

Reg #	Description	Date	Locus	Pail
2209	Coin	5 June	5	20
2210	Coin	5 June	11	17
2211	Coin	5 June	14	19
2212	Coin	5 June	14	19
2213	Coin	5 June	14	19
2214	Coin	5 June	14	19
2215	Coin	5 June	14	19
2216	Coin	5 June	14	19
2217	Coin	5 June	14	19
2241	Stoneware	8 June	5	23
2242	Weight	8 June	14	21
2251	Flint	8 June	14	21
2269	Coin	8 June	15	22
2270	Coin	8 June	5	23
2271	Coin	8 June	14	21
2272	Coin	8 June	14	21
2273	Coin	8 June	14	21
2274	Coin	8 June	14	21
2275	Coin	8 June	14	21
2276	Coin	8 June	14	21
2277	Coin	8 June	14	21
2280	Grinder	8 June	5	23
2286	Sling stone	9 June	12	26
2299	Glassware	9 June	5	24
2303	Flint Point	9 June	15	25
2304	Flint Point	9 June	15	25

Reg #	Description	Date	Locus	Pail
2305	Ring	9 June	12	26
2306	Shaped Stone	9 June	15	25
2307	Flint	9 June	15	25
2311	Angled Stone	9 June	12	26
2313	Coin	9 June	15	25
2314	Coin	9 June	5	24
2315	Coin	9 June	15	25
2316	Coin	9 June	15	25
2317	Coin	9 June	15	25
2318	Coin	9 June	5	24
2319	Coin	9 June	12	26
2320	Coin	9 June	15	25
2333	Weight: annotated with "NZF"	10 June	15	28
2334	Roof Tile	9 June	15	25
2343	Glassware	10 June	15	28
2344	Arrow Point	10 June	15	28
2346	Coin	10 June	5	27
2347	Coin	10 June	15	28
2356	Stoneware	11 June	16	29
2358	Sling stone	11 June	16	29
2364	Sandal Tack	12 June	18	31
2375	Jar Stopper	11 June	16	29
2376	Glassware	11 June	16	29
2378	Stoneware	10 June	15	28
2396	Coin	11 June	17	30
2397	Coin	11 June	17	30

Reg #	Description	Date	Locus	Pail
2398	Coin	11 June	16	29
2399	Coin	11 June	16	29
2446	Coin	12 June	18	31
2479	Jerusalem Painted Bowl	10 June	15	28

Pottery Pails for O24

Pail	Date	Locus	Reading	Saved
1	25 May	1	12 LH/ER	5
2	26 May	1	2 MBIII/LBI; 28 LH/ER	10
3	26 May	1	2 MBIII/LBI (2 refired), 1 IA I?; 11 LH/ER; 1 Byz	10
4	27 May	1	2 MBIII/LBI; 2 IA I, 10 LH/ER	6
5	27 May	1	16 LH/ER	5
6	28 May	4	1 IA I; 20 LH/ER	8
7	28 May	5	11 LH/ER	3
8	29 May	4	2 MBIII/LBI (1 refired); 1 IA I; 12 LH/ER	6
9	29 May	1	2 MBIII/LBI (2 refired); 2 IA I/IIa; 23 LH/ER	7
10	1 June	4	2 MBIII/LBI; 1 LB Ib (refired); 17 LH/ER	8
11	1 June	7	1 LB Ib; 1 IA I/IIA; 1 IA I; 12 LH/ER	5
12	1 June	8	1 LH/ER	1
13	2 June	9	2 MBIII/LBI; 1 LB Ib; 2 IA I; 19 LH/ER	8
14	3 June	9	4 MBIII/LBI; 1 LB Ib (refired); 3 IA I; 49 LH/ER	23

Pail	Date	Locus	Reading	Saved
15	4 June	11	22 LH/ER	6
16	4 June	12	1 LB Ib (refired); 12 LH/ER	5
17	5 June	11	1 LH/ER (Early Bronze body sherds?)	1
18	5 June	12	3 LH/ER	0
19	5 June	14	9 LH/ER	6
20	5 June	5	1 MBIII/LBI; 6 LB Ib (refired); 29 LH/ER	16
21	8 June	14	3 LB Ib (refired); 9 LH/ER	6
22	8 June	15	2 LH/ER	0
23	8 June	5	1 MBIII/LBI; 2 LB Ib; 29 LH/ER; (1 Islamic?)	16
24	9 June	5	1 LB Ib; 1 IA I; 8 LH/ER	3
25	9 June	15	12 LH/ER	6
26	9 June	12	4 LH/ER	2
27	10 June	5	1 LB Ib; 22 LH/ER	7
28	10 June	15	28 LH/ER; 2 Byzantine?	15
29	11 June	16	1 MBIII/LBI; 2 LB Ib; 4 IA I; 28 LH/ER; 1 Byzantine/Early Islamic?	12
30	11 June	17	1 LB Ib (refired); 20 LH/ER	4
31	12 June	18	1 MBIII/LBI; 1 LB Ib; 3 LH/ER	2
32	12 June	20	1 LB Ib; 1 IA I	2
33	12 June	17	1 LB Ib (refired)	1

Photographs for O24:

Number	File name	Description
R-007	2015-06-05 R-007 O24	End of season

Square P22 25 May–12 June (Brian Peterson Square Supervisor and Bill Simmons Assistant Square Supervisor)

Overview

P22 was started last year with the 1.0–1.5 m of heavy tumble/debris (L.1) being removed and loci 2–6 either being labeled (i.e., Walls 111/L.2 and Wall 107/L.5) or assigned to earth loci (i.e., L.3, 4, and 6). Unfortunately, almost every part of square P22 in some way was vandalized or probed by local diggers after the season ended. As such, L.1 was used again as a means of cleaning up the damage and tumble. Because of this heavy looting, some of the upper loci are not “clean” and may have contamination in them. As a result, there were very few sealed and clean loci in this square. Nevertheless, because P22 has a large subterranean pit covering most of the square, there is some of the best stratification thus far on the site. There are walls, floors, and abandonment phases from at least eight to ten levels ([Late] ER, ER, LH, IA II/III, IA I, and MB III/LB I). The late era of the ER period and the ER phases are somewhat arbitrary; however, the IA I–III eras are evidenced by both pottery and material finds (e.g., a 6th century scarab). Six Lee University students and Lee professor Dr. Bill Simmons worked with Lee Professor Dr. Brian Peterson for the first two weeks of the dig season, with an assortment of diggers joining in the third week after the Lee team returned to the US. The entire 6 x 6 m square with no balks was opened, and 120 objects were recorded.

Wall List for P22

Number	Locus	Square	Elevation	Description
107	5	P22, Q21	874.96	SE/NW, 0.5m wide, 3–4 courses, abuts Wall 101 and 117
110	20	P22	874.86	SW/NE, 0.6 m wide, 1–3 courses, abuts Walls 110 and 126
111	2	P22	875.56	SW/NE, 0.8–1.0 m wide, 4–5 courses, abuts Walls 113 and 107
126	8	P22	874.88	SE/NW, 0.8 m wide, 3–4 courses, abuts Wall 111 and bedrock

Number	Locus	Square	Elevation	Description
127	13	P22	874.22	SE/NW, 0.5 m wide, 3–4 courses, abuts Wall 111 and bedrock, parallel with Wall 126
128	16	P22	873.80	SW/NE, 0.5 m wide, 2–3 courses, abuts Wall 129 and bedrock
129	19	P22	874.25	SE/NW, 0.5 m wide, 3–4 courses, abuts Wall 111 and bedrock

P22 Loci Details

1. Earth Locus: (Munsell no. 7.5yr 4.2) As noted above, L.1 was used to clean up the square after the site was looted. No top elevation was taken due to the random piles of debris thrown throughout the square. Making a decision on when to assign a new locus number was somewhat arbitrary. Most of the damage was cleaned up by day three of the dig.

2. Architectural Locus: Wall 111 is 0.8–1.0 m wide and is 4–5 courses high. This locus was assigned last season (see 2014 report and Figs. #1, 14, and 15 below). Several of the upper courses of the excavated wall from the 2014 season were destroyed, especially in the NE corner of the square. The elevation from last year on the NE end was 875.56 m. The doorway that was exposed last year on the NE end of the wall was completely dismantled (see Fig. #15 Top Plan C 2014). This season, the flagstones that were in the doorway were uncovered; these were noted on last year's report (see Figs. #3 and Top Plan C Fig. #15). The average top elevation of the wall beginning in the 2015 season was 875.00 m. Excavation on the east side of this wall in loci 12, 14, 17, and 18, revealed that at an average depth of 874.22 m the stone courses of Wall 111/ L.2 changed to random tumble and fill (see Fig. #6). Even though excavation continued beside/below the wall, it is apparent that Wall 111/L.2 is built upon earlier destruction phases which can be seen in L.3, 12, and L.14. Wall 111/L.2 appears to be taller than it really is due to excavations beside it and the random tumble stones left sticking out from under it as part of the “wall” line.



Figure 23: P22 Looking NW (photo by Michael Luddeni).

3. Earth Locus: (Munsell no. 7.5yr 4.2) L.3 was opened last season and confined to the northeastern section of the square on the eastern side of Wall 111/L.2 (see Fig. #2). Due to unauthorized digging, L.3 was used for all the area east of Wall 111/L.2. L.6 from last year, which was east of the southern end of Wall 111/L.2, was eliminated. At first glance, it was thought that L.3 (below L.1) consisted of 1.1 m of tumble and fill (875.00 m to 873.90 m). However, upon closer examination it is best to divide L.3 into 3A and 3B based upon possible LH floor levels on both sides of Wall 111/L.2. L.3A (similar to L.10 on the west side of Wall 111/L.2) consisted of the cobble fill (0.7 m in depth) placed around the remainder of the earlier Hellenistic walls and destruction debris after the 31 BC earthquake when this portion of P22 was rebuilt ca. 11 CE. That would leave L.3B as a designation for the leveled out earthquake debris (ca. 0.4 m thick) and floor line (ca. 874.30 m) after the 64 BC earthquake. Thus, the floor line of L.3B would have been used from 64–31 BC when the Jordan Valley suffered another severe earthquake. This aligns with the similar cobble fill (L.10) around Walls 126 and 110 and the level upon which Wall 110/L.20 was built (see below). Wall 110 was also built on debris. Not surprisingly, the bottom elevation of Wall 110 was also 874.30 m. This fill was dated based upon the numismatic evidence and from the copious amount of diagnostic pottery sherds from the LH/ER eras (see readings from pails 25, 27, 31, 33, and 37).

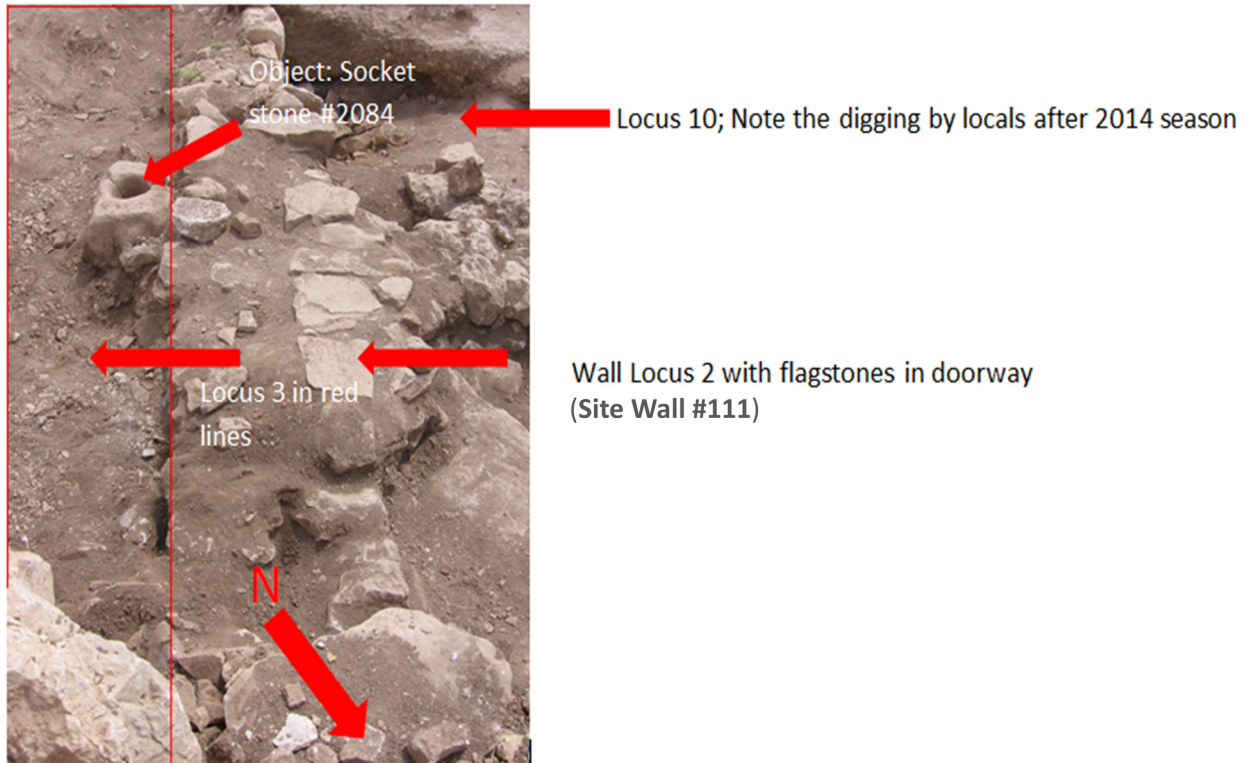


Figure 24: P22 looking south (photo by Brian Peterson).

4. Earth Locus: (Munsell no. 7.5yr 4.2) L.4 was opened last season in the SW portion of the square. It is situated on the western side of Wall 111/L.2 and on the north side of Wall 107/L.5. This locus was where the severed bronze ram's head was found (at 874.34 m; object #1658) last season (see Fig. #3). L.4 was roughly 0.2 m to 0.38 m in depth and was just above bedrock. Bedrock elevations averaged between 874.32 m and 874.21 m. On the first day of this season after cleaning up much of the damage, L.4 was reused for the same area, and pail 15 was assigned to it; however, as workers dug down just to the north of where the locus finished last year, it was determined that the material assigned to L.4 was actually best assigned to L.10 because it was opening up into a subterranean pit/hole in the bedrock. It is now clear that when bedrock was reached last season in this small area on the edge of P21 and P22 where the ram's head was found, it was actually at the end of L.4, which had material from much earlier eras.



Figure 25: P22 Looking SW (photo by Michael Luddeni).

5. Architectural Locus: Wall 107 was 0.5 m wide (destroyed in P22). This was assigned last season but was destroyed by vandals—virtually none of this short piece of wall that formed a “T” with Wall 111/L.2 remains (see Fig. #15 Top Plan C 2014).

6. Earth Locus: L.6 was assigned last season and was heavily damaged by vandals in the interim. Because of this, I did not use this locus this year but rather amalgamated it with L.3 (see comments on L.3 above and Fig. #15 Top Plan C 2014).

7. Earth Locus: (Munsell no. 7.5yr 4.2) L.7 is a small strip of square P22 on the SW corner in location 31. Some of this area may have been dug over by vandals. It was cleaned to bedrock (which was undulating) and a small stone loom weight was found (object # 1889).

8. Architectural Locus: Wall 126 is 0.8 m wide and 3–4 courses high. Based upon the discovery of a Ptolemy I coin ca. 290–265 BC (obj. #2178) near the base of Wall 126/L.8, it appears that the wall was built in the early Hellenistic period and used until ca. 64 or 31 BC (see more below under L.9). Based upon numismatic evidence in the fill of L.10, the wall may have been destroyed during the earthquake of 64 BC. The room appears to have been immediately rebuilt, modified (see discussion under L.20), and used until it was destroyed again by the earthquake of 31 BC. From 31–11 CE the rooms laid in ruins until they were repurposed. At that time Wall 126 was leveled/deconstructed to facilitate the construction of a later Roman-era flagstone floor over the area (see Figs. #1, 2, and 4). The flagstone floor was robbed out in antiquity with the exception of a

few remaining stones in the doorway of Wall 111/L.2. The flagstone floor has an average level of 875.00 m. The top of Wall 126/L.8 at the tallest point is 874.88 m, allowing 0.12 m for the thickness of the flagstones and a fine layer of fill under them for leveling over the old wall. Not surprisingly, the 0.12 m thickness easily accommodates the flagstones that remained in the doorway that were about 0.05 m thick. On the south side of Wall 126/L.8 was a layer of cobble fill (L.10) which was rich with LH/ER pottery.

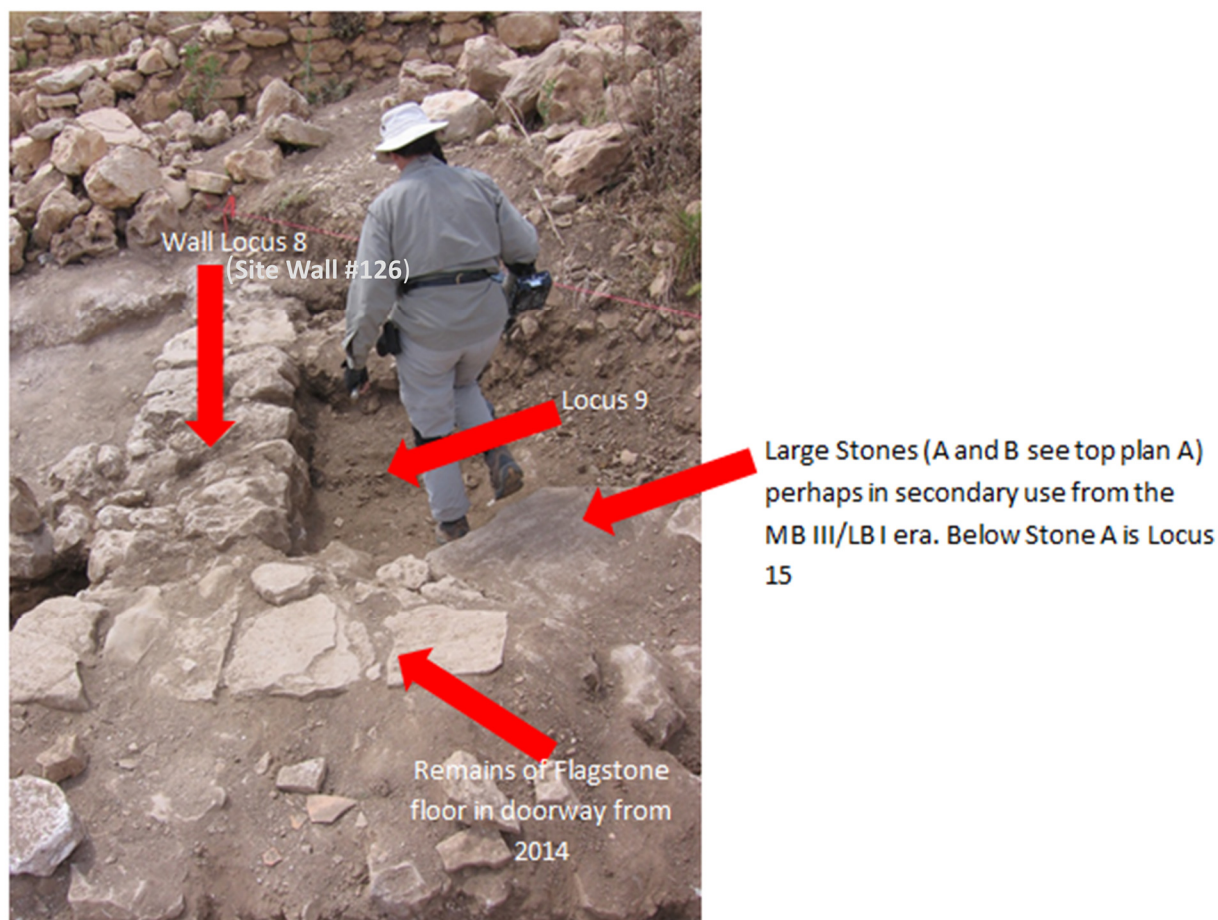


Figure 26: P22 looking west (photo by Brian Peterson).

9. Earth Locus: (Munsell no. 7.5yr 4.2) L.9 is to the north of Wall 126/L.8, immediately below L.1 (see Fig. #4), and above L.11. With an upper elevation of 874.88 m, L.9 averages in depth from 0.63 m to 0.67 m. This may be fill and/or tumble that was used at a later date to help level the room/courtyard where the flagstone floor was (see comments on Wall 126/L.8 above). A number of coins associated with L.9 show that either Wall 126/L.8 was used for more than a century or that L.9 is the fill that was placed around the wall later. The coins in L.9 (and the top portion of L.11) were from the reigns of Ptolemy I ca. 290–265 BC (obj. #2178 from the top portion of L.11 see more below), Antiochus III 204–197 BC (obj. #2230, #2085), Antiochus IV/Demetrius I ca. 173/2–150 BC (#2183), and Alexander Jannaeus ca. 80 BC (#2032, #2182, #2184). Because the fill to the south of Wall 126 is so different (see L.10 below), it seems more likely that the L.9 was fill that

accumulated over time. Thus, the coins dating from ca. 290–80 BC may actually give a rough estimate of how long Wall 126 was in use.

10. Earth Locus: (Munsell no. 7.5yr 4.2) L.10 is not yet complete (see Figs. #1 and #5). It has an average upper elevation of 874.00 m. It is south of Wall 126/L.8 and to the north of Wall 107/L.5 and L.4. It also is in the subterranean area which encapsulated the area to the west of Wall 111/L.2. L.10 was damaged by looters after last season (see Fig. #5). Due to this destruction, an extra 0.5 m or more was taken out and assigned to L.1 in an effort to remove any contamination. However, close to Wall 126/L.8 the same cobble fill (rich in LH/ER pottery) that appears in L.3A east of Wall 111/L.2 could be discerned. In Loci 3A, 3B, and 10 the coins dated between the period of Alexander Jannaeus ca. 80 BC or later (e.g., objs. #1933, #1994, #1997, #2041, #2086, #2087, #2125–30, #2133, #2180, #2181), Mattathias Antigonus 40–37 BC (obj. #2131), Herod the Great 37–4 BC (obj. #2132), and Augustus 5–11 CE (e.g., obj. #2031). Based upon these finds it seems very likely that the last occupational phase of this portion of Maqatir dates from 11–69 CE when the Romans destroyed the city. At least portions of the city may have lain in ruins from 31 BC when it was destroyed by a local earthquake until it was rebuilt sometime after 11 CE. At this time, the pottery and cobbles were used to level out the floor area.



Figure 27: P22 looking North with Loci Walls 2, 8, and 20 (photo by Brian Peterson).

11. Earth Locus: (Munsell no. 7.5yr 3.2) L.11 is below L.9, seals against bedrock on the north (in Q22) and Wall 127/L.13 on the south (see Figs. #7 and 10). The upper elevation is roughly 874.27 m. Another 0.5 m was excavated with no sign of bedrock (it is therefore incomplete). According to the pottery readings from pails 35, 36, and 39, much of the pottery comes from the LB I and IA I

periods. Near the top of this locus, a large Ptolemy I coin was found (object #2178) at 873.72 m. It seems likely that this coin is associated with Wall 126/L.8 and settled into the earth over time because of its weight. Further excavation should help clarify this theory.

12. Earth Locus: (Munsell no. 7.5yr 3.2) L.12 is below L.3B and covers the larger portion of the area to the east of Wall 111/L.2. It has an average depth of 0.15 m and appears to be a harder matrix devoid of the heavy cobble fill that was characteristic of L.3A, 3B, and L.10 (see Fig. #13 Elevation A Cutaway). L.12 contained Alexander Jannaeus coins (obj. #2185, 2228, 2229) and even earlier coins dating to Antiochus III 204–197 BC (obj. #2231). An earring (obj. #2205) and a piece of glassware (obj. #2035) were also found on this surface. This locus no doubt was a floor to a room associated with Wall 126 on the west side of Wall 111/L.2 before Wall 111/L.2 was constructed after 11 CE. Fig. #6 shows possible evidence of this floor protruding out from under the later Roman-era Wall 111/L.2.

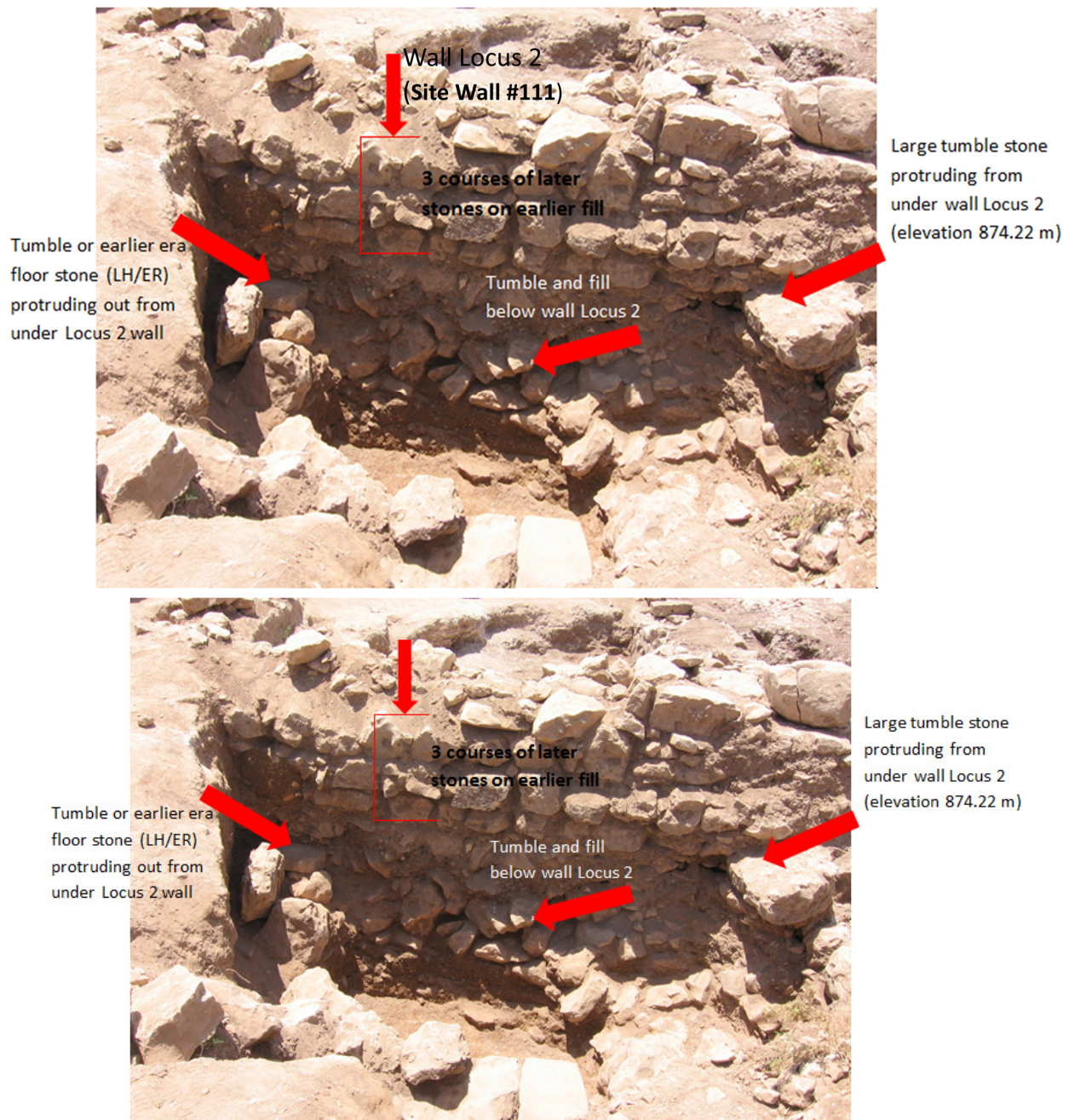


Figure 28: P22 Roman-era wall Locus 2 built on tumble/fill (photo by Brian Peterson).

13. Architectural Locus: Wall 127 is 0.5 m wide and 3–4 courses high (incomplete excavation). As of now, the purpose of Wall 127/L.13 remains unknown (see Figs. #7, 8, 10, and 11). The top elevation ranges from 874.22 m to 873.55 m. The bottom of the wall is not yet excavated and appears to run parallel with and extend under Wall 126/L.8 (see Fig. #7). It may be part of the MB III/LB I wall which appears to continue west under the Roman-era Wall 111/L.2 (see Fig. #14 Top Plan B). The pottery beside Wall 127/L.13 (i.e., in L.11) dates to the earliest periods of site occupation.

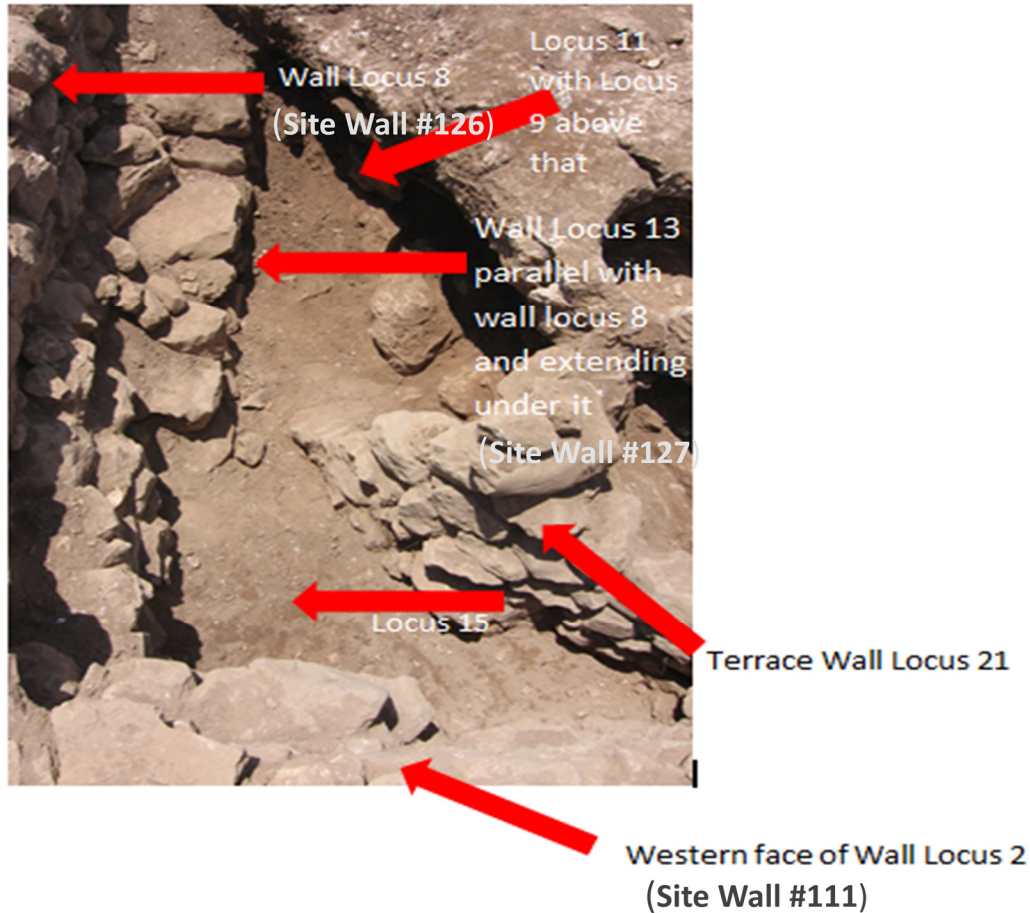


Figure 29: P22 Looking from West with Wall Locus 13 and terrace Wall 21 revealed (photo by Brian Peterson).

14. Earth Locus: (Munsell no. 7.5yr 3.2) L.14 is under L.12 and is the most complicated of all the loci in P22. Once the harder packed matrix of L.12 was removed, another level of tumble and mixed debris was encountered (see Fig. #8), which averaged about 0.53 m deep.



Locus 14 consisting of heavier
tumble below Locus 12

Figure 30: Locus 14 tumble below Locus 12 (photo by Brian Peterson).

Another reason for the change of locus was the change in pottery below L.12. Below L.12 the pottery was predominately IA or earlier. As the tumble and fill were cleared, on the east side of the locus a possible wall emerged running SW to NE. Because of initial uncertainty of whether this was a wall (or whether it was merely tumble) the same locus was maintained for both sides of the aligned stones. After a second course of stones were unearthed, the wall was assigned the designation Wall 128/L.16. By that point, a Psamtik scarab (object #2312) had been found on the east side of Wall 128/L.16. Because the pottery was the same on both sides of Wall 128 and due to the fact that both sides of Wall 128 clearly formed a continuous fill, the entire area was kept as L.14. However, this locus was later divided into three phases: 14A, 14B, and 14C (see Elevation A-A Cutaway Fig. 13). Another complication with this locus came when intermittent ash pockets/layers were encountered as the elevation of the locus was lowered. With the motive of leaving as many stones in place as possible in case it was another wall or floor, small probes were dug in the central part of L.14. It was not until a clear floor line was determined (L.17B) that an abandonment level and an ashy destruction phase under Wall 128/L.16 and above floor L.17B could be clearly seen. L.14A (elevation 873.75–873.40 m) thus was assigned to the tumble of the IA IIC period representing an abandonment level ca. 587–290 BC. L.14B (873.40 m) was assigned to the floor level of the IA IIC ca. 701–587 BC. On this floor level, the Psamtik scarab (ca. 6th century BC) was found at a level of 873.43 m just above the abandonment phase (L.14C 873.40–873.26 m). Along with the scarab a number of beads (objects #2259, 2260, 2261), a set of tweezers (object #2258), and a few sling stones were also found. L. 14B may represent evidence of Judah's destruction by the Babylonians ca. 587 BC. Finally, 14C represents the abandonment phase prior to the construction of Wall 128/L.16. It seems appropriate to date the abandonment phase of 14C between IA I and the beginning of IA IIC ca. 1173–701 BC. This 0.14 m-thick abandonment phase

of L.14C extended eastward under the bottom of Wall 128/L.16. The bottom elevation of Wall 128/L.16 is 873.40 m and the bottom elevation of the abandonment phase of L.14C is 873.26 m.

Just below L.14C was an ashy layer of soil, assigned L.17A (elevation 873.26–873.22 m). In Fig. #13 L.17A is shown as roughly 0.04 m thick, even though in spots it extended above and below the floor line. In one area of floor L.17B (at about location 29) it looks as though someone in antiquity did some probing thus mixing the soil and making the ashy level approximately 0.20 m deep (see more on this under the explanation of L.17 below). Within this ashy soil and at, or just below, the floor line of L.17B (873.22) several sling stones (objects #2281 [see Fig. #9], 2360, 2359, 2355), a grinding stone (object #2283), a weight (object #2287), and possibly a spear point (object #2368 from sift) were found. This seems to indicate the destruction level at the floor line of this earlier phase (see more below under L.17).



Figure 31: P22 Locus 14 Showing an in situ sling stone (object #2281 at 873.24) and base to a jug in destruction phase L.14B and under the edge of the Iron Age wall (L.16) (photo by Brian Peterson).

15. Earth Locus: (Munsell no. 7.5yr 3.4) L.15 is a sealed locus that was assigned after the removal of the megalithic Stone A (see Fig. 12 Top Plan A and Figs. #4, 7, and 10). This locus is to the north of Wall 126/L.8 and west of Wall 111/L.2. The top elevation is 847.56 m with a lower elevation yet to be determined (1.06 m in depth has been removed thus far). This small locus is rich

with LH/ER pottery (and random MB III sherds) and coins. On the last day of the season, several pieces of LB I and IA pottery was registered from pail 55 and may indicate the need for a new locus to be assigned. In support of the change in locus is the fact that at the lowest levels reached on the last day a sling stone was found at 873.50 m, which is close to the abandonment level (L.14A) of L.14 on the east side of Wall 111/L.2. In L.14A a sling stone was found at the elevation of 873.45 m (see object. #2237).



Figure 32: P22 Loci 11, 15, and monolithic stone (photo Brian Peterson).

16. Architectural Locus: Wall 128 is 0.5 m wide and is 2–3 courses high. L.16/W.128 was assigned to the wall oriented in a SW to a NE direction that divided L.14 (see discussion above under L.14 and Figs. #1, 11, and 12). The top elevation is 873.80 m (avg.) with a bottom elevation of 873.40 m (avg.). It is a one-stone-wide wall typical of the IA walls found throughout the site. Based upon the discovery of the Psamtik scarab beside this wall, this wall may be from the Late IA II/III era. The wall is not built on bedrock but rather is built on the abandonment level material (L.14C see Fig. #13 Elevation A Cutaway). Wall 128/L.16 abuts Wall 129/L.19 (possibly the inside face of the MB III/LB I wall) to the north and the bedrock face/wall on the south.

17. Earth Locus: (Munsell no. 7.5yr 3.2) L.17 is below L.14. It was difficult to determine whether to make this an architectural locus because it appears to be the floor from either the IA I or earlier. Even though there were a few clearly aligned stones in the northeastern end of the locus (see Figs. #11 and 12 Top Plan A), in the central part of the locus there appears to have been some digging done in antiquity that disturbed the floor line. It is possible that the megalithic Stones A and B above L.15 may in fact be in secondary use from this floor line. The thickness of Stones A and B are very similar to the thickness of the stones at this floor level (0.16–0.20 m thick). Also, the stones had copious soil packed around them that had LB I pottery in it (see reading for pottery pail

52). Due to the uncertainty at the time and the heavy soil associated with the locus, the earth locus designation was assigned. After further examination, it appears that L.17 should be subdivided into L.17A and L.17B. L.17A (elevation 873.26–873.22 m) would represent the thin ashy layer on top of the stone floor, which was assigned L.17B (873.22 m).

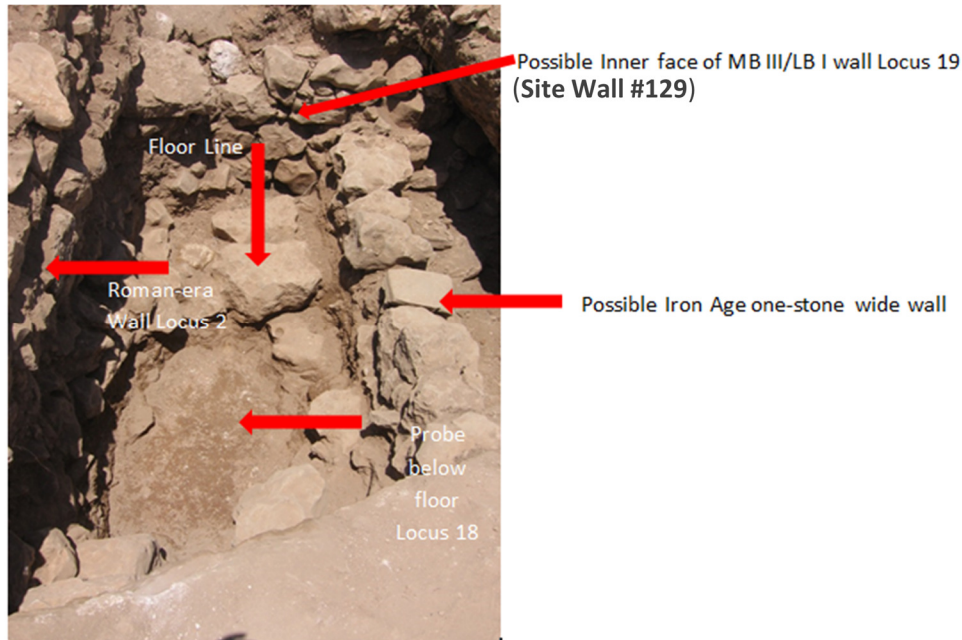


Figure 33: P22 East of Wall 111/L.2 looking north showing Iron Age wall, MB III/LB I floor, probe below floor, Roman-era Wall 111/L.2, possible inner face of MB III/LB I wall (photo by Brian Peterson).

18. Earth Locus: (Munsell no. 7.5yr 3.2) L.18 is a probe below floor L.17B that was started at the end of day 14 and continued for the final day of the dig (see Figs. #11, 13, and 14 Top Plan B). The central part of floor L.17B seemed to have been dug through in antiquity thus causing a mixture of IA I, LB I, and MB III pottery to be found below the floor line (see pail 56 readings). Also, three sling stones (objects #2355, 2407, 2411), a piece of worked flint (object #2471), and a grinder (object #2418) were found, which again may point to some disturbance in the floor in antiquity (perhaps to remove one or both of megalithic Stones A and B). This is an incomplete probe that will eventually reach bedrock; it was excavated to a level of 872.63 m (see Fig. #13).

19. Architectural Locus: Wall 129 is 3–4 courses high, but the width is yet to be determined. On the second to the last day, the team revealed what appears to be the inner face of the MB III/LB I wall (see proposed wall line in Top Plan B Fig. #14). Although there was not time to excavate the width of it or its full depth, it is clearly a wall (see Figs. #1 and 11). It abuts the subterranean wall of bedrock to the SE and continues northwestward under Wall 111/L.2. The top elevation varies from 874.25 m to 873.95 m. The bottom has not been determined, but floor L.17B seals against it on the NE. Two pieces of LB I pottery were found at the intersection of Wall 129/L.19 and floor L.17B (see pail 52 reading). NOTE: The one piece of LH/ER pottery in pail 52 appears to have

been contamination falling down from the top of Wall 129/L.19 where there was copious pottery from that era.

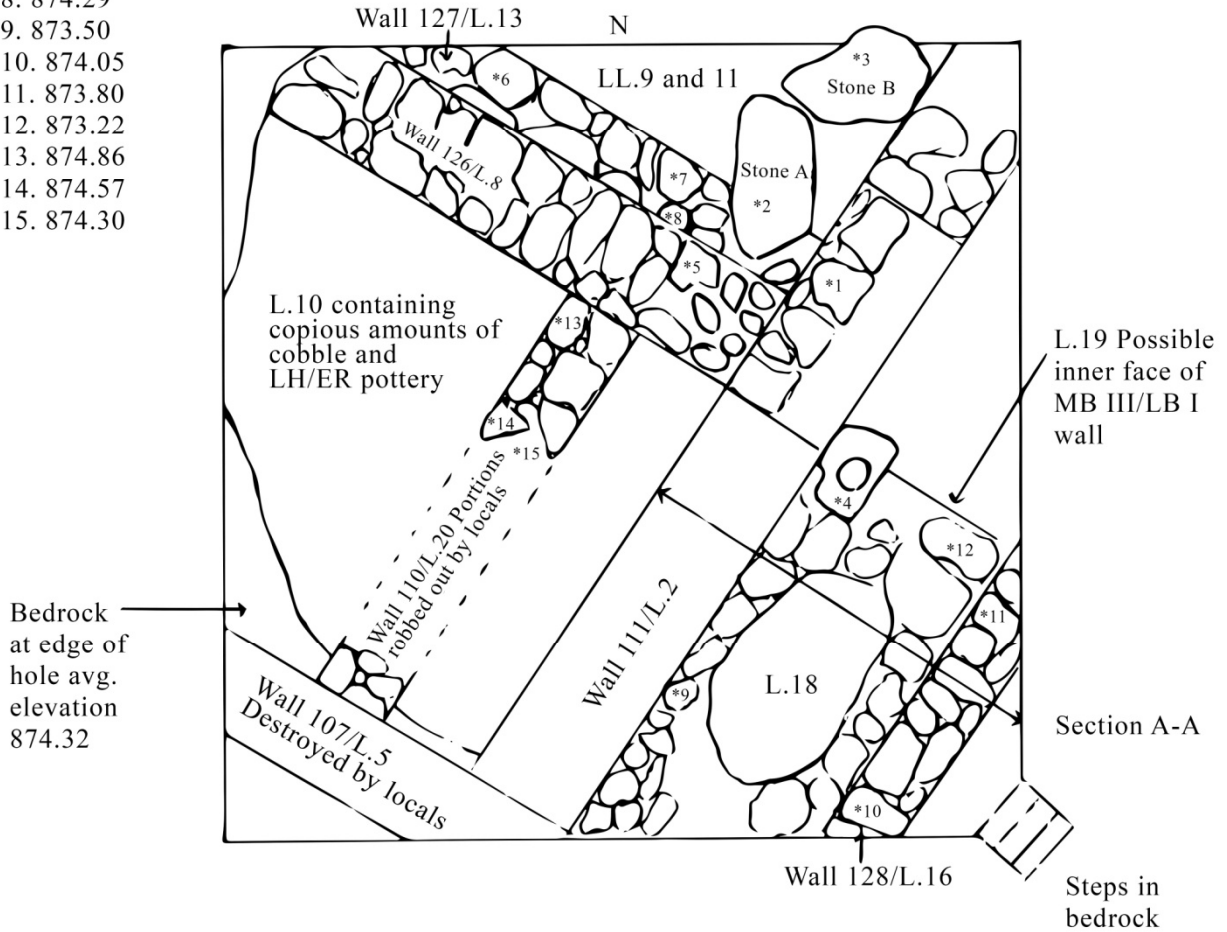
20. Architectural Locus: Wall 110 (south end identified last year) is 0.6 m wide and is 1–3 courses high. Wall 110/L.20 abuts Wall 126/L.8 and runs parallel with Wall 111/L.2, which is about 0.75 m to the east (see Figs. #1 and 5). Wall 110/L.20 is built on top of fill and not bedrock. The wall ranges from 1–3 courses in height and is a two-stone-wide wall (0.6 m) made of unhewn stones with cobble chinks. The highest top elevation is 874.86 m and the bottom elevation is roughly 874.30 m. The purpose of this wall was unclear until compared to the top plan from 2014 (see Fig. #15 Top Plan C 2014). On that plan a possible “pilaster” (Wall 110) abutting Wall 107/L.5 on the southern end of the square was noted. The distance between that “pilaster” and Wall 111/L.2 along with the width of the “pilaster” was a perfect match for Wall 110/L.20. What was excavated last season was the southern end of Wall 110/L.20. The locals have since destroyed that southern portion and everything in between, but it is still included and plotted on this year’s Top Plan A (see Fig. #12). It shows how this wall would have formed a complete wall between Wall 107/L.5 and Wall 126/L.8. As with Wall 126/L.8, Wall 110/L.20 was taken down to floor level late in the ER period, and a flagstone floor placed over it. Wall 110/L.20 and Wall 126/L.8 must have been built at different times during in the LH/ER period. Wall 126 may have been built ca. 290 BC and Wall 110 may have been built on top of debris from the 64 BC regional earthquake.

21. Installation Locus: L.21 could be an architectural locus (wall), but is better seen as a terrace wall associated with the bedrock installation L.10 in Q22 (see Fig. #14 Top Plan B; top elev. 874.50 m). L.21 terrace wall extended down beside the bedrock edge on the south side into the hole that covers the majority of P22. This terrace wall may have been used to level off the area to the south around the installation L.10 in the bedrock in Q22 and to carry the weight of the megalithic Stones A and B, which were situated over the top of this “wall.” This is just a theory and will need to be substantiated by complete excavations of the locus next season.

Top Plan 2015 P22 Scale 1:50 Field B

Elevations

1. 875.00
2. 874.70
3. 874.77
4. 874.95
5. 874.88
6. 874.22
7. 878.55
8. 874.29
9. 873.50
10. 874.05
11. 873.80
12. 873.22
13. 874.86
14. 874.57
15. 874.30



Stone A 1.32 m long x 0.61 m wide x 0.14 m thick
 Stone B 1.1 m long x 0.75 m wide x 0.14 m thick

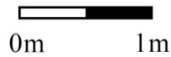
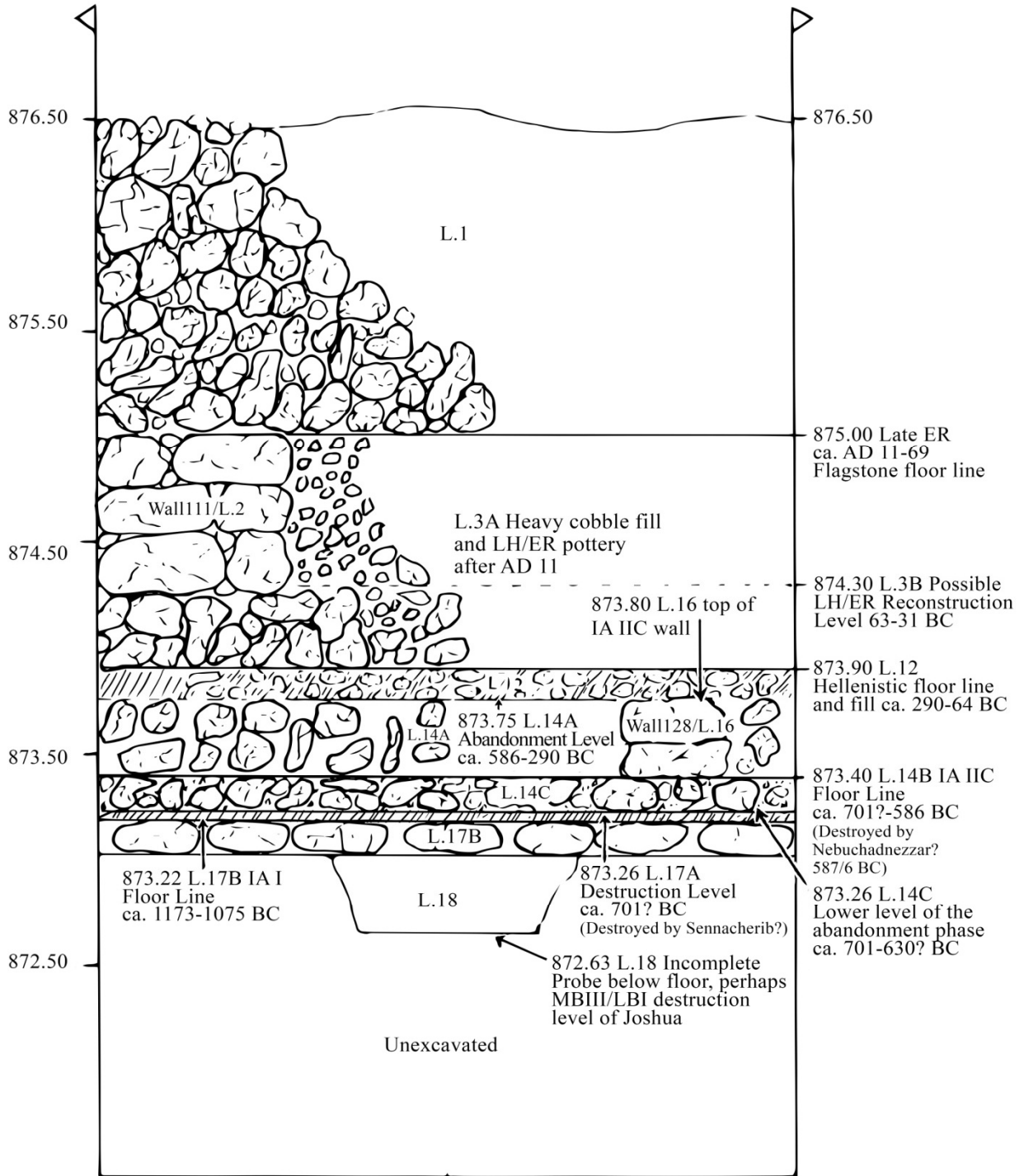
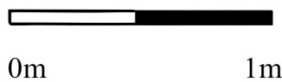


Figure 34: P22 Top Plan A.



Field B, Square P22, Section A-A



N

Figure 35: P22 Elevation A Cutaway.

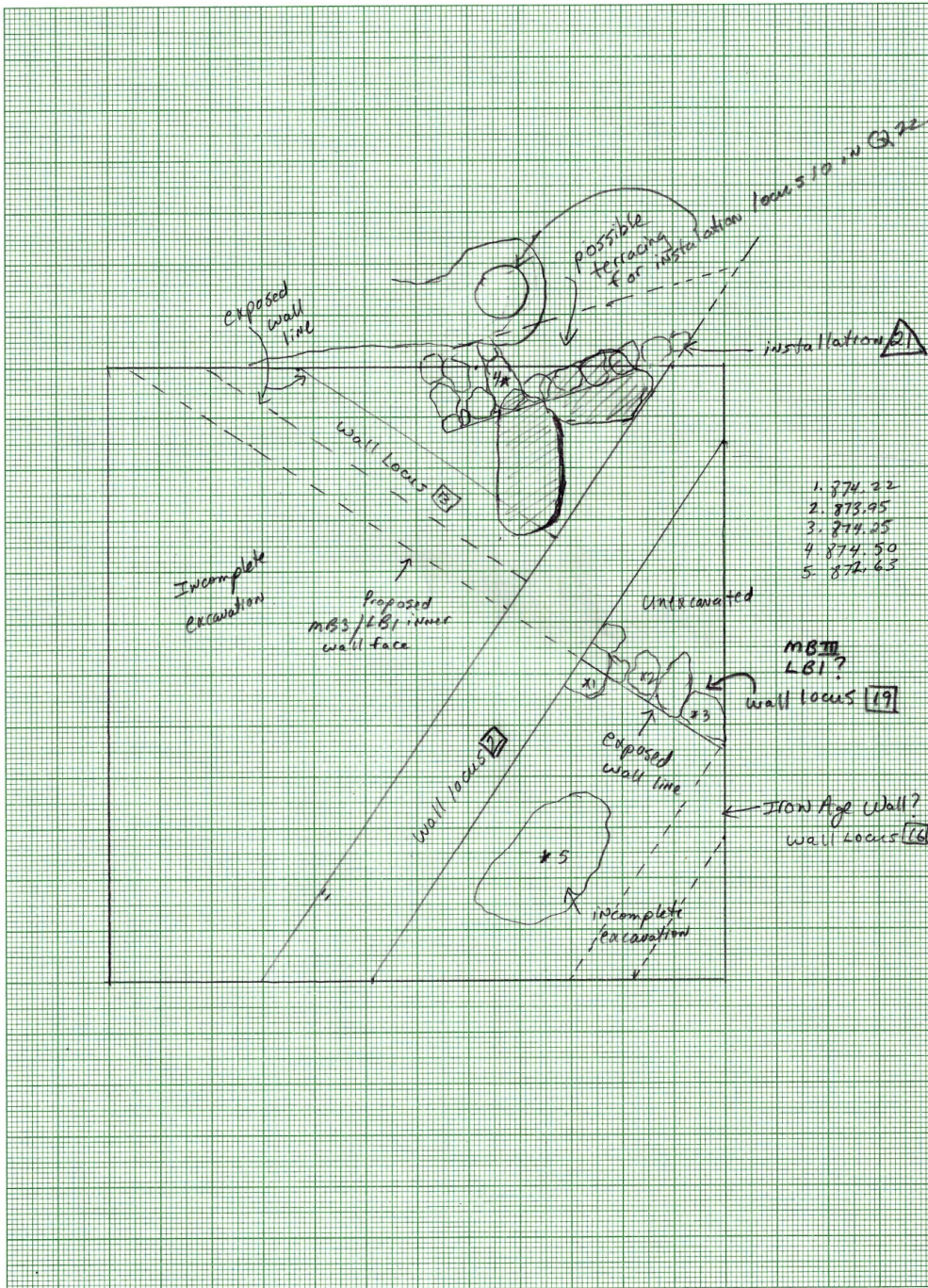


Figure 36: P22 Top Plan B.

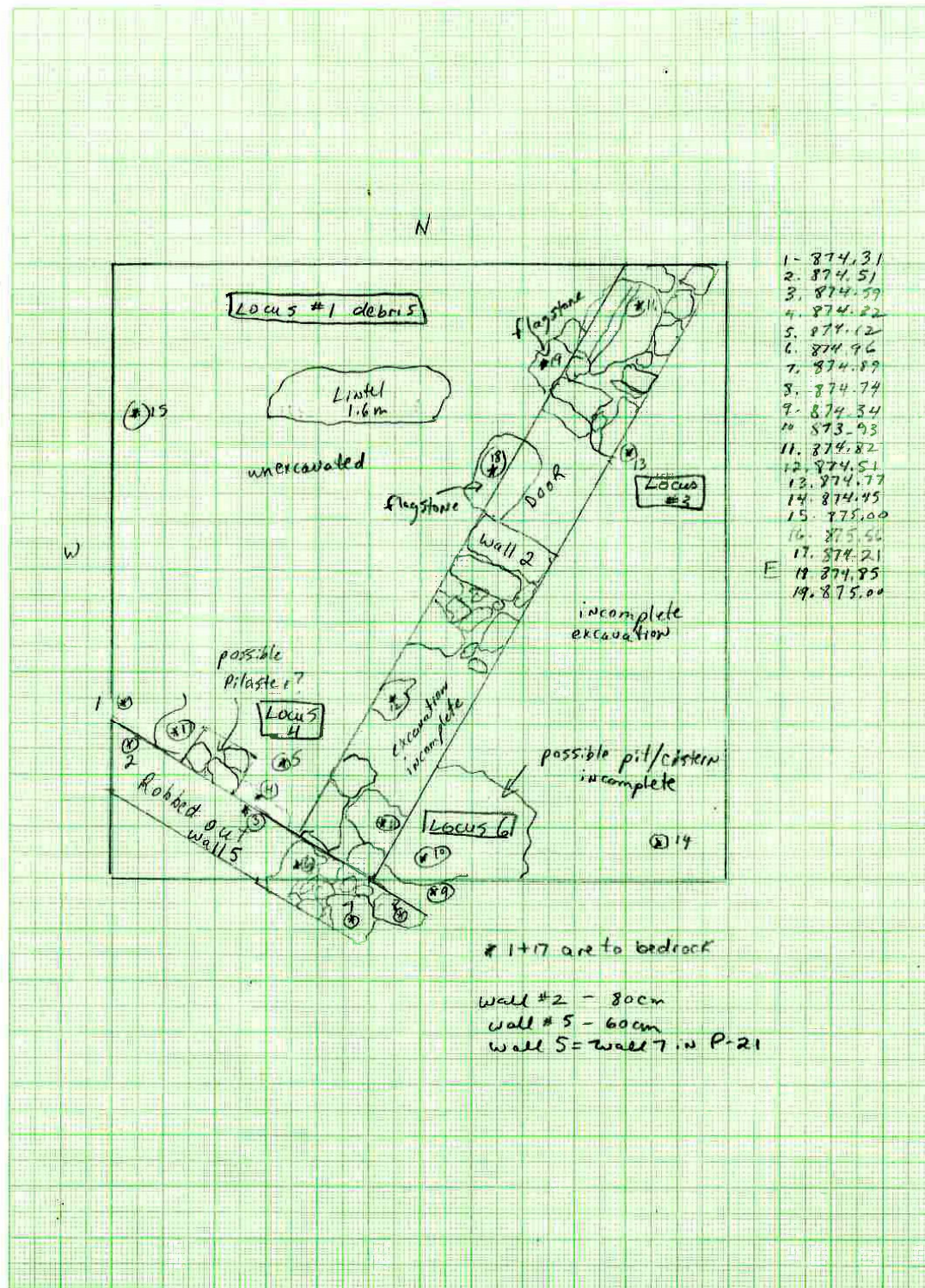


Figure 37: Top Plan C 2014.

Objects for P22

Reg #	Object	Date	Locus	Pail
1864	Geometric Paver	25 May	1	14
1865	Stoneware	25 May	1	14a
1866	Sling Stone	25 May	1	14
1867	Loom Weight	25 May	1	14a
1868	Stoneware	25 May	1	14
1885	Sling Stone	26 May	1	16
1886	Sling Stone	26 May	1	16
1887	Coin	26 May	1	16
1889	Loom Weight	28 May	7	17
1890	Grinder	26 May	1	16
1892	Sling Stone	27 May	1	18
1900	Coin	27 May	1	18
1901	Coin	27 May	1	18
1906	Coin	25 May	1	14
1908	Coin	25 May	1	14
1910	Coin	25 May	4	15
1923	Jar Stopper	28 May	1	21
1924	Jar Stopper	28 May	1	21
1925	Nail	28 May	1	21
1926	Stoneware	28 May	1	21
1927	Stoneware	28 May	1	21
1929	Coin	28 May	1	21
1930	Coin	28 May	1	21
1931	Coin	28 May	1	21
1932	Coin	28 May	8	20
1933	Coin	28 May	1	21
1945	Stoneware	29 May	3	25
1951	Stoneware	29 May	1	23
1962	Sling Stone	2 June	1	30
1977	Sling Stone	2 June	9	32
1994	Coin	29 May	3	25
1997	Coin	29 May	3	25
1998	Coin	29 May	1	23
2029	Coin	1 June	8	29
2031	Coin	1 June	3	27
2032	Coin	1 June	9	28
2041	Coin	1 June	3	27
2078	Bracelet	2 June	1	26
2082	Stoneware	2 June	1	30
2083	Grinder	2 June	1	30
2084	Socket Stone?	2 June	3	25
2085	Coin	2 June	9	32
2086	Coin	2 June	3	30

Reg #	Object	Date	Locus	Pail
2087	Coin	2 June	3	30
2112	Decorated Sherd	1 June	9	28
2119	Worked Stone	3 June	11	35
2125	Coin	3 June	3	33
2126	Coin	3 June	3	33
2127	Coin	3 June	3	33
2128	Coin	3 June	3	33
2129	Coin	3 June	3	33
2130	Coin	3 June	3	33
2131	Coin	3 June	3	33
2132	Coin	3 June	3	33
2133	Coin	3 June	3	33
2177	Sling Stone	4 June	3	37
2178	Large Coin	4 June	11	36
2179	Bead	4 June	11	36
2180	Coin	4 June	3	37
2181	Coin	4 June	3	37
2182	Coin	4 June	11	36
2183	Coin	4 June	11	36
2184	Coin	4 June	11	36
2185	Coin	4 June	12	38
2187	Ceramic ware	3 June	3	33
2205	Ear ring	5 June	12	40
2228	Coin	5 June	12	40
2229	Coin	5 June	12	40
2230	Coin	5 June	11	36
2231	Coin	5 June	12	40
2235	Glassware	10 June	12	48
2237	Sling Stone	8 June	14	42
2257	Loom Weight	8 June	14	42
2258	Tweezers	8 June	14	42
2259	Bead	8 June	14	42
2260	Bead	8 June	14	42
2261	Bead	8 June	14	42
2278	Coin	8 June	14	42
2281	Sling Stone	9 June	14	43
2283	Grinder	9 June	14	43
2287	Weight	9 June	14	43
2308	Bead	9 June	14	43
2312	Scarab	9 June	14	43
2328	Roof Tile	8 June	14	42
2329	Stone Ring	8 June	14	42
2348	Coin	10 June	15	47
2349	Coin	10 June	15	47

Reg #	Object	Date	Locus	Pail
2350	Coin	10 June	15	47
2351	Coin	10 June	15	47
2355	Sling Stone	11 June	18	53
2359	Sling Stone	11 June	14	46
2360	Sling Stone	11 June	14	46
2361	Sling Stone	11 June	10	49
2367	Lead Weight?	11 June	15	51
2368	Spear Point	11 June	14	50
2400	Coin	11 June	15	51
2401	Coin	11 June	15	51
2402	Coin	11 June	15	51
2403	Coin	11 June	15	51
2404	Coin	11 June	15	51
2405	Coin	11 June	15	51
2407	Sling Stone	12 June	18	56
2411	Sling Stone	12 June	18	56
2412	Sling Stone	12 June	15	55
2413	Pounder	12 June	15	55
2417	Stoneware	11 June	10	49
2418	Grinder	12 June	18	56
2422	Tool	12 June	15	55
2447	Coin	12 June	15	55
2448	Coin	12 June	15	55
2449	Coin	12 June	15	55
2450	Coin	12 June	15	55
2455	Jar Handle	12 June	10	54
2456	MB III Strainer	12 June	17	52
2457	Imported Ware	12 June	15	51
2467	Nail	29 May	9	22
2468	Nail	29 May	9	22
2469	Nail	29 May	9	22
2470	Bone Tool	29 May	9	22
2471	Flint Tool	12 June	18	56

Pottery Pails for P22

Pail	Date	Locus	Reading	Saved
14	25 May	1	1 MB III/LB I; 2 LB I (refired); 1 IA I; 68 LH/ER	74
15	25 May	10	2 MB III/LB I; 53 LH/ER	13
16	26 May	1	9 MB III/LB I (6 refired); 3 IA I/IIA; 233	83

Pail	Date	Locus	Reading	Saved
			LH/ER	
17	26 May	7	1 LH/ER	1
18	27 May	1	5 LB I (refired); 4 IA I; 150 LH/ER	76
19	27 May	8	2 MB III/LB I; 2 IA I	0
20	28 May	8	No pottery	0
21	28 May	1	10 MB III/LB I (3 refired); 3 IA I; 184 LH/ER	81
22	29 May	9	3 MB III/LB I (2 refired); 2 IA I; 112 LH/ER	31
23	29 May	1	1 LB I (refired); 80 LH/ER	26
24	29 May	10	Did not use	0
25	29 May	3	3 LB I (refired); 1 IA I/IIA; 99 LH/ER	32
26	29 May	8	1 LB I; 13 LH/ER	8
26a	1 June	1	13 LB IB (refired); 4 IA I; 1 IA I/IIA; 88 LH/ER	22
27	1 June	3	1 MB III/LB I; 3 LB I (refired); 87 LH/ER	40
28	1 June	9	2 MB III/LB I; 1 IA I; 20 LH/ER	5
29	1 June	8	No pottery	0
30	2 June	1	1 MB III; 1 IA I; 18 LH/ER	9
31	2 June	3	2 MB III/LB I; 2 IA I; 155 LH/ER	50
32	2 June	9	3 MB III/LB I; 3 IA I; 21 LH/ER	12
33	3 June	3	1 MB III; 1 MB III/LB I (refired); 1 IA I; 260 LH/ER	88
34	3 June	9	2 LB IB (refired); 8 LH/ER	1
35	3 June	11	4 LB IB (refired); 2 IA I/IIA; 2 LH/ER	4
36	4 June	11	2 MB III/LB I; 5 LB I (refired); 2 IA I; 12 LH/ER	9
37	4 June	3	1 MB III/LB I; 4 LB I (refired); 1 IA IIA; 74 LH/ER	34
38	4 June	12	4 LB IB (refired); 1 IA	20

Pail	Date	Locus	Reading	Saved
			I; 32 LH/ER	
39	5 June	11	7 LB IB (refired); 2 IA I/IIA; 1 UD	5
40	5 June	12	1 MB III/LB I; 4 LB IB (refired); 2 IA I; 61 LH/ER	27
41	5 June	14	14 LB IB (refired); 2 IA I; 1 IA I/IIA; 1 LH/ER	12
42	8 June	14	1 MB III/LB I; 6 LB IB (refired); 15 IA I; 29 LH/ER	28
43	9 June	14	1 MB III; 8 LB IB; 2 IA I; 17 LH/ER	16
44	9 June	1	7 LH/ER	2
45	9 June	15	1 MB III/LB I; 5 LH/ER	1
46	10 June	14	2 MB III/LB I; 10 LB I (refired); 4 IA I; 14 LH/ER	13
47	10 June	15	1 LB I; 50 LH/ER	19
48	10 June	12	2 LB IB; 1 IA I; 21 LH/ER	14
49	11 June	10	1 MB III; 7 LB IB; 1 IA I; 70 LH/ER	38
50	11 June	14	3 LB IB; 1 IA I/IIA; 5 LH/ER	4
51	11 June	15	2 IA I; 41 LH/ER	21
52	11 June	17	4 LB IB; 1 LH/ER	3
53	11 June	18	1 LB IB	1
54	12 June	10	21 LB IB; 1 IA I; 1 IA I/IIA; 72 LH/ER	50
55	12 June	15	1 MB III; 4 LB IB; 1 IA I/IIA; 21 LH/ER	4
56	12 June	18	1 MB III; 7 LB IB; 12 IA I; 1 IA I/IIA	13

Photographs for P22

Number	File Name	Description
P-027	KeM 2015-06-12 P-027	P22 looking north showing wall loci 2, 8, 16, 19, 20, 21
P-028	KeM 2015-06-12 P-028	P22 looking south showing loci 4, 10, 13, 15
P-002	KeM 2015-06-12 P-002	P22 looking north showing loci on east side

Number	File Name	Description
		of Wall 111/ L.2

Square Q10, 25-27 May (Boyd SeEVERS, Square Supervisor and Donald McNeeley, Assistant Square Supervisor)

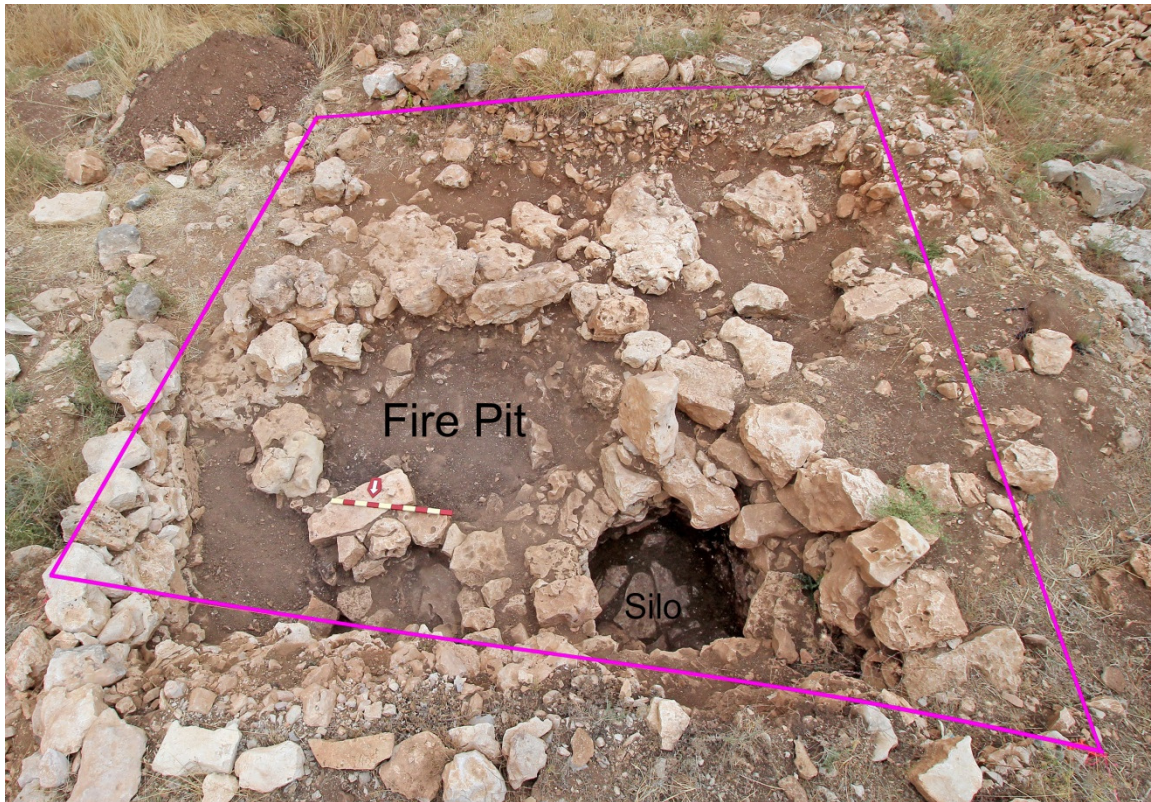


Figure 38: Square Q10 Final Photo (photo by Michael C. Luddeni).

Overview

Square Q10 was started in 2012 by Gary Byers with assistance from Steven Rudd, continued in 2013-14 by Gary Byers, and completed in 2015 by Boyd SeEVERS with assistance from Don McNeeley. Only the northern half of the square, which included two silos (L.25 and L.26), needed to be finished in 2015.

Q10 seems to basically frame an IA I housing unit, with the far northern end of the home continuing into R10. The home, roughly 5 x 5 m, had been built largely in what had been the interior fill of the MB/LB city wall, using the MB/LB outer wall (Wall 56A, uncovered in R10) as the northern wall of the house. In addition to the basic structure of the home, a rough line of stones to the south (Wall 63), previously excavated and later

destroyed by vandals (thus not in Figure 38), may have served as a partition, perhaps for livestock.

The home had two stone-lined silos on the north (see photo above). The smaller, shallower silo (L.25) was cylindrical, with a volume of 0.15 m^3 , and was built on bedrock. The much larger, barrel-shaped silo (L.26) had a volume of 2.57 m^3 and a flagstone floor. The northern side of the larger silo cut well into the line of the MB/LB outer wall in R10, almost to the wall's outer line. Neither silo yielded significant finds in 2015.

Assuming that the silos held grain, how many people could the grain have fed? If one assumes that a person consumed 200 kg of grain/year (Finkelstein, *The Archaeology of the Israelite Settlement*. Jerusalem: 1988, p. 268) and 1 m^3 holds ca. 770 kg of wheat (Finkelstein, *Izbet Sartah. BAR International Series 299*. Oxford: 1986, p. 172), then a person would need 0.26 m^3 grain/year. To this one should add 30% for spoilage and seed requirements for the following year (Finkelstein, *Izbet Sartah*, p. 173), $0.26 \text{ m}^3 + 0.08 \text{ m}^3 = 0.34 \text{ m}^3$ grain/person. Thus, the two silos together ($2.57 \text{ m}^3 + 0.15 \text{ m}^3 = 2.72 \text{ m}^3 / 0.34 \text{ m}^3 = 8$) would have held enough grain to feed eight people for one year, assuming the silos were full.

The large earth locus (L.32) abutting the silos to the south may have served as the courtyard for the home. The locus included several groupings of sherds from large storage vessels (see Figure 38). An area of darkened earth (L.33) in the courtyard abutting the silos appeared to have been a fire pit. The top of the fire pit was presumed to be the floor level of the courtyard (elevation 877.1 m), which lay just below the top of the silos; however, the earth was not packed well enough to confirm that.

Q10 Loci Details

25. Installation Locus – Silo (L.25) was the small stone-lined silo east of larger Silo (L.26). Silo (L.25) was 1-boulder wide on the west, 1-cobble wide on the east, and an average of 0.63 m in diameter. It was excavated to bedrock for a total depth of 0.48 m, making its volume ca. 0.15 m^3 . It yielded only a few MB III and IA I sherds and no significant finds.

26. Installation Locus – Silo (L.26) was the large, stone-lined silo in the NE corner of Q10, defined by boulders just above the apparent floor level of the home (elevation 877.1 m). Silo (L.26) was barrel-shaped, with average diameters of 1.23 m at the surface, 1.51 m in the center, and 1.19 m at the bottom. It was 1.5 m deep, making a volume of ca. 2.57 m^3 . The silo was excavated to its floor, paved with flagstones (see photo above and drawing below). The silo contained a number of IA I sherds, some bone and tooth fragments, but no objects of significance.

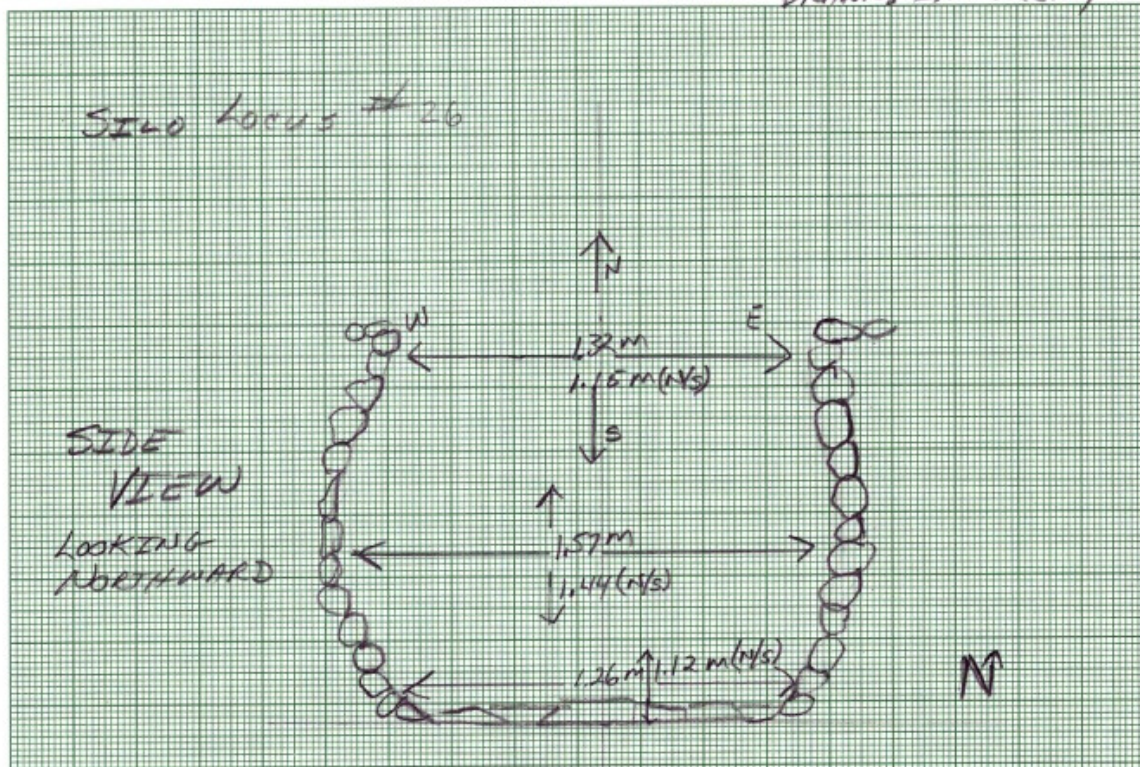


Figure 39: Q10 – Silo 26, side view (by Don McNealey; scale 1:20).

32. Earth Locus – This large locus (3.2 m X 1.9 m) immediately south of the two silos may have served as the courtyard of the home. The earth was a hard-packed silt and clay mix that contained large tumble, a few MB III sherds, and some bones. It was excavated ca. 0.77 m to the bottom level of L.33, the apparent fire pit.

33. Earth Locus – L.33 was apparently a fire pit, beginning at elevation 877.1, underneath the northern part of L.32, where the two silos meet (see photo above). L.33 was roughly oval-shaped, 1.09 m x 0.44 m, and 1.0 - 2.5 cm deep. It was marked by distinctly darkened (Munsell 10YR3/2) and hard packed soil. L.33 contained only a few MB III sherds at its edges.

34. Earth Locus – L.34 lay underneath L.32 and L.33, with a depth of 2-10 cm before reaching bedrock. The earth was hard-packed clay with pockets of brown loam, mixed with a few cobbles. The earth contained some bone fragments and teeth, and several of groupings of IA I sherds from storage jars (see photo), though not enough to restore.



Figure 40: Q10 Groupings of body sherds in situ (L.34) (photo by Michael C. Luddeni).

35. Earth Locus – L.35 was the L-shaped earthen locus in the NE corner of Q10, abutting L.36 (Wall 75) on the east and Silo (L.25) on the west. It lay under L.18 and reached bedrock at an average depth of 0.34 m. The earth was hard-packed and contained one MB III sherd as well as a few bones and teeth.

36. Architectural Locus – L.36 (Wall 75) was the N-S wall on the eastern side of Q10 that apparently formed the eastern wall of the IA I home in Q10. It connected to Wall 56B in Q10 and continued into R10, where it was preserved to its greatest height.

37. Architectural Locus – L.37 (Wall 61) was the N-S wall on the western side of Q10 that apparently formed the western wall of the IA I home in Q10. It abutted the western side of Silo (L.26) and connected Wall 56A (the northern wall of the home) to Wall 62 at the southern side of the courtyard.

Objects for Q10

No objects were recorded in 2015 for Q10.

Pottery Pails for Q10

Pail	Date	Locus	Reading	Saved
59	25 May	25	1 MB III, 1 IA I	2

Pail	Date	Locus	Reading	Saved
60	25 May	26	No diagnostics; 2 body sherds re-fired	0
61	25 May	32	1 MB III	0
62	25 May	33	No diagnostics	0
63	26 May	33	2 MB III	1
64	26 May	32	Not used	-
65	26 May	26	Most/all appear to be IA I; 6 bone & tooth	4
66	26 May	34	5 IA I	0
67	27 May	26	1 IA I	0
68	27 May	34	13 IA I	3
69	27 May	35	1 MB III	1
70	27 May	Surface	1 IA I	1

Photos for Q10

Number	File Name	Description
P-010	2015-05-26-P- 010	Q10 End week
C-052	2015-05-26-C-052	Q10 Pottery sherds in situ
P-002	2015-05-28-P-002	Q10 Final

Square Q22, 8-12 June (Abigail Leavitt, Square Supervisor and Destry Jackson, Assistant Square Supervisor)



Figure 41: Q22 Final Photo (photo by Michael C. Luddeni).

Overview

A 6 x 3 m probe trench was excavated in the southern half of square Q22. Very little architecture was found in this area. One small installation was discovered. The bedrock was jagged, but fairly consistent in elevation in most of the area. It dropped off sharply approximately 30 cm from the southern edge of the square. The pottery in Q22 included MBIII/LBI, LB Ib, IAI, IA II, and LH/ER.

Q22 Loci Details

1. Earth Locus – L.1 was the surface debris within square Q22. It was 20 cm deep, with a top elevation of 874.83 and a bottom elevation of 874.63. The Munsell reading was 10 YR 5/4. A great deal of pottery was found in this locus, with the vast majority being from the LH/ER period.

2. Earth Locus – L.2 was the soil beneath L.1 in the SE quadrant of the square. It contained heavy tumble mixed with loose, light colored soil with a Munsell reading of 10 YR 4/4. L.2 was 3 x 3 m, and 32 cm deep. The majority of the pottery in this locus was LH/ER. Four coins were also discovered.

3. Earth Locus – L.3 was the soil beneath L.1 in the SW quadrant of the square. It was 3 x 3 m, and 37 cm deep, with a top elevation of 874.70 and a bottom elevation of 874.33. The soil was hard packed brown earth (Munsell 10 YR 4/3). Quantities of LH/ER pottery were found, as well as 6 coins.

4. Earth Locus - L.4 was the earth within installation L.10. It was 60 cm in diameter and 52 cm deep. The top elevation was 874.21, and the bottom elevation was 873.68. The Munsell reading was 10 YR 3/4. The soil was loose and moist and contained small and medium stones.

5. Earth Locus – L.5 was layer of dark, firm soil directly above bedrock in the SW quadrant of the square, beneath L.3. The Munsell reading was 10 YR 4/3. Small, medium and large stones were found in this locus. It was 3 x 3 m, and 15 cm deep. The top elevation was 874.33, and the bottom elevation was 874.18. 2 coins and a possible weight stone were found.

6. Earth Locus – L.6 was beneath L.2 and directly above bedrock in the SE quadrant of the square. The Munsell reading was 10 YR 3/3. It was 64 cm deep, with a top elevation of 874.29 and a bottom elevation of 873.65. This locus was equal to L.15 in square P22. A sling stone and a bronze axe-head were found in location 35, on the very southern edge of the square, next to P22.

7. Earth Locus – L.7 was the soil layer beneath the surface debris in the NW quadrant of the square. It was loose, dry reddish brown soil with a Munsell reading of 10 YR 3/4. The top and bottom elevations, respectively, were 874.92 and 874.52, for a depth of 40 cm. Large, tumbled stones were found in this locus, as well as small and medium stones. Most of the pottery in this locus was LH/ER, and included 3 punctured potsherds.

8. Earth Locus – L.8 was the soil beneath the bedrock ledge on the southern edge of the square. It was 2.25 m x 30 cm, and 1.03 m deep. The soil was dark yellowish brown, and the Munsell reading

was 10 YR 3/4. Primarily LB Ib pottery was found in this locus, along with one sling-stone. This locus is within the deep pit that makes up square P22.

9. Architectural Locus – L.9 (=Wall 130) is a wall in the SE corner of the square. It was discovered under the large, flat stone removed from above L.15 in square P22. The excavated portion of L.9 is 50 cm long, 45 cm wide, and 43 cm high. 3 courses are visible. The top elevation is 874.08, and the bottom elevation is 873.65. Pottery removed from the wall dates to IA I and IA I-IIa.

10. Installation Locus – L.10 was a small storage pit caved into bedrock in the SE quadrant of the square. It is circular, with a sloped floor, and is unlined. It is 60 cm in diameter, and 52 cm deep in the center. A crack ran down the side of the installation, and through the bedrock below and beside it. This may be evidence of an earthquake.

Objects for Q22

Reg #	Description	Date	Locus	Pail
2233	Grinder	8 June	2	2
2234	Polishing Stone	8 June	1	1
2235	Stoneware	8 June	1	1
2236	Flint Core	8 June	1	1
2244	Flint Blade	8 June	1	1
2245	Glassware	8 June	1	1
2279	Decorated Potsherd	8 June	1	1
2282	Grinder	9 June	3	3
2285	Grinder	9 June	3	3
2321	Coin	9 June	3	3
2322	Coin	9 June	3	3
2323	Coin	9 June	2	4
2324	Coin	9 June	3	3
2325	Coin	9 June	2	4
2326	Coin	9 June	2	4
2327	Coin	9 June	3	3
2330	Grinding Stone	10 June	3	6
2345	Loom Weight	10 June	3	3
2352	Coin	10 June	3	6
2353	Coin	10 June	3	6
2354	Coin	10 June	2	5
2357	Grinder	11 June	5	8
2365	Axe-head	11 June	6	9
2369	Needle	11 June	6	9
2395	Coin	11 June	5	8
2409	Sling-stone	12 June	8	13
2410	Sling-stone	12 June	6	9
2415	Stoneware	12 June	3	6
2416	Weight	12 June	5	12

Reg #	Description	Date	Locus	Pail
2426	Sandal Tack	12 June	5	12
2451	Coin	12 June	5	12
2452	Coin	12 June	7	15
2458	Pot Rim	12 June	7	15
2459	Punctured Pottery	11 June	7	10
2460	Punctured Pottery	11 June	7	10

Pottery Pails for Q22

Pail	Date	Locus	Reading	Saved
1	8 June	1	122/211, 3 MBIII/LBI, 3 LB Ib, 2 IA I, 203 LH/ER	34
2	8 June	2	23/37, 1 MBIII/LBI, 2 LB Ib, 1 IA I, 19 LH/ER	3
3	9 June	3	121/184, 3 MBIII/LBi, 7 LB Ib, 35 LH/ER	48
4	9 June	2	26/49, 1 LB Ib, 25 LH/ER	13
5	10 June	2	39/61, 2 MBIII/LBI, 2 LB Ib, 35 LH/ER	17
6	10 June	3	105/149, 1 MBIII/LBI, 1 LB Ib, 4 IA I, 99 LH/ER	34
7	11 June	4	8/18, 8 LH/ER	5
8	11 June	5	60/102, 1 LB Ib, 4 IA I, 55 LH/ER	31
9	11 June	6	28/46, 2 MBIII/LBI, 5 LB Ib, 1IA I/IIa, 20 LH/ER	13
10	11 June	7	43/65, 43 LH/ER	11
11	12 June	6	28/38, 3 MBIII/LBI, 4 LB Ib, 3 IA I, 1 IA I/IIa, 17 LH/ER	11
12	12 June	5	20/23, 6 MBIII/LBI, 2 IA I, 1 IA II, 11 LH/ER	9
13	12 June	8	11/29, 2 MBIII/LBI, 8 LB Ib, 1 IA Ic	5
14	12 June	9	4/20, 3 IA I, 1 IA I2a	1
15	12 June	7	19/26, 2 MB III, 2 MBIII/LBI, 15 LH/ER	8

Photographs for Q22

Number	File Name	Description
P-029	2015-06-12 P-029	Final Square Photo

Interpretation and recommendations

Square Q22, in its lowest elevations, seems to contain remains from the Late Bronze age. It also contains an Iron Age wall, and a Late Hasmonean/Early Roman storage pit. The square also contained heavy tumble, probably the remains of destroyed LH/ER walls. A few stones were left *in situ* in the SW quadrant of the square; they may possibly be the remains of a wall foundation (Wall 130). The future excavation of the remainder of the square will shed more light on the possibility of this being a wall.

Square Q24, 28 May – 5 June (Abigail Leavitt, Square Supervisor and Destry Jackson, Assistant Square Supervisor)



Figure 42: Q24 Final Photo (photo by Michael C. Luddeni).

Overview

Square Q24 was entirely excavated as a 6 x 6 m square, with no balks left. This square was rich in architecture, installations, and small finds. There were 6 main areas within the square, divided by walls. The largest area, in the NW corner of the square, seems to have been a domestic area, containing a silo, a storage pit, and an intact tabun oven.

Q24 Loci Details

1. Earth Locus – L.1 was the surface debris within the entire 6 x 6 m square. The soil was light yellowish-brown with a Munsell reading of 10 YR 4/3. It was very dry and crumbly, and contained many stones, mostly large in size. Top elevation was 875.32, and bottom elevation was 874.59, with at depth of 75 cm.

2. Earth Locus – L.2 was the soil north of wall 123. It was yellowish-brown soil with a Munsell reading of 10 YR 4/4. Top elevation was 874.69, and bottom elevation was 874.14, for a depth of 55 cm. It was 2.5 m x 2 m. A line of stones was found within this locus; however, the area was not large enough to determine if it is a wall or not. Further excavations in square R24 should prove telling.

3. Earth Locus – L.3 was the soil layer beneath the surface debris south of wall 123, west of wall 125, and north of wall 124. It was 3 x 3 m, and 40 cm deep. Top elevation was 874.68, and bottom elevation was 874.28. The soil was dry and loose, and had a Munsell reading of 10 YR 3/4. Small, medium, and large stones were found randomly distributed throughout this locus. 12 coins were discovered in this locus, as well as stoneware and small metal objects.

4. Earth Locus – L.4 was the soil east of wall 125, and south of wall 123. The soil had a Munsell reading of 10 YR 3/4, and was yellowish-brown in color. It contained mixed small, medium and large stones and several tesserae. It was 4 m x 3.5 m, and 38 cm deep. Top elevation was 874.68, and bottom elevation was 874.30. 15 coins were discovered in this locus. A partial jar stand was also found.

5. Earth Locus – L.5 was the soil south of wall 124, and west of wall 125. It was 2 m x 2 m. Top elevation was 874.49, and bottom elevation was 874.32, for a depth of 17 cm. The Munsell reading was 10 YR 4/4, and the soil was dry and loose. It did not contain many stones.

6. Architectural Locus – L.6 (=Wall 123) was the wall running NW – SE through the northern end of the square. It is constructed of medium and large unhewn or roughly hewn boulders, in the header-stretcher style. Approximately 3 courses remain. The wall is made of 2 rows of stones with headers tying them together. L.6 is 6 m long, 1 m wide and 1.33 m high. Top elevation is 875.47, and bottom elevation is 874.14. Part of the wall seemed to be missing, and although it is likely that this simply indicates stones missing from the wall, it could also possibly be a doorway; but no indication of a threshold was found.

7. Architectural Locus – L.7 (=Wall 124) was a wall running NW – SE through the western half of the southern end of the square. One course of stones remains, and the wall is one row wide. It is constructed of very large unhewn stones, and is 2.25 m long and 75 cm wide. It is 37 cm high, with a top elevation of 874.55 and a bottom elevation of 874.18. This wall abuts wall 125.

8. Architectural Locus – L.8 (=Wall 125) was a wall running NE – SW through the center of the square. The wall is one row wide, and only one course remains. A gap at the southern end may indicate a doorway, or simply a missing stone. The wall was constructed of very large unhewn stones. It widens at the northern end, creating a passage between the end of wall 125 and the side of wall 123. It was 4.25 m long and 50 cm wide, except at the northern end, where it was 1 m wide. It was 35 cm high, with a top elevation of 874.53, and a bottom elevation of 874.18.

9. Earth Locus – L.9 was the soil surrounding and inside the tabun (L.15) It was medium yellow-brown, with a Munsell reading of 10 YR 4/4. The soil was moist and crumbly. Top elevation was 874.66 and bottom elevation as 874.33. It was 50 cm x 50 cm, and 33 cm deep. 2 stone grinders were found in this locus.

10. Installation Locus – L.10 was a silo carved into bedrock in the NW corner of the square. It was 2.4 m in diameter and 2.2 m deep. The ceiling and walls were chiseled. The upper half of the silo is cut into soft bedrock, and the chisel marks are very visible. The lower half of the silo was harder, flakier bedrock, and areas are patched with small stones and plaster to maintain the round shape of the silo. There was a lamp niche carved in the northern side of the silo 1.4 m up from the bottom. The floor of the silo is fairly flat, but slopes slightly toward the center. A flat stone was found lying over the entrance to the silo; however, it was not a properly fitted capstone, and dirt was able to sift down through the gaps that it did not cover.

11. Earth Locus – L.11 was the soil inside the silo. No stratification was discovered within the silo. The soil was moist and crumbled in chunks at the top, but lower down in the silo, the soil was very wet and muddy. The Munsell reading was 10 YR 3/4. Small and medium stones were found randomly distributed throughout the soil. The bones of a dead goat were discovered on the surface of the earth within the silo. Pottery was abundant in the silo, and 3 coins were found.

12. Earth Locus – L.12 was the earth in the SE corner of the square, enclosed by wall 132 to the north, and wall 131 to the west. It was 1.75 m x 1.25 m, and 25 cm deep. The earth color was Munsell number 10 YR 4/4. One coin was found in this locus.

13. Architectural Locus – L.13 (=Wall 131) was a wall running NE to SW in the eastern side of the square. It was made of unhewn and semi-hewn small and medium boulders, in the boulder and chink construction style. Two courses remain, and the wall is comprised mainly of two rows with small stones fitted in randomly. It is 3 m long and 1 m wide. Top elevation was 874.48, and bottom elevation was 874.27, for a height of 21 cm.

14. Installation Locus – L.14 was a carved pit in the bedrock. It was circular, with a ledge around the opening, as if to support a capstone. The outer diameter is 75 cm, and the inner diameter is 35 cm. The ledge was 23 cm deep, and the pit was 35 cm deep, for a total depth of 58 cm.

15. Installation Locus – L.15 was an intact tabun found in a niche or corner of wall 123. It was made of red clay pressed against a ring of medium stones. A hole in the side of the tabun had a well-preserved rim around it, indicating that this hole was created at the same time that the tabun was made. It had an interior diameter of 40 cm, and is 28 cm deep. Top elevation was 874.61, and bottom elevation was 874.33.

16. Architectural Locus – L.16 (=Wall 132) was a wall running NW to SE in the eastern side of the square. It abuts wall 131. It was two rows wide, and two courses remain. Top elevation was 874.31, and bottom elevation was 874.06, for a height of 25 cm. The wall was 1.5 m long, and 60 cm wide.

17. Earth Locus – L.17 was the soil within installation L.14. The soil was chalky and yellowish in color. Toward the bottom of the pit, the earth was very hard packed, and difficult to remove. There were no stones in this locus and no pottery or artifacts were found. The earth seemed sterile.

Objects for Q24

Reg #	Description	Date	Locus	Pail
1939	Weight	28 May	1	1
1941	Stoneware	28 May	1	1
1942	Stoneware	28 May	1	1
1943	Stoneware	28 May	1	1
1949	Stoneware	29 May	3	4
1952	Sling stone	29 May	1	2
1957	Weight	29 May	1	2
1958	Polished Ivory	29 May	2	3
1959	Bead	29 May	1	2
1960	Musket Ball	29 May	1	2
1961	Clasp	29 May	3	4
1995	Coin	29 May	3	4
1996	Coin	29 May	3	4
2000	Coin	29 May	3	4
2001	Coin	29 May	3	4
2022	Weight?	1 June	4	7
2023	Sling stone	1 June	4	7
2026	Bead?	1 June	3	6
2027	Coin	1 June	4	7
2033	Coin	1 June	4	7
2034	Coin	1 June	3	6
2036	Coin	1 June	4	7
2037	Coin	1 June	4	7
2038	Coin	1 June	4	7
2042	Coin	1 June	4	7
2043	Coin	1 June	4	7
2046	Punctured Potsherd	29 May	2	3
2094	Coin	2 June	4	10
2095	Coin	2 June	4	10
2096	Coin	2 June	4	10
2097	Coin	2 June	4	10
2098	Coin	2 June	4	10
2099	Coin	2 June	3	9
2100	Coin	2 June	3	9
2101	Coin	2 June	3	9
2102	Coin	2 June	3	9
2109	Sling stone	2 June	5	11
2110	Grinder	2 June	9	12
2111	Grinder	2 June	9	12
2117	Coin or Tack	3 June	3	13
2142	Coin	3 June	3	13
2143	Coin	3 June	4	14
2144	Coin	3 June	3	13

Reg #	Description	Date	Locus	Pail
2145	Coin	3 June	4	14
2146	Coin	3 June	3	13
2152	Loom Weight	2 June	4	10
2153	Jar Stand	2 June	4	10
2154	Punctured Pottery	3 June	4	14
2167	Tack	4 June	5	19
2168	Bone Tool	4 June	11	18
2169	Coin	4 June	5	19
2170	Coin	4 June	5	19
2171	Coin	4 June	11	18
2172	Coin	4 June	11	18
2202	Ostrakon	5 June	4	21
2218	Coin	5 June	12	23
2219	Coin	5 June	11	22
2220	Coin	5 June	4	21

Pottery Pails for Q24

Pail	Date	Locus	Reading	Saved
1	28 May	1	54/60, 3 MBIII/LBI, 3 IA I, 48 LH/ER	12
2	29 May	1	69/19, 3 MBIII/LBI, 3 IA I, 63 LH/ER	23
3	29 May	2	11/23, 11 LH/ER	2
4	29 May	3	8/14, 2 MB3/LB1, 6 LH/ER	2
5	1 June	2	8/15, 2 MBIII/LBI, 6 LH/ER	2
6	1 June	3	20/36, 20 LH/ER	6
7	1 June	4	57/81, 2 MBIII/LBI, 55 LH/ER	15
8	1 June	5	9/11, 1 IAI/2a, 8 LH/ER	3
9	2 June	3	24/83, 1 IAI/IIa, 23 LH/ER	8
10	2 June	4	39/72, 39 LH/ER	5
11	2 June	5	10/19, 1 LB, 9 LH/ER	10
12	2 June	9	6/22, 6 LH/ER	0
13	3 June	3	24/44, 24 LH/ER	5
14	3 June	4	67/94, 67 LH/ER	24
15	3 June	5	6/15, 1 MBIII/LBI, 5 LH/ER	1
16	3 June	9	0/10	0
17	3 June	11	66/147, 66 LH/ER	23
18	4 June	11	39/85, 1 LB1b, 38 LH/ER	16

Pail	Date	Locus	Reading	Saved
19	4 June	5	8/17, 1 MB3/LB1, 7 LH/ER	2
20	4 June	4	33/61, 33 LH/ER	13
21	5 June	4	149/323, 2 MBIII/LBI, 2 LB1b, 2 IA I, 1 IA I/IA IIa, 142 LH/ER	64
22	5 June	11	1/4, 1 LH/ER	0
23	5 June	12	6/9, 2 MB3/LBI, 4 LH/ER	5

Photographs for Q24

Number	File Name	Description
P-018	2015-05-29 P-018	End week one picture
R-005	2015-06-05 R-005	Silo in Q24
R-002	2015-06-10 R-002	End second week square picture
R-004	2015-06-05 R-004	Overhead view of silo in Q24
P-012	2015-06-12 P-012	Final square picture

Interpretation and recommendations

Square Q24 appears to be within a first century residential structure. Six areas, divided by walls, are included in this square. A tabun, storage pit, and underground silo suggest that this was a domestic area. Pottery and stoneware from the first century were found, including punctured potsherds. 33 coins were discovered in this square.

Square R10, 28 May-10 June (Boyd SeEVERS, Square Supervisor and Donald McNeeley, Assistant Square Supervisor)

Overview

Square R10 was started and completed during the 2015 season. Before work began, the square was highest on the south (over the BA Wall) and sloped down to the north. As expected, R10 contained the northern end of the IA I habitation from Q10. For the northern wall of this house, the IA I builders re-used the outer line of the BA city wall (Wall 56A), which was exposed across the entire 6 m of R10. The wall line matched up nicely with the BA wall line exposed earlier in Q9, but only lined up roughly with the outer face of the mostly-cobble wall drawn earlier for R11 (see Figure 43). The top and northern faces of the BA city wall in R10 were buried under a large pile (ca. 1.7 m) of earth and cobble (L.8) across the entire line of the wall. Farmers apparently placed the stones there over many years, sometime after the wall went out of use. An additional single line of boulders (L.3 = Wall 72) sat atop the cobbles and earth, at or just below ground level when work began. The date and purpose of this latest line of boulders remained unclear (See figure 44).

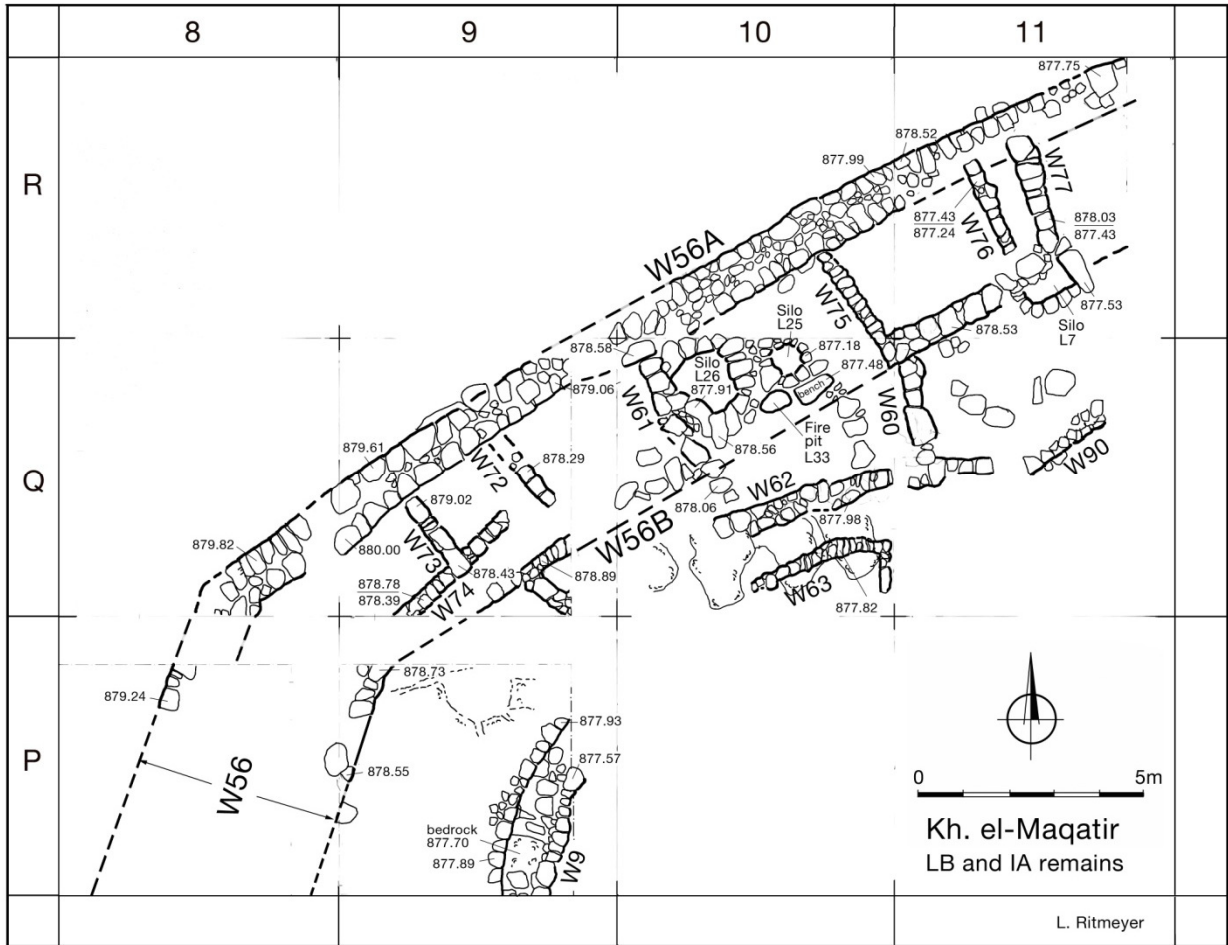


Figure 43: MB/LB and IA remains in P8-R11 (drawing by Leen Ritmeyer).

R10 Loci Details

1. **Earth Locus** – L.1 was the top layer of soil, fieldstones, and cast-up cobbles across the northern half (6.0 x 3.55 m) of R10. The tops of three boulders of L.3 (= Wall 66) were visible when work in the square began. The topsoil was loose and a lighter shade of brown than the subsoil (L.5). The few sherds recovered were a mix of MB III, IA I, and LH/ER.
2. **Earth Locus** – L.2 was ca. 0.5 m of heavy, indistinct rubble and soil under the surface (L.1), south of L.3 (Wall 66). As expected, the area below L.2 contained the northern end of the IA I habitation from Q10. The pottery in L.2 was mostly MB III and IA I, with two LH/ER sherds.
3. **Architectural Locus** – L.3 (= Wall 66) was a single line of boulders, partly visible at the beginning of work in L.1. The boulders were 0.35 – 0.55 m in diameter and roughly followed

the presumed line of the expected MB/LB city wall (W56A). However, Wall 66 was poorly made, was only one stone wide, forked in the middle of the square (Figure 44), and rested on earth and cobbles. It was obviously the latest line of stones assembled (date unknown), but its purpose was unclear—perhaps to serve as a “backstop” for cobbles cast-up by farmers clearing the adjacent fields. No pottery was found clearly associated with L.3.

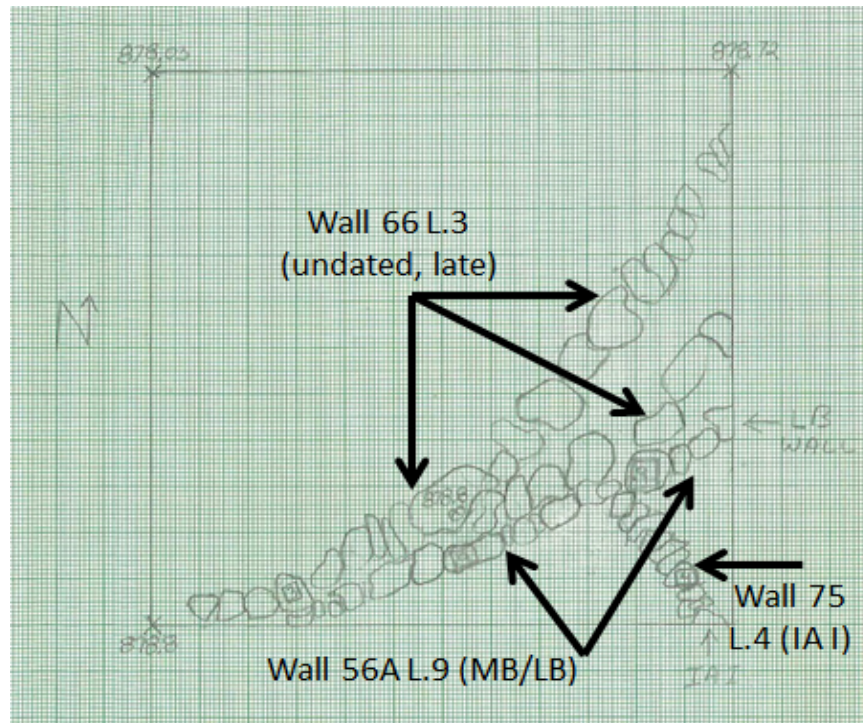


Figure 44: Three walls visible in R10 before removal of Wall 66 (by Don McNeeley; scale 1:50).

4. Architectural Locus – L.4 (W75) was the continuation of L.3 (W60) from Q10, the IA I wall that formed the eastern side of the IA I habitation. This wall was oriented 155° and extended 2.4 m into R10. It terminated with a nice joint in the MB/LB wall (L.9 = Wall 56A). Although it was only one stone wide (0.35 – 0.50 m) and leaned distinctly eastward (-10 deg.), this IA I wall survived to a maximum height of 1.65 m and eleven courses. (See Figure 44 above for the joint and Figure 45 for profile of wall.)

5. Earth Locus – L.5 was the large locus (4 x 6 m), sloping downward to the north. It contained the earth, fieldstones, and cobbles cast up against and atop the MB/LB wall (W56A, L.9). The soil was more packed and darker (Munsell 7.5YR 3/2) than the topsoil, and the soil and cobbles required great effort to remove. A probe was dug to undisturbed, packed clay at the base of the cobble. The vast majority of the pottery dated to MB III, apparently from the construction of the city wall. A few sherds were LB I and IA I. A number of worked flints were recovered, including possible sickle blades and a possible spearhead.

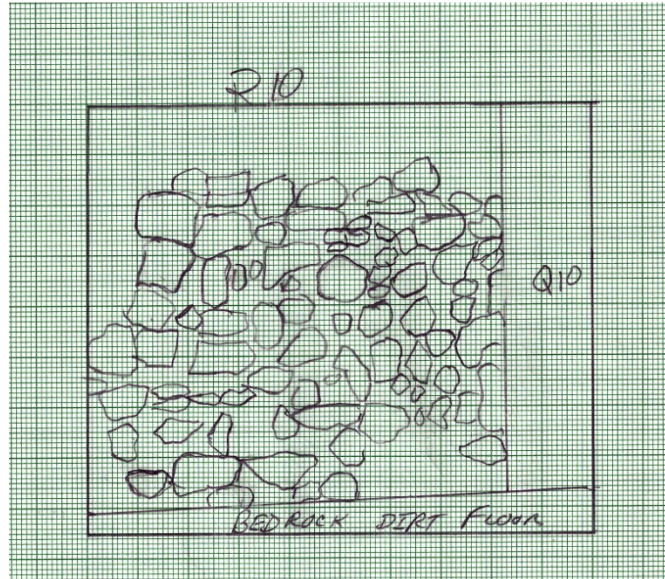


Figure 45: Profile of IA I Wall (L.4 = Wall 75), facing east (by Don McNeeley; scale 1:20).

6. Earth Locus – L.6 was the material under L.2 south of the MB/LB wall, after the tumble in L.2 was removed. The locus measured ca. 2.3 m x 2.0 m, with an average depth of 1.09 m, terminating at bedrock. As expected, L.6 proved to be the northern end of the IA I habitation in Q10. The soil was packed, crumbly, and light yellowish-brown (Munsell 10YR 3/3). The pottery was MB III and IA I. L.6 also contained two sling stones and a number of worked flints. The work in L.6 revealed the full height of the extant MB/LB wall (W56A, L.9).

7. Earth Locus – L.7 was a narrow, triangular locus east of L.4 (IA I Wall 75) and south of L.3. Approximately 0.5 m of rubble and crumbly, yellow-brown soil (Munsell 7.5YR 3/2) was cleared, revealing 5-7 courses of Wall 75. The work was stopped to keep from undermining Wall 75 too much, which leaned distinctly eastward. Work in L.7 revealed the joint of the IA (Wall 75) and MB/LB walls (Wall 56A) (see Figure 44 of three walls, above). A narrow trench was dug along Wall 56A to a depth of 2-3 courses. The pottery was MB III and IA I.

8. Earth Locus – L.8 was the large accumulation of cobbles piled up against and on top of the MB/LB wall (L. 9 = Wall 54), some 1.3 – 1.6 m wide, across the entire square running SW-NE. The cobbles appeared to be cast-up, tossed against Wall 56 by later farmers, clearing their fields. Like L.2, the pottery was mostly MB III, with some IA I. Several flints were recovered, possibly worked.

9. Architectural Locus – L.9 (Wall 56A) was a well-built wall that continued the line of Wall 56A from Q9. Wall 56A was typically three rows wide, ranging from very large boulders (1+ m) to cobbles; most were medium boulders (50-70 cm). The wall was built as boulder and chink, with cobbles and pebbles used for chink stones. The inner and outer faces of Wall 56A were both well built. The wall stretched 6.65 m SW-NE across R10, was 1.1-1.2 m wide, and stood 0.8-1.0 m high. 1-2 courses were exposed on the north, and

4-5 courses on the south where the wall was reused as the northern wall of the IA I home. Wall 56A was abutted by Wall 75 (L.4), the eastern wall of the IA I home (Figure 46). Wall 56A had a uniform height across the square and appeared to have had its upper courses robbed out in antiquity, perhaps by Byzantine builders working their compound on top of the hill.

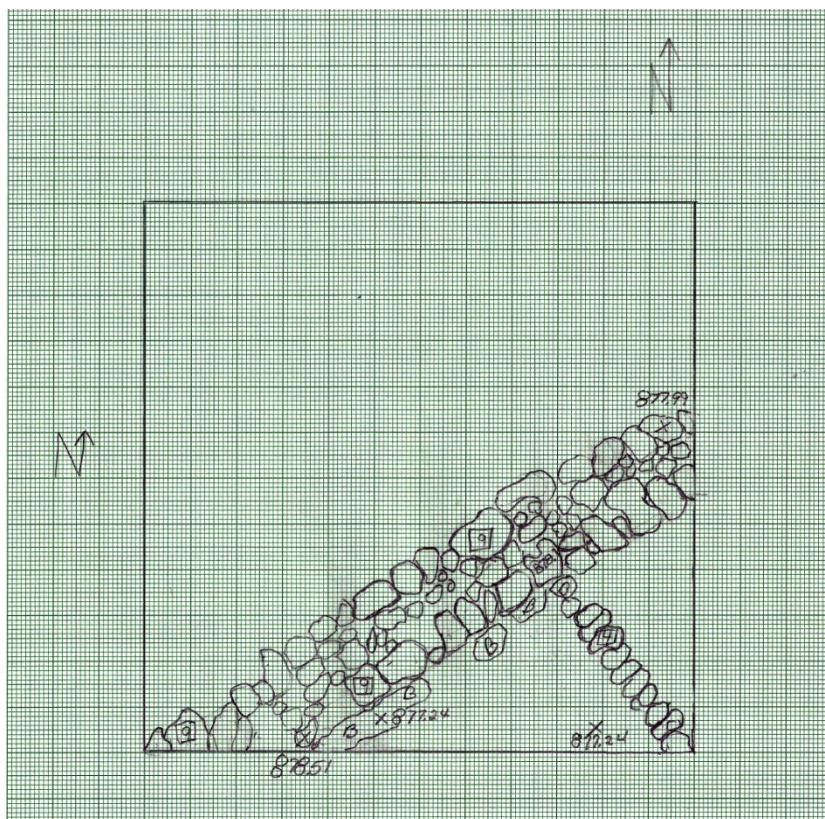


Figure 46: MB/LB (L.9 = Wall 56A) & IA I (L.4 = Wall 75) Walls in R10 (by Don McNeeley; scale 1:50).

Objects for R10

Reg #	Object	Date	Locus	Pail
2079	Flint	2 June	5	8
2148	Flint Blade	3 June	5	11
2147	Flint Spearhead	3 June	5	11
2166	Flint Blade	4 June	5	14
2080	Flint	2 June	5	8
2081	Sling Stone	2 June	6	9
2149	Flint Blade	3 June	6	12

Reg #	Object	Date	Locus	Pail
2150	Jar Stopper	3 June	6	12
2203	Flint Blade	5 June	6	17
2204	Flint Blade	5 June	6	17
2239	Stone Tool	8 June	6	19
2238	Sling stone	8 June	6	19
2338	Flint Blade	10 June	6	23
2208	Flint Point	5 June	8	18
2249	Flint Tool	8 June	8	20
2310	Flint Blade	9 June	8	22
2309	Flint Blade	9 June	8	22

R10 Pottery Pails

Pail	Date	Locus	Reading	Saved
1	28 May	1	2 MB III	0
2	28 May	2	1 MB III; 2 IA I	0
3	29 May	1	1 IA I; 2 LH/ER	1
4	29 May	2	1 MB III; 3 IA I; 2 LH/ER	2
5	29 May	3	No sherds found	-
6	1 Jun	1	7 MB III; 3 IA I	5
7	1 Jun	2	1 MB III	0
8	2 Jun	5	6 MB III; 1 LB I; 2 IA I	3
9	2 Jun	6	3 MB III; 3 IA I	1
10	2 Jun	7	2 MB III; 1 IA I	0
11	3 Jun	5	26 MB III	9
12	3 Jun	6	1 IA I	1
13	3 Jun	7	1 IA I	1
14	4 Jun	5	2 MB III	1
15	4 Jun	6	7 MB III (save 2); 16 IA I (save 12)	14

Pail	Date	Locus	Reading	Saved
16	4 Jun	7	1 MB III; 3 IA I	0
17	5 Jun	6	7 MB III; 4 IA I	6
18	5 Jun	8	10 MB III; 2 IA I	5
19	8 Jun	6	6 MB III; 6 IA I	11
20	8 Jun	8	2 MB III	0
21	9 Jun	6	2 MB III; 3 IA I	4
22	9 Jun	8	9 MB III; 3 IA I	7
23	10 Jun	6	1 IA I	0

Photographs for R10

Number	File name	Description
P-001	2015 May 29	R10 End week (by Michael)
R-010	2015 June 5	R10 End week (by Steven)

Square X22, 10–12 June (Mark Hassler, Square Supervisor)

Overview

This square covers a portion of the west edge of the fortified tower that juts from the LH/ER city wall. Only the SE sector of the square was excavated because it contains a chamber that overlaps with X23 (see top plan for X23). Notable structures included a silo (= L.4) and two perpendicular walls - Walls 203 (= L.2) and 204 (= L.3). Excavation of the silo remained incomplete because the dig season ended.



Figure 47: SE sector of X22 at the end of the 2015 season, view SW (photo by Michael C. Luddeni).

X22 Loci Details

- 1. Earth Locus** – This locus constituted a sloping debris layer. It equaled L.3 of X23. Rubble and loose rock abound.
- 2. Architectural Locus** – This locus consisted of the exterior wall of the tower (Wall 203). The wall employed at least two rows—the exterior row remained unexcavated, while the interior row retained six courses to a height of 1.93 m. The top of the wall reached 871.03 m (the benchmark), and the bottom of the interior row sat at 869.10 m. The interior row featured medium-size boulders (50–75 cm). The wall rested on bedrock, and ran 30° E of N. It parallels Wall 202 (= L.5 of X23), and joined two perpendicular walls: Walls 204 (= L.3 of X22) and 201 (= L.4 of X23).
- 3. Architectural Locus** – This locus represented an interior wall of the tower (Wall 204). Only the NE face was exposed. It showed eleven to thirteen courses, preserved to a height of 2.41 m. The top elevation extended to 871.51 m, and the bottom descended to 869.10 m. The exposed row used semi-hewn cobbles (6–25 cm) and small boulders (25–50 cm). Founded on bedrock, the wall stood at 120°. It paralleled Wall 201 (= L.4 of X23), and abutted Walls 202 (= L.5 of X23) and 203 (= L.2 of X22).
- 3. Installation Locus** – This locus designated a silo. The silo appeared in the corner of a room, against Walls 203 (= L.2) and 204 (= L.3). It was carved into bedrock, and lacked a capstone. It boasted a large mouth (85 cm diameter). Only 88 cm of the silo was dug, from 869.22 m to

868.34 m. There was no sign of plaster. Objects included fourteen coins and one arrowhead. The pottery was LH/ER, with one exception.

4. Installation Locus – This locus consisted of bedrock, the bedrock immediately surrounding the silo (= L.4).

Objects for X22

Reg #	Description	Date	Locus	Pail
2339	Coin	10 June	3	2
2370	Coin	11 June	3	3
2371	Coin	11 June	3	3
2379	Coin	11 June	4	4
2380	Coin	11 June	4	4
2381	Coin	11 June	4	4
2382	Coin	11 June	4	4
2383	Coin	11 June	4	4
2429	Arrowhead	12 June	4	5
2436	Coin	12 June	3	6
2437	Coin	12 June	3	6
2438	Coin	12 June	4	5
2439	Coin	12 June	4	5
2440	Coin	12 June	4	5
2441	Coin	12 June	4	5
2442	Coin	12 June	4	5
2443	Coin	12 June	4	5
2444	Coin	12 June	4	5
2445	Coin	12 June	4	5

Pottery Pails for X22

Pail	Date	Locus	Reading	Saved
1	10 June	1	n/a	0
2	11 June	3	n/a	0
3	11 June	3	n/a	0
4	12 June	4	1 MB III/LB I, 6 LH/ER	3
5	12 June	4	22 LH/ER	11

Photographs for X22

Number	File Name	Description
P-013	2015-06-12 P-013.jpg	L.2 (= Wall 203), view N
P-015	2015-06-12 P-015.jpg	L.2 (= Wall 203), view N
P-018	2015-06-12 P-018.jpg	L.3 (= Wall 204), view SW
P-020	2015-06-12 P-020.jpg	L.3 (= Wall 204), view SW

R-026	2015-06-15 R-026	L.4 (silo)
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Square X23, 25 May–12 June (Mark Hassler, Square Supervisor)

This square encompassed the possible gate complex along the west wall of the fortified tower. The tower attached to the north wall of the LH/ER city. In 2014, Leen Ritmeyer surveyed and sketched the tower. He discovered three coins and some LH/ER sherds in this square. The square contained three rooms, divided by two perpendicular walls composed of megaliths (Walls 201 and 202 = L.4 and L.5). The NW corner of the square featured an entrance to the tower. Items of special interest included two socket stones (cf. L.9 and L.14), two *in situ* storage jars (cf. L.13), a tabun (= L.12), and fifty-eight coins. The pottery was predominately LH/ER.



Figure 48: X23 at the end of 2015 season, view SE (photo by Michael C. Luddeni).