

OVERWEIGHT?

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Israel a place of fascination

While there are many exotic destinations I've dreamed of visiting over the years, I confess Jerusalem was not, until recently, among them.

When we heard my husband's company was holding its annual directors' seminar there, and that we'd been invited to attend, our feelings ranged from

delighted disbelief and awe to a certain trepidation.

It was hard to ignore the fact that this country has endured a history of violence and instability; we couldn't help wondering what we were letting ourselves in for.



kate's corner
kate gilderdale

Nevertheless, our excitement increased as our departure approached and we spent much time gathering information about our destination. No amount of reading and research, however, could capture the magical experience of seeing first hand the ancient and holy land of Israel.

Tragedy has dogged the Jewish people for thousands of years; we visited the fortress of Masada, where 960 Jews perished by their own hand rather than surrender to the tyranny of the Romans.

The memorial of Vad Vashem, which painstakingly chronicles the horror and pathos of the Holocaust, provided a grim and deeply affecting reminder of man's continuing inhumanity to man.

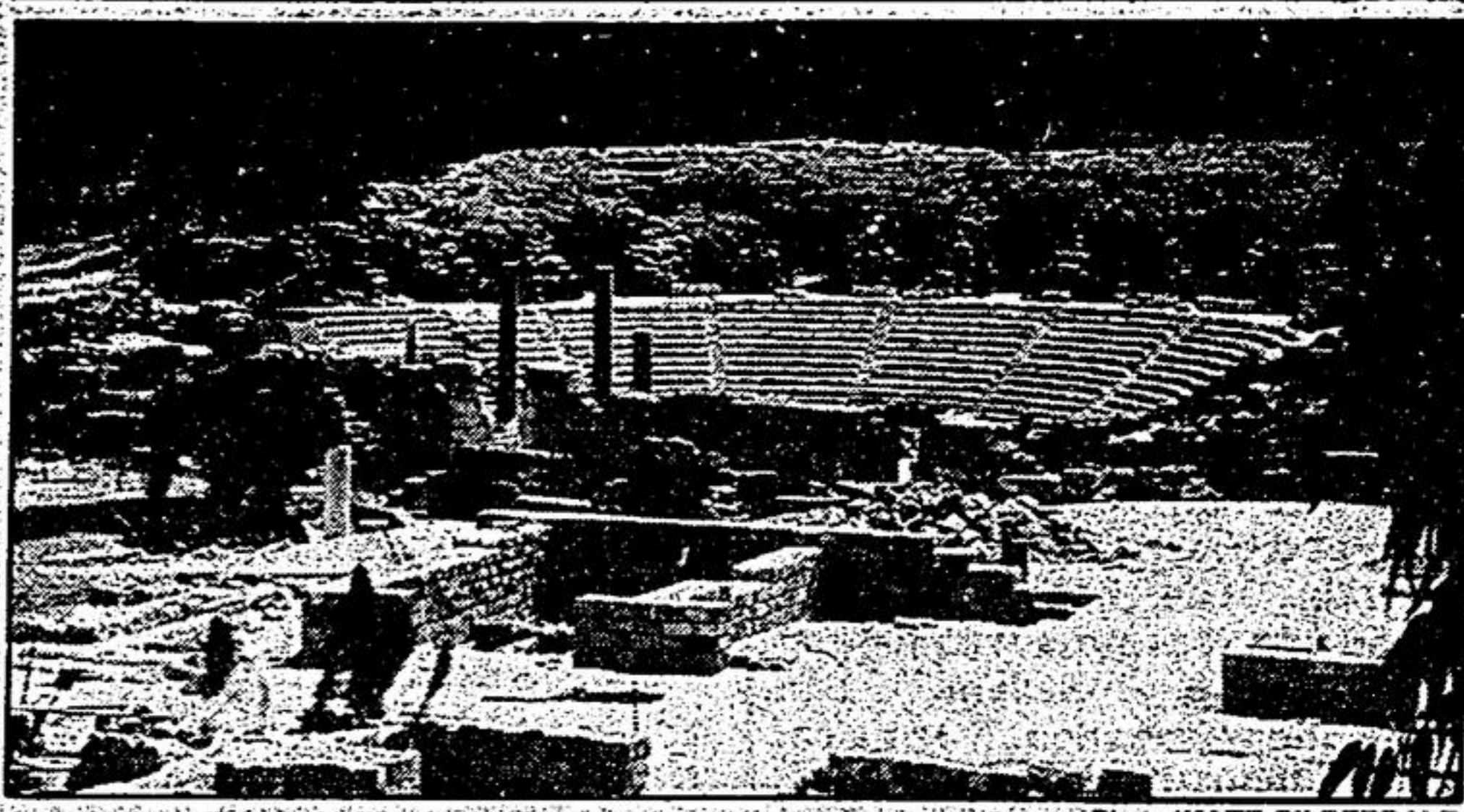
Our tour of the old city included a visit to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the site of Christ's crucifixion and burial, an ancient and beautiful place whose charms are tempered by constant bickering between the various religious groups over their claims to individual areas within it.

Driving along the West Bank, through the Judean Hills and Jericho, and across miles of rocky, desolate desert, we encountered scattered groups of Bedouins, who somehow manage to survive despite the meagre vegetation and lack of water.

We floated on the salty water of the Dead Sea, took a cruise on the Sea of Galilee (actually a very modest-sized lake) and visited the archeological site of Bet She'an, which dates back to pre-Roman times.

We were also treated to a whirl of social events, including an unforgettable evening at the Bolshoi Ballet which, as a result of Glasnost, was appearing in Israel for the first time.

Throughout our stay, we had the good fortune to enjoy the services of Israeli tour guide Ron Perry, whose incredible



Photo/KATE GILDERDALE
 The theatre, dwellings and excavation site at Bet She'an are one of the many ancient and fascinating sights captured on film by columnist Kate Gilderdale on her recent visit to Israel. Despite a history often marred by tragedy, Israel is a magical place that offers a glimpse into the origins of modern-day Christianity.

knowledge of his country and wonderful sense of humor helped make our visit especially memorable.

On one occasion, we drove through a flimsy-looking roadblock on our way to Galilee. "What's that for, Ron?" asked a member of the party. "That's to stop people bringing ham sandwiches into Jerusalem," came the deadpan reply.

Tourism, one of the country's major sources of revenue, has dropped alarmingly as a result of the Arab-Israeli conflict; at no time, however, did we feel any sense of oppression or fear.

While groups of young soldiers, their rifles slung casually around their necks, were a common sight, they were cheerful and

good-humored. We soon took their presence for granted.

The only time the threat of terrorism seemed real was during our transfer at Frankfurt Airport, en route to Tel Aviv. There, poker-faced soldiers patrolled the customs area, while unsmiling officials searched both individuals and luggage with methodical precision.

On our bus ride out to the tarmac where the plane awaited us, we were accompanied by a tank, which didn't leave the runway until we had begun our ascent.

It was an inauspicious start to a truly magnificent week. Israel isn't just a place, it's a state of mind. If you ever have the chance to go, take it; it's an experience you'll never forget.

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40 Centres Across Canada

Durham 4-H members do well in competition

MARLENE WERRY
 Rural Organization Specialist

Forty 4-H members, representing nine clubs from Durham West, participated in the 1989 4-H

Inter-Club Championship Show at the Lindsay Central Exhibition.

Kim Irvine, of Brooklin, was awarded the Holtom and Pethick Insurance Brokers Trophy for Champion Beef Showman. Christine Barrett, of Uxbridge, was Reserve Champion Senior Showman.

Darrell Wade, of Myrtle, received the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Trophy for showing the champion beef steer. Megan Haney, R.R. 3 Sunderland, exhibited the reserve champion continental junior beef heifer.

Graham Carnegie, Port Perry, was champion junior dairy showman, and honorable mention in the dairy showmanship championship class winning the Victoria and Grey National Trust Company award.

Reg Shier, of Wilfred, exhibited the second place senior Holstein calf. Wendy Evans, (Epsom), Paul Beatty (Cannington), Ian McFadden (Sunderland), and Lynnita Paisley (Beaverton), placed first, second, third and fourth respectively, in the junior yearling Holstein calf class.

The North Ontario Dairy Club and Georgina-Brock Let's Landscape Clubs placed in the first prize group with their educational exhibits.

Well over 100 4-H members from Durham East, Durham West, Peterborough and Victoria-Haliburton participated in the Lindsay Central Exhibition.

Welcome Wagon
 Bridal Party

Monday, October 16th, 1989

DISPLAYS AT 6:30
 PROGRAM STARTS AT 7:00 P.M.

THE MAPLES OF BALLANTRAE

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Dianne or Nancy
640-3521

- Coffee and Refreshments