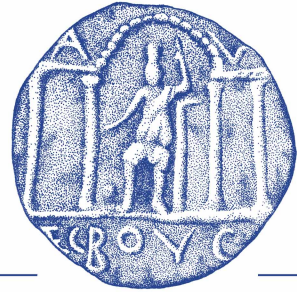


# NEWSLETTER

## The Institute of ARCHAEOLOGY Siegfried H. Horn Museum



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HORN ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
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NEWSLETTER

Paul J. Ray, Jr. Editor  
Constance E. Gane Assoc. Editor  
Randall W. Younker Assoc. Editor  
Robert D. Bates Assoc. Editor  
Benraimel Velázquez Asst. Editor

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## ASOR 2023

The first-ever hybrid format of the Annual Meeting of the *American Society of Overseas Research (ASOR)* was held in Chicago, IL from November 15-18, 2023. It was attended by over 1000 people, almost 800 in person and the remainder virtually. Unfortunately, the war between Israel and Gaza kept many from attending the conference. Still there were participants from 35 countries, with over 500 presenters in the 112 sessions and workshops, as well as the 34 poster presentations. The plenary address this year was presented by Rubina Raja of Aarhus University, in Denmark entitled “Death by Data? or What Has a Decade of Research on Palmyrene Funerary Sculpture Taught Us about the Ancient World?”

This year papers presented by Madaba Plains Project (MPP) members and affiliates included: Darrell Rohl (Ontology and the [Fragmentary] Archaeological Record: The CIDOC-CRM in Theory and Practice); Chang-Ho Ji, Aaron Schade, Choong-Ryeol Lee, and Christopher Minor (Ritual, Sacred Spaces, and Sacred Power: Architecture, Cultic Objects, and Worship at the Iron IIA Ataruz Temple); Douglas Clark (Progress and Projections: The Madaba Regional Archaeological Museum Project [MRAMP]); Øystein LaBianca (The Case for a Global Turn for Framing [Theorizing] the Past in the Southern Levant: Achieving Relevance for our Discipline Through Engaging Discourses on the Anthropocene); Bethany Walker, with Alan Farahani (An Archaeological Investigation of the 13th and 14th Century Foodways and Kitchen Culture at Tall Hisban, Central Jordan); David Graf (Nabataean Embassies to Rome: The Epigraphic Evidence); Aaron Schade, John McBride, Chang-Ho Ji, and Keili Kwong (Khirbat Ataruz 2022-23 Seasons: Excavations, New Findings, and Ground Penetrating Radar [GPR]); Michael Orellana (The Square Rim Cooking Pot: a Review of its Development during Iron Age II); Abelardo Rivas (Sacred Time

(cont'd on p. 2)



Matthew Vincent presenting paper at ASOR.

at Home Part 2: Lion Statue, Votive Offerings, Libations and Incense Burning); Hanadi Al Taher (Amman Citadel Southern Slope Development Project: An Insight at the Heritage Houses); Helen Dixon (Mortuary Markets: Sidon's Role in a Network of Exchange in Burial Goods and Ideas); and Matthew Vincent, Kent Bramlett, and Douglas Clark (Reassessing the Utility of 4D Photogrammetry at Tall al-'Umaryi: Novel Approaches for Daily Photogrammetry in the Trenches).

The MPP members who chaired sessions, workshops or business meetings on the program include: Darrell Rohl with Matthew Winter (Theoretical and Anthropological Approaches to the Near East); Douglas Clark with Marta D'Andrea, Basem Mahamid, Andrea Polcaro, and Suzanne Richard (Preserving the Cultural Heritage of the Madaba Region of Jordan – Workshop); David Graf with Cynthia Finlayson (Archaeology of Petra and Nabataea I and II), Monique Roddy with Stephanie Selover (Archaeology of Jordan I, II and III – Excavation Reports); and Helen Dixon (The Persians and the Phoenicians: Administration, Markets, and Trade – Workshop), and Bethany Walker (Consultation of Dig Directors in Jordan). (Paul J. Ray, Jr.)



## Tubb Dies

Another major figure in the archaeology of Jordan has passed away with the death of Jonathan Tubb on September 25, 2023, at the age of 72.

Jonathan N. Tubb was born on December 21, 1951, in Coventry, England, where he later attended King Henry VIII grammar school. Originally studying biochemistry in the footsteps of his father, who was a pharmacist, he later switched first to numismatics and then to archaeology, earning a BSc in archaeology in 1974, and then a master's at the Institute of Archaeology, now part of the University College London.



Jonathan Tubb with visitors at Tell es-Sa'idiyeh.

Jonathan was a renowned archaeologist and long-time curator of Levantine antiquities at the British Museum. As an archaeologist, he ran digs for the University College of London at Tell Abu Salabikh, in Iraq, and Tell Brak and Tell Nebi Mend (Kadesh on the Orontes), in Syria. He also initiated excavations in Jordan at the Bronze Age cemetery at Tiwal ash-Sharqi in 1984 and Tell es-Sa'idiyeh from 1985-96, on behalf of the British Museum. His major publications included the report on Tiwal ash-Shaqi (1990), preliminary reports from the Tell es-Sa'idiyeh excavations (published in *Levant* and *Palestine Exploration Quarterly* between 1988 and 1997), *Palestine in the Bronze and Iron Ages* (Routledge, 1985), *Archaeology and the Bible* (with R.L. Chapman, British Museum, 1990), and *Canaanites* (British Museum, 1998), which went through 27 editions in three languages.

As Levantine antiquities curator of the British Museum, starting in 1979, he transformed its rather patchy collection from the region by acquiring over 1,600 objects from the Institute of Archaeology's Lachish collections from its excavations in the 1930s and added material from his own excavations at Tell es-Sa'idiyeh and other sites in Jordan, further filling out the collection with materi-

al culture from the Neolithic period to the conquest of Alexander the Great. Later, as Keeper of the Middle East Department, starting in 2012, he instigated the "Iraq Scheme," a collaborative project with Iraqi colleagues to counter the destruction of that country's unique cultural heritage by training a new generation of experts in methods ranging from survey and excavation to conservation and museology, also securing a three million pound grant from the government cultural protection fund to help with the initiative. Jonathan retired from the British Museum in 2022.

He was always happy to share his knowledge, thinking, and connections with others. He created a following of aspiring archaeologists the way Kathleen Kenyon did in the 1950s and 60s. In this tradition, he served as Head of Publications (1998–2000), Chairman (2000–2008), and then President (2008–2023) of the *Palestine Exploration Fund*, transforming the society into a modern institution. He also kept close relations with academia across the Atlantic, serving as a program chair for the annual meetings of the *American Schools of Oriental Research*, now *American Society of Overseas Research (ASOR)* during the 1990s. A measure of the esteem in which he was held can be seen in his festschrift, *'To Aleppo Gone'...: Essays in honour of*



*Jonathan N. Tubb* (Archaeopress, 2023), which collected more than 40 contributions from friends and colleagues, covering Jonathan's diverse academic interests, including *Along the Jordan Valley*, *Beyond the Jordan*, *Syria and southern Iraq*, and cultural heritage.

Jonathan met Kathy Walker at the Institute of Archaeology, whom he married in 1975. They had three children, Anna, Christina and James. He later had a fourth child, Lily, with Felicity Cobbing, his partner of 26 years. Jonathan is survived by Felicity and his children. (Published obituaries by Konstantinos Politis, and James Fraser, modified by Paul J. Ray, Jr.)



Tell es-Sa'idiyeh.



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# RANDOM SURVEY

## *Church Building Found:*

Archaeologists have found the first physical evidence of the Nestorian Church in Bahrain, with the excavation of a building, in Samahij. It was a large building with eight rooms. The Christian identity of the inhabitants is indicated by three crosses and a graffiti with what appears to be a *Chi-Rho* and a fish scratched into the plaster. Radiocarbon dating indicates the building was occupied between the mid-4th and mid-8th centuries after which it was abandoned when the population converted to Islam, and a mosque built on top of it.

## *Head of Zeus Found:*

A 66 cm (26 in) tall, colossal marble head of Zeus has been unearthed 50 m (164 ft) west of the Temple of Aphrodite in the ancient city of Aphrodisias, located in western Turkey. Possibly part of an 2nd-3rd century AD architectural console, the head is made of a single block of marble.

*To discover more about archaeology, the Institute, and the Museum, contact us at:*

VOX: 269-471-3273

FAX: 269-471-3619

E-mail: [hornmuseum@andrews.edu](mailto:hornmuseum@andrews.edu)

*or visit our website at:*

[www.andrewsarchaeology.org](http://www.andrewsarchaeology.org)

## *Etruscan Temple Found:*

Archaeologists have recently identified the foundations of an Etruscan temple at the necropolis of Sasso Pinzuto, in Tuscany, Italy. The necropolis, which has over 120 chamber tombs dating from the 7th century BC to the Hellenistic period, is associated with the nearby Etruscan settlement of Colle San Pietro. The *oikos* or temple, features *tuffaceous opus quadratum* foundations, with a rectangular plan measuring 6.2 x 7.1 m, and provides the first substantial evidence of architectural structures connected with Etruscan cult practices.

## *Egyptian Statue Found:*

Archaeologists excavating in the ancient city of Hermopolis have recently uncovered the upper 3.81 m (12.5 ft) half of a limestone statue of Pharaoh Ramses II (r. 1279-1213 BC). It lines up perfectly with the lower section of a sculpture earlier discovered in 1930. The statue would have reached a height of nearly 7.01m (23 ft), when fully intact. Ramses is depicted in a seated position, adorned with the double crown of upper and lower Egypt.

## *Destruction Remains Unearthed:*

Excavation in an ancient drainage channel in Jerusalem has revealed remains of the city's destruction in 70 AD. These remains include a large variety of glass, and ceramic vessels, representing the range of table wares of the city's population at that time.

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