



INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY HORN ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

IA/HAM Staff Summer Activities

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INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY
HORN ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM
NEWSLETTER

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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, Telephone (616) 471-3273, FAX (616) 471-3619, EMAIL hormuseum@andrews.edu

Volume 15, No. 3
Summer 1994

Excavations, hinterland projects, and a new publication highlighted the summer of 1994 as personnel of the Institute of Archaeology/Horn Archaeological Museum continued their efforts to collect, analyze, and understand ancient life on the Madaba Plains of Jordan.

Randall Younker and David Merling co-directed the field season at Tell Jalul while Øystein LaBianca arranged a variety of survey research activities. Participating Institute workers included doctoral students Paul Ray, Jr. (field excavator, Khirbet Rufeisa), Zeljko Gregor (Field A supervisor, Tell Jalul), Chang-ho Ji and Ruzica Gregor (square supervisors, Tell Jalul), as well as undergraduates Laura Bredall and Brian Manley (artists). Back in the US, Ralph Hendrix completed work on *Hesban After 25 Years*.

Tell Jalul director Randall Younker and associate director David Merling conducted the 2nd season of work at this, the largest and most centrally-located, site in the Madaba Plains area of Jordan. The 1st season (1992) had seen the discovery of 8 field phases (including 2, superimposed Iron II period pavements which formed part of an approach ramp to the city and an ash layer which implied a fiery destruction of the late-Iron I settlement). This season's enlarged excavation uncovered at least 4 major architectural phases from the Iron I through Persian periods in three fields.

The only new find from Iron I (1200-1000 BC) was a stretch of wall in the center of the tell just east of the acropolis. Next to the wall was collapsed mudbrick that contained Late Bronze pottery (two oil lamps, a carinated krater, and a chalice base), Iron I pottery (collared pithoi and carinated bowls), and a necklace made of a variety of glass, frit, and semi-precious beads.

The northern walls of two buildings on the north side of the tell dated to the early-Iron II period (10th-9th c. BC). One of the buildings was a domestic dwelling with a plaster floor. The flagstone approach ramps on the eastern side of the tell (discovered in 1992) were traced to the outer gatehouse of the city. Although most of the gate associated with the first ramp was removed in antiquity, three piers of the outer gatehouse were preserved. Small finds in the gate area included an Iron II stamp seal depicting a stylized ibex.

The middle-Iron II period (8th c. BC) was represented by portions of two buildings and the second phase of the flagstone approach ramp which followed the same line as the earlier one. The gate belonging to this second ramp has not yet been found.


A large portion of a tripartite pillared building which dates to the late-Iron II period (7th-6th c. BC) was partially uncovered. Its central area was dirt, while the two side rooms were paved with flagstones. Pottery found under the pavement included bowls well-known from the Assyrian period. Small finds from this period include the head of a crowned male figurine similar to the Ammonite atef-crowned busts, the upper portion of a female figurine, a lion figurine, and fragments of two horse-and-rider figurines also well known from the Ammonite region. The late-Iron II/Persian period was represented by several pits, some sections of walls, and an incense stand.

Architectural remnants from these periods illustrate only the excavated segments of what hints to be several major buildings still buried. Such buildings would indicate extensive occupation of the entire site over hundreds of years. The large number of small finds already retrieved suggests the immense quantity of cultural material yet to be recovered at Tell Jalul.


Survey director Øystein LaBianca facilitated several on-going "hinterland" research projects. Gary Christopherson (University of Arizona) supervised the random square survey of a 5 km radius around Tell Jalul. Starkly absent were the numerous agricultural sites and installations which characterized a similar survey around Tell el-^cUmeiri. David Hopkins (Wesley Theological Seminary) excavated a late-Iron II agricultural complex that yielded typical artifacts, but included 3 very unexpected stamp seals which suggest a more official administrative function to the complex. Cemetery excavations in the area of Tell el-^cUmeiri were supervised by Bogdan Dabrowski (Levant Foundation Poland) and included a megalithic "dolmen"-like structure with EB I vessels, an EB IV cemetery of five shaft tombs and two storage silos (supervised by Howard Krug), and an MB IIC cave-tomb complex which was

contemporaneous with the fortified town. Additional hinterland activities included intensive surveys of Tell el-^cUmeiri (East) and Tell el-^cUmeiri (north) augmented by the use of a metal detector, as well as a program to heighten public awareness of the usefulness of cisterns as a means to deal with the region's current worsening water crisis.

Originally reported by LaBianca in 1992 to be an important AD 1st-2nd century literary text, additional analysis this season revealed that the Khirbet Rufeis cistern carvings are actually disparate tribal markings dated much later. Paul Ray Jr's excavation this season found that ceramic evidence from the cistern dated to two phases within the Early Islamic period (AD 600-1000). Earthquake evidence and an Abbasid coin favor a dating during the latter portion of this timeframe. Arabic language experts found the hundreds of scratchings to be *wusum* (tribal territorial markings; sing.: *wasm*) by largely illiterate tribesmen, typical of the Early Islamic period.

Stateside, Institute research continued in the form of *Hesban After 25 Years*. Ralph Hendrix, director of archaeological publications, brought to fruition 18 months of work by 20 scholars in this Andrews University project which was produced with the assistance of the Michigan Humanities Council. The 403-page book edited by David Merling and Lawrence Geraty appears destined to become the single-volume account of the Heshbon Expedition to Tell Hesban, Jordan (1968-1976). (Ralph E. Hendrix) 

Reduced Hours


Cutbacks in the Institute secretarial staff have forced adjustments in operating hours. Regular Institute and Museum business will be conducted 9am-1pm, Monday-Friday. The Publication department will be open 8am-5pm. The Exhibit will be open to visitors Tues-Thurs, 9am-12 noon. Saturday afternoon Exhibit hours will remain 2pm-5pm (except Nov 26 for Thanksgiving). Call 471-3273 (between 9am and 1pm) to make arrangements for special visits. (Ralph E. Hendrix) 

Madaba Plains Project 1994


The Tell Jalul and Survey ventures are two of the three major operations of the Madaba Plains Project (MPP) the third of which is excavation at Tell el-^cUmeiri (directed by Larry Herr).

This 5th MPP season included about 120 staff, specialists, and volunteers under the management of senior director Lawrence Geraty (La Sierra University). MPP co-directors included Larry Herr (Canadian Union College), Øystein LaBianca (Andrews University), and Randall Younker (Andrews University), with consortium director Douglas Clark (Walla Walla College).

Additional institutional support came from Mark Ziese (Cincinnati Bible Seminary) and Bogdan Dabrowski (Levant Foundation Poland). Pre-dig organization and financial affairs were conducted by Randall Younker, Ralph Hendrix, and Trudy Stokes at Andrews University. In-country administration was supervised by Lawrence Geraty (La Sierra University). The difficult and problematic tasks of camp management were accomplished excellently by Philip Samaan (Andrews University). Extension-school credit and the post-season tour were coordinated by Douglas Clark (Walla Walla College).


Other MPP participants from Andrews University included Academic Vice President Mailen Kootsey (survey, photography), Professor of Economics and History Malcom Russell (survey), Office of Scholarly Research director James Fisher (Field B supervisor, Tell Jalul), and faculty member Rhonda Root (artist) as well as undergraduate Marvin Puymon (survey volunteer). (Ralph E. Hendrix) 

Tell el-^cUmeiri's 5th Season

Larry Herr (Canadian Union College) directed the 5th season at Tell el-^cUmeiri (1984-1994) which has produced the best early-Iron I (ca. 1200 BC) settlement thus far discovered in Jordan and the earliest casemate wall found in the southern Levant. Work continued clearing a second casemate room of shattered pithoi, charred human remains, and bronze spear points which evidence violent destruction. Connected to the casemate by a doorway was a large room with six pillar bases and floors paved with flagstones. A third building was discovered which belongs to the administrative center that has already produced many figurines and over 40 seals during the past 5 seasons. Details from Tell el-^cUmeiri were not available at press time. Look for a more complete account in the next newsletter. (Ralph E. Hendrix) 

Zaben at Jalul


About the time that the Madaba Plains Project went into the field for the 1994 season, Sabal es-Zaben obtained her MA degree in Archaeology from the University of Jordan. (The basis for her thesis was the pottery recovered during the 1992 season at Tell Jalul, as reported in the last newsletter.) Ms. Zaben then joined the Tell Jalul excavation as a square supervisor in the Field B "Gate Area." While there, she helped to expose the 9th c. BC gate structure and, in the process, found a stamp seal with an ibex on it.

After the season, she returned to her family home in Amman (the farm near Tell Jalul being a country estate) to continue work on an ethnographical and historical study of the Jalul region on behalf of the Madaba Plains Project. We offer our congratulations to Ms. Zaben upon the completion of her degree and look forward to association with her at Tell Jalul. (Paul J. Ray, Jr.) 

Assistant to the Curator

Archaeology PhD student Paul Ray Jr. has assumed the role of assistant to the curator.


Paul brings years of expertise to the position including four field seasons (Tel Gezer, Tell el-Umeiri, el-Dreijat, Khirbet Rufeis), teaching experience at Bugema College in Uganda, and two MA degrees (one in Old Testament and a second in Archaeology).

Paul has worked two years in the Institute. He will now be accessioning artifacts, continuing the development of the artifact databases, caring for the exhibit, and providing general assistance to David Merling. (Ralph E. Hendrix) 

Administrative Secretary

Ružica Gregor has gallantly accepted the demanding role of administrative secretary to the director and curator. She brings 7 years of secretarial experience to the position and attended her first archaeological excavation this summer—serving as a square supervisor at Tell Jalul.


The administrative secretary is responsible for routine Institute/Horn Museum business as well as tasks associated with the teaching loads of the director and curator.

Ružica has an MA in archaeology and is currently writing her PhD dissertation in Education. (Ralph E. Hendrix) 

Student Staff

Laura Bredall, 4th-year architecture student, returns as editorial assistant in the Publication department. Laura has previously served Publications as artist—a role she also filled during her first dig season this past summer with the MPP.

Zeljko Gregor, now writing his PhD dissertation in Archaeology, has taken up Publication photography duties. He has dug two seasons at Tell Jalul and organized the Horn Library.

Melody Laboy, 1st-year business major, has come to assist Ružica Gregor with secretarial tasks. She brings experience in government and law offices. (Ralph E. Hendrix) 

AL-MAKTÁBA

THE BOOKSTORE

Hesban After 25 Years

edited by David Merling and Lawrence T. Geraty
(xxiv + 379 pp). ISBN 0-9642060-0-5; paper. \$12.95

The single-volume account of the Heshbon Expedition to Tell Hesban Jordan (1968-1976) is here! The long editorial process is finally over. Now you can have the latest ceramic study by James A. Sauer at your fingertips. Perhaps a complete description of the Hesban cemeteries with Douglas Waterhouse's previously unpublished tomb typology is more to your liking. A highly-detailed account of all the small-finds and coins by Ralph Hendrix, previously unpublished Ammonite Ostraca by Frank Moore Cross, Jr., and the latest discussion of the boundaries of the Ammonite Kingdom by Randall Younker might fit the bill. And if not these, then how about David Merling's intriguing analysis of Tell Hesban's water cisterns and pools, or studies of the progressive archaeological methodology by Roger Boraas, Øystein LaBianca, and Lawrence Geraty? There is even a personal account of the selection of Tell Hesban for excavation by Siegfried Horn. There are, of course, the "historical" chapters: Iron Age/Ammonites by James Fisher; Hellenistic/Early Roman by Larry Mitchel; Roman Roads by Robert Ibach, Jr.; Byzantine Hesban by Bjornar Storfjell; the North Church by John Lawlor; Mosaics by Bastiaan Van Elderen; and Ayyubid/Mamluk periods by Bert deVries.

Each chapter covers an important aspect of the Heshbon Expedition from initial planning of the excavation to final analysis of the finds: strategy and methodology, architecture and objects, pottery and periodization, regional studies and economic contexts. An appendix of Heshbon Expedition sponsors and participants is included, and of course, the volume is fully illustrated with index and an extensive bibliography.

This extensive volume can be yours simply by returning the enclosed order form along with a check or money order for \$12.95 per copy. (Postage is free during this special offer).

A must for scholars and students alike; no library shelf should be without a copy!

RANDOM SURVEY

Presidential Recognition

President Andreassen recognized the leadership of Randall W. Younker and David Merling in the *President's Report* in the Fall 1994 Focus Magazine. The new president feels the director of IA and the Horn museum curator "provide strong leadership to the largest archaeological project in the country of Jordan".

The project they are currently involved in was also applauded for "pioneering field work, scientific analysis, and interdisciplinary approach."

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Try our new email address

EMAIL: hornmusm@andrews.edu

FUND APPROACHES 45%

Donations to the "Friends of Siegfried H. Horn Endowment Fund" have reached \$3,372.93. A hearty **THANK YOU** to all who have contributed!

This Endowment Fund, established as a memorial to Dr. Horn, is specifically designed to provide M.Div. students with the chance to attend an archaeological dig. In order to qualify, the applicant must have taken two Seminary archaeology courses and submit a one-paragraph statement of why they would like to participate in the dig. A three-person committee consisting of the Seminary dean, the Institute director, and the Museum curator, will administer the award.

Current donations represent about 45% of the total \$7,500.00 needed to activate the fund and begin disbursing scholarships to students. Please consider adding your financial support to this fund so we can start making awards as soon as possible.

David Merling returned to the Levant for a third time in 1994, leading the autumn Biblical Research Institute tour to Israel and Egypt.

Zeljko Gregor has spread the influence of Tell Jalul and the MPP into Croatia with his recently-published:

Preliminary Report on the First Season of Archaeological Excavation at Tell Jalul 1992. *Biblijski Pogledi* 2.1: 57-72.

We sadly announce that Seminary OT professor Gerhard F. Hasel died in August. Dr. Hasel participated in the 1971 season at Tell Hesban and acquired support for several dig projects. The staff of the IA/HAM offers its condolences to the Hasel family.

NEWSLETTER



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