



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Baalbek in the Pre-Hellenistic Period and its Position in the Settlement System of the Bekaa

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Abstract

While the fact that the Jupiter Temple in Baalbek was erected on an ancient tell site is well known, very few details about the site underlying the Roman structures are known so far. The Eastern Sounding in the courtyard of the Temple of Jupiter was excavated in the 1950s to early 1960s by the Direction Générale des Antiquités, and re-examined by the Mission of the German Archaeological Institute in 2004-2005. While finds indicate an occupation ranging from the Neolithic to the Hellenistic Period, the stratigraphy unfortunately was heavily disturbed. The Western Sounding, equally in the courtyard of the Temple of Jupiter was excavated by the Direction Générale des Antiquités in the 1960s. The excavations had exposed two rows of Middle Bronze Age buildings, separated by a 1 m wide street. Since 2012 the German Archaeological Institute and the American University of Beirut resumed work in this area. In this paper, we will present the main results obtained in the sounding since 2012 and evaluate the position of Baalbek in the settlement system of the Bekaa.

Keywords

Baalbek, Bekaa, Bronze Age, Settlement Systems

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