

2.17. Area W

2.17.1. Stratigraphy and Architecture

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Area W is located in the westernmost part of Field II and it covers squares BL 2, BL 3, BM 2, BM 3, and BN 2. The area was excavated in 2004 by area supervisors JUHANA SAUKKONEN and VIRPI HOLMQVIST. Most of the loci belong to the Iron Age I period and will be published in a second volume of the excavation report. The post- and pre-Iron Age I material in this square is very limited. The loci found in this area can be attributed to the following strata:¹

Local stratum	Site	Absolute Chronology	Walls	Corresponding loci
W0	0			L. 5400 (BL 2), L. 5401 (BN 2), L. 5402 (BL 3), L. 5403 (BM 3), L. 5436 (BM 2), L. 5452 (BL/BM 2)
W1–W3	IV–VI	Iron Age I	W5405 (BL 2), W5407 (BL 3), W5408 (BL 3), W5412 (BL 2), W5416 (BL 3), W5417 (BL 2), W5424 (BM 3), W5425 (BN 2), W5426 (BN 2), W5429 (BM 3), W5434 (BL 3), W5440 (BN 2), W5460 (BL/BM 2), W5463 (BM 2), W5464 (BM 2), W5466 (BM 3)	L. 5409 (BL 3), L. 5410 (BL 3), L. 5411 (BL 3), L. 5413 (BL 2), L. 5414 (BL 2), L. 5415 (BM 3), L. 5418 (BL 2), L. 5419 (BL 3), L. 5420 (BL 3), L. 5421 (BL 3), L. 5422 (BL 3), L. 5423 (BL 2), L. 5427 (BN 2), L. 5428 (BN 2), L. 5430 (BM 3), L. 5431 (BM 3), L. 5432 (BM 3), L. 5433 (BL 2), L. 5435 (BL 2), L. 5436 (BM 2), L. 5437 (BL 3), L. 5438 (BL 3), L. 5439 (BM 3), L. 5441 (BN 2), L. 5442 (BN 2), L. 5443 (BM 2), L. 5444 (BM 3), L. 5445 (BM 3), L. 5446 (BL 3), L. 5447 (BM 2), L. 5448 (BL 3), L. 5449 (BM 3), L. 5450 (BN 2), L. 5451 (BL 3), L. 5453 (BL/BM 2), L. 5454 (BL/BM 2), L. 5455 (BN 2), L. 5456 (BN 2), L. 5457 (BL/BM 2), L. 5458 (BL 3), L. 5459 (BL 3), L. 5461 (BL/BM 2), L. 5462 (BL 3), L. 5465 (BM 2)
W4	?	?	W5467 (BN 2)	

Table 2.17.1.1. Loci in area W.

The topsoil loci L. 5400 (BL 2), L. 5401 (BN 2), L. 5402 (BL 3), L. 5403 (BM 3), L. 5436 (BM 2), L. 5452 (BL/BM 2) yielded typical mixed pottery from different periods but no further architectural remains from periods younger than Iron Age I were found. Remarkably, among the finds is a fragment of a bulla (reg. no. 12012/1, L. 5400; Fig. 2.17.1.1.) which contains two impressions. The left one presents ca. 2/5 of a rosette decoration (size of the preserved area: 18 x 6 mm), in the right one a bird, possibly an ostrich, with uplifted wings walking to the right. The designs are typical for the Late Bronze and Early Iron Age I period and this specific item may be connected with the Iron Age I settlement activity in this square or area.²

Nearly all excavated features of area W belong to the Iron Age I period. Only W5467 in square BN 2 is older. Since only its upper part was excavated very little is known about this wall. Because the focus was on the Iron Age I architecture, the excavations did not pursue to establish a floor for this wall. The wall is about 3 m long and at least 0.5 m wide partly covered by the nearly parallel Iron Age I wall W5440. Renewed excavations are necessary to understand the wall's context and dating.

¹ Due to the limited number of non-Iron Age I loci we completely follow the analysis of the stratigraphy by the excavators and only discuss the few non-Iron Age I loci.

² For a more detailed description cf. MÜNGER 2009, 125–128; MÜNGER in KEEL 2017, 612–613 no. 20.

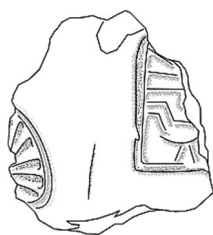


Fig. 2.17.1.1. Bulla with two impressions, which was not found *in situ*, L. 5400 (BL 2).

1 cm

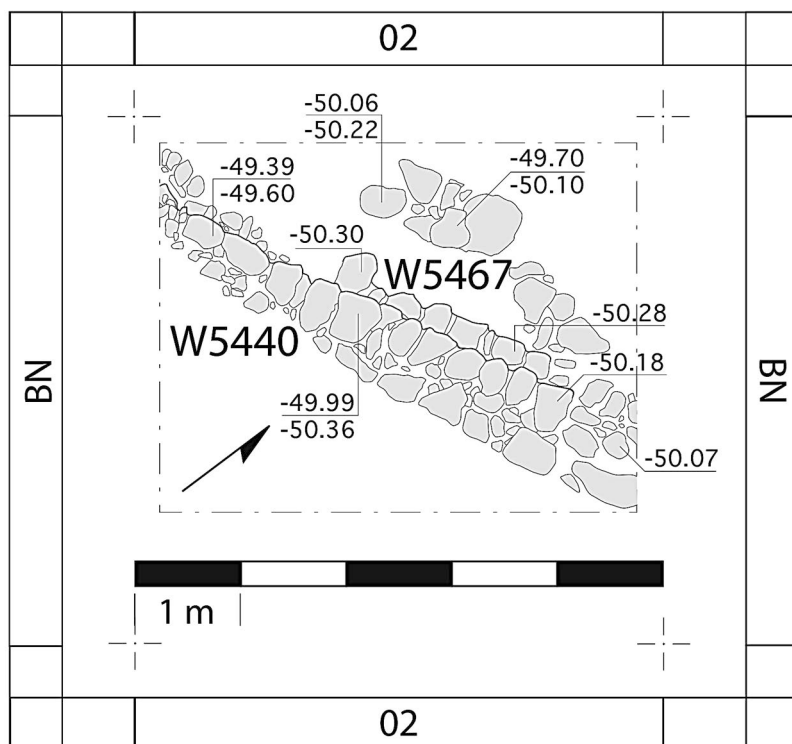


Fig. 2.17.1.2. Wall W5467 below the Iron Age I wall W5440.

Bibliography

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2009 “Handle with Care” – Notes on Stamp-Seal Impressions on Jar Handles and a Bulla from Early Iron Age Tell el-Orēme /Tel Kinrōt, ZDPV 125, 116–138.

2.17.2. Locus List

- Locus no.:* 5400 *Square:* BL 2
Local stratum: W0 *Site stratum:* 0
Short description/characterization: Topsoil
Description: Topsoil was removed.
Baskets of locus: 12000, 12004, 12008, 12012
Upper level: -47.00 *Lower level:* -47.40
Finds of the locus: Bulla (reg. no. 12012/1) *Pottery of the locus:* Chalcolithic (1 piece), Early Bronze Age I–II, Late Bronze Age (1 piece), Iron Age I, Iron Age II, Hellenistic, Roman/Byzantine

Index to the text: p. 509, 510, 668. *Index to the plates:* Fig. 4.3.72.
- Locus no.:* 5401 *Square:* BN 2
Local stratum: W0 *Site stratum:* 0
Short description/characterization: Topsoil
Description: Topsoil was removed.
Baskets of locus: 12001, 12007, 12009, 12016, 12020
Upper level: -48.93 *Lower level:* -49.19
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:* Early Bronze Age (1 piece), Middle Bronze Age II (1 piece), Iron Age I, Iron Age II, Roman

Index to the text: p. 509. *Index to the plates:*
- Locus no.:* 5402 *Square:* BL 3
Local stratum: W0 *Site stratum:* 0
Short description/characterization: Topsoil
Description: Topsoil was removed.
Baskets of locus: 12002, 12005, 12010, 12013, 12014, 12018, 12022, 12024, 12025, 12026
Upper level: -47.20 *Lower level:* -47.74
Finds of the locus: Bones *Pottery of the locus:* Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/ Late Bronze Age I, Iron Age I, Iron Age II, Roman/Byzantine, Late Arab

Index to the text: p. 509. *Index to the plates:*
- Locus no.:* 5403 *Square:* BM 3
Local stratum: W0 *Site stratum:* 0
Short description/characterization: Topsoil
Description: Topsoil was removed.
Baskets of locus: 12003, 12006, 12011, 12015, 12019, 12027
Upper level: -48.31 *Lower level:* -48.58
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:* Early Bronze Age II, Middle Bronze Age II/ Late Bronze Age I, Iron Age I, Iron Age II, Roman, Late Arab

Index to the text: p. 509. *Index to the plates:*
- Locus no.:* 5436 *Square:* BM 2
Local stratum: W0 *Site stratum:* 0
Short description/characterization: Topsoil
Description: Topsoil was removed.
Baskets of locus: 12105, 12107, 12112
Upper level: -48.21 *Lower level:* -48.53
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:* Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/ Late Bronze Age I, Iron Age I, Iron Age II

Index to the text: p. 509, 778. *Index to the plates:* Fig. 4.4.39:345.
- Locus no.:* 5452 *Square:* BL/BM 2
Local stratum: W0 *Site stratum:* 0
Short description/characterization: Topsoil
Description: Topsoil of the balk was removed.
Baskets of locus: 12153, 12156
Upper level: *Lower level:*
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:* Iron Age I, Iron Age II, Roman/Byzantine

Index to the text: p. 509.

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: W5467

Square: BN 2

Local stratum: W4

Site stratum: ?

Short description/characterization: Wall

Description: Wall partly underneath W5440. The wall is about 3 m long and 0.5 m wide. Only the topmost stones (limestone and basalt) of the wall are exposed.

Baskets of locus:

Upper level: -50.29

Lower level:

Finds of the locus:

Pottery of the locus:

Index to the text: p. 509, 510.

Index to the plates: