

Tel Beth-Shemesh Excavations

ARKY 3000 - Archaeological Sites of the Near East

ARKY 3300 - Archaeological Field Work: Israel

ARKY 4500 - Advanced Archaeological Field Work
(for senior field school students only)

Summer Sessions I and II

June 9 – July 11, 2019

Archaeological Field School

- ▶ Excavation Project Overview
- ▶ Excavation Schedule
- ▶ Application Procedure
- ▶ Course Requirements
- ▶ Costs
- ▶ Student Loans and Funding Possibilities
- ▶ Risks, Safety and Responsibility
- ▶ Website: <http://people.uleth.ca/~bubest>





Shephelah region



Tel Beth-Shemesh



Tel Beth-Shemesh landscape in the summer



Tel Beth-Shemesh landscape in the summer

Tel Beth-Shemesh Excavations

D. Mackenzie: 1911 – 1912

E. Grant (E. Wright): 1928 – 1933

S. Bunimovitz and Z. Lederman: 1990 – 2019



Site Directors Zvi Lederman and Shlomo Bunimovitz

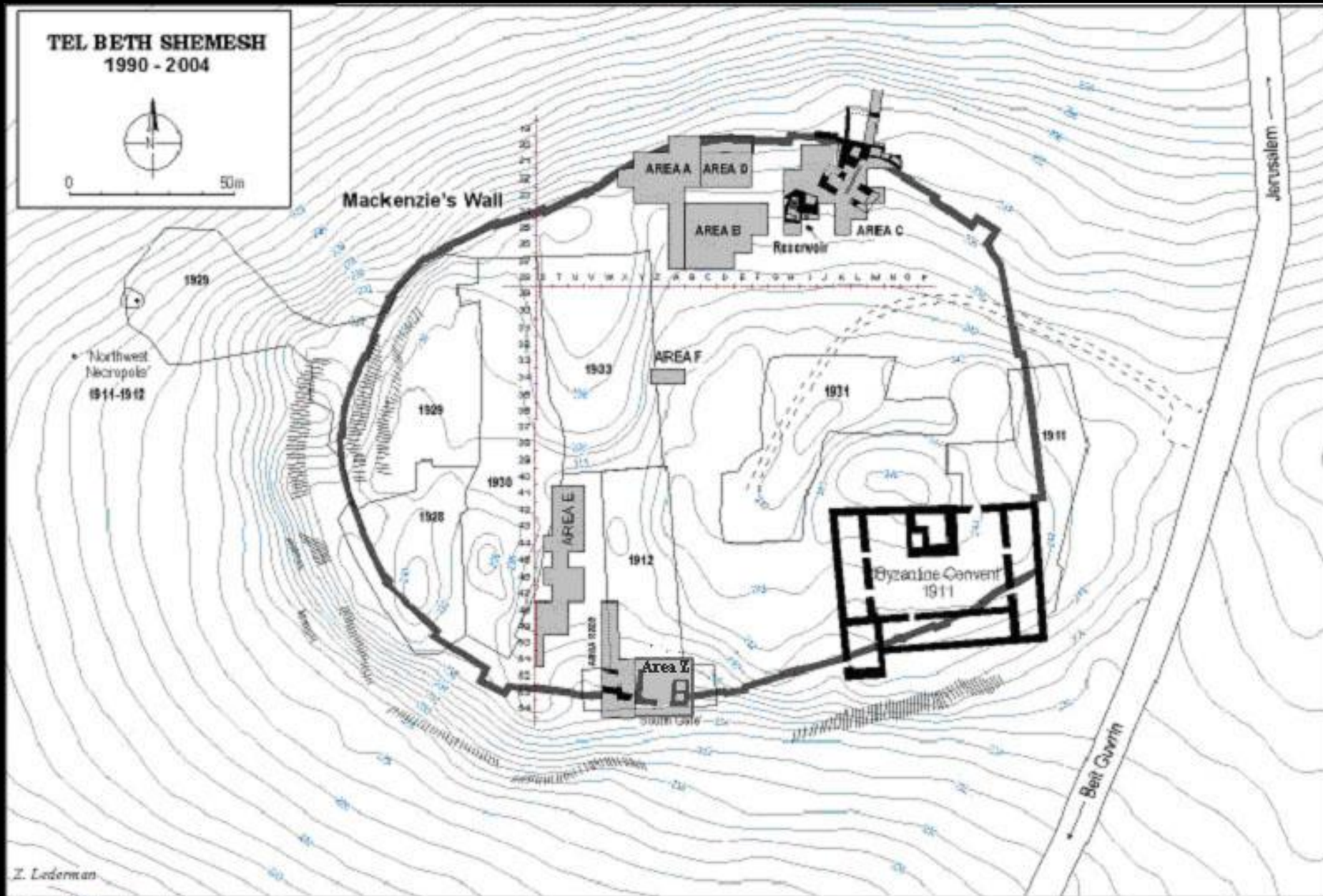


Tel Aviv U, Harding U, U of L, and the Institute for Field Research

TEL BETH SHEMESH
1990 - 2004



0 50m



J. Lederman

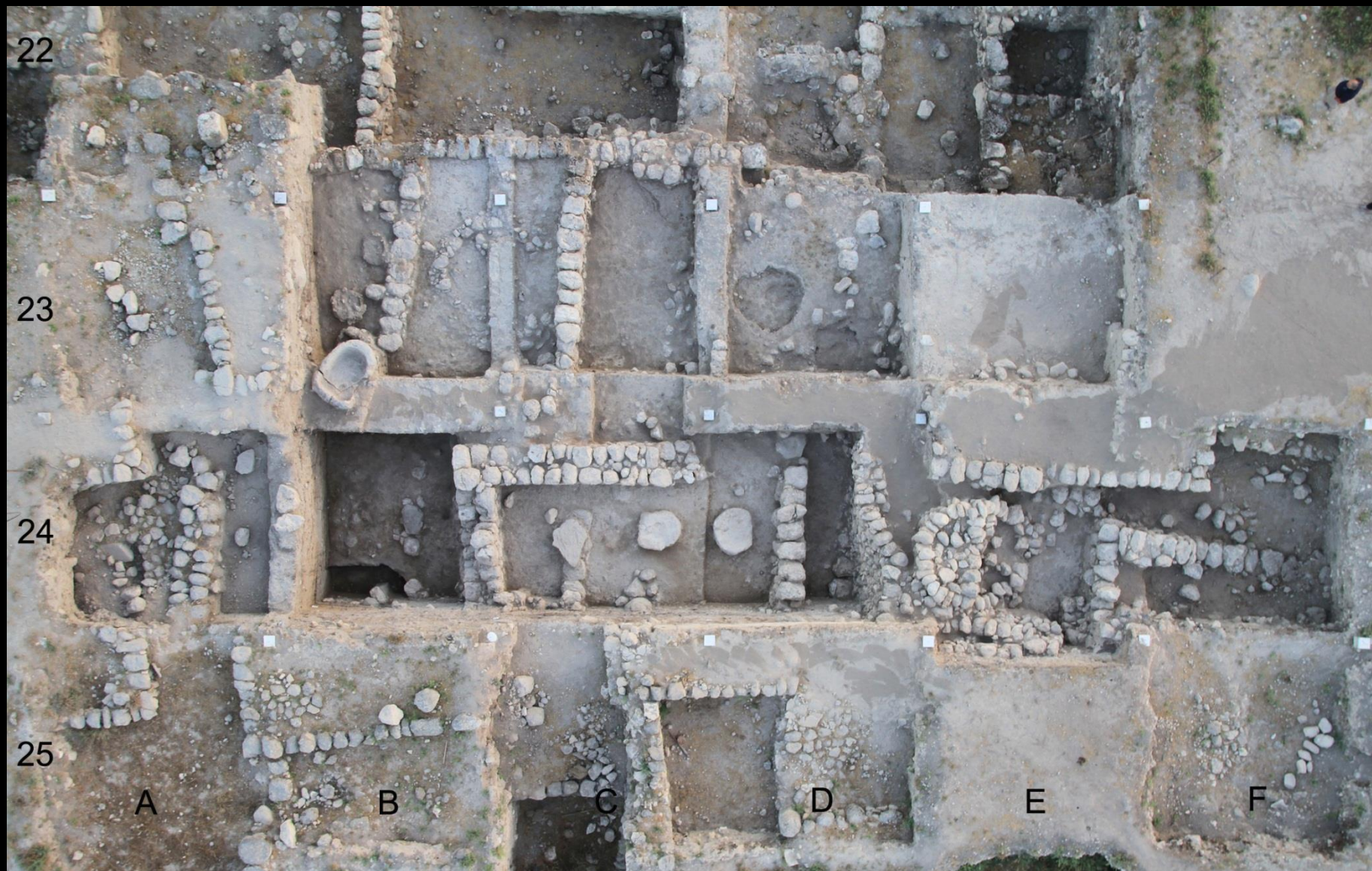
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Tel Beth-Shemesh Excavations

Tel Beth-Shemesh Occupation Levels



Tel Beth-Shemesh Occupation Levels

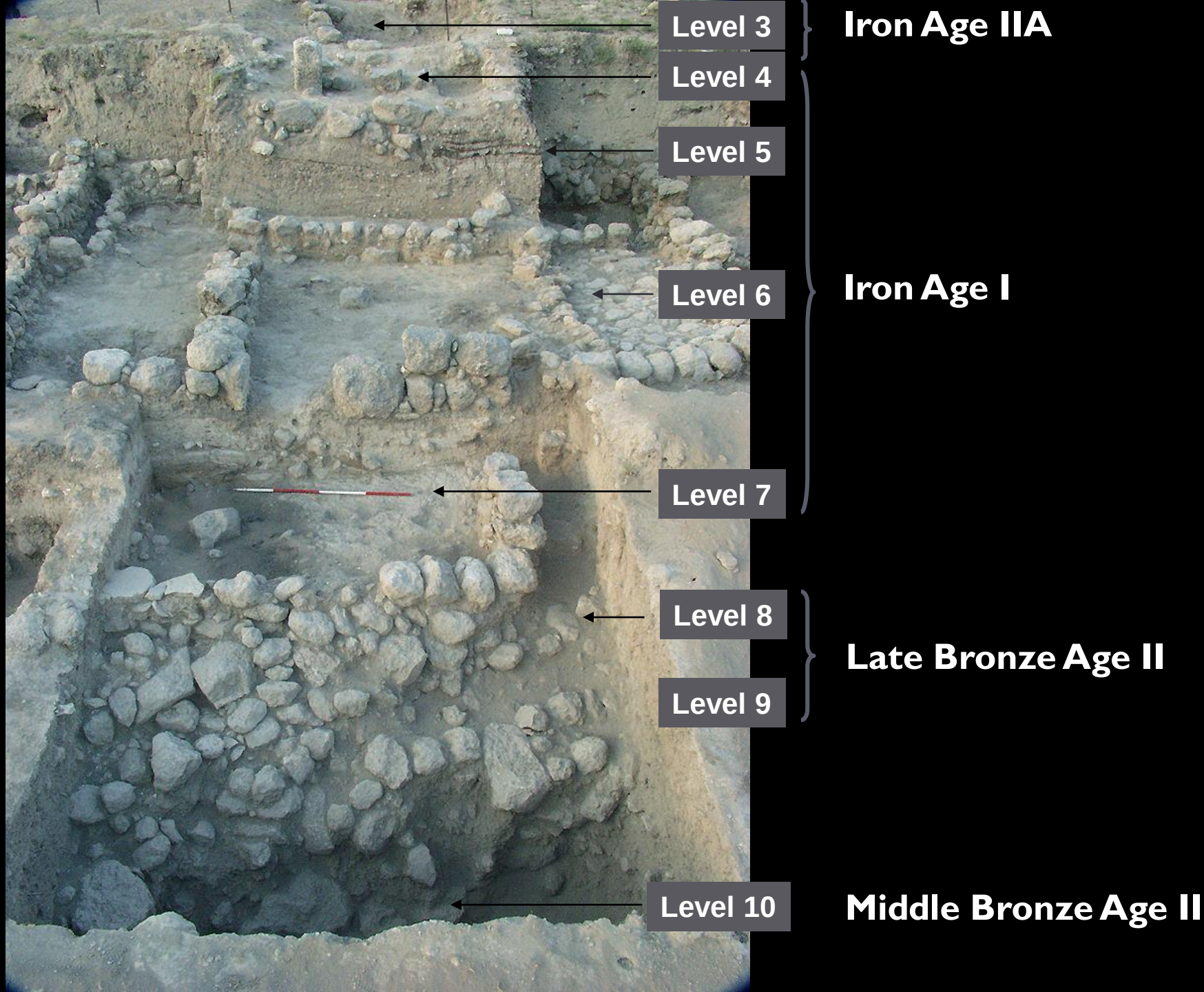


Iron Age architecture (Levels 7 - 4)

Tel Beth-Shemesh Occupation Levels



Late Bronze destruction layer (Level 9)



Date	Period	Tel Beth-Shemesh Occupation Phase	Description	Historical Events
2000-1750 BCE	Middle Bronze IIA	Level 11?	Pottery sherds	12th Egyptian dynasty. Canaanite city states.
1750-1550 BCE	Middle Bronze IIB-C	Level 10?	Gate City wall Tombs	'Hyksos' period. 15th Egyptian dynasty. Canaanite city states.
1500-1200 BCE	Late Bronze IIA, IIB	Levels 9, 8	Palace? Destruction level Pantry Donkey burial	Canaanite city states under Egyptian rule. el-Amarna tablets.
1200-950 BCE	Iron Age Ia and Ib	Levels 7, 6, 5, 4	Elite buildings Temple? Olive oil industry	Arrival of the Philistines. Emergence of Israelites. Judges period.
950-790 BCE	Iron Age IIa	Level 3	Commercial area Iron workshop Fortification Water reservoir	Emergence of statehood and Monarchy in Israel/Judah.
790-701 BCE	Iron Age IIb	Level 2	Late Israelite city <i>Imlk</i> jar handles Olive oil industry	701 BCE destruction by Assyrian emperor Sennacherib.
650-635 BCE	Iron Age IIc	Level 1	Water reservoir's last use	Last days of Assyrian power and dominance.

Tel Beth-Shemesh Chronology

The 2019 excavations will focus on the Iron I Age and the Late Bronze Age

Tel Beth-Shemesh Excavations 2019



View of Tel
Beth-Shemesh
after the 2017
field season.

An Average Day at the Site

June 10 – July 4 / Sunday - Thursday

- ▶ 4:00 Rise and shine
- ▶ 4:45 Leave for the site on our bus
- ▶ 5:00 Arrive at the site, begin the day
- ▶ 8:30 Second breakfast
- ▶ 9:00 Back to work
- ▶ 13:00 Bus back to the Kibbutz
- ▶ 13:30 Lunch
- ▶ 14:00 Pottery washing and lab work
- ▶ 15:30 Shower break
- ▶ 16:30 Pottery Reading
- ▶ 18:00 Evening Lecture
- ▶ 19:30 Dinner

Excavating in the Near East at a Tel Site



Base Camp at the Site

Excavating in the Near East at a Tel Site



Excavating at Tel Beth-Shemesh using a 5 x 5 Wheeler Box method.

Excavating in the Near East at a Tel Site



Excavating at Tel Beth-Shemesh using the larger tools.

Excavating in the Near East at a Tel Site



Excavating at Tel Beth-Shemesh using smaller tools for 'detailed' work.

Excavating in the Near East at a Tel Site



Excavating at Tel Beth-Shemesh – sometimes we need a jackhammer.

Excavating in the Near East at a Tel Site



Excavating at Tel Beth-Shemesh – sometimes we move rocks whole.

Excavating in the Near East at a Tel Site



Excavating at Tel Beth-Shemesh – screening the excavated sediment.

Excavating in the Near East at a Tel Site



Excavating at Tel Beth-Shemesh – moving a lot of sediment.

Excavating in the Near East at a Tel Site



Excavating at Tel Beth-Shemesh – preparing for photographs.

Excavating in the Near East at a Tel Site



Excavating at Tel Beth-Shemesh – drawing stratigraphic profiles.

Excavating in the Near East at a Tel Site



Excavating at Tel Beth-Shemesh – drawing stratigraphic profiles.

Excavating in the Near East at a Tel Site



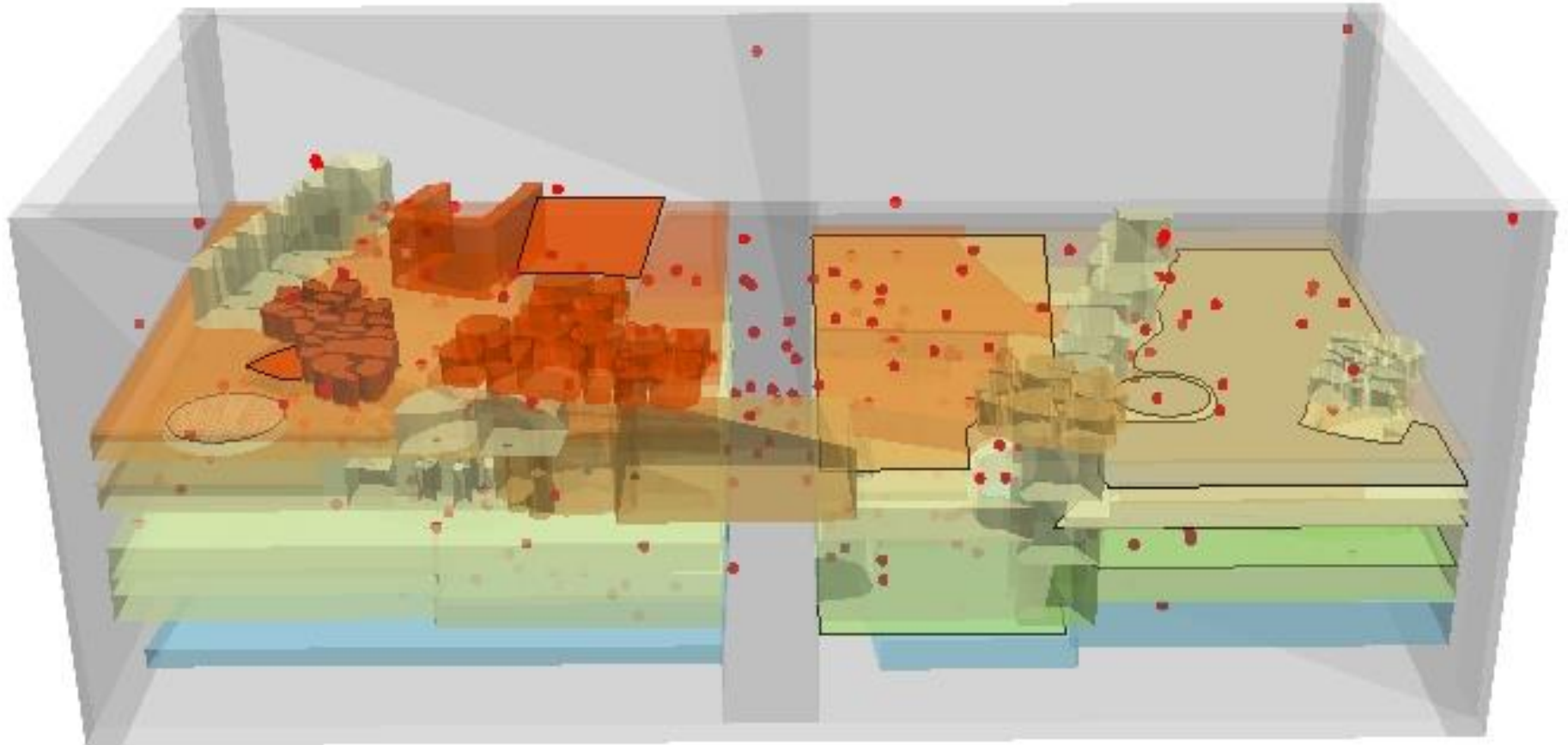
Excavating at Tel Beth-Shemesh – drawing stratigraphic profiles.

Excavating in the Near East at a Tel Site



Excavating at Tel Beth-Shemesh – Recording the excavations.

Excavating in the Near East at a Tel Site



Measuring the exact location of the archaeological remains with a Total Station.

Excavating in the Near East at a Tel Site



Excavating at Tel Beth-Shemesh – Teamwork!

Excavating in the Near East at a Tel Site



Excavating at Tel Beth-Shemesh.

Excavating in the Near East at a Tel Site



Excavating at Tel Beth-Shemesh.

Excavating in the Near East at a Tel Site



Excavating at Tel Beth-Shemesh.

Excavating in the Near East at a Tel Site



Excavating at Tel Beth-Shemesh.



Finally! It's breakfast Time!



Tel Beth-Shemesh Discoveries



Late Bronze occupation layer

Tel Beth-Shemesh Chronology – Late Bronze Age – Level 9



Complete vessels in the
rooms of a palace.

Tel Beth-Shemesh Chronology – Late Bronze Age – Level 9



Complete vessels buried below the destruction debris.

Several contained charred grains (barley, bitter vetch, wheat, chick peas, and others).



Tel Beth-Shemesh Chronology – Late Bronze Age – Level 9



Charred organics in a storage jar

Tel Beth-Shemesh Chronology – Late Bronze Age – Level 9



Late Bronze Age ceramic collection

Tel Beth-Shemesh Chronology – Late Bronze Age – Level 9



Unique Minoan cups from the palace?

Tel Beth-Shemesh Chronology – Late Bronze Age – Level 9



Unique Minoan cups from the palace?

Tel Beth-Shemesh Chronology – Late Bronze Age – Level 9



Late Bronze vessels in relation to the architecture

Late Bronze Age Artifacts



NIN-UR.MAH.MES?

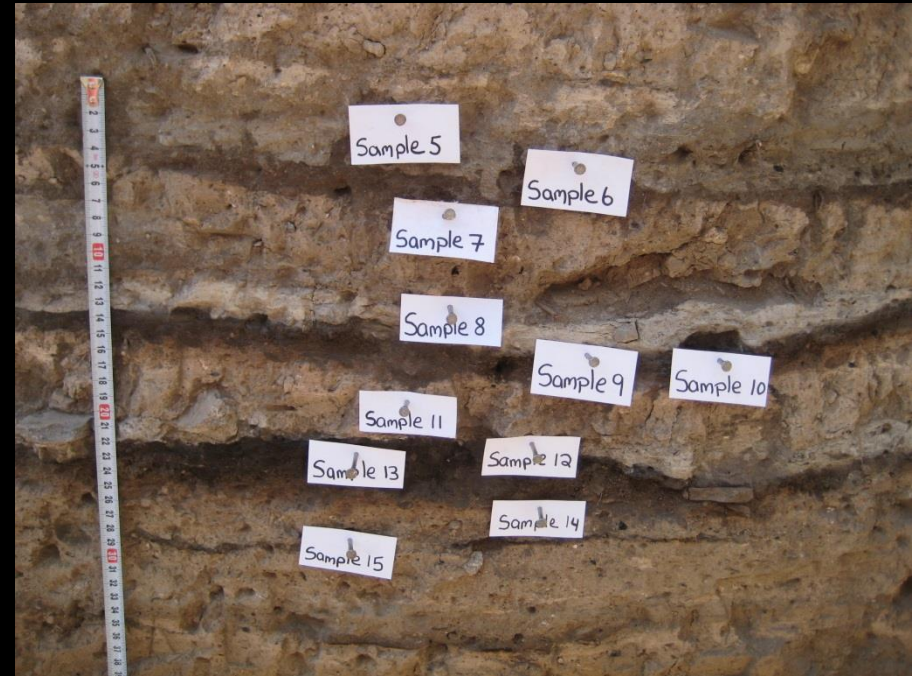


Scarab of Amenhotep III (1386-1349 BC)



Goddess Plaque Figurines

Tel Beth-Shemesh Chronology – Iron I – Levels 7 - 5



Level 5 consisted of thick layers of organics (phytoliths) that contained dung spherulites (white).

Burnt clay layers below each sequence.

Tel Beth-Shemesh Chronology – Iron I – Levels 9 - 4



Iron Age I
artifacts from
Levels 7 - 4

Excavating in the Near East at a Tel Site



'Friends' you meet while excavating.

Afternoon Laboratory Work



Pottery Washing

Afternoon Laboratory Work



Pottery Reading



Pottery Marking

Afternoon Laboratory Work



Artifact Cataloguing, Faunal Analysis, and More.

Afternoon Laboratory Work



Artifact Cataloguing, Faunal Analysis, and More.

Camp Life



Camp Life



Camp Life



Camp Life



Weekend Field Trips



Weekend Field Trips



Weekend Field Trips



Weekend Field Trips



Weekend Field Trips



Weekend Field Trips



Weekend Field Trips



Weekend Field Trips





Weekend Field Trips

Weekend Field Trips



Weekend Field Trips

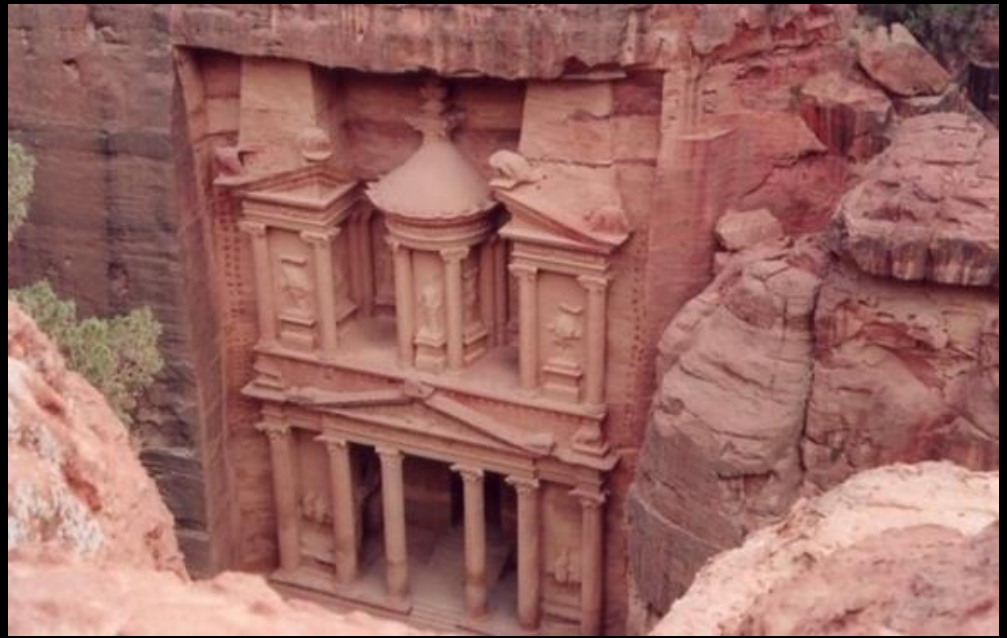


Weekend Field Trips



Weekend Field Trips





Petra, Jordan



**Madaba,
Jordan**



Wadi Rum, Jordan



**Madaba
Map**

Application Procedure

- ▶ Those interested in the field school must fill out an application and provide the following by Feb. 26:
 - General application form (to be downloaded from Dr. Bubel's web site at: <http://people.uleth.ca/~bubest/>)
 - Medical form (included with the application form)
 - Essay on why you wish to participate in the project
 - Transcripts
 - Letter of reference (form is included with the app. form)
 - \$200 Application Fee (to be deducted from the course fee)
- ▶ Selection Committee will meet by March 4, 2019

Course Requirements

- ▶ Arky 1000 (and preferably a 3000-level Arky course)
- ▶ Registration
 - Only those accepted to the field school will be able to register for Arky 3000 and 3300
 - Students will fill out course forms to register for the field school
- ▶ Grade assessments for the courses are based on the quality of your field work, note books, assignments and examinations
- ▶ Hard work and team work

Costs

▶ Tuition

- Two summer session courses (Arky 3000 & 3300) = +/- \$1200 CAN

▶ Airfare

- Calgary/Tel Aviv/Calgary = +/- \$1800 CAN

▶ Room and Board

- Cost for room and board while at the kibbutz = +/- \$2400 US

▶ Field trips

- 4 Course field trips = +/- \$900 US
 - ▶ Visit to the South (Dead Sea, Masada, Arad, the Negev and other sites)
 - ▶ Visit to the North (Tel Dan, Megiddo, Hazor, Caesarea, Mediterranean Sea, etc.)
 - ▶ Visit to Central Israel (Tel Aviv, Beit Guvrin)
 - ▶ Visit to Jerusalem
- After trip to Jordan = \$500 US (optional)

▶ Spending Money

- +/- \$300

▶ Total Estimated Costs = +/- \$6650 (plus \$1200 tuition and spending money)

Flight (TBD)

- Calgary/Tel Aviv/Amman/Calgary OR
- Calgary/Tel Aviv/Calgary

Flight	Departs			Arrives		

Student Loans and Funding

▶ Student Loans

- Alberta student loans: Students can apply for loans for the courses (5 weeks). A portion of your airfare, field trip fees, living costs and supplies are covered by Alberta student loans.
- Please visit the Student Finance office for help with your application forms.
 - ▶ Ask for Janet Macdonald

▶ Other Scholarships (individuals to apply for)

▶ Other Sources of Funding

- Fundraising – start asap

Risks, Safety, and Responsibility

► Excavation risks

- Hot and dry
- Scorpions, spiders, snakes
- Large stones and baulks
- Sharp equipment
- Steep slopes
- General risks

► International travel risks

- General travel
- Unrest in Israel

► Students are responsible for their own personal safety

► Students must conduct themselves accordingly and respect the local laws and customs of Israel

► Students must complete the Risk and Safety online course.

Start Arranging Now

- ▶ Application Package (Due Feb. 26, 2019)
- ▶ Deposit (\$200)
- ▶ Passport
 - Pick up at the post office
 - New requirements
- ▶ Health Insurance (Blue Cross)
- ▶ Student Loan Application
- ▶ After dig travel

Fun and Adventure

- ▶ Working at an archaeological site is a lot of work but it is also a lot of fun
 - Learning how to excavate, survey and process the archaeological remains
 - Discovering the past
 - Working outside and being active
 - Working as part of a team
 - Exploring another country
 - Experiencing another culture

If you are a hard working student that is interested in learning how to excavate at an archaeological site and about Israel's past, and is looking for an adventure, this field school is for you.

It is an experience you will never forget!



Friends for Life!

Israel 2017 Field School Students



Israel Field School Students for 2019 ???