URBAN PLANNING AS PUBLIC POLICY IN IRON II JUDAH

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M.A. Thesis Abstract

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Urban Planning as Public Policy in Iron II Judah

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Abstract: In the 1970's Yigal Shiloh outlined the elements of urban planning in Israelite cities. Several type sites were identified as typical of fortified Judean cities based on these elements including Beit Mirsim, Tel en-Nasbeh, Beth Shemesh, and Beer-sheba. In 2008, Yosef Garfinkel of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Saar Ganor of the Israel Antiquities Authority began excavations at Khirbet Qeiyafa, which I joined as an area supervisor in Area C during the 2009-2010 seasons. These excavations found that Khirbet Qeiyafa was built following the same urban plan as that of other Iron Age Judean cities. A gradualistic sequence is here observed in the evolution of a distinctly Judean urban plan as an expression of public policy related to urban planning in the Kingdom of Judah. Khirbet Qeiyafa, which is dated to the early Iron IIA period, is chronologically placed at the beginning of this sequence.

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