



## INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY HORN ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

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INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY  
HORN ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM  
NEWSLETTER

David Merling Editor  
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The Newsletter is published four times a year by the Institute of Archaeology, Andrews University. Annual subscription price is \$7.50. Museum membership, subscription, and editorial correspondence should be addressed to the Horn Archaeological Museum, Institute of Archaeology, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-0990, (616) 471-3273.



AIAR director Seymour Gitin examines reconstructed whole forms.

### Gitin Donates Sherd Collection

Sy Gitin, director of the W. F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research (AIAR) in Jerusalem, recently placed his personal collection of pottery sherds on permanent loan with the Horn Archaeological Museum. The collection

consists of thousands of sherds from numerous sites throughout the Levant.

Some might wonder about the value of broken sherds: the monetary value is negligible, but for study purposes, Gitin's collection is invaluable. Such a collection allows students the opportunity to learn basic pottery forms before participating in field work, and also provides examples of those unique pottery types not commonly found at all sites.

To prepare the sherds for study, each sherd is being "accessioned" into a computerized database. The student will be able to input a sherd number and gain access to information about the sherd: provenance, whole-form type, and location of bibliographical examples.

Gitin began collecting these sherds in the early 1970s with the intent of using them in his own classroom instruction. Since that time, his need for the collection has not

continued. When he discovered that the Horn Museum was in the process of expanding its own study corpus, he generously volunteered his collection.

Gitin's collection is especially valuable because it has many forms previously uncommon in the museum sherd collection. For example, it contains both Philistine and Mycenaean sherds. These pieces of painted pottery are extremely important to ceramic studies.

On behalf of Andrews University students present and future, Dr. Gitin, we thank you. (David Merling)



Part 1 exposes the reader to the cultural background of New Testament times--Hellenistic and Roman architecture. Plans and structures of civic, domestic, and religious life are described. The two chapters of Part 2 examine the building activities of Herod the Great. Half of the discussion concerns Herodian Jerusalem and the other half, Herod's accomplishments outside of Jerusalem. Part 3 focuses on the archaeological discoveries that intersect the life of Jesus Christ. This discussion is geographically subdivided following the events of Jesus' life in Galilee and Judea. Part 4, the final section, returns to the broader scope of the ancient world by surveying the remains of the first centuries of Christianity. This involves a virtual tour of New Testament sites, and a summary of manuscripts discovered in the 19th and 20th centuries.

One hesitates to criticize a book of such substance and value, but two suggestions would increase its effectiveness. Of minor concern are two printer errors: the photograph of Beth Shean (an easily visited and photographed site), page 25, is notably out of focus; and the lamps displayed on page 31 are reversed compared to the text). But a more



*Archaeology and the New Testament* is highly recommended and much needed in the field of New Testament studies. No doubt it will serve as a standard text for many years to come. (David Merling)




*Albright Trustee, Randall W. Younker*



## Lectures Continue

Keith N. Schoville, professor of Hebrew and Semitic Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and author of *Biblical Archaeology in Focus*, gave background to the discovery, nature and current state of analysis of the Dead Sea Scrolls. His January 27th lecture was very well attended by students, faculty and members of the local community.

A *Morning in Abraham's Town* was offered on March 5th by Elizabeth E. Platt. The presentation was a particular treat as Dr. Platt illustrated her lecture with many artifacts from the museum collection. Platt, associate professor of Biblical Studies at the Theological Seminary, University of Dubuque, is also object specialist for the Madaba Plains Project excavations. (Ralph E. Hendrix) 



Keith N. Schoville admires the Horn Library.

calendar calendar calendar calendar calendar calendar

## Calendar

- Apr 6 James Hoffmeier. *The Route of the Exodus*, 8pm evening lecture.
- Apr 15 Deadline to return dig application and deposit.
- May 4 Bert DeVries. *Archaeology in Jordan after the Gulf War*, 8pm evening lecture.
- May 15 Deadline to apply for Middle East Tour. End of Discount on MPP 2.
- Jun 16 Dig Season Begins (for both full season and first half participants).
- Jul 1 Second Half of Dig Season Begins.
- Jul 5 First Half of Dig Season Ends.
- Jul 28 Dig Season Ends.
- Jul 29 - Middle East Tour Begins (Jordan, Aug 9 West Bank, Egypt).
- Aug 9-16 Middle East Tour Extension (Turkey and Greece).




Elizabeth E. Platt examines museum objects.

## Chang-Ho Ji Assists Curator

Graduate student Chang-Ho Ji has taken up the role of assistant to the curator during the current fiscal year. The establishment of the Horn Library in April 1991 required a general shift in the work areas of the

institute building. This gave Chang a unique opportunity for "hands-on" experience. He has been consumed in reorganizing and reassigning storage for pottery and objects. This has also involved updating the computerized database which contains information on each of the museum's thousands of artifacts, including the new storage location. The job included inventorying the collection, correcting the existing database, troubleshooting problems, and accessioning new objects recently received. The enormously detailed task is now complete.

Now Chang is engaged in a second major project: establishing a database for the recently-acquired Gitin Sherd Collection. This group, combined with smaller collections and the museum's existing corpus, will require hundreds of hours to prepare for use by students. Each of the thousands of sherds must first be washed and individually numbered, then, a computerized record will be initiated. It is this record that students can access as part of the learning process. (Special mention should be made of the support given by the Andrews University Office of Scholarly Research which continues to facilitate this project.)

Chang and his wife Shirley arrived on campus in June 1991 from the Chicago area. He is enrolled in a program in education preparatory to his eventual return to Korea. (Ralph E. Hendrix) 



Chang-Ho Ji works on the sherd collection.



## The Organization of the Institute


Over the years, the organization of the "Andrews University Archaeological Institute" has continued to evolve. What began as a handful of artifacts in Professor Wood's desk drawer, became a full-fledged excavation and museum under Siegfried H. Horn, and then an actual "institution" under the management of Lawrence T. Geraty. Now, the institute has many types of artifact collections, a library, an exhibit floor, a publications office, and has participated in the excavation of six separate sites in three countries. Those of us who work within the institute every day may take its diversity for granted. Here, we'd like to describe a little more about the institute and how it operates.

The "institute" is an umbrella organization composed of the Institute of Archaeology itself, the Horn Museum, the current excavation, and publications department. It is networked with several leading archaeological associations and other organizations in order to facilitate the free exchange of information. As director of the overall institute, Randall W. Younker coordinates the archaeological interests of Andrews University, the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, the SDA Theological Seminary, and the consortium of dig sponsors. He serves on the Old Testament faculty within the SDA Theological Seminary.

The Horn Archaeological Museum is the oldest formal archaeological organization in the institute with a history dating back to 1938. Traditionally, it has been the primary department within the institute. Associate Director David Merling is curator of the museum, and supervises the collection and care of artifacts housed in the museum. These artifacts highlight the Bible Lands and are gathered through donations and purchases, but most numerous through excavation. After analysis and publication, excavated artifacts are accessioned into the museum collection. As curator, Merling administers the institute in the director's absence, is editor of this newsletter, and serves on the SDA Theological Seminary Old Testament faculty.

The second oldest section within the institute facilitates ongoing excavations and dates back to 1968. Associate Director Øystein S. LaBianca is responsible for the Madaba Plains Project budget and conducts research within the project. He represents the College of Arts and Sciences among the dig-sponsoring consortium schools. He co-edits the Hesban Final Publication series, is professor of Anthropology and is chairman of the Behavioral Science department.

Publications is the youngest institute segment and was formally organized just two years ago. Headed by managing editor Ralph E. Hendrix, the department is responsible for preparing "printer-ready" copy of all institute archaeological publications. These publications include the Hesban Final Publication series, the Madaba Plains Project series, the Horn Archaeological Museum Assyriological series (publishing the cuneiform tablet collection), this newsletter, and other ancillary projects. The volumes are then marketed by Andrews University Press.

Keeping everyone on track is administrative secretary, Trudy Stokes. Seven student workers assist department heads by completing scores of tasks. Clearly, the "institute" has become quite complex. Perhaps this short description makes it a little more understandable. (Ralph E. Hendrix) 

**A Hesban 25th Anniversary** is planned for spring 1993. Top scholars have agreed to participate in the weekend celebration. Their papers, anecdotes, photographs and memories will be gathered into a popular book commemorating Hesban after 25 years. Look for more information in upcoming newsletters!

### The Dig

by  
Marian Love\*

Rose-petalled dawn slowly  
sets blazing craggy heights,  
like the birthday candles  
of some venerable patriarch

while deep pools of night  
linger in silent valleys,  
warm, earth-scented  
in the milky mist.

Already sweat-wet faces frown,  
aching winter-weak muscles  
peeling away layers of time  
like ants at a peony.

Silvered casings, cast like  
discards of modern locust hordes,  
witness the bond of past and present  
in conflict and pain.

Sun-strained eyes tear  
as wind stirs ashes  
warm as still-smoldering fires  
in the noonday's heat.

Etched sherds breathe anew air  
still secretly vibrating with  
the crystal notes of David's harp,  
phantom in the dust.

In destructive discovery,  
creation in reverse,  
each age is in turn scattered  
to breathe anonymous souls to life.

\*Marian Love is wife of 1990 Tel Gezer volunteer, Peter Love.



## MADABA PLAINS PROJECT 2: The 1987 Season at Tell el-<sup>c</sup>Umeiri and Vicinity and Subsequent Studies

Editors:

*Larry G. Herr, Lawrence T. Geraty, Øystein S. LaBianca, Randall W. Younker*

Including the research of 24 contributors representing 16 academic institutions

The Institute of Archaeology and Andrews University Press are pleased to announce the upcoming delivery of **Madaba Plains Project 2: The 1987 Season at Tell el-<sup>c</sup>Umeiri and Vicinity and Subsequent Studies** which represents publication of the second season of work in the Madaba Plains region. A natural development of Andrews University's field expeditions to Tell Hesban (also located in the Madaba Plains region), on-going excavation at Tell el-<sup>c</sup>Umeiri has continued through three seasons.

The Madaba Plains Project emphasizes "regional" research involving excavation complimented by agricultural, cultural, geological, and industrial surveys. Already revealed is a cyclical pattern of occupational intensification and abatement during ancient times. This "regional" approach maintained by the Madaba Plains Project, combined with the excavation of Tell el-<sup>c</sup>Umeiri, Tell Jawa and two hinterland sites, has greatly illuminated the history of the southern portion of the Ammonite Kingdom during the Iron Age.

### Special 20% Discount until May 15, 1992

Available for delivery May 15, AU Press offers a special discount of 20% off the regular price of \$49.95. Order your copy before May 15 for just \$39.95 (plus shipping/handling). Regular prices apply after the May 15 deadline.

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**AL-MAKTÁBA**  
THE BOOKSTORE

- ☐ Yes! I want to order \_\_\_\_\_ copies of *MPP 2* at \$39.95 each (plus shipping and handling). Enclosed is \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ I want to subscribe to the *Newsletter* at just \$7.50 per year. Here is my first year's subscription \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ No, I haven't forgotten the Institute of Archaeology Endowed Scholarship Fund. Enclosed is my gift for \_\_\_\_\_.

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# RANDOM SURVEY

*The Institute of Archaeology Endowed Scholarship Fund* has been established to underwrite some of the cost of graduate archaeological education. Money is always in demand, but some investments return enduring benefits ... student sponsorship is one of these enduring investments. Call today for more information about this endowed scholarship fund.

## 20% DISCOUNT

*Madaba Plains Project 2: The 1987 Season at Tell el-<sup>c</sup>Umeiri and Vicinity and Subsequent Studies* will soon be available for delivery. Request your copy in advance. Remember **May 15** is the deadline for the introductory 20% discount. Don't delay; call today: 616/471-3273.

## MUSEUM HOURS

(During school session)

Tue-Thur 9am-noon  
2pm-5pm

Sat-Sun 2pm-5pm

(Closed Mon & Fri)

Groups welcomed;  
(call 616/471-3273  
for appointment).

## Ancient Pets?

In 1930, a scholar in Palestine was studying ancient Aramaic texts that referred to a little mouse-like animal which was a popular children's pet in antiquity. The texts mentioned that the pet was brought to Assyria from the land of the Hittites. So, travelling to the ruined Hittite city of Chaleb (now Aleppo), the scholar had the good fortune to find and collect the last thirteen surviving red-golden rodents. The scholar: Professor Aharoni! The rodent: The golden hamster which now numbers in the tens of millions and is again a common household pet!

The Horn Museum was likened to *A House of Treasure*, in an article appearing in the January 16, 1992 issue of *Adventist Review*. The color photo-filled article, authored by curator David Merling, highlighted the museum collection and recounted its early history.

The winter of 1991-92 has been extraordinarily wet in the Middle East. After several seasons of inadequate rainfall, the dry land has been battered with rain and blanketed with snow. Recently, the Jordan River flooded ... an event which has not happened in 40 years!

# NEWSLETTER



INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY  
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