

CONTENTS

Contents	i
List of figures	iv
List of plates	v
List of endplates	v
Acknowledgements	vii
Abbreviations	viii
Introduction	viii
Chapter 1: The history of research	1
Teleilat Ghassul and the Chalcolithic Period	1
Post-war period	2
Recent research and regional assemblages	3
The re-excavation of Teleilat Ghassul	4
The last twenty years	5
Late Neolithic ceramic assemblages: Yarmoukian	5
Jericho PNA/Jericho IX and the Lodian	5
The Wadi Rabah Horizon	6
Wadi Rabah Variants	6
The Qatifian and Besorian	7
Chalcolithic ceramic assemblages: The Tsafian	7
Cream Ware	8
The Ghassul/Beersheva horizon	8
Socio-economic development	8
Chapter 2: Reconstructing the environmental context	11
Geographical setting	11
Present day topography and rainfall	12
The general picture for the Holocene in the Near East	12
Specific data relating to the Dead Sea	13
Geological processes since the Chalcolithic	14
General background subsistence in the Chalcolithic	14
Lithics	14
Ceramics	15
Architecture	15
Changes in environmental exploitation	15
Animals for transport and traction	15
Specific data on subsistence	16
Archaeozoological data	16
Archaeobotanical data	16
Resources available to communities in the Dead Sea	17
Copper	17
Salt	17
Bitumen	17
Conclusions	18
Chapter 3: The Stratigraphy of Area A at Teleilat Ghassul	19
Introduction	19
Stratigraphy	19
AX and AXI, Methodology under Bourke	20
Method	20
Finds	20
Area A, Sondage XI	20
Phase J	21
Phase I	21
Phase H	21
Phase G	21
Phase F	21
Phase E	22
Phase D	22
Area A, Sondage X	22
Phase J	22
Phase I	22

Phase H	22
Phase GH	23
Phase G	23
Phase F	23
Phase E	23
Phase D	23
Phase C	23
Hennessy's sequence	23
Method	23
Finds	23
Area A, Square II	24
Phase I/H	24
Phase G	24
Phase F	24
Phase E	24
Phase D	24
Phase C	25
Phase B	25
Phase A	25
Phase A+	25
Area A, Square III	25
Phase I/H	25
Phase G	26
Phase F	26
Phase E	26
Phase D	26
Phase C	26
Phase B	26
Phase A	27
Phase A+	27
Summary of the architectural sequence	27
Conclusion	27
Chapter 4: The ceramic sequence	29
The development of typologies in the Near East	29
The Teleilat Ghassul Sequence	30
Excavation	30
Post-excavation	30
Presentation of the data	31
Fabric distinctions	31
The catalogue	32
The Late Neolithic phases (J, I and H)	33
The Early Chalcolithic phase (G and GH)	33
The Middle Chalcolithic phases (F, D and E)	34
The Late Chalcolithic phase (C, B, A and A+)	34
<i>Fabric/form correlations</i>	35
General trends	35
Discussion	36
Estimated vessel equivalents	36
Specific chemical studies	36
PIXE/PIGME results	37
Ceramics and socio-economic theory	37
Ethnographic context for potting in prehistory	38
Standardisation and specialisation at Teleilat Ghassul	39
Variability	39
Final Remarks	40
Chapter 5: The sequence in context	41
Periodisation and "ceramic cultures"	41
Jericho VIII and IX	42
The stratigraphic evidence	42
Ceramic parallels	43
Remarks	44

Radiometric dates for the Late Neolithic-Late Chalcolithic	44
Typological correlations	46
Summary of the implications for Late Neolithic-Chalcolithic settlement	47
Chapter 6: Conclusions	49
The Late Neolithic to Late Chalcolithic development	49
The Late Chalcolithic	49
Teleilat Ghassul in a Regional Context	51
Appendices	52
Appendix A: Locus Level lists	52
Appendix B: PIXE/PIGME sample list	68
Appendix C: Radiocarbon dates for the southern Levant	69
Map 3 Key	75
Figures	83
Plates	224
Bibliography	244
Endplates	
Map 1	257
Map 2	258
Map 3	259