

Siegfried H. Horn

Archaeological Museum

NEWSLETTER

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MADABA PLAINS PROJECT UPDATE

In March Dr. Lawrence T. Geraty, director of the Madaba Plains Project, will travel to Jordan to make the necessary arrangements in preparation for the new excavations this summer. There are a host of things to be cared for in the short time he will spend in the country.

Final arrangements will have to be made with the Department of Antiquities of Jordan. This includes such items as making sure that the excavation permit will be issued. The decision to issue a permit is usually based on the professional credibility of the excavation director and his staff and a proposal outlining the excavation procedures to be followed. This includes plans for publication of reports. With the Department of Antiquities he will also discuss their field representatives who will be at the site throughout the season. Plans will also be laid for participation by students of archaeology from the universities in Jordan.

The Department of Antiquities is not the only governmental agency that needs to be contacted. The Customs Department will also receive a visit. Since a considerable amount of electronic equipment will be brought into the field, such as a complete micro-computer system, prior clearance with the customs officials will save considerable time, and may in fact, be the only way to secure the entry of this equipment into the country.

A visit must be made to the local village leaders at the site where greetings, pleasantries, and gifts will be exchanged over hot, sweet tea and black, thick Turkish coffee. The chance may even present itself to use the best of diplomacy at a *mansef* (a festive meal of Bedouin origin where a dish of mutton and rice is served) to avoid the delicacy of the eye-ball of the sheep which is reserved for the honored guest. It is very important that the good will of the local village inhabitants is cultivated since the planned scope of the project covers a period of ten years.

The well-being of the excavation staff must also be cared for. A suitable building, probably a school house in Madaba, will have to be secured for the summer. Arrangements for transportation to and from the site will also have to be made. The short time that professor Geraty will spend in Jordan will call for his best as a diplomat and organizer, but such is the work of an excavation director.



MISTAKE IN BAR'S "EXCAVATION OPPORTUNITIES 1982"

In the January/February 1982 issue of *Biblical Archaeology Review* we want to draw your attention to the article entitled "Excavation Opportunities 1982." The article provides a registry of the major excavations that use volunteers in their research and is a handy guide for the person exploring the field anticipating to spend several weeks working at an archaeological site. Of great concern to the volunteer is the fee that the various digs charge their enthusiastic "laborers" and BAR provides this very important information. On page 52 the Tell Jalul excavation is described, but unfortunately BAR made a mistake in announcing the fee for the full eight-week session. It is stated that "A \$1,799 fee includes all travel, international and internal, 12 quarter hours of graduate or undergraduate credit through Andrews University, room, board, tool kit, dig T-shirt, textbooks, and weekend trips for the full eight weeks." With the exception of the international travel this sentence is correct. The \$1,799 fee DOES NOT include travel to and from Jordan.

MUSEUM DRAWING CONTEST

The Horn Archaeological Museum has recently sponsored a contest for the best line-drawing which could be used on museum announcements as an eye-catching indicator of the source of the announcement. The drawing selected appears on the back of this issue of the *Newsletter* and was submitted by Donald H. Visani of Berrien Springs, Michigan.

A ruined wall may not in itself appear to be the best symbol to use for our museum, but when the meter-stick is included methodological investigation of the ruined wall is implied. It is also a drawing which does not suggest that the activity of the museum is confined to a specific geographical location such as Egypt, Jordan or any other country in the Middle East.

Second prize went to Brian Curry of Berrien Springs, Michigan and third prize to Emmanuel G. Bayan of South Bend, Indiana. Entries deserving honorable mention were submitted by Daniel Gutekunst, David Mpundu, Mark A. Seibold, Timothy Straman, all of Berrien Springs, Michigan and Ruby M. Johnson of Cassopolis, Michigan. There were eleven other entries in the contest.

MUSEUM-SPONSORED TOUR

The Horn Archaeological Museum is sponsoring a trip to two important Chicago museums for its members and friends on Friday, February 26. Departure will be from the Seminary Hall parking lot at 7:00 a.m. The first museum visited will be the Field Museum where the group will concentrate on the exhibits about "Ancient Egyptians" and "Stone Age Man of the Old World." Tour members may either purchase their lunches at the Field Museum or take their own from home and eat them on the bus to the Oriental Institute Museum at the University of Chicago which will be visited in the early afternoon.

This museum houses one of the world's major collections of antiquities, largely from the Institute's excavations in Egypt, Sudan, Turkey, Iraq, Iran, and Palestine.

The total cost of the tour (including bus transportation, museum admission, and guides) will be \$8.00 per museum member (or spouse) and \$9.50 for non-members. Reservations may be made by coming to the museum on campus or calling 471-3273; priority will be given to those who pay in advance. Accompanying the tour will be museum curators and seminary professors Larry Geraty and Bjornar Storfjell.

COINS OF THE BIBLE

Part V

by Stan Hudson

TEMPLE SHEKEL:

Half dollar-sized silver coins struck during the Second Jewish Revolt (the "Bar Kochba Revolt") of A.D. 132-135 against the Romans are known as *Temple Shekels*. This is the only ancient coin that depicted the Jewish temple in Jerusalem.

Few coins reveal more about contemporary religious and political feelings. The Roman emperor Hadrian had announced plans to build a pagan temple on the site where the Jewish temple had been destroyed by the Romans in A.D. 70. Outraged, the Jews revolted, and they honored their desecrated temple on their *shekels*. To add greater insult to Rome, the Jews struck all their coins on circulating Roman coins, often leaving some of the original design showing through...(on purpose? probably!).

At the left the obverse shows the temple with a prominent fence in front (to keep out Gentiles...Romans) and the ark of the covenant inside, seen lengthwise. The Hebrew inscription reads "Simon" (Bar Kochba). The reverse shows a "lulav" (a bundle of branches used in religious feasts) and the words "for the freedom of Jerusalem." Still visible is the outline of the Roman emperor's bust, facing to the right. See it?



Coin size: 25 mm

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Seminary Hall Chapel, Andrews University: "Has the Ark of the Covenant Really Been Found?" (February 11, 1982, 8:00 p.m.) Illustrated lecture by Lawrence T. Geraty, Andrews University.

Seminary Hall Chapel, Andrews University: "A Theologian's First Visit to the Holy Land" (March 1, 1982, 8:00 p.m.) Illustrated lecture by Robert M. Johnston, Andrews University.

Seminary Hall Chapel, Andrews University: "Umm el-Jimal: the Ghost Black City of the Jordanian Desert" (April 8, 1982, 8:00 p.m.) Illustrated lecture by Bert DeVries, Calvin College.

Seminary Hall Chapel, Andrews University: "The Dawn of Farming in the Near East" (April 15, 1982, 8:00 p.m.) Illustrated lecture by Joseph L. Chertkoff, Michigan State University.

Seminary Hall Chapel, Andrews University: "Caesarea Maritima: Capital of Roman Palestine" (May 6, 1982, 8:00 p.m.) Illustrated lecture by Robert Bull, Drew University.

Seminary Hall Chapel, Andrews University: "The Contribution of Archaeology to Biblical Studies" (May 17, 1982, 8:00 p.m.) Illustrated lecture by Keith N. Schoville, University of Wisconsin at Madison.

The Jewish Museum, New York: "The Mamluk Revival" (through March 14, 1982), displays late 19th- to early 20th-century Mamluk revival objects featuring inlaid metalwork from Cairo, Jerusalem and Damascus.

Joseph Exhibition Hall, Hebrew Union College, Jewish Institute of Religion, New York: "Ancient Israelite Water Tunnels--An Evolving Technology" (January 13-March 10, 1982), illustrates the water systems of Iron Age Palestine, showing how and why engineering technology evolved in response to the times and conditions of the terrain.

Photographs and text are supplemented by models and artifacts.

Museum of Archaeology at Staten Island, Staten Island, NY: "Bread and Beer in the Ancient Near East" (through April 30, 1982), presents 50 objects, some never previously exhibited, illustrating the earliest baking and brewing processes known and the vital roles these staples played.

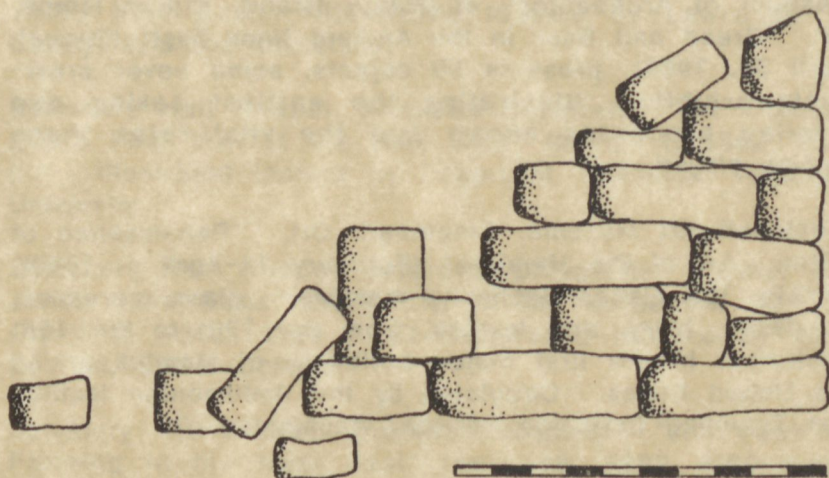
Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati, OH: "Renaissance of Islam: Art of the Mamluks" (February 11-April 4, 1982), exhibits 128 pieces, including metalwork, glass, ceramics, woodwork, ivory, and textiles, from the 13th to the 16th centuries. In the first major exhibition of Mamluk art in the United States. Circulated by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service, Washington, DC.

Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, IL: "In the Shadow of the Pyramid" (permanent), a major installation featuring Egyptian tomb offerings and a replica of the tomb chapel of Nakht on loan from the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

Oriental Institute Museum, University of Chicago, IL: "Institute's Excavations" (permanent), displays over 10,000 artifacts dating as far back as 7000 B.C. from excavations in Egypt, Iran, Iraq, ancient Palestine, Syria and Turkey.

ANCIENT POTS FOR SALE

Normally the Horn Archaeological Museum is not in the pot selling business, but a mutual friend has several pots he wishes to sell. Items include jugs, lamps, etc., from the time of Abraham, David, and Jesus. They are common, every day items from biblical times and guaranteed to be genuine. The prices vary from \$75 to \$250 each (the purchase price is not tax deductible--unless you buy them as a gift for the museum!). Contact the Museum if you are interested.



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