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Excavations at Tel Anafa, 1973

It was just over ten years ago, in June 1964, that the University of Missouri Excavations in Israel began. The first season of work was located at Jalame, a hill southeast of Haifa, and for three more seasons the uncovering of a glass factory of the fourth century of our era was the center of operations in collaboration



with the Corning Museum of Glass. Trial excavations near Kafr Yasif, somewhat farther north, were also undertaken during two summers, and the Corning contingent was particularly occupied with the study of a huge glass slab at Beth She'arim, not far from Jalame, as well as an investigation of the Belus River, famous in antiquity for its excellent sand used in glass manufacture.¹ In 1967 a medieval glass furnace was found by chance at Somelaria, a ruined Crusader castle on the coast some miles north of Akko; it was excavated by the Corning-Missouri Expedition at the request of the Department of Antiquities. This discovery also is still to be published in full.

With the changed situation brought about by the Six-day War in 1967, it was possible for the University of Missouri to begin work at a long, low mound now known as Tel Anafa, the "Mound of the Heron," situated in Upper Galilee near the sources of the Jordan River, just within the eastern border of Israel. The campaign of 1973 was the fifth at this site,² making a total of forty weeks of digging. This completed the program originally planned, though by no means exhausting the possibilities of the site, or even bringing the work to a logical stopping point. However, the quantity of finds gleaned from this ancient town is already so great that we cannot in good conscience proceed until we have studied more thoroughly what we already have. Therefore we plan to devote the next few years to study of the material and, in so doing, to define more precisely the goals of a second series of excavation campaigns. Also, with the termination of the Smithsonian Foreign Currency Program for Israel, by which the five seasons at Tel Anafa were chiefly financed, other sources of funds will have to be found for further excavation.

Hard work at Tel Anafa—hauling out a large block from the step-trench at the south end of the mound.



13. View of mound from the south showing the extent of the step-trench at the end of the dig.

¹ The final report on Jalame is now in preparation; in this will be listed the numerous sources of funds and the many individuals who assisted the work.

² Reports of the earlier campaigns have appeared in *Muse* 3 (1969) 16-23; 4 (1970) 15-24; 5 (1971) 8-16; 6 (1972) 8-18. A summation of the first three campaigns, "Tel Anafa: The Hellenistic Town," is published in the *Israel Exploration Journal* 21 (1971) 86-109.

The excavations were again under the sponsorship of the Museum of Art and Archaeology of the University of Missouri-Columbia, and the work was financed by the remainder of a Foreign Currency Grant from the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., supplemented by dollar funds from the Museum. The writer was again Director, with Dr. Barbara L. Johnson as Field Director. The Area Supervisors, mostly veterans of the Tel Anafa dig, were: David Morrison in the Northeast Sector; Professor Sharon Herbert in the Northwest Sector; Anne Ogilvy, Leslie Cornell, Robert Gordon and Howard Pomerantz in the East-Central Sector; Dr. Gloria S. Merker and Professor Richard Schiemann in the South Sector; Maureen F. Kaplan in the Southwest Sector. They were assisted by Joyce Baida, Noor Mulder-Hymans, Aaron Levin, Ann Noble, James Rogers, Jerald Swenson and Peter Worni. Seven of the supervisors and assistants were Ford Foundation Trainees. The technical staff consisted of Ed Tanaka—architect, assisted by Marsha Pilat, Joerg Schmeisser—artist, Aaron Levin—photographer, assisted by Christopher Loring, Robert Haber—conservator, assisted by Maura Cornman. A total of some seventy volunteers made up the work force; they were largely students, mostly from the United States (several from the University of Missouri-Columbia), but also a number from six other countries. The expedition was again housed in the youth hostel at Tel Hai. Our special thanks go to Mr. Michael Koppel, director of the hostel, and to his wife for their hospitality.

Dr. Avraham Biran, Director of the Department of Antiquities and Museums, and his staff have been most helpful in facilitating our work. Mr. Moshe Kagan of

Kibbutz Shamir continued as our local sponsor and many services were made available to us by the kibbutz. Dr. William Dever, Director of the W. F. Albright Institute for Archaeological Research in Jerusalem, generously extended the facilities of the Institute to us. Dr. Y. Meshorer of the Israel Museum identified the coins from the 1973 season and is preparing the final publication of all the coins from Tel Anafa. Miss Virginia Grace of the staff of the American Excavations in the Athenian Agora has read the stamped amphora handles for us. To all of these we are greatly indebted for their generous help.

³ *Muse* 6 (1972) 13-15.

⁴ *Muse* 6 (1972) 8.

⁵ *Muse* 3 (1969) 18.

⁶ *Muse* 6 (1972) 8.

⁷ *Muse* 6 (1972) 9.

⁸ *Muse* 6 (1972) 13-15.

⁹ *Muse* 6 (1972) 14, Fig. 14.

¹⁰ *Muse* 6 (1972) 14, Fig. 13, right.

¹¹ *Muse* 6 (1972) 12, Fig. 7.