



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Silos and millstones: new insights into the socio-economic organization of Tell Beydar during the Seleucid-Parthian period

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Abstract

Excavated between 1992 and 2010, the upper mound of Tell Beydar in the Syrian Jazira, presents a significant contrast between its urban character in the 3rd millennium BC and an encompassing rural character when it was occupied between the 3rd century and the 1st century BC. This paper will seek to examine the social-economic organization of this later occupation. Through an integrated analysis of archaeological data from multiple excavation areas, new insights will be presented into the settlement's spatial organization, economic functions, and the nature of its inhabitants. Particular attention is paid to storage structures, primarily silos, which characterize much of the occupation at Tell Beydar, and millstones. Both can provide crucial information on subsistence strategies and allow for a better understanding of rural life during the transformative Seleucid-Parthian period.

Keywords

Tell Beydar, Seleucid-Parthian period, Millstones, Agrarian communities, Storage

Session

1. Advances in Near Eastern Archaeology

Workshop

A16096RP - Rethinking Rurality Taking a Non-Urban Perspective on the Archaeology of Villages

Type of paper

Oral presentation