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it is not universally accepted (Robinson 1856: 73). Though the Egyptians continued to mine there into the 20th Dyn., their expeditions were periodic, and Israelites moving through the area would have faced no opposition from them.

The discussion of the location of any of the places associated with the journey of the Israelites from Egypt through Sinai is problematic. Identifications depend on whether a northern or southern route for the Exodus is assumed, and are based on the similarity between the sound and/or meaning of the Hebrew name and Arabic names found in the area by explorers. Some authorities doubt if any confidence can be placed in the historicity of the list in Num 33:1–9, where most of these stations are mentioned. Also, no material culture that can be definitely associated with the Israelites has been found in the Sinai. Therefore all suggested locations must be treated as extremely tentative.

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Stern

DOR (PLACE) [Heb *dôr*]. A city that joined the coalition led by Jabin, king of Hazor, against Joshua and the Israelites (Josh 12:23; cf. also NAPHOTH-DOR). The Canaanite city of Dor, located in the territory of the tribe of Manasseh (Judg 1:27; 1 Chr 7:29), apparently was not conquered until the time of David.

A. History

Dor is first mentioned in an inscription of Rameses II (13th century B.C.). This inscription contains a list of the settlements along the *Via Maris*, including its W branch from the Sharon to the Acco Plain. It is likely that Dor (like other cities on the coast such as Tell Abu Hawam) was founded during the LB II period shortly before the reign of Rameses II, when commercial relations between the Mediterranean eastern coast and the Aegean islands were thriving.

The port of Dor and its ruler, Beder, king of the Tjekker (one of the groups of Sea Peoples who invaded the E Mediterranean area in the LB/early Iron transition), is mentioned in the account of Wen-Amon's journey to Byblos (ca. 1100 B.C.; *ANET*, 26). In the reign of Solomon, Dor became the center of his fourth administrative district and was governed by Abinadab, the king's son-in-law (1 Kgs 4:11). In 732 B.C. Tiglath-pileser III conquered the city along with that section of the Coastal Plain which belonged to the kingdom of Israel. He made it the capital of the Assyrian province of Duru, extending from the Carmel to Jaffa.

The Eshmunazer inscription (*ANET*, 662) suggests that during the Persian period Dor was ruled by the Sidonians. This probably accounts for the error of the Greek writers who attributed the founding of the city to the Sidonians. There was apparently a Greek colony at Dor in Persian times, and it might even have been a member of the Attic Sea League (in its Carian division). During the Hellenistic

period, the city became an important fortress. In 219 B.C. it withstood the attack of Antiochus III and the Seleucid army. Eighty years later the pretender Tryphon entrenched himself there during his war against Antiochus VII Sidetes (1 Macc 15:10–14). At the end of the 2d century B.C. the tyrant Zolius ruled both Dor and Straton's Tower (later Caesarea) until Alexander Jannaeus took both cities from him. Pompey ended Hasmonean rule in Dor and awarded the city autonomy and the right to mint coins. Its coins indicate that Zeus, Dorus (a son of Hercules, Dor's mythical founder), and Astarte-Aphrodite were worshipped at Dor.

A Jewish community and synagogue are known to have existed in Dor at the time of Agrippa I (A.D. 41–44). Hieronymus relates that the city was entirely in ruins in his time (end of the 4th century A.D.), but it is known that bishops resided there until the 7th century. Afterward the site was abandoned until the construction of the Crusader fortress of Merle (Dahl 1915; Albright 1925; Luciana 1964).

B. Identification and Exploration

According to Greek and Latin sources, Dor was located between the Carmel Range and Straton's Tower. The *Tabula Pentingeriana* map places Dor 8 mi. N of Caesarea; Eusebius states that the distance is 9 mi. (*Onomast.* 78:9; 136:16). On the basis of these sources it is possible to locate Dor at Khirbet el-Burj (M.R. 142224) on the coast S of Kibbutz Nahsholim and N of Tantura. NW of the mound are the remains of the port, and to the S are the ruins of the Crusader fortress.

In 1923 and 1924 two seasons of excavations were carried out at Dor under the sponsorship of the British School of Archaeology in Jerusalem. The excavations were begun under J. Garstang and were expanded a year later (Fitzgerald 1925; Garstang 1924). In 1950 and 1952 J. Leibowitz conducted excavations N of the mound (Leibowitz 1951; 1957). From 1980 to 1983, the Byzantine Church located E of the mound was excavated (Dauphin 1984). The most recent excavations on the tel have extended over six seasons (1980–1985). Three areas (A–C) were opened in 1980 on the E edge of the mound, a fourth (area D) above the S bay in 1984, and a fifth (area E) on the W side in 1985 (Stern 1985a). At the same time an underwater survey was carried out (Raban 1983; Raban and Galili 1985; Wachsmann and Raveh 1980).

C. Area C—The Residential Quarter

Area C has yielded almost nothing of the Byzantine period and very little from the Roman. Enough, however, is preserved from the Roman period to infer two phases of development in what appear to be elaborate houses with fine masonry walls and cement and mosaic floors.

The Hellenistic strata had several phases and included a residential quarter erected in strict compliance with the Hippodamic system. From the beginning of the 3d to the 1st centuries B.C., a long row of stores and workshops (one room having a thick layer of crushed murex shells on the floor) stood along the entire inner face of the city wall. At least two streets have been found which parallel the N-S city wall. These in turn are flanked by blocks (*insulae*) of subdivided buildings (ca. 20 m wide) with doors opening

onto their respective streets. These may have been multiple-storied and traces of what appear to be basements have been found. See Fig. DOR. 01.

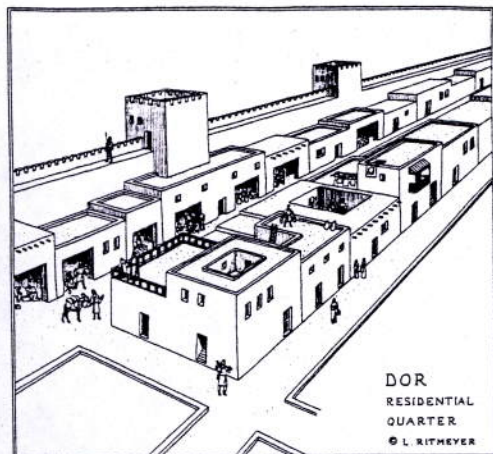
This quarter of the city seems to have survived with occasional rebuilding at least until the days of Alexander Jannaeus. With each reconstruction the floor was raised, resulting in as many as three Hellenistic floor levels, some made of crushed chalk, others of pressed clay. The outer walls of the buildings were constructed mostly of well-hewn sandstone ashlar laid in "headers"—a sort of small-scale version of the city wall. The inner walls and divisions, however, were built in the typical Phoenician style of ashlar piers with a fill of rubble. It appears that the general plan of this building was Greek while the structural details were Phoenician.

On the W side of area C the Hellenistic levels were penetrated to the Persian levels. During 1983 and 1984 excavations were conducted below the street separating the two insulae and below the western insula. These excavations demonstrated that the plan of the residential quarter, including the division into adjacent insulae, had started early in the Persian period, perhaps as early as the 6th century B.C., and continued to the early Roman period. During this long occupation the plan of the quarter remained essentially the same.

D. Area A—The Trial Trench

Area A, located at the center of the E slope of the tel, presents a picture of the site very similar to that revealed in area C. The upper stratum, dating from the late Roman period, has two sections of plastered stone aqueducts. The first crosses the center of the E slope of the mound; the second appears to branch off from the first and carried water inward to the city.

Beneath this stratum stood a magnificent wall of the



DOR.01 Isometric reconstruction of Hellenistic fortifications and residential quarters at Tel Dor—Areas A and C. (Reconstruction by Leen Ritmeyer)

Hellenistic period which continued into the early Roman period. It is perhaps the most impressive fortification of this period discovered in Israel. The wall is of local sandstone ashlar blocks and is preserved to a height of more than 2 m. A square tower extends 15 m from the wall and is also constructed of large *kurkar* ashlar laid in "header" fashion. Inside the tower is a central square pier made of large stones, which apparently served as a foundation for a wooden staircase giving access to the roof. This feature is quite common in the later Roman and Byzantine architecture of Palestine.

The discovery of a coin of Ptolemy II Philadelphus (285–246 B.C.) in the stratum below the fortifications implies that the complex was built in the latter part of his reign or shortly afterward. However, it was apparently built before 219 B.C. because Antiochus III (223–187 B.C.) besieged the fortified city (Polyb. 5.66).

E. Area B—The Gate Area

The Gate Area is S of areas A and C and yielded many remains of the late Roman period (stratum I), mainly stone-slab-covered water channels. Additional late Roman structures include a system of plastered cisterns built one above the other. The remains of some poorly preserved buildings were found, but they were badly eroded and would not permit a coherent plan for reconstruction. One of the buildings, however, had some especially fine masonry.

Stratum II (the Roman period) had several phases. The main road which led into town from the E city gate consisted of a monumental causeway and a wide court. The pavement stones had been embedded in a thick layer of hard lime cement. A system of small drainage channels led from the S into the main drainage channel built of ashlar stones, which in turn led W through the city gate. Sections of black granite pillars were found in the court which evidently stood along both its sides. Almost nothing remains of the Roman city gate, and the area had actually been razed to the level of the road pavement. At the site of the gate itself, the structures were found destroyed to below the surface of that period.

Elsewhere in area B parts of large buildings from the Roman period have been uncovered, all similarly constructed from a mix of cement and stones. One room had parts of limestone tables of the type now familiar from the excavations in the Jewish Quarter of Jerusalem, as well as a complete bronze bowl standing on three decorated feet, along with many vessels and sherds of both local and imported wares from the Roman period. One of the rooms near the city wall and gate apparently served as an arsenal, as inferred from a large accumulation of well-worked ballista stones. These were of different sizes and two were inscribed with Greek letters apparently denoting their weight.

Strata III and IV are of the Hellenistic period and consist of a number of phases. The dominant structures from stratum III are the city wall and the poorly preserved remains of a defensive tower projecting eastward from the wall. A street parallels the inside of the city wall and apparently is a continuation of the one found in area C. Here, too, sections of buildings probably continue those observed from area C. A relatively narrow street leading

from the gate into the town transects the N-S street and then continues further W, toward the probable locations of the Agora, the temple, and the harbor.

In the final phase of the Persian period only a narrow postern gate existed from which a narrow street led into the city. However, below this were two superimposed city gates. The uppermost was a two-chambered gate from the Persian period to which a stone-paved square led from the E. One smooth basalt socket of the outer door was found *in situ* as well as a socket in the center of the entrance where a vertical bolt would have been placed to lock the door. Only Persian period material was found in this gate, and it appears that it was already in use at the beginning of that period. It is, however, logical to assume that it was actually constructed earlier in the Assyrian period, and that only material of its last (Persian) phase is represented, hence its construction would have been in Iron Age IIC.

Remains of a four-chambered gate with a tower flanking each side of its facade stood below the two-chambered gate. The gate was only partially excavated, but its plan closely resembles that of the four-chambered gate of Megiddo. The gate at Dor, however, is much more massive. The width of one of the inner piers was 2.5 m and was built of two huge limestone boulders brought probably from the Carmel range. The W side of the pier, which faced the city, was covered with well-dressed orthostats. Since a 10th century B.C. layer was uncovered beneath part of this gate complex, we may assume that the four-chambered gate was in use during the 9th and 8th centuries B.C. and was destroyed by the Assyrians at the end of the 8th century. One of the more unique finds in this area was an oval stamp seal made of an animal's horn, depicting two stags standing on mountaintops. Only some pits and installations of the 7th–6th centuries B.C. phases were preserved.

The 11th–10th century town of Dor was uncovered in the 1984 excavations. It seems that the general layout in this phase was similar to the one of the 9th–8th centuries. The houses of both strata were generally built with stone foundations and mud brick superstructures.

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