



The Institute of Archaeology

HORN ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

HESHBON RECEIVES KUDOS AT RECENT PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS

Andrews University's archaeological fieldwork is widely respected in the academic community. New evidence for this assertion surfaced at the most recent annual meetings of the American Schools of Oriental Research in Dallas, Texas, December 18-22, 1983, and Archaeological Institute of America, Cincinnati, Ohio, December 27-30, 1983.

William G. Dever, Professor of Archaeology at the University of Arizona and Chairman of ASOR's Committee of Archaeology Policy, together with Eric Meyers, Professor of Archaeology at Duke University and Chairman of ASOR's Committee on Publications, organized a symposium for Dallas on the "Analysis, Workup, and Publication of Archaeological Material." The following contributions were invited:

Walter Rast (Valparaiso University) and Thomas Schaub (Indiana University of Pennsylvania): "The Overall Conception and Organization of the Preliminary and Final Report."

Joe D. Seger (Mississippi State University): "Organization and Oversight of the Processing Laboratory and Staff."

Joseph A. Callaway (Southern Baptist Theological Seminary): "Analysis and Presentation of the Stratigraphy."

William G. Dever (University of Arizona): "The Treatment of the Pottery in Publication."

Lawence T. Geraty and Øystein S. LaBianca (Andrews University): "Integration of the Multi-disciplinary Specialists in Preparation for Publication."

James F. Strange (University of South Florida): "Teamwork in Writing."

Geraty's and LaBianca's presentation which shared our experience from Heshbon as well as our plans for Umeiri was particularly well received. Comments such as "best presentation of the session" and "the model we all want to emulate" were overheard. Clearly our reputation is riding high and we have much to live up to. Our main limitations now are financial but we are encouraged on that front as well. We appreciate our generous donors who believe in what we are doing and who provide such consistent support.

The Dallas session provided Øystein LaBianca, staff Anthropologist at the Institute of Archaeology, with an occasion to demonstrate the integration for which Heshbon has become so well known. He organized and presided over a symposium on "Ancient Mediterranean Food System" with the following contributions:

Ilse Kohler-Rollefson (Yarmuk University, Jordan): "Jordanian Goat Production in the PPNB and Today."

Neathery B. and Michael J. Fuller (Washington University, St. Louis): "Food Production at the Decapolis City of Abila."

E. B. Banning (University of Toronto): "Environmental Factors Affecting Land Use in the Ancient Wadi Ziqlab, Jordan."

Øystein S. LaBianca (Andrews University): "The Little Man of Hesban: A Microhistorical

Analysis of Jordanian Food Systems."

Wade R. Kotter (University of Arizona):
"Agriculture and Society in Ancient
Western Palestine."

Joseph A. Greene (University of Chicago):
"Grain Supply for the Phoenician/Punic
Metropolis."

This symposium elicited much positive comment and excitement and promises to become an ongoing program.

During the meetings Geraty was elected to a three-year term as secretary of ASOR's Committee on Archaeological Policy - the body which "accredits" American archaeological field projects from Turkey in the north to Yemen in the south and from North Africa in the west to Iraq in the east.

At the AIA meeting in Cincinnati, Giraud Foster of Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and an author for the final series of reports on Heshbon read a paper entitled "An Examination of the Ovicapred Astragali from Tell Hesban." Upon its completion, the session chairman, James Muhly of the University of Pennsylvania, commented that Foster had had the best graphics of any presentation he'd seen and that he would be happy to recommend him to the AIA program committee as official consultant for graphics! We thank Dr. Foster for representing Heshbon so well.



INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY-HORN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM
NEWSLETTER

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INSTITUTE FUND-RAISING ON WEST COAST

Between November 28 and December 15, 1983, Institute Director Larry Geraty took our slide program "Archaeology, Adventists, and Andrews" to some twenty pre-arranged meetings from Seattle, Washington and Portland, Oregon, to Farmington, New Mexico. California venues included Sacramento, Fresno, Glendale, Loma Linda, Corona, Cherry Valley, Redlands, Santa Ana, Los Angeles, San Diego, Orange, Carmel, Mountain View, Pleasant Hill and Angwin. Siegfried Horn himself was present at the last three meetings. Many of our Newsletter readers, too, were present; a real effort was made to notify each one. The fewest individuals at a meeting was four and the most eighty. Most meetings were by invitation in private homes though some were in churches and one even in a country club. In general the programs, developed by archaeology graduate student David Merling, seemed to be well received. After the two-projector, taped presentation, Geraty handed out information on the Institute of Archaeology, the Horn Archaeological Museum, the latter's new public exhibit, the forthcoming new dig at Tell el-Umeiri in Jordan, the final series of publications on Heshbon, and the possibility of a new study center in Jerusalem. People were invited to ask questions concerning any of these or other projects and to support the ones of their choice. Many responded with generous donations that totalled some \$12,000. Contributions keep coming in and contracts were made which result in more. Altogether some \$90,000 more is urgently needed by this summer so there is still a ways to go. If you are among those who have contributed to our archaeological endeavors this year by hosting a meeting, serving as contact person, or giving of your funds, we extend a special word of thanks. If you have not yet made your gift, would you consider doing so now? Please contact us if we can answer your questions or help in any way.

THE COINS OF JUDAEA CAPTA

by Stan Hudson

Last April, the A.B.C. television series *Masada* was aired with great critical acclaim. In one memorable scene Eleazer be Yair, the fiery leader of the Jewish rebels, held out a bronze coin in front of the Roman General Flavius Silva. Said Eleazer, "We know what you've been doing, making these coins with a palm tree, the Roman goddess Victory and the words 'Judaea vanquished' on them!"

My ears perked up. Someone had done their homework! Eleazer had accurately described a coin that belonged to the 'Judaea Capta' series of ancient Roman coins. But better than that, he had described a lesser known variety that had in fact circulated in Palestine at that time. It could have happened that way! (No comment on the too-large size or the silver-sounding ring it had when he dropped it).

The rulers of ancient Rome were among history's most skilled users of propaganda techniques. One of their favorite and most effective propaganda tools was one we rarely think of today: coinage. Says historian Michael Grant, "Roman coins served a propaganda purpose far greater than has any other national coinage before or since. This was the means which the Roman government lacking modern media of publicity used to insinuate into every house in the empire each changing nuance of imperial achievement and policy."¹

In line with this reasoning, Rome produced an extensive series of coins commemorating the suppression of the Jewish Revolt of AD 66-70, commonly called the First Revolt. This series is generally called the "Judaea Capta" series, because the Latin inscription "IUDAEA CAPTA" ("Judaea captured") occurs on many of the coins.

These remarkable coins are of added interest to Biblical scholars as well as to historians, for they recall the fulfillment of an event prophesied by Jesus Christ, "But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near."² Jerusalem was destroyed in AD 70 by Titus, son of the Emperor Vespasian. This effectively put an end to the First Revolt. Masada was the Addendum, albeit a significant one.

There are two subgroups in this coinage series: imperial and Palestinian. The imperial coins, struck at Rome, Lugdunum, Taraco, Antioch and perhaps Commagene, were meant to circulate throughout the empire.



1



2

1. . . Lugdunum, Titus (AD 77): bronze *assarius*; OBVERSE-bust right, Latin insc. "T Caes Imp Aug F TRP Cos VI Censor" (26 mm)

2. . . Same; REVERSE-palm tree, pile of weapons left, mourning Jewess right, Latin insc. "IUDAEA CAPTA" (26 mm)

The coins were minted in dozens of styles in gold, silver and bronze, virtually all denominations, too. It was no doubt hoped that these coins might help get the people's minds off the then-current inflation and other problems of the empire.

All *Judaea Capta* coins, imperial or Palestinian, have either Vespasian, Titus or Domitian's bust on the obverse. The entire series was struck between the years AD 70-95.

Common characteristics on the reverses of the imperial coins were: Latin inscriptions of "IUDAEA CAPTA," "IUDAEA DEVICTA," "VICTORIA AUGUSTI" or simply "IUDAEA," a palm tree (the symbol of Judaea), a captive with bound hands, piles of discarded weapons, Victory, the emperor (posed as a conqueror) or a mourning Jewess (meant to depict all the Jewish widows). This latter design is perhaps the most famous.

This portrayal of a mourning Jewess seated dejectedly on the ground illustrates the words of the prophet Isaiah: "For Jerusalem has stumbled, and Judah has fallen; ...Your men shall fall by the sword and your mighty men in battle. And her gates shall lament and mourn; ravaged, she shall sit upon the ground."³ Could the Romans have known about these words? The depiction may be more the coincidental.



3

- *3. . . . Rome, *Vespasian* (c. AD 72): bronze *sestercius*; REVERSE-emperor standing left, palm tree, mourning Jewess, Latin insc. "IUDAEA CAPTA" (34 mm)

The imperial coins influenced later commemorative coin of Rome. Domitian's "Germania Capta" coins were direct copies of his father Vespasian's designs, only adapted for his own victories over troublesome German tribes around AD 85. Trajan also struck "Parthia Capta" coins in silver and gold about AD 115.



4



5

- *4. . . . Rome, *Vespasian* (c. AD 70): silver *denarius*; REVERSE-trophy with mourning Jewess, Latin insc. "IUDAEA" (17 mm)

- *5. . . . Caesarea, Palestine, *Titus* (c. AD 71): bronze; goddess Victory with shield, Greek insc. "Judaea Vanquished" (20 mm)

The Palestinian coins were all struck at Caesarea, the Roman capital of Judaea, and they were struck in bronze only. They were meant to circulate throughout the regions of the conquered Jews, adding insult to injury. (In the TV series *Masada*, judging by El-eazer's reaction to the coin, the Romans may well have succeeded here). There were about a dozen varieties, including Domitian's victory coins (humbly accepting credit for his father's and brother's victory)!

Typical components to be found on the Palestinian coins were: Greek inscriptions saying "Judaea vanquished," Victory standing with a shield, a palm tree, a trophy or a bound captive. Domitian's coins had Latin legends.

Few coins can more easily fascinate the history buff than these Roman works of art. They are pictures telling "a thousand words," boldly calling attention to the glory of Roman victory (and Roman cruelty). But the victory was a temporary one.

In AD 132 the Jews again revolted against the yoke of Rome. This was the Second Revolt. Using Roman propaganda tactics, the Jews minted coins to proclaim their message. Circulating Roman coins were collected and overstruck with Jewish designs, such as a palm tree with no mourning Jewess or captive or victorious emperor beneath it. Apparently, revenge was sweet.



6

- *6. . . . Jerusalem, Second Revolt (AD 135): bronze, overstruck on Roman *assarius*; OBVERSE-palm tree, Hebrew insc. "Simon" (bar Kochba) (26 mm)

*Note=coins 3 through 6 are on display at the Siegfried Horn Archaeological Museum, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan.

Now it was the Jews' turn, and their message was clear: the Jews were getting back at the Romans for getting back at the Jews for getting back at the Romans for...

Another thing you can see when you study ancient coins: human nature.

FOOTNOTES

1 as quoted in David Hendin, Guide to Ancient Jewish Coins, Attic Books, Ltd., New York: 1976.

2 Luke 21:20

3 Isaiah 3:8a, 25, 26

Author's credits...

Stan Hudson is a pastor at the Lynwood Seventh-day Adventist Church in California and is a biblical numismatic consultant.



TOUR OF BIBLICAL SITES IN GREECE AND TURKEY

A three-week study tour of biblical sites in Greece and Turkey is planned for August 5-27, 1984. Cities and sites to be visited in Greece include: Athens, Delphi, Corinth, Thessalonica, Berea, Philippi, and Patmos. Places to be visited in Turkey are: the Seven Churches of Revelation, Hierapolis, Colossae, Pisidian Antioch, Iconium, Tarsus, Antioch on the Orontes, Seleucia, Haran, Edessa, Nemrut Dag, Cappadocia, Hattusas and Yasilikaya of the Hittites, Ankara and Istanbul.

Cost of the tour is \$1,985, beginning and ending in New York. Arrangements can be made to join the group in Athens on August 6. An optional two-day trip to Agri Dag, traditional Mt. Ararat, is available for \$145. For more information and details on the itinerary and tour conditions, write Werner Vyhmeister, 209 Ridge, Berrien Springs, MI 49103, or phone (616) 473-6109.

RECENT ACQUISITION

Walter V. Fennander of Dunedin, Florida, a long-time Horn Museum member and engineer who worked in Saudi Arabia for many years, recently donated his collection of ancient coins worth several thousand dollars to the Horn Archaeological Museum. One gold Umayyad dinar alone is worth \$400. Also of particular interest are silver Athenian and Alexander the Great coins and potsherds representative of the Arabian Gulf area as well as two beautiful seals, one a stamp seal and the other a cylinder seal. These treasures are now carefully housed where they will benefit generations of students, scholars, and museum visitors.

Eleanor K. Vogel of Cincinnati, Ohio, another long-time Museum member and former research assistant to Nelson Glueck, archaeologist and President of Hebrew Union College, previously donated numerous books, magazines, and files to the Institute. Recently she generously donated another forty archaeology volumes and back issues of five key journals. These important resources have been added to the growing nucleus of the Institute's working library.

Grover and Hazel Fattic of Niles, Michigan, have donated a ceramic crucible from Izmir, Turkey, and Joseph G. Smoot of Berrien Springs, Michigan, gave the Museum ten old photographs of Galilee.

Because of the Museum's modest acquisitions budget we are indebted to the generosity and thoughtfulness of the above donors without the likes of whom the Horn Archaeology Museum would not be the dynamic growing institution it now is.



FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON BIBLICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Lawrence T. Geraty has been invited to Jerusalem to participate in the First International Congress on Biblical Archaeology scheduled for April 1-9, 1984. Leading biblical archaeologists from around the world will gather to hear archaeologists discuss their excavations under patronage of the Israel Exploration Society. Because of Andrews University's work in Jordan, Geraty will serve as a one of the respondents to a half-day presentation on Israel's Neighbors.

NEW ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP FUND TO BENEFIT GRADUATE STUDENTS IN ARCHAEOLOGY

In December, 1983, Bjørnar Storfjell, Assistant Curator of the Horn Museum and his wife Judy Storfjell, President of Health Care at Home, entered into an agreement with Andrews University establishing the J.B. and J.I. Storfjell Endowed Scholarship Fund. This scholarship fund will be activated when it reaches \$5,000. Ninety percent of the income from this endowment will be awarded annually and ten percent of the income will be added to the principal of the fund. Preference will be given to graduate and seminary students from outside of North America. Anyone may make contributions to this endowed scholarship fund.



INSTITUTE DIRECTOR LEADS HOLY LAND TOUR

Lawrence T. Geraty, Director of the Institute of Archaeology, will lead a 13-day tour of Jordan, Israel, and Egypt for \$1,795. This fee will cover all expenses including roundtrip airfare from New York.

Because of his childhood and professional background in the Middle East, as well as his archaeological training and experience in Jordan and Israel, Geraty's presence on the tour will be a unique resource for those

who wish to become acquainted with the geographical, historical, and archaeological context of the Bible. All key sites will be visited, including such famous musts as Petra and Jerash in Jordan, from Dan to Beer-Sheba in Israel, and the Valley of the Kings (Thebes/Luxor) in Egypt.

For full details and reservations, contact Ed Dass, A-1 Travel, 1105 St. Joseph Road, Berrien Springs, MI 49103 (616) 473-3300. For information on academic credit contact Lawrence T. Geraty, Institute of Archaeology, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104 (616) 471-3609.



EARL PHILLIPS DONATION

On December 29, 1972, Earl A. Phillips, an attorney practicing in Seattle, Washington, entered into a trust agreement with Andrews University listing the Horn Archaeological Museum as beneficiary. Since that original agreement he has continued to add significantly to the principal. With his most recent contribution the Earl A. Phillips Fund now has a total of \$20,000. Six percent of this figure per annum comes directly to the Museum. Through the years this farsighted and generous plan has helped the Museum to build up its collection of artifacts, sponsor excavations, and publish monographs and reports. Thank you, Mr. Phillips!



Siegfried H. Horn Archaeological Museum

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NEWSLETTER

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