CE.

- **102**. Rim fragment of jar (5020.7); very gritty, dark red-brown fabric with voids and white mineral lumps; cf. Loffreda 1974, 44-45, type C1 (Capernaum, Byzantine period); Peleg 1989, fig. 60:38 (Capernaum, Stratum V, of 7<sup>th</sup> century); SusReport 2005, fig. 8:116.
- **103**. Rim fragment of commonware large bowl (5020.9); beige-grey coarse fabric with many oblong voids; surface pale yellowish-red (yellowish-pink); cf. Stacey 2004, 98-99, fig. 5.13:1, from Tiberias, Stratum IV (750-880 CE).
- **104**. Rim fragment of commonware krater/lekane (5063.1); ash-grey fabric with red core; pale beige surface (10 YR 8/2: white); Loffreda 1974, 42, type A18 (Capernaum); Diez Fernandez 1983, T 21.3-4 (*ca.* 125 CE to late 4<sup>th</sup> century); Adan-Bayewitz and Perlman 1990, 163-165, fig. 3:1 ("serving bowl" as manufactured at Shikhin near Sepphoris); Berlin and Warner Slane 1997, 136, PW 400-402 ("Galilean Overhanging Rim Krater", from late 1<sup>st</sup> century BCE/early 1<sup>st</sup> century CE on)
- **105**. Rim and neck of jug (5030.2); clean, brownish red fabric, uniform in colour; possibly the same as Kefar Hananya form 6A of the first half of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century CE (and later?), see no. 33 above, or Diez Fernandez 1983, T 9.5, no. 237 (*ca.* 200 CE to early 4<sup>th</sup> century).
- **106**. Base fragment of thin-walled juglet(?) (5040.2); clean fabric with dark grey break; surface pinkish grey inside (with large lime eruptions), dull pink outside.

# II.4.b. "SWL-II" sector (Figs. 8-9, nos. 107-133)

- **107**. Base fragment of plate (5074.5); ESA form 12 (Hayes 1985, tav. II:10), *ca.* 40 BCE 10 CE.
- **108**. Rim fragment of deep dish (1440.4); LRC form 6 (Hayes 1972, 340-341), early 6<sup>th</sup> century CE.
- **109**. Rim fragment of deep dish (1458.2); ARS form 84 (Hayes 1972, 130-133), *ca.* 440-500 CE.
- **110**. Fragment of rim and wall of dish (1599.16); LRC form 2A (Hayes 1972, 327-329), late 4<sup>th</sup>/early 5<sup>th</sup> century CE.

- **111.** Rim fragment of basin (1434.1); CRS form 7 (Hayes 1972, 377-379), mainly second half of 6<sup>th</sup> century to early 7<sup>th</sup> century CE.
- **112**. Rim and wall fragment of glazed (polychrome splash-ware) bowl (1440.3); pinkish clay, interior partly covered with yellow slip with brown "splashes", and coated with a transparent colourless glaze. Cf. Amir 2004a, 42-44, fig. 3.9:13 (local ware of Tiberias, Abbasid period: 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> century?); Stacey 2004, 117, 120, fig. 5.27:2 (Tiberias, 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> century?).
- **113**. Rim and handle of casserole (1451.1); fabric fired very dark grey at break; smooth surface, dark brown inside, dark grey outside. Fairly similar to Ben-Arieh 1997, pl. III;1-5, of which in nos. 1-4 handles are not preserved, while no. 5 has a vertical handle; if they correspond to Adan-Bayewitz 1993 Kefar Hananya form 3B, their date is 2<sup>nd</sup> to the end of 4<sup>th</sup> century CE.
- **114.** Fragment of jar (P06.03: 5084.7); granular fabric, very pale yellow (10 YR 8/2: white) with abundant voids and some tiny sand; same surface; cf. Loffreda 1974, 61-62, type E1 from Capernaum ("Mefjar ware"); for form see also Delougaz and Haines 1960, pl. 55:5 (Khirbet Karak, in different ware); Peleg 1989, fig. 60:1 (Capernaum, Stratum V: 7<sup>th</sup> century); Tzaferis 1983, 33, fig. 7:9-12 ("buff-white" fabric) and pl. XV:2, from Kursi; Ben-Arieh 1997, 374-375, pl. XIII:7 ("buff ware", Umayyad); similar also to SusReport 2003, fig. 11:6, from 749 CE deposit in the *diakonikon* of NWC; probably *ca.* mid-8<sup>th</sup> century.
- **115**. Casserole rim and wall (1437.27) of the same type as 113 above; clean, bright red fabric, with thin brown core (where thin) and wider grey one (where thick); surface dark brown.
- **116**. Rim fragment of cooking bowl/lid (1437.28); clean fabric with grey core and some large voids; surface reddish-brown, top of rim fired black (blackened?).
- **117**. Rim fragment with lug handle of small cooking bowl (1437.28a); clean dark red fabric, with "black" surfaces. For the type, see no. 30 above (especially McNicoll *et al.* 1992, pl. 109:9, Pella, *ca.* mid-5<sup>th</sup> century CE).
- **118**. Rim fragment of "Galilean" bowl (1437.18); Kefar Hananya form 1E (Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 103-109, no. 8), mid-3<sup>rd</sup> to earlier 5<sup>th</sup> century CE.

- **119**. Rim, shoulder and handle of cooking pot (1437.23); Kefar Hananya form 4D (Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 130-132), 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> to earlier 5<sup>th</sup> century CE.
- **120**. Rim and neck of jug (1437.3); reddish-brown fabric, hard and clean, with very dark brown surface; Kefar Hananya ware? perhaps a variant of form 5B2 (of early 4<sup>th</sup> to earlier 5<sup>th</sup> century, cf. Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 139-141).
- **121**. Rim fragment of jar (1437.17); yellowish-beige fabric with lots of fine white grits; similar surface; cf. Diez Fernandez 1983, T 1.8 (*ca.* 250 to late 4<sup>th</sup> century CE).
- **122**. Rim fragment and handle of cooking pot (5081.28); Kefar Hananya form 4D (Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 130-132), 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> to earlier 5<sup>th</sup> century CE.
- **123**. Rim fragment of cooking pot (5081.33); yellow fabric with light red core, fine voids and fine red grits (single large lime eruption); surface fired orange outside, yellow-pink inside. Cf. Smith 1973, pl. 44:1321 (Pella, Byzantine stratum).
- **124**. Rim and handle fragment of casserole (5081.31); grey fabric with fine voids and big to medium iron oxide grits; surface slightly vitrified, beige-yellow inside, pinkishorange outside; cf. Ben-Arieh 1997, pl. III:32 (Hammat Gader); see also nos. 56-57 and 96 above.
- **125**. Rim fragment of cooking ware bowl (5081.10); smooth red fabric with red-brown core, occasional lime eruptions, rare medium-size black nodules, rare voids; surface reddish-brown. Cf. no. 30 above.
- **126**. Rim fragment of dish or basin (5081.11); CRS form 9C or 10 (Hayes 1972, 379-383), 580/600 to 700 CE.
- **127**. Rim fragment of jar (1580.6); fabric fired dark grey with very dark grey surface; cf. no. 123 above (different fabric); Diez Fernandez 1983, T 1.8 (*ca.* 250 to end of 4<sup>th</sup> century) or T 1.9 (*ca* mid-1<sup>st</sup> to mid-4th century); see, however, Smith and Day 1989, pl. 48:11 from deposit at Pella dated to 6<sup>th</sup> early 7<sup>th</sup> century.
- **128**. Rim fragment of commonware krater/lekane (1580.10); dark grey core; surface light brick-red; cf. Diez Fernandez 1983, 177-178, T 21.2-4: respectively: 1<sup>st</sup>-early 3<sup>rd</sup> century CE, latter 2<sup>nd</sup> to early 4<sup>th</sup> century, and 4<sup>th</sup> century CE. See also no. 104 above.

- **129**. Base of jug (1580.4 joining 5082.31); ICW: pale beige/very pale yellow fabric; surface very pale beige, almost white; cf. Peleg 1989, fig. 62:30 (larger size) in "light ware" (Khirbet Mefjer) from Capernaum, Stratum IV (650 750 CE); mid-8<sup>th</sup> century and later.
- **130**. Rim fragment of jar (1443.4); dense brick-red fabric with remains of beige slip. Form fairly close to Peleg 2004, fig. 29:12 (of similar, but not exactly the same fabric), possibly of a 3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century date; cf. Diez Fernandez 1983, T 1.10 (*ca.* end of 1<sup>st</sup> century to mid-4<sup>th</sup> century CE, or later), Ben-Arieh 1997, 353, 358-359, pl. IV:12 (Hammat Gader); da Costa *et al.* 2002, 512-513, fig. 9:2 (Pella, 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> century); Amir 2004a, fig. 3.1:14 (Tiberias; not later than mid-3<sup>rd</sup> century CE?).
- **131**. Rim fragment of "Galilean" bowl (1443.8); Kefar Hananya form 1E (Adan-Bayewitz 1993, 103-109, mid-3rd to earlier 5<sup>th</sup> century CE.
- **132**. Rim fragment of bowl (1443.9); red to reddish-brown fabric with occasional fine white grits; surface dark reddish brown. Cf. Ben-Arieh 1997, 348-350, Pl. I:21 (Hammat Gader); Rasson 1986, fig. 17:5 (Jerash, from a layer of the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> century CE); Vieweger 2002, 167, fig. 17 (Gadara region); similar also to Amir 2004a, fig. 3.4:9 (Tiberias, considered as a local imitation of ARS ware form 73 of the 5<sup>th</sup> century CE).
- **133**. Rim fragment of basin (1443.3); rather dense fabric, light yellowish-red, with many tiny grits; surface pink with lots of fine white grits; cf. da Costa *et al.* 2002, 513-514, fig. 9:9 (Pella, 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> century); Peleg 2004, 66, fig. 25:9 (Bet Shean, probably 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> century).

# Terracotta lamp fragments from different areas (Fig. 10)

- **134**. Nozzle of wheel-made lamp (2579.35); light red fabric with abundant fine sand (mostly white grits and occasional large red ones; surface smooth, pink. "Herodian" type: Loffreda 1974, 89-91, type L2; Hadad type 4 (Hadad 2002, 13, no. 6), dated to between late 1st BCE and mid-2nd CE.
- **135**. Nozzle of mould-made lamp (NEC 2092A); very pale yellow fabric (7.5 YR 8/4 pink), soft, with tiny voids; remains of matt slip, red through orange-red to dark brown. Broneer 1930, type XXI, of eastern (Cypriote?) manufacture; second half of 1<sup>st</sup> century CE.

- **136**. Fragmentary mould-made lamp (NEC 2103A); pinkish beige fabric (7.5 YR 7/4 pink) with occasional very fine dark grits; surface pale yellow (7.5 YR 8/4) to beige-grey (7.5 YR 7/2). Northern imitation of Beit Nattif type: Loffreda 1974, 93-94, type L6 of Capernaum; Diez Fernandez 1983, type L13 (dated to 4<sup>th</sup> century CE); Hadad 2002, 26-35, type 17 of Bet Shean, where it is dated to 4th 5th centuries CE.
- **137**. Fragment of lamp shoulder, mould-made (1599.18); hard baked pinkish beige fabric (7.5 YR 7/4 pink), whitish at surface, with remains of matt slip, red to orange-brown. Apparently Hadad 2002, 16-17, type 6, a northern variant of "southern lamps" or "molded Judean lamps" dated to 70-135 CE.
- **138**. Fragment of lamp shoulder with handle, mould-made (NEC 2045A); pinkish beige fabric (7.5 YR 7/4 pink) with some tiny sand grits and occasional voids; same surface, unslipped. Apparently Hadad 2002, 50-53, type 20, dated to 5th century CE.
- **139**. Fragment of lamp body with handle, mould-made (4092.66); beige fabric banded pink, with occasional tiny sand grits; surface pink with poor remains of matt reddish brown slip. Loffreda 1974, 92-94, type L5 of Capernaum; Diez Fernandez 1983, type L12 (late 3<sup>rd</sup> to late 4<sup>th</sup> century CE); Hadad 2002, 26-27, type 16 (of Bet Shean), dated to 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> centuries CE.
- **140**. Fragment of lamp body with handle, mould-made (1437.29); very hard-baked brick-red fabric (2.5 YR 6/6), with voids and perhaps some dark grits; surface unslipped, fired light red (2.5 YR 6/8); Broneer 1930, type XXVIII (Greek workshop?), second half of 4<sup>th</sup> (perhaps into 5<sup>th</sup>) century CE.

# Jolanta Młynarczyk

Research Centre for Mediterranean Archaeology at the Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw



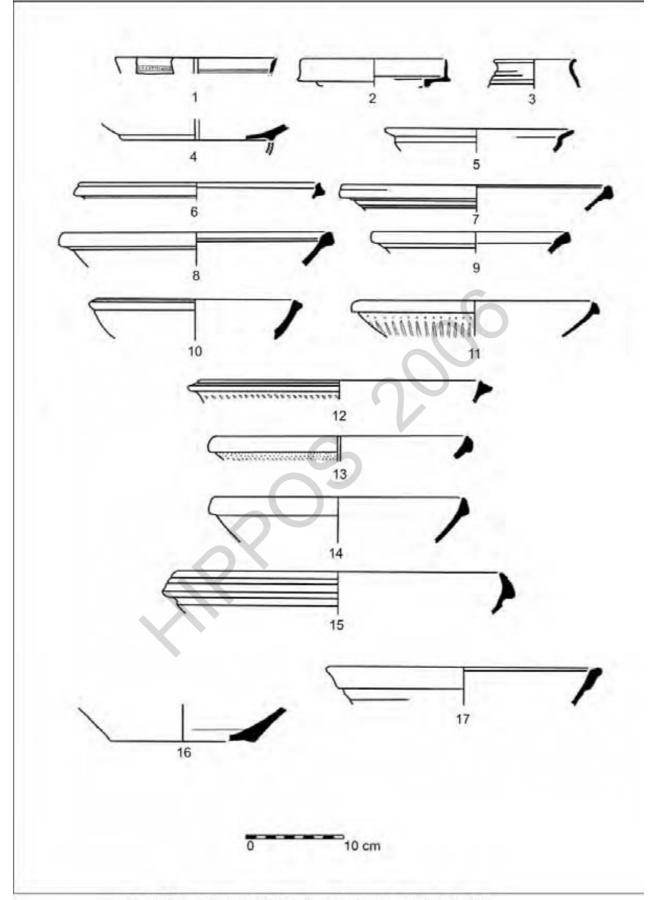


Fig. 1, Pottery from HLC: topsoil, upper layers and disturbed fills.



Fig. 2, Pottery from HLC: topsoil, upper layers and disturbed fills (continued).

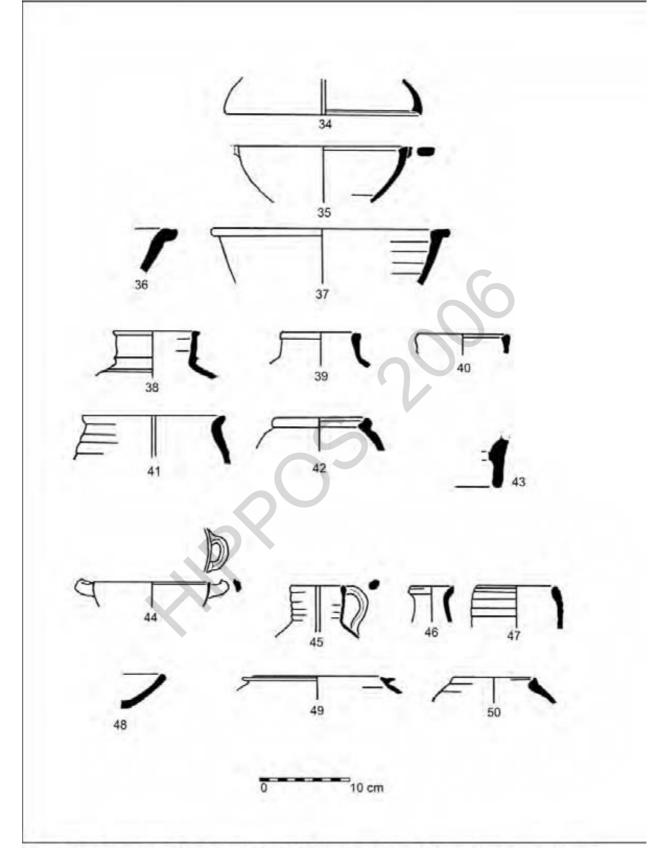


Fig. 3, Pottery from HLC: disturbed fills (34-43), Late Roman/Byzantine layers (nos. 44-47). and material associated with floors (nos. 48-50).

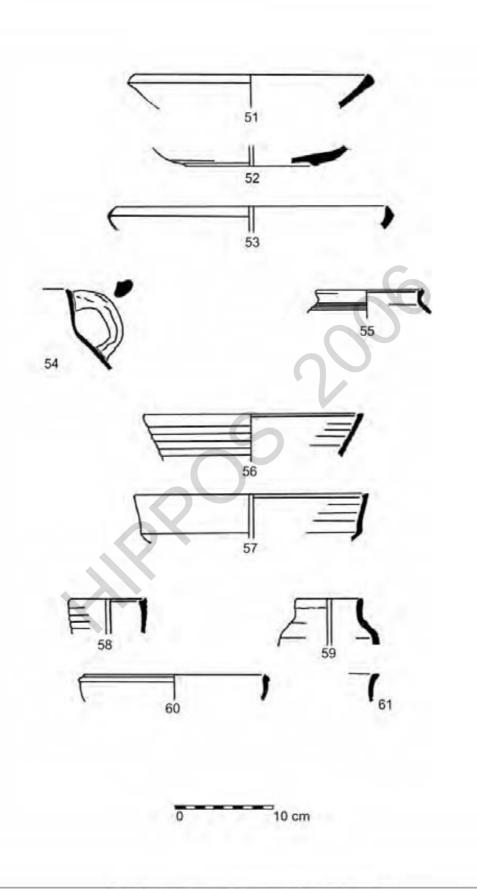


Fig. 4, Pottery from HLC: associated with floors.

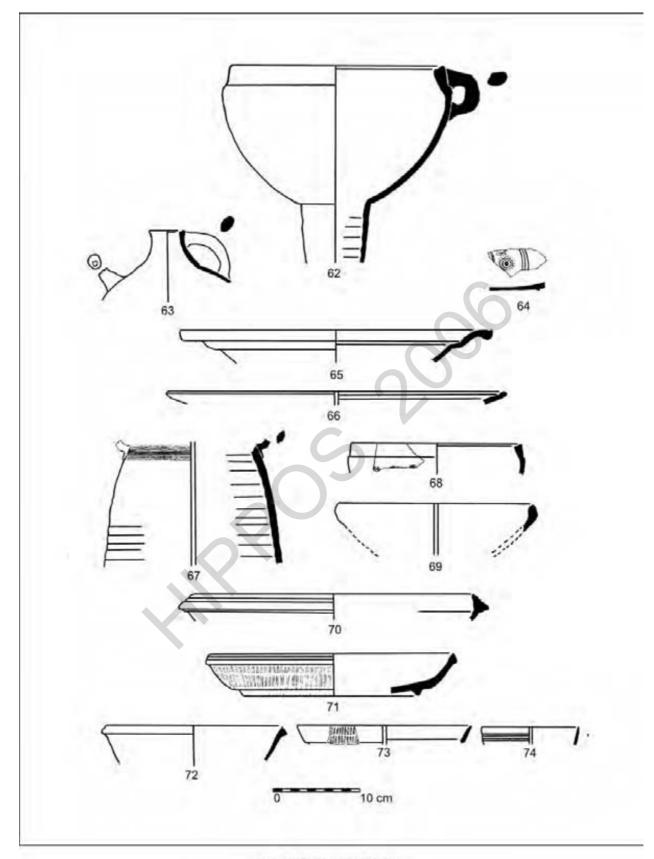


Fig. 5, Pottery from NWC.



Fig. 6, Pottery from NEC.

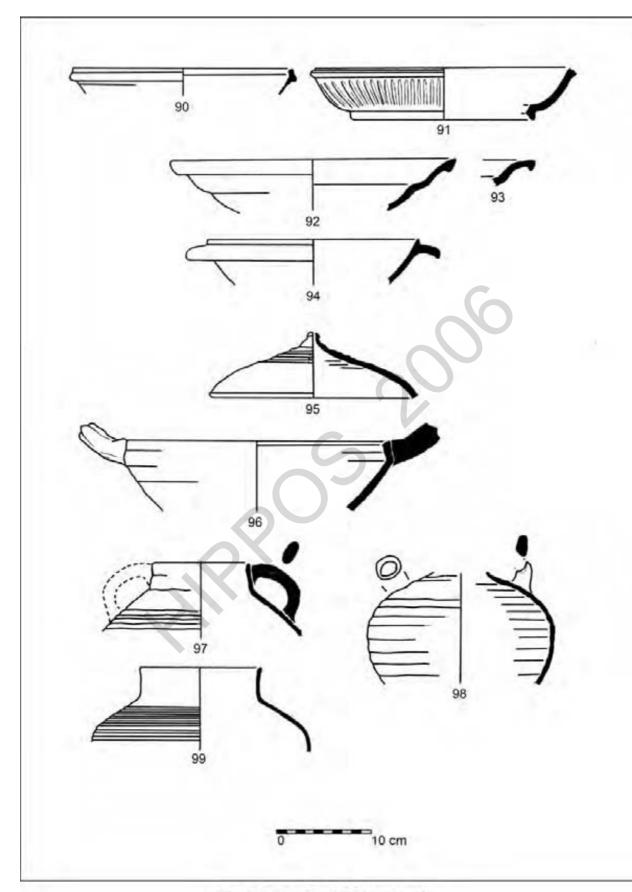


Fig. 7, Pottery from NEC (continued).

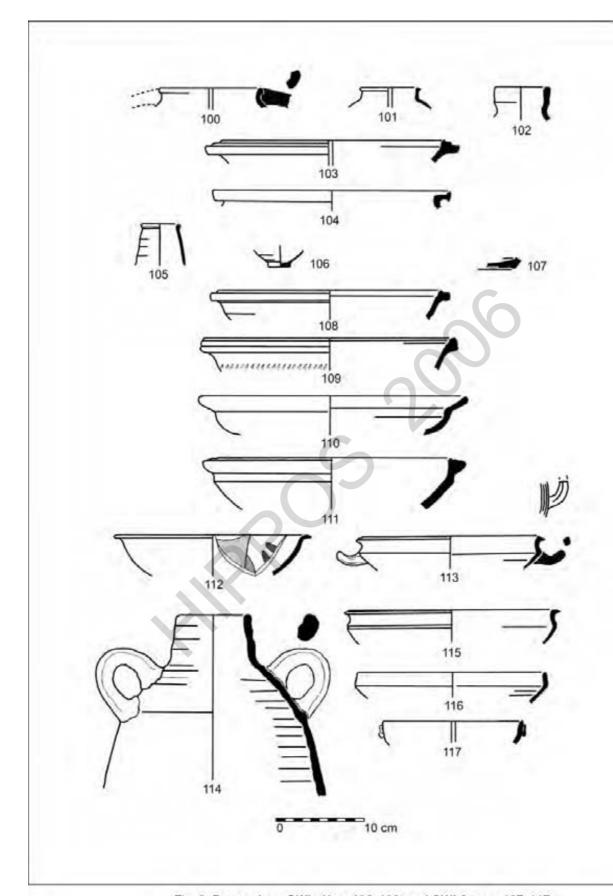


Fig. 8, Pottery from SWL (Nos. 100-106) and SWL2 (nos. 107-117).

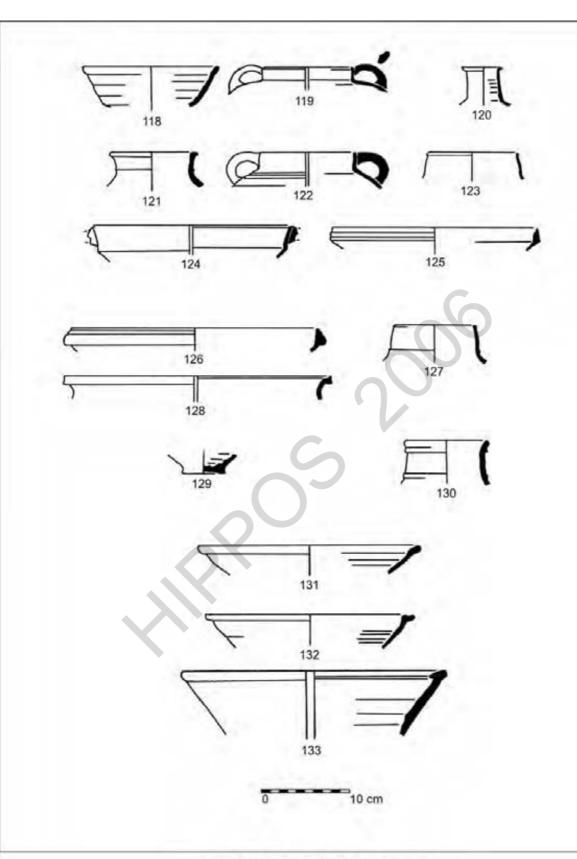


Fig. 9, Pottery from SWL2 (continued).

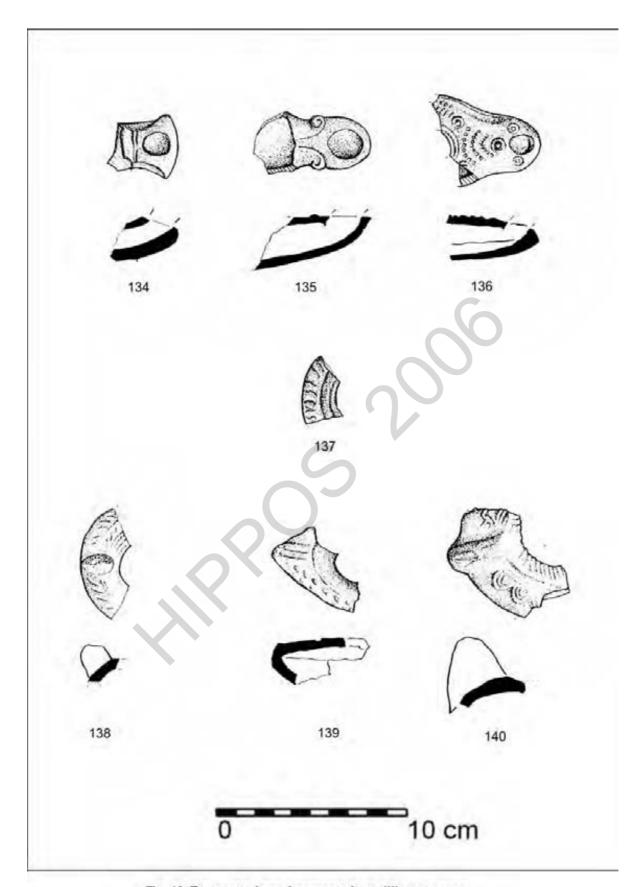


Fig. 10, Terracotta lamp fragments from different areas.

# **Glass Finds from the North-West Church Complex**

# Mariusz Burdajewicz

he aim of this report<sup>69</sup> is to present a rudimentary typology (to be expanded and refined in the course of future research) of the glass from the area of the North-West Church in Hippos. During the past seven seasons of excavations several hundred fragments of glass vessels were found. As is usually the case with excavating settlement sites, the glass finds are fragmentary and small, part of them covered by iridescence, corrosion and pitting. Due to their poor state of preservation, it is sometimes difficult to identify all of them with any certainty. Therefore, for the sake of the present report I have chosen only the best preserved items, including all, few as they are, of the intact or fully restorable vessels. The presentation is arranged in typological order, without any wider discussion of stratigraphical/chronological context of individual items. Similarly, parallels quoted below have been selected from the most important sites, located mainly in the area of *Decapolis* and the territory of *Palaestina Secunda*. Geographical distribution, chronology of individual types as well as statistical data will be fully presented after the exploration of the church is completed in 2007, in the form of a final publication, as being prepared by the present author.

# **Chronological terms used in this report:**<sup>70</sup>

Roman – first to early fourth centuries CE

Early Byzantine – 324-491 CE

Late Byzantine – 491-636 CE

Late Byzantine/Umayyad – ca. 630-670 CE

Umayyad – 661-749 CE

#### **Bottles**

# **Large Bottles with Applied Decoration**

Bottles illustrated in Fig 1: 1-4 were known in the Syro-Palestine area since the beginning of the Byzantine period; they became more popular in Late Byzantine-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>69</sup> The project, conducted in December 2006, was sponsored by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation at the Albright Institute of Archaeological Research in Jerusalem.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>70</sup> Adopted from Meyer 1987, 184.

Umayyad periods, and continued in the Early Islamic period. Bottle No. 1 is characterized by a funnel-shaped rim, cylindrical neck and very thin shoulder. Three bands of thin threads are wound below the rim. Thin, concave base No. 2 undoubtedly is a part of the same vessel as No. 1, since both of them were found very close to each other. Examples Nos. 3 and 4, have outcurved rounded rims and cylindrical necks decorated with thin horizontal threads. As illustrated by some intact bottles found at other sites, the body was globular (especially during the Umayyad period), and the bases were flat or concave. One can quote numerous parallels, coming for example from Kursi<sup>71</sup>, Hammat Gader<sup>72</sup>, Beth Shean<sup>73</sup>, Tel Tanninim<sup>74</sup>, Horvat Karkur<sup>75</sup>, Jerash<sup>76</sup>.

# **Large Plain Bottles**

Apart from the large decorated bottles as mentioned above, several fragments of similar bottles have been found, probably devoid of any decoration. An example of such a bottle is represented in Fig. 1: 5 by a fragment of a wide funnel-shaped rim with very small part of narrow neck. A similar shape has been reported from Tiberias<sup>77</sup>, Hammat Gader<sup>78</sup>, Beth Shean, Umayyad period<sup>79</sup>, Horvat Karkur<sup>80</sup>, Jerash<sup>81</sup>.

#### **Small Plain Bottles**

Two complete bottles (figs. 1: 6-7; 3: A, B) are characterized by a wide globular body, low neck, and flattened infolded rim; the bottom of one bottle is flat, that of another - almost flat. The third bottle, (figs. 1: 8; 3: C), represents the same type; however, its bottom is concave, while the upper part of the neck and the rim seem to be cut off.

The general shape of the body is typical of the bottles of the Umayyad period. Also, this type of rim, according to S. Hadad, first appears during that period.<sup>82</sup> The best parallel finds come from Umayyad contexts at Beth Shean, some of them connected with the

128

\_

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>71</sup> Barag 1983, Fig. 9: 2-3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>72</sup> Cohen 1997, Pls. VI: 7-13; VII: 4, 5, 7-14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>73</sup> Hadad 2005, 23-24

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>74</sup> Pollak 2006, 184-87, Fig.143.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>75</sup> Katsnelson 2004, 281-283, Fig. 63: 1-7

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>76</sup> Meyer 1987, Fig. 10: G, H, L, M.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>77</sup> Lester 2004, Fig. 7.5: 59-62 (Early Islamie period).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>78</sup> Cohen 1997, Pl. VI: 1-3, 14-20.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>79</sup> Haddad 2005, Pl. 12: 21.

<sup>80</sup> Katsnelson 2004, 277-278, Fig. 62, 12, 13, 15.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>81</sup> Meyer 1987, Fig. 9: O, P.

<sup>82</sup> Hadad 2005, 23.

destruction by the earthquake of 749.<sup>83</sup> Such bottles have been discovered in abundance in Hammat Gader.<sup>84</sup> Others come from Kursi<sup>85</sup>, Capernaum<sup>86</sup>, Gerasa<sup>87</sup> and Amman<sup>88</sup>.

It is worth mentioning that all the three bottles from the North-West Church constitute a part of a rich assemblage of artifacts (including a hoard of bronze Umayyad coins), that have been found in L549 (cf. Report by J. Mlynarczyk and M. Burdajewicz, in this volume).

Figs. 1: 9; 4: B shows a small bottle which was found intact inside marble reliquary discovered in the northern *apsis* of the church. A similar miniature bottle is known from a burial cave at Giv'at Sharet, where it constituted a part of the glass assemblage typical for tombs pertaining to the fourth-fifth centuries CE<sup>89</sup>, and from the Museum in Nazareth (originally from Capernaum)<sup>90</sup>.

A bottle shown in fig. 1: 10; 4: C, found inside a cooking pot in the *diakonikon*, could have been entirely restored. It is paralleled by finds from the sanctuary of Zeus in Jerash (Roman-Byzantine period)<sup>91</sup>, the synagogue in Jericho (dated there to the first half of the eight century)<sup>92</sup>, and Beth Shearim.<sup>93</sup>

#### Wine Glasses/Beakers/Goblets

Both examples shown in Fig 1: 11-12, are characterized by flat base slightly concave at the center, a solid stem, and a hemispherical body. Two fragments of No. 12 (fig. 4: A, left) were found in the *diakonikon* so close to each other that they undoubtedly must have belonged to the same wine glass with its rim slightly outcurved and thickened inside. Close parallels to the shape of the base ("kick-up" type), the stem, the body, and the rim come from Beth Shean (Umayyad period)<sup>94</sup>, Hammat Gader<sup>95</sup> and Jerash (Late

<sup>83</sup> Hadad 2005, 24.

<sup>84</sup> Cohen 1997, 428-29, Type 4a, Pl. IX: 1-5.

<sup>85</sup> Barag 1983, 38, Fig. 9: 5-6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>86</sup> Bagatti 1963-64, 270, Figs. 4: 6, 5

<sup>87</sup> Baur 1938, 540, No. 86, Pl. CXLa: 423; Fig. 25: 240.

<sup>88</sup> Harding 1951, 10, No. 8, Pl. II: 8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>89</sup> Seligman et.al. 1996, 50, Fig. 15: 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>90</sup> Bagatti 1963-64, Fig. 4: 8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>91</sup> Dussart 1988, 132, BX. 1123, pl. 34: 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>92</sup> Baramki 1938, 1938, pl. XXI:1.

<sup>93</sup> Barag 1976, 201, Fig. 97: 19, Pl. LXVIII, 7.

<sup>94</sup> Hamad 2005, 28, No. 400

<sup>95</sup> Cohen 1997, 405-6, Pl. III: 1.

Byzantine/Umayyad period)<sup>96</sup>. Wine glass No. 13 (fig. 4: A, upper right) has a cylindrical body and slightly everted rim with a simple rounded lip.

Of particular importance is a beautiful wineglass shown in Fig. 1: 15 (fig. 5: A, B). Shape is standard one, but the mold-blown geometrical net design in shallow relief remains exceptional. A parallel for mold-blown relief net design was found in the cemetery church in Horvat Karkur (Northern Negev), however, on a vessel, which is hexagonal in shape and dated to the Late Byzantine-Umayyad period. 97

The fragments shown in Fig. 1: 16-22 pertain to one of the largest groups of glass finds from the church. Unfortunately, very often it is difficult, if not impossible, to assign rim fragments to a specific type of vessel. Undoubtedly, these rims were parts of open vessels, however, they may have belonged to drinking vessels (cups/goblets/beakers) as well as to the stemmed lamps. In any case, the chronological range of these kind of rims is fairly large, from the early Roman period onwards, and the parallels for them are too numerous to be mentioned.

Rim No. 22 belongs to a small cup or bowl. A vessel with similar profile, but a little bit larger, is known from Jerash, dated to the Late Byzantine period. 98

# Oil Lamps

Several fragments of glass oil lamps were found in the church. They represent two main classes of glass lamps which were used in Byzantine-Umayyad Palestine, both as liturgical equipment of the churches and an element of secular context.

# I. Suspended bowl-lamps

Fig. 1: 23a, b represent suspended bowl-lamp type. Its characteristics are a deep bowl with straight or sloping wall, rim thickened and out-folded rim, and three loop handles extending from the edge of the upper rim to the wall; the bottom is usually convex. This lamp type is sometimes provided with a vertical wick-tube at the centre. Such lamps with long bronze chains were suspended from the ceiling.

The suspended oil lamps made their first appearance in the Syro-Palestinian region during the first half of the 5<sup>th</sup> century and continued into the Early Islamic period.<sup>99</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>96</sup> Meyer 1987, fig. 10: X-Z.

<sup>97</sup> Katsnelson 2004, 282, Fig. 63: 12, 14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>98</sup> Meyer 1987, fig. 8: J.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>99</sup> Katsnelson 2004, 269.

Numerous *comparanda* come from the Byzantine-Umayyad East, from such places as the church in Khirbat al-Karak<sup>100</sup>, Beth Shean<sup>101</sup>, Tiberias (Early Abbasid Period)<sup>102</sup>, Horvat Karkur<sup>103</sup>, Pella (first quarter of the eight century)<sup>104</sup>, Jerash (St. Theodore Church, Bishop Marianos Church, and the North Theatre 105), and the church at Petra (fifth – seventh centuries 106).

In the North-West Church, only few fragments of such lamps have been identified with confidence. However, since this type of lamp is usually difficult to recognize among small rim fragments, we cannot exclude the possibility that they were more numerous.

# II. Stemmed bowl-lamps.

There are two sub-types of such lamps:

A. With a simple, hollow stem. Lamps of variant A1 have hemispherical/bell shaped body curving below into a sloping hollow stem, which can be rounded or flattened at the bottom (not illustrated here), sometimes with a pontil mark. The bowl itself could have straight or slightly outcurving, rounded rim with simple or thickened lip. The other variant (A2) has slightly different shape of the stem, which is narrow at the bottom, wider in the middle, and again narrow at the junction with the bowl, as a result of pinching of the stem in this place (figs. 1: 24; 4: D). This variant corresponds with Type 5 of Beth Shean lamps, which do not appear before the Umayyad period. 107

Lamps with hollow stem occurred at Horvat Karkur in a deposit dated to probably not later than the late fourth-fifth century CE. 108

B. Bowl lamps with solid stem. They are characterized by hemispherical/bell shaped bowl curving below into a stem. The stem, however, is solid and knobbed, and the bottom can be slightly pinched (fig. 1: 25). The type is generally dated to the Umayyad period. It is worth noting that the Petra church, destroyed and abandoned at the sixth/seventh century, did not yield a single fragment of the solid-stemmed type of lamp. 109 Similarly, also in the church in Khirbat al-Karak lamps with the beaded stems

131

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>100</sup> Delougaz and Haines 1960, 49).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>101</sup> Hadad 2005, 29, nos. 413-423.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>102</sup> Lester 2004c, Fig. 7.11: 131-133.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>103</sup> Katsnelson 2004, 268-69, Fig. 59.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>104</sup> Smith and Day 1989, 114-15, Fig. 32, Pl. 60: 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>105</sup> Baur 1938, 514-15; Gawlikowski and Musa 1986, 153, Fig. 9: 4; Meyer 1987, Figs 11: O, P; 12: P- R.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>106</sup> O'Hea 2001, 372.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>107</sup> Hadad 2005, 28, 29.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>108</sup> Katsnelson 2004, 290.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>109</sup> O'Hea, 2001, 372.

were not found. 110 Other recent excavations attest that the type became particularly common in the first half of the eighth century. Many of such lamps were found in the Umayyad context of the glass factory in Beirut.<sup>111</sup> Other parallels come from Tiberias (Umayyad period<sup>112</sup>), Pella, (first quarter of the eight century<sup>113</sup>), Jerash (first half of the eight century<sup>114</sup>), Beth Shean (Umayyad period<sup>115</sup>), and Capernaum.<sup>116</sup>

Such lamps as Types 2a and 2b were usually placed in metal chandeliers (polycandela), suspended from the ceiling. Two bronze polycandela were found in the North-West Church. One complete *polycandelon* (equipped with three long chains and a hook) was discovered under the blocks of the fallen arch of the martyrion chapel<sup>117</sup>. It was designed to hold six glass oil lamps (Fig. 2: B). In its vicinity two hollow stems of glass lamps were found (fig. 2: A). The second *polycandelon*, approximately two times larger (unfortunately, without any chain preserved), designed to hold nine glass oil lamps, was found in an upright position at the fair end of the diaconicon, against its eastern wall (fig. 2: C). 118 A chandelier almost identical to ours, designed to accommodate four lamps and equipped with three chains, was found in the Bishop Marianus Church at Jerash, together with several knobbed stems of glass lamps. The excavators dated these objects to the first half of the eight century. 119

Another way of using these lamps was to put a single lamp into a metal holder attached to the wall. Many such copper alloy holders were discovered in Jerusalem. <sup>120</sup>

#### **Kohl Tubes**

Items illustrated in Fig. 1: 26-27, represent a special kind of cosmetic vessel, the socalled kohl tube, used for keeping an eye makeup. This has a tubular body and two handles. The type appears in the glass repertoire of Palestine in the third century CE, and becomes very popular during the Late Roman and Byzantine periods. The later variant of the vessel, in the period starting from the fourth century CE, consists of two

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>110</sup> Deloguaz and Haines 1960, 49.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>111</sup> Foy 2000: 242, n. 11, 243-245, 250, Figs 4:610, 6:12-18, 7:18-22.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>112</sup> Lester 2004c: Fig. 7.11: 135.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>113</sup> Smith and Day 1989: 114f., Pl. 60: 13.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>114</sup> Gawlikowski and Musa 1986, 153, Fig. 9: 1-3; Kehrberg 1986, 384, Fig. 9: 66; Meyer 1987, 212-13, Fig. 13: A-C.

<sup>115</sup> Hadad 2005, 29 (Type 2), Pl. 22: 424-434. 116 Bagatti 1963-64, Fig. 4: 10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>117</sup> Młynarczyk and Burdajewicz 2003, 24, Fig. 44.

Młynarczyk and Burdajewicz 2005, 52, Fig. 58.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>119</sup> Gawlikowski and Musa 1986: 153, Figs 9-10, P. VII.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>120</sup> Hadad 2003, 194, Photo II. 36.

or more tubes, probably destined for different colours of kohl. Both our fragments have been found in a context dated by coin to the seventh-eighth centuries.

The closest parallels to this vessel form come from Tomb 200 at Giv'at Sharet (Beth Shemesh), dated between the last quarter of the fourth and the first quarter of the fifth centuries. One of the flasks contained probably *galena* for manufacture of kohl<sup>122</sup>; Mount of Olives, Jerusalem<sup>123</sup>; Cave 3 in the cemetery of Horbat Rimon (Southern Judean Shephelah), from the fifth-sixth centuries<sup>124</sup>; Qweilbeh, fourth-fifth centuries<sup>125</sup>; Pella<sup>126</sup>. Other examples not dated and without provenance, are known from the museum collections in Amman and Bosra.<sup>127</sup>

#### Dishes/Bowls

The rim fragment in Fig 1: 29 belongs to a shallow bowl with out-splaying rim, folded up and in, and with a slanted wall. Bowls with infolded rims seem to be rare. They correspond with rims of bowls of Dussart's Type BI.4222b2, dated in Jerash to the late seventh-to-eighth century. A few of them were found at Tell Tanninim.

More abundant are the dishes/bowls with out-and-down folded rims (fig. 1: 30-32). They represent a wide range of sizes and forms of the rim, as well as of the diameters and the shapes of vessels, which can vary from very shallow to deep ones.

These vessels were wide spread throughout whole Syro-Palestinian area, beginning from the second half of the first century BCE. Some of the examples can be found in Beth Shean<sup>130</sup>, Tell Tanninm<sup>131</sup>, Jalame<sup>132</sup>, and many others.

# **Windowpanes**

The excavation in the church has yielded many glass fragments which undoubtedly come from square and/or rectangular-shaped windowpanes. Because they were rolled

Israeli 2003, 227.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>121</sup> Israeli 2003, 227.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>122</sup> Seligman, Zias, and Stark 1996, 50, Fig. 17: 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>123</sup> Bagatti, Milik, 1958, 144, no 10, fig. 34.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>124</sup> Gorin-Rosen 2004, Fig. 3: 25.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>125</sup> Voie Royale, 213, no 258.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>126</sup> McNicoll et al., 1982, pl. 136: 4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>127</sup> Dussart 1998, 174, Type BXIII.221, pl. 57: 20, 22, 23, 24.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>128</sup> Dussart 1988, 69, Pl. 7: 20

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>129</sup> Pollak 2006, 162, Fig. 130.40.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>130</sup> Hadad 2005, 21, nos. 51-71.

<sup>131</sup> Pollak 2006, 155-158, Figs. 126-127.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>132</sup> Weinberg and Goldstein 1988, 41-44, Figs. 4-3; 4-4.

out with a cylindrical roller, the upper surface has usually uneven thickness. The edges can be rounded, sometimes rounded and slightly curving, like in the illustrated specimen, Fig. 1: 33. It is interesting that windowpanes with folded and flattened edges have not been so far identified in the North-West Church. The same is true about the crown shape windows, known as the 'bull's eye' type.

Although windowpanes were widespread in Palestine from the Early Byzantine period onward, they have been somewhat neglected, and rarely published. However, some examples can be cited, specifically from Tell Tannanim<sup>133</sup>, Shavei Zion<sup>134</sup>, Caseraea<sup>135</sup>, Horvat Karkur<sup>136</sup>, Jerash<sup>137</sup>. Many examples have been found in a glass workshop in Beirut, dating to the middle and second half of the seventh century.<sup>138</sup>

# **Pre-Byzantine Finds**

In various excavated areas fragments of vessels have been found pre-dating Byzantine period, from the mid-second century BCE to the early fourth century CE. Some of the earliest examples are presented here.

# **Linear-Cut Bowls** (or Grooved bowls)

Fig. 1: 34-35. Both fragments represent bowls hemispherical in shape, of which one is light purple and translucent, and the other is yellowish and opaque; upright, thick rim with a rounded edge. The interior narrow horizontal grooves are cut in a band below the rim. They belong to the well-known group of Syro-Palestinian cast monochrome grooved vessels. The first series of linear-cut bowls (Grose's group A) is dated to the period between mid-second and early first century BCE. They were found in abundance in Tel Anafa and Jerusalem 141. The second series (Grose's group D) date chiefly to the last decades of the first century BCE and the first half of the first century CE. Again, many of bowls in this group are known from the Jewish Quarter excavations in Jerusalem. Both in Jerash 144 and in Pella such bowls are dated to the

<sup>135</sup> Peleg and Reich 1992, 160.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>133</sup> Pollak 2006, 187-88, Fig. 144: 191-196.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>134</sup> Barag 1967, 69-70.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>136</sup> Katsnelson 2004, 288-89, Fig. 65: 3-5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>137</sup> Meyer 1987, 194-95, Fig. 7: cc.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>138</sup> Foy 2000, 270-71, Fig. 21.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>139</sup> Grose 1979, 56-58; Grose 1989, p.193-4, Cat Nos. 216-222.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>140</sup> Weinberg 1970; Grose 1979, 54-55.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>141</sup> Gorin-Rosen 2003, 375-378.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>142</sup> Grose 1989, 247; Grose 1979, 63-65.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>143</sup> Gorin-Rosen 2003, 380-1.

Roman period, i.e. first century CE, but their earlier date (first century BCE) can not been excluded.<sup>145</sup>

Both are illustrated here, examples of linear-cut bowls from the North-West Church area illustrated here belong rather to the Roman variant of the type than to an earlier, Late Hellenistic one.

### **Ribbed bowl** ("pillar-molded" bowl)

Fragment shown in Fig. 1: 36 pertains to a broad shallow bowl with convex curving side, upright rim with almost pointed edge; on the exterior there are pronounced ribs set almost vertically on the body. Preserved examples show that the bottom was always concave or flat. Very often horizontal circular grooves occur on the interior. Our vessel belongs to the group of the so-called monochrome ribbed bowls. The type developed in the Syro-Palestinian workshops, by the first or, at the latest, by the second quarter of the first century BCE. Our example was found in secondary context in the northern *pastophorium* of the church. However, its shape as well as the opaque light purple/blue color suggest the later development of the type, which should be dated to a period between late first century BCE and first century CE. 147

The ribbed bowls were widespread around the Mediterranean. In Palestine they have been reported from Hagoshrim<sup>148</sup>, Tel Anafa<sup>149</sup>, Samaria<sup>150</sup>, and Jerusalem<sup>151</sup>. Other parallels include Pella<sup>152</sup>, Jerash<sup>153</sup>, Amman<sup>154</sup> and Quseir al-Qadim on the Red Sea<sup>155</sup>.

In summing up, the importance of the glass finds from the area of the North-West Church compound should be stressed: most of them come from the relatively short period of time, directly preceding the destruction of the city by the earthquake of the 18<sup>th</sup> of January 749. There are also important sherds coming from sealed *loci*, mostly

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>144</sup> Meyer 1987, fig. 5: B-F.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>145</sup> O'Hea 1992, 254-55, Fig 1.

 $<sup>^{146}</sup>$  At Tel Anafa ribbed bowls are dated already between 95 and 80 BCE (Grose 1979 , 57-58; Grose 1989, 195, and n. 46

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>147</sup> Grose 1989, 245.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>148</sup> Weinberg 1973, 38-39.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>149</sup> Grose 1979, 54

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>150</sup> Crowfoot 1957, 403.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>151</sup> Gorin-Rosen 2003, 378-380; Gorin-Rosen 2006, 246-48

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>152</sup> O'Hea 1992, 254, Fig. 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>153</sup> Meyer 1987, fig. 5: A; Dussart 1988, 55-6, Pl. 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>154</sup> Dussart 1988, 55-6, Pl. 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>155</sup> Meyer 1992, 17-18.

from a number of trial pits conducted in various parts of the church, which pertain to the pre-church occupation of this site (Roman-Period *temenos*).

Although the detailed account of the glass finds is still to be written (as soon as the excavations of the church are completed), it seems that most of them represent open vessels: drinking vessels (cups and goblets), dishes, lamps, etc. Closed shapes are represented mostly by large and small bottles, jars and just few cosmetic vessels. Taking into consideration the Byzantine-Umayyad glass assemblage alone, we may state that it resembles assemblages from the other churches of the region, such as those at Khirbat al-Karak or Kursi. On the other hand, almost all the types found in the NWC appear also in non-ecclesiastical contexts that are in domestic and public ones, as, for example, in baths. Some of the vessels, as for instance, the lamps are regular equipment of synagogues. However, the discovery of at least two examples of kohl tubes in the northern *pastophorium* of the North-West Church is somewhat surprising, because such objects are usually found in secular contexts or as a part of tomb equipment.

Description of glass finds from the North-West Church, illustrated in Fig. 1

| No. | Reg. No | Vessel                       | Colour                                  |
|-----|---------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 1   | G 03.05 | Bottle decorated with treads | Greenish, transparent                   |
| 2   | G 03.06 | Bottle                       | Greenish, transparent                   |
| 3   | G 04.04 | Bottle decorated with treads | Very light bluish/greenish, transparent |
| 4   | G 04.12 | Bottle decorated with treads | Very light bluish/greenish, transparent |
| 5   | G 05.17 | Plain bottle                 | light greenish, transparent             |
| 6   | G 06.02 | Plain bottle                 | Bluish                                  |
| 7   | G 06.01 | Plain bottle                 | Green                                   |
| 8   | G 06.03 | Plain bottle                 | Bluish                                  |
| 9   | G 00.01 | Plain bottle                 | Light olive, translucent                |
| 10  | G 04.01 | Plain bottle                 | Light olive, translucent                |
| 11  | G 04.28 | Wine glass                   | Light bluish/green, transparent         |
| 12a | G 03.07 | Wine glass                   | Pale bluish/greenish, translucent       |
| 12b | G 03.08 | Wine glass                   | Pale bluish/greenish, translucent       |

| 13  | G 03.03 | Wine glass                 | Pale bluis/greenish, translucent |
|-----|---------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 14  | G 03.04 | Wine glass                 | Pale bluis/greenish, translucent |
| 15a | G 06.08 | Wine glass                 | Greenish, translucent            |
| 15b | G 06.08 | Wine glass - recnstruction |                                  |
| 16  | G 01.13 | Beaker                     | White, transparent               |
| 17  | G 05.14 | Beaker                     | Light bluish, transparent        |
| 18  | G 05.15 | Beaker                     | Light bluish, transparent        |
| 19  | G 04.15 | Beaker                     | Pale bluish, transparent         |
| 20  | G 04.14 | Beaker                     | Pale greenish, translucent       |
| 21  | G 01.22 | Beakers                    | Green, transparent               |
| 22  | G 01.21 | Beaker/cup                 | Pale green, transparent          |
| 23a | G 04.07 | Lamp                       | Bluish, translucent              |
| 23b | G 04.08 | Lamp                       | Bluish, translucent              |
| 24  | G 03.02 | Lamp                       | Greenish                         |
| 25  | G 06.09 | Lamp                       | Greenish/blue, translucent,      |
| 26  | G 01.02 | Kohl tube                  | Dark green, opaque               |
| 27  | G 01.03 | Kohl tube                  | Dark green, opaque               |
| 28  | G 04.10 | Plain bottle               | Greenish, translucent            |
| 29  | G 01.27 | Plain bowl                 | Dark green, transparent          |
| 30  | G 04.30 | Plain bowl                 | Bluish/greenish                  |
| 31  | G 01.08 | Plain bowl                 | Green, transparent               |
| 32  | G 01.11 | Plain bowl                 | Pale green, transparent          |
| 33  | G 04.21 | Window pane                | Greenish, translucent            |
| 34  | G 05.11 | Grooved bowl               | Light purple, translucent        |
| 35  | G 05.10 | Groowed bowl               | Yellowish, opaque                |
| 36  | G 01.01 | Ribbed bowl                | Pale green                       |
|     |         |                            |                                  |

#### **Bibliographical references:**

- **Bagatti and Milik 1958**: B. Bagatti, J.T. Milik, Gli scavi del "Dominus Flevit" (Monte Oliveto Gerusaleme), parte I, La necropoli del periodo romano, Jérusalem
- Bagatti 1963-64: B. Bagatti, "Oggetti inediti di Cafarnao", LA 14, 261-272
- **Barag 1967:** D. Barag, "Glass", in M.W. Prausnitz, M. Avi-Yonah, and D. Barag, *Excavations at Shavei-Zion: the Early Church*, Roma, 65-70
- **Barag 1976**: D. Barag, "Glass Vessels" in: Avigad, N. Beth She'arim. Report on the Excavations during 1953-1958. Vol. III: Catacombs 12-1, Jerusalem, 198-209.
- **Baramki 1938**: D. Baramki, "An Early Byzantine Synagogue near Tell es-Sultan, Jericho", *QDAP* VI, 73-77
- **Baur 1938**: P.V.C. Baur, "Glassware", in C.H. Kraeling, *Gerasa: City of the Decapolis*, New Haven, 504-546
- **Cohen 1997**: E. Cohen, "Roman, Byzantine and Umayyad Glass" in: Hirschfeld et al., *The Roman Baths of Hammat Gader. Final Report.* Jerusalem, 396-431
- **Crowfoot 1957**: G.M. Crowfoot, "Glass", in J.W. Crowfoot, G.M. Crowfoot, and K.M. Kenyon, *Objects from Samaria*, London, 403-22
- **Deloguaz and Haines 1960**: P. Deloguaz, R.C. Haines, A Byzantine Church at Khirbat al-Karak, Chicago
- **Dussart 1988**: O. Dussart, *Le verre en Jordanie at en Syrie du Sud*, *BAH* CLII, Beyrouth
- **Foy 2000**: D. Foy, "Un Atelier de Verrier à Beyrouth au début de la conquête Islamique", *Syria* 77, 239-290
- **Gawlikowski and Musa 1986:** M. Gawlikowski and A. Musa, "The Church of Bishop Marianos" in: F. Zayadine (ed.), *Jerash Archeological Project 1981-1983*, I. Amman, 137-162.
- Gorin-Rosen 2003: Y. Gorin-Rosen, "Glass Vessels from Area A", in G. Hilel (ed.) Jewish Quarter Excavations in the Old City in Jerusalem conducted by Naham Avigad, 1969-1982, Vol. II: The Finds from Areas A, W and X-2, Jerusalem, 364-400
- **Gorin-Rosen 2004:** Y. Gorin-Rosen, "The Glass Vessels from the Cemetery at Horbat Rimon", '*Atiqot* 46, 113-124

- Gorin-Rosen 2006: Y. Gorin-Rosen, "Glass Vessels", in G. Hilel (ed.) Jewish Quarter Excavations in the Old City in Jerusalem conducted by Naham Avigad, 1969-1982, Vol. III: Area E and Other Studies, Jerusalem, 239-266
- Grose 1989:: D.F. Grose, The Toledo Museum of Art. Early Ancient Glass, New York
- **Grose 1979:**: D.F. Grose, "The Syro-Palestynian Glass Industry in the Later Hellenistic Period", *Muse* 13, 54-67.
- **Hadad 2005**: S. Hadad, *Islamic Glass Vessels from the Hebrew University Excavations at Beth Shean*. Excavations at Beth Shean, Volume 2, Qedem Reports 8, Jerusalem
- **Hadad 2006**: S. Hadad, *Glass Finds*. in: A. Mazar, Excavations at Tel Beth-Shean 1989-1996, Vol. I. From the Late Bronze Age II B to the Medieval Period (The Beth-Shean Valley Archaeological Project Publication No. 1), Jerusalem, 626-637
- Hadad 2003: S. Hadad, "Glass lamps from the "House of the Menerot" in Area VI", in: Mazar, E. The Temple Mount Excavations in Jerusalem 1968-1978 directed by Benjamin Mazar. Final Reports Volume II. The Byzantine and Early Islamic Periods, Qedem 43, Jerusalem, 191-195
- **Harding 1951**: G.L. Harding, "Excavations on the Citadel, Amman", *ADAJ* 1, 7-16.
- Israeli 2003: Y. Israeli, Ancient Glass in the Issrael Museum. The Eliahu Dobkin Collection and Other Gifts, Jerusalem
- **Katsnelson 2004**: N. Katsnelson, "Glass Objects" in P. Figueras, *Horvat Karkur Illit*, Beersheva Archaeological Monographs I, 265-291
- **Lester 2004**: A. Lester, "The Glass" in Stacey, D. et al. *Excavations at Tiberias, 1973-1974*. The Early Islamic Periods, IAA Reports 21, Jerusalem, 166-220
- O'Hea 2001: M. O'Hea, "Glass from the 1992-93 Excavations", in: *The Petra Church*, Z. T. Fiema, Ch. Kanellopoulos, T. Waliszewski, and R. Schick (eds), Amman
- **O'Hea 1992**: M. O'Hea, "The Glass Industry of Pella and the *Decapolis*", *ARAM* 4: 1&2, 253-264
- McNicoll et al. 1982: A.W.McNicoll, R.H. Smith, J.B. Hennessy, Pella in Jordan 1, An Interim Report of the Joint University of Sidneh and the College of Wooster Wxcavations at Pella 1979-1981, Canberra
- Meyer 1992: C. Mayer, Glass from Quseir-al Qadim and the Indian Ocean Trade, Chicago

- **Meyer 1987**: C. Mayer, "Glass from the North Theater Byzantine Church, and Soundings at Jerash, 1982-1983", *BASOR* Supplement 25, 175-222
- **Młynarczyk and Burdajewicz 2003**: J. Młynarczyk and M. Burdajewicz, "North-West Church Complex", in: A. Segal et al., *Hippos Sussita. Fourth Season of Excavations, June-July 2003*, Haifa, 24-33
- Młynarczyk and Burdajewicz 2005: J. Młynarczyk, M. Burdajewicz, "The North-West Church", in: A. Segal et al., *Hippos (Sussita), Fifth Season of Excavations, September-October*, Haifa, 32-50
- **Peleg and Reich 1992**: M. Peleg, and R. Reich, "Excavations of a Segment of the Byzantine City Wall of Caesarea Maritima", 'Atiqot 21, 137-60
- **Pollak 2006**: R. Pollak, "The Glass", in: R.R. Stieglitz et.al., *Tel Tanninim. Excavations at Krokodeilon Polis*, 1996-1999, Boston, MA., 155-193
- **Seligman et al. 1996**: J. Seligman, J. Zias, and H. Stark 1996, Late Hellenistic and Byzantine Burial Caves at Giv'at Sharet, Bet Shemsh" '*Atiqot* XXIX, pp. 43-62.
- Smith and Day 1989: R.H. Smith and L.P. Day, *Pella of the Decapolis*, Vol. 2, Wooster-Sydney
- **Voie Royale**: La Voie Royale, 9000 ans d'art au royaume de Jordanie, Musée du Luxembourg, 26 nov. 1986 25 janv. 1987, Alençon, 1986
- **Weinberg 1970**: G.D. Weinberg, "Hellenistic Glass from Tel Anafa in Upper Galilee", *JGS* 12, 17-27
- Weinberg 1973: G.D. Weinberg, "Notes on Glass from Upper Galilee:, JGS 15, 35-71
- Weinberg and Goldstein 1988: G.D. Weinberg and S.M. Goldstein, "The Glass Vessels", in G.D. Weinberg (ed.), *Excavations in Jalame: Site of a Glass Factory in Late Roman Palestine*, Columbia, MO, 38-102

Mariusz Burdajewicz

National Museum in Warsaw

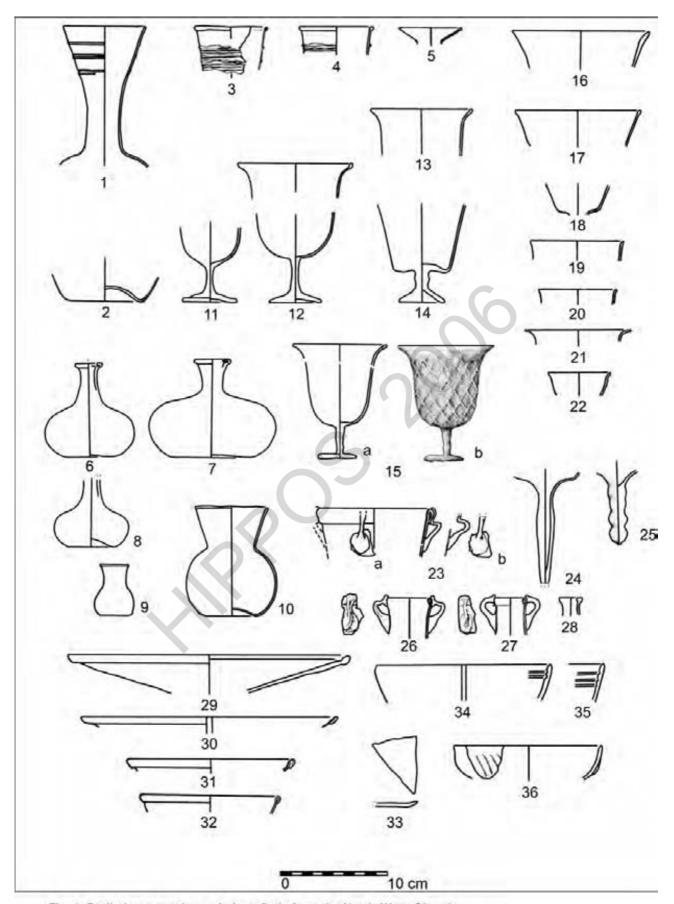


Fig. 1, Preliminary typology of glass finds from the North-West Church.

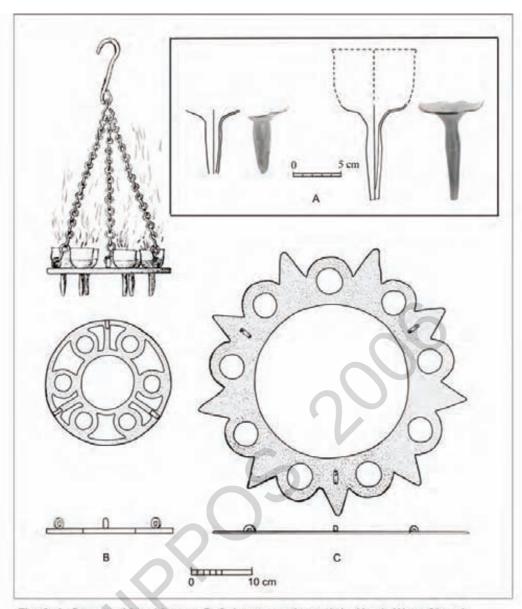


Fig. 2, A: Stemmed bowl lamps; B-C: bronze polycandela. North-West Church.

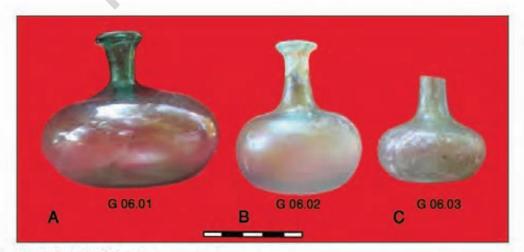


Fig. 3, A-C: Plain bottles.

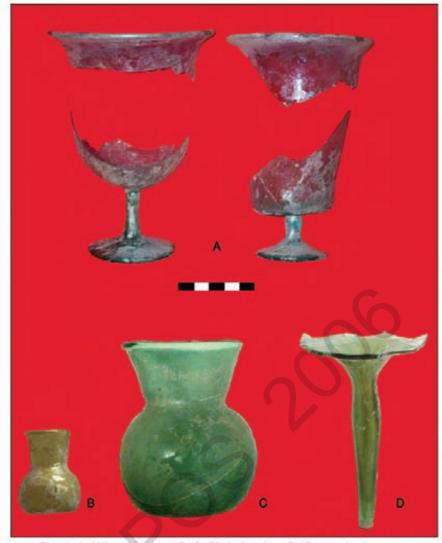


Fig. 4, A: Wine glasses; B-C: Plain bottles; D: Stem of a lamp.

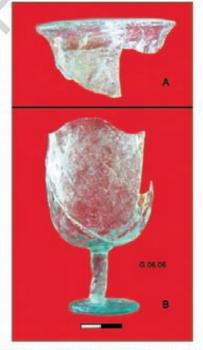


Fig. 5, A-B: Wine glass with net design.

# The Coins Catalogue Ariel Berman

Hippos - Sussita 7<sup>th</sup> Season (2006)

/ Season (2000)

All the coins are bronze unless otherwise mentioned. The coins are listed chronologically, according to types (coins bearing \* appear on the Plates).

| Bas.  | . Loc.    | Cat. Bas. Loc. Weight Diam. | Diam. | Axis | Obverse                      | Reverse                               | Date (CE)           | Mint      | Bibliography and remarks |  |
|-------|-----------|-----------------------------|-------|------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|--------------------------|--|
|       | 140.      | Gillion Control             |       |      |                              |                                       | (77)                |           | CHIMINS                  |  |
|       |           |                             |       |      | SELEUCIDS: Phoenicia         | : Phoenicia                           |                     |           |                          |  |
| L CX  | 4218      | 1 05                        | 13    |      | Head r IDA VIA E             | rias, anepia<br>Francisco Aresanabovi | 1/1/6               | Trita     | Cf CNCIs I.              |  |
|       |           |                             | CI    |      | 110au 1.                     | DAZIMENZ AMEZANAFOTJ                  | BCE                 | 1316      | Nos. 1539-49             |  |
|       |           |                             |       |      | Uncertain                    |                                       |                     |           |                          |  |
| -     | 2580 1195 | 1.90                        | 13    |      | Same                         | Palm tree                             | End 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Same      |                          |  |
|       |           |                             |       |      |                              |                                       | Century<br>BCE      |           |                          |  |
| 1     | 1230 1020 | 1.20                        | 12    |      | Same                         | Same                                  | Same                | Same      |                          |  |
| 1     | 4213 1198 | 7.30                        | 19    |      | Same                         |                                       | Same                |           | Corroded                 |  |
|       |           |                             |       |      |                              | Illegible                             |                     |           |                          |  |
| 1     |           |                             |       |      | HASMONAEANS                  | AEANS                                 |                     |           |                          |  |
|       |           |                             |       |      | Alexander Yannaeus, prutah   | naeus, prutah                         |                     |           |                          |  |
|       | 4231 675  | 1.90                        | 14    |      |                              | Star with eight rays, surrounded      | 104-76              | Jerusalem | AJC 1:                   |  |
|       |           |                             |       |      | Anchor surrounded by legend: | by a diadem. In between the rays:     | BCE                 |           | n 119 Nos Ca1-12         |  |
|       |           |                             |       |      | ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ] ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ[        | [המלך יהונתן]                         | ~                   |           |                          |  |
| 1     |           |                             |       |      | THE HOUSE OF HEROD           | OF HEROD                              |                     |           |                          |  |
|       |           |                             |       |      | Herod I, prutah              | prutah                                |                     |           |                          |  |
| حَمَا | 4238 676  | 1.30                        | 14    |      |                              | Double cornucopia, between            | 37-4                | Same      | AJC 2:                   |  |
|       |           |                             |       |      | Anchor                       | horns, caduceus                       | BCE                 |           | p.237, Nos. 17d-17g      |  |
|       |           |                             |       |      |                              |                                       |                     |           |                          |  |

| (CE)                           |               | 33 CE Tiberias AJC 2: | p.243, No. 16; | Corroded |                   | 41/42 Jerusalem AJC 2:       | uming p.249, No. 11.       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                 | 5 7 7 E                        | 54 Same          | bove: p.284, No. 29.                |                        |                  |                                           |               | T 70 Rome Cf. <i>RIC</i> 10; | olive-                        | 1S BMCRE: 26        |                       |           | Ę                               | 8                              | CE                        | )                     | Same Same Worn |  |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------|-------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|--|
| Reverse                        | Antipas       |                       | Effaced        |          | I, prutah         | $[L-\zeta] = \text{year } 6$ | Three ears of com stemming | Irom two leaves                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | KATOKS IN JUDAEA                | Amonius renx                   | 4                | two clusters of dates; above:       | Below: LIA / KAI       | Delow. LIA / NAI | <b>MPERIAL</b><br>Iver denarius           |               | COS ITER TR POT              | Pax seated 1., holding olive- | branch and caduceus | UTONOMOUS             | snom      | War-galley I., stem terminating | stern, above: IEPA $\Sigma$ [] |                           |                       | Same           |  |
| Obverse                        | Herod Antipas |                       | Effaced        |          | Agrippa I, prutah | [APPINA BACINEWC]            | Canopy                     | A STATE OF THE STA | THE ROMAN PROCURATORS IN JUDAEA | Under Ciaudius: Antonius reitx | NEPW KAAY KAICAP | I wo oblong shields and two spears, | crossed around legend: |                  | ROMAN IMPERIAL Vespasian, silver denarius |               | IMP CAESAR VESPASIANVS       | AVG                           | Laureate head to r. | PHOENICIA: AUTONOMOUS | Anonymous | - E                             | Head of Tyche r.               | Wooding threestof promise | wearing united clowin | Same           |  |
| Axis                           |               |                       |                |          |                   |                              |                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                 |                                |                  |                                     |                        |                  |                                           | $\rightarrow$ |                              |                               |                     |                       |           | ←                               |                                |                           |                       |                |  |
| Diam.<br>Mm.                   |               | 13                    |                |          |                   | 16                           |                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                 |                                | 71               |                                     |                        |                  |                                           | 18            |                              |                               |                     |                       |           | 20                              |                                |                           |                       | 21             |  |
| Weight Diam. Axis<br>Grms. Mm. |               | 1.10                  |                |          |                   | 3.00                         |                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                 | 03.0                           | 7.50             |                                     |                        |                  |                                           | 2.85          |                              |                               |                     |                       |           | 6.50                            |                                |                           |                       | 5.20           |  |
| Loc.<br>No.                    |               | 9/9                   |                |          |                   | 929                          |                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                 | 1100                           | 1182             |                                     |                        |                  |                                           | 293           |                              |                               |                     |                       |           | 563                             |                                |                           |                       | 563            |  |
| Bas.<br>No.                    |               | 4242                  |                |          |                   | 4236                         |                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                 | 1061                           | 4004             |                                     |                        |                  |                                           | 1583          |                              |                               |                     |                       |           | C.                              | 1/1                            |                           |                       | C.<br>176      |  |
| Cat.<br>No.                    |               | 7                     |                |          |                   | œ                            |                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                 | •                              | ζ.               |                                     |                        |                  |                                           | 10            |                              |                               |                     |                       |           | 11                              |                                |                           |                       | 12             |  |

| Cat.<br>No. | Bas.<br>No. | Loc.<br>No. | Weight Diam. Axis Grms. Mm. | Diam.<br>Mm. | Axis     | Obverse                                                         | Reverse                                                                                        | Date<br>(CE)                | Mint                 | Bibliography and remarks               |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------------|
|             |             |             |                             |              |          | ROMAN PROVINCIAL                                                | OVINCIAL                                                                                       |                             |                      |                                        |
|             |             |             |                             |              |          | Commodus                                                        | snpo                                                                                           |                             |                      |                                        |
| 13          | 1584        | 293         | 09:9                        | 22           |          | []<br>Bust to r.                                                | Dionysus stg. to 1., pouring wine<br>From cantharus for a panther<br>seated 1.                 | 181/2                       | Nysa-<br>Scythopolis | Barkay 2003:<br>p. 208,No.32           |
|             |             |             |                             |              |          | Elagabal                                                        | ıbal                                                                                           |                             |                      |                                        |
| 41          | C 06.       | Surf.       | 12.40                       | 25           |          | [AVTKM] ANTWN Bust to r.                                        | [] Pegasos, stg. 1., head turn back                                                            | 218/9                       | Hippos               | Spijkerman 1978:<br>p. 178, Nos. 36-37 |
|             |             |             |                             |              |          | Otacilia Severa, wife of Philip I                               | wife of Philip I                                                                               |                             |                      |                                        |
| 15          | 4074        | 1182        | 23.35                       | 30           | <b>←</b> | [M OT] ACI SE VERA AVG<br>Bust to r.                            | COL DAMA METROP Wolf and twins, behind, vexilum below ram's head                               | 244-249                     | Damascus             | Rosenberger 1978:<br>p. 29, No. 41     |
|             |             |             |                             |              |          | Uncertain                                                       | tain                                                                                           |                             |                      |                                        |
| 16          | 5019        | 1040        | 8.85                        | 23           |          | Bust r., effaced; small male bust r. within oblong countermark  | Effaced                                                                                        | 2-3 <sup>rd</sup> centuries |                      |                                        |
|             |             |             |                             |              |          | ROMAN IMPERIAL Probus, Antoninianus                             | APERIAL<br>coninianus                                                                          |                             |                      |                                        |
| 17          | 4210        | 1197        | 3.70                        | 21           |          | IMP CMAVR PROBVS PF AVG Bust r., radiate, cuirassed and draped. | CLEMENTIA TEMP<br>Emperor r., receiving globe from<br>Jupiter I., between ∆<br>In exergue: XXI | 276-282                     | Antioch              | <i>RIC 5/2</i> :<br>p.119, No. 920     |

| Cat. 1   | Bas. La  | Loc. V No. C | Weight<br>Grms. | Diam.<br>Mm. | Axis | Obverse                                                                                              | Reverse                                                                                                                      | Date<br>(CE) | Mint           | Bibliography and<br>remarks            |
|----------|----------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------------------------------|
|          |          |              |                 |              |      | Carus, Antoninianus                                                                                  | oninianus                                                                                                                    |              |                |                                        |
| <b>→</b> | 4084 11  | 1182         | 3.80            | 20           |      | IMP CMAVR CARVS PF AVG Bust r., radiate, cuirassed and draped.                                       | VIRTVS AVGGG Emperor r., receiving Victory on globe from Jupiter I., between E In exergue: XXI                               | 283          | Same           | RIC 5/2:<br>p.150, No. 125             |
|          |          |              |                 |              |      | THE HOUSE OF CONSTANTINE Constantine II, Caesar, eldest son of Constantine I                         | CONSTANTINE dest son of Constantine I                                                                                        |              |                |                                        |
|          | 153 5    | 503          | 2.27            | 21           |      | CONSTANTINVS IVN NOBC<br>Bust I., laur. cuir., in palud.                                             | PROVIDENT TIAE CAESS Camp-gate with two towers, no doors; star above, in exergue: SMKT                                       | 324-330      | Cyzicus        | <i>LRBC I</i> :<br>p. 27, No. 1163     |
|          |          |              |                 |              |      | Constantine I, the Great                                                                             | I, the Great                                                                                                                 |              |                |                                        |
|          | 4217 6   | 699          | 1.30            | 18           |      | CONSTANTI NVS MAX AVG Bust to r., diad., cuir. in palud.                                             | GLORIA EXERCITVS  Two soldiers stg., each holding spear and leaning on shield; between them two standards, in exergue: SMANA | 330-335      | Nicomedia      | <i>LRBC I</i> :<br>p. 26, No. 1116     |
| -        | 4209 111 | 1198         | 2.95            | 18           |      | Same                                                                                                 | Same, in exergue: SMHA                                                                                                       | Same         | Heraclea       | LRBC I:<br>p. 22, No. 898              |
|          |          |              |                 |              |      | Constans, Caesar, youngest son of Constantine l                                                      | est son of Constantine I                                                                                                     |              |                |                                        |
|          | 4093 11  | 1188         | 2.15            | 17           |      | CONSTANS IVN NOBC<br>Bust to r. laur. cuir., in palud.                                               | Same                                                                                                                         | Same         | Same           | <i>LRBC I</i> :<br>p. 23, No. 927      |
|          |          |              |                 |              |      | <b>Hanniballian,</b> grandson of Theodora – <b>Rex</b> in eastern Asia Minor (Cappadocia and Pontus) | m of Theodora – <b>Rex</b><br>appadocia and Pontus)                                                                          |              |                |                                        |
| 1r 1 O   | C 06. St | Surf.        | 1.60            | 16           |      | FL HANNIBALLIANO REGI<br>Bust, bareheaded, cuir. in palud.                                           | SECVRITAS PVBLICA River-god (The Euphrates) reclining r.; urn below, Tree in background, in exergue: CONSS                   | 335-337      | Constantinople | Cf. <i>LRBC I</i> :<br>p. 25, No. 1036 |

| Bas.<br>No. | Loc.<br>No. | Weight<br>Grms. | Diam.<br>Mm. | Axis | Obverse                                            | Reverse                                                                             | Date<br>(CE)               | Mint           | Bibliography and remarks                    |
|-------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------|------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------------|
|             |             |                 |              |      | Posthumous issue                                   | us issue                                                                            |                            |                |                                             |
| 4075        | 1182        | 0.85            | 16           |      | [DVCONSTANTI N] VSPTAVG<br>Bust, veiled            | VN MR<br>Emperor, veiled, stg. r.,<br>In exergue: SMANA                             | 341-346                    | Antioch        | Cf. <i>LRBC I</i> :<br>p. 31, No. 1397      |
|             |             |                 |              |      | Constantius II and Constans                        | and Constans                                                                        |                            |                |                                             |
|             | 4214 1198   | 1.20            | 15           |      | []<br>Bust to r.                                   | Within wreath:<br>VOT / XX / MVLT / XXX                                             | Same                       |                | Cf. <i>LRBC I</i> :<br>p. 29, No. 1305      |
|             | 1184 552    | 4.70            | 24           |      | DNCONSTANTIVS [] Bust to r. laur. cuir., in palud. | FEL TEMP REPARATIO Falling horseman 1., in field 1. I In exergue: CONSA             | 346-350                    | Constantinople | Cf. <i>LRBC II</i> :<br>p. 86, No. 2015     |
|             |             |                 |              |      | Uncertain                                          |                                                                                     |                            |                |                                             |
|             | 4237 676    | 1.30            | 18           |      | []<br>Bust to r.                                   | Illegible                                                                           | 4 <sup>th</sup><br>century |                |                                             |
|             |             |                 |              |      | Constantius $\Pi$ and Julian $Caesar$              | d Julian Caesar                                                                     |                            |                |                                             |
|             | 4228 673    | 1.60            | 16           |      | []<br>Bust to r.                                   | [SPES REIPVBLICE] Virtus helmeted to r., holding globe and spear, in exergue: SMTSA | 355-361                    | Thessalonica   | Cf. <i>LRBC II</i> :<br>p. 78, Nos. 1689-90 |
|             | 4232 675    | 2.50            | 16           |      | Same                                               | Same                                                                                | Same                       |                |                                             |
|             | C.20 Surf.  | 2.50            | 19           |      | Same                                               | [FEL TEMP REPARATIO] Falling horseman I.                                            | Same                       |                | Cf. <i>LRBC II</i> :<br>p. 97, No. 2498     |

| Date Mint Bibliography and (CE) remarks | Same | Same | Same | Same |                              | TEMP] 365-366 Cf. <i>LRBC II</i> : | , holding p. 88, No. 2081 and on                                     |                                                 | DRVM] 367-375 Cf. LRBC II: | tr. hand p. 52, No. 338; holding broken                                    | Same |                                 | : 378-383 Cf. <i>LRBC II</i> :    | p. 88, Nos. 2116-17 | 383 Antioch                                         |
|-----------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Reverse                                 | Same | Same | Same | Same | Procopius, kinsman of Julian | REP JARATI O FEL TEMP              | Emperor facing, head r., holding spear and resting I. hand on shield | THE LATER ROMAN EMPIRE Valentinian I and Valens | [GLORIA ROMANORVM]         | Emperor draped, with r. hand dragging captive r. and holding labarum in r. | Same | Valentinian II and Theodosius I | Within wreath: VOT / V / MVLT / X |                     | Within wreath:  VOT / X / MVLT / XX In exergue: ANT |
| Obverse                                 | Same | Same | Same | Same | Procopius,                   | Same                               |                                                                      | THE LATER Valentini                             | Same                       |                                                                            | Same | Valentinian I                   | Effaced                           |                     | DN VALENTINIANVS PF AVG                             |
| . Axis                                  |      |      |      |      |                              |                                    |                                                                      |                                                 |                            |                                                                            |      |                                 |                                   |                     |                                                     |
| Diam<br>Mm.                             | 17   | 17   | 16   | 14   |                              | 16                                 |                                                                      |                                                 | 16                         |                                                                            | 16   |                                 | 16                                |                     | 14                                                  |
| Weight Diam.<br>Grms. Mm.               | 2.30 | 1.70 | 2.85 | 2.50 |                              | 2.45                               |                                                                      |                                                 | 1.05                       |                                                                            | 2.45 |                                 | 2.50                              |                     | 0.85                                                |
| Loc.<br>No.                             | 969  | 629  | 1195 | 929  |                              | 1025                               |                                                                      |                                                 | 101                        |                                                                            | 1020 |                                 | 629                               |                     | 929                                                 |
| Bas.<br>No.                             | 169  | 4245 | 2583 | 4233 |                              | 1228                               |                                                                      |                                                 | 1207                       |                                                                            | 1206 |                                 | 4244                              |                     | 4234                                                |
| Cat.<br>No.                             | 31   | 32   | 33   | 34   |                              | 35                                 |                                                                      |                                                 | 36                         |                                                                            | 37   |                                 | 38                                |                     | 39                                                  |

| Mint Bibliography and remarks | Same | Same<br>Cf. <i>LRBC II</i> :<br>p.102, Nos.2761-62                                                    |      |      |                       | Cf. LRBC II:    | p. 105, No. 2930 |                 | Cf. <i>LRBC II</i> :<br>p. 63. No. 840 |           |                            |      |      |      |  |
|-------------------------------|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|------|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|------|------|------|--|
| Date<br>(CE)                  | Same | 382-392                                                                                               | Same | Same |                       | 395-408         |                  |                 | 425-455                                |           | 5 <sup>th</sup><br>century | Same | Same | Same |  |
| Reverse                       | Same | SALVS REI PVBLICAE Victory to I., trophy on shoulder, dragging captive, in field I. cross, In ex. ANA | Same | Same | 1 Honorius            | [CONCORDIA AVG] | Cross            | ian III         | [SALVS REIPVBLICE] Victory to I.       |           | Effaced                    | Same | Same | Same |  |
| Obverse                       | Same | Same                                                                                                  | Same | Same | Arcadius and Honorius |                 | Bust to r.       | Valentinian III | Same                                   | Uncertain | Same                       | Same | Same | Same |  |
| Axis                          |      |                                                                                                       |      |      |                       |                 |                  |                 |                                        |           |                            |      |      |      |  |
| Diam.<br>Mm.                  | 14   | 12                                                                                                    | 12   | 12   |                       | 12              |                  |                 | 14                                     |           | 12                         | 15   | 14   | 17   |  |
| Weight Diam. Axis Grms. Mm.   | 2.20 | 0.95                                                                                                  | 0.80 | 1.55 |                       | 06.0            |                  |                 | 1.75                                   |           | 1.66                       | 1.75 | 1.70 | 1.05 |  |
| Loc.<br>No.                   | 1195 | 1182                                                                                                  | 1195 | 1195 |                       | 1188            |                  |                 | 1197                                   |           | 1188                       | 1197 | 1195 | 672  |  |
| Bas.<br>No.                   | 2581 | 4066                                                                                                  | 2582 | 2585 |                       | 4095            |                  |                 | 2594                                   |           | 4094                       | 2596 | 2586 | 4225 |  |
| Cat.<br>No.                   | 40   | 41                                                                                                    | 42   | 43   |                       | 4               |                  |                 | 45                                     |           | 46                         | 47   | 48   | 49   |  |

| Cat.<br>No. | Bas.   | Loc.<br>No. | Weight Diam. Axis Grms. Mm. | Diam.<br>Mm. | Axis | Овчекѕе                                                                             | Reverse                                                            | Date<br>(CE) | Mint           | Bibliography and remarks                             |
|-------------|--------|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------|
|             |        |             |                             |              |      | BYZANTINE<br>Justinian I, follis                                                    | TINE<br>L, follis                                                  |              |                |                                                      |
| 20          | C.     | Surf.       | 11.85                       | 32           |      | DNIVSTINI ANVSPPAVG Bust to r., cuir. in palud.                                     | M Above cross. To l. and r., * Beneath B, in exergue: THEUP+       | 533-537      | Antioch        | Cf. <i>DOC I</i> :<br>p. 138, No.210b                |
|             |        |             |                             |              |      | Justin II, follis                                                                   | , follis                                                           |              |                |                                                      |
| 15          | C. 182 | Same        | 10.70                       | 28           |      | DNIVSTINVS [] Justin and Sophia facing enthroned                                    | M Above cross. To 1., A/N/N/O To r., X, beneath A, in exergue: KYZ | 574/5        | Cyzicus        | Cf. <i>DOC I</i> :<br>p. 236, No.123a;<br>pierced    |
|             |        |             |                             |              |      | Maurice, half follis                                                                | alf follis                                                         |              |                |                                                      |
| 22          | 2595   | Same        | 5.15                        | 23           |      | DNMAVRICI TIBER Bust facing, in cuir. and crown                                     | K Above cross. To I. A/N/N/O                                       | 587/8        | Constantinople | Cf. DOC I:<br>p. 312, No.51a                         |
|             |        |             |                             |              |      | UMAYYAD<br>A copper hoard of anonymous fullūs<br>Loc. 549, Bas. 1179                | YAD<br>anonymous fullüs<br>as. 1179                                |              |                |                                                      |
| 33          | C 06.  |             | 3.90                        | 16           |      | Within two plain circles:<br>لااله / الاالله / وحده                                 | In the field a pomegranate,<br>around:<br>محمد رسول الله           | Undated      | No mint        | Walker 1956:<br>p. 203, No.595                       |
| 54          | C 06.  |             | 3.55                        | 20           |      | Same                                                                                | Same                                                               | Same         | Same           | Same                                                 |
| 22          | C 06.  |             | 3.45                        | 16           |      | Same                                                                                | Same                                                               | Same         | Same           | Same                                                 |
| 99          | C 06.  |             | 3.25                        | 19           |      | Same, overstruck on reverse legend:<br>\شاحد \ الله الصمد \<br>لم يلد ولم \ [ يولد] | Same, overstruck                                                   | Same         | Same           | Same, overstruck<br>on Walker 1956:<br>p.223, No.724 |
|             |        |             |                             |              |      | (; ) ( ];)                                                                          |                                                                    |              |                |                                                      |

| Bibliography and<br>remarks                        | Same, as No. 53                                 | Same  | Same, worn | Same     | Same            | Walker 1956: p.223, No.724, overstruck on a fals minted at Tabariya Cf. SNAT 1993; p.32, No. 324                              |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------|------------|----------|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mint Bib                                           | Same Sa                                         | Same  | Same       | Same     | Same            | Same v v p. over min Cf                                                                                                       |
| Date<br>(CE)                                       | Same                                            | Same  | Same       | Same     | Same            | Same                                                                                                                          |
| Reverse                                            | Same                                            | Same  | Same       | Same     | Same            | Within a double circle:<br>الله احد / الله الصمد /<br>لم يلد ولم / يولد<br>On margin traces of an illegible<br>earlier legend |
| Овчегѕе                                            | Same, overstruck on an uncertain different fals | Same  | Same       | Same     | Same            | Within a double circle with six annulets Intersecting around: ماری ایرایه کورده On margin part of an earlier legend:          |
| Axis                                               |                                                 |       |            |          |                 |                                                                                                                               |
| Diam.<br>Mm.                                       | 16                                              | 18    | 17         | 17       | 16              | 27                                                                                                                            |
| Cat. Bas. Loc. Weight Diam. Axis No. No. Grms. Mm. | 3.00                                            | 2.95  | 2.90       | 2.05     | 2.05            | 4.85                                                                                                                          |
| Loc.<br>No.                                        |                                                 |       |            |          |                 |                                                                                                                               |
| Bas.<br>No.                                        | C 06.                                           | C 06. | C 06.      | 60 C 06. | <b>61</b> C 06. | <b>62</b> C 06. 10                                                                                                            |
| Cat.<br>No.                                        | 21                                              | 28    | 59         | 09       | 61              | 62                                                                                                                            |

#### References

- AJC I, II: Meshorer Y. 1982. Ancient Jewish Coinage, Dix Hills, NY
- Barkay R. 2003. The Coinage of Nysa-Scythopolis (Beth-Shean), Corpus Nummorum Palaestinensium Volume V, Jerusalem.
- BMC Phoen.: G.F. Hill 1910. Catalogue of the Greek Coins of Phoenicia, London.
- DOC 1: A.R. Bellinger 1966. Catalogue of the Byzantine Coins in the Dumbarton Oaks Collection and in the Whittemore Collection 1. Anastasius I to Maurice, 491–602 Washington, D.C.
- Houghton A. and Spaer A. 1998. Sylloge Nummorum Graecorum, Israel I. The Arnold Spaer Collection of Seleucid Coins, Jerusalem.
- LRBC 1: P.V. Hill and J.P.C. Kent 1965. The Bronze Coinage of the House of Constantine, A.D. 324–46. Part 1 of Late Roman Bronze Coinage (A.D. 324–498), London, p. 4–40.
- *LRBC* 2: R.A.G. Carson and J.P.C. Kent 1965, Bronze Roman Imperial Coinage of the Later Empire, A.D. 346–498. Part 2 of *Late Roman Bronze Coinage* (A.D. 324–498), London, p. 41–114.
- RIC 5/1: Webb P.H. 1927. The Roman Imperial Coinage V, Part I, London.
- RIC 10: Kent J.P.C. 1994. The Roman Imperial Coinage X, The Divided Empire and the fall of the Western Parts. AD 395–491, London.
- Rosenberger M. 1978. The Coinage of Eastern Palestine and Legionary Countermarks, Bar-Kochba Overtrucks, Jerusalem.
- SNAT 1993, Ilisch L. Sylloge Numorum Arabicorum Tübingen Palästina IVa Bilād aš-Šām I, Tübingen.
- Spijkerman A. 1978. *The Coins of the Decapolis and Provincia Arabia*. (Ed. by M. Piccirillo), Jerusalem.
- Walker J. 1956. A Catalogue of the Arab-Byzantine and Post-Reform Umaiyad Coins (Catalogue of the Muhammadan Coins in the British Museum II), London.

**Ariel Berman** 

Tiv'on



2:1

# Plate II



#### Plate III



2:1

## Plate IV



## Plate V



#### Plate VI



# Illustrations

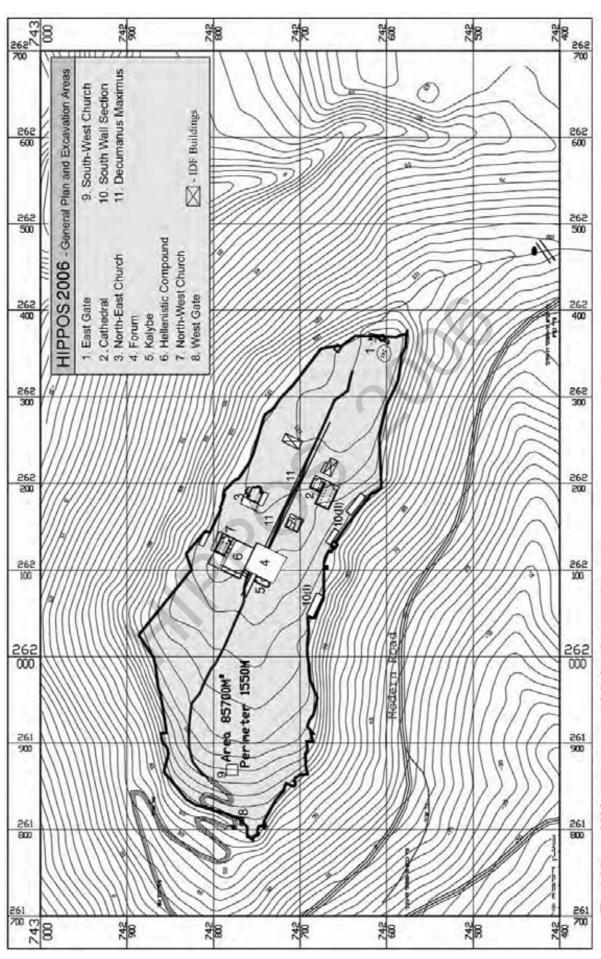


Fig. 1, Hippos 2006, areas excavated during the seventh season.

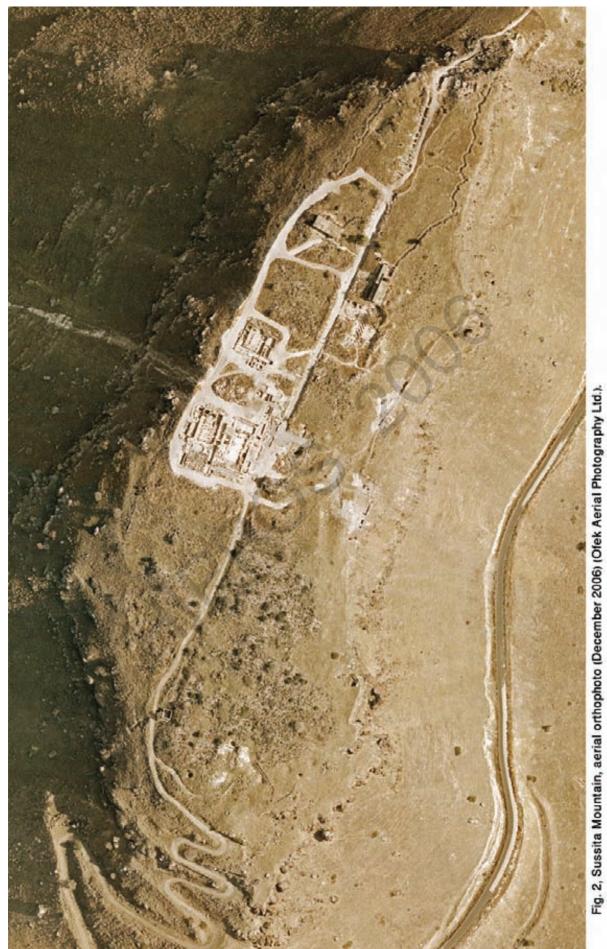




Fig. 3, Hippos 2006, areas excavated during the seventh season. Aerial orthophoto (December 2006) (Ofek Aerial Photography Ltd.).

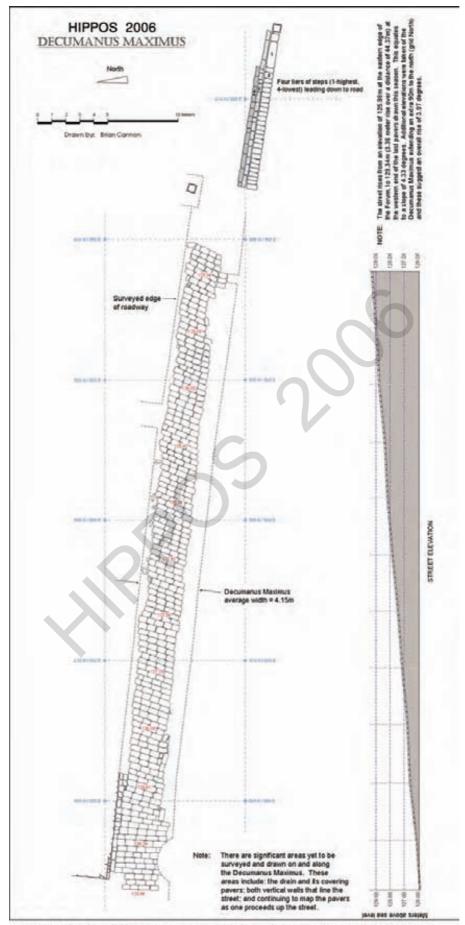


Fig. 4, Hippos 2006, the eastern segment of the Decumanus Maximus.



Fig. 5, Hippos 2006, the eastern segment of the *Decumanus Maximus*. General view from the south-east.



Fig. 6, Hippos 2006, the eastern segment of the *Decumanus Maximus*. View from the east. Note the pedestal (designated by arrow).



Fig. 7, Hippos 2006, the eastern segment of the *Decumanus Maximus*. Fragments of walls built to the south of the street. Note the different stone work and reused architectural details.



Fig. 8, Hippos 2006, the eastern segment of the *Decumanus Maximus*. The corner fragment of a cornice from a monumental Roman building as exposed on the surface of the street.



Fig. 9, Hippos 2006, the eastern segment of the *Decumanus Maximus*. Two fragments of a cornice from a monumental Roman building found among the debris.



Fig. 10, Hippos 2006, the eastern segment of the *Decumanus Maximus*. One of the basalt drums of the city's main aqueduct as exposed broken into two on the surface of the street.



Fig. 11, Hippos 2006, the eastern segment of the *Decumanus Maximus*. A limestone column drum with Greek inscription.



Fig. 12, Hippos 2006, partially exposed stylobate of the *Decumanus Maximus* to the west of the *Forum*. View from the west.



Fig. 13, Hippos 2006, partially exposed stylobate of the *Decumanus Maximus* to the west of the *Forum*.

Note the *in situ* column base.



Fig. 14, Hippos 2006, the area east of the HLC, square 2. Note the Roman podium during excavation.

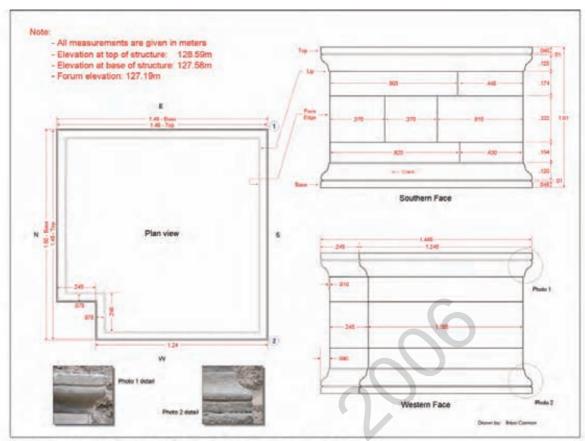


Fig. 15, Hippos 2006, the Roman podium: plan and elevations.

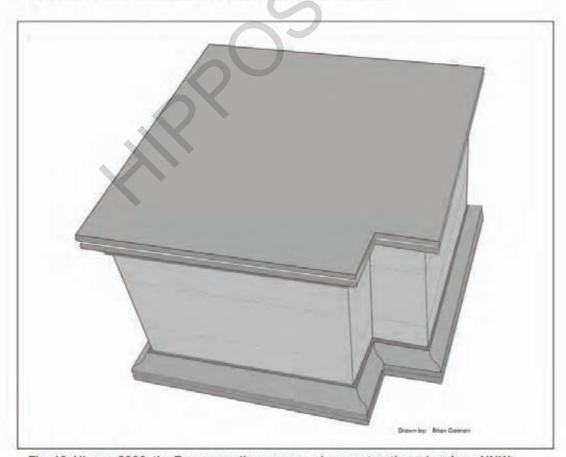


Fig. 16, Hippos 2006, the Roman podium: proposed reconstruction (view from NNW).

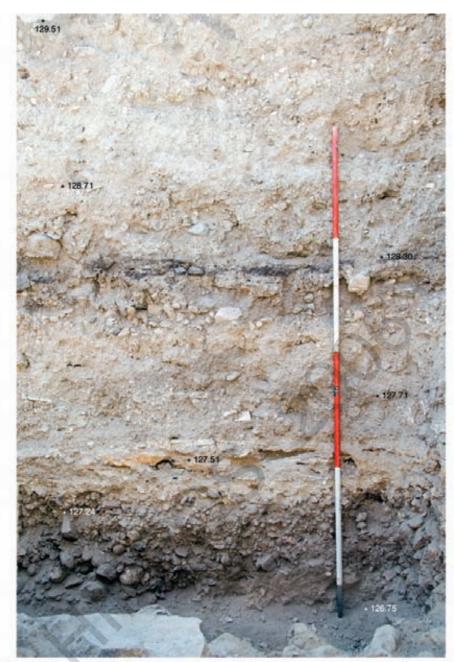


Fig. 17, Hippos 2006, the area east of the HLC, square 2 - eastern section.



Fig. 18, Hippos 2006, the area east of the HLC, square 2. Fragment of a painted plaster exposed in the vicinity of the Roman *podium*.



Fig. 19 (a-d), Hippos 2006, the Roman podium. Different stages in the process of reconstruction.



Fig. 20, Bosra (Syria), the Central Bath. Note the perfectly preserved pier's base.



Fig. 21, Beth Shean (Scythopolis), the Caesareum. One of the heart shaped piers (phot. W.Atrash).



Fig. 22, Hippos 2006, the Roman *podium* area. Basalt stone base of a rectangular pier with a narrow rounded side.



Fig. 23, Hippos 2006, the Roman *podium* area. Basalt stone capital of a rectangular pier with a narrow rounded side.

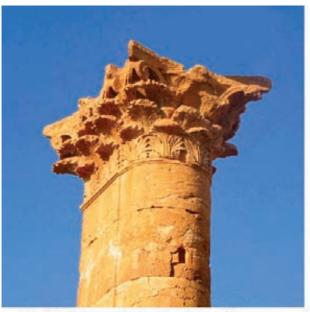


Fig. 24, Palmyra (Syria), the *Agora*. The upper part of a rectangular pier with a narrow rounded side.



Fig. 25, Gerasa (Jordan), the Cardo Maximus. The recently reconstructed quadrifrons. View from the north.



Fig. 26, Palmyra (Syria), the Great Colonnade. Note the fully reconstructed tetrakionion.

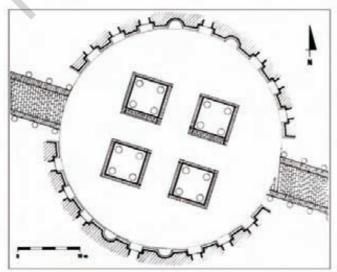


Fig. 27, Bosra (Syria), reconstructed plan of a *tetrakionion* located in the western part of the Decumanus Maximus.



Fig. 28, Hippos 2006, squares 2 and 3. General view from the north.



Fig. 29, Hippos 2006, square 3. The northern façade of the southern temenos wall (W156).



Fig. 30, Hippos 2006, square 1. View from the north of W1151 and the upper burnt layer to its east.



Fig. 31, Hippos 2006, square 1. View from the south. The burnt layer in the probe adjacent to W1151.



Fig. 32, Hippos 2006, general view of the central segment of the southern city wall. View from the south-east.



Fig. 33, Hippos 2006, general view of the central segment of the southern city wall. View from the south.

Note the suspended basalt beams at the wall's foundations.

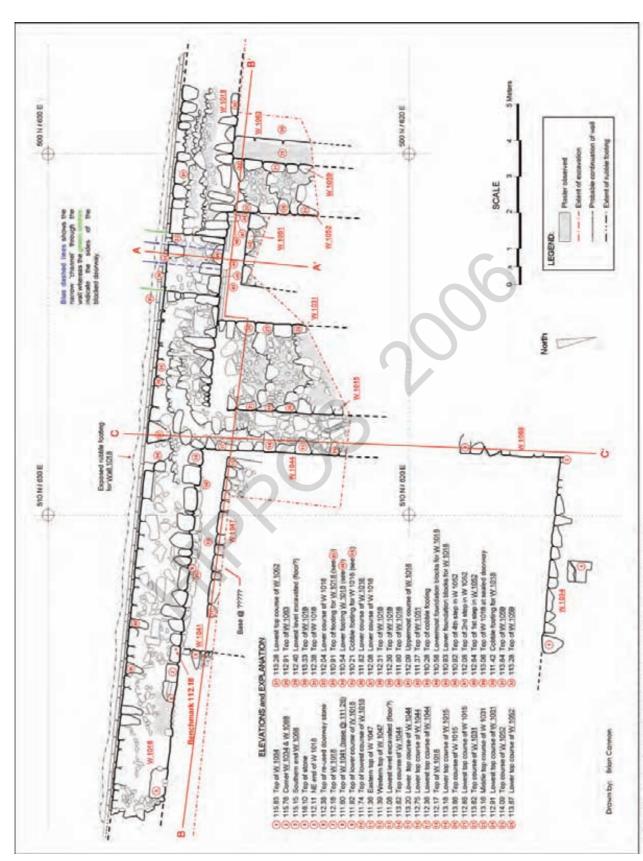


Fig. 34, Hippos 2006, SWL-I. A plan of sections I and II.

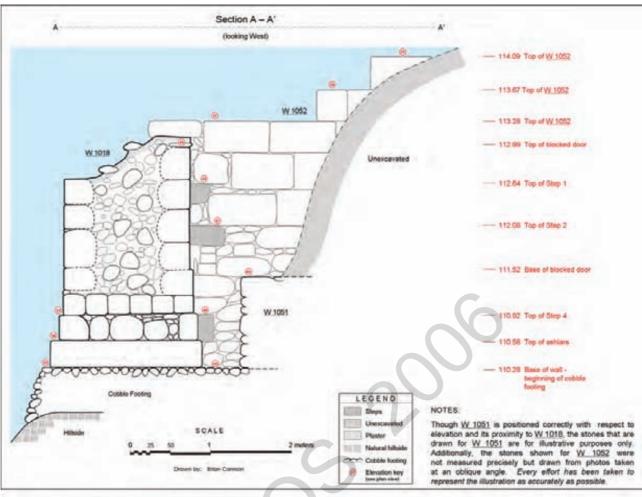


Fig. 35, Hippos 2006, SWL-I. Section A-A'.

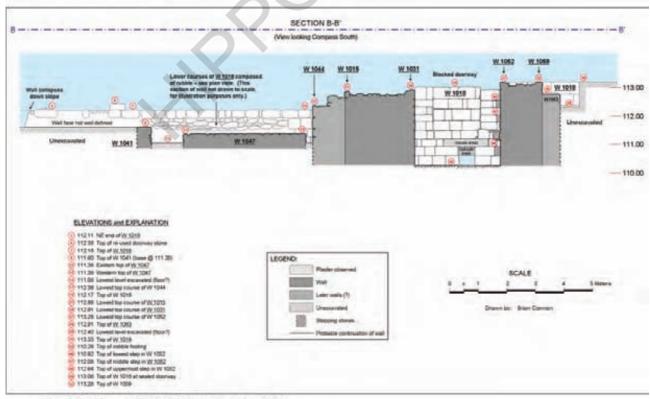


Fig. 36, Hippos 2006, SWL-I. Section B-B'.

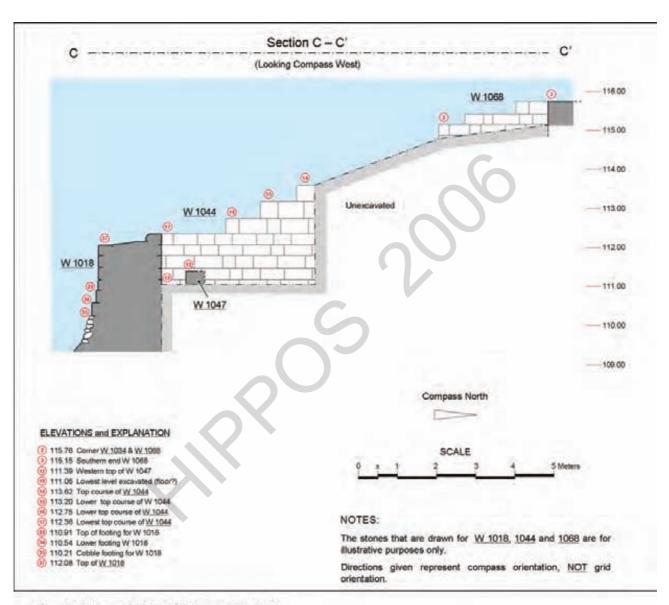


Fig. 37, Hippos 2006, SWL-I. Section C-C'.

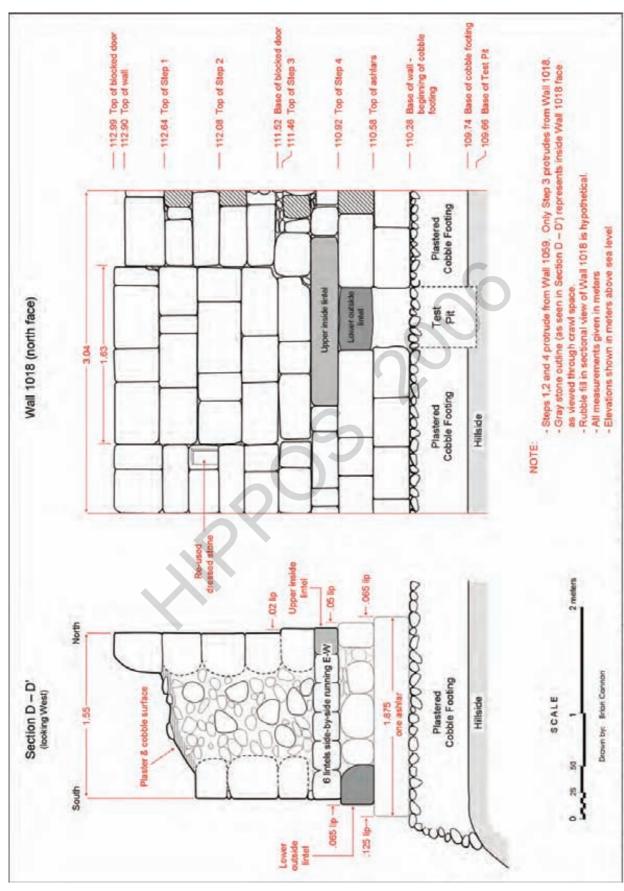


Fig. 38, Hippos 2006, SWL-I. Section D-D' and northern face of W 1018.



Fig. 39, Hippos 2006, SWL-I. Segment of the city wall. Note the mortar foundation and the basalt stone beams supporting the upper courses of the wall.



Fig. 40, Hippos 2006, SWL-I. Section I. View from the north of the "tower" incorporated into the city wall.



Fig. 41, Hippos 2006, SWL-I. View from the west on the upper part of section I of the wall.



Fig. 42, Hippos 2006, SWL-I. Section I. View from the east on the "tower". Note the postern at the bottom of it.



Fig. 43, Hippos 2006, SWL-I. Section I. The postern at the bottom of the "tower". View from outside (south).



Fig. 44, Hippos 2006, SWL-I. Section I. Segment of the eastern face of W1044.



Fig. 45, Hippos 2006, SWL-I. Section I. The upper parts of the following walls: 1031, 1052, 1059, 1063 and 1018. View from the west.



Fig. 46, Hippos 2006, SWL-I. Section II. Partially exposed structure to the south of the city wall. View from the south-west.



Fig. 47, Hippos 2006, SWL-I. Section III. View from above on the partially exposed vault adjacent to the south city wall. View to the west.



Fig. 48, Hippos 2006, SWL-I. Section III. The northern wall of the vaulted chamber. Note the remaining ashlars of the vault.



Fig. 49, Hippos 2006, SWL-I. Section III. The remains of the western jamb of the entrance to the vaulted chamber. View from within.



Fig. 50, Hippos 2006, SWL-I. Section III. View from the south of the south city wall and the blocked entrance to the vaulted chamber. White line shows the original span.

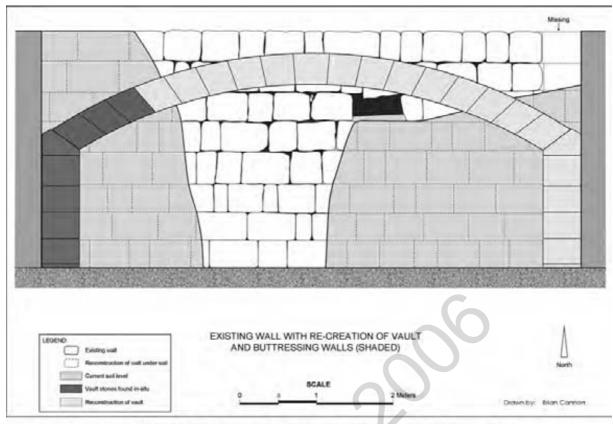


Fig. 51, Hippos 2006, SWL-I. Section III. The vaulted chamber. East-West section.

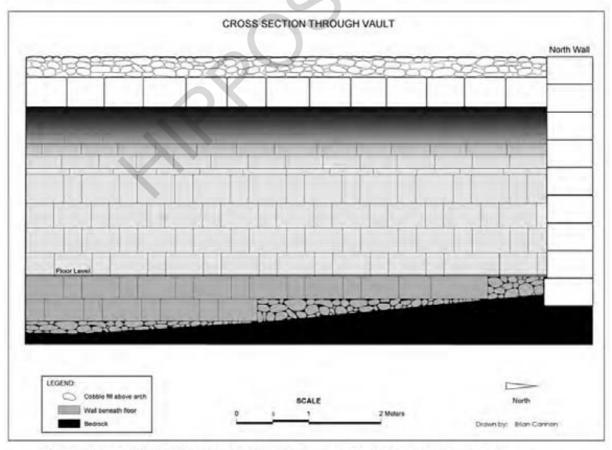


Fig. 52, Hippos 2006, SWL-I. Section III. The vaulted chamber. North-South section. Suggested reconstruction.



Fig. 53, Hippos 2006, SWL-II, the western area. General view from the east.



Fig. 54, Hippos 2006, SWL-II, the western area. General view from the west. Note the entrance to the western room of the tower and the paved area (courtyard, street?).

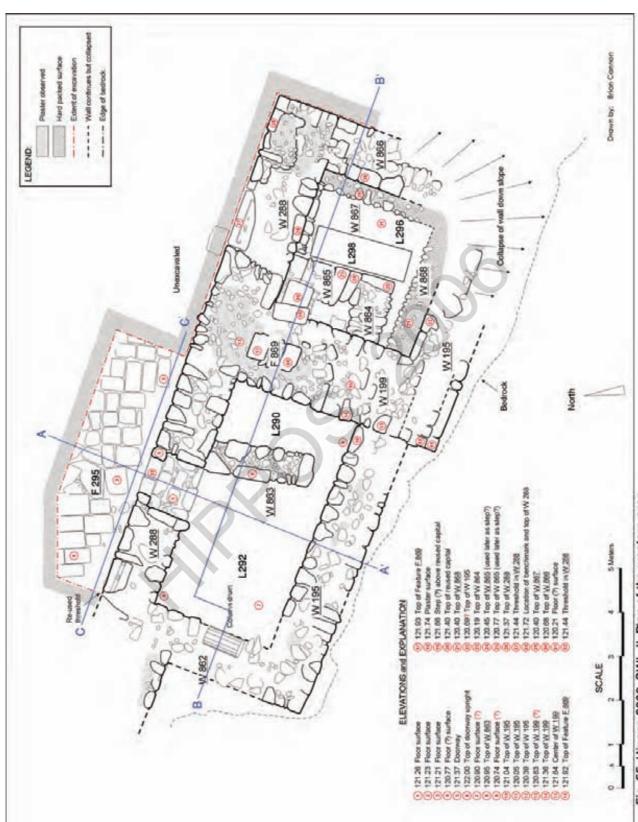


Fig. 55, Hippos 2006, SWL-II. Plan of the western area.

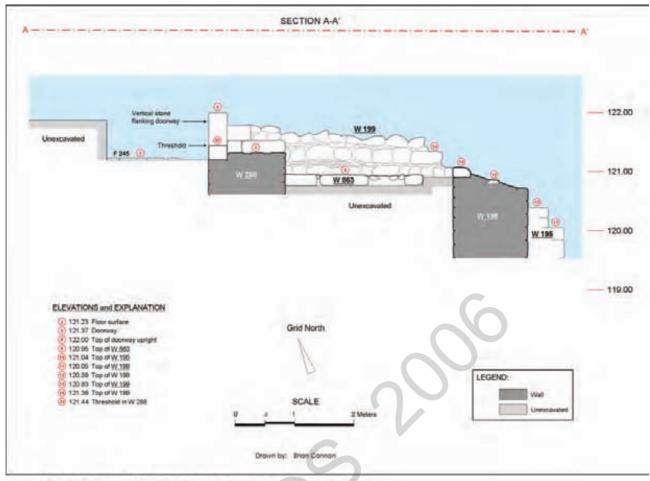


Fig. 56, Hippos 2006, SWL-II, the western area. Section A-A'.

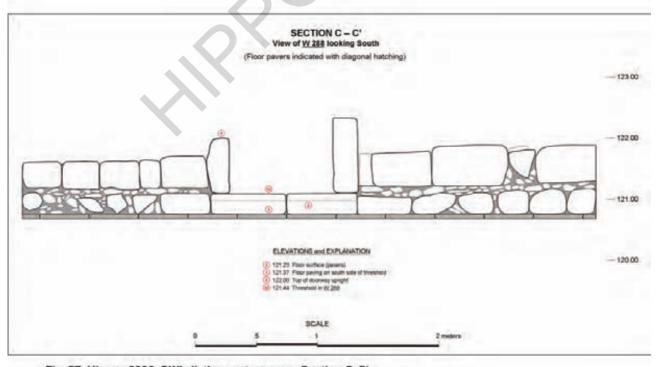


Fig. 57, Hippos 2006, SWL-II, the western area. Section C-C'.

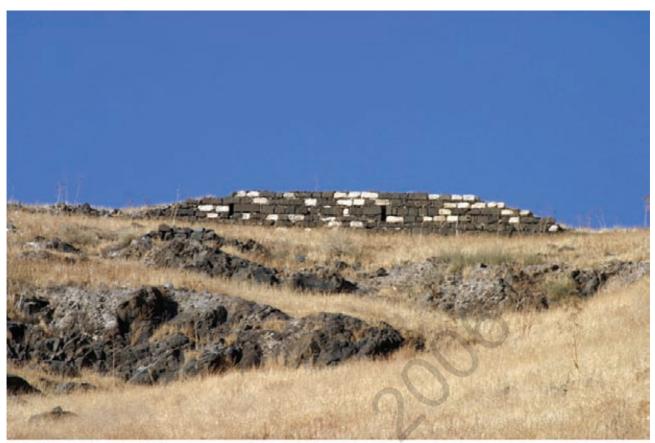


Fig. 58, Hippos 2006, SWL-II, the eastern area. View from the south of the southern wall segment. Note the two loopholes.



Fig. 59, Hippos 2006, SWL-II, the eastern area. View from the north-west. Note the western loophole.



Fig. 60, Hippos 2006, SWL-II, the eastern area. View from the south-east. Note the two loopholes and the oven beneath the pavement.



Fig. 61, Hippos 2006, SWL-II, the eastern area. View from above. Note the remains of the oven beneath the pavement and the later water channel to the right.

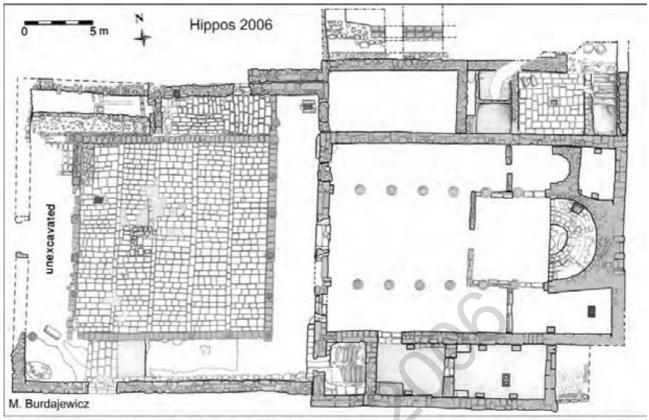


Fig. 62, Hippos 2006, North-West Church Compound. General plan after the seventh season of work.

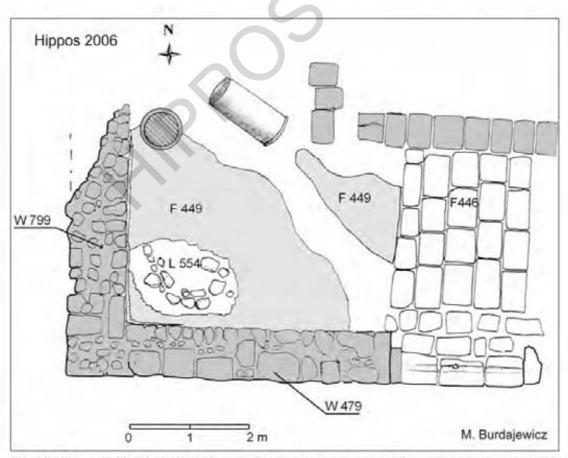


Fig. 63, Hippos 2006, North-West Church. South-western corner of the atrium (the westernmost stretch of the southern portico).

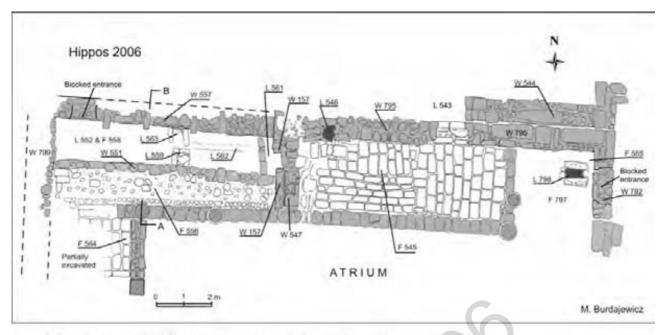


Fig. 64, Hippos 2006, North-West Church. Plan of the northern portico of the atrium.

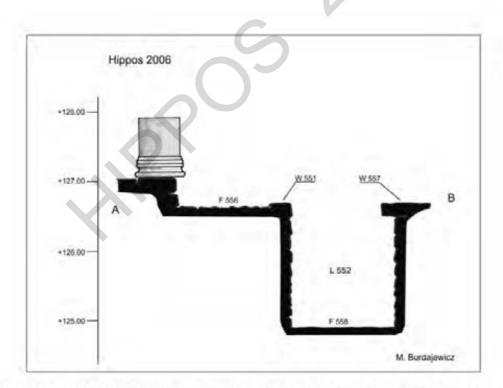


Fig. 65, Hippos 2006, North-West Church. Schematic cross-section through the cellar showing its relation to the northern stylobate of the atrium.

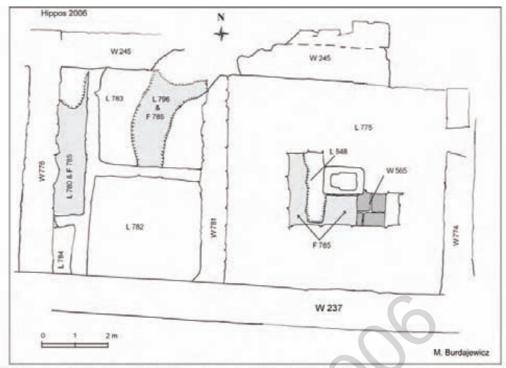


Fig. 66, Hippos 2006, North-West Church. Plan of the remains of an original northern annexe of the church as found beneath the winery, with pale grey colour denoting recorded fragments of mosaic floor.



Fig. 67, Hippos 2006, North-West Church. Collapsed blocks in the western portico on the axis of the main entrance, looking west.



Fig. 68, Hippos 2006, North-West Church, south-western corner of the *atrium* looking west. Note the damaged mosaic floor (F449) and a basalt column in secondary location against poor remains of the western wall (W799).



Fig. 69, Hippos 2006, North-West Church, broken funnel of the Umayyad period found against the western wall of the atrium.



Fig. 70, Hippos 2006, North-West Church, location of the cistern (L798) and its sealed mouth in front of an earlier blocked entrance to the northern wing.



Fig. 71, Hippos 2006, North-West Church, the basalt paved section (F545) of the northern portico, in front of the northern entrance, looking east.



Fig. 72, Hippos 2006, North-West Church. The plastered open drain leading across the northern portico to cistern L546 located under the northern wall of the *atrium*. Note the division wall (W547) to the left.



Fig. 73, Hippos 2006, North-West Church. Iron pruning hook with remains of wooden handle (inv. MU 06.14): part of a "hoard" found above the western end of the "platform" (F556) in the northern portico.



Fig. 74, Hippos 2006, North-West Church, the cellar looking west. Note the "platform" on the left, the corbels on the right, and the line of a channel (L562) running from the direction of the cistern.



Fig. 75, Hippos 2006, North-West Church. Collapsed column drums probably marking the place of an entrance shaft to the cellar (L552), looking north.



Fig. 76, Hippos 2006, North-West Church. Fragment of painted wall plaster from the fill of the cellar.



Fig. 77, Hippos 2006, North-West Church. Entrance to the underground chamber (L553) broken through the Early Roman *temenos* wall (W157). Note the *podium*-like doorstep (L561) in front of the doorway.

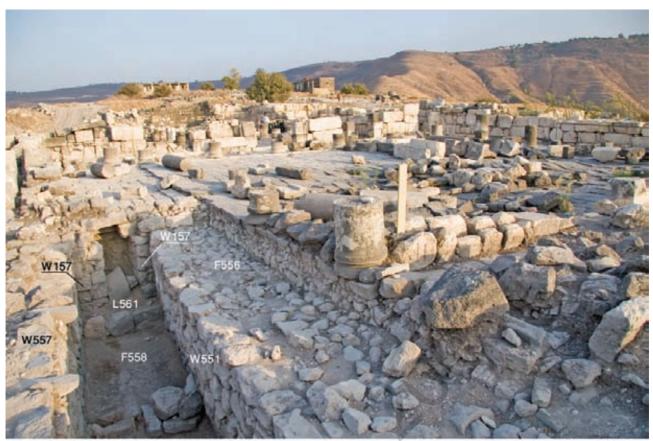


Fig. 78, Hippos 2006, North-West Church, the cellar looking east. Note a sealed mouth of the cistern (L559), the line of channel sloping eastwards, and the entrance to an underground room; on the right, the \*platform\* can be seen, its walking surface (F556) well below the northern stylobate.



Fig. 79, Hippos 2006, North-West Church. The basin (L563) in front of the cistern and an outset of the channel, seen from the south.



Fig. 80, Hippos 2006, North-West Church. The blocked doorway in W557 originally leading to the cellar from the north.



Fig. 81, Hippos 2006, North-West Church. The mosaic (F785) of an original northern annexe of the church uncovered under the military trench in the northern storage compartment of the winery. View from the north.



Fig. 82, Hippos 2006, North-West Church, the winery. The easternmost portion of the mosaic F785 and the negative of the eastern wall of the room. Actually, the re-used eastern stylobate of the Early Roman temenos.

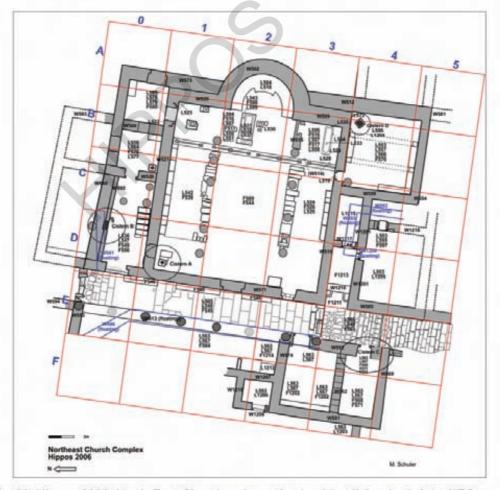


Fig. 83, Hippos 2006, North-East Church, schematic plan identifying loci of the NEC complex.

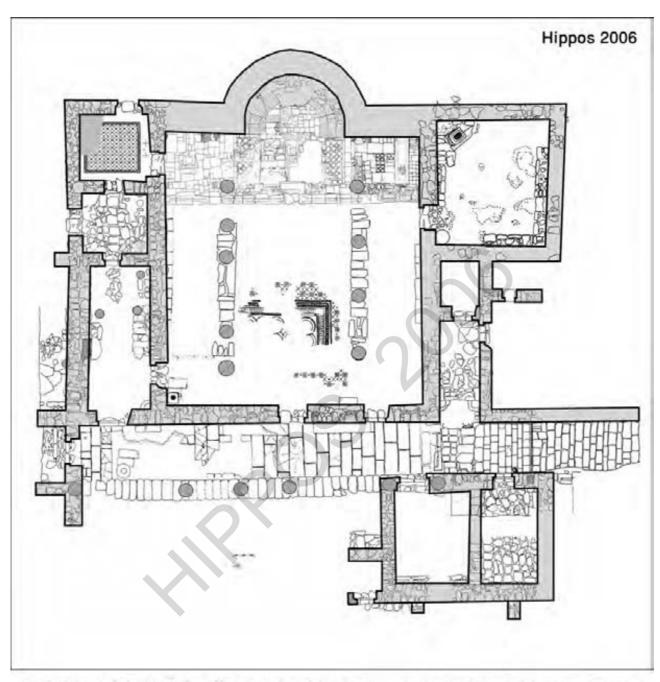


Fig. 84, Hippos 2006, North-East Church, a plan of the church as exposed at the end of the seventh season.



Fig. 85, Hippos 2006, North-East Church, main entrance from the street to the NEC complex.

View from the south-west.



Fig. 86, Hippos 2006, North-East Church as exposed during the seventh season. View from north-west.



Fig. 87, Hippos 2006, North-East Church. Antechamber and south hall of the NEC complex. View from the west.



Fig. 88, Hippos 2006, North-East Church. South hall and small chambers. View from the south-west.



Fig. 89, Hippos 2006, North-East Church. Chambers west of the portico. View from the north-west.

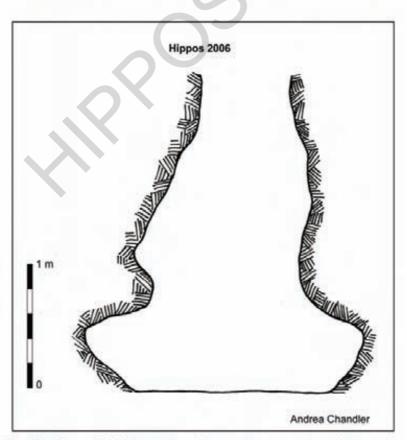


Fig. 90, Hippos 2006, North-East Church. Cross section of cistern D.



Fig. 91, Hippos 2006, North-East Church. Removing the sarcophagus from the masonry tomb.



Fig. 92, Hippos 2006, North-East Church. Darkened outline of a decomposed wooden coffin is visible at the bottom of the masonry tomb.

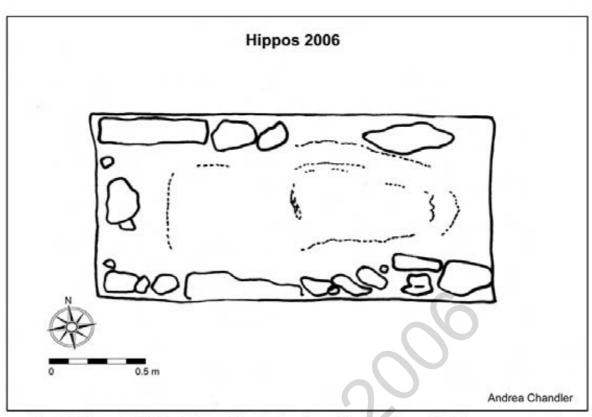


Fig. 93, Hippos 2006, North-East Church. Top view of the "coffin area" of the masonry tomb.

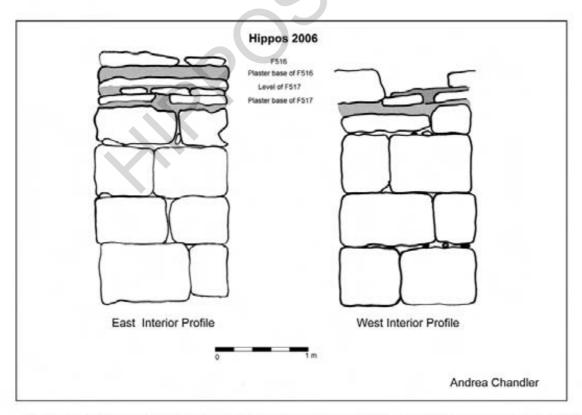


Fig. 94, Hippos 2006, North-East Church. East and West profiles of the walls of the masonry tomb.



Fig. 95, Hippos 2006, North-East Church. Composite photo of the fragmentary remains of F544 mosaic.

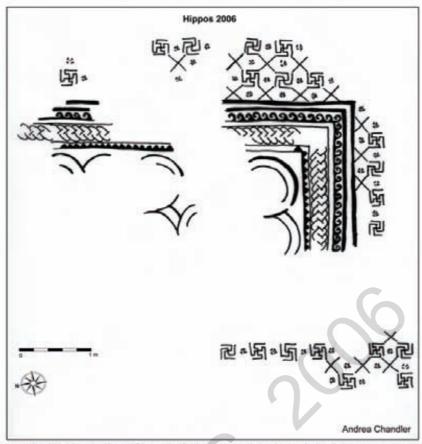


Fig. 96, Hippos 2006, North-East Church. Schematic drawing of the fragmentary remains of F544 mosaic.



Fig. 97, Hippos 2006, North-East Church. Main fragment of borders and medallions of F544 mosaic. View to the north.



Fig. 98, Hippos 2006, North-East Church. Fragmentary medallions from F544 mosaic. The westerly medallion is a feline animal. The easterly animal has small hoofs (perhaps a gazelle).



Fig. 99, Hippos 2006, North-East Church. Border fragment of F544 mosaic. View to the west.

A duck with raised wings is visible between two fragmentary borders of medallions.



Fig. 100, Hippos 2006, North-East Church. Duck with raised wings from F544 mosaic.



Fig. 101, Hippos 2006, North-East Church. Fragmentary intersection of medallions from F544 mosaic. Note the black cross.

# איורים

# הקיר הדרומי של הטמנוס - שימור אבן רכה



בזמן הטיפול באבן



אחרי

### מערובות:

תערובת מס' 1 – מליטת אדמה - NHL2 סיד הידראולי 1

6 אדמה מנופה ברשת 4 מיימ.

**תערובת מס' 2** – מליטה על בסיס סיד – 0.5 אגרגט – 0.5 מיימ. תערובת שליכט מוכנה של מיסטר פיקס 0.5 אגרגט – 0.5 מיימ. תוספת 0.5 גרנולות 0.5 מיימ של כפר –גלעדי.

**תערובת מס' 3-** הזרקות לחללים 1 סיד הידראולי 1 .

2 אבקת אבן קמחית 0.5-0 מיימ כפר גלעזי.

# במקומות עם חללים:

NHL2 סיד הידראולי 2 אבקת אבן קמחית 0.5-0 מיימ כפר גלעדי.  $\frac{1}{2}$  גרנולות 1-0.5 כפר גלעדי.

# קימי (אליקים) ממאן,

משמר בכיר ישוב קהילתי אבטליון



לפני טיפול, בעת החשיפה



לפני



פינות שבורות



לאחר ניקוי ומוכן להדבקה





הכנה לפני הזרקה



השלמת פרופיל תחתון שלב ראשון





אחרי - השלמת פרופיל תחתון

- השלמת הליבה בין אבנים קיימות והמשוחזרות בחומר מליטה מבוסס אדמה.
- כיחול בהזרקה למישקים בעובי 5-2 מיימ בחומר מליטה על בסיס סיד בור (ראה תערובת מסי 2 להלן).
  - טיפול קופינג בראש הפודיום ויצירת ניקוזים.

#### שימור שרידי טיח:

- חיזוק שוליים
- הזרקה נקודתית
- ייצוב וחיזוק פני השטח
- תערובת מסי 2 ותערובת מסי 3

#### הדבקת שברי אבן בשני מקומות:

- ניקוי שני חלקי חשבר באצטון -
- הדבקה בנקודות בדבק אפוקסי
- הזרקת חומר מליטה ומילוי הסדק בתערובת מסי 3
- השלמת קטע מגולף בתחתית הבסיס בחומר מליטה ותערובת מסי 2

#### 2. קיר הטמנוס הדרומי - טיפול בפני אבן גיר רכה

מיד עם המשך חשיפתו מזרחה של קיר הטמנוס הדרומי, ובהמשך לטיפול הניסיוני באבן הגיר הרכה, שבוצעה במהלך העונה החמישית (ראה דו״ח השימור, ״סוסיתא - עונת החפירות השישית, יולי 2006״) בוצע שימור מלווה חפירה לנדבכי הגיר שנחשפו העונה.

#### פודיום - שימור ושחזור



לאחר חשיפה וניקוי



לאחר השחזור

## פעולות השימור שנערכו בשטח שממזרח למתחם ההלניסטי

#### הקדמה

מהלך העונה השביעית של החפירות בסוסיתא (יולי 2006), התנהלו עבודות שימור מלווה החפירה על-ידי המשמר קימי-אליקים ממאן. שימור זה התמקד בשימור האבן בעוד השימור האומנותי (טייחים ורצפות פסיפס) בוצע בידי צוות משמרים בראשותה של משמרת בכירה גברת אווה ראדזיובסקה (ראה הדו״ח לעיל). שימור האבן התבצע העונה במסגרת מצומצמת יחסית, זאת מאחר שבין העונה השישית והשביעית עלה בידנו להשלים את מלאכת השימור בבריכת האיגום המזרחית של מכלול הגיתות, מדרום לכנסייה הצפון-מערבית. דו״ח סיכום ביצוע עבודות השימור בבריכת האיגום יוצא בנפרד.

בעונה השביעית התמקדה מלאכת שימור האבן בשני אתרים:

- הפודיום הרומי שנחשף העונה ובמקביל לחשיפתו הושלמו בו עבודות השימור (ראה: "השטח שממזרח למתחם ההלניסטי" בחלק העברי של הדו"ח).
- 2. המשכו המזרחי של קיר הטמנוס הדרומי, שנחשף אף הוא העונה (ראה: ״השטח שממזרח למתחם ההלניסטי״ בחלק העברי של הדו״ח).

#### 1. הפודיום הרומי

תיאור כללי: הפודיום בנוי מאבני גזית מבזלת ברמת עיבוד גבוהה. לפודיום שלושה נדבכים בעלי מישקים ברוחב של 5-2 מיימ. תחתית הפודיום כך גם חלקו העליון מעוטרים בפרופיל מגולף, שנתגלו בו בשלושה מקומות שרידי טיח לבן, המעידים כי הפודיום היה מטויח. הפודיום נחשף כאשר בצידו הצפוני חסרות שלוש אבני בנייה. אבן אחת מן הנדבך השני ושתי אבנים מזה השלישי. שתיים מפינות הפודיום שבורות, אך השברים אותרו במקומם. האבנים סותתו בדיוק רב ובזאת ניתן היה להיווכח בעיקר בתום השחזור.

שיחזור (אנסטילוזיס): מלאכת שחזור הפודיום בוצעה תוך שימוש באבן ופריט ארכיטקטוני בבסיס הפודיום, שנתגלו במהלך החפירה, וכן בפריט ארכיטקטוני נוסף שנתגלה על-פני השטח. פריט זה היה בעל מאפיינים ברורים ששייכו אותו לחלקי הפודיום, כפי שאכן אושש עם תום השחזור. הפודיום שוחזר במלואו.

#### :שלבי ביצוע

ניקוי מאדמה ואבנים רופפות, בין האבנים ,בליבת הבסיס ובמישקים. הרטבה לפני בניית האבנים במקומם על-גבי חומר מליטה מבוסס אדמה (ראה תערובת מסי 1 להלן).

- 4. איסוף של כל אבני הפסיפס (tesserae), שנותקו וניקויים הקפדני. אבני הפסיפס מוינו על פי מידותיהן וצבעיהן לקראת השבתן האפשרית למקומן המקורי.
- 5. חיזוק הקצוות של ה- lacunae באמצעות חומר מליטה העשוי תערובת של סיד כבוש, חול ואבקת אבן.
  - 6. מילוי חללים קטנים בשטחי הפסיפס באמצעות אותו חומר מליטה (ראה סעיף 5).
    - 7. שחזור תשתית הפסיפס והחזרת של אבני הפסיפס (tesserae), שנותקו.
- 8. שחזור קטעי הפסיפס השונים של הרצפה הקדומה באמצעות אבני הפסיפס המקוריות. אבני פסיפס אלו הושתתו על תשתית חדשה, שהוכנה במקום שם התשתית המקורית הושחתה או שקעה.
- 9. הרמת שני קטעי פסיפס בעל דגמים הנדסיים (הרצפה העליונה, המאוחרת) בצד המערבי של אולם התווך. קטעי פסיפס אלה נוקו היטב והודבקו באמצעות רצועות של בד כותנה וגזה שהודבקו באמצעות PVA. בתום פעולה זו הועברו קטעי פסיפס אלה למעבדת השימור שבקיבוץ עין- גב להמשך הטיפול. בכוונת המשמרים להחזיר את קטעי הפסיפס עם סיום פעולות השימור למקומם המקורי.
- 10. עם סיום פעולות השימור באולם התווך, כוסה כל שטחו באמצעות יריעות של פוליאתילן וגיאוטקסטיל ובשכבות חול ואדמה בעובי שנע בין 10 לבין 15 סיימ.

חלק מפעולות השימור, שתוכננו להתבצע במרוצת העונה השביעית (יולי 2006) לא הושלמו בשל פרוץ המלחמה בגבול לבנון. יש בכוונתנו להשלים המלאכה במרוצת העונה השמינית (יולי 2007).

#### אווה ראדזיובסקה,

המוזיאון הלאומי, וורשה



## פעולות השימור שנערכו בכנסייה הצפון-מזרחית

אלה פעולות השימור העיקריות שנערכו במרוצת העונה השביעית בשטחי החפירה השונים:

- שימור רצפת הפסיפס באולם התווך של הכנסייה הצפון-מזרחית. עבודה זו בוצעה בפיקוחה של משמרת בכירה, גב׳ אווה ראדזיובסקה.
- שימור הפסיפסים והטייחים בחדרים אשר באגף הצפוני שבכנסייה הצפון-מערבית. פעולות אלה פערכו בפיקוחה של המשמרת, גבי יוליה בּורדיביץי.  $^{31}$
- המשך שימור הטייחים במקני הגת אשר מצפון למתחם ההלניסטי. עבודה זו בוצעה בידי מר קימי ממאן, משמך בכיר מטעם רשות הגנים הלאומיים (ראה בהמשך, הדו״ח של מר ק. ממאן).
- שימור ושיחזור מלא של הפוֹדיוּם הרומי, אשר ממזרח למתחם ההלניסטי (ראה בהמשך, הדו״ח של מר ק. ממאן).
- שימור וחיזוק הקטע המזרחי בקיר התוחם את המתחם ההלניסטי מדרום (ראה בהמשך,
   הדו"ח של מר ק. ממאן).

#### הכנסייה הצפון-מזרחית

בר במרוצת העונה החמישית (קיץ 2004) הבחינו החוקרים שלאולם התווך היו שתי רצפות פסיפס- האחת מעל רעותה. משתי הרצפות שרדו רק קטעים אחדים, כשהם מכוסים שכבות בוץ, אשר התקשה במשך מאות בשנים למעין חומר מליטה. אבני הפסיפס עצמן נמצאו מנותקות ומפוזרות. שורשי הצמחים, אשר חדרו אל מתחת לרצפות הפסיפס, ומחילות שחפרו חיות הבר רק החמירו את מצבן השימורי של שתי הרצפות. נזק נוסף נגרם על ידי רעידות האדמה ושקיעת הרצפות. על- אף כל אלה הקטעים שנותרו, בעיקר מהרצפה התחתונה (הקדומה), מעידים על רמת ביצוע טובה ואיכותית. במרוצת העונה השביעית התמקדו פעולות השימור לפסיפס באולם התווך בלבד. הדגש בטיפול בפסיפס, אשר באולם ניקוי, ייצוב ותיעוד. להלן הפעולות המעשיות בהן נקטו המשמרים בטיפול ברצפות הפסיפס, אשר באולם התווך:

- 1. הסרת שכבות העפר והציפויים בהם כוסה אולם התווך בתום העונה הקודמת.
- הסרת שכבת הבוץ והלכלוך שהצטבר בעובי 5 סיימ על פני רצפת הפסיפס. פעולה זו בוצעה באופן
   ידני. בתום פעולה זו כל קטעי הפסיפס נשטפו היטב.
  - 3. תיעוד מדוקדק של כל קטעי הפסיפס שנותרו באולם התווך.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> ראה בחלק האנגלי את דו"ח השימור, פרי עטה של גב' יוליה בורדיביץ', המצורף לדו"ח הכנסייה הצפון-מערבית.

של פסיפס זה היה מעוטר במדליונים עגולים, הסדורים בשורות אלה לצד אלה. דגם מרכזי זה היה תחום על ידי מסגרת מורכבת ועשירה, שכללה כמה וכמה רצועות של דגמים גיאומטריים ודגמים רצים אינסופיים (endless patterns) (ר' איור: 96). אלה האחרונים כללו את דגם השינות, דגם החבל ודגם הגל הרץ. מעבר למסגרת השטיח המרכזי עוטר הפסיפס בדגם מעוינים (רומבואידים), כשביניהם משולב דגם הסבסטיקה (swastika) (ר' איור: 97). עיטורים אלה, המקיפים את השטיח המרכזי, מזכירים במידה רבה את אלה אשר בסיטרה הדרומית בכנסייה של שבי-ציון. זו האחרונה תוארכה על-ידי אבי-יונה לראשית המאה החמישית לספירה.

מהמדליונים שבשטיח המרכזי נותרו קטעים אחדים בלבד. מתארו והיקפו של כל מדליון צוין על ידי שורה אחת של אבני פסיפס (tesserae) בצבעים שונים (שחור, כחול, לבן, ורוד ואדום) (ר' איור: 98). החללים שבין המדליונים עוטרו בדמויות ציפורים שונות (ר' איורים: 100-99). לא כול הציפורים ניתנות לזיהוי מדויק, אך מבין אלה שניתן לזהות מופיע ברווז. יהיה אשר יהיה זיהויים של יתר הציפורים, הן נראות דומות להפליא לאלה שברצפת הפסיפס בכנסייה קוריה מריה (Kyria Maria) אשר בבית- שאן.

בתוך שני המדליונים בצידו הדרומי של השטיח המרכזי ניתן לזהות דמויות חיות (ר' איור: 98). במערבי מבין השניים ניתן להבחין בדמות כפיר אריות, כשברקע ניצב עץ תמר בעל שלושה ענפים. במדליון המזרחי מבין השניים נראות רגלי חייה בעלת פרסות. ייתכן ומדובר בצבי. כאן נראה ברקע עץ תמר בעל חמישה ענפים. ניתן לשחזר כי בשטיח המרכזי היו 12 מדליונים וייתכן שיש לכך משמעות של מחזור השנה, כלומר 12 חודשים. ברצפת פסיפס התחתונה (F544) לא אותרו כתובות כלשהן, אך איכותו של פסיפס זה, מבחר הנושאים והדגמים, כמו כן דרך עריכתם, כל אלה מעידים שיש לתארך את רצפת הפסיפס להאית המאה החמישית לספירה.

#### שימור

כל המאמץ השימורי בעונה השביעית – יולי 2006, התמקד בעיצובן וניקוין של רצפות הפסיפס באולם התווך של הכנסייה הצפון מזרחית. עבודה זו בוצעה בפיקוחה של גב׳ א. ראדזיובסקה. לדאבוננו, פרוץ פעולות האיבה בגבול הלבנון הביאו לכך, שגב׳ א. ראדזיובסקה ורוב חברי צוות השימור שעבדו עימה, נאלצו לעזוב החפירה. לאור מצב עניינים זה עבודת השימור הופסקה ורצפת הפסיפס כוסתה בשכבות של יריעות פלסטיק ועפר דק. עם פתיחת עונת החפירות השמינית (יולי 2007) תימשך ותושלם מלאכת הייצוב והשימור של שתי רצפות הפסיפס.

#### מרק שולר

אוניברסיטת קונקורדיה, סנט פאול, מינסוטה

#### ו. הקבר הבנוי

במרוצת העבודה שנערכה בתוך הקבר ובסביבתו המיידית במרוצות העונות הקודמות, העלו החופרים המשערה שמתחת לארון הקבורה העשוי אבן גיר יימצאו שרידים של קבורה קדומה יותר (ר' איורים: 83, 94-91). בראשית העונה השביעית, הוצא הסרקוֹפגוֹס מתוך הקבר הבנוי וקרקעיתו של זה האחרון נחקרה באופן מדוקדק (ר' איור: 91). ואומנם, חקירת השרידים שנמצאו בקרקעית הקבר הבנוי שמתחת לארון הקבורה אישרו, שהייתה כאן קבורה בארון עץ, שחוזק על-ידי מסמרי ברזל רבים. אותרו כאן 26 מסמרים, וכמו כן, כמה וכמה קטעי לוחות עופרת, אשר היוו כנראה חיזוקים לפינות ארון העץ. זאת ועוד: נתגלו גם כמה לוחות דקים של עופרת, שהגדול בהם מידותיו היו: 0.20 x 0.08 מ'. בין שרידי הארון מעץ אותרו עשרות עצמות אדם, רובן שבורות. על פי הבדיקה הראשונית, ניתן לטעון שלפנינו עצמות אדם מבוגר וגם אדם צעיר. האדם המבוגר היה כנראה ממין זכר ואילו מינו של הצעיר לא ניתן לקביעה בשלב זה.

מן הראוי לציין, שארון הקבורה מאבן לא היה מונח ישירות על קרקעיתו של הקבר הבנוי, אלא הונח על כמה וכמה אבנים גדולות כדי שייווצר רווח בין חלקו התחתון של ארון הקבורה לבין קרקעית הקבר (ר' איורים: 94-92). מכאן, שאלה שהניחו את ארון הקבורה בקבר הבנוי היו מודעים לקיומה של קבורה קדומה יותר וביקשו לכבדה. על סמך יחסי הגומלין בין הקבר הבנוי לבין רצפות הכנסייה ניתן במידה רבה של וודאות להניח, שבדומה לקברה של הקדושה, גם הקבר הבנוי הוקם בטרם נבנתה הכנסייה. ומכאן, שהכנסייה הצפון-מזרחית הוקמה כדי לכלול בתוכה את שני הקברים גם יחד.

#### ז. הפסיפס שבאולם התווך

במרוצת העונה השביעית נמשכה מלאכת השימור של הפסיפס באולם התווך. העבודה, שבה הועסקו כמה וכמה סטודנטים ומתנדבים, בוצעה בפיקוחה של גב׳ אווה ראדזיובסקה (ראה כאן, דו״ח השימור בהמשך). מרצפת הפסיפס העליונה (F589) נותרו רק קטעים אחדים. אך ממה שנותר, ניכר לעין, שרצפה זו עוטרה בדגמים הנדסיים (גיאומטריים) בלבד. בקצה המזרחי של אולם התווך, ברצועה צרה שלאורך בסיסם של לוחות הסורג, המפרידים בין אולם התפילה לבין אזור הבמה, שרדו קטעים אחדים של דגם גיאומטרי (אבי יונה, דגמים F4 ו- F9). דגמים אלה בוצעו בצבעים לבן, כתום, צהוב ושחור. כמו כן, מופיע שם דגם של ״ריבוע בתוך ריבוע״, אשר אותר כבר בעונות הקודמות ברצפת הפסיפס שבסיטרה הצפונית. בקטעים, אשר נחשפו בחלק המערבי של אולם התווך, מרחק 8.80 מ׳ מערבית לקו לוחות הסורג, נתגלו דגמים גיאומטריים נוספים (אבי יונה, דגם I3). קטעים אחדים של רצפת פסיפס זו (F589) הוסרו במטרה לחשוף את רצפת הפסיפס התחתונה – F544. על-אף השתמרותה הגרועה של רצפת הפסיפס העליונה (F589), ניתן לתארכה, על סמך המקבילות מקורסי, לשלהי המאה השישית לספירה.

גם מהרצפה התחתונה (F544) נותרו קטעים לא רבים, אך ממה שנותר ניתן להסיק, שרצפה זו, בניגוד לזו העליונה, הייתה מעוטרת בדגמים מורכבים וצבעוניים יותר (ר' איורים: 84, 95, 95, 95, השטיח המרכזי

הקודמת (ר' איורים: 83, 88). רצפתו של אולם זה הייתה רצפת טיח מהודקת היטב. מהאולם הדרומי, שנחשף כאמור באופן חלקי בלבד, ניתן היה לעבוד לחדר נוסף, שנמצא בין קיר W1218 התוחם את האולם הדרומי במזרח לבין הקיר המערבי של הדיאקוֹניקוֹן (W559). רוחבו של החדר, אשר אף הוא נחשף רק בחלקו, הוא 1.50 מ' ואילו אורכו לא ניתן לקביעה עדיין (ר' איורים: 83, 88). בכוונת המשלחת האמריקאית להמשיך את חשיפתם של האולם הדרומי והחדרים הסמוכים לו, כדי לעמוד על מלוא היקף הבנייה באזור שמדרום לאולם התפילה.

#### ד. חדרים שממערב לסיטרה המזרחית (פורטיקו)

כבר בעונה השישית (יולי 2005) נחשפו שתי כניסות לחדרים, אשר הובילו מערבה לעבר חללים הבנויים ממערב לקו הסטילוֹבּט. הכניסה הדרומית מבין השתיים נפתחת לעבר הרחוב הדרומי והיא קרועה בקיר W552. אילו הכניסה הצפונית נפתחת לעבר רחבת האטריום והיא נמצאת בקצהו הצפוני של אותו הקיר W552. מידות החדר הדרומי מבין השניים הן: 5.20 x 3.20 מי. שני החדרים, זה הדרומי וזה הצפוני, תחומים מצד מערב על-ידי קיר משותף W591 (ר׳ איורים: 83, 83). בחדר הדרומי נחשפו שתי רצפות, זו העליונה (F568) עשויה טיח מהודק וכ- 0.20 מי מתחתיה הייתה רצפה נוספת מרוצפת אבן העור: (F571). גם החדר הצפוני, אשר הופרד מזה הדרומי על-ידי קיר W562, היה מרוצף באופן דומה (ר׳ איור: 89). במקביל לקירו המערבי של החדר הצפוני משתרע ספסל אבן מטויח היטב הדומה לספסלי אבן שנחשפו בכמה וכמה חדרים במכלול הכנסייה. עצם קיומו של ספסל דווקא בחדר זה, המצוי מול הכניסה היחידה אל אולם התפילה, כמעט על ציר אחד עם קבר האישה הקדושה, כל אלה מרמזים אולי כי תפקד בזיקה כלשהי לפולחן שנערך סביב קברה של הקדושה אשר בסרקופגוֹס. מכאן, שייתכן שהוא שימש למקום לתפילה (incubation) והתייחדות, בטרם הכניסה לאזור הקבורה עצמו.

קטעי קירות נוספים המשתרעים מצפון לקיר W574, התוחם את החדר הצפוני, מאשרים שהאזור שאמור היה לשמש כאטריום של הכנסייה היה בעיקרו בנויי. בכוונת המשלחת להמשיך בקיץ 2007 את חשיפת האזור המשתרע ממערב לסטילובט המזרחי (ר' איורים: 84-83).

#### ה. בור מים D

בור מים זה, המצוי בפינה הצפון מזרחית של אולם הדיאקוֹניקוֹן, נחקר ותועד במרוצת העונה השביעית (יולי 2006). הוא הקטן מבין ארבעה בורות המים, אשר אותרו עד כה במכלול הכנסייה הצפון- מזרחית (רי איורים: 83, 90). נראה, שהוא יכול היה להכיל 4.77 מייק. הבור נמצא מטויח היטב בשתי שכבות טיח. בשכבת הפסולת העליונה שנתגלתה בקרקעית הבור הועלה תכשיט זהב הדומה בעיצובו לזה שנחשף בכניסה לבור במרוצת העונה השישית (יולי 2005) (רי איור: 90). בקרקעית הבור אותרו גם כן עצמות רבות של חיות, כנראה של כלבים או תנים. מעט החרסים שנאספו במילוי הבור שייכים בבירור לשלהי התקופה האומאית.

מי. מקו הקיר W540 בולט כלפי צפון בסיס עמוד בזלת. בסיס זה אינו יושב על סטילוֹבּט אלא משמש כאבן בנייה בשימוש משני. בקיר זה נעשה שימוש גם בחוליות עמודים, אף הם בשימוש משני.

#### ב. הרחוב הדרומי (אחד מה- cardines)

במרוצת העונה השביעית נמשכה מלאכת החשיפה של הרחוב הדרומי, אשר הוביל בקו צפון דרום ממכלול הכנסייה לעבר הדקוּמנוּס מקסימוּס. בידי החופרים עלה לחשוף 5 מי נוספים לכיוון דרום ובעונת החפירות השמינית המשלחת האמריקאית מתכוונת להשלים את חשיפתו הכוללת של הרחוב (רי איורים: 85-83, 87). במסגרת חשיפתו של הדקומנוּס מקסימוּס אותר כבר מקום המפגש של הרחוב הדרומי עם הדקומנוּס מקסימוּס. רוחבו של הרחוב הדרומי בקטע שנחשף בקיץ 2006 נע בין 2.20 עד ל-2.40 מי ואילו אורכם נע בין מי והוא מרוצף בקפידה רבה על-ידי לוחות ריצוף שרוחבם נע בין 0.30 עד ל- 0.50 מי ואילו אורכם נע בין 0.60 עד ל-1 מי. עד כה מעט נחשף מחזיתות הקירות אשר תחמו את הרחוב ממזרח וממערב, אך ניכר לעין כי משני צידי הרחוב היו בנויים מבנים בבניית גזית איכותית למדיי.

#### ג. האולם הדרומי והחדרים הסמוכים לו

במרוצת העונה השביעית, התרכזו החופרים בחשיפתו של אזור המשתרע מדרום לקיר הדרומי של הכנסייה (W510) וממערב לקיר המערבי של הדיאקוניקון (W559) (ר' איורים: 84-83, 87). תחילה קירות (W592 - W1209, W1201) נחשפו באזור זה שלושה קירות שראשיהם בצבצו על פני השטח אלה, שאך מעט נותר מהם, היו בנויים אבני גוויל ברישול רב, ונראה כי יש לשייכם לשרידי בנייה מאוחרים שהוקמו באזור זה אחרי נטישתה של הכנסייה (רי איור: 83). שלושת הקירות הנייל הוסרו בראשית העונה. עם העמקת החפירה, נחשף כאו מכלול חדרים הבנוי בניית גזית ובניית גוויל מעורבת. במרכז משתרע אולם רחב ידיים, כשמצפונו שני חדרי מבוא וחדר נוסף במזרחו (ר $^{\prime}$  איורים: 83, 83). מכלול בנייה זה, שיתואר להלן, הוא בבירור בן זמנם של יתר מבניי בכנסייה. אל מכלול הבניה, שבמרכזו הייאולם הדרומייי, ניתן היה להיכנס מהרחוב הדרומי דרך חדר מבוא צר וארוך (2 x 5 מי) שציר האורך שלו מזרח מערב. חלל אורכי זה חולק באמצע על-ידי קיר (W1210), אשר חילק אותו לשני חללים הדומים בעיצובם ובמידותיהם. בכניסה אל החלל המערבי, זה הפונה לעבר הרחוב, היו שני אגנים המטויחים בטיח איכותי, ונראה שאלה היו אמורים לקלוט מי גשמים מגגות המבנים ולנקזם לעבר מערב לרחוב ( $^{
m C}$  מערכת ניקוז שעברה מתחת לרחוב הדרומי והובילה לעבר מאגר מים איורים: 83, 87). הקטע המערבי שבחדר המבוא היה מרוצף לוחות ריצוף (F1213). אלה האחרונים הונחו על גבי רצפה קדומה יותר, שהייתה מרוצפת אריחי חרס. אל החלק המזרחי של חדר המבוא ניתן היה לעבור דרך סף המפריד בין שני החללים (W1217). החלק המזרחי (מידותיו:  $6 \times 2.20$  מי) לא נחפר עדיין עד מפלס הרצפה. אל האולם הדרומי ניתן היה להיכנס דרך פתח הקרוע בקיר W1201 במקביל לקיר הדרומי (W510) של אולם הכנסייה. החדר הדרומי נחפר רק בחלקו, אך ניתן להניח שמידותיו היו 5.40 x 4.50 מי, ומכאן שהוא רק במעט קטן יותר מאולם הדיאקוניקון, שחשיפתו הושלמה בעונה

## הכנסייה הצפון- מזרחית (NEC)

מנהל שטח: מרק שולר

מרוצת העונה השביעית התמקדו החופרים בחשיפתם של האזורים הסמוכים למבנה הכנסייה עצמה מצידה הצפון מזרחי. כמו כן, הושלמה חקירתו של הקבר הבנוי וגם נמשכה מלאכת השימור של הפסיפס הקדום, אשר באולם התווך (F544). הדיווח שלפנינו יסכם את העבודה שנערכה בשטחים הבאים (ר׳ איורים: 83, 84):

- א. אזור הפתח הצפוני שבאטריום
- ב. הרחוב הדרומי (אחד מה- cardines)
- ג. האולם הדרומי והחדרים הסמוכים לו
- ד. חדרים שממערב לסיטרה (פורטיקו) המזרחי
  - ה. בור מים D
  - ו. הקבר הבנוי
  - ז. הפסיפס שבאולם התווך

#### א. אזור הפתח הצפוני שבאטריום

כבר בעונה החמישית (יולי 2004), נחשף פתח המצוי בקצהו הצפון מזרחי של אזור האטריום כשהוא תחום ממערבו על-ידי קיר (W540) וממזרח על-ידי קיר (W540) (רי איורים: 85-83). פתח זה אפשר כניסה מצפון היישר אל הרחבה הצרה והארוכה המשתרעת בין הקיר המערבי של הכנסייה (W511) לבין הסטילוֹבט המזרחי של האטריום, אשר ממערב לאולם התפילה. במרוצת העונה השביעית (יולי 2006) אזור הפתח נחפר בשלושה ריבועים (E1 ,E0 ו- D0). הפתח, 1.40 מי רוחבו, ניתן היה לסגרו על-ידי דלת דו-כנפית. הוכחה לכך הם שתי אבני הפותה שאותרו במקום. כמו כן, נחפר שטח, 1 מי רוחבו, מצפון לפתח אך לא אותרו כאן שום שרידי ריצוף שיעידו על קיומו של רחוב או רחבה באזור זה. באומנת הפתח המערבית אותר בסיס עמוד אחוז בחומה הביזנטית (W553). בסיס זה נמצא בקצהו הצפוני של הסטילובט המשתרע במקביל לקיר המערבי של הכנסייה (ר' איור: 83). מצפון לבסיס העמוד ובהמשך לסטילובט הבנוי באיכות בנייה טובה מאוד, משתרע כלפי צפון קיר הבנוי ברישול רב (W594). רק קטע קטן מקיר זה נחשף במרוצת העונה השביעית. אך ממה שנחפר ניכר היטב לעיו, שזהו קיר מאוחר, אשר המשיך את הקו של הסטילובט במפלס גבוה מזה האחרון. סביר יהיה להניח, שקיר זה בדומה לקירות מרוחקים דוגמת W543 או W541, שייך לשלב המאוחר ביותר בקיומה של הכנסייה. בתום העונה השביעית ניתן כבר לעמוד על מלוא אורכו של הסטילוֹבּט המשתרע במקביל לקיר המערבי של אולם התפילה. לפנינו קיר איתן הבנוי שורת אבני גזית מבזלת, אורכו 18 מי ורוחבו כ-1 מי. ניכר לעין שסטילוֹבט זה נבנה לפני הקמת הכנסייה ויש לשייכו כנראה לרחבה ציבורית כלשהי, אשר השתרעה באזור זה טרם הקמת הכנסייה (רי איורים: 83-84, 86). היום נותרו על גבי הסטילובט שישה בסיסי עמודים וסביר להניח שבמקורו, הסטילובט נשא שמונה עמודים המרוחקים זה מזה מרחק קבוע של 1.96 בקצהו המערבי של קיר W557, בסמוך למפגשו עם הקיר המערבי של האטריוּם W799, נתגלה פתח, רוחבו 1 מי, כשהוא חסום. סביר להניח, שעצם הימצאותו של הפתח החסום מעידה על כך, שהכניסה המקורית אל המרתף הייתה מצפון (ר' איור: 80).

בוני האטריום, כך נראה, ניצלו את הפרשי הגבהים בין המפלס של חצר המתחם הקדום, לבין מפלס החיים שמדרום לקיר המתחם (W157). הפרשי הגבהים בין שני אלה אפשרו את הקמתו של המרתף בחלקה המזרחי של הסיטרה הצפונית. הואיל ומלאכת החשיפה של אזור האטריום לא נסתיימה עדיין, מוקדם יהיה לקבוע את הכרונולוגיה היחסית של המרכיבים השונים במכלול מורכב זה. יש לקוות שהשלמת חשיפתו של האטריום בעונה הבאה (יולי 2007), תאפשר לקבוע מסגרת כרונולוגית כוללת למכלול האטריום.

#### ד. האגף הצפוני המקורי שמצפון לאולם התפילה

במרוצת העונה השישית (יולי 2006) נמשכה הבדיקה באזור הגת, אשר נחשפה ברובה בעונה החמישית, כלומר ביולי 2005. החוקרים בקשו לבדוק את הלוקוס L783, הלא הוא הצפוני מבין שני משטחי אחסון הממוקמים ממערב ובסמוך למשטח הדריכה של הגת (L775) (ר' איור: 66). תוך כדי עבודות הביצור של הר סוסיתא, שבוצעו בידי צה"ל בראשית שנות ה- 50 של המאה הכ', נכרתה כאן תעלת קשר (L796), אשר הרסה אזור נרחב באמצע הצפוני (L783) מבין שני משטחי האחסון של הגת (ר' איורים: 66, 18). תעלת הקשר חדרה בזמנו עמוק אל מתחת לרצפת הטייח של משטח האחסון. החופרים המשכו של פסיפס, בתחתית תעלת הקשר ובעומק של כ- 0.40 מ' מתחת לרצפת המשטח המטויח נחשף המשכו של פסיפס, אשר נחשף בעונות הקודמות בלוקוס L785 ובלוקוס L780, אשר ממערב לשני משטחי האחסון (ר' איור: מסיפס זה.

כדי לברר את היקפה המקורי של רצפת הפסיפס הוחלט להרים כמה וכמה לוחות אבן בזלת, אשר ריצפו את משטח הדריכה של הגת (L775). עם הסרת לוחות הריצוף, נתברר עד מהרה, שאלה הונחו ישירות על רצפת הפסיפס, כשרק שכבה דקה למדי (0.15 מי בממוצע) של חומר מליטה סידני מפרידה בין הפסיפס (F785) לבין לוחות הריצוף (רי איור: 82). עם הנחת הבסיס (L548) עבור מתקן העיגון לבורג שבמרכז משטח הדריכה, נהרס הפסיפס באזור זה.

הבדיקות שנערכו באזור הגת והחדרים הסמוכים במרוצת העונה השישית (יולי 2006), אפשרו לשחזר את מתארו ואת מידותיו של האגף הצפוני המקורי של הכנסייה, טרם הקמת הגת. נראה שהיה כאן חלל מלבני, שמידותיו מצפון לדרום היו: 4.65 מי ואילו ממזרח למערב: 6.65 מי. חלל זה רוצף פסיפס פשוט אך נאה ואיכותי בעל דגמים הנדסיים (גיאומטריים) ב-3 צבעים: לבן, אפור ושחור. אין לדעת למה בדיוק שימש האגף הצפוני המקורי. חופרי הכנסייה הצפון-מערבית מניחים, שאין זה בלתי נמנע, שהאגף הצפוני המקורי שימש כבפטיסטריון (baptisterion).

יולנטה מלינרצ'יק מריוש בורדיביץ'

האקדמיה הפולנית למדעים, וורשה האקדמיה הפוזיאון הלאומי, וורשה

החפירה מצפון ובמקביל לחזיתו של קיר W551, הבהירה שקיר זה תחם מצד דרום חלל מלבני, מעין מרתף (L552) (רי איורים: 74, 78, 80). מידותיו של המרתף: 8.50 מי אורך, 1.60 מי רוחב ו-1.80 מי עומק. בין אבני הנדבך העליון בקירו הצפוני של המרתף אותרו שלושה מתמכים אופקיים (corbels), אשר בלטו מחזית הקיר כלפי דרום. מתמכים אלה היו סדורים במרחקים אחידים, של כ- 1.30 מי, וניכר לעין שהם היו אמורים לשאת קורות אבן לקירוי (רי איור: 80).

המילוי בחלקו המערבי של המרתף, זה הקרוב לקיר המערבי של האטריום (W799), הכיל פריטים ארכיטקטוניים רבים, כולל חוליות עמודים (ר' איור: 75). הדבר מעיד, שאזור זה בניגוד למחציתו המזרחית של המרתף הושאר בלתי מקורה, וסביר להניח, ששימש כניסה. הואיל ובסמוך לקיר W799, אשר תחם, כאמור, המרתף ממערב, לא נתגלו שרידים כלשהם של גרם המדרגות, סביר יהיה להניח שאל המרתף ניתן היה לרדת באמצעות הסולם בלבד. באזור זה של המרתף, מתחת לאחת מחוליות העמודים שנחשפה במקום, נמצאה גולגולת אדם. ייתכן ולפנינו עדות לרעידת האדמה הקטלנית של שנת 749 לספירה. יש לציין שזו עדות ראשונה מסוגה, שנתגלתה עד כה בסוסיתא. אין לדעת מה קרה ליתר חלקי הגופה שנמעכה תחת חוליות העמודים, כאשר עמודי האטריום קרסו באותה רעידת האדמה.

במילוי המרתף, בעיקר בחלקיו המערבי והמרכזי, הועלו שברים רבים של כלי אגירה למיניהם. מכאן ניתן להסיק, שאזור זה שימש כמחסן, מקום בו נשמרו כדי היין, אשר הוחזקו כאן, בקרבה היתרה לגת הממוקמת באגף שמצפון לאולם התפילה. המילוי בחלק המזרחי היה שונה לחלוטין, לעומת זה שבחלקים המרכזי והמערבי. רובו היה אדמה מהודקת, עם מעט אבני גוויל, אך ללא ממצאים. בקצהו המזרחי של המרתף נתגלה פתח ( גובהו : 1.50 מ יורוחבו : 0.55 מי), אשר היה קרוע בקיר הקדום (W157) של המתחם ההלניסטי-רומי. נזכיר, שעל גבי קיר זה הוקם הקיר האומאי W547, אשר תחם ממזרח את הקטע המזרחי של הסיטרה הצפונית, שהייתה מרוצפת לוחות בזלת (רי איורים : 7.787). הפתח הקפונית בקיר הקדום (W157) מוביל לעבר חלל תת-קרקעי, אשר משתרע מתחת לריצוף של הסיטרה הצפונית. רק מעט מחלל זה נחפר (E553), וחשיפתו תימשך בעונה הבאה, בקיץ 2007. ממה שנחשף נראה בבירור, שחלל תת קרקעי זה קורה בלוחות בזלת, והכניסה אליו, כך נראה, נחסמה במתכוון באמצעות חוליית עמוד. רצפת המרתף (F558) בחלקה המערבי הייתה עשויה אדמה מהודקת המעורבת בסיד, ואילו בקטע במרחק של 4.50 מי מהקיר (W557), עתגלו ברצפה חלוקי נחל רבים. בסמוך לקיר הדרומי של המרתף (W557), אשר תוחם המרתף ממערב, נתגלה פי בור מים (C559), אשר היה מוגן על ידי שלושה לוחות אבן, הסדורים כמלבן, מצפון, ממערב וממזרח. הקיר הדרומי של המרתף (W551), תחם את פי הבור מדרום (ר׳ איורים : 7-79).

אל מול פי בור המים, נמצא מתקן (L563) בנוי ובו אגן מטויח, הנשען אל קירו הצפוני של המרתף (W557). בסמוך למתקן זה, ממזרח לו, נתגלתה תעלה (L562) צרה ומטויחת (רוחבה הפנימי: 0.10 מי ועומקה: 0.09 מי בלבד), שנכרתה ברצפת המרתף (F558). תעלה זו הובילה ממערב למזרח, כלומר מכיוון בור המים לעבר החלל התת- קרקעי (ר' איור: 79).

הקיר הצפוני של האטריום אינו עשוי מקשה אחד, אלא קטעים אחדים, אשר אינם יוצרים קו ישר ורציף אחד (r אחד (r איורים: 62, 64). כך למשל, קטע הקיר שממזרח לפתח מורכב משני קירות המקבילים זה לזה: הקטע הדרומי (W795), עוביו כ- 0.80 מ׳, והקטע הצפוני (W544), שעוביו כ- 0.90 מ׳.

לעומת זאת, הקטע שממערב לפתח (W795), הינו רגיל, ועוביו כ- 0.80 מי. אין לדעת מה הייתה הסיבה לעיבוי זה בקטע הקיר שממזרח לפתח (רי איור: 64). ייתכן, והיה כאן גרם מדרגות שהוביל לקומה בי במבנה אשר הוקם בסמוך ומצפון לאולם התפילה.

מתחת לקיר הצפוני של האטריום (W795), מרחק 3.70 מי ממערב לפתח, נחשף פי בור מים נוסף (L546). ניכר לעין, שבור מים זה נחצב טרם הקמתו של הקיר הצפוני. מכאן, שהוא קדום להקמת האטריום (ר׳ איור: 64). הקמתו של הקיר הצפוני מנעה את המשך השימוש בבור לאגירת המים, אך הימצאותה של תעלה פתוחה שהובילה מאזור האטריום לעבר פי הבור מאשרת, שעם הקמת האטריום הבור תיפקד כבור ניקוז. הבור נבדק על ידי דר׳ צביקה צוק ונמצא דומה במידה רבה ליתר בורות המים, אשר נתגלו הן בכנסייה הצפון-מערבית, והן בכנסייה הצפון-מזרחית. לבור היה מתאר דמוי פעמון. לדעת דר׳ צוק הבור היה יכול להכיל כ-13 מ״ק מים. לפי הבור קוטר של 0.60 מ׳ ואורך צוואר הבור כ- 2.80 מ׳. עומק הבור, מהקצה התחתון של צוואר הבור עד לקרקעיתו היה כ- 3 מ׳. קוטר הבור במקומו הרחב ביותר היה כ-4 מ׳. בור זה היה חצוב בסלע בזלת ודפנותיו צופו שתי שכבות טייח בלתי חדיר למים. לזו החיצונית גוון וורדרד ואילו זו התחתונה הייתה בצבע אפור. לדעת דר׳ צוק הטייח שבבור המים אינו מאוחר למאה הב׳ לספירה.

מרחק של כ-1 מי ממערב לפי בור המים הוקם קיר (W547) הניצב לקיר הצפוני של האטריום. קיר זה מחבר בין הסטילוֹבּט הצפוני של האטריוּם לבין הקיר הצפוני (ר׳ איורים: 64, 72). קיר זה תוחם ממערב את הקטע היחיד בשטח הסיטרה הצפונית של האטריום, שהיה מרוצף לוחות אבן.

#### ג. המרתף אשר בסיטרה הצפונית

עוד בטרם הוחל בחשיפתו של הקטע המערבי בסיטרה הצפונית של האטריוּם, ניכר היה לעין, שקטע זה נשתמר במידה פחותה. עם ראשית החפירה באזור זה החופרים הופתעו לגלות שחסרה כאן הרצפה (ר׳ איורים: 64, 75). החופרים המשיכו לחפור באזור זה כדי לעלות על מפלס רצפה כלשהי, ורק לאחר שהעמיקו 0.45 מי עלה בידם לאתר רצפה (W556) שהייתה עשויה אדמה מהודקת, המעורבת באבני גוויל קטנות. נחשף כאן משטח צר (כ- 1 מי) וארוך, שהשתרע בין הסטילוֹבט בדרום לבין קיר W551 בצפון. זה האחרון (רוחבו 0.50 מי בלבד), מהלכו מזרח-מערב והוא מחבר בין הקיר המערבי של האטריוּם (W799) לבין קיר W547 במזרח (ר׳ איורים: 64, 74). המשטח היה מרוצף אבני בזלת קטנות וחלוקי נחל. במילוי של המשטח, מתחת לריצוף נתגלו כמה וכמה מטבעות אומאיים (ראה הדיווח על הממצא הנומיסמטי בחלק האנגלי של דוי׳ח זה). כמו כן, נתגלו חפצי ברונזה שבורים, סיכות העשויות מעצם ושלושה בקבוקונים מזכוכית.

המשתרע מקיר W479 וצפונה, רוצפו פסיפס לבן, ואילו יתר השטח של הסיטרה רוצף לוחות בזלת מלבניים (רי איור: 8).

#### ב. הסיטרה הצפונית של האטריום

באזור זה של האטריום היו צפויות לחופרי הכנסייה הצפון-מערבית כמה וכמה הפתעות. בפינה הצפון-מזרחית של האטריום, בדיוק מול הפתח החסום, אשר הוביל מן האטריום אל הסיטרה הצפונית של אולם התפילה, נחשף בור מים (L798) (ר' איור: 70). הפסיפס באזור זה של הסיטרה המזרחית (F297) הוסר לחלוטין, ולא נותר ממנו זכר. נראה שסביר יהיה לטעון, שבור מים זה נחצב בשלב מאוחר בקיומה של הכנסייה, אי שם, במאה הז' לספירה. עם חציבת בור המים, נחסם, כאמור, הפתח אשר הוביל אל הסיטרה הצפונית של אולם התפילה. נראה, שעם השלמת חציבתו של בור המים, הונחה כאן רצפה, שהייתה עשויה לוחות ריצוף (F797), אשר הונחו ברישול רב. לבור המים חתך דמוי פעמון (ר' איור: 64). לפי הבור מתאר עגול, וקוטרו 7.05 מ'. חלקו העליון של בור המים נחצב כצוואר הבקבוק, שאורכו כ-2 מ', שמתרחב כלפי מטה ויוצר המתאר האופייני דמוי הפעמון. קוטרו המרבי בחלקו התחתון מגיע לכדי מ', שמתרחב כלפי מטה ויוצר המתאר האופיני דמוי הפעמון. קוטרו המרבי בחלקו התחתון מגיע לכדי המדויק של בור המים. נכון להיום, המרחק ממפלס פי הבור ועד למפלס המפולות הוא 5.30 מ'. קירות בור המים צופו שכבה עבה של טיח בגון לבן-אפור.

בשטח המצומצם שנותר בין פי בור המים (L798) ובין הפינה שם נפגשים הקיר המערבי של אוּלם התפילה (W792) והקיר הצפוני של האטריוּם (W795), נחשפה רצפה (F555) העשויה אדמה מהודקת מעורבת חלוקי נחל ואבני בזלת קטנות (ר' איורים: 64, 70). נראה, שרצפה זו קדומה לשני הקירות של הכנסייה וגם לזמן חציבתו של בור המים. ייתכן, ויש לתארך הרצפה לפרק הזמן שבין הריסתו של המקדש הרומי ובין הקמת הכנסייה.

בשלב המקורי, הקדום של הכנסייה הצפון-מערבית, היה קיים פתח בחלקו המזרחי של הקיר הצפוני של האטריום (W795) (רי איורים: 62, 64). פתח זה, רוחבו: 1.10 מי, אפשר מעבר נוח בין הסיטרה המזרחית של האטריום לבין השטח שמצפון לכנסייה, שם, בשלב מאוחר יותר בקיומה של הכנסייה, הוקמה הגת (רי איורים: ). פתח זה נסתם עם חציבתו של בור המים (L798).

בקיר הצפוני של האטריוּם (W795) היה קיים פתח נוסף, הממוקם ממערב לפתח שתואר לעיל. רוחבו של פתח זה היה 1 מי. פתח זה בנוי היטב ולו סף העשוי אבני בזלת (ר' איור: 64). מפלסו של הסף היה גבוה במעט לעומת מפלס הסיטרה הצפונית. זו האחרונה. בקטע שמול הפתח, הייתה מרוצפת לוחות בזלת (F545). ריצוף זה תחום בדרומו על ידי הסטילוֹבט. העדר בסיסי העמודים על גבי הסטילוֹבט מעיד על כך, שבשלב המאוחר בקיומה של הכנסייה הצפון-מערבית, קטע זה בסיטרה הצפונית של האטריום היה בלתי מקורה.

## הכנסייה הצפון- מערבית (NWC)

(מנהלי שטח: דר' אדם לאיטר וגב' אמיליה יאסשבסקה)

#### הקדמה

יקר המאמץ של החופרים במרוצת העונה השביעית הופנה להשלמת חשיפתם של שתי הסיטראות אשר באטריום, זו הצפונית וזו המערבית. חקירתו של האטריום כולו, הייתה אמורה להסתיים בקיץ 2006, אך פרוץ המלחמה בצפון, שבעקבותיה כמחצית מחברי המשלחת הפולנית עזבו החפירה, שבשה התכניות. מכאן, שחשיפתו הסופית של אזור האטריום תושלם רק בעונה השמינית, כלומר בקיץ 2007.

תאור החפירה שלהלן כולל ארבעה שטחי החפירה, כדלקמן:

- א. הסיטרה המערבית של האטריום
- ב. הסיטרה המזרחית של האטריום
  - ג. המרתף אשר בסיטרה הצפונית
- ד. האגף הצפוני המקורי שמצפון לאולם התפילה

לדו״ח המשלחת הפולנית מצורף דו״ח השימור של הכנסייה הצפון-מערבית, המפרט את פעולות השימור שנערכו בכנסייה במרוצת העונה השביעית (ראה החלק האנגלי בדו״ח זה).

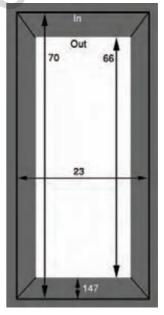
#### א. הסיטרה המערבית של האטריום

הסיטרה המערבית, רוחבה 3.50 מי, הייתה מרוצפת לוחות בזלת, אשר הונחו בקפידה רבה. אל הסיטרה המערבית ניתן היה להיכנס דרך פתח הקרוע במרכז הקיר המערבי של האטריום (W799), בדיוק על ציר האמצע של האטריום ואולם התפילה. מפתח זה נותרה באתרה חלקה התחתון של המזוזה הדרומית (רי איורים: 26, 67).

הפינה הדרום מערבית של האטריוּם הייתה מרוצפת פסיפס לבן (ר' איורים: 63, 68). אבני הפסיפס הגדולות למדי הונחו באופן מרושל. קטע זה של האטריום נחשף בחלקו כבר במרוצת העונה השלישית (יולי 2002). הפסיפס באזור זה של האטריוּם היה מכוסה שכבת סיד לבן, שהיה קשה מאד להסירו. ניראה, שאזור זה, בדומה לאזורים נוספים של האטריוּם, שימש לצרכי תעשיות ביתיות, כאשר האטריוּם, לא תיפקד כבר בייעודו המקורי אלא היה למתחם תעשייתי. בסמוך לפינה הדרום-מערבית של האטריוּם, בחלקו הדרומי של הקיר W799 נחשפה חולית עמוד בזלת, המושתתת על גבי בסיס , אף הוא מבזלת. הואיל והבסיס לא היה ממוקם על הסטילוֹבט, ניתן להניח שהוא הועבר ממקומו המקורי ושימש כחלק במתקן כלשהו, הקשור לפעילות משקית-חקלאית שהתנהלה באזור האטריוּם בשלב המאוחר בקיומו, טרם רעידת האדמה של שנת 749 לספירה. רק 3.40 מי בדרומה של הסיטרה המערבית, כלומר באזור

בצידה הפנימי של החומה, אל מול החרך המזרחי, נפתח ריבוע חפירה במידות של 5 X 2.50 מ׳, שהורחב מאוחר יותר לכדי 10 X 5 מ׳ במטרה לתחום גם את שטח החרך המערבי (ר׳ איורים: 60-59). מטרת החפירה כאן הייתה לעמוד על תוכנית הביצור בקטע זה של החומה ולבדוק האם אכן לפנינו חרכי ירי.

לאחר חפירה בשכבות מילוי המכילות אבני גוויל רבות הגענו אל שכבות החיים של החומה והחדרים הצמודים לה. הפן הפנימי של החומה הדרומית (W195) נחשף כאן לגובה של חמישה נדבכים (1.70 מי). החומה בנויה בעיקר בבניית גזית כאשר בין כל נדבך מפרידה שכבת אבני גוויל קטנות שנועדה לפלס בין נדבכי האבן הבלתי אחידים (ר' איורים: 60-59). בסמוך לחתך המזרחי נחשפה תעלה מטויחת התחומה על-ידי שני קירות דקים (W851 ו- W852) שמהלכם הכללי צפון-דרום (ר' איור: 61). את התעלה יש לתארך כמאוחרת ביותר בין שלבי הבנייה שנחשפו כאן. התעלה מתחילה מהלכה בשכבה העליונה וחודרת השכבות תחתיה ונעה לכיוון החומה הדרומית, אלא שאין היא מגיעה אליה ומהלכה נפסק 0.30 מ' מהחומה. החרך המזרחי נחשף במלואו, ואילו זה המערבי נחשף בחלקו, אך נראה כי מידותיהם דומות (ר' איור: 60). להלן מידות החרך המזרחי (בסיימ):



מתחת לחרך נמצאת אבן בזלת גדולה שחלקה העליון שטוח ומותאם לשמש כריצוף או כעמדה לחייל היורה מבעד לחרך. בניסוי שערכנו, נוכחנו, כי אדם הכורע על רגלו האחת ונשען לירי בקשת על גבי השנייה, יכול בנוחות לירות מבעד לחרך (ר' איור: 60). יחד עם זאת, ליורה לא הייתה תצפית ישירה אל האיום תחתיו במדרון והירי חייב היה להיות עקיף. אל אבן גדולה זו מתחת לחרך נצמד קיר, שמהלכו הכללי צפון-דרום וראשיתו בחתך הצפוני (ר' איור: 61). הקיר בנוי מאבני בזלת בינוניות עד גדולות ברישול, ללא כל חומר מלכד. אל קיר זה ניגש ריצוף (F854) הבנוי מלוחות אבן בזלת לא מעובדים, שחלקם העליון חלק. הלוחות הותאמו האחד לשני ויצרו משטח אחיד (ר' איור: 60). הריצוף משתרע מקיר W851 עד לחתך

המערבי של הריבוע. מתחת לריצוף ובקצהו המזרחי, נחשף תנור חומר בעל מתאר עגול (L857). התנור שרד רק בחלקיו התחתונים אך מתארו שלם, קוטרו 0.90 מי ורוחב הדפנות 5 סיימ (רי איורים: 61-60). שכבות האפר הבלתי מופרע שנתגלו בו (L856). תשתיתו של התנור בנויה מאבני גוויל ושברי לבני חומר, שהונחו ללא כל סידור מובחן. צמוד לתנור נתגלה כלי חרס שבור שרוב חלקיו אותרו והוא רופא. לקראת תום העונה הוחלט להרחיב השטח מערבה בכדי לחשוף גם את החרך המערבי, אך לא עלה בידנו לסיים המשימה בשל קוצר הזמן.

## מיכאל איזנברג

המכון לארכיאולוגיה ע"ש זינמן, אוניברסיטת חיפה

הפתח שרדו אבן הפותה, ששקעי הצירים בה מלמדים אותנו על שימוש בדלת דו כנפית, ושרידי בסיס המזוזות. הנכנס בפתח אינו מגיע אל מפלס רצפת המגדל, כי אם אל התעבות בקיר. רצפת החדר שנחשפה כאן נמוכה כדי 1.20 מ' ממפלס הכניסה. לאחר בחינה יסודית של החדר וקירותיו, נדמה לנו, כי יש להציע הפתרון הבא. מפלס הריצוף שנחפר מהווה את רצפת קומת הקרקע. מן הכניסה ירדו אל קומת הקרקע באמצעות שתיים-שלוש מדרגות שהיו ממוקמות בפינתו הצפון-מערבית של החדר. ממדרגות אלה שרדה כותרת ביזנטית בשימוש משני (ר' איורים: 53, 55). הפונה מן הכניסה ימינה עלה על כבש (F869), שנבנה על חלקו המזרחי של קיר W199, החוצץ בין שני חלקי המגדל. מכבש זה, אשר הוביל אל הקיר הדרומי חיצוני של המגדל שרדו שתי אבני בזלת. כאן, עלה במדרגות אל קומתו השנייה של המגדל ו/או ניצב אל מול חלון תצפית וירי. על גבי הכבש ניתן היה להניע מכונות שיגור קטנות.

ניתן לתארך את המגדל לתקופה הביזנטית על סמך הבנייה המשנית שבו, בה משולבים פריטים ארכיטקטוניים ביזנטיים וכן על סמך הקראמיקה שנתגלתה בו (ראה דו״ח קראמי). ייתכן שרק החדר המזרחי הרבוע, בעל הקירות המעובים והבולט יותר מקו החומה, שימש כמגדל ואילו החדר המערבי הצמוד לו היה בעל אופי לא ביצורי.

מצפון למגדל, נחשף ריצוף אבן נאה (F295), הניגש כמעט לקיר W288, כאשר מרווח של כ- 20 סיימ מפריד ביניהם, ומכאן שהריצוף כנראה קדום לקיר. הריצוף נחשף לרוחב של 1.50  $\alpha$ י ולאורך של 5.60  $\alpha$ י ולאורך של 5.60  $\alpha$ י ולאורף שהריצוף כנראה קדום לקיר. הריצוף עשוי לוחות אבן בזלת מלבניים (מידות (F406). טרם חשפנו את קצהו הצפוני. הריצוף עשוי לוחות אבן בזלת מלבניים (F406). ממוצעות: 30 x 50 סיימ), הדומים לאלה המרצפים הקרדו המוליך אל הכנסייה הצפון-מערבית לא נתגלו כל סימני סתתים על גבי לוחות הריצוף. בשלב זה לא ידוע האם מדובר ברחבה הניגשת אל המגדל או שמא לפנינו חלק מרחוב החומה. בעונות הבאות יש בכוונתנו לפתוח שטחים נוספים מצפון לחומה בכדי לתת לכך מענה.

מתחת לקירות המגדל נחשפו מספר קטעי קירות של מבנה, כנראה מגדל קדום יותר, המושתת על סלע הבזלת (רי איורים: 55-54, 57). קירות אלה אינם חופפים במהלכם את קירות המגדל המאוחר. קיר W863 אותר בחלקו המזרחי של החדר המערבי. מהלכו הכללי צפון-דרום ושרדו רק יסודותיו הבנויים אבני גוויל הנתונים בתלכיד טיט. רוחב הקיר 0.75 מי והוא נחשף לאורך 2.35 מי. בחדר המזרחי נחשף הקיר המזרחי של המבנה הקדום (W865). מקיר זה שרדו שני נדבכים והוא בנוי בניית גזית בזלת איתנה. הקיר יוצר פינה עם שרידיו של קיר W864, שמהלכו לכיוון מערב ויוצר פינה עם קיר 3.45 מי.

#### האזור המזרחי – החרכים

כפי שהוזכר לעיל, בחלקה החיצוני של החומה אותרו שני חרכים מלבניים צרים. החרכים נמצאים בקטע שמור היטב של חומת העיר, שהשתמר עד כדי עשרה נדבכים לגובה, בחלקה הדרום-מזרחי של העיר ( $\Gamma$  איור: 58). החרכים מרוחקים האחד מן השני 5.60 מי ומפלסם בחומה זהה, כ $\Gamma$  מי מעל למפלס סלע הבזלת (מידותיהם החיצוניות: גובה – 0.20 מי ורוחב -  $\Gamma$  מי).

הדרומית (קירות: W1050, W1034, W1015). תפקודה של הנסגה הרחבה עדיין אינו נהיר ואין זה ברורמית (קירות: הביצור החוזרת לאורך כל חומותיה של סוסיתא בתקופה הרומית.

מתחת לקירות החומה שנחשפו אותרו מספר קירות קדומים לעיקר הביצור הרומי, אולם בשלב זה לא עלה בידנו לתארך הקירות (זולת לקיר W1051 המתוארך למאה האי - ראשית המאה הבי לספירה) ולהבין את תוכנית הביצור הקדומה יותר.

## הקטע המזרחי (SWL-II)

## מנהל שטח: מר רן ויזן 29

.SWL-I ני אזורי חפירה נפתחו כאן בצמוד לתוואי החומה הדרומית, כ- 50 מי מזרחית לשטח האזור המערבי יותר, נפתח במקום בו זוהה מגדל עוד טרם החפירה, והשני, 19 מי מזרחית לו, במקום בו אותרו בעבר בחומה שני חרכי ירי (רי איור: 3). $^{30}$ 

#### האזור המערבי - המגדל

עוד טרם החפירה ניתן היה להבחין כאן במספר קירות הבולטים מקו החומה, ששיערנו שהינם חלק ממגדל. על גבי קירות אלה נבנתה עמדה צהיילית, שחלשה על המדרונות הדרומיים. עם פירוק העמדה נחשפו שרידי המגדל הקדום.

המגדל מלבני, מידותיו החיצוניות: 5.28 x 12.80 מי והוא חולק לשני חדרים (רי איורים: 55-53). המגדל מושתת על סלע הבולט מעט מקו המצוקים עליהם הושתתה חומת העיר הדרומית (W288). זו האחרונה מושתת על סלע הבולט מעט מקו המצוקים עליהם הושתתה חומת העיר הדרומי של המגדל ואילו קירו מהווה את קירו הצפוני של המגדל. קיר W195 מהווה את הקיר החיצוני דרומי של המגדל רחב המחלק המערבי הוא W862. קירו המזרחי של המגדל הוא קיר שניקר בבניית גוויל וחומר לכידה עם שילוב אבני את שטח המגדל לשני חדרים. קירות המגדל בנויים בעיקר בבניית גוויל על גבי הסלע. מצע זה בולט פנימה מן גזית בשימוש משני. הקירות הושתתו על מצע דק של אבני גוויל על גבי הסלע. מצע זה בולט פנימה מן הקירות ויוצר מעין ספסל (W863, W867) (רי איורים: 57-53).

אל החדר המערבי נכנסו מהמשטח המרוצף F295 באמצעות פתח הקרוע בקיר W288 (איורים: 56-54). מן הפתח שרדו אבן הפותה ומזוזה אחת מכל צד. מידותיו הפנימיים של החדר:  $2.80 \times 5.33 \times 5.33$  מי. אל החדר מידות הפנימיות:  $3.25 \times 3.25 \times 3.25 \times 3.25$  מן

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> בשבוע השלישי לחפירה נקרא רן ויזן לשירות מילואים וגבריאל הלון, החליפו כמנהל השטח עד תום החפירה. זו הזדמנות נאותה להודות לו על מאמציו.

שם, שני חרכים מלבניים צרים בצידה החיצוני של חומת העיר הדרומית אותרו במהלך סקר חומות העיר בשנת 2003. ראה שם, איזנברג 2003: עמ' 51, איורים: 51, 52. כבר כאן הוצע, כי המדובר בחרכי ירי, אולם ללא חפירת צידה הפנימי של החומה וחשיפת החרכים לא ניתן היה לאושש או להפריך הנחה זו.

עצמה מדרום. שמונה מנדבכיו של קיר W1034 שרדו (גובהו 2.95 מי), כאשר הוא מושתת על סלע הבזלת , סלע הבזלת, מעל הקיר, מעל הקיר, מעל הבזלת, (L1074) (L1074). סנטימטרים ספורים מעל לנדבך היסוד של הקיר, מעל סלע הבזלת, נחשפו שרידיה של רצפת טיח (F1071). קיר W1080 מאוחר לו ונצמד אליו ממערב. צמוד ומדרום לקיר W1034 נתגלה תחילתו של קמרון שטוח (W1077), הנישא על גבי קיר W1050 מצידו המערבי. קצהו המזרחי של הקמרון לא נחשף ואזור זה גם לא נחפר (ר' איורים: 48-47, 51). קטע קצר מקיר נוסף (W10801) נחשף באופן חלקי מתחת לקיר המאוחר W1080. נראה כי הקיר שימש כקיר תמך לקיר המערבי של הקמרון (W1050). בצמוד לקיר W1050 הנושא את הקמרון ולכיוון החומה הדרומית נפתחה חפירת בדיקה. נתברר, כי פתח הקמרון (4.17 מי רוחבו) נצמד אל חומת העיר הדרומית. כאן, ניתן להבחין בהצרת פתח הקמרון. בתקופה הביזנטית בוטל, ככל הנראה, הפתח לחלוטין (ר' איורים: 50-49). בהנחה, כי המרחק מן הפינה המערבית של הפתח אל הקיר הנושא המערבי, זהה למרחק בין זו של הפינה המזרחי שנחשפה לקיר הנושא המזרחי, הרי שעלה בידנו לקבוע מפתח הקמרון והוא - 6.05 מ׳ (ר׳ איור: 151). אבני הקמרון מעובדות היטב וגודלן הממוצע הוא $0.35 \pm 0.43$  מי. מעל לשרידי הקמרון ומעל לקיר הנושא המערבי (W1050) נחשף מילוי אבני גוויל וגזית הנתונים בחומר מליטה. חלקו העליון של מילוי זה הינו יציקה אחידה ומפולסת של חומר מליטה קשה בגון אפור (רי איור: 47). בעונת החפירות הקודמת, זו של יולי 2005, שערנו כי המדובר בשלב מאוחר ביזנטי בן תקופת בית המרחץ הצמוד לחומה, אולם כעת אנו סבורים כי המדובר ביציקה בת זמנו של הקמרון. זו שימשה כמשטח לבניית חלקיה העליונים של חומת העיר ואולי אף להצבת מכונות שיגור מעל לגלריה שיצר הקמרון (ר' איור: 52). שרידים נוספים סמוכים של מפלסי יציקה זהים, מעלים האפשרות כי לפנינו מערך שלם של קמרונות המהווים את הגלריה לקומה בי של הביצור.

החלל הנוצר בקמרונות יכול היה לשמש למספר מטרות, ביניהן, למאגרי תחמושת, ציוד או אף למכונת השיגור עצמה. וכך, לא מן הנמנע, כי החלל שקורה בידי הקמרון שימש כעמדה למכונות שיגור כבדות שהגנו על הדרך העולה אל השער המזרחי. במידה ואפשרות זו נכונה, הרי היו מספר פתחי שיגור בחומת העיר שאפשרו למכונה אחת גדולה או למספר מכונות בינוניות לירות אל עבר התוקפים. טווחן של מכונות השיגור (קטפולטות ובליסטראות) היה לפחות 250 מי ומכאן שטווחן יעיל לחלקים נרחבים מן הדרך המעפילה מזרחה.

#### סיכום

עיקר השרידים שנחשפו העונה בקטע זה של חומת העיר הדרומית, מדרום לפורום, מתוארכים לתקופה הרומית. המדובר בקטע אחיד באורך של כ-45 מי, המבוסס על תשתית של תלכיד טיט ואבני גוויל שהושתתו על פני מסלע הבזלת הגלי, שיצרה משטח מפולס על גביו הונחו היסודות. כיסודות שימשו קורות בזלת באורך של 1.80 מי על גביהן הושתתה החומה בבניית גזית בבזלת ברוחב של 1.55 מי. לקטע חומה זה, ניגשים בזוית ישרה מספר קירות. שלושה מתוכם יוצרים מעין נַסָגה הניגשת אל החומה

<sup>28</sup> לחיבור מפורט על אודות התפתחות מכונות השיגור ותכונותיהן ראה:

E. W. Marsden, Greek and Roman artillery: technical treatises, Oxford 1999.

ממזרח לקיר W1015 ובצמוד לחומת העיר נפתחה חפירת בדיקה במידות של W1040 (כיוונו "1.00 מי. כאן, 0.60 מי מצפון ובמקביל לקיר החומה הדרומית (W1018), נחשף קיר W1047 (כיוונו "1.00). הקיר נחשף לגובה של 0.40 מי ולאורך של 4.50 מי. בשל מגבלות הזמן לא נחפר הקיר ליסודותיו ולא עלה בידנו לתארכו. יחד עם זאת, תעלת היסוד של קיר W1044 (W1044) חותכת הקיר ומכאן שקיר זה מאוחר יותר (ר' איורים: 34, 44). בנייתו של קיר W1047 שונה אף היא מיתר הקירות שנחשפו כאן. הקיר בנוי בבניית גזית משובחת בבזלת במקצב שני ראשים ופתין לסירוגין, כאשר פאתם החיצונית של הנדבכים מסותתת ככר רדוד (ר' איור: 34). ממזרח ובסמוך לקיר W1047, בקצה חפירת הבדיקה, נחשף קיר לקיר W1041 שמהלכו הכללי צפון-דרום ("19). מקיר זה נחשפו שלוש אבני בנייה לאורך בלבד. קיר זה קדום לקיר חומת העיר הדרומית ונדמה כי הוא מאוחר לקיר W1047. במפלס הנדבך העליון של קיר W1041 עתגלתה תופעה חריגה. כאן, לכיוון מזרח, נחשפו שבע אבני גזית מבזלת (F1043), כאשר צידן החיצוני, המסותת, מופנה כלפי מטה ואילו פאתן הבלתי מעובדת פונה מעלה. תופעה זו אחידה לגבי כל אבני הבנייה כאן, כך שנוצר משטח לא מפולס שסיבתו כלל אינה נהירה.

ממערב וצמוד לקירו המערבי של המגדל, W1059, נחשף קיר W1063. הקיר בנוי בניית גזית בבזלת, ומהלכו הכללי צפון-דרום ( $^{9}$ 1). הקיר נחשף לגובה של נדבך בודד-  $^{0.50}$ 0 מי ולאורך של  $^{1.90}$ 0. הקיר יוצר זווית ישרה עם החומה הדרומית ( $^{1.90}$ 0), אולם טיח לבנה ( $^{1.90}$ 1063) ממערב לו ניגשת אליו. הקיר יוצר זווית ישרה עם החומה הדרומית ( $^{1.90}$ 1063) קדום אינו משיק או משתלב בה. מרווח בן סנטימטרים ספורים מפריד בין השניים ונדמה, כי  $^{1.90}$ 1063 קדום לקיר החומה.

#### קטע וו

קטע II הינו קטע בנייה שנחשף לאורך של כ-7 מי ולרוחב של כ-1.30 מי, מצפון לקטע I (רי איור: M1068). החפירה כאן התמקדה בחישוף פני השטח וראשי הקירות ולא הועמקה. נחשף כאן קיר W1068, שהוא המשכו של קיר W1044 וקיר W1034 היוצר עימו פינה ומהלכו הכללי מזרח-מערב. הקיר בנוי בניית גזית בבזלת במקצב של ראש-פתין או שני ראשים ופתין לסירוגין. המשכו המזרחי של קיר W1034 נחשף עד ליסודותיו בקטע III המתואר להלן. על גבי ראש הקיר נחשפו שרידיו של מבנה הבנוי אבן גיר מקומית. שרידי בנייה אלה הושתתו על תשתית דקה ואחידה של אבני גוויל. כאמור, בוצעה כאן רק חשיפה של פני השטח, אך כבר עתה ניתן להבחין בפתח (ברוחב של שלושה מי) ובקיר החזית הדרומי של מבנה באורך של כ-7.25 מי. הפתח פונה לדרום ומצפון לו נחשף חלקית ריצוף העשוי חלוקי אבן בגדלים שונים.

#### קטע III

קטע זה נמצא כ – 8.50 מי מזרחית לקטע II. רוחבו המרבי של הקטע (מזרח-מערב) הוא כ- 6 מי ואורכו המרבי (צפון-דרום) הוא כ- 7.50 מי (איור: 47). בחלקה הצפוני של החפירה נחשף המשכו של קיר W1034 מקטע II, המהווה חלק ממערך הביצור של החומה הדרומית וקירות המגדל של קטע I. מטרת החפירה כאן הייתה לחשוף קיר W1034 עד ליסודותיו ולתארכו וכן לבצע חפירת בדיקה עד לחומת העיר

הבזלת שרדו בקטע זה לגובה מרבי של כמעט ארבעה מי (מבלי לכלול את גובה תשתית תלכיד הטיט) (רי איורים: 33, 39). רוחב החומה הוא 1.87 מי בבסיסה, מקום בו הונחו קורות הבזלת, ואילו חלקיה העליונים ברוחב של 1.55 מי.

בחלקו המערבי של הקטע הנחפר נחשף מגדל איתן המשולב בחומת העיר (r איורים: r3, 88, r4-40). קירו המערבי של המגדל – W1059 (הפן המזרחי של הקיר כונה W1052 בשל עוביו החריג של הקיר והחשש כי אולי מדובר בתוספת), השתמרותו היא הגבוהה מבין קירות המגדל (גובהו 2.90 מי). הקיר המזרחי – W1015 שרד לגובה של 2.60 מי ואילו הקיר הדרומי – W1018, המהווה חלק מן החומה, שרד לגובה של 2.70 מי (כל הגבהים הם מגובה יסודות הבזלת ולא מתשתית הטיט). במרכזו של קטע הקיר הדרומי נחשף פתח מלבני ברוחב של 0.60 מי וגובהו 0.80 מי. הקיר הצפוני של המגדל לא נחשף. קירות המגדל בנויים כך שפניהם בבניית גזית בבזלת ואילו הליבה הינה מילוי של אבני גוויל הנתונות בתלכיד טיט (רי איורים: 38, 40). הקירות המערבי והמזרחי בנויים היטב וזולת שימוש מועט בבנייה משנית באבני גזית בבזלת, נראה כי הם משלב בנייה אחד. לעומתם, הקיר הדרומי של המגדל עבר שינויים רבים. קיר זה בנוי במספר שיטות בנייה. במהלך שלבי הבנייה השונים נסתם החלק המרכזי של הקיר מעל לפתח. אבן בעלת סיתות שוליים בשימוש משני ואבני גזית נוספות לא אחידות בגודלן שולבו כאן בבנייה. אין זה מן הנמנע, כי קטע זה פשוט קרס ונבנה מחדש. במרכזו של הקיר הצפוני אותר כאמור פתח. הפתח נמצא בתחתית הקיר כאשר רצפתו היא החלק העליון של תשתית הטיט ואילו חלקו העליון קוּרה במשקוף. אורכו של המשקוף הפונה לתוך המגדל: 1.60 מי ושל המשקוף הפונה החוצה: 0.60 מי (ר' איור: 38). הפתח תוכנן בשלב הראשון של החומה, שכן הוא מבוסס על החלל שנוצר מהחסרתם של מספר קורות בזלת מן היסודות (עומקו של הפתח כעומק קורת בזלת – 1.80 מ׳). ייעודו של הפתח אינו ודאי. ייתכן ושימש כניקוז למי הנגר לקטע זה של החומה והמגדל וייתכן כי שימש כפתח משני או נסתר (פשפש), שכן מעבר אדם בהחלט אפשרי דרכו (ר׳ איורים: 43-42). חיזוק לטענה האחרונה ניתן לקבל משרידי קירות על מצוק מדרום ומחוץ לחומה בקטע זה. הפתח מצוי בדיוק במרכזו של מערך קירות ששרד בצורה גרועה למדי על המצוק מחוץ לפתח (מדרום). מערך קירות זה יכול היה לשמש כחומה או עמדה קדמית, שנועדה לצמצם את שטחי התצפית המתים ולשפר את התגובה בירי לכיוון המדרון.

בתחתיתו של המגדל שנחפר ו- 0.60 מי מצפון לקיר W1018 וממש מול לפשפש נחשף קטע קצר של קיר נוסף. קיר זה (W1051) שנחשף לאורך של כ-2 מי, שרד לגובה של שני נדבכים מעל ליסודותיו (גובהו 1.15 מי). הקיר בנוי בבניית גזית בבזלת ואבניו עובדו בגסות (ייתכן ויש לתלות זאת בעובדה כי המדובר בנדבך היסוד ובזה שמעליו בלבד). נדבך היסוד סדור בבניית ראשים ואילו זה שמעליו במקצב ראש-פתין לסירוגין. קיר W1051 קדום לקירות המגדל ובכלל זה גם לקיר החומה הדרומית והינו חלק מביצור קדום יותר. תשתיתו של הקיר, מהלכו (מזרח-מערב, 284°) וכך גם אופן בנייתו שונים מקירות המגדל (ר' איורים: 35-34, 43-42). בוני המגדל היו מודעים לקיומו של הקיר ולא פרקו אותו, אך לא הצלחנו להבין לאיזו תכלית החליטו להותירו במקומו. קיר זה גם אינו זהה בבנייתו ובכיוונו לקירות קדומים יותר שנחשפו 4.70 מי מזרחית לו ויידונו להלן. הקרמיקה המועטה, שהועלתה מתשתית הקיר (L1067).

העיר מדרום בזכות השתמרותו הטובה. הקטע בנוי בניית בזלת בלבד, כאשר מחלקו המערבי החיצון, נשטף חומר התשתית הקדום וקורות הבזלת נותרו אחוזות על קצותיהן הפנימיים בלבד. פינה נוספת נהרסה מזרחית, במרכזו של הקטע. אין לדעת מה גרם להרס שתי פינות מקטע הביצור. קריסתה של זו המערבית גרמה לסחף ולהרס התשתית עליה הונח מסד החומה (ר' איורים: 33, 39).

בתום העונה הקודמת, ביולי 2005, עם חשיפתו של קלדריום ביזנטי הנסמך לחומה, בצמוד לחומה הדרומית נפער בור. בפתחו של הבור, כ- 30 סיימ רוחבו וכמטר אחד עומקו, מתחת לתשתית הקשה של חומר הלכידה עליו הושתת ההיפוקאוסט, תלינו את תקוותינו באשר לאיתור שרידים קדומים יותר של החומה. העונה חשפנו כאן קטע רציף באורך של כ-21 מי מראש החומה. אולם החפירה לא הורחבה צפונה לאורך כל הקטע, כי אם בקטעים נבחרים ממנו בלבד.

קטע רציף באורך של כ- 21 מי וברוחב משתנה של 7.5-3.4 מי נפתח בצמוד לחומה הדרומית וכהמשך לחפירה מהעונה הקודמת (יכונה להלן קטע I). קטע ביצור נוסף באורך של כ-7 מי נחשף 15 מי מצפון לחומה וצפונית לקטע I (יכונה להלן קטע I). הקטע השלישי, שישה מי אורכו ו-7.50 מי רוחבו, נחשף בסמוך לחומה וממזרח לקטע I (יכונה להלן קטע I) (רי איורים: 1, 3). להלן תיאור שלושת הקטעים:

#### קטע ו

זהו קטע החפירה העיקרי וכהמשך ישיר לחפירת ההיפוקאוסט של בית המרחץ הביזנטי מהעונה הקודמת. כאן הוסרה התשתית הקשה שעליה בוססה רצפת הקלדריום (L1029). נתברר, כי תשתית טיט זו נשפכה על שרידי הביצור הקדומים, ביטלה אותם לחלוטין ויצרה משטח מפולס הניגש לחומה, עליו ניתן היה לבנות הקלדריום ואת יתר חדרי מכלול בית המרחץ. הקטע שנחפר כאן הינו באורך של כ-21 מי וברוחב משתנה של 5.50-2.40 מי מקו החומה וצפונה.

להפתעתנו הרבה נחשף כאן מערך ביצור שמור היטב המתנשא לגובה של עד 2.90 מ' (ר' איורים: 33-32). נתברר, כי חומת העיר בקטע ישר זה הינה מן התקופה הרומית. כל קטע החומה הנדון (W1018) מושתת על סלע הבזלת. הסלע יושר רק לעיתים רחוקות ורובו ככולו גלי. תשתית של טיט, עפר ואבני גוויל הונחה על הסלע, יוצרת משטח מפולס עליו הונח יסוד הקיר. יסודותיו של הקיר הינם קורות בזלת באורך של 1.80 מ' וברוחב של 0.50 מ' כל אחת. הקורות הונחו על גבי התשתית בבניית ראשים צמודה ללא כל חומר מלכד. רק הפנים הצרים של האבן, אלה הבולטים החוצה ופנימה, סותתו. קטע זה של החומה נסקר ואורכו הכללי הוא כ - 45 מ'. על גבי יסוד זה הונחו נדבכי החומה. כל אבני הבנייה הינן אבני גזית מבזלת. חלקן הקטן כבר בשימוש משני, ויש לפנינו מספר אבנים המעוטרות בסיתות שוליים עדין, דוגמת זה הנפוץ במאה הא' לספירה וכדוגמתו חשפנו באומנת השער המזרחי של העיר. במיתות עדין, דוגמת זה הנפוץ במאה הא' לספירה וכדוגמתו חשפנו באומנת השער המזרחי של העיר. במיתות עדין, דוגמת זה הנפוץ במאה הא' לספירה וכדוגמתו חשפנו באומנת השער המזרחי של העיר. במיתות עדין, דוגמת זה הנפוץ במאה הא' לספירה וכדוגמתו חשפנו באומנת השער המזרחי של העיר.

<sup>.</sup> בעיצומה. שכזו נמצאת שימור שימור דחופות. הכנתה של הביצור, יש לבצע פעולות שימור דחופות. הכנתה של הביצור, יש לבצע המולות שימור דחופות. הכנתה של הביצור, יש לבצע המולות שימור המולות המו

<sup>-27</sup> ראה: מ. איזנברג, *מערכת הביצורים בסוסיתא לאור ביצורי הערים במזרח הרומי בתקופה ההלניסטית-רומית*, (עבודת גמר ל-27 ראה: מ. איזנברסיטת חיפה, חיפה 2003, עמ' 67-66, איור: 29.

## חומת העיר הדרומית (SWL)

## הקטע המערבי (SWL-I)

מנהלת שטח: גב׳ רנין נופי

חפירתו של שטח זה, המצוי כ – 55 מי מדרום לפורום ובצמוד לחומת העיר הדרומית, הוחל כבר בעונה הקודמת ביולי 22.2005 מקום זה נבחר לחפירה הואיל וסברנו שכאן עשוי להימצא כבש ארטילריה, שעל גביו הוצבו מכונות השיגור הכבדות של מגני העיר (ר' איורים: 3-1).<sup>23</sup> כמו כן בקשנו ללמוד על אופן בנייתה ותיארוכה של החומה בקטע אשר אומנם נסקר בזמנו, אך טרם נחפר. להלן יצוינו המשתנים אשר הביאו אותנו להחלטה להתמקד בחפירתו של קטע זה דווקא בחומה:

- ניתוח תצלומי אוויר ישנים כחדשים עיון בתצלום אוויר משנת 1945 של חיל האוויר המלכותי הבריטי ותצלומי אוויר חדשים בנוסף לטיסות סקר של חברי המשלחת, לימדו אותנו על אזור מפולס וריק יחסית משרידי בנייה בחלק זה של העיר (ר' איור: 3).
- ניתוח טופוגרפי עיון במפות טופוגרפיות וההיכרות האינטימית עם השטח העלו, כי האזור היחיד בו היה מסוגל האויב לקדם מכונות שיגור כבדות, בהתמודדו עם הואדיות המקיפים את ההר, הוא על בסיס נחל סוסיתא (ואדי ג׳מוסיה), החותר מדרום להר.
- הדרך הקדומה הערכתנו היא, כי הדרך הקדומה לשערה הראשי של סוסיתא במזרח וכך גם לכיוון ערי סוריה, חלפה בסמיכות ומדרום למצוק הדרומי. 24 היה זה אך טבעי להעביר במקום את עיקר הצבא ומכונות המלחמה של האויב בואכה אל האוכף ושערה הראשי של סוסיתא.

הקטע הדרומי של חומת העיר טרם נחפר וזאת בניגוד לחומה הצפונית, אשר שם, בסמיכות לכנסייה הקטע הדרומי של חומת העיר טרם נחפר 20 מטרים. ביקשנו לבדוק את שרידי החומה באזור זה וללמוד האם ניתן לזהות ביצור מן התקופות ההלניסטית והרומית מתחת לשרידי הבנייה הביזנטיים והאומאיים, שהובחנו במהלך הסקר. הקטע מחומת העיר הדרומית שנבחר, ניכר היטב למביט על חומות

A. Segal et al., *Hippos –Sussita Sixth Season of Excavations (July 2005)*, Haifa 2005, p. 13-14.

<sup>23</sup> לדיון על אודות מערכת הביצורים של סוסיתא וקטע הביצור הנדון, ראה: מ. איזנברג, מערכת הביצורים בסוסיתא לאור לאור ביצורי הערים במזרח הרומי בתקופה ההלניסטית-רומית, (עבודת גמר ל- MA), אוניברסיטת חיפה, חיפה 2003, עמ' 54 – 63, איורים: 55-53, 64-60.

וכן: מ. איזנברג, *סוסיתא, עונת החפירות הראשונה בתוואי הצפוני של חומת העיר*, המכון לארכיאולוגיה ע"ש זינמן, חיפה 2001. חקר מערכת הביצורים בסוסיתא נערכת במסגרת עבודת דוקטוראט בכתיבתו של מ. איזנברג המתמקדת במערכות ביצורים קדומות.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> בנוסף לעדויות שבע"פ באשר לאבני מיל מדרום להר, חלקן נושאות כיתוב, הרי עוד ניתן להבחין בשלוש אבני מיל שלא באתרן על האוכף מדרום-מזרח להר.

<sup>.2001</sup> ראה הערה 22 לעיל, איזנברג <sup>25</sup>

#### ריבוע 3

ריבוע זה, ממוקם, כאמור, מדרום ובסמוך לריבוע 2, כשמחיצת אדמה בת 1 מי מפרידה בין שני הריבועים (ר' איורים: 28, 29). עם התקדמות החפירה בריבוע זה, הוסרה המחיצה ולקראת ימיה האחרונים של העונה השביעית אוחדו שני הריבועים לכדי מלבן אחד גדול (5 x 11 מי). בחלקו הדרומי של ריבוע זה, עוד בטרם החפירה, בצבץ על פני השטח ראש קיר הבנוי ברישול רב, אבני גזית ואבני גוויל גם יחד. ראש קיר זה, שכיוונו מזרח מערב, סומן תחילה כ- W1190, אך עם התקדמות החפירה, כשהתברר מעל לכל ספק שקיר זה אינו אלא המשכו של קיר W156, התוחם את המתחם ההלניסטי מדרומו, החלטנו לחזור ולקרוא לקיר זה W156. החפירה בריבוע זה התמקדה בחשיפה של קיר W156 משני צדדיו, הצפוני והדרומי גם יחד. בסך הכול, עלה בידינו לחשוף חמישה נדבכים מהקיר (ר' איור: 29). הנדבכים העליונים היו בנויים בניית גזית מעולה של אבני גיר, ואילו נדבכיו התחתונים נבנו בניית גזית משובחת באבני בזלת, בדומה לקטעים של קיר W156 שנחשפו בעונות הקודמות, בקטעים שבהמשך וממזרח לקיר ההלניסטי. אחת ההפתעות שציפתה לנו בימי החפירה האחרונים היה הגילוי, שקיר W156 מסתיים בחלקו המזרחי של הריבוע, אך אינו יוצר פינה. מכאן, שאין זה ייתכן שלפנינו הפינה הדרום מזרחית של המתחם, אלא, מרווח בתוך הקיר, אשר ייתכן ושימש כניסה אל המתחם על ציר צפון דרום. טוב במיוחד נשתמר צידו הצפוני של W156. לפנינו בניית גזית מגיר, כאשר הנדבכים סדורים לסירוגין, נדבך ראשים ונדבך פתינים. פחות טוב נשתמר הפן הדרומי, החיצוני של W156. כאן נחשפו שני הנדבכים העליונים של החלק התחתון של הקיר, הבנויים אבני בזלת חלקות (opus quadratum), כשהן מסותתות באופן קפדני ביותר.

## ארתור סג"ל ומיכאל איזנברג

המכון לארכיאולוגיה ע"ש זינמן, אוניברסיטת חיפה



M.L. Fischer, Das korintische Kapitell im Altem Israel in der hellenistischen und römischen כמו כן, ראה:
Periode, Mainz am Rhein 1990, M.Fischer, The Development of the Corinthian Capital in Palestine from its Beginning until the Constantinian Period, Tel-Aviv 1979 (unpublished Ph.D. thesis).

 $^{20}$ וחוליות חצי עגולות, יצרו ביחד אומנה המזכירה מאד במתארה את עמודי לב בבית-שאן (ר' איור: 21). ההשערות שהועלו כאן אינן אלא רעיונות ראשוניים ונותרה לפנינו עוד עבודה רבה של ניתוח טיפולוגי בטרם יעלה בידינו להציע פתרון משכנע באשר למהותו ואופן עיצובו של המבנה שהמסד (הפודיום) שנחשף היה חלק ממנו.

#### שימור ושחזור הפודיום

תוך כדי חשיפתו של הפוֹדיוּם, נתברר שחלקו הדרומי שרד בשלמותו, ואילו חלקו הצפוני נמצא הרוס, כשאבני הבנייה מפוזרים בין עיי המפולת בקרבתו המיידית. עם השלמת חשיפתו של המבנה, עלה בידינו להחזיר למקומן את כל אבני הבנייה ולשחזר את מבנה הפוֹדיוּם למצבו המקורי. עבודת שיקום ושחזור זו התבצעה תוך ימים ספורים, כשעל מלאכת השיקום והשחזור מנצח מר קימי ממאן, משמר בכיר מטעם רשות הטבע והגנים, כשסטודנטים ומתנדבים מסייעים בידו (רי איור: 19).

בשלב זה של חפירה, מצוי הפודיום במרכזו של ריבוע 2, כאשר הוא מנותק מסביבתו הקרובה, ורק המשך החפירה, בעיקר כלפי מערב וצפון, יבהיר אם אמנם לפנינו אחד משני מסדים של מבנה דמוי שער דקורטיבי, או אחד מארבעה מסדים הסדורים בתוכנית של ריבוע. יהיה אשר יהיה מהותו של המבנה אשר ניצב כאן בזמנו, עצם מיקומו של מסד זה בקרבה יתרה לקיר הדרומי של המתחם ההלניסטי אשר ניצב כאן בזמנו, עצם מיקומו של מסד זה בקרבה יתרה לשיר בין המתחם ההלניסטי במערב לבין מכלול הכנסייה הצפון מזרחית במזרח, לא יכול היה לשמש הצטלבות רחובות, או כיכר עירונית רחבת ידיים, שם נהגו להקים, כאמור, מבנים כגון אלה. ניתוח ולו שטחי של הפריטים הארכיטקטוניים, אשר נתגלו בקרבת המסד, מאפשר לקבוע שהם שייכים, כנראה כולם, לאותו מבנה מונומנטלי, יהיה זה קואדריפרונס, טֶטֶרֶקיוֹניוֹן, שער דֶקוֹרַטיבי או קטע פינתי בחצר מוקפת סטווים (ר׳ איורים: 22, 23). מדובר בפריטים ארכיטקטוניים הכוללים בעיקר חוליות של אומנה מלבנית, שרק אחד מצדדיה הצרים מעוגל. בין פריטים אלה נתגלו גם בסיסים אחדים וגם כותרות אוֹמנה, והם מאשרים, שמדובר באומנה שניצבה חופשית ולא אומנה אחוזה בקיר של מבנה כלשהו. מכאן, שעל גבי המסד שנחשף, ניצבה אומנה גבוהה ורבת רושם, אשר הוכתרה בכותרת קורינתית מרשימה. "ב

Ch. Deplace et J. Denzer-Feydy, *L'Agora de Palmyre*, Bordeaux-Beyrouth 2005, p. 23- הקיץ בסוסיתא, ראה 116, figs. 32, 123-124, 131-133.

ם. שם, שה, שה אטרש, אלו, נתגלו כאמור, גם בבית-שאן, באומנה פינתית שבקאיסראום, ראה: ו. אטרש, שם, שם  $^{20}$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> כותרת אומנה אשר נגלתה בקרבת המסד עשויה משני חלקים. בחלק התחתון, הגבוה במעט, לעומת זה העליון, מפוסלים שתי שורות על האקנתוס (*ima folia & secunda folia*), ואילו בחלק העליון מפוסלים שלושת עיטורי ה- *calyx*, הוולוטוֹת (volute), הלוחית (*abacus*), ולבסוף פרח האבקוס (*fleuron*). הכותרת מצטיינת בעיבודה המשובח, על- אף העובדה שהיא עשויה אבן בזלת. מעניין להשוות בינה לבין כותרת אומנה הדומה לה מאד בעיצובה ובמידותיה, אשר נתגלתה בין הפריטים הארכיטקטוניים השייכים לקשת הדריינוּס באפסוֹס, ראה: .36-29-36. H. Thür, op. cit., plates 15-17, figs. 29-36.

במאות הב' והג' לספירה. <sup>14</sup> הם מוקמו לרוב בכניסה למתחמים ציבוריים רבי רושם, כשמטרתם לבשר להולכים ושבים, שהנה הם קרבים לעבור מרחוב או רחבה, לעבר מתחם כלשהו. שער דקורטיבי מעין זה, אשר הוקם בימי שלטונו של קיסר הדריינוּס (117- 138 לספירה) שרד בשלמתו באתונה. <sup>15</sup> שער הדומה מאד לזה שבאתונה נחשף באֶפֶסוֹס בלב לבה של העיר, בקרבת ספריית קֶלְסוּס (Celsus). השתמרותו של שער זה, אשר אף הוא הוקם בימי קיסר הדריינוּס (138-117 לספירה), פחותה בהרבה בהשוואה לשער הדריינוּס באתונה, אך בימים אלה הוא נמצא בתהליך של שימור ושחזור. <sup>16</sup> מבין שני שערים דֶקוֹרטיביים אלה, זה שבאתונה קרוב יותר בעיצובו למבנה שבסוסיתא, שהרי עיקרו שתי אומנות מחוברות בקשת, ואילו השער באפסוֹס עשוי שני מסדים נמוכים, הנושאים כל אחד שתי אומנות מלבניות צרות.

פרופי יורם צפריר בביקורו בסוסיתא ב-26 ביולי גילה עניין רב בפוֹדיוּם ובפריטים הארכיטקטוניים המרשימים שנתגלו בקרבתו. תוך כדי הסיור בשטח הוא העלה האפשרות, שהמסד שלנו אינו אלא קטע ממערך הסטווים, אשר הקיפו רחבה ציבורית כלשהי. מתארם ודרך עיצובם של הפריטים הארכיטקטוניים, אשר נתגלו בקרבת המסד המונומנטלי מעידים, לטענתו, שלפנינו אומנה פינתית, כלומר מקום מפגשם של שני סטווים (קוֹלוֹנדוֹת), ומכאן שהאמנות הפינתיות, צפוי שתהנה המעוצבות כייעמודי לביי. <sup>17</sup> טענתו זו של פרופי צפריר התבססה, כאמור, על הדמיון בין מה שהועלה בסוסיתא לבין ממצאים דומים, אשר נחשפו בחפירות בית- שאן. לדעת פרופי צפריר, יש קוויי דמיון של ממש בין דרך עיצובם ופרטיהם העיטוריים של הסטווים, אשר הקיפו את הרחבה הציבורית הגדולה, הקאיסראום (Caesaereum), שבצפונה של בית-שאן, לבין המסד והפריטים הארכיטקטוניים שנתגלו בסוסיתא. <sup>18</sup> בקרבת המסד בסוסיתא לא הועלו אמנם עמודי לב, דוגמת אלה בבית- שאן, אך במקום אותרו חוליות של אומנות מלבניות שצידן האחד היה חצי עגול וגם מצאנו חוליות של חצאי עמודים שהיו במקורן, כך של אומנות אל האומנות המלבניות. <sup>19</sup> ייתכן, אם כן, שהאומנות המלבניות בעלות צד אחד חצי עגול נראה, מחוברות אל האומנות המלבניות. <sup>19</sup> ייתכן, אם כן, שהאומנות המלבניות בעלות צד אחד חצי עגול נראה, מחוברות אל האומנות המלבניות.

\_

A. Segal, op. cit., p. 83-140, W. MacDonald, The Architecture of the Roman Empire: An Urban <sup>14</sup> G. Mazor, Free Standing City Gates in the Eastern במו כן, ראה: Appraisal, New Haven 1986, p.75-86. Provinces during the Roman Imperial Period, Ramat-Gan 2004 (unpublished Ph.D. thesis).

J. Travlos, Pictorial Dictionary of Ancient Athens, London 1971, p. 253, figs. 325-329. 15

<sup>.(4-1</sup> במיוחד הלוחות: 1-98). H. Thür, Das Hadrianstor in Ephesos, Wien 1989.

J. McKenzie, op. cit., p. 183, 188, diagram 11. על עמודי הלב ראה: 17

<sup>18</sup> ו. אטרש, *מבני הבידור במרכזה הציבורי של ניסה-סקיתופוליס (בית-שאן) בתקופות הרומית והביזאנטית* (חיבור לשם קבלת תואר 18 דוקטור), אוניברסיטת חיפה 2006, איורים: 269, 393.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> מעניין בהקשר זה להשוות בין האומנות המלבניות המעוגלות באחד מהצדדים הצרים שמצאנו בסוסיתא, לבין האומנות המלבניות משער הדריינוּס באֶפסוֹס. אלו האחרונות על-אף שהן מלבניות, צידן הצר האחד חצי עגול במתארו, כמו בסוסיתא ואילו הצד הצר השני עוצב כשני שליש עמוד אחוז, ראה: .H. Thür, op. cit., plate 7, figs. 19-22. באגורה של פלמירה (Palmyra) שרדה למלוא גובהה אומנה מלבנית, שאחד מצדדיה הצרים מעוגל. האומנה הושתתה על בסיס איוני-אטי והוכתרה בכותרת קורינתית (ר' כאן, איור: 24 והשווה גם לאיור: 20). אומנה זו הייתה אחת משתי אומנות, אשר ציינו המעבר מהאגורה אל ה"אולם הנספח". שתי האומנות (השנייה לא שרדה) שולבו בקולונדה, אשר הקיפה את שטח האגורה שהיה תחום על-ידי ארבעה קירות איתנים. עיצובה ומידותיה של האומנה, כמו כן, דרך בנייתה, כל אלה דומים ביותר לאומנה אשר פריטיה נחשפו

ריבוע, כשהם יוצרים דו שיח מרחבי ביניהם. כלומר, מה שנחשף כאן אינו מבנה בודד הניצב בזכות עצמו, אלא אחד מתוך שניים, וסביר יותר להניח ארבעה מסדים, הסדורים בתוכנית של ריבוע, כשמרחק של מטרים ספורים מפריד בין אחד למשנהו. <sup>11</sup> מבנים כגון אלה המכונים טטרקיוניה (tetrakionia) מוכרים לנו היטב בנופי הערים במזרח הרומי במאות בי ו-גי לספירה (רי איורים : 26, 27).  $^{12}$  טטרקיוניה מעין אלה נמצאו למשל בגרש (Gerasa), בבצרה (Bosra) ובפלמירה (Palmyra), ולכולם מכנה משותף אחד: ארבעה מסדים הניצבים עצמאית, בתוכנית של ריבוע, כאשר על כל אחד מארבעת המסדים ניצבים עמודים או אומנות, נושאי מבנה על כלשהו. טטרקיוניה אלה שייכים לקבוצת מבנים מונומנטליים, שלא היה להם תפקיד של ממש בנוף העיר, זולת יצירת רושם של הדר ופאר. בדומה לקשתות הניצחון או הנימפיאה, הם היו ממוקמים לרוב במרכזי הערים, כשהם ניצבים בדרך כלל בכיכרות או בהצטלבויות רחובות עמודים ראשיים. ייתכן, שהמסד שנחשף בריבוע 2, אינו אלא קטע ממבנה מעין זה, אך ייתכן גם שמדובר לא בטטרקיוניון אלא בקואדריפרונס (quadrifrons), כלומר, במבנה הבנוי 4 מסדים, כאשר כל אחד מהמסדים נושא אומנות המחוברות זו עם זו בקשתות (ר' איור: 25).  $^{13}$  כך נוצר מבנה בעל 4 חזיתות זהות, הפונות לארבע רוחות השמיים. עייפ הפריטים הארכיטקטוניים שהזכרנו לעיל ואשר נחשפו בחלקם על פני השטח וחלקם תוך כדי חפירת ריבוע 2 (ראה רשימת הפריטים בחלק האנגלי של דו״ח זה). סברה נוספת היא שלפנינו דווקא קואדריפרונס ולא טַטְרַקיוֹנִיוֹן, שהרי בין כל הפריטים הארכיטקטוניים לא היה ולו עמוד אחד, אלא אומנות, בסיסים וכותרות. על-אף הנאמר לעיל, אין זה בלתי נמנע שהמסד שנחשף אינו אחד משני המבנים שהוזכרו, או במלים אחרות, לא מדובר כאן בטטרַקיוניון ולא בקוואדריפרוֹנס אלא בשער דֶקוֹרַטיבי, כלומר מבנה דמוי קשת ניצחון, העשוי שני מסדנים, נושאי אומנות מלבניות המחוברות בקשת. מבנים מעין אלה אינם נדירים בנוף ערי האימפריום הרומי בעיקר

<sup>, 11</sup> 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> היה זה הארכיטקט, מר זאב מרגלית, שתוך כדי חשיפת המסד, הפנה את תשומת לבי להשלכות המרחביות שיש לעצם קיומה של המגרעת במסד במקום בו היא אמנם נמצאת.

A. Segal, From Function to Monument: Urban Landscapes of Roman Palestine, Syria and Provincia <sup>12</sup> Arabia, Oxford 1997, p.144-146, figs.174-177 (Gerasa), p.142, figs.20, 67 (Bosra), p. 141, note 144, fig. 180. W. MacDonald, The Architecture of the Roman Empire: An Urban Appraisal, New Haven 1986, p.75-86, fig. 85.

<sup>13</sup> קוואדריפרוֹנס אינו אלא נוסח מעט מוצק יותר של הטָטרקיוֹניוֹן. בהיותו סגור יותר ומקורה. החלל הפנימי של קואדריפרוֹנס היה לחוב מקורה כיפה, אשר נישאה על הכֶּנדנטיבים, ראה לדוגמה את הקוואדריפרוֹנס שהוקם בלֶפטיס- מַגנה בראשית המאה הג' A. Di Vita, G. Di Vita-Evrard, L. Bacchielli, פביר, ראה: ביקורו של הקיסר סָפּטימיוּס סֶבֶרוּס בעיר, ראה: בוקראת ביקורו של הקיסר סָפּטימיוּס סֶבֶרוּס בעיר, ראה: בוּטר ביקורו של ביקורו של הקיסר סָפּטימיוּס סֶבֶרוּס בעיר, ראה: בוּטר ביקורו של ביקורו של ביקורו של היס ביקורו של היס ביקורו של היס ביקורו של ביקור ביקור

ההלניסטי במערב לבין הכנסייה הצפון - מזרחית במזרח, עודדה אותנו לחשוב, שכאן ימצאו שרידים של מבנה רב מידות. ואמנם, פני השטח באזור זה מתנשאים מטרים אחדים מעל לסביבתם הקרובה. שני הריבועים מוקמו, כאמור, על ציר צפון דרום, כשרק מחיצת אדמה בת מטר בודד מפרידה ביניהם.

#### ריבוע 2

זהו הצפוני מבין שני הריבועים, ובו הועלה אמנם העונה הממצא המרכזי, שהצדיק ולו באופן חלקי את תקוותינו לחשוף כאן מבנה מונוּמנטָלי בן התקופה הרומית. כבר בימי החפירה הראשונים נחשף חלקו העליון של מבנה גזית בנוי בזלת, המצטיין בטיב סיתות מעולה (B2589) (ר׳ איורים: 16-14). תחילה, היינו משוכנעים על פי מֶתאר אותו קטע שנחשף, שלפנינו קיר תוחם (anta) של גרם מדרגות, אשר בחזית הפוֹדיוּם (podium) של מקדש רומי אופייני. המשך החפירה במקום העלה שטעינו, שהרי עם חשיפת חלקו הנוסף של המבנה, נוכחנו לדעת שלפנינו מבנה ריבועי, שמידותיו 1.50 x 1.48 מי. כלומר, אין זה חלק ממבנה גדול יותר, אלא מבנה כלשהו העומד בפני עצמו, מנותק מסביבתו (ר׳ איורים: 15, 16). זו הייתה אמנם אכזבה, שהרי התקשינו "להיפרד" מהמקדש הרומי, שקווינו למצוא אותו כאן. על-אף האכזבה לא אמרנו נואש, והעלנו האפשרות שהמקדש עצמו ממוקם רחוק יותר והמבנה שלפנינו אינו אלא מזבח המוצב בחזית הפוֹדיוּם, על ציר הכניסה של המקדש. אחדים, עד לחשיפתו השלמה של המבנה. אך עם השלמת חשיפתו התברר, שלפנינו מבנה דמוי פוֹדיוּם, כלומר מסד הבנוי בניית גזית משובחת, מאבני בנייה המסותתות היטב. המבנה הוקם על מסד בן נדבך אחד של אבני גזית מבזלת, שהושתתו על סלע האם (ר׳ איורים: 15, 17).

הנדבך התחתון של הפודיום, עשוי בפרופיל קעור (cyma recta) וכך גם הנדבך העליון. <sup>10</sup> פני הפודיום הנדבך התחתון של הפודיום, עשוי בפרופיל קעור (cyma recta) וכך גם הנדבך העליון. <sup>10</sup> פני הפודיום חלקים ונותרו עדיין קטעים אחדים של טיח איכותי ועליו שרידי צבע דהויים (ר' איור: 18). מתארו של פודיום זה ראוי בהחלט לתשומת לב, שהרי למרבית ההפתעה, המסד אינו מלבני או ריבועי כמקובל. ואמנם, בפינתו הצפון מערבית מצויה מגרעת היוצרת פינה פנימית בזווית ישרה: 24.50 x 24.50 ס"ימ (ר' איורים: 16-15). עצם הימצאותה של פינה תמוהה זו הביאה אותנו למסקנה שהמבנה אינו יכול היה לשמש כמזבח, שהרי לפינה מעין זו אין כל הגיון במבנה של מזבח. לפנינו, אם כן, מסד (פודיום), שהיה חלק במכלול הכולל לפחות עוד אחד, או סביר יותר להניח, עוד שלושה מסדים, הסדורים בתכנית של

15-22.

F. Zayadine, F. Larché, J. Dentzer-Feydy, *Le Qasr Al-Bint* : את מקומו של המזבה במתחם קסר אל- בנת אשר בפטרה H. Kähler, *Der römische Tempel*, Berlin 1970, J.B. כמו כן, ראה: *De Pétra*, Paris 2000, p. 107-114, pl. 1.

Ward-Perkins, *Roman Imperial Architecture*, Harmondsworth 1981, p. 21-44, fig. 6, B. Fletcher, *A History of Architecture On the Comparative Method*, London 1963 (seventeenth edition).

J.-P. Adam, *Roman Building: Materials and Techniques*, London 1994, p. 328 (illustrated lexicon of  $^{10}$  acord במסדים בחלק העליון והתחתון של המסד אינם זהים, אך הם דומים מאד לאופן בו עוצבו הפרופילים במסדים mouldings).

H. Thür, Das Hadrianstor in Ephesos, Wien 1989, plate 7, figs. 6, 9-10, ראה: מלבניים בקשת הדריינוס באֶפסוֹס, ראה:

#### ריבוע 1

קצהו הדרומי של ריבוע זה מרוחק 6 מ' מצפון לקיר הדרומי של המתחם ההלניסטי (W156), כשהוא כולל בתוכו את חלקו הצפוני של "אולם האומנות" (ר' איורים: 30, 31). במרכזו של שטח זה עובר על ציר צפון- דרום קיר איתן (W1151), שחלקו הדרומי נחפר כבר בעונות הקודמות. העונה ביקשנו להמשיך ולחשוף את המשכו של קיר זה כלפי צפון, ואמנם, עלה בידינו להמשיך ולחשוף מטרים אחדים של קיר זה. הנדבכים העליונים של הקיר, בנויים ברישול רב, אבני גוויל ואבני גזית גם יחד, ובקצהו הצפוני ביותר שעלה בידינו לחשוף העונה, שולב בין אבני הקיר בסיס עמוד יוני-אטי עשוי בזלת. הבסיס מצטיין בעיבודו הקפדני, ונראה כי ניתן במידה רבה של וודאות לתארך אותו למאות ב'-ג' לספירה. מימדיו המרשימים של בסיס זה (קוטרו בבסיסו: 1.13 מ', גובהו: 5.40 מ'), ואיכות סיתותו המעולה, מעידים שהוא היה שייך למבנה ציבורי מונומנטאלי בן התקופה הרומית. אופן שילובו של בסיס עמוד זה בקיר שהוא היה שייך למבנה ציבורי מונומנטאלי בן התקופה הרומית שולבו לדוגמא בקיר הצפוני של הכנסייה, כשהם ניצבים באופן אנכי ומשולבים בין אבני גזית מלבניות. לא ניתן לקבוע בשלב זה מהיכן בדיוק נלקח הבסיס.

בחלקו הצפוני של קיר 1119, בצידו המזרחי פתחנו ריבוע בדיקה (1 x 2) מי), המרוחק כ- 8 מי מהקיר הדרומי של המתחם הלניסטי (W156) והעמקנו בו לעומק 1.60 מי מתחת לראש הקיר החשוף. בחפירת בדיקה זו אותרו מספר קטעי טיח מצוירים עם שרידי צבע אדום ולבן. ע"פ ההתרשמות נראה כי לפנינו שרידי ציור קיר המכונה "הסגנון פומפייני הראשון", כלומר, עיטור של משטחי צבע המחקים הפנלים של שיש. בסמוך לקטעי טיח אלה, 1.42 מי מתחת לראש הקיר, אותרה רצפת טיח. מתחת לרצפה זו נמצאה שכבת אדמה חומה ובה שרידי שריפה (ר' איור: 31). מתחת לרצפה זו נתגלתה רצפה נוספת העשויה טיח המעורב באבני גוויל גדולות. היקפה המצומצם של חפירת בדיקה זו אינו מאפשר להגיע למסקנות של מש באשר למהותו של השטח המשתרע ממזרח ובסמיכות לקיר W1151. הממצא הקראמי ממזרח לקיר W1151 הינו בעיקרו ביזנטי (L1184) ואילו בלוקוס הסמוך (L1191) הועלה חומר קראמי רומי, בן המאות הא' והב' לספירה. כך גם החומר שהועלה בלוקוס לעודה. בראשיתה ויש בכוונתנו להמשיך ולחשוף את קיר W1151, עד לגובה הרצפה ב"אולם האומנוֹת", המשתרע בסמוך ומדרום לריבוע 1.

#### 12 ריבועים 2 ו-3

מיקומם של שני ריבועים אלה, נקבע בצורה שרירותית למדי במרכז השטח שבו, עוד בטרם החפירה, בצבצו מעל פני האדמה פריטים ארכיטקטוניים מרשימים (ר' איור: 3). הנחתנו הייתה, שמתחת לפריטים אלה ימצאו עד מהרה שרידים של אותו מבנה ציבורי מונומנטאלי, שעיטוריו הארכיטקטוניים היו מפוזרים על פני השטח. מן הראוי לציין כאן, שגם הטוֹפוֹגרפיה של האזור המשתרע בין המתחם

A. Maiuri, *Roman Painting*, New York 1957, p. 37-47, S. Rozenberg, *Enchanted Landscapes-Wall* 8 *Paintings from the Roman Era*, Jerusalem 1993, p. 9-14.

## השטח שממזרח למתחם ההלניסטי (HLC)

מנהלות שטח: גב' ורד רז-רומאו וגב' עדי גולן

#### הקדמה

גדרתו ותיחומו של שטח חפירה זה הינם בעייתיים למדי. מדובר בשטח רחב ידיים המשתרע בין המתחם ההלניסטי במערב לבין האזור הסמוך לכנסייה הצפון מזרחית במזרח (ר' איורים: 1, 3). גבולו הדרומי של שטח זה הוא המשכו כלפי מזרח של הקיר הדרומי של המתחם ההלניסטי (W156) ואילו תיחומו של אזור חפירה זה כלפי צפון אינו ברור עדיין. בטרם נתאר את אשר נחפר באזור זה במרוצת העונה השביעית, מן הראוי יהיה לציין שגם בטרם החפירה ידענו שמדובר באזור מרכזי, בלב ליבה של העיר, בו צפויים להימצא מכלולי בנייה חשובים. על פני השטח, עוד בטרם החפירה, היו מפוזרים כמה וכמה פריטים ארכיטקטוניים העשויים בזלת. פריטים אלה בלטו במימדיהם המרשימים ובעיבודם הקפדני. עצם הימצאותם של פריטים אלה באזור זה העיד שצפוי להיחשף כאן מבנה מונומנטאלי רב רושם. ואמנם, עוד בטרם החפירה, קראנו לאזור זה, ייהמתחם הפולחני הרומייי, כדי להדגיש הניגוד בינו לבין המתחם הפולחני ההלניסטי שממערב לו. במרוצת שלוש העונות האחרונות, ביקשנו לקבוע את תיחומו המדויק של המתחם ההלניסטי כלפי מזרח. לדאבוננו, הדבר לא עלה בידינו עד כה, וגם היום אין ביכולתנו לקבוע במדויק את גבולו המזרחי של המתחם ההלניסטי. "אולם האומנות", אשר נחפר בחלקו במרוצת שתי העונות האחרונות, מהווה מעין אזור מעבר בין המתחם ההלניסטי לבין האזור שמשתרע ממזרח לו. $^{7}$  ביקשנו להתחיל העונה בחשיפת האזור המשתרע ממזרח לייאולם האומנותיי, במטרה לאתר את אותו המבנה המונומנטאלי שפריטיו הארכיטקטוניים, כאמור, נמצאו מפוזרים על פני השטח (רי איור: 3). במקביל, קיווינו להשלים את חשיפתו של ייאולם האומנותיי ולבחון את יחסי הגומלין בינו לבין המתחם ההלניסטי. משימה זו, כלומר, חשיפתו של "אולם האומנות", לא הושלמה ויש בכוונתנו להשלימה במרוצת העונה השמינית (קיץ 2007).

החפירה באזור שממזרח למתחם ההלניסטי התנהלה העונה בשלושה ריבועים, סדורים כדלקמן:  $\mathbf{r}$  נחפירה באזור שממזרח למתחם ההלניסטי התנהלה העונה בשלושה 2 ו- 3 מצויים במזרחו של שטח זה,  $\mathbf{r}$  5 x 5 מי) משתרע בצפון ובסמוך לאולם האומנות, ואילו  $\mathbf{r}$  1-3 סמוכים זה לזה, על ציר צפון דרום כשרק מחיצת כשבינם לבין  $\mathbf{r}$  מפרידים 19 מי מפרידה ביניהם. גם ריבועים אלה היו בגודל תקני של 5 x 5 מי.

Excavations (July 2005), Haifa 2005, p. 26-28, fig.5.

All Five Seasons (2000-2004), Haifa 2004, p. 25, fig. 9, A. Segal et al., Hippos-Sussita Sixth Season of

A. Segal et al., Hippos-Sussita Fifth Season of Excavations September-October 2004 and Summary of <sup>7</sup>

כתובת יוונית נוספת נתגלתה על אחת מלוחות הריצוף של הדֶקוּמנוּס מקסימוּס, מרחק 6.80 מ׳ מהפינה המערבית של גרם המדרגות המוביל מדקומנוס מקסימוס לעבר רחוב צר, המפריד בין הכנסייה הדרום-מזרחית (הקתדרלה) ובין בית המרחץ המרכזי. לוח הריצוף, עליו חקוקה הכתובת (מידותיו: 0.33 x 0.59 מ׳), מרוחק 0.13 מ׳ בלבד מהמדרגה התחתונה של גרם המדרגות. בשל האופן המרושל בו חקוקה הכתובת ולאור השתמרותה הגרועה של אבן הריצוף, קשה לפענח את הכתוב. נראה, שמדובר בכתובת קצרה, בת שלוש מלים, שתוכנה דתי. תרגומה: "שתגבר הדבקות (הדתית)". 5

#### חפירת בדיקה בדקומנוס מקסימוס ממערב לפורום

טרם הבדיקה באזור זה, המרוחק כ-20 מי ממזרח לקליבּה, בְצבצו על פני השטח קטע בנייה באבני גזית וראשו של בסיס עמוד איוני - אטי העשוי בזלת. הוחלט העונה לערוך במקום חפירת בדיקה מצומצמת בהיקפה, שמטרתה הייתה ללמוד את מהלכו של הדֶקוּמנוּס מקסימוּס. הנחנו, שבקטע זה, בניגוד לקטעי דֶקוּמנוּס מקסימוּס, אשר נחשפו ממזרח לפורום, אין בנייה מאוחרת וניתן יהיה לעמוד על מהותו של הדֶקוּמנוּס מקסימוּס בצורתו המקורית, כלומר טרם תוספות הבנייה הביזנטיות והאומאיות.

במסגרת חפירת הבדיקה, נחשף קטע סטילוֹבּט באורך כולל של כ- 7 מי (ר' איורים: 12, 13). סטילוֹבּט זה נבנה אבני גזית מבזלת, בעלות מידות אחידות למדיי (0.37 x 0.85) מי). האבנים המלבניות הונחו בניצב למהלך הדֶקוּמנוּס מקסימוּס. נראה שבסיס הבזלת, אשר קצהו העליון בצבץ, כאמור, על פני השטח גם למהלך הדֶקוּמנוּס מקסימוּס. נראה שבסיס הבזלת, אשר קצהו העליון בצבץ, כאמור, על פני השטח גם טרם החפירה, הוא אומנם באתרו. מידות חלקו הריבועי התחתון (לוחית/plinth) של הבסיס: 0.78 מ' ואילו קוטרו של הטוֹרוּס העליון: 0.67 מ' (ר' איור: 13). הבסיס מצטיין בעיבודו הקפדני וחתכו האופייני כולל: קמר- קער- קמר (crus, trochilos/scotia, torus). בשל היקפה המצומצם של הבדיקה ובשל קוצר הזמן, לא חשפנו את הסטילוֹבּט הדרומי, אשר מכוסה היום בערימות של פסולת אבן שנערמה כאן על ידי צה״ל, עת בוצר ההר בשנות ה-50. יש בכוונתנו, בעונת החפירות הבאה (קיץ 2007), לחשוף גם קטע מהסטילוֹבּט הדרומי. חשיבותה של בדיקה זו נעוצה בכך שדווקא כאן שרד באתרו קטע המעיד שדַקוּמנוֹס מקסימוֹס היה אמנם רחוב עמודים, כלומר רחוב, אשר לווה משני צדדיו בשורות עמודים.



<sup>.</sup> ראה הדיון המפורט על הכתובת במאמרו של א. לאיטר בחלק האנגלי של דו"ח זה.  $^{5}$ 

J.-P. Adam, Roman Building: Materials and Techniques, London 1994, p. 328 (Illustrated Lexicon of <sup>6</sup> Mouldings), J. McKenzie, op. cit., p. 188, diagram 12.

קצרה יותר, כשהיא שכובה בין עיי המפולת (B1243). על גבי החוליה הקצרה יותר, שגובהה 0.40 מי וקוטרה 0.44 מ' נתגלתה כתובת יוונית בת 6 שורות, אשר נשתמרה היטב ושכמעט כל אותיותיה היו ברורות להפליא (ר׳ איור: 11).

להלן תוכנה של הכתובת:

AGATHH T[YXH]
ISIDOROS KAI DOMITTIANOS OUE (TRANOI)
EKS IEROU PRETORIOU TH KYRIA PATRIDI

: התרגום

במזל טוב איסידורוס ודו מיטיאנוס ו[טרנים] של הפרטוריום הקדוש (הקימו) למולדת העצמאית

בכתובת מוזכרים איסידורוֹס ודוֹמיטיאנוּס, שני משוחררי לגיונות, בני העיר סוסיתא, שעשו את שירותם בכתובת מוזכרים איסידוֹרוֹס ודוֹמיטיאנוּס, שני משוחררי לגיונות, במסגרת יחידות שהיו בפיקודו של פְּרֶפּקטוּס אוֹרינטיס (Praefectus Orientis), מושל רם מעלה, שהיה ממונה על המנהל הרומי במזרח ושמשרדו היה באנטיוכיה. איזידורוס ודומיטיאנוס שירתו, כאמור, במסגרת שירותם הצבאי באחת היחידות הצבאיות, כנראה באזור סוריה, ועם שחרורם חזרו לעיר מולדתם והקימו הפסל. אין לדעת איזה אל או אלה הוצבו על גבי חוליית העמוד, ששימשה ודאי כמסד לפסל.

מעניין בהקשר זה לציין, שבחורבת עיון, אשר נמצאת בדרומה של רמת הגולן, מעל אפיקו העמוק של נהר הירמוק, נתגלתה בזמנו כתובת בעלת תוכן הזהה לזו שלנו. מדובר בתופעה נדירה, שבה אותה הכתובת מופיעה ביותר ממקום אחד. ייתכן אמנם, שבדומה לרבים מבני הערים בעת העתיקה, גם איזידורוֹס ודוֹמיטיאַנוּס היו תושבי סוסיתא, אך אחוזותיהם השתרעו מסביב לעיר, לפעמים במרחק של קילומטרים רבים, והם ביקשו לכבד את עירם ואת עצמם הן בעיר עצמה והן בשטח אחוזתם.

R. Gregg, D. Urman, *Jews, Pagans and Christians in the Golan Heights*, Atlanta, Georgia 1996, p. 19- <sup>4</sup> 20, S.Applebaum, B. Isaac, Y. Landau, "New Inscriptions", *Scripta Classica Israelica* IV (1978), p. 134- 21, ראה הדיון המפורט על אודות הכתובת במאמרו של א. לאיטר בחלק האנגלי של דו"ח זה. 135.

כתובת כלשהי, שתעיד על מהותו של הפסל או העיטור שנישאו בראשו. ממזרח לפֶּדסטל, על פני הדֶקוּמנוּס מקסימוּס, נחשפו כשהם מפוזרים ללא סדר, כמה וכמה קטעים של כּרכּוֹב (B1235, B1236, אשר ניכר לעין כי הם שייכים למבנה אחד (ר׳ איורים: 8, 9). קטעי כּרכּוֹב אלה עשויים בזלת ומצטיינים בעיבודם הקפדני. על פי ההתרשמות הראשונית ובטרם מחקר טיפולוגי מעמיק, ניתן לקבוע במידה רבה של סבירות, שלפנינו קטעי כרכוב השייכים למבנה רומי מונוּמנטאלי, ייתכן מקדש, אשר הוקם בפרק זמן שבין המחצית השנייה של המאה הב׳ לבין ראשית המאה הג׳ לספירה. המרכיבים העיטוריים של הכּרכּוֹב שגרתיים למדיי וכוללים את דגם החרוז והסליל (dentils). יחד עם זאת, בולטים בעיצובם (dentils). דגם הביצה והרומח (egg & dart) והשיניות (costers). דמים צמחיים של עלי פרחים מסוגננים ופרגים. דגמים אלה ממוקמים בין הקוֹנסוֹלוֹת (costers), במשטחים בהם מופיעים לרוב הריבועים המשוקעים המדורגים (coffers) (ר׳ איורים: 8,

בסמוך לקטעי הכּרכּוֹב, מעט מזרחית להם, נתגלתה על פני הרחוב חוליית צינור מים, כשהיא שבורה לשני חצאים (B1239) (רי איור: 10). אין זו הפעם הראשונה בחפירות סוסיתא שחוליות צינור המים לשני חצאים (B1239) (רי איור: 10). אין זו הפעם הראשונה בחפירות סוסיתה שחוליות צינור המים מתגלות, כשהן לא באתרן, או משמשות בשימוש משני. ראה לדוגמא, הכנסייה הצפון מערבית. ממצא מוסף, אשר נחשף על פני הרחוב הינן אבני שכב השייכות למתקני טחינה שונים (B1232, B1233). B1237

#### הכתובות היווניות

במרחק 164 מי מהפינה המזרחית של הפוֹרוּם, נתגלו על פני הדֶקוּמנוּס מקסימוּס שתי חוליות עמודים עשויות אבן גיר, כאשר זו הגבוהה יותר (B1242) נמצאה מונחת על בסיסה, ואילו לידה אותרה חולייה

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> מן הראוי להזכיר בהקשר זה, שלאורך רחוב קוּרטֶס (Curetes), אשר באֶפסוֹס הרומית - ביזנטית, נחשפו עשרות רבות של (Curetes) אורך רחוב קוּרטֶס (Curetes) אינו דראוי להזכיר בהקשר זה, שלאורך רחוב קוּרטֶס (מעין אלה, ועל כולם היו חקוקות כתובות, ראה: (Curetes), אינו יכול שלא היו חקוקות כתובות, ראה: על הבָּדסטל שנחשף בדֶקוּמנוּס מקסימוּס בסוסיתא אינו יכול שלא p. 73-76, figures on p. 66-70. לאכזב.

R. Jacoby, R. Talgam, *Ancient Jewish Synagogues-Architectural Glossary*, Jerusalem 1988, fig. 5, <sup>2</sup>
J. McKenzie, *The Architecture of Petra*, Oxford 1990, p. 182, 187, Diagram 9b, J.-P. Adam, *Roman Building-Materials and Techniques*, London 1994, p. 331, fig. 1, J.B. Ward- Perkins, *Roman Imperial Architecture*, Harmondsworth 1981, p. 32, fig. 9 (Forum Augustum), p. 40, fig.16 (Temple of Concord)

J. Turnheim, *Architectural Decoration in Northern Eretz-Israel in the Roman and Byzantine* כמו כן, ראה:

Periods, Tel- Aviv 1987 (unpublished Ph.D. thesis), vol. II (Catalogue of the Architectural Decoration), plate 5, figs. 1-2, plate 6, plate 6, fig. 2, plate 7, figs. 1-2.

A. Segal et al., *Hippos-Sussita Sixth Season of Excavations (July 2005)*, Haifa 2005, p. 66, fig. 92, Y. Peleg, "The Stone Pipeline of Susita-Hippos", *ARAM* 13-14 (2001-2002), p. 423-441.

לעומת זה הצפוני, קטעי בנייה שונים השייכים למבנים, אשר שולבו בקיר הדרומי. בולט הדבר במיוחד בקטע קיר (W803) (רי איור: 7). מדובר בקיר הצפוני של הבּפטיסטריוּם, אשר שולב, כאמור, בקיר הדרומי הסוגר על הרחוב. ממערב לו, השתרע קיר W102 ואילו ממזרח לו נמצא קיר W104. איכות בנייתם של שני הקירות האחרונים, כלומר W102 ו - W104, ירודה בהרבה לעומת טיב בנייתו של הקיר הצפוני של הבפטיסטריוּם (W803). מן הראוי גם לציין את המשכו המזרחי של הקיר הדרומי, המשתרע ממזרח לקצה הקיר W104. נראה, כי מדובר כאן בפינה של מבנה ציבור רב מידות, שפינתו הצפון מערבית שולבה בקיר שתחם את הדֶקוּמנוּס מקסימוּס מדרומו. פינה זו, הנמצאת במרחק 149 מי מקצהו המזרחי של הפורום, נוצרה על ידי מפגש שני קירות: קיר W108 שמהלכו צפון- דרום, וקיר W107 שמהלכו מזרח- מערב. זה האחרון מאופיין בבנייתו האיתנה באבני גזית גדולות למדי.

גם בקיר הדרומי של הדקוּמנוּס מקסימוּס, כמו זה הצפוני, שולבו כמה וכמה פריטים ארכיטקטוניים, חלקם קדומים, שניתן לשייכם במידה רבה של וודאות לתקופה הרומית, וחלקם שייכים לתקופה הביזנטית, וניכר לעין שנלקחו מהכנסיות. בקיר הדרומי, בהמשכו כלפי מזרח, משתרע קטע קיר נוסף הביזנטית, וניכר לעין שנלקחו מהכנסיות. בקיר הדרומי, בהמשכו כלפי מזרח, משתרע קטע קיר נוסף (W104) ובקצהו המזרחי, במרחק 146 מי מקצהו המזרחי של הפורום, נמצא פתח (L106) שרוחבו 2 מי, המוביל דרומה. אין לדעת בשלב זה אם מדובר בפתח המוביל לחנות או שמא לפנינו כניסה לאחד מהרחובות (?cardines) שהובילו מהדֶקוּמנוּס מַקסימוּס לכיוון דרום.

תעלת הניקוז, אשר חלקיה המערביים, הסמוכים לפורום נחשפו בעונות הקודמות, נמשכת גם בקטעים המזרחיים של הרחוב, אלה שנחשפו במרוצת העונה השביעית. רוחבה של התעלה המטויחת היטב כ-0.40 מי ועומקה כ-0.40 מי. התעלה הייתה מכוסה במקורה בלוחות אבן בלתי אחידים במתארם. בקטעים אחדים נותרו עדיין לוחות הקירוי באתרם (רי איור: 7). באחד מקטעי התעלה שנחשפו העונה, במרחק 104 מי ממזרח לקצה הפורום, הועלה מטבע (C1228) ויחד עימו אסימוני משחק עגולים אחדים העשויים חרס.

כפי שצוין לעיל, במרוצת העונה השביעית נתגלו על פני הרחוב כמה וכמה ממצאים ייחודיים, וביניהם, מסד לפסל (pedestal) (Pedestal) (שחר מחשף כשהוא שכוב על צידו בסמוך לקיר הדרומי של הדֶקוּמנוּס מקסימוּס, בקטע הסמוך לקיר הצפוני של הבפטיסטריום (W804 ו-W804) (ר' איור: 6). הפֶּדֶסטַל ריבועי במתארו (0.57 x 0.57 x 0.57), ומתנשא לגובה 0.80 מ', כשהוא בנוי מקשה אחד מבזלת. בחלקו התחתון וגם העליון ניכרים פרופילים אחדים המבוצעים באופן גס למדי. מן הראוי לציין, שהפרופילים בחלק התחתון, כלומר בבסיסו של הפֶּדסטל, זהים בעיצובן ובמידותיהן לאלה שבחלק העליון כלומר בראשו של הפֶּדסטל. גובהם הכולל של פרופילים אלה, הן בחלק התחתון והן בחלק העליון כ- 0.30 מ'. במשטח העליון, אשר בראשו של הפֶדסטל, שמידותיו כאמור 7.57 x 0.57 מ', נמצאים ארבעה שקעים עגולים, הממוקמים בארבע פינות המשטח העליון. סביר להניח, ששקעים אלה שימשו לעיגון הפסל אשר ניצב בזמנו בראש הפֶדסטל. מן הראוי לציין, שאחד מתוך ארבעת הצדדים של הפֶדסטל לא עובד ולא הוחלק. מכאן, שהפֶדסטל עמד במקורו כשצידו האחד צמוד לקיר. לאכזבת החופרים, לא נתגלתה על הפֶדסטל ממר במקורו כשצידו האחד צמוד לקיר. לאכזבת החופרים, לא נתגלתה על הפֶדסטל

## דקומנוס מקסימוס (DME)

מנהל שטח: מר רן אברמוביץ׳

שיפתו של הדקוּמנוּס מקסימוּס (F1020), רחוב העמודים הראשי של סוסיתא הרומית-ביזנטית, נמשכה העונה מאותה הנקודה בה הופסקה בתום העונה הקודמת (יולי 2005). במרוצת העונה השביעית נחשפו כמאה מטרים נוספים מהרחוב, והיום 165 מ׳ מהרחוב, שהם שליש מאורכו הכולל של הדקוּמנוּס מקסימוּס, חשופים לחלוטין (ר׳ איורים: 2-4). מן הראוי לציין, שנכון להיום, מפריד מרחק של כ-12 מ׳ בלבד בין קצהו המזרחי של קטע הרחוב שנחשף במרוצת העונה השביעית לבין המערבי ביותר מבין הריבועים שנחפרו בראשית שנות ה-90 של המאה הכ׳ במסגרת מחקר על אספקת המים בסוסיתא. נזכיר, שמדובר בסדרה של כ-20 ריבועים, אשר נחפרו על-ידי צוות חופרים בראשותם של זאב משל, צביקה צוק, הניג פלבוש (Henning Fahlbush) ויהודה פלג, במטרה לעקוב אחרי צינור המים, אשר השתרע מתחת לדקוֹמנוּס מקסימוּס, לכיוון מערב, לעבר מאגר המים המרכזי שמתחת לפורום (ר׳ איור: 2). יש בכוונתנו כבר בעונה הקרובה, בקיץ 2007, להתחבר לריבועים אלה וליצור רצף חשוף של הדקוֹמנוּס מקסימוּס מהפורום ועד לשערה המזרחי של העיר.

כמו בעונות הקודמות, חפירתו של הדקוּמנוּס מקסימוּס, כללה בעיקר חשיפת הריצוף של הרחוב עצמו וניקוי פני הקירות הסוגרים על הרחוב מצפונו ומדרומו. חשיפת הרחוב התבצעה בסיוע כלי מכני, אשר הסיר את שכבות המילוי העליונות שנערמו על הרחוב במסגרת פעולות הביצור של צה"ל, אשר בוצעו באזור זה של האתר במרוצת שנות ה-40 וה-50. ניקוי ופינוי של שכבות האדמה הסמוכות לפני הריצוף בוצעו באופן ידני בידי החופרים.

במרוצת חשיפת הריצוף וניקוי הקירות נתגלו ממצאים רבים למדי, בעיקר פריטים ארכיטקטוניים שונים (ראה להלן) ואף כתובת יוונית החקוקה על חוליית עמוד (ראה להלן). חלק מפריטים אלה נתגלו כשהם מונחים על פני הרחוב ואילו חלק אחר נתגלה כשהוא משולב בקירות הסוגרים על הרחוב מצפונו ומדרומו.

בקיר הצפוני הסוגר על הדֶקוּמנוּס מַקסימוּס (W1022) נחשפו שתי כניסות, זו המערבית (L103) המרוחקת מרחק 66 מטרים מהקצה המזרחי של הפורום, וזו המזרחית (L105), המרוחקת 135 מטרים מקצה הפורום. ייתכן והכניסות הובילו לעבר חנויות או מבני מגורים שלא נחשפו עדיין. קיר זה, כפי שנחשף במרוצת העונה השביעית, דומה במהותו לקטעים שנחשפו בעונות הקודמות, שהרי גם הוא בנוי בצורה מרושלת ובלתי אחידה, כאשר קטעי בנייה הבנויים גזית נמצאים בסמיכות לקטעי בנייה הבנויים אבני גוויל. פריטים ארכיטקטוניים אחדים, בני התקופות הרומית והביזנטית, משולבים בתוך הקיר ומעידים שתקופת הקמתו של קיר זה אינה קדומה לתקופה האומאית (ר' איורים: 7-4).

הקיר אשר סוגר על הדֶקוּמנוּס מקסימוּס מדרומו, אינו שונה במהותו מהקיר הצפוני, וגם הוא בנוי קטעים- קטעים, בניית גזית ובניית גוויל לסירוגין. יחד עם זאת, ניכרים בקיר הדרומי, אף ביתר שאת החפירה שבמרכז האתר, כשמהלכו הוא לאורך המצוק הצפוני, ממערב למזרח. מסלול זה מאפשר תנועה חופשית מאזור הקליבה במערב ועד לאזור שמצפון-מזרח לבניין הצה"לי, המשמש את המשלחת כחדר אוכל ומחסן (ר' איורים: 2, 3). יש בכוונתנו להמשיך הדרך לכיוון מזרח, מרחק נוסף של כ- 300 מ', לעבר השער המזרחי של העיר. באזור זה המשתרע ממערב ובסמוך לשער, יש בכוונתנו להכשיר משטח רחב ידיים, בו ירוכזו כל הפריטים הארכיטקטוניים, אשר הועלו בשטחי החפירה השונים. פריטים ארכיטקטוניים אלה ישמשו בבוא הזמן לשחזור מכלולי הבנייה השונים בסוסיתא.

פתיחתם של שטחי החפירה החדשים בדרומה של העיר, בסמוך ובמקביל לחומה הדרומית, חייבה הכשרת דרך חדשה מאזור הפורום והקליבה לעבר החומה הדרומית (ר' איורים: 2, 3). אזור זה מאופיין בשיפוע ניכר כלפי דרום, ומכאן הקושי הגדול בסלילת הדרך. זאת ועוד, באזור המשתרע בסמוך ובמקביל לפורום מצד דרום, מבצבצים על פני השטח קטעי קירות המעידים על קיומם של מכלולי בנייה גדולים. מכאן, שסלילת הדרך חייבה למצוא תוואי מתאים בטופוגרפיה קשה, ותוך כדי התחשבות מרבית בשרידי הבנייה הניכרים על פני השטח. מיותר לציין, שללא סלילת הדרך, החפירה באזור החומה הדרומית לא יכלה לצאת אל הפועל.



#### שטחי חפירה

שטחי החפירה במרוצת העונה השביעית היו כדלקמן: (ר׳ איור: 1):

דקוּמנוּס מקסימוּס (מנהל השטח: מר רן אברמוביץי)

השטח שממזרח למתחם ההלניסטי (מנהלות השטח: גב׳ ורד רז-רומאו וגב׳ עדי גולו)

חומת העיר הדרומית (מנהלי השטח: גב׳ רנין נופי ומר רן ויזן)

הכנסייה הצפון מערבית (מנהלי השטח: דרי אדם לאיטר וגבי אמיליה יאשבסקה)

הכנסייה הצפון מזרחית (מנהל השטח: פרופי מרק שולר)

תיאור שטחי החפירה שלהלן מתבסס על הדיווחים המפורטים המלווים בתצלומים ושרטוטים, פרי עבודתם של מנהלי השטחים. שתי המשלחות מחו״ל הגישו את דו״חות החפירה והם מובאים כאן כלשונם בחלק האנגלי של דו״ח זה. אותו הדין לגבי דו״ח השימור אשר הוכן בידי המשמרת הבכירה, גב׳ אווה ראדזיובסקה. דו״חות החפירה של המשלחות מחו״ל תורגמו מאנגלית על-ידי ראש המשלחת ומובאים כאן בנוסח המקוצר שלהם בחלק העברי של דו״ח זה.

ראש המשלחת מבקש להודות לצוות החפירה של אוניברסיטת חיפה, ובעיקר למנהלי השטחים, על עבודתם הרצינית והמסורה.

#### השימור

במרוצת העונה השביעית, בדומה לעונות הקודמות, הושקע מאמץ ניכר ביותר בכל הקשור לשימור. החל מיום החפירה הראשון ועד לסיום העונה, במרוצת 20 ימי עבודה, נערכו בכל שטחי החפירה פעולות שימור, אשר בוצעו בראשותם של גב׳ אווה ראדזיובסקה ומר קימי ממאן. לכל אחד משני המשמרים הבכירים התלווה צוות עוזרים, וזאת במטרה לבצע את פעולות השימור בסמיכות מיידית לחשיפה. במרוצת העונה השביעית, אף ביתר שאת, לעומת העונות הקודמות, הושקע מאמץ של ממש גם בנושא השחזור. הדבר בא לידי ביטוי מרשים בשחזור מהיר להפליא של המסד המונומנטאלי (הפוֹדיוּם) מהתקופה הרומית, אשר נחשף כשהוא הרוס בחלקו בשטח שממזרח למתחם ההלניסטי, ושוחזר במלואו במרוצת ימי עבודה ספורים (ראה להלן).

#### הכשרת דרכים חדשות בשטח החפירה

התרחבות שטחי החפירה במרכז האתר חייבה אותנו כבר בעונה השישית, וביתר שאת בעונה השביעית, התרחבות שטחי החפירה במרכז האתר ולבטל חלק מהדרכים בהן השתמשנו עד כה. בין הכנסייה הצפון מערבית לבין הכנסייה הצפון מזרחית עברה בזמנו דרך, אשר אפשרה מעבר בין חלקו הצפוני של האתר לבין הדֶקוּמנוּס מקסימוּס. התרחבות החפירה באזור האטריוּם של הכנסייה הצפון-מזרחית ופתיחת הריבועים החדשים שממזרח למתחם ההלניסטי, כל אלה חייבו ביטול הדרך הישנה שעברה באזור זה הריבועים מסלול חלופי. בהכשרתו של זה האחרון הושקע מאמץ ניכר. מסלול זה מקיף את כל שטח

אורחים. במרוצת העונה נערכו סיורים אחדים לאתרי חפירות סמוכים. כמידי שנה, בתום העונה ערך ראש המשלחת סיור מקיף באתר לחופרים, מתנדבים ואורחים.

מן הראוי יהיה להזכיר כאן שמחציתה השנייה של עונת החפירות השביעית בסוסיתא (החל ב-12 ביולי) התנהלה בצל האירועים הקשים בצפונה של הארץ לאורך הגבול עם לבנון. החל בתאריך הנ"ל ועד סוף החפירה, כלומר עד ב-27 ביולי, אתרים רבים למדיי סביב הכינרת הופצצו ללא הרף בטילים. מצב עניינים זה לא יכול היה, שלא להשפיע על מהלך החפירה. ואמנם, סטודנטים אחדים מהמשלחות הפולנית והאמריקאית נאלצו לעזוב. כמן כן, חלק קטן מהמתנדבים החליטו לחזור לארצותיהם. בסך הכול, במרוצת השבועיים האחרונים של החפירה נשארו כמחצית מהחופרים שהיו עימנו בראשיתה. על-אף האירועים והאווירה הקשה ששררה בארץ, החלטנו לקיים את החפירה במלוא הקיפה ולסיימה במועד המתוכנן, כלומר ב-27 ביולי 2006. זו ההזדמנות להודות לכל אלה שהשתתפו עימנו בחפירה במרוצת העונה השביעית - חברי הצוות, הסטודנטים והמתנדבים - גם לאלה שנאלצו או בחרו לעזוב וגם לאלה שנשארו עימנו עד סוף העונה.

#### תודות

קיומה של עונת החפירות השביעית התאפשר הודות לסיועם ותמיכתם של כמה גופים ומוסדות. בראש ובראשונה אנו מבקשים לציין את סיועה של הפקולטה למדעי הרוח של אוניברסיטת חיפה. דיקן הפקולטה פרופי מנחם מור הושיט לנו סיוע נדיב בשלבים השונים של החפירה ובכול הקשור להכנת דו״ח העונה השביעית. לחובה להודות לנו למר אהרון רפטר, ראש מנהל הפקולטה למדעי הרוח, על העזרה והתמיכה במפעל החפירות שלנו.

חפירתנו זכתה במרוצת העונה השביעית, אף ביתר שאת מאשר בעונות הקודמות, לסיוע רב ערך מטעם רשות הטבע והגנים, אשר מימנה חלק ניכר מפעולות השימור. רשות הטבע והגנים העמידה לרשותנו גם העונה שני כלים מכנים, אשר בלעדיהם מלאכת הפינוי והכשרת שטחי החפירה השונים לא היו יכולים לצאת אל הפועל.

זו ההזדמנות להודות לארכיטקט, מר זאב מרגלית ולדרי צביקה צוק על הסיוע והעניין הרב שהם מגלים במפעל חפירות סוסיתא. כמו כן, אנו מבקשים להודות למר גיל בן-נון ולמר ניסים מזיג על הסיוע הרב שהם הושיטו לנו במרוצת העונה השביעית. המכון לארכיאולוגיה ע"ש זינמן, אף הוא הושיט סיוע רב במרוצת העונה השביעית ואנו מבקשים להודות לראש המכון, פרופי מינה עברון, על תמיכתה הרבה.

לצורך פרסום דו״ח העונה השביעית זכינו לסיוע מדיקן הפקולטה למדעי הרוח, פרופ׳ מנחם מור ומדיקן למחקר, פרופ׳ מאג׳ד אל-חאג׳. אנו אסירי תודה להם על תמיכתם וסיועם. לבסוף, אנו מבקשים לציין את קבלתן של שתי תרומות ייחודיות שהוענקו לנו במרוצת העונה: תודה מקרב לב לחברי העמותה להכרת ארץ-ישראל ולמר סם טרנר מארה״ב, על תרומותיהם הנדיבות.

## דין וחשבון על אודות עונת החפירות השביעית בסוסיתא

(יולי 2006)

## הקדמה

ונת החפירות השביעית בסוסיתא החלה ב-2 ביולי 2006 ונסתיימה ב-27 בו. החפירה נערכה בארבעה מחזורים שבועיים, בני חמישה ימים כל אחד. בסך הכול עשרים ימי חפירה מלאים. גם העונה השביעית, כמו כל קודמותיה, נוהלה במתכונת של חפירה לימודית, ובכל אחד מארבעת המחזורים השבועיים השתתפו בממוצע כ-10 סטודנטים מהחוג לארכיאולוגיה באוניברסיטת חיפה. שטחי החפירה השונים (ראה להלן) נוהלו על ידי סטודנטים הלומדים לקראת התארים השני והשלישי. בראש המשלחת עמד פרופי ארתור סג״ל מהמכון לארכיאולוגיה על שם זינמן מאוניברסיטת חיפה, ושותפים עימו בניהול המשלחת היו פרופי יולנטה מלינרצייק (Prof. Jolanta Młynarczyk) מהמרכז לארכיאולוגיה ים תיכונית שליד האקדמיה הפולנית למדעים, דרי מריוש בורדיביץי (Prof. Mariusz Burdajewicz) מאוניברסיטת קוֹנקוֹרְדיָה, אשר בסנט פול מינסוטה, ארה״ב.

בנוסף לסטודנטים מאוניברסיטת חיפה השתתפו בחפירה סטודנטים מאוניברסיטת וורשה, מאוניברסיטת קוֹנקוֹרְדיָה, מאוניברסיטת קיוֹ, אשר בטוקיו ומתנדבים מהארץ ומחוייל. אלה מהארץ הגיעו בעיקר מקיבוץ עין-גב ומיישובי הסביבה. כמו כן, השתתפו בחפירה בני נוער רבים במסגרת חוגי הסיירות של קקייל עייש אורי מימון. בסך הכול גם העונה נתברכנו במספר ניכר של מתנדבים מהארץ ומחוייל.

אל המשלחת הצטרפה גם העונה גבי אווה ראדזיובסקה (Mrs. Ewa Radziejowska), משמרת בכירה מהמוזיאון הלאומי בוורשה, אליה נתלוו כמה וכמה סטודנטים הלומדים שימור באקדמיה לאמנויות אשר בוורשה. מר קימי ממאן, משמר בכיר מטעם רשות הטבע והגנים, הצטרף אף הוא לגבי אווה ראדזיובסקה, כאשר שניהם עוסקים בפעולות השימור והשחזור, אשר התנהלו במקביל לפעולות החפירה בכל השטחים אשר נחפרו העונה.

בצוות החופרים של משלחת אוניברסיטת חיפה היה מר מיכאל איזנברג, אשר שימש עוזר בכיר לראש המשלחת, והיה אחראי בעיקר על התיאום בין שטחי החפירה השונים. מר בריאן קנון (Mr. Brian המשלחת, והיה אחראי בעיקר על התיאום בין שטחי החפירה מארה"ב היה מודד וארכיטקט המשלחת ואילו גב׳ רנין נופי שימשה רשמת ואחראית על מסד הנתונים של החפירה. גב׳ נופי הייתה גם אחראית על מלאכת הסריקה והעיבוד הממוחשב. מר איתמר מיטלר היה מנהלן המשלחת. שימור וניקוי הממצא הקטן הופקד בידי מר גיייגייי גוטליב.

כמתחייב מעצם היות חפירתנו חפירה לימודית, היא נוהלה כדלקמן: העבודה בשטח התנהלה בין השעות – 0500 – 1200, ואילו בשעות אחה"צ והערב נערכה פעילות משלימה, אשר כללה ניתוח ומיון הממצא הקראמי ושיעור ותרגיל במדידות ושרטוט ארכיטקטוני. כמו כן, נישאו מספר הרצאות על ידי מרצים

## תוכן עניינים

| 4  | הקדמההקדמה                                      |
|----|-------------------------------------------------|
| 8  | דקומנוס מקסימוס (DME)                           |
| 13 | השטח שממזרח למתחם ההלניסטי (HLC)                |
| 20 | חומת העיר הדרומית (SWL)                         |
| 20 | (SWL-I) הקטע המערבי                             |
| 25 | (SWL-II) הקטע המזרחי                            |
| 28 | הכנסייה הצפון- מערבית (NWC)                     |
| 33 | הכנסייה הצפון- מזרחית(NEC)                      |
| 38 | פעולות השימור שנערכו בכנסייה הצפון-מזרחית       |
| 40 | פעולות השימור שנערכו בשטח שממזרח למתחם ההלניסטי |

דין וחשבון העונה השביעית מוקדש בתודה לחוקרים, לסטודנטים ולמתנדבים מהארץ ומחו"ל, אשר על-אף הימים הקשים שעברו עלינו ביולי 2006 נשארו איתנו עד יומה האחרון של החפירה.



עיצוב וקדם דפוס: מ. איזנברג

נדפס ב - א.א.א. הדפסות (בר חיים-יצחק) בע"מ, חיפה

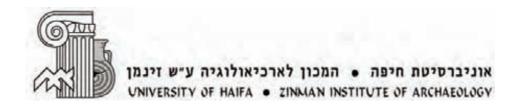
מסת"ב 5-5-90418 מסת"ב

**(C)** 

כל הזכויות שמורות למחברים

המכון לארכיאולוגיה ע"ש זינמן אוניברסיטת חיפה, חיפה 2006

E-mail: <a href="mailto:hippos@research.haifa.ac.il">hippos@research.haifa.ac.il</a>
Web Site: <a href="http://hippos.haifa.ac.il/">http://hippos.haifa.ac.il/</a>



# סוסיתא

## עונת החפירות השביעית (יולי 2006)

ארתור סג''ל יולנטה מלינרצ'יק מריוש בורדיביץ' מרק שולר מיכאל איזנברג