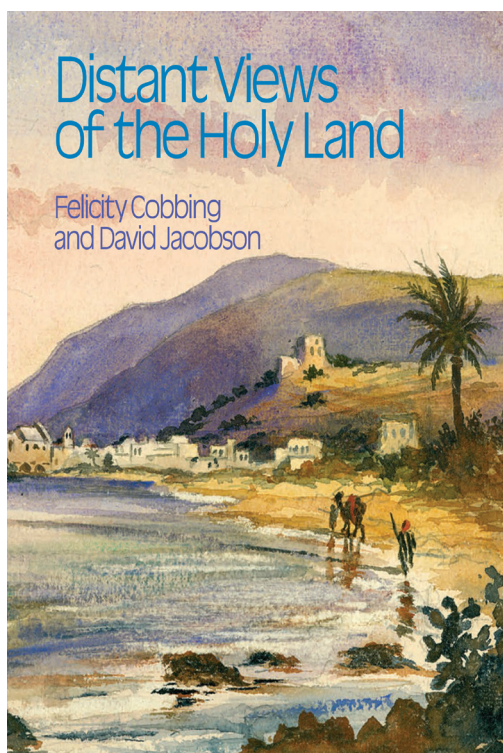


Distant Views of the Holy Land



Felicity Cobbing and David Jacobson



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2014 308pp 275 x 210mm

350 illustrations, including colour throughout and 7 maps and plans

hb ISBN 9781781790618

£125.00 / \$200.00 £81.25 / \$130.00

The Holy Land has been an enduring magnet for visitors seeking to retrace the footsteps of biblical prophets, kings and saints and to glimpse the setting of events recorded in the Scriptures. This book offers a selection of over 350 early photographs, paintings, and drawings of the length and breadth of the Holy Land from the rich repository of images in the archives of the Palestine Exploration Fund. As these images were produced before modern development impacted on these landscapes they are an invaluable resource. The pictures are accompanied by nine maps and plans showing the locations depicted and a commentary describing the biblical context, informed by up-to-date scholarship. The book is divided into five chapters; an introduction which includes a brief account of pilgrimage to the Holy Land through the ages, followed by a series of geographical 'tours' through Galilee, Samaria, and Judaea and Philistia, before culminating with a focus on the two main sites of interest for the traveller: Bethlehem and Jerusalem.

While often very beautiful in their own right, the pictures also reflect the interest and sensibilities of the photographers and those who collected them, and capture the opposing undercurrents of scientific enquiry and piety characteristic of 19th Century European society. In the case of the photographers engaged by the PEF, a striving for objectivity is strikingly evident in their work.

Contents

1. Introduction

The Palestine Exploration Fund and the History of its Picture Archives
Pilgrims and Other Visitors to the Holy Land

2. Galilee

Introduction
Historical Outline
Survey of Sites

3. Samaria

Introduction
Historical Outline
Survey of Sites
The Samaritans
Samaria Ivories
The Hellenistic and Roman City of Samaria

4. Judea and Philistia

Judea
Sites (excluding Jerusalem and Bethlehem)
Joshua's conquest – history or legend?
Philistia and the Philistines

5. Jerusalem and Bethlehem

Jerusalem
Bethlehem
Index

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