EXCAVATIONS IN THE SANCTUARY AREA AT TEL DOR. ISRAEL: Andrew Stewart, University of California Berkeley

A team from the University of California, Berkeley, working in the sanctuary area (F) at Tel Dor from 1986 to the present has reexamined the results of John Garstang's excavations of 1923–1924, briefly and unsatisfactorily published in the Bulletin of the British School of Archaeology at Jerusalem 4 and 6 (1924) 35–47 and 65–75. We have established a relative chronology of the remains; revealed the sanctuary's southern entrance and documented its history and environs; discovered the main, central entrance and cleared a third, northern entrance; and surveyed, catalogued, cleaned, and partially excavated the ruins of the huge Ionic "temple" itself.

Contrary to Garstang's belief that the complex was early Hellenistic in date, we can now show that it is Roman (see ond century A.D.). We are still not absolutely certain that the Ionic building is a temple; if so, it is the largest page example in Israel and uncanonical in form. Soundings in side it have revealed stratified architectural remains dat ing back to the Iron Age. The latest of these, part of a complex Late Hellenistic structure with niches apparently intended for cult objects, was incorporated into the great Ionic building and may have continued in use in some form after its construction.