

THIRD QUARTERLY REPORT ON THE EXCAVATION OF THE EASTERN HILL OF JERUSALEM.

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§ I. *Progress of the Work.*

DURING the month of April work was suspended on account of the Mohammedan Ramadan, which ended on the 5th May.

I spent the month in exploring sites in Gilead, particularly in the region around es-Salt. An account of this work with photographs is sent with this Report.

On May 6th work was resumed. The huts had been removed from field No. 5 to field No. 7, and the ground cleared. The place on which the huts had stood contained a tower, which I suppose to have been built by David or Solomon. This is to be made a national monument, and we are now engaged in clearing it, inside and out, down to the rock.

Prof. Garstang has smoothed over every difficulty for me in making this clearance on the extreme edge of the Kedron Valley, and he has given me every assistance in his power. The clearance involved the diversion of two footpaths, which has been satisfactorily effected. The problem of finding space for the dump is still difficult, as we have not yet been authorized to throw earth down the slope. Should these monuments be found to go down to a great depth, however, this will, we hope, be permitted, and the work will then become less hard and less expensive.

The part of field No. 7 excavated before April has been filled in, and a further section has been excavated at the western edge. The results here are as inconclusive as before. We have got down to the rock and find nothing earlier than Roman or Herodian.

I wish to record our thanks to Prof. Garstang and all his staff for unceasing kindness and help; and to the Rev. Père Vincent, Rev. Père Savignac and other friends of the Dominican School for their helpful suggestions and their assistance with photography. Mr. Yellin has entered on the work with enthusiasm.



THE NORTH BASTION AND THE TOWER.
(From a photograph by Père Savignac.)



NORTH SIDE OF THE TOWER. CLOSE VIEW SHOWING MASONRY AND THE LINE OF ANCIENT BUTTRESS.
(From a photograph by Père Savignac.)

§ II. *The Jebusite or Pre-Davidic Period : The Jebusite East Wall.*

We have exposed 78 ft. of this wall in field No. 5 and 50 ft. of it in field No. 7. There remains yet a stretch of 44 ft. to uncover from the northern side of field No. 5. Between the two portions exposed an intruded tower of later date will probably be found to have supplanted the original structure. The wall was 20 to 25 ft. in thickness. It has two substantially built faces, between which a space of about 15 to 18 ft. is filled up with loose stones and earth.

The outer face is perpendicular. The inner face batters slightly. Though we happened to find the complete breadth and the two faces at one point in field No. 5, the wall is not complete throughout the rest of this field. The system of Arab grain-stores and cisterns, which runs down the eastern end of both fields, has cut into the wall at several points; and stones have been taken from it for these and other works. We were fortunate therefore in finding this one complete section giving its dimensions and showing its structure.

At a point 44 ft. from the northern limit of our north field we have uncovered the eastern face of the wall. From here there runs a stretch of 31 ft. of plain wall, after which there is a rounded bastion with a stepped face, projecting outward. South of this bastion there is a further stretch of 9 ft., south of which again there is a second tower. This is not bonded into the wall: a straight joint runs through. The top of this tower slopes downward like a buttress, by design or by subsequent ruin, and on its upper surface is built the square tower which I assign to David or Solomon. The contrast in the masonry is quite evident. At present the sloping tower, underlying the square tower, can be traced for a run of some 10 ft.

From this point for a distance of 56 ft. we have found no definite trace of the Jebusite wall. Its place is taken by the later substitute.

At about 56 ft. from the northern insertion of the tower, we once more find the old wall in field No. 7 in the form of a second great "stair" glacis, even more massive than the first. This glacis has been badly damaged through the intrusion of the "Solomonic" tower with its continued wall, which rests on its lower tiers and cuts right through its northern end; and, later, by the

insertion of an Arab cistern in the very face of it (Fig. 1). The base or arc of this circular bastion measures 33 ft. Beyond it is another stretch of plain wall 17 ft. long, built upon the rock which here rises to a nearer approach to the surface of the ground than elsewhere in the stretch of the wall so far exposed. The rock is here scarped. Prof. Macalister suggested to me in conversation that between these bastions there may have been a gate, in a position marked by the present footpath. This may be verified later.



FIG. 1.—Arab cistern in the face of the south "stair" bastion, field No. 7.

At a depth of 15 ft. from the surface of the wall (or 22 ft. from the surface level of field No. 5) we have found the rock on the *inner* side of the wall, just where Arabs or the Crusaders had built a plastered cistern on to it.

Masonry.

The masonry of this wall and bastion is of the same style as that of the walls already attributed to the Jebusites in other parts of the site. The stones are hammer-dressed and not quite so uniformly large as in the other Jebusite wall. The courses are not uniform. The stones are badly fitting. The interstices are filled up with chips and mortar, and where the courses need levelling up, it is done in the same way, viz., with a bed of mortar and smaller



THE TOWER: CORNER AND FACE.
(From a photograph by Père Savignac.)

stones. The large blocks however are laid upon each other without mortar and the stones of each layer overlap the joints of the layer beneath it.

In the "stepped" bastions, though the stones are of the same type, the courses are each of uniform, though not identical depths; they range from 10 to 18 ins.

On the whole the masonry of the south stepped bastion is the more massive of the two, but the effect is badly marred by the cistern thrust into the face of it by the Arabs. In both bastions mud mortar was freely used to level up the beds of the stones forming the "steps."

Of the face of the wall not more than 15 ft. depth has yet been exposed, and of the sloping face of the two bastions only about 20 ft.

The Bastions.

The bastions may be described as staircases starting from a base of 28 ft. on the northern, and 33 ft. on the southern one, and descending in a rapidly widening sweep. Thus, at 20 ft. down, the circumference of the northern bastion has increased from 28 ft. to a circumference of 60 ft.

Part of the northern bastion has at some time been pillaged of its stones. This reveals the fact that it is not bonded into the face of the wall, but built up against it.

§ III. *The Hebrew Period: The Tower.*

The Jebusite wall between the two bastions has turned slightly to the south-west, so that it almost looks as if in continuing it must cut right across the spur of Ophel. The rock-scarp, however, brings it back to an almost due south direction.

The tower which has been added to the Jebusite bastion is almost intact to a height of several feet for a distance of 32 ft. 8 ins. At this point there appears to be a finished corner, suitable as a jamb for the entrance to a gate tower; but only two courses are as yet exposed above the ground, and the course beneath these continues toward the south. This under course seems to me too high to be the threshold of a gate entrance. I am therefore compelled to wait for further excavation to learn if there was a gate opening here to the east or not.

The tower continues southward for 20 ft. 4 ins. more, making in all a face of 53 ft. But in this last portion it has been completely razed down to the lowest level of our present excavation. We have just caught up the uppermost remaining course and soon hope to have the whole length of the tower exposed from end to end to such levels as it is left standing.

At 53 ft. the wall of this tower, which is 10 ft. thick at the northern end and about $8\frac{1}{2}$ ft. thick at this point, turns due west or north-west and runs parallel to its northern wall for 33 ft., where it joins on to and overlaps the great southern glacis of the Jebusite wall. This side wall joins on to the front wall of the tower by a straight joint. We are at present engaged meantime in clearing the interior of the tower, and in exposing the whole length and height of its front. But the eastern wall or face of the tower does not stop here as we should expect. It continues southward, and runs along parallel with the face of the city wall for 47 feet, where it enters the field below our south field.

This continuation wall rests on the tiers of the "stair" glacis, about 15 to 20 ft. down, and beyond the glacis there is a height of 20 feet of it visible as it enters the next field.

Date of the Jebusite Wall.

The masonry of the wall itself from the first inclined us to attribute this wall to the period immediately preceding the capture of the City by David, or somewhere about 1200 B.C.

This dating is confirmed by the chips of pottery which I picked out from the mortar underlying some of the stones in the northern "stair" glacis. These fragments were of the Late Second and Third Bronze Age, or about 1600 to 1400 B.C.

The pottery fragments found outside of the wall give further confirmation that this was the wall of the city about that period.

The wall is therefore the wall which stood on the east side of the Jebusite city when David took it.

It is very probable this was the wall repaired by Nehemiah on the eastern side. On the face of the square tower there is a portion 12 ft. by 6 ft., a later repair, which I am inclined to assign to Nehemiah. The masonry is bad. The stones are thrust in with no regard to the original courses: they are casual blocks picked up in haste and set with unstinted use of mud mortar. All this is suggestive of the hurried work of his men.

A very satisfactory feature of our work outside of this wall and tower is the fact that we are now finding a just proportion of Hebrew pottery. Inside the city itself very little was found; and we had come to the conclusion that Josephus' statement about Simon Maccabaeus is correct. Everything before the Maccabean period had been swept into the Tyropoeon. And now we are even more confirmed as to the accuracy of Josephus' statement (*War*, v. 4, 1); and we have the additional satisfaction of finding abundant evidence of the Hebrew occupation outside of the wall, where evidently the sweeping brush of the Maccabean did not reach.

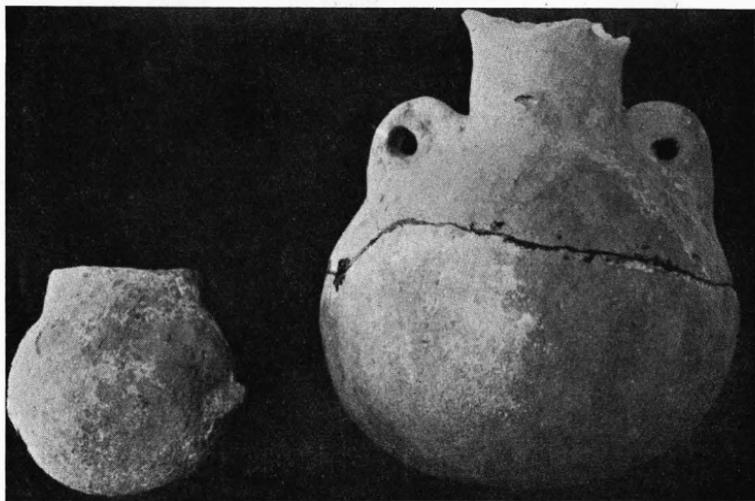


FIG. 2.—Jebusite pots from field No. 7 (Neolithic).

Other Jebusite remains in Field No. 7.

Of other discoveries of the Jebusite period the most important is the High Place found in field No. 7, just a little behind the inner or western face of the great wall and behind the glacis. It is not so complete as the one described in the April *Quarterly Statement*, nor so elaborate in detail.

Some complete specimens of Jebusite pottery (three pieces in all) along with a number of fragments of the Early Bronze Period were found in a deep niche in the rock underneath the foundations of a Roman building outside the wall. Two are hand-made, and of

the Neolithic Period. The long ointment vase is of the First Bronze Age, and was found on the North Bastion. (See Figs. 2 and 3.)

This second field is particularly barren, however, of early pottery. The rock surface is only about 20 ft. down at the west and east ends and about 8 ft. down in other parts, and the Romans seem to have cut their way through everything to get their foundations laid on the rock surface.

The best pottery of early periods has been found in the cave of the north field and outside of the east wall. There scraps of

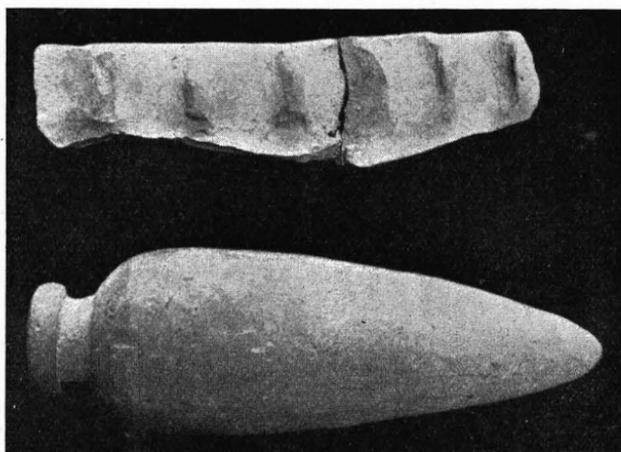


FIG. 3.—Jebusite : from face of bastion (Bronze Age).

early painted Jebusite pottery and of Cypriote and Greek have been picked up, as well as a large number of Jebusite jar handles, amongst the rubbish thrown over the wall.

Hebrew.

Practically no trace of Hebrew occupation has been found in field No. 7, for the reasons indicated above ; but numbers of pre-exilic lamps, fragments of ring-burnished Hebrew red pottery of the same period and many fragments of other types of Hebrew ware have been and are still being found among the debris thrown over the east wall.

§ IV. *The Greek and Roman Periods.*

The Greek period is represented by large numbers of inscribed Rhodian jar handles found in the debris outside of the Wall; and by fragments of the well-known black burnished and red and black burnished ware. Terra Sigillata fragments are numerous. Fragments of Maccabean pottery and lamps of the ordinary type are abundant.

Of the Roman period a characteristic of the site is the abundance of the Roman imitation of Melian and of the Terra Sigillata ware, as well as abundance of fragments of the ordinary ribbed cooking pots and other usual types (see Fig. 4).

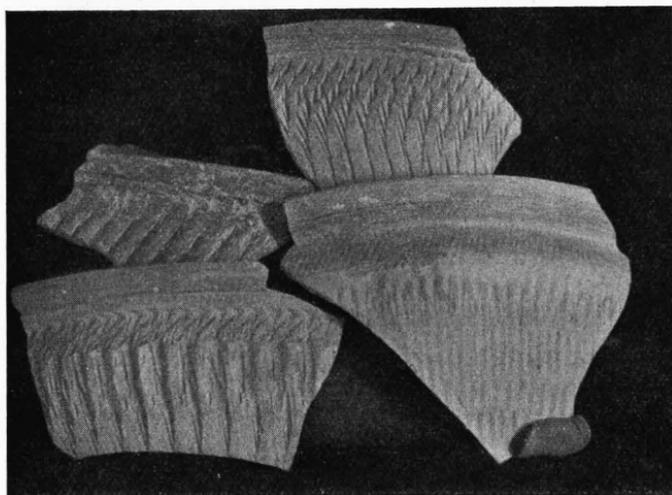


FIG. 4.—Roman imitation of Melian ware.

In field No. 7 the Roman is in full possession of the lowest layer. We find practically nothing beneath the Roman buildings, except occasional scraps of Canaanite pottery and bits of Herodian walls.

A particularly fine small wine-press, consisting of several chambers, each one of which is plastered over with a new type of plaster, was found the other day in the west end of our second field (No. 7). The crushing chamber is only 18 ins. by 15 ins. and 20 ins. deep. Ten inches from the bottom of the west side of this

chamber is a slot about 6 ins. square by which the juice passed on to the top of a filter. This filter is of red pottery and stands 12 ins. high. Its surface is 8 ins. in diameter and there are 22 perforated holes in it. Through these the juice passed into a beautiful little plastered channel 5 ins. square covered over carefully with flat slabs. By this channel of 6 or 8 ft. long the juice was conducted to another vat which is not yet uncovered. (See Figs. 5 and 6.)

Fig. 7 represents a limestone sink with hole for the water to escape; it also reproduces two square limestone troughs which some think are measures. As one weighs about 20 lbs. and the



FIG. 8.—Arab "feeding-bottle."

other over 28 lbs. they would surely have been unwieldy measures to handle. I believe they are really water or feeding-troughs.

§ V. *The Arab Period.*

Field No. 7 is particularly rich in Arab pottery, though not one complete house is left. On the eastern side, just clear of the city wall, the line of grain-stores and cisterns is continued from field No. 5, and runs right across it from north to south. Two of these cisterns are actually cut, one of them into the face of the south glacis and the other into the wall, which is a continuation of the "Solomonic" Tower.

Another Arab cistern was found last week built on the west side of the great wall in our north field, almost behind the tower. And



FIG. 5.—Wine-press, field No. 7 (Roman level).



FIG. 6.—Wine-press, showing the filter and channel leading to vat.

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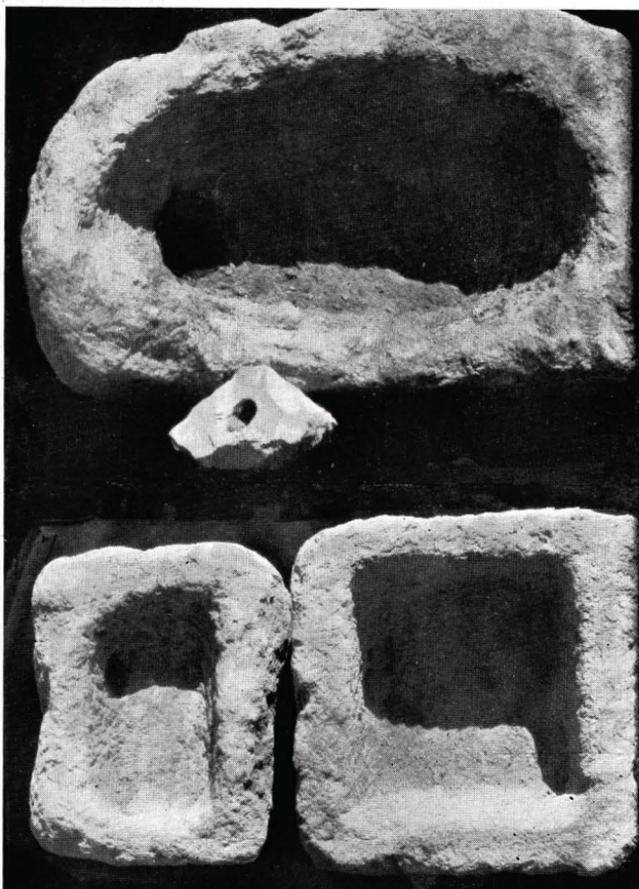


FIG. 7.—Upper Part. (a) Stone sink with outlet.
Lower Part. (b) Stone troughs.

now, as I write, I find that yet another Arab plastered house and cistern have been built into the filling of the "Solomonic" Tower itself.

The Arabs have been very active and very destructive all over the site.

Of the Arab pottery found many are new specimens of plain, as well as of painted ware. Some of the latter belong to the best period of their art. One specimen is rather interesting. It is reproduced in Fig. 8. The two handles are restored in plasticene



FIG. 9.—Arab "horse-head" handle. (Full-face and side view.)

by myself. At first I thought it was a lamp, but its resemblance to a baby's feeding bottle always struck me. It is of painted ware and belongs to about the 7th–9th century, A.D. A fragment of another similar to it was also found. To-day we picked up half of another one in the debris filling of the tower, and our foreman told me at once it was for giving a drink to a child. Similar feeding-bottles from the Swiss lake dwellings are figured in Déchelette's *Manuel d'Archéologie*.

Many curious shapes of jar-handles have been found, of which Fig. 9 is an unusual type. The end facing out from the jar

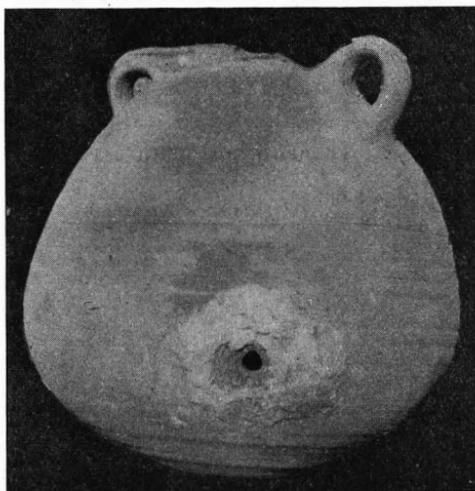


FIG. 10.—Arab *zir* or water-pot.



FIG. 11.—Arab stone lamp.

represents the head of a horse wearing a bridle. The stem of the handle continued from the mouth of the horse down to the shoulder of the jar. The side view is given in the same figure.

Fig. 10 represents a water-pot. Either it had been broken and



FIG. 12.—Arab "gargoyle."



FIG. 13.—Arab animal figure (? dog, lion).

repaired with lime plaster ; or the hole had been made intentionally to hold a stopper which was fixed in with plaster.

Figs. 11-13 are illustrations of Arab carving in stone. One is a lamp in soft limestone. Another is a grotesque animal head. It is equally puzzling whichever end is turned up, but the flat end was the top originally. The third is supposed to represent a dog or lion. Its ears have been broken off. The back is hollowed out to form two small fluted cups for eye-paint or some such material.

We thus continue to find every age represented, from the late Arab back to Canaanite of the Neolithic Age. If not in the City of David itself, we find proofs of the various occupations in the rubbish outside the eastern wall.

JERUSALEM,
28th May, 1924.
