

# The Institute of ARCHAEOLOGY Siegfried H. Horn Museum



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#### INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY HORN ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

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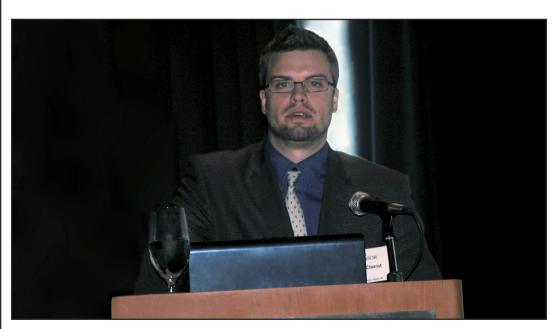
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### 2008 ASOR Annual Meeting

The 2008 annual meeting of the *American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR)* was held in Boston from November 19-22, as was the *Near East Archaeological Society* annual meeting from November 19-21, and the *Society of Biblical Literature* meeting from November 22-25. This year's *ASOR* meeting drew a crowd of over 740 people, who attended 55 academic sessions. All of the sessions, including the presentation of a *Festschrift* to Lawrence Stager at Harvard University, were well attended. The plenary address by Martha Joukowsky focused on the role of women in archaeology (From Censure to Acceptance: Women Archaeologists in Near Eastern Archaeology).

A special session celebrated 40 years of ASOR's research institute in Jordan (*The American Center of Oriental Research*) entitled ACOR at 40 Years. It included presentations by three Madaba Plains Project (MPP) members: Øystein Labianca (Collaborative Research on Empires in Jordan and the Levant); Bert de Vries (Umm al-Jimal and the Empires of Late Antiquity) and Bethany Walker (Islamic Archaeology in Jordan). While the Madaba Plains Project was not featured as a separate session this year, some of its members presented papers in the two Archaeology of Jordan sessions. These sessions included papers by Douglas Clark and Larry Herr (The 2008 Season of Excavations of the Madaba Plains Project at Tall cal-Umayri); Owen Chesnut (A Reassessment of Excavations at Tall Safut); and Chang-Ho Ji with Nathan Jeon and Joohyun Park (A Gateway to Dhiban: Surveys, Excavations, and History of Khirbet al-Bayada in the Dhiban Plateau). In addition, Matthew Grey presented a paper in the Christianity and Judaism session on The Presence and Significance of Having Veils in the Synagogues of Late Antiquity.

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Owen Chesnut Reading Paper at ASOR Meetings.

Øystein Labianca also presided over a session on Order and Conflict: Roundtables on the Agency Role of Empires in the Levant, and introduced the session theme with a few thoughts on "Analyzing Imperial Ordering Templates." Bert de Vries and Bethany Walker hosted roundtables on Empires of the Classical Era and Late Antiquity, and Empires of Medieval and Early Modern Times respectively. In addition, Walker and de Vries presided over their own session on Material Culture in Ottoman Syro-Palestine: Cities as Links Between the Ottoman Imperial Center and the Syro-Palestinian Countryside, in which MPP member Lars Wahlin presented a paper entitled As-Salt as the Center of al-Balga<sup>3</sup> in the 19th Century, and Constance Gane presided over a session on the Archaeology of Mesopotamia. Finally, Bethany Walker also presided over the Dig Directors in Jordan Business Meeting; Øystein Labianca over the MPP Staff Consultation; and Lawrence Geraty



over the MPP Reception. (Paul J. Ray, Jr.)

## Grunewald Lecture

**D**r. Mathilde Grunewald, curator of the Worms Museum in Worms, Germany, gave a public lecture titled "Medieval Pilgrimage" on September 15, 2008 as part of the Horn Archaeological Museum lecture series. She began her lecture by taking us back to a time in Medieval Europe when large sections of the central part of the continent were separated from the periphery due to the presence of Germanic tribes. Nevertheless, there was a certain amount of mobility among merchants, soldiers, and pilgrims during the Middle Ages due to the functionality of earlier Roman roads. Horseback and on foot were the most common ways of traveling; wagons were given right of way because they were typically used only by

dignitaries or for transporting books. Mules had to be used for traversing difficult terrain.

During this time, the medieval mind was concerned with the notion of humanity being inherently sinful and that sin was passed on from one generation to another. The Catholic Church encouraged people to do good deeds and penance, but also, in order to lessen the punishment in the afterlife, indulgences could be purchased (assuming the penitent was truly contrite). The money from these indulgences was used to fight wars and build churches. The best known purveyor of indulgences was Johannes Tetzel (1465-1519). These indulgences were purchased by pilgrims at various holy locations. It was thought that the more important the saint connected with a location, and the more expensive their relics, the more powerful would be the indulgence. This notion of a hierarchy of indulgences led to increased pilgrimages to certain sites, so much so that during the 13th century alone 10,000 pilgrimage sites were established in Europe. At the Council of Trent in 1563 the Catholic Church proclaimed that saints are to be venerated according to tradition. Following the 30 Years War (1618-1648). a new art style (Baroque) was founded. During the Baroque Period there was a renewed interest in pilgrimage sites due to a focus on saints and their relics.

Pilgrimage can be defined as devout travel by a group of believers with godly intentions and under the guidance of a priest to a house of worship that has been approved by the church. Relics were a vital part of the Catholic order; any pilgrimage site without one would be ignored. This led to a number of thefts and forgeries. In the 12th century relics found in Germany included the seamless robe of Jesus, found in Treier, and the cloak of Mary, found in Aachen. It is unknown if it was ever questioned how these items came to Germany. Even some saints were fictitious, such as Catherine and Barbara. Pilgrimages to foreign lands could be a form of penance in itself due to dangerous conditions, such as treacherous roads, scarce food, sickness, and rob-



Mathilde Grunewald.

beries. Despite these conditions it is estimated that between the 12 and the 15th centuries about 1/3 of Europe's population took one or more pilgrimages. One of the better known was that of King Richard I (the Lionheart) of England, who after his release from prison, on his way back from the Third Crusade, made a pilgrimage to the abbey of St. Leonard, who was the patron saint of prisoners and captives (and perhaps the mentally handicapped), 30 km east of the French town of Limoges, in 1195.

Dr. Grunewald then went to discuss the most important pilgrimages. As early as 326, Helena, mother of the emperor Constantine, traveled to the Holy Land, where she ordered churches built on holy sites and recovered relics. The most popular route to the Holy Land was a kind of medieval package tour by way of ship from Venice arranged by Italian ship owners and merchants. Various fees were charged by the leaders in Jerusalem, Jaffa, and other cities. The average round trip from Europe to Jerusalem took 3 years. The loss of parts of the Holy Land to the Muslims during the time of the Crusades affected the number of pilgrims traveling to Jerusalem. Anther important pilgrim site was Rome, where the tombs of St. Peter and St. Paul were located. Modern tourism is perhaps derived from ancient pilgrimages; in fact, guide books to Rome were written as early as the 8th century. The third most important pilgrimage was to the shrine of St. James the Great, in Santiago de Compostela, Spain. James was decapitated in Judea in AD 44 and his remains were supposedly taken





to Spain, where his tomb was discovered in the 9th century. James was the patron saint of Spain and was particularly important to those wishing to rid their land of Moorish invaders. This led to a rise in its popularity during the 11th century. (Owen Chesnut)



## Research Symposium

A celebration of research and creative scholarship was held at Andrews University on April 2, 2009. The program was designed to address the important roles of research and creative scholarship in academics, student mentoring and the community, presenting over 100 posters that summarized the work of both faculty and students.

The Institute of Archaeology/Horn Archaeological Museum was well represented. Jody Washburn, an M.A. student in religion, who is also the administrative assistant of the Institute of Archaeology, and Owen Chesnut, a Ph D student in Archaeology and a graduate research assistant at the Institute, presented a poster about their participation in the archaeological excavations at Tall Jalul in 2008. Tall Jalul is one of the largest archaeological mounds in Jordan. It is located 5 km east of Madaba. Eight excavation seasons have been completed at the site since work was begun in 1992. Dr. Randall W. Younker, Prof. Constance E. Gane and Reem Al-Shqour codirect the excavations at Tell Jalul. One of the research goals has been to create an accurate topographical map of the site. In 2004 the team borrowed a Z-Max GPS system and surveyed the tell, afterwards using ArcGIS to create a topographic map. By laying this map over an aerial picture of Jalul they were able to render the site three-dimensionally. In 2008 the team began to excavate an Islamic village at the base of Jalul. This time they had purchased their own Magellan ProMark3



Faculty and Students View Posters at the Research Symposium.

GPS system. After figuring out the peculiarities of the new unit, they set up coordinates and control points for the excavation squares in the Islamic village, after which they were able to do a surface survey of the visible architectural remains in order to get a general plan of the buildings and to better determine optimal locations for excavating. At Jalul the GPS system also replaces the theodolite for taking measurements within the squares, as it has the potential of centimeter accuracy in the field and decimeter accuracy in postprocessing. Other advantages include eliminating floating squares and large spacial inaccuracies.

L. Scott Baker, Jr., who is an MDiv student at the Andrews University Theological Seminary and serves as the Assistant to the Curator of the Horn Archaeological Museum, responsible for its exhibits and database, presented a poster about the students who are doing research at the Museum. He noted that the Museum is a gold mine for students who are interested in serious research and creative expressions. Other student research assistants at the Institute/Museum include: Sean Porras, MA student and the Institute Librarian, who has also done some work for the Museum on the Ishtar Gate and Egyptian Tomb displays; Caitlin Potts, a BA student in art history, who is working on a Museum curatorial internship. She spends her time reorganizing and archiving the Museum object collection; Emanuel Millen, an MDiv student, who is

working on some of the Museum exhibits, also works with Caitlin to make sure the objects are properly entered into the Museum database; Jennifer Shrestha, a BS student in Behavioral Science and Anthropological Archaeology, who helps with exhibit development; and Antje Gallewski, who is a BA student in pedagogy at the Otto-Friedrich Universität of Bamberg, in Germany, who is doing an internship at the Museum in Public Relations/communication.

Following the poster session, the faculty made some presentations highlighting their departments and their research assistants. Øystein LaBianca, of the Behavioral Sciences Department, and Constance Gane, Assistant Professor of Old Testament, who serves as the Curator of the Museum and as associate director for the Institute of Archaeology, focused on the Institute/Museum. LaBianca talked about Tall Hisban, perhaps biblical Heshbon, as a window on the march of empires. He introduced the undergraduate students who are doing research on empires from the archaeological remains at Tall Hisban. Gane gave an overview of the Horn Archaeology Museum, and how this group of energetic and dedicated students and teachers work together at the Institute/Museum to discover and present data illuminating the ancient Near East through archaeological excavations, publications, presentations and exhibits. (Antje Gallewski)





## RANDOM SURVEY

#### Saul Seal Discovered:

A seal with the inscription: has been found in the Jerusalem National Park The bone seal is broken and missing a piece from its upper right side. Two parallel lines divide its surface into two registers in which the Hebrew letters are engraved. A dot followed by a floral image or a tiny fruit appears at the end of the name on the bottom register: ריהו. The name of the seal's owner was completely preserved and is known from both the Bible (Gen 36:37; 1 Sam 9:2; 1 Chron 4:24 and 6:9) and other Hebrew seals.

#### Achaemenid Palaces Found in Iran:

Archeologists have recently found two Achaemenid period palaces in southern Iran in the ancient city of Ramhormoz. They are thought to have been built along the ancient 2,500 km Shahi Road, built by Darius the Great to connect the capitals of Persepolis and Susa.

To discover more about archaeology, the Institute, and the Museum, contact us at:

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#### Paul's Tomb Unearthed:

A sarcophagus dating to ca. 390 AD was uncovered at the Basilica of St. Paul's Outside-the-Walls, in Rome, named for its location beyond the ancient wall surrounding the city center. The sarcophagus was buried beneath the main altar, under a marble tombstone bearing a Latin inscription: Paulo Apostolo Mart. "Apostle Paul, Martyr." The basilica is located on the place where, according to tradition, Paul was originally buried after his martyrdom. The contents of the sarcophagus have yet to be authenticated.

#### Ancient Ointment Discovered in an Etruscan Tomb:

Archaeologists have discovered cosmetic ointment, dating to the 2nd century BC, in an alabaster unguentarium buried with an aristocratic Etruscan woman, whose ashes were found in an urn decorated with foliate elements and the head of the Etruscan earth goddess Cel Ati. The vessel contained a mixture of substances of lipids and resins, the former likely from moringa trees which are native to Egypt and Sudan, indicating the origin of the ointment.

#### Bent Pyramid Open:

The public will soon be able to enter the 80 m long tunnel to the vaulted chamber of the Bent Pyramid in Dashur, Egypt. Built by Pharaoh Sneferu, at the beginning of the 4th Dynasty (2613-2494 BC), this pyramid is renowned for its irregular profile.

## NEWSLETTER



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