



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Connecting people, places, and landscapes: Daily food practices during the EB II-III in the southern Levant

ERFTENBECK H. ¹*

¹ Colgate University, Hamilton, NY, United States

*Corresponding author

Abstract

Building on the work of Grigson (1995) and Philip (2003) this paper considers the role of staple food production in organizing and maintaining new lifeways during the EB II-III period (c. 3050–2500 BCE) in the Southern Levant, when significant social and economic changes took hold as people aggregated into large, fortified settlements for the first time. Feeding growing communities was a central concern for EB people. Access to labor, water, and land for food production required negotiating social and economic relationships within and between households and neighborhoods inside walled settlements. Using evidence from published archaeobotanical remains, and the material records of EB kitchens, I consider the connections between households and neighborhoods, settlements and surrounding agricultural landscape, as well as regional exchange to investigate how foodways and daily food practices were intertwined with the EB urban project.

Keywords

Early Bronze Age, Foodways, Southern Levant, Urbanism, Food

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