



Beth Shean

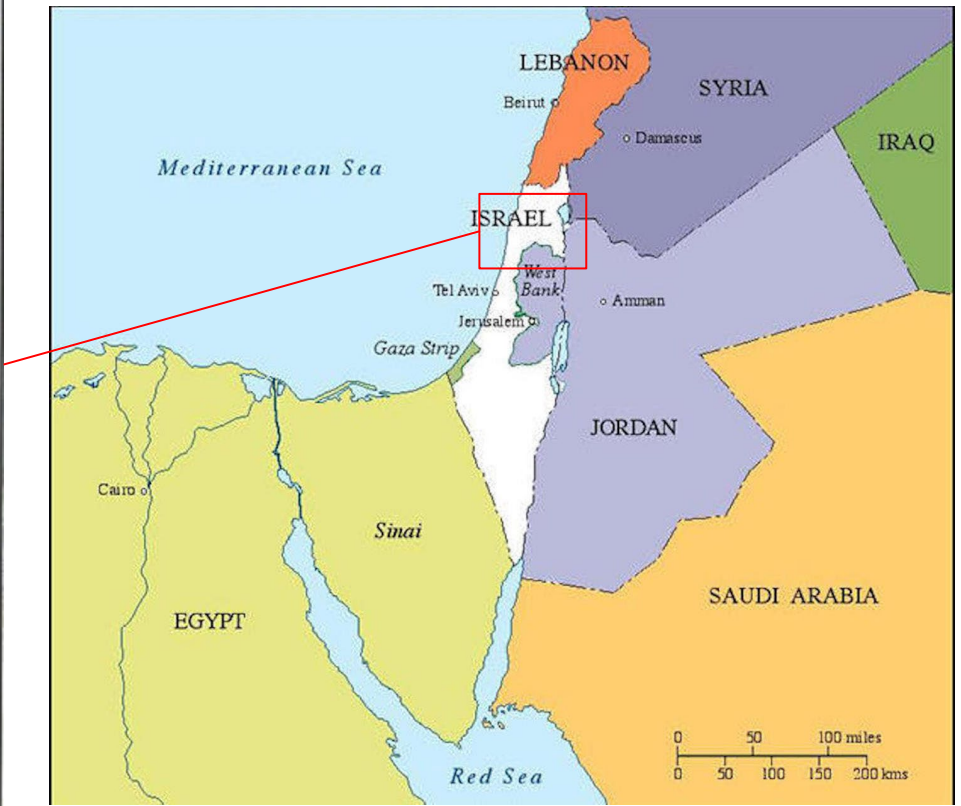
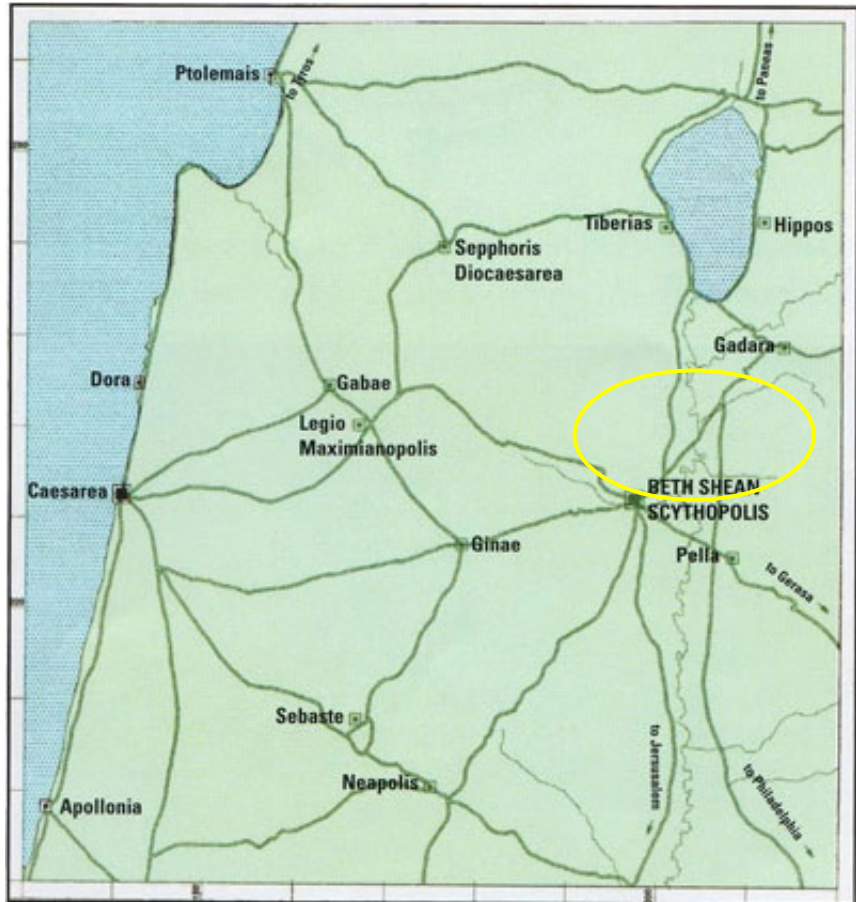
**A site in the Jordan River Valley
from the Early Bronze Age to the present day**

**with expanded notes
in presenter view**

**Alex Stern
April 2020**



The location of Beth Shean



| | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Copper Age | Chalcolithic | Early Chalcolithic | 4500 - 4000 BCE | |
| | | Late Chalcolithic | 4000 - 3300 BCE | |
| Bronze Age | Early Bronze Age | Early Bronze Age I | 3300 - 3000 BCE | |
| | | Early Bronze Age II | 3000 - 2700 BCE | |
| | | Early Bronze Age III | 2700 - 2200 BCE | |
| | | Early Bronze Age IV | 2200 - 2100 BCE | |
| | Middle Bronze Age | Middle Bronze Age I | 2100 - 2000 BCE | |
| | | Middle Bronze Age II A | 2000 - 1750 BCE | |
| | | Middle Bronze Age II B | 1750 - 1650 BCE | |
| | Late Bronze Age | Middle Bronze Age II C | 1650 - 1550 BCE | |
| | | Late Bronze Age I | 1550 - 1400 BCE | |
| | | Late Bronze Age II A | 1400 - 1300 BCE | |
| | Iron Age | Iron Age I | Late Bronze Age II B | 1300 - 1200 BCE |
| | | | Iron Age I A | 1200 - 1150 BCE |
| Iron Age II | | Iron Age I B | 1150 - 1000 BCE | |
| | | Iron Age II A | 1000 - 900 BCE | |
| Classical Antiquity | Roman | Iron Age II B | 900 - 700 BCE | |
| | | Iron Age II C | 700 - 539 BCE | |
| | | Achaemenid | 539 - 330 BCE | |
| Late Antiquity | Byzantine | Hellenistic | 330 - 31 BCE | |
| | | Roman | 31 BCE - 330 CE | |
| Middle Ages | Early Middle Ages | Byzantine | 330 - 634 CE | |
| | | Early Muslim | 634 - 1000 CE | |
| | Late Middle Ages | High Middle Ages | Crusader Period | 1000 - 1250 CE |
| | | Mamluk I | 1250 - 1382 CE | |
| Early Modern Period | Ottoman | Mamluk II | 1382 - 1517 CE | |
| | | Ottoman | 1517 - 1920 CE | |

A site with continual occupation

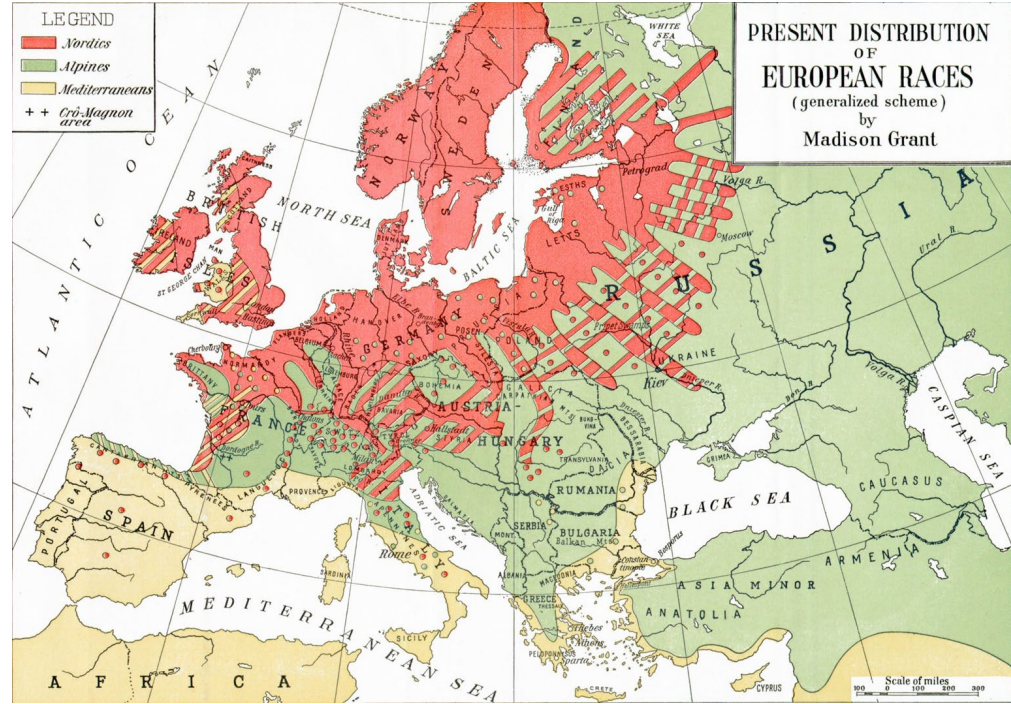


View from the northeast from the Roman City towards the tell (Penn Museum, 2013)

Political and Academic changes in the 1920's



League of Nation Mandates, 1920
(NPR, 2004)



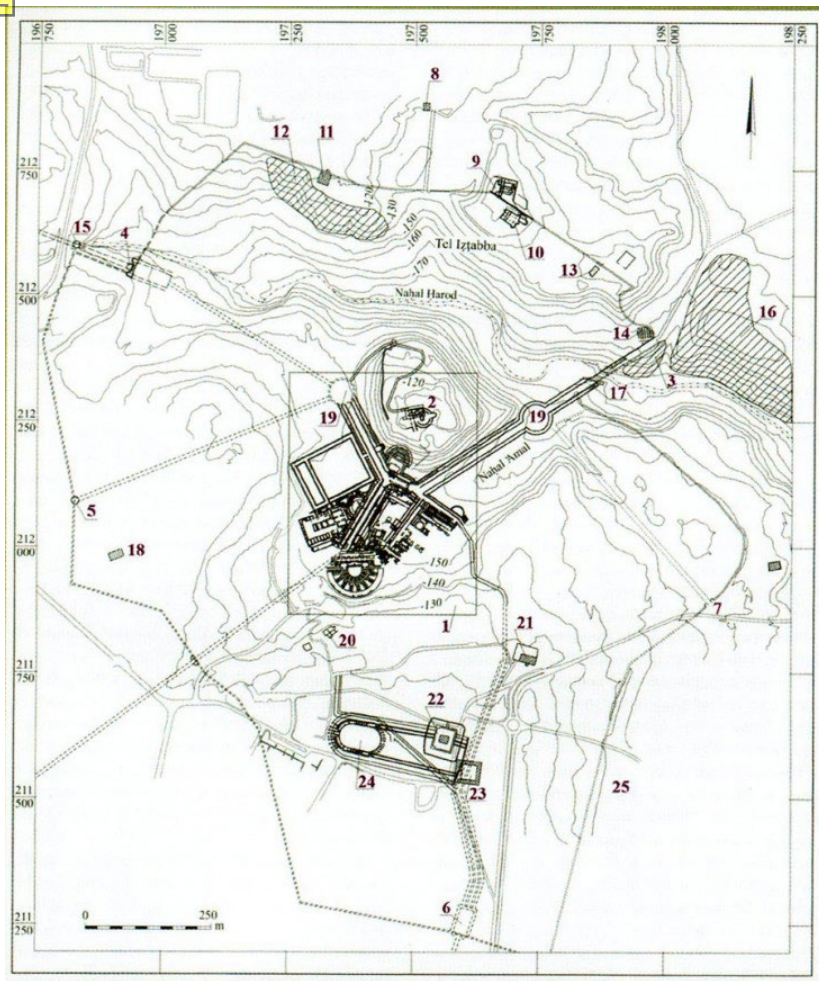
New developments in archaeological theory
(Grant, after Kossinna, 1916)



Many workers took part in the opening of the excavations at House I on the lower east terrace of the tell, June 1921. UPM Image #41526.

Excavations begin at the site in 1921

Excavations at a house on the lower east terrace of the tell (Penn Museum, 1921)



1. Civic center
2. Tell Beth Shean
3. Northeast (Damascus) city gate
4. Northwest (Caesarea) city gate
5. Southwest (Neapolis) city gate
6. South (Jerusalem) city gate
7. Southeast (Gerasa) city gate
8. Samaritan synagogue
9. Church of Andreas
10. Church of the Martyr
11. Monastery of Lady Mary
12. Northern cemetery
13. Hellenistic city
14. Eastern bridge (Jiser el-Maktu'a)
15. Western bridge
16. Eastern cemetery (Tell el-Hamman)
17. Monastery
18. House of Kyrios Leontis
19. Circular piazza
20. Bathhouse
21. Mosque
22. Crusader fortress
23. Turkish serai
24. Amphitheater hippodrome)
25. Extra muros quarter (Tell Naharon)

Plan of Beth Shean (Penn Museum, 2013)

Taking a Slice from the Tell



Excavations at the tell (Penn Museum, 1928)



Byzantine bottle (Penn Museum)
29-105-655



Roman earring (Penn Museum)
29-105-29



Iron Age juglet (Penn Museum)
29-102-733



EB sherd (Penn Museum)
34-20-794





[View All \(2\) Object Images](#)



| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Object Number: | 34-20-794 |
| Current Location: | Collections Storage |
| Provenience: | Israel Beth Shean |
| Period: | Early Bronze I Early Bronze II |
| Date Made: | c. 3050 BC |
| Early Date: | -3100 |
| Late Date: | -3000 |
| Section: | Near Eastern |
| Materials: | Ceramic |
| Credit Line: | Expedition to Beth Shean (Beisan); Clarence Fisher, 1934 |
| Other Number: | 33-10-694 c - Field No SF |

Bibliography:

[Book] Braun, Eliot. 2004. *Early Beth Shan (strata XIX-XIII): G.M. Fitzgerald's Deep Cut on the Tell*. University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. : Page/Fig./Plate: 3.17/1

[View Objects related to this reference](#)

What does a record tell us?



Local excavators with Fisher and Fitzgerald
(Penn Museum, 1921)



Excavations at a late antique house on the tell
(Penn Museum, 1921)



Local excavators (Penn Museum, 1921)

What do archival records tell us?



Caanan and Ancient Israel Gallery (Penn Museum)

Beth Shean in the Museum today

References

"Beth Shean Plan" *Expedition Magazine* 55.1 (2013): n. pag. *Expedition Magazine* . Penn Museum, 2013 Web. 10 Mar 2020 <<http://www.penn.museum/sites/expedition/?p=10095>>

Ousterhout, Robert. "Beth Shean Revisited" *Expedition Magazine* 55.1 (2013): n. pag. *Expedition Magazine* . Penn Museum, 2013 Web. 10 Mar 2020 <<http://www.penn.museum/sites/expedition/?p=10076>>

Pickett, Jordan. "Contextualizing Penn's Excavations at Beth Shean" *Expedition Magazine* 55.1 (2013): n. pag. *Expedition Magazine* . Penn Museum, 2013 Web. 10 Mar 2020 <<http://www.penn.museum/sites/expedition/?p=9770>>

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