AREA B AND SQUARE D.4

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Four Squares (B.2, B.4, B.7, D.4), all of which had been started in earlier seasons, were worked in Area B in 1976. Squares B.2 and B.4 were completed after only 2.5 weeks of work, while Squares B.7 and D.4 required 6 and 7 weeks respectively. Because a cave complex beneath bedrock was uncovered in the southwest corner of B.4, excavation in that Square extended somewhat beyond the 7.00 x 7.00 m. limits of the Square. The balk between Squares B.2 and B.7 was removed to expose the northeast corner of the Iron II/Persian Stratum XXII reservoir, but the other Area B balks were left intact. The main dump for Area B was again located to the south of Square D.4, but Squares B.1, B.2, and B.3 were also partially backfilled with dump materials.

Strata II-IV: Ayyūbid/Mamlūk (ca. A.D. 1200-1456)

Description (Stratification):³ Ayyūbid/Mamlūk remains of Strata II-IV (Area B strata 2-3) were attested in 1976 only in the southwest corner of Square B.4, beneath bedrock to the south of the Square proper.

 Sheep/Goat
 61
 Dog
 6
 U.D.
 13

 Cattle
 1
 Cat
 3
 Scrap
 35

 Large Mammal
 7
 Chicken
 3

¹ For the results of the 1968, 1971, 1973, and 1974 seasons in Area B, see D. M. Beegle, "Heshbon 1968: Area B," AUSS 7 (1969): 118-126; E. N. Lugenbeal and J. A. Sauer, "Seventh-Sixth Century B.C. Pottery from Area B at Heshbon," AUSS 10 (1972): 21-69; J. A. Sauer, "Heshbon 1971: Area B," AUSS 11 (1973): 35-71; J. A. Sauer, "Heshbon 1973: Area B and Square D.4," AUSS 13 (1975): 133-167; J. A. Sauer, "Heshbon 1974: Area B and Square D.4," AUSS 14 (1976): 29-62. The present report again assumes complete familiarity with the above reports.

² During the 1976 season, Larry G. Herr supervised the fieldwork in Area B. ³ Pre-excavation cleanup in Area B consisted of Loci B.2:127, B.4:276, B.7: 18A, and D.4:84. These loci produced the following bones:

One registered artifact, iron slag (Object 2227), came from cleanup Locus B.7:18A. Locus D.4:84 also produced two registered artifacts, a bronze half-ring (Object 2203) and an iron nail (Object 2210).

Opening up to the south beneath Bedrock Blocks B.4:192, 195 (the partially collapsed ceiling bedrock of Cave B.4:171, of Early Roman Stratum XVIII) was Cave B.4:283. Temporary Balk B.4:281, composed of Early Roman rubble along the south and west sides of Cave B.4:171, separated Cave B.4:171 from Cave B.4:283. Cave B.4:283 was medium-sized (ca. 2.00 m. wide east-west; ca. 2.50 m. north-south), with rubble to the east, the back side of intersected vertical Bedrock B.4:277 to the north, and Wall B.4:283B to the west. To the southwest, low Passageway B.4:285 led to numerous connected underground caves, cisterns, and arched rooms, ca. 50.00-100.00 m. in total area (explored but not excavated). Cave B.4:283 was ca. 2.00 m. high between its ceiling Bedrock B.4:284 (= B.4:192, 195 of Cave B.4:171) and its floor Bedrock B.4:283H, and it was only partially filled with debris. The uppermost soil layer in the cave was Ayyūbid/Mamlūk Layer B.4:283A(1), a thin layer which covered over thicker Layer B.4:283A(2) of Early Roman Stratum XVIII.

Description (Bones): The bones from Ayyūbid/Mamlūk Layer B.4:283A(1) and from Early Roman Layer B.4:283A(2), recorded together, were as follows:

Sheep/Goat	163	Large Mammal	51	U.D.	94
Cattle	30	Pig	5	Scrap	151
Donkey	6	Chicken	22	_	

Description (Artifacts): The latest pottery which came from Locus B.4: 283A(1) was Ayyūbid/Mamlūk, including two complete or near-complete glazed bowls which were resting on the layer. These bowls were among the registered artifacts from Locus B.4:283A(1):

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B.4:283A(1) 2296 Glazed Bowl B.4:283A(1) 2284 Glass Jar Frag. B.4:283A(1) 2297 Glazed Bowl
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Interpretation: Cave B.4:283 would originally have been connected to the B.4:171, 247, 74 cave complex in B.4, which was constructed or at least in use during the Early Roman and Late Hellenistic periods (see below). During the Early Roman earthquake of 31 B.C. the B.4:195 bedrock ceiling of Cave B.4:171 collapsed, and Rubble B.4:281 probably blocked off the abandoned B.4:171 cave from the intact B.4:283 cave to the south.

During the Ayyūbid/Mamlūk period, Cave B.4:283 would again have been used, approached from the underground complex to the south through Passageway B.4:285. Cave B.4:283, Passageway B.4:285, and the underground complex to the south could then be compared to Vaulted Room D.4:24, Cave D.4:68, Tunnel D.4:70, and Cave D.4:80 to the south of D.4.⁵ The B.4

⁴It is likely that most of these bones came from the thicker Early Roman B.4:283A(2) layer.

⁶ Sauer, "Heshbon 1974: Area B and Square D.4," pp. 31-37.

and D.4 underground complexes were both last used during the Ayyūbid/Mamlūk period, and they were both probably constructed or in use during the Early Roman and Late Hellenistic periods. It would seem likely that the two might even connect underground. If so, Cave B.4:283 would be part of a major underground complex, apparently domestic in function, and the latest use of the cave (Layer B.4:283A [1]) could tentatively be assigned (with Vaulted Room D.4:24) to Early Mamlūk Stratum III (ca. A.D. 1260-1400). See Pl. IV:B.

Strata IX-XIV: Early Byzantine (ca. A.D. 324-410ff.?)

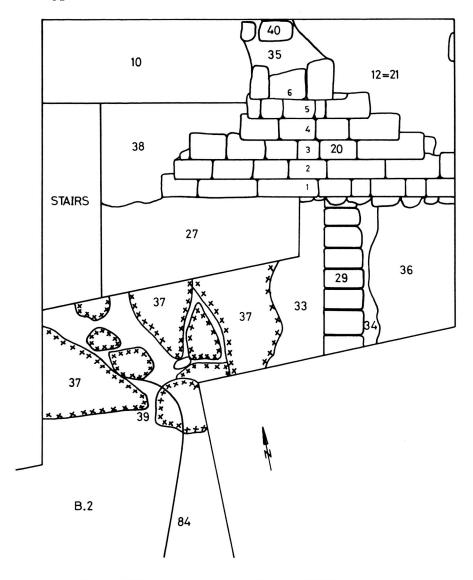
Description (Stratification): Additional remains of Early Byzantine Strata X-XIV (Area B strata 5-9) were attested in Square B.7 in 1976.

In northern B.7, two Early Byzantine pits (B.7:12=21 and B.7:38) cut through Early Byzantine-Late Roman Strata XII-XV (Area B strata 7-10), robbing out two major portions of Late Roman Stairway B.7:20. In northeastern B.7, Pit B.7:12=21, beneath Ayyūbid/Mamlūk Pit B.7:4, and in northwestern B.7, Pit B.7:38, beneath Ayyūbid/Mamlūk Pit B.7:10, both apparently cut through soil Layer B.7:19B of Early Byzantine Stratum XII. The two pits definitely cut through Early Byzantine plaster and soil Layers B.7:22, 23 of Stratum XIII, and B.7:24, 25 of Stratum XIV. They also cut through Late Roman plaster and soil Layers B.7:26, 27 of Stratum XV, and robbed out large portions of Late Roman Stairway B.7:20 of Stratum XV down to foundation materials (B.7:35). Both pits contained large amounts of plaster rubble, and they were flat on top beneath Ayyūbid/Mamlūk Pits B.7:4, 10.

In southern B.7, the B.7:17=18B rock tumble layer of Early Byzantine Stratum XI lay beneath the B.7:5, 14 plaster and soil layers of Early Byzantine Stratum X. The layer contained numerous medium and large sized (ca. 0.25-0.75 m.) rocks, and it was cut off along the north by the B.7:4 and B.7:10 Ayyūbid/Mamlūk pits. The layer sloped down to the west and south, and it rested on top of plaster Layer B.7:19A of Early Byzantine Stratum XII.

Beneath the B.7:17 = 18B rock tumble layer of Early Byzantine Stratum XI was the B.7:19 thin plaster (B.7:19A) and thick soil (B.7:19B) layer of Early Byzantine Stratum XII. B.7:19A and upper B.7:19B were cut off to the north by the B.7:4 and B.7:10 Ayyūbid/Mamlūk pits. Lower B.7:19B sealed against the highest preserved step (Step 6) of Stairway B.7:20 in the middle of the Square, but in the northeast and northwest corners of the Square it was cut off by Early Byzantine Pits B.7:12 = 21 and B.7:38. B.7:19 sloped down to the west and south, and it rested on top of plaster Layer B.7:22 of Early Byzantine Stratum XIII.

Beneath the B.7:19 plaster and soil layer of Early Byzantine Stratum XII were the B.7:22 plaster layer and the B.7:23 soil layer of Early Byzantine Stratum XIII. Layers B.7:22, 23 sealed against Step 4 of Stairway B.7:20 in the middle of the Square, but they were cut off in the northeast and north-



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Fig. 4. Composite plan of Square B.7, with balk removed between B.7 and B.2.

west corners of the Square by Early Byzantine Pits B.7:12 = 21 and B.7:38. Layers B.7:22, 23 sloped down gradually to the west and south, and they rested on top of plaster Layer B.7:24 of Early Byzantine Stratum XIV.

Beneath the B.7:23 soil layer of Early Byzantine Stratum XIII were the B.7:24 plaster layer and the B.7:25 soil layer of Early Byzantine Stratum XIV. Layers B.7:24, 25 sealed against Step 3 of Stairway B.7:20 in the middle of the Square, but they were cut off in the northeast and northwest corners of the Square by Early Byzantine Pits B.7:12 = 21 and B.7:38. Layers B.7:24, 25 sloped down very gradually to the west and south, and they rested on top of plaster Layer B.7:26 of Late Roman Stratum XV.

Description (Bones): Early Byzantine Pits B.7:12 = 21 and B.7:38 produced the following bones in 1976:

Sheep/Goat	16	Large Mammal	7	U.D.	20
Cattle	2	Chicken	2	Scrap	3
Donkey	2	Fish	1	_	

No bones came from the B.7:17=18B rock tumble layer of Early Byzantine Stratum XI, but the following bones came from the plaster and soil layers of Early Byzantine Strata XII-XIV:

Sheep/Goat	233	Camel	4	Chicken	7
Cattle	22	Large Mam	mal 108	Wild Bird	5
Horse	3	Pig	20	U.D.	43
Donkey	11	Cat	6	Scrap	577

Description (Artifacts): The latest pottery from the above loci was Early Byzantine. A 4th century A.D. coin (Object 2468) came from Locus B.7:19 of Early Byzantine Stratum XII. In addition, the following registered artifacts came from the Early Byzantine loci:

B.7:18B	2239	Iron Nail	B.7:19	2313	Sherd
B.7:19	2241	Bone Needle	B.7:19	2322	Millstone
B.7:19	2242	Bone Inlay	B.7:19	2392	Ivory Inlay
B.7:19	2244	Loomweight	B.7:19	2394	Knife, Rivets
B.7:19	2265	Iron Nail	B.7:21	2321	Iron Slag
B.7:19	2280	Pottery Disk	B.7:22	2634	Slingstone
B.7:19	2295	Ivory Sculpture	B.7:24	2410	Pestle Frag.

Interpretation: The Strata XII-XIV (Area B strata 7-9) plaster and soil layers could still be interpreted as roadway resurfacings, which now definitely ran up to the preserved portion of Late Roman Stairway B.7:20. The 4th c. A.D. coin from Stratum XII would agree with the ca. mid-4th-A.D. 365 date which was suggested in 1971 for that stratum.⁶

The Stratum XI rock tumble could also still be associated with the ${\tt A.D.}$ 365 earthquake.

Probably following the Stratum XI earthquake, in preparation

⁶ Sauer, "Heshbon 1971: Area B," pp. 59-60.

for Stratum X, Early Byzantine Pits B.7:12 = 21 and B.7:38 would have been dug to rob out many of the squared stones from Late Roman Stairway B.7:20. These stones would then probably have been used to build another stairway (cf. Early Byzantine Stairway D.2:34),⁷ at a higher level, perhaps on top of the flattened B.7:12 = 21 and B.7:38 pit fills themselves. Ayyūbid/Mamlūk Pits B.7:4, 10 cut down to these flattened fills, cutting at an angle through the B.7:5, 14 plaster and soil layers of Stratum X, the B.7:17 = 18B rock tumble layer of Stratum XI, and the B.7:19A plaster and upper B.7:19B soil layers of Stratum XII. The B.7:4, 10 Ayyūbid/Mamlūk pits could thus have robbed out the higher, Early Byzantine stairway, which could originally have rested on B.7:12 = 21 and B.7:38.

Strata XV-XVI: Late Roman (ca. A.D. 135-324)

Description (Stratification): Additional remains of Late Roman Strata XV-XVI (Area B strata 10-11) were attested in Area B (B.7, D.4) in 1976.

In central B.7, the wide B.7:20 stairway of Late Roman Stratum XV, built of finely squared rectangular stones, consisted of six preserved steps (each ca. 0.24 m. high and ca. 0.37 m. deep) which ran up from the middle of the Square towards the north balk. The stairway was a continuation in B.7 of Stairway D.3:39, and from the B.7 east balk the first two steps (Steps 1, 2) extended ca. 5.60 m. into the Square. In the northeast corner of B.7, the upper four preserved steps (Steps 3-6) of the stairway were robbed out by Early Byzantine Pit B.7:12 = 21; and in the northwest portion of B.7, all six steps were robbed out by Early Byzantine Pit B.7:38. In north-central B.7, however, beneath Ayyūbid/Mamlūk Pits B.7:4, 10, the possible foundation stones (B.7:40) for a seventh step were preserved above and to the north of Step 6. Step 6 itself was covered over by the B.7:17 = 18B rock tumble of Early Byzantine Stratum XI, and Steps 6-3 were sealed against by the plaster and soil layers of Early Byzantine Strata XII-XIV. The B.7:26, 27 plaster and soil layers of Late Roman Stratum XV sealed against Steps 2-1. Stairway B.7:20 was founded on Late Roman rock and rubble Layer B.7:35, above the B.7:28 thin plaster layers of Late Roman Stratum XVI.

Beneath the B.7:24, 25 plaster and soil layers of Early Byzantine Stratum XIV, the nearly level B.7:26, 27 plaster and soil layers of Late Roman Stratum XV sealed against Steps 2-1 of Stairway B.7:20, except in the northwest where Steps 2-1 had been robbed out by Early Byzantine Pit B.7:38.

Beneath the B.7:26, 27 plaster and soil layers of Late Roman Stratum XV, and also beneath the B.7:35 rock and rubble foundation for Stairway B.7:20 (unexcavated), was the fairly level B.7:28 Late Roman plaster layer of Stratum

⁷ Herr, "Heshbon 1976: Area D," p. 121.

XVI. Layer B.7:28 consisted of four thin plaster layers, which formed the uppermost portion of a ca. 0.50 m. thick composite plaster layer. Beneath the thin B.7:28 plaster layers of Late Roman Stratum XVI were the thin B.7:30 plaster layers of Early Roman Stratum XVII.

In southwestern D.4, beneath the D.4:38 = 69 soil layer of Late Roman Stratum XV, was heavy boulder Wall D.4:88, which ran east-west through the middle of the Square. Along its north face its D.4:90 foundation trench cut through the D.4:85, 92, 96 thin plaster layers of Late Roman Stratum XVI, as well as the D.4:98 plaster layer of Early Roman Stratum XVII. To the south, Wall D.4:88 was sealed against by Late Roman rock tumble Layer D.4:94,8 which covered over north-south Wall D.4:86 = 103, 100 of Early Roman Stratum XVII. Beneath rock tumble Layer D.4:94 was rubble Layer D.4:99 = 105 = 106, which also sealed against Wall D.4:88, as well as against Wall D.4:86 = 103, 100 of Early Roman Stratum XVII. To the west, Wall D.4:88 butted up against north-south Wall D.4:86 = 103, but to the east it was cut off by the D.4:17, 10 foundation trenches of the D.4:2, 13 Ayyūbid/Mamlūk structure. Wall D.4:88 was one course high, and it was founded on Cobble D.4:110, which rested on top of earlier bedrock-founded Wall D.4:112.

In northern D.4, beneath the D.4:38 = 69 soil layer of Late Roman Stratum XV, were the D.4:85, 92, 96 thin patchy plaster layers of Late Roman Stratum XVI. To the south, these Stratum XVI layers were cut off by the D.4:90 foundation trench of Wall D.4:88, and to the southeast they were again cut by the D.4:17, 10 foundation trenches of the D.4:2, 13 Ayyūbid/Mamlūk structure. To the east, Layers D.4:85, 92, 96 sealed against the D.4:45 = 109 stepped sill of Wall D.4:32B.º To the north, they sealed against Bedrock D.4:93 and Wall D.4:97 = 114 = 127, a large boulder wall in the north balk which filled the space between Bedrock D.4:93 and Wall D.4:32B. In the northwest corner of the Square, the Stratum XVI layers sealed against the two squared stones of Wall D.4:83, which rested on top of Wall D.4:86 = 103 of Early Roman Stratum XVII. Along the west balk, the layers ran over north-south Wall D.4:86 = 103. Layers D.4:85, 92, 96 of Late Roman Stratum XVI were uneven but fairly level throughout northern D.4, and they covered over the D.4:98, 108, 101 plaster and soil layers of Early Roman Stratum XVII.

Description (Bones): The Late Roman loci of Stratum XV produced the following bones in 1976:

Sheep/Goat	359	Large Mammal	32	Fish	100+10
Cattle	23	Pig	24	U.D.	175
Horse	1	Dog	3	Scrap	547
Camel	1	Chicken	18	_	

^{*}Locus D.4:89 was access-stairway removal above Locus D.4:94 which produced Early Byzantine pottery, a button fragment (Object 2301), and the following bones: Sheep/Goat 4; Large Mammal 4; Dog 1; Chicken 2; Scrap 18. Locus D.4:102 was a temporary balk along the west balk, above Wall D.4:100, 86 = 103, which probably equaled Locus D.4:94. It produced Late Roman pottery as well as the following bones: Sheep/Goat 6; Large Mammal 3; Chicken 1; U.D. 4; Scrap 17.

^o Locus D.4:91 was a possible foundation trench for Wall D.4:32A, which cut into Layer D.4:85 but not into Layers D.4:92, 96.

¹⁰ The 100+ fish bones all came from Locus D.4:69.

From Loci D.4:88, 90, 94, 99 = 105 = 106, 110 came the following bones:

Sheep/Goat	118	Pig	4	Fish	1
Cattle	9	Dog	4	$\mathbf{U}.\mathbf{D}.$	47
Donkey	2	Small Mammal	1	Scrap	277
Large Mammal	12	Chicken	14	-	

The Late Roman loci of Stratum XVI produced the following bones:

Sheep/Goat	44	Large Mammal	3	Scrap	135
Cattle	2	Chicken	5	-	
Pig	2	U.D.	18		

Description (Artifacts): The latest pottery from the loci of Stratum XV was Late Roman III-IV, and from the loci of Stratum XVI, Late Roman I-II. Loci D.4:88, 90, 94, 99 = 105 = 106, 110 produced mixed Late Roman and Early Roman pottery.

Five coins came from the above loci, as follows:

B.7:35	2669	Nabataean	D.4:99	2470	3rd c. A.D.
D.4:69	2317	Nabataean	D.4:99	2479	A.D. 146-161
D.4:92	2480	103-76 в.с.			

In addition, the above loci produced the following registered artifacts:

B.7:27	2502	Frit Bead	D.4:99	2508	Loomweight
B.7:27	2548	Iron Pieces	D.4:99	2509	Loomweight
B.7:35	2649	Bone Frag.	D.4:99	2510	Loomweight
D.4:85	2370	Weight Frag.	D.4:99	2443	Mortar
D.4:85	2371	Iron Hook	D.4:99	2444	Grinder
D.4:94	2351	Glass Button	D.4:106	2503	Bead
D.4:99	2507	Loomweight			

Interpretation: Stairway B.7:20 of Late Roman Stratum XV was the westward extension of Stairway D.3:39, and together they had a preserved length of ca. 11.80 m. Because Stairway B.7:20 was robbed out to the west by Early Byzantine Pit B.7:38, it is not possible to determine the original length of the stairway. Six steps of the monumental stairway were preserved in B.7, but there was evidence in Area D that the stairway once ran up the slope much farther, 11 probably to service a Roman temple on the acropolis (see Pl. V:A).

The plaster and soil layers of Late Roman Stratum XV in B.7 and D.4 would have belonged to the first wide roadway that was in use with the B.7:20 stairway. That roadway would have run

¹¹ Geraty, "Heshbon 1973: Area D," pp. 196-199.

over to Wall D.4:32A on the east, and it would have covered over the earlier Stratum XVI remains, including associated Wall D.4:83.

Beneath Stratum 10 in D.4, Wall D.4:88 and associated Loci D.4:90, 94, 99 = 105 = 106, 110, which cut down into Late Roman Stratum XVI and Early Roman Stratum XVII, could perhaps represent the disturbed foundational remains of Stratum XVI or Stratum XVII architecture which would have been partially robbed out or leveled in preparation for the Stratum XV roadway.

The thin plaster layers of Late Roman Stratum XVI in B.7 and D.4 would represent portions of the wide Area B roadway which preceded the construction of Stairway B.7:20. It was not determined how far north of B.7 the layers ran. To the east of B.7, it would seem likely that the Stratum XVI layers ran over to north-south Wall D.3:47A,¹² which would seem to equal Wall D.4:83 in the northwest corner of D.4. In D.4, the Stratum XVI plaster layers sealed against Wall D.4:83, covered over the D.4:86 = 103 wall of Early Roman Stratum XVII, and sealed against the D.4:45 = 109 stepped sill of Wall D.4:32B. Since Wall D.4:83 would seem to have been, like Wall D.4:32B, the north side of a doorway or open entryway, it could have been to this entryway that the Stratum XVI plaster layers ran on the east.

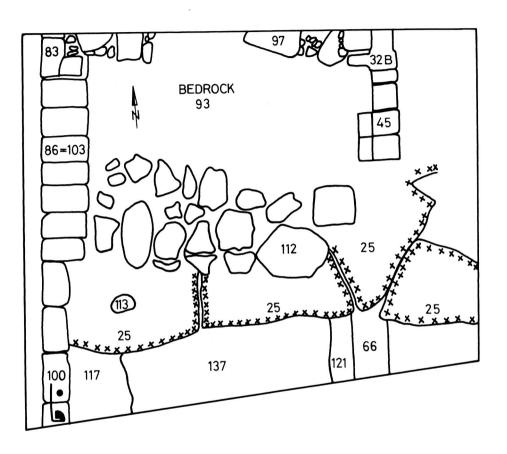
With the possible exception of the two coins from Locus D.4:99, the five coins which came from the Late Roman loci did not contribute significant new evidence for dating Strata XV-XVI.

Strata XVII-XIX: Early Roman (ca. 63 B.C. - A.D. 135)

Description (Stratification): Additional remains of Early Roman Stratum XVII (Area B stratum 12) and Stratum XVIII/XIX (Area B stratum 13, post-earthquake, pre-earthquake) were attested in Area B (B.4, B.7, D.4) in 1976.

In southern B.7, south of unremoved Late Roman Stairway B.7:20, the Early Roman remains of Stratum XVII lay beneath the B.7:28 thin plaster layers of Late Roman Stratum XVI. Plaster Layer B.7:30 of Early Roman Stratum XVII consisted of two thin, level plaster layers which covered over Paving B.7:29 and associated plaster Layers B.7:31, 32, also of Early Roman

¹² Ibid., p. 199.



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Fig. 5. Composite plan of Square D.4.

Stratum XVII. Paving B.7:29, consisting of eight rectangular-cut (ca. 0.38 x 0.80 x 0.28 m.) level stones, ran north-south into the Square from the south balk, parallel to and ca. 1.75 m. from the east balk. Early Roman plaster Layer B.7:31 sealed against Paving B.7:29 on the east, and plaster Layer B.7:32 sealed against it on the west. Beneath plaster Layers B.7:31 and B.7:32 respectively were Early Roman soil Layers B.7:36 (unexcavated) and B.7:33, which were apparently cut in B.7 along Paving B.7:29 by Early Roman foundation Trench B.7:34. Beneath soil Layer B.7:33 of Early Roman Stratum XVII was Bedrock B.7:37, broken up into large blocks. In the excavated south balk (between B.7 and B.2), soil Layer B.7:33 covered over the B.7:39A soil layer of Hellenistic Stratum XXI, which filled the B.7:39 bedrock-cut corner of the Iron II/Persian Stratum XXII reservoir.

In northern D.4, beneath the D.4:85, 92, 96 thin patchy plaster layers of Late Roman Stratum XVI, lay the D.4:98 thin plaster layer and D.4:108, 101 soil layer of Early Roman Stratum XVII. To the south, the D.4:98 plaster layer was cut through by the D.4:90 foundation trench of Wall D.4:88, 110, but the D.4:108, 101 soil layer sealed against and partially covered over bedrock-founded, boulder Wall D.4:112. To the southeast, Stratum XVII Layers D.4:98, 108, 101 were cut off by the D.4:17, 10 foundation trenches of the D.4:2, 13 Ayyūbid/Mamlūk structure. To the east, Layers D.4:98, 108, 101 sealed against the lower portion of the D.4:45 = 109 stepped sill of Wall D.4:32B.¹³ To the north, they sealed against and covered over Bedrock D.4:93, including the entrance to Cave D.4:116 = 118 (which contained soil Layer D.4:118A). To the west, Layers D.4:98, 108, 101 sealed against north-south Wall D.4:86 = 103. Plaster Layer D.4:87, exposed at the west balk but not excavated, sealed against the other side of Wall D.4:86 = 103 from the west (B.3).

Wall D.4:86 = 103, 100 of Early Roman Stratum XVII ran north-south along the west balk of D.4, beneath Wall D.4:83 and the D.4:85, 92, 96 plaster layers of Late Roman Stratum XVI in the north, and beneath the D.4:94 Late Roman rock tumble layer in the south. The wall was constructed of ca. 0.45 x 0.75 m. rectangular stones, and it was two courses high. The upper course consisted of seven headers in the north and four stretchers in the south, and the two southernmost stretchers formed Sill D.4:100, which had a doorway socket with dragmarks from an eastward-opening door. The lower course was constructed entirely of stretchers, which rested on an unexcavated rubble foundation above bedrock. To its east, in central D.4, Wall D.4:86 = 103 was butted up against by bedrock-founded boulder Wall D.4:112, beneath Wall D.4:88, 110.

In southwestern D.4, to the south of Wall D.4:112, soil Layer D.4:107 of Early Roman Stratum XVII, beneath the D.4:99 = 105 = 106 Late Roman rubble foundation above bedrock. To its east, in central D.4, Wall D.4:86 = 103, 100, as well as against boulder Wall D.4:112. To the east, soil Layer D.4:107 was cut off by the D.4:17, 10 foundation trenches of the D.4:2, 13

¹⁸ Locus D.4:95 and Locus D.4:104 were makeup layers beneath step D.4:51, on the east side of Wall D.4:32B.

Ayyūbid/Mamlūk structure. Layer D.4:107 covered over Bedrock D.4:25,14 including bedrock-cut oval (ca. 0.40 x 0.45 m.) Installation D.4:113, which was ca. 0.40 m. deep. Layer D.4:107 also covered over and ran up against the ca. 2.25 m. deep D.4:117 rock-filled pit of Early Roman Stratum XVII, which lay beneath Wall D.4:100 and which cut down into the D.4:115 ff. Iron I soil layers of Stratum XXIV. Also beneath Layer D.4:107 of Stratum XVII were the D.4:120, 122, 123 remains of Early Roman Stratum XVIII/XIX, and the D.4:115 ff. soil layers of Iron I Stratum XXIV.

Beneath the substantial remains of Early Roman Stratum XVII in D.4, only tattered and sometimes unsure remains of Early Roman Stratum XVIII were preserved. In northern D.4, the entrance to Cave D.4:116 = 118 (ca. 1.75 m. wide and ca. 0.60 m. high beneath Bedrock D.4:93) lay beneath the D.4:98, 108, 101 plaster and soil layers of Early Roman Stratum XVII. In central D.4, boulder Wall D.4:112, unexcavated above Bedrock D.4:93, 25, was probably constructed during Stratum XVII, but it could possibly have existed already during Stratum XVIII. In southern D.4, beneath the D.4:107 soil layer of Early Roman Stratum XVII, the D.4:113 oval bedrock-cut installation could have belonged to Stratum XVIII. Also beneath Layer D.4:107 in southern D.4 were Loci D.4:120, 122, 123, which ran into the Square from the south balk to Bedrock D.4:25. Loci D.4:120, 122 constituted a possible rubble and boulder wall, two or three courses high, and beneath them was thin plaster Layer D.4:123, which sloped down to the north into an unexcavated cave beneath Bedrock D.4:25. Loci D.4:120, 122, 123 of Early Roman Stratum XVIII cut down into the D.4:115 ff. soil layers of Iron I Stratum XXIV, but to the east they were cut off by the D.4:17 foundation trench for Ayyūbid/Mamlūk Wall D.4:2.

In the southwestern corner of B.4, Early Roman Rubble B.4:281 of post-earthquake Stratum XVIII blocked off Cave B.4:171 from Cave B.4:283, located to the south outside the Square proper (see above, Ayyūbid/Mamlūk). Inside Cave B.4:283, beneath the thin B.4:283A(1) soil layer of Ayyūbid/Mamlūk Strata II-IV, were Early Roman soil Layers B.4:283A(2), 283C, 283F, 283G of post-earthquake Stratum XVIII, which rested on floor Bedrock B.4:283H. Beneath Layer B.4:283C in the center of the cave were partially excavated Layers B.4:283D, 283E, which could possibly belong to pre-earthquake Stratum XVIII. Unexcavated beneath Layers B.4:283D, 283E, 283F was the ca. 1.20 m. circular opening to Cistern B.4:283I, which was cut into floor Bedrock B.4:283H.

Also in southwestern B.4, but inside the Square, Early Roman Pit B.4:264 = 270 of pre-earthquake Stratum XVIII, partially excavated in 1974, cut down in front of Cave B.4:171 along vertical Plaster B.4:282 = 190 and vertical Bedrock B.4:277 = 191 = 195 = 192 of the Iron II/Persian Stratum XXII reservoir. Early Roman Pit B.4:264 = 270 cut down into the sloping soil layers of Hellenistic Stratum XXI, Layers B.4:272, 273, 274, 280 to the north, and Layers B.4:278, 279 to the south.

Description (Bones): The Early Roman loci of Stratum XVII produced the following bones in 1976:

¹⁴Locus D.4:111 was a thin soil layer on one part of Bedrock D.4:25, beneath D.4:107, which apparently produced a small quantity of Iron I sherds.

Sheep/Goat	274	Large Mammal	45	Fish	1
Cattle	34	Pig	5	U.D.	128
Donkey	2	Chicken	20	Scrap	428

From the Early Roman loci of Stratum XVIII came the following bones:15

Sheep/Goat	149	Large Mammal	22	Chicken	19
Cattle	12	Pig	4	U.D.	109
Donkey	1	Dog	3	Scrap	140
Camel	2	Rodent	1	_	

Description (Artifacts): The latest pottery from the loci of Stratum XVII was Early Roman III-IV. From the loci of post-earthquake Stratum XVIII came Early Roman II-III pottery, and from the loci of pre-earthquake Stratum XVIII, Early Roman I pottery. An undated Maccabean coin (Object 2662) and an undated Nabataean coin (Object 2663) came from Loci D.4:101 and D.4:107 respectively, of Early Roman Stratum XVII. In addition, the Early Roman loci produced the following registered artifacts in 1976:

B.4:283A(2)	2311	Bronze Pin	D.4:107	2569	Millstone
B.4:283C	2389	Iron Rivet	D.4:107	2570	Millstone
D.4:107	2541	Loomweight	D.4:108	2486	Bead
D.4:107	2542	Loomweight	D.4:118A	2583	Loomweight
D.4:107	2558	Loomweight	D.4:118A	2598	Hook
D.4:107	2559	Loomweight	D.4:120	2621	Loomweight
D.4:107	2564	Iron Hook			•

Interpretation: The Early Roman remains of Stratum XVII in B.7 and D.4 would have belonged to the first major roadway complex in Area B. Paving B.7:29 was the northward extension of Paving B.4:72 = B.3:31, but it was not determined (beneath unremoved Late Roman Stairway B.7:20) how far north Paving B.7:29 continued. Paving B.4:72 = B.3:31 = B.7:29 would have run parallel to Wall D.4:86 = 103, 100 (= D.3:47B), 16 which was two courses high. The plaster layers of Stratum XVII (including B.7:30, 31, 32; D.4:87) would probably have sealed against the west face of Wall D.4:86 = 103, 100 (= D.3:47B), and thus that long wall would probably have marked the eastern boundary of the Stratum XVII roadway. Sill D.4:100 would probably indicate that there was an entryway through Wall D.4:86 = 103. In northeastern D.4, Sill D.4:45 = 109 would probably indicate that there

¹⁵ The bones from Locus B.4:283A(2) have been cited above with the bones from Ayyūbid/Mamlūk Locus B.4:283A(1). See n. 4.

¹⁶ Geraty, "Heshbon 1973: Area D," p. 201.

was another entryway to the east, and the D.4:98 thin plaster layer would probably have been the use surface between those two entryways. In southern D.4, however, the D.4:94 and D.4:99=105=106 Late Roman remains would have disturbed the use surface of Early Roman Stratum XVII associated with Sill D.4:100 (see Pl. V:A, B).

During the construction of the Stratum XVII roadway, Area B would have been leveled, and in the process, many of the preceding strata (Strata XVIII-XXIV) would have been damaged, including Early Roman Stratum XVIII/XIX. In B.7, no Stratum XVIII/XIX remains were preserved beneath the Stratum XVII roadway. In D.4, only minimal Stratum XVIII/XIX remains were attested, including the unexcavated cave beneath Bedrock D.4:25, which had a possible water channel running down to it (D.4:120, 122, 123). In B.4, where extensive Stratum XVIII/XIX remains were preserved, Cave B.4:283 would originally have been part of the B.4:74, 247, 171 cave complex, and this underground complex would also have extended a great distance to the south of Cave B.4:283 (see above, Ayyūbid/Mamlūk). The entire complex could originally have been cut in the Late Hellenistic period, and been cleaned out for reuse during the Early Roman period (preearthquake Stratum XVIII/XIX). Cave B.4:283 would have been in use during pre-earthquake Stratum XVIII/XIX, but unlike nearby Cave B.4:171, it would have been supported by Wall B.4:283B, and it would thus have survived the 31 B.C. earthquake to be partially filled up with post-earthquake Early Roman remains (like Cave B.4:74).

The two coins from D.4:101 and D.4:109 were not useful for refining further the dates of Early Roman Strata XVII-XVIII/XIX.

Strata XX, XXI: Late Hellenistic (ca. 198-63 B.C.)

Description (Stratification): Additional remains of Late Hellenistic Stratum XX (Area B stratum 14/15) were attested in D.4 in 1976. In B.2, B.4, and B.7, additional remains of Stratum XXI (Area B stratum 16) were also attested.

In southeastern D.4, beneath the D.4:17 foundation trench for Wall

D.4:2 and Arch D.4:57 of Ayyūbid/Mamlūk Strata II-IV, was the D.4:119, 121, 136 foundation trench for Wall D.4:66 (the west wall of vaulted Room D.4:24), of Late Hellenistic Stratum XX. Running from the south balk to Bedrock D.4:25, the D.4:119, 121, 136 foundation trench of Late Hellenistic Stratum XX cut down into the D.4:132, 134 ff. soil layers of Iron I Stratum XXIV.

The westward-sloping soil and rock tumble layers of Hellenistic Stratum XXI were attested in B.2 (B.2:128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136), in B.4 (B.4:278, 279, 280), and in the excavated balk between B.2 and B.7 (B.7:39A). In B.2, the Stratum XXI layers, beneath those excavated in 1974, rested on the B.2:137 clay layer of Iron II/Persian Stratum XXII (Area B stratum 17), and they sealed up against the B.2:113 plaster on vertical Bedrock B.2:114B (the eastern side of the Iron II/Persian reservoir of Stratum XXII [Area B stratum 18]). In B.4, Layers B.4:278, 279 to the south and Layer B.4:280 to the north (exposed but not excavated) were cut through by the B.4:264 = 270 pit of Early Roman Stratum XVIII/XIX, and they sealed against the B.4:282 = 190 plaster on vertical Bedrock B.4:277 = 191 = 195 =192 (the eastern side of the Iron II/Persian reservoir of Stratum XXII [Area B stratum 18]). In the B.7 balk, beneath the B.7:33 soil layer of Early Roman Stratum XVII, the B.7:39A soil layer of Hellenistic Stratum XXI filled curving Bedrock B.7:39 (the northeast corner of the Iron II/Persian reservoir of Stratum XXII [Area B stratum 18]).

Description (Bones): Loci D.4:119, 136 of Late Hellenistic Stratum XX produced the following bones in 1976:

Sheep/Goat	19	Large Mammal	1	$\mathbf{U.D.}$	13
Cattle	1	Chicken	2	Scrap	41

The bones from Stratum XXI have been cited as Iron II/Persian bone evidence (see below).

Description (Artifacts): The latest pottery from the loci of Stratum XX was Late Hellenistic. The Stratum XXI layers produced essentially pure Iron II/Persian pottery, with a few Iron I sherds, but several additional Hellenistic sherds came from the layers in 1976. The following registered artifacts came from the Late Hellenistic loci of Stratum XX:

D.4:119	2606	Loomweight	D.4:119	2611	Slingstone
D.4:119	2610	Slingstone	D.4:121	2625	Slingstone

The artifacts from Stratum XXI have been cited as Iron II/Persian evidence (see below).

Interpretation: The D.4:119, 121, 136 foundation trench for Wall D.4:66 would probably indicate that vaulted Room D.4:24 (without Arch D.4:57?) was constructed originally during Late Hellenistic Stratum XX. To the south, Cave D.4:68, Tunnel D.4:70, and Cave D.4:80 could also perhaps be attributed to Late Hellenistic Stratum XX, and they probably connected underground with Cave B.4:283 and the associated B.4:74, 247, 171

cave complex in B.4. Pool B.4:265 inside Cave B.4:247 was definitely in use during Late Hellenistic Stratum XX, and the other caves could have been cleaned out for reuse during the Early Roman occupation of pre-earthquake Stratum XVII/XIX. The unexcavated cave beneath Bedrock D.4:25 could also belong to Late Hellenistic Stratum XX, like the cave in B.3 which contained the circular B.3:47, 59, 64 Late Hellenistic "cisterns." Unexcavated circular "Cistern" B.4:283I inside Cave B.4:283 could either be compared to Late Hellenistic "Cisterns" B.3:47, 59, 64, or to "Cistern" B.4:188 in Cave B.4:74, which produced only Early Roman pottery. It should finally be noted that unexcavated Wall D.4:112 could conceivably belong to Late Hellenistic Stratum XX, like similar Wall B.1:17 = B.2:62, which ran up to and stopped at Bedrock B.2:114.

The few Hellenistic sherds in the Stratum XXI soil and rock tumble layers would indicate that the layers should still be interpreted as a massive fill, produced during the Hellenistic period when the Iron II/Persian remains on the acropolis were scraped off and dumped into the abandoned reservoir of Iron II/Persian Stratum XXII (Area B strata 17, 18). The fact that few Iron I sherds were attested in the Stratum XXI layers would suggest that the Iron I remains had been similarly scraped off at some earlier time, at least prior to the Iron II/Persian occupation at the site.

Stratum XXII: Iron II/Persian (ca. 800?-500 B.C.)

Description (Stratification): Additional remains of Iron II/Persian Stratum XXII (Area B strata 17, 18) were attested in Area B (B.2, B.4, B.7) in 1976. In B.2, beneath the B.2:136 rock tumble layer of Hellenistic Stratum XXI was the ca. 0.20-0.40 m. thick, moist, gray clay Layer B.2:137 of Iron II/Persian Stratum XXII (Area B stratum XXII clay Layer B.2:137 scaled against

was the ca. 0.20-0.40 m. thick, moist, gray clay Layer B.2:137 of Iron II/Persian Stratum XXII (Area B stratum 17). Clay Layer B.2:137 sealed against vertical Plaster B.2:113 and covered over horizontal "cement" Layer B.2:138 (the eastern side and floor of the Iron II/Persian reservoir of Stratum XXII [Area B stratum 18]).

In B.2, vertical Plaster B.2:113 on Bedrock B.2:114B of Iron II/Persian Stratum XXII (Area B stratum 18) was sealed against by the soil and rock tumble layers of Hellenistic Stratum XXI, and by the B.2:137 clay layer of Iron II/Persian Stratum XXII (Area B stratum 17). The "vertical" plaster sloped down gradually and evenly to the west, ca. 1.25 m. horizontally in ca.

5.75 m. of vertical drop. Beneath clay Layer B.2:137, Plaster B.2:113 met horizontal "cement" Layer B.2:138 of Iron II/Persian Stratum XXII (Area B stratum 18), which sloped down ca. 0.25 m. from the joint with Plaster B.2:113 to the west balk (at ca. 879.25 m.).

In the excavated balk between B.2 and B.7, beneath the B.7:33 soil layer of Early Roman Stratum XVII, and filled with the partially excavated B.7:39A soil layer of Hellenistic Stratum XXI, was westward-curving, vertical Bedrock B.7:39. Bedrock B.7:39, partially exposed, was the continuation of header-stretcher Wall B.2:84 and vertical Bedrock B.2:114B of Iron II/Persian Stratum XXII (Area B stratum 18). The excavated portion of Bedrock B.7:39 was not plastered, but some plaster seemed to be present just below the point where excavation ceased.

In southwestern B.4, cut down along by Pit B.4:264 = 270 of Early Roman Stratum XVIII/XIX, cut into from behind by Cave B.4:283 of Early Roman Stratum XVIII/XIX, and sealed against by the B.4:278, 279, 280 soil layers of Hellenistic Stratum XXI, was Plaster B.4:282 on vertical Bedrock B.4:277. Plaster B.4:282 and Bedrock B.4:277 were continuations of Plaster B.4:190 and vertical Bedrock B.4:191, 195, 192 of Iron II/Persian Stratum XXII (Area B stratum 18), and at the south balk they cornered fairly sharply to run west (beyond the Square).

Description (Bones): The Iron II/Persian clay Layer B.2:137 of Stratum XXII (Area B stratum 17) produced the following bones in 1976:

Sheep/Goat	21	Large Mammal	7	Scrap	12
Cattle	1	U.D.	4		

No bones came from the Iron II/Persian loci of Stratum XXII (Area B stratum 18), but the following bones came from the soil and rock tumble layers of Stratum XXI (see above, Late Hellenistic):

Sheep/Goat	578	Pig	1	Chicken	7
Cattle	80	Dog	7	$\mathbf{U.D.}$	95
Donkey	12	Rodent	1	Scrap	169
Large Mammal	54	Turtle	6	-	

Description (Artifacts): The latest pottery from the B.2:137 clay layer of Stratum XXII (Area B stratum 17) was Iron II/Persian. No new pottery came from the loci of Stratum XXII (Area B stratum 18). The Stratum XXII (Area B stratum 17) clay layer produced the following registered artifact:

B.2:137 2581 Figurine Head

From the soil and rock tumble layers of Stratum XXI came the following registered artifacts (see above, Late Hellenistic):

B.2:133 2275 Ivory **B.2:135** 2309 Mortar Frag. **B.2:135** 2531 Globular Frag.

Interpretation: Clay Layer B.2:137, equaling clay Layer B.1:119 = 143, could still be interpreted as the final use during Stratum XXII (Area B stratum 17) of the Iron II/Persian reservoir of Stratum XXII (Area B stratum 18).

Several dimensions of the Stratum 18 reservoir could be considered confirmed as a result of the 1976 evidence. That "cement" Layer B.1:121 = 144 was the floor of the ca. 7.00 m. deep reservoir was confirmed by the joint between vertical Plaster B.2:113 (on Wall B.2:84 and vertical Bedrock B.2:114B) and horizontal "cement" Layer B.2:138 (= B.1:121 = 144). The westward-curving, bedrock-cut B.7:39 and B.4:277 = 192 corners confirmed the (slightly longer) ca. 17.50 m. length of the east side of the reservoir, and they would support the suggestion that the reservoir was approximately square (see Pl. III:A, B; IV:A).

Stratum XXIV: Iron I (ca. 1200-1100 B.C.)

Description (Stratification): Additional remains of Iron I Stratum XXIV (Area B stratum 19) were attested in Square D.4 in 1976.

Along the south balk in D.4, in the ca. 1.00 m. wide space between the south balk and vertical Bedrock D.4:25 to the north, Iron I remains of Stratum XXIV were attested beneath the D.4:107 soil layer of Early Roman Stratum XVII. The Iron I remains consisted of numerous superimposed soil, ash, and rock tumble layers (D.4:115, 124, 125, 126, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152), ca. 4.00 m. in total depth, which sealed on the north against the ca. 5.50 m. long face of vertical Bedrock D.4:25.17 Vertical Bedrock D.4:25 sloped down gradually to the south and leveled out into the south balk beneath the 4.00 m. deep Iron I remains of Stratum XXIV. To the west, the Stratum XXIV remains were cut into deeply (ca. 2.25 m.) by the D.4:117 rock-filled pit of Early Roman Stratum XVII. In the center, they were cut into slightly (ca. 1.00 m.) by the D.4:120, 122, 123 remains of Early Roman Stratum XVIII/XIX. And to the east, they were cut into by the D.4:119, 121, 136 foundation trench for Wall D.4:66, of Late Hellenistic Stratum XX (Area B stratum 14/15).

Description (Bones): The Iron I loci of Stratum XXIV produced the following bones in 1976:

Sheep/Goat	179	Camel	1	Human ¹⁸	1
Cattle	77	Large Mammal	59	U.D.	118
Horse	1	Pig	10	Scrap	713
Donkey	15	\mathbf{Dog}	1	•	
Equid	1	Chicken	3		

¹⁷ Another possible Iron I locus, thin Layer D.4:111, was located on top of Bedrock D.4:25, beneath Layer D.4:107 of Early Roman Stratum XVIII (see above, n. 14).

¹⁸ Robert M. Little, one of the anthropologists on the staff, prepared the following notes about the single human bone: "One right femur fragment. Both distal and proximal ends are missing. The bone is exceptionally dense

Description (Artifacts): The pottery from the above Stratum XXIV loci was Iron I, with nothing earlier. In addition, the following registered artifacts came from the Stratum XXIV loci in 1976:

D.4:138 2796 Loomweight

D.4:138 2797 Loomweight

Interpretation: The ca. 1.00 m. wide space between the south balk and vertical Bedrock D.4:25 would confirm the 1974 suggestion that a ca. 1.50-2.50 m. wide, ca. 4.00 m. deep, and ca. 13.00 m. long "channel" existed in Area B (B.2, B.3, D.4) during Iron I Stratum XXIV. That vertical Bedrock D.4:25 was probably the north side of a fairly narrow "channel" rather than the north side of a much larger "reservoir" 19 is clear, at least in the southeast corner of D.4, where Bedrock D.4:67 formed the roof and sides of Cave D.4:68, ca. 2.00 m, to the south of vertical Bedrock D.4:25.20 Although some traces of plaster were attested on vertical Bedrock B.3:84 = 90 in 1974, no plaster was found on vertical Bedrock D.4:25 in 1976, and the function of the "channel" must remain uncertain (water channel? defensive cut? occupational area?). Likewise, it has not yet been possible to determine whether the superimposed Iron I soil layers in the "channel" were deposited as gradual occupational debris or as rapid fill. The latter would seem to be more likely, and the Stratum XXIV layers could possibly represent Iron I materials which were scraped off or dumped from other parts of the site during or just after Iron IA (see Pl. V:B).

and heavy. The fragment is actually 0.34 m. long, but originally it was probably 0.43.8 m. long. Taking this as the femur length, the stature of the individual would have been 1.65.4 m. if male, and 1.59.5 m. if female. From the general circumference of the fragment and observing the overall piece, it would be judged to be male."

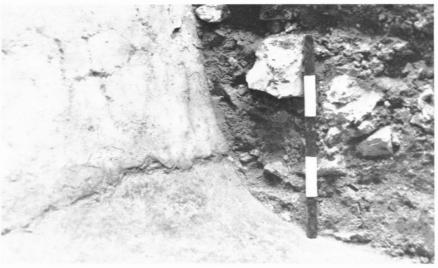
¹⁰ See L. T. Geraty, "Excavations at Tell Ḥesbân, 1976," ASOR Newsletter (January, 1977), p. 2.

²⁰ Sauer, "Heshbon 1974: Area B and Square D.4," pp. 35-36, 61-62; Figs. 4, 6.

SAUER PLATE III



A. Square B.2. View to southeast. On left, Iron II/Persian vertical Bedrock B.2:114B with Plaster B.2:113, running down to horizontal "cement" Layer B.2:138 (the eastern side and floor of the Stratum XXII [Area B stratum 18] reservoir). In the three balks, note the soil and rock tumble layers of Hellenistic Stratum XXI (Area B stratum 16), and beneath them, the B.2:137 clay layer of Iron II/Persian Stratum XXII (Area B stratum 17). Photo: Paul H. Denton and Andrew Kramer.



B. Square B.2. View to south. Closeup of joint between vertical Plaster B.2:113 and horizontal "cement" Layer B.2:138 (the eastern side and floor of the Iron II/Persian Stratum XXII [Area B stratum 18] reservoir). In the balk, note the B.2:137 clay layer of Iron II/Persian Stratum XXII (Area B stratum 17). Photo: Paul H. Denton and Andrew Kramer.

PLATE IV SAUER



A. Balk between Squares B.2 and B.7. View to north. Closeup of joint between Iron II/Persian header-stretcher Wall B.2:84 and curving Bedrock B.7:39 (the northeast corner of the Stratum XXII [Area B stratum 18] reservoir). Photo: Paul H. Denton and Andrew Kramer.



B. Square B.4. View to south. Arch and walls supporting roof of Ayyūbid/ Mamlūk and Early Roman underground complex to south of Cave B.4:283. Photo: Paul H. Denton and Kaye Barton.

SAUER PLATE V



A. Square B.7. View to north. Late Roman Stairway B.7:20, partially robbed out by Early Byzantine Pits B.7:12 = 21 (right background) and B.7:38 (left background). In the balks, note the white plaster layers of Strata XII-XVII (Area B strata 7-12). In the foreground, note the north-south B.7:29 "curbing" stones of Early Roman Stratum XVII. Photo: Paul H. Denton.



B. Square D.4. View to north. In the center, Wall D.4:112 resting on Bedrock D.4:25, with nearby circular Installation D.4:113. In the foreground, note the vertical lip on Bedrock D.4:25, part of the ca. 4.00 m. deep "channel" of Iron I Stratum XXIV (Area B stratum 19). To the left, note the D.4:86 = 103 header stones of Early Roman Stratum XVII (Area B stratum 12). Photo: Paul H. Denton.