

[ROSAPAT 07]
[PADIS I]



ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE IN THE JERICHO OASIS

**A systematic catalogue of archaeological
sites for the sake of their protection
and cultural valorisation**

Edited by **LORENZO NIGRO - MAURA SALA - HAMDAN TAHA**



ROME 2011

«LA SAPIENZA» EXPEDITION TO PALESTINE & JORDAN

ROME «LA SAPIENZA»



EXPEDITION TO PALESTINE & JORDAN

ROME «LA SAPIENZA»



STUDIES ON THE
ARCHAEOLOGY
OF
PALESTINE &
TRANSJORDAN

07

UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA «LA SAPIENZA»

DIPARTIMENTO DI SCIENZE DELL'ANTICHITÀ

SEZIONE DI ORIENTALISTICA

EXPEDITION TO PALESTINE & JORDAN

[PADIS I]

ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE IN THE JERICHO OASIS

**A systematic catalogue of archaeological
sites for the sake of their protection
and cultural valorisation**

Edited by

LORENZO NIGRO - MAURA SALA - HAMDAN TAHA

with contributions by

LORENZO NIGRO, MAURA SALA, HAMDAN TAHA,
MARTA D'ANDREA, WAEL HAMAMRAH

ROME 2011

ROME «LA SAPIENZA» STUDIES
ON THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF PALESTINE & TRANSJORDAN

EDITOR: L. NIGRO

EDITORIAL BOARD:

I. BRANCOLI VERGER, M. SALA

VOLUME 07

L. NIGRO - M. SALA - H. TAHA (eds.)

*Archaeological Heritage in the Jericho Oasis. A systematic catalogue
of archaeological sites for the sake of their protection and cultural valorisation*
(= Rome «La Sapienza» Studies on the Archaeology of Palestine & Transjordan, 7)

© Copyright 2011 «La Sapienza» Expedition to Palestine & Jordan
Sezione di Orientalistica - Dipartimento di Scienze dell'Antichità
Via Palestro, 63 – 00185 Rome – ITALY

All rights reserved. Copy or reproduction of parts of text or illustrations is strictly
forbidden without the explicit written permission given by «La Sapienza»
Expedition to Palestine & Jordan.

pp. 336, 17 x 24 cm, B/W illustrations.

ISBN 9788888438108

ISSN 1826-9206

CONTENTS

0. Premise: protection of archaeological sites in the Jericho Oasis	
[by Lorenzo Nigro]	iii
0.1. General framework of the Project.....	iv
0.1.1. The method and the database.....	v
0.1.2. Articulation of the present volume	v
0.1.3. Site records	vi
Acknowledgements.....	vii
1. Introduction [by Lorenzo Nigro]	1
1.1. Activities on the field [by Lorenzo Nigro]	3
1.2. Distributive analysis and occupational study in the Jericho Oasis from the Neolithic up the Ottoman Period [by Lorenzo Nigro]	5
1.3. Comparative stratigraphy and history of occupation in the Jericho Oasis [by Maura Sala].....	28
2 History of travels, tours and explorations in the Jericho Oasis, from the earliest pilgrims to the current archaeological activities	
[by Marta D'Andrea - Maura Sala]	55
2.1 Jericho at the dawn of the Christian Era	55
2.2. Pilgrims and travellers from the Late Roman to the Renaissance Period	55
2.2.1. The itinerary of the Anonymous Pilgrim of Bordeaux: <i>Itinerarium Burdigalense</i> (333 AD).....	55
2.2.2. Egeria's travel book: <i>Itinerarium Egeriae</i> (ca. 400 AD).....	56
2.2.3. The journey of Paula by Jerome: <i>Epitaphium Paulae</i> (404 AD) ...	57
2.2.4. The travel guide by the archdeacon Theodosius: <i>De Situ Terrae Sanctae</i> (ca. 530 AD).....	57
2.2.5. The journey of the Anonymous Pilgrim of Piacenza: <i>Itinerarium Antonini Placentini</i> (ca. 570 AD)	58
2.2.6. The account of bishop Arculf: <i>Adamnani De Locis Sanctis</i> (ca. 670 AD), and Early Islamic pilgrimage	59
2.2.7. Medieval, Renaissance and later pilgrimage	59
2.3. Travellers and pioneeristic archaeologists of the 18 th - 19 th centuries....	61
2.3.1. Travel literature during the 18 th - 19 th centuries	61
2.3.2. E. Robinson's (1848, 1852) and V.H. Guérin's (1852, 1854, 1863, 1870, 1875) travels to Palestine	62
2.3.3. The Survey of Western Palestine by the Palestine Exploration Fund (1871-1878)	63
2.3.4. C. Warren's (1868-1869) and J.F. Bliss' (1894) soundings in the sites of the Jericho Oasis	64
2.3.5. Father J.L. Féderlin's survey of the monasteries of the Lower Jordan Valley	65
2.3.6. The activities of the <i>Deutsche Palästina Verein</i> in the Jericho Oasis by E. Sellin, C. Watzinger and A. Nöldecke (1907-1909, 1911) ...	65

2.4. Archaeological activities under the British Mandate (1920-1948)	67
2.4.1. The first British Expedition at Tell es-Sultan by J. Garstang (1930-1936)	67
2.4.2. D.C. Baramki and St.H. Stephan's excavations at the Nestorian Hermitage (1933), and J.L. Kelso and D.C. Baramki's excavations at Tell el-Ḥassan (1934)	68
2.4.3. D.C. Baramki and R. Hamilton's excavations at Khirbet el-Mafjar (1935-1938)	68
2.5. Augustin Augustinović and his work <i>Gerico e dintorni</i>	69
2.6. Archaeological activities under the Jordanian administration (1948-1967)	70
2.6.1. The Excavations at Tulul Abu el-'Alayiq by J.L. Kelso and D.C. Baramki (1950), and J.B. Pritchard (1951)	70
2.6.2. The Excavations at Khirbet en-Nitla by J.L. Kelso and D.C. Baramki (1950)	71
2.6.3. The second British Expedition to Tell es-Sultan by Kathleen M. Kenyon (1952-1958)	71
2.6.4. J. Mellaart's survey and soundings in the Jordan Valley (1953) ...	72
2.7. Archaeological surveys and excavations in the West Bank during the Israeli military administration (1967-1993)	72
2.7.1. E. Netzer's excavations in the Jericho Plain: Tell el-'Aqaba/Cypros (1974), Tell es-Samarat (1975-1977), and Tulul Abu el-'Alayiq (1973-1983; 1986-1987; 1998-2000)	74
2.7.2. Y. Hirschfeld's survey of the Byzantine monasteries	75
2.7.3. O. Sion's survey of the monasteries of the "Desert of Jordan"	76
2.8. Archaeological activities under the Department of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage (MOTA - DACH) of the Palestinian National Authority (1994-2010)	76
3. Catalogue of the sites in the Jericho Oasis and its surroundings [by Marta D'Andrea - Maura Sala]	95
3.1. List of the sites in the Jericho Oasis and its surroundings	95
3.2. Catalogue of the sites in the Jericho Oasis and its surroundings	99
4. Bibliography of the sites in the Jericho Oasis and its surroundings [by Marta D'Andrea - Maura Sala]	171
Plates	227
Appendix A. Archaeological excavations in Jericho, 1995-2010 [by Hamdan Taha]	269
Appendix B. The Jericho Oasis during the Hellenistic and Roman Periods (332 BC - 324 AD) [by Wael Hamamrah]	305
Arabic abstract	1*-5*

2. History of travels, tours and explorations in the Jericho Oasis, from the earliest pilgrims to the current archaeological activities [by Marta D'Andrea - Maura Sala]¹

2.1. Jericho at the dawn of the Christian Era

Jesus passed through Jericho, where he cured two blind men and converted Zacchaeus, the tax collector. After these earliest events, in the 4th century AD the local church was led by a bishop, who had a Gentile name, Januarius, and took part in the Council of Nicaea in 325. It thus seems that the Jerichoan community at that time was made up mostly of Christians of Gentile lineage. Other bishops in union with the Jerusalem church succeeded Januarius, and took part in various councils: Macer was at Constantinople in 381; Eleutherius at Lydda in 415, and John and Gregory were present at the councils held in Jerusalem, respectively in 518 and 536².

Because of its religious role and significance, Jericho became soon a place of pilgrimage, and many pilgrims and travellers started to visit the site and the Oasis during the Late Roman and Byzantine Periods³, in an epoch of flowering of churches, and diffusion of monasticism in the surrounding hills of the Judean Desert⁴. Some of them left written accounts of their journeys.

2.2. Pilgrims and travellers from the Late Roman to the Renaissance Period

The Madaba mosaic map shows us Jericho in the 6th century. To the left is the inscription 'of St. Eliseus', over a domed church flanked by two towers: such a church represents ancient Jericho. Then, after an empty space, is the caption 'Jericho', marking the Byzantine city enclosed by a wall and surrounded by palms⁵. This dichotomy of places of Byzantine Jericho is attested to also by contemporary pilgrims.

2.2.1. The itinerary of the Anonymous Pilgrim of Bordeaux: *Itinerarium Burdigalense* (333 AD)

The earliest known account of exploration pertaining to ancient Jericho dates back to 333 AD and was written by the Anonymous Pilgrim of

¹ M. Sala wrote §§ 2.1., 2.2., 2.5., 2.8.; M. D'Andrea wrote §§ 2.3., 2.4., 2.6., 2.7.

² Fedalto 1983, 35.

³ Hunt ed. 1982.

⁴ Hirschfeld 1992; Binns 1994.

⁵ Avi-Yonah 1954, 22, 44.

Bordeaux⁶. He visited Jericho coming from Jerusalem and wrote: "Coming down the mountain to the right, behind a tomb, is the sycamore tree which Zacchaeus climbed in order to see Christ. One thousand five hundred paces from the city is the spring of the prophet Elisha [...] That was the site of the city of Jericho around whose walls the children of Israel marched with the Ark of the Covenant, and the walls fell down" (*Itinerarium Burdigalense* 596-597; *CCSL* 175, 18-19)⁷. According to this anonymous writer, the distance between the two places was around 2.5 kilometres, while according to archdeacon Theodosius, a 6th-century pilgrim (see § 2.2.4.), it was 3 kilometres (*De Situ Terrae Sanctae*, ch. 19; *CCSL* 175, 121).

2.2.2. Egeria's travel book: *Itinerarium Egeriae* (ca. 400 AD)

Egeria's travel book was lost for seven hundred years. When a copy of the manuscript was found in Italy in the late 19th century, it proved to be only the middle of the book⁸. No doubt the name of the pilgrim and some clue

⁶ *CCSL* 175, 1-26; Wilson 1896; Wilkinson 1981, 153-161 (Engl. transl.); Wilkinson - Hill - Ryan 1988, 4. Also known as the *Itinerarium Hierosolymitanum* in the Holy Land, this account is the earliest known Christian *itinerarium*, written by an anonymous pilgrim from Burdigala (present-day Bordeaux; the name of the author is not known, but it is generally assumed that the author was a native of Bordeaux, because the itinerary starts from there). It tells of the writer's journey to the Holy Land in 333-334 AD, by land through northern Italy and the Danube valley to Constantinople, then through Asia Minor and Syria to Jerusalem, and then back through Macedonia, Otranto, Rome, and Milan. The *Itinerarium* survives in four manuscripts, all written between the 8th and 10th centuries: two of them include only the Judean portion of the trip, which is the fullest one in topographical glosses on the visited sites.

⁷ The section of the *Itinerarium Burdigalense* concerning Jericho and its surroundings contains a significant number of Old and New Testament references: to Elisha's Spring, to the house of the prostitute Rahab (Joshua 2, 1-21), to the site of the Jericho destroyed by the Israelites (Joshua 6), to the twelve stones marking the resting place of the Ark of the Covenant (Joshua 4), to the place where Joshua circumcised the children of Israel (Joshua 5, 2-9), to the hillock from where Elijah ascended into heaven (2 Kings 2), to the sycamore which Zacchaeus, the tax collector, climbed to see Jesus (Luke 19, 1-10) and to the place of the river where John baptized Jesus (Matthew 3, 13-17).

⁸ *CCSL* 175, 27-90; Wilkinson 1981, 91-147, 180-210 (Engl. transl.). The one surviving manuscript of Egeria's travel book was copied out in the 11th century, probably in the renowned monastery of Monte Cassino (it was copied in the *Codex Aretinus*). It later passed into the hands of the community of St. Flora at Arezzo, perhaps in 1599, when Ambrose Rastrellini came from Monte Cassino to be abbot at Arezzo, and at Arezzo it stayed until in 1810, when it became the property of a Lay Fraternity in the city. The importance of the manuscript remained

about the date of the journey would have appeared either at the beginning or the end of the account, but it seems most likely that the pilgrim was called Egeria and that she visited the East between 381 and 384 AD, coming from the Atlantic coast, from Aquitaine, or from Galicia, or from some other western province of the Roman empire. Egeria wrote down her observations on her travels in the Holy Land in a letter, now called *Itinerarium Egeriae*, or the Travels of Egeria. Among her journeys, in the summer of 383, Egeria explored Galilee. She also went to Hebron and Mamre, and to Jericho, where she climbed the Mount of Temptations, and visited holy places of the Hebrew and Christian scriptures.

2.2.3. The journey of Paula by Jerome: *Epitaphium Paulae* (404 AD)

In the 380ies the noble Roman woman Paula decided to emulate Elena's journey to the Holy Land. Jerome, Paula's spiritual advisor, recorded her pilgrimage and her pious life in an *epitaphium*, composed around twenty years after her journey, in the form of a letter to her daughter, Eustochium⁹. Together with her daughter Eustochium, Paula left from Italy in the mid-380ies. Paula's *itinerarium* to Pontia, Cyprus, Antioch, Jerusalem, Bethlehem and Nitria in Egypt fits the symbolic pattern of other charitable Christian women's journeys to the sacred places of the Holy Land. In Palestine she tours the holy places of Hebrew and Christian scriptures. When she arrived at the city of Jericho, she visited the tree of Zacchaeus, the Elisha's Spring and the place where it was believed that the two blind men received their sight from Christ.

2.2.4. The travel guide by the archdeacon Theodosius: *De Situ Terrae Sanctae* (ca. 530 AD)

The archdeacon Theodosius was commissioned to compile a new topography and pilgrims' itinerary of the Holy Land. The result was his *De Situ Terrae Sanctae*, from around 530 AD, where he clearly lists the toparchies of the visited places (Jericho, Emmaus, Lod, Jaffa, Acrabatene, Gofna, Tamna, Beit-Nettif, Herodium and Orine).

The archdeacon Theodosius is also the first to locate the place of the Baptism on the west side of Jordan River (Byzantine Bethabara)¹⁰ and to mention the church built by the Emperor Anastasius at the end of the 5th century in honour of Saint John the Baptist. The church was built on arches

unrecognised until 1884, when it was discovered by the Italian scholar Gian Francesco Gamurrini, who immediately began to prepare it for publication. His first edition appeared in 1887. It was first published with an English translation by J.H. Bernard in 1891.

⁹ Jerome - Stewart - Wilson 1885; Hilberg (ed.) 1912.

¹⁰ Site cat. n. 34.

so as to keep the flooding water away from it, and a marble column surmounted by an iron cross rose from the water to indicate the place where Jesus was baptised. Theodosius writes: "At the place where my Lord was baptized is a marble column, and on top of it has been set an iron cross. There is also the Church of Saint John the Baptist, which was constructed by the Emperor Anastasius. It stands on great vaults which are high enough for when the Jordan is in flood" (Theodosius, *De Situ Terrae Sanctae*, 20). The construction of a new church on the more accessible west bank of the river succeeded in attracting the toponym of the place, as it appears also in the Madaba map. This place is likely to be identified with the convent of Prodomos, built by the Emperor Anastasius (491-518 AD), the standing ruins of which are now identifiable with Qasr el-Yehud¹¹. Starting from the 6th century a major festival took place there on the feast of Epiphany. It is well described by the Anonymous Pilgrim of Piacenza (§ 2.2.5.).

2.2.5. The journey of the Anonymous Pilgrim of Piacenza: *Itinerarium Antonini Placentini* (ca. 570 AD)

In the second half of the 6th century, when the mosaicists of Madaba were making the mosaic map, the Anonymous Pilgrim of Piacenza passed through Jericho and was charmed by its tropical vegetation, grapes and palms. He noted that the 'potiston' wine, given as a cure for fever, was made here; here grew dates (some specimens of which he brought back to Italy), citrons, beans, besides early grapes, which were sold in Jerusalem for the feast of the Ascension, and which produced new wine by the feast of Pentecost (*Itinerarium Antonini Placentini*, chs. 13-15; *CCSL* 175, 136-137). The Pilgrim of Piacenza took part in the festival acted at the place of the church of Prodomos, built by the Emperor Anastasius and already mentioned by the archdeacon Theodosius. At his time, the tradition concerning the place of the baptism was already split into two: the proper place of the baptism on the west bank (Byzantine Bethabara)¹², near St. John's church (thus definitively disregarding Eusebius' tradition, which was no longer accepted), and the spring of St. John, two miles from the eastern bank of the Jordan, a centre of hermits (the place called Sapsas).

The following religious buildings are also quoted by the above-mentioned travellers: the church near the Elisha's Spring¹³, that appears in the Madaba map; a chapel dedicated to St. Mary with a *xenodochium* (i.e. a hospice for

¹¹ Site cat. n. 70.

¹² *CCSL* 175, 127-174; Amit - Patrich - Hirschfeld eds. 2002, plan.

¹³ Site cat. n. 21.

pilgrims), over the 'house of Rahab' in old Jericho; and outside Byzantine Jericho, on the Jerusalem road, an oratory which enclosed the tree climbed by Zacchaeus.

Monastic sources record also a *xenodochium* founded by St. Sabas, another one belonging to the monastery of St. Euthymius, a hospital built by St. Theodosius, and various monasteries. In the 1950ies, father Augustinović would have enumerated these monasteries with meticulous care in his book *Gerico e dintorni* (§ 2.5.).

2.2.6. The account of bishop Arculf: *Adamnani De Locis Sanctis* (ca. 670 AD), and Early Islamic pilgrimage

After the passing of the Persian army in 614 and the arrival of the Arabs in 638, Jericho fell into decline, so that in 670 the French pilgrim Arculf saw nothing but ruins there (*De Locis Sanctis* II, 13-14; *CCSL* 175, 212-213). He saw also a wooden cross in the river and the ruins of the church, mentioned by the archdeacon Theodosius as the place of the church of Saint John the Baptist constructed by the Emperor Anastasius.

In the 8th century, Epiphanius crossed the Jericho Oasis and supposed a "small castrum" (Qasr †ajla?) to be the burial place of St. Gerasimus (*Descriptio Terrae Sanctae* 11).

Despite the great fertility of the region, in this period Jericho was almost abandoned because of its insecurity.

On the contrary, the Jerusalem-Jericho road was one of the main routes used by Mediterranean Arabs to make a pilgrimage to Mecca. Later on, a great, many-domed building, which marked the Mausoleum of Moses (Maqam an-Nabi Musa)¹⁴, was located at what represented the end of the first day of march. Originally, it was simply a point from which pilgrims could look across the Jordan Valley and catch a glimpse of Mount Nebo, where the tomb of Moses was thought to be located.

Jericho and the Jordan Valley were, then, mentioned in several early Medieval and Arab sources. Al-Yaqubi described Jericho as the capital of the Ghor; al-Maqdesi, who died in 985, and Ibn Hawaqal, who died in 977, described the plantation of sugar cane, palm trees, bananas, indigo, and cosmetic plants in the Jordan Valley.

2.2.7. Medieval, Renaissance and later pilgrimage

When the Crusaders occupied Palestine in 1099, Jericho was nothing more than a 'Saracen Village', as defined by the Russian abbot Daniel in 1106-1107. Again, many years later, in 1172, the pilgrim Theoderic described it as a 'small village'. However, the land was exploited by the Crusaders, who

¹⁴ Site cat. n. 57.

made it a fief of the Sisters of Bethany, and cultivated canes for the sugar industry (the mills of Tawaheen es-Sukkar)¹⁵. Yaqut al-Hamawi described Jericho in 1225 as a city located in the Ghor, famous for sugar cane, dates, and bananas. During the Crusader Period, the city was described also by Ali al-Hiri, who mentioned the birthplace of Moses at Maqam an-Nabi Musa.

When the Crusaders left, Jericho once again became insecure because of the dangers of the road leading down from Jerusalem to the Jordan River, and the whole area of the Lower Jordan Valley and the Dead Sea fell into the hands of Bedouins. Thus, in 1283 the Dominican Father Burchard de Monte Sion (*Descriptio Terrae Sanctae*) found no more than eight houses in the Jericho Oasis (probably the village of 'Ain ḩajla¹⁶, around 5.7 km from Jericho centre)¹⁷.

In 1347, Father Niccolò da Poggibonsi stopped at Jericho during his pilgrimage in the Holy Land, on his way back from the Jordan, and left this description: "One finds a lodging house, but such a one as has neither bed nor board: within it is an open space and there people rest". And he wrote this about the city: "It is completely ruined and there is but one mansion with a bit of a tower, and low houses around it"¹⁸.

In 1483-1484, also the Dominican Felix Fabri¹⁹ stopped at Jericho and he visited, in particular, the Crusader mills of Tawaheen es-Sukkar²⁰, which were still in use during the Mamluk Period, while he registered only ruins at the place of St. George's Monastery/Monastery of Choziba in the Wadi Qelt²¹.

The tower recorded by Father Niccolò da Poggibonsi at the centre of Byzantine Jericho was seen and remarked upon until modern times. In 1669 Father Morone (*Terra Santa* I, 318) said that Jericho is "now reduced to a miserable hamlet, nor does one see any building worth of note, except the house of Zacchaeus [...] which has a large tower". The tower is nowadays located in the Russian property.

In 1697 Henry Mundrell described Jericho as a small, poor Arab village.

On the other hand, the Jerusalem-Jericho road continued to be travelled by pilgrims going to Mecca, and passing by the place of the Mausoleum of

¹⁵ Site cat. n. 92.

¹⁶ Site cat. n. 23.

¹⁷ Taylor 2009, 15.

¹⁸ Da Poggibonsi 1996, 86-87.

¹⁹ Hassler (ed.) 1843.

²⁰ Site cat. n. 92.

²¹ Deir Mar Jariys/Deir el-Qelt (site cat. n. 41). The monastery was, in facts, restored only afterwards in Ottoman Period.

Moses (Maqam an-Nabi Musa). In 1269 the Mamluk sultan Baibars al-Bunduqdari built here a small shrine, as part of a general policy he adopted after conquering towns and rural areas from Lebanon down to Hebron from the Crusaders. Many sanctuaries were built, mostly dedicated to biblical prophets and Mohammed's companions.

Baibars al-Bunduqdari's constructive piety set a precedent for others, and hostels for travellers were built next to the shrine during the Late Medieval Period. Gradually, the lookout point for Moses' distant gravesite beyond the Jordan was confused with Moses' tomb itself, laying the ground for the cultic importance which Nabi Musa would have acquired in the Palestinian worship of saints.

2.3. Travellers and pioneeristic archaeologists of the 18th - 19th centuries

2.3.1. Travel literature during the 18th - 19th centuries

A growing antiquarian interest in Europe and America during the 18th and 19th centuries produced a new literary genre, which gave accounts of historical and documentary travels. Although it was mainly focused on European and Classical antiquities, some travellers, moved by a religious interest, crossed also the Near East, and described their ventures in travel accounts, providing us with precious descriptions and information about ancient sites and monuments prior to substantial changes of the late 19th century and beyond. Just to quote the most famous ones, who provided the basis for the first scientific explorations carried out some decades after (§ 2.3.2.), they are: Adrian Reland²², Richard Pococke (1704-1765)²³, and John Lewis Burckhardt (1784-1817)²⁴.

It was Napoleon's campaign to Egypt and Southern Levant (1798-1799) that launched the journeys throughout the Near East for the sake of exploration. The 19th century thus saw, aside missionaries and diplomats, a growing number of European and American voyagers leaving for the Near East, often artists, painters and photographers, inspired by the same concept of the so-called *Grand Tour* throughout Europe, who left valuable evidence of vanished landscapes and monuments. Amongst the best renown contributions are Charles Wilson's descriptions and James Robertson's photographic collection.

²² Reland 1714.

²³ Pococke 1745.

²⁴ Burckhardt 1822.

In the first half of the century, many diaries were published by private voyagers²⁵, such as those of Thomas Cook (1808-1892)²⁶, Edward Daniel Clarke (1769-1822)²⁷, Ulrich Jasper Seetzen (1767-1811)²⁸, John Lloyd Stephens (1805-1852)²⁹, Rev. Horatius Bonar (1808-1889)³⁰, Rev. George Fisk³¹, Rev. Henry Stafford Osborn (1823-1894)³², and Rev. Henry Baker Tristram (1822-1906)³³, Sir Frederick Henniker (1793-1825)³⁴, Richard Newton (1813-1887)³⁵, Henry Andrew Harper (1835-1900)³⁶.

2.3.2. E. Robinson's (1848, 1852) and V.H. Guérin's (1852, 1854, 1863, 1870, 1875) travels to Palestine

It was the American biblist Edward Robinson (1794-1863), who paved the way for a modern approach to Biblical topography. Professor of Biblical Literature at the Union Theological Seminary of Boston, he made his first travel to Palestine in 1838. He knew the works of travellers such as A. Reland and J.L. Burckhardt (§ 2.3.1.), and Karl Georg von Raumer's volume *Palästina* (1835), collecting available information from literary sources³⁷. His travel accounts were first published in 1841³⁸. He left a second time for Palestine in 1852, together with his pupil, Eli Smith, then become a missionary, experienced with Palestinian geography and trained with Arab language. This fact, coupled with Robinson's knowledge of the Bible, allowed the right identification of more than one hundred sites. Their venture was published in 1856³⁹. E. Robinson and E. Smith visited sites also in the Jericho Oasis, that were 'Ain Duq, 'Ain es-Sultan, 'Ain †ajla, the monastery of Deir Mar Yuhanna †ajla, Birket Musa, Burg ar-Ri- a, the

²⁵ Khatib 2003, 55-58; Hallote 2006, 29-32.

²⁶ Cook 1876 (in particular on the Jericho Oasis see pp. 230-237).

²⁷ Clarke 1810-1819.

²⁸ Seetzen 1854.

²⁹ Stephens 1837.

³⁰ Bonar 1858 (in particular on the Jericho Oasis see pp. 296-305).

³¹ Fisk 1843.

³² Osborn 1855; 1868.

³³ Tristram 1865; 1876.

³⁴ Henniker 1823.

³⁵ Newton 1870.

³⁶ Harper 1894.

³⁷ King 1983, 1-6; Moorey 1991, 14-16.

³⁸ Robinson 1841.

³⁹ Robinson - Smith 1856. Much of Robinson's work later on flowed also into Ritter's *Vergleichende Erkundte der Sinai-Halbinsel von Palästina u. Syrie* (1848-1855), whose drafts Robinson had employed during his second travel to Palestine as a basis for his investigations (Moorey 1991, 14-16).

Maqam an-Nabi Musa, Khirbet Qaqun, Deir Quruntel, Tell es-Samarat, Tell es-Sultan, and Tawaheen es-Sukkar⁴⁰.

At the end of the 19th century, Victor H. Guérin also started his exploration voyages to Palestine, on the behalf of the French government and the *Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres*, visiting Palestine five times in 1852, 1854, 1863, 1870, 1875⁴¹. Guérin visited many sites in the Jericho Oasis, such as 'Ain es-Sultan, 'Ain †ajla, Deir Mar Yuhanna †ajla, Deir †ajla, Khirbet en-Nitla, Qasr el-Yehud, Castellum Dock, and Deir Quruntel⁴².

2.3.3. The Survey of Western Palestine by the Palestine Exploration Fund (1871-1878)

The *Palestine Exploration Fund* (PEF), founded in London in 1865 with the aim of "promoting research into the archaeology and history, manners and customs and culture, topography, geology and natural sciences of biblical Palestine and the Levant"⁴³, launched a new phase of archaeological investigation in Palestine, involving no more individual researchers, but teams of specialists, also supported by the Royal Engineers of the British War Office. The PEF pursued two main tasks: 1) the creation of a modern plan of Palestine; and 2) the systematic survey of Jerusalem.

After a preliminary investigation in 1865-1866 by Major General Sir Charles William Wilson (1836-1905)⁴⁴, the *Survey of Western Palestine* started under the direction of Marquess Frederick William Robert Stewart (1805-1872), and soon after of Lieutenant Claude Reignier Conder (1848-1910) and Lieutenant Horatio Herbert Kitchener (1850-1916), lasting from 1871 to 1878⁴⁵, and ending up in the publication of a map of Southern Levant in 1880⁴⁶, and of the nine volumes of *Memoirs*, edited in 1881-1886⁴⁷. Single surveyors also published their own accounts of the Expedition, such as C.R. Conder⁴⁸ and C. Clermont-Ganneau (1846-1923)⁴⁹.

⁴⁰ Respectively, sites cat. ns 15, 21, 23, 28, 38, 39, 57, 69, 76, 82, 85, 92.

⁴¹ Guérin 1874; 1884.

⁴² Respectively, sites cat. ns 21, 23, 28, 40, 66, 70, 75, 76.

⁴³ Original statement by F.J. Bliss (Bliss 1906, viii); King 1983, 7; Moorey 1991, 19.

⁴⁴ Wilson 1880-1884.

⁴⁵ King 1983, 7-8.

⁴⁶ Conder - Kitchener 1880.

⁴⁷ Conder - Kitchener 1881; 1882; 1883; Palmer 1881; Saunders 1881; Wilson *et al.* 1881; Warren - Conder 1884; Tristram 1885; Hull 1886.

⁴⁸ Conder 1878.

⁴⁹ Clermont-Ganneau 1896; King 1983, 9.

During the survey about 9000 Arab toponyms were recorded, many of them for the first time, although identifications proposed – especially Biblical ones – were often misleading and many of the sites could not be dated⁵⁰. Nevertheless, the *Survey of Western Palestine* provided the basis for any future work on topography and historical geography of ancient Palestine. Many sites in the Jericho Oasis were recorded by the *Survey*, namely: Tell Abu el-'Alayiq North, Tell Abu el-'Alayiq South, Tell Abu Hindi, Tell Abu Zelef, 'Ain Duq and its surroundings, 'Ain es-Sultan, Tell el-'Aqaba, Deir Mar Yuhanna †ajla, Tell el-Arays, Beit Jabr el-Fauqani, Beit Jabr et-Ta-tani, Birket Giljulyeh, Birket Musa, Deir †ajla, Deir Mar Jariys, Teleilat Jaljulyiya, Tell el-Jurn, Khirbet el-Mafjar, Tell el-Ma#lab, Khirbet en-Nitla, Nu%eib 'Uweishira, Khirbet Qaqun, Qasr el-Yehud, Tell el-Qos, Castellum Dock, Deir Quruntel, Rujm el-Mugheifir North, Rujm el-Mugheifir South, the Byzantine aqueduct nearby, Tell es-Samarat, Tell es-Sultan, Tahunet el-Mafjar, Tawaheen es-Sukkar⁵¹.

2.3.4. C. Warren's (1868-1869) and J.F. Bliss' (1894) soundings in the sites of the Jericho Oasis

Although many pilgrims and travellers had visited the Jericho Oasis, it was not until 1868 that the first preliminary excavations were undertaken, in the framework of the activities carried out in Southern Levant by the newborn PEF, by Captain Charles Warren (1840-1927), an officer of the British Royal Engineers, who made preliminary investigations at Tell es-Sultan, Tulul Abu el-'Alayiq and Tell es-Samarat⁵².

Warren's excavations at Tell es-Sultan⁵³ did not produce any archaeological result, leading him to conclude that the site was composed by natural deposits only and lacked any proper historical interest⁵⁴.

In 1868 C. Warren cut also an east-west trench across the top of Tell es-Samarat⁵⁵, which would have been subsequently identified with the site of Herod's hippodrome in Jericho, known from the literary sources, but he

⁵⁰ Moorey 1991, 19.

⁵¹ Respectively, sites cat. ns 1, 7, 10, 14, 15, 16, 21, 28, 31, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38, 40, 41, 44, 45, 50, 58, 66, 67, 69, 70, 74, 75, 76, 78, 79, 80, 82, 85, 91, 92.

⁵² He made his probes with the technique of digging tunnels employed in military operations, as he had done during the previous year in Jerusalem.

⁵³ Site cat. n. 85.

⁵⁴ Warren 1969a; 1869b, 14-16. Warren's tunnel missed the Pre-Pottery Neolithic Tower in Kenyon's Trench I just of 1 m.

⁵⁵ Site cat. n. 82.

supposedly did find nothing noteworthy even there, since the site deserves little interest in his notes.

In 1869, at last, Captain Warren made some soundings also on the two mounds of Tulul Abu el-'Alayiq⁵⁶, on the banks of the Wadi Qelt, which later on would have turned out to be the site of Late Hellenistic (Hasmonean) and Roman (Herodian) Jericho.

Investigations at Tell es-Sultan were subsequently renewed in 1894, again on the behalf of the PEF, by Frederick Jones Bliss (1857-1939)⁵⁷, who made some soundings at the bottom of the ancient mound and – according to the Biblical perspective spreading through at that time – believed to have found the remains of the walls tumbled down at the sound of Joshua's trumpets, according to the renown Biblical account (Joshua 6, 1-27).

2.3.5. Father J.L. Féderlin's survey of the monasteries of the Lower Jordan Valley

An extensive exploration of the monasteries in the plain south and east of Jericho was carried out by Father J.L. Féderlin of the White Fathers, from 1899 until the first years of the 19th century. Féderlin located and mapped 38 monasteries⁵⁸, correctly identifying many of them. The sites of the Jericho Oasis which he visited were 'Ain Duq, 'Ain el-Gharabe and the nearby Byzantine bridge, the Monastery of the Towers, Penthucla, another unidentified monastery in the area of 'Ain †ajla, Deir Mar Yuhanna †ajla, Deir †ajla, Khirbet en-Nitla, a site with a mosaic and an unidentified building (which he thought to be the Laura of Gerasimus), Rujm el-Mugheifir North, Rujm el-Mugheifir South, the Laura of the Aeliotas, the Laura of Peter, Soubiba of the Bessians and Soubiba of the Syrian along the Wadi Qelt, and, finally, Zuayat⁵⁹.

2.3.6. The activities of the *Deutsche Palästina Verein* in the Jericho Oasis by E. Sellin, C. Watzinger and A. Nöldecke (1907-1909, 1911)

From 1900 the *Deutsche Palästina Verein* (DPV), a German prestigious cultural institution founded in 1877, started archaeological activities in Palestine⁶⁰.

⁵⁶ Sites cat. ns 1, 7; Warren 1876, 192-197; Conder - Kitchener 1883, 222.

⁵⁷ Bliss 1894, 175-183; King 1983, 20-23.

⁵⁸ Féderlin 1903, 120.

⁵⁹ Respectively, sites cat. ns 15, 17, 25, 26, 27, 28, 40, 66, 72, 72, 78, 79, 97, 98, 99, 100, 103.

⁶⁰ King 1983, 9-10. For a critical synthesis of the DPV field activities in Southern Levant at the end of the Ottoman empire see Nigro 2004; in particular, for excavations at Tell es-Sultan see pp. 221-225.

Two of its members, the theologian and biblist Ernst Sellin (1867-1946)⁶¹ and the classic archaeologist Carl Watzinger (1877-1948), focused their interest on the Jericho Oasis, resuming investigations at Tell es-Samarat, Tulul Abu el-'Alayiq and Tell es-Sultan, on the behalf of the DPV and with the support of *Deutsche Orient-Gesellschaft*.

At Tell es-Samarat some soundings were made in 1909, discovering *opus reticulatum* walls, correctly identified by the two scholars with the remains of structures dating back to the Roman (Herodian) Period⁶². The mound of Tell Abu el-'Alayiq South was object of limited probes by E. Sellin, C. Watzinger and A. Nöldecke in 1909, and in 1911 a general survey of the area was carried out⁶³.

At Tell es-Sultan, instead, the two scholars undertook the first scientific and systematic archaeological excavation of Southern Levant in years 1907-1909⁶⁴, resulted in a masterly final report, published by the *Deutsche Orient-Gesellschaft*, in which for the first time finds were arranged by periods and classes of evidence, and supplied with photos and accurate architectural sections and plans⁶⁵. The main results of their excavations at the site were: the discovery and plotting of the EB II-III mudbrick city-wall on top of the mound and the so-called "Cyclopean Wall" at its bottom⁶⁶; the excavation of the EB III dwelling quarter on the northern plateau; and the excavation of superimposed buildings (from the Iron Age up to Early Bronze Age) on the top and western side of the *Quellhügel* (Spring Hill). Furthermore, two east-west trenches across the site were cut north and south of the Spring Hill, reaching in some spots the deepest EB II levels. A periodization of the site was also advanced, comprehending *prähistorische*, *kanaanitische*, *israelitische* and *jüdische* periods. While the methodology employed in constructing the chronological grid was surprisingly advanced for that time, the historical interpretation was affected in some instances by the so-called *Bibel und Babel Querelle*, arisen on the historicity of the

⁶¹ King 1983, 14-15, 46-47.

⁶² Sellin - Watzinger 1913, 12; Augustinović 1951, 51-52.

⁶³ Sellin - Watzinger - Nöldecke 1909; Sellin - Watzinger 1913, 12; Augustinović 1951, 51-52; Netzer 1993b, 682.

⁶⁴ Sellin - Watzinger - Langenegger 1908; Sellin - Watzinger - Nöldecke 1909; Sellin - Watzinger 1913.

⁶⁵ Sellin - Watzinger 1913.

⁶⁶ This massive wall was thought to be a freestanding structure by Sellin and Watzinger and its real function as inner retaining wall of the MB III (1650-1550 BC) rampart has been subsequently clarified by the Italian-Palestinian Expedition in years 1997-2000 (Marchetti - Nigro eds. 1998, 135-154; 2000, 217-218).

Biblical narratives. Thus, some cultural *facies*, correctly recognized through the material culture, were attributed to a wrong chronological and historical horizon⁶⁷. It is worth noting, however, that, when after little more than a decade, thanks to the work and, above all, pottery reading carried out by W.F. Albright and E.G. Wright, the actual dating of Tell es-Sultan stratified sequence became clear, Carl Watzinger promptly rectified his conclusions with remarkable intellectual honesty⁶⁸.

2.4. Archaeological activities under the British Mandate (1920-1948)

Following the end of the Ottoman Empire (1918), Palestine fell under the British Mandatory Government and a Department of Antiquities was created⁶⁹. British and American universities and institutions led some major excavations in the Oasis, among which those at Tell es-Sultan by John Garstang and those at the Early Islamic site of Khirbet el-Mafjar by Sir Robert Hamilton stem out. Excavations at the Nestorian Hermitage, Tell el-ḥassan and Khirbet en-Nitla were also carried out by James L. Kelso, starting to enlighten also the Byzantine occupation of the Oasis, so well testified by a plenty of literary sources.

2.4.1. The first British Expedition to Tell es-Sultan by J. Garstang (1930-1936)

Archaeological excavations at Tell es-Sultan were resumed between 1930 and 1936 by John Garstang (1876-1956), on the behalf of the Liverpool University and Sir Charles Marston's⁷⁰ patronage, with the major aim of verifying Watzinger's claims concerning the actual chronology of the mudbrick fortifications encircling the summit of the tell⁷¹. Garstang never changed his mind on this topic and attributed the EB III city-wall to the

⁶⁷ In fact, EB II structures were initially dated to the prehistory (*prähistorische*), EB III occupation to the Middle Bronze (*kanaanitische*) and EB IV remains to the Late Bronze Age (*spätkanaanitische*), the Middle and Late Bronze Age finds were ascribed to the Iron Age II (*israelitische*), the Iron Age structures to the Late Iron Age (*jüdische*): Nigro 2003, 132; 2004, 224-225.

⁶⁸ Watzinger 1926.

⁶⁹ The British Mandatory Department of Antiquities was established in 1920, and the law of antiquities was issued in 1929. Afterwards, the Palestine Archaeological Museum (nowadays Rockefeller Archaeological Museum) was based in East Jerusalem and opened in 1938, to house the collection of artefacts discovered in the excavations carried out in Palestine during the British Mandate (1920-1948).

⁷⁰ For a general presentation of excavation results see Garstang - Garstang 1948.

⁷¹ Garstang 1930.

Late Bronze Age, in order to make it correspond with the one destroyed by Joshua⁷².

The British Expedition led by Garstang took over a systematic exploration of the tell and cut a big trench on the north-eastern plateau of the mound, achieving two major results: for the first time, the Neolithic occupational levels were reached, identified and horizontally exposed; secondly, the Early Bronze Age layers were investigated and unearthed within a large extent, offering a clear and coherent picture of the EB I village and EB II-III fortified town. Part of earliest MB I fortifications, together with a huge mudbrick tower (the so-called "Eastern Tower") fronting the spring of 'Ain es-Sultan, and Middle and Late Bronze Age buildings on the eastern side of Spring Hill, were also brought to light by Garstang's Expedition. Finally, the first investigation of the nearby necropolis, west and north-west of the tell, was undertaken, and the Early, Middle and Late Bronze Age tombs were brought to light, among which the renowned Early Bronze Age Tomb A.

2.4.2. D.C. Baramki and St.H. Stephan's excavations at the Nestorian Hermitage (1933), and J.L. Kelso and D.C. Baramki's excavations at Tell el-ḫassan (1934)

In 1933 D.C. Baramki and St.H. Stephan carried out excavations at the so-called Nestorian Hermitage⁷³, on the behalf of the Mandatory Department of Antiquities, and discovering the remains of a Byzantine hermitage consisting of a room and a chapel⁷⁴.

Then, in 1934 D.C. Baramki carried out, together with James L. Kelso, excavations at Tell el-ḫassan⁷⁵. They brought to light a Byzantine three-nave church with mosaic floors, later on replaced by an Early Islamic building. Excavations at the site have been recently renewed under the Department of Antiquities of the Palestinian National Authority (§ 2.8.)⁷⁶.

2.4.3. D.C. Baramki and R. Hamilton's excavations at Khirbet el-Mafjar (1934-1948)

Excavations at the site of Khirbet el-Mafjar⁷⁷, 2 km north of Jericho, were carried out between 1934 and 1948 by Dimitri C. Baramki and Sir Robert Hamilton on the behalf of the Mandatory Department of Antiquities⁷⁸. The

⁷² Garstang 1935.

⁷³ Site cat. n. 65.

⁷⁴ Baramki - Stephan 1935.

⁷⁵ Baramki 1936.

⁷⁶ Site cat. n. 46.

⁷⁷ Site cat. n. 50.

⁷⁸ Hamilton 1969; 1993. Unpublished excavations were carried out also in 1960 and archaeological investigations have been renewed in 2006 under the direction

site had previously been visited by travellers and surveyors, who had initially thought it to date to the Byzantine Period. Excavations by Baramki and Hamilton, instead, brought to light a substantial palatial complex dating to the Umayyad Period, and identified, on epigraphical basis, as the Qasr Hisham, the palace built by Caliph Hisham bin Abed el-Malik (724-743 AD), never completed, and suddenly destroyed by an earthquake in 749 AD. It was later suggested, however, that the palace was built by the Caliph's son el-Walid II between 743 and 744 AD⁷⁹. The excavations brought to light a large sector of the palace complex, including reception halls, bathhouse, and a mosque. The decorations enlighten a phase of Early Islamic art prior to aniconism, rich in Byzantine influences originally elaborated, whose extraordinary importance is just but enhanced by the amazing *stucco* decorations in the *diwân* and mosaic floors covering large areas of the palace.

In 1936, D.C. Baramki also excavated a synagogue north of Tell es-Sultan, with a colourful mosaic floor decorated with stylized geometric and floral designs. The site is now located in the basement of the Shahwan family.

2.5. *Augustin Augustinović and his work Gerico e dintorni*

Augustin Augustinović, ofm (born in 1917 in Gornja Skakava at Dubrava; died in 1998 in Carrizal, Venezuela) was a Croatian priest, religious, missionary and writer. Augustinović came from a Croatian family, from the village of Gornja Skakava in Bosnia-Herzegovina. After four years of primary school, at the age of twelve years Augustinović attended the Franciscan high school in Visoko. From 1937 he studied Catholic theology in Zagreb and continued his studies in the Franciscan Order in Sarajevo until 1942. Become priest on the 9th of November 1941, Augustinović continued his theological studies in Biblical Hermeneutics and Biblical exegesis from 1942 to 1947 in Rome and Jerusalem. In the Holy Land, Augustinović worked scientifically in the Franciscan Biblical Institute of Jerusalem until 1952. To this period belongs the work *Gerico e dintorni*, published in Jerusalem in 1951, which represents a basic and accurate registration of all monuments and archaeological sites visited by the Father during his journey in the Jericho Oasis. Part of them would have been damaged and destroyed soon after by following severe political events and modern

of Hamdan Taha, distinguishing four strata belonging to two architectural phases, the later one being attributed to an occupation following the earthquake destruction at the mid-8th century AD (Taha 2010a).

⁷⁹ Hamilton 1969; Taha 2010a.

building activities. Augustinović's account thus represents the most complete catalogue and description of the historical and archaeological evidence in the Jericho Oasis up to the 1950ies.

2.6. Archaeological activities under the Jordanian administration (1948-1967)

After the division of the region between Israel and Jordan at the end of the British Mandate in 1948, the West Bank fell into Jordanian borders. The 1929 law of antiquities continued to be used until 1966, when it was updated by the Jordanian Government.

As it concerns the Jericho Oasis, the main archaeological activities of this period are represented by the excavations at Tulul Abu el-'Alayiq carried out by James L. Kelso, C. Dimitri Baramki and James B. Pritchard; the discovery of the Byzantine church of Khirbet en-Nitla by the same J.L. Kelso; and the archaeological investigations at Tell es-Sultan undertaken by Dame Kathleen M. Kenyon.

2.6.1. The excavations at Tulul Abu el-'Alayiq by J.L. Kelso and D.C. Baramki (1950), and J.B. Pritchard (1951)

Trials excavations at the two sites of Tulul Abu el-'Alayiq had been already undertaken by C. Warren in 1868 (§ 2.3.4.) and by E. Sellin and C. Watzinger in 1909-1911 (§ 2.3.6.), but systematic investigations were carried out only in 1950-1951, directed by James L. Kelso, Dimitri C. Baramki and James B. Pritchard, on the behalf of the *American Schools of Oriental Research* and the *Pittsburgh Theological Seminary*⁸⁰.

Only two limited soundings were dug into the northern mound⁸¹, while investigations were concentrated on the southern one⁸², bringing to light the remains of an Arab fort dating to the 8th-9th century AD, some *opus reticulatum* structures dating to the Roman (Herodian) Period and, finally, a Hellenistic tower. The Roman Period remains consisted of Herod's First Palace, interpreted by Pritchard as a *gymnasium*⁸³, and, of the most of the southern buildings of Herod's Third Palace⁸⁴, among which the so-called *Great Façade* in the sunken garden of Herod's Third Palace. Moreover, in a

⁸⁰ Kelso 1950; Pritchard 1951; 1958; Kelso - Baramki 1955.

⁸¹ Site cat. n. 1.

⁸² Site cat. n. 7.

⁸³ Pritchard 1958, 1-12.

⁸⁴ Though the structures were correctly dated, they were not recognized as Herod's Third Palace, and they were called by the excavators "the *opus reticulatum* building" (Kelso - Baramki 1955, 5-8).

trench cut along the east section of the *Great Façade* pottery and lithics belonging to Chalcolithic Period and Early Bronze Age were collected.

2.6.2. The Excavations at Khirbet en-Nitla by J.L. Kelso and D.C. Baramki (1950)

The site of Khirbet en-Nitla⁸⁵ was visited by V.H. Guérin⁸⁶, C. Clérmont-Ganneau⁸⁷, the explorers of the *Survey of Western Palestine*⁸⁸, J.F. Bliss, who sketched the plan of the remains visible on the surface⁸⁹, and by J.L. Féderlin, who proposed to attribute them to a monastery⁹⁰. Four soundings were opened in 1950 by James L. Kelso, bringing to light five different architectural buildings ranging from the 4th to the 9th century AD⁹¹, during which the earliest three naves *basilica* was destroyed and then followed by a reduced one-nave church and three subsequent smaller chapels, the earliest of which was probably destroyed by the same earthquake which brought to a sudden end the site of Khirbet el-Mafjar. A. Augustinović, basing on its topographic position, advanced the identification of Khirbet en-Nitla with the Biblical Galgala⁹².

2.6.3. The second British Expedition to Tell es-Sultan by Kathleen M. Kenyon (1952-1958)

The main archaeological activity carried out in the Jericho Oasis during this phase, and one of the major results of Southern Levantine archaeology at all, was the second British Expedition to Tell es-Sultan directed by Dame Kathleen Mary Kenyon (1906-1978) on the behalf of the *University College of London*, the *British School of Archaeology* in Jerusalem and the PEF, between 1952 and 1958⁹³. It was at Tell es-Sultan that K.M. Kenyon challenged her digging method, based on the cutting of deep trenches and the study of the vertical sections of the same ones, as well as the systematic collection and study of materials according to their stratigraphic context.

The second British Expedition carried out large scale investigations at Tell es-Sultan, throughout all occupational phases of the tell, from the Pre-

⁸⁵ Site cat. n. 66.

⁸⁶ Guérin 1874, 117.

⁸⁷ Clermont-Ganneau 1896, 117.

⁸⁸ Conder - Kitchener 1883, 173.

⁸⁹ Bliss 1894, 182.

⁹⁰ Féderlin 1903, 309-310.

⁹¹ Baramki 1955.

⁹² Augustinović 1951, 168.

⁹³ Kenyon 1957; 1981; Kenyon - Holland 1982; 1983; King 1983, 125-128; Drinkard - Mattingly - Maxwell Miller eds. 1988, 48-52; Moorey 1991, 94-99.

Pottery Neolithic to the Byzantine Period, definitively establishing the chronological sequence of the site. Among the main results of this expedition, there are certainly the discovery of Pre-Pottery Neolithic circular Tower in Trench I; the extensive investigation of the Neolithic layers in different spots of the tell; and the systematic exploration of the huge Bronze Age cemetery located north and west of the site, bringing to light hundreds of tombs, often provided with rich funerary equipments⁹⁴.

2.6.4. J. Mellaart's survey and soundings in the Jordan Valley (1953)

In 1953 the Department of Antiquities and the Department of Water Resources and Agricultural Development of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan undertook a survey of the Yarmouk and Jordan Rivers, supervised by G. Lancaster Harding and carried out by Henri de Contenson and James Mellaart⁹⁵. As it is concerned the Jericho Oasis, J. Mellaart visited and registered the sites of 'Ain es-Sultan, Tell el-Mafjar and the surrounding area, Tell es-Samarat, and the necropolis of Tell es-Sultan⁹⁶.

Soundings were also dug at the Chalcolithic site of Tell el-Mafjar (Tell el-Ghubur)⁹⁷, published four decades later by Albert Leonard jr.⁹⁸.

2.7. Archaeological surveys and excavations in the West Bank during the Israeli military administration (1967-1993)

After the Six Days War (1967), the West Bank fell under Israeli military and political control, and also the direction of the archaeological activities was taken over by Israeli institutions, such as the Staff Officer for Archaeology (SOA) and the Department of Antiquities, later become the Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA)⁹⁹. The 1966 Jordanian law of antiquities was applied in the West Bank.

The Jericho Oasis was intensively surveyed, and researches focused on three main topics: 1) the employment of water resources in ancient times (particularly during Late Hellenistic and Roman Periods, which have left the main bulk of data)¹⁰⁰; 2) the phenomenon of monasticism in Byzantine Period (§§ 2.7.2.-2.7.3.); 3) the systematic surveys of the numerous

⁹⁴ Kenyon 1960; 1965.

⁹⁵ Leonard 1992, 1.

⁹⁶ Respectively, sites cat. ns 21, 54, 82, 85; Mellaart 1962, 156-157, sites ns 81-87.

⁹⁷ Site cat. n. 54.

⁹⁸ Leonard 1992, 9-23.

⁹⁹ Greenberg - Keinan 2009, 3-10.

¹⁰⁰ Garbrecht - Peleg 1989; Amit 2002; Meshel - Amit 2002; Netzer - Garbrecht 2002.

clusters of caves on the ridges surrounding the Oasis. Soundings and excavations were furthermore carried out at several spots.

At Mughr el-Maqrabanna¹⁰¹ excavations carried out since 1977 under the direction of Rachel Hachlili, on the behalf of the Department of Antiquities and Museums and the Staff Officer for Samaria and Judea, led to the discovery of a cemetery comprehending around 120 tombs dating to the 1st century AD and containing also well preserved wooden and organic materials¹⁰².

At Tell Abu Khurs, Khibet Na'aran, Rujm el-Mugheifir North and South Byzantine churches, synagogues and monasteries were excavated¹⁰³.

Furthermore, excavations at &uwwanet eth-Thaniya¹⁰⁴ were undertaken in 1968 by an archaeological expedition directed by Gerorge M. Landes on the behalf of the ASOR¹⁰⁵.

At Tell es-Sultan a sounding directed by Shim'on Riklin was dug in 1992 on the behalf of the Staff Officer for Judea and Samaria, on the west side of the mound, south of Kenyon's Trench I¹⁰⁶, bringing to light a stretch of the EB III city-wall already traced in 1907-1909 by Sellin and Watzinger's Expedition, and recently object of renewed investigations by the Italian-Palestinian Expedition in year 2009 (§ 2.8.)¹⁰⁷. Most important, during the Israeli military administration, Tell es-Sultan became one of the Israeli National parks. It was opened to the public in 1984 and the following interventions were undertaken: the site was fenced; a tourist path was set up; a shading shelter place for tourists was built at the highest spot of the site; and some facilities (such as toilets and a parking place) were also installed.

Further unpublished archaeological excavations were also conducted in the city-centre of Jericho, under the direction of Ibrahim al-Fani¹⁰⁸.

¹⁰¹ Site cat. n. 61.

¹⁰² Hachlili - Killebrew 1999.

¹⁰³ Respectively, sites cat. ns 13, 62, 78, 79; Greenberg - Keinan 2009, 62-63, 69, 73, sites ns 270, 333, 370. The synagogue of Khirbet Na'aran (site cat. n. 62) had been, actually, accidentally discovered in 1918, during World War I, when a Turkish shell exploded nearby, and it was excavated by the École Biblique of Jerusalem under the direction of L.H. Vincent (King 1983, 210)

¹⁰⁴ Site cat. n. 90.

¹⁰⁵ Landes 1975.

¹⁰⁶ Riklin 1996.

¹⁰⁷ Nigro - Taha 2009, § 5.

¹⁰⁸ Greenberg - Keinan 2009, 71, site n. 349.

Moreover, extensive excavations were carried out by Ehud Netzer at Late Hellenistic and Roman sites of Tulul Abu el-'Alayiq, Tell el-'Aqaba, Tell es-Samarat (§ 2.7.1.)¹⁰⁹.

Finally, in 1968-1969 an expedition led by Pessah Bar-Adon, on behalf of the Hebrew University, the Government Department of Antiquities, and the Israel Exploration Society, further assisted by the Military Government, undertook a survey of the Judean Desert, visiting also the region of Jericho¹¹⁰.

An extensive survey of the caves on ridges and spurs surrounding the Oasis was also carried out. The caves of the Wadi Qelt, north-east of the Monastery of Saint George of Choziba (Deir el-Qelt)¹¹¹, were surveyed in 1985-1986 by J. Patrich and B. Arobes¹¹², on the behalf of the Institute of Archaeology of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem; then, a major project was undertaken by the IAA and the SOA as part of "*Survey and Excavations of Caves in the Northern Judean Desert Caves ('Operation Scroll': CNJD)*" in 1993, involving an area spread from Wadi ed-Daliya to the north to Nahal Deragot to the South¹¹³.

2.7.1. E. Netzer's excavations in the Jericho Plain: Tell el-'Aqaba/Cypros (1974), Tell es-Samarat (1975-1977), and Tulul Abu el-'Alayiq (1973-1983; 1986-1987; 1998-2000)

Excavations at Tell el-'Aqaba¹¹⁴, the site of the Roman (Herodian) fortress of Cypros, were carried out by Ehud Netzer and Emmanuel Damati in 1974, on the behalf of the Staff Officer for Samaria and Judea and the Institute of Archaeology of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem¹¹⁵. Together with the fortress and its water-supply system¹¹⁶, previous Hellenistic remains and later Byzantine ones were detected.

¹⁰⁹ Sites cat. ns 1, 7, 31, 82.

¹¹⁰ Bar-Adon 1972.

¹¹¹ Site cat. n. 41.

¹¹² Patrich 1987-1988.

¹¹³ Wexler ed. 2002. In the Oasis and its surroundings, Jebel Quruntul and the Abu Saraj Cliff were intensively explored (respectively sites cat. ns 104, 105). The survey was undertaken after an interim agreement between Israeli and Palestinian authority achieved in 1993.

¹¹⁴ Site cat. n. 31.

¹¹⁵ Netzer 1975a; 1981; 1993a; Netzer - Damati 2004. The site had been previously visited by A. Alt (1925, 24), G. Harder (1962, 49-54), and Z. Meshel (1978, 48-52).

¹¹⁶ Garbrecht - Peleg 1989; Meshel - Amit 2002.

Tell es-Samarat¹¹⁷ was excavated by the same E. Netzer between 1975 and 1977¹¹⁸, bringing to light the remain of the Roman (Herodian) hippodrome and *gymnasium*, and the unique mudbrick amphitheatre.

The two mounds of Tulul Abu el-'Alayiq were subjects of intensive excavations between 1973 and 1983, and in 1986-1987. The whole sequence of the Late Hellenistic (Hasmonean) Palaces Complex and Royal Estate, and of Herod's three Winter Palaces was established, together with further earlier Hellenistic and subsequent Late Roman, Byzantine and Early Islamic remains¹¹⁹. In 1998-2000 additional excavations were conducted at Tell Abu el-'Alayiq North, directed by E. Netzer, on the behalf of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, bringing to light further remains dating to the Late Hellenistic (Hasmonean) Period, such as the so-called "Synagogue Complex" and the industrial area¹²⁰.

2.7.2. Y. Hirschfeld's survey of the Byzantine monasteries

An intensive survey of the monasteries of the Judean Desert was conducted by Yizhar Hirschfeld in the late 1980ies of the 20th century, on the behalf of the Archaeological Survey of Israel, the Staff Officer for Samaria and Judea, and the Institute of Archaeology of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. 73 monasteries were recorded, and 41 of them were identified with those reported by ancient written sources. 19 were in the Jericho region¹²¹: Chorembe (Hirschfeld's site n. 38), Pyrgoi (Hirschfeld's site n. 29), Penthucla (Hirschfeld's site n. 36), 'Ain †ajla/Calamon (Hirschfeld's site n. 13), 'Ain Yunis (Hirschfeld's site n. 53), Tell el-'Aqaba (Hirschfeld's site C), Deir †ajla/St. Gerasimus (Hirschfeld's site n. 7), Deir Mar Jariys/Choziba (Hirschfeld's site n. 15), the Nestorian Hermitage (Hirschfeld's site D), Galgala/Khirbet en-Nitla (Hirschfeld's site n. 33), Nu%eib 'Uweishira (Hirschfeld's site n. 50), Qasr el-Yehud/St. John the Baptist (Hirschfeld's site n. 20), Deir Quruntel/Douka (Hirschfeld's site n. 2), Rujm el-Mugheifir North/Elias' Monastery (Hirschfeld's site n. 10), Rujm el-Mugheifir South/Monastery of the Eunuchs (Hirschfeld's site n. 11), the Laura of the Aeliotas (Hirschfeld's site n. 41), the Laura of Peter

¹¹⁷ Site cat. n. 82.

¹¹⁸ Netzer 1975b; 1980; 2004.

¹¹⁹ Netzer 2001a; 2001b; Bar-Nathan 2002; Netzer - Laureys-Chachy - Meshorer 2004.

¹²⁰ Netzer 2008.

¹²¹ Hirschfeld 1990, 7-8, 22-26, 29-31, 35-36, 45-46, 50-52, 55-56, 59-60, 71-74, 81-82.

(Hirschfeld's site n. 37), Soubiba of the Bessians (Hirschfeld's site n. 41), and Soubiba of the Syrians (Hirschfeld's site n. 39)¹²².

In the wake of this research, excavations were carried out at Nuweib 'Uweishira¹²³, bringing to light, together with the Byzantine monastery, the remains of a Hellenistic tower¹²⁴.

2.7.3. O. Sion's survey of the monasteries of the "Desert of Jordan"

In 1993 a survey of the area south and east of Jericho directed by Ofer Sion was carried out, in order to investigate Byzantine monasticism in the region and to link written sources and archaeological remains¹²⁵. Identifications were proposed for 11 of the 14 sites mapped¹²⁶, among which the Monastery of the Towers (Sion's site L), Calamon (Sion's site K), the Laura of Gerasimus (Sion's site M), Elia's Monasteries (Khirbet el-Mafjar and Tell el-Mafjar, respectively Sion's sites C and D), Galgala/Khirbet en-Nitla (Sion's site E), St. John the Baptist/Qasr el-Yehud (Sion's site N), the Laura of the Aeliotas (Sion's site G), the Laura of Peter (Sion's site I), Soubiba of the Bessians (Sion's site H), Soubiba of the Syrians (Sion's site F)¹²⁷.

2.8. Archaeological activities under the Department of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage (MOTA - DACH) of the Palestinian National Authority (1994-2010)

Following the Palestinian-Israeli peace agreement in 1993, Jericho was handed over to the Palestinian control. In Autumn 1994 and December 1995, Palestinian National Authority was given control throughout the West Bank in several spheres of responsibilities, including archaeology in Areas A and B.

The Palestinian Department of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage (MOTA - DACH) was set up in August 1994¹²⁸, starting a large program of rescue excavations in areas under high pressures, conservation and restoration in highly threatened historical urban centres (like Hebron and Naplous), and investigations and site rehabilitation in some of the main Palestinian

¹²² Respectively, sites cat. ns 17, 25, 26, 28, 30, 31, 41, 65, 66, 67, 70, 76, 78, 79, 97, 98, 99, 100.

¹²³ Site cat. n. 67.

¹²⁴ Di Segni 1990; Netzer 1990, 59, Site n. 50; Netzer - Birger 1990.

¹²⁵ Sion 1996, 245-247.

¹²⁶ Sion 1996, 248-253, fig. 1.

¹²⁷ Respectively, sites cat. ns 25, 28, 40, 51, 54, 66, 70, 97, 98, 99, 100.

¹²⁸ The 1966 Jordanian law of antiquities remained the in-forced law in the Palestinian territories.

archaeological sites (as Tell es-Sultan, Khirbet Balamah, Tell Balata, Qasr Hisham, Sebastiya/Samaria, Bethlehem)¹²⁹.

Archaeological activities in the Jericho Oasis have been focused namely on two key-projects¹³⁰:

- the joint project between the Palestinian Department of Antiquities and Rome Sapienza University for the re-evaluation of Tell es-Sultan/ancient Jericho¹³¹;

- the development plan worked out in cooperation with the UNESCO and the *Studium Biblicum Franciscanum* in Jerusalem at the site of Khirbet el-Mafjar/Qasr Hisham¹³².

Moreover, a joint Palestinian-Norwegian Expedition has carried out excavations at the Chalcolithic/EB I site of Tell el-Majfar in years 2002-2003¹³³; while the Palestinian Department of Antiquities has been working out with salvage excavations at the sites of Jiser Abu Ghabush in 1994 and &uwwanet eth-Thaniya in 1997¹³⁴, and with excavations at the Middle and Late Islamic mills of Tawaheen es-Sukkar¹³⁵ in years 2000-2001, and at the Byzantine sites of Tell Abu Ghannam in 2004¹³⁶, and Tell el-ḩassan in 2010¹³⁷.

Some of the other main sites of the Oasis have been partly protected, restored and rehabilitated, as the Synagogue of Shahwan (in 2008)¹³⁸, and Synagogue of 'Ain Duq/Khirbet Na'aran (where an overall restoration of the mosaic floors was undertaken in 2002 and 2004)¹³⁹.

¹²⁹ Bouchain 1999; Taha 1999; 2004.

¹³⁰ For a detailed presentation of the archaeological activities in the Jericho Oasis in years 1995-2010 see Appendix B by H. Taha in this volume, and also Taha - Qleibo 2010.

¹³¹ Site cat. n. 85; Marchetti - Nigro eds. 1998; 2000; Nigro - Taha eds. 2006; Taha 2010b.

¹³² Site cat. n. 50; Taha 2005a; 2005b; 2010a. In December 2006 a small scale excavation was also carried out Khirbet el-Mafjar/Qasr Hisham in the bath area by the Palestinian Department of Antiquities.

¹³³ Site cat. n. 54.

¹³⁴ Site cat. n. 90.

¹³⁵ Site cat. n. 92.

¹³⁶ Site cat. n. 9.

¹³⁷ Site cat. n. 46.

¹³⁸ Site cat. n. 53. See above § 2.4.3.

¹³⁹ Site cat. n. 62. See above note 104.

Finally, in years 1997-1998 the MOTA-DACH carried out a survey of the Jericho Oasis in cooperation with the German Protestant Institute of Archaeology in Jerusalem.

A constant endeavour is nowadays devoted to the protection of all archaeological and historical monuments in the Oasis from modern agricultural and building activities, as in particular in the case of the mudbrick theatre at Tell es-Samarat¹⁴⁰; and the two main sites of Tell es-Sultan/ancient Jericho and Khirbet el-Mafjar/Qasr Hisham are presently the core of two archaeological parks. Every year, around 250,000 tourists ascend the mound of Tell es-Sultan.

References

- ALT, A.
1925 "Die Institute in Jahre 1924", in *Palästina Jahrbuch* 21 (1925), pp. 24-25.
- AMIT, D.
2002 "The aqueduct of the fortress Dok (Dagon)", in D. AMIT - J. PATRICH - Y. HIRSCHFELD (eds.) 2002, pp. 330-335.
- AMIT, D. - PATRICH, J. - HIRSCHFELD, Y. (eds.)
2002 *The Aqueducts of Israel* (Journal of Roman Archaeology Supplementum 46), Portsmouth 2002.
- AUGUSTINOVIĆ, A.
1951 *Gerico e dintorni*, Jerusalem 1951.
- AVI-YONAH, M.
1954 *The Madaba Mosaic Map*, Jerusalem 1954 (in particular pp. 22, 44).
- BAR-ADON, P.
1972 "The Survey in the Judean Desert and Jericho Valleys", in M. KOHAVI (ed.), *Judea, Samaria, Golan, Archaeological Survey in the Year 5728*, Jerusalem 1972, pp. 92-149.
- BAR-NATHAN, R.
2002 *Hasmonean and Herodian Palaces at Jericho. Final Reports of the 1973-1987 Excavations. Volume III: the Pottery*, Jerusalem 2002.
- BARAMKI, D.C.
1936 "An early Byzantine Basilica at Tell el-Hassan-Jericho", in *Quarterly of the Department of Antiquity of Palestine* 5 (1936), pp. 82-88.
1955 "The Excavations at Khirbet en-Nitla", in J.L. KELSO - D.C. BARAMKI 1955, pp. 50-52.
- BARAMKI, D.C. - STEPHAN, H.
1935 "A Nestorian Hermitage between Jericho and the Jordan", in *Quarterly of the Department of Antiquities in Palestine* 4 (1935), pp. 81-86.
- BINNS, J.
1994 *Ascetics and Ambassadors of Christ: The Monasteries of Palestine 314-631*, Oxford 1994.

¹⁴⁰ Site cat. n. 82.

- BLISS, F.J.
1894 "Notes on the Plain of Jericho", in *Palestine Exploration Fund Quarterly. Quarterly Statements* 26 (1894), pp. 175-183.
1906 *The Development of Palestine Exploration*, London 1906.
- BONAR, H.
1858 *The Land Of Promise: Notes of a Spring-Journey From Beersheba To Sidon*, London 1858.
- BOTTINI, G.C. - DI SEGNI, L. - ALLIATA, E. (eds.)
1990 *Christian Archaeology in the Holy Land - New Discoveries. Essays in Honour of Virgilio C. Corbo, OFM* (Studium Biblicum Franciscanum, Collectio Maior 36), Jerusalem 1990.
- BOUCHAIN, J.
1999 *Endangered Cultural Heritage in the West Bank Governorates*, Ramallah, MOPIC 1999.
- BURCKHARDT, J.L.
1822 *Travels in Syria and the Holy Land*, London 1822.
- CLARKE, E.D.
1810-1819 *Travels in Various Countries of Europe, Asia and Africa, Part II*, London 1810.
CCSL Corpus Christianorum - Series Latina, Turnhout 1953-2010.
- CLERMONT-GANNEAU, C.
1896 *Archaeological Research in Palestine During the Years 1873-1874*, Vol. II, London 1896.
- CONDER, C.R.
1878 *Tent work in Palestine: a record of discovery and adventure*, London 1878.
- CONDER, C.C. - KITCHENER, H.H.
1880 *Map of Western Palestine in 26 Sheets from Surveys Conducted for the Committee of the Palestine Exploration Fund*, London 1880.
1881 *The Survey of Western Palestine: Memoirs of the Topography, Orography, Hydrography, and Archaeology. Volume I. Sheets I-V. Galilee*, London 1881.
1882 *The Survey of Western Palestine: Memoirs of the Topography, Orography, Hydrography, and Archaeology. Volume II. Sheets VII-XVI. Samaria*, London 1882.
1883 *The Survey of Western Palestine: Memoirs of the Topography, Orography, Hydrography, and Archaeology. Volume III. Sheets XVII-XXVI. Judea*, London 1883.
- COOK, T.
1876 *Tourists' Handbook for Palestine and Syria*, London 1876.
- DI SEGNI, L.
1990 "Nuseib 'Uweishîra: the Inscription", in G.C. BOTTINI - L. DI SEGNI - E. ALLIATA (eds.) 1990, pp. 201-203.
- DRINKARD, J.F. - MATTINGLY, G.L. - MAXWELL MILLER, J. (eds.)
1988 *Benchmarks in Time and Culture. An Introduction to Palestinian Archaeology Dedicated to Joseph A. Callaway*, Atlanta 1988.
- FEDALTO, G.
1983 "Liste vescovili del patriarcato di Gerusalemme", in *Orientalia Christiana Periodica* 49 (1983), pp. 5-41, 261-283.
- FEDERLIN, J.L.
1903 "Recherches sur les laures et monastères de la plaine du Jourdain et du désert de Jérusalem", in *La Terre Sainte* 20 (1903), pp. 117-331.

- FISK, G.
1843 *A Pastor's Memorial of the Holy Land*, London 1843.
- GARBRECHT, G. - PELEG, J.
1989 "Die Wasserung geschichtlicher Wüstenfestungen am Jordantal", in *Antike Welt* 20/2 (1989), pp. 11-14.
- GARSTANG, J.
1930 "Jericho, Sir. Charles Marston's Expedition of 1930", in *Palestine Exploration Fund Quarterly Statement* 62 (1930), pp. 123-132.
1935 "The fall of Bronze Age Jericho", in *Palestine Exploration Fund Quarterly Statement* 67 (1935), pp. 61-68.
- GARSTANG, J. - GARSTANG, J.B.E.
1948 *The Story of Jericho*, London 1948.
- GREENBERG, A. - KEINAN, A.
2007 *The Present Past of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: Israeli Archaeology in the West Bank and East Jerusalem since 1967*, Tel Aviv 2007.
2009 *Israeli Archaeological Activity in the West Bank 1967-2007. A Source Book*, Jerusalem 2009.
- GUERIN, V.H.
1874 *Description géographique, historique et archéologique de la Palestine I: Samaria*, Paris 1874.
1884 *La Terre Sainte: son histoire - ses souvenirs - ses sites - ses monuments*, Vol. 2, Paris 1884.
- HACHLILI, R. - KILLEBREW, A.
1981 "The House of 'Goliath' - A Family at Jericho in the First Century CE", in *Qadmoniot* 14 (1981), pp. 118-122 (Hebr.).
1983a "Jewish Funerary Customs during the Second Temple Period in Light of the Excavations at Jericho Necropolis", in *Palestine Exploration Quarterly* 115 (1983), pp. 109-132.
1983b "The Saga of the Goliath Family - As Revealed in their Newly Discovered 2,000-Year-Old Tomb", in *Biblical Archaeological Review* 9/1 (1983), pp. 44-53.
1999 *Jericho. The Jewish Cemetery of the Second Temple Period* (IAA Reports 7), Jerusalem 1999.
- HALLOTE, R.S.
2006 *Bible, map, and spade. The American Palestine Exploration Society, Frederick Jones Bliss and the Forgotten Story of Early American Biblical Archaeology*, Piscataway, NJ, 2006.
- HAMILTON, R.W.
1959 *Khirbet al-Mafjar, an Arabian Mansion in the Jordan Valley*, Oxford 1959.
1969 "Who Built Khirbet el-Mafjar?", in *Levant* 1 (1969), pp. 61-67.
1993 "Khirbet el-Mafjar", in E. STERN (ed.), *The New Encyclopedia of Excavations in the Holy Land*, Vol. 2, Jerusalem 1993, pp. 922-929.
- HARDER, G.
1962 "Herodes-Burgen und Herodes-Städte im Jordangraben", in *Zeitschrift des Deutschen Palästina-Vereins* 78 (1962), pp. 49-63 (in particular pp. 49-54).
- HARPER, H.A.
1894 *Walks in Palestine*, London 1894.

- HASSLER, K.D. (ed.)
1843 *Fratris Felicis Fabri Evagatorium in Terræ Sanctæ, Arabiæ Et Egypti Peregrinationem*, Stuttgart 1843.
- HENNIKER, F.
1823 *Notes During A Visit To Egypt, Nubia, The Oasis, Mount Sinai, And Jerusalem*, London 1823.
- HIRSCHFELD, Y.
1990 "List of the Byzantine Monasteries in the Judean Desert", in G.C. BOTTINI - L. DI SEGNI - E. ALLIATA (eds.) 1990, pp. 1-90.
1992 *The Judean Desert Monasteries in the Byzantine Period*, New Haven 1992.
- HULL, E.H.
1886 *The Survey of Western Palestine: Memoir on the Physical Geology and Geography of Arabia Petraea*, London 1886.
- HUNT, E.D. (ed.)
1982 *Holy Land Pilgrimage in the Later Roman Empire, AD 312-460*, Oxford - New York 1982.
- HILBERG, I. (ed.)
1912 "Letter 108, to Eustochium", in I. HILBERG (ed.), *Corpus Scriptorum Ecclesiasticorum Latinorum* 55, Wien 1912.
- JEROME, ST. - STEWART, A. - WILSON, C.W. SIR
1885 *The pilgrimage of the holy Paula* (Palestine Pilgrims' Text Society), London 1885.
- KELSO, J.L.
1950 "The First Campaign of Excavation in New Testament Jericho", in *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research* 120 (1950), pp. 11-22.
- KELSO, J.L. - BARAMKI, D.C.
1955 *Excavations at New Testament Jericho and Khirbet en-Nitla* (Annual of the American Schools of Oriental Research 29-30), New Haven 1955.
- KENYON, K.M.
1957 *Digging Up Jericho*, London 1957.
1960 *Excavations at Jericho. Volume One. The Tombs excavated in 1952-1954*, London 1960.
1965 *Excavations at Jericho. Volume Two. The Tombs excavated in 1955-1958*, London 1965.
1981 *Excavations at Jericho. Volume Three. The Architecture and Stratigraphy of the Tell*, London 1981.
- KENYON, K.M. - HOLLAND, TH.A.
1982 *Excavations at Jericho. Volume Four. The Pottery Type Series and Others Finds*, London 1982.
1983 *Excavations at Jericho. Volume Five. The Pottery Phases of the Tell and Others Finds*, London 1983.
- KHATIB, H.
2003 *Palestine and Egypt under the Ottomans. Paintings, Books, Photographs, Maps, Manuscripts*, London 2003.
- KING, P.J.
1983 *American Archaeology in the Middle East. A History of the American Schools of Oriental Research*, Winona Lake, In. 1983.

- LANDES, G.M.
1975 "Report on an Archaeological "Rescue Operation" at &uwwanet eth-Taniya in the Jordan Valley North of Jericho", in G.M. LANDES (ed.), *Report on Archaeological Work at Suwwanet eth-Thaniya, Tananir, and Khirbet Minha (Munhata)* (BASOR Supplemental Studies 21), Missoula, Montana, 1975, pp. 1-22.
- LEONARD, A. JR.
1992 *The Jordan Valley Survey, 1953: some unpublished soundings conducted by James Mellaart* (Annual of the American Schools of Oriental Research 50), Winona Lake, In. 1992.
- MARCHETTI, N. - NIGRO, L. (eds.)
1998 *Scavi a Gerico, 1997. Relazione preliminare sulla prima campagna di scavi e prospezioni archeologiche a Tell es-Sultan, Palestina* (Quaderni di Gerico 1), Roma 1998.
2000 *Excavations at Jericho, 1998. Preliminary Report on the Second Season of Excavations and Surveys at Tell es-Sultan, Palestine* (Quaderni di Gerico 2), Roma 2000.
- MELLAART, J.
1962 "Preliminary Report on the Archaeological Survey in the Yarmouk and Jordan Valleys", in *Annual of the Department of Antiquities of Jordan* 6-7 (1962), pp. 126-157.
- MESHEL, Z.
1978 "The Fortresses which Guarded Jericho and their Identification", in E. NETZER - Z. MESHEL - M. ROSEN-AYALON, *Jericho*, Jerusalem 1978, pp. 48-52 (Hebr.).
- MESHEL, Z. - AMIT, D.
2002 "The water-supply of the Cypros Fortress", in D. AMIT - J. PATRICH - Y. HIRSCHFELD (eds.), *The Aqueducts of Israel* (Journal of Roman Archaeology Supplementum 46), Portsmouth 2002, pp. 313-329.
- MOOREY, P.R.S.
1991 *A Century of Biblical Archaeology*, Cambridge 1991.
- NETZER, E.
1975a "Cypros", in *Qadmoniot* 8 (1975), pp. 54-61.
1975b "Jerichò", in *Revue Biblique* (1975), pp. 270-274.
1980 "The Hyppodrome That Herod Built at Jericho", in *Qadmoniot* 13 (1980), pp. 104-107.
1981 "Cypros", in *Le Monde de la Bible* 17 (1981), pp. 32-34.
1990 "Architecture in Palestine Prior to and During the Days of Herod the Great", in *Akten des XIII. Internationalen Kongresses für Klassische Archäologie, Berlin 1988*, Mainz am Rhein 1990, pp. 37-50 (in particular pp. 36-42, 44-45, figs. 2-5, 10-11).
1993a "Cypros", in E. STERN (ed.), *New Encyclopedia of Archaeological Excavations in the Holy Land*, Vol. 1, Jerusalem 1993, pp. 315-317.
1993b "Tulul Abu el-'Alayiq", in E. STERN (ed.), *The New Encyclopedia of Archaeological Excavations in the Holy Land*, Vol. 2, Jerusalem 1993, pp. 682-691.
2001a *Hasmonean and Herodian Palaces at Jericho: Final Reports of the 1973-1987 Excavations. Volume I: Stratigraphy and Architecture*, Jerusalem 2001 (in particular pp. 1-8, 10, 11-13-228, 301-316, 334-339).

- 2011 *History of travels, tours and explorations in the Jericho Oasis* 83
- 2001b *Palaces of the Hasmoneans and Herod The Great* (Studies in Biblical History and Archaeology), Jerusalem 2001.
- 2004 "Tell es-Samarat", in E. NETZER - R. LAUREYS-CHACHY - Y. MESHORER (eds.), *Hasmonean and Herodian Palaces at Jericho. Final Reports of the 1973-1987 Excavations. Volume II: Stratigraphy and Architecture*, Jerusalem 2004, pp. 195-225.
- 2008 "Jericho", in E. STERN (ed.), *The New Encyclopedia of Archaeological Excavations in the Holy Land*, Vol. 5 (Supplementary Volume), Jerusalem 2008, pp. 1798-1801.
- NETZER, E. - BIRGER, R.
1990 "A Byzantine Monastery at Nuseib 'Uweishira, West of Jericho", in G.C. BOTTINI - L. DI SEGNI - E. ALLIATA (eds.) 1990, pp. 191-200.
- NETZER, E. - DAMATI, E.
2004 "Cypros", in E. NETZER - R. LAUREYS-CHACHY - Y. MESHORER (eds.) 2004, pp. 233-285.
- NETZER, E. - GARBRECHT, G.
2002 "Water channels and a Royal Estate of the Late Hellenistic period in Jericho's western plains", in D. AMIT - J. PATRICH - Y. HIRSCHFELD (eds.), *The Aqueducts of Israel* (Journal of Roman Archaeology Supplementum 46), Portsmouth 2002, pp. 367-377 (in particular 372-376).
- NETZER, E. - LAUREYS-CHACHY, R. - MESHORER, Y. (eds.)
2004 *Hasmonean and Herodian Palaces at Jericho. Final Reports of the 1973-1987 Excavations. Volume II*, Jerusalem 2004.
- NEWTON, R.
1870 *Illustrated Rambles in Bible Lands*, London 1870.
- NIGRO, L.
2003 "Tell es-Sultan in the Early Bronze Age IV (2300-2000 BC.). Settlement Vs Necropolis - A Stratigraphic Periodization", in *Contributi e Materiali di Archeologia Orientale IX* (2003), pp. 121-158.
- 2004 "In the Shadow of the Bible. Archaeological Investigations by the Deutsches Palästina Vereins before the First World War: Taannek, Megiddo, Jericho, Shechem", in V. KRINGS - I. TASSIGNON (eds.), *Archéologie dans l'Empire ottoman autour de 1900: entre politique, économie et science*, Bruxelles - Rome 2004, pp. 215-229.
- NIGRO, L. - TAHA, H.
2009 "Renewed Excavations and Restorations at Tell es-Sultan/Ancient Jericho. Fifth Season - March-April 2009", in *Scienze dell'Antichità* 15 (2009), pp. 731-744.
- NIGRO, L. - TAHA, H. (eds.)
2006 *Tell es-Sultan/Jericho in the Context of the Jordan Valley: Site Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development. Proceedings of the International Workshop Held in Ariha 7th - 11th February 2005 by the Palestinian Department of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage - Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, UNESCO Office - Ramallah, Rome "La Sapienza" University* (Rome «La Sapienza» Studies on the Archaeology of Palestine & Transjordan, 2), Rome 2006.
- OSBORN, H.S.
1855 *Palestine Past and Present*, Philadelphia 1855.

- 1868 *The Holy Land, Past and Present. Sketches of Travel in Palestine*, London 1868.
- PALMER, E.H.
1881 *The Survey of Western Palestine: Arabic and English Name Lists Collected during the Survey*, London 1881.
- PATRICH, J.
1987-1988 "Judean Desert, Survey of Caves – 1985-1986", in *Excavations and Surveys in Israel* 6 (1987/88), pp. 66-70.
- POCOCKE, R.
1745 *A Description of the East and Some other Countries, Vol. II, W. Boyer. Part 1, Observations on Palæstina or the Holy Land, Syria, Mesopotamia, Cyprus, and Candia*, London 1745.
- DA POGGIBONSI, FRA NICCOLÒ
1996 *Libro d'Oltramare (1346-1350). Testo di A. Bacchi delle Lega riveduto e riannotato dal P. B. Bagatti o.f.m. a ricordo del sesto centenario* (Studium Biblicum Franciscanum, Collectio Maior 2), Jerusalem 1996 (in particular pp. 83-88).
- PRITCHARD, J.B.
1951 "The 1951 Campaign at Herodian Jericho", in *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research* 123 (1951), pp. 8-17.
1958 *The Excavation at Herodian Jericho 1951* (Annual of the American Schools of Oriental Research 32-33), New Haven 1958.
- RELAND, A.
1714 *Palaestinae ex Monumentis Veteribus Illustratae*, Utrecht 1714.
- RIKLIN, S.
1996 "Jericho 1992", in *Excavations and Surveys in Israel* 5 (1996), pp. 68-70.
- RITTER, C.
1866 *The comparative geography of Palestine and the Sinaitic Peninsula*, Edinburgh 1866 (Engl. transl.).
- ROBINSON, E.
1841 *Biblical Researches in Palestine*, London 1841.
1970 *Biblical researches in Palestine and the adjacent regions. A journal of travels in the year 1838. By E. Robinson and E. Smith. Drawn up from the original diaries, with historical illustrations, by Edward Robinson*, Jerusalem 1970 (3rd edition by W.G. Dever).
- ROBINSON, E. - SMITH, E.
1856 *Biblical Researches in Palestine*, London 1856.
- SAUNDERS, T.
1881 *An Introduction to the Survey of Western Palestine: Its Waterways, Plains, & Highlands*, London 1881.
- SEETZEN, U.J.
1854 *Reise Durch Syrien Palästina Phönicien, die Transjordan-Länder, Arabia Petraea und Unter-Aegypten*, Berlin 1854.
- SELLIN, E. - WATZINGER, C.
1913 *Jericho. Die Ergebnisse der Ausgrabungen* (Wissenschaftliche Veröffentlichung der Deutschen Orient-Gesellschaft 22), Leipzig 1913.
- SELLIN, E. - WATZINGER, C. - LANGENEGGER, F.
1908 "Vorläufiger Nachrichten über die Ausgrabung in Jericho im Frühjahr 1908", in *Mitteilungen des Deutschen Orient-Gesellschaft zu Berlin* 39 (1908), pp. 1-41.

- SELLIN, E. - WATZINGER, C. - NÖLDECKE, A.
1909 "Vorläufige Nachrichten über die Ausgrabung in Jericho im Frühjahr 1909", in *Mitteilungen des Deutschen Orient-Gesellschaft zu Berlin* 41 (1909), pp. 1-36.
- SION, O.
1996 "The Monasteries of the 'Desert of the Jordan□ ", in *Liber Annuus* 46 (1996), pp. 245-264.
- STEPHENS, J.L.
1837 *Incidents of Travel in Egypt, Arabia Petraea and the Holy Land*, New York 1837.
- TAHA, H.
1999 "Le Département des Antiquités de Palestine", in *Dossier d'Archéologie* 240 (Jan./Fév. 1999), pp. 14-17.
2004 "Managing Cultural Heritage in Palestine", in *Focus* 1 (2004), pp. 31-32.
2005a *Inventory of Cultural and Natural Heritage Sites of Potential Outstanding Universal Value in Palestinian, June 2005*, Ramallah 2005 (in particular pp. 35-36).
2005b "Rehabilitation of Hisham's Palace in Jericho", in F. MANISCALCO (ed.), *Tutela, Conservazione e Valorizzazione del Patrimonio Culturale della Palestina*, Napoli 2005, pp. 179-188.
2010a "Hisham's Palace", in *This Week in Palestine* 144 (April 2010), pp. 16-20.
2010b "Tell es-Sultan (Jericho), the Oldest City in the World", in *This Week in Palestine* 144 (April 2010), pp. 36-39.
- TAHA, H. - QLEIBO, A.
2010 *Jericho, A Living History, Ten Thousand Years of Civilization*, Ramallah 2010.
- TAYLOR, J.E.
2009 "The Dead Sea in Western Travellers' Accounts from the Byzantine to the Modern Period", in *Bulletin of the Anglo-Israel Archaeological Society* 27 (2009), pp. 9-29.
- TRISTRAM, H.B.
1865 *The Land of Israel: a journal of travel in Palestine, undertaken with special reference to its physical character*, London 1865.
1876 *Travels and Discoveries in Palestine and Jordan*, London 1876.
1885 *The Survey of Western Palestine: The Fauna and Flora of Palestine*, London, 1885.
- WARREN, C.
1869a "Notes on the mounds of Jericho", in *Palestine Exploration Fund Quarterly Statement* 2 (1869), pp. 209-210.
1869b *Notes on the Valley of the Jordan, and Excavations at 'Ain es-Sultan*, London 1869.
1876 *Underground Jerusalem*, London 1876.
- WARREN, C. - CONDER, C.R.
1884 *The Survey of Western Palestine: Jerusalem*, London 1884.
- WATZINGER, C.
1926 "Zur Chronologie der Schichten von Jericho", in *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft* 80 (1926), pp. 131-136.
- WEXLER, L. (ed.)
2002 *Survey and Excavations of Caves in the Northern Judean Desert (CNJD) – 1993* ('Atiqot 41), Jerusalem 2002.

- WILKINSON, J.
1977 *Jerusalem Pilgrims before the Crusades*, Warminster 1977.
1981 *Egeria's Travels to the Holy Land*, Jerusalem 1981.
- WILKINSON, J. - HILL, J. - RYAN, W.F. (eds.)
1988 *Jerusalem Pilgrimage 1099-1185* (The Hakluyt Society. Second Series 167), London 1988.
- WILSON, C.W.
1880-1884 *Picturesque Palestine, Sinai and Egypt*, London 1880-1884.
1896 "Introduction", in Bordeaux Pilgrim, *Itinerary from Bordeaux to Jerusalem: 'The Bordeaux Pilgrim' (333 A.D.)* (translated by Aubrey Stewart. The Library of the Palestine Pilgrims' Text Society, Vol. I), London 1896, pp. viii-ixi.
- WILSON, C. *et al.*
1881 *Special Papers on Topography, Archaeology, Manners and Customs, etc.*, London 1881.
- YAHYA, A.
2008 "Looting and 'Salvaging': How the Wall, Illegal Digging, and the Antiquities Trade are Ravaging Palestinian Cultural Heritage, in *The Jerusalem Quarterly* 33 (2008), pp. 39-55.

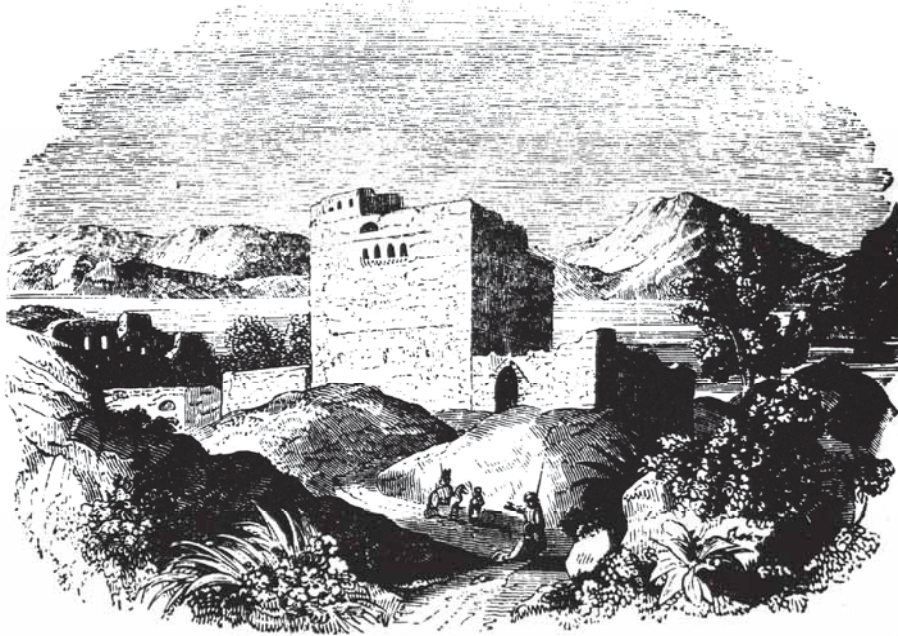


Fig. 2.1 - The ruins of the medieval tower at Jericho in the 19th century.

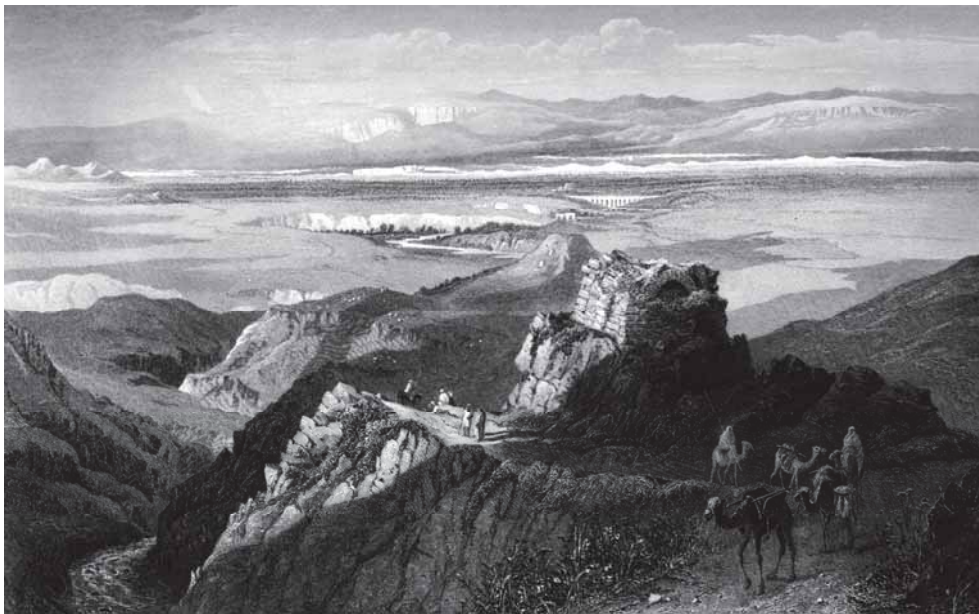


Fig. 2.2 - General view of the Jericho Oasis at the end of the 19th century, from west (after C.W. Wilson, *Picturesque Palestine, Sinai and Egypt*, p. 160).



Fig. 2.3 - The ruins of the monastery of St. John, †ajla (Deir Mar Yuhanna †ajla), at the end of the 19th century (after C.W. Wilson, *Picturesque Palestine, Sinai and Egypt*, p. 159).



Fig. 2.4 - Aqueduct over the Wadi Oelt at the end of the 19th century (after C.W. Wilson, *Picturesque Palestine, Sinai and Egypt*, p. 169).

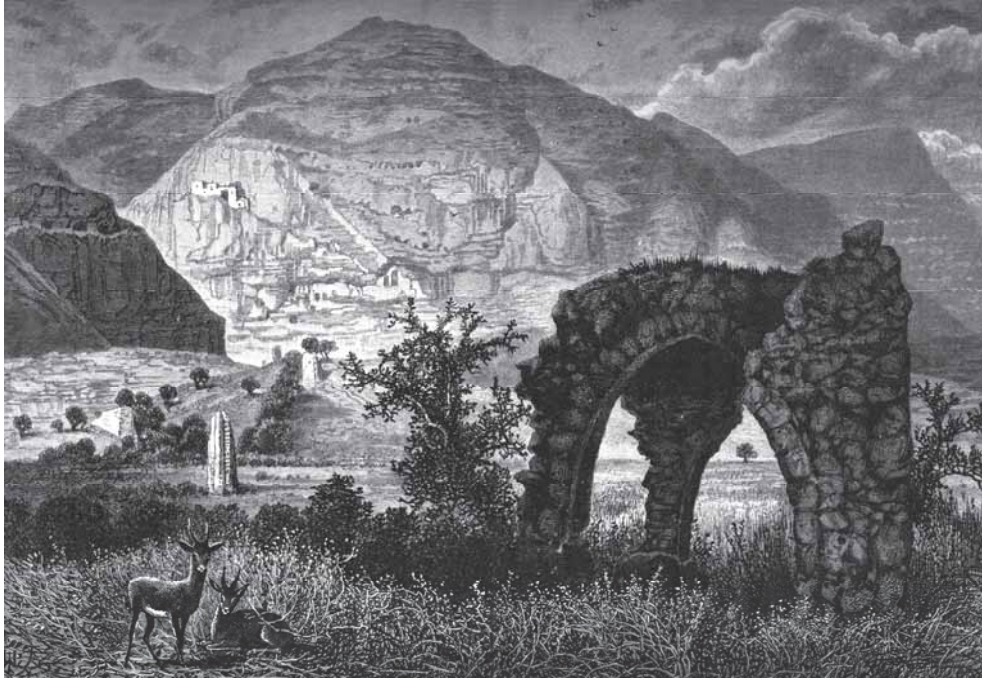


Fig. 2.5 - General view of Jebel Quruntul at the end of the 19th century (after C.W. Wilson, *Picturesque Palestine, Sinai and Egypt*, p. 173).

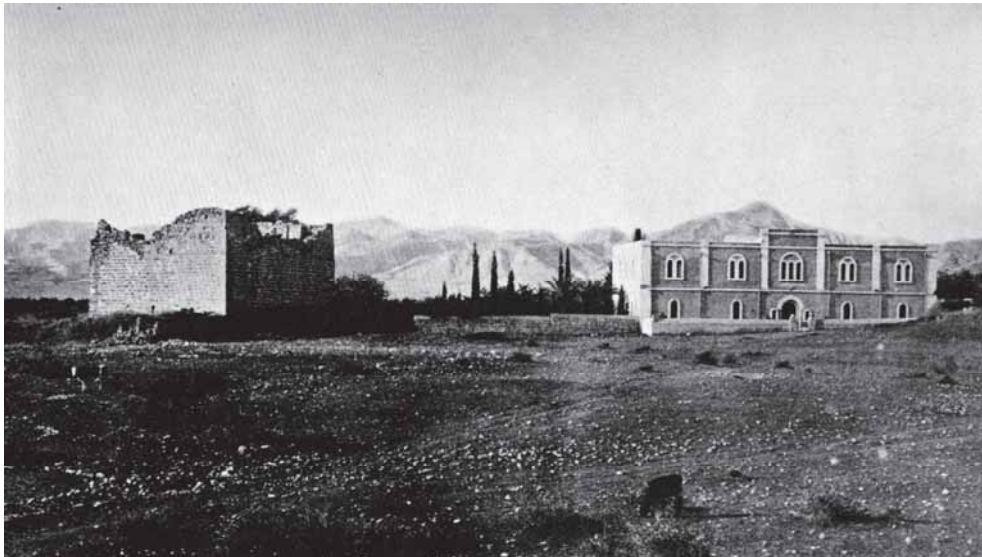


Fig. 2.6 - General view of the Russian Inn (to the right), and of the ruins of a tower (to the left), at the end of the 19th century.



Fig. 2.7 - The Spring of 'Ain es-Sultan in 1930 (PEF).



Fig. 2.8 - Inhabitants of Ariha at the Spring of 'Ain es-Sultan in 1930 (PEF).



Fig. 2.9 - The mound of Tell es-Sultan/ancient Jericho at the end of the 19th century, before the beginning of the excavations.



Fig. 2.10 - General view from west of Tell es-Sultan at the beginning of Austro-German excavations in 1908 (after Sellin - Watzinger 1913, pl. 1a).



Fig. 2.11 - General view from west of Tell es-Sultan at the beginning of Garstang's excavations in 1930 (after Garstang - Garstang 1948, pl. II).



Fig. 2.12 - General view from west of Tell es-Sultan at the time of Kenyon's excavations (after Kenyon 1981, pl. 2b).



Fig. 2.13 - The railroad installed by J. Garstang for the removal of the dump in the 1930ies (after Garstang - Garstang 1948, pl. II, b).

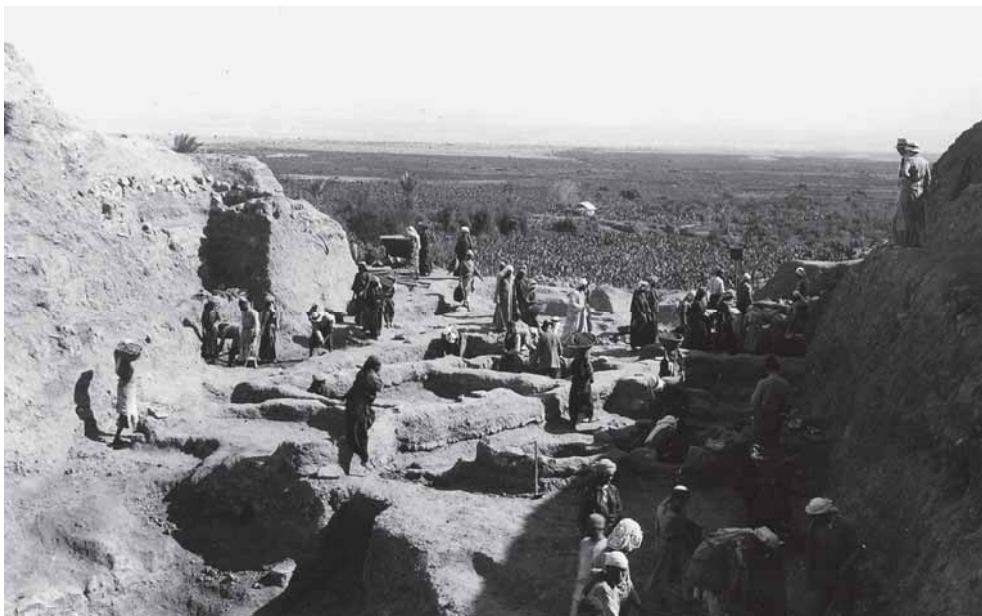


Fig. 2.14 - Works in Garstang's North-Eastern Trench at time of Garstang's excavations (PEF).

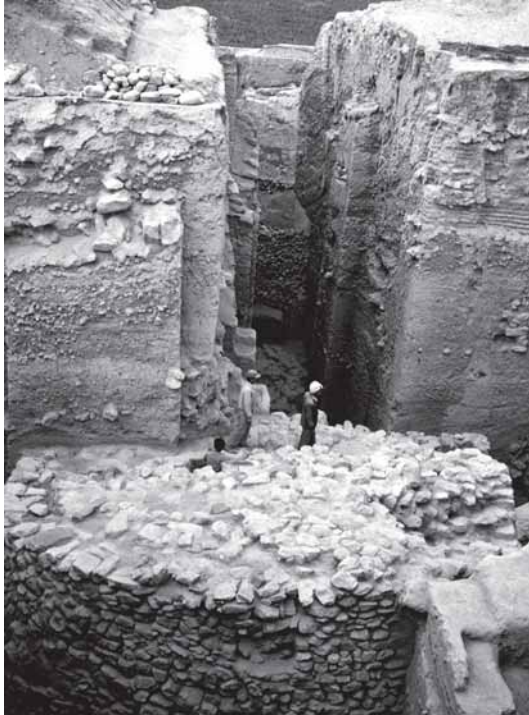


Fig. 2.15 - Works in Kenyon's Trench I and PPN Tower at time of Kenyon's excavations.

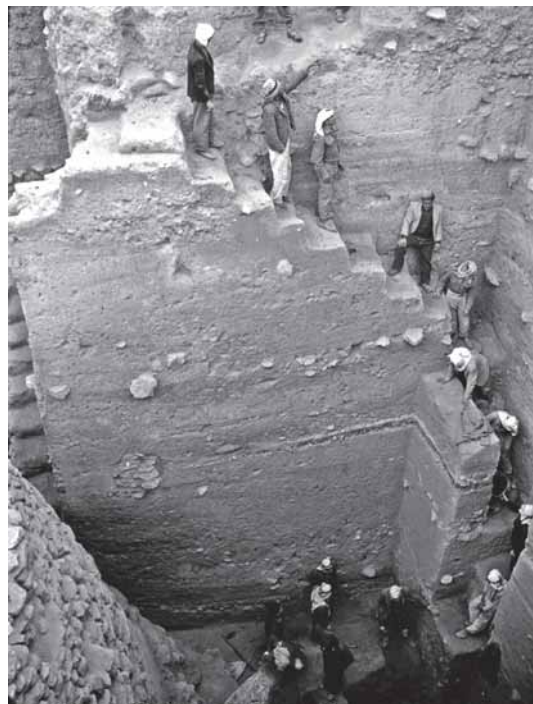


Fig. 2.16 - Works in Kenyon's Square DII at time of Kenyon's excavations.

التراث الثقافي

في واحة أريحا

قائمة منظمة للمواقع الأثرية بهدف حمايتها
وتأهيلها ثقافيا

تأليف

لورنزو نيجرو- ماورا سالا- حمدان طه

مع مساهمات

لورنزو نيجرو، حمدان طه، ماورا سالا،
مارتا اندريا، وائل حمامرة

روما 2011

[ROSAPAT 07]
[PADIS I]



التراث الأثري في واحة أريحا

قائمة مصنفة للمواقع الأثرية من أجل حمايتها وتأهيلها كتراث ثقافي

تحرير من قبل لورنزو نيجرو - ماورا ساللا - حمدان طه



روما 2011
"لا سابينز" البعثة إلى فلسطين والأردن