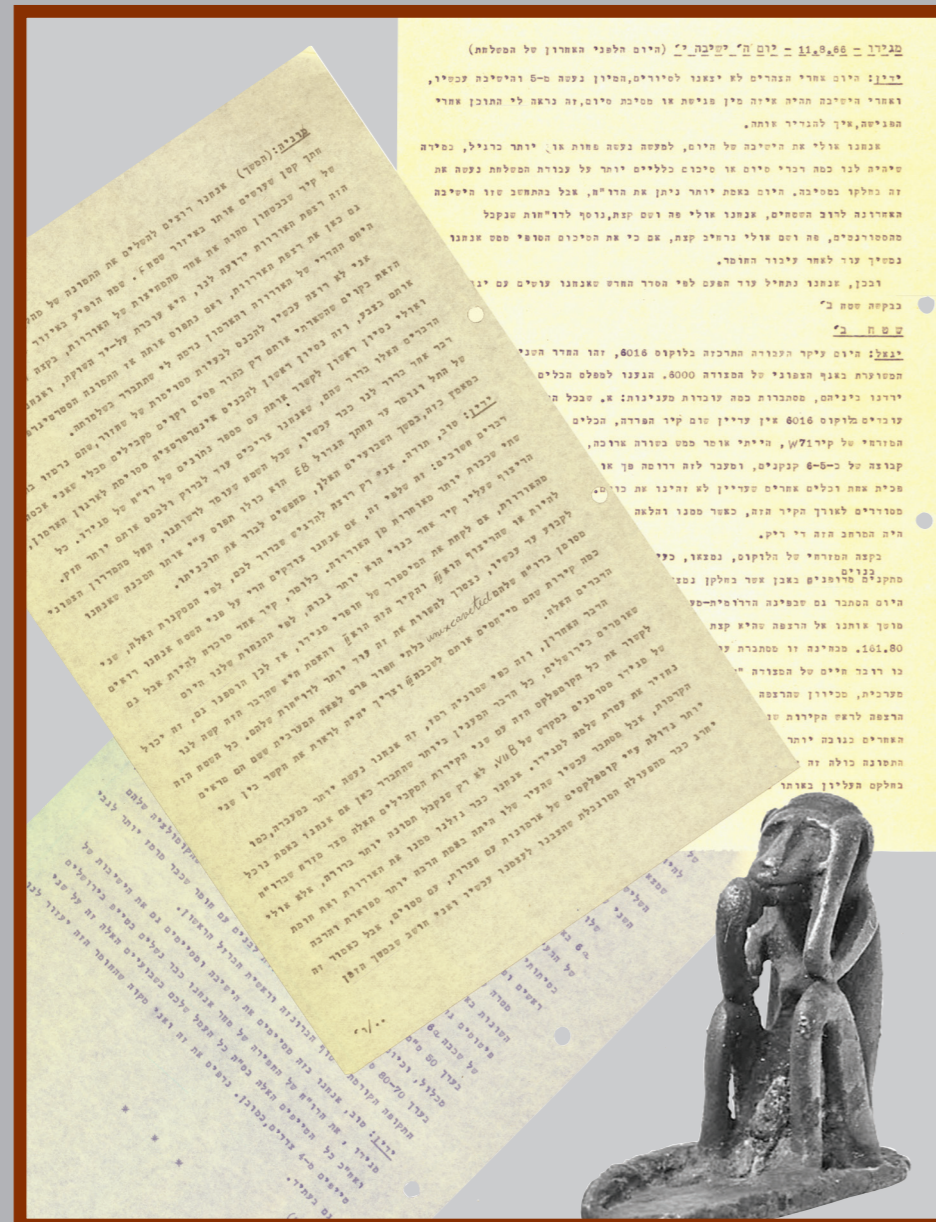
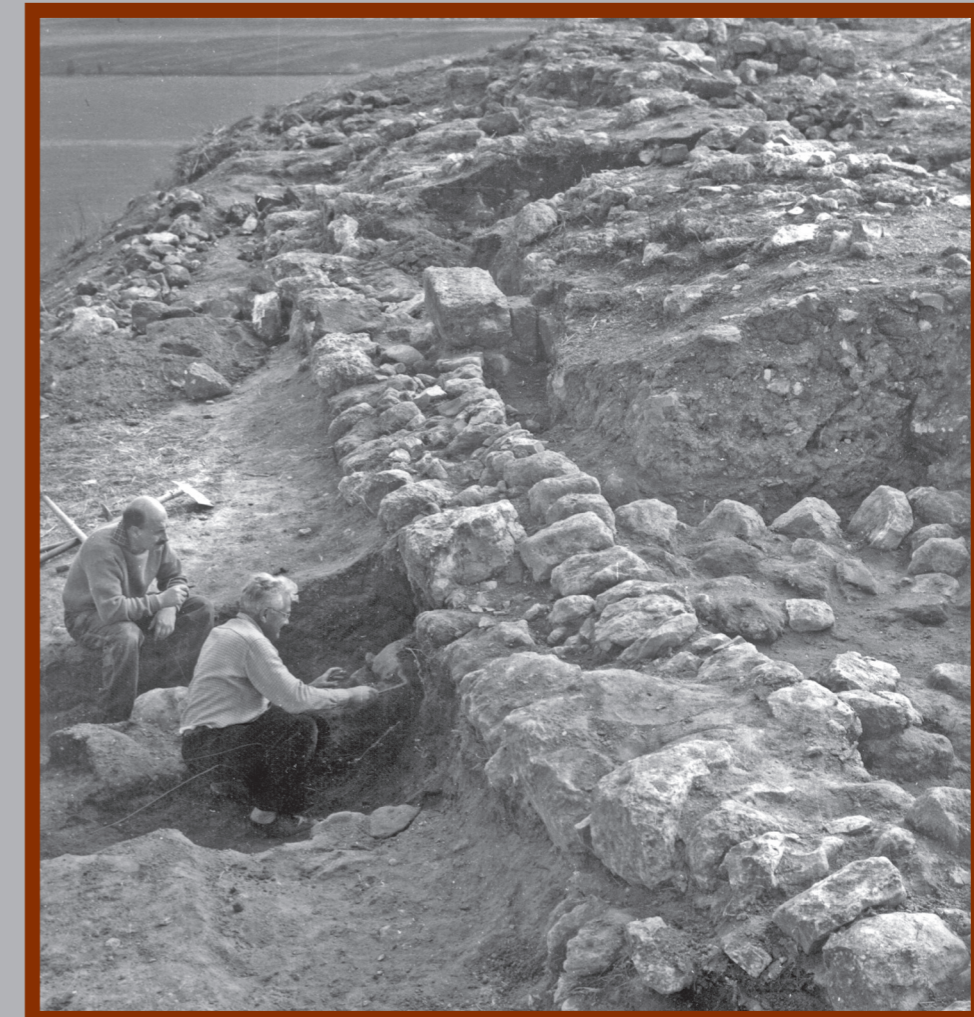


Anabel Zarzecki-Peleg

# YADIN'S EXPEDITION TO MEGIDDO

## FINAL REPORT OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS (1960, 1966, 1967 AND 1971/2 SEASONS)

TEXT



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2016

Front cover: Yigael Yadin and Immanuel Dunayevsky examining the stratification in Area 6000  
Back cover: Transcripts of recorded staff discussions at the excavations and a weight from the hoard (design: R. Bonfil)

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2016

Anabel Zarzecki-Peleg

with a contribution by Daphna Ben-Tor

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Plans and sections: I. Dunayevsky assisted by Y. Portugali, R. Reich

Preparation of plans and sections for publication: Ruhama Bonfil

Drawings: L. Bell, M. Sarig

Translation: C. Ebert, S. Sadeh

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## PREFACE

An expedition conducted on behalf of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem under the direction of the late Prof. Yigael Yadin carried out four short excavation seasons at Tel Megiddo in 1960, 1966, 1967 and 1971–2, while sections were cleaned and additional examinations were conducted in 1975 (for preliminary reports, see Yadin 1961; 1966; 1967; 1970a; 1970b; 1972; for aerial and general views, see Photos 1–3). The excavations were conducted mainly in the northeastern sector of the mound (Plans 1 and 2; for stratigraphic attributions, see Plans 3–9, Sections A–A' to L–L'; Illustration 4, Section M–M'). Here the remains of an extensive public structure, which the expedition named “Palace 6000”<sup>1</sup> (Plans 5–6, Illustration 1), were exposed. In the first season in 1961, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem expedition (henceforth HUJE) focused on a row of soundings along the slope of the mound. During the seasons of 1966 and 1967, the excavation area was subdivided into a number of smaller areas or soundings denoted by the letters A–J (Plans 5–6, 8). All were in the immediate vicinity or area of Palace 6000, with two exceptions: Sounding 2153 in the area of the staircase located outside the outer Iron Age gate

(Plan 11), which was given the number assigned by the University of Chicago expedition (henceforth UCE); and Area C in the southwestern part of the mound, excavated with the aim of examining the stratigraphic connection with Gallery 629 and the cave of the spring (Plans 12–20, Sections N–N' to P–P'). In the season of 1971–2, work focused mainly on the palace area, all of which was denoted Area B. For the sake of orientation, in this study I decided to apply the term “Area 6000” to the entire area of HUJE’s excavation in the northeastern sector of the mound, despite the fact that the palace structure, as a distinct architectural unit, is ascribed only to Str. VA–IVB within the stratigraphic sequence (Strata VIA–IVA) exposed by HUJE. In addition, a small trench excavated in the lower terrace of the mound exposed principally Bronze Age remains; unfortunately, little of the material related to this trench could be located and it is not published in this report.

The HUJE staff included I. Dunayevsky as the expedition’s architect (until his death in 1968), Y. Shiloh as the chief area supervisor in Area 6000, and D. Ussishkin, A. Eitan and Y. Tsafir as additional area supervisors there. A. Kempinski supervised Area C and M. Ben-Dov supervised Sounding 2153. Unfortunately, the individuals who were most prominent and most deeply involved in the HUJE excavations at Megiddo are no longer alive: Dunayevsky died before their conclusion, Yadin in 1984, and Shiloh, who assumed responsibility for the publication of the final excavation report after Yadin’s death, fell ill and died soon afterwards.

In processing the finds, I had at my disposal the material assembled by Y. Shiloh: the original plans (and/or copies) of the strata in the main area (Strata VIA and VB on one plan, Stratum VA–IVB on another, and Stratum IVA with later remains on yet another plan), in Area C (Strata VIIA to VA–

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<sup>1</sup> In the research of Megiddo, the terminology used by various expeditions to denote certain architectural units, such as Palaces 6000, 1723 etc. and Gallery 629, has become established. Although in my view these terms do not always reflect the actual function of the buildings, I decided to continue their use in this publication. With respect to Megiddo’s stable complexes, in accordance with UCE’s practice by which an entire row of stables was given the number of one of its units, I have used “Stable 407” etc. to denote an entire row and “Stable Unit 407” etc. to denote a single unit. The two units within the northern complex numbered 403 and 404 are together referred to as “Stable 403/404”.

IVB), and in Staircase 2153; the drawings of several sections (surveyed by I. Dunayevsky, R. Reich and Y. Portugali); recordings of conversations conducted by the expedition staff in the seasons of 1966 and 1967; locus cards; an area notebook; Y. Shiloh's daily basket list and graphic journals, as well as similar journals with partial documentation of other areas; and field photographs of the expedition. Much material, such as season summaries, daily basket lists and graphic journals, has been lost over the years. Nevertheless, Shiloh's admirably detailed documentation, together with the informative plans (including superposition plans and sections) drawn up by Dunayevsky, enabled me to understand and reconstruct the excavations in Area 6000. I am greatly beholden to them.

The ceramic material to which I had access had previously been classified by the excavators, who had it drawn and photographed in part. The drawings were re-examined and corrected where necessary. Several vessels had been lost (for instance, during the transfer of the Institute of Archaeology from the Giv'at Ram to the Mount Scopus campus), a fact that is noted in the tables. Completely new drawings have been prepared of some material, especially sherds originating in key loci. The figures presented in this study (Figs. 1–43) thus offer a reasonably faithful picture of the bulk of the material known to us today. The new drawings were executed by L. Bell and M. Sarig (there are no records relating to the earlier drawings). C. Ebert and S. Sadeh translated the manuscript from Hebrew into English.

This study represents a (somewhat reworked) translation of part of my doctoral thesis, *Tel*

*Megiddo during the Iron Age I and IIA–IIB: The Excavations of the Yadin Expedition at Megiddo and their Contribution for Comprehending the History of this Site and other Contemporary Sites in Northern Israel*, submitted to the Senate of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in March 2005. The preparation of this work for final publication was made possible by the support of the Shelby White–Leon Levy Program for Archaeological Publications, Harvard University, to which I am indebted. The manuscript of the present publication was completed in July 2008 and has subsequently undergone only minor revision.

I am greatly obliged to Prof. A. Mazar, under whose supervision my doctoral dissertation was written, for the considerable time that he devoted to reading the manuscript and for his numerous suggestions. I would also like to thank Prof. A. Ben-Tor for allowing me to process the HUJE material from Megiddo, which comprises part of Yadin's scientific legacy with which he (together with Mr. J. Aviram) has been entrusted, and for reading and discussing the opening chapters. I would like to thank Sue Gorodetsky for the great efforts that she made in editing the volume. I am most thankful to R. Bonfil for the plans and sections she prepared for this report. I am especially grateful for the encouragement I received from her and from D. Peleg during the period of research and writing. Their support was invaluable to me during the times in which I despaired of ever seeing the light at the end of the tunnel.

*Anabel Zarzecki-Peleg  
June 2013*

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- Photo 59. Wall 59 running parallel to the edge of the mound, looking east; the ashlar stone on top of Wall 59 is part of city wall segment 325/11 (Stratum IVA).
- Photo 60. Wall 64 abutting Wall 59, looking inward from the edge of the mound.
- Photo 61. Locus 6006 delimited by Walls 64, 59 and 65, looking south.
- Photo 62. Locus 6006, looking east.
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- Photo 64. Pits 5517 and 5518 (Stratum III or later) damaging city wall segment 325/7 (Stratum IVA), looking northwest.
- Photo 65. Locus 5511: dismantling of city wall segments 325/7–8 and excavation to their base (Stratum IVA), looking southwest. Note Pits 5517 and 5518 on the right, damaging the city wall and the palace's Wall 52.
- Photo 66. Locus 5515: dismantling of city wall segments 325/5–6 and excavation to their base (Stratum IVA), looking west. Note the yellowish fill (the palace debris) in the section.
- Photo 67. City wall segment 325/6 (Stratum IVA) on top of Wall 52, the northern wall of Palace 6000 (Stratum VA–IVB), looking southeast.
- Photo 68. Stable Unit 407/3/II: Loci 5505 (bottom) and 5506 (top), close to the rear wall (Stratum IVA), looking west.
- Photo 69. A monolithic manger *in situ* on top of Wall 11 (between Stable Units 407/3/II and 407/3/III) and attached to the rear wall (Wall 7) of the stable complex (Stratum IVA), looking northeast.
- Photo 70. As Photo 69, looking south.
- Photo 71. The long corridor between the stable and City Wall 325 (Stratum IVA) at the beginning of HUJE's excavations, looking east.
- Photo 72. Fragment of the corridor flanked by the inner face of the city wall (segment 325/7) and the rear wall of the stable (Wall 7), looking northwest; "Wall" 27 is between them (Stratum IVA).
- Photo 73. Fragment of the corridor flanked by the inner face of the city wall (segments 325/7–8) and the rear wall (Wall 7) of the stable (Stratum IVA), looking west. Between them is the deposit of large stones, "Walls" 25 and 27.
- Photo 74. Locus 5512: large stones infilling between city wall segments 325/6–7 on the left and Wall 7 to the right (Stratum IVA), looking east; top left, remains of "Wall" 26.
- Photo 75. Sounding E: the square stone-built block in Building 434 (Stratum IVA), looking southeast.
- Photo 76. Sounding F, north of Building 434, looking south; bottom, the upper pavement surface continuing above the southern wall of the stable complex; top, the plaster floor of Building 434; left, the lower surface, paved with relatively large stones, cut in the north.
- Photo 77. As Photo 76, looking west.
- Photo 78. Pit 407/1/I (Stratum III?), west of Wall 10 (Stratum IVA), looking south.
- Photo 79. Cleaning the *tabun* in Locus 7011 with Wall 7107 in the rear (Stratum VIIA), looking west.
- Photo 80. Locus 7001 (Stratum VIA), vessels *in situ*, looking north. The room is bounded by Wall 7102 to the right and Wall 7105 to the left. Top, Gallery 629.
- Photo 81. Locus 7002, looking east: remains of installations and Wall 7102 (Stratum VIA) on the right damaged by the masonry of Gallery 629 on the left.
- Photo 82. Locus 7009 and Wall 7106a–b (Stratum VIA) behind Gallery 629 (bottom), looking north.
- Photo 83. Wall 7106a–b (Stratum VIA) damaged by the construction of the gallery, looking east.
- Photo 84. Wall 7105 and other remains of Stratum VIA (top) destroyed by the gallery (bottom), looking south.
- Photo 85. General view of Gallery 629, looking west.
- Photo 86. Gallery 629, looking southwest; left, remains of Stratum VIA damaged by the construction of the gallery.
- Photo 87. Detail of the head-and-stretcher ashlar masonry in Gallery 629.
- Photo 88. A stone bearing a mason's mark, found on the floor while cleaning the gallery.
- Photo 89. The pavement of the gallery, following the steady descent of the slope.
- Photo 90. The assemblage of the hoard in Locus 6206, Stratum VIA.
- Photo 91. The assemblage of the hoard in Locus 6206 (Stratum VIA), detail.
- Photo 92. Different views of the monkey-shaped bronze weight from the hoard, Locus 6206 (Stratum VIA).
- Photo 93. Different views of the ibex-shaped bronze weight from the hoard, Locus 6206 (Stratum VIA).
- Photo 94. Pomegranate-shaped bronze pendants from the hoard, Locus 6206 (Stratum VIA).
- Photo 95. Metal scrap/ingots(?) from the hoard, Locus 6206 (Stratum VIA).
- Photo 96. Bronze and iron bracelets from the hoard, Locus 6206 (Stratum VIA).
- Photo 97. A group of iron and bronze bracelets from the hoard, Locus 6206 (Stratum VIA), adhering together and wrapped with wool textile and strings; note the small beads adhering to the wrapping.
- Photo 98. Spindle whorl from the hoard, Locus 6206 (Stratum VIA), decorated with incised radial symmetrical lines.
- Photo 99. Spindle whorls and bead (?) from the hoard, Locus 6206 (Stratum VIA).
- Photo 100. Biconical spindle whorl (B241/6) from the hoard, Locus 6206 (Stratum VIA), with traces of wool textile on surface.

Photo 101. Cylindrical spindle whorls (?) from the hoard, Locus 6206 (Stratum VIA).

Photo 102. Steatite scarab from the hoard, Locus 6206 (Stratum VIA).

Photo 103. Small standard beads from the hoard, Locus 6206 (Stratum VIA).

Photo 104. Standard and elongated bronze beads from the hoard, Locus 6206 (Stratum VIA).

Photo 105. Medium-large size beads from the hoard, Locus 6206 (Stratum VIA), including barrel-shaped and bottle-shaped pendants.

Photo 106. Weights from the hoard, Locus 6206 (Stratum VIA).

Photo 107. Steatite scarab from the hoard, Locus 6206 (Stratum VIA).

## LIST OF LOCI

Locus No.	Area	Square	Description	Stratum	Text ref.	Plan	Illustration	Section	Figure	Photo
1 (see 6002)	6000	K/12	Floor	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6			30	
3 (see 6011)	6000	L/14	Floor	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6			27, 28	
4 (see 6201)	6000	K-L/13-14	Floor	VIA	Ch. 2	3			1, 2	
6	6000	K/12	Floor	IVA	Ch. 5	7				
9 (see 6021)	6000	L/14	Fill	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6				
407/1/I	6000		Floor and make-up	IVA	Chs. 1, 5	7				
407/1/I (pit)	6000		Pit	III or later	Ch. 6	8			35, 36	78
407/1/II	6000		Floor and make-up	IVA	Chs. 1, 5	7			33	
407/1/III	6000		Floor and make-up	IVA	Chs. 1, 5	7				
407/2/I	6000		Floor and make-up	IVA	Chs. 1, 5	7				
407/2/II	6000		Floor and make-up	IVA	Chs. 1, 5	7				
407/2/III	6000		Floor and make-up	IVA	Chs. 1, 5	7				
407/3/I	6000		Floor and make-up	IVA	Chs. 1, 5	7				
407/3/II	6000		Floor and make-up	IVA	Chs. 1, 5	7				68, 69, 70
407/3/III	6000		Floor and make-up	IVA	Chs. 1, 5	7				69, 70
407/4/I	6000		Floor and make-up	IVA	Chs. 1, 5	7				
407/4/II	6000		Floor and make-up	IVA	Chs. 1, 5	7				
407/4/III	6000		Floor and make-up	IVA	Chs. 1, 5	7				
434	6000	L-M/11-13	Floor	IVA	Ch. 4	8, 9	3		34	75, 76, 77
629	C	Q/3	Drainage channel	IVA	Ch. 7	17		N-N'		80, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 89
2153	Outside city gate	H-J/10-11	Staircase + installation	IVA	Ch. 7	11				
5501	6000	L/14	Fill	VA-IVB late		6				
5502	6000	L/14	Fill	VA-IVB late		6				
5503	6000	L/14	Fill	VA-IVB late		6				
5505	6000	K/13	Make-up	IVA	Ch. 5	7				68
5506	6000	K/13	Make-up	IVA	Ch. 5	7				68
5510	6000	K-L/13	Fill	IVA	Ch. 5	7		E-E'		65, 72, 73
5511	6000	K/13	Dismantling section of Wall 325	IVA	Ch. 5	7				65
5512	6000	K/13	Fill	IVA	Ch. 5	7			32	74
5513	6000	K/13	Dismantling section of Wall 325	IVA	Ch. 5	7				
5514	6000	K/13	Fill	IVA	Ch. 5	7		C-C'		
5515	6000	K/13	Dismantling section of Wall 325	IVA	Ch. 5	7			32	66
5516	6000	K-L/13	Pit	III or later	Ch. 6	7		B-B'		

Locus No.	Area	Square	Description	Stratum	Text ref.	Plan	Illustration	Section	Figure	Photo
5517	6000	K/13	Pit	III or later	Ch. 6	7				64, 65
5518	6000	K/13	Pit	III or later	Ch. 6	7				64, 65
5519	6000	K/13	Robber trench	IVA	Ch. 5	7		A-A'	33	63
6000	6000	K-L/13	Fill	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6				
6001	6000	K/12	Floor	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6				50
6002	6000	K/12	Floor	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6			30	50
6003	6000	K/12	Floor	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6			31	52
6004	6000	L/13-14	Fragmented floor	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6				28
6005	6000	L/14	Fragmented floor	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6				28
6006	6000	L/14	Fill	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6				61, 62
6007	6000	L/14	Floor	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6			31	
6008	6000	L/14	Floor	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6			31	
6009	6000	L/14-15	Floor	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6				
6010	6000	L/15	Fill	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6				
6011	6000	L/14	Floor	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6			9, 27, 28, 29	43, 44, 45
6012	6000	L/14	Floor	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6				
6014 (see 6018)	6000	L/14	L/14	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6				
6016	6000	K/13	Floor	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6			24, 25, 26	41, 42
6017	6000	K/13	Floor	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6		A-A'	20, 21, 22, 23	37, 38, 39, 41, 63, 66
6018	6000	L/14	Floor	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6				
6019	6000	L/12	Fill	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6				
6020	6000	L/15	Floor	VIA	Ch. 2	5 (for location, see 6009)			14	
6021	6000	L/14	Fill	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6				
6022	6000	L/14	Floor	VIA	Ch. 2	3			13	
6023	6000	L/14	Floor	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5				
6025	6000	L/12	Fill	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6				
6026	6000	L/12	Fill	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6				46, 47
6030	6000	K-L/13	Floor	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6		B-B', E-E'	23	24, 49
6031	6000	K-L/13	Floor	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6		E-E', F-F'		32, 33, 34, 36
6032	6000	K-L/13	Floor	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6		E-E'	23	32, 48
6033	6000	K-L/13	Fill - floor?	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6				
6102	6000	L/14	Make-up L. 6011	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5 (for location, see 6011)				
6104	6000	K/13	Floor	VB	Ch. 3	4			18	
6105	6000	K/13	Floor	VB	Ch. 3	4			18	21
6106	6000	K/13	Floor	VB	Ch. 3	4		G-G'	18	
6107	6000	K/12	Floor	VB	Ch. 3	4			16	18
6108	6000	K/12	Fill	VB	Ch. 3	4				52
6110	6000	K/12	Fill and fragmented floor	VB	Ch. 3	4				
6111	6000	K/12	Fragmented floor and make-up	VB	Ch. 3	4			18	
6112	6000	K/12	Fragmented floor and make-up	VB	Ch. 3	4			17	
6113	6000	K/12	Fragmented floor and make-up	VB	Ch. 3	4		H-H'	18	
6115	6000	L/13	Fill	VB	Ch. 3	4			19	22, 23
6116	6000	L/13	Fill	VB	Ch. 3	4			19	22

Locus No.	Area	Square	Description	Stratum	Text ref.	Plan	Illustration	Section	Figure	Photo
6201	6000	K-L/13-14	Floor	VIA	Ch. 2	3		B-B'	1, 2	6
6202	6000	L/14	Floor	VIA	Ch. 2	3				8
6205	6000	K/13	Floor	VIA	Ch. 2	3			9	9, 10
6206	6000	K/13	Floor	VIA	Ch. 2	3			5, 6, 7, 8	9, 10, 11, 12, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107
6207	6000	K/13	Floor	VIA	Ch. 2	3		G-G'	10, 11, 12	13, 14, 15, 16
6208	6000	K/12	Fill	VIA	Ch. 2	3			15	
6212	6000	K/13-14	Floor	VIA	Ch. 2	3			1	7, 25, 26, 29
6213	6000	K/13	Floor	VIA	Ch. 2	3		B-B'	3, 4	7, 25, 26, 27
6214	6000	L/13	Floor	VIA	Ch. 2	3			3, 4	
6215	6000	K/13	Fill	VIA	Ch. 2	3				13, 16, 17
6216	6000	K/14	Floor	VIA	Ch. 2	3				
6217	6000	L/14	Floor	VIA	Ch. 2	3			13	
7001	C	Q/3	Floor	VIA	Ch. 7	15, 16			40, 41	80
7002	C	Q/3	Floor	VIA late	Ch. 7	16			42	81
7003	C	Q/3	Floor	VIA late	Ch. 7	16			42	
7004	C	Q/3	Floor	VIB	Ch. 7	14			39	
7005	C	Q/3	Tomb	VIB	Ch. 7	14				
7006	C	Q/3	Fill	VIA	Ch. 7	15, 16				
7007	C	Q/3	Installation	VIB	Ch. 7	14				
7008	C	Q/3	Fill	VIA	Ch. 7	15, 16				
7009	C	Q/3	Floor	VIA late	Ch. 7	15, 16			43	82
7010	C	Q/3	Fill	VIIA	Ch. 7	13			38	
7011	C	Q/3	Floor	VIIA	Ch. 7	13				79
(Sounding) D	6000		Fill + floor	Mixed	Chs. 1, 4	5, 6			33	46, 47
(Sounding) E	6000		Floor	IVA	Ch. 5	8, 9	3		34	75
(Sounding) F	6000		Mixed	Mixed	Chs. 1, 5	8				76, 77
(Sounding) G	6000		Fill	Mixed	Chs. 1, 4	5, 6				
(Sounding) H	6000		Fill + pit	Mixed	Chs. 1, 4, 6	5, 6			37	
(Sounding) J	6000		Fill	Mixed	Chs. 1, 4	5, 6				

## LIST OF WALLS

Wall No.	Area	Square	Stratum	Text ref.	Plan	Section	Figure	Photo
1	6000	L/13-14	IVA		7			
2	6000	L/13	IVA		7			
3	6000	K-L/12-13	IVA		7			
4	6000	K-L/12	IVA	Ch. 5	7			
7	6000	K-L/12-14	IVA	Ch. 5	7	E-E', H-H'		40, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 74
9	6000	L/13	IVA	Chs. 4-5	7, 8	J-J'		
10	6000	L/13	IVA		7, 8	B-B', J-J'		
11	6000	K/13	IVA	Ch. 5	7			69, 70
13	6000	L/14	VA-IVB early	Ch. 4	5			
14	6000	L/14	VA-IVB early	Ch. 4	5			
15	6000	L/14	VA-IVB late		6			
16	6000	L/14	VA-IVB early	Ch. 4	5			
17	6000	L/14	VA-IVB early	Ch. 4	5			
18	6000	L/14	VA-IVB late		6			
19	6000	K/12	IVA	Ch. 5	7			
20	6000	L/14	VA-IVB early	Ch. 4	5			
21	6000	L/14	VA-IVB early		5			
22a	6000	L/14	VA-IVB late	Ch. 4	6			
22b	6000	L/14	VA-IVB early	Ch. 4	5			
25	6000	K-L/13	IVA	Ch. 5	7			73
26	6000	K/13	IVA	Ch. 5	7			74
27	6000	K/13	IVA	Ch. 5	7			72, 73
31	6000	L/11-13	IVA	Ch. 5	8	K-K'		
32	6000	M/13	IVA	Ch. 5	8			
33	6000	L-M/13	IVA	Ch. 5	8			
34	6000	L/12	IVA	Ch. 5	8			
35	6000	L/11	IVA	Ch. 5	8			
36	6000	L/12	II (?)	Chs. 5-6	8	K-K'		77
51	6000	K-L/13-14	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6	J-J'		7, 23, 55
52	6000	K/13	VA-IVB	Chs. 4-5	5, 6	A-A', C-C', D-D', G-G'		9, 13, 18, 21, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 41, 44, 45, 48, 52, 53, 54, 57, 63, 67
53	6000	K-L/12	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6			9, 44, 45, 46, 47, 52, 53, 65, 66
54	6000	K/13	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6			
55	6000	K/12	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6	H-H'		18, 19, 20, 52, 53, 54
56	6000	K/12	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6	H-H'		18, 50, 51, 52
57	6000	K/12	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6			
58	6000	K/12	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6			50, 51, 52
59	6000	L/14	VA-IVB early	Ch. 4	5			8, 28, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62
60	6000	K/14-15	VA-IVB early	Ch. 4	5			
61	6000	L/15	VA-IVB early	Ch. 4	5			
62	6000	L/14	VA-IVB early	Ch. 4	5			
63	6000	L/14	VA-IVB early	Ch. 4	5			
64	6000	L/14	VA-IVB early	Ch. 4	5			8, 60, 61, 62
65	6000	L/14	VA-IVB early	Ch. 4	5			8, 61, 62
66	6000	L/14	VB	Ch. 3	4			
67a	6000	L/14	VA-IVB late	Ch. 4	6			

Wall No.	Area	Square	Stratum	Text ref.	Plan	Section	Figure	Photo
67b	6000	L/14	VA-IVB early	Ch. 4	5			
68	6000	L/14	VA-IVB early	Ch. 4	5			
69	6000	L/14	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5			
71	6000	K/13	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6			9, 10, 21, 45, 46, 47
72	6000	K/13	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6	G-G'		
73 (?)	6000	K/12	?	Ch. 4				
74	6000	K/13	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6	G-G'		13, 37, 38, 41
75	6000	L/12-13	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6			46, 47
76	6000	K-L/13	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6	E-E'		32, 33, 34, 35
77	6000	L/12-13	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6			
81	6000	K/13	VA-IVB	Ch. 4	5, 6	C-C', F-F'		36, 38, 39
101	6000	K/13	VB	Ch. 3	4			
102	6000	K/12	VB	Ch. 3	4	H-H'		18, 19, 20
103	6000	K/12	VB	Ch. 3	4			52
105	6000	K/13	VB	Ch. 3	4			21
106	6000	K/12	VB	Ch. 3	4			18
107	6000	K/12	VB	Ch. 3	4			
108	6000	K/12	VB	Ch. 3	4	H-H'		18
109	6000	L/14	VB	Ch. 3	4			8
110	6000	L/14	VB	Ch. 3	4	M-M'		28
111	6000	K/12-13	VB	Ch. 3	4			
115 (?)	6000	L/13	VB	Ch. 3	4			7, 22-26
116	6000	K-L/13	VB	Ch. 3	4	B-B'		22-26
117	6000	K/13	VB	Ch. 3	4	E-E'		22
151	6000	K/13-14	VIA	Ch. 2	3			
152	6000	K/12	VIA	Ch. 2	3	H-H'		
153	6000	L/14	VIA	Ch. 2	3			8
154	6000	K-L/13-14	VIA	Ch. 2	3			7, 25, 27, 28
155	6000	K/13	VIA	Ch. 2	3			9, 10, 11, 21
156	6000	L/14	VIA	Ch. 2	3			
160	6000	K-L/13	VIA	Ch. 2	3	B-B'		6, 7, 25
161	6000	K/13	VIA	Ch. 2	3	G-G'		13-15
162	6000	K/13	VIA	Ch. 2	3			13, 16
163	6000	K/13	VIA	Ch. 2	3			
164	6000	K/13	VIA	Ch. 2	3	G-G'		
165	6000	L/14	VIA	Ch. 2	3	M-M'		28
166	6000	L/14	VIA	Ch. 2	3			
325	City wall	Encircling the mound	IVA	Chs. 1, 5, 7	1, 2, 7, 17	A-A', B-B', D-D', N-N'		71
325/1	6000	K/12	IVA	Chs. 1, 5	7	H-H'		
325/2	6000	K/12	IVA	Chs. 1, 5	7			
325/3	6000	K/12	IVA	Chs. 1, 5	7			
325/4	6000	K/12-13	IVA	Chs. 1, 5	7		32 (dismantled section)	
325/5	6000	K/13	IVA	Chs. 1, 5	7		32 (dismantled section)	13, 66
325/6	6000	K/13	IVA	Chs. 1, 5	7	C-C', F-F'	32 (dismantled section)	36, 63, 66, 67, 74
325/7	6000	K-L/13	IVA	Chs. 1, 5	7		32 (dismantled section)	64, 65, 72, 73, 74
325/8	6000	L/13-14	IVA	Chs. 1, 5	7	B-B'	32 (dismantled section)	49, 65, 72, 73
325/9	6000	L/14	IVA	Chs. 1, 5	7			
325/10	6000	L/14	IVA	Chs. 1, 5	7			
325/11	6000	L/14	IVA	Chs. 1, 5	7			59

Wall No.	Area	Square	Stratum	Text ref.	Plan	Section	Figure	Photo
325/12	6000	L/14	IVA	Chs. 1, 5	7			
325/13	6000	L-M/14-15	IVA	Chs. 1, 5	7			
7101	C	Q/3	VIA early	Ch. 7	15, 16			
7102	C	Q/3	VIA	Ch. 7	15, 16			80, 81
7103	C	Q/3	VIB	Ch. 7	14			
7104	C	Q/3	VIB	Ch. 7	14			
7105	C	Q/3	VIA	Ch. 7	15, 16			80, 84
7106a	C	Q/3	VIA late	Ch. 7	16			82, 83
7106b	C	Q/3	VIA early	Ch. 7	15			82, 83
7107	C	Q/3	VIIA	Ch. 7	13			79
7108	C	Q/3	VIA late	Ch. 7	16			

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PART ONE  
INTRODUCTION



## CHAPTER ONE

### INTRODUCTION

#### THE HISTORY OF THE SITE AND ITS EXCAVATION

Megiddo is situated at a strategic point at the outlet of Wadi 'Iron, dominating the Plain of Jezreel. Two perennial springs that issued from the base of the mound assured the settlement's existence. These circumstances granted Megiddo a significant status during numerous archaeological periods, as attested by the historical sources of ancient Egypt and the Bible (for general discussions see Aharoni 1993; Halpern 2000).

Megiddo is first mentioned at the beginning of the Late Bronze Age in the annals of Thutmose III's first campaign, when it stood at the head of a confederation of rebel Canaanite princes. The city was finally taken, according to the Jebel Barkal stele, after an Egyptian siege of seven months. It is cited in the city lists of Thutmose III and Seti I, and in the list of the Canaanite emissaries during the reign of Thutmose III (Leningrad Papyrus 1116-A). The second campaign of Amenhotep II was concluded in the vicinity of Megiddo. The el-Amarna and Taanach Letters indicate that Megiddo was one of the powerful cities of the plain. It apparently served as an Egyptian base: in EA 244, the king of Megiddo is asked to restore the Egyptian garrison to his city. Megiddo is also mentioned in Papyrus Anastasi I, dating from the reign of Ramses II. In Iron Age II, Megiddo is included in the list of the cities conquered by Pharaoh Shishak, an event commemorated in the stele of this pharaoh discovered on the site by UCE (Breasted 1948).

In Scripture, Megiddo is mentioned in the Song of Deborah (Jg. 5:19) and in the list of the Canaanite cities that the tribe of Manasseh failed to conquer

(Jos. 17:11–13, Jg. 1:27–28). In I Kg. 9:15, it is cited, together with Hazor and Gezer, as a city fortified by Solomon. It is also mentioned as one of the cities in Solomon's fifth administrative district (I Kg. 4:12) and appears in connection with the death of Ahaziah king of Judah during Jehu's revolt (II Kg. 9:27).

Megiddo was apparently conquered during the campaign of Tiglath-pileser III king of Assyria in 733/2 BCE, becoming the capital of the Assyrian province of Magiddu (SAA 11.2; ADD 919). The valley of Megiddo is mentioned in the context of Josiah's war against Pharaoh Necho in 609 BCE (II Kg. 23:29, II Chr. 35:22). The city's strategic importance is reflected in the Christian Apocalypse (Rev. 16:14–21), which depicts Megiddo as the battlefield of all the kings at the "end of days".

Several expeditions have excavated at Tel Megiddo and exposed rich material: that of the German Society for Palestinian Research in 1903–1905, conducted by G. Schumacher (Schumacher 1908; Watzinger 1929); the expedition of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago (UCE) in 1925–1939, directed by C. Fisher, P.L.O. Guy and G. Loud (Fisher 1929; Guy 1931; Lamon 1935; May 1935; Guy 1938 [*Megiddo Tombs*]; Lamon and Shipton 1939 [*Megiddo I*]; Loud 1948 [*Megiddo II*]; the recently published final report on Stratum VI, Harrison 2004 (*Megiddo 3*); and the expedition of the Institute of Archaeology of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem (HUJE) in 1960, 1966, 1967 and 1971/2, headed by Y. Yadin (for preliminary reports, see Yadin 1966; 1967; 1970a; 1970b; 1973; 1975). In 1992, excavation at the site was resumed by the Tel Aviv University expedition (TAUE) under the direction of I. Finkelstein, D. Ussishkin and B. Halpern, and their work continues



Photo 1. Tel Megiddo: aerial view during HUJE's excavation, looking southeast.



Photo 2. Tel Megiddo: general view of the mound, looking southeast (December 1971).



Photo 3. Area 6000 covered by an awning against rain (December 1971).

until today (the results of the seasons of 1992–2002 have been published in two final reports: Finkelstein, Ussishkin and Halpern 2000 [*Megiddo III*] and Finkelstein, Ussishkin and Halpern 2006 [*Megiddo IV*]). TAUE has exposed and cleaned further parts of the Palace 6000 sector (their Area L), but not the entire complex (Cline 2006; Cline and Cohen 2006).

### THE RENEWAL OF EXCAVATION AT MEGIDDO BY YADIN

The overall conclusions of the earlier expeditions, especially those concerned with the dating of the Iron Age strata, were harshly criticized by scholars (for the different views, see Table 1). J.W. Crowfoot (1940: 145–146) criticized UCE’s attribution of Stratum IVA to King Solomon, proposing instead that the settlement of Megiddo V (following a long occupation gap) is the stratum that represents the events described in the Book of Kings and hence Solomon’s reign. He believed that this city, to which he ascribed Shishak’s stele, evolved over about a century. Stratum IV is characterized by a new urban plan; its construction is of high quality and its buildings greatly resemble the palaces of Omri and Ahab in Samaria. Crowfoot attributed the “chariot city”

to Ahab, who (unlike Solomon) was a warrior king. W.F. Albright and G.E. Wright also criticized UCE’s stratigraphic ascriptions and dating of the structures of Strata V and IV (Albright 1940: 548–549; 1943: 2–3 note 1, 29–30 note 10; 1949: 215; Wright 1950a: 39–46; 1950b: 59–60; 1959: 14–15). Albright proposed that Gate 2156 (the six-chambered gate) should be dated earlier, to Stratum V (Solomon’s reign) or perhaps even to Stratum VI (Albright 1940: 550; for a detailed discussion, see Chapter 9 below). Wright combined the remains ascribed to Stratum IVB in *Megiddo I* (the complex of Palace 1723) and the various remains ascribed to Stratum VA in *Megiddo II* into a single stratum: VA–IVB (Wright 1950a: 39–46; 1950b: 59–60; 1959: 14–15). His synthesis is still accepted by scholars today.

The renewal of excavation at Megiddo by Yadin was aimed at providing a definite answer to the problem of the city’s fortifications during the United Kingdom, as a result of the criticism leveled by Albright and Wright and the incongruity between the fortifications at Megiddo and those at Hazor and Gezer, at each of which a six-chambered gate was associated with a casemate wall that Yadin ascribed to Solomon’s reign (Yadin 1958; 1972: 154).

Table 1. The views of the various scholars prior to Yadin's renewed excavations at Megiddo.

<i>Lamon and Shipton 1939; Loud 1948</i>	<i>Crowfoot 1940</i>	<i>Albright 1940</i>	<i>Albright 1943, 1949</i>	<i>Wright 1950a, 1950b</i>	<i>Wright 1959</i>
<b>V (ca. 1050–1000)</b> Buildings 10, 1A, 51 Unfortified	<b>V (ca. 960–870)</b> Destroyed in Shishak's campaign	<b>V (ca. 1050–950)</b> Gate 2156, original phase – Solomon – perhaps beginning in VI	<b>V (ca. 1050–975)</b>	<b>VB (ca. 1050–975)</b> Gate 3165 and Approach 2150	<b>V (VB) (early 10th century)</b> David –unfortified
<b>IV (ca. 1000–800)</b>  <b>IVB:</b> Buildings 1723, 1482 Gate 1567  <b>IV main phase:</b> City Wall 325 Buildings 1482, 338 Stable complexes Gate 2156 and approach incl. outer gate Staircase 2153	<b>IV (ca. 870–840)</b> Double or triple city wall City of the chariots Renewal of water system	<b>IV (ca. 950–733)</b> Continuation of Gate 2156	<b>IVB (ca. 950–915)</b> Buildings 1A, 10, 51, 1723 Gate 2156 (late phase)  <b>IVA (ca. 915–815)</b>	<b>VA–IVB (ca. 975–925)</b> David – Palace 1723, Buildings 10, 51 Solomon – City Wall 325, Gate 2156, beginning of stables and Palace 338 (?)  <b>IV (ca. 925–815)</b>	<b>VA–IVB (tenth century)</b> Gate 500B Palace One or more stables  <b>IV (IVA) (ca. 918–815)</b> Gate 500B

The main work focused on the northeastern part of the mound, east of “Schumacher’s Trench” and UCE’s Area DD (Sq. M/12–13 and K–L/12–14 according to the grid established by UCE; Plan 1). Here, a monumental public building, Palace 6000 of Stratum VA–IVB (Photos 4–5), was excavated, giving rise to the term (“Area 6000”) used here to refer to the area in general. The principal reasons for the selection of this area were:

- 1 The good preservation of the offsets/insets city wall (Wall 325), ascribed to Stratum IVA in the schemes of Wright and HUJE and Stratum IV in the UCE scheme. The northern stable complex (407), ascribed to the same stratum, is located beside the city wall. The complex had been partially excavated and the remains were still visible in the area (Yadin 1962: 82–83).
- 2 Aerial photographs presented in the UCE reports provided evidence for earlier and unpublished remains below and beside City Wall 325.
- 3 From the previously excavated outer face of the offsets/insets wall in this area, it was possible to discern that what seemed to be the lower part of the city wall’s foundation was actually the outer wall of a massive building (Wall 52; Yadin 1972: 155). It was built of ashlar in a straight line, measuring 28 m. The identification of this wall

suggested to HUJE the presence of a fortress or a palace, similar to Palace 1723 in the southern sector of the mound.

The base of the stratigraphic sequence exposed in Yadin’s excavations is a stratum that was destroyed in a fierce conflagration. It is a stratigraphic anchor of great importance, since it connects the various excavation areas in the vicinity of Palace 6000 and in most instances forms the lower limit of Yadin’s excavations. The nature of this destruction level, and the rich finds discovered in it, allowed HUJE to connect this stratum with UCE’s Stratum VIA. The upper stratigraphic anchor consists of City Wall 325 and Stable 407 (ascribed to Stratum IVA), which extend over a relatively wide area and largely seal Yadin’s excavation area. Most of the remains uncovered by HUJE lie between these two stratigraphic anchors (for the stratigraphic and chronological sequence of Megiddo Strata VIA–III in Yadin’s interpretation, see Table 2).

Yadin’s expedition excavated Area C as well, revealing remains of Strata VIIA–IVA close to Gallery 629 in the southwestern sector of the mound (Sq. Q/3 according to the grid established by UCE). The main objective of this trench was to examine the stratigraphic connection between the gallery and its surroundings and to obtain more accurate data for the dating of the gallery



Photo 4. The northern wing of Palace 6000, looking southwest.

and the entire water supply system. The expedition also conducted investigations at the base of the mound, close to the spring cave entrance and to Staircase 2153, outside the outer Iron Age city gate.

The results of Yadin's excavation make a significant contribution to the understanding of the history of Megiddo and other contemporary sites in northern Israel.

Table 2. The stratigraphic and chronological sequence of Megiddo Strata VIA–III in Yadin's interpretation (based on Yadin 1961; 1970a; 1970b; 1972).

Stratum	Date	Principal structures
VIA	Second half of 11th century BCE; destroyed by David	Developed Canaanite-Philistine city ending in fierce conflagration
VB	Reign of David	Beginning of Israelite settlement; unfortified city, houses erected on the edge of the slope served as the defensive line
VA–IVB	Reign of Solomon; destroyed by Shishak	Palaces 6000 and 1723, six-chambered gate, casemate wall
IVA1	Reign of Jeroboam I	Six-chambered gate (later phase), offsets/insets city wall
IVA	Reigns of Ahab and Jeroboam II; 870/60 to second half of 8th century BCE	Stable complexes, four-chambered gate (500B), offsets/insets city wall
III	Assyrian city	Two-chambered gate (500A), re-use of the offsets/insets city wall



Photo 5. The northern wing of Palace 6000, looking east.

### RECORDING METHODS

HUJE continued to use the grid established by UCE, which divided the site into squares of  $25 \times 25$  m, but introduced a subdivision into squares of  $5 \times 5$  m. It should be noted that there are several instances in which the grids employed by the various expeditions do not correlate exactly. An example is the joint between HUJE's Area 6000, UCE's Areas DD and BB/C, and "Schumacher's Trench". One should note the lack of correspondence between the grids in Strata VIA and VA-IVB at the joint between UCE's Area DD (*Megiddo II*: Figs. 413-414) and Area 6000. The joint between "Schumacher's Trench" and the UCE excavation area is especially problematic, the deviation being even greater here. For the purposes of the present report, the plans of both these earlier expeditions were combined on the

basis of a plan published by UCE which represents both Schumacher's and UCE's grid (*Megiddo II*: Fig. 415), and the combination was re-examined in the area of Building 338. The combination of the plans produced by the various expeditions was dictated by the architectural remains, with heavy reliance on the walls of the stable, which cover a considerable portion of this sector (see Plans 8-10, Illustrations 3, 5-6). Wherever adjustments have been made between the different grids, I have been careful to ensure that they remain identical throughout the various strata. Special difficulty was encountered when records of Building 434 were combined (Plan 9); these include several plans published by UCE (*Megiddo I*: Fig. 49; *Megiddo II*: Figs. 258, 414) and new data gathered by HUJE (Plan 8). It is likely that part of the "distortion" of Plan 9 reflects this combination rather than the original design (for details, see Chapter 5).

The surface of Area 6000 was ca. 160 m above sea level in elevation. In the plans prepared by Dunayevsky, the first digit (1) was omitted to avoid overcrowding with numbers. On occasion, two elevations are listed for a single floor: one represents Dunayevsky's measurements as they appear on his plans, and the other is the elevation recorded on Shiloh's locus cards. Where the differences are pronounced, I have cited both elevations. The locus cards were particularly important for tracing the source of the baskets of pottery and other finds from a certain locus.

Numerous plans were drawn up by the expedition, some even before the end of excavation. The data they contain are often complementary but sometimes contradictory. As a matter of policy, I have decided not to introduce changes in the plans drawn up by the expedition but rather to present them as I found them. In a very few instances I have added minor elements, such as locus/wall numbers or an installation, since it is clear that they were accidentally omitted. To clarify the material, I have given some illustrations in the text, as well as interpretations of my own in the main series of plans (Plans 2, 6, 9–10, 21–22). The plans of Palace 6000 (Plans 5 and 6) show the architectural remains exposed by HUJE (for a schematic illustration including additional remains of the structure exposed by TAUE, see Illustration 1). Plan 5 contains the remains of Stratum VA–IVB in HUJE's interpretation, including Palace 6000 itself, the row of rooms to the west of the palace, and the remains to its east (the latter representing, in my view, an early phase of Stratum VA–IVB). Plan 6, prepared by myself, represents a later phase of Stratum VA–IVB and includes Palace 6000 and the row of rooms to the west of the palace (as they appear in Plan 5) together with the later phase of the remains to the east of the palace (see Chapter 4).

From the outset, HUJE marked the stratigraphy of the remains in the main area by means of locus and wall numbers. The numbers accordingly reflect the stratigraphic ascriptions made during excavation:

Stratum	Locus Nos.	Wall Nos.
IVA	5500–	1–
VA–IVB	6000–	51–
VB	6100–	101–
VIA	6200–	151–

This procedure was followed for loci and walls first exposed or recorded by HUJE. To loci and walls that had been exposed and recorded by UCE, the excavators assigned the numbers given by UCE, subdividing them into architectural units, e.g., the offsets/insets City Wall 325/1, 325/2, etc., or Stable Units 407/1/I, 407/1/II, etc. The problems inherent in this numbering system are addressed below in Chapter 5 (Stratum IVA). Vestiges of Stratum III and later were not assigned numbers and were cited only in a very general manner, e.g., “H – the trial section” or “the pit in Stable 407/1/I”. In Area C the excavators assigned serial numbers to the loci and walls as they appeared without regard to stratum, beginning with Locus 7001 and Wall 7101.

### THE CURRENT DEBATE

Megiddo is central to issues that have been intensively discussed in studies of recent years. These concern the history of Eretz-Israel in the 11th–9th centuries BCE and pertain to the heated debate on the date of strata in northern Israel and their connection to the United Kingdom or the Kingdom of Israel. The cracks in the consensus have arisen in part from the inadequate dating of the strata of Iron Age I and IIA–B (among others, and including references to numerous additional studies, Wightman 1990; Finkelstein 1996; 1998; 2000; 2002; 2003a–c; Dever 1997; Mazar 1997; 2003; 2004; Na'aman 1997; Zarzecki-Peleg 1997a–b; Zimhoni 1997; Ben-Tor and Ben Ami 1998; Ben-Tor 2000; Knauf 2002; Gilboa and Sharon 2001; 2003; Kletter 2004; Herzog and Singer 2006).

The material exposed by HUJE adds useful data to these issues, as exemplified by the following cases:

- 1 Palace 6000 (together with Palace 1723) is the earliest undisputed example of governmental enterprise at Megiddo during Iron Age II. This stands in contrast with other buildings, such as the six-chambered gate and Gallery 629, whose attribution to Stratum VA–IVB is disputed. Moreover, Palace 6000 (unlike Palace 1723) yielded a distinct pottery assemblage, retrieved by HUJE mostly from the rear rooms of the building. This is the most varied and stratigraphically secure pottery assemblage of Stratum VA–IVB ever exposed. Although UCE uncovered many remains

attributed to Stratum VA or IVB (=VA–IVB), including abundant pottery, their publication method makes it almost impossible to reconstruct a clear picture of the pottery assemblage of a particular architectural unit (for detailed discussion, see Chapter 14).

- 2 The sounding in HUJE's Area C on either side of Gallery 629 (excavated by UCE) dates the gallery and the water supply system to Iron Age II, rather than to the 12th century as proposed by Lamon (for detailed discussion of the dating and function of the gallery, see Chapter 7).
- 3 Building 6107, exposed by Yadin's excavations below the western rooms attached to Palace 6000, is the only public building of Stratum VB revealed so far. This stratum, which represents an intermediate level in the development of the Megiddo settlement, is poorly represented because of its apparently gradual transition without violence to the subsequent Stratum VA–IVB (for discussion of the urban development of Iron Age Megiddo, see Chapter 17). Pottery of Stratum VB, which is scarce and patchily represented, is crucial for establishing the pottery sequence during Iron Age IIA (for a review of TAUE's proposal concerning the pottery assemblage of Stratum VB, based on the material exposed by UCE in Area B below Courtyard 1693, see Chapter 14).

This publication presents the conclusions derived by Yadin/HUJE from their renewed excavations at Megiddo. However, my own conclusions are

presented in different forms as well. Parts II and III contain chapters devoted mainly to the presentation by stratum of the stratigraphy and architecture revealed in the HUJE expedition. Within this framework, I have presented analyses and interpretations of my own, which sometimes differ from those published in the various preliminary publications shortly after the excavations, or from those of other scholars working on Megiddo. Part IV widens the scope to my reassessment of the material remains of Iron Age II uncovered by other expeditions in other areas of the mound (some contiguous with the HUJE excavations). Part V presents the finds of Yadin's excavations; with the exception of one scarab (published here by D. Ben-Tor) and the hoard assemblage from Building 6206, the material consists of selected pottery assemblages analyzed by myself. Finally, Part VI presents my view of the development of Iron Age Megiddo.

I believe that a new analysis of the kind undertaken here can throw light on important questions about settlement processes at Megiddo during the period under review, the nature and dating of the changes in the architectural and pottery assemblages, and the relationship of these changes to developments in other sites in the north of the country, hence enabling the establishment of a common chronological sequence for all of them. The results of this study have wide-ranging implications both for the archaeology of the Iron Age in northern Israel and for the understanding of the processes whereby the Kingdom of Israel came into being.