# Near Eastern Archaeology

### **3** Graphite-Treated Pottery in the Northeastern Mediterranean from the Chalcolithic to the Bronze Age Shannon Martino

The practice of painting graphite onto pottery in southeast Europe began ca. 5000 B.C.E. The use of graphite as a slip on vessels from the Chalcolithic to the Bronze Age, however, has remained a side note in discussions of ancient pottery, and is often mistakenly identified. The author offers a synthesis of what we know about the presence of graphite on ceramics in the eastern Mediterranean from the Chalcolithic to the Early Bronze Age, and presents the results of a preliminary macroscopic and microscopic study of sherds from across the region. She places a special focus on the various ways in which graphite was incorporated into vessels, the technological complexities implied by the application of graphite to the surface of pottery, the ensuing difficulties in identification, and the need for further study and recognition of graphite application on pottery.



#### **14** Crossing Borders: Settlement Archaeology in Egypt and Sudan Julia Budka

Some of the Egyptian New Kingdom towns in northern Sudan known today as Upper Nubia (Kush) are well preserved (e.g., Amara West and Sai) and offer the unique chance to conduct a detailed analysis of domestic life at the junction of Egyptian and Nubian culture. Based on the fresh data from AcrossBorders' ongoing excavations on Sai Island, this article presents the current state of knowledge regarding the evolution of the Pharaonic town on Sai Island and its potential for settlement archaeology in New Kingdom Egypt and Kush. New evidence for a landing place in the early Eighteenth Dynasty as well as fresh information about the Thutmoside temple town is highlighted. Furthermore, AcrossBorders' excavation results suggest that despite its urban planning as a royal foundation, the site of Sai illustrates dynamic aspects of Egyptian towns reflecting local microhistories and showing common deviations from what we usually consider as "standard types" in both architecture and material culture.

## 22 Travel and Hospitality in Late Antiquity: A Case Study from Umm el-Jimal in Eastern Jordan

Abdulla Al-Shorman, Abdelqader Ababneh, Akram Rawashdih, Ahmad Makhadmih, Saad Alsaad, and Monther Jamhawi

The legacy of travel and hospitality in Jordan extends back more than 1,700 years, as evidenced by the late-antique site of Umm el-Jimal. Travel and hospitality revolved around the axes of trade, and generated a suitable subsistence economy in an area with limited resources. Using architectural analysis, ethnography, and archaeological synthesis, the authors show that the city of Umm el-Jimal was built to serve the caravans on the route from Petra to Damascus. The architecture of its houses with courtyards was intended to offer accommodations to travelers. The infrastructure of the city, including its pioneering water system and general layout, contributed significantly to its success in the hospitality industry. The presence of eighteen churches in a very small area with an otherwise small population indicates their that they were used as well for visitors passing through.



## Near Eastern Archaeology



# **30** Egypt and Israel: The Never-Ending Story Shirly Ben-Dor Evian

The significant interrelations between Egypt and Canaan during the Late Bronze Age are well known and have been studied in depth by various scholars. In comparison, the close ties between Egypt and Israel during the Iron Age are far less so. However, despite the Egyptian withdrawal from Canaan at the end of the Late Bronze Age, intense contact between the two regions never ceased, although their documentation in the historical record is scarce. This article presents the different manifestations of Egypto-Israelite interrelations that can be observed in the archaeological record of ancient Israel. Such a presentation

will provide a better understanding of the relations between the two regions during the formative time in ancient Israel's history.

### 40 The Destruction of Archaeological Resources in the Palestinian Territories, Area C: Kafr Shiyān as a Case Study Salah Hussein A. Al-Houdalieh and Saleh Ali Tawafsha

Many archaeological sites, both major and minor, situated in the Palestinian Territories, are suffering from an absence of meaningful control and protection. They are experiencing relentless destruction due to both modern urban development projects and illegal digging to extract marketable archaeological objects. In recent decades, this destruction of archaeological resources has entered an especially dangerous, sensitive, and complicated phase, as a large number of structures have been built on archae-



ological sites using heavy equipment that remove all cultural deposits down to bedrock, without any kind of archaeological documentation or supervision from institutions overseeing cultural heritage or urban-development planning. Khirbet Kafr Shiyān, which is land privately owned entirely by Palestinians yet under the sole administrative control of Israeli authorities, is a perfect example of this phenomenon. Over the last few decades it has suffered the complete destruction of approximately 42 percent of its cultural deposits. The authors provide an assessment of the recent destruction and offer suggestions critical for the protection of this and similar archaeological sites.



### **50** The 2016 Dana Island Survey: Investigation of an Island Harbor in Ancient Rough Cilicia by the Boğsak Archaeological Survey

Günder Varinlioğlu, Noah Kaye, Michael R. Jones, Rebecca Ingram, and Nicholas K. Rauh

Dana Island (ancient Pityoussa) is the largest island of the Taşucu Gulf in Rough Cilicia (Turkey). It is strategically located ca. 2.5 km off the shores of the rugged mainland along an ancient maritime route. In 2016, the island was the subject of investigations by the Boğsak Archaeological Survey (BOGA). The pedestrian, architectural, and shoreline survey revealed a lower settlement along the northwestern shore and an upper settlement associated with a fortress on the south summit. The ceramic assemblage and the architectural remains in the lower settlement indicate that it was built in the Early Roman period and reached its largest extent in late antiquity, when four basilical churches were constructed. As such, it likely functioned as a maritime station offering various services to travelers. The fortress on the southern summit of the island, which has a much earlier history, was refurbished in late antiquity and received a basilical church.