JERASH GLASS CORPUS:
GLASS EXCAVATED IN 1982-1983,
BY THE AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH TEAMS

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The thesis represents a detailed analysis of all diagnostic glass recovered from ancient "Gerasa" Jerash. The present corpus came from the North Theatre, Cardo and North Decumanus, Areas A-D excavated by the Australian and British teams in 1982-1983.

The aim of this study, is the presentation of a body of comparative glass material. The glass assemblage consists of glass coming from occupational levels, the glass material in general is fragmentary. Almost all the glass vessels seems to have consisted of eating and drinking vessels and others used in churches, for instance, bottles and lamps.

No attempt has been made to devise an overly ridged typology, which does not allow for the inclusion of new data. The study treats fragments as representatives of the whole vessels, however, similar pieces such as, rims, bases, handles etc. are grouped together, according to similarity of the piece itself, not according to the form of the vessels.

The present study is divided into four chapters. Chapter one, introduces the history of the site and the history of glass production. It also includes the chemical preparation of the glass in general and the definition and application of the research methodology.

Chapter two, deals with the catalogue in which, it is presented in chronological order from the Roman to the Umayyad period. Each period dealt
with the glass types and comparisons. Finally, a summary of the main characteristics is also included. In chapter two, the concentration for the comparative material is on the Jordanian material, i.e., Umm Qeis, Abila, and Pella, but when there are no local parallels the search expanded to material from sites in Palestine, Syria, Egypt “Karanis”, Turkey “Sardis” and Cyprus.

In chapter three is a presentation of quantitative and qualitative analysis of the glass corpus. Descriptive analysis as well as statistical analysis were utilized to help in the analysis of data concerning the glass corpus. The objective of analysis was to sort variables, namely frequency, percentages of the distribution of glass characteristics.

The fourth chapter is devoted to the conclusion of the study related to issue and questions being raised during the presentation of the glass corpus.