FURTHER STRUGGLES WITH A TEN-SQUARE

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In the May 1988 Word Ways I described my struggle to construct a non-tautonymic ten-square — with less than stellar results. Since that time, I have collaborated with Eric Albert of Auburndale, Massachusetts, who has programmed his PC to search for useful combinations of the three or four bottom words. By useful combinations, I mean that these words are chosen to generate plausible endings such as —ENCE, —ING, —TION, etc., for all ten proposed words of the square.

Armed with several partial squares of this nature, I have spent the past several months searching for possible words or phrases to complete the square. My best interim effort is given below:

J A S J A S C H E R A Q U A M A R 1 N E S U F F I S A N T S J A F F A S F O R T A M I A T 1 E R S A S S A N 1 D A E C R A F T I N E S S H I N O I D E O U S E N T R E S S E D

Words 2 and 8 are found in Webster's Second, and words 6, 7, 9, and 10 in Webster's Third. The other four require explanation:

JASJASCHER is the name of James J. Ascher, found by Jeff Grant in a Kansas City telephone directory

SUFFISANTS is the citation-word plural for the obsolete adjective suffisant(sufficient), found below the line in Webster's Second JAFFASFORT: the Encyclopedia Britannica refer's to Jaffa's fortifications; this phrase probably occurs somewhere in written text

AMIATATIER: Amiata is a mountain in the Apennine range in central Italy, part of a long chain which could plausibly be named the Amiata Tier