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Across the Jordan

Gottlieb Schumacher (1857–1925) was an American-born German civil engineer, architect and archaeologist who was influential in the early archaeological explorations of Palestine. His parents were members of the Temple Association, a Protestant group who emigrated to Haifa in 1869. After studying engineering in Stuttgart between 1876 and 1881, Schumacher returned to Haifa and assumed a leading role in surveying and construction in the region. First published in 1886 for the Palestine Exploration Fund, this volume contains the results of the first survey of the Haurân region conducted by Schumacher in preparation for the construction of the Damascus–Haifa railway. Considered one of Schumacher's most important surveys, it describes the archaeological remains, geology and contemporary villages of this region in great detail. Accounts of this area by the British traveller Laurence Oliphant (1829–1888) and the scholar Guy Le Strange (1854–1933) are also included in this volume.

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Across the Jordan

*Being an Exploration and Survey
of Part of Hauran and Jaulan*

GOTTLIEB SCHUMACHER



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ACROSS THE JORDAN:

BEING

*AN EXPLORATION AND SURVEY OF PART
OF HAURAN AND JAULAN.*

BY

GOTTLIEB SCHUMACHER, C.E.

WITH ADDITIONS BY

LAURENCE OLIPHANT AND GUY LE STRANGE.



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1886.
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P R E F A C E.



THE circumstances which made the following work possible are these :

About a year ago a firman was granted giving leave to survey the district lying between Damacus and Haifa, with a view to the construction of a railway. The *concessionnaires* appointed as their surveyor for the portion of country east of the Jordan Herr Gottlieb Schumacher, that part lying between Haifa and the River having been already surveyed by the officers of this Society for their great Map of Western Palestine. In the course of his work Herr Schumacher found it necessary, as well as possible, to make many scientific observations, notes, maps, and drawings which he afterwards embodied in the memoir which forms the greater part of this volume. The Map, a reduction of which is here published, covers an area of 240 square miles, partly in the Hauran,

partly in the Jaulan, a district never before surveyed, and very seldom crossed by the traveller. With the view of giving a more permanent form to the already published papers by Mr. Laurence Oliphant and Mr. Guy le Strange on their own travels in trans-Jordanic country, they are incorporated with the volume. The best thanks of the Society are due to Mr. Guy le Strange for the trouble he has taken in editing the volume. Herr Schumacher sent home his memoir, written in English, which naturally required, here and there, the change of an idiom. Mr. Le Strange has also provided the Index. The beautiful and careful illustrations which enrich this volume, have all been specially made from Herr Schumacher's own drawings and plans. They will be found in no way inferior to those drawn for the Memoirs of the Survey by the officers who executed that great work. They are not only drawn and engraved for this work, but they are also, for the most part, entirely new, representing ruins and sites never before sketched or surveyed.

Herr Schumacher has been enabled to survey for the Society another portion of the country, the maps and memoirs of which are expected very shortly.

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It is necessary to add, and to insist strongly, that in this, *as in every other publication of the Society*, all identifications, theories, and speculations belong to the writer and must not be considered or criticized as the work of the Society. The Palestine Exploration Fund advances as its own work, newly discovered facts, in the shape of maps, plans, sketches, observations, inscriptions, etc., but is in no way responsible for any conclusions which may be drawn from them, either by the explorer or by his readers.

W. B.

I, ADAM STREET, ADELPHI,
November 20, 1885.

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BY G. SCHUMACHER, C.E.

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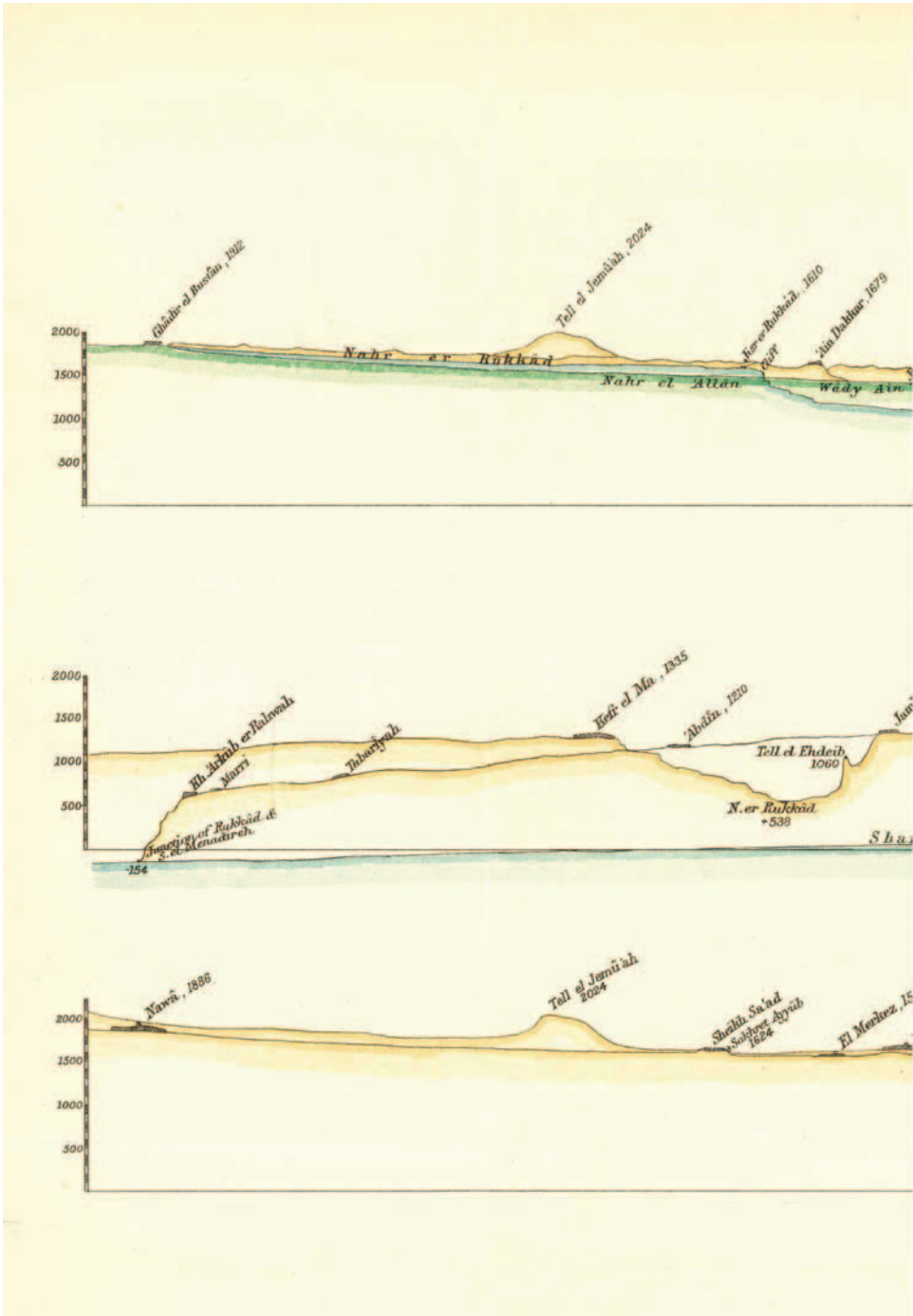
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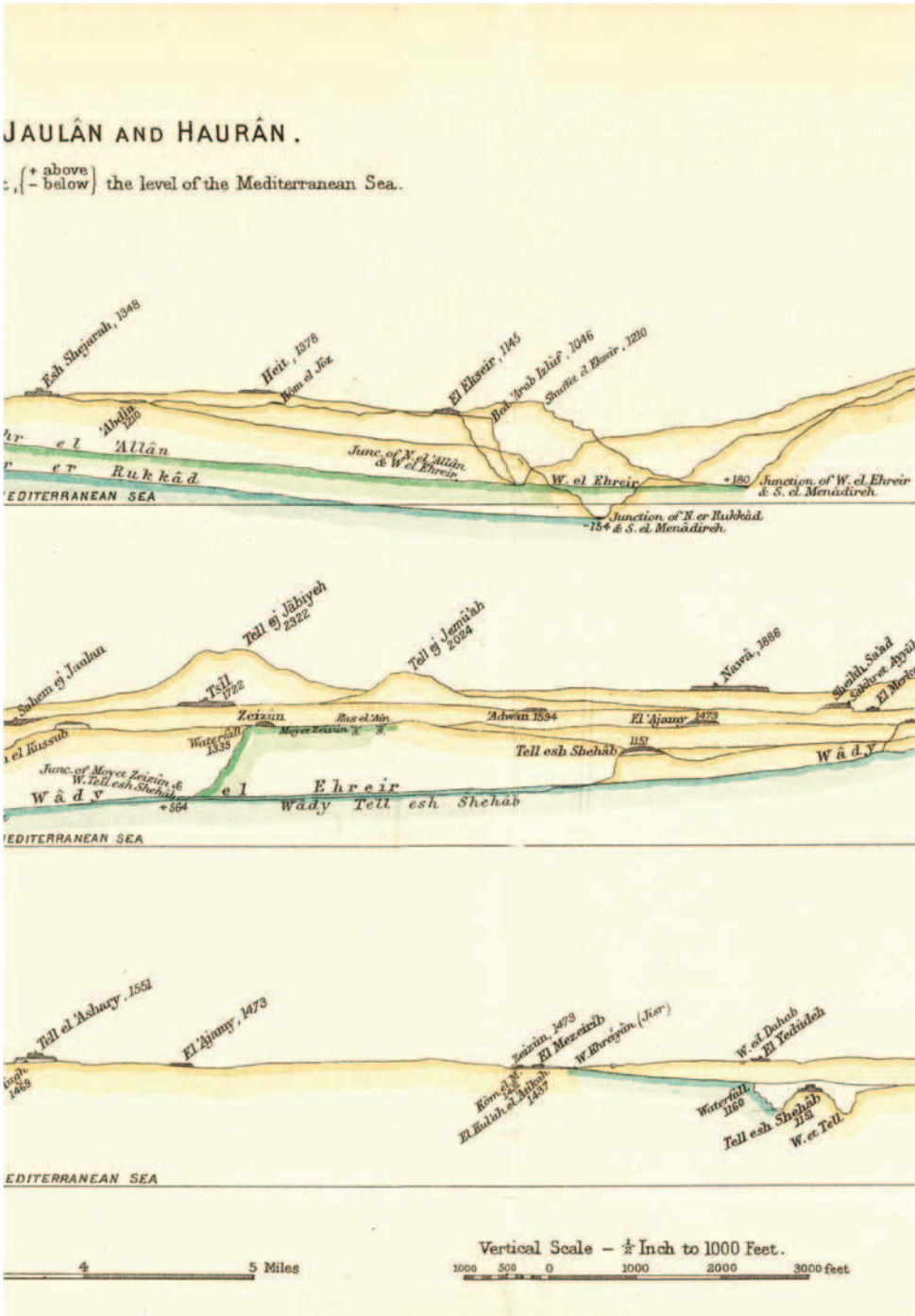
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