

values of residences in the five villages in Table 2.2 and the lowest- and highest-valued residences is similarly significant. This indicates that the values in the highest- and lowest-valued columns are the extremes of ranges, not independent extremes.

The range of housing values within the villages between the highest-valued and lowest-valued residences was uniformly significant, which appears to give us one very rough indicator of economic stratification within the villages. It is likewise worthy to note that, in contradiction to the dominant historical narrative of land-tenure related reforms in Palestine, the broadness of the range is an indication that the registration process was both methodical and genuine. The enormous task of recording all the owned properties within the empire, whether *mülk* ownership or ownership of tenure through usufruct, involved not only each village, but also each of its families, their representatives, and their members.

It is informative to compare rural Hebron's situation with housing data found by Martha Mundy and Richard Saumarez-Smith for the Transjordanian district of 'Ajlun in roughly the same period, using the same type of source. They found that "[a] rough index of inequality [of housing values within settlements] reveals one clear pattern: villages with marked inequality in house values lie in the richest areas of market-oriented wheat production such as Hawwara, Aidun and al-Sarih or serve as site of commercial or government wealth ... . By contrast, villages of the hills or the mountains exhibit relatively