



## Daniel Jeremy Silver Collection Digitization Project

Featuring collections from the Western Reserve Historical Society and  
The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

### **MS-4850: Daniel Jeremy Silver Papers, 1972-1993.**

Series III: The Temple Tifereth-Israel, 1946-1993, undated.

Sub-series A: Events and Activities, 1946-1993, undated.

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39

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12

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548

Exhibits, Atikot (Antiquities), brochure, 1969.



# ATIKOT

## 5000 Years of Civilization in Israel

A brief summary of the political, social and technological developments in the ancient Near East may help the gallery visitor to see the objects of the Atikot exhibit in their historical context. The abbreviation B.C.E. (Before the Common Era) replaces the more familiar B.C., and C.E. (the Common Era) is used in place of A.D. Each object which is a replica is marked with *R*. All early dates are approximate.

**7000 - 4000 B.C.E.** The first food-growers develop from the early food-gatherers in the Neolithic, or New Stone Age in Palestine. Villages are established, often around shrines. Semites from the vast Syrian and Arabian border lands penetrate into the "Fertile Crescent."

**4000 - 3200 B.C.E.** The early technologists use copper as well as flint in the Chalcolithic Age. Settlements appear in the Jordan and Esdraelon Valleys in Palestine, and in other parts of the Near East.

**3200 - 2200 B.C.E.** Early Canaanite city-states appear in the Early Bronze Age in Palestine. Powerful central states emerge in Egypt and in Mesopotamia, which is under the control of Semites and Sumerians.

**2200 - 1500 B.C.E.** The time of the patriarchs - Abraham, Isaac and Jacob - marks the first appearance of the Hebrews in history, in about the 20th century, B.C.E. Also called the Middle Bronze Age, this period is a time of increased shifting of populations and power. Amorites (western Semites) and Canaanites control western Asia. Palestine is under Egyptian domination. Between 1720 and 1550 B.C.E., the Hyksos invade and rule Egypt. The Hebrew descent into Egypt begins while the Hyksos rule that land; when Egypt overthrows Hyksos rule, the bondage of the Hebrews begins.

**1500 - 1200 B.C.E.** Canaan is under Egyptian rule during the Late Bronze Age, which is the zenith of Egyptian imperialism. The Hebrew exodus from Egypt, under Moses, takes place some time after 1300 B.C.E. Transformed by their wandering in the wilderness of Sinai and by their Covenant with God at Mount Sinai, the Hebrews become the Children of Israel. The term "Israel" first appears in history on an Egyptian stele of 1230 B.C.E.

**1200 - 1000 B.C.E.** The time of the Israelite Judges sees Egypt's decline and the collapse of Canaanite power in Palestine under the assault of the tribes of Israel. The Philistine invasion of Palestine's Mediterranean coast spurs most of the tribes to unite under Saul (1020 - 1005 B.C.E.), Israel's first King.

**1000 - 587 B.C.E.** The period of the monarchy is a high point in Israel's history, when King David (1005 - 965 B.C.E.) and King Solomon (965 - 925 B.C.E.) establish the Israelite Empire as the dominant power in western Asia. After 925, the Kingdom is divided into Israel in the north and Judea in the south. Assyria, the major power in Mesopotamia, and later Babylonia mount continuing assaults on the two Kingdoms. Assyria crushes the northern Kingdom in 722 B.C.E. Solomon's Temple in Jerusalem - the First Temple - is destroyed by the Babylonians in 587 B.C.E. and the Judeans are taken into captivity.

**587 - 322 B.C.E.** Under Zerubbabel of the House of David, some of the exiles return from Babylonia. The Temple in Jerusalem is rebuilt, beginning in about 515 B.C.E., and is called the Second Temple. High priests rule Judea, under Persian (Babylonian) overrule. Persia and Greece are the dominant powers of the Mediterranean world.

**322 - 37 B.C.E.** Greek (Hellenistic) civilization overwhelms western Asia and Egypt, in the wake of conquests by Alexander the Great. Rome's ascendancy follows quickly. The Jewish Hasmonean monarchy lasts as an independent government for less than a century, and ultimately swears fealty to the relentless power of Rome.

**37 B.C.E. - 135 C.E.** Roman power, exercised through Herod and his successors and later through Roman procurators, imposes harsh rule on the Jews. Rebellion flares, fails. Jerusalem and the Second Temple are destroyed by the Romans in 70 C.E.

**135 - 640 C.E.** The Romans expel the Jews from Jerusalem and progressively cut them off from the land of Israel. Jewish settlement disperses throughout the lands of the Roman Empire. The Synagogue replaces the Temple as the center of worship and study. Jews live their lives and dream of a return to freedom and Jerusalem.





# ATIKOT

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