



“*Hippos (Sussita) of the Decapolis* is a major achievement in classical archaeology of the Near East. The volume presents a wealth of new data with clarity and scholarly precision, offering fresh insights into Hippos’s urban development and cultural history.”

—Achim Lichtenberger, coauthor of *Hellenistic Nysa-Scythopolis I: The German-Israeli Tell Izṭabba Excavation Project, the 2019–2020 Seasons*

Hippos is one of the most systematically explored cities of the Decapolis and among the best-documented Classical sites in the southern Levant. This volume presents a detailed study of two centrally located monumental public buildings that reflect the peak of Hippos’s prosperity in the mid-first through third centuries CE: the civic basilica and the Southern Bathhouse. The strata below and above the remains of these Roman-period buildings reveal the city’s earlier Hellenistic and Early Roman phases and its later Byzantine and Early Islamic occupation up to the 749 CE earthquake, when the site was abandoned. The fully exposed civic basilica, constructed at the end of the first century CE and brought down by the 363 CE earthquake, is the smallest but the most thoroughly studied among the known basilicae of Roman Greater Syria and Arabia. The Southern Bathhouse, built in the second century CE, has over half of its plan revealed by excavations. Together with the full record of ceramic building materials and portable finds, it is one of the most thoroughly published examples of these marvels of Roman engineering in the Near East.

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HIPPOS (SUSSITA) OF THE DECAPOLIS

Arleta Kowalewska and Michael Eisenberg

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## The Civic Basilica and the Southern Bathhouse



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# Hippos (Sussita) of the Decapolis

*The Civic Basilica and the Southern Bathhouse*

ARLETA KOWALEWSKA AND MICHAEL EISENBERG

*With contributions by Ohad Abudraham, Ariana Dann, Antonio Dell'Acqua,  
Alexander Iermolin, Ruth E. Jackson-Tal, Nina Koskanen, Vladimir Lehem, Hila May,  
Peretz Reuven, and Danny Syon*

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