

Hypogea2023

Proceedings of IV International Congress of Speleology in Artificial Cavities
Italy, Genoa, September 29th / October 1st



EDITORS

Stefano Saj, Carla Galeazzi

Michele Betti, Francesco Faccini, Paolo Madonia





Union Internationale
de Spéléologie



Società
Speleologica
Italiana ETS



Regione Liguria



Comune di Genova



Università di Genova



UNESCO Chair



Istituto Nazionale
di Geofisica e
Vulcanologia



Istituto di Ricerca
per la Protezione
Idrogeologica



Ordine degli Architetti
Pianificatori
Paesaggisti e
Conservatori Genova



Ordine Ingegneri
Genova



Ordine Regionale dei
Geologi della Liguria



Federazione delle
associazioni dell'Antico
Acquedotto Storico
Genova

Opera Ipogea
Journal of Speleology
in Artificial Cavities

Opera Ipogea

Organized by

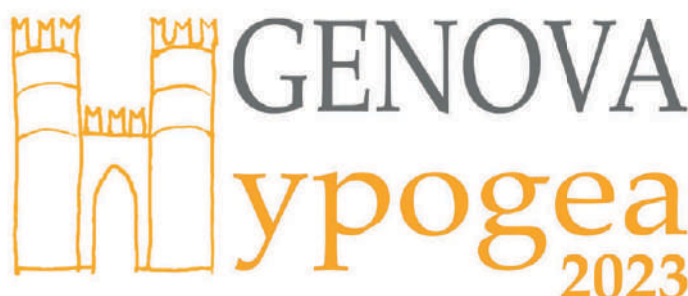


PROCEEDINGS OF IV INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF SPELEOLOGY IN ARTIFICIAL CAVITIES

HYPOGEA2023

SEPTEMBER 29th / OCTOBER 1st
GENOA, ITALY

PALAZZO DUCALE, SALA MINOR CONSIGLIO
Piazza Matteotti 9, Genova



Proceedings of IV International Congress of Speleology in Artificial Cavities

HYPOGEA2023

PALAZZO DUCALE, SALA MINOR CONSIGLIO
Piazza Matteotti 9, Genova

Edited by
CENTRO STUDI SOTTERRANEI

Supplement to issue 1-2 / 2023
Opera Ipogea - *Journal of Speleology in Artificial Cavities*
Memorie della Commissione Nazionale Cavità Artificiali
www.operaipogea.it
Semestrale della Società Speleologica Italiana ETS
Autorizzazione del Tribunale di Bologna n. 7702 dell'11 Ottobre 2006

Editors
Stefano Saj, Carla Galeazzi
Michele Betti, Francesco Faccini, Paolo Madonia

Scientific Committee
Michele Betti, Roberto Bixio, Francesco Faccini, Carla Galeazzi, Paolo Madonia, Roberto Maggi,
Alessandro Maifredi, Massimo Mancini, Mario Parise, Mark Pearce, Luigi Perasso, Stefano Saj,
Martino Terrone, Marco Vattano, Ali Yamac, Boaz Zissu

Organizational Secretariat
Marina Barbieri
genova.sotterranea@gmail.com

Organizing Committee
Guglielmo Barranco, Marina Barbieri, Michele Betti, Roberto Bixio, Timothy Bonassi, Beatrice Cella,
Andrea Ferrando, Rita Foglia, Carla Galeazzi, Martina Gogioso, Ivan Greco, Matteo Mammi,
Luigi Perasso, Pietro Piana, Danilo Repetto, Gabrio Taccani, Mauro Traverso, Stefania Traverso

Composition and layout
Luca Paternoster, Stefano Saj

Graphic project
Carla Galeazzi, Stefano Saj

Cover photo
Martina Gogioso

Back cover photos
Ivan Greco, Fernando Naldoni, Danilo Repetto,
Stefano Saj, Luca Torti, Mauro Traverso

Typography
Corigraf Srl – Viserba, Rimini, Italy

With the financial support of
Società Speleologica Italiana ETS

CONTENTS

FOREWARD: <i>Mario Parise</i>	7
CONGRESS PRESENTATION: <i>Stefano Saj, Carla Galeazzi</i>	9

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION ABOUT GENOA HISTORY

The plague (1656-1657) in the history of the Maritime Republic of Genoa (Italy): an important testimony of efficacious measures of safety and prevention in the field of hygiene and public health and a wonderful discovery of a precious historical heritage to protect. A “blend” of speleology and history of medicine

<i>Mariano Martini, Stefano Saj, Danilo Repetto, Martino Terrone, Simon Luca Trigona, Nico Radi, Giancarlo Icardi, Francesca Ferrando</i>	13
---	----

UNDERGROUND ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN PLANNING

The tanks of the Regia Marina of Monte Erice (Trapani, Italy) on a project by the engineer Pier Luigi Nervi

<i>Roberto Grammatico, Roberto Mazzeo</i>	21
---	----

Genoa Municipality GeoPortal as tool for underground and overground analysis (Italy)

<i>Martino Terrone, Elena Ausonio, Flavio Marovic, Cristina Olivieri, Andrea Rimassa, Federico Rottura, Emilio Vertamy, Luca Volpin, Stefania Traverso</i>	29
--	----

ARTIFICIAL CAVITIES AS A POSSIBLE GEOLOGICAL RISK FACTOR

Culverted watercourses as an anthropogenic constraint of flood risk in the historical centre of Genoa (Italy)

<i>Francesco Faccini, Roberto Bixio, Andrea Mandarino, Pietro Piana, Stefano Saj, Martino Terrone, Mauro Traverso, Stefania Traverso</i>	37
--	----

Artificial cavities and geo-risk assessment: the case of “The Strade Nuove and the system of the Palazzi dei Rolli” Unesco World Heritage site in Genoa (Italy)

<i>Francesco Faccini, Andrea Ferrando, Giacomo Montanari, Pietro Piana, Stefano Saj, Martino Terrone, Stefania Traverso</i>	47
---	----

A chronology of sinkholes related to artificial cavities in the hydrographic district of the Southern Apennines of Italy

<i>Isabella Serena Liso, Carmela Vennari, Maria Assunta Fabozzi, Daniela Ruberti, Marco Vigliotti, Gennaro Capasso, Vera Corbelli, Mario Parise</i>	57
---	----

The hidden world of artificial cavities in the hydrographic district of the Southern Apennines of Italy: findings, architectural variability and risk assessment

<i>Maria Assunta Fabozzi, Isabella Serena Liso, Mario Parise, Carmela Vennari, Piernicola Lollino, Marco Vigliotti, Gennaro Capasso, Vera Corbelli, Daniela Ruberti</i>	65
---	----

On the role of geo-structural features in the development of failure mechanisms affecting man-made underground cavities

<i>Piernicola Lollino, Mario Parise</i>	75
---	----

ANCIENT UNDERGROUND HYDRAULIC WORKS

Ahmet Çelebi Qastel of Gaziantep (Turkey)

Ali Yamaç 85

Water monuments in Hittite and Neo-Hittite periods: structure, functions, and connection with the “other world”

Maria Elena Balza, Marco Capardoni, Clelia Mora 91

The ancient aqueducts of Asolo (Italy): new investigations and acquisitions

Massimiliano Zago, Daniele Davolio M., Marcello Pellegrini, Roberto Sordi, Marco Sordi 99

The Civil Forum cisterns in Pompeii (Italy)

Graziano Ferrari, Daniele De Simone, Alberta Martellone, Bruno De Nigris, Massimo Osanna 107

Aqua Augusta in Campania. New section under the Posillipo ridge (Naples, Italy)

Graziano Ferrari, Daniele De Simone 111

The water storage system of Marcigliana (Rome, Italy): an unusual representative of a Roman cistern

Andreas Schatzmann, Mara Abbate, Andrea Peresso 119

An Archaeological Survey in the Jerusalem Hills and Water Facilities for Pilgrims during the Early Roman Period

Boaz Zissu, Danny Bickson, Dvir Raviv 127

ROCK-CUT SETTLEMENT WORKS

Quarried underground hiding complexes in the Galilee, Israel: new evidence for their use in the Second-Century CE Revolt against the Romans

Yinon Shvitzel 137

Castle of Gaziantep (Turkey). Tunnels, Dwellings, Excavations and Earthquakes

Ali Yamaç 147

Underground Shelters in Cappadocia (Turkey)

Roberto Bixio, Ali Yamaç 153

From Xenophon houses to Armenian rock-cut dwellings and sacristies

Samvel M. Shahinyan, Ashkhen Shahinyan, Nerses Varderesyan, Gayane Erkoyan, Ani Badasyan 161

Intended use and dating of rock-cut dovecotes in Cappadocia (Turkey)

Andrea Bixio, Roberto Bixio, Andrea De Pascale, Ali Yamaç 171

Underground living spaces in the Chinese loess

Constantin Canavas 177

A cave settlement in Ardahan (Turkey): Harosman

Göknıl Arda 183

Discovery and documentation of the underground structures of Hagia Sophia (Istanbul, Turkey)

Ali Hakan Eğilmez, Özlem Kaya, Barkın İren, İrem Kapucuoğlu, Eylül Horoz, İrem Güzel, Tuğçe Nur İlbaş, Burcu Cavdar, Kadir Gürses 189

UNDERGROUND RELIGIOUS AND CULT STRUCTURES

St. Euphemia's cave inscriptions: ancient navigation, beliefs and devotion (Vieste, Italy)

Giuliano De Felice, Danilo Leone, Mario Mazzoli, Maria Turchiano, Giuliano Volpe 197

Use of natural caves for ritual purposes as a forerunner of the formation of architecture

Samvel M. Shahinyan, Armen Davtyan, Smbat Davtyan, Boris Gasparyan 205

Physical evidence of dedication rites in rock churches of Basilicata and Apulia (Italy). Some case studies

Sabrina Centonze 213

New considerations on the Uplistsikhe rock-cut ensemble (Georgia)

Nodar Bakhtadze 227

Artificial cavities under worship places: case studies from the province of Caserta (Italy)

Emilia Damiano, Francesco Fabozzi, Maria Assunta Fabozzi, Paolo Maria Guarino, Ivana Guidone, Erika Moliterno, Lucio Olivares, Arcangelo Pellegrino, Marco Vigliotti, Daniela Ruberti 233

The hypogeum of San Gavino a mare in Porto Torres (Sassari, Sardinia, Italy): preliminary epigraphic, glyptographic and speleological investigations

Giuseppe Piras, Pier Paolo Dore 243

The rupestrian churches in the monastery of Geghard, Armenia

Marco Carpiceci, Fabio Colonnese, Antonio Schiavo, Rachele Zanone 251

Lăjos Bethlen's crypt (Chiraleș, Romania): a geological viewpoint

Tudor Tămaș, Codruța Valea, Szabolcs Attila Kövecsi, Eusebiu Szekely 261

MINING AND EXTRACTION WORKS

Exploration of the Quarries of Moldavanka District in Odesa City (Ukraine)

Igor Grek, Yevheniia Pechenehova, Nataliya Moldavska, Yuliia Pelovina, Mike Shyrokov 271

Quarrying Methods in the Cave of Zedekiah in Jerusalem at the Ancient time (Israel)

Avraham (Avi) Sasson 277

Antrona Valley's Gold Mines: from ore deposits to cultural opportunity for mining heritage (Piedmont, Italy)

Luca Palazzolo, Alex Briatico, Enrico Zanoletti, Andrea Basciu, Flavio Caffoni, Andrea Martinelli, Luca Miglierina, Elena Mileto, Antonio Moroni, Luca Nardin, Giulio Oliva, Renato Oliva, Roberto Piatti, Edoardo Rota, Marco Ulivi, Marco Venegoni, Daniele Piazza 285

Ancient mines in Valsesia (northeastern Piedmont, Italy): 25 years of historical research and speleological exploration

Paolo Testa, Riccardo Cerri 293

Multidisciplinary research on two ancient mining sites in Western Liguria (Italy)

Alberto Assi, Simone Baglietto, Marco Marchesini, Simona Mordegli, Andrea Roccatagliata, Antonio Travi, Daniele Vinai 303

NEW TECHNOLOGIES FOR ANALYZING AND DOCUMENTING THE ARTIFICIAL CAVITIES

Re-defining the relationships between the tangible and intangible heritage: the rock-cut village of Vitozza, Sorano (Tuscany, Italy)

Carmela Crescenzi, Alessandro Baldacci 309

The Pozzuoli (Naples, Italy) Flavian Amphitheatre cisterns: a basic experience in 3D modelling with LIDAR

Graziano Ferrari 319

Notes on the survey of the Catacomb of San Senatore at Albano Laziale (Rome, Italy)	
<i>Marco Carpiceci, Fabio Colonnese, Roberto Libera</i>	325

CADASTRE, CATEGORIES AND TYPOLOGIES OF ARTIFICIAL CAVITIES: UPDATES

The Modern-era technique of the semi-rupestrian architecture in the Matera area (Italy)	
<i>Franco Dell'Aquila, Francesco Foschino, Raffaele Paolicelli</i>	335
20 Years of the project "The map of ancient underground aqueducts in Italy", and future perspectives	
<i>Paolo Madonia, Carla Galeazzi, Carlo Germani, Mario Parise</i>	343
Rock-cut dovecotes in Cappadocia (Turkey): elements in comparison	
<i>Andrea Bixio, Roberto Bixio, Andrea De Pascale, Ali Yamaç</i>	349
Underground structures inventory project of Kayseri (Turkey): a short summary	
<i>Ali Yamaç</i>	359
Cadastre of artificial cavities of Piedmont and Valle d'Aosta (Italy): new perspectives for the use and updating of data	
<i>Arianna Paschetto, Massimo Taronna, Davide Barberis, Enrico Lana, Michelangelo Chesta, Giandomenico Cella, Michele Gallina</i>	365

MILITARY AND WAR WORKS

Artificial caves shelters in vertical tuff escarpments in Cappadocia (Turkey) and Upper Mustang (Nepal)	
<i>Igor Grek, Nataliya Moldavska, Mike Shyrokov</i>	373
The place of no return in ancient Ani (Kars, Turkey): report of the explorations	
<i>Vedat Akçayöz</i>	383
Some aspects of the wartime work underground in the Southeastern Alps (Italy) during World War I and carried out mainly on the Marmolada and Adamello mountain ranges and on the Trentino highlands (Lavarone, Pasubio, Asiago), but also on the so-called backward front such as the Cadorna Line	
<i>Lamberto Laureti</i>	391

SPECIALIZED UNDERGROUND FAUNA

Hypogeal fauna of the military subterranean fortification Forte di Vernante Opera 11 "Tetto Ruinas" (Piedmont, Italy)	
<i>Enrico Lana, Valentina Balestra, Michelangelo Chesta, Dario Olivero</i>	401
The caves of Finalese karstic area (Finale Ligure, Liguria, North-Western Italy): a project for the coexistence between the touristic activity and the Chiroptera conservation	
<i>Anastasia Cella, Roberto Toffoli, Federico Mantovani</i>	409

AUTHORS INDEX

Authors index	415
----------------------------	-----

APPENDIX

GUIDED TOURS "HYPOGEA2023"	417
CENTRO STUDI SOTTERRANEI FORM	421

Quarried underground hiding complexes in the Galilee, Israel: new evidence for their use in the Second-Century CE Revolt against the Romans

Yinon Shivtiel¹

Abstract

Since the discovery of hiding complexes in the Judean Foothills during the seventies, there has been almost complete consensus among scholars of the Bar Kokhba Revolt that these complexes closely parallel the description of the Roman historian Cassius in the third century CE. He describes how during the Bar Kokhba Revolt, Jewish rebels hid in underground spaces carved out by them in the Land of Judea, both as preparation for, and during, the revolt itself. The question as to whether the Bar Kokhba Revolt spread as far as the Galilee has been a subject of controversy for many years. Theoretically, Cassius has nothing to say about this region, and there is a paucity of other historical sources. When they do occur, they are unclear about the question of the Galilee's participation in the rebellion, leaving the question unresolved. Until recently, the prevailing view has been that the Galilee took no part in the revolt, in light of the absence of clear historical sources or archaeological evidence. The exposure, exploration and documentation in the Galilee of 75 hiding complexes whose characteristics resemble those of complexes in the Judean Foothills sparked renewed interest in the search for evidence of the spread of the revolt into the Galilee, despite the virtual absence of historical sources. Due to typological similarities between some of the Galilean hiding complexes and those of the Judean Foothills, the above question has recently been asked with increasing frequency. Unlike the finds from the Judean Foothills, until recently the Galilean material finds provided insufficient evidence to establish a definitive new position on this matter. However, the discovery and excavation of 14 hiding complexes in the Lower Galilee revealed significant finds that increase the likelihood of the Galilee's involvement in the Bar Kokhba Revolt. In my lecture, I will first present the theory, based on historical research, that in using the expression 'Judea', Cassius actually refers to the entire Province of Judaea, including the Galilee. Secondly, I will make a typological comparison between the hiding complexes in the Galilee and those in the Judean Foothills that have been firmly identified as having been used during the Bar Kokhba Revolt. Finally, I will present a number of recently excavated Galilean hiding complexes that have yielded finds dating from the period of the Bar Kokhba Revolt.

Keywords: Bar Kokhba Revolt, Galilee, hiding complexes, Romans, underground.

Since the 1960s, researchers have been exploring underground cavities connected by narrow, low passages quarried beneath the remains of ancient Jewish settlements in Galilee. The passages were deliberately cut with sharp, right-angled bends. They can only be accessed by belly-crawling, doubling up around the bends to continue, and eventually reaching man-made cavities large enough for a few families to sit or lie down in (figs. 1-5). Niches for oil lamps are hewn along the walls of the passages and cavities, which have yielded various finds including storage and cooking pots and tableware, coins, jewelry, arrowheads and oil lamps (fig. 6). Some of the passages are continuations from other underground cavities used as storerooms, ritual baths, cisterns, oil presses and sometimes even burial caves (fig. 7). From the beginning of their exploration, it was clear that these locations served as underground hideouts from an enemy who, even if those hiding there were discovered, would find it extremely difficult to reach them, weighed down with heavy equipment. These

rock-hewn systems have been classified as 'hiding complexes'.

Since the beginning of their research, 80 such hiding complexes have been discovered in Galilee.¹ Similar systems, found in much larger numbers (c. 500) have been discovered in Judea, Samaria and the Land of Benjamin. Research in these regions has yielded abundant finds and enabled them to be classified according to quarrying methods and typology and, above all, dated to specific periods of distress during which the Jewish population retreated to underground shelters, mainly during the Roman period (Shivtiel and Osband 2019). We know of two fateful rebellions that had severe consequences for the Jews in their resistance to the Romans: the Great Revolt of 66–70 CE and the Bar Kokhba Re-

¹ 74 hiding complexes were recently published by the author (Shivtiel 2019) and the remainder are published in various articles (see references), other still under research

¹ Zefat Academic College, I.C.R.C. (Israel Cave Research Center) - yinon1950@gmail.com



Fig. 1 – Hewn tunnel in hiding complex (photo Y. Shvitiel).



Fig. 2 – Hewn cavities reached by crawling (photo Y. Shvitiel).



Fig. 3 – Crawling along a hewn tunnel (photo Shahar Banin).



Fig. 4 – Hewn passage between chambers (photo Y. Shvitiel).



Fig. 5 – Long, meticulously hewn passage with right-angled bend (photo Y. Shvitiel).

volt of 132–136 CE. Since the hiding complexes are not proper dwellings, they were evidently prepared by the Jewish population to hide from the might of the Roman army during the Great Revolt—when a force of 60,000 soldiers was sent to suppress the rebellion—as well as during the Bar Kokhba Revolt when the Romans sent an army of 70,000 soldiers to crush the second rebellion (Rappaport 1984:283; Gichon 2016:158). The hiding complexes were quarried out wherever there was Jewish settlement, in both Judea and Galilee. When it became evident that the hiding complexes discovered in Judea were comparable with those in Galilee, the same classification was adopted in the two regions (Shvitiel 2019:98–102; Shvitiel and Osband 2019).

In investigating the use of the Galilean hiding complexes during the Great Revolt, researchers can also rely on the writings of Josephus, who describes all the events of the Great Revolt and the use of caves for hiding. Furthermore, Josephus distinguishes between natural caves and man-made caves (Shvitiel 2011:24–25; Shvitiel 2016a:180–181). In contrast, the paucity of historical sources regarding the Bar Kokhba Revolt poses a major problem for scholars. The only historical description of this rebellion was written by Dio Cassius, a third-century CE Roman historian. Apart from never having visited the country, Dio Cassius devotes barely two pages of his treatise to a description of the rebellion. The reliability



Fig. 6 – Niches for oil lamps (photo Y. Shvitiel).

of this source is further compounded by the fact that the original manuscript was lost and is only known from a later *epitome* by the eleventh-century Greek monk Xiphilinus (Gichon 2016:11). Nevertheless,

Dio Cassius's source specifically describes the fact that the Jews quarried out subterranean passages and cavities in order to hide from the Roman legions (Dio Cassius, *Hist. Rom.* 69.13 [Cary and Foster]). Elsewhere in the same source, Dio Cassius states that the Jews rebelled against the Romans in Judea. Based on this account, combined with the fact that no second-century CE destruction layers have been found in archaeological excavations throughout Galilee (with the exception of three sites, see below), many scholars concluded that the Bar Kokhba Revolt failed to reach the Galilee.

Over the years, several archaeologists, the current author in particular, have mapped and documented some 20 of the 80 hiding complexes so far discovered in Galilee, recovering many second-century CE pottery vessels in the process. Archaeological excavations at 16 of these complexes have all yielded finds dating from between the period of the Great Revolt and the second century CE (Table 1).

The table reflects a new archaeological-historical perspective on the Galilee and the defensive preparations for the Bar Kokhba Revolt made by its Jewish population. The hiding systems are evidence of a concerted, collective effort to build underground shelters by the



Fig. 7 – Hiding complex leading from oil press (photo Y. Shvitiel).

	Location	Excavation type	Sources	Finds
1	Gush Halav Gisela (Jish)	Salvage excavation	Damati and Abu-‘Uqsa (1992)	Greek inscriptions, one base and four lids of 1st-century CE jars. Oil-lamp niches. Assemblage dated exclusively to 1st–2nd centuries CE.
2	Horbat Meroth, Meroth synagogue	Cleaning/partial excavation	Ilan and Damati (1987)	The hiding complex was identified as having been used in two periods: Early and Middle Roman.
3	Mount Hazon Kh. Hazzur	Partial excavation	Bahat, D. (1974; 1983)	1st-century CE potsherds, fragment of Sixth Legion Ferrata roof tile. Dated by Dan Bahat to the 2nd century CE.
4	Horbat Huqoq synagogue complex	Cleaning/partial excavation	Shivtiel Y. (2016b)	1st–5th-century CE potsherds.
5	Horbat Khukha	Excavation (Barshad Dror)	Aviam 2004:125.	Potsherds dated to the second half of the 2nd century CE and ostrakon with Hebrew inscription.
6	I’billin	Excavation	Mukari (1999).	Fragments of jars, stone vessels and pottery dated to the 2nd–3rd centuries C.E. Early Roman pared-nozzle lamps.
7	Horbat Ruma Kh. Ruma	Salvage excavation	Rochman (1986)	Plaster dated to the first half of the 1st century at earliest. 1st–2nd-century CE pottery.
8	Karm er-Ras, Kfar Cana. Area T and Area W Karm er-Ras	Salvage excavation	Alexandre (2008a; 2008b; 2008c).	11 intact jars of a type used during the Great Revolt. Two bronze Jerusalem-mint coins from the second year of the Great Revolt. Further excavations yielded 2nd–3rd-century CE finds and a habitation layer.
9	‘Enot Sho’im –‘En Mahel ‘Enot Sho’im	Excavation	Leibner, Shivtiel and Distelfeld (2015).	1st-, 2nd- and 3rd-century CE pottery and coins; 2nd-century CE type gemstone ring.
10	Zippori citadel complex Saffuriya	Excavation	Strange and Longstaff (1985).	Intact Early Roman jars, bone hairpin, pottery lamp and potsherds dated to 1st–3rd centuries CE.
11	Zippori, southwest of citadel Saffuriya	Excavation	Strange and Longstaff (1987).	Middle Roman cooking-pots, jars and sherds.
12	Migdal Ha-‘Emeq	Excavation	Shalem (1996).	1st century CE coin from Tyre, coin of the Governor Felix, 3rd-century CE Severan coin, 17 4th-century CE coins, Early Roman pottery and glass.
13	Bet She’arim	Excavation	Erlich, et al, 2022	2nd-century CE finds. Meager finds from one room may be of a later date (3rd–4th centuries CE), suggesting renewed use of the passageway. The passage was interpreted by its excavators as having been hewn in the context of the Bar Kokhba Revolt, with possible later use.
14	Geva‘ Parashim	Excavation	Safrai and Linn 1988: 208–9; Shivtiel and Safrai 2021.	Mixed Hellenistic–Mamluk finds (from surface intrusion). Intact Byzantine Samaritan lamp with a possible menorah motif. Various 1st–6th-century potsherds retrieved from building where the hiding passage was located.
15	Horbat Huqoq 2	Excavation	Shivtiel et al. (2022)	Predominantly 2nd-century CE pottery and other finds.
16	Horbat Beit Netofa	Excavation	Still under research	Predominantly 2nd-century CE pottery and other finds.

Tab. 1 – Archaeologically excavated hiding complexes with second-century CE finds.

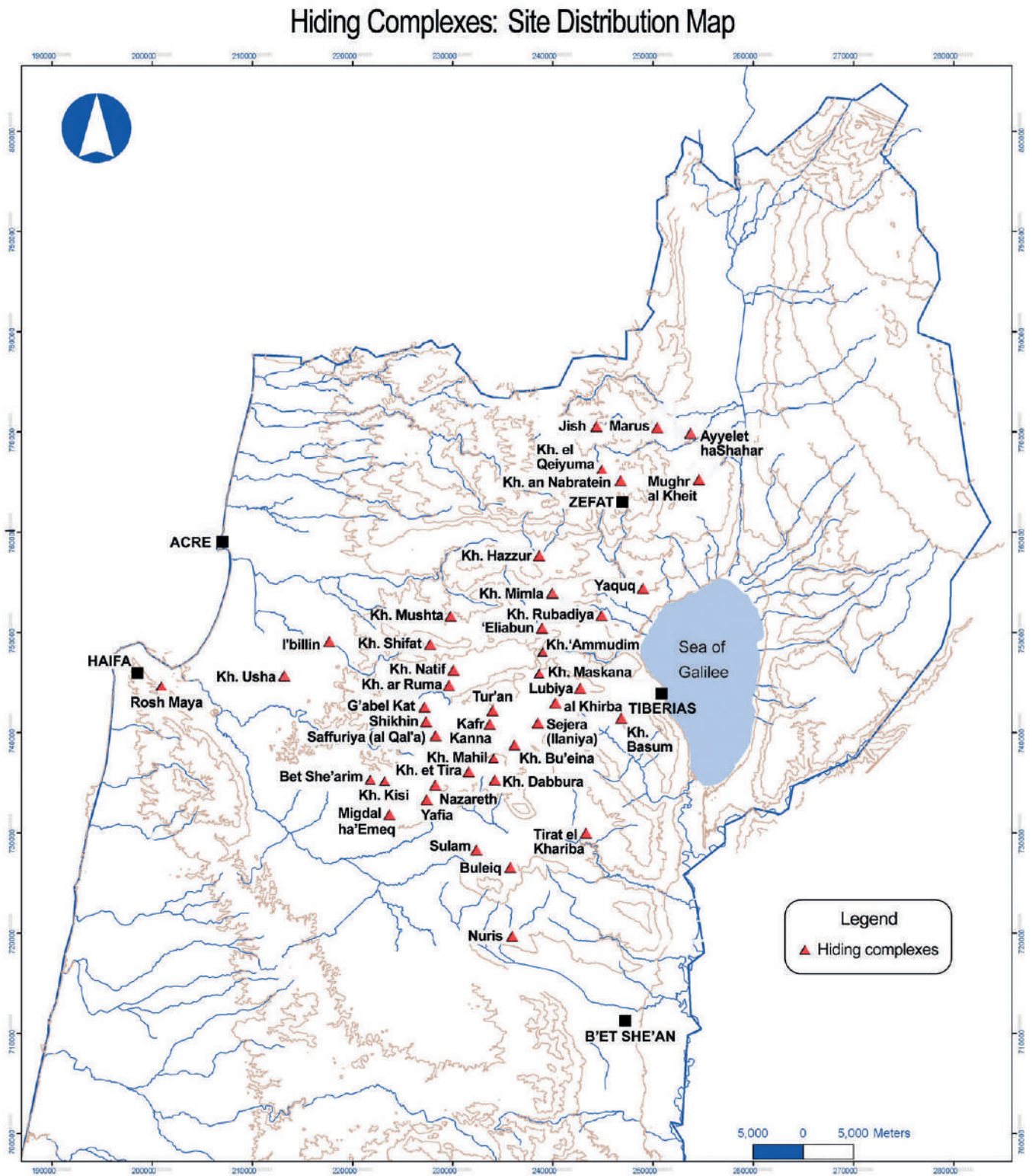


Fig. 8 – Map of hiding complex distribution (drawing by S. Add).

inhabitants of Jewish settlements (fig. 8). New hiding complexes were hewn underground and previous ones dating from the time of the Great Revolt were expanded and reused according to archaeological reports. (some hiding complexes have also yielded finds from even later periods). The complexes therefore pro-

vide hitherto unrecognized archaeological evidence of the Galilee's preparations for the Bar Kokhba Revolt (figs. 9-11).

The discoveries call into question the interpretation of Dio Cassius's historical source. Early researchers of the Bar Kokhba Revolt, although unaware of the exist-

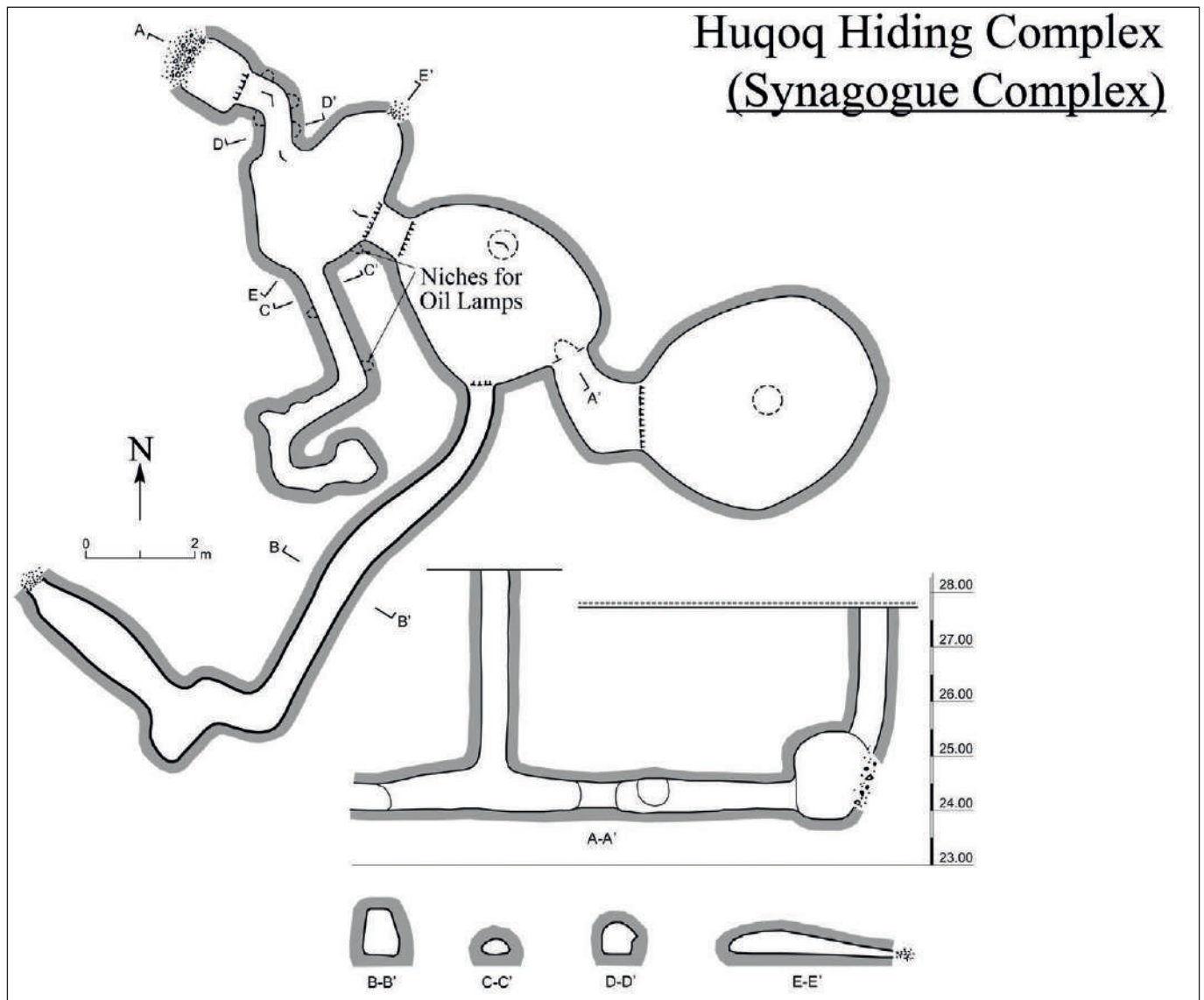


Fig. 9 – Plan of hiding complex in Galilee (drawing by A. Lev-Ari and Y. Shvitiel).

ence of the hiding complexes, drew an important conclusion regarding the rebellion's geographical extent from the work of Dio Cassius, which was overlooked by subsequent scholars. In their early work (Yeivin 1946; Alon 1955; Avi Yonah 1984) understood Dio Cassius's use of the word 'Judea' as referring to the Roman Province of Judaea, namely the entire region ruled by the Romans after the Great Revolt. At that time, the Province of Judaea included all the coastal cities from Caesarea to Rafiah, Idumea, **Judea** and

Samaria, Peraea, **Galilee**, and almost all the cities of the Decapolis. After the death of Agrippa II (92 CE), Agrippa's provinces of Peraea, Tiberias, Migdal and the Golan were also added to the Province of Judaea (Avi Yonah 1984:68).

In the third century CE, Dio Cassius was referring to the Roman province he knew of, and thus described the Bar Kokhba Revolt as having occurred throughout the entire country, not confined to the limited region of Judea.

Discussion and Summary

It is now apparent that we have two significant kinds of evidence attesting to the spread of the Bar Kokhba Revolt to the Galilee. The absence of archaeological evidence for the destruction of settlements in Galilee in the second century CE as a result of the suppression of the Bar Kokhba Revolt does not necessarily detract from this evidence, since (a) in view of the limited extent of archaeological excavations in Galilee, it is difficult to claim that the archaeological contains a sufficient number of Jewish settlements from which to infer their situation

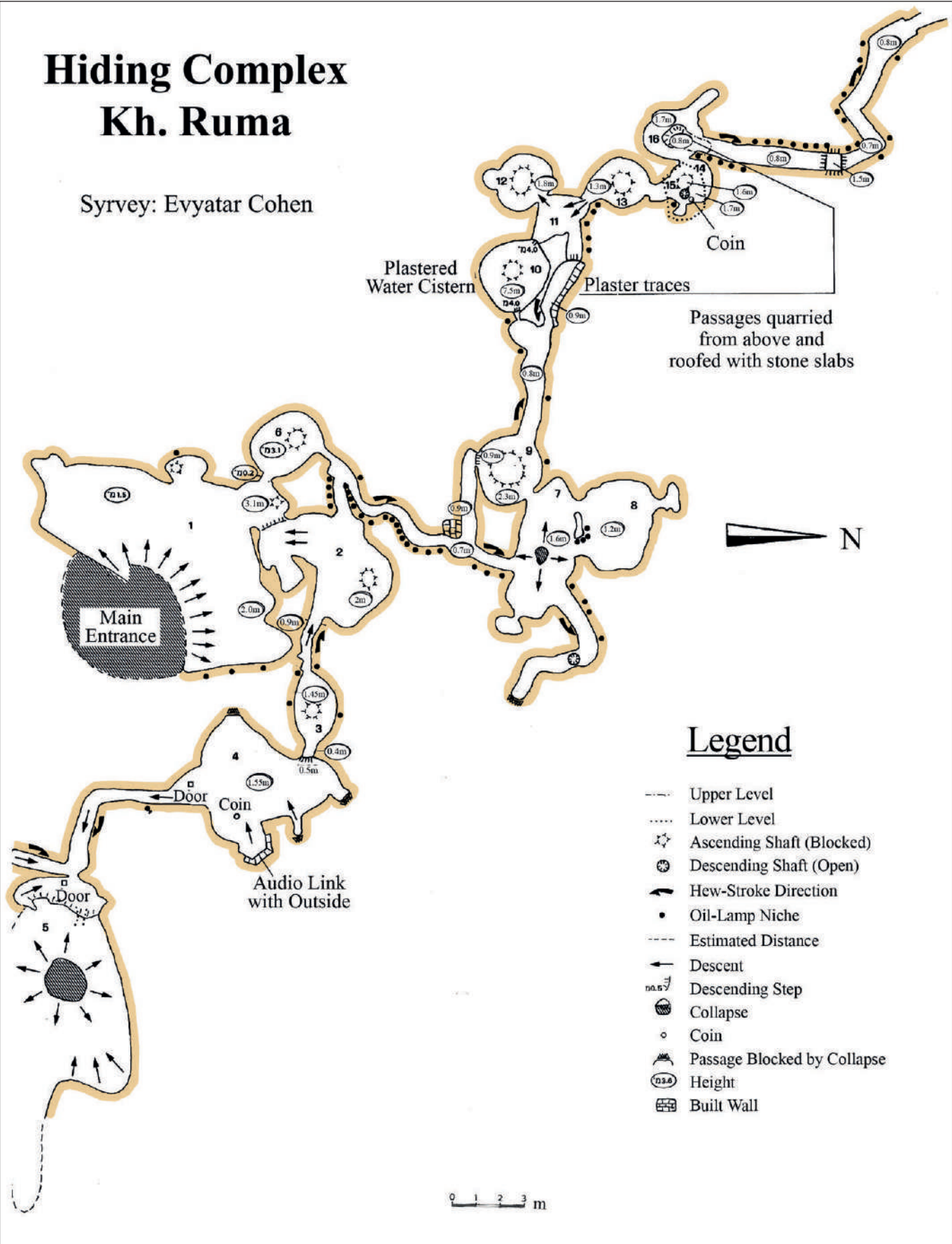


Fig. 10 – Map of hiding complex in Galilee (drawing by A. Cohen).



Fig. 11 – Rappelling into a cistern at the bottom of which is a hiding complex from the second century CE (photo V. Boslov).

during the second century CE, and (b) three settlements that have been archaeologically excavated in this century (Migdal, Wadi Hamam and Tel Rahash) exhibit clear signs of destruction and/or abandonment during this period (Zissu and Eshel 2013:64, note 1; Leibner and Bijovski 2013; Aviam 2018:1–9).

In any case, the evidence emerging from new research into the hiding complexes in Galilee, coupled with insight into the implications of Dio Cassius's testimony – by which 'Judea' refers to the entire Province of Judaea – prompts renewed discussion into the likelihood of the Bar Kokhba Revolt in Galilee. It is now abundantly clear that the Galilee did not remain peaceful during the Bar Kokhba Revolt and that it prepared underground shelters for the eventuality of the revolt reaching the Galilee, an eventuality that can no longer be ruled out.

Bibliography:

- Alexandre Y., 2008a, *The Archaeological Evidence of the Great Revolt at Karm er-Ras* (Kfar Kanna) in the Lower Galilee. Pp. 73–79 in *The Great Revolt in the Galilee Catalogue* 28, ed. O. Guri Rimon.
- Alon G., 1955, *The Jews in Their Land in the Mishnaic and Talmudic Periods*, II. Tel Aviv: Hakibbutz Hameuchad (Hebrew).
- Aviam M., 2004, *Jews, Pagans and Christians in the Galilee (Land of Galilee 1)*. Rochester: University of Rochester Press.
- Aviam M., 2018, *A Jewish Settlement (Farmstead?) on the Summit of Tel Rekhes: a Contribution to Galilean History between the Two Revolts*. *Eretz-Israel* 33:1–9 (Hebrew; English summary, 185*).
- Avi Yonah M., 1984, *A Historical Geography of Eretz Israel*. Bialik Institute, Jerusalem.
- Bahat D., 1974, *A Roof Tile of the Legio VI Ferrata and Pottery Vessels from Horbat Hazon*. *Israel Exploration Journal* 24:160–169.
- Bahat D., 1983, *Mount Hazon – Hideout Complex*. *Niqrot Zurim* 7:29–52 (Hebrew).
- Damati E., Abu-'Uqsa H., 1992, *Gush Halav*. *Excavations and Surveys in Israel* 10/2:11–13.
- Erlach A., Binshtok D., Kaftory R., 2022, *New Hiding Complexes in Beth She'arim and Their Dating*. *JJAR*, (Jerusalem Journal of Archaeology), 3/2 134–163.

- Gichon M., 2016, *A Star Came Out of Jacob, Bar Kokhba and His Time*, Modan, Ben Shemen (Hebrew).
- Ilan Z., Damati E., 1987, *Meroth: The Ancient Jewish Village*. Tel Aviv (Hebrew).
- Leibner U., Bijovski G., 2013, *Two Hoards from Khirbat Wadi H'amam and the Scope of the Bar Kokhba Revolt*. Israel Numismatic Research 8:109–134.
- Leibner U., Shvitiel Y., Distelfeld N., 2015, *An Early Roman Hiding Complex at 'Enot Sho'im, Central Lower Galilee*. Tel Aviv 42:127–143.
- Mukari A., 1999, *I'billin*. Hadashot Arkheologiyot 109:18*–20*.
- Rappaport U., 1984, *A History of Israel in the Period of the Second Temple*. Amikai, Tel Aviv (Hebrew).
- Rochman A., 1986, *Excavations in the Hiding Complex at Khirbat Rumah*. Niqrot Zurim 11–12:32–36 (Hebrew).
- Safrai Z., Linn M., 1988, *Excavations and Surveys in the Mishmar Ha-'Emeq Area*. Pp. 167–214 in Geva: Archaeological Discoveries at Tell Abu-Shusha, Mishmar Ha-'Emeq, ed. B. Mazar. Jerusalem: Israel Exploration Society (Hebrew).
- Shalem D., 1996, *Migdal Ha-'Emeq*. Excavations and Surveys in Israel 15:31.
- Shvitiel Y., 2011, *Hiding Complexes in the Galilee: Update and Renewed Discussion*. Cathedra 142:7–26 (Hebrew; English summary, p. 189).
- Shvitiel Y., 2016a, *Because of Midian the people of Israel made for themselves the dens which are in the mountains, and the caves*, Historical Sources for the use of Rock-Cut Caves in Times of Distress. In *the Highland's Depth* 6:175–200 (Hebrew).
- Shvitiel Y., 2016b, *The Hiding Complexes Beneath the Huqoq Synagogue: a Comparative Perspective and a Test Case for Hiding Complexes under Synagogues in the Galilee and the Southern Hebron Hills*. Pp. 175–204 in *New Galilee Studies*, Vol. 2, ed. T. Grossmark. H. Goren, M. Abbasi, Y. Selteneich and Z. Greenberg. Tel Hai (Hebrew).
- Shvitiel Y., 2019, *Cliff Shelters and Hiding Complexes in Galilee during the Early Roman Period: The Speleological and Archaeological Evidence*. (Novum Testamentum et Orbis Antiquus), Gotingen Vandenhoeck and Ruprecht.
- Shvitiel Y., Zingboym O., Badihi Z., Berger U., 2022, *A Hiding Complex from the Period of the Bar Kokhba Revolt at the Ancient Settlement of Huqoq*. JJAR (Jerusalem Journal of Archaeology) 3/2:110–133.
- Shvitiel Y., Osband M., 2019, *A Methodological Perspective on the Chronology and Typology of the Hiding Complexes in the Galilee*, Pp. 237–259 in *Cornucopia, Studies in Honor of Arthur Segal*, eds. M. Eisenberg and A. Ovadia. Rome.
- Shvitiel Y., Safrai Z., 2021, *The Hiding Complex at Tel Mishmar Ha-'Emeq (Abu-Shusha), Geva Parashim: a Jewish Defense System in a Gentile Polis*. In *the Highland's Depth* 11:97–120 (Hebrew).
- Strange J.F., Longstaff T.R.W., 1985, *Sepphoris (Sippori)*, (II). Israel Exploration Journal 35:297–299.
- Strange J.F., Longstaff T.R.W., 1987, *Sepphoris (Sippori)*. Israel Exploration Journal 37: 278–281.
- Yeivin S., 1946, *The Bar Kokhba War*. Jerusalem: Bialik Institute (Hebrew).
- Zissu B., Eshel H., 2013, *Coins and Hoards from the Time of the Bar Kokhba Revolt*. Hoards and Genizot as Chapters in History. [Hecht Museum Catalogue no. 33]. Haifa, Hebrew Version, pp. 59–65.

Classical sources

Dio Cassius, *Roman History, Volume VIII: Books 61-70*. Translated by Earnest Cary, Herbert B. Foster. Loeb Classical Library 176. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1925.

Online sources

- Alexandre Y., 2008b, *Karm er-Ras (Areas A, B)*. Hadashot Arkheologiyot 120. https://www.hadashot-esi.org.il/report_detail_eng.aspx?id=600&mag_id=114
- Alexandre Y., 2008c, *Karm er-Ras (Areas C, D)*. Hadashot Arkheologiyot 120. https://www.hadashot-esi.org.il/report_detail_eng.aspx?id=602&mag_id=114