

IRON-AGE QUARRIES, SECOND TEMPLE-PERIOD INSTALLATIONS AND AN OTTOMAN WATCHTOWER ON THE SOUTHERN SLOPE OF MOUNT SCOPUS, JERUSALEM

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INTRODUCTION

An exploratory excavation was conducted during February and March 2000 on the southern flanks of Mt. Scopus, below the Hebrew University campus (map ref. NIG 2224–34/6328–34, OIG 1724–34/1328–34; Fig. 1).¹ The excavation was necessitated by the construction of a new access road to Nahal Egoz (Wadi el-Joz) in Jerusalem and on to Ma'alē Adummim (a municipality east of the city), via a tunnel traversing the width of Mt. Scopus from west to east below its summit (Yitzhaq Ha-Nadiv Street).

The excavated area is characterized by Turonian limestone that gently slopes to the west and south toward the Old City of Jerusalem. This soft, white, chalky stone is easily hewn, which explains the large number of ancient tombs and quarries located there. In the past, these slopes were included in the archaeological survey of Jerusalem (Kloner 2001:85*–99*).

Several burial caves excavated in the area proved to be of the *loculus* type, dating to the Second Temple period (Kloner 2001:85*–86*; Kloner and Zissu 2003:71–93). Additional finds to the east of the excavated area include a cave utilized as a workshop for stone vessels from the late Second Temple period (Amit, Seligman and Zilberbod 2000), and a monastery and caravanserai from the Byzantine and Early Islamic periods (Amit, Seligman and Zilberbod 2003).

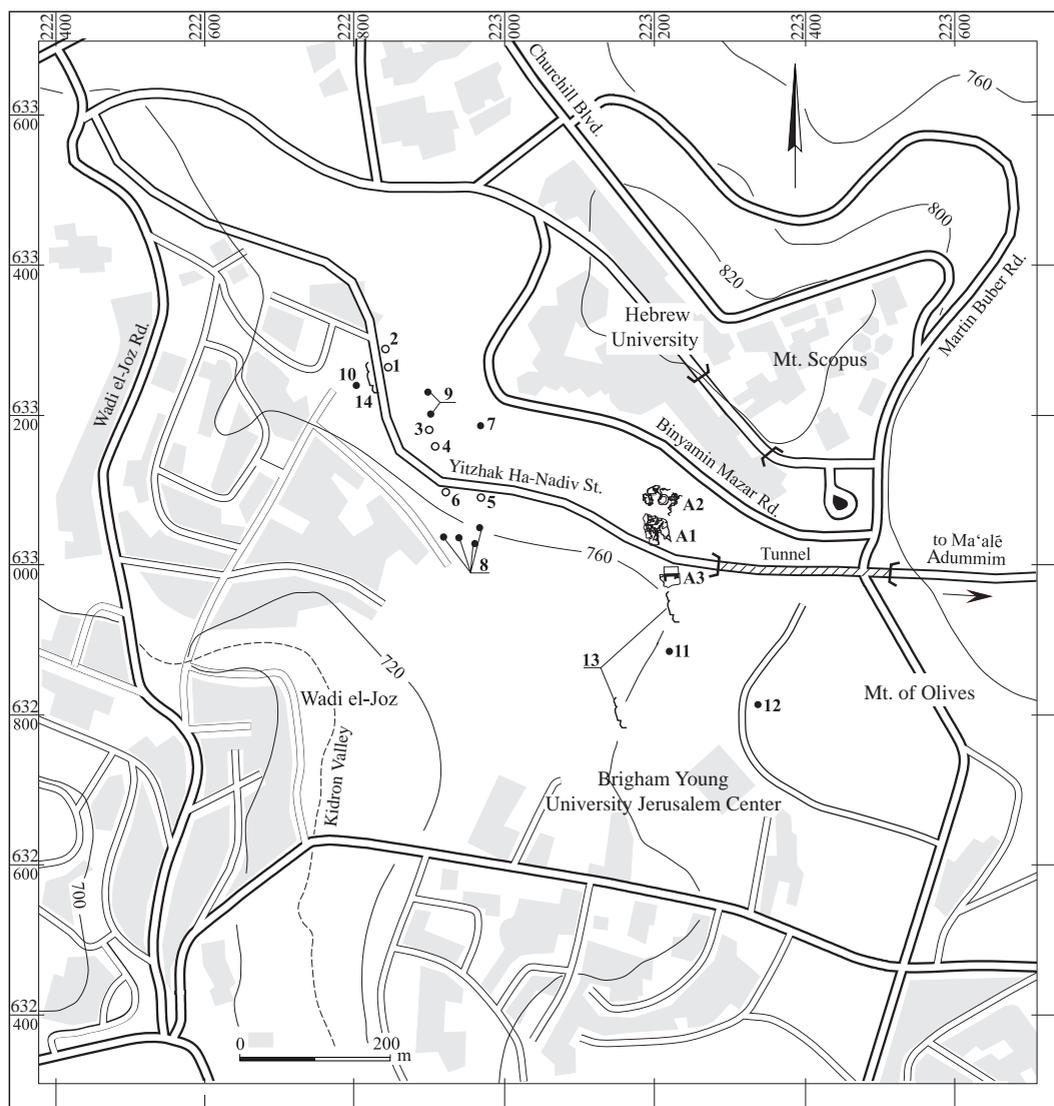
THE EXCAVATION

Archaeological inspection indicated the presence of an ancient quarry, water installations and remains of a building of the Ottoman period in three locations, subsequently labeled Areas A1, A2 and A3 (Fig. 1). Contemporaneously, work continued on the western approach to the tunnel, resulting in the renewed identification of earlier surveyed tombs, and the unearthing of an additional number of *loculus* tombs, also of the Second Temple period.

Excavation by manual and mechanical means further revealed extensive remains of a quarry, apparently dated to the Iron Age. Within the area of the quarry, two water cisterns, one of which was later converted into a *miqveh* (Jewish ritual bath), date to the Hasmonean period.

The Ottoman structure is interpreted as a watchtower that guarded the northeastern approaches to the walled city. In its vicinity, three 5 × 5 m squares were opened, two along its northern exterior wall and one within the confines of its walls. The foundations of this building proved to have been laid directly atop the surface of the Iron Age quarry. Ceramics associated with this structure point to its use in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries CE, at least into the days of the British Mandate.

Following is a detailed presentation of the excavation and some of the finds, arranged by features. A discussion by Anna de Vincenz (this volume) of associated ceramic finds accompanies this report.



1–6 Burial caves described in present excavation 7–12 Previously surveyed burial caves 13, 14 Quarry

Fig. 1. Map of Mt. Scopus, marked with ancient features and excavation areas.

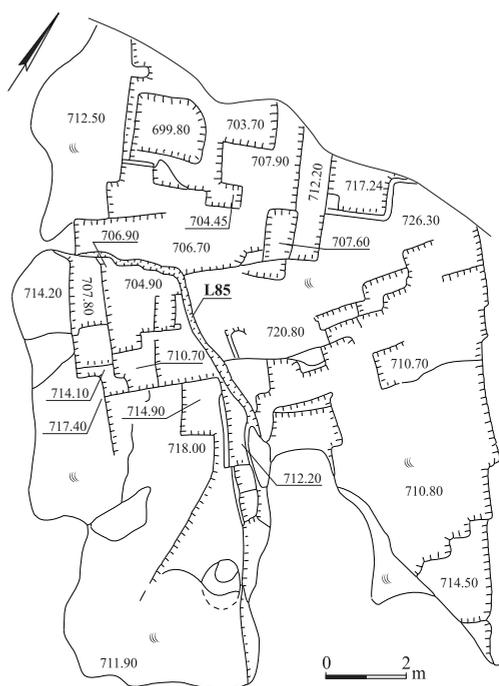
The Quarry

The slopes of Mt. Scopus, in close proximity to the Old City of Jerusalem, served as a source of stone throughout much of the city's history. Thus, over an extensive area, quarry features dominate the landscape, and are further exposed wherever excavations reach bedrock. Several concentrations of rock-cut scarps, appearing as steps on the hillside (Fig. 1:13, 14), were surveyed prior to excavation.

In Areas A1, A2 and A3, the quarry face was a broad, step-like affair cut into and mostly aligned with the natural slope of the bedrock (see Figs. 1, 2). However, some cuttings were perpendicular or at varying angles to the slope. Within the quarry, a number of focal points were discerned from which quarrying crews cut their way outward by forming deep, central, courtyard-like cavities surrounded by steps.

In Area A1 (Plan 1; Fig. 2), rock cuttings reach a depth of 1.8 m. Based on a number of hewn stones discovered in the vicinity of the quarry and negative impressions in rock cuttings, ashlar blocks detached from this quarry were of considerable size (c. 0.7 × 1.0 m). A north-south fissure, measuring 7 m long by 0.3 m wide (L85), divides this segment of the quarry in two. This fissure resulted from an earthquake (see below) that caused the blocks of bedrock to shift on either side of it.

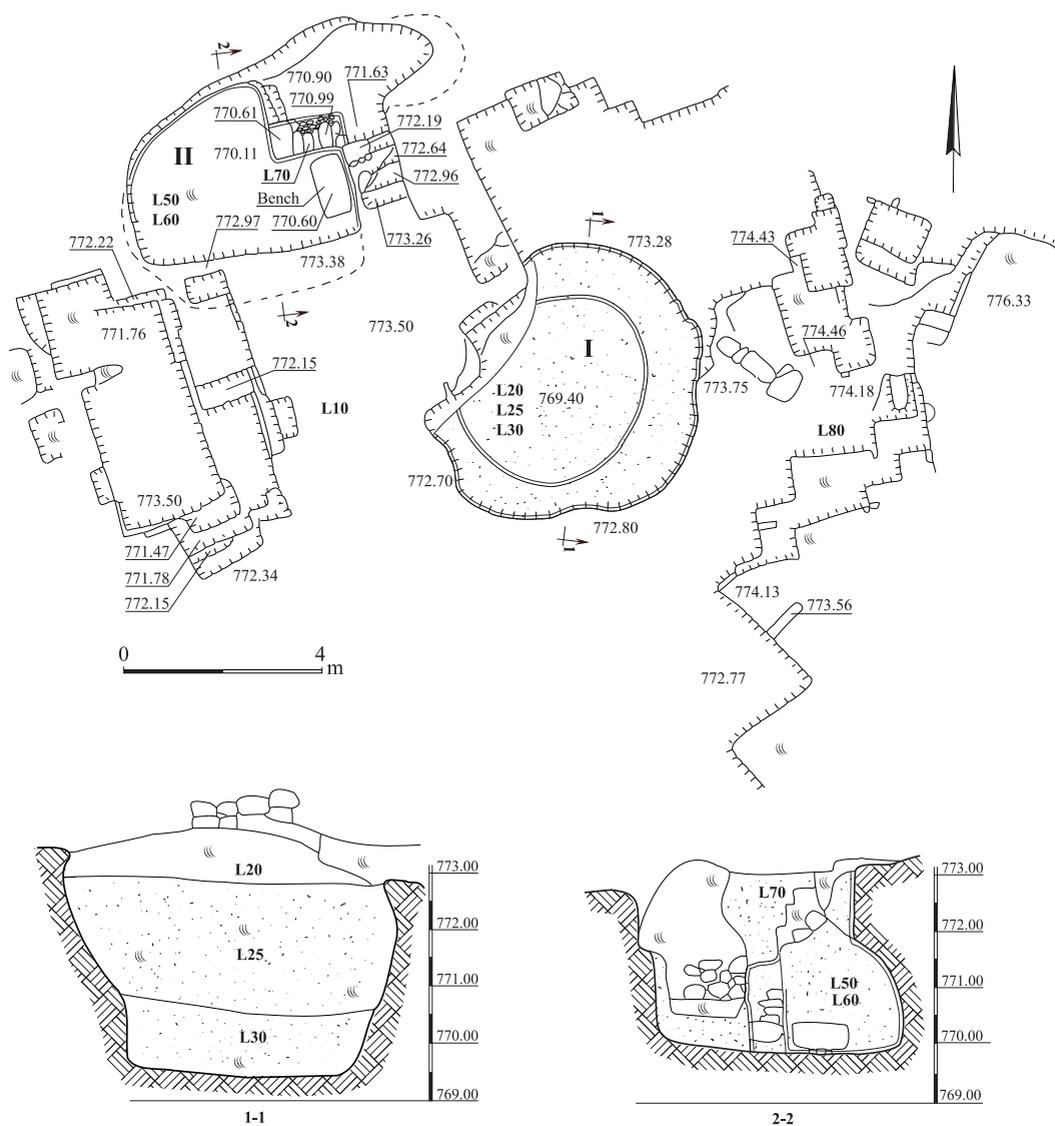
Within the quarry in Area A2, installations (see below) dating to the end of the Second Temple (i.e., Hasmonean) period were encountered (Plan 2: I, II). As they utilized the surface and eradicated lines where blocks of stone had been removed (see Figs. 3, 4), they must have been later features, post-dating quarrying activity, although by how much is obscure. Fill found within the quarry (L10, L80) contained alluvium mixed with gravel and



Plan 1. Quarry in Area A1.



Fig. 2. Quarried bedrock in Area A1, looking south. Note the shapes of the largish ashlar blocks clearly visible in the negative impressions.



Plan 2. Quarry and installations in Area A2, plan and sections.

potsherds, mostly dating to the end of the Iron Age, although a few sherds date from the Early Roman (late first century BCE to c. 135 CE) and Byzantine periods (see de Vincenz, this volume). A homogenous assemblage of sherds from the end of the Iron Age encountered in this area may indicate when the quarry was in operation. Later sherds were probably deposited in the quarry together with alluvial soil.

The quarry was also exposed in Area A3, but it will be described below, in relation to the Ottoman building.

Water Installations

Two plastered, rock-hewn water installations were revealed within the confines of the quarry in Area A2.

Installation I (Plan 2: Section 1-1; Fig. 3).—

This is a cistern, c. 3.5 m in depth, which has a large opening (max. diam. c. 5 m) that narrows to approximately 4.1 m in diameter at the bottom. The walls of the cistern were coated with two layers of plaster. The inner layer of plaster (2 cm thick) was grayish in color and

contained tiny grits, pieces of carbon and ground potsherds; the outer layer (1 cm thick), although with identical additives, was white.

Fill on the bottom of the cistern consisted of very fine alluvium (L30) overlaid with medium-sized fieldstones (L25). Close to the surface were large segments of bedrock (L20), collapsed from the cistern's ceiling, perhaps as a result of the same earthquake that created the fissure in the quarry (see above). Several worn, non-diagnostic potsherds found in the fill inside the cistern were probably washed in along



Fig. 3. Installation I in Area A2, looking east.

with alluvial soil. The quality of their fabrics suggests the sherds should be dated to the Late Hellenistic (i.e., Hasmonean) period.

Installation II (Plan 2: Section 2–2; Fig. 4).— This installation was initially a plastered water cistern. At a later time, an L-shaped staircase was hewn in its eastern wall, thus converting it into a *miqveh*. A large stone block was placed against the eastern wall, south of the staircase, to serve as a bench. The upper stairs, near the surface, were hewn into bedrock, whereas the lower stairs were constructed of stones derived from a chalk and flint formation and bonded with grayish-colored cement. The surface of the steps was incorporated in the overall re-plastering of the walls of the installation, thus incontrovertibly linking the second layer of plaster to the *miqveh* phase. The grayish-colored plaster contains small inclusions of carbonized material. Similar plaster has been discovered in aqueducts and ritual baths dating to the late Second Temple period (Porath 1989; Reich 2000:97).

Fill within the *miqveh* (L50, L60) was alluvial, and contained pottery sherds dating

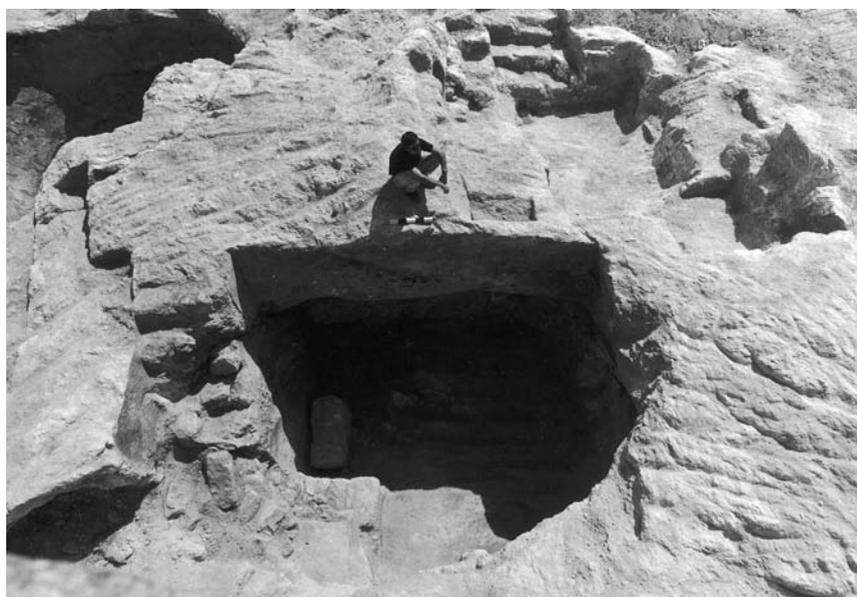


Fig. 4. Installation II in Area A2, looking south.

to the Hasmonean period. Sherds of the same period were also found when the stairs in the *miqveh* were dismantled (L70; see de Vincenz, this volume). This *miqveh* is of a type commonly found in the region of Jerusalem during the Second Temple period (Reich 1990:47–49).

Tombs

Mount Scopus and its slopes constituted part of the northern necropolis of Jerusalem at the end of the late Second Temple period. Its proximity to Jerusalem of that period, the view overlooking the Temple Mount and the easily hewn bedrock led to the quarrying of dozens of burial caves, many of which have, as noted above, been documented and excavated.

Prior to the roadworks and excavations discussed in this report, ten burial caves, their locations designated on the map by arbitrary numbers, were documented (see Fig. 1:7–12). Caves 7 and 10 were recorded by Kloner (2001:86*, 97*, Sites 255, 300). A cluster of four caves (Fig. 1:8) was partially documented by R. Abu-Raya (Abu-Raya and Zissu 2001; Kloner 2001:87*, Site 262). Two cave complexes (Fig. 1:9) were excavated in November 1991 by Wexler-Bdolah (1998; Kloner 2001:86*–87*, Site 259), while Cave 12, adjacent to the Brigham Young University Jerusalem Center on the Mt. of Olives,² was examined by Stark (1991; Kloner 2001:114*, Site 352). Cave 11 does not seem to have been previously recorded.

In addition, six burial caves, all of which date to the end of the Second Temple period, were revealed during the present excavation. Unfortunately, due to opposition on the part of ultra-orthodox Jewish factions, access to these caves was forbidden. With the partial exception of Cave 6 (see below), they were neither excavated nor properly recorded. Rather, the caves were opened and then promptly resealed, thus remaining virtually untouched and undocumented. Therefore, descriptive information presented here is based solely on what could be committed to memory from personal observation.

Cave 1 (Fig. 5).— This cave is located on the lower, western slope within an ancient quarry (see Fig. 1:1, 14). Only its facade and part of its forecourt were exposed, revealing the rectangular outlines of its layout. Fill within the courtyard (L90) yielded an assemblage of first-century CE pottery sherds that postdate the destruction of the Temple (see de Vincenz, this volume). A rectangular opening, cut into the eastern side of the courtyard, was discovered sealed with a large stone held in place on its western side by a large ashlar. The cave was filled to the height of its entrance. Hence, nothing of its interior could be documented.

Cave 2 (Fig. 6).— This cave, located some 10 m northeast of Cave 1, has been visible for years and was probably plundered in the past. Although the inside of the cave was partially filled with alluvium and modern refuse, it was still possible to discern the existence of a central chamber hewn in the bedrock, the ceiling of which had collapsed. Entrance to this chamber is through its western wall. In its remaining walls were hewn rectangular openings with recessed frames, meant to accept blocking stones. These openings led to square burial chambers with hewn *loculi*.



Fig. 5. The entrance to Cave 1, with a small segment of its quarried forecourt visible in the background, looking southeast. Note the ashlar blocking the rolling stone that seals the entrance.

Caves 3–5.— These burial caves consist of double levels of *loculi* visible through their entrances. An intact ossuary was noted in Cave 4. All three caves were sealed anew, their contents untouched and unexamined.

Cave 6 (Plan 3)

Boas Zissu and Amit Re'em

This tomb, a cave complex, was looted shortly after it was discovered and before it could be properly examined.³ It was meticulously hewn into bedrock, aligned along a southwest–northeast axis. It has three interconnected chambers on split levels.

Originally, the tomb was accessed through a rectangular rock-cut courtyard. However, the only remnants to survive bulldozing are the plastered corners of the northern wall, flanking a well-defined entrance with a recessed frame (Fig. 7). Through this doorway, one entered a short corridor that had originally been sealed by a wall built of large ashlar bonded with light gray-colored plaster. Only remnants of this sealing material survived after the entrance was breached by antiquities robbers.

Chamber A. From the short passage, one descends to the main burial chamber (A), which is nearly trapezoidal in plan (its walls measuring c. 2.5, 4.7, 3.0, 4.8 m) and with a low ceiling.

In its central space, near the entrance, is a deep pit, the only spot in which it is possible to stand upright. In the northeastern wall of the standing pit is an opening that leads to Chamber C (see below).

In both long walls of Chamber A are three *loculi*, each c. 1.9 m long. In the wall opposite the entrance is another *loculus*, as well as an opening that leads to Chamber B (see below). All the *loculi* in Chamber A are arched, but their openings are set in a rectangular frame with a recessed margin for fitting in a stone slab of similar dimensions. Around the openings there are traces of clay, such as would have been used to seal edges of such slabs and to fill fissures and cavities in the bedrock (Fig. 8; see also Zissu and Re'em 2002: Fig. 113). However, despite this evidence, no stone slabs were found in the cave, perhaps an indication that they bore inscriptions or special markings of interest, and thus, were looted together with other contents.

Human bones were observed in all the *loculi* of Chamber A. Although they were disturbed by the robbers, some groups of bones in the *loculi* suggest they represent primary interments, while other bone concentrations suggest collections from secondary burials. Along the benches and in the pit were scattered human bones and fragments of at least six ossuaries decorated with stylized rosettes and geometric



Fig. 6. The partially revealed entrance to Cave 2, looking north.

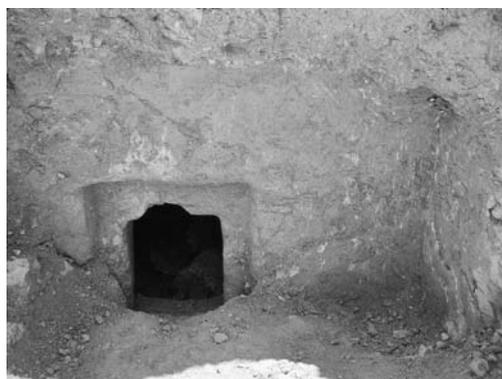
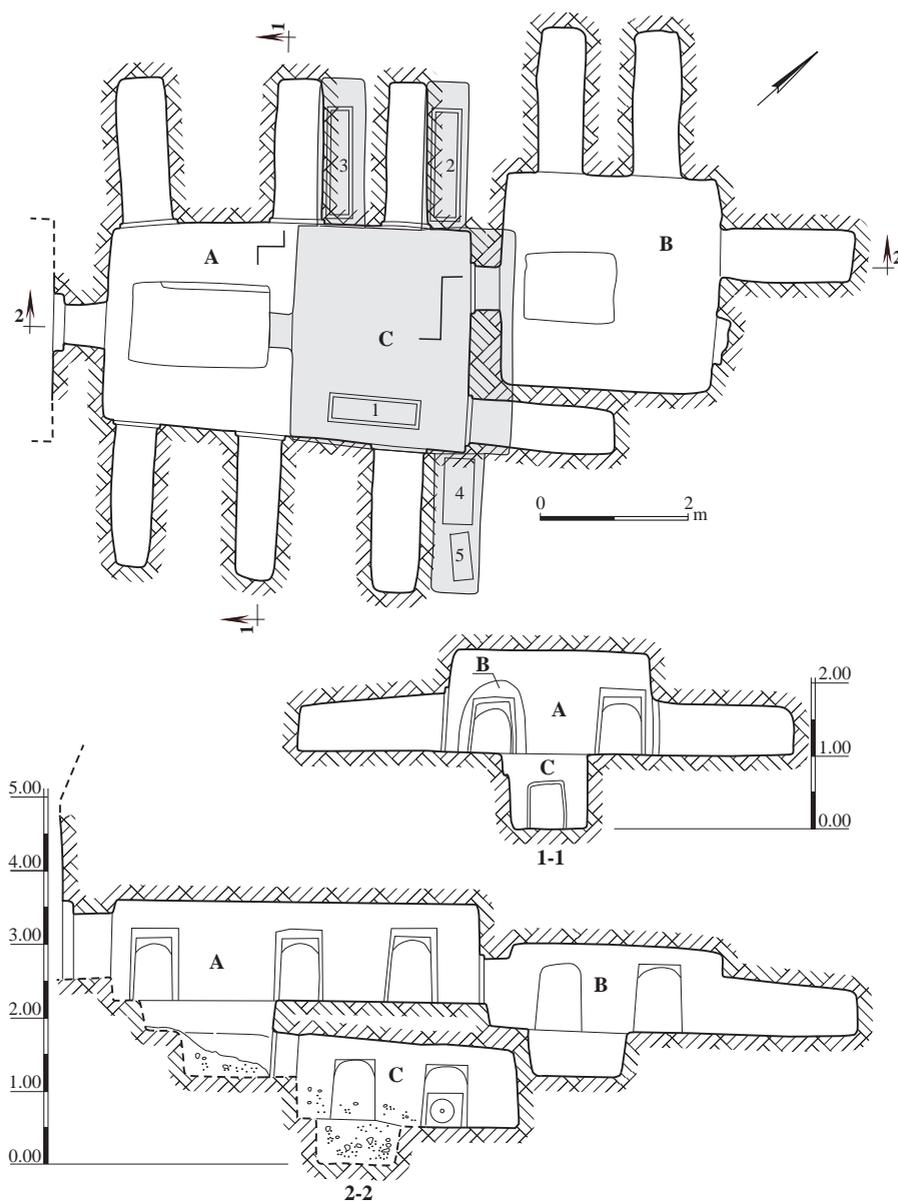


Fig. 7. The partially revealed entrance to Cave 6, looking northwest. Note traces of plaster in the corners of its forecourt.



Plan 3. Cave 6, plan and sections.

patterns. Also found was the rim of a cooking pot with a triangular cross-section and the wick hole of a knife-pared lamp, both characteristic artifacts of the first century CE.

Chamber B. This chamber is situated at a slightly lower level and is accessed from the

northeastern wall opposite the entrance of Chamber A by a single step leading down. The carved, arched frame that highlights the aperture to Chamber B indicates that the entrance was hewn at the same time as the main chamber of the cave (rather than having been converted from a *loculus*). In addition, the



Fig. 8. An entrance to a *loculus* in Chamber A of Cave 6, showing the rectangular frame and a clay-filled fissure above the opening.



Fig. 9. A close-up of the north wall of Chamber B of Cave 6 with the unfinished *loculus* on the right.

relatively low lintel is aligned with the bottom of the passageway, attesting to the well-planned layout of the complex.

In the center of this square chamber (2.8×2.8 m) is a standing pit. Three *loculi* (each 1.9 m long), two evenly spaced in the northwestern

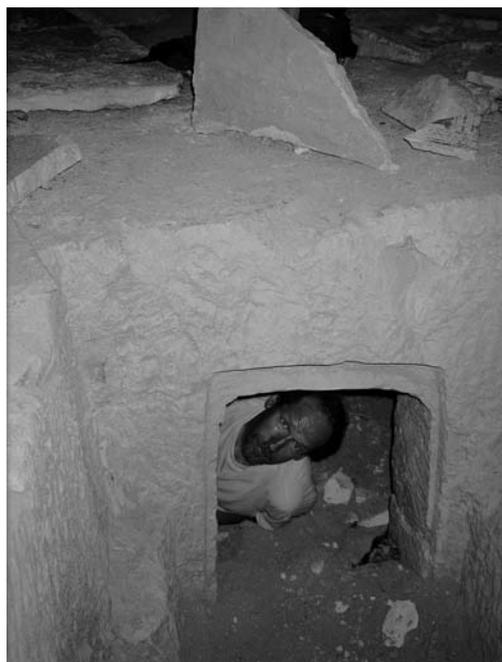


Fig. 10. The entrance in the eastern side of the standing pit of Chamber A, opening onto Chamber C on a lower level.

wall and another similarly positioned in the adjacent wall opposite the opening, have arched ceilings. A second *loculus* was also begun in the latter wall, but after c. 0.2 m, hewing was discontinued (Fig. 9). On the wide, flat margins around the pit were several human bones, as well as fragments of two recently shattered ossuaries, discarded from the plundered *loculi*. One of the ossuaries has a plain surface, while the other is decorated with geometric patterns formed by thin, incised lines. It is assumed that numerous other finds were removed from the chamber when it was looted.

Chamber C. This chamber lies below the northern half of the central chamber (Fig. 10). It is accessed through an entranceway at the bottom of the rear side of the standing pit in Chamber A, via a very short corridor and down a steep step (c. 0.5 m high). This virtually square chamber is similar in size (2.8×2.9 m) to Chamber B. Three typical *loculi*, each with an arched ceiling and a rectangular entrance,



Fig. 11. A decorated hard limestone ossuary embedded in alluvium in Chamber C of Cave 6.

were cut into two of the chamber's walls. There are no *loculi* in the wall opposite the opening because the stonecutters were undoubtedly aware of the existence of the standing pit in the neighboring Chamber B. Alluvium penetrated into the part of the chamber nearest the entrance, covering its floor where, it is assumed, there is another standing pit. Light-colored clay used to seal the edges of the blocking slabs was preserved around the openings of the *loculi*, but once again, no evidence of stone slabs was found.

Parallel to the southeastern wall of Chamber C and embedded *in situ* in the alluvium, was a large, ossuary (length c. 1.2 m) made of hard limestone (Fig. 11; Plan 3:1). On the ossuary are elaborate decorations carved in relief. In the center of one long side is a stylized flower encircled with a wreath, on either side of which is a disc in bas relief decorated with concentric rings. On each of the ossuary's narrow sides is a protruding stylized flower. Although the lid was also buried in the alluvium, it was possible to discern its arched aspect.

In addition, four ossuaries (Plan 3:2–5) were originally placed in the *loculi* of this chamber. Only one, however, in the northern corner of Chamber C, was found *in situ* (Plan 3:2). On its front and one of the narrow sides are two concentric circles in bas relief (Fig. 12). This ossuary has an arched lid similar to that of the nearby ossuary and was similarly fashioned of hard limestone.



Fig. 12. A decorated hard limestone ossuary and its lid in Chamber C of Cave 6.

The considerable weight of the ossuaries, made of dense limestone, apparently prevented the looters from removing them. On the other hand, at least three additional ossuaries, imprints of which were observed in the alluvium on the bottom of several *loculi* (Plan 3:3–5), were looted. They were probably fashioned of soft limestone (*qirṭon*), as evidenced by such fragments of other ossuaries found within the cave, and therefore, easily removed.

It is estimated that some twelve ossuaries and fragments thereof remained in the chambers of the complex, including fragments of two small ossuaries that the robbers discarded in front of the cave's entrance. The ossuaries and their fragments were inspected for inscriptions, but none was apparent. As a proper excavation was not conducted in the burial cave, no anthropological data regarding the individuals interred therein is available.

On the basis of available information, it is apparent that a Jewish family was interred in



Fig. 13. A fissure in the bedrock floor beneath the ruins of the Ottoman structure in Area A3.

the burial complex. That determination is based on the type of cave, the existence of ossuary fragments and ceramic finds, all features indicating the ethnic identity of the owners. These features further indicate the cave was quarried and used in the first century CE.

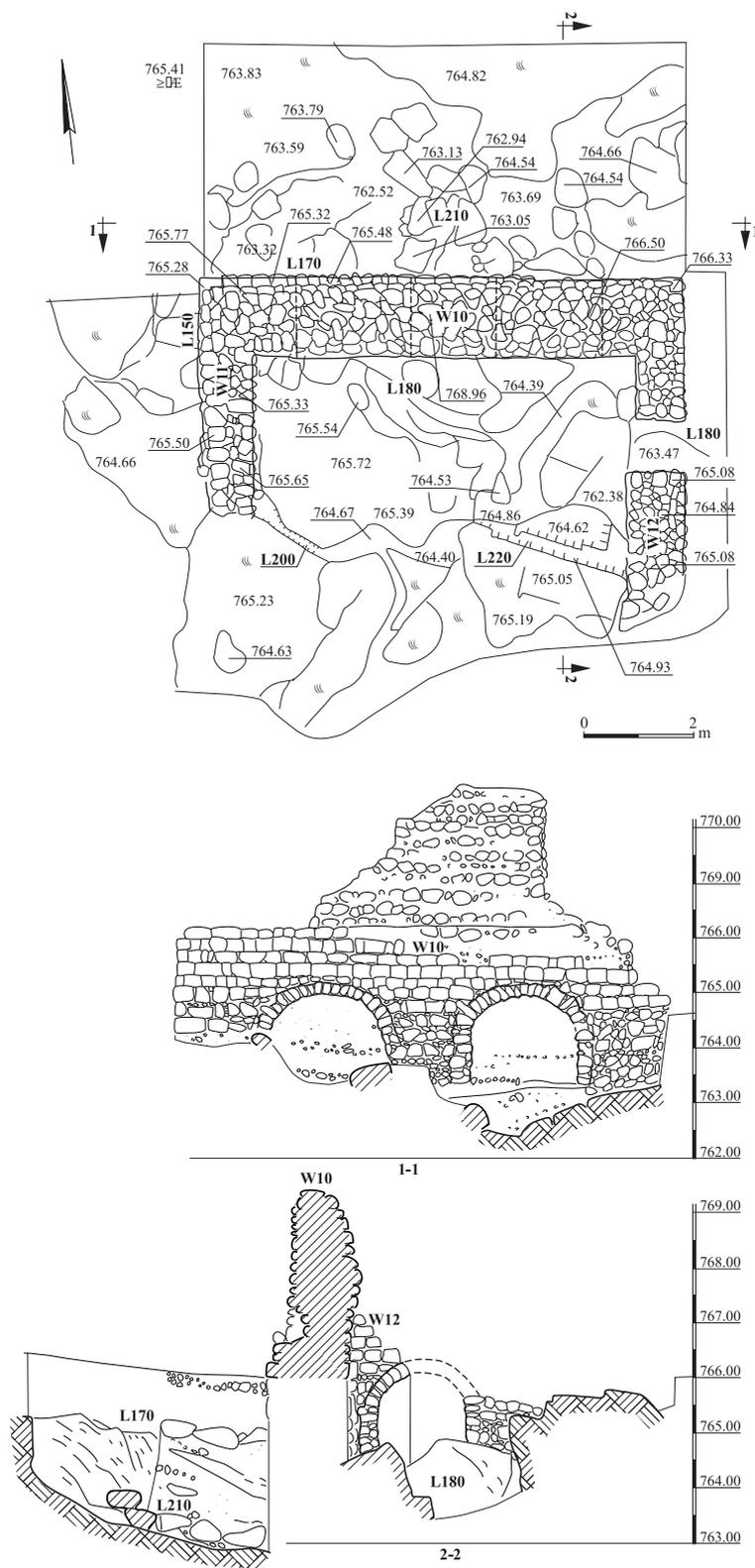
Watchtower (Plan 4; Figs. 13–17)

A partially destroyed, two-story rectangular structure was located near the bottom of the southern slope in Area A3 (see Fig. 1). The building was destroyed by the same earthquake that bifurcated the quarry: the bedrock fissure visible in Area A1 actually bisects the building (L200; Plan 4; Fig. 13), the walls of which collapsed inward together with the ceiling. The tremor additionally caused the building to shift a number of centimeters from its original location (Fig. 14). Finds from within the fissure, beneath the building debris, indicate that the earthquake took place in the twentieth century CE (for the dating of the earthquake, see below).

The walls of this structure were faced with small, well-dressed ashlar on either side of a



Fig. 14. A misaligned wall of the Ottoman structure in Area A3 and its foundations.



Plan 4. Area A3, Ottoman watchtower, plan and sections.

rubble core (Fig. 15). Midway up the wall's inner face is a spring stone, the beginning of a barrel vault of rubble construction, which covered the lower story. Wall 10 on the north, c. 1.5 m wide, was preserved to a height of 5.2 m (Plan 4; Section 1–1; Figs. 15, 16). Although up to eight courses of ashlar have survived in the lower part of W10, much of that which remains is rubble core, indicating that the internal and external facades were robbed of their ashlar. In the northeastern corner of the wall there is evidence of a stairway leading to an upper story. Walls 11 and 12 (1.0–1.4 m thick) bond at right angles with W10, delineating the building on its eastern and western sides. However, W11 and W12 have not survived to their full length; it is likely that they, along with the building's southern wall (parallel to W10), were destroyed in the earthquake.

The building was constructed directly above the uneven bedrock, whose surface was broken by the soil-filled hollows and irregularities created by earlier quarrying. In order to



Fig. 15. A section of W10 of the Ottoman structure in Area A3 with its rubble core.



Fig. 16. A segment of W10 of the Ottoman structure in Area A3 with its foundation arches, ashlar facade and rubble core.

compensate for this unstable surface, where necessary, the wall foundations incorporated support arches that descended into the deep pockets of earthen fill. Wall 10 was built above two such stabilizing arches; the partially destroyed remains of another arch are visible in W12. This method of construction is characteristic of the nineteenth century and it occurs in dozens of Ottoman buildings in the Old City of Jerusalem, Jaffa and 'Akko (Re'em, in prep.).

No constructed floor was discerned in the excavation; rather, it appears that wherever possible, bedrock functioned as the lowest floor of the structure. However, in places where the bedrock dropped away, it seems likely the floor or the living surface in the first story was located just above the apex of the arches supporting the foundations, on level and integrated with the bedrock.

An assemblage of ceramic finds dating to the nineteenth century (see de Vincenz, this volume) was discovered in the fill excavated next to the walls of the building (Loci 150, 170 and 180) and in the stratum above bedrock, sealed by its collapse.

Both beneath and adjacent to this building was found evidence of the continuation of the quarry of Areas A1 and A2 (Loci 210 and 220; Plan 4). Ashlars, not completely detached from



Fig. 17. Detail of the Iron Age quarry (L210) below the foundations of the Ottoman structure in Area A3. Note the still-attached ashlar blocks.

the quarry, were uncovered at the foot of the foundations of W10 (L210; Fig. 17).

DATING THE EARTHQUAKE

The fissure resulting from the earthquake apparently bisected the ancient quarry and severely damaged the Ottoman structure. If this is indeed the case, then the earthquake must have occurred during or after the construction of the building. The segment of the fissure in the vicinity of the building was blocked by the collapse of the walls. Therefore, finds from within the fissure, below the collapse (L200), clearly indicate a *terminus post quem* for that earthquake. They include a fragment of a rifle clip with two bullets in place (Fig. 18:1), the remains of metal plates that may be part of an ammunition box, and an elliptical, bronze locket (Fig. 18:2).

The bullets are those of a Lee Enfield rifle, in use between the two world wars. Stamped on the cartridges are the letters R/|L (Royal Laboratories Woolwich), the initials of the factory where the bullets were manufactured.⁴

On the front of the locket is a glass plate affixed to it by means of a bronze frame (Fig. 18:2). Stamped onto the back of the locket is a heart surrounded by a chain (Fig. 19:a). Above the heart is a crown adorned with a cross.

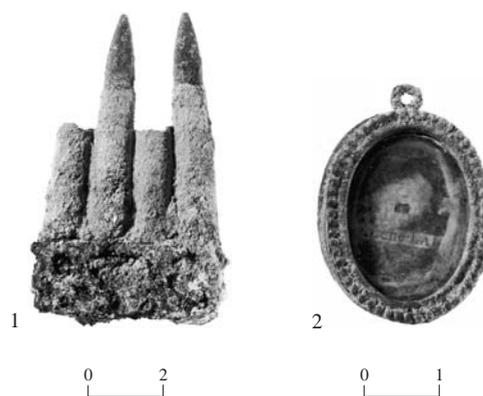


Fig. 18. Finds from the bedrock fissure, beneath the debris of the Ottoman structure, destroyed in the 1927 earthquake: (1) a clip of Lee Enfield rifle bullets; (2) an elliptical, bronze locket.

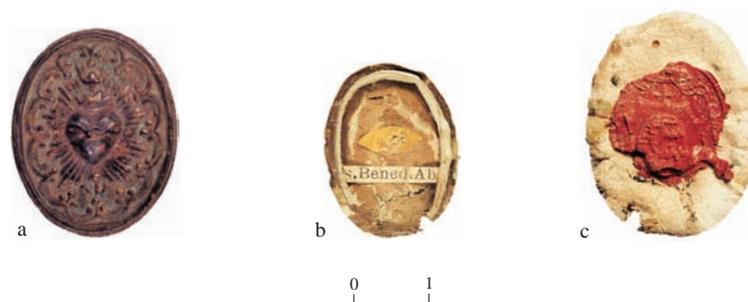


Fig. 19. Bronze locket (see Fig. 18:2): (a) back of locket with a heart surrounded by a chain; (b) piece of linen printed with a name; (c) back bearing a red wax seal.

Both are surrounded by what appear to be sunbeams delineated within a colorful frame. Inside the locket is a piece of linen to which was apparently attached a picture (Fig. 19:b). Remaining at the bottom of the cloth was a piece of paper on which was printed the name S. Bened. Ab. Beginning in 1898, the suffix Ab was used to indicate the title or rank of ‘able-bodied seaman’ in the British Royal Navy.⁵ On the back side of the cloth is a red wax seal (Fig. 19:c) imprinted with the symbol either of a British sovereign or alternatively the symbol of some military unit.

According to these finds the earthquake should be dated to the time of the British Mandate, the period between the world wars. We know such an earthquake occurred in 1927, and that it severely damaged the walled city of Jerusalem, as well as its northern neighborhoods (Amiran 1950:234–235).

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

This excavation indicates that the earliest evidence of human activity on this part of Mt. Scopus was in the Iron Age, at which time the limestone bedrock slope was extensively used as a quarry. This dating is based on the extensive quantities of Iron Age pottery encountered there, and on the fact that the installations that cut into the quarry belong, by their nature, to the first century BCE. The water installations encountered—two cisterns, one of which was later converted to a *miqveh*—

appear to be associated with a period when the quarry was abandoned and became part of a large necropolis. Such installations would have served for ritual ablution and perhaps as sources for water for workmen and visitors to the area during the Second Temple period (Kloner 1980:210).

The discovery of numerous rock-cut tombs in this area—hardly surprising, as Mt. Scopus is known as an integral part of a necropolis extending over the ridges east of Jerusalem—merely enhances our knowledge of its importance in the Second Temple period. Amongst these tombs, Cave 6 is noteworthy for its well-planned and complex layout, the superior quality of workmanship with which it was hewn, the size and ornate character of both the hard limestone ossuary and the ossuary found in it, and the fragments of additional ossuaries recovered from it. They indicate an elevated status for those interred within. Unfortunately, looters rifled the tomb and its contents prior to excavation, and much information that might have been observed, even were it not excavated, has been forever lost. The nature of the remaining tombs, untouched by this excavator, remains obscure.

The function of the Ottoman-period building is somewhat unclear. It may have been a dwelling at some point in its history, as indicated by a building with a similar location and dimensions on a map of Jerusalem made by Stephan Illes and dated to 1873 (Rubin 1999:170). Alternately, a more likely function

for this building is that of watchtower. Despite its less-than-strategic location low down the slope, it does have other attributes that favor such an interpretation. They include its relative isolation on the route to Jerusalem from the Mt. of Olives, its square plan and evidence of a second story, as well as its foundation date in the Ottoman period. Two watchtowers, similar

in plan, date and function, were excavated in the vicinity of modern Jerusalem—one in Nahal Reḥavya and the other on Qeren Ha-Yesod St. (Kloner 2002:122*; Braun 2000). In addition, the military nature of the finds from the fissure, dated to British Mandate times, suggests the building continued in a similar function well into the twentieth century CE.

NOTES

¹ The excavation (Permit No. A-3186) was directed by Amit Re'em. Avraham Hajian surveyed the remains, Carmen Hersch drew the finds, Lena Cooperschmidt treated the metal objects, Clara Amit and Tsila Sagiv photographed in the field and in the studio, and Natalia Zak prepared the plans for publication. Cave 6 was documented and photographed by Boaz Zissu, aided by Jon Seligman and Amit Re'em.

² This large, modern complex dominates the upper, northwestern slope of the Mt. of Olives, where it joins Mt. Scopus to the north.

³ Although previously published (Zissu and Re'em 2002), the full description is presented here again, as part of the final excavation report. Boaz Zissu investigated the cave, photographed it and drafted its plans.

⁴ I would like to thank Barney Shechter and Eliot Springer of the weapons laboratory of the Israel Police for their assistance in identifying the type of rifle for which these bullets were produced.

⁵ I wish to thank Dr. Sam Wolff for providing me with this information.

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