

ANCIENT GAZA III

INTRODUCTION

1. After a fortnight of arranging our camp, the staff were all assembled at Tell el Ajjūl by 25 November 1932, and excavation was resumed until 23 March. The party consisted of the Director and Lady Petrie Assistant Director, accompanied by G. F. Royds, O.B.E., who for a third season assisted in the work of survey, and moreover took on the direction of workmen. Mrs. Benson, as in former excavations, helped in the drawing. C. Pape, architect, George Maconachie, and Ann Petrie were active volunteers in the management of Arabs, and H. Falconer assisted for part of the season.

2. The first task was the clearing of the stone basement of the earliest palace (dyn. vii). For this, parts of the superincumbent walls of the two palaces of the Hyksos and that of dyn. xii were removed. The stonework was thus exposed on all sides, and the full extent of the great building, which far exceeded any later work of this kind. Building of the xiith dynasty overlay part of the east side, but nothing subsequent to that. Later walls were left partly in place, so far as possible, to preserve evidence for the future.

In search of the temple ground, excavation was carried southward for over two hundred feet, opening up buildings of the viith and xiith dynasties. Though the temples were not found here, yet much was obtained of painted pottery, and early burials with domestic objects. Owing to early rains before we arrived, most of the Tell was already under crop, so we concentrated on searching various derelict parts not cultivated, and found all of them fruitful. This led to taking up for the following season a strip of the Tell bordering on the wady, as it promised early remains. Further, more was done in deepening out the south-east town buildings, opened in 1931, where in early strata a good deal of bronze work was found and, best of all, the Persian dagger (xvi, 4). On the cemetery some further clearance

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was made, resulting in the discovery of the large tomb of the governor under Tut-onkh-amen. This varied extent of work was chosen in view of the encroachment of cultivation and planting upon the site. An active claim to the rights of the Department of Antiquities needed to be widely maintained, or it would be disputed in future.

The generous support of Sir Charles Marston has enabled this work to be continued on an adequate scale.

3. The plans and most of the management in the field are due to G. F. Royds and C. Pape. The drawings were mostly done by the Director, and the inking in is largely due to Mrs. Benson and Ann Petrie. All numbers from 301 to 419 are those of tombs; from 500 to 1200 are levels in inches over sea. The levels with = prefixed are the levels which are culturally equivalent to those in the palace area; they are, for comparison, adjusted from observed levels in other parts to the position of the same age in the palace series. For ordinary usage, it is here assumed that the side facing the sea is the west, although the orientation is almost diagonal to the cardinal points.

CHAPTER I

THE FIRST PALACE

4. The plan, pl. xlvi, which is now completed, shows the details, stone by stone, of the construction of the basing of masonry. It is evident that the care in building varied much, and that great changes had taken place during the course of construction. We will begin therefore by tracing the history of the plan.

No doubt the massive sandstone blocks were derived from cutting the great fosse round three sides of the hill, about 20 ft. deep, and 30 ft. wide in the rock, for a length of some 3,000 ft. The palace

is therefore contemporary with the completion of the fosse. It should be observed that the blank portions left on the wall lines of the plan were not surveyed in detail, because some examples of the original brick wall, and of later buildings, were left as evidence for the future. The plan must be regarded as if the system of stone-laying extended over all the walls continuously.

5. The design was that of a large square court surrounded by chambers, the whole block being 165 ft. in length from east to west, and 127 ft. in width from north to south. In the original planning, it seems to have been intended to make it even wider. The space from MT to OE is too large for a single chamber, so there was probably a dividing wall at MV, as marked by broken lines. If that were the parallel to MY, a cancelled part of the plan beyond MY would have been like the space MV to MK; the wall MY is too narrow to be the parallel to the thick courtyard wall OE. The cancelled parallel portion would have made the width 39 ft. more, or 165 English feet, exactly like the length. The original design, then, would have been an equal-sided square.

6. The first change was abandoning a southern wing with chambers which would have been symmetric with the northern. Next, the southern wall was not made up with side slabs on edge and packing between, like the other outside walls, but was merely a line of big blocks, which were more irregular as it proceeded eastward, and broke up into two narrow lines. The southern wall was scamped, as being merely a closing up of the courtyard on that side, without any attempt at the detail followed elsewhere.

7. The chambers on the north side are closed by a courtyard wall 70 inches thick, like the outer wall, while the dividing walls of the chambers are 45 ins. thick on the west and 37 to 42 ins. on the north. Doubtless the western chambers were similarly closed by the courtyard wall like those on the north. A line of slabs on edge remains at MZ, and the wall MY has a break inwards at the arrow, 70 inches from the line of slabs, pointing to a wall 70 thick like the northern side. The slabs are not quite parallel to the outer wall, nearing it 1 in 80 as they go northward. This irregularity would bring the inner face against the square end of the MT wall, and would include the three blocks north of that. The plaster paving at 939 level may have been at the entrance into the chamber.

On the east side the stone work is 53 ins. thick, but the character of the outer wall is maintained by the upright slabs at the side with packing-blocks between. The south wall at the end was started with side slabs, but abandoned after going for 23 feet. A line of flat blocks is all that follows.

It appears that the building was begun along the west side, from the north corner. The blocks are larger and more regular there. The dividing walls of the chambers MT, MU, MX diminish in quality in that order. On the south side the flat blocks look larger, but they are only of the size of vertical side slabs in the regular design.

8. On examining the dimensions of the chambers and walls, there was certainly a careless amount of variation, as 169, 170, 176, 178, and 179 inches can hardly be separated, or 117 and 122. A common unit, however, can be discriminated and, comparing all the quantities over 100 inches, the average foot is $10.98 \pm .07$, and the average error of work is 2.85 inches. The number of feet designed is given on the small-scale plan of the original design, placed within the courtyard of the plan xlvi. The total was to be 180 Palestine feet square; three sides at least were to have chambers along them. The temple 4-foot wall on the east certainly did not belong to the original plan, as the outer wall elsewhere was $6\frac{1}{2}$ feet. So it was a stage of the reduced plan, which finally ended in very irregular blocks laid flat for the south side. The length of the south side is 1981 or 180×11.006 ; the west side is $1509 + 468$ cancelled = 1977 or 180×10.994 .

9. The cause for the change of plan, and neglect of the great design which had been started, was apparently the change of purpose while the building was in progress. At the time when this great centre was begun, with very strong defences, it must have been for protection against Egypt, at the close of the vith dynasty. But as soon as the people succeeded in crossing the desert, and seizing the Delta, no such powerful defence was needed. After they became the rulers of Egypt and founded the viith dynasty, Gaza was merely a place of residence and not a frontier fortress; interest and safety claimed attention elsewhere. The great palace was needless, and could be shortly finished off for ordinary use. The original plan was like that of Arslan Tepe.

10. On the east side the outer wall was only four feet thick, but had the system of side slabs and packing, continued some way up the south side. The east wall stood on a terrace, the ground falling

away nine feet at SB, and over twenty feet at SK. That the ground has sunk since the construction is certain, as the drain at SD has subsided in the middle. The depression seems to have been filled up with much organic material that has decayed away and let the surface down, as all the stone paving near SK has gone into a steep slope, passing from 974 to 933 level, and even lower. The "plastered paving" was put in later, as the west edge has kept up to the stone-base level while the east edge has gone on sinking. As the drain remains true at its east end, it appears that the hollow ground was only a wide trench, possibly made for defence of the palace on the east side, and later filled up.

Inside the east wall was a bathroom paved with white plaster, from which the drain ran to carry off water. There were chambers formed by brick walls. The dimensions, as marked on the design plan, are rather more accurate than in the stone work. The foot, from a dozen dimensions, is $11.08 \pm .03$, with an average error of work of 1.1 inch. These parts have been much altered by the rebuilding due to the xiith dynasty, so that the scheme can hardly be traced. The later walls are all together on pl. xlvii.

The sump well for rain water in the line of the east wall seems to have been lined with the slabs dug out from the destroyed part of the wall. It shows how the earlier structure was lost beneath silting when the xiith dynasty structures were in progress.

11. Regarding building levels, there was a slope along the west from north to south; the top of the north stone basing is as high as 967; it is 946 at MT, and down to 933 at the S.W. corner, 32 inches fall in 125 feet or about 1 in 50. There was no fall to the east, the wall there being 959 to 949 at the south end, and along the south it sloped upward to the east from 935 to 959.

12. The vertical slabs at the sides of the walling were carefully dressed with flat edges, and slight recessing on the face; the row of slabs is figured in pl. i, 5, along the north face of wall OE. All edge slabs we measured for the plan, and the packing blocks were drawn by eye between the measured lines. The packing is roughly trimmed, but sometimes consists merely of small scrap pieces.

On the stone basing was found a wall of black brick for the upper structure, but indurated, and so damp that separate bricks could scarcely be distinguished.

CHAPTER II

LATER BUILDINGS

13. The first palace site being recovered, and all the later palaces on a portion of that ground, the search for the temples was carried along the higher ground to the south, see pl. xlvii. This brought to light a mass of buildings, of which those near the palace (Q region) continued until the xviiiith dynasty. Further south, under a sand dune, more buildings were reached, the K.L. region, which were of the xiith dynasty and earlier; none of the late coarse Cypriote bowls were found in these chambers, but only the earlier fine Anatolian in its late stages. Southward of these the ground was tested by rows of pits, but there were no walls found, and not much earth over the *gebel*.

On the plan, xlvii, the deepest walls are in outline, the pre- and early xiith dynasty in diagonal shade, and the later xiith in full black. In the walls over the palace, S.E. corner, the xiith is in black, and the later periods in cross-shading. The chamber MN with very thick wall is of Hyksos age, and connects this plan with the left side of pl. xlvi in *Gaza II*. The walls between LJ^a and J^a were firm enough to show the joints, and the bricks were of the same size as those of palace II, and of the same fine yellow clay, and precision of form.

This region produced pottery and scarabs, as well as the best pieces of painted pottery. There does not seem to be any public building, but only houses irregularly built together. The walls of dyn. xii were often a continuation of earlier walls below.

14. Some burials were found at low level, but not therefore very early. 308 and 309 were clearly Hyksos, later than the wall on each side of which they were sunk. 310 is Hyksos, 326 is late Hyksos, 318-323 are likewise late. In Hyksos times the ruins of the xiith dynasty were used as a common cemetery, and tombs sunk 5 or 6 feet deep.

15. The work carried on at F, G, and J did not expose any buildings, and only two rooms in H. As all this region is to be cleared next year, it is needless to describe parts here, but all objects found are registered and figured in the plates.

At the north end of the Tell the highest ground claimed attention. Very rough stone walling of one or two courses appeared of Arabic age, and these were planned. The lower levels proved to be contemporary with later levels of the palaces. The height of the surface at this part was only due to

late occupation, and dune piling. A small amount of pottery was found.

16. At the gate, on the middle of the east side of the Tell, clearance was made, to search for the end of the lower tunnel. It was found to emerge in the outer face of the great fosse. The block of stone, which had been reached by our tunnelling, was lying in the fosse. It proved to be a round-topped fencing slab which had been part of the wall bordering the raised gangway across the fosse, and it had been pushed off that on to the slope of the fosse. It did not seem that more could be ascertained, as the sides of the fosse were already known and planned at either side of the gangway, and therefore that region was closed down.

CHAPTER III

SCARABS

17. A large number of scarabs and cylinders were obtained in the town (140), a few from the cemetery (15), and others were picked up at random (41). Of those on pl. iii, 1-39 are from deeper work in the south-east town, placed in order of level; 40 to 114 are from the western region; 115-129 from the cemetery with tomb numbers; 130-154 from small trial portions; and 155-197 from unfixed sites. There are also the gold ring and two scarabs from the governor's tomb. Besides these two hundred with engraving, there were about twenty plain stone scarabs.

18. Pl. III. This series does not seem to begin before Hyksos times, as the 9th is of Shesha, who is late in the xvth dynasty. The cutting of these scarabs was doubtless done by Canaanites, as the Hyksos are not found to have had any manufactures of their own. No. 2 is an early example of the human face type, which also belongs to the xxiiiird dynasty. The crocodile among aquatic plants (4) is a copy of Egyptian design. 14 is an early example of the twist with side lines degraded from *neter* signs. Shesha (9) and Neferhetep (17) are good fixed points. The type of 24, 49, 80, 114, 173 is a degradation of no. 3, well known in Egypt, but unexplained. The looped cord pattern 22, 74, 78, 97, 172 is a part of the above. An imported scarab is 33 of "the chief archer Sa-ha, scribe," or Saha-snoo. 35 is notable for the human figure with a

pointed cap, striped; this seems to represent therefore a Hittite prince. This is paralleled by a scarab with an Egypto-Hyksos king before a suzerain who has the conical cap and Hittite dress, showing that the Hyksos were vassals of the Hittites (*Anc. Eg.*).

The cylinder of haematite, 37, has a cartouche blundered from that of Amenemhat II or Senusert III. The *sa ra* over it is altered to a hare. In 52, 56, 60, 62 we reach dating of the xviiiith dynasty, while in 59 Canaanite barbarism still remained. The infant king sitting on the nine bows of the foreigners is probably Tehutmes III, who succeeded at about nine years old. Amenhetep III is the most usual king here, 64, 67, 77, 125 and 195. The Tehutmes on 65 may be T. III or IV. Ra-se-khane, 92, was of dynasty xvi, well known, as also Oamu, 106.

19. Pl. IV. The delicate scroll scarab (116) can hardly be later than dyn. xi; this serves to fix a much earlier age for a destroyed burial below it, which contained a veined bronze dagger (xvii, 10).

361 is a group dated to Tehutmes IV (124) and Amenhetep III (125), probably 1420-1400 B.C. With these was the cylinder of peacock-blue glass, 127, now decomposed greyish on the surface and very fragile throughout. On its face is lightly engraved a rout of winged horses, ibex, panther and dog, all at "flying gallop." The style is not Cretan nor Egyptian, but more like the Assyrian, which passed on to the Han style in China; it therefore suggests a Persian origin for the design. The little gold-mounted scarab of Tehutmes III, "of excellent epiphany," serves to date some late pottery.

The haematite cylinder, 136, is deeply engraved with a scene of two winged genii adoring the sacred tree. The sphinx 154 is cut in carnelian, too roughly to be of Egyptian work. 155 seems to be of Menhetep, "divine father of Ptah-nefer-her"; the imperfect form of the god's name appears like a Canaanite copy. 156 has a face rudely cut on a clay sealing. 157 is probably of dyn. x or xi, by the decoration of the back (see *Gaza* II, vii, 103, 106); the king seated has a name Du-zed-neferui before him. The little durite plaque, 192, is of delicate work, the *men* sign having the correct number of 3 × 10 squares; it is probably of Tehutmes III. The plaque 193 has figures of Anher and the king. 196 is the usual type of queen Tyi. 197 is a clay sealing from papyrus, with a Persian fire worshipper, probably of vth cent. B.C.

CHAPTER IV

THE GOVERNOR'S TOMB AND THE CEMETERY

20. Pl. VI. At the top is a view down to the cemetery and port entrance to the city, a sloping way which has not been cut by drainage lines. This is the nearest point to the old estuary, which formerly extended as far up as this. The stream shifted southward about fifty years ago, but the old bed is close to the Tell. A trial digging at the side of this entrance, into three chambers, produced eight weights, pointing to commerce here.

21. Near the north end of the Tell we found, in the plain, an elaborate tomb of the Egyptian governor. It was constructed of slabs of the pebble and shell conglomerate, common on the beach. The roof was formed of five slabs on either side, sloping to meet in the middle as a pent ridge. The sides were of piled up slabs laid flat. The descent was by steps from the north. The door lintel is a single slab resting on the sides. The doorway was closed by a door slab with a few supplementary pieces around its edges. The interior was 169 inches long by 47 to 52 wide. The walls were 37 inches high, and to the top of the pent ridge was 58 inside (see pl. vi). It seems almost impossible to have placed the later burials at the far end of a chamber 14 ft. long, and partly filled, with only 17 ins. below the top of the sides or 38 under the peak of the roof. The only other conclusion would be that the tomb had been an open grave, earth-filled, during some fifty years, and that the pent roof was only added at the last interments, when four bodies were placed at the far end of the tomb. The roofing must have been later than the filling of the tomb, as the gable end slab did not rest on the walls, but on the earth just inside the end wall (see pl. xii).

The interments were in three main layers, somewhat dispersed. If there were no roof, each process of interment must have disturbed the previous layer to some extent, which would account for the scattering over a few inches of level.

22. The dating is given by the name of Tut-onkhamen on the gold ring, and Ramessu II on the scarab; this implies at least 45 years' interval. The massive gold ring was doubtless that of the Egyptian governor, to seal in the name of the king, for receipts and orders. Yet it was made in Palestine, for it is exactly a double shekel of the Babylonian standard (256 grains), while an official ring made in Egypt would be on the Egyptian standard, 290 grs. This

prevents our assuming that it was a family possession brought from Egypt at the reconquest of Palestine. Thus we are limited to the view that the Egyptian governor was in office under Tut-onkh-amen, and his family continued to make successive burials for a couple of generations down to the reign of Ramessu II. The Egyptians therefore never lost hold of the south border, when Upper Palestine and Syria revolted from Akhenaten.

23. Pl. VII. Probably all of this gold work is Palestinian: described in the account of the following plate, viii.

Pl. VIII. 1. Roughly stamped gold disc (and a duplicate), for stitching on dress. 3. A larger gold disc stamped with twelve-leaved rosette, therefore Syrian, as Egyptians did not divide by three. 2. Gold ring of Tut-onkh-amen, cast in one piece, and then chased. The work is not very good, and may well have been Palestinian, as indicated by the weight. 4. Scarab of Ramessu II, made of soft paste, with dark blue glaze remaining in the hollows. 5. White stone scarab with falcon, Palestinian ring pattern around. Besides these there were two plain scarabs, one of red limestone, the other black steatite.

6. Black steatite cylinder with figure of a god, holding sceptre, star above, worshipper before him. At the sides two ducks and two hares.

7. Brown haematite cylinder, with a goddess between two female adorants. The *mihir* over a guilloche, vague signs below.

8. Black limestone cylinder, with signs deeply cut, including the *nesut* and *mer* (?).

9. Silver ring, not yet cleaned.

10. Glazed bead of eight rings below and eight above, of open work, well known in Egypt, copied from metal. With other beads of rough work, carnelian and ostrich egg, see pl. x.

11. Part of a gold headband (such as xiv, 5, 6), customary here (G. II, iii, 42), sometimes of silver. This band was unusually wide and thick.

12. Gold ring for scarab (now lost), probably of glass decomposed.

13. Gold ear-ring, tassel pendant, as G. II, iii, 17-20.

14. Bronze strainer for wine with loop handle. 15, bronze wine bowl. 16, bronze situla for wine. These agree with the scene of the serving the governor with wine, engraved on the ivory box lid from Beth-pelet.

17. Types of beads. 18, half floret of light blue glaze.

19. Bronze ring, signs not clear until cleaned.
 20. Bronze ring for a lost glass scarab.
 24. Pl. IX. 21. Bronze dagger with hilt, type of dyn. xviii (G. II, iv. 77).
 22. Bronze dagger of plain type, Cypriote?
 23. Bronze mirror, Egyptian form.
 24, 25. Bronze arrow-heads, 11 between these types at top of walling.
 26. Bronze knife, usual Egyptian form in dyn. xviii.
 27. Bronze hook.
 28. Bronze wire-work, under skull in top layer.
 29–33. Bronze arrow-heads; thirty-five such at 33 inches down; twelve at 27 ins., one at 20 ins., seven at 10 down, five at entrance by top of wall, besides eleven at top of wall, nos. 24, 25.
 34. Fowling bolt, two at 33 down.
 35. Lead net-sinkers, side and end view, usual Egyptian, dyn. xviii; 34 were at top of wall, 17 at 10 down, 46 at 34 down, 134 more at 34, 17 at 36 inches down. The numbers are a minimum as some are broken and crumbled: but they are mostly multiples of 17 (2, 1, 2, 8) and suggest that 17 or 18 were normal for a light net, and that several nets were buried together in a group. These show that fish were much used for food, and that fishing was a pastime, for which the dead were provided, like the abundance of arrows for hunting.
 36. Bronze armlet and fragment.

25. Pl. X. The pottery of the top, the middle, and the bottom layer of the tomb, see pl. xi. In the top layer are included the bronze wine vessels. String of beads of ostrich egg-shell and carnelian, with pierced bead viii, 10.

Pl. XI. Pottery of the top, the middle, and the bottom layer. Much of this is of foreign work. 42, 43 Mykenaeen; 44, 45 may be local copies or Cypriote. 56, 57, 64 are also western, but only appear in Cyprus as intruders (see GJERSTAD, *Stud. prehist. Cyp.*, 215, 216). The pyxis 60 is likewise Aegean, but was largely copied locally. There were many broken pots, but no other types of pottery than those drawn here. The thin brown ware 46, 48, 53, 55, 61, 63 are Cypriote, while 47, 54, 62 are local imitations. The pilgrim bottles are of Cypriote origin, but probably some are local.

The alabaster bowl, 68, and duck bird dish, 69, are close copies of Egyptian, but not quite so regular as that work. The whole tomb group shows how closely connected was the trade of the Eastern Mediterranean. All the contents of the tomb were taken for the Jerusalem museum.

26. Pl. XII. Plan and section of the governor's tomb. The sides are slabs of shelly gravel, cut flat on the inner edge. The roof slabs are of the same conglomerate.

XIII. Plans of the positions of objects in the principal layers, top, mid, and base. The vases were all lettered at finding, and the letters are given here as references, and on pl. xi. The basalt dish in the lower layer was entirely crumbled by salt and damp, so that not a fragment could be conserved. The whole tomb was unusually damp, and glass or organic matter was quite decayed or vanished. The lower burials perished, and only the skeletons at the top could be noted; not a bone or skull could be preserved.

27. The cemetery in general was only worked at the end of the season, as it seemed needful to assert the rights of the Department in face of planting, which had been officially prohibited. Some seventy graves were opened, the majority were of the xviiith dynasty, but did not contain anything unusual, and most of the pottery was in very bad condition, shattered by decay from damp. The governor's tomb, already described, is the only large group. The following are the tombs worth noting, beyond the general Register pl. L. 336 contained the large knife and toggle-pin, xix, 12, 13, with a decayed full-length burial, head north. By the toggle-pin it is before dyn. xviii, and from the form of knife it is nearest to the knife xix, 19, which is under the xith dynasty level, probably of dyns. vii–xi.

338 contained the slightly shouldered big adze xxii, 93; and 94, with socketed handle, which is not pointed enough to be a dagger, yet knives with sockets are not known. The pottery gives a level = 1020, of early Hyksos, or perhaps dyn. xii.

361 was dated to Amenhetep III and his father (iv, 124–5), with the remarkable glass cylinder 127, and part of a Cypriote cylinder 128. Some beads of various ages, and a large oval flat onyx bead, a pierced fossil micraster, and two recent shells, with a bronze pin were also found. See sect. 19.

364 was of dyn. xv, early Hyksos, by the pottery. The small, very thick, gold ring with a scarab of head of Hathor, is like that with a figure of Horus (G. II, i) in the great jewellery group, which is also dated to xv by the level of the cenotaph. This tomb 364 had been burnt. There were fragments of an alabaster vase, like G. II, xxiii, 48. A dagger, xix, 14, and many gold fragments, and scraps of wrought silver (xiv, 24) were also in the group. In a

recess near by was another part of this burnt group, calcined fragments of ivory, which can be restored as part of a game-board, with draughtsmen, and a die of the usual form, xxviii, 25–29. This burial seems to have been another expiatory sacrifice of the Achan type (*Josh.* vii), like that we found last year close to this, though without the abundance of burnt clothing. Both were of Early Hyksos age.

409 contained two situlae, xxvi, 38, 39, of dyn. xviii, but no bones.

418 had the Egyptian bronze razor, xxiv, 137, with a pot G5 K of dyn. xviii.

419 is the large tomb of a governor, already described.

28. On the Tell were some scattered burials, of which some should be noticed.

303. When cutting the trench from the former clearance in the palace court eastward, in search of the east side, a grave was exposed just beyond the 1400 cemetery (*G.* II, xlvi). This contained a body, head to west, with pottery, and the fine scroll scarab, iv, 116, which could not be placed as later than dyn. xi, like the dating of the graves of 1400 at the same level. On removing these another burial was found below, head to east, broken up by the later burial, with pottery like the earliest of the 1400 graves of last year, also a pricked black vase 60 M^b, large bowl with in-turned edge, and the earliest stages of the carinate bowl 23, the *bilbil* type 51, and the amphora long and narrow with smooth curves, 43 F 4'. With these was the veined dagger, characteristic of the Caspian Caucasus, xix, 10, and spear-head 9. These are closely like the veined dagger and spear-head, *G.* II, xiv, 71, 72, with which was a Mesopotamian axe 73, unlike Syrian forms—also the veined dagger, xiv, 74, with spear-head in grave 1417 in the courtyard, with pottery like the present group. All these three burials hang together; they clearly belong to an early period from the level, the superposition of the xith dyn. scarab, and the pottery types preceding those of dyns. xii and xv. These, as well as the other toggle-pins, *G.* II, xviii, 405–6, point to the Caspian origin of the invaders who founded the viith dynasty of Egypt.

From this result, it appears that some things of later date originated earlier than has been supposed. The earliest burial in 303 contained a vase of black pricked ware, hitherto only known in the Hyksos age. Also a small scarab of the *Du-ne-Ra* type, usually known as Hyksos. The fact that the toggle-pins, black pottery, and *Du-ne-Ra* scarabs character-

ise the Hyksos age, and yet appear before the xiith dynasty, as well as after that, seems to be due to the viith and xvth dynasties coming from the same region, and being from related peoples.

305 had a burial, head to west, with a dagger, xix, 11; this shows traces of a straight end hilt, but not a formed ridge like the later type. It was placed in a bay of the xiith dyn. wall, PZ, recessed deeper to hold it, so it cannot be earlier than Hyksos times. With it was pottery 10 K^b and 51 P^b, which belong to level = 1050, Hyksos age. Triangular pieces of bone formed the collar, with others bearing the ring pattern xxix, 68.

308–309. Two burials at 936 level. From the gold headband, xiv, 6, and the bowl, 23K23', they are certainly of later date than the wall above them, which is of the lowest level, dyn. vii. They were therefore dug down at LA, LE, on either side of a wall still in use in the xiith dynasty.

310, near by these, was also Hyksos, by the pottery = 1030, buried in loose rubbish; beneath it was a pit with Hyksos pottery.

312. Burial, head to west. Dagger xviii, 7, with mid-rib, late Hyksos by pottery. In the I region east of the south-east town.

312*. Burial, head to north, with pair of gold earrings, xiv, 27. Pottery of types = 1100, late Hyksos or early xviiiith dyn.

CHAPTER V

METAL WORK

29. XIV. GOLD. For references, see xv.
1. Twisted ear-ring, date = 970.
 2. Ear-ring with four globules, from burial about dyn. xviii.
 - 3, 4. Ear-rings, ditto, also about dyn. xviii. Similar ones were found with pottery of Tehutmes III, 412.
 5. Head band found with 3, 4.
 6. Embossed head band, from burial 309; pottery = 1020, Hyksos.
 7. Twisted toggle-pin = 990, or earliest xv dyn.
 8. Ringed toggle-pin = 1050, dyn. xvi.
 9. Plain ring = 1030.
 - 10, 11. Slips of gold from jewellery = 1040.
 12. Ear-ring = 1050.
 13. Torque ear-ring of Irish origin. A pair of such ear-rings (*G.* II, i, p. 7) are accepted by Irish

archaeologists as clearly of Irish fabric. Level = 1060, with toggle-pin 1.2 ins. long, black Cypriote bowl with red crossed lines, and dark brown lines on late pre-Cypriote bowls. By this evidence it is probably before 2300 B.C.

14. Scrap of wire.
- 15, 16. Pair of ribbed ear-rings of Syrian style, as seen on sculptures, dyn. xv as in *G. I*, xv.
17. Plain ear-ring loose in cemetery.
18. Long ear-ring = 1140, dyn. xviii.
19. Piece of larger work.
- 20, 21. Ear-rings found loose.
22. Floret, soldered to a band, found doubled up.
23. Copper ring, gold plated; probably Irish, as Egyptian rings are thinner and have a wider centre. There are in Dublin 14 plated rings like this.
24. Fragments of embossed silver, from expiatory burning 364: dyn. xv. This seems to be a unique piece of early Syrian embossed work.
25. Strip of gold, blank for a thin finger-ring (?) = 1090, dyn. xvi-xviii.
26. Silver ear-ring, probably xvii-xviii.
27. Gold ear-ring of pair, burial 312*, dyn. xviii?
28. Silver ear-ring found loose.
29. Gold crescent = 1050, dyn. xvi.
30. Silver crescent = 1000, dyn. xii.
31. Electrum crescent = 1060, dyn. xvi.
32. Silver crescent, found in thickness of wall of xv dyn. palace.
33. Silver crescent = 1040, dyn. xv?
30. XV. FIGURES, see xvi. Alabaster vases, see xxvi. Goldwork, see xiv. Additional goldwork, a cylinder of grey lazuli with gold cap ends LZ 10, 960. Strip of sheet gold from plating PV. 968.
- XVI. FIGURES. 34. Bronze of Resheph, by attitude: much decayed = 1085.
35. Bronze of Resheph = 1030.
36. Bronze of figure with pointed cap = 1060.
37. Lead figure of Ashtoreth = 1080; as one in *G. I*, xxi, 112.
38. Pottery head of same style as the following:—
39. Figure playing on a stringed instrument, early xviii level. The form of the hair-cutting (see xv) resembles that of a figure, *G. II*, v, which is unlike any type already known, and by the level is probably Hyksos.
40. Pottery head, late?, found loose.
41. Animal leg, of a seat? pottery, loose.
42. Bes figure mould, Egyptian, pottery.
- 43, 44, 45. Ashtoreth figures of pottery.

46. Part of slate offering-slab, with dedication to Anubis; dyn. vii?

47. Limestone stamp, in imitation of Egyptian.

48. Hard limestone head of a canopic jar, of fine work (see pl. xvii); found on the floor of the first palace, four feet under the floor of dyn. xii, therefore of dyn. vi or vii. Stone heads of so early a date are not known in Egypt. It may have been for an Egyptian administrator under dyn. vii, as we do not know of any Egyptian occupation here till dyn. xii.

49. Bust of a serpentine statuette of dyn. xii, usual Egyptian (see xvii).

50. Piece of alabaster vase engraved; the wavy tendril is like work of Akhenaten.

51. Plate of ivory with lotus flowers engraved; half is repeated to show the form of the intermediate flowers. Part of another plate is placed above, to indicate how that may have fitted. A piece of a third pattern of a plate is also above. All are from H site, the port roadway. The date is not settled; the other objects from H are of Hyksos age, as the scarab iv, 144, the pottery of the highest levels = 1050-1100, dyn. xvi, the low levels = 970-1010, dyn. xii. From the style of this ivory we might suppose it to be of dyn. xxiii-xxv, yet there is no trace of any importation to Gaza for many centuries before that. It seems then to be another case of having to throw beginnings farther back, especially as the same design appears before 2000 B.C. in Persia.

XVII. The objects are described with the plates of drawings. Unnoticed elsewhere there are at the left lower corner a bird's head of pottery, a bovine modelled in clay, a crucible for bronze, and a piece of Arab pilgrim bottle with relief pattern and diapered ground, hand-worked.

31. XVIII. BRONZE. 1. Dagger = 940 or dyn. vii, much like the copper daggers *G. II*, x, 47, 54.

2. Dagger? with riveted handle, but apparently too round at the end for piercing; = 994, dyn. xii. Such are also of Hyksos age in *G. I*, xvii, 33 and *B xi*, 82.

3. Tanged dagger = 1020, Hyksos.

4. Dagger with inlaid handle, of the form found in Luristan, as in *Anc. Eg.* 1930, p. 98.

5. Model dagger, with face of gold foil on handle = 1080, late xvi dyn.

6. Narrow dagger = 1110, dyn. xviii.

7. Dagger with pommel of geobertite (?) decomposed. From the east end of the S.E. city.

8. Short dagger, not cut down, with hilt of dyn. xviii.
- XIX. 9, 10. Spear-head and veined dagger, see tomb 303, p. 7.
11. Dagger, tomb 305, Hyksos.
12. Long knife with inlaid handle, tomb 336, probably of dyn. vii-xi, with 13, twisted toggle-pin and gold stud.
14. Dagger with pierced tang, tomb 364, with early Hyksos pottery. A similar pierced tang of the same age is in *G. II*, xiv, 70.
15. Tang of dagger with riveted handle, forking at end; tomb 364.
16. Model knife = 997, dyn. xii, like large one 19, below.
- 17, 18. Daggers found in palace I, level 940, with needle 140; dyn. vii.
19. Large knife, found in chamber on east side of palace I, on floor level, 950: dyn. vii.
32. XX. Round-ended knives, 20, 21 = 940, 960; dyn. vii-viii.
22. Straight knife = 980.
- 23, 24, 25, 26. Knives of = 996 to 1000; dyn. xii.
- 26*. Knife with slight tang = 1006, dyn. xii.
27. Thin knife = 1025; this, and onward to end of plate are all of dyn. xv level; the last, 35, was with cross-lined red on black, Cypriote bowl.
- XXI. Two of the small blades, 39, 40, are girdle knives.
42. Broad scraping blade, set in wooden handle, = 1100; dyn. xvi.
- 44-77. Arrow-heads, probably for hunting, as often associated with fowling-bolts 62-4. Such arrows began under dyn. xii, but are commonest in dyn. xviii; they are of copper, not bronze, resist oxidation, and remain ductile. The two triangular forms 65, 66 are of Scythian ancestry, and indicate a northern influence in dyn. xvi.
33. XXII. 78. Bronze mace-head = 995, dyn. xii.
79. Lead mace-head = 960 and 1030, dyns. xii, xv; hollowed out by corrosion.
80. Bronze cramps found with 83.
81. Bronze scales of armour, with mid rib for stiffening: three or four were found together at KB = 1140. 82, a small scale. 83, a scale found at KK = 1080. As both of the levels were over the tops of the walls, in the surface earth, these are only fixed as later than dyn. xii, and may be of xviii. The corslets worn by kings then have been supposed to be of feathers, but may have been of bronze scales.
84. Hook for making fishing-nets, common at Gerar.
- 85-88. Fish hooks, from = 970 to = 1030: dyn. xii.
89. Adze from gebel level, of dyn. vii.
- 90-92. Adzes from = 990 to 1000, of dyn. xii.
93. Shouldered adze, heavy; and 94, knife with socket handle; the end is too round to pierce as a dagger, but there is no instance of a socketed knife otherwise. The covered socketing is early, and would agree with level = 1020, dyn. xii, though this is before shouldering of the adze elsewhere.
- XXIII. Various forms of piercers, borers, and chisels.
- 95 is hollow, to fit on to a stick.
- 97 is a thin chisel which had a wooden handle.
- Nos. 95 to 99 are of dyn. vii.
- 100-107 are of dyn. xii.
- 108-116 are of dyn. xv.
- 117-127 are of dyn. xvi.
- The forms with square tang, and circular taper, are probably for making holes in leather. The form 115 is difficult to understand, compare *G. II*, xix, 264, where a similarly short tool has a large socket handle, but in 115 the blade is so thick and square that the use of it is unexplained. No great force could be applied to these tools, to require so secure a socket.
34. XXIV. 130-136 tweezers; from dyn. xii to xv. 130 is of dyn. xviii.
137. Egyptian razor from tomb 418, like others found in past years, dyn. xviii. Piece of handle below.
138. Wig knife for trimming and curling hair; as in Egypt, dyns. xii-xviii.
- 139-157. Needles from dyns. vii to xvi; the thinnest are of about the close of dyn. xv. In 153 the curved form is so distinct that it is probably original, for use on a flat surface; many others were curved, but so much bent later that they were straightened out in cleaning, being always of flexible copper.
- 153-183. Toggle-pins. The earliest have ribbed heads, 158-159, a form which seems to be the original type. The twist pattern is also early, 161. Down to 165 these are of dyns. vii-viii. 166-170 are of dyn. xii.
- 171-181 are of dyn. xv, after which only four belong to later Hyksos, so the fashion was dying out. The long pin with a large head bent forward is similar to the hair pins with "sun-flower" heads, which are also Caucasian.

- 35. XXV.** 184–185, one of the latest pins, was with a curved needle and tweezers.
 188 was with a bar having a small gold pin inserted at the end.
 190–191 were in tomb 325, = 990 by the pottery, dyn. xii.
 193. Fibula, the only one here, perhaps brought from Gerar where they are abundant.
 194. Bronze finger-ring, Roman.
 195. Silver ring.
 196. Piece of notched bracelet, bronze, late.
 197. Finger-ring.
 198. Unguent spoon, Roman?
 199–202. Kohl sticks, probably Roman, dropped in excavating.
 205. Bronze fish; another was purchased; there is no attachment on these, and on weighing them they were 192 and 64 grains, one exactly three times the other; probably they are the Greek drachma, and tri-drachm or Roman half uncia. The fish was sacred at Beit Hanun near Gaza.
 209 is a hair pin with knob, bent for a bracelet.
 219. Bronze chain, roughly made, of dyn. vii; chain is known in Egypt as early as dyn. ii.
 221. Two wheels of this form, found near together, = 1070, of late Hyksos age. On the outer face there are four projections to ward off attackers, and the inner side has a deep hub to allow of the chariot side projecting. Or possibly they were cheek pieces on a horse-bit.
 222. The handle peg on this suggests that it was a stamp or brand; until it is cleaned, the nature of the four projections is unknown.
 226 is a point for a spear butt, probably dyn. xviii.
 227 is a mass of iron smelted, from a crucible, showing that, by the time of the xvith dynasty, iron was produced on a small scale here.
 228. Part of a bronze disc, use unknown.
 229. Bronze bell, late.
 230. Hinge or belt fastener.

CHAPTER VI

STONE WORK

- 36. XXVI.** 1–5. Flint arrow-heads were sometimes found in the town, but there is no proof that they were not casually in the earth.
 6. Thick rough bowl of limestone, tomb 376, with 7, 8.
 7, 8. Small kohl pots without brim, dyn. xii.
 13 is of the form of dyn. xviii.

- 15, pieces of delicate cup of alabaster, dyn. vi?
 16. Alabaster vase, dyn. xi?
 17 to 21, vases of dyn. xii?
 22, 23, 27, handled vases, dyn. xv?
 29 of Hyksos age.
 30, 31, vases of dyn. xii.
 35, 36, 37 of dyn. xviii.
 38, 39. Bronze situlae, dyn. xviii, tomb 409.
37. XXVII. Mace-heads. 40, 41 of dyn. vii.
 42, 43, of dyn. xii.
 44, 45, with incised signs of arm and adze, the latter with 9 notches around the edge; the only examples of signed maces; dyn. xii.
 46–50, of dyn. xv.
 51–55, of dyn. xvi.
 57–62. Spindle whorls for fine thread.
 63, 64, 65. Heads of staves.
 66. Pommel of dagger, see xviii, 7.
 67–69. Spindle whorls.
 70. Drill cap, hard grey limestone.
 71. Whetstone.
 72–73. Pendants.
 75. Part of model stone axe, black jasper.
 76. Part of limestone stand.
 78. Large numbers of sling bullets were found, of hard clay, both spheric and oval.
 79. Cut limestone block of unknown use, from deep pit in trench cut across courtyard.
 80. Steatite flat bead.
 81. Unknown object in limestone, with Oamu scarab, dyn. xvi.
 82–83. Alabaster drums for legs of couches, strung on bronze rods.
 84. Haematite kohl stick.
 85–86. Playing pieces.
 89. Basalt rubber, common.
 90. Crucible with copper slag.
 91. Piece of leg of a tripod stand, polished black marble, dyn. vii.
 92. Basalt dish.
 93–94. Basalt tripods. Twenty-two of these stands, or fragments of stands, were levelled. They begin with dyn. vii, and last till dyn. xvi. Those with cross-bars below (as G. II, xxiii, 46–7) are of late dyns. xv and xvi. Only three are before dyn. xii.

CHAPTER VII

GLAZE, IVORY AND BONE

- 38. XXVIII.** GLAZE. 1 is of dyn. xii, like the Hyksos vases of Beth-pelet.