

CURRICULUM VITAE

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: Michal Birkenfeld
 Work address: Room 405, Building 72, Marcus Family Campus, Beer Sheva.
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EDUCATION

2002-2004 B.A., Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
 Archaeology and Latin-American History

2005-2008 M.A., Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
"Aspects of Time and Space at the Early Neolithic Site of Kfar HaHoresh: A GIS-based Stratigraphical and Spatial analysis", supervised by Prof. Nigel Goring-Morris.

2009-2017 Ph.D., Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
"Changing Systems: Pre-Pottery Neolithic B Settlement Patterns in the Lower Galilee, Israel", supervised by Prof. Nigel Goring-Morris

2019-2021 Post-doctorate, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.
"Sacred Landscapes of the Neolithic of the Southern Negev, Israel", supervised by Prof. Steven Rosen and Prof. Ofer Marder.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

2021-ongoing Senior lecturer at the Archaeology department, Ben Gurion University of the Negev.

2014-2021 Head of the GIS Research Branch, Israel Antiquities Authority, Israel

2017-2018 Adjunct lecturer at the Institute of Archaeology, The University of Haifa, Israel.

2013-2016 Adjunct lecturer at the Institute of Archaeology, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.

2003-2014 Research and teaching assistant, Dept. of Prehistory, Institute of Archaeology, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.

2006-2007 Judea District archaeologist, Israel Antiquities Authority.

2005-2006 Archaeological supervisor, Israel Antiquities Authority.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

(A) Positions in academic administration

2021- ongoing	Board member, School of Sustainability and Climate Change, BGU.
2022-ongoing	Head of Curriculum Committee, Archaeology Department, BGU.
2023-ongoing	Scholarship committee member, School of Sustainability and Climate Change, BGU.
2024-ongoing	Co-head of the Research Center for Environmental Humanities, Sustainability and Climate Change, BGU.

(B) Professional functions outside universities/institutions

2024-current	Board member, Israel Prehistoric Society.
2018- 2024	Chairperson, Israel Prehistoric Society.
2023	Member of the PhD advisory committee, Saar Ganor, Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
2023	Member of the organizing committee of the <i>13th International Meeting on Phytolith Research (IMPR)</i> , 3-7 Sep. 2023, Dead Sea and Arava Research Center, Mesada, Israel.
2022	Member of the organizing committee of <i>Keness Darom: the 18th joint conference of the Israel Antiquities Authority and Ben-Gurion University of the Negev</i> , Israel.
2022	Member of the Israel Science Foundation review committee (Archaeology).
2022	Member of the review committee, the Azrieli International Postdoctoral Fellowship 2023-2024.
2021	Member of the organizing committee of <i>the Annual Meeting of the Israel Prehistoric Society</i> , held at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel.
2019	Organizer of the workshop " <i>Digital Archaeology – New Technologies in Archaeological Studies</i> ", Israel Antiquities Authority and The Hebrew University of Jerusalem collaboration, May 16 th , 2019, Jerusalem.
2013	Member of the organizing committee of <i>the Annual Meeting of the Israel Prehistoric Society</i> , held at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.
2011	Member of the organizing committee of <i>the Annual Conference of the PhD Honors Program</i> , Faculty of Humanities, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.
2009-2011	Member of the organizing committee of <i>the Young Researcher Monthly Seminar</i> , Institute of Archaeology, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.

(C) Editor or member of editorial board of scientific or professional journal

2023- 2024	Guest Editor, ' <i>To be or not to be: Assessing the Early PPNB in the southern Levant</i> ', Double Special issue of <i>Paléorient, Revue Pluridisciplinaire de Préhistoire et de Protohistoire de L'asie du Sud-Ouest et de L'asie Centrale</i> .
2025	Co-Editor, ' <i>Desert Journeys: Papers on the Prehistory and Protohistory of the Arid</i>

Southern Levant, Special issue of *The Journal of Arid Environments*, in honor of Prof. S. Rosen (IF 2.759).

(D) Ad-hoc reviewer for journals

Archaeological Research in Asia

Journal of Arid Environments

Journal of the Israel Prehistoric Society

PLoS ONE

Studies in Mediterranean Archaeology

Paléorient

Landscape Ecology

(E) Membership in professional/scientific societies

2022-current	The Israeli Forum for Experimental Archaeology
2021-current	Israel Archaeological Association
2015-current	CAA International (Computer Applications and Quantitative Methods in Archaeology).
2006-current	The Israel Prehistoric Society
2017	The European Association of Archaeologists.

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

(A) Courses taught

"The rise of pastoralism in the deserts of West-Asia: From hunter-gatherers to herders", M.A. level, Department of Archaeology, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel.

"Remote sensing in Archaeology - an introduction", B.A. level, Department of Archaeology, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel.

"Introduction to Prehistory", B.A. level, Department of Archaeology, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel.

"Introductory course to GIS in Archaeology", B.A. level, Department of Archaeology, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel.

"Experimental Archaeology" (Hebrew), BA Seminar, Department of Archaeology, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel.

"Lithic Techno-Typology" (Hebrew), B.A. level, Department of Archaeology, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel.

"Death and Burial in Prehistory" (Hebrew), BA Seminar, Department of Archaeology, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel.

"Spatial Archaeology and Advanced GIS Applications for Archaeologists" (Hebrew), Department of Archaeology, M.A. level, Ben-Gurion University of the

Negev, Israel.

"Mother of all Revolutions: The Early Neolithic of the Southern Levant" (Hebrew), B.A. level, Department of Archaeology, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel.

"GIS applications for Archaeologists" (English/Hebrew), B.A. level, Institute of Archaeology, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.

"Introduction to Spatial Archaeology and GIS applications" (Hebrew), B.A. level, given at: Institute of Archaeology, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel; Institute of Archaeology, The University of Haifa, Israel.

"Introduction to Prehistory" (Hebrew), given at: Ben Zvi Institute, Jerusalem, Israel; The Tel Aviv School of Tourism, Israel.

(b) Research students

- Naife Sobeh, M.A., current. Joint supervision with Dr. Onn Crouvi (GSI) and Prof. Yehuda Enzal (HUJI).
- Meir Shmuel, M.A., current.
- Timna Edeltin, M.A., current.
- Yael Widerker, M.A., Completed 2024.
- Alexander Kuklin, PhD, current.
- Lena Brailovski-Rokser, PhD, current.
- Gunel Nabisoy, PhD, current.
- Gerardo Diaz, PhD, current. Joint supervision with Prof. Arnon Karniely (BGU).
- Alexander Wiegmann, PhD, current. Joint supervision with Prof. Steve Rosen (BGU) and Prof. Gideon Avni (HUJI).

AWARDS, CITATIONS, HONORS & FELLOWSHIPS

2021	Alon scholarship for Integration of Outstanding Faculty, Israeli Council for Higher Education.
2019-2020	Post-doctoral fellowship, The Kreitman School of Advanced Graduate Studies, Ben-Gurion University in the Negev (160,000 NIS, ca. 45,000\$, 2-year term).
2018	The Polonsky Prizes for Creativity and Originality in the Humanistic Disciplines, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem; First prize, Post-doctoral category (5000\$).
2012-2014	Rotenstreich Fellowship for Outstanding Doctoral Students in the Humanities, Israeli Council for Higher Education (320,000 NIS, ca. 90,000\$, 4-year term).
2009-2011	'Hanasi' Scholarship program for excellence, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (80,000 NIS, ca. 23,000\$, 2-year term).
2006-2009	Graduate Scholarships, Institute of Archaeology, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (4000\$).

- 2006 The Shai Moshe Graduate Scholarship, Institute of Archaeology, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (1000\$).
- 2002-2004 Undergraduate Scholarships, Institute of Archaeology, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (3000\$).

PUBLICATIONS

(a) Authored books

Birkenfeld, M. 2018. *Changing Systems: Pre-Pottery Neolithic B Settlement Patterns in the Lower Galilee, Israel*. Studies in Early Near Eastern Production, Subsistence and Environment (SENEPSE) 21, Berlin: Ex Oriente. (iv + 334 pages, 119 figs. incl. 37 colour illustrations, 12 tables).

(b) Editorship of collective volumes

Birkenfeld, M. & Garfinkel, Y. (Eds). 2020. *Digital Archaeology: New research and advanced technologies*. Jerusalem: Hebrew University of Jerusalem (Hebrew).

Golani, A., Varga, D., Tchekhanovets, Y. and **Birkenfeld, M.** 2022. *Archaeological Excavations and Research Studies in Southern Israel. Collected papers, vol.5*. Jerusalem: The Israel Antiquities Authority (Hebrew and English).

(c) Refereed chapters in collective volumes, Conference proceedings, Festschrifts, etc.

1. Birkenfeld, M. & A. N. Goring-Morris (2011). "Spatial analysis of PPNB Kfar HaHoresh Using GIS". In *The 6th International Conference on PPN Chipped and Ground Stone Industries of the Fertile Crescent: Studies in Technology, Environment, Production, and Society*, edited by Healey, E., S. Campbell and O. Maeda, pp. 273-285. Berlin: Ex Oriente.

2. Birkenfeld, M., & A. N. Goring-Morris. (2013). "Nahal Hava: a PPNB campsite and Epipalaeolithic occupation in the central Negev highlands, Israel". In *Stone Tools in Transition: From Hunter-Gatherers to Farming Societies in the Near East. Proceedings of the 7th International Conference on the Chipped and Ground Stone Industries of the Pre-Pottery Neolithic*, edited by F. Borrell, J.J. Ibáñez and M. Molist, pp. 67-79. Barcelona: Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona Press.

3. Birkenfeld, M. & A.N. Goring-Morris (2014). "Stratigraphy and Spatial Analysis at Pre-Pottery Neolithic B Kfar HaHoresh, Israel: Using GIS Applications in Inter-Site Analyses". In *Debating Spatial Archaeology*, edited by A. García, J. García, A. Maximiano, J. Ríos-Garaizar, pp. 65-79, Santander: Institute for Prehistoric Research, University of Cantabria.

4. Van Den Brink, E.C.M. , D. Kirzner, M. Birkenfeld, N. Marom, and A. Yaroshevich (2016). "Yarmukian" Type Architecture without "Yarmukian" Type Pottery at the Site of Khirbet 'Asafna (east) in the Jezreel Valley, Israel: A Dilemma?" in *From Sha'ar Hagolan to Shaaraim: papers in*

honor of Prof. Yosef Garfinkel, edited by Ganor, S., I. Kreinmerman, K. Streir and M. Mumcuoglu, pp. 63-92. Jerusalem: Israel Exploration Society.

5. Haiman, M. and **M. Birkenfeld** (2017). "Mapping of the Agricultural System around Tel Hebron". In *The 2014 Excavation at Tel Hebron. Final Report*, edited by Eisenberg, E. and D. Ben-Shlomo, pp. 435-440. Ariel: Ariel University Publications.

6. **Birkenfeld, M.**, Brailovsky-Rokser, L. and A. Vered (2019). "Ein Dishna - A new PPNA site in the Jordan Rift Valley, Israel", in *Near Eastern Lithic Technologies on the Move: Interactions and Contexts in the Neolithic Traditions, Proceedings of the 8th International Conference on the Chipped and Ground Stone Industries of the Pre-Pottery Neolithic*, edited by Asrtuc, L, Briois, F. and C. McCartney, pp. 143-158. Nicosia: University of Nicosia press.

7. **Birkenfeld, M.** and E. Aldajem (2020). "Using Photogrammetry for Recording Environment and Landscape and as the Basis for Spatial Analyses". In *Digital Archaeology: New research and advanced technologies*, edited by Birkenfeld, M. & Garfinkel, Y. Jerusalem: Hebrew University of Jerusalem. (Hebrew).

8. Manspeizer, N. , Haimn, M. , Ackermann, O. , Tendler, A. , **Birkenfeld, M.** , Levy, D. and J. Marcus-Peretz (2020). "Landscape Archaeology at Aneva Stream, Israel: Deconstructing a General Trend in Ancient Agricultural Intensification with GIS, Remote Sensing and Regression Analysis". In *Digital Archaeology: New research and advanced technologies*, edited by Birkenfeld, M. & Garfinkel, Y. Jerusalem: Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

9. Brailovsky-Rokser, L., Shalem, D. and **M. Birkenfeld** (2022). "Tracing the Neolithic Occupation of 'En Esur (Central Israel) and the question of Neolithic visibility in the archaeological record-the lithic perspective". In: *Proceedings of the 9th International Conference on the PPN Chipped and Ground Stone Industries of the Near East*, University of Tokyo, Japan.

10. Lewis, R.L. and **M. Birkenfeld** (2022). Viewshed analysis and the Frankish blockade of Fāṭimid Ascalon (1132–1153). In *Ashkelon: Landscape of Peace and Conflicts: Studies of the southern Coastal Plain and the Judean Foothills*. Edited by Lewis, R.L., Varga, D. and A. Sasson (eds), Tel Aviv: Resling publishing. Pp. 219-254. (Hebrew).

11. Lewis, R.L. and **M. Birkenfeld** (2023). 'Keeping the Hydra in its Cave: Viewshed analysis and the Frankish blockade of Fāṭimid Ascalon (1132–1153). In: *Exploring Outremer, Vol.II: Studies in Crusader Archaeology in Honour of Adrian J. Boas*, Edited by Khamisy, R.G., Lewis, R.Y. and V.R. Shotten-Hallel. *Crusades Subsidia* ,16 Vol. 2:48-73, Routledge ,Abingdon.

12. Barda, L., **M. Birkenfeld** and I. Milevski (2023). "GIS Research in Cave K-1 at Quleh and the Distribution of Finds". In *Excavations at Quleh and Mazor (West). Iconography and Burial Practices in Southern Levantine Chalcolithic Cemeteries*, edited by Milevski, I., R. Lupu and A. Cohen-Weinberger. Contributions to the Archaeology of Egypt, Nubia and the Levant. Vienna: Austrian Academy of Sciences.

13. **Birkenfeld, M.** and I. Milevski (2023). "Quleh-Mazor (West), Regional and Viewshed Analyses of Burial Sites and Settlements". In *Excavations at Quleh and Mazor (West). Iconography and Burial Practices in Southern Levantine Chalcolithic Cemeteries*, edited by Milevski, I., R. Lupu and A. Cohen-Weinberger. Contributions to the Archaeology of Egypt, Nubia and the Levant. Vienna: Austrian Academy of Sciences.

(d) Refereed articles and refereed letters in scientific journals

1. Goring-Morris, A.N. , **M. Birkenfeld** and O. Barzilai , (2006). Nahal Lavan 1006: an Ephemeral PPNB Camp Site in the Western Negev, Israel. Neo-Lithics 2/06: 26-32.
2. Goring-Morris, A. N., H. Ashkenazi, O. Barzilai, **M. Birkenfeld** V. Eshed, Y. Goren, L.K. Horwitz, M. Oron, and J. K. Williams, (2008). The 2007-8 Excavation Seasons at Pre-Pottery Neolithic B Kfar HaHoresh, Israel. Antiquity 82/318. <http://antiquity.ac.uk/ProjGall/goringmorris/index.html>
3. Goring-Morris, A. N., **M. Birkenfeld**, and J. K. Williams. (2008). Under Control: The Use of 'Virtual' Sections for Stratigraphic Management in Multi-component Archaeological Sites. Neo-Lithics 2/08: 17-23.
4. Barzilai, O., **M. Birkenfeld** and O. Crouvi. (2009). Ramat Rachel - A Paleolithic Site in Jerusalem. Eurasian Prehistory 6 (1-2): 65–72.
5. Milevski, I., J. Vardi, A. Eirikh-Rose, **M. Birkenfeld**, I. Gilead, H. Mienis and L.K. Horwitz (2013). Excavations at Horbat 'Illit B: A Chalcolithic (Ghassulian) Site in the Ha-Elah Valley. Mitekufat HaEvan, Journal of the Israel Prehistoric Society 43: 73-147.
6. Malinsky-Buller, A., E. Aladjem, Y. Givol-Barzilai, D. Bonnes, Y. Goren, R. Yeshurun and **M. Birkenfeld** (2014). Another Piece in the Puzzle - A New PPNA Site at Bir el-Maksur, Northern Israel. Paléorient 39(2): 155-172.
7. **Birkenfeld, M.**, M.D. Avery and L.K. Horwitz (2015). GIS Virtual Reconstructions of the Temporal and Spatial Relations of Fossil Deposits at Wonderwerk Cave (South Africa). African Archaeological Review 32(4): 857-876. IF 0.862; 18/280 in Archaeology.
8. **Birkenfeld, M.** and A.N. Goring-Morris (2015). "Out of Sight": The Role of Kfar HaHoresh within the PPNB Landscape of the Lower Galilee, Israel. Archaeological Review from Cambridge 30: 95-114.
9. Vardi, J., D. Yegorov, O. Crouvi and **M. Birkenfeld** (2015). "Renewed Excavations at Site K7: A Final Report of the 2012 Salvage Excavation at Har Harif Plateau". Mitekufat HaEvan, Journal of the Israel Prehistoric Society 45: 55-76.
10. Yegorov, D. , A. Yaroshevich, J. Vardi and **M. Birkenfeld** (2015). "Sha'on Hol, Site 14 (HG14): A New Late Epipalaeolithic Site in the Central Negev Highlands". Mitekufat HaEvan, Journal of the Israel Prehistoric Society 45: 77-96.
11. Barzilai, O. , N. Agha, H. Ashkenazy, **M. Birkenfeld**, E. Boaretto, N. Porat, P. Spivak and Y. Roskin (2015). "The Natufian Site of Nahal Sekher VI: The 2009 Excavation Season". Mitekufat HaEvan, Journal of the Israel Prehistoric Society 45: 97-130.
12. Malinsky-Buller, A., O. Barzilai, A. Ayalon, M. Bar-Matthews, **M. Birkenfeld**, N. Porat, H. Ron, and J. Roskin (2016). "The Age of the Lower Paleolithic Site of Kfar Menachem West, Israel- Another Facet of Acheulian Variability". Journal of Archaeological Science Reports 10: 350-362.
13. Paz, Y., Ackermann, O., Avni, Y., Ben-Hur, M., **Birkenfeld, M.**, Langgut, D., Mizrahi, S., Weiss, E. and N. Porat (2017). "An Early Bronze Age Fertilized Agricultural Plot Discovered near Tel Yarmouth, Ramat Bet Shemesh, Israel". Journal of Archaeological Science 15: 226-234.
14. Paz, Y. and **M. Birkenfeld** (2017). "Reconstructing Socio-Political Urban-Rural Interactions

using Viewshed Analysis: The Late Bronze Age at Ramat Bet Shemesh, Israel”, *Journal of Landscape Ecology* 10(3): 230-244.

15. Birkenfeld, M., L.K. Horwitz, L.Scott Cummings, H. Goldgeier, M. Krakovsky, F. Natalio, K. Nebenhaus, F. Neumann, N. Porat, L. Scott, T. Simmons, T. Yashuv and U. Avner (2019). “Investigations at Nahal Roded 110 - a Late Neolithic Ritual Site in the Southern Negev”. *Antiquity Project Gallery*, 93(367), E4. doi:10.15184/aqy.2019.6

16. Orrelle, E., Avner, U., Horwitz, L.K., **Birkenfeld, M.** (2020). Snakes of Stone: A Unique Stone Artefact from the LPPNB Site of Nahal Roded 110. *Neo-Lithics* 20: 23-31.

17. Birkenfeld, M., Avner, U., Bar-Yosef Mayer, D.E., L. Scott Cummings, F. Natalio, F. Neumann, N. Porat, L. Scott, T. Simmons, M.B. Toffolo, L.K. Horwitz (2020). ‘Hunting in the Skies: Dating, Archaeology and Palaeoenvironment of the Late Pre-Pottery Neolithic B Nahal Roded 110, in the Eilat Mountains, Israel’. *Paléorient* 46 (1/2) 43-68.

18. Yamada, S., Lili-Tafber, C., **Birkenfeld, M.** (2020). Use-wear Analysis of Cortical and Tabular Scrapers and Discs from Chalcolithic Sites of Bir es-Safadi and Abu-Matar. *Mitekufat HaEvan, Journal of the Israel Prehistoric Society*.

19. Biton, R., Bailon, S., **Birkenfeld, M.**, Bridault, A., Khalaily, H., Valla, F.R., et al. (2021) The anurans and squamates assemblage from Final Natufian Eynan (Ain Mallaha, Israel) with an emphasis on snake-human interactions. *PLoS ONE* 16:(2) e0247283. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0247283>

20. Shemer, M., Brailovski-Rokser, L. and **M. Birkenfeld** (2024), ‘The EPPNB of ‘Amqa and the Mediterranean Cisjordan’, *Paléorient* 49(2), p. 43-64. <https://doi.org/10.4000/paleorient.3414>.

21. **Birkenfeld, M.** and A. Abulafia. (2024). Nahal Zahal: an Early PPNB site in the Northern Negev: preliminary report of the first excavation season, *Paléorient* 49(2), 65-82. <https://doi.org/10.4000/paleorient.3474>

22. **Birkenfeld, M.**, Borrell, F., Purschwitz, C. and D. Rokitta-Krumnow (2024). To Be or not to Be: An Introduction to the Origins, Nature and Chronology of the EPPNB in the Southern Levant. *Paléorient* 49(2), 1-4. <https://doi.org/10.4000/paleorient.3307>

23. Eppelbaum, L. V., Khabarova, O., & **Birkenfeld, M.** (2024). Advancing archaeo-geophysics through integrated informational-probabilistic techniques and remote sensing. *Journal of Applied Geophysics*, 227, 105437. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jappgeo.2024.105437>

24. Khabarova, O., **Birkenfeld, M.**, & Eppelbaum, L. (2024). Discussion points of the remote sensing study and integrated analysis of the archaeological landscape of Rujm el-Hiri. *Remote Sensing* 16(22):4239. <https://doi.org/10.3390/rs16224239>.

25. Borrell, F., Purschwitz, C., Rokitta-Krumnow, D. and **M. Birkenfeld.** (in press) New Advances, Old Problems: The Early PPNB of the southern Levant in light of the discoveries of last decades. *Paléorient*.

(e) Published scientific reports and technical papers

1. **Birkenfeld, M.** 2008. Moza 'Illit, final report. *Hadashot Arkheologiyot: Excavations and Surveys in Israel* 120.

http://www.hadashot-esi.org.il/report_detail_eng.asp?id=806&mag_id=114

2. **Birkenfeld, M.** 2008. Khirbat esh-Sheikh Ghazi (east), final report. *Hadashot Arkheologiyot:*

Excavations and Surveys in Israel 120.

http://www.hadashot-esi.org.il/report_detail_eng.asp?id=898&mag_id=114

3. Eirich-Rose, A. and **M. Birkenfeld**. 2008 Survey of Ramot forest A-4716, final report. *Hadashot Arkheologiyot: Excavations and Surveys in Israel* 120.

http://www.hadashot-esi.org.il/report_detail_eng.asp?id=806&mag_id=114

4. Abulafia, T. and **M. Birkenfeld**. 2022. Nahal Zahal: preliminary report. *Hadashot Arkheologiyot: Excavations and Surveys in Israel* 134. https://www.hadashot-esi.org.il/report_detail_eng.aspx?id=26198&mag_id=134

(f) Unrefereed professional articles and publications

1. Goring-Morris, A. N. and **M. Birkenfeld**.⁵ 2008. Kfar HaHoresh – a cult and mortuary site. *Past Horizons* 5: 20-25. <http://publications.pasthorizons.tv/?id=pasthorizonsNov08>.

LECTURES & PRESENTATIONS AT MEETINGS AND INVITED SEMINARS

(a) Invited plenary lectures at conferences/meetings

1. 'The Neolithic of the Negev Desert: Stasis or Change? New insights from Biqat Uvda', The 13th International Meeting on Phytolith Research in Israel, 3-7 Sep. 2023. **Plenary lecture.**

2. 'The Levantine Neolithic and the beginning of agriculture – The desert and the sown. Past and future research trajectories', The Inaugural World River Civilizations Forum, 16-19 Sept. 2023. Zhengzhou, China. **Invited lecture.**

3. 'GIS Applications in Israeli Archaeology: Tracing, Documenting and Analysing Cultural Heritage', Applied Sciences and Technology in Archaeology webinar, Tel Aviv University and the Centro de Investigaciones de Culturas en la Antigüedad of the Universidad Anáhuac, Mexico. 28 March, 2024. **Invited lecture.**

(b) Presentation of papers at conferences/meetings (oral or poster)

1. **Birkenfeld, M.**, and A. N. Goring-Morris. February 2008. Spatial analysis of PPNB Kfar HaHoresh Using GIS. Paper presented at *The 6th Neo-Lithics Workshop on Studies in Technology, Environment, Production, and Society (STEPS) of Neolithic Chipped and Ground Stones*. Victoria University of Manchester, UK.

2. **Birkenfeld, M.**, and A. N. Goring-Morris. May 2008. Stratigraphy and Spatial Analysis at Kfar HaHoresh, Using GIS Applications – Preliminary Results. Paper presented at the symposium *New Approaches for Computer Applications in the Archaeology of the Levant*. Ben-Gurion University, Beersheva, Israel. Sponsored by The Archaeology Division, Ben-Gurion University, the Chiron Marie Curie Project, the Israel Antiquities Authority & Israel National Commission for UNESCO.

3. **Birkenfeld, M.**, and A. N. Goring-Morris. December 2009. Aspects of Space and Time: Kfar HaHoresh and the Pre-Pottery Neolithic B in the Lower Galilee. Paper presented at *The Annual*

Meeting of the Israeli Prehistoric Society. Tel Aviv University, Israel (In Hebrew).

4. **Birkenfeld, M.** May 2011. Paved with Good Intentions: the transition to agriculture in retrospect. Paper presented at *the Conference of the PhD Honors Program*, Faculty of Humanities, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel (In Hebrew).

5. **Birkenfeld, M.** June 2011. The Lower Galilee during the Transition to Agriculture: GIS Applications in a Systemic Approach. Paper presented at *The Annual Conference of Galilee Studies*, Tel-Hai Academic College, Israel (In Hebrew).

6. **Birkenfeld, M.** November 2011. The PPNB of the Lower Galilee, a Multi-Scale Approach. Paper presented at *Broadening Horizons 4*, Università degli Studi di Torino, Italy.

7. **Birkenfeld, M.** and A.N. Goring-Morris February 2012. Preliminary Results of Trial Excavations at Nahal Hava: a PPNB Campsite in the Central Negev Highlands, Israel. Paper presented at *the 7th International Conference on the Chipped and Ground Stone Industries of the Pre-Pottery Neolithic*. Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain.

8. **Birkenfeld, M.** and A.N. Goring-Morris June 2012. Stratigraphy and Spatial Analysis at Pre-Pottery Neolithic B Kfar-HaHoresh, Israel: Using GIS applications in inter-site analyses. Paper presented at *Debating Spatial Archaeology, International Workshop on Landscape and Spatial Analysis in Archaeology*. Universidad the Cantabria, Santander, Spain.

9. **Birkenfeld, M.** June 2012. A Question of Territory: Pre-Pottery Neolithic Settlement Systems in the Lower Galilee, Israel. Paper presented at *Debating Spatial Archaeology, International Workshop on Landscape and Spatial Analysis in Archaeology*. Universidad the Cantabria, Santander, Spain.

10. Ekshtain, R., Sharon, I., Goldsmith, Y. and **Birkenfeld, M.** June 2012. Marking old Territories: Using ArcGIS Models for Raw Material Survey Areas in the Levantine Middle Paleolithic: A case study from Qfzeh cave, Israel. Paper presented at *Debating Spatial Archaeology, International Workshop on Landscape and Spatial Analysis in Archaeology*. Universidad the Cantabria, Santander, Spain.

11. **Birkenfeld, M.**, & A.N. Goring-Morris. November 2012. A Question of Territory: A Multi-scale Approach to Pre-Pottery Neolithic Settlement Systems in the Lower Galilee, Israel. Paper presented at the *Environmental Archaeologies of Neolithization*. Association for Environmental Archaeology. University of Reading, UK.

12. **Birkenfeld, M.** April 2013. Pre-Pottery Neolithic B Settlement Systems in the Lower Galilee, Israel: A Multi-Scale Approach. Paper presented at the *Socio-environmental Dynamics over the Last 12,000 Years: The Creation of Landscapes III*, open workshop. University of Kiel, Germany.

13. **Birkenfeld, M.**, Breilovsky, L. and Vered, A. November 2013. Pre-Pottery Neolithic A site of Ein-Dishna. Paper presented at the annual Meeting of the Israeli Prehistoric Society, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel (In Hebrew).

14. **Birkenfeld, M.** & Goring-Morris, A.N. 2015. Stratigraphy and Spatial Analysis at the PPNB Site of Kfar HaHoresh, Israel. Paper presented at *the 43rd annual Meeting of the Computer Applications and Quantitative Methods in Archaeology (CAA)*, University of Sienna, Italy.

15. **Birkenfeld, M.** and Paz, I. 2015. Seen and Unseen: Using View Shed Analysis to reconstruct socio-political relations between settlements in LBA Ramat Bet Shemesh, Israel. Poster presented in *the 43rd annual Meeting of the Computer Applications and Quantitative Methods*

in *Archaeology (CAA)*, University of Sienna, Italy.

16. **Birkenfeld, M.** & Goring-Morris, A.N. November 2016. Intra-Regional Systems during the Pre-Pottery Neolithic B: Settlement Systems in the Lower Galilee, Israel. Paper presented at the *Near Eastern Lithic Technologies on the Move: Interactions and Contexts in the Neolithic Traditions*, 8th International Conference on PPN Chipped and Ground Stone Industries of the Near East, University of Nicosia, Cyprus.

17. Vered, A. and **Birkenfeld, M.** 2015. Notched stone weights from PPNA 'Ein Dishna: a *longue durée* perspective. Poster presented in the first meeting of *the Association for Ground Stone Tools Research (AGSR)*, University of Haifa, Israel.

18. **Birkenfeld, M.** Brailovsky-Rokser, L. & Vered, A. November 2016. 'Ein Dishna: a new PPNA site in the eastern Galilee, Israel. Paper presented at the *Near Eastern Lithic Technologies on the Move: Interactions and Contexts in the Neolithic Traditions*, 8th International Conference on PPN Chipped and Ground Stone Industries of the Near East, University of Nicosia, Cyprus.

19. **Birkenfeld, M.** & Paz, I. March 2017. New Vistas on Human-Landscape Relations at Ramat Bet Shemesh as Reflected from GIS Analyses. Paper presented at *Landscape Archaeology Today*, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel. (In Hebrew).

20. Fadida, A., **Birkenfeld, M.**, Cohen-Weinberger, A. and I. Milevski. April 2017. The Chalcolithic Burial System and the Variability of the Ghasulian Culture. Paper presented at the *43rd Israeli Archaeological Congress*, Jack, Joseph & Morton Mandel School for Advanced Studies in the Humanities, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel. (In Hebrew).

21. **Birkenfeld, M.** September 2017. Close to Home: Early Neolithic crop cultivation in the Lower Galilee, northern Israel. Paper presented at the *23rd Annual Meeting of The European Association of Archaeologists (EAA)*, Maastricht - Limburg - The Netherlands.

22. Vardi, J., Mizrahi, S., Lands-Nagar, A., Marom, N., Nagar, Y., Akkermann, O., Boaretto, E., Caracuta, V., Gur-Arieh, S. and **M. Birkenfeld**. December 2017. A Final PPNB mega site at Motza: results of the test excavations. Paper presented at *the Annual Meeting of the Israeli Prehistoric Society*, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel (In Hebrew).

23. Milevski, I., **Birkenfeld, M.**, Cohen-Weinberger, A., Lupu, R. and A. Fadida. December 2017. The Ghasulian Chalcolithic burial system of the Southern Levant. Paper presented at *the Annual Meeting of the Israeli Prehistoric Society*, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel (In Hebrew).

24. **Birkenfeld, M.**, Horwitz, L.K. and Avner, U. 2019. Nahal Roded 110 – a view from a new angle on the PPNB of the desert (in Hebrew). Poster presented at *the annual Meeting of the Israeli Prehistoric Society*, Tel Aviv University, Israel.

25. **Birkenfeld, M.** Horowitz, L.K. and Avner, U. 2019. Investigations at Nahal Roded 110 - a Late Neolithic Ritual Site in the Southern Negev. Paper presented at the *9th International Conference on the PPN Chipped and Ground Stone Industries of the Near East*, Tokyo, November 12–16, 2019

26. **Birkenfeld, M.**, Horwitz, L. and U. Avner. 2019. "Birds Flying High: The LPPNB Site of Nahal Roded 110". Paper presented at the *Ontologies Préhistoriques, Réflexion Appliquée aux Groupes de Chasseurs-Cueilleurs*, Centre de Recherche Français à Jérusalem (CNFJ), June 2019, Jerusalem.

27. Horwitz, L.K., **Birkenfeld M.** and Avner U. 2019. Up, up and away: Avian remains from the

LPPNB site of Nahal Roded 110. Paper presented at the *'People and Birds'* workshop, Oxford Brookes University, UK. 13th December.

28. **Birkenfeld, M.** 2023. The Early Neolithic of the Southern Negev: Notes of old/new excavations, Paper presented at *the Annual Conference of the Desert and Dead Sea Research Center*, Beer Sheva, 8th February (Hebrew).

29. **Birkenfeld, M.** 2023. Archaeology and Past Environment: Biqat Uvda and the Southern Negev in the 8th Millenium, Paper presented at the *Annual Conference of The Goldman Sonnenfeldt School of Sustainability and Climate Change*, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, 22nd May (Hebrew).

30. **Birkenfeld, M.** 2024. Daily life and Ritual in the Southern Negev during the Neolithic, Paper presented at the Sacred Desert Conference, 1-2 February, Sde Boker, Israel (Hebrew).

31. Eppelbaum, L., Khabarova, P. and **M. Birkenfeld.** 2024. A Role of Remote Sensing Analysis for Archaeological Purposes in Arid Climate Regions, Paper presented at the *European Geological Union General Assembly 2024*, 14–19 April Vienna, Austria.

32. **Birkenfeld, M.** 2024. Desert Dynamics: Neolithic Hunter-Gatherers of the Negev Desert, Paper presented at the 8th Landscape Archaeology Conference, LAC2024, in Alcalá de Henares, Spain, 10-14 June 2024.

33. **Birkenfeld, M.** 2024. Paths of Transition: Exploring Neolithic Hunter-Gatherers and Pastoralists of the Hyper-Arid Desert. The Southern Negev as a Test Case. World Neolithic Congress, 4-8 November, Sanliurfa, Turkey.

34. **Birkenfeld, M.** 2025. Neolithic Exploitation patterns in the Hyper-Arid Negev, Paper presented at the 14th ICAANE, Lyon, France, 1-6th of June 2025.

(c) Presentations at informal international seminars and workshops

1. 2022, ANR CERASTONE - Project meeting: From stone vessels to ceramic vessels: paces, causes and processes underlying the widespread adoption of pottery in the Southern Levant (7th millennium cal. BC). Paris-Nanterre University, Title: GIS and the CERASTONE project: data organization, data sharing and analyses, France.

(d) Seminar presentations at universities and institutions –

1. 2008, Archaeology Institute, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, “Kfar HaHoresh - Stratigraphy and Spatial analysis: a GIS project”, **Invited seminar lecture.**

2. 2015, Archaeology department, Haifa University, “GIS Applications in Archaeology”, **Invited seminar lecture.**

3. 2015, Archaeology department, Tel Aviv University, “GIS Applications in Archaeology”, **Invited seminar lecture.**

4. 2016, Archaeology Institute, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, “PPNB settlement systems in the Lower Galilee, Israel”, **Invited seminar lecture.**

5. 2019, Archaeology department, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, “The Neolithic Site of Nahal Roded 110: News from on High”, **Invited seminar lecture.**

6. 2021, Archaeology department, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, "The PPNB of the Lower Galilee – Using GIS application in intra- and inter-site archaeological research", **Invited seminar lecture.**
7. 2022, Dan David Center for Human Evolution and Biohistory Research, Tel Aviv University, "The Early Neolithic of the Negev Desert – New Adventures", **Invited seminar lecture.**
8. 2022, The BGU Literary Lab, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, "Digital Archaeology – How, What and Why?", **Invited seminar lecture.**
9. 2022, Archaeology Institute, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, "Home is Where the Hearth Is", **Invited seminar lecture.**
10. 2025, School of Archaeology and Maritime Cultures, Haifa University, 'The Neolithic of the Negev desert - New adventures, new directions',. January 2025. **Invited seminar lecture.**
11. 2025, Archaeology department, Tel Aviv University "Up the mountain, down the valley: Neolithic of the southern Negev", **Invited seminar lecture**

RESEARCH GRANTS

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| 2011 | Irene Levi Sala CARE Archaeological Foundation:
"The Neolithic of the Lower Galilee: Settlement Patterns and Site-Location Modeling" (PI; \$3000). |
| 2017 | Irene Levi Sala CARE Archaeological Foundation:
"Investigation of Neolithic Mountain Cult sites in the Southern Negev" (Co-PI; \$3000). |
| 2017 | The National Geographic Society:
"Cult of the Desert: exploring Neolithic Adaptations in the Southern Negev, Israel, through excavation" (PI; 5000\$). |
| 2019 | Irene Levi Sala CARE Archaeological Foundation:
"Continued Investigations of Neolithic Cult Sites in Nahal Roded, Southern Negev" (Co-PI; \$3000). |
| 2020 | The Gerda Henkel Stiftung:
"Renewed excavations at Naḥal Issaron and the Neolithic of the hyper-arid Negev desert" (PI; 25,000€). |
| 2021 | Israel Science Foundation:
"Into the Desert: Biq'at Uvda and the Neolithic of the Negev Desert" (PI; 300,000NIS per year, 3 years). |
| 2021 | Irene Levi Sala CARE Archaeological Foundation:
"Nahal Zahal - an Early Pre-Pottery Neolithic B site in the Negev" (Co-PI; 5000\$). |

FIELD EXPERIENCE

- 2025 Excavations at Nahal Qetura – southern Negev, directed by **M. Birkenfeld** (Ben-Gurion University), Pre-Pottery Neolithic B site.
- 2023 Excavations at Nahal Zahal - Ramat Hovav, northern Negev, directed by **M. Birkenfeld** (Ben Gurion University) and T. Abulafia (Israel Antiquities Authority): Early Pre-Pottery Neolithic B site.
- 2022-2023 Excavations at Nahal Issaron – Biqat Uvda, southern Negev, directed by **M. Birkenfeld** (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev): Late Pre-Pottery Neolithic B and Pottery Neolithic site.
- 2020 Excavations at Nahal Zahal – Ramat Hovav, northern Negev, directed by **M. Birkenfeld** (Ben Gurion University) and T. Abulafia (Israel Antiquities Authority): Early Pre-Pottery Neolithic B site.
- 2017-2018 Excavations at NR #110 - Eilat mountains, directed by **M. Birkenfeld** (Israel Antiquities Authority): Late Pre-Pottery Neolithic B site.
- 2012 Excavations at Ein Dishna - Jordan Valley, directed by **M. Birkenfeld** (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem): Pre-Pottery Neolithic A site.
- 2002-2012 Excavations at Kfar HaHoresh – Nazareth hills, lower Galilee, directed by Prof. A. N. Goring-Morris (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem): Pre-Pottery Neolithic B Mortuary and Cult Site, as architect and field director.
- 2011 Excavations at Upper Besor VI – Central Negev Highlands, directed by Prof. A. N. Goring-Morris (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem): Pre-Pottery Neolithic B Site, as architect and field director.
- 2010 Excavations at Nahal Hava – Central Negev, directed by Prof. A. N. Goring-Morris (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem): Pre-Pottery Neolithic B Site, as architect and field director.
- 2009 Salvage excavations at Nahal Sekher, Central Negev. Directed by Dr. O. Barzilai (Israel Antiquities Authority): Epi-Palaeolithic site. Archaeologist and GIS researcher.
- 2008-2009 Excavations at Agia Varvara, Cyprus. Directed by Dr. C. McCartney (University of Cyprus): Pre-Pottery Neolithic A site near Larnaca, Cyprus. Combined project of the University of Cyprus and Cornell University, USA.
- 2007 Salvage excavations at Hurvat Illit B, Emeq HaEla. Directed by Dr. I. Milevsky and **M. Birkenfeld** (Israel Antiquities Authority): Chalcolithic settlement.
- 2006 Salvage excavations at Ramat Rachel, Jerusalem. Directed by O. Barzilai and **M. Birkenfeld** (Israel Antiquities Authority): Middle Paleolithic site.
- 2006 Salvage excavations at Hirbet Zor, Emeq HaEla. Directed by A. Eirich-Rose (Israel Antiquities Authority): Chalcolithic mortuary site, as field director.
- 2005 Excavations at Nahal Lavan 1021, Western Negev. Directed by Prof. A. N. Goring-Morris & O. Barzilai (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem): Pre-Pottery Neolithic B flint workshop.

- 2003 Excavations at Bitzat Ruhama, Northern Negev. Directed by Y. Zaidner (Haifa University): Lower Paleolithic site.
- 2003 Salvage Excavations near Beer Milka, Western Negev. Directed by Prof. A. N. Goring-Morris & O. Barzilai (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem): Nahal Lavan 1006 - Neolithic/Proto-Historic site.
- 2005-2007 Archaeological Development Surveys in the Jerusalem and Judea area, On behalf of the Israel Antiquities Authority. Including Moza 'Illit, Khirbat esh-Sheikh Ghazi (east) and Ramot forest surveys.