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978-0-521-19535-5 - The Archaeology of the Holy Land: From the Destruction of Solomon's Temple to the Muslim Conquest

Jodi Magness

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## THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE HOLY LAND

This book provides an introduction to the archaeology and history of ancient Palestine – modern Israel, Jordan, and the Palestinian territories – from the destruction of Solomon's temple in 586 B.C.E. to the Muslim conquest in 640 C.E. Special attention is paid to the archaeology of Jerusalem and to the late the Second Temple period, that is, the time of Herod the Great and Jesus. For each period, the book offers historical background for the Mediterranean world, the ancient Near East and Palestine. Major sites such as Masada, Caesarea Maritima, and Petra are examined in archaeological and historical detail, along with the material culture – coins, pottery, glass, and stone vessels – typical of each period. This book provides a thorough overview of the archaeology of this historically rich part of the world.

**Jodi Magness** is the Kenan Distinguished Professor for Teaching Excellence in Early Judaism in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is the author and editor of several books, including *Stone and Dung, Oil and Spit: Jewish Daily Life in the Time of Jesus* (2011); *The Archaeology of the Early Islamic Settlement in Palestine* (2003); and *The Archaeology of Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls* (2002).

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THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE  
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*From the Destruction of Solomon's  
Temple to the Muslim Conquest*

**Jodi Magness**

*University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill*



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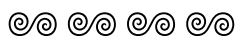
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*To Jim, with love*

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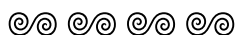
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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---



## CONTENTS

<i>List of Illustrations</i>	<i>page ix</i>
<i>Preface</i>	<i>xiii</i>
1 INTRODUCTION	1
2 THE TOPOGRAPHY AND EARLY HISTORY OF JERUSALEM (TO 586 B.C.E.)	20
3 THE BABYLONIAN (586–539 B.C.E.) AND PERSIAN (539–332 B.C.E.) PERIODS	46
4 THE EARLY HELLENISTIC PERIOD (332–167 B.C.E.)	63
5 THE LATE HELLENISTIC (HASMONEAN) PERIOD (167–40 B.C.E.)	92
6 THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF QUMRAN AND THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS	108
7 THE EARLY ROMAN (HERODIAN) PERIOD (40 B.C.E.–70 C.E.): JERUSALEM	133
8 THE EARLY ROMAN (HERODIAN) PERIOD (40 B.C.E.–70 C.E.): CAESAREA MARITIMA, SAMARIA-SEBASTE, HERODIAN JERICHO, AND HERODIUM	170
9 THE EARLY ROMAN (HERODIAN) PERIOD (40 B.C.E.–70 C.E.): JESUS' BIRTH AND GALILEAN SETTING	192
10 THE EARLY ROMAN (HERODIAN) PERIOD (40 B.C.E.–70 C.E.): MASADA	204
11 ANCIENT JEWISH TOMBS AND BURIAL CUSTOMS (TO 70 C.E.)	230
12 FROM 70 C.E. TO THE BAR-KOKHBA REVOLT (132–135/ 136 C.E.): THE SECOND JEWISH REVOLT AGAINST THE ROMANS	256

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978-0-521-19535-5 - The Archaeology of the Holy Land: From the Destruction of Solomon's Temple  
to the Muslim Conquest

Jodi Magness

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## CONTENTS

13	AELIA CAPITOLINA (HADRIANIC JERUSALEM) (135 TO CA. 300 C.E.)	271
14	ROMAN AND LATE ANTIQUE PERIOD SYNAGOGUES IN PALESTINE	286
15	THE BYZANTINE (EARLY CHRISTIAN) PERIOD (313–640 C.E.): JERUSALEM	320
16	THE BYZANTINE (EARLY CHRISTIAN) PERIOD (313–640 C.E.): PALESTINE UNDER CHRISTIAN RULE	333
17	EPILOGUE: EARLY ISLAMIC JERUSALEM (638–750 C.E.)	349
	<i>Glossary</i>	357
	<i>Timeline</i>	377
	<i>Index</i>	379





## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

- |      |   |      |   |
|------|---|------|---|
| 1.1  | Map of the ancient Near East, 2   | 3.5  | Houses at Tel Dor with pier and rubble construction, 56   |
| 1.2  | Map of the modern Middle East, 4  | 3.6  | Greek black-glazed and red- and black-figured pottery found in Israel, including a krater (rear center) and an early closed oil lamp (front left), 58 |
| 1.3  | A tel (Beth Shean), 8   | 3.7  | Amphoras, 59  |
| 1.4  | Excavated square at an archaeological site (Huqoq), 10  | 3.8  | Electrum coin, 60   |
| 2.1  | Aerial view of Jerusalem from the south, 21   | 3.9  | Coin of Yahud, 61   |
| 2.2  | Topographic map of Jerusalem, 23  | 4.1  | Map of Alexander's Empire, 64   |
| 2.3  | Map of Iron Age Palestine, 27   | 4.2  | Map of Hellenistic Palestine, 69  |
| 2.4  | Plan of Jerusalem at the end of the First Temple period, 30   | 4.3  | Round tower at Samaria, 70  |
| 2.5  | Diagram of Area G showing the stepped stone glacis and houses, 31   | 4.4  | Round tower at Caesarea, 71   |
| 2.6  | Bulla of Gemaryahu, son of Shaphan, 33  | 4.5  | The "seam" at the southern end of the east wall of the Temple Mount, showing the earlier wall on the right and the Herodian extension on the left, 72 |
| 2.7  | Plan of the water systems of biblical Jerusalem, 36   | 4.6  | The Qasr el-Abd at Iraq el-Amir, 73   |
| 2.8  | Section through Warren's Shaft, showing the original system (above), and the later cutting of the floor into the vertical shaft (below), 37 | 4.7  | Leopard with spouted mouth in the Qasr el-Abd at Iraq el-Amir, 75   |
| 2.9  | Plan of the fortifications around the Gihon spring, 38  | 4.8  | Plan of Hellenistic Marisa, 77  |
| 2.10 | The inscription from Hezekiah's Tunnel, 39  | 4.9  | Olive press at Marisa (crushing stone), 78  |
| 2.11 | The pool of Siloam of the late Second Temple period, 40   | 4.10 | Olive press at Marisa (pressing installations), 79  |
| 3.1  | Map of the Persian Empire, 48   | 4.11 | Columbarium (es-Suk) at Marisa, 80  |
| 3.2  | Map of Persian Palestine, 51  | 4.12 | Interior of Tomb I at Marisa looking toward back wall, 81   |
| 3.3  | Plan of Persian period Jerusalem (time of Nehemiah), 54   | 4.13 | Loculi and painted frieze in Tomb I at Marisa, 82   |
| 3.4  | Monumental staircase of the Samaritan temple on Mount Gerizim, 55   |      |   |

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-19535-5 - The Archaeology of the Holy Land: From the Destruction of Solomon's Temple to the Muslim Conquest

Jodi Magness

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

- 4.14 Fish plate, 83
- 4.15 Early Hellenistic mold-made oil lamp, 85
- 4.16 Coin of Alexander the Great, 85
- 4.17 Line drawing of the Doric order, 88
- 4.18 Line drawing of the Ionic order, 89
- 5.1 Map of the Hasmonean Palestine, 97
- 5.2 Jason's Tomb, 99
- 5.3 Graffiti of ships from Jason's Tomb, 100
- 5.4 Theater at Petra, 101
- 5.5 The Khazneh at Petra, 102
- 5.6 Aerial view of the acropolis of Oboda (Avdat), 103
- 5.7 Painted Nabataean bowl, 104
- 5.8 Cornucopia lamps, 105
- 5.9 Coin of John Hyrcanus I, 105
- 5.10 Coin of Mattathias Antigonus with a depiction of the menorah, 106
- 6.1 Map of the Dead Sea region, 109
- 6.2 Aerial view of Qumran looking south, 110
- 6.3 Cylindrical jar with lid from Qumran, 111
- 6.4 Cave 4 at Qumran, 113
- 6.5 Table and bench from the "scriptorium" at Qumran, 114
- 6.6 Broken dishes in the pantry at Qumran, 115
- 6.7 Deposit of animal bones covered by potsherds found at Qumran, 117
- 6.8 *Miqveh* with earthquake crack at Qumran, 119
- 6.9 Aqueduct cut as a tunnel through a cliff at Qumran, 120
- 6.10 Heaps of stones covering graves in the Qumran cemetery, 121
- 6.11 The Isaiah Scroll from Cave 1 at Qumran, 123
- 6.12 Roman luxury latrine at Ephesus, 127
- 6.13 Toilet in the house of Ahiel in the City of David, 129
- 7.1 Map of the Roman Empire, 134
- 7.2 Map of Herod's kingdom, 137
- 7.3 Plan of Jerusalem at the end of the Second Temple period, 141
- 7.4 David's Tower and the First Wall, 142
- 7.5 Stucco room in "the mansion", 143
- 7.6 Mosaic floor and stone table from the Jewish Quarter, 144
- 7.7 Ennion's glass vase from the Jewish Quarter, 145
- 7.8 Stone vessels from the Jewish Quarter, 146
- 7.9 Skeletal arm of a young woman in the Burnt House, 147
- 7.10 Reconstruction of the Herodian Temple Mount, 148
- 7.11 The Western Wall, 149
- 7.12 Wilson's Arch, 150
- 7.13 Robinson's Arch, 151
- 7.14 Hulda Gate with steps, 152
- 7.15 The Temple Mount in the Holyland Model, 153
- 7.16 Soreg inscription in the Istanbul Archaeological Museum, 155
- 7.17 Lithostratos pavement, 157
- 7.18 Arch of Ecce Homo, 159
- 7.19 Plan showing alternative lines for the second north wall of Jerusalem according to the minimalists, 160
- 7.20 Remains of the Third Wall, 161
- 7.21 Early Roman pottery including Eastern Sigillata A and Herodian oil lamps, 162
- 7.22 Jerusalem painted bowls, 163
- 7.23 Roman discus lamp, 164
- 7.24 Herodian (wheel-made) lamps, 165
- 7.25 Coin of Herod showing a cap with a star, 166
- 7.26 Coin of the First Jewish Revolt, 166
- 7.27 Judea Capta coin, 167
- 7.28 The Bethesda (Sheep's) pools, 168
- 8.1 Aerial view of Caesarea, 171
- 8.2 Reconstruction of Herod's harbor at Caesarea, 173
- 8.3 Vault in the Temple Platform at Caesarea, 174
- 8.4 Byzantine street at Caesarea flanked by Roman statues, 175
- 8.5 The Pontius Pilate inscription from Caesarea, 176
- 8.6 Reconstruction of Herod's promontory palace, 177
- 8.7 Inscription in the "archives building" at Caesarea, 177
- 8.8 View of the Herodian theater and hippodrome at Caesarea, 181
- 8.9 The high-level aqueduct at Caesarea showing the two construction phases, 182
- 8.10 General plan of Sebaste, 183
- 8.11 The steps of Herod's temple to Roma and Augustus at Samaria, 183
- 8.12 The colonnaded street at Samaria, 184
- 8.13 Reconstruction of Herod's Third Palace at Jericho, 185

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-19535-5 - The Archaeology of the Holy Land: From the Destruction of Solomon's Temple to the Muslim Conquest

Jodi Magness

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

- 8.14 Aerial view of the northern wing of Herod's Third Palace at Jericho, 186
- 8.15 *Opus reticulatum* in the bath house of Herod's Third Palace at Jericho, 186
- 8.16 Aerial view of Herodium, 187
- 8.17 Section through Upper Herodium, 188
- 8.18 Reconstruction of Herodium including Herod's tomb, 189
- 9.1 Map of Roman Galilee, 195
- 9.2 Aerial view of Sepphoris' theater and acropolis, 197
- 9.3 Mosaic floor in the Villa of Dionysos at Sepphoris, 198
- 9.4 House at Capernaum with a window wall, 198
- 9.5 Reconstruction of a house at Capernaum, 199
- 9.6 View of Gamla looking west, 201
- 9.7 The Sea of Galilee boat, 202
- 10.1 Aerial view of Masada from the northwest, 205
- 10.2 View of the northern palace complex looking south, 206
- 10.3 Reconstruction of the northern palace, 207
- 10.4 Lowest terrace of the northern palace with wall-paintings and stuccoed columns, 209
- 10.5 *Caldarium* in the large bath house, 211
- 10.6 Mosaic floor in the western palace, 212
- 10.7 Southern cistern, 213
- 10.8 Plan of the Roman siege works at Masada, 217
- 10.9 View of Camp F looking west, 218
- 10.10 The *praetorium* and tribunal in Camp F, 219
- 10.11 Painted *amphoriskos* from the *praetorium* in Camp F, 220
- 10.12 *Contubernium* in Camp F, with a book on the bench for scale, 220
- 10.13 Arrowhead from Yadin's excavations at Masada, 221
- 10.14 Scales of armor from Yadin's excavations at Masada, 222
- 10.15 Scabbard chape from Yadin's excavations at Masada, 223
- 11.1 Burial cave at Ketef Hinnom with rock-cut benches, 231
- 11.2 Reconstruction of the Mausoleum at Halicarnassos, 233
- 11.3 The Tomb of Bene Hezir (left) and the Tomb of Zachariah (center), looking east, 235
- 11.4 Tomb of Absalom, 237
- 11.5 Tomb of Queen Helena with monumental rock-cut staircase in the foreground, 238
- 11.6 Interior of a rock-cut tomb with loculi and ossuaries, 239
- 11.7 Inscribed ossuary from the Caiaphas family tomb, 241
- 11.8 Heel bone and nail of a crucified victim from Jerusalem (upper right), next to a modern reconstruction, 247
- 11.9 The "James ossuary", 253
- 12.1 View of Nahal David at Ein Gedi, looking west, 261
- 12.2 Wooden plate and bowl from the Cave of Letters, 262
- 12.3 Glass plates from the Cave of Letters, Judean desert with their original palm fiber wrapping, 263
- 12.4 Bronze jugs from the Cave of Letters, 264
- 12.5 Wool mantle from the Cave of Letters, 265
- 12.6 Bar-Kokhba letter from the Cave of Letters, requesting the four species, 266
- 12.7 *Darom* oil lamps, 267
- 12.8 Bar-Kokhba coins, 268
- 12.9 Bar-Kokhba coin showing the temple façade, 268
- 13.1 Plan of Aelia Capitolina, 272
- 13.2 The Madaba map, 273
- 13.3 Jerusalem in the Madaba map, 274
- 13.4 Remains of the Hadrianic gate at the Damascus Gate (lower left), 275
- 13.5 Reconstruction of the Hadrianic gate at the Damascus Gate, 276
- 13.6 Oval plaza at Jerash, 277
- 13.7 Mithraic vase from Clermont-Ganneau's excavations by the Via Dolorosa, 278
- 13.8 The remains in the Russian Alexander Hospice showing the steps of the Hadrianic/Constantinian basilica (right) and adjacent threshold with image of the crucified Jesus, 279
- 13.9 Remains of Jerusalem's main *cardo*, 283
- 14.1 The Theodotus inscription, 289
- 14.2 Aerial view of the synagogue at Masada, 290
- 14.3 The Gamla synagogue, 291
- 14.4 Aerial view of the synagogue at Capernaum, 295

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-19535-5 - The Archaeology of the Holy Land: From the Destruction of Solomon's Temple to the Muslim Conquest

Jodi Magness

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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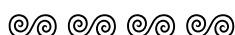
- |       |   |       |   |
|-------|---|-------|---|
| 14.5  | Corinthian capital from Capernaum with a menorah, 295   | 15.5  | South façade of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, 327   |
| 14.6  | Relief from Capernaum showing the Ark of the Covenant/Torah shrine, 296                                   | 15.6  | Inscription from the Nea Church, 329  |
| 14.7  | Relief from Chorazin showing a head of Medusa or Helios, 297  | 15.7  | Reconstruction of Jerusalem's main <i>cardo</i> , 331   |
| 14.8  | Reconstruction of the synagogue at Kfar Baram, 297  | 16.1  | Map of Byzantine Palestine, 334   |
| 14.9  | Main doorway of the synagogue at Kfar Baram, 298  | 16.2  | Plan and section of the Constantinian Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, 335                  |
| 14.10 | Relief of a Victory from Ephesus, 299   | 16.3  | Plan of the Justinianic Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, 336                                |
| 14.11 | Mosaic floor in the nave of the synagogue at Hammath Tiberias, 300  | 16.4  | Interior of the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, 336  |
| 14.12 | Plan of the synagogue at Beth Alpha, 302  | 16.5  | Colonnaded street at Beth Shean with the tel in the background, 337                             |
| 14.13 | The offering of Isaac and dedicatory inscriptions in the mosaic floor of the synagogue at Beth Alpha, 303 | 16.6  | Tyche mosaic from Beth Shean, 338   |
| 14.14 | Drawing of the mosaic floor in the nave of the Sepphoris synagogue, 305                                   | 16.7  | Western Church (church of Nilus) at Mampsis, 341  |
| 14.15 | Mosaic floor in the Jericho synagogue, 307  | 16.8  | Monastery of Mar Saba, 343  |
| 14.16 | Christ Pantokrator in the dome of the church at Daphni in Greece, ca. 1100, 314                           | 16.9  | Late Roman Red Ware bowls stamped with fish and Christogram motifs, 344                         |
| 14.17 | The west wall of the Dura Europos synagogue with the Torah shrine niche, 315                              | 16.10 | Byzantine pottery including Fine Byzantine Ware, 345  |
| 14.18 | Interior of the Sardis synagogue looking east toward the Torah shrines, 316                               | 16.11 | Beth Nattif oil lamps decorated with menorahs, 346  |
| 15.1  | Statue of the Tetrarchs in Venice, 321  | 16.12 | "Candlestick" lamp with a cross and Greek inscription, 347                                      |
| 15.2  | Plan of Byzantine Jerusalem, 324  | 17.1  | The Dome of the Rock, 350   |
| 15.3  | Plan of the Constantinian Church of the Holy Sepulcher, 325   | 17.2  | Interior of the Dome of the Rock, 351   |
| 15.4  | <i>Aedicule</i> in the Rotunda of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, 326                                   | 17.3  | The al-Aqsa mosque, 354   |
|       |   | 17.4  | Reconstruction of the Umayyad palatial or administrative buildings around the Temple Mount, 354 |

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-19535-5 - The Archaeology of the Holy Land: From the Destruction of Solomon's Temple to the Muslim Conquest

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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For more than twenty years I have wanted to write this book. That's how long I have been teaching the material covered here as an introductory-level course to undergraduate students. Over the years, repeated proposals that I submitted to various presses were rejected on the grounds that there was not enough demand to make such a textbook profitable. Therefore, I am grateful to Beatrice Rehl at Cambridge University Press for offering me a contract. I also thank Mary Robinson-Mohr and Jason Staples for their helpful comments on an earlier draft of this manuscript.

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---

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This book is informed by decades of learning from teachers, students, colleagues, friends, and family. Although it is impossible to acknowledge them all, I wish to remember some of those who are no longer with us: James A. Sauer and Keith de Vries, who were my teachers and dissertation advisers at the University of Pennsylvania; my close friend and colleague Hanan Eshel; and my dear friends Tsvi (Harvey) Schneider and Ora Sinai. They had a lasting impact on my life and are deeply missed.

I am fortunate to have a loving and supportive family, including my parents, Herbert and Marlene Magness; my husband, Jim Haberman; and my nephew Mike Miller. This book is dedicated to Jim, for whose unconditional love and companionship I am grateful. Jim works as the photographer on my excavations, and he gets the credit for preparing many of the illustrations in this book as well.