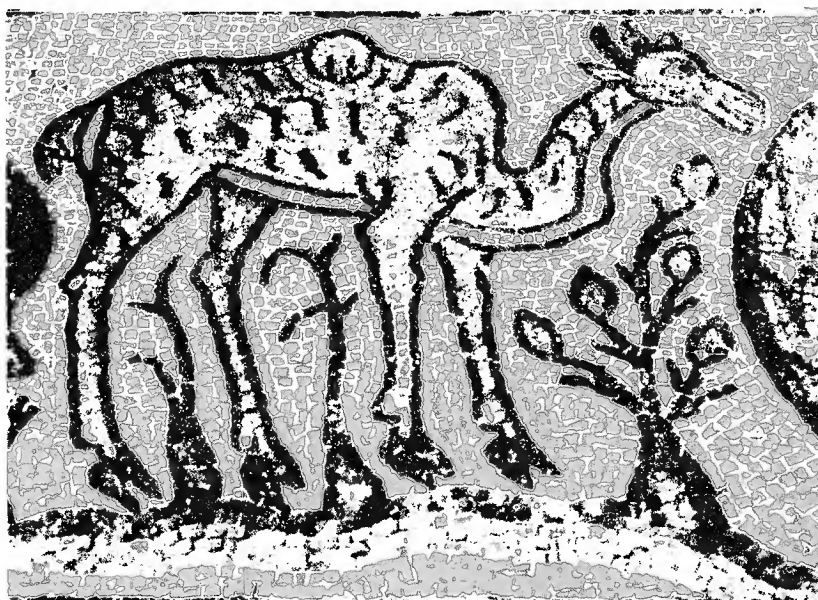


MONOGRAFIE DI ARCHEOLOGIA LIBICA - XIV

ELISABETH ALFÖLDI-ROSENBAUM

JOHN WARD-PERKINS

JUSTINIANIC MOSAIC  
PAVEMENTS  
IN CYRENAICAN CHURCHES



“L'ERMA” di BRETSCHNEIDER - ROMA

JUSTINIANIC MOSAIC PAVEMENTS  
IN CYRENAICAN CHURCHES

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Preface .....	ix
Bibliography and Abbreviations .....	xi
List of Plates .....	xvii
List of Text Illustrations .....	xxviii
<b>PART I</b>	
Introduction (by Elisabeth Alföldi-Rosenbaum) .....	1
General .....	3
I. Composition of the Pavements .....	7
1. The Naves of the Churches at Cyrene, Qasr-el-Lebia, Ras-el-Hilal, and the South Transept of the East Church at Apollonia .....	9
2. The Chancel Mosaics at Qars-el-Lebia and in the Central Church at Cyrene .....	12
3. The Chapels in Cyrene Cathedral and in Qasr-el-Lebia, and the Mosaic in Room 2 in the Forecomplex of the West Church in Apollonia .....	14
4. The Mosaics in the North Aisle and the South Vestibule of Cyrene Cathedral .....	15
II. Ornaments .....	17
<i>Group A</i> .....	19
1. Guilloche .....	19
2. Meander .....	20
3. Chains .....	20
4. Intersecting circles .....	21
5. Lotus frieze .....	22
6. <i>Semis</i> patterns .....	22
7. Panels .....	22
<i>Group B</i> .....	23
1. Chain with geometric, animal, and plant fillings .....	23
2. Meander with fish or bird fillings .....	23
3. Inhabited Vine Scrolls .....	23
III. Frieze of Animals and Hunting Scenes as Decoration of Borders .....	27
IV. Special Iconographical Problems .....	31
A. The Nave at Qasr-el-Lebia .....	33
1. The general «programme» .....	33
2. The Rivers of Paradise and Kastalia .....	37

B. Kosmesis and Ktisis at Ras-el-Hilal .....	40
C. Mythological Figures .....	41
D. Occupations .....	42
1. Rural scenes .....	42
2. Hunting scenes .....	44
3. Fishermen .....	45
E. Nilotic Scenes and Marine Still-Lives .....	45
1. The three panels at Qasr-el-Lebia, North-East Chapel, and Cyrene Cathedral, North Aisle and South-East Chapel .....	45
2. Isolated Nilotic Motifs .....	47
3. Marine Still Lives .....	49
4. «Symbolism» .....	50
F. Animals, Birds, Fishes .....	51
1. Antithetical animals and birds .....	52
2. Animals and Birds with a possible Symbolical Meaning .....	54
a) Stag and Snake .....	54
b) Deer with a bell tied around the neck .....	55
c) Peacocks .....	55
3. Isolated «secular» animals and birds .....	56
4. Animals and birds in combat .....	57
G. Architectural and Topographical Motifs .....	58
1. Architectural motifs in general .....	58
2. The Pharos .....	59
H. The Noah Panel in the East Church at Apollonia .....	61
I. Receptacles .....	61
J. Plants and Trees .....	62
V. The Style .....	63
Appendix: The Pre-Justinianic Apse Mosaics in the East Church at Apollonia .....	69
<b>PART II</b>	
Description of the Pavements (by John Ward-Perkins with some additions by Elisabeth Alföldi-Rosenbaum) .....	77
APOLLONIA .....	79
I. The Mosaics in the East Church .....	79
A. The Apse mosaic .....	80
1. The curved border .....	80
2. The scroll-work border .....	83
3. The central panel .....	83
B. The fragments west of the apse and of the lower level of the south transept .....	85
C. The Justinianic Mosaic in the south transept .....	85
II. The Mosaics in Church 2 (Central Church) .....	90
A. South aisle .....	90
B. South-East chapel .....	92

III. The Mosaics in the «Forecomplex» of the West Church .....	92
1. The anteroom of the baptistery .....	92
2. The apsed hall .....	93
CYRENE «CATHEDRAL» .....	95
1. The Nave Mosaic .....	95
Materials and colours .....	95
Description of the panels .....	99
2. The Mosaics of the South Vestibule .....	109
3. The Mosaic of the North Aisle .....	111
4. The Mosaic of the Inner South-East Chapel .....	112
CYRENE, CENTRAL CHURCH .....	115
1. The Chancel Mosaic .....	115
2. The Nave Mosaic .....	117
QASR-EL-LEBIA, EAST CHURCH .....	121
1. The Nave Mosaic .....	121
The inhabited scroll .....	121
The panels .....	121
2. The Chancel Mosaic .....	133
3. The Mosaic in the North-East Chapel .....	135
The <i>Emblema</i> .....	136
The figured frame .....	136
The outer frame .....	138
RAS-EL-HILAL .....	140
1. The west panels .....	140
2. The eastern part of the nave .....	141
TOKRA, EAST CHURCH	
Fragments in the south aisle .....	142
 PART III	
The Inscriptions (by Joyce M. Reynolds) .....	143
GENERAL INDEX .....	151

## P R E F A C E

The present volume was prepared as part of a work to be called *The Christian Antiquities of Cyrenaica*, planned by the late Richard Goodchild and John Ward-Perkins; the mosaic pavements were to be placed in their architectural context - an ideal very rarely achieved in mosaic studies. The premature death of Richard Goodchild, however, caused a change of plan, and it was decided to publish the mosaics separately: in any case, they would have required a complete volume of their own.

The work on the iconography and style of the mosaics was entrusted to Elisabeth Alföldi-Rosenbaum in 1958, shortly after the discovery of the best preserved pavement at Qasr-el-Lebia. John Ward-Perkins had already studied the technical aspects of the mosaic pavements known at this time, and had prepared detailed descriptions and notes of materials and colours. These were supplemented in 1960 and 1963 by Elisabeth Alföldi-Rosenbaum and by the notes of the excavators of the west church in Apollonia and the church at Ras-el-Hilal, (see bibliography, pp. xi f.). Joyce M. Reynolds had studied the inscriptions and published them in a preliminary form (see bibliography). She has contributed a new chapter on the inscriptions for this volume.

Of the mosaics published here, those in the east church of Apollonia were excavated under the auspices of the Italian Superintendency of Antiquities prior to World War II; the others were excavated by the Libyan Department of Antiquities under the direction of the late Richard Goodchild. Mosaic pavements, apparently of the same period, have been found in more recent years, but their publication must be left to the archaeologists, who excavated them.

The photographs reproduced in the present volume come from various sources, all specified in the List of Plates (see below pp. xvii ff.). They are of uneven quality. Some of them were taken under very difficult conditions, and with the exception of the nave panels of Qasr-el-Lebia, they were all taken with a minimum of equipment. We are confident that colleagues who have worked in the field will be aware of the difficulties of this kind of photographic documentation. On the whole, we think we have managed to give fairly adequate illustrations, in spite of shoe-string budgeting. We should have liked to give more colour plates, but they are still prohibitively expensive to produce, and so we have had to content ourselves with a few examples to indicate the colour range. The minute descriptions in Part II ought to give specialists in mosaic art an idea what the colours are. With regard to the technical descriptions, we have chosen to give tesserae counts per square decimeter rather than dimensions of individual tesserae. The counts refer, if not further specified, to the various areas of the pavement in question, i.e., background, decorative elements, figures of animals, birds, or human beings. We have included only two descriptions of mosaic bases, selected at random, one of the fifth-century apse mosaic in the east church at Apollonia, and one of the Justinianic chancel mosaic at Qasr-el-Lebia: specialists will see that there is no great difference between them.

We are indebted to a number of colleagues and Institutions for support in various ways. First of all we have to thank the excavators of our material, and above all Richard Goodchild, without whom the exploration of the Christian antiquities of Cyrenaica would not have been possible. We also owe thanks to our Italian colleagues working in Cyrenaica, above all to Professor Sandro Stucchi. Professor Noel Duval (Sorbonne) provided us with valuable information on technical and other aspects of Cyrenaican mosaics. Joyce M. Reynolds' contribution to this volume is not only restricted to her chapter on the inscriptions.

Financial support came from various sources, amongst which we have to single out the British School in Rome, which supported a field mission to Cyrenaica for many years and which also gave a special grant to Elisabeth Alföldi-Rosenbaum in 1960 to supplement the technical notes. The Canada Council gave a generous grant to Elisabeth Alföldi-Rosenbaum in 1970 to enable her to complete the greater part of her studies on the iconography and the style of the mosaics.

We also have to thank the various people who helped to see this volume through the press; the Committee of the *Monografie di Archeologia Libica*, who approved its inclusion in this series; and the publishers, who were helpful and understanding.

August 1978

Elisabeth Alföldi-Rosenbaum  
John Ward-Perkins

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R. GOODCHILD, *Kyrene*, pp. 187 f.; fig. 154 (detail of scroll in south transept, wrongly labelled: «östliches Seitenschiff» ).  
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#### *Apollonia, Central Church*

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\* The publications cited here include studies concerned mainly or exclusively with the architecture of the churches, in which the pavements were found. Some do not appear in the footnotes of the present book. For abbreviations see part II of this bibliography. Reference to *Fasti Archeologici* are not included here, since they are superseded by the present book.



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*Cyrene, Central Church*

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## LIST OF PLATES\*

### COLOUR PLATES\*\*

- A. 1. Apollonia, East Church, South Transept. Inhabited Scroll, North Side, Whorl 8.  
2. Apollonia, West Church, Forecourt, Room 2. «Emblema».
- B. 1. Qasr-el-Lebia, North-East Chapel. Inner Border, Hunter.
- C. Cyrene, Cathedral, Nave.  
1. Panel E 6.  
2. Panel D 5.
- D. Ras-el-Hilal, Nave.  
1. Panel A 3.  
2. Panel A 1.

### PLATES IN BLACK AND WHITE

- 1. Apollonia, East Church, Apse
  - 1. Main Area, North Part. Neg. JWP 1288.28
  - 2. Main Area, South Part. Neg. JWP
  - 3. Animal Frieze, Central Part. Neg. JWP
  - 4. Animal Frieze, South Part. Neg. JWP
- 2. Apollonia, East Church, Apse: Inhabited Scroll
  - 1. Whorl 1, South. Neg. JWP 1634.26
  - 2. Central Eagle. Neg. JWP 1634.27
  - 3. Whorls 3-4, North. Neg. JWP 1638.14
  - 4. Whorls 5-6, North. Neg. JWP 1638.15

\* The References to the Negatives are as follows: Audio-Visual Centre, Benghazi: photographs taken by this agency shortly after the discovery of the mosaics at Qasr-el-Lebia and published in ILN. The photographs were obtained courtesy of the editors of ILN; Department of Antiquities: photographs taken by the official photographer of the Department of Antiquities of Cyrenaica, Shahat (Cyrene), Libya, Mr. Hasan prior to 1963; EAR: photographs taken by Elisabeth Alföldi-Rosenbaum in 1960 and 1963; Harrison: photographs taken by Mrs. E. Harrison during the excavation of the church at Ras-el-Hilal by Martin Harrison. The illustrations in the present book are either from the original photographs or after the plates in M. Harrison's publication in PBSR (see bibliography); JWP: photographs taken by John Ward-Perkins prior to 1960; STR: photographs taken by Mrs. Selina Ballance prior to 1960.

All negatives labelled EAR, JWP, and STR were produced on behalf of the Cyrenaican Mission of the British School in Rome, and are filed there.

\*\* These plates are based on colour slides taken by EAR in 1960 and 1963. The reddish tinge is mainly caused by the red soil of Cyrenaica which is difficult to eliminate even with careful washing of the pavements.

3. Apollonia, East Church
  1. Fragments West of Apse. Neg. JWP 1288.31A
  2. Apse, Animal Frieze, Crouching «Gazelle». Neg. JWP 1637.12
  3. Apse, Animal Frieze, Peacock. Neg. JWP
  4. Apse, Animal Frieze, Fragment of Running Deer. Neg. JWP 1638.13
  
4. Apollonia, East Church, Apse, Main Area
  1. Sea-Wolf (C6). Neg. JWP 1638.17
  2. Ducks (C5). Neg. JWP 1638.19
  3. Fishes (B5). Neg. JWP 1638.18
  4. A, B, C, 6-7. Neg. JWP 1638.20
  5. A, B, 8-9. Neg. JWP 1639.21
  6. A, 10-12, B, 10-11. Neg. JWP 1639.23
  
5. Qasr-el-Lebia, Nave
  1. A2, Kosmesis
  2. A4, Ktisis
  3. B3, Ananeosis
  4. C3, Eagle Rending a Deer  
Negatives: Audio-Visual Centre Benghazi
  
6. Qasr-el-Lebia, Nave
  1. A1, Antelope or Gazelle
  2. A5, Antelope or Gazelle
  3. C1, Stag and Snake
  4. C5, Stag  
Negatives: 1-3, Audio-Visual Centre Benghazi; 4, Department of Antiquities. H364
  
7. Qasr-el-Lebia, Nave
  1. B2, Geon
  2. B4, Phison
  3. D2, Euphrates
  4. D4, Tigris  
Negatives: 1, Department of Antiquities, H363; 2-4, Audio-Visual Centre Benghazi
  
8. Qasr-el-Lebia, Nave, Nilotic Scenes
  1. B1; 2. F5; 3. B5; 4. D5  
Negatives: 1, Department of Antiquities H361; 2-4, Audio-Visual Centre Benghazi
  
9. Qasr-el-Lebia, Nave, Marine Still Lives
  1. F1; 2. J1; 3. H1; 4. I1  
Negatives: 1, 4, Audio-Visual Centre Benghazi; 2, 3, Department of Antiquities H369, H353
  
10. Qasr-el-Lebia, Nave
  1. J2; 2. I5; 3. J5; 4. H5  
Negatives: Audio-Visual Centre Benghazi
  
11. Qasr-el-Lebia, Nave
  1. D3, Kastalia
  2. D4, Tigris
  3. H2, Pan

4. H3, Shepherd  
Negatives: 1, Audio-Visual Centre Benghazi; 2-4, Department of Antiquities H361, H368, H360
12. Qasr-el-Lebia, Nave  
1. C2, Lion  
2. C4, Lion  
3. D1, Bear  
4. H4, Leopard  
Negatives: 1, 4, Audio-Visual Centre Benghazi; 2, 3, Department of Antiquities H362, H378
13. Qasr-el-Lebia, Nave  
1. E2, Zebra  
2. E4, Zebra  
3. I3, Bull  
4. E5, Bull  
Negatives: Audio-Visual Centre Benghazi
14. Qasr-el-Lebia, Nave  
1. F2, Horseman  
2. F4, Tethered Horse  
3. E1, Bull  
4. I4, Ram  
Negatives: 1, Department of Antiquities H375; 2-4, Audio-Visual Centre Benghazi
15. Qasr-el-Lebia, Nave  
1. I2, Basket, Flanked by Birds  
2. G4, Vase Flanked by Birds  
3. G1, Ostrich  
4. G5, Ostrich  
Negatives: 1-3, Audio-Visual Centre Benghazi; 4, Department of Antiquities H370
16. Qasr-el-Lebia, Nave  
1. A3, Polis Nea Theodorias  
2. F3, «Temple» or «Church»  
3. G2, Castle  
4. G3, Peacock  
Negatives: 1, Department of Antiquities H366; 2-4, Audio-Visual Centre Benghazi
17. Qasr-el-Lebia, Nave  
1. J3, Pharos  
2. J4, Boat  
Negatives: Audio-Visual Centre Benghazi
18. Cyrene, Cathedral, Nave  
1. G2, H2, I2, and Adjoining Panels. Neg. Department of Antiquities F3969  
2. C4, C3, C2/D4, D3, D2. Neg. Department of Antiquities F3978
19. Cyrene, Cathedral, Nave  
1. G2, H1-3, I1-2, J1-2, K1-2. Neg. JWP 6x9, 351  
2. A-C2, B-C3. Neg. JWP 1619.18

20. Cyrene, Cathedral, Nave
  1. B2, C2. Neg. JWP 1619.14
  2. B2, B1 / C2, C1. Neg. JWP 1619.17
  
21. Cyrene, Cathedral, Nave
  1. B3. Neg. JWP 1700.31
  2. B4. Neg. JWP 1700.30
  3. B5. Neg. JWP 1700.29
  4. B6. Neg. JWP 1700.28
  
22. Cyrene, Cathedral, Nave
  1. C4, Lion and Deer. Neg. JWP 1618.12
  2. C5, Bird. Neg. JWP 1699.25
  3. C6 (Restoration removed). Neg. EAR X 60
  4. C6 (Incorrectly restored). Neg. JWP 1700.26
  
23. Cyrene, Cathedral, Nave
  1. D3. Neg. JWP 1699.22
  2. D6. Neg. JWP 16.8.10
  3. D4, Shepherd. Neg. JWP 1618.9
  4. D5, Peasant Milking Cow. Neg. JWP 1618.11
  
24. Cyrene, Cathedral, Nave
  1. F1, E1, D1. Neg. JWP 1619.20.
  2. F6. Neg. JWP 1630.24.
  3. E6. Neg. JWP 1618.7.
  
25. Cyrene, Cathedral, Nave
  1. G2. Neg. JWP 1629.15.
  2. H2, H3. Neg. JWP 1629.17.
  3. H1. Neg. JWP 1629.16.
  4. E5. Neg. EAR X 64.
  
26. Cyrene, Cathedral, Nave
  1. I1. Neg. JWP 1630.20.
  2. I9. Neg. JWP 1631.34.
  3. I2. Neg. JWP 1629.18.
  4. I7. Neg. EAR X 65.
  
27. Cyrene, Cathedral, Nave
  1. J1. Neg. JWP 1629.19.
  2. J2. Neg. JWP 1630.21.
  3. J5. Neg. JWP 1631.27.
  4. J9. Neg. JWP 1631.33.
  
28. Cyrene, Cathedral, Nave
  1. K4. Neg. JWP 1631.31.
  2. L5, K5. Neg. JWP 1631.29.
  3. K6. Neg. JWP 1630.26.



29. Cyrene, Cathedral, Nave
  1. K1. Neg. JWP 1630.23.
  2. K2. Neg. JWP 1630.22.
  3. K7. Neg. JWP 1630.25.
  4. K9. Neg. EAR X 14.
  
30. Cyrene, Cathedral, Nave
  1. L2. Neg. EAR X 67.
  2. L4. Neg. JWP 1631.30.
  3. L5. Neg. EAR X 52.
  4. L8, L9. Neg. JWP 1625.17A.
  
31. Cyrene, Cathedral, Nave
  1. M9. Neg. JWP 1625.18A.
  2. N4, N5. Neg. JWP 1625.25.
  
32. Cyrene, Cathedral, Nave
  1. N6. Neg. JWP 1625.23A.
  2. N7. Neg. JWP 1625.22A.
  3. N8. Neg. JWP 1625.21A.
  4. N9. Neg. JWP 1625.20A.
  
33. Ras-el-Hilal, Nave
  1. A1. Neg. Harrison.
  - 2.-3. A2. Negatives Harrison and EAR.
  
34. Ras-el-Hilal, Nave
  - 1-2. A 3. Negatives Harrison and EAR.
  3. Fragment. Neg. EAR.
  4. Fragment. Neg. EAR.
  5. Border outside Room B. Neg. EAR.
  
35. Apollonia, East Church, South Transept
  1. Panels 1, 2, 3, 7. Neg. JWP 1292.24.
  2. Panels 2, 3. Neg. JWP 1287.21.
  3. Panel 1. Neg. JWP 1292.19.
  4. Panel 2. Neg. JWP 1292.20.
  
36. Apollonia, East Church, South Transept
  1. Panel 1 (after lifting). Neg. Harrison.
  2. Panel 9. Neg. JWP 1288.25.
  3. Panel 14. Neg. JWP 1287.19.
  4. Panel 16. Neg. JWP 1287.18A.
  
37. Apollonia, East Church, South Transept
  1. Panel 13. Neg. JWP 1698.13.
  2. Panel 8. Neg. JWP 1287.17A.
  3. Panel 15 (after lifting). Neg. Harrison.
  4. Panel 7. Neg. JWP 1292.20A.

38. Cyrene, Central Church, Nave
  1. Fragment of Central Carpet. Neg. JWP 1635.14.
  2. Detail of Fig. 1. Neg. JWP 1635.13.
  3. Panel at South-West Corner. Neg. JWP 1652.5.
39. Cyrene, Central Church, Nave, Border
  1. East Side, Fragment near South-East Corner. Neg. JWP 1652.6.
  2. East Side, North-East Corner. Neg. JWP 1652.7.
  3. North Side. Negatives JWP 1653. 8, 11, 10.
40. Cyrene, Central Church, Nave, Border
  - 1.-3. North Side, Hunting the Tigris Hyrcana (after lifting). Negatives EAR X 56, 70, 69.
41. Cyrene, Central Church, Nave, Border
  1. South-West Corner. Neg. JWP 1651.38.
  2. North-West Corner. Neg. JWP 1649.18.
  3. Stag and Snake, Detail of Fig. 2. Neg. JWP 1649.19.
42. Cyrene, Central Church, Nave, Border
  - 1.-2. South-West Corner. Negatives JWP 1704. 23,21.
  3. South Side. Neg. JWP 1704.24.
43. Cyrene, Central Church, Nave, Border
  - 1.-4. South Side. Negatives JWP 1652. 1, 2, 4; 1651. 39.
44. Qasr-el-Lebia, Chancel
  1. General View. Neg. JWP 6x9, 360.
  2. Outer Frame. Neg. JWP.
45. Qasr-el-Lebia, Chancel
  1. West Side. Neg. JWP 1656.31.
  2. West Side. Neg. JWP 1655.26.
  3. North Side. Neg. JWP 1656.32.
  4. South Side. Neg. JWP 1654.22.
46. Qasr-el-Lebia, Chancel
  1. South-West Corner. Neg. JWP 1655.25.
  2. South-East Corner. Neg. JWP 1655.24.
  3. North-West Corner. Neg. EAR X 17.
  4. North-East Corner. Neg. EAR X 22.
47. Qasr-el-Lebia, Chancel
  1. South Side. Neg. JWP 1654.21.
  2. West Side. Neg. JWP 1655.28.
  3. North Side. Neg. EAR X 21.
  4. North-West Corner. Neg. EAR X 20.
48. Cyrene, Central Church, Chancel
  1. North Half. Neg. JWP 6x9 354.
  2. South Half. Neg. JWP 6x9 356.

49. Cyrene, Central Church, Chancel  
1.-2. East Side. Negatives EAR X 24, 41.
50. Cyrene, Central Church, Chancel  
1.-2. West Side. Negatives JWP 1648. 13, 14.
51. Cyrene, Central Church, Chancel  
1.-3. North Side. Negatives JWP 6x9 355; EAR X 9, 10.
52. Cyrene, Central Church, Chancel  
1.-2. North Side, Lower Strip. Neg. JWP 1647.5.  
3.-4. South Side, Lower Strip. Negatives JWP 1651.37; 1648.16.
53. Cyrene, Central Church, Chancel, South Side  
1. Upper Strip, Left Corner (West). Neg. JWP 1650.31.  
2. Upper Strip, Right Corner (East). Neg. JWP 1646.41.  
3. Lower Strip, Left Corner (West). Neg. EAR X 45.  
4. Lower Strip, Right Corner (East). Neg. EAR X 25.
54. Cyrene, Central Church, Chancel  
1.-2. Details of South Side. Negatives JWP 1647.1; EAR X 23.
55. 1. Qasr-el-Lebia, North-East Chapel. Neg. JWP.  
2. Cyrene, Cathedral, South-East Chapel. Neg. JWP.
56. Qasr-el-Lebia, North-East Chapel. General View. Neg. JWP 6x9 363.
57. Qasr-el-Lebia, North-East Chapel. Central «Emblema»  
1.-3. Details. Negatives JWP 1663. 11, 13, 14.
58. Qasr-el-Lebia, North-East Chapel. North Border  
Negatives: 1-2, JWP 1659. 24, 23; 3-4, EAR X 4, 5.
59. Qasr-el-Lebia, North-East Chapel  
1. North Frame, North-West Corner. Neg. JWP 6x9 364.  
2. West Frame, South-West Corner. Neg. JWP 1658.16.  
3. West Frame, North-West Corner. Neg. JWP 1658.15.
60. Qasr-el-Lebia, North-East Chapel, West Frame  
Negatives EAR X 28, 29.
61. Qasr-el-Lebia, North-East Chapel, South Frame  
Negatives JWP 1658.18; EAR X 30, 31.
62. Qasr-el-Lebia, North-East Chapel, East Frame  
Negatives JWP 1658. 13, 19.
63. Cyrene, Cathedral, South-East Chapel  
Negatives SRT 2.8; JWP 1620.26.
64. Cyrene, Cathedral, South-East Chapel, Central «Emblema»  
Negatives JWP 1617. 36, 37, 38.

65. Apollonia, West Church, Forecourt, Room 2  
Negatives EAR.
66. Apollonia, West Church, Forecourt, Room 2, Border  
Negatives EAR.
67. Cyrene, Cathedral, North Aisle (*in situ*)  
1. East End. Neg. JWP.  
2. West End. Neg. JWP 1667.13.
68. Cyrene, Cathedral, North Aisle  
1. East End (*in situ*). Negatives JWP 1668. 23-24.  
2. Central Part (after lifting). Neg. EAR.
69. Cyrene, Cathedral, North Aisle  
1. Fisherman (*in situ*). Neg. JWP 1664.22.  
2. Birds and Fishes (after lifting). Neg. EAR X 71.
70. Cyrene, Cathedral, South Vestibule  
1. General View Looking West. Neg. JWP 1627.37.  
2. South Half. Neg. 1620.22.
71. Cyrene, Cathedral, South Vestibule  
1. West Border. Neg. JWP 1620.23.  
2. West Doorway. Neg. 1620.21.  
3. East Doorway. Neg. 1619.16.
72. Cyrene, Cathedral, South Vestibule  
1. West Border. Neg. EAR X 48.  
2. North Border. Neg. EAR X 51.  
3-4. South Border. Negatives EAR X 49, 47.
73. Apollonia  
1-3. Central Church, South Aisle. Negatives SRT 4. 20, 21, 15.  
4. West Church, Apsed Room.
74. 1. Cyrene, Cathedral, North Aisle. Neg. JWP 1665.25.  
2. Apollonia, West Church, Apsed Room.  
3-4. Apollonia, Central Church, South-East Chapel. Negatives SRT 3.19; JWP 1635.29.  
5. Apollonia, Central Church, South Aisle. Neg. SRT 4. 17.  
6. Tokra, South Aisle. Fragment 2. Neg. EAR.
75. 1. Cyrene, Cathedral, Nave. Neg. JWP 1619.19.  
2. Tokra, South Aisle, Fragment 1. Neg. EAR.  
3. Cyrene, Cathedral, Baptistery. Neg. JWP 1627.38.  
4. Tokra, South Aisle, Fragment 3. Neg. EAR.  
5. Cyrene, Central Church, North-East Corner of Nave. Neg. JWP 1654.12.  
6. Cyrene, Cathedral, South Vestibule. Neg. JWP 1620.24.
76. Qasr-el-Lebia, Nave, Inhabited Scroll  
1-4. Negatives: JWP 1661. 38-42.