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EILAT MAZAR: The Temple Mount Excavations in Jerusalem 1968-1978 Directed by Benjamin Mazar, Final Reports Vol. III: The Byzantine Period

This volume is the third of the final reports on the excavations carried out under the direction of Benjamin Mazar in 1968-1978 (the first and second volumes were published as Qedem 29 and 43). The excavations at the foot of the southern wall and the southeast corner of the enclosure of the Temple Mount were conducted on a huge scale and eventually extended over an area of about eight acres. The present volume, like the second, deals with the Byzantine period, relating to a further four large structures and the city wall, and summarizing the general characteristics of the Byzantine neighborhood to the south of the Temple Mount compound. Two of the buildings were used during the Byzantine period and were most likely abandoned with the violent Persian conquest and destruction of the city in 614 CE. The two other buildings, however have been dated to within the fourth or perhaps the early fifth century C, and the termination of these buildings should perhaps be related to the construction of the city wall nearby. All four buildings are fully presented with their pottery assemblages and other noteworthy finds.