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## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

### The proto-Byzantine site of Brissa (northern Lebanon)

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#### Abstract

The remains of two proto-Byzantine churches dated by a 6th century inscription were fortuitously discovered in Brissa (Hermel, northern Lebanon) in the 1960s, followed by rescue excavations conducted by the Direction Générale des Antiquités du Liban (DGA). The site was then successively prospected, notably by the late Dr Ch. Ghadban (DGA), then by Dr S. Garreau (IFAPO), between 1980 and 2003, without final publication of the results obtained, otherwise in the form of reports and pages of doctoral thesis. In 2019, a project to renew prospecting on the ground and collect data in archives and museum was set up under the co-direction of Dr. S. Garreau and Dr. F. Alpi (Ifpo), in partnership with the DGA (L. Saloum and Dr. R. Gergian). Local circumstances allowed only one day of on-site study in 2019, but the data collected then significantly increased the documentation, and allowed to renew its interpretation. In the museum, the search for artifacts previously discovered led to the recovery of a carved reliquary with exceptional decor, studied by Dr M.-Ch. Comte. The old photographs are illuminated by this new information and new scientific perspectives are now open to the Archaeological Mission of Brissa-Hermel.

#### Keywords

Brissa, Lebanon, Byzantine church, Greek inscriptions

#### Session

4. The materiality of inscribed and figurative objects

#### Type of paper

Oral presentation