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and Sveta Matskevich

EXCAVATIONS AT DOR, FINAL REPORT

VOLUME IIA

AREA G, THE LATE BRONZE AND IRON AGES:
SYNTHESIS, ARCHITECTURE AND STRATIGRAPHY

DIRECTED BY
EPHRAIM STERN 1986–2000
ILAN SHARON AND AYELET GILBOA 2002–2004

with contributions by:
John E. Berg, Elizabeth Bloch-Smith, Allen Estes
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In memory of
Professor Ephraim Stern (1934–2018), Director of the Tel Dor Excavations
1980–2000
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CHAPTER 16

IRON AGE TRACES: AK/34 — PHASES 4?/5?–6

Jeffrey R. Zorn

Excavated by: Anne Capel (1988)
Wendy Swanson (1989)
Directed by: Andrew Stewart on behalf of UC Berkeley (1988–1989)

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses the small amount of Iron Age material excavated in AK/34. Excavation in this unit ceased before clear architectural remains of the Iron Age were reached. Phases 4–5 (stage vi) are a series of floors, pits and mudbrick debris exposed in a limited area excavated between late W9510 and W9147, so that their assignment to either Phase 4 or 5 remained uncertain. Phase 6 (stage vi) may be represented only by a small area of degraded mudbrick.

WALL AND FLOOR STAGES

Table 16.1. Walls and floors per stage and phase

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Phase and Horizon</th>
<th>Walls and Floors</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>vi</td>
<td>4?/5? – Persian period?/Ir2c?</td>
<td>F9504 ≡ F9467</td>
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<tr>
<td>vii</td>
<td>6? – Ir2a?</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

DISCUSSION OF PHASES AND STAGES

Phase 4?/5? (Stage vi)

F9504 ≡ F9467

The loci presented here were all below stage iv (Phase 2) loci which comprised orange-brown soil with kurkar fragments. These loci likely represent a mix of Persian/late Iron Age deposits. Several loci (L9492, L9504, L9522 and L9528) comprised grey soil containing plaster and large amounts of uniformly Persian period pottery. F9504 was found between and cut by W9147 and W9510 at #15.29–15.23 (Fig. 16.1). L9467, a locus of loose grey soil, was on F9467 at #15.53–15.49. The two loci above L9467 considered here, L9322 and L9324, comprise dark brown soil, much different from the orange soil with kurkar fragments in the loci surrounding them. These loci probably represent mostly Phase 4 material. L9523 (+ L9549 + the southern part of L9537) represents a pit (#15.11–14.72), either cut from F9504 (#15.19) or else cutting F9504. Thus, the latter is either a Phase 4 floor from which the pit was cut or a Phase 5 floor contaminated by a Phase 4 pit. L9523 was closed too early and collapsed with L9527 and L9528 into L9537. Additional excavation showed that L9523, in fact, continued down and so was reopened as L9549. Pit L9523 therefore contaminates L9537 and possibly L9550 of stage vii.

Phase 6? (Stage vii)

No architecture or floors could be associated with Phase 6. Excavation reached a few mudbrick loci which likely represent
the uppermost disturbed, degraded remnants of Phase 6. These include L9527, L9537, and L9541. L9550 may be mostly rubble debris from a continuation of W9212 and/or W18010 from AJ/34 (Fig. 16.2). Pits L9523 and L9549 cut and disturb all this material; the lower part of L9523 and L9527 was excavated as L9537.

Fig. 16.2. Detail of area shown in Fig. 16.1, after removal of the late installation L9326. W9212 to the left of W9510, with its probable continuation as tumbled fieldstone rubble L9550 to the right. (p08Z3-1294)

Fig. 16.3. Locus genealogy for AK/34. (d09Z3-1268)