



INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY

HORN ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

Ralph E. Hendrix

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INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY
HORN ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM
NEWSLETTER

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Dever *et al*, Vindicated

Since the first week in August, institute staff members and students have begun to return from the 1990 Tel Gezer excavations. No one can miss the enthusiasm and satisfaction that this project has generated among participants. Besides the general expression that this season's mix of companionship and cooperation was outstanding, even

first-time participants reflect the excitement of the season's archaeological finds.

Dr. William G. Dever, chairman of the Near Eastern Department at the University of Arizona, and Prof. Randall Younker, institute director, teamed up to plan this project as a response to challenges from certain scholars in the archaeological community. The two major problems that needed further clarification were the dating of Gezer's "Outer Wall" and its "six-chambered" gate. Dever, and others, had previously dated the Outer Wall to the Late Bronze Age

(1550-1200 B.C.) and the "six-chambered" gate to the 10th century B.C., approximately the time of Solomon. This gate, along with the "six-chambered" gates at Megiddo and Hazor, has indeed been commonly called a "Solomonic gate." Besides the many archaeological connections, 1 Kings 9:15-16 has been seen as

evidence that Solomon built these gates.

Recently, some scholars have attempted to convince the archaeological community that both the "Solomonic" gate and the Outer Wall were built in later periods. They have credited the building of the "Solomonic" gate to Ahab and have reassigned the Late Bronze Age Outer Wall to the Iron Age. For Bible students the redating of the Gezer gate to the time of Ahab, due to the inter-relationship of stratigraphy between sites, would mean that there would be



Dr. William Dever, professor at the University of Arizona and Prof. Randall Younker, director of the Institute of Archaeology at Andrews University.

indicated cont'd from page 1

The Tel
Gezer "six-
chambered"
gate can
now, more
confidently
than ever,
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"Solomonic"
gate.

virtually no archaeological evidence of the existence of a Solomonic kingdom. So it was that Dever and Younker (as reported in the last issue of the newsletter) agreed to conduct an additional season at Tel Gezer in an attempt to clarify these issues.

On July 3, 1990 two fields of excavation were opened: Field III supervised by Dever and Field XI supervised by Younker. Field XI was primarily established to find and date the Outer Wall, while Field III was reopened immediately west of the "six-chambered" gate area.

The first few weeks of the 1990 season provided more than their share of tedium for Field XI. Unfortunately, R.A.S. Macalister, excavator of Tel Gezer from 1902-1909, left behind over 3 m of excavation dump which had to be removed before any archaeological structures were found. After the dump was cleared the Outer Wall was successfully located. However, the excavators encountered unusual difficulties in dating the wall due to both Macalister's previous work and extensive 20th century military

trenching. Therefore, after about three weeks of excavation, it was decided to open some new probes about 25 m to the east along the Outer Wall in the hope of finding undisturbed, datable strata. The first 2 m of this new probe exposed an Iron Age wall; however, under the Iron Age wall, and offset by 63 cm, was found a Late Bronze Age wall. Over 1 m of pure Late Bronze II (1300-1200 B.C.) stratified debris was discovered during the last few days of excavation,

Field III, the area of the "six-chambered" gate, had been previously excavated and, therefore, the first task was the "cleaning" of the previously exposed surfaces. Several squares were reopened and a few new probes were initiated west of the gate complex. The evidence from these excavations has provided additional support for the Iron I pottery chronological sequence of unburnished red-slip, hand-burnished, and wheel-burnished recently discussed by John S. Holladay and Lawrence Stager (BASOR 277/278:23-70; 93-107).

The distinctive 10th century unburnished red-slipped pottery was

*Participants of the
Tel Gezer 1990 Project
pose in the opening
of the Solomonic gate
structure in Field III.*



Museum Visitors

Museum visitors come with a myriad of backgrounds. The staff leads tours for kindergarten classes through graduate students. The age spectrum of our visitors ranges from sleeping newborns to traveling retirees. Within the last twelve months our guest book shows visitors from Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, the now "united" Germanys, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Puerto Rico, Romania, Rwanda, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Switzerland, Trinidad, United Kingdom, United Soviet Socialist Republics and 20 states within the U.S.



found below the "six-chambered" gate. It was also discovered that a destruction had taken place in this area just before the gate was installed; Dever has suggested this destruction be attributed to the Egyptian pharaoh who turned the city over to Solomon. The Tel Gezer "six-chambered" gate can

now, more confidently than ever, be called a "Solomonic" gate, because the gate itself was constructed late in the 10th century, while the 10th century unburnished pottery predominated. Later strata revealed the beginning of the typical hand-burnished pottery of the late 10th and early 9th centuries.

An official interpretation and explanation of this summer's project will be given by Dr. William G. Dever at the November ASOR meetings in New Orleans.

*Outer Wall is a technical term coined by the Gezer excavators; capitalization follows publication reports.



William Miller Farm Project



*William
Miller
farmstead
in Low
Hampton,
New York.*

During June the Institute of Archaeology (IA) in conjunction with Adventist Historic Properties (AHP), and restoration architects Carl Stearns and Associates, initiated an archaeological investigation at the William Miller farmstead in Low Hampton, New York.

The three weeks of work consisted of the removal of modern stonework at the rear of the farmhouse, the digging of several probes, the rebuilding of a stone wall, and the clearing of brush around the property.

William Miller was a Baptist minister who instigated the "Millerite" movement, an interdenominational revival that shared the belief that Jesus' second coming

would be in the mid-1800s. The Seventh-day Adventist church is one of many denominations that trace their roots to the Millerite revival. Miller built the Low Hampton farmstead about 1815. In the last 175 years its buildings have been repeatedly removed, reused, or remodeled. The AHP purchased the property with plans to restore the farmstead as a mid-19th century example of how early Adventist pioneers and the general New York and New England population lived.

The archaeological work consisted of several probes to locate the garden area and to determine the use of outbuildings long since removed. The foundation wall of one building was exposed

providing the building's dimensions and recent use. Previous speculation had claimed that this building was either a privy or ash house. Bedrock was discovered immediately below its foundation, obviously, ruling out its use as a privy. No evidence was found to substantiate its use as an ash house. Further excavation is needed to determine its use, but due to the materials found around the building it has been suggested that during the 1950s the building was used as a shop or tool shed.

Several seasons of archaeological work are expected to assist in the location of additional foundations and to determine the early uses of the various farm buildings. Two other features that need further investigation are a lime kiln and a rock quarry. The IA plans to continue its work at the property on an annual basis, for a few weeks each summer, until the project is complete.

The IA team consisted of Bill Cash, project coordinator, Lorita Hubbard, project archaeologist, and Ramona Hubbard, archivist and cook. They were assisted in their work by a contingent of Pathfinders (a Seventh-day Adventist youth group) from the Georgia-Cumberland Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and several representatives from AHP.



Donated Library

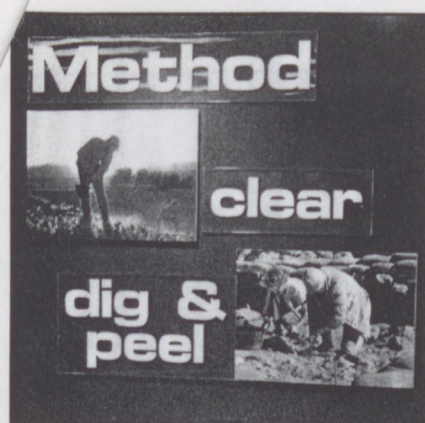
The late Fred Kellam owned a collection of archaeology and geology books, archaeological magazines, personal notebooks and papers which was presented to the Institute of Archaeology this summer through the arrangements of Robert Little.

Fred Kellam worked for the Indiana State Highway Commission as head of the Bureau of Materials, Engineer of Design, acting Chief Engineer, and Engineer of Bridges.

As his daughter-in-law, Helen Kellam writes, after retiring in 1962, Kellam spent the "next fifteen years

... in study, research and writing pertaining to geology." It is this collection of books, papers and notes which have been so generously donated to the Institute library. Mr. Kellam died on May 1, 1978.





Madaba Plains exhibit now showing at Andrews University's James White Library.

Dig Display

The Madaba Plains Project (MPP) had a booth in Indianapolis during the General Conference of the Seventh-day Adventists from July 3-14. The layout consisted of artifacts found in Jordan during the 1984, 1987 and 1989 digs, a video presentation, and information about joining the MPP dig. Over 1,000 people viewed the arrangement and 60 of them requested information about the up-coming dig. Special

thanks go to Douglas Clark, Gillian Geraty, Tom Geraty, Julio Juarez, and Øystein LaBianca for their help in setting up, hosting, and packing up the exhibit. Currently it is set up in the James White Library at Andrews University. If you are interested in having the MPP display at your church or institution please contact us.



Persia and the Bible

Students of the Persian history and the Bible will be especially pleased with the most recent book by Edwin M. Yamauchi, *Persia and the Bible* (Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49516, \$34.95). As noted by Donald J. Wiseman in the foreword, this is the first authoritative survey of Persia and the Bible in many years. With 578 pages, it is not written for only the biblical student, but with the historian and archaeologist also in mind. An indication of the breadth of this work is its "Index of Authors," which lists 1,328 authors, some with dozens of citations.

Persia and the Bible's table of contents, in a simple index format, belies the depth of the contents which follow. The "Contents" lists fourteen topics. In actuality, these topics are a list of fourteen people and places (The Medes, Cyrus, Cambyses, Darius, Xerxes, Artaxerxes I, Susa, Ecbatana, Pasargadae, Persepolis, Persia and the Greeks, Zoroastrianism, the Magi, and Mithraism). Yamauchi uses these simple divisions as a means of introducing a sophisticated

presentation of Persian history. For example, the first chapter "The Medes" discusses their origin, homeland, archaeology, relations with the Assyrians and Persians, development from independent tribes to unification, best known and most important kings, and burial practices. One can get a measure of this tome by referring to the book's indices which includes subjects, places, authors, and biblical references. These indices also make this work a practical reference work.

An important contribution of Yamauchi's book is his use of a broad spectrum of scholars. Readers are introduced to various biblical, historical, and archaeological questions. Major scholarly viewpoints (and sometimes obscure ones) are allowed to speak without prejudice. That is, Yamauchi does not allow his friendliness to the Bible to limit his scholarly resources. He presents the problems and a variety of solutions. When Yamauchi feels the evidence is in favor of a particular argument, he relates his opinion, but often he allows readers to make their own

choices. This approach provides the reader with an extensive bibliography, alone worth the price of the book.

Yamauchi's *Persia and the Bible* is written in a clear and concise style that is comfortable for a layreader. Foreign words or technical terms are not avoided, but are explained as they are introduced. Dozens of photographs and drawings throughout the book are also appealing to non-specialists.

A helpful addition would have been a detailed foldout map where every major archaeological location and geographical feature could have been found together. The reader with an interest in geography may have difficulty knowing exactly where in Persia each event took place. The serious student may want to visit a large library to consult a detailed map while reading this book. Even with that omission, possibly due more to cost than oversight, *Persia and the Bible* is worth purchasing by both scholar and layreader. It will be a standard reference for many years to come. DM



Cover Design of the *MPP 1*

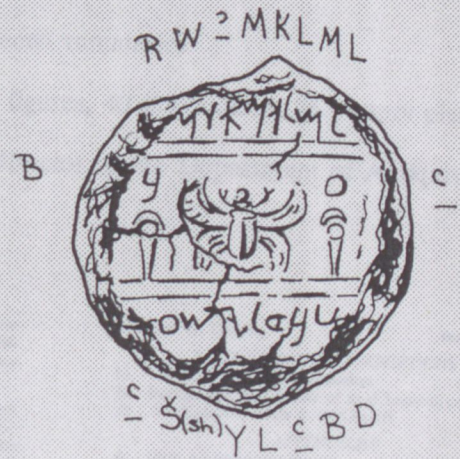
The cover for the *Madaba Plains Project 1: The 1984 Season* . . . was designed by Eric Shultz in coordination with the series editors. Its strikingly simple design indicates the essential spaciousness of the Ancient Near Eastern desert represented in browns and sands. Its central illustration (by Peter Erhard) is an Ammonite seal impression which was discovered during the 1984 field season at Tell el-Umeiri.

The writing on the impression is translated: "Belonging to Milkom'ur," ("Milkom's Flame" or "Milkom is flame"), a servant of "Ba'alyaša" or "Ba'alyiš'i", whose name means "Baal saves" or "Baal is my salvation."

The symbols in the center of the seal impression (a winged scarab beetle flanked by two poles topped by a solar disk on one and a crescent moon on the other) emphasize the official status of the owner.

Jeremiah 40:14 mentions *Baalīs* king of the Ammonites, who reigned during the conspiracy to murder Gedaliah dated to 582 B.C. just after the final Hebrew exile to Babylon. It is certain that the biblical "Baalīs" and this "Baalyasa" were the same individual. This example of the divine name Milcom is one of the first attested occurrences of that name which was known from the Bible to have been the national deity of the Ammonites (1 Kings 11:5, 33, etc).

The yellowish-brown clay cone impression measuring 21 mm high, with an impressed face 19 mm in diameter, was probably a stopper for a juglet, referring to the quantity, quality, or origin of the jug's contents. It was found by Lloyd Willis while sifting topsoil collected during the random surface survey, immediately to the south of the Ammonite Citadel. Field Supervisors Larry Mitchel and Douglas Clark aided in the initial identification of the object as a seal impression. Scholarly publication of this important find is provided by Larry G. Herr in chapter 21 *MPP 1* (from which this brief was extracted), and vital background information on similar seals and impressions is provided by Randall W. Younker in chapter 22.



The inscription reads from right to left:
 LMLKM'WR = "belonging to Milkom'ur"
 'BD = "son [ie "servant"] of"
 B'LŠ = "Ba'alyaša"

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*correction from Winter/Spring issue
 #including Dow Chemical matching funds
 @in honor of Dr. Siegfried H. Horn



The directors of the Madaba Plains Project, in conjunction with Andrews University Press and the Institute of Archaeology, Andrews University announce:

Madaba Plains Project 1: The 1984 Season at Tell el-Umeiri and Vicinity and Subsequent Studies

State of the art layout, including:

- 632 pages; 23 chapters; 6 appendices
- Over 150 pages of detailed locus summaries
- Over 25 pages of fauna, flint, and seeds summaries
- Over 290 photographs, 80 maps, 60 figures, 40 illustrations, 25 pottery plates

Dedicated to Dr. Adnan Hadidi, past director of the Department of Antiquities of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

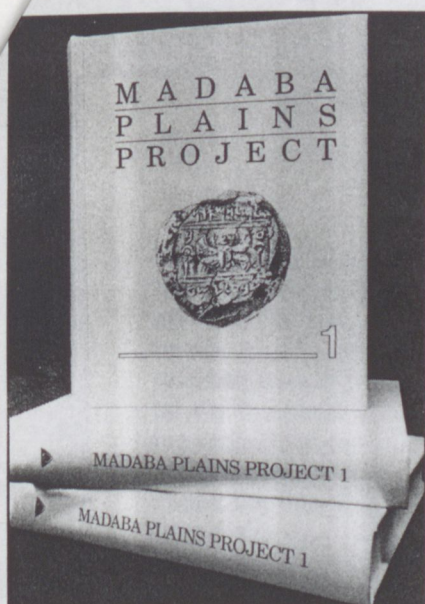


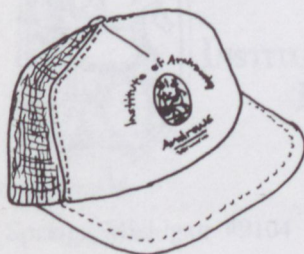
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Random Survey

Dr. Siegfried Horn has had a miraculous recovery since our last newsletter. He has been released from the hospital and has been traveling around the world. Since August he has visited the Galapagos Islands and has spent several weeks in Europe. We look forward to Dr. Horn's visit in April when he will be lecturing at Andrews University as part of the Horn Archaeological Museum's Lecture Series. We wish him continued strength and God's blessings.

The Museum's display area is open to visitors Tuesday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-noon and 2-5 p.m., and on Saturday and Sunday from 2-5 p.m. Guided group visits can be arranged by telephoning (616) 471-3273. We close during school holidays. Those traveling from long distances should telephone in advance.

The annual SBL/ASOR meetings are November 17-20 at the Marriot and Sheraton Hotels in New Orleans. Call (404) 636-4757 for information.

The Madaba Plains Project announces its fourth season of excavations, June 18-August 6, 1991. Those interested should write for details.

NEWSLETTER



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