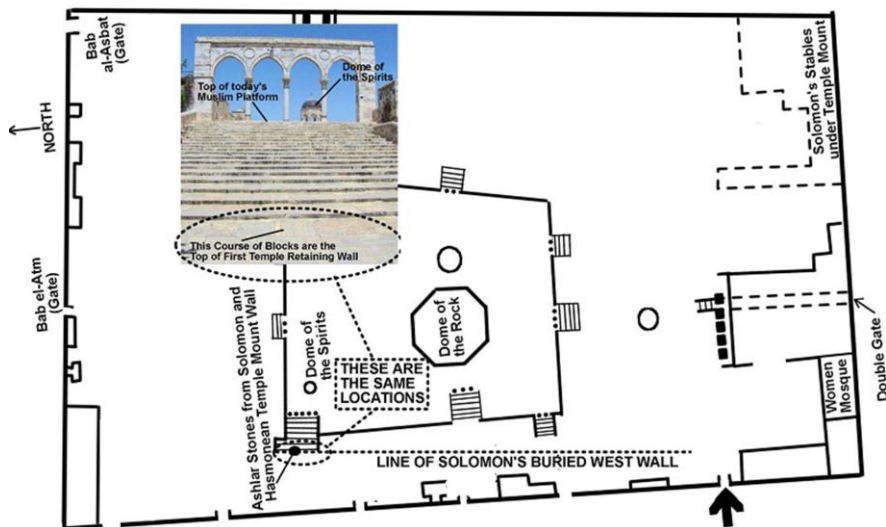


West Wall of Solomon's Temple Mount

On the Temple Mount a portion of the top course of cut stone that was in the line of the west wall of Solomon's Temple can be seen. In 19 BC Herod added additional retaining walls and fill to double the size of the Temple Mount surface. This buried of Solomon's outside retaining walls. Today the Muslims have a raised platform that sits on the Temple Mount platform. The stairs in the photo and in the bottom left corner (northwest) of the Muslim platform in the diagram are not perpendicular with the platform. Notice all the other staircases are perpendicular to the Muslim platform. There is a course of stones at the base of this northwest (bottom left) staircase whose top can be seen. These stones begin the angled staircase and instead running parallel with the Muslim platform, they preserve a former line of the west wall of Solomon's 500 cubit square Temple Mount surface. The details of this information was collected by Leen Ritmeyer who has assembled a very insightful and solid presentation on this subject.



See the top of Solomon's ashlar wall labeled in the above diagram