

SURVEY OF BYZANTINE AND ISLAMIC SITES IN JORDAN
THIRD SEASON PRELIMINARY REPORT (1982)
THE SOUTHERN GHÖR

by
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The third (1982) season of our survey of Byzantine and Islamic sites in Jordan concentrated on the south-eastern coast of the Dead Sea, known as the southern Ghör, and on Wadi 'Arabah. The present preliminary report deals with fieldwork in the southern Ghör between el-Ḥadītha in the north, on the eastern shore of the Dead Sea, and el-Khanazīra in the south. South of el-Khanazīra lies Wadi 'Arabah. A second preliminary report will be published on our fieldwork in the 'Arabah.

The southern Ghör has been examined by a number of visitors since the mid-19th century. The principal observations of an archaeological character since that date were made by H.B. Tristram in 1872¹, by A. Musil in the years between 1897 and 1902², and by an expedition that involved soundings at certain sites, led by W.F. Albright in 1924³. An extensive survey was conducted in the southern Ghör and Wadi 'Arabah by F. Frank in 1932 and again in 1933-4.⁴ He was followed by N. Glueck in 1934,⁵ who covered a number of the same sites. The most significant research in recent years has been undertaken by W. Rast and R.T. Schaub who made an archaeological survey of the southern Ghör in 1973, and subsequently carried out major excavations at Bāb edh-Dhra' and at en-Numayra.⁶ Although principally concerned with the Bronze and Iron Age

occupation of the region, Rast and Schaub made useful observations on later periods. In 1980, D. McCreery undertook a survey of the area and noted the degree to which it was changing as a result of modernization of the agricultural and industrial sectors with a consequent effect on the archaeological sites of the Ghör. Our own interest in the region arose from the fact that earlier expeditions had noted the presence of Islamic ceramics at sites in the southern Ghör — especially Glueck, Rast and Schaub and McCreery — and yet the area was at the time virtually unknown to Islamicists. It therefore seemed useful to examine the sites of the area to consider them in the light of their occupation in Byzantine and Islamic times, with the particular intention of investigating how the area related to the rest of Jordan in the early Islamic period and also to consider the area's settlement in later Islamic times (Fig. 1).

FIELD REPORT (G.R.D. King)

The Dead Sea Coast (Fig. 2)

El-Ḥadītha

Map reference: 3152 IV, K737, ed. I: YV 414 648⁷.

Elevation: -340/-360m.

Visit: 17th August, 1982.

1. H.B. Tristram, *The Land of Moab*, London (1873), p. 38-65.
2. A. Munsil, *Arabia Petraea*, Vienna, I. Moab (1907); II. Edom, I, 2. Teil (1908).
3. W.F. Albright, 'The Archaeological Results of an Expedition to Moab and the Dead Sea', *BASOR* 14 (April, 1924), p. 2-12
W.F. Albright, 'The Jordan Valley in the Bronze Age', *AASOR* VI (1924-5), p. 13-74.

4. F. Frank, 'Aus der 'Araba I. Reiseberichte', *ZDPV* 57 (1934), p. 191-280.
5. N. Glueck, 'Explorations in Eastern Palestine II', *AASOR* XV (1934-35), p. 1-202.
6. W.E. Rast and R.T. Schaub, 'Survey of the Southeastern Plain of the Dead Sea, 1973', *ADAJ* (1974) XIX, p. 5-53.
7. Map references throughout are to the 1:50,000 series.

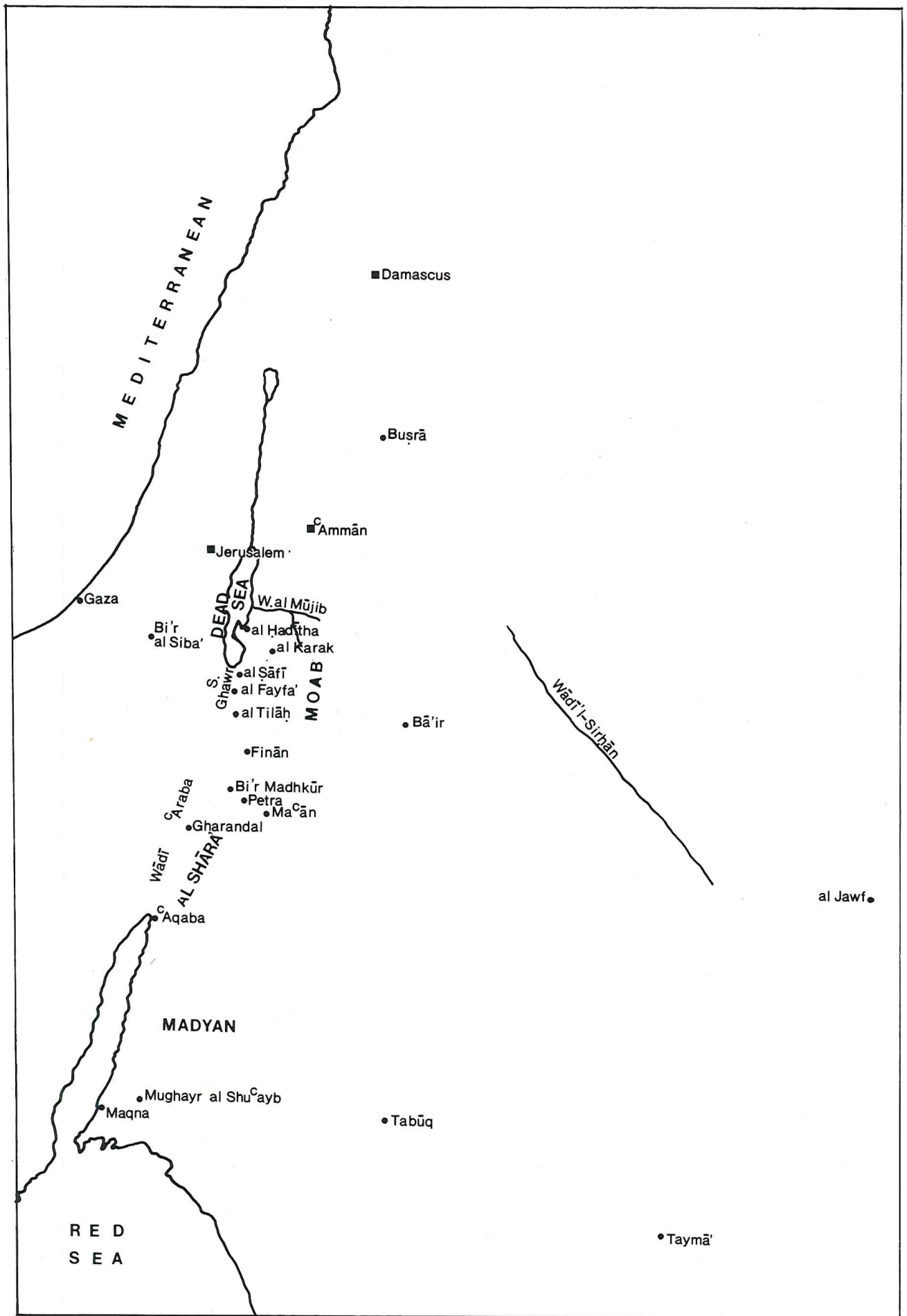


Fig. 1: Bilād esh-Shām and north-west 'Arabah.

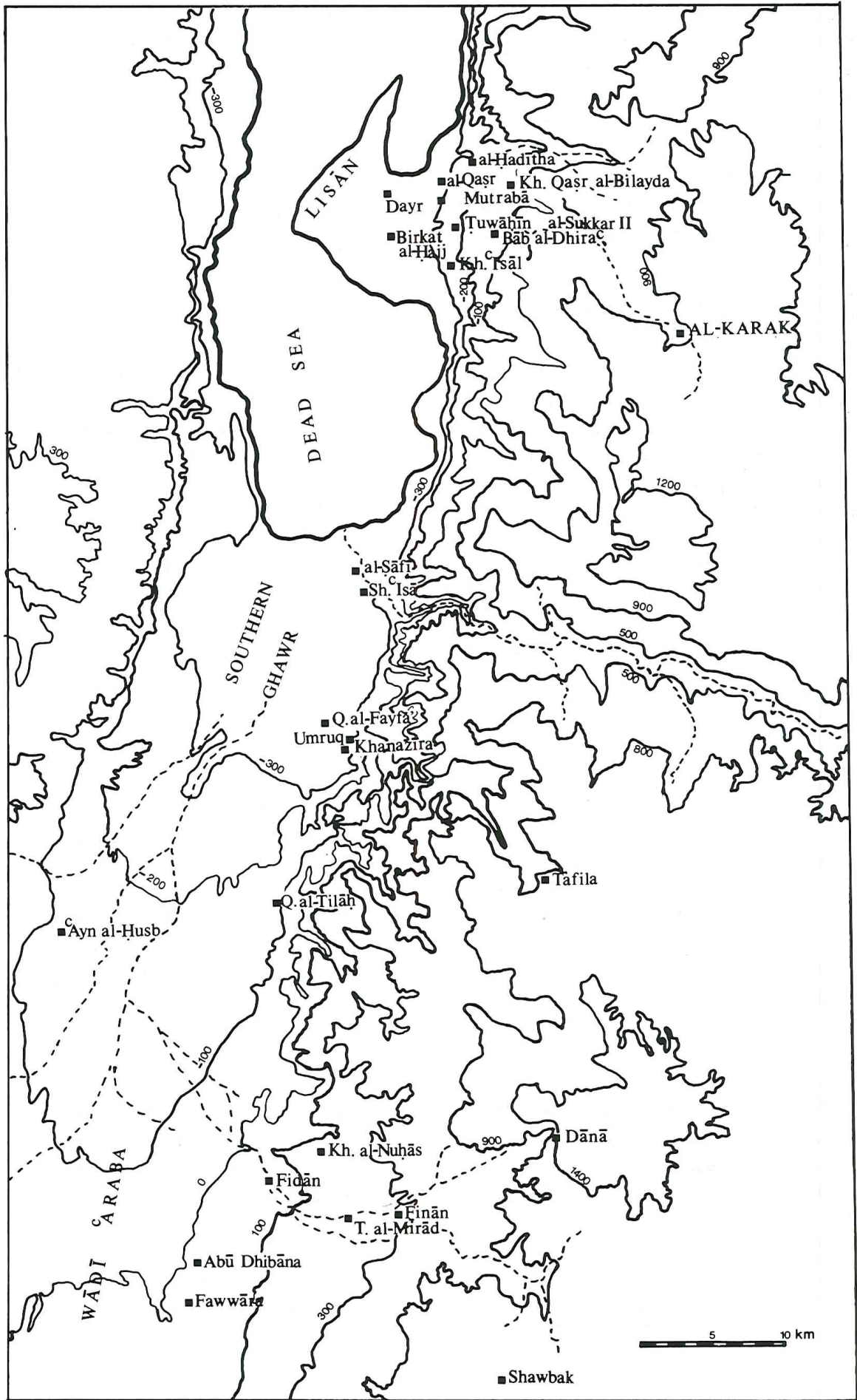


Fig. 2: The Dead Sea shore: southern Ghor and northern Wadi 'Arabah.

El-Ḥadītha is the northernmost important settlement on the eastern coastal plain of the Dead Sea and represents the northernmost limit of the present survey.⁸ The town is on the edge of extensive agricultural land, and although modern, it is built over the ruins and mounds of an earlier settlement. Among the more prominent architectural features are the remains of arches of older ruined buildings. A mosaic pavement with white tesserae has been partly destroyed, but may be taken to be of Byzantine date. The earliest sherds from the site were of Bronze Age date, but more numerous were sherds of Byzantine and of later Islamic date. Among the latter, Mamluk and especially Ottoman wares were well represented. This pattern of Byzantine followed by a marked later Islamic occupation is encountered through much of the southern Ghōr and also in Wādī 'Arabah to the south.

Qal'at el-Ḥadītha

Map reference: 3152 IV, K737, ed. I: YV 415 650/416 651.

Elevation: -320m.

Visit: 18th August, 1982.

On higher ground, immediately to the north of el-Ḥadītha town is a fortress known as Qal'at el-Ḥadītha, which is apparently Ottoman in date. It is still in use by the army and could not be examined. However, just to the east of this late fortress are the remains of masonry walls of substantial ashlar, reduced to foundations describing a rectangle 8.5m. x 7.18m. There are also the remains of other walls. One hesitates to ascribe a date to these walls on surface ceramic collection, which is the only dating evidence available. Among the ceramics located are sherds indicating Byzantine, Mamluk and Ottoman period settlement, as well as scantier numbers from earlier dates. The sherds in larger numbers correspond in general to

the main sherd concentrations from el-Ḥadītha town below.

El-Qaṣr

Map reference: 3152 IV, K737, ed. I: YV 415 644.

Elevation: -350m.

Visit: 19th August, 1982.

A small *rujm* known as el-Qaṣr is located on the rising slopes to the east of the coastal road from el-Ḥadītha to eṣ-Ṣāfī, 0.7 km. south of el-Ḥadītha. The site was apparently a tower although it is now no more than a mass of collapsed stone. The few sherds found pointed to Iron Age, Roman and Ottoman activity at the site, although it must be stressed that the sherds were all washed down the slope, rather than in el-Qaṣr itself.

Mutrabā East

Map reference: 3152 IV, K737, Provisional printing YV 411 637.

Elevation: -340m.

Visit: 17th August, 1982.

Mutrabā, 1.2 km. south of el-Ḥadītha, is an uninhabited area east of the coastal road with two sites, presumed to be related because of their proximity, and which are termed here Mutrabā East and Mutrabā West. Mutrabā East stands on higher ground, above Mutrabā West about 200m. away. Mutrabā East is reduced to no more than the stone wall traces of a well-built rectangular structure, now almost entirely destroyed. It encompasses several scattered ashy deposits. Ceramics collected provide evidence of Nabataean and Roman period settlement and there were larger numbers of sherds of Byzantine date. Although the Late Byzantine period was represented, Islamic sherds were far fewer in number, with only small quantities of Post-Umayyad, Fatimid and Ottoman sherds found.

8. Only D. McCreery seems to have examined the area carefully before our survey, although Musil

(*Arabia Petraea* I, Moab, p. 160) passed through the district.

Mutrabā West

Map reference: 3152 IV, K737, Provisional printing YV 412 637.

Elevation: -360m.

Visit: 17th August, 1982.

Mutrabā West lies downhill from Mutrabā East at a distance of about 200m. The main feature is a rectangular structure reduced to stone wall traces. It is best preserved on the north side where it stands to two courses. Among the numerous sherds collected were Nabataean and Roman-Nabataean wares and a large number of Byzantine wares. The Post-Umayyad, Fatimid and Ottoman sherds found at Mutrabā East were also found at Mutrabā West, although the numbers were once again very small.

Khirbet Qaşr el-Bilayda

Map reference: 3152 IV, K737, Provisional printing YV 450 635.

Elevation: -60m.

Visit: 18th August, 1982.

Khirbet Qaşr el-Bilayda stands on the summit of a steep hill overlooking Wadi el-Karak to the south, and has numerous wall traces and graves scattered over the level summit. The earliest sherds located were of Early Bronze date, but Roman-Nabataean, Roman and Byzantine sherds were far more numerous. Although Islamic sherds were noted, these were very few in number.

Ṭawāḥin es-Sukkar II

Map reference: 3152 IV, K737, Provisional printing YV 408 606.

Elevation: -300m.

Visit: 9th August, 1981; 10-11th August, 1982.

To the west of Bāb edh-Dhra' is an area bearing the name of Ṭawāḥin es-

Sukkar (Sugar mills) which refers to a mill now vanished but whose position is pointed out still by the local people. The main material evidence remaining is in the form of ashy material covering a broad area between the site and the tarmac road from el-Karak. Numerous sherds were found in this ashy material. A number of Early Bronze Age sherds were found, but the largest component was of Mamluk and Ottoman date⁹. At the site in 1981, we located glazed wasters indicating that some of the later Islamic glazed wares were produced locally.

Ṭawāḥin es-Sukkar II: Western Site

Map reference: 3152 IV, K737, Provisional printing YV 400 606.

Elevation: -320m.

Visit: 9th August, 1981; 10-11th August, 1982.

This site is a low mound on the north side of the Karak highway, at its junction with the Dead Sea coastal road. It is devoid of architectural remains but has numerous glass and pottery sherds. Although a few Early Bronze and Nabataean sherds were found, the largest number were of Roman and Byzantine date. Some sherds of Islamic date were located, they all belonged to the later Islamic period.

The Lisān Peninsula (Fig. 3 & Pl. LXXIII,1)

Deir, Lisān Peninsula

Map reference: 3052 I, K737, Provisional printing YV 366 621.

Elevation: -360m.

Visit: 10th August, 1982.

A ruined building known locally as *Deir el-Qaṭṭal el-Bizantī* or *Deir el-Kaṭṭar el-Bizantī* stands in the desolate country of the north-eastern part of the Lisān Peninsula¹⁰. It occupies a confined, narrowing site above precipitous cliffs, and

9. For a nearby and probably related site, see D.W. McCreery, 'Preliminary Report of the A.P.C. Archaeological Survey', ADAJ XXII (1977-78), p. 150-161.

10. Musil, *Arabia Petraea* I. Moab, p. 164-166. Musil described the building as a "Kerje-Bau" or "Kloster".

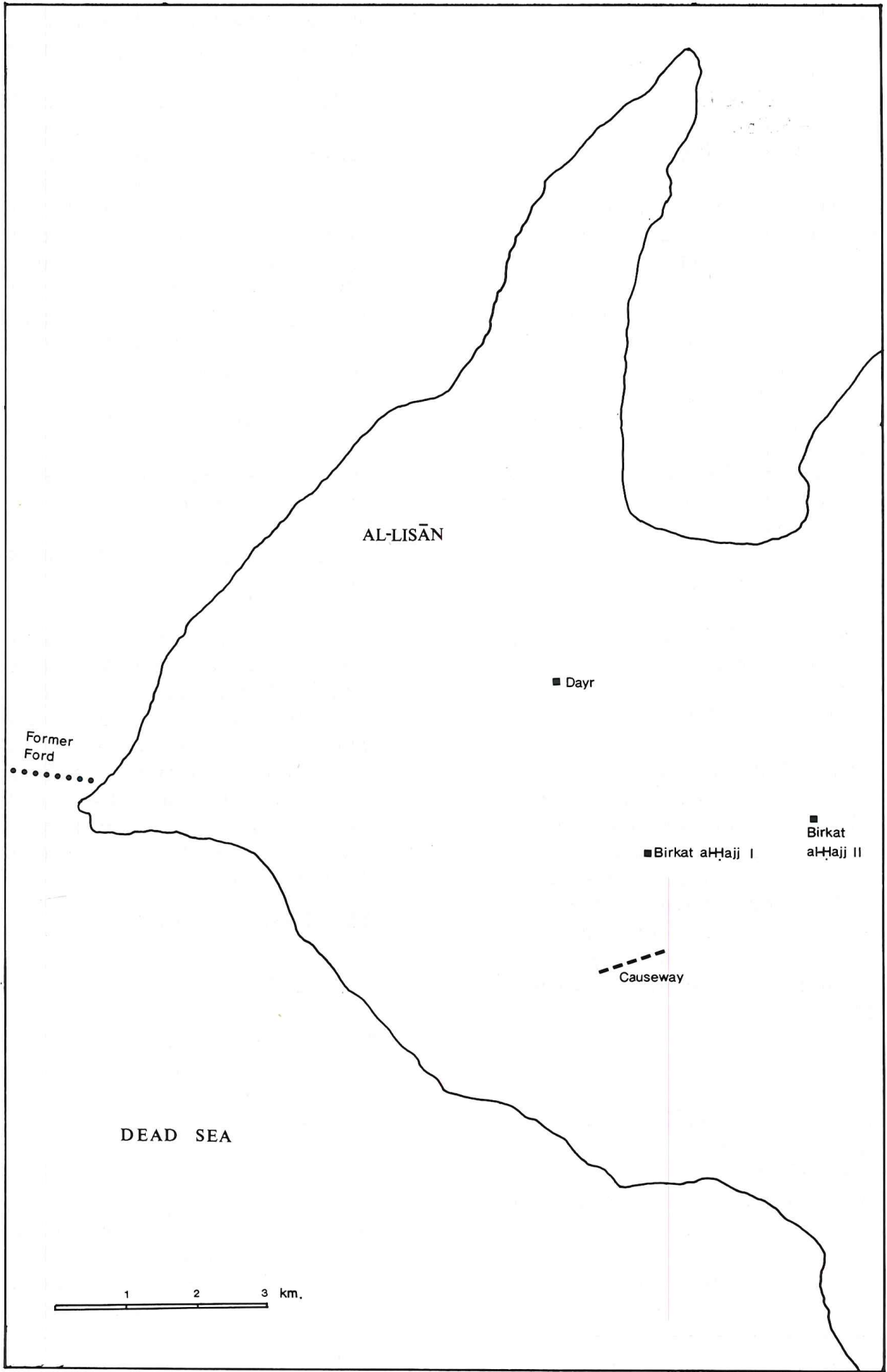


Fig. 3: Sites on the Lisān Peninsula.

consists of eroded ruins of a mud-brick building, reduced now to little more than mounds. Large numbers of sherds were recovered, principally from the slope below the *Deir*. We also found marble and green glass mosaic cubes. The majority of the sherds were of Byzantine date, tending to lend credence to the local view — expressed in the site's name — that we are dealing with a Byzantine monastery in the desolation of the Lisān, yet not too far from the farmland of Ghōr el-Mazra'a.

Causeway or dyke (Pl. LXXIII,2)

Map reference: 3052 I, K737, Provisional printing YV 360 605 (approximate).
Elevation: -340m.
Visit: 10th August, 19th August, 1st September, 1982.

Running for over 100m. distance in the southern Lisān peninsula is a raised embankment which was initially identified as a *qanah*, but subsequent excavation suggested that it was a raised causeway or dyke. Towards the western end the feature terminates in a deep ravine. The only dating suggestion that can be made is based on a sherd scatter found along its course. The sherds were all possibly Byzantine.

Birket el-Hajj I

Map reference: 3052 II, K737, Provisional printing YV 376 598/378 600.
Elevation: -360m.
Visit: 10th August, 1982.

On the Lisān Peninsula a great open pit was described to us as Birket el-Hajj, a water tank for the Islamic pilgrimage. The pit may be natural. There can be no doubt that it would fill with water in wet seasons, although in summer when we saw it, it was dry.

Birket el-Hajj II

Map reference: 3152 III, K737, Provisional

printing YV 403 571.
Elevation: -380m.
Visit: 10th August, 1982.

Another site known as Birket el-Hajj is situated in the south-east Lisān, just to the west of the tarmac road along the coast. This tank, in contrast to Birket el-Hajj I, was man-made. It was noted by earlier travellers and is certainly old, but its present condition dates from a refurbishment of 1965. The *birkeh* is presumed to have been used by caravans marching between el-Karak on the highlands of Moab and eṣ-Ṣāfi at the south end of the Dead Sea.

The Lisān Ford

Until the mid-19th century there was a ford from the west coast of the Dead Sea to the Lisān. There is no trace of this now, it seems, although we did not examine the western shore of the Peninsula which is a restricted area. According to 19th century cartographers and travellers, the ford had vanished by 1830. Early maps show this ford and in 1872 Tristram met a man who had used it¹¹. Attention is drawn to this vanished crossing because its existence allows for direct passage from Palestine to Moab via the Lisān without skirting the Dead Sea. The ford may explain the location of Birket el-Hajj I and the Deir (and perhaps of Birket el-Hajj II), neither of which would have been in a cul-de-sac as they appear to be today if a direct road over the Lisān had existed. While the ford does not appear to have been easy to cross because of the depth of the water, it had the advantage of making the journey shorter than that around the Dead Sea via eṣ-Ṣāfi.

Khirbet I'sāl

Map reference: I) 3152 III, K737, Provisional printing YV 415 532.
II) 3152 III, K737, Provisional printing YV 417 532.

11. Tristram, *op. cit.*, facing p. 33 and p. 35.

Elevation: -380m.
Visit: 11th August, 1982.

In the mouth of Ghōr I'sāl are two sites to the east of the coastal road, lying about 100m. from each other. The westernmost site is a fallen mass of sandstone which was a small tower. Sherding by earlier expeditions probably explains the paucity of ceramics found at the site¹². Such sherds as we located mainly showed activity at the site in Byzantine and in later Islamic times.

The more easterly site, a mound of rather soft soil, had larger quantities of sherds, with the earliest of Iron I date, while the largest quantities were of Byzantine and Mamluk date. Although small in number, the presence of two Umayyad sherds is noteworthy in an area where they are rare. A single Fatimid sherd was found which is significant inasmuch as there is a persistent indication of Fatimid period activity in the whole area, albeit indicated usually by extremely small quantities of pottery.

The Area of eṣ-Ṣāfi (Fig. 4)

Ṭawāḥin es-Sukkar I and Qaṣr eṭ-Ṭūba, eṣ-Ṣāfi (Pl. LXXIV,1,2)

Map reference: 3052 II, K737; YV 366 345 (Incorrectly marked at YV 381 339).

Elevation: -300m.

Visit: 9th August, 1981; 9th August, 16th August, 1982.

To the south-east of eṣ-Ṣāfi is a ruined rectangular building known as Qaṣr eṭ-Ṭūba on account of its building material, unfired mud brick (*tūb*).¹³ Other names given to this building are Qaṣr el-Bushariya and el-Mashnaqa (although the latter name may refer to the area as a whole). Built within and behind Qaṣr eṭ-Ṭūba to the south-east is a *ṭaḥunet sukkar* (sugar mill) referred to here as Ṭawāḥin es-Sukkar I to

distinguish it from that near Bāb edh-Dhra'. Immediately to the south of the Ṭawāḥin is a low hill where Rast and Schaub identified Early Bronze age graves¹⁴.

The Qaṣr is a rectangular structure built of mud brick and with good masonry used for vaults. It is built around a central courtyard and it is entered by a single entrance passageway in the north-west side built in well cut stone: this masonry was apparently coated with plaster. The passageway was probably the sole designated entrance to the Qaṣr. On the north-east side of the courtyard there are no visible traces of rooms but remains of rooms can be easily identified on the south-west side. On the south-east side of the courtyard there are foundations of walls in stone.

The Ṭawāḥin to the south-east is apparently of different date to the Qaṣr. It consists now of two massive stone side walls running parallel which supported the mechanism of the sugar mill. Arches opened the side walls, while a pair of plastered water channels once ran down the two side walls. Both are now damaged.

A number of Byzantine sherds were found in and around Qaṣr eṭ-Ṭūba as well as a few post-Umayyad sherds. There were still more Mamluk sherds. On the hill behind the Ṭawāḥin where Rast and Schaub had identified Early Bronze tombs, we found Early Bronze and Iron Age sherds but on the same hill closer towards the Ṭawāḥin, a number of Byzantine sherds were also found (12D, E). The dating of the Qaṣr and Ṭawāḥin remains uncertain. The mud mortar samples taken from the Qaṣr walls contained no sherds later than post-Umayyad or possibly Fatimid date, and it seems plausible that the Ṭawāḥin is of Mamluk date. The sherd readings from Qaṣr eṭ-Ṭūba/Ṭawāḥin es-Sukkar should be seen in conjunction with those of the site of Shaykh 'Isā nearby, which was without doubt related to the Qaṣr and Ṭawāḥin.

12. Glueck, 'Explorations... II,' p. 6.
L.K. Jacobs, 'Survey of the South Ridge of the Wadi 'Isal, 1981', *ADAJ* XXVII (1983), p. 267-268.

13. Tristram, *op. cit.*, p. 48-49.
Frank, *op. cit.*, p. 205 and Plan 8.
Glueck, 'Explorations... II', p. 7-9.

14. Rast and Schaub, *op. cit.*, p. 9-11.

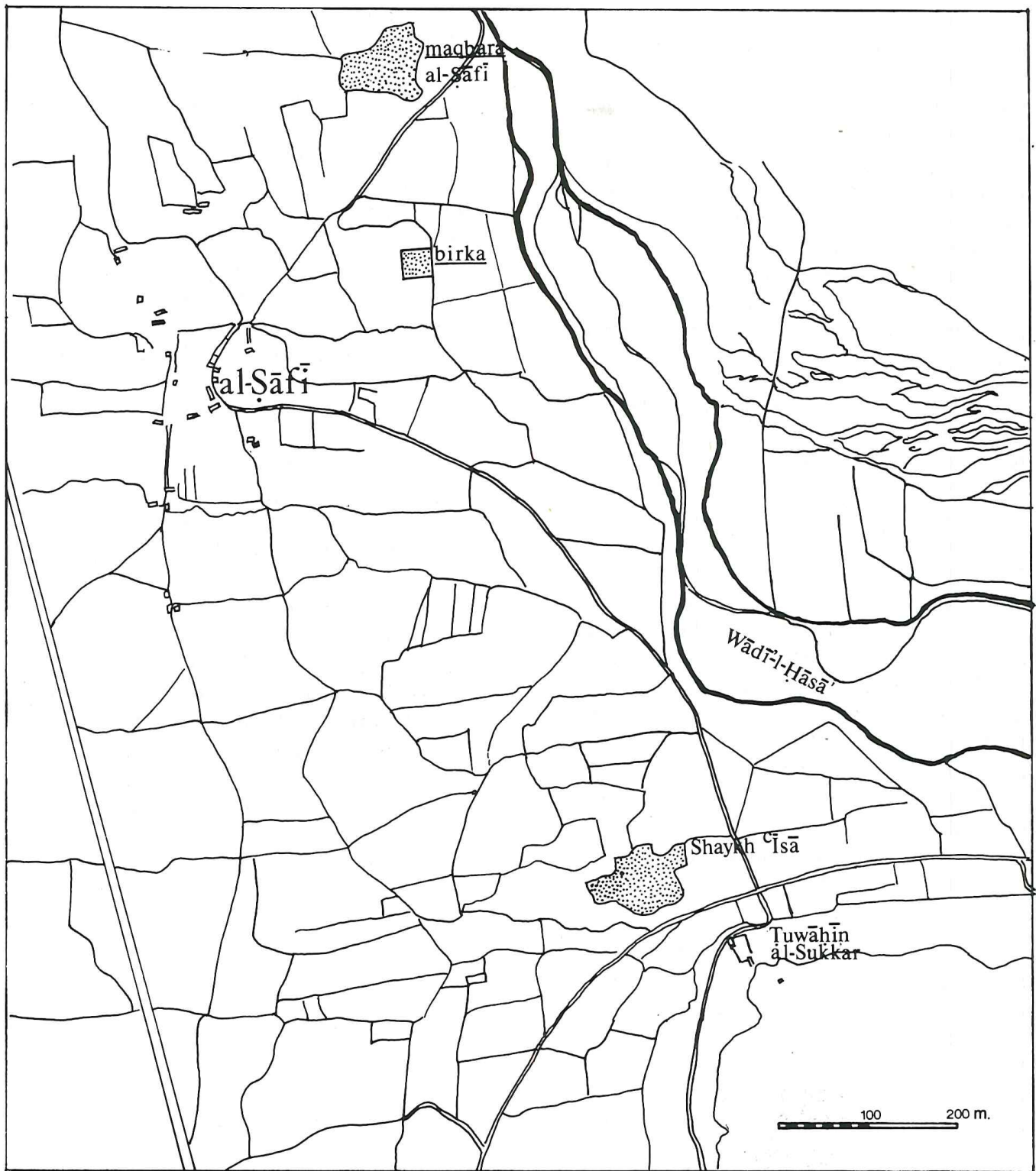


Fig. 4: Sites in the area of eṣ-Ṣāfi.

Shaykh 'Isā

Map reference: 3052 II, K737, ed. I: YV
363 350 (el-Mashnaqa on the map).

Elevation: -350m.

Visit: 9th August, 1981; 9th August, 1982.

Shaykh 'Isā is a tell nearly 150m. north-north-west of Qaṣr eṭ-Ṭūba, surrounded by fields and irrigation ditches¹⁵. The tell has a number of graves including that of Shaykh 'Isā, which gives it its present name. The graves have ensured the

15. Tristram, *op. cit.*, p. 47ff.
Frank, *op. cit.*, p. 204-205.
Glueck, 'Explorations ...II', p. 8-9.

preservation of the tell from the encroachment of farmland. The tell consists to a large extent of soft soil that conceals the underlying structures, although some stretches of wall with good masonry are visible. It appears that when Tristram and Frank visited the site in 1872 and 1932 respectively, more architecture survived, or at least, the local people could point out where more masonry had once stood. Albright made a sounding here in 1924 and found that the accumulation of cultural deposit reached 3 m.¹⁶

Our collection of sherds produced a small amount of Chalcolithic/Early Bronze age pottery which must relate to the Early Bronze site to the south-east, on the hill above the Ṭawāḥin eṣ-Sukkar/Qaṣr eṭ-Ṭūba site. From later periods, Nabataean and Roman-Nabataean sherds were located and a number of sherds of Byzantine date were also found, although the number of Late Byzantine sherds was small. No early Islamic sherds were identified. From later Islamic times were three Fatimid sherds and as elsewhere in the region a marked increase in the number of Mamluk and Ottoman sherds was observed, both unglazed and glazed. We also found glazed wasters, indicating that Shaykh 'Isā is to be numbered among the ceramic producing areas of the region.

The sherd readings are interesting regarding the Byzantine and the early Islamic periods. Although relatively few Byzantine sherds were found, we know that the site was important in this period, being identified with the Zoara of the Madaba mosaic map. The Arabic geographers refer to it as Zughar and as a flourishing town in Early Islamic times.

El-Maqbara, eṣ-Ṣāfi

Map reference: 3052 II, K737, ed. I: YV 358 368.

Elevation: -370m.

Visit: 1st September, 1982.

To the north-west of eṣ-Ṣāfi is a graveyard known simply as el-Maqbara. It lies north-north-west of Shaykh 'Isā and Ṭawāḥin eṣ-Sukkar I/Qaṣr eṭ-Ṭūba. The Maqbara site has not been recorded before¹⁷. It is a low tell of soft material with a dark ashy quality that is reminiscent of Shaykh 'Isā. There were no signs of architecture on the surface. In contrast to the other sites around eṣ-Ṣāfi, the Maqbara had apparently not had sherds collected from it before and they were plentiful as a result of this fortunate neglect.

Very few Early Bronze, Iron or Roman sherds were found, but Byzantine sherds were well represented. Just as at the Ṭawāḥin eṣ-Sukkar I/Qaṣr eṭ-Ṭūba and Shaykh 'Isā sites, the early Islamic period was unrepresented. However, a number of Fatimid sherds were located in rather greater quantity than was normal at other sites in the southern Ghōr. The largest number of sherds at the Maqbara site were of Mamluk, Mamluk/Ottoman and Ottoman date, a pattern which corresponds to that elsewhere in the area. The evidence of the Maqbara shows, as does the evidence from the other sites around eṣ-Ṣāfi, that the later Islamic period was one of major activity.

Birkeh, eṣ-Ṣāfi

Map reference: 3052 II, K737, ed. I: YV 360 365.

Elevation: -360m.

Visit: 1st September, 1982.

A rectangular *birkeh*, about 60m. a side lies to the south of the *Maqbara* at eṣ-Ṣāfi, at a distance of about 350m. The revetment is of cut stone. There was no direct dating evidence, although a few sherds of Byzantine and Mamluk date were located near to the *birkeh*.

16. Albright, 'The Archaeological Results of an Expedition to Moab and the Dead Sea', *BASOR* 14 (April, 1924), p. 3.

17. Dr. D. McCreery was the first to discover the site and kindly accompanied the writer to it.

A modern canal runs along the course of Wādī el-Ḥasā on its south side as it debouches into Ghōr eṣ-Şāfi. Although modern, the local people state that the canal system replaces an ancient one described by them as “Roman”.

Umm eṭ-Ṭuwābīn (Pl. LXXV)

Map reference: 3052 II, K737, ed. I: YV 380 337.

Elevation: -165m.

Visit: 1st September, 1982.

To the south-east of eṣ-Şāfi is a high mountain on whose upper slopes and summit is a site named Umm eṭ-Ṭuwābīn. On the north side the hill falls away to Wādī el-Ḥasā.¹⁸ To the west and more especially the south, the hill falls more gently, and from these sides it is defended by walls. To the west its lowest slopes continue until they end in the low eminence immediately behind Ṭawāḥin es-Sukkar I/Qaṣr eṭ-Ṭūba.

From the high ground on which Umm eṭ-Ṭuwābīn stands it is possible to survey much of the southern Ghōr and the southern Dead Sea. There are numerous remains scattered over this extensive site, the most striking of which is the defensive wall on the south side. Although collapsed, its outline can be identified, with two large rectangular towers flanking the entrance on each side. The upper ridges leading to the mountain summit have numerous remains including water tanks and a number of graves. The scale of the fortification and the natural strategic importance of Umm eṭ-Ṭuwābīn make it the most impressive military position in the southern Ghōr. Its discovery by D. McCreery adds a major military aspect to the group of sites around eṣ-Şāfi. It seems very likely that Umm

eṭ-Ṭuwābīn must be related to the military fortification of Umm Ubtūlah further east along Wādī el-Ḥasa, located by B. MacDonald¹⁹.

Zoara

The sites around eṣ-Şāfi — Shaykh ‘Isā, Ṭawāḥin es-Sukkar/Qaṣr eṭ-Ṭūba and the Maqbara— are all presumed to be related to the Byzantine town of Zoara (or Zoar), and the Zughar of the Arabic geographers. Zoara is placed in this area in the 6th century Madaba mosaic map. It was a garrison town with a contingent of local cavalry (*Equites sagittarii indigenae*) according to the *Notitia Dignitatum* of the early 4th century A.D. and it had a bishop. It is important to stress this evidence because the numbers of Byzantine period sherds were less than might have been expected for such a prominent local centre. As to which of the group of sites at eṣ-Şāfi constituted the centre of Zoara, it seems most likely that Shaykh ‘Isā should be so identified. However, erosion of other ruins by farming cannot be excluded. The existence of the massive fortress of Umm eṭ-Ṭuwābīn above eṣ-Şāfi may have been connected with Zoara’s garrison role.

The Area Between eṣ-Şāfi and Wadi ‘Arabah

Qaṣr el-Fayfā/el-Fayfā el-Gharbiyya

Map reference: 3051 I, K737; YV 335 259.

Elevation: -350m.

Visit: 9th August, 1982.

In the modern village of el-Fayfā is a low tell with the remains of a large rectangular structure, built of mud brick, and known as Qaṣr el-Fayfā²⁰, although the name el-Fayfā el-Gharbiyya was also given to us as an alternative. The preservation of the tell has been assured by the presence of Islamic graves.

18. Dr. D. McCreery appears to have been the first to realize the importance of the site.

19. B. MacDonald, ‘Umm Ubtūlah: A Nabataean and/or Roman Military Site Along the North Side of the Wadi El Hasā in Southern Jordan’,

ADAJ XXVIII (1984), p. 183-189.

20. Albright, ‘The Archaeological Results of an Expedition to Moab and the Dead Sea’, *BASOR* 14 (April, 1924), p. 8. Frank, *op. cit.*, p. 209-210: Plan 11. Glueck, ‘Explorations... II’, p. 9-10.

is now in very poor condition, far worse than Qaṣr eṭ-Ṭūba at eṣ-Ṣāfi. In places the walls have vanished and the doorway on a north-south axis is only identified tentatively. A massive stone olive press is to be found inside the Qaṣr: this was noted by earlier visitors.

A single Early Bronze sherd was found, perhaps to be seen in context of the site to the east known as Khirbet el-Fayfā. A number of Byzantine sherds located suggest activity in the period. It is already known from the Madaba mosaic map that a place known as Praesidium existed in this locality and it may be the same place to which the Bi'r es-Sab' Edict and the *Notitia Dignitatum* refer at an earlier date.

The numbers of Mamluk and Mamluk/Ottoman sherds seem to indicate a resurgence at the site in the later Islamic period, corresponding to what is the general pattern in the rest of the southern Ghōr. However, on the present evidence it seems unwise to ascribe a date to the mud brick qaṣr on the basis of sherd collections. It may be that the qaṣr should be dated to the later Islamic period —Mamluk or Ottoman— but this suggestion is made with considerable hesitancy. It should also be added that the site seems to have been one of those affected by repeated sherd collection, and the relative numbers of ceramics located may have been distorted by this process.

Khirbet el-Fayfā

Map reference: 3051 I, K737; YV 360 254.
Elevation: -290m.
Visit: 8th August, 1982.

To the east of the asphalt road between eṣ-Ṣāfi and Wādī 'Arabah is a large tell known as Khirbet el-Fayfā²¹. This eminence gives a prospect encompassing the farmed land towards the west, towards Qaṣr el-Fayfā. On the western end of the tell are traces of what may have been a

ly Bronze Age graves which were first identified by Rast and Schaub. There are also modern graves on the tell. The tell has been badly affected by erosion. A collection of Early Bronze sherds was found generally distributed over the tell with Roman-Nabataean, Roman-Byzantine and Byzantine sherds mainly concentrated towards the western end of the tell. From the same area came numbers of Mamluk and Mamluk-Ottoman sherds.

Site West of Khirbet el-Fayfā

Map reference: 3051 I, K737; YV 357 253.
Elevation: -300m.
Visit: 16th August, 1982.

Immediately to the west of Khirbet el-Fayfā, an ancient site has been cleared to make way for a ploughed field. The scattered remains of masonry and sherds are found beyond the perimeter of the field, especially around the edges. A number of Early Bronze and Iron Age sherds were found. Byzantine sherds represent the largest number of later ceramics located.

Qaṣr Umruq

Map reference: 3051 I, K737, Provisional printing YV 353 228.
Elevation: -320m.
Visit: 8th August, 1982.

Qaṣr Umruq is a tumbled stone structure, apparently the remains of a rectangular tower²². It is situated on the edge of Wādī Umruq, to the east of the asphalt road from el-Fayfā into Wadi 'Arabah. The sherds located were interesting: They included possibly Iron Age sherds which were well represented while Roman-Byzantine and Byzantine sherds were an important component as they are elsewhere in the district, but most striking was the unusually high number of post-Umayyad sherds. Later occupation was

21. Rast and Schaub, *op. cit.*, p. 11-12; p. 17-18.

22. Musil, *Arabia Petraea* II, Edom, p. 210.

indicated by Ottoman and later sherds.

Khanazîra

Map reference: 3051 I, K737, Provisional printing YV 331 198.

Elevation: -175m.

Visit: 8th August, 1982.

Khanazîra is a major site at the southern end of the southern Ghôr, just before the land rises to the Wādî 'Arabah escarpment²³. The site of Khanazîra consists of a high tell overlooking the Ghôr with a very large cemetery on the plain to the south of the tell. There are a number of collapsed structural remains on the summit of the tell although excavation is required to elucidate a ground-plan. The tell is threatened by both natural erosion and by earth moving. Rast and Schaub had identified Early Bronze and Iron Age sherds and we also located a few Early Bronze, (possible) Late Bronze and Iron Age sherds on the tell and in the cemetery. From later times, some Nabataean and Roman sherds were found, while Byzantine sherds were well represented everywhere, especially in the cemetery. Later sherds were very poorly represented.

Conclusion

The archaeological evidence from the Southern Ghôr, as we have seen, has tended to be neglected in the past as far as the Byzantine and the Islamic periods are concerned. Our survey has shown that everywhere in the area, the Byzantine period was one of major efflorescence. The distribution of sites with Byzantine sherds shows just how widespread activity was in this period, the archaeological evidence conforming with the implications of the literary and epigraphic evidence. In some cases, this Byzantine period settlement continued from Roman and Nabataean times. In this sequence, the Byzantine period usually emerges as one of the most important. The issue of early Islamic

period settlement is more uncertain, with few sherds of this date being identified. The precise meaning of our evidence has yet to be established and it is probably premature to speak with any confidence of a decline by Umayyad times. However, for the later Islamic period there is no shortage of evidence of settlement and resettlement in the area. There is a recurrent, if generally slender, indication of activity in the region in Fatimid times, followed by very clear evidence of settlement in Mamluk times. At some sites, this Mamluk period activity continued into the Ottoman period. The later Islamic period in the Southern Ghôr must be seen in context of the importance of the emirate of el-Karak in the Mamluk period. The region around el-Karak is one which has been neglected until recent times, despite its prominence as a major Mamluk centre in Bilād esh-Sham: the chronology of Southern Ghôr sites based on sherd evidence suggests a close link to el-Karak's later Islamic period of eminence.

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23. Frank, *op. cit.*, p. 211-213.

Glueck, 'Explorations... II', p. 10-11.

Rast and Schaub, *op. cit.*, p. 12-14; 18.

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The team consisted of the following members: Dr. Geoffrey King, formerly of King Saud University, al-Riyād, Director; Mrs. J.L. King, Field Supervisor and researcher; Dr. C.J. Lenzen, Yarmouk University, ceramics expert; Ms. A. Newhall Whittier, Harvard University, ceramics expert; Mr. James Khālid Deemer, Harvard University, Field Supervisor and researcher; Dr. G.O. Rollefson acted as lithics expert to the survey. Mr. J.E. Dayton reported on samples of metal slag and Mrs. C. Tubb, Institute of Archaeology, University of London, cleaned metal objects found by the Survey. In the field we were kindly accompanied as in previous seasons by Mr. Mufleḥ al-Gharayba, as Department of Antiquities Representative. The team-members in the field in the Southern Ghōr consisted of the Director, Mrs. J.L. King and Mr. al-Gharayba. The other members of the team carried out ceramic analysis and research in 'Amman at ACOR. The season in the field lasted from 27 July, 1982 until 14 September, 1982.

G.R.D. King
C.J. Lenzen
A. Newhall
J.L. King
J.D. Deemer

PRELIMINARY POTTERY REPORT
THIRD SEASON (1982)

C.J. Lenzen and A. Newhall Whittier

1. El-Ḥadītha

Unglazed

UD:	35 (30 bs)	
EB:	5 (bs)	
I:	2 (bs)	
R/Nab:	1 (bs)	
R:	1 (bs)	
R/Byz:	3 (bs)	
Byz:	62 (61 bs)	
E-Byz:	4 (bs)	
L-Byz/Um:	1 (bs)	
Fat:	1 (bs)	
Mam:	27 (24 bs)	Presence of sugar pots
Mam-Ott:	28 (24 bs)	
Ott:	209 (174 bs)	
Ott/Mod:	97 (bs)	
Mod:	11 (10 bs)	

Total: 487

Body sherds: 90% (438)

Glazed

Green:	5 (4 bs)	12th-15th C. AD
Green and brown:	4 (2 bs)	12th-15th C. AD
Yellow and green splash:	2 (1 bs)	12th-15th C. AD
Ochre:	5 (2 bs)	12th-15th C. AD
Brown:	1 (bs)	12th-15th C. AD
Brown with yellow stripes:	1	12th-15th C. AD
Brown with green stripes:	1 (bs)	12th-15th C. AD
Black under blue:	1	12th-15th C. AD

Total: 20

Body sherds: 55% (11)

2. Qal'at el-Ḥadītha

Unglazed

UD:	40 (36 bs)
Ch/EB:	1 (bs)
EB:	1 (bs)
I:	2 (bs)
I ² :	2 (bs)
R/Nab:	1
R:	1
R/Byz:	4 (bs)
Byz:	72 (1 bs)
EByz:	1 (bs)
LByz:	1 (bs)
Ay/Mam:	1
Mam:	104 (92 bs)
Mam/Ott:	31 (24 bs)
Ott:	167 (158 bs)
Ott/Mod:	21 (18 bs)

Mod: 26 (25 bs)

Total: 476

Body Sherds: 77% (366)

Glazed

Green splotch:	1	11th-15th C. AD
Green:	6 (2 bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Green with sgraff:	1	11th-15th C. AD
Light green:	5 (2 bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Green and brown:	1 (bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Yellow and green splash:	2	11th-15th C. AD
Yellow and brown splash:	1	11th-15th C. AD
Yellow:	6 (2 bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Ochre:	4 (1 bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Brown:	2 (1 bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Brown with sgraff:	1	11th-15th C. AD
Brown with green stripes:	1	11th-15th C. AD
Brown with yellow stripes:	1	11th-15th C. AD
Turquoise:	1	11th-15th C. AD
White ware:	6 (2 bs)	11th-15th C. AD

Total: 39

Body Sherds: 28% (11)

3. El-Qaşr

Unglazed

UD:	13 (bs)
I:	6 (bs)
R:	28 (bs)
Ott:	2 (bs)

Total: 49

Body sherds: 100%

4. Mutrabā East (Mut 3)

UD:	8 (3 bs)
Nab:	4 (2 bs)
R/Nab:	19 (3 bs)
R:	17 (2 bs)
ER:	1 (bs)
LR/EByz:	1
Byz:	2 (bs)
EByz:	2 (1 bs)
LByz:	2 (bs)
Post-Um:	1 (bs)
Fat:	2 (bs)

Total: 59

Body sherds: 32% (19)

4B. Mutrabā East (Mut 2)

UD:	12 (10 bs)
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R/Nab:	6
R:	19 (6 bs)
LR/EByz:	50 (46 bs)
Byz:	148 (137 bs)
LByz:	63 (59 bs)
Post-Um:	6 (bs)
Ott:	1 (bs)
Ott/Mod:	2 (bs)
Mod:	1 (bs)

Total: 308
Body sherds: 87% (268)

5. Mutrabā West (Mut I)

Unglazed

UD:	88 (85 bs)
I ² :	1 (bs)
Nab:	47 (20 bs)
R/Nab:	29 (19 bs)
ER:	1 (bs)
R:	126 (35 bs)
LR/EByz:	135 (134 bs)
Byz:	764 (751 bs)
LByz:	4 (bs)
LByz/Um:	1 (bs)
Post-Um:	11 (bs)
Fat:	8 (5 bs)
Mod:	11 (bs)

Total: 1226
Body Sherds: 88% (1078)

6. Khirbet Qaşr el-Bilayda

Unglazed

UD:	92 (85 bs)
EB:	9 (bs)
I ² ?:	1 (bs)
Nab:	7
R/Nab:	56 (33 bs)
ER:	101 (13 bs)
R:	164 (158 bs)
LR:	1 (bs)
R/Byz:	450 (444 bs)
Byz:	254 (bs)
EByz:	143 (116 bs)
LByz:	6 (bs)
Fat?:	1
Mam:	1 (bs)
Mam/Ott:	6 (bs)
Ott:	1 (bs)
Ott/Mod:	1 (bs)
Mod:	1

(NB: Sherds were all small and worn)

Total: 1295
Body sherds: 87% (1129)

7. Ṭawāhīn es-Sukkar II:

Unglazed

UD:	49 (38 bs)
EB:	6 (bs)
I:	6 (4 bs)
Byz:	4 (bs)
Fat:	1 (bs)
Ay/Mam:	4 (bs)
Mam:	32 (22 bs)
Mam/Ott:	33 (22 bs)
Ott:	316 (149 bs)
Ott/Mod:	12 (bs)

Total: 463
Body sherds: 57% (262)

Glazed

Green:	74 (60 bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Moulded green:	1 (bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Green with sgraff:	3 (2 bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Green and yellow splash:	4 (3 bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Light green:	3 (2 bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Imitation celadon:	1 (bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Yellow:	34 (27 bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Moulded yellow:	1 (bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Brown freckled yellow:	1 (bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Brown:	3 (2 bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Brown with sgraff:	15 (10 bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Brown with yellow stripes:	4 (2 bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Brown with green stripes:	3 (2 bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Green and blue:	2	
Green and red:	1	
White ware:	29 (27 bs)	

Total: 179
Body sherds: 79% (141)

8B. Western site, near Ṭawāhīn es-Sukkar II (el-Mazra'a)

Unglazed

UD:	109 (93 bs)
EB:	1 (bs)
Nab:	3 (bs)
R/Nab:	2 (1 bs)
ER:	5
R:	26 (7 bs)
R/Byz:	35 (34 bs)
Byz:	109 (102 bs)
EByz:	5 (3 bs)
LByz:	1
Ay/Mam:	2

Mod: 7 (5 bs)

Total: 305

Body sherds: 82% (249)

Most sherds are very small

Glazed

Green splotch:	10 (6 bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Green, purple splotch:	3 (1 bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Green, purple, yellow splotch:	2 (1 bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Green:	8 (3 bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Green with sgraff:	1 (bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Light green:	1	11th-15th C. AD
Green, brown, yellow splash:	2 (1 bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Green and yellow splash:	1	11th-15th C. AD
Brown and green stripes:	1	11th-15th C. AD
Blue and white:	1	11th-15th C. AD
Turquoise:	1 (bs)	11th-15th C. AD

Total: 31

Body sherds: 45% (14)

9. Deir el-Kaṭṭar el-Byzantī

Unglazed

UD:	35 (34 bs)
Byz:	205 (199 bs)
EByz:	1
LByz:	7 (bs)
LByz/Um:	6 (bs)
Fat:	1 (bs)
Ott:	8 (bs)

Total: 263

Body sherds: 97% (255)

10. Lisān Peninsula: causeway, qanah or dyke

Unglazed

Byz? 12 (bs)

Total: 12

Body sherds: 100%

11. Khirbet I'sāl

Locus 1 (West)

Unglazed

UD:	2 (bs)
Byz:	34 (32 bs)
Mam:	8 (6 bs)
Ott:	2 (1 bs)

Total: 46

Body sherds: 89% (41)

Locus 2 (East)

Unglazed

UD: 32 (bs)

I¹: 1 (bs)

Byz: 18 (bs)

Um: 2 (bs)

Fat: 1 (bs)

Mam: 32 (26 bs)

Ott: 2 (bs)

Ott/Mod: 17 (bs)

Mod: 13 (bs)

Total: 118

Body sherds: 94.9% (112)

12A. Ṭawahīn es-Sukkar I and Qaṣr eṭ-Ṭūba (el-Mashnaqa), eṣ-Ṣāfi

Unglazed

UD:	1
R/Byz:	1
Fat:	1 (bs)
Ay/Mam:	1
Mam:	18 (4 bs)
Ott:	5 (2 bs)

Total: 27

Body sherds: 26% (7)

Glazed

Green, purple splotch:	1 (bs)	11th-13th C. AD
Green, yellow, brown splash with sgraff:	1 (bs)	12th-13th C. AD
Brown and green splash:	1 (bs)	12th-13th C. AD
Brown freckled:	1 (bs)	12th-13th C. AD
White ware:	2 (2 bs)	12th-13th C. AD

Total: 6

Body sherds: 100% (6)

12B. El-Mashnaqa Locus 1

Unglazed

UD:	7 (bs)
R/Byz:	2 (bs)
Byz:	24 (bs)
Post-Um:	32 (bs)
Mam:	101 (bs)

Total: 166

Body sherds: 100%

12C. El-Mashnaqa Locus 2

Unglazed

UD:	6 (bs)
R/Byz:	12 (bs)
Mam:	42 (bs)

Sugar pots prevalent

Total: 60
Body sherds: 100%

12D. Ṭawahīn es-Sukkar I, eṣ-Şāfī

Unglazed

UD: 42 (bs)
EB: 8 (bs)
I?: 7 (bs)
Byz: 1 (bs)

Total: 58
Body sherds: 100%

12E. Ṭawahīn es-Sukkar I: north-west end, eṣ-Şāfī

Unglazed

UD: 11 (bs)
EB: 1 (bs)
I: 3 (bs)
R: 2 (bs)
Byz: 63 (bs)
EByz: 9
Post-Um: 1 (bs)
Ott/Mod: 1 (bs)

Total: 91
Body sherds: 90% (82)

12F. Ṭawahīn es-Sukkar I (Mud-walls, Qaşr eṭ-Ṭūba)

Unglazed

UD: 5 (bs)
R/Nab: 1
Byz: 4 (bs)
Post-Um: 1 (possibly Fat)

Total: 11
Body sherds: 82% (9)

13. Shaykh 'Isā, eṣ-Şāfī

Unglazed

UD: 93 (85 bs)
Ch/EB: 6 (5 bs)
Nab: 5 (bs)
R/Nab: 21 (19 bs)
R: 8 (bs)
LR/EByz: 26 (23 bs)
Byz: 59 (bs)
LByz: 4 (2 bs)
Fat: 3 (2 bs)
Mam: 95 (88 bs)

Mam/Ott: 92 (65 bs)
Ott: 59 (45 bs)
Mod: 16 (14 bs)

Total: 487
Body sherds: 86% (420)

Glazed

Green: 21 (13 bs) 11th-15th C. AD
Light green: 5 (3 bs) 14th-15th C. AD
Light green and dark green: 2 (bs) 13th-15th C. AD
Green with sgraff: 1 (bs) 12th-13th C. AD
Green and brown splash: 1 (bs) 12th-15th C. AD
Green and brown splash with sgraff: 1 12th-13th C. AD
Green, yellow and brown splash: 2 12th-15th C. AD
Yellow: 12 (8 bs) 12th-15th C. AD
Yellow, and brown splash with sgraff: 1 (bs) 12th-13th C. AD
Brown: 6 (3 bs) 12th-15th C. AD
Light and dark brown with sgraff: 1 (bs) 14th-15th C. AD
Brown with yellow stripes: 2 (1 bs) 14th-15th C. AD
White ware: 25 (24 bs) 14th-15th C. AD

Total: 80
Body sherds: 73% (58)

14. Maqbara, eṣ-Şāfī

Unglazed

UD: 89 (47 bs)
EB: 1 (bs)
I: 1 (bs)
R: 2 (1 bs)
LR: 1
R/Byz: 2 (1 bs)
Byz: 21 (13 bs)
EByz: 20 (bs)
Post-Um: 1
Fat: 23
Ay/Mam: 1 (bs)
Mam: 36 (24 bs)
Mam/Ott: 197 (162 bs)
Ott: 80 (46 bs)
Ott/Mod: 4 (3 bs)
Mod: 27 (26 bs)

Sugar pots present

Total: 506
Body sherds: 65% (327)

Glazed

Green: 51 (41 bs) 11th-15th C. AD
Green with sgraff: 2 (2 bs) 11th-13th C. AD
Green and yellow splash: 7 (6 bs) 11th-13th C. AD
Green and yellow splash with sgraff: 4 (4 bs) 12th-13th C. AD
Green, yellow and brown with

sgraff:	1 (bs)	12th-13th C. AD
Green splotch on white slip with greenish transparent glaze:	10 (5 bs)	11th-13th C. AD
Green and purple splotch:	9 (4 bs)	11th-13th C. AD
Green, purple and yellow splotch:	7 (2 bs)	11th-13th C. AD
Green interior, honey exterior:	1 (bs)	12th-15th C. AD
Green interior, yellow exterior:	1 (bs)	12th-15th C. AD
Green and brown:	2 (1 bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Yellow:	23 (17 bs)	12th-15th C. AD
Brown freckled yellow:	6 (4 bs)	13th-15th C. AD
Ochre:	4 (bs)	13th-15th C. AD
Honey:	1 (bs)	13th-15th C. AD
Yellow and brown:	5 (4 bs)	12th-15th C. AD
Brown:	9 (8 bs)	11th-15th C. AD
Chocolate brown:	8 (6 bs)	12th-15th C. AD
White slip stripes with yellow (brown with yellow):	3 (1 bs)	14th-15th C. AD
White slip stripes with green (brown with green):	2 (bs)	14th-15th C. AD
Light green on white slip:	6 (5 bs)	14th-15th C. AD
Grey interior, green exterior:	1 (bs)	12th-15th C. AD
Imitation celadon ware:	3 (2 bs)	14th-15th C. AD
Turquoise:	12 (8 bs)	12th-14th C. AD
Purple (manganese):	1 (1 bs)	11th-13th C. AD
White ware:	21 (15 bs)	12th-14th C. AD

Total: 200

Body sherds: 74% (147)

15. Birkeh, eş-Şāfi

Unglazed

I:	1 (bs)
Byz:	3 (2 bs)
Mam:	1 (bs)

Total: 5

Body sherds: 80% (4)

16. Khirbet Umm eṭ-Ṭuwabīn

UD:	61 (bs)
EB:	9 (bs)
Nab:	6 (5 bs)
R/Nab:	35 (33 bs)
R:	8 (5 bs)
Byz:	24 (21 bs)
EByz:	2 (bs)
Post-Um:	45 (bs)
Mam:	27 (bs)
Mod:	12 (bs)

Total: 229

Body sherds: 96% (220)

17. El-Fayfā el-Gharbiyya (Qaṣr)

Unglazed

UD:	45 (43 bs)
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EB:	1 (bs)
R/Byz:	4 (bs)
Byz:	36 (35 bs)
LByz/Um:	2 (bs)
Mam:	46 (36 bs)
Mam/Ott:	17 (bs)
Ott:	5 (2 bs)
Mod:	21 (bs)

Total: 177

Body sherds: 91% (161)

Glazed

Green:	4 (1 bs)	11th-15th C. A.D.
Green, purple, yellow splash:	1	11th-15th C. A.D.
Moulded green:	1	11th-15th C. A.D.
Yellow:	2 (bs)	11th-15th C. A.D.
Turquoise:	1 (bs)	11th-15th C. A.D.
Grey:	1	11th-15th C. A.D.

Total: 10

Body sherds: 40% (4)

18A. Khirbet el-Fayfā: Locus 1, N.W. end of tell

Unglazed

UD:	21 (bs)
EB:	5 (bs)
R/Nab:	3 (bs)
R/Byz:	22 (20 bs)
Byz:	17 (16 bs)
Mam:	30 (bs)
Mam/Ott:	68 (67 bs)
Mod:	3 (bs)

Total: 169

Body sherds: 98% (165)

18B. Khirbet el-Fayfā: Locus 2, S.W. of Locus 1

Unglazed

UD:	6 (bs)
EB:	9 (bs)
Byz:	8 (bs)
Mam:	8 (bs)
Mam/Ott:	23 (bs)

Total sherds: 54

Body sherds: 98% (53)

18C. Khirbet el-Fayfā: Locus 3, S.E. end of tell

Unglazed

UD:	5 (bs)
EB:	7 (bs)

R: 3 (bs)
 Byz: 1 (bs)
 Mam: 3 (2 bs)

Total: 19
 Body sherds: 95% (18)

19. Site West of Tell Khirbet el-Fayfā'

Unglazed

UD: 66 (bs)
 EB: 11 (bs)
 I: 8 (7 bs)
 R/Nab: 1 (bs)
 R: 1 (bs)
 R/Byz: 7 (5 bs)
 Byz: 21 (20 bs)

Total: 115
 Body sherds: 97% (111)

21. Qaşr Umruq

UD: 166 (165 bs)
 EB?: 1 (bs)
 I?: 23 (bs)
 R: 4 (bs)
 R/Byz: 19 (16 bs)
 Byz: 62 (61 bs)
 Post-Um: 94 (bs)
 Ott: 41 (bs)
 Ott/Mod: 37 (bs)

Total: 447
 Body sherds: 99% (442)

22. Khanazira

Locus 1: Lower platform, summit N. and N. W. side

Unglazed

UD: 17 (bs)
 EB: 1 (bs)
 I?: 31 (bs)
 R/Byz: 1 (bs)
 Byz: 12 (bs)

Total: 62
 Body sherds: 100%

Locus 1a: near disturbed grave, summit of tell (west side)

Unglazed

UD: 2 (bs)

I: 14 (bs)
 Byz: 1 (bs)

Total: 17
 Body sherds: 100%

Locus 2: Graves on west side of tell

Unglazed

UD: 1 (bs)
 I: 20 (bs)
 Byz: 5 (bs)

Total: 26
 Body sherds: 100%

Locus 3: West grave group, north section of plain

Unglazed

UD: 7 (bs)
 EB: 1 (bs)
 Nab: 2 (bs)
 R/Nab: 5 (4 bs)
 R: 6 (bs)
 ER: 1 (bs)
 Byz: 54 (bs)
 EByz: 4 (bs)
 Post-Um: 1 (bs)

Total: 81
 Body sherds: 99% (80)

Locus 3A: West grave group, south section of plain

Unglazed

UD: 26 (bs)
 EB: 1 (bs)
 LB?: 7 (bs)
 I?: 2 (bs)
 R: 1
 Nab: 2 (bs)
 Byz: 14 (13 bs)

Total: 53
 Body sherds: 96% (51)

Locus 3: Graveyard west of tell

Unglazed

UD: 6 (4 bs)
 EB: 1 (bs)
 I²: 2 (bs)
 R/Nab: 1 (bs)
 ER: 1 (bs)
 R/Byz: 8 (6 bs)
 Byz: 108 (bs)

Total: 127
Body sherds: 97% (123)

Locus 3: Graveyard west of tell: northern area

Unglazed

UD:	5 (bs)
LB?:	1 (bs)
I?:	3 (bs)
R/Nab:	1 (bs)
R/Byz:	8 (6 bs)
EByz:	3 (bs)
Byz:	63 (bs)
Ott/Mod:	1 (bs)

Total: 85
Body sherds: 98% (83)

OTHER MATERIAL CULTURAL
REMAINS: THIRD SEASON (1982)

1. El-Ḥadītha

2 Body sherds. Probably modern.

2. Qala'at el-Ḥadītha

Glass, omphalos type base fragment. May be Umayyad or Late Byzantine.

Bronze coin of Roman Empire, ca. 380-390 A.D.: emperor and mint illegible. VICTORIA AUG reverse²⁴.

4. Mutrabā West

Glass rim fragment. Green UD?

5. Mutrabā East

1 folded glass rim fragment, similar to one from Deir el-Kaṭṭar el-Byzanṭī.

3 body sherds (UD).

1 flared rim-green. Late?

2 metal fragments.

7. Ṭawahīn es-Sukkar II

Glass collection, all of which appears to be Ayyubid/Mamluk. Range of colours: green, blue, lavender, black with white stripes.

1 base fragment, apparently moulded: green, poorly made.

Metal fragment.

Copper coin. Traces of Arabic inscription.

Illegible, but from style of script and coin fabric, 14th C. Mamluk.

8B. Western site, near Ṭawahīn es-Sukkar II (el-Mazra'a)

Glass collection; range of colours. Very worn. Probably all very late.

10. Deir el-Kaṭṭar el-Byzanṭī

Glass collection:

2 glass tesserae

7 body sherds — red.

1 green handle with folded rim. LByz?

3 folded rim fragments. LByz?

1 rim, probably Byz/Islamic.

1 thick rim of vase. Byz.

11. Khirbet I'sāl

Locus I (West)

Coin. Illegible (bronze)

Locus 2 (East)

2 glass body sherds. UD.

1 base fragment. UD.

12E. Ṭawahīn es-Sukkar I: north-west end, eṣ-Ṣāfi

3 glass body sherds; thick glass.

1 base fragment. Flat. Late.

13. Shaykh 'Isā, eṣ-Ṣāfi.

1 glass rim. Late Islamic.

1 folded back flat base. Late.

Glass collection. All apparently late. One rim similar to certain Umayyad vessels.

17. El-Fayfā el-Gharbiyya (Qaṣr)

1 cobalt blue "yam" glass handle fragment. Modern.

1 green bead: glass.

1 folded glass rim: probably late.

22. Khanazīra

Locus 3: West grave group, north section of plain

2 glass body sherds. UD.

1 glass base fragment. Semi-omphalos. Perhaps Byzantine.

1 Rolled rim. Byzantine.

24. I am indebted to Mr. J. Cribb, Curator of Far Eastern and South Asian Coins at the British

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