

MADABA PLAINS PROJECT TALL HISBAN, 1998

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Introduction

Why dig a site that has already been dug? This is a question that might legitimately be asked about the renewed excavations at Tall Hisban. The site was first excavated between 1968 and 1973 by Siegfried S. Horn and Roger S. Boraas, and then between 1974 and 1976 by Lawrence T. Geraty and Roger S. Boraas, with the principal sponsorship of the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University. The renewed excavations have been undertaken under the auspices of the Madaba Plains Project, sponsored by Andrews University in consortium with Canadian University College, La Sierra University, and Walla Walla College. The Director of the project is Andrews anthropologist Øystein S. LaBianca, a veteran of the original Heshbon Expedition; his chief archaeologist, Paul Ray, is also from Andrews.²

The renewed research at Tall Hisban is intended to respond to questions left unanswered by the original campaigns, as well as those that surfaced in the process of publishing the final reports on the original excavations.³

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²We thank our principal sponsor, Andrews University. We are also indebted to Ghazi Bisheh, Director-General of the Department of Antiquities, for the support that he again provided for this season, including paying the wages of 15 local workmen. We also extend our thanks to Pierre and Patricia Bikai of ACOR for their support and encouragement of the restoration efforts at Tall Hisban. Larry Herr, director of the Tall al-'Umayri excavations, also provided valuable technical advice to our team.

³The original campaign was reported by AUSS: R. S. Boraas and S. H. Horn, "Heshbon 1968: The First Campaign at Tell Hesban," *AUSS* 7 (1969): 97-239; idem, "Heshbon 1971: The Second Campaign at Tell Hesban," *AUSS* 11 (1973): 1-144; idem, "Heshbon 1973: The Third Campaign at Tell Hesban," *AUSS* 13 (1975): 101-247; R. S. Boraas and L. T. Geraty, "Heshbon 1974: The Fourth Campaign at Tell Hesban," *AUSS* 14 (1976): 1-216; idem,

Hisban's Prehistoric Past

On the question of Hisban's prehistoric past, the previous campaigns were largely silent. This season a deliberate effort was made to address the issue. Two graduate students, Ghattas Sayej of the Institute of Archaeology at Birzeit University in Palestine and Terje Ostgaard of the Institute of Archaeology at the University of Bergen in Norway, were recruited to assist with the collection and analysis of worked stone artifacts from Tall Hisban itself, as well as from the surrounding hinterland.

In a systematic survey of the mound of Hisban they identified a total of 154 stone tool fragments. Of the 23 scrapers found, 4 were classified as belonging to the Middle Paleolithic. The rest were Upper Paleolithic. From the Epipalaeolithic, a lunate, that had served either as an arrowhead or sickle blade, was found. The Neolithic was represented by several axes and arrowheads.

Excavations in a cave complex (Area G) (**Figure 1**) near the summit produced further evidence of prehistoric activity, including several hammer tools, scrapers, and arrowheads. These finds point to utilization of the tall by Epipalaeolithic and Neolithic peoples. In addition, beyond the tall the survey team identified 57 sites containing scatters of prehistoric worked stone tools.

The Chalcolithic and Bronze Age

Another conundrum, unsolved since the original expedition, is the extent and nature of the Chalcolithic or Copper Age and Bronze Age use of the tall. Given that the site was utilized in prehistoric times, why have no traces of Chalcolithic occupation been found? Unfortunately this season produced no finds to shed new light on this matter. Further investigation is needed, especially in view of the discovery during previous seasons of an Early Bronze Age cemetery less than 1 km from the tall.

Iron Age

Despite the recovery by the original excavators of large quantities of loose finds from the Iron Age at Tall Hisban, architectural ruins from this important era are few. For example, from the Iron I period all that remains today is a massive bedrock trench some 4 m deep and 2-3 m wide, running east-west across the southern shelf of the tall. This trench has been almost completely reexcavated and exposed by a team of Hisban workmen headed by Amer and Nimer Awawdeh. This will make it easier for visitors to see and for scholars to examine the claim made by our team that the trench was a dry

moat built to protect the Iron I village at its weakest point.⁴

While no one doubts that Tall Hisban was a prospering town during the Iron II period, judging from the large quantity of ceramic objects and inscriptions dated to this time, on the site today there is little to see dating to this period. What can be seen are the remains of the massive water reservoir constructed sometime around 1000 B.C. During the original archaeological excavations most of the pottery and other loose remains from the Iron II period were recovered from this reservoir. There is reason to believe that much of what had once been an Iron II town on the summit of the tall was scraped into the reservoir in the process of rebuilding during the later Hellenistic period. There are, however, remains of a small section of an Iron II period wall on the western slope of the tall.⁵

Given the paucity of architectural remains from either Iron I or Iron II on the summit of the site, a new investigation, Area M, was begun this summer by Lael Ceasar of Andrews University to investigate this situation. Field M consisted of three 5 x 5 m squares located on the previously unexcavated north slope of the tall, immediately outside the tower that marks the northeast corner of the Hellenistic settlement. In one of these squares a cave was found. Within it were two vertical shafts, one directly beneath the massive Hellenistic tower and wall. Both shafts were connected to plastered bedrock cisterns. Two shelves and a pit within the floor of a connecting room were also found under the summit. In addition, a side tunnel running for a long distance beneath the eastern shelf of the tall was located.

Preliminary impressions based on visual inspection of the modifications of this cave-cistern-tomb complex are that the cisterns were constructed during the Iron I period and may have been reused as tombs during Iron II.⁶ Middle Islamic pottery was found within the side tunnel, suggesting its addition at that time.

As the discovery was made during the last week of fieldwork, stratigraphic excavation of the complex had to be postponed to the next season. The discovery of the side tunnel adds weight to earlier suggestions by the director of the team that cave dwelling has always been an integral part of

⁴Paul J. Ray, "Tell Hesban and Vicinity in the Iron Age," unpublished doctoral dissertation, Andrews University Theological Seminary, 2000.

⁵Ø. S. LaBianca and P. J. Ray Jr., "Preliminary Report of the 1997 Excavations and Restoration Work at Tall Hisban," *AUSS* 36 (1998): 245-247.

⁶Structural parallels exist at Samaria and Dibon. See J. W. Crowfoot, K. M. Kenyon, and E. L. Sukenik, *Samaria-Sebaste I: The Buildings at Samaria* (London: Palestine Exploration Fund, 1942), 22, fig.10; A. D. Tushingham, *The Excavations at Dibon (Dhiban) in Moab: The Third Campaign, 1952-53* (Cambridge: American Schools of Oriental Research, 1972), sheet 5, plan 7, tomb J6.

the settlement system in ancient Hisban, even during the Iron Age.⁷

How the Iron Age town came to an end during the fifth century B.C., and what sort of settlement existed at Tall Hisban during the fourth and third centuries B.C. is not clear. What is becoming more certain, however, is that cave dwelling may have been especially common during the Hellenistic period.⁸ An indication of this was the discovery, already during the original excavations, of numerous caves containing evidences of active use during the Hellenistic period. The constructions in Field G may have been extensively modified at this time, when dressed stone walls and arches were added.

Circa 200 B.C. a massive fortification was built on the summit of the tall, in the midst of the site-wide cluster of caves. It consisted of four large towers linked by four equally massive perimeter walls. Two of these towers (the Northeast in Area M, Square 3, and southwest in Area L, Square 3) were excavated to their bedrock foundations this season. It is impossible to know if the builders of this fort were local tribes, Greek soldiers, or Hasmonean Jews. Further research, both on the summit of the tall and in the caves, should shed light on this question.

Roman and Byzantine Hisban

That Tall Hisban was an important place during Roman and Byzantine times is attested by its mention in several textual sources from these periods and by the discovery (by the original expedition) of a temple wall and the ruins of several Christian churches. The extant archaeological evidence suggests, in fact, that the town extended beyond the confines of the tall itself to include most of the area which today belongs to the village of Hisban.

How this large town of well over a thousand households provided its food and water has remained a puzzle. Finally, a grant from the Swedish government, secured by Lars Wahlin of the University of Stockholm, is permitting investigation of this question. Wahlin and his team directed an intensive survey of the water and soil management structures still extant in the Wadi Majaar, to the west and below the summit of Hisban.⁹ In this wadi they

⁷Ø. S. LaBianca, *Hisban 1: Sedentarization and Nomadization* (Berrien Springs: Andrews University Press, 1990).

⁸L. A. Mitchel, "Caves, Storage Facilities, and Life at Hellenistic and Early Roman Hisban," in *Hisban after 25 Years*, ed. D. M. Merling and L. T. Geraty (Berrien Springs: Institute of Archaeology/Horn Archaeological Museum), 1994, 97-106.

⁹The Wadi al-Majaar survey team included Richard P. Watson, anthropologist and professor at San Juan College in Farmington, New Mexico, and Wesley Burnett, a geographer and professor at Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina. For a period of about two weeks, geoelectrical investigation of the an ancient dam in Wadi al-Majaar was carried out by Hani al-'Amoush, a graduate student of Professor Elias Salameh of the University of Jordan.

mapped an elaborate basin-wide water management system consisting of terraced hill-sides and a wadi bottom crisscrossed by numerous check dams to prevent gully formation. The remains of numerous agricultural cisterns and a reservoir were also documented. The predominance of pottery sherds typical of the Byzantine period throughout this wadi makes it virtually certain that these structures were in use during that period. Recent evidence from ancient wood cores, samples from salt caves, and measurements of lake-level changes in the area suggest that the climate during the Roman period, and probably well into the Byzantine period, was much cooler and rainier than it is today.¹⁰ Such climate conditions evidently facilitated the large population in the region during this time.

Islamic Hisban

One of the most widely acclaimed accomplishments of the original campaigns at Tall Hisban was its groundbreaking work on the archaeology of the Islamic centuries in Jordan. Because of the careful way in which the Islamic layers had been separated throughout the entire site by chief archaeologist Roger Boraas of Upsala College, ceramic expert James Sauer of Harvard University was able to distinguish for the first time the successive horizons of pottery assemblages which correlated with the major dynasties of the Islamic Era: Umayyad, Abassid, Fatimid, Crusader, Ayyubid-Mamluk, and Ottoman.¹¹ Despite these pioneering efforts in puzzling out ceramic horizons, many questions remained unanswered with regard to the inhabitants of the tall and how they used it at various points in time during the Islamic period.

This season a renewed effort was made to come to grips with some of these unanswered questions. Bethany Walker, whose recent University of Toronto dissertation studied Islamic pottery and architecture, was recruited to head new excavations in the Islamic ruins on the summit of the tall. She elected to focus her team's investigations on the unexcavated walls and arches located immediately adjacent to the Mamluk bath complex which had been uncovered by the original excavations (Area L). The small size of this bath complex afforded reason to doubt earlier interpretations emphasizing its connection to a large Mamluk caravansary on the tall.¹² An alternative

¹⁰S. A. Isar and D. Yakir, "Isotopes from Wood Buried in the Roman Siege Ramp of Masada: The Roman Period's Colder Climate," *Biblical Archaeologist* 60 (1997): 102-105.

¹¹James A. Sauer, *Heshbon Pottery*, Andrews University Monographs, vol. 7 (Berrien Springs: Andrews University Press, 1973).

¹²Bert de Vries, "The Islamic Bath at Tell Hesban," in *The Archaeology of Jordan and Other Studies*, ed. Lawrence T. Geraty and Larry G. Herr (Berrien Springs: Andrews University Press, 1986), 223-235.

interpretation was that the bath belonged to a small cluster of structures within the larger Mamluk compound on the summit. This compound may have served as the residence or palace of the Mamluk governor of Hisban, a person whose existence is known from the literary sources of the period.

Excavations this season brought to light a series of several small, vaulted rooms clustered around a central courtyard. The exterior walls of the building were also identified. The arrangement of the spaces in this building, as well as its construction, is similar to palaces of Mamluk administrators at Kerak and Aqaba.

Multimillennial Processes

Beyond these efforts to address unanswered questions pertaining to Tall Hisban's various occupational phases, the greatest challenge remains the discovery of the underlying cultural and historical processes that played a role in producing the way of life that characterized each new phase of human occupation at the site throughout the millennia.

Examples of questions needing to be answered are the following: What role have changes in climate and natural vegetation played in shaping people's lives? How has Tall Hisban's location at the junction of two of ancient Palestine's most important trade and communication corridors, the King's Highway and the Esbous-Livias-Jericho-Jerusalem road, contributed to its waxing and waning fortunes over the centuries? And finally, how have its local residents coped and adapted to centuries and millennia of environmental and political uncertainty and change?

To address questions such as these, the excavators plan to expand inquiries concerned with reconstructing the historical environment of the Hisban region. To this end they plan to build cooperative partnerships with researchers studying sites elsewhere along these ancient trade and communication corridors and to intensify studies of local adaptive strategies through continued investigation of caves and cave life at Tall Hisban and vicinity.

Site Preservation, Presentation and Celebration

The development of educational curricula and visitor information materials, for use in disseminating to present and future generations of Jordanians and the wider public the lessons learned from thirty years of research at Tall Hisban, was another important accomplishment of the recently concluded field season. Through partnerships established with the Hisban schools, with the Friends of Archaeology in Amman, with the Department of Antiquities, and with the Ministry of Tourism, the excavators have taken a solid step toward informing the wider public of

their findings. The excavations are also relevant to the future development of Jordan and other countries in the region.

To mark thirty years of research by Andrews University archaeologists at Hesban and vicinity, the 1998 season concluded with a special Thirty Year Celebration. The guests included representatives from the Royal Palace, Parliament, the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, the Department of Antiquities, the Friends of Archaeology, the archaeological community in Jordan, the local village, and Andrews University. Preparations for this event included enlarging the parking area, building paths and viewing platforms, and preparing locally manufactured signs (**Figures 1-7**). A "Guide for Guides" and a brochure highlighting the site's most important features were prepared in English and Arabic.¹³

In addition to signs overlooking specific archaeological features, such as the Early Iron I Dry Moat, the Early Iron II Reservoir, the Roman Stairway and Plaza, the Byzantine Church, the Roman Temple Wall, the Mamluk Governor's Palace, the Ottoman Cave Village, and the Hardy People Cave, a large sign was mounted at the base of the tall, at the beginning of the stairs leading up to the excavation. This sign summarizes the history of the site for the visitor as follows:

- Ajarmeh Village, ca. A.D. 1870-present
- Mamluk Regional Capital, ca. A.D. 1260-1500
- Abbasid Pilgrim Rest, ca. A.D. 750-1260
- Umayyad Market Town ca. A.D. 650-750
- Byzantine Ecclesiastical Center, ca. A.D. 350-650
- Roman Temple Town, ca. 63 B.C.-A.D. 350
- Hellenistic Fortress, ca. 198-63 B.C.
- Ammonite Citadel, ca. 900-500 B.C.
- Proto Ammonite Village, ca. 1200-900 B.C.
- Traditional Ammonite Stronghold

Hisban's Future as an Open-air Classroom

A major goal of future preservation, restoration, and presentation efforts at Tall Hisban is to enhance the use of the site as an open-air classroom by

¹³On hand to offer brief speeches at the celebration were Lawrence T. Geraty, who assumed leadership of the Heshbon Expedition from 1974-1976; Niels-Erik Andreasen, president of Andrews University; His Royal Highness Prince Raad Ibn Said, who represented the Hashemite Royal Palace; His Excellency Akram Ajarmeh, Member of the Jordanian Parliament; His Excellency Aqal Biltagi, Minister of Tourism and Antiquities of Jordan; Ghazi Bisheh, Director-General of the Department of Antiquities of Jordan; Pierre Bikai, Director of the American Center for Oriental Research in Amman; Yusef al Awawdah, mayor of the village of Hisban; and Mustafa al Barari, founder of a group of local citizens calling themselves the Friends of Hisban.

Jordanian educators and their pupils (**Figure 8**). With special permission from the Department of Antiquities, an area near the parking lot has been set aside. Here teachers, under the supervision of Department of Antiquities outreach education specialists, may come with their pupils to learn some of the basic principles of tall stratigraphy and archaeological excavation.¹⁴

The good of these efforts is to increase local involvement and protection of the site and its immediate surroundings.

¹⁴Two teachers assisted with developing the "outdoor classroom concept." These were Mahfooth Abdul Hafiz of the Hisban Boys School, who also helped paint the signs, and Nelly Lama of the Friends of Archaeology, who has been teaching about archaeology in the schools of Amman.

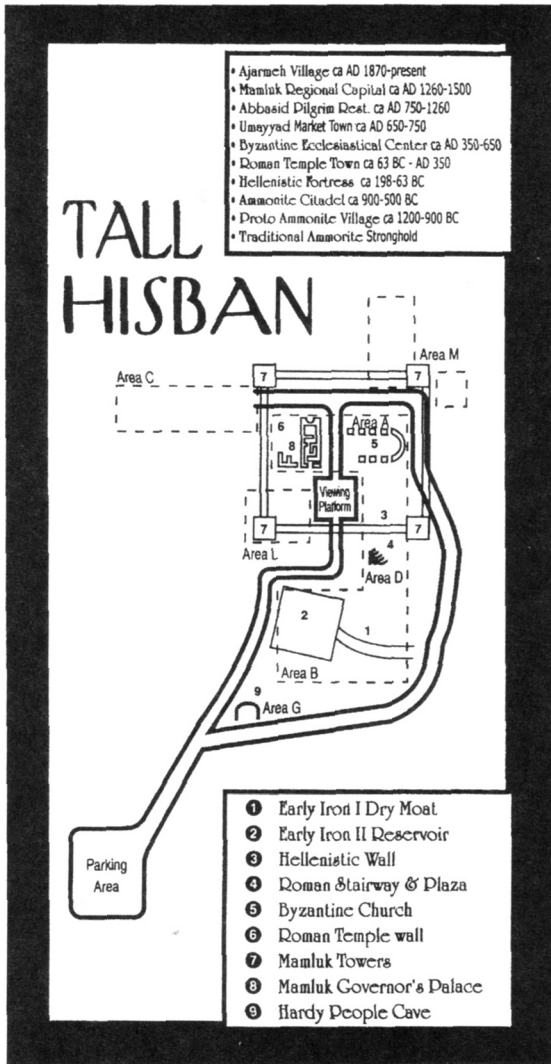


Figure 1. Tall Hisban Site Map. This map of the mound of Hisban shows the location of nine important archaeological features of the tall, as well as the routing of the walking path which leads past each of these features. The map was originally sketched by Rhonda Root of the Andrews University School of Architecture and has been enhanced by Tony Zappia and Heather Hornbacher.



Figure 2. View of Hisban summit looking northwest. In the foreground is seen the north face of the Iron I moat. Sections of the Roman plaza and stairway are in the center of the photo, and at the top is seen the restored southwestern wall of the Mamluk Governor's Palace.



Figure 3. Sign summarizing history of Tall Hisban. The sign is located at the base of the new stairway leading up from the parking lot to the summit. All signs installed on the site were produced by a local iron smith.



Figure 4. Sign containing Hisban Site Map and Legend. It is located near Area B with a view of the restored Mamluk Palace wall in the background. All signs were painted by Mahfooth Abdul Hafiz of the Hisban Boys School.



Figure 5. Sign and platform overlooking Byzantine Church foundations.



Figure 6. Sign and platform overlooking Mamluk Bath.

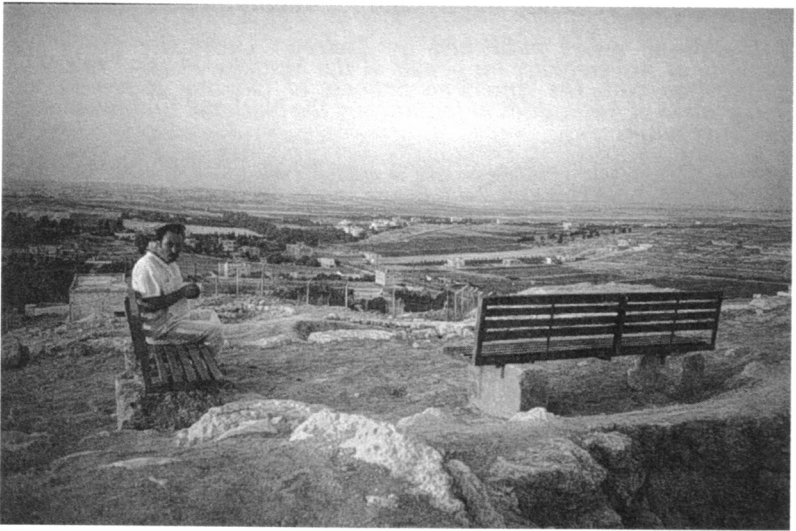


Figure 7. Two benches installed on the viewing platform behind the restored Mamluk Palace wall.



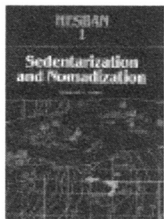
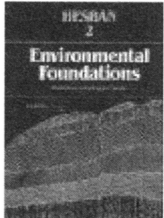
Figure 8. Teacher tool shed at base of Hisban Open Air Classroom. Teachers shown in the photo are Mahfooth Abdul Hafiz of the Hisban Boys School, Nelly Lama of the Friends of Archaeology, and Øystein S. LaBianca.

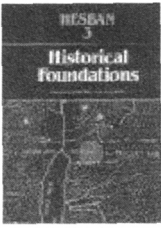
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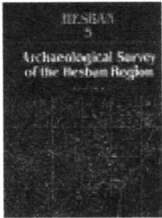
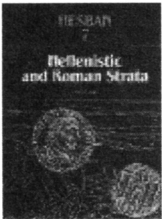
Lawrence T. Geraty and Øystein S. LaBianca, series editors

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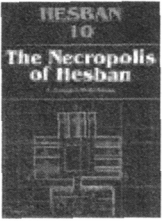
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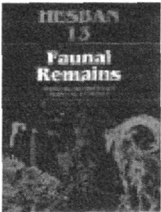
Volume Title	Volume Author/Editor(s) and Volume Content	Volume Status
	<p>Øystein Sakala LaBianca (Andrews University)</p> <p>This landmark volume has been hailed the coming of age of Syro-Palestinian Archaeology. Using the food system concept as an interpretive framework, the volume links the degree to which the population of Hesban was sedentary or nomadic over time to changes in their strategies for securing food, water, and protection. The reasons for successive cycles of sedentarization and nomadization are linked to changes in political and economic conditions in Transjordan throughout the past three and a half millennia.</p>	<p>Published in 1990</p> <p>Includes 47 figures, 83 plates, and 16 tables; 353 pages.</p>
	<p>Øystein Sakala LaBianca (Andrews University) and Larry Lacelle (British Columbia Ministry of Environment), eds.</p> <p>Another testimony to the Heshbon Expedition's commitment to the new archaeology agenda, this volume provides an introduction to the historical environment of Hesban, including changes over time in the local climate, geology and soils, surface and groundwater resources, and vegetation cover. The volume also explores the implications of these changes for how successive generations of Hesbanites have had to adapt over the millennia.</p>	<p>Published in 1986</p> <p>Includes 26 figures, 42 plates, and 9 tables; 174 pages.</p> <p>Contributors: Patricia Crawford (Boston Univ.), Kevin Ferguson (Clark Univ.), Dennis Gilliland, Tim Hudson (Univ. of Southern Mississippi).</p>

Volume Title	Volume Author/Editor(s) and Volume Content	Volume Status
	<p>Lawrence T. Geraty <i>(La Sierra University) and Leona G. Running</i> <i>(Andrews University), eds.</i></p> <p>As case Jerusalem and other famous Holy Land sites, Heshbon/Esbous/Hesban is well represented in literary sources from antiquity. This volume provides a comprehensive introduction to references to Hesban and its surroundings as described in the Old Testament as well as in Egyptian, Greek, Arabic, and European literary sources. The history of Old Testament, Christian, and Islamic Hesban is presented on the basis of these sources.</p>	<p>Published in 1989</p> <p>Includes 4 figures and 1 plate; 97 pages.</p> <p>Contributors: Arthur J. Ferch, Malcolm B. Russell (Andrews Univ.), Werner K. Vyhmeister (Andrews Univ.).</p>
<p>Hesban 4 Ethnoarchaeological Foundations</p>	<p>Øystein Sakala LaBianca <i>(Andrews University)</i></p> <p>The Heshbon Expedition conducted ethnographic study of the present-day families (known as the Ajarmeh) in the village of Hesban. These investigations were aimed at learning more about the survival strategies evolved over the centuries by these indigenous tribesmen. The volume delineates seven such strategies, including the following: kin-based social organization, multi-resource household economics, fluid homeland territories, flexible residential patterns, small-scale water sourcing, localized food supply, hospitality, and honor.</p>	<p>In Process</p>

Volume Title	Volume Author/Editor(s) and Volume Content	Volume Status
	<p><i>Robert D. Ibach Jr.</i> <i>(Dallas Theological Seminary)</i></p> <p>This volume offers systematic descriptions, including numerous maps and photographs, of the 148 archaeological sites visited by the expedition's regional survey team within a 10-km radius of Tell Hesban. The finds reported span the Chalcolithic through the Late Ottoman periods. The volume also includes a discussion of the likely route of the Jericho-Livias-Esbous road which connected Esbous with Jerusalem during Roman and Byzantine times.</p>	<p>Published in 1987</p> <p>Includes 18 figures, 198 plates, and 34 tables; 299 pages.</p>
<p>Hesban 6</p> <p>Iron Age Strata</p>	<p><i>Paul J. Ray Jr.</i> <i>(Andrews University)</i></p> <p>This volume presents a layer-by-layer account, including numerous plans and photographs, of the discoveries made in Tell Hesban's six Iron Age strata (12th to 5th centuries B.C.). Discoveries are interpreted in the light of contemporary natural, cultural, and historical events. Implications of these finds for understanding the history of the biblical tribe of Reuben, and the tribal kingdoms of Ammon and Moab and Israel are also examined. Includes a chapter on the history of the excavation methodology of the Heshbon Expedition.</p>	<p>In Process</p>
	<p><i>Larry A. Mitchel</i></p> <p>Volume 7 presents a layer-by-layer account of Tell Hesban's five Hellenistic and Roman strata (2nd century B.C. to the 4th century A.D.). Includes numerous plans and photographs of Hesban's discoveries which are interpreted in the light of contemporary natural, cultural, and historical events. The discoveries include the architectural remains of a Hasmonaean fortress and a Roman temple.</p>	<p>Published in 1992</p> <p>Includes 38 figures, 92 plates, and 7 tables; 189 pages.</p>

Volume Title	Volume Author/Editor(s) and Volume Content	Volume Status
<p>Hesban 8A</p> <p>Byzantine and Early Islamic Strata</p>	<p><i>J. Bjørnar Storfjell</i></p> <p>Volume 8A presents a layer-by-layer account, with numerous plans and photographs, of the discoveries made in Tell Hesban's six Byzantine and Early Islamic strata (4th to the 10th centuries A.D.). These discoveries are interpreted in the light of contemporary natural, cultural, and historical events. Important finds include a Byzantine church and an earlier Roman temple. New evidence for a rather smooth transition to the Islamic period at the site also is presented.</p>	<p>In Process</p> <p><i>Manuscript:</i> Manuscript in hand.</p>
<p>Hesban 8B</p> <p>The Hesban North Church</p>	<p><i>John I. Lawlor</i> <i>(Baptist Bible Seminary)</i></p> <p>This volume is an in-depth report of the remains of the Hesban North Church, the best preserved of at least three Christian churches in the Byzantine town of Esbous. Its most significant features include a remarkably well-preserved architectural plan, nave mosaic floor, three superimposed chancel mosaics, and a reliquarium complete with the relics intact. The church appears to have been in use from 550 A.D. to 750 A.D., revealing that despite the coming of Islam in 650 A.D., Christian worship continued unabated at Hesban.</p>	<p>In Process</p> <p><i>Manuscript:</i> Manuscript in hand.</p>
<p>Hesban 9</p> <p>Middle and Late Islamic Strata</p>	<p><i>Bethany Walker</i> <i>(University of Toronto) and</i> <i>Bert de Vries (Calvin College)</i></p> <p>The discoveries of Tell Hesban's four Ayyubid-Mamluk strata (12th to the 15th centuries A.D.) are presented in a layer-by-layer account, including numerous plans and photographs. These discoveries are interpreted in the light of contemporary natural, cultural, and historical events. Major features of this period include a Mamluk governor's palace and private bath house.</p>	<p>In Process</p>

Volume Title	Volume Author/Editor(s) and Volume Content	Volume Status
	<p>S. Douglas Waterhouse <i>(Andrews University)</i></p> <p>This study classifies the dozens of tombs located in the Necropolis of Hesban into six types: chamber tombs with loculi radiating from the chamber, chamber tombs with adjoining arching alcoves (arcosolia), chamber tombs with both loculi and arcosolia, horizontal shaft tombs, vertical shaft tombs, and natural caves used as burial sites. The volume also includes a chapter dealing with the skeletal biology of the human remains from these tombs.</p>	<p>Published in 1998</p> <p>Includes 29 figures, 85 plates, and 80 tables; 205 pages.</p> <p>Contributors: George Armelagos (Emory Univ.), Howard Krug, Ann Grauer (Loyola Univ.), and S. Douglas Waterhouse.</p>
<p>Hesban 11</p> <p>Ceramic Finds</p>	<p>Larry G. Herr <i>(Canadian University College)</i> and James A. Sauer <i>(American Schools of Oriental Research)</i>, eds.</p> <p>A definitive work by Jordan's ceramic experts, this volume is devoted to typological analysis and descriptions, including numerous drawings, of the large corpus of pottery from Tell Hesban and vicinity. Major contributors include: Larry Herr (Iron Age), Yvonne Gerber (Hellenistic-Byzantine Periods), Bethany Walker (Islamic Period), and Gloria London (technology and petrography).</p>	<p>In Process</p> <p>Manuscript: In preparation stage.</p>

Volume Title	Volume Author/Editor(s) and Volume Content	Volume Status
<p>Hesban 12</p> <p>Small Finds</p>	<p><i>Paul J. Ray, Jr.</i> <i>(Andrews University), ed.</i></p> <p>This volume presents individual studies of the small artifacts found at Tell Hesban and its nearby cemeteries. The volume is illustrated with numerous drawings and photographs of the large quantity of glass, ivory, metal, and stone objects. These objects include inscriptions (Ammonite, Arabic, Aramaic, Greek, and Latin), figurines, coins, jewelry, and tools used for cosmetic purposes and in textile production.</p>	<p>In Process</p>
	<p><i>Øystein Sakala LaBianca</i> <i>(Andrews University) and</i> <i>Angela von den Driesch</i> <i>(University of Munich), eds.</i></p> <p>More than 100,000 animal bone fragments were unearthed at Tell Hesban. This volume deals with domestic animal remains as well as with the remains of wild mammals, birds, reptiles, and fish. The volume has been praised by one of its reviewers for its multifaceted professional approach that includes both zoo archaeology (with its emphasis on biological aspects) and archaeozoology (with its emphasis on the cultural meaning of the bones).</p>	<p>Published in 1995</p> <p>Includes 114 figures, 186 plates, and 135 tables; 236 pages.</p> <p><i>Contributors:</i> Joachim Boessneck (Univ. of Munich), Øystein Sakala LaBianca, Johannes Lepiksaar (Museum of Natural History, Sweden), Angela von den Driesch.</p>
<p>Hesban 14</p> <p>Hesban and Biblical History</p>	<p><i>Øystein S. LaBianca</i> <i>(Andrews University) and</i> <i>Lawrence T. Geraty</i> <i>(La Sierra University), eds.</i></p> <p>Volume 14 offers conclusions regarding the significance of the Hesban project for the understanding of biblical and ancient Near Eastern history. In particular, the volume will reexamine the numerous references to Hesban and vicinity throughout the OT in light of the findings reported in the previous volumes.</p>	<p>In Process</p>