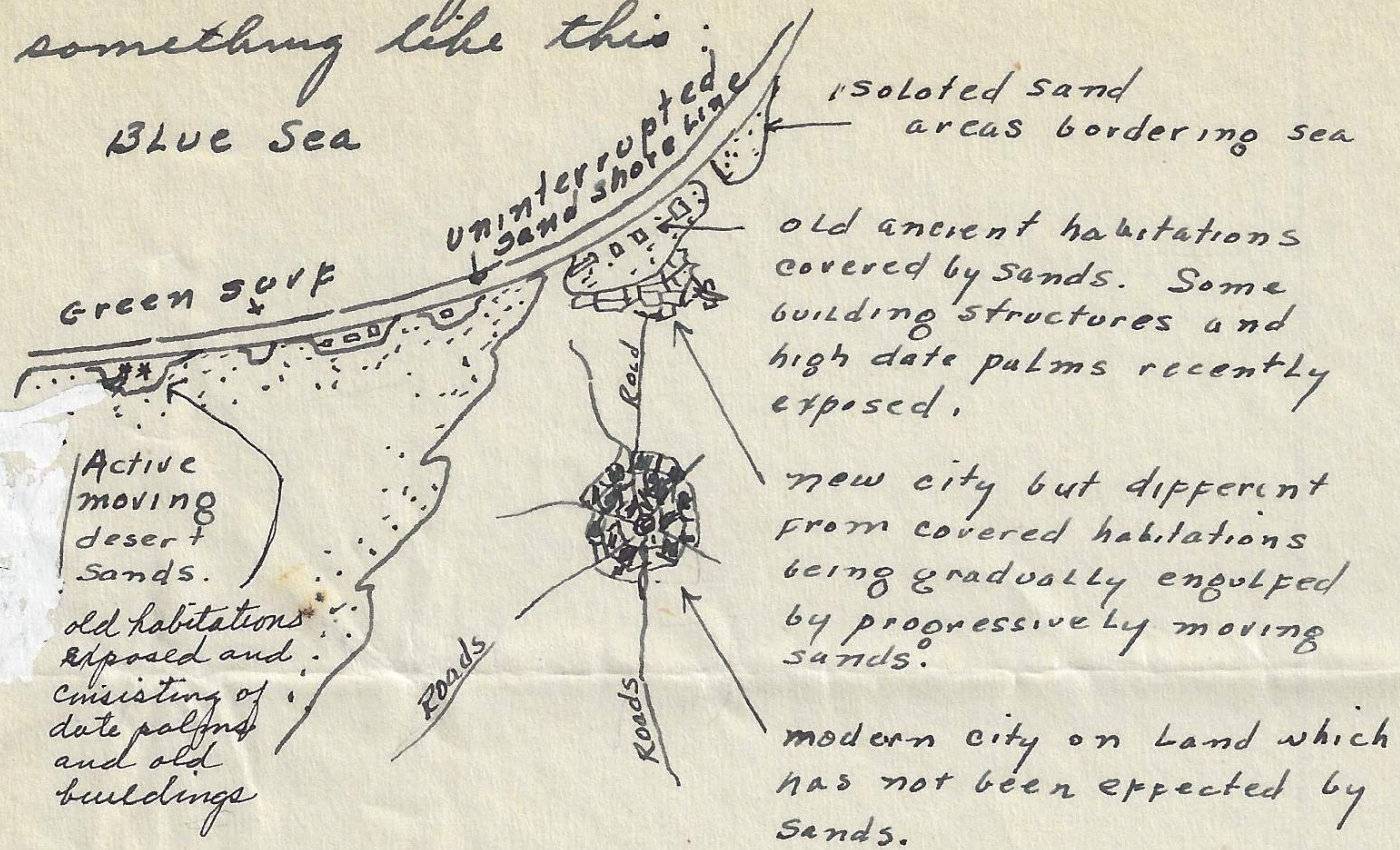


typical desert with only nude rock and sands exposed. The classical sands however are directly west of Jerusalem on the shores of the Mediterranean. Here the picture is something like this:



It would appear that formerly in ancient times there was a rather extensive strip of civilization along the border of the Mediterranean but since that time the shifting sands covered it up and only recently

after either reactivation or change of direction has the old habitations been reexposed. One can only speculate as to the number of villages now completely covered by sands. I am wondering if the Bible has ever mentioned this particular area and its covered civilization. The modern city - or rather present day village is characteristic of these Biblical towns with roadway and trails leading into the center of the hub. The roads are crooked and follow the lines of least resistance. The animal trails converging to a drinking well or spring gives the same impression and am wondering if this type of village plan is not nothing more than further development around a source of water or some other special object. First John Jones would put up his tent by the spring and then John Jones relatives and then their relatives and know until the village is formed. The roads still retain their position made by the animals who first trailed in from the surrounding flats.

As significant and interesting as this country is, I find the real enjoyable areas just beyond to the east. It remains a high plateau and without dramatic surface feature but the thing in this instance that caught my eye was the remnants of mans manufacture and the indications of an evolution in