2.7. Area K

2.7.1. Stratigraphy and Architecture

WOLFGANG ZWICKEL1

Area K is situated in the northwestern corner of the *tell* between area W and area M. These three excavation areas comprise "Field II". Area K, which covers the squares BN 1,² BO 02, BO 01, BO 1, BO 2, BO 3, BO 4, BP 01, BP 1, BP 2, BP 3, BP 4,³ BQ 1, BQ 2, BQ 3, BQ 4, BQ 5, BR 2, BR 3, BR 4, BR 5, BS 2, BS 3, BS 4, BS 5, BT 2, BT 3, BT 4, BT 5, BU 2 and BU 4, was excavated in 1995–1998 under the supervision of PETER BUSCH (1995–1998), JILL CARINGTON-SMITH (1996), ROLAND DEINES (1997–1998), THILO FITZNER (1997–1998) and MARKUS SASE (1997). The main interest in Field II was to explore the layout of the Iron Age I city (final strata IV–VI), situated directly below surface; these strata will be published separately in another volume of the final excavation report. The excavations showed that during Iron Age I a well-established system of living and industrial quarters, divided by streets into *insulae*, existed at the lower part of the *tell* (Fig. 2.7.1.1.).⁴ Only in small spots remains of pre-Iron Age I periods were excavated.

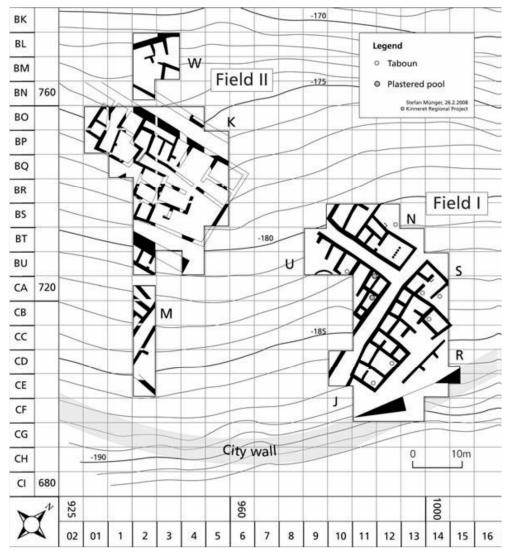


Fig. 2.7.1.1. The Iron Age I (strata IV-VI) houses in Field I (areas J-N-S-R-U) and II (areas W-K-M).

¹ This report is based on the field reports of Peter Busch, Markus Sasse and Roland Deines.

² This square is not shown as excavated on Fig. 2.7.1.1., because only topsoil was removed.

³ Although shown as excavated on Fig. 2.7.1.1., square BP 5 was never opened.

⁴ Cf. MÜNGER/ZANGENBERG/PAKKALA 2011, 75.

The following loci were discovered and attributed to specific final layers:

The following loci were discovered and attributed to specific final layers:						
Local Site stratum	Absolute Chronology	Walls	Corresponding loci			
K0 0	-		L. 5000 (BO 3), L. 5001 (BO 3), L. 5019 (BO 2), L. 5020 (BO 01), L. 5035 (BP 3), L. 5036 (BP 2), L. 5052 (BQ 3), L. 5053 (BQ 2), L. 5083 (BO 2/BP 2), L. 5089 (BR 2), L. 5115 (BS 2), L. 5116 (BT 2), L. 5117 (BU 2), L. 5118 (BT 2) L. 5120 (BS 2), L. 5142 (BU 4), L. 5153 (BS 3), L. 5161 (BT 4), L. 5200 (BP 4), L. 5201 (BQ 4), L. 5217 (BO 4), L. 5224 (BR 4), L. 5236 (BR 3), L. 5245 (BS 4), L. 5248 (BS 4); L. 5254 (BQ 5), L. 5254k (BO 1), L. 5255 (BR 5), L. 5255k (BP 1), L. 5256 (BS 5), L. 5256k (BO 1), L. 5257 (BT 5), L. 5258 (BS 4/BS 5), L. 5269k (BQ 1), L. 5271 (BT 3), L. 5272 (BO 4), L. 5279k (BN 1), L. 5287 (BO 01), L. 5288 (BP 01), L. 5289 (BP 01), L. 5293 (BO 01), L. 5315 (BO 02)			
post-K1		W5002 (BO 3), W5029 (BO 01), W5257k (BO 1), W5276 (BO 4), W5294 (BO 01), W5302 (BO 01)	L. 5306 (BO 01)			
K1 – K3 IV – VI	Iron I	W5004 (BO 3), W5005 (BO 3), W5007 (BO 3), W5013 (BO 3), W5015 (BO 3), W5029 (BO 01), W5032 (BO/BP 2), W5034 (BO/BP 2), W5039 (BP 3), W5040 (BP 2), W5044 (BP 3), W5046 (BP 3), W5048 (BP 2), W5050 (BP 3), W5054 (BQ 2/3), W5061 (BQ 2), W5061 (BQ 2), W5062 (BQ 2), W5063/W5078 (BQ 2/3), W5069 (BQ 2), W5072 (BP 2), W5073 (BP 3), W5077 (BQ 3), W5082 (BO/BQ 2), W5097 (BP 2), W5098 (BR 2), W5101 (BR 2), W5102 (BR 2), W5109 (BP 2), W5119/5130/5156 (BT/BU 2), W5123 (BT 2), W5125 (BS 2), W5129 (BS 2), W5135 (BU 2)	L. 5003 (BO 3), L. 5006/5219 (BO 3), L. 5008 (BO 3), L. 5009 (BO 3), L. 5010 (BO 3), L. 5011 (BO 3), L. 5011 (BO 3), L. 5012 (BO 3), L. 5014 (BO 3), L. 5016 (BO 3), L. 5017 (BO 3), L. 5018 (BO 3), L. 5022 (BO 01), L. 5023 (BO 2), L. 5024 (BO 01), L. 5025 (BO 2), L. 5026 (BO 2), L. 5027 (BO 2), L. 5030 (BO 01), L. 5032 (BO/BP 2), L. 5037 (BP 3), L. 5038 (BP 2), L. 5041/5043 (BP 2/3), L. 5042 (BP 2), L. 5045 (BP 3), L. 5047 (BP 2), L. 5049 (BP 2), L. 5051 (BP 2), L. 5055 (BP 3), L. 5056 (BQ 3), L. 5057 (BQ 3), L. 5058 (BQ 3), L. 5059 (BQ 2), L. 5064 (BQ 3), L. 5066 (BQ 2), L. 5067 (BQ 2), L. 5068 (BQ 2), L. 5070 (BP 2), L. 5071 (BP 2), L. 5074 (BQ 3), L. 5075 (BQ 3), L. 5076 (BQ 3), L. 5079 (BQ 3), L. 5080 (BP 2), L. 5081 (BP 2), L. 5084 (BO/BP 2), L. 5085 (BP 2), L. 5086 (BO 2), L. 5087 (BO/BP 2), L. 5088 (BO/BP 2), L. 5090 (BO/BP 2), L. 5091 (BR 2), L. 5092 (BR 2), L. 5093 (BO 2), L. 5094 (BO/BP 2), L. 5099 (BO/BP 2), L. 5096 (BO/BR 2), L. 5099			

2), W5136 (BU 2), W5137

2), W5158 (BS 3), W5160

W5168 (BT 4), W5169 (BT

W5206 (BQ 4), W5209 (BQ

4), W5214 (BQ 4), W5216

4), W5170 (BT 4), W5173

(BU 2), W5146 (BU 4), W5148 (BU 4), W5151 (BU

(BS 3), W5164 (BS 3),

(BU 4), W5205 (BP 4),

(BQ 4), W5220 (BO 4),

(BO 2), L. 5100 (BR 2), L. 5103 (BO/BP 2), L. 5104 (BP 2), L. 5105 (BP 2), L. 5108 (BP

2), L. 5110 (BO 2), L. 5112 (BO 2), L. 5114

(BQ 2), L. 5121 (BS/BU 2), L. 5122 (BT 2),

(BS 2), L. 5132 (BU 2), L. 5133 (BU 2), L.

(BU 2), L. 5144 (BU 2), L. 5145 (BU 2),

L. 5124/5131 (BT 2), L. 5126 (BS 2), L. 5127

5134 (BU 2), L. 5138 (BS 2), L. 5139 (BT 2),

L. 5140/5157 (BS 2), L. 5141 (BU 2), L. 5143

L. 5147 (BU 2), L. 5149 (BU 4), L. 5152 (BU

4), L. 5154 (BU 4), L. 5155 (BU 4), L. 5159

Local	Site	Absolute Chronology	Walls	Corresponding loci
	VI	Iron Age I	W5221 (BO 4), W5223 (BO 4), W5225 (BR 4), W5226 (BR 4), W5230 (BR 4), W5239 (BR 4), W5241 (BR 3), W5242 (BR 3), W5243 (BS 4), W5246 (BS 4), W5249 (BS 4), W5253 (BR 3), W5260k (BP 1), W5263k (BP 1), W5264 (BS 5), W5265 (BT 5), W5267k (BO 1), W5270k (BO/BP 1), W5271k (BP 1), W5272k (BO 1), W5273 (BQ 5), W5273k (BQ 1), W5274 (BT 5), W5275 (BQ 5), W5282 (BQ 1), W5286k (BQ 1), W5286k (BQ 1), W5290 (BO 01), W5292 (BO 01), W5295 (BO 01), W5303 (BO 01), W5304 (BO 01), W5312 (BP 1), W5313 (BO 01), W5320 (BO/BP 01)	(BS 3), L. 5162 (BS 3), L. 5163 (BS 3), L. 5165 (BS 3), L. 5166 (BT 4), L. 5167 (BT 4), L. 5171 (BT 4), L. 5172 (BT 4), L. 5202 (BQ 4), L. 5203 (BP 4), L. 5204 (BP 4), L. 5210 (BP/BQ 4), L. 5211 (BQ 4), L. 5212 (BQ 4), L. 5213 (BO/BQ 4), L. 5215 (BQ 4), L. 5218 (BO 4), L. 5222 (BO 4), L. 5227 (BR 4), L. 5228 (BR 4), L. 5229 (BR 4), L. 5231 (BR 4), L. 5232 (BR 4), L. 5233 (BR 4), L. 5234 (BR 4), L. 5235 (BR 4), L. 5237 (BR 3), L. 5238 (BR 3), L. 5240 (BR 3), L. 5241 (BR 3), L. 5247 (BS 4), L. 5250 (BS 4), L. 5258k (BO 1), L. 5269 (?; BQ 5), L. 5269k (BO 1), L. 5263 (BS 5), L. 5264k (BP 1), L. 5262 (BR 5), L. 5264k (BO 1), L. 5263 (BS 5), L. 5264k (BP 1), L. 5266 (BT 5), L. 5266k (BO 1), L. 5269 (BQ 5), L. 5270 (BQ 5), L. 5274k (BQ 1), L. 5275k (BP 1), L. 5277k (BQ 1), L. 5278 (BT 3), L. 5279 (BT 3), L. 5283 (BO 1), L. 5279 (BT 3), L. 5283 (BO 1), L. 5284, L. 5284k (BQ 1), L. 5278k (BO 1), L. 5284, L. 5284k (BQ 1), L. 5278k (BO 1), L. 5279 (BT 3), L. 5280 (BO 4), L. 5280k (BQ 1), L. 5284k (BQ 1), L. 5284k (BQ 1), L. 5284k (BQ 1), L. 5284k (BQ 1), L. 5288k (BO 1), L. 5299 (BP 01), L. 5288k (BO 01), L. 5299 (BP 01), L. 5288k (BO 01), L. 5299 (BP 01), L. 5288k (BO 01), L. 5298k (BP 01), L. 5288k (BO 01), L. 5308/L. 5309 (BO/BP 01), L. 5310 (BP 01), L. 5316 (BO 01), L. 5314 (BO 01), L. 5316 (BO 01), L. 5314 (BO 01), L. 5316 (BO 01), L. 5318k (BP 1)
K4 K5	VIII	Middle Bronze	(L./)W(?) 5111 (BP 2)	L. 5106 (BP 2), L. 5107 (BP 2), L. 5113 (BP
	7 111	Age II / Late Bronze Age I	(20)(1)0111 (31.2)	2), L. 5318 (BP 1)
K6	XI/XII?	Early Bronze Age		L. 5033 (BO 3)

Table 2.7.1.1. Stratigraphy of area K.

Stratum K0 (topsoil)

Local stratum K0 comprises topsoil⁵ and in a limited number of squares also stratum post-K1. In most areas the Iron Age I remains (strata K1–K3 = IV–VI) were found directly below topsoil stratum K0. Sometimes the excavators distinguished two phases that post-dated the Iron Age I remains: topsoil, and soil below the topsoil before strata K1–K3/IV–VI were reached. This concerns L. 5001 (square BO 3), L. 5118 (BT 2), L. 5120 (square BS 2), L. 5289 and L. 5293 (both square BO 01). It is quite possible but unable to reconstruct that these loci belong to stratum post-K1 (see below). At least in squares BO 01 and BO 3 some walls attributed to stratum post-K1 were found. Although the locus cards from 1995 frequently mention Iron Age II pottery found within topsoil, most of this pottery has to be attributed to the Iron Age I period.⁶

⁵ The following loci belong to topsoil: L. 5000 (BO 3), L. 5019 (BO 2), L. 5035 (BP 3), L. 5036 (BP 2), L. 5052 (BQ 3), L. 5053 (BQ 2), L. 5083 (balk between BO 2 and BP 2), L. 5089 (BR 2), L. 5115 (BS 2), L. 5116 (BT 2), L. 5117 (BU 2), L. 5142 (BU 4), L. 5153 (BS 3), L. 5161 (BT 4), L. 5200 (BP 4), L. 5201 (BQ 4), L. 5217 (BO 4), L. 5224 (BR 4), L. 5236 (BR 3), L. 5245 (BS 4), L. 5248 (BS 4), L. 5254 (BQ 5), L. 5254k (BO 1), L. 5255 (BR 5), L. 5255k (BP 1), L. 5256 (BS 5), L. 5256k (BO 1), L. 5257 (BT 5), L. 5258 (balk between BS 4 and BS 5), L. 5269k (BQ 1), L. 5271 (BT 3), L. 5272 (BQ 4), L. 5279k (BN 1), L. 5287 (BO 01), L. 5288 (BP 01), and L. 5315 (BO 02).

⁶ Oral communication STEFAN MÜNGER.

Notable finds from topsoil are a seal (Figure 2.7.1.2.) and a seal impression (Figure 2.7.1.3.). Although unstratified these items are significant for understanding the earlier habitation of Tell el-'Orēme.









Fig. 2.7.1.2. Seal, square BR 5, L. 5255, basket 8515/50.

Fig. 2.7.1.3. Seal impression, square BQ 2, Locus 5053, basket 08402/1.

The seal⁷ can be dated to the early Middle Bronze Age II period (1700–1640 BCE). It shows in the center the ideogram zm3 t3wj "unification of the two lands," flanked on the left side by three hieroglyphs htp di swt "royal offering, royal favor," and on the right side by a falcon with a crown, presumably the red crown. The seal impression, printed on a handle, depicts a standing human being with a shield in the left hand. It can be dated to the Iron Age I period (1130-950 BCE). Since both finds have already been published, they will not be elaborately discussed in this report.

Stratum Post-K19

Remains postdating Iron Age I were found in squares BO 01,10 BO 1, BO 3, and BO 4. Wall W5294 made of basalt stones runs in the middle of square BO 01 parallel to the balk in a northwestern to southeastern direction. A very fragmented plaster floor L. 5306 found in the same square may be associated with this wall, but this is stratigraphically not clear. Wall 5302 runs parallel to W5294 in a distance of approximately 3 m. W5257k is a third parallel wall located another 3 m to the north in square BO 1. It is completely unclear how these three walls belong together. Wall W5276 in square BO 4 is perpendicular to these walls, but no continuation of this wall was been found in squares BO 1, BO 2 and BO 3. W5029 (BO 01) is only documented in the locus cards, but was never correctly drawn.¹¹ It connects W5294 and W5302, but in a strange angle. W5002 (BO 3) is completely isolated and not connected with the nearby wall W5276.¹² The function of these walls is completely speculative. No pottery has been found to date the structure.

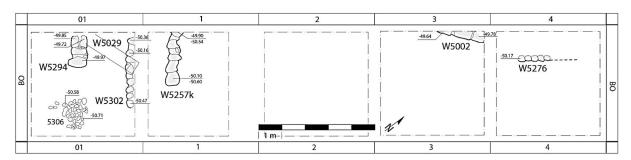


Fig. 2.7.1.4. Plan of stratum Post-K1.

⁷ Cf. MÜNGER 2007, 85–87; MÜNGER in KEEL 2017, 608–609 no. 11.

⁸ MÜNGER 2009, 117.121–123; MÜNGER in KEEL 2017, 614–615 no. 24.

⁹ Unfortunately, no photos or drawings of local stratum K0 or of the small trenches attributed to local strata K5 and K6 were

¹⁰ This square is often called in the locus card as BO 09. BO 09 is situated in the Mekorot area and not connected to other

squares of area K. We changed it into BO 01.

11 It seems possible or even plausible to connect this wall with the Iron Age I strata, because the orientation of W5029 is the same as the Iron Age I walls.

¹² This wall fits very well with the layout of the Iron Age I strata and might possibly be attributed to strata IV–VI.

Strata K5 and K6: Bronze Age Strata Predating K1-3/4

Although the main focus of the excavations in area K was on the Iron Age I city, some structures predating the Iron Age I remains were found. Since the Iron Age I architecture was mostly not removed, the older remains were only discovered in scattered test probes in squares BP 1, BP 2, and BO 3. Due to the limited size of these probes no real stratigraphy exists. Attribution of finds to different levels depends mostly on the pottery found there.

In square BP 1, a small probe (L. 5318) below L. 5281k (stratum K4)¹³ was opened in order to investigate the pre-Iron Age I strata. L. 5318 revealed three walking horizons; one of them was a plaster. A considerable number of Early and Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age pottery sherds (including Abydos- and Chocolate-on-Whiteware) were discovered in loci L. 5318 and L. 5281k.

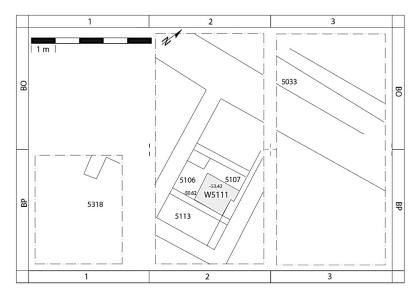


Fig. 2.7.1.5. Plan of strata K5 (L. 5106, L. 5107, L. 5113, L. 5318) and K6 (only L. 5033).

Two scarabs were discovered in fill L. 5281k (Figs. 2.7.1.16. and 2.7.1.17.). The first scarab presenting a cowering lion is typical for the late Middle Bronze Age II period (ca. 1600–1500 BCE). ¹⁴ The dating of the second scarab showing a bird, possibly a duck, is more uncertain ¹⁵ since iconographic parallels are extremely rare. It is made of hematite, a material typical for the late Iron Age I and Iron Age II periods (late 11th to 8th century BCE), but was also occasionally used for scarabs and scaraboids in the Middle Bronze Age IIB period. ¹⁶ Hematite was typically used for cylinder seals during the Middle Bronze Age. ¹⁷ A Middle Bronze Age date seems possible instead of the Iron Age I date proposed by MÜNGER, but actually no convincing dating can be proposed due to missing parallels.









Fig. 2.7.1.6. Scarab, square BP 1, L. 5281k, basket 7791/50.

Fig. 2.7.1.7. Scarab, square BP 1, L. 5281k, basket 7738/50.

In square BP 2 a small trench L. 5106 was opened. A floor built of flat fist-sized basalt and limestones (L. 5106, L. 5113) was found on both sides of the Iron Age I wall W5097. I was partly covered by some more stones

¹³ This locus is connected by the excavators with the Iron Age I period, but it is the only proof for an assumed stratum K4. Since most of the pottery found within this locus is from periods later than Iron Age I, stratum K4 could also be attributed to the pre-Iron Age I period.

 $^{^{14}}$ Münger 2007, 87–88; Münger in Keel 2017, 608–609 No. 12.

 $^{^{15}}$ Münger 2007, 89–90; Münger in Keel 2017, 608–609 No. 13.

¹⁶ KEEL 1995, 141 § 359.

¹⁷ KEEL 1995, 141 § 358.

(L. 5111), which were interpreted by the excavators as a second phase of plaster, but L. 5111 can also be interpreted as fragmented remains of a wall. Unfortunately, the excavated area is too small for a clearer stratigraphy.

Another limited test trench (L. 5107) was opened between the Iron Age I walls W5109 and L./W. 5111. Brown soil and some fist-sized stones (of the same pavement as L. 5106/L. 5113) were found in this trench but the excavated area was too small for stratigraphic results.

Dating the pre-Iron Age I strata is complicated. L. 5318 yielded three walking horizons, but the corresponding pottery was not separated. The excavated spots are very limited, and foundation fosses for the Iron Age I walls might have carried Iron Age I sherds into older strata. In L. 5318 Early, Middle and Late Bronze Age pottery was found, in L. 5106 only Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I sherds, in L. 5113 additionally some Iron Age I sherds. Tentatively, local stratum K5 can be attributed to final stratum VIII (Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I).

Some remains of an even older layer (stratum K6) were found in square BO 3 (L. 5033). Again, the excavation area was very limited. About 3 m under topsoil and after removing the fill of street L. 5006 of the Iron Age I period, some heavy stones deriving from a collapsed wall nearby were observed but no floor was reached. No Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I remains were found in this trench. The pottery in L. 5033 was all from the Early Bronze Age. Remarkable among the finds from this limited area are three undamaged jars of Abydos ware, ¹⁸ dating the supposed remains (maybe a room?) to the Early Bronze Age II period and therefore to general stratum XI/XII.

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¹⁸ Cf. chapter 3.1. Fig. 19:5–7.

2.7.2. Locus List

Locus no.: 5000 Square: BO 3 Local stratum: K0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil

Description: Topsoil with mixed material covering L. 5001. *Baskets of locus*: 8000, 8001, 8002, 8003, 8004, 8005, 8007

Upper level: -49.40 Lower level: -49.85

Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: Mixed Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age

I, Iron Age I-III, Byzantine

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5. *Index to the plates*:

Locus no.: 5001 Square: BO 3
Local stratum: post-K1 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Debris

Description: The color of the soil changed compared to L. 5000. Additionally, more pottery and more stones were found. This

debris is obviously debris of a nearby building. It seems to be connected with W5002.

Baskets of locus: 8006, 8008, 8009

Upper level: -49.90 Lower level: -50.18

Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: Only Iron Age II

Index to the text: p. 309. *Index to the plates*:

Locus no.: W5002 Square: BO 3 Local stratum: post-K1 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Wall

Description: Remains of one layer of a wall in the northwestern corner of the square built on top of W5003. No corresponding

floors were observed. *Baskets of locus*:

Upper level: -49.93 Lower level: -50.23

Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: Index to the text: p. 310. Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 5019 Square: BO 2
Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil *Description*: Mixed material from topsoil.

Baskets of locus: 8042, 8047

Upper level: -49.60/-50.40

Lower level: -49.80/-50.65

Finds of the locus: Mixed

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5, 598.

Index to the plates: Fig. 3.1.11:16.

Locus no.: 5020 Square: Locus card: BO 09, correct: BO 04

Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil Description: Mixed material on topsoil. Baskets of locus: 8043, 8045, 8048, 8058, 8061

Upper level: -49.50/-50.38 *Lower level*: -50.52

Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: Mixed pottery, mostly Iron II

Index to the text: Index to the plates:

Locus no.: W5029 Square: Locus card: BO 09, correct: BO 04

Local stratum: post-K1 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Wall

Description: Small wall two stones broad and one row high. No corresponding pottery.

Baskets of locus:

Upper level: -50.05 Lower level: -49.72
Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: Index to the text: p. 310 with n. 11. Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 5033 Square: BO 3
Local stratum: K6 Site stratum: IX?

Short description/characterization: Concentration of stones

Description: Below the stone package L. 5017 a concentration of stones became visible which is definitely older than L.

5017 and W5015.

Baskets of locus: 8086, 8087, 8088, 8089, 8095, 8096, 8097

Upper level: -52.75 Lower level: -53.00

Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: Only Early Bronze Age II (with some ex-

ceptions, one possibly Late Bronze Age, one Iron Age II?)

Index to the text: p. 311, 312, 558, 582. *Index to the plates*: Figs. 3.1.3:2.; 3.1.3:4.; 3.1.3:5; 3.1.3:6.

Locus no.: 5035 *Square*: BP 3 Site stratum: 0 Local stratum:0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil Description: Topsoil with some stones and sherds. Baskets of locus: 8101, 8103, 8105, 8107

Upper level: -50.25 to -52.34 Lower level: -50.65 to -51.43

Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: Mostly Iron Age II Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5, 656, 830. Index to the plates: Fig. 4.3.34.; 4.4.65:682.

Locus no.: 5036 Square: BP 2 Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil Description: Dark brown topsoil with a few stones. Baskets of locus: 8102, 8104, 81,06, 81,08, 8236, 8243

Upper level: -50.25 to -51.24 Lower level: -50.75 to -51.45

Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age

II/Late Bronze Age I, Iron Age II

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5. *Index to the plates*:

Locus no.: 5052 Square: BQ 3 Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil

Description: Dark brown topsoil with stones and mudbrick pieces. Baskets of locus: 8300, 8301, 8302, 8303, 8304, 8305, 8306, 8307, 8308

Upper level: -51.30 Lower level: -51.81 to -52.46

Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: Mixed, mostly Iron Age II

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5. *Index to the plates:*

Locus no.: 5053 Square: BQ 2 Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil Description: Topsoil and mixed pottery.

Baskets of locus: 8400, 8401, 8402, 8403, 8404, 8405

Upper level: -51.30 to -52.16 Lower level: -52.36

Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age,

Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I, Iron Age II

Index to the text: p. 309 with n. 5, 310. *Index to the plates*: Fig. 2.7.1.3.

Locus no.: 5083 Square: Balk between BO 2 and BP 2

Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil

Description: Topsoil Baskets of locus: 8451

Upper level: -51.18 Lower level: -51.54

Finds of the locus: net sinker Pottery of the locus: All Iron Age I Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5, 818. Index to the plates: Fig. 4.4.59:602.

Locus no.: 5089 Square: BR2 Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil

Description: Topsoil Baskets of locus: 8463, 8468

Upper level: -52.96

Lower level: -53.54

Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: Iron Age I and II

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5. *Index to the plates*:

Locus no.: 5106 Square: BP 2
Local stratum: K5 Site stratum: VIII

Short description/characterization: Debris and floor

Description: Very small working area between the massive wall W5111 and W5097. Mainly brown soil and mudbrick debris of W5097. At the bottom the same kind of floor was found which was also found on the opposite side of mudbrick wall W5097 (L. 5113). This floor is older than W5097 because it runs below this wall.

Baskets of locus: 8529

Upper level: -53.47 Lower level: -53.67

Finds of the locus: Only Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age

Index to the text: p. 311, 312. *Index to the plates*:

Locus no.: 5107 Square: BP 2
Local stratum: K5 Site stratum: VIII

Short description/characterization: Debris

Description: Small working area between W5109 and W5111 with brown soil and fist sized stones. We were unable to dig deeper because of the small size of the working area. Therefore, it was not possible to establish any stratigraphic details.

Baskets of locus: 8530

Upper level: -53.47 Lower level: -53.65

Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: Little, Undetermined

Index to the text: p. 311, 312. *Index to the plates*:

Locus no.: 5111 Square: BP 2
Local stratum: K5 Site stratum: VIII

Short description/characterization: Floor

Description: Relatively flat basalt and limestones, likely a floor (or a mural crown). This stone floor is situated above floor

L. 5113.

Baskets of locus:

Upper level: -53.42 to -53.62 *Lower level*: -53.42 to -53.62

Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: Index to the text: p. 312. Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 5113 Square: BP 2
Local stratum: K5 Site stratum: VIII

Short description/characterization: Plaster and debris Description: Floor with mudbrick debris above it.

Baskets of locus: 8547

Upper level: -53.34 Lower level: -53.59

Finds of the locus: Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age, Iron

Age I

Index to the text: p. 311, 312. *Index to the plates*:

Locus no.: 5115 Square: BS 2
Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil Description: Topsoil with mixed pottery.

Baskets of locus: 8550, 8553, 8558, 8559, 7561 (likely 8651), 7562 (likely 8652)
Upper level: -53.09
Lower level: -53.77

Finds of the locus: Mixed Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze

Age II/Late Bronze Age, Iron Age

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5. Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 5116 Square: BT 2
Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil

Description: Topsoil

Baskets of locus: 8551, 8554, 8557, 8560, 8562

Upper level: -53.96 Lower level: -54.56

2. Excavation Areas

Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age, Iron

Age, Hellenistic/Roman

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5, 792, 818. *Index to the plates*: Fig. 4.4.4:419, 4.4.59:605.

Locus no.: 5117 Square: BU 2
Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil

Description: Topsoil

Baskets of locus: 8552, 8555, 8556, 8561

Upper level: -55.03 Lower level: -55.58

Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/

Late Bronze Age, Iron Age I, Iron Age II, much Ro-

man/Byzantine

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5, 604.

Index to the plates: Fig. 3.1.14:4.

Locus no.: 5118 Square: BT 2
Local stratum: post-K1 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Debris

Description: Debris/natural fill between topsoil L. 5116 and mural crown of W5119.

Baskets of locus: 8563, 8564, 8565, 8567

Upper level: -54.57 Lower level: -54.92

Finds of the locus: 1 working stone, net sinker Pottery of the locus: Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age

II/Late Bronze Age, Iron Age I

Index to the text: p. 309, 792, 818. *Index to the plates*: Fig. 4.4.46:21; 4.4.59:606.

Locus no.: 5120 Square: BS 2 Local stratum: post-K1 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Debris

Description: Debris/natural fill between topsoil L. 5115 and mural crown of W5125, W5128 and W5129.

Baskets of locus: 8566, 8570, 8571

Upper level: -53.30 Lower level: -53.78

Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: Little Middle Bronze Age, Iron Age I

Index to the text: p. 309.

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 5142 Square: BU 4
Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil Description: Topsoil with mixed pottery. Baskets of locus: 7524, 7530, 7536, 7542, 7551

Upper level: -54.50 Lower level: -55.66

Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age

II/Late Bronze Age, Iron Age I, Iron Age II, Roman/Byzantine

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5, 816. *Index to the plates*: Fig. 4.4.58:595.

Locus no.: 5153 Square: BS 3
Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil

Description: Thin layer of topsoil before W5158/5159 and W5160 appeared.

Baskets of locus: 7553, 7555, 7567, 7568, 7569, 7575

Upper level: -53.99 Lower level: -53.98

Finds of the locus: Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age, Iron

Age I, Iron Age II

4.4.58:596.

Locus no.: 5161 Square: BT 4
Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil

Description: Topsoil

Baskets of locus: 7577, 7582, 7589

Upper level: -54.07 Lower level: -54.36

Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age, Iron

Age

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5. *Index to the plates*:

Locus no.: 5200 Square: BP 4
Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil

Description: Topsoil, some stones of W5013 became visible.

Baskets of locus: 8600

Upper level: -50.69 to -51.79 *Lower level*: -51.53

Finds of the locus: Net sinker Pottery of the locus: Iron Age I

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5. *Index to the plates*:

Locus no.: 5201 Square: BQ 4
Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil

Description: Topsoil with humus and brown mudbrick debris.

Baskets of locus: 8601, 8605

Upper level: -51.79 to -52.63

Finds of the locus:

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5.

Lower level: -52.77

Pottery of the locus:

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 5217 Square: BO 4
Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil Description: Topsoil in half of the square.

Baskets of locus: 8650, 8652

Upper level: -50.38 Lower level: -50.73

Finds of the locus: Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I,

Iron I, Iron II, Hellenistic, Roman/Byzantine

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5. *Index to the plates*:

Locus no.: 5224 Square: BR 4
Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil Description: Topsoil, mixed pottery. Baskets of locus: 8667, 8668, 8669

Upper level: -52.49 Lower level: -53.18

Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age

II/Late Bronze Age, Iron Age I, Iron Age II, Roman/Byzantine

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5. *Index to the plates*:

Locus no.: 5236 Square: BR 3
Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil?

Description: Topsoil?
Baskets of locus: 8689, 8690

Upper level: -52.41 Lower level: -52.88

Finds of the locus: Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age, Iron

Age I/II, Roman/Byzantine

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5, 792. *Index to the plates*: Fig. 4.4.46:425.

Locus no.: 5245 Square: BS 4
Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil

Description: Topsoil Baskets of locus: 8719, 8721

Upper level: -53.01 Lower level: -53.30

Finds of the locus: Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age, Iron

Age I, Hellenistic

 Locus no.: 5248 Square: BS 4
Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Debris

Description: Gray-brown debris and fallen stones below topsoil (L. 5245), no floor reached. Therefore, likely belonging to

L. 5245.

Baskets of locus: 8725, 8730

Upper level: -53.41 Lower level: -53.98

Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age, Iron

Age I

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5, 792. Index to the plates: Fig. 4.4.46:426.

Locus no.: 5254 Square: BQ 5 Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil

Description: Gray-brown crumbly topsoil with fallen stones.

Baskets of locus: 8740, 8745, 8751, 8759, 8771

Finds of the locus: Net sinker Pottery of the locus: Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age, Iron

Age I, Roman/Byzantine

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5, 776. *Index to the plates*: Fig. 4.4.38:334.

Locus no.: 5254k Square: BO 1 Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil Description: Grayish-brown crumbly topsoil.

 $\textit{Baskets of locus}{:}~7600, 7602, 7608$

Upper level: -49.58 to -50.44 *Lower level*: -50.37 to -50.63

Finds of the locus: basalt bowl, Flint Pottery of the locus: little Early Bronze Age, predominantly Iron

Age I/II, Roman, 1 Omayyad, 1 late Islamic

Locus no.: 5255 Square: BR 5
Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil

Description: Gray-brown crumbly topsoil with few stones and few pottery.

Baskets of locus: 8741, 8746, 8749, 8752

Upper level: -52.44 to -53.00 *Lower level*: -53.05 to -53.25

Finds of the locus: Scarab (early MB II; cf. KEEL 2017, Pottery of the locus: Iron Age II, Iron Age II, Roman-Byzantine

608-609, no. 11)

Index to the text: p. 309 with n. 5, 310.

Index to the plates: Fig. 2.7.1.2.

Locus no.: 5255k Square: BP 1
Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil

Description: Grayish-brown topsoil above wall W5260k.

Baskets of locus: 7601, 7603

Upper level: -50.48 to -51.44 *Lower level*: -50.93 to -51.55

Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: Mostly Iron Age I, little Iron Age II

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5. *Index to the plates*:

Locus no.: 5256 Square: BS 5
Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil

Description: Crumbly gray-brown topsoil with small stones.

Baskets of locus: 8742, 8744, 8747, 8753

Finds of the locus: Working stone Pottery of the locus: Early Bronze Age, Late Bronze Age, Iron

Age I

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5. *Index to the plates*:

Locus no.: 5256k Square: BO 1
Local stratum: post-K1 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Floor

Description: Floor with debris just below L. 5254k (topsoil). In the balk a wall is visible which is younger than K1. Possibly the floor is above a layer of mudbrick and fallen stones which belong to stratum K1 (L. 5262).

Baskets of locus: 7604, 7606, 7613

Upper level: -50.13 Lower level: -50.52

Finds of the locus: metal stick (basket 7613)

Pottery of the locus: Iron Age I-III

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5. *Index to the plates*:

Locus no.: 5257 Square: BT 5
Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil Description: Crumbly gray-brown topsoil. Baskets of locus: 8743, 8748, 8754

Finds of the locus: Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I, Iron

Age I, Iron Age II, Roman/Byzantine

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5. *Index to the plates*:

Locus no.: W5257k Square: BO 1
Local stratum: post-K1 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Wall

Description: Wall, one row broad and up to three courses high, built by unworked basalt stones, running parallel to the balk of the square. A similar wall was found in BO 4. The big stones are fastened by stony wedges. The wall is standing on top of debris L. 5262 (stratum K1).

Baskets of locus: 7645

Upper level: -49.90 to -50.10 *Lower level*: -50.54 to -50.60

Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: 1 possible Iron Age II, 1 possible Early Bronze

Age

Index to the text: p. 310. *Index to the plates*:

Locus no.: 5258 Square: Balk BS 4/BS 5

Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil

Description: Topsoil was removed until L. 5263 was reached.

Baskets of locus: 8750

Upper level: -53.13 to -53.82 *Lower level*: -53.63 to -53.82

Finds of the locus: Iron Age I, Iron Age II (1 piece)

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5. *Index to the plates*:

Locus no.: 5269k Square: BQ 1
Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil

Description: Brown-gray topsoil.

Baskets of locus: 7636, 7661, 7663, 7680, 7682, 7686, 7688

Finds of the locus: Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age, Iron

Age I/II, Roman-Byzantine, Islamic

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5, 598, 708, 722. *Index to the plates*: Figs. 3.1.11:9.; 4.4.4:3.; 4.4.11:68.

Locus no.: 5271 Square: BT 3
Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil

Description: Topsoil rich in pottery, above stone structures (Iron Age I). A charred wooden post-hole (basket 8863, 8870)

was found.

 Baskets of locus: 8792, 8798, 8861, 8862, 8863, 8869, 8870, 8871, 8872, 8875, 8876, 8879

 Upper level: -53.73 to -54.43
 Lower level: -54.34 to -54.51

 Finds of the locus:
 Pottery of the locus: All Iron Age I

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5. *Index to the plates*:

Locus no.: 5272 Square: BO 4
Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil

Description: The excavated area already opened in 1997 was enlarged. Gray-brown humus, very crumbly was found. The

site is situated above W5276 (post-K1).

Baskets of locus: 8793, 8794

Upper level: -49.69 to -50.32

Lower level: -50.39 to -50.62

Finds of the locus: Only Iron Age I

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5. *Index to the plates*:

Locus no.: W5276 Square: BO 4
Local stratum: Post-K1 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Wall

Description: Wall, obviously younger than the Iron Age I structures. The front stones are well set, the back stones are just

filled in. Therefore, it cannot be attributed to any other Iron Age I structure.

Baskets of locus:

Upper level: -50.17 Lower level:
Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus:
Index to the text: p. 310. Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 5279k Square: BN 1 Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil

Description: Thin dark brown topsoil above W5257 with many stones and few pottery. Work in this square was not con-

tinued.

Baskets of locus: 7701, 7728

Upper level: -48.56 to -49.40 *Lower level*: -50.35

Finds of the locus: basalt working stone Pottery of the locus: Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age, Iron

Age I/II, late Ottoman

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5.

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 5281k Square: BP 1
Local stratum: K4 Site stratum: VII

Short description/characterization: Artificial fill

Description: The locus is situated below L. 5276k, L. 5275k, and W5263k (all strata K1–K3). It contains very firm, solid soil with different colors, from dark brown to gray, and white pieces of chalk. The lower part of the locus is a walking horizon. During the excavation it remained unproven if this floor or walking horizon is connected with W5312 (stratum K3) or if it is below this wall and therefore stratum K4. Although the excavators preferred an attribution to stratum K3, based on the finds, it is more likely that this layer belonged to K4. Nearly no Iron Age I material has been found, but plenty of Early Bronze Age and Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I material.

Baskets of locus: 7716, 7719, 7726, 7735, 7738, 7742, 7747, 7755, 7763, 7767, 7773, 7780, 7784, 7790, 7791, 7797, 7799,

7802, 7803, 7809, 7818

Upper level: -52.35 Lower level: -52.53 (according to the locus card, but some finds are also found as deep as -53.30)

Finds of the locus: scarab cf. KEEL 2017, 608–609 No. 12), scaraboid (cf. KEEL 2017, 608–609 No. 13)

Pottery of the locus: Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age/Late Bronze Age I, Iron Age I (few), Abydos-ware, Chocolate-on-

Index to the text: p. 311, 598, 818, 830.

Index to the plates: Figs. 2.7.1.6.; 2.7.1.7.; 3.1.11:8.; 4.4.59:600.;

4.4.65:680.

Locus no.: 5287 Square: BO 01 Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil

Description: Dark brown topsoil with few stones and few pottery.

Baskets of locus: 7731, 7733

Upper level: -50.00 Lower level: -50.35

Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age, Iron

Age I, Iron Age II, Roman/Byzantine, Islamic

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5. *Index to the plates*:

Locus no.: 5288 Square: BP 01
Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil Description: Dark brown topsoil and a few stones.

Baskets of locus: 7732, 7734

Upper level: -50.34 Lower level: -51.51

Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: Early Bronze Age (1 piece), Middle Bronze

Age II/Late Bronze Age, Iron Age I, Iron Age II, Islamic

Index to the text: p. 309 n. 5. *Index to the plates*:

Locus no.: 5289 Square: BP 01 Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil? Debris Description: Debris, similar to topsoil L. 5288. Baskets of locus: 7736, 7740, 7745, 7751

Upper level: -50.70 Lower level: -51.73

Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age, Iron

Age I, Iron Age II, Roman/Byzantine, Islamic/Ottoman

Index to the text: p. 309. *Index to the plates*:

Locus no.: 5293 Square: BO 01 Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Natural fill

Description: Natural fill above W5306, likely continuation of topsoil.

Baskets of locus: 7739, 7744, 7748, 7750, 7754, 7757, 7758, 7768, 7770, 7775, 7778

Upper level: -50.35 Lower level: -50.63

Finds of the locus: Working stone, basalt vessel Pottery of the locus: Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age

(fragmentary), net sinker, spindle, seal impression II/Late Bronze Age, Iron Age I, Iron Age II

(Iron Age I; cf. KEEL 2017, 614-615 no. 24)

Index to the text: p. 309, 788, 818. *Index to the plates*: Figs. 4.4.44:395.; 4.4.59:599.

Locus no.: W5294 Square: BO 01 Local stratum: post-K1 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Wall

Description: Wall, built by large basalt and limestone blocks, set up vertical to the slope of the hill. No floor or horizon was observed. The wall cannot be assigned to the Iron Age I building remains and is situated higher than these walls.

Baskets of locus:

Upper level: -50.00Lower level: -50.54Finds of the locus:Pottery of the locus:Index to the text: p. 310.Index to the plates:

Locus no.: W5302 Square: BO 01 Local stratum: post-K1 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Wall

Description: Wall, one stone row broad and high, without any context. Situated next to the north-eastern balk.

Baskets of locus:

Upper level: -50.16Lower level: -50.67Finds of the locus:Pottery of the locus:Index to the text: p. 310.Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 5306 Square: BO 01 Local stratum: post-K1 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Fragmented stone floor

Description: Fragment of a plaster built by stones, situated under L. 5293. Stratigraphically it must be younger than the Iron Age I building remains. No corresponding finds.

Baskets of locus:

Upper level: -50.50 Lower level: -50.71
Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: Index to the text: p. 310. Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 5315 Square: BO 02
Local stratum: 0 Site stratum: 0

Short description/characterization: Topsoil Description: Dark brown topsoil with stones.

Baskets of locus: 7817, 7821

2. Excavation Areas

Upper level: -49.90 Lower level: -51.57

Finds of the locus: 1 weight Pottery of the locus: Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age, Iron

Age I, Iron Age II

Locus no.: 5318 Square: BP 1
Local stratum: K5 Site stratum: VIII

Short description/characterization: Floors

Description: L. 5281k (stratum K4) was cut in a trial trench (50 cm wide) in order to observe walking horizons below stratum K4. At least three walking horizons were observed within few centimeters, one of them was a plaster. The excavators did not separate the pottery above these three different phases or strata.

Baskets of locus: 7843

Upper level: -53.27 Lower level: -53.42

Finds of the locus: Pottery of the locus: Little Early Bronze Age; Middle Bronze Age

II/Late Bronze Age, 1 possible Iron I

Index to the text: p. 311-312. *Index to the plates*: