

Map 71 Petra

Compiled by S.T. Parker, 1994

Introduction

Reconstruction of the physical landscape in classical antiquity is complicated by several factors. The major issue is the level of the Dead Sea (Mortuum Mare/Asphaltitis Lacus). It seems clear that its water level has varied considerably, even within modern times. For example, in the early nineteenth century it was possible to ford the Dead Sea via the Lisan peninsula that extends from the eastern shore. By late in that century, however, the water level had risen sufficiently to make such a ford there impassable. In the late twentieth century, human activity has increasingly diverted the Dead Sea's traditional water sources, leading to a dramatic fall in its level. The map can reflect no more than a reasonable estimate of the Dead Sea's level in classical antiquity. The size of the lake in the oasis at Basienis (modern Azraq) in antiquity is also debatable. Extensive pumping of water in the last few decades has reduced its size.

Several criteria govern the choice of sites marked. The latter include sites of presumed importance, as well as sites known from documentary sources or physical remains (or both). Intensive archaeological surveys during the past two decades have added literally thousands of new sites to our knowledge, including hundreds of classical ones (Jacobs 1983; Hart 1986; Ibach 1987; Parker 1987; King 1987; 1989; MacDonald 1988; 1992; Miller 1991; Graf 1992; 'Amr 1996). The vast majority of these sites, however, remain unexcavated and little known beyond the fact that some kind of occupation, usually suggested by surface ceramic evidence, is attested during the Hellenistic, Roman or Late Antique periods. It would be impossible to include most of these new sites at this scale, although a few exceptional discoveries have been included.

In contrast to the region of sedentary habitation in the western part of the map, the eastern desert remains largely unexplored archaeologically. Even so, a few projects have sampled small sectors, revealing the presence of nomadic populations during classical antiquity (Parker 1987, 107-63; Rolston 1982).

Knowledge of the ancient road system is uneven. Some roads, particularly the Via Nova Traiana, are securely attested by numerous dated milestones and segments of well-preserved road surface (Thomsen 1917; Graf 1995). Other segments of what appear to be ancient roads have been reported by various scholars, but many remain difficult to date (Rasson-Seigne 1995). Even the exact course of the Via Nova Traiana itself remains unclear in a few places. Much fieldwork remains to be done in this connection.

Directory

All place names are in Jordan unless otherwise noted

Abbreviations

NEAEHL	E. Stern (ed.), <i>New encyclopedia of archaeological excavations in the Holy Land</i> , 4 vols., Jerusalem, 1993
TIR Iudaea	Tabula Imperii Romani, <i>Iudaea-Palaestina</i> , Jerusalem, 1994

Names

Grid	Name	Period	Modern Name / Location	Reference
B2	Abila	HRL	Khirbet el Kafrein	Avi-Yonah 1976, 25
B5	<i>Abu Danna</i>	RL		Graf 1995, 246
B3	Adara	RL	Adir	Cleveland 1960, 79-97
B5	Adrou/ Augustopolis	RL/ L	Udruh	Parker 1986, 94-98; Koenen 1996, 178
B3	Ag. Lot	L	Deir 'Ain 'Abata	NEAEHL 1, 336-38
B5	<i>Ail</i> Alexandreion = Sartaba	RL		Parker 1986, 98-99
B5	Ammatha § Admatha	L	el-Hammam	Parker 1986, 100-102; Koenen 1996, 181
B4	Arabia			See Map 3
A2	Archelais		WBK	See Map 70
B3	Areopolis	HRL	er-Rabba	Miller 1991, 65-66
B4	Arindela	RL	Gharandal	Brünnnow 1904 I, 111; Walmsley 1998
B3	Arnon fl.	RL	Wadi Mujib	Euseb., <i>Onom.</i> 10.15-20; Abel 1933 II, 487-89
B3	Aroes Asphaltitis L. = Mortuum Mare Augustopolis = Adrou	HR	'Aro'er	Olávarri 1965
D2	Basienis	RL	Qasr el-Azraq	Parker 1986, 19-20
B5	<i>Basta</i>	RL		Brünnnow 1904 I, 467; Graf 1995, 246
B2	Bethabara	L	Wadi el-Kharrar	Euseb., <i>Onom.</i> 58.18-20; Waheeb 1998
B2	Bethennabris	HRL	Tell Nimrin	Flanagan 1996
B3	Bethorus	L	el-Lejjun	Parker 1987, 183-428
A5	<i>Bir Madkhur</i>	RL		Glueck 1935, 35-37; Perry 1998
B3	Castra Mefaa	RL	Umm er-Resas	NEAEHL 4, 1490-93
B3	Castra Praetorii Mobeni	L	Qasr Bshir	Clark 1987
B3	Characmoba	HRL	Kerak	Musil 1907 I, 45-62, 359-62; Brown 1989
A2	Choziba		WBK	See Map 70
B4	<i>Da'janiya</i>	L		Parker 1991, 134-41
A3	<i>Deir el-Qattal el-Bizanti</i>	L		King 1987, 443-44
B4	<i>Dhat Ras</i>	HRL		Miller 1991, 157-58
B3	Dibon	RL	Dhiban	NEAEHL 1, 350-52
A2	Douka		WBK	See Map 70
B3	<i>ed-Deir</i>	HRL		Miller 1991, 55
B2	Elealeh	RL	el-'Al	Reed 1972
A3	Engaddai		ISR	See Map 70
A3	<i>En Boqeq</i>		ISR	See Map 70
A4	<i>En Thamar</i>		ISR	See Map 70
B2	Esbous	HRL	Tell Hesban	NEAEHL 2, 626-30
A2	Euthymios		WBK	See Map 70
B1	Gadara	HR	Tell Jadur	Abel 1933 II, 154, 167, 201
C1	Gadda?	RL	el-Hadid	Parker 1986, 32-34
B2	Gerasimos		WBK	See Map 70
B3	<i>Haditha</i>	RL		King 1987, 439-42; Parker 1994
A2	Hierichous		WBK	See Map 70
A2	Hyrkania/ Kastellion		WBK	See Map 70
B2	Iordanes fl.			See Map 70
B4	<i>Jurf ed-Darawish</i>	RL		Parker 1986, 90-93
B2	Kalliroe	RL	'Ain ez-Zara	Strobel 1989; 'Amr 1996, 434-45

Grid	Name	Period	Modern Name / Location	Reference
	Karkaria = Sobora Kastellion = Hyrkania Kh., see Khirbet			
C2	<i>Khan ez-Zebib</i>	RL		Parker 1986, 45-48
B3	<i>Khirbet Dubab</i>	HR		Miller 1991, 148
B4	<i>Khirbet ed-Dharieh</i>	RL		Villeneuve 1989
B3	<i>Khirbet el-Batra</i>	HRL		Miller 1991, 133
B3	<i>Khirbet el-Fityan</i>	RL		Richard 1987
B2	<i>Khirbet el-Muhatta</i>	RL		Ibach 1987, 15-16
B4	<i>Khirbet et-Tannur</i>	R		NEAEHL 4, 1441-46
B2	<i>Khirbet ez-Zona</i>	L		Parker 1986, 45-46
B3	<i>Khirbet Faris</i>	RL		Miller 1991, 49-51; McQuitty 1993
B3	<i>Khirbet Qazone</i>	RL?		Politis 1998
B3	<i>Khirbet Shihan</i>	RL		Miller 1991, 31-32
A1	Korea(i)		WBK	See Map 69
A2	Kypros/ Threx?		WBK	See Map 70
B3	<i>Lehun</i>	R		Homès-Fredericq 1989
B2	Libba	RL	Khirbet Libb	Glueck 1934, 32
B2	Livias	HRL	Tell er-Rama	Glueck 1951, 391
	§ Iulias			Abel 1933 I, 158
B3	Loueitha	RL	Kathrabba	Mittmann 1982; Miller 1991, 109
B2	Machairous	R	Mekawer	Corbo 1978; Kennedy 1990, 99-101
B2	Madaba	HRL	Madaba	NEAEHL 3, 992-1001
	§ Medaba			
B3	<i>Majdalein</i>	HRL		Miller 1991, 33-35
A2	Maledomnei		WBK	See Map 70
B4	Mamopsora	RL	Buseira	NEAEHL 1, 264-66
A3	Masada		ISR	See Map 70
A2	Megiste Laura Saba		WBK	See Map 70
B4	<i>Mhai</i>	HRL		Miller 1991, 163-66
B3	<i>Middin</i>	HRL		Miller 1991, 128
A2	Mortuum Mare/ Asphaltitis L.			TIR Iudaea 179
B3	Mothous	RL	Mautah	Miller 1991, 119-20
B3	<i>Mudeibi</i>	RL		Miller 1991, 163
B3	<i>Muhattet el-Haj</i> (lower)	RL		Parker 1986, 55-56
B3	<i>Muhattet el-Haj</i> (upper)	RL		Parker 1986, 57-58
B3	<i>Mureigha</i>	RL		Miller 1991, 123-24
B5	<i>el-Mutrab</i>	L		Parker 1986, 102-103
A2	Na'aran/ Neara		WBK	See Map 70
B4	Nabataea			See Map 3
B3	<i>Nakhl</i>	HRL		Miller 1991, 154-56
	Neara = Na'aran			
B2	Nebo Mons	L	Siyagha	NEAEHL 3, 1106-18
B4	Negla	RL	'Ain Najil	Brünnow 1904 I, 100; Bowersock 1983, 174
B2	Peraea	HR		RE Peraia 7; ABD Peraea
A5	Petra	HRL	Wadi Musa	Browning 1989; McKenzie 1990
A4	Phaino	RL	Feinan	Hauptmann 1992; Barker 1999
A1	Phasaelis		WBK	See Map 70
B2	Philadelpheia	HRL	'Amman	NEAEHL 4, 1243-52
A4	Praesidium	RL	Qasr el-Feifa	Alt 1935, 6-9; King 1987, 449-50
A2	<i>el Qasr</i>		WBK	See Map 70
B3	<i>el-Qasr</i>	RL		Miller 1991, 59-60
B3	<i>Qasr Abu Rukba</i>	L		Parker 1986, 79-82
B3	<i>Qasr el-'Al</i>	RL		Parker 1986, 50-53
D2	<i>Qasr el-Aseikhin</i>	RL		Parker 1986, 16-17

Grid	Name	Period	Modern Name / Location	Reference
D4	<i>Qasr Bayir</i>	R		Rolston 1982
C1	<i>Qasr el-Hallabat</i>	RL		Parker 1986, 30-32
B3	<i>Qasr eth-Thuraiya</i>	L		Parker 1986, 50-51
A5	<i>Qasr Tuliyyeh</i>	RL		Graf 1995, 249
D2	<i>Qasr el-'Uweinid</i>	R		Parker 1986, 17-19
A2	<i>Qumran</i>		WBK	See Map 70
A1	<i>Rujm Abu Muheir</i>		WBK	See Map 70
B3	<i>Rujm Beni Yasser</i>	RL		Bloom 1987
B4	<i>Rujm el-Farideyyeh</i>	R		MacDonald 1988, 226-28
B4	<i>er-Ruweihii</i>	RL		MacDonald 1988, 210-11
C2	Saraceni	RL	JOR / SYR	Shahid 1984, 125-41
A1	Sartaba/ Alexandreion		WBK	See Map 70
A5	Sobora/ Karkaria § Sabure § Veterocaria	RL/ L	es-Sabra	Euseb., <i>Onom.</i> 116; Glueck 1935, 49, 80-81; Abel 1933 II, 183; Lindner 1989 NotDig Or. 34.28
A2	Th(o)ana = Thornia Theoktistos		WBK	See Map 70
B4	Thornia/ Th(o)ana	RL	Khirbet eth-Thuwana	Fiema 1997
A4	Toloha	HRL	Qasr et-Tlah	Glueck 1935, 12-17; MacDonald 1992, 91-92, 265
B2	Threx? = Kypros Tyros	HRL	'Iraq el-Emir	NEAEHL 2, 646-49
B4	<i>Umm Ubtulah</i>	RL		MacDonald 1988, 292-94
B2	<i>Umm el-Walid</i>	RL		Parker 1986, 41-43; Haldimann 1992
B2	Valtha Via Nova Traiana	RL	Khirbet Tahunet el-Wala	Abel 1933 II, 189 See Roads
B2	<i>Zabayir Zahr ed-Diyab</i>	R		Ibrahim 1987
B4	Zered fl.		Wadi el-Hesa	Abel 1933 I, 489
B2	Ziza	RL	settlement and cemetery	Brünnow 1904 II, 91-103; Ibrahim 1987
A3	Zoara	RL	Ghor es-Safi	Frank 1934, 204-207; Rast 1974
B5	Zodacatha	RL	Khirbet es-Sadaqa	Parker 1986, 99-100

Aqueducts

Grid	Location	Reference
A1	Phasaelis	See Map 70
A2	Archelais	See Map 70
A2	Hyrkania	See Map 70
A2	Na'aran	See Map 70
A2	Qumran	See Map 70
A3	Engaddai	See Map 70

Bridges

Grid	Location	Period	Reference
A2	Kypros		See Map 70
B1	over Iordanes fl.		See Map 70
B2	Valtha, over Wadi Wala	RL	Brünnow 1904 I, 22-23
B3	over Arnon fl. at Wadi Mujib	RL	Brünnow 1904 I, 34-37
B4	over Zered fl. (W) at Wadi el-Hesa	RL	Brünnow 1904 I, 81
B4	over Zered fl. (E) at Wadi el-Hesa	RL?	Brünnow 1904 II, 18-19

Roads

Grid	Name / Itinerary	Period	Reference
B2	Via Nova Traiana: Madaba → Philadelpheia Philadelpheia → Map 69 Madaba → Petra	RL	Brünnow 1904 II, 177-81; Thomsen 1917; Graf 1995 Brünnow 1904 II, 221-46; Bauzou 1988 Brünnow 1904 I, 15-124; MacDonald 1988, 206, 224-29
	Betthorus → Castra Mefaa → Philadelpheia Da'janiya → Dhat Ras Esbous → Livias → Hierichous Mortuum Mare → Via Nova Traiana Mothous → Arindela Petra region Philadelpheia → Gerasa (Map 69)		Brünnow 1904 II, 45-63 Brünnow 1904 II, 16-20 Ibach 1987, 176, 188 Mittmann 1982; Jacobs 1983 Brünnow 1904 I, 108-11 Graf 1992; 1995 Mittmann 1964; 1970; Rasson-Seigne 1995

Unlocated Toponyms

Name	Period	Probable Location	Reference
Afro	L	Seil 'Afra	NotDig Or. 34.38
Agalla	HRL	near Areopolis?	Jos., <i>AJ</i> 13.397, 14.18; Euseb., <i>Onom.</i> 36.20
Aia	L	E Dead Sea	Donner 1964, 90
Asabaia	L	province of Arabia	NotDig Or. 37.32
Asuada	L	Palaestina Tertia	NotDig Or. 34.32
Auatha	L	near Wadi el-Hesa	NotDig Or. 37.25
Calamona	L	Palaestina Tertia	NotDig Or. 34.43
Cariatha	L	near Madaba?	Euseb., <i>Onom.</i> 112.14-17
Dabaloth	H	near Madaba	Jos., <i>AJ</i> 14.18
Kariatha	L	near Madaba?	Euseb., <i>Onom.</i> 112.16
Libona	L	province of Arabia	NotDig Or. 37.27
Luhith	L	Kathrabba	Mittmann 1982; Miller 1991, 109
Naar Safari	L	Wadi Zafri	NotDig Or. 37.28
Pentakomia	L	Palaestina Tertia	GCyp 1054H
Robatha/ Robotha	L	S Wadi el-Hesa	Euseb., <i>Onom.</i> 142.13-14; NotDig Or. 34.27

Name	Period	Probable Location	Reference
Samaga/ Samoga	H	near Esbous	Jos., <i>AJ</i> 13.255; <i>BJ</i> 1.63
Sartha/ Cartha/ Sirtha	L	N Tafila?	NotDig Or. 34.39
Tharais	L	E Dead Sea	Donner 1964, 90
Theman/ Saltus Hieratikos	L	Shôbak?	Euseb., <i>Onom.</i> 96.18-23
Vade Afaris fl.	L	Wadi el-Hafira	NotDig Or. 37.34
Zia	RL	between Peraea and Philadelpheia	Jos., <i>AJ</i> 20.2; Euseb., <i>Onom.</i> 94.3-4

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