

# CONTENTS

Acknowledgements	7
Preface	9
1 The Story of Ancient Synagogues	11
<i>Its strands are history, archaeology, a revolutionary concept, and controversial findings</i>	
2 Synagogues before the Roman Destruction of the Temple	17
<i>Did synagogues exist when the Temple still stood in Jerusalem?</i>	
3 Discovering Ancient Synagogues	33
<i>By amateurs and professionals, through war and peace, under churches and mosques</i>	
4 Styles of Synagogue Architecture	48
<i>An overview of the kinds of ancient synagogues</i>	
5 Basilica-Plan Synagogues	54
<i>Mainly in the Galilee, heavily decorated in bas-relief on the outside</i>	
6 Dura-Europos	78
<i>Window into a vanished Jewish world</i>	
7 Broadhouse-Plan Synagogues	97
<i>All over the ancient world—from North Africa to the Euphrates and in Israel too.</i>	

<b>8</b>	<b>Apse-Plan Synagogues</b>	<b>105</b>
	<i>Of mosaics and Torah shrines</i>	
<b>9</b>	<b>Out in the Field</b>	<b>131</b>
	<i>Excavating a synagogue in layers</i>	
<b>10</b>	<b>The Image in the Synagogue</b>	<b>143</b>
	<i>Or what ever happened to the Second Commandment?</i>	
<b>11</b>	<b>Pagan Symbols in Synagogue Art</b>	<b>151</b>
	<i>What's a Greek god doing in a synagogue?</i>	
<b>12</b>	<b>Recent Discoveries at Ostia and Sardis</b>	<b>162</b>
	<i>Large urban synagogues in Italy and Turkey reflect a cosmopolitan Jewish world</i>	
	<b>Notes</b>	<b>176</b>
	<b>List of Illustrations</b>	<b>187</b>
	<b>Index</b>	<b>189</b>