

CONTENTS

List of Figures and Tables ix

Acknowledgments xi

List of Abbreviationsxiii

CHAPTER 1. Introduction I

 1.1. Summary of Previous Research 2

 1.2. Methodology 5

CHAPTER 2. Papyrus 8

 2.1. Reeds, Marshes, and Papyrus in the Ancient World 8

 2.2. The Terms 'āḥû, biṣṣā, 'ēbe, 'ārôt, and gebe' 13

 2.3. The Term ḥāṣîr 20

 2.4. The Terms 'āgam and 'agmôn/'agmōn 22

 2.5. The Term qāne 27

 2.6. The Term sūp 30

 2.7. The Term gōme' 36

 2.8. Definitions of Terms Designating Reeds, Marshes, and Papyrus 43

CHAPTER 3. Stone and Plaster 45

 3.1. Stone 45

 3.1.1. Writing on Stone in the Ancient World 45

 3.1.2. Geological Properties of Limestone and Basalt 48

 3.1.3. The Terms 'eben, maṣṣēbā/maṣṣebet, and gāzîṭ 49

 3.1.4. The Terms sela' and šûr 53

 3.1.5. Definitions of Terms Designating Stone Surfaces 56

 3.2. Mud, Clay, Plaster, and Whitewash 57

 3.2.1. Mud, Clay, Plaster, and Whitewash in the Ancient World 57

 3.2.2. The Terms bōṣ (and biṣṣā), repeš, and yāwēn 60

 3.2.3. The Term 'āpār 63

- 3.2.4. The Terms *tīt* and *hōmer* 65
- 3.2.5. The Terms *tīah* (and *t-w-h*) and *tāpēl* (and *t-p-l*) 71
- 3.2.6. The Term *śīd* (and *ś-y-d*) 78
- 3.2.7. Definitions of Terms Designating Mud, Clay, Plaster, and Whitewash 83

CHAPTER 4. Skins, Scrolls, Tablets, Ostraca, and Uncommon

Writing Surfaces 85

- 4.1. Animal Skins (‘*ôr*) 85
 - 4.1.1. Use of Leather in the Ancient World 85
 - 4.1.2. The Term ‘*ôr* 86
 - 4.1.3. Archeological Evidence for Writing on Animal Skins 87
- 4.2. Scrolls, Tablets, and Ostraca 89
 - 4.2.1. The Term *māgillā* (and *māgillat sēper*) 89
 - 4.2.2. The Term *delet* 94
 - 4.2.3. The Term *gillāyôn* 97
 - 4.2.4. The Term *lūah* 102
 - 4.2.5. The Term *heres’* 110
 - 4.2.6. Definitions of Terms Designating Scrolls, Tablets, and Ostraca 115
- 4.3. Uncommon Writing Surfaces 115
 - 4.3.1. Writing on a Staff, *maṭṭe* (Numbers 17:16–26) 116
 - 4.3.2. Writing on a Wooden Stick, ‘*ēs* (Ezekiel 37:15–20) 118
 - 4.3.3. Writing on a Rosette of Pure Gold, *śīš zāhāb tāhôr* (Exodus 28:36–38; 39:30–31) 122

CHAPTER 5. Scribal Instruments and Glyptics 124

- 5.1. Writing Instruments 124
 - 5.1.1. The Term ‘*ēt* (‘*ēt barzel*, ‘*ēt sōpēr/sōpārīm*) 124
 - 5.1.2. The Phrase *šippōren šāmîr* 129
 - 5.1.3. The Term *heret* 133
 - 5.1.4. The Term *šered* 135
- 5.2. Accessories of the Scribal Kit 136
 - 5.2.1. The Term *dəyô* 136
 - 5.2.2. The Phrase *qeset hassōpēr* 139
 - 5.2.3. The Phrase *ta’ar hassōpēr* 143
 - 5.2.4. Definitions of Terms Designating Writing Instruments and Accessories of the Scribal Kit 145
 - 5.2.5. Note on Scribal Training in Ancient Israel and the Scribal Tool Set 146
 - 5.2.6. Production of Monumental Inscriptions and the Tools Involved 147

5.3. Glyptics	148
5.3.1. Seals in the Ancient World and Ancient Israel	149
5.3.2. Engraved Precious Stones and Weights	152
5.3.3. The Terms <i>ḥôtām/ḥōtām</i> and <i>ḥōtemet</i>	155
5.3.4. The Term <i>ṭabbaʿat</i>	157
5.3.5. Bullas and Jar Handles	158
5.3.6. Definitions of Terms Designating Seals	159
CHAPTER 6. Egypt's Influence on Canaan and Ancient Israel.	160
6.1. Egypt's Contact with Canaan and Ancient Israel	160
6.2. The Influence of Egypt and Mesopotamia on Writing Technology in Canaan and Ancient Israel	163
CHAPTER 7. Conclusion	169
Works Cited.	171
Ancient Sources Index	195
Subject Index	207

