

This municipal grain storage pit, or silo, found in stratum III was dated by the excavators to 780-650 B.C.E. It measures 21 feet deep and about 34 feet across at the top, giving it a capacity of nearly 12,800 bushels of grain. At opposite sides of the interior were two winding staircases, presumably one for going down and a second for climbing up and out. The excavators found traces of grain and chaff in the chinks of the stones, which tells us it was not plastered when it was in use. It was likely roofed when in use, perhaps by a dome of mudbrick.