Palace and Throne Room

Archaeologists have interpreted this building as a palace. To the right is a large plastered courtyard that served as a reception room. A small niche in the southwestern wall is the likely place where a king or governor’s throne was located and where he would sit and receive his guests. Just behind the throne niche is a bathroom with a stone toilet and plastered bath.

This building’s design resembles that of much larger palaces that were built by the Assyrian kings in northern Iraq. These similarities are likely due to the Assyrian empire’s increased influence over Edom and its neighbors in the eighth and seventh centuries BC.