



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

The End of the Iron II Period at Tall al-`Umayri, Jordan

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Abstract

This paper explores the evidence from Tall al-`Umayri in Jordan for the smooth transition from Iron IIC to the Persian Period. It presents stratigraphic, architectural, and ceramic evidence, as well as iconographic, palaeographic, and linguistic indications on a variety of seals found in the three strata of an administrative complex at the site, which was Ammonite at first, and Persian subsequently. Suggestions for the same were also found at several small agricultural settlements discovered by the project's regional survey. Later excavations at a few of those sites confirmed this conclusion. The primary evidence comes from seals with iconography in the Babylonian and Persian styles, and the palaeography of inscriptions on the seals with the earliest examples written in the Ammonite script of the late 7th century or early 6th century and the later ones in the Aramaic script of the late 6th and early 5th centuries. But the study also takes into consideration the three strata of the administrative complex and the chronology of the associated ceramics included in the relevant strata.

Keywords

Iron II C, Persian, Ammonite, iconography, palaeography

Session

1. Advances in Near Eastern Archaeology

Workshop

A15573AA - The 6th Century BCE: The Demise of the Iron Age Kingdoms in Transjordan

Type of paper

Oral presentation