



found it (AIA, AOS, and SBL), ASOR has succeeded in establishing a proud record of accomplishment.

As ASOR now arrives at the threshold of its second century of effort, there is nothing to suggest that the scope of its drive to pursue its broad historic mission should or will change. So while Shanks (with others) seems to want to interpret ASOR's recent decision to conduct an independent annual meeting apart from the SBL/AAR Joint Ventures as a sign of abandonment of its interests in biblical cultures, this is a most serious misreading of the situation. As even a

(and now NEA), encouragement of volunteer dig participants, sponsorship of public lectures, and initiatives in outreach education programs for High School teachers, speaks

agenda forcing individuals to choose between competing program sessions (BAR pp. 6 and 71).

began his journey downstream into history. His eight day journey to the Dead Sea was in fact a two-pronged assault. While Lynch navigated a Jordan River he quickly judged too tortuous and too tempestuous to be navigable for large-scale commercial purposes, a land party reconnoitered the surrounding banks. Along the way Lynch took careful measurements and recorded his observations; the land party collected mineral and biological samples, and surveyed archaeological sites including Um Qais, Pella, and Masada.

On April 18, 1848, Lynch and company arrived at the Dead Sea. They spent the next three weeks exploring the area before departing for Jerusalem on May 10. After the month-long survey of the lower Jordan Valley and Dead Sea, the crew spent several days in Jerusalem recovering before proceeding to the Mediterranean coast and Jaffa. Lynch's arrival at Jaffa at the end of May enabled a final calculation of the difference between the levels of the Mediterranean and the Dead Sea, which he ascertained as 1,316.7 feet (401.3 m). Subsequently, without the boats, they worked their way up to the source of the Jordan River. They then went on to



The Frank Moore Cross Award - This award is presented to the editor/author of the most substantial volume(s) related to ancient Near Eastern and eastern Mediterranean epigraphy, text and/ or tradition. This work must be the result of original research published during the past two years. (one annual award)

The W. F. Albright Award - This award honors an individual who has shown special support or made outstanding service contributions to one of the overseas centers ACOR, AIAR, CAARI, or to one of the overseas committees- the Baghdad committee and the Damascus committee. (given as appropriate)

ASOR Membership Service Award - This award recognizes individuals who have made special contributions on behalf of the ASOR membership through committee, editorial, or office services. (maximum three annual awards)

Nominations should made in writing, before October 1, 1998. Please send a letter in support of the candidate, specifying the award category. Include complete contact information such as postal address, phone, fax, and e-mail for both the sponsor and nominee. Send all completed nominations to Lydie Shufro, ASOR Honors & Awards Committee Chair, 885 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10021-0325; Fax 212 737-4984; e-mail [lshufro@pipeline.com](mailto:lshufro@pipeline.com).

**Tall Hisban 1997**



The Late Iron Age town appears to have come to a sudden, violent end sometime during the fifth

While the vaulted room produced pottery from the Ottoman and Mamluk periods, limited probes in one of the rooms of the cave below it yielded a Byzantine date. Throughout this lower subterranean dwelling complex arches and neatly hewn stones had been erected to help support the ceiling and divide the space into rooms. The complex also had a cistern and two storage silos inside it. The top of its westward-facing doorway from the same time period was located circa two meters below the present-day surface.

Preliminary excavations of this complex suggest that its occupational history dates back at least to the Iron Age, and perhaps even into the Bronze Age. The reason for this claim is that a pocket of Iron II pottery was unearthed from one of the storage silos. Also, a small hand-made juglet was found in an adjacent silo that on initial inspection appears to be from the Early Bronze I period. Due to the fact that it was found on top of layers containing Mamluk pottery, it could be Ottoman instead, however.

It is now very clear that much more work needs to be done to explore the history of human use of the large quantity of cave complexes around Tall Hisban. Very likely many of these were used more or less continuously throughout the entire history of human occupation of the site. During periods of prosperity and build-up of houses above the ground, a few of them were extensively enhanced to serve the needs of wealthier families. Many others were used by the poor. During so-called "gap periods" on the tall during which there is little evidence of permanent human settlement, these caves no doubt continued to be used as seasonal residences.

The seasonal use of caves in Hisban is well-known from the Late Ottoman and Early Modern period when the Ajarmeh families who today live in the cement houses in the village used to live in now abandoned caves throughout the village. A cluster of about thirty of these caves can be seen from the summit of Tall Hisban along the slopes of the wadi to the west. A sign and a platform have been prepared that direct visitors' attention to this Late Ottoman cave village at Hisban.

What sets Tall Hisban apart from other tourist attractions in Jordan is that it is not only a place to learn about the remarkable achievements of the Romans and Byzantines in Jordan, but a place to learn about the adaptation of the indigenous population of the country to the opening up and closing off of contact between Jordan and the rest of the world that accompanied each of the cycles of sedentarization and nomadization in the region. In particular, the caves provide a window on the sorts of practices that made the indigenous population such remarkably resilient survivors-such a hardy people.

How these cycles have been played out in the hinterland of Hisban is a question that has been investigated this summer by our hinterland survey team. Using the random square technique developed in previous seasons of work in the Umeiri region, the team succeeded in finishing survey of 100 randomly selected 200 - 200 m squares from within 5 km radius of Hisban. In addition, the team's botanist collected information on present-day trees that will be used to prepare a map of the present-day forest species in the region. Its geoarchaeologist studied patterns of soil erosion and efforts to control it in antiquity so as to be able to reconstruct the impact of each cycle of intensification of use of the land on the local landscape. These data, along with those collected on the tall, will be used to reconstruct the impact on the local

landscape of successive episodes of pumping-up and slacking off in the intensity of human settlement and land use in this region over time.

## **Tell Qarqur 1997**

Excavations continued at Tell Qarqur in the summer of 1997 in of our previously excavated areas.

Though our work concentrated again on the Iron Age gateway area, Area A (fig. 1), it also continued in Area B on the highest point of the tell, Area E on the southern slopes of the high tell and Area D on the low tell (fig. 2). The excavations this year convinced us that we have to shift our focus from Area A to Area E, if we hope to make progress in understanding the Iron Age citadel area of the site. More of the gateway plan was uncovered, but so far nothing more was preserved of the stairway leading up to the gateway. Portions of two earlier structures dating to the Middle Bronze Age II were encountered, and one of these was an earlier stairway underlying the one previously excavated. Iron II materials continued for over a meter beneath the main occupation floor of the west room of the gateway, and it seems that this gateway was used in one building phase. Gravel layers encountered beneath Ayyubid, Byzantine, Roman and Hellenistic remains are apparently all that are present east of the stone-paved street inside the gateway, indicating an open courtyard area, a feature not unexpected in Iron Age citadels. It is now quite clear that most of the structures that once existed in this area after the Early Bronze Age were removed when the gateway was cut into the side of the tell. The first well-preserved architectural phase that extends under the Iron Age gravels is clearly Early Bronze Age IV in date. The building(s) were heavily destroyed many times in a long sequence of tight rebuildings and we still have to link the building remains of several squares to know whether we have just one building or several.

The length of the Iron Age sequence is being demonstrated in Areas B and D. In Area D we have just cleared most of the later remains in several squares to get down to the Iron Age, which so far is indicated by more than one meter of stratified remains. We expect this sequence to parallel Area B where a long Iron Age sequence has been excavated for several seasons and this year reached transitional Iron I-II levels.

In Area E we encountered major stone foundations in our highest square but despite an interesting collection of Iron II artifacts can not yet date these walls accurately without more work. We have exposed a portion of a casemate wall or a portion of a structure with walls comparable to the gateway structure in Area A. Our most exciting finds come from the lower levels exposed in this area, where a badly destroyed building is being excavated. Walls of a room are in the north and south balks and the room extends farther to the east and west. Many objects, a good sampling of pottery, and good zoological and botanical samples dating to the end of the Early Bronze Age have been e Ag Aanorth d

members of the Syrian Directorate General of Antiquities who helped us this year, to Father Ibrahim Younis who provided our camp facilities in Ghassaniyah and Djisr Choghour, to the mukhtar of Qarqur village and about 36 residents of the village, to our guard at Qarqur and to the 15 members of the excavation staff

**W. F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research, Jerusalem**  
**Project Descriptions of Albright Appointees**  
**1997-1998**

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The following is a report on the activities of the 1997-1998 Appointees of the W.F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research in Jerusalem. These are brief summaries of the Appointees' activities. There were fifty-one Appointees (one with a double appointment): 17 named Professorships of Fellowships; 31 Associate Senior, Post-Doctoral, and Research Fellowships; and three Honorary Fellowships (USIA/CAORC Multi-Country Research Fellows).

1. Philistine Cult in the Seventh Century B.C.E.: An Archaeological Perspective on the Impact of Multi-Cultural Influences

Seymour Gitin, Dorot Director and Professor of Archaeology, Albright Institute

This study analyzes Late Philistine religious practice in the seventh century B.C.E., based on the archaeological data excavated at Tel Miqne-Ekron by co-directors S. Gitin and T. Dothan. In the seventh century B.C.E., Ekron, one of the Philistine pentapolis, was a Neo-Assyrian vassal city-state and the largest olive-oil production center excavated to date. The primary goal is to assess, within the wider ancient Near Eastern cultural context, the impact of multi-cultural influences on the religious practices of the Philistines in the seventh century. Neo-Assyrian, Egyptian, Israelite, Judaeon, Phoenician and Philistine pottery, votives, chalices, figurines, ivories, scarabs, altars, cultic installations, incense ladles, and inscriptions, as well as domestic, industrial and sanctuary architectural design concepts, will be examined in light of the biblical text, the Neo-Assyrian annals, and the Neo-Babylonian chronicles. Primary to this study is an evaluation of the methodologies employed to define what is sacred space and what structures and artifacts are cultic. In recent years, there has been a virtual explosion of archaeological data, much of it still unpublished, from Judah, the Northern Negev, Edom and Philistia. The incorporation of these data with the evidence from Ekron offers the possibility of a breakthrough in our understanding of the effect of multi-cultural contacts in the seventh century. The primary stimulus for these contacts was the imposition of aggressive imperial economic ideology by the Neo-Assyrian kings in the late 8th and seventh centuries B.C.E.. This control created a new international environment that greatly influenced religious practices in Philistia. Gitin's research currently focuses on altars and inscriptions. Based on the corpus of forty-five four-horned and un-horned altars from five sites in Israel, three in Judah, two in Philistia (18 from Ekron), and from Assyria, his study will show that there is sufficient evidence to suggest that the form of the four-horned

altar transmitted a sacred quality over hundreds of years from the Late Bronze through the Iron Age. It is also highly likely that the four-horned altar maintained its functional association with the burning of incense. The 17 ink inscriptions from Tel Miqne-Ekron demonstrate three key attributes of Philistine cultic practice. These include worship of the goddess, Asherat; the presence of both central shrine worship and a decentralized worship system; and a priestly support system related to the shrine. In addition, the newly uncovered royal dedicatory stone inscription, found in situ in a sanctuary, will provide new data for analyzing central shrine worship.

## 2. Prophets and History: The Seventh Century B.C.E.

Robert D. Haak, Acting Director and Annual Professor; Augustana College, Rock Island, IL

The seventh century B.C.E. was a period of great turmoil in the ancient Near East. It witnessed the demise of one empire (the Assyrian), a brief period of renewed hope for independence among regional states such as Judah, and the subsequent re-establishment of domination by the superpowers represented by Egypt and Babylonia. Within these chaotic times, Judah struggled to implement policies that would best serve its interests and ensure its survival. Among the voices heard within the debates of the seventh century are those of figures that have been preserved in the Hebrew Bible as prophets. This project continues the study of the prophetic writings of the seventh century B.C.E., using the insights into the culture and history of the period provided by the archaeological and historical record, with special attention to the political agenda reflected in the texts.

## 3. Lamentations: A New Interpretation

F. W. Dobbs

Schloen's project entails the sorting and measuring (i.e., weights, counts, rim percentages, etc.) of pottery sherds from the late seventh century B.C.E. destruction of Philistine Ashkelon. It is part of the larger project of preparing the final report of the Leon Levy Expedition to Ashkelon, directed by Lawrence Stager of Harvard University. The goal is to obtain accurate estimates of the relative proportions of each type and sub-type of both local and imported pottery and to use various computer-aided techniques to search for spatial and temporal patterns of distribution of the pottery, as well as patterns of association of different types of pottery with other types of remains. The results will be presented descriptively in tabular and graphic form, and an attempt will be made to interpret substantively any patterns that are uncovered in functional, chronological, or cultural-political terms.

#### 5. Biocultural Reconstruction of Byzantine Monastic Life: A Synthesis of the Historical and Biological Records in an Assessment of Human Adaptability

Susan Guise Sheridan, National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow; Assistant Professor of Anthropology, University of Notre Dame

During the Byzantine period, the monastery of St. Stephen's played an important role in the early church and, therefore, appears in numerous writings from the era. When this cultural information is added to the biological data, recorded in the bones of the Byzantine inhabitants interred in St. Stephen's crypt complex under the modern Ecole Biblique et Archeologique Francaise, an intriguing picture of life for this ancient Jerusalem monastery emerges. The largely male composition (99%) of the collection, represented by 15,000 skeletal elements, is explained by the historical record of a very large

of Judges and 1 Samuel. The primary focus of these studies has usually been on the origin of the early Israelites or on the trajectory to statehood around 1000 B.C.E., without concentrating on twelfth and eleventh century society itself. The aim of Miller's research is to write a social history of this early Israel, beginning with an anthropological analysis of the archaeological material. A full database of Iron I occupations in the north-central highlands has been compiled and subjected to several locational-geographic manipulations that illustrate the economic and political interactions between the sites. This information is tied to the ethnographically-derived anthropological model of "complex chiefdom" in order to describe the social structure of the Iron I society. Ancient Near Eastern textual material from Egypt further enhances the reconstruction. The reconstruction and the archaeological realia upon which it is based are compared with the biblical accounts of the settlement period. Many broad backgrounds and several specific incidents in the biblical record prove to be consistent with the anthropological reconstruction of the society, while other features of the biblical stories seem to have no correlation at all to this historical reconstruction of the twelfth and eleventh centuries.

## 7. Jerusalem in Early Jewish-Christian Debate

Susan L. Graham, George A. Barton Fellow; Ph.D. Candidate, University of Notre Dame

The project examines the topography of sites in Jerusalem claimed as monuments of sacred history by Jews and Christians in the period between 135 and 634 C.E., in particular the physical relationships between commemorative sites that were subject to disagreement and even relocation. Topographical investigation of sacred sites offers a new line of inquiry in the attempt to reconstruct Jewish-Christian relations in late antiquity. This can be demonstrated by studies published over the past decade, such as that dealing with the polemic implicit in the position and location of the Holy Sepulchre complex and its various monuments, with reference to the Temple Mount and its former buildings. Much of the data for reconstructing early Jewish-Christian relations has come from Rabbinic and Christian biblical commentaries and anti-Jewish polemical treatises of the period, along with some historical works. Graham's study includes an examination of texts that describe the sites in late antiquity, especially travel accounts, which, when added to the data derived from the commentaries and polemical sources, make it possible to undertake a fresh reconstruction of the dynamics between Jews and Christians in late antiquity. The project will add to the existing studies an analysis of the remaining physical locations in Jerusalem that were part of early Christian and Jewish sacred traditions. Three classes of sites will be assessed: sites upon whose location early Christians and Jews agreed; sites whose locations were disputed by the two traditions; and sacred memorials that were subject to relocation by either community in late antiquity. The last will be a focus of the investigation. In addition to the resulting catalogue of sites, which will contribute to a fuller view of the role that sacred places played in early Jewish-Christian debate concerning Jerusalem, this





Gerald M. Bilkes, United States Information Agency Junior Research Fellow; Ph.D. Candidate, Princeton Theological Seminary

Achaemenid fiscal policies and Phoenician commerce introduced the use of minted exchange in Palestine during the course of the fifth century B.C.E. Although precious metals had previously functioned as unstandardized "money," political standardization and guarantee revolutionized economic relations and development. During this period in Palestine, Greek and Phoenician silver coins predominated, together with local Athenian tetradrachm imitations, produced and circulated by local mints, including those in Gaza, Samaria, Ashdod, Ashkelon, and Jerusalem. So far, studies of coinage in Persian period Palestine have usually focused on numismatics.

This project examines the economic impact of coinage in Palestine during the Persian period on the basis of material culture. The results of numismatic research are coordinated with the archaeological evidence of economic development. The latter involves the study of data relative to demography, settlement patterns, infrastructure, modes of production, and commerce. The material culture of coastal settlements such as Akhzib, Acco, Shiqmona, Dor, Jaffa, Yavneh, Ashdod, and Ashkelon clearly indicates economic build-up. The hinterland also appears to have benefited from the coastal economic gain. A comparison of the provenance and distribution of excavated coins with the archaeology and topography of economic development is crucial in tracing the effects of the implementation of coinage.

## 12. The Cultural Organization of Space: Architectural Variability and Spatial Patterning at Tel Miqne-Ekron in the Iron Age I

Laura B. Mazow, United States Information Agency Junior Research Fellow; University of Arizona

Tel Miqne-Ekron presents a unique opportunity to study, both synchronically and diachronically, the influence of culture on the social organization of space. A number of recent studies have suggested that architectural variability and the organization of space are strongly influenced by cultural determinants. Therefore, spatial distribution of ceramic types and other aspects of material culture in relation to the built environment may demonstrate patterns of activity areas and social organization that are culturally distinct. Excavations at Tel Miqne-Ekron have revealed a complex plan of Philistine urban development with distinctive functional zones: industrial, public, cultic and residential. The material culture of Ekron, exemplified by its distinct city plan, as well as unique architectural features, cultic installations, and the decorated ceramic assemblage, reflects the Aegean background of the inhabitants. The arrival of newcomers from the Aegean to Tel Miqne-Ekron at the beginning of the Iron I makes this 'foreign' urban settlement an excellent site to address the issue of cultural influences on architecture and the use of space, both domestic and public, in the initial stages of occupation and city-planning. A second issue to be addressed is the change over time in the organization of space as it relates to the acculturation of the Philistine culture to its new environment. The model proposed is that chronological changes in the make-up of the artifact assemblage can be used to discern changes in the functional use of architectural spaces. The marked changes in Philistine ceramics from the locally produced Mycenaean IIC:1b to the culturally related Philistine Bichrome, and the

contemporary changes in architectural layout observed at Ekron, suggest this site as an ideal place to address this issue.

### 13. Beth Shean in the Late Bronze Age

Robert A. Mullins, United States Information Agency Junior Research Fellow; Ph.D. Candidate and Research Assistant, Hebrew University

Egypt exercised control in Canaan during the Late Bronze Age, and historical texts and archaeological remains both testify to the role of Beth Shean in helping to administer this empire. In particular, the site's location in a fertile region at the strategic juncture of the Jezreel and Jordan Valleys endowed Beth Shean with an important military and economic advantage. This role, in addition to the site's biblical significance (cf. 1 Sam. 31), drew the attention of early archaeologists from the University of Pennsylvania who explored the tel (1921-1933) in one of the largest archaeological enterprises of its day.

The purpose of this project is to re-evaluate the stratigraphy, architecture and pottery of fifteenth-fourteenth century Beth Shean setting, or both? Are the "dramatic" elements of the judicial procedures indicated in the literary sources (oaths, warnings to the witnesses, declarations, punishments, etc.) reflected in the physical environment of these procedures? The project aims to evaluate the non-Talmudic and especially the non-literary sources pertaining to these questions. Extending the interaction between extra-Talmudic and Talmudic sources may prove to be fruitful for both fields. The relatively large amount of archaeological evidence from communal structures in Palestine enables a clearer evaluation of this material. This allows us to refine our knowledge of the Talmudic judicial procedure on the one hand, and to understand certain elements of the design and the architecture of the excavated communal buildings, on the other.

### 18. Anchor Bible Commentary on the Book of Jeremiah

Jack R. Lundbom, Senior Fellow (National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow); University of California-San Diego

The focus of this project is a study of the so-called "Foreign Nation Oracles" of Jeremiah 46-51 as part of a multi-volume commentary on Jeremiah (Anchor Bible). Specific archaeological sites on Judah's periphery which were occupied in the seventh and sixth centuries B.C.E., for example, Ashkelon, Ekron, Lachish and Arad, will be examined. Dead Sea Scrolls fragments of the text of Jeremiah will also be consulted.

### 19. A Scientific Commentary on Deutero-Isaiah

Shalom Paul, Senior Fellow; The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

The goal of this project is to write a scientific commentary on Deutero-Isaiah. This work combines textual, exegetical, literary and philological studies with the findings from the several scrolls of Isaiah from Qumran. It makes use of the best of the medieval and modern commentators. An added dimension is its extensive employment of the literary works from the

ancient Near East to further elucidate many passages in the prophecies, focusing on Mesopotamian, Ugaritic, Phoenician and Aramaic sources. Another feature is attention to the influence on the shape of the oracles of various earlier Biblical literary genres. Second Isaiah was highly influenced by his predecessors, primarily from the Torah and prophetic literature. The unique theological features of his prophecies are stressed, and he is shown to be the pinnacle of prophecy, both ideationally as well as lyrically.

## 20. Stratigraphy and Pottery of Area A, Tel Hamid

Samuel Wolff, Senior Fellow; Israel Antiquities Authority

Tel Hamid is located on the outskirts of Ramla, ca. 6 km northwest of Tel Gezer. The site, approximately 60 dunams in size, has been surveyed several times, but never previously excavated. Scholars have identified the site with Gat/Gittaim and Gibbethon of the Old Testament. Excavations in Area A, co-directed by S. Wolff and Alon Shavit in 1996, revealed stratified Iron Age remains dating from the tenth/ninth until the seventh century B.C.E., in addition to a limited Byzantine occupation. The architectural territories. The archaeological data from sites such as Ekron, Hazor, Megiddo, Lachish and Gezer, and evidence from Assyrian palace reliefs and other artifacts, are examined. These data help to reconstruct the consequences of this imperial system in terms of the local development of the conquered territories and also

The goal of the project is to investigate the value of archaeological excavations in evaluating living conditions of the populations of two exceptionally significant cities of Judea - Jerusalem and Caesarea. Several comparisons will be made, primary among them a comparison of literary sources with the material culture evidence. This study will examine to what extent living conditions in the two cities were similar and to what extent they differed, given that the external appearance and development of both cities were influenced by Herod the Great. In the second half of the first century C.E., the fate and living conditions of the two cities began to diverge. A comprehensive view of life in the two cities involves a complex set of conditions that includes natural environment, manufacturing, commerce, culture, religion, and every-day life. This project is limited, however, to studying the living conditions of the personally free population, and does not include the slave population. Also excluded are the highly privileged sections of society, whether of local origin or representatives of the Roman Empire. The study should serve both to illustrate the importance of archaeological evidence in establishing historical connections and as a basis for the further analysis of the environment in which Judaic, Early Christian and multi-level Roman culture developed.

#### 17. Aspects of the Jewish Judicial System and Procedure in Late Antiquity

Tamas Turan, Andrew W. Mellon Fellow; Center for Jewish Studies, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Hungary (Columbia University/Hebrew University)

Talmudic scholars and historians of Talmudic times have dealt extensively with the appointment of judges, the role and authority of the Patriarch, and other aspects of the judicial system in Talmudic Palestine and, to a much lesser degree, in Babylonia. Very little is known, however, about the historical setting in Palestine and Babylonia of several important elements of the administration of law and its procedures in late antiquity. In all the investigations, the Talmudic-midrashic literature has been the major source of historical information, without reference to the accumulated archeological evidence. In fact, in the case of Babylonia, it has been the only source, and will probably remain so for the foreseeable future.

Liturgy (Torah-reading, prayer, eulogies, sermons, etc.) and learning are two of the main forms

this material. This allows us to refine our knowledge of the Talmudic judicial procedure on the one hand, and to understand certain elements of the design and the architecture of the excavated communal buildings, on the other.

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21. Tel Miqne-Ekron: The Stratigraphy and Architecture of Field IV Lower in Iron Age I: The Early Philistine Period

Yosef Garfinkel, Post-Doctoral Fellow; Hebrew University of Jerusalem

The main focus of this project is to obtain information on the activities of the inhabitants of Tel Migne-Ekron, primarily during the Iron Age (1200-600 B.C.E.). The forensic sciences use trace evidence such as fibers and microparticles to provide information on human activities. This project will utilize microbiological techniques to examine the small and microscopic material collected from the living surfaces of Tel Migne. These microscopic examinations can provide insights into the ancient human activities at the site. During the 1996 summer excavation, samples were collected and documented and part of each sample was subjected to basic microscopic examinations on site, providing real time information and answers to questions posed by the field archaeologists. The preliminary analyses revealed that the soil samples were rich in microartifacts which varied from living surface to living surface. The laboratory-based examinations will concentrate on designing extraction schemes, looking at the finer particles, developing data bases, and modifying forensic guidelines for interpretation to suit the needs of archaeology. These examinations have already found that the microartifactual component of the different living areas varies.

## 25. Amphora Capacities and the Olive Oil Economy of Assyrian Ekron

Benjamin Porter, Research Fellow; University of Wyoming (Migne Fellow)

During the seventh century B.C.E., Ekron underwent tremendous economic growth as a new

29. Cereal-Grinding Equipment in Antiquity: The Levant and the Mediterranean Basin: Rafael Frankel, Senior Fellow; Haifa University

30. Commentary on the Torah: Richard E. Friedman, Senior Fellow; University of California-San Diego

31. The Roman to Islamic Pottery from the Nile House, Sepphoris: Barbara L. Johnson, Senior Fellow; Jerusalem

32. An Evaluation of the Philological Evidence for the Canaanites: Khaled Nashef, Senior Fellow; Birzeit University

33. \* Khirbet Belameh: Exploration of the Water System: Hamdan Taha, Senior Fellow; Palestinian Department of Antiquities

34. \* Tell el-Ful in the Middle Bronze Age: Shimon Gibson, Post-

43. Canaanite and Philistine Ceramic Decorative Motifs of the Late Bronze II and Iron I Periods: An Art Historical Analysis of Design Composition and Symbolic Coding: Anne Killebrew, Research Fellow; Haifa University, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

44. \* Zooarchaeology of the Philistine City of Ekron (Tel Mique): Justin Lev-Tov, Research Fellow; University of Tennessee (Mique Fellow)

45. Retributive Justice and the Wrath of God: A Comparative Study with Assyria/Babylon: Susan E. McGarry, Research Fellow; University of Michigan

46. The Late Bronze Age at Tel Batash-Timnah: Nava Panitz-Cohen, Research Fellow; The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

47. The Stratigraphy of the Site of Kh. Qumran: Its Evolution Compared with the History of Its People as Found in the Dead Sea Scrolls: Stephen J. Pfann, Research Fellow; The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

48. A New Suggestion to Interpret the Plan and Design of the Dome of the Rock: Haythem F. Ratrouf, Research Fellow; An-Najah National University, Nablus

49. The Impact of Diaspora on Contemporary Arabic Literature: Stefan Meyer, USIA/Council of American Overseas Research Centers Multi-County Fellow; Henry Ford and Washtenaw Community Colleges, Michigan

50. 'Re-Orienting' the Post-Modern: Contemporary Trends in Arabic and Hebrew Literature: Deborah Starr, USIA/Council of American Overseas Research Centers Multi-Country Fellow; University of Michigan

\* Continuation of 1996/97 projects; see reports in American Schools of Oriental Research Newsletter 47/3 (1997).

\*\* Abstract published in BASOR 303 (1996).

\*\*\* Abstract published in BASOR 303 (1996) (No. 14, Vikesh Singh)

## **ENDOWMENT FOR BIBLICAL RESEARCH TRAVEL FELLOWSHIP REPORTS AND RESEARCH GRANT REPORTS FOR THE 1997-1998 FELLOWSHIP YEAR**

Seminarians

[Mudaybi, Jordan Excavation, June 22-July 27, 1997](#)

Michael G. VanZant, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

[Tel Beth-Shemesh Excavations](#)

Jeffrey M. R. Kentel, Waterloo Lutheran Seminary

Tell el-Ahwat Excavations, Israel  
Ralph K Hawkins, School of Theology at the University of the South

Undergraduate Students:

[Bir Madhkur Excavations, Jordan](#)

Laura Brian, Willamette University

Aqaba Excavations, Jordan

Allen Katic, Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada

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