This colonnaded street is likely the *cardo* of Scythopolis/Beth-Shean. Columns on either side of the street supported one edge of a roof whose other edge rested on the walls of shops and houses, creating two covered walkways. The central street had no cover, as that was not deemed necessary. In the Byzantine and Arab periods, a wall was built using the standing columns as integral parts of its masonry. That is, the broad Roman street gave way to a much narrower street in later periods.