## VARIA EPIGRAPHICA

The aim of the present section is to publish Latin and Greek inscriptions from Israel that have not been published up till now, or have been published in Hebrew only. Most of those reproduced here have been contributed by officials and wardens of the Israel Department of Antiquities with the permission of their Department, by amateur archaeologists or by keepers of museums. Working archaeologists have not shown great readiness to contribute inscriptions found in the course of excavation, and special problems are involved here, but it is hoped that in course of time these workers will discover in this section, which it is hoped to publish annually, a medium for publication. The creation of an annual report of this type is a matter of special urgency and importance in view of the recent démise of Supplementum Epigraphicum Graecum and of the absence of any systematic concentration of new Latin inscriptions in this country.

Benjamin Isaac compiled the bibliographical list of more recent inscriptions published in various non-Hebrew periodicals.

Our thanks are also extended to all those who, understanding the value of the project, have assisted by contributing hitherto unpublished texts.

## 1. Mount Hermon

Contributed by Shimon Dar and published by his kind permission. On a column among the remains of a public building in a Hellenistic-Roman village at spot-height 786 on the west shoulder of Mount Hermon.
$\quad \omega$
$o \nu \Phi \alpha \mu \varepsilon \varphi$
$\alpha \alpha \eta \omega \nu$
$\gamma \gamma \varepsilon \rho \varepsilon \iota \alpha$
$\cup \alpha \nu \omega \nu$

A study of the surrounding Arab placenames and topography suggests the following restoration:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { 'Eтoíкı]ov } \Phi \alpha \mu \varepsilon \nu[o u ̀ ~ \\
& \mathrm{X} \alpha \rho o v] \alpha \alpha \eta(\nu) \omega \nu \\
& \Sigma \iota] \gamma \gamma \varepsilon \rho \varepsilon \iota \alpha \dot{\alpha}[\tau \omega \nu \\
& \mathrm{K} \alpha \pi] \cup \underset{\sim}{\alpha} \nu \omega \nu
\end{aligned}
$$

X $\alpha \rho o v \alpha \alpha$ - Arab Haruia'h, immediately to west of this site, in the plain. Eı $\gamma \gamma \alpha \rho \varepsilon^{\prime} \alpha$ - Sifre ’Eqev fin.; Tos. Shev. IV, 11; Jer. Shev. VI, 1. K $\dot{\alpha} \pi v \alpha$ - Mizra'at Kapua, 2 km . east of this site; cf. Frey, CIJ, 1284; RB, 12 (1902) 106 f.; Klein, Jüd.-Paläst. Corp. Inscr., (1920) no. 48.

## 2. Hared, south Golan

Copied in Qunetra. Published with the kind permission of the Staff Officer for Archaeology, Golan area. The area of the find is 212240.

```
[\Delta\iotaок\lambda\eta\tau\iota\alpha\nuòs]
к\alphaï M\alpha\xi\iota\mu\iota\alpha\nu[òs]
\sigma\varepsilon\beta\beta к\alphai
K\omega\sigma\tau\alpháv\tau\iotaọ[s(sic)
' E\pi\iotaф\alpha\nuv́\sigma\tau\alpha\tauо\iota
K\alphaí\sigma\alpha\rho\varepsilons [vacat]
\lambdaí0ov [\delta]\iotao\rhoí
[\zetaov]\tau\mp@code{\alpha ơ}
```

For Diocletianic boundary stones from north-east Galilee and Golan, see Aharoni, 'Atiqot 1 (1955), $109 \mathrm{ff} . ; 2$ (1959) 152 ff ; 3 (1961) 186 ff . For Syrian parallels A. Alt, ZDPV 71 (1955) 176 ff.; PEFQ (1908) 260 ff.; 339 ff.; (1909) 72 ff.; (1910) 80; SEG 20 (1964), nos. 335-43.

## 3. Kefr. 'Ayyun, south Golan

Contributed by Yehudah Roth, and published with his participation and kind permission. In the Prehistoric Museum of Qibbutz She'ar Ha-Golan. On a basalt column capital.

```
'A\gamma\alpha0\tilde{̣ \tauú\chi\eta}\
'I\sigmaí\delta\omega\rhoоя к\alphai
\Deltao\mu\iota\tau\tau\iota\alpha\nuòৎ ov`\varepsilon\tau\tau[\varepsilon\rho\alphavoí]
\varepsilon}\xi\mp@code{i}\varepsilon\rhoо\tilde{v}\pi\rho\varepsilon\tau\omega\rhoío
\tau\tilde{\eta}(\llcorner) кv\rhoí\alpha(\iota) \pi\alpha\tau\rho\tilde{\imath}\delta\iota
```

Average height of letters: $3-5 \mathrm{~cm}$. The $i \varepsilon \rho o ̀ v ~ \pi \rho \alpha \iota \tau \dot{\omega} \rho \iota o v$ is the headquarters of the Praefectus Praetorio Orientis at Constantinople. For the title with the word ípós cf. Justin. Nov. 69 epil.; also P. Oxy, 11116.2 ( 363 CE ); BGU 456.1 (4th century). The use of the term does not seem to precede the 4 th century, and its Latin equivalent is not used in the Notitia Dignitatum Orientis. It may well be subsequent to Constantius II's reunification of the empire in 350. See A.H.M. Jones, The Later Roman Empire, 1 (1964) 126, 370.

## 4. Hirbet Gadora

Read by the editor, first recorded by Dr. M. Prausnitz in Arch. News of the Department of Antiquities 10 (1964) 22. Found in 1958 (?) at the north-west end of Hirbet Gadora, at the east end of Qiriat Byalik (158 247); now in Qiriat Byalik. A large unworked stone, inscribed

## $\Gamma \dot{\alpha} \beta \alpha$

The stone evidently marked the north-west limit of the territory of Gaba Hippeon (Jos. BJ 3.36; Ant. 15.294) where it met the territory of Ptolemais-'Akko. Cf. M. Avi-Yonah, Historical Geog. ${ }^{3}$, (1962) 145 (Heb.) and n. 12, tentatively locating Gaba at el-Hartiyyah, but in The Holy Land (1966) 101, n. 52, identification with Tell 'Amr, north-west of She'ar ha-'Amaqim, is suggested

## 5. Caesarea

Published by the kindness of Dr. Y. Kaplan in the Annual of Museum Ha-Aretz (Tel Aviv), 17-18 (1975) 15, S. Applebaum, "A New Greek Epitaph from Caesarea" (Heb.-Eng. résumé), where the Greek words used in the commentary are printed with numerous errors.

<br>ou úlòs ’Iou入<br>七 $\alpha$ ขoũ $\sigma \cup \nu$<br>$\tau \varepsilon \kappa \tau \omega \nu$

On a marble slab $18.9 \times 21.8 \mathrm{~cm}$. and 2.4 cm . thick. Traces of red paint on the letters of the first line. Average height of letters $3-4 \mathrm{~cm}$. Third century CE? The word $\sigma \nu \nu \tau \varepsilon \kappa \kappa \tau \omega \nu$ appears to be a hapax legomenon, and is translated by the publisher as "fellow craftsman"; the numerous terms alluding to craftsmen's organizations commencing with the prefix $\sigma v \nu-$, he suggests, may justify the view that the deceased and dedicator were members of a society of тє́ктогєs.

## 6. Hirbet Metzer (Meisar)

The photograph of the following inscription was published without comment by Yehudah Neeman in Eizor Menasheh 3 (1970) (no page-numbers), with a note on Hirbet Meiser (Metzer) and Hirbet Hamemah. (1542 2058). The inscription is cut on what appears to be an altar with moulded cornice and battered plinth. No scale is given.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \Delta i^{\prime}{ }^{\prime} O \lambda v \mu \pi i \omega(\imath) \\
& \text { غ̇ } \pi \eta \kappa o ́ \omega(\imath) \\
& \text { * Ev̉ }{ }^{\xi} \alpha{ }^{2} \nu \theta \\
& \operatorname{\omega os} \dot{\alpha} \nu \varepsilon ́ \theta \eta{ }^{\prime}<[\varepsilon \nu]
\end{aligned}
$$

Tooling suggests a Severan date. The name E $\dot{\jmath} \xi \dot{\alpha} \nu \tau \tau 0$ occurs only at Miletus (Apollod, Bibl., 3.12; Aristocr in Schol. Apoll. Rhod., 1, 186). Neeman records that Hirbet Metzer was till recently a meeting place of Arab shepherds. The dedicator perhaps reared flocks for the wool industry; Milesian clothing is referred to in Talmudic literature from the 2nd century CE onward. (B. Shabb, 54a; Qidd, 21b; Tos. Shabb., 4, 1 etc.). Cf. L. Robert, Hellenica 10 (1955) 37 for a dedication at Inonu,
 opinion $\alpha \dot{\cup} \lambda \dot{\eta}$ refers to a cave used to shelter flocks.

## 7. a-c. Bir el-'Abid, 'Emeq Hepher

North-west of Qibbutz Ha-Ma'apil. Contributed by Eli Yannai, ('Ein Ha-Horesh), and published with his kind permission. The site is 1468/1476 - 1989/199.
a. Fragment of white marble slab.


Average height of letters in lines 1 and $2-2 \mathrm{~cm}$., line $3-3 \mathrm{~cm}$. Probably Byzantine. --] $v \alpha \iota$ suggests an infinitive or the ethnic suffix of a placename. Either would point to an official or legal document, as would the possible restoration in line 3: $[\hat{\alpha}] \xi \operatorname{cov} \sigma[\iota v$.
b. Ibid. Mortarium stamp.

## ALEXAN <br> DRI LAD

Cf. CIL 3, Supp. i, 1, 6646, where the last word is completed as Lada. Found at Jaffa.
c. Part of a lead tablet with heavily moulded frame and figure of a stag.

AYT[окра́ $\tau \omega \rho$ ?-
Height of tablet 5.3 cm . Present length 3.9 cm . Cf. Victoria County History of Somerset, 1, 310, fig. 67a; Collingwood and Wright, RIB, no. 179. The first is a lead roundel from Combe Down, Somerset on which the figure of a stag appears and the initials of the province of Britannia Prima; it was found in a building containing the inscription RIB, n. 179, which shows that this was the administrative headquarters of an imperial estate.
8. Nordiyeh, south-west of Hirbet Beit Lid, east of Netanyah: 14051914.

Published by courtesy of the Department of Antiquities; 54.699 of the Department's inventory.

> LEG•AVG•PR•PR
> PROV PA[le]STT[i]NAE SYR

```
[vacat]
[c. }9\mathrm{ letters] NIVS
```

A slab of grey marble with blue bands, broken across the top and bottom. 27.5 cm . wide at the top; present maximum height 24.5 cm . Thickness 2.4 cm . Height of letters: line $1-3.5 \mathrm{~cm}$.; line $2-3.4-2.1$ cm . In line 2 the letters of the word Palestinae have been erased.
9. Hirbet Beit Lid, east of Netanyah.

Contributed by Dr. F. Berger, formerly of the Department of Antiquities, and published by courtesy of the Department; 76.614 of the Department's inventory. Found north of Hirbet Beit Lid with a lead boss, fragments of a glass bowl and of a light greenish glass and enamel vase bearing traces of a textile wrapping.

A slab of yellow limestone originally $10.1 \times 23.7 \mathrm{~cm}$.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { N } \eta \rho o \varepsilon \iota o v \\
& \delta \iota \alpha \phi \varepsilon \rho \overline{0} \\
& M \varepsilon \sigma[- \\
& \alpha \lambda \iota[-
\end{aligned}
$$

Slight cerifs on the $\eta . \varepsilon . v$ and $\lambda$. Line 1 average height of letters 2.5 cm ., line $2-3 \mathrm{~cm}$., line $3-4 \mathrm{~cm}$., line $4-3 \mathrm{~cm}$.

11. Wadi Aḥriti, Sinai. (Nevi'ot Sheet, approximately 094 837).

Sent by Shimon Dar, and published with his kind permission. On a rock boulder, $10 \times 35 \mathrm{~cm}$. Height of letters ca. 5 cm .

$$
\mathrm{M} \nu \dot{\eta} \sigma \theta \eta()
$$


A Semitic inscription of two lines follows.

## 12. Jaffa.

Contributed by Haya and Dr. Ya'aqov Kaplan and published with their kind permission. A jar-neck with the stamp:

FAN (ni) COL (oniae) HADR (umeto)
Cf. CIL 8.62; 15.3375.
Found by the above excavators in Tell Jaffa in a layer of débris 70 cm . above a 1st-century stratum. Field no. J/72, basket no. 435.

We are indebted to Dr. Virginia R. Grace and Dr. E.L. Will for the correct expansion of the stamp.

It has been suggested (Compendia Rerum Iudaicarum ad N.T., The Jewish People in the First Century, 2 (1976) 672), that stamps with this inscription may be the origin of the "Hadrianic", pottery referred to in M. Avoda Zara, 2, 3, B. Avoda Zara 32a, etc.) If so, it would appear that the correct meaning of the stamp had been forgotten by the later 2nd century. The reference in the Palestinian Talmud, on the other hand, is associated with R. Ashi and R. Judah (d. 299 CE), and could therefore be interpreted to mean that the imports of this potter continued into the 3rd century, but the discussion concerned may have related to an obsolete ruling and therefore have been entirely theoretical.

## 13. Beth Shean (Skythopolis)

Discovered by Professor A. Negev in the east sector of the hyposcenium of the Roman theatre at Beth Shean in 1962, and published with his kind permission. The inscription is cut on a polygonal pedestal or altar. Cf. The Illustrated London News, Mar. 16th, 1963, p. 381, fig. 3; RB 70 (1963), p. 585, pl. xxv, 1: REG 77 (1964), p. 234, no. 518.

The reading is the editors'.
'A $\boldsymbol{\gamma} \alpha \theta \tilde{\eta}()$ Tú $\eta \eta(\iota)$
'A $\beta \sigma \varepsilon \lambda \alpha \mu \sigma$ о
Zєлокю́нои or Zебокш́нои
оікобо́ $\mu$ оя
$\dot{\alpha} \nu \varepsilon$ ह́ $\theta\rceil \kappa \varepsilon \nu$

Cerifs on the apices of $\alpha$ and $\lambda$; also on the letters $\chi, \mu$ and $v$. The panel bearing the inscription is $38 \times 23 \mathrm{~cm}$.; letters $2.5,1.5$ and 1 cm . in height.

Despite the resemblance to the Hebrew name Absalom, the name here may be one of those common both to Jews and to non-Jewish Semites. Such are fairly common in the inscriptions of Golan, Bashan and Hauran (Eg. IGR 1130: M $\alpha$ 日हios, " "Ovaıvos; BCH 21 (1896) 43, no. 18: 'Avov́veos). Mr. Landau sees the correct reading in line 3 as $\mathrm{Z} \varepsilon$ дoon the basis of the cerifs of the third letter, but agrees that this may be a mason's error, and that if the name is read $\mathrm{Z} \varepsilon \delta о к \omega \mu \mu 0$, this is more appropriate to the Semitic origin of the first name. Cf. Dussaud, Macler, Rapport sur une mission scientifique dans les régions désertiques de la Syrie moyenne (1901) 671, no. 86, Zĩסos; ib. no. 5, Z $\alpha$ [ $[\delta o s]$; for the second element of the name, - -qam, cf. de Vogüé, Syrie centrale, inscriptions sémitiques (1868-77), 378 and 430 - qam ("people" or "tribe").

Stratigraphically the dedication should belong to the earliest phase of the theatre, which was built under the Severi, to whose period the letter-style is appropriate.

## 14. Sedeh Nahum

Contributed by Nehemiah Tzori and published with his participation and kind permission. Discovered during the excavation of the 4th-6th century monastery of Sedeh Naḥum (1956 2146). The stone, $58 \times 54 \times 28$ cm ., was at the base of the chancel screen in the apse of the church. Left side damaged; a transverse channel cut across the inscription has damaged the third and part of the fourth line. Height of letters in lines 1 and $2-7.5 \mathrm{~cm}$.

```
हैp] yov \(\Phi \lambda s=\Phi \lambda \alpha\) ovíou
E]и̉a \(\tau \alpha \theta\) íov
|/II/I/I/
\(\dot{\alpha}-\kappa o ́ \mu(\eta \tau о \varsigma) \mu[\varepsilon \gamma](\alpha \lambda о \pi \rho \varepsilon \pi \varepsilon \sigma \tau \alpha ́ \tau \sigma \cup) \stackrel{̣}{\alpha} \rho \chi(o \nu \tau 0 \varsigma)\)
    \(i \nu \delta(\iota \kappa \tau \iota \omega ̄ \nu o \varsigma) \alpha^{\prime}\)
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## 15. Beth Shean (Skythopolis)

Contributed by Nehemiah Tzori, and published with his participation and kind permission. Found near the Local Council Building in an abandoned Arab house outside the walls of the ancient city. The stone measures $90 \times 90 \times 40 \mathrm{~cm}$.; the upper part has been broken off. The lower part of the face of the stone is cut, apparently for the insertion of a water pipe. Tzori suggests that this was part of a baptismal font. Above the sinking for the pipe is a three-line inscription. Height of letters: line $1-6-8.5 \mathrm{~cm}$.; line $2-5-10 \mathrm{~cm}$.; they are cut to a depth of 12 mm .

$$
\left[{ }^{\xi} \rho \gamma \circ v\right] \Phi \lambda s=\Phi \lambda \alpha o v i ́ o v
$$

Eủ $\sigma \tau \alpha \theta$ íou
$\mu \varepsilon \gamma \alpha \lambda o \pi \rho^{\varepsilon}(\pi \varepsilon \sigma \tau \dot{\alpha} \tau о \nu)$ ко́ $\mu(\eta \tau о \varsigma)$

The Eustathios mentioned in the above two inscriptions is almost certainly the same person. He cannot be the Eustathios (6) of Jones, Martindale, Morris, The Prosopography of the Late Roman Empire, 1 (1971), consular governor of Syria in 388, and active also in SyriaPalaestina. The first indiction of no. 13 is probably 522 CE (Kubitschek, RE 1, $666 \mathrm{ff} ., \mathrm{sv}$. Aera) - cf. the close parallel to this inscription from Beth Shean, SEG 7, 34, dated to 529 CE (Starr, AJP, 58 (1937) 83 f .). The title $\mu \varepsilon \gamma \alpha \lambda o \pi \rho \varepsilon \pi \varepsilon \sigma \tau \alpha \tau o s$ (magnificentissimus) for comites does not precede the mid-5th century (Jones, LRE 543). The title ${ }^{\alpha} \rho \chi \omega v$ should indicate that Eustathios was civil governor or dux of Palaestina II (cf. Starr on SEG 7, 34 in op. cit. 84), though the title $\mu \varepsilon \gamma \varepsilon \lambda o \pi \rho \varepsilon \pi \varepsilon \sigma \tau \alpha \tau o s$ appears to have belonged chiefly to comites largitionum, comites rei privatae and domestici (Jones, LRE 528). For the significance of the name Flavius borne by officials from the time of Constantine, see A. Mócsy, Akte des IV Internationalen Kongresses für Griechische u. Lateinische Epigraphik, 1962 (1964) 257 ff.

## 16. Golan Heights

Contributed by Pinhas Porat, Warden of the Department of Antiquities, and published by kind permission of the Department. Now at Afulah. A basalt stele with acephalic bust. Total present height, 0.85 cm . Height of letters, $0.35-0.04 \mathrm{~cm}$.
$\theta \dot{\alpha} \rho \sigma(\varepsilon \iota) \sum \varepsilon o v$
ท́pos
ov̉ $\varepsilon \tau(\varepsilon) \rho \alpha \nu o ̀ \varsigma$
है $\tau \omega \nu \quad \xi \varepsilon^{\prime}$
For a similar epitaph of a veteran with bust (3rd century CE), cf. PEQ (1966) 163 ff. ('Azzoun, Samaria).

## 17. Mount Gilboa

Contributed by Pinhas Porat and published with the kind permission of the Department of Antiquities. A fragmentary inscription, apparently once in secondary use as a doorstep. Now in the Roman theatre at Beth Shean. The face of the stone measures $1.4 \times 0.6 \mathrm{~cm}$. Height of letters: lines $1-2-3 \mathrm{~cm}$.; lines 2 and $3-4 \mathrm{~cm}$.


$-] \omega[-] \varphi$ غ́ $\pi o i ́ \eta \sigma \varepsilon \nu$

## 18. Site Unknown

Contributed by Pinhas Porat, and published with the kind permission of the Department of Antiquities. Now in the Museum of the Sturman Institute, 'Ein Harod, where it is registered as no. viii/103.5607.

A limestone sarcophagus. The text is inscribed on the lower moulding forming the upper limit of the side of the sarcophagus. Height of letters, 0.04 cm .

Dojutías hovyívou
19. Jordan (?)

Contributed by Varda Sussman and published with her kind permission and that of the Department of Antiquities. Now in the Department's storeroom in Jerusalem. (74-1). The inscription is painted in black semicursive letters below the rim of a small jar, probably of the 3rd century C.E. Height of letters: $2.5-2.7 \mathrm{~cm}$.
-] $\mu \alpha o \sigma \theta \varepsilon \rho \mu[-5] s$

The first word should be a personal name, such as Oivó $\mu \alpha o s$. The second word may be completed as $\theta \varepsilon \rho \mu \mathrm{o} \delta o ́ \tau \eta \mathrm{~s}$, or $\theta \varepsilon \rho \mu о \pi \dot{\omega} \lambda \eta \mathrm{~s}$.

Inscriptions published in Hebrew Periodicals
20. Gaza
M. Avi-Yonah, BIES 30 (1966) 221-3. The building in which the mosaic bearing the inscription was found is erroneously described as a church in Orientalia ${ }^{2} 35$ (1966) 135. The evidence indicates that it was a synagogue of the 6th century CE. Cf. Sepher ha-Yishuv, 1, (1939), pp. 113-114, nos. 5-7 (Heb.).

```
M\alpha\nu\alphá\alpha
\muоs к\alphai 'I\eta\sigmaoũs
vioì \tauои̃ М\alphaк\alpha\rhos
[-]'I\sigma\sigma\etá\tauOs \xi\cup\lambda\varepsiloń\mu\piто\rhoo\iota
\varepsilon\cup̉\chi\alpha\rho\iota\sigmaoṽ\nu\tau\varepsilon\varsigma
```

The date is the year 569 of the era of Gaza, i.e. 508/9 CE. In line 3, the final letter is an abbreviation ( $\mu \alpha \kappa \alpha \rho$ to $\alpha \dot{\alpha} \tau 0 v$ ); cf. above nos. $14,15$. See also Rev. Hist. Philos. Relig. 47 (1967) 355-7, with different readings in lines 2 and 8.

## 21. Beth Shean (Skythopolis)

N. Tzori, Eretz Yisrael 8 (1967) Sukenik Memorial Volume, 159 -(Heb.-Eng. résumé, p. 73*). From the synagogue in the north of the city, outside the city-wall, on the north spur of Tell Itztaba (Mastaba). Both inscriptions are on mosaic pavements.
a) In a tabula ansata; near the door to the nave.

b) In Room 7; the inscription is set in a medallion. Height of letters: first four lines: $6-8 \mathrm{~cm}$.: last line; $3.5-6.5 \mathrm{~cm}$.

Xı $\quad$ о机
$\sigma i ́ \alpha$ M $\alpha \rho \imath \alpha$
vov каi то or $\quad$ то（v）

v
ú＇Avív $\alpha$
These two craftsmen also recorded their work on the central mosaic at Beth Alpha．See Sukenik，The Ancient Synagogue at Beth Alpha（1932） 42－3，pl． 25.

The mosaic belongs to the phase of the building dated between the end of the 6th century and 624 CE ．

## 22．Jerusalem

B．Mazar，Qadmoniot 5 （1972）85．On a mosaic pavement in a Byzantine building south of the stairs in front of the west Huldah Gate．

Eủzúx $\omega$
тоі̃ร $\tilde{\omega} \delta \varepsilon$
$\eta \geqslant] \underset{\sim}{\circ} \cup \sigma \iota \nu$
23．Yamat．Bardewil，North Sinai
B．Lifschitz，Qadmoniot 4 （1971）24－26．Four tombstones．
（a）Eủuúpu

عủ孔íx
＂A入фuos
oủઠıs $\dot{\alpha}$
$\theta \dot{\alpha} \nu \alpha$
тоv
（b）++
Eủ $\mu$ v́pı
Eủ廿íx
M $\alpha$ pí $\alpha$
Oủsis
$\dot{\alpha} \theta \dot{\alpha} \nu \alpha$
$\tau 0 \varsigma$
(c)

$$
\begin{aligned}
++ & \\
\mu \varepsilon v ? & \text { Ht. of stele } 1.04 \mathrm{~m} . \\
-] \Theta \varepsilon v \beta & \text { W. of stele } 0.42 \\
{[\omega \tau \tilde{\alpha} \varsigma] \text { ovi } \delta i s } & \text { Ht. of letters } 4 \mathrm{~cm} . \\
\dot{\alpha} \theta \dot{\alpha}] v \alpha \tau o s & \\
+ &
\end{aligned}
$$

(d) +++

Eủ廿íx
Present ht. of stele 0.55 m . (top missing)
Oט̉ $\varepsilon \rho \sigma \varepsilon$ [ $[\varsigma]$
W. of stele 0.40
-]ovфı(vac)
24. Naharia
D. Barag, Qadmoniot 4 (1971) 95. A glass lid with painted inscription from a Roman cemetery of the 2nd-4th centuries CE. The letters are yellow within a black border. 3rd century CE.
$\dot{\eta} \chi \dot{\alpha} \rho ı s$
25. Wadi Hajaji, Eastern Sinai
A. Negev, Eretz Yisrael 12 (1975), Glueck Memorial Volume, 132-141. English résumé, p. 123*. Professor Negev publishes nine Greek inscriptions cut on Rock 5 in the above locality, important as a crossroads between Syria-Palaestina and Egypt in ancient times.
a. $\mathrm{M} \nu \eta \sigma \theta \tilde{\eta}$
b. M $\eta \eta \sigma \theta \tilde{\eta}$ ОГАВО .. A $\Lambda$.. NOГ

Eís $\Theta \varepsilon o ̀ s ~ o ́ ~ \beta o \eta \theta \tilde{\omega} \nu$

HNO
d. $\Sigma \dot{\omega}$

бov
тòv
e. Eî́s $\Theta \varepsilon o ̀ s ~ \dot{\varepsilon} \mu o(\tilde{v})$ $\dot{\delta} \beta o \eta \theta \tilde{\omega} \nu \Delta \ldots$
f. Oűpos
g. Xópıs Mv $\eta \sigma \theta \tilde{\eta} \Sigma \ldots$
h. X $\alpha \rho ı s . ~ M \nu \eta$
$\sigma \theta \tilde{\eta}$ Єعó $\delta о \tau о s$ ó ${ }^{\prime \prime} \pi \alpha \rho \chi o s \mathrm{~K} \lambda$ $\alpha \cup \delta$ íov
i. Eîs $\Theta \varepsilon o ̀ s ~ \Gamma Т ~ \Theta ~$
ó $\beta o \eta \theta \tilde{\omega} \nu$
Ov̉ $\alpha \lambda \varepsilon ́ \rho \iota o s ~ ’ A v \tau \iota$
үóvov $\sigma \tau \rho \alpha$
$\tau \eta \gamma o ́ s . \gamma^{\prime} i \nu \delta \iota \kappa \tau(\iota \tilde{\omega} \nu 0 \varsigma)$
All the inscriptions are pre-Christian, and are dated to 299/300 CE, or "shortly after", according to Professor Negev. No. 8 records an eparchos, Theodotos, no. 9 the strategos Valerius son of Antigonos. After a close study of the incidence of the formulae $\mu \nu \eta \sigma \theta \tilde{\eta}, ~ \varepsilon \tilde{i} S \Theta \varepsilon o ̀ s ~ \dot{o}$ $\beta o \eta \theta \tilde{\omega} \nu$, their variations and the word $\chi \dot{\alpha} \rho \iota s$ (cf. above no. 24), Negev comes to the conclusion that one of the inscribers (i) was a Jew, that of (h) probably; and suggests that the party's presence is to be connected with Diocletian's fortification of the eastern frontier. In line 1 of (i) he reads (from right to left), ü $[\mathcal{\psi} \sigma \tau \tau o s$, Hebrew daleth, $\Theta$ eós - daleth being an abbreviation of ehad, i.e. "one".

## 26. Kefar Gileadi

Kaplan, "The Mausoleum at Kefar Gileadi"; Eretz Yisrael 8 (1967) Sukenik Memorial Volume, 101 ff .; p. 108, from the lowest burial (Stratum III) in the mausoleum. Inscribed in red paint at the end of a marble gable-topped sarcophagus:


Dated by the letter-style as not later than the first thirty years of the 3rd century CE. Kaplan interprets $\bar{\pi} \bar{\pi}$ as praepositus or primus pilarius, the latter in connection with the administration of the annona militaris.

## 27. Romema, Jerusalem.

L.Y.Raḥmani, "Jewish Tombs in the Romema Quarter of Jerusalem", Eretz Yisrael 8 (1967) Sukenik Memorial Volume, 188. In a rockcut tomb of the 1st century BCE, inscribed on an ossuary.

| a On the ossuary: ' $\mathrm{A} \boldsymbol{\lambda} \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$ | Ht . of letters, 5 cm . |
| :---: | :---: |
| b Inside the lid of the ossuary: ' $А \lambda \varepsilon \xi \alpha \kappa \nu \delta \rho o v$ | Ht . of letters, 1-2 cm. |
| c On the lid: ' $\mathrm{A} \lambda \varepsilon \xi \bar{\alpha} \boldsymbol{\alpha} \nu$ $\delta \rho o v$ | Ht. of letters, 1-2 cm. |

A. 'Ovadiah, "Greek cults in Beth Shean-Scythopolis in the Hellenistic and Roman periods" (Eng. résumé p. 122*) Eretz Yisrael 12 (1975), Glueck Memorial Volume, 116-127, discusses SEG 8, 32, 33, 44; 20, 456, 457, and ZPE 6 (1970) 62, pl. Va, found by him but published by the late Professor B. Lifschitz. SEG 8, 32, dedicated to Ares, is not certainly from Scythopolis. The cults of Zeus Olympios and Akraios, Dionysos and Zeus-Bacchus, Astarte, the Dioscuri, perhaps Ares Hoplophoros and possibly Demeter, are represented. The Demeter evidence depends on the author's restoration of SEG 8, 44 as 'A $\mu \phi o ́ \delta[o v] \Delta \eta \mu \eta \tau \rho[o s]$. He connects the division of Scythopolis into ${ }_{\alpha} \mu \phi \quad \phi \alpha$ with its promotion to city status under Antiochus IV, but Scythopolis may have enjoyed this status much earlier (cf. Plb. 5.70; Jos. AJ 12.183. 'Ovadiah has no reference to Seyrig's article on the same theme in Syria 39 (1962) 207 ff .
S. Applebaum, "The Struggle for the Soil and the Revolt of 66-73 CE," examines SEG 16, 573 from Selinus in Sicily ( 5 th century BCE), which includes the name K $\alpha$ бoors $\dot{o}$ M $\alpha \tau \cup \lambda \alpha i o$, deducing from it a 5th-century migration from southern Syria to Qaddesh, also SEG 8, 2 from Qaddesh Naphtali (Hadrianic), indicating that part of the town's population still consisted of organized kinship groups. Cf. The Ancient Historian and his Materials, Essays in Honour of C.E. Stevens, ed. B. Levick (1975) 65.

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Nordiyeh (8)


Hirbet Beit Lid (9)


Caesarea (5)


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