



Bernie Alpert (z"l) received a B.S. in earth sciences from the University of Illinois and an M.S. in Classical archaeology from Oxford University. **Fran Alpert** received a B.A. in education and an M.S. in Classical archaeology from Oxford University. The Alperts, licensed Israel tour guides and field archaeologists, founded Archaeological Seminars in Jerusalem and its Dig-for-a-Day, a hands-on experience that combines excavating, sifting, pottery examination, and exploration of an extensive archaeological cave system located within Beit Guvrin National Park.

Long time members of North Suburban Synagogue Beth El, who spent part of their time in Jerusalem, the Alperts donated an important collection of archaeological artifacts – pottery, lamps, bowls, flasks, and jugs dating from as early as 2300 BCE – to the Rissman Kol Ami Collection. Fran has also loaned several pieces from their personal collection for this exhibit.

The Rissman Kol Ami Collection is a unique collection of Jewish art, artifacts and ritual objects. In addition to preserving significant objects for posterity, the museum seeks to develop programs and exhibitions that are designed to educate the congregation and promote an appreciation for works of Judaica.



1175 Sheridan Road, Highland Park 60035

Ancient Echoes: The Antiquities Collection of Fran and Bernie Alpert



August 27 – October 31, 2021

The Rissman Kol Ami Collection at
North Suburban Synagogue Beth El

HISTORICAL TIME PERIODS IN THE LAND OF ISRAEL

CHALCOLITHIC AGE ~ 4000 - 3200 BCE

Copper stone age, just before the dawn of history; humans first learn to create metal tools and ceremonial objects. Emergence of houses, towns and geometric designs on pottery.

CANAANITE (BRONZE) AGE ~ 3200 – 1200 BCE

History begins with the first written records.

1900–1750: Age of Patriarchs and Matriarchs. Abraham and Sarah; Isaac and Rebecca; Jacob, Leah and Rachel. Joseph in Egypt.

1750–1550: Hyksos invade and rule Egypt. High civilization and trade.

1550–1300: Influence of Egyptian, Mycenaean, Cypriot and Hittite cultures. El-Amarna period.

1300–1200: The Exodus of the Children of Israel under Moses. Law given at Mt. Sinai. Wandering in the wilderness. Israelite conquest of Promised Land under Joshua.

ISRAELITE (IRON AGE) ~ 1200 – 587 BCE

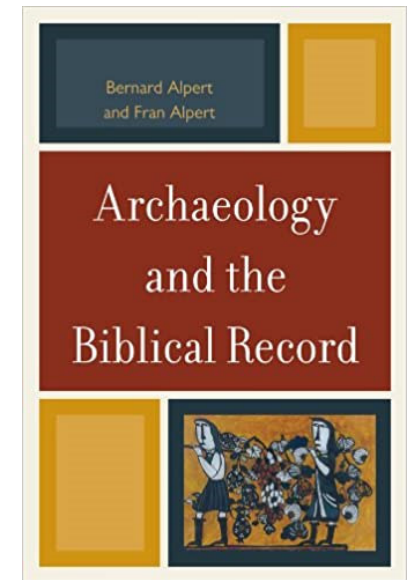
1200–1020: Period of Judges. Philistines invade.

1020–930: The United Monarchy. Saul organizes state. David establishes Jerusalem as capital. Solomon builds First Temple.

930–722: The Divided Monarchy. Ten northern tribes form the Kingdom of Israel as distinct from the Kingdom of Judah. Period ends with the fall of Israel to the Assyrian conquerors.

722–586: Judah stands alone. Hezekiah constructs Broad Wall and Siloam Tunnel. Period of Classical Prophets.

586: Fall of Judah. Babylonians destroy Jerusalem and Temple. Jews exiled “by the waters of Babylon.”



Fran and Bernie Alpert’s book, *Archaeology and the Biblical Record*, was published in 2012 by Hamilton Books, an imprint of Rowman & Littlefield Publishing Group. The book provides readers with a better understanding of familiar Bible stories through the lens of modern archaeology. A copy is available in North Suburban Synagogue Beth El’s Maxwell Abbell Library.