

Bow Inlet Crossing Site

The parting of the Red Sea actually begins with the seemingly unimportant Locust Plague of Exodus (10:4 - 10:19). This plague has amazingly important functions in the Exodus and sea parting and it is also of great importance to us today. The Locust Plague and of the Red Sea opening and closing are powerful and complex.

Fig.1 is a probable map of the Upper Gulf of Suez area at the time of the Exodus plagues. The horizontal blue line, "Canal of the Pharaohs" Wadi Tumilat, connects the Nile River to Lake Timsah. Early digging of this canal was in the 11th Dynasty but the Exodus was much later, like in the 18th Dynasty. Somewhere on the eastern side of the Wadi Tumilat, toward Lake Timsah was Heroopolis, probably called Pithom at this time. Heroopolis was at the top of the Heroopolitan Gulf, the name of the extension of the Gulf of Suez up to and past Lake Timsah. This Heroopolitan Gulf, a northern extension of the Red Sea was noted by historians Herotodus, Strabo and Pliny. (See references in Questions, pg 35 below.) The extension of the Red Sea this far north is well documented historically. At Lake Timsah the water channel turns south to the stomach-shaped Great Bitter Lake, down to smaller Little Bitter Lake, through the Bow Inlet, and out to the Gulf of Suez. R. Larry Overstreet (see above) gives an in depth discussion of Red Sea biblical and non-biblical references to say that the extended upper Gulf of Suez (the Bow Inlet) must be the site of the Red Sea Crossing.

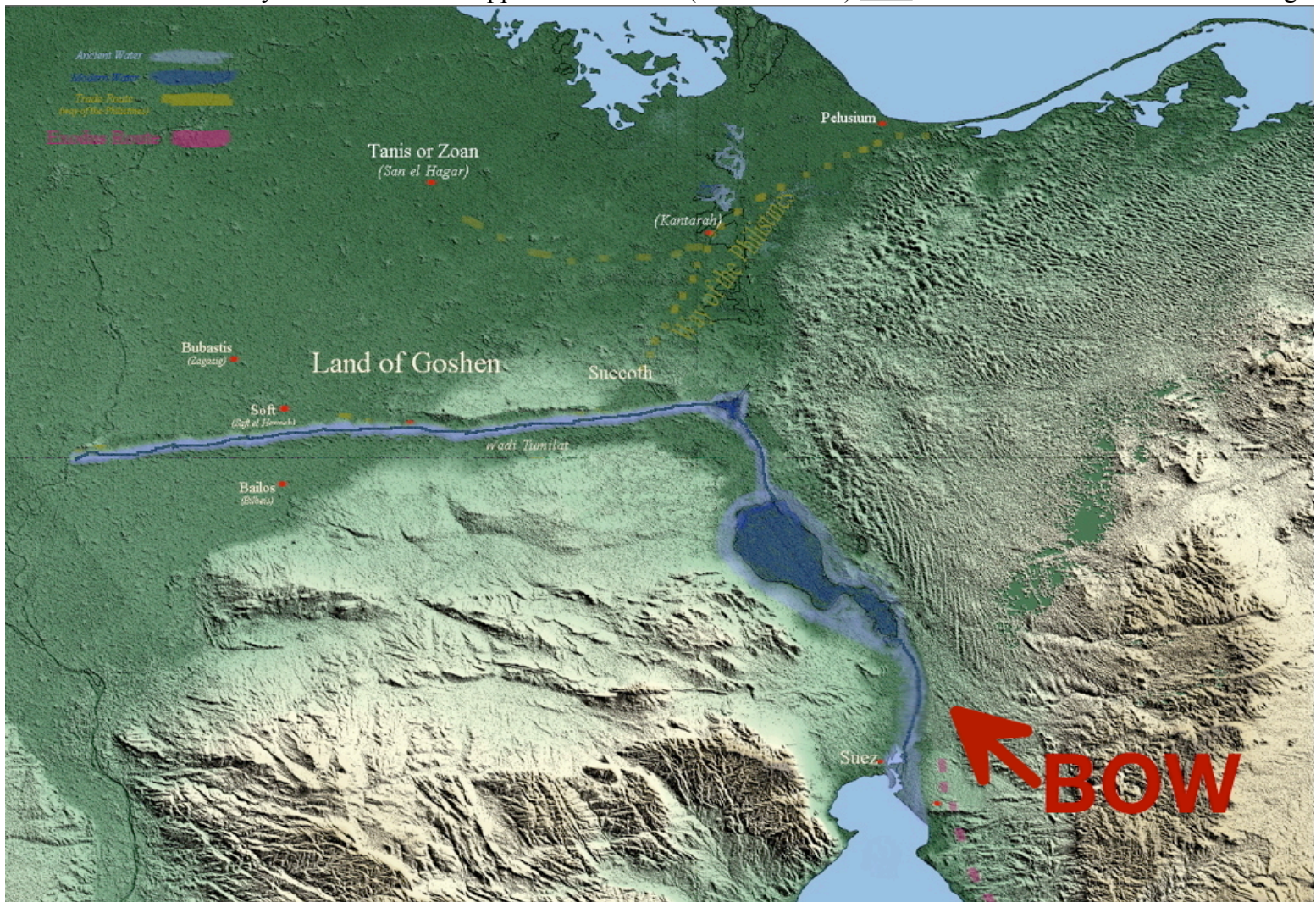


Fig. 1. Red Sea area likely geography prior to the Locust Plague. Waterway Nile to Gulf of Suez.

Pharaoh Hatshepsut, a strong candidate to be an Exodus Pharaoh, left temple pictures of ships showing she took an expedition from the Nile River, through the Bitter Lakes to the Gulf of Suez and down to the Land of Punt in Africa.