





Battle of Yom Kippur (w/the ME)

From Fredrick Kessoler's journal Inside the Endless House, 11 Oct 1959

An air-conditioned sanctuary for Dead Sea Scrolls sounded embarrassingly contradictory. Functionally speaking, it is simply this: the air of Jerusalem (unlike that of Tel Aviv and Haifa) is sparkling dry, like champagne; the sanctuary is half underground, partially buried in rock, earth and fill. That provides for natural cooling in summer and warming in winter. Furthermore, the dome is open at the top and so shaped that the warm air is pressed upward by the cool ground. In addition, we have provided a circular spray of fountains over the upper part of the dome; they provide continuous cooling which can be diminished or strengthened as the summer heat demands. To add mechanized dehydration and frigidity to the air would be a sheer waste of equipment and money, and, worst of all, artificial in this atmosphere of antiquity. Churches, synagogues, mosques—domes of any sort throughout the ages in the East, the West, North and South, these man-built caves have been the very natural refuges from the confinement by summer heat.

The decision not to air-condition the shrine artificially was made yesterday. Today was another victory in the making. It concerns 338

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