

From 1969 to 1982 extensive archaeological excavations were conducted in the Jewish Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem under the direction of the late Professor Nahman Avigad on behalf of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, the Israel Exploration Society, and the Department of Antiquities (now the Israel Antiquities Authority). During these excavations remains of fortifications, public buildings, and domestic dwellings were found, as well as numerous artifacts from all of the periods of the continuous settlement of this area, from the end of the Iron Age until the Ottoman period.

Among the major discoveries made over the course of the Jewish Quarter Excavations are fortifications, part of the northern section of the First Wall that protected the Southwestern Hill of Jerusalem during the First and Second Temple periods; luxurious residences of the Upper City of Jerusalem of the late Second Temple period, including the Palatial Mansion; the Cardo and the Nea Church of the Byzantine period; a public architectural complex including a large hall from the Crusader period; and sections of the southern fortifications of the Islamic city. These and other finds from the excavations in the Jewish Quarter have changed many of the traditional conceptions of the size and topography of ancient Jerusalem.

This volume is the fourth of the final reports of the excavations in the Jewish Quarter. It presents the finds from the various periods found in Area B, including architectural remains and small finds. The most significant of the remains uncovered in this area consists of part of a dwelling from the late Second Temple period today as the Burnt House. The house, which belonged to the famous Bar Qatros family of Jewish priests, was destroyed in a fierce fire during the conquest of Jerusalem by the Romans in 70 CE. Buried under a thick destruction layer of charred wooden beams and masonry were hundreds of complete ceramic and stone vessels and a large variety of other artifacts that lay untouched for 1,900 years.



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JEWISH QUARTER EXCAVATIONS

IN THE OLD CITY OF JERUSALEM

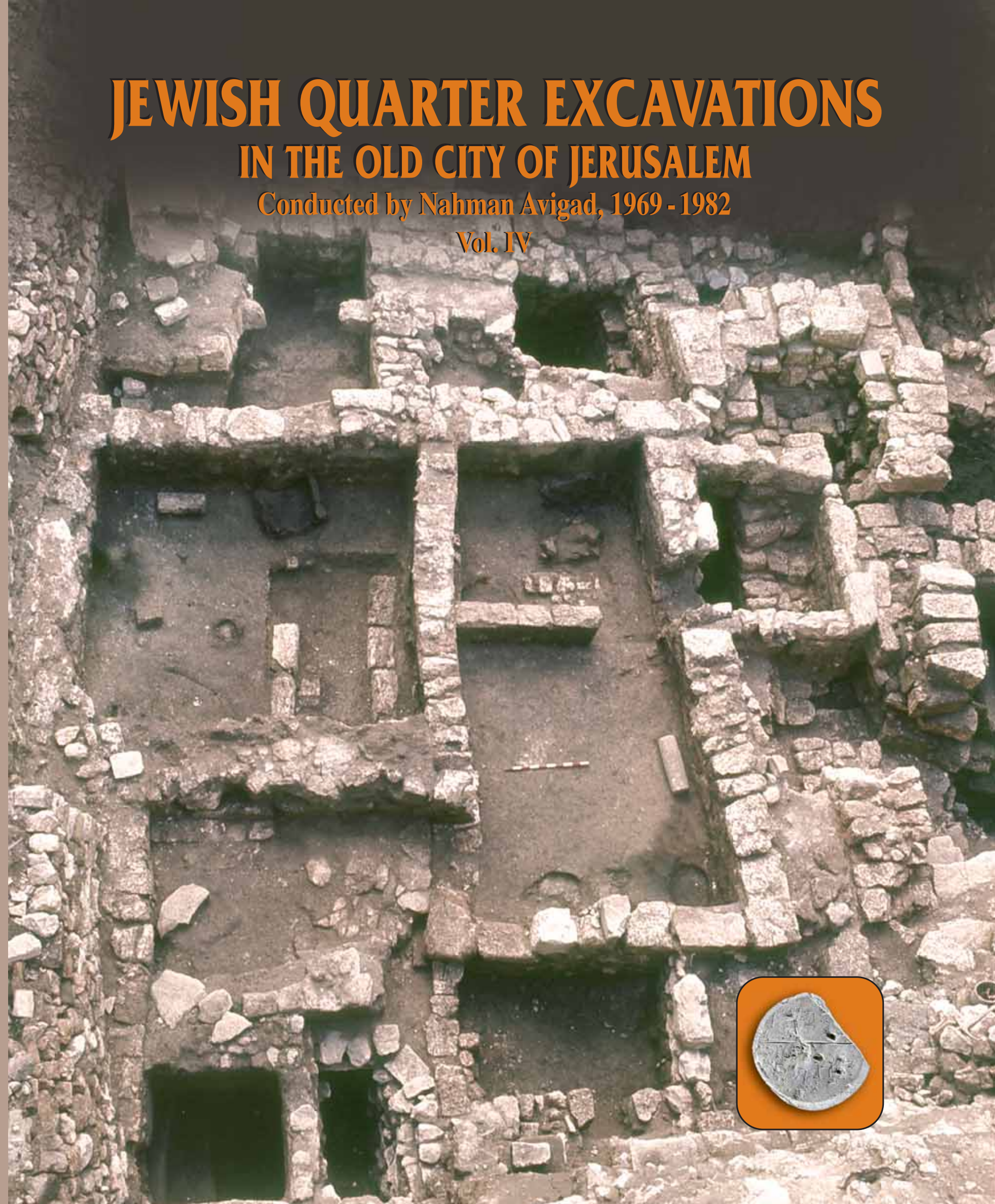


2010

# JEWISH QUARTER EXCAVATIONS IN THE OLD CITY OF JERUSALEM

Conducted by Nahman Avigad, 1969 - 1982

Vol. IV





# JEWISH QUARTER EXCAVATIONS IN THE OLD CITY OF JERUSALEM

conducted by **Nahman Avigad, 1969–1982**

Volume IV: The Burnt House of Area B and Other Studies

FINAL REPORT

Hillel Geva

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