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The Institute of Archaeology & the Horn
Archaeological Museum Newsletter

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Spring 2006

The Institute of Archaeology & Siegfried H. Horn Museum Newsletter Volume 27.2

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Paul J. Ray Jr.

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NEWSLETTER

The Institute of ARCHAEOLOGY Siegfried H. Horn Museum



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INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY
HORN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
MUSEUM
NEWSLETTER

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Embassy Awards Grant to Hesban

The United States Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation recently gave a \$45,750 grant to the Andrews University Hesban archaeological project in the country of Jordan. The Ambassador's Fund awards projects that protect sites and artifacts of cultural or historical significance in countries in need of assistance. Since its inception in 2001, the Fund has given money to projects in 106 nations.

Hesban was one of two sites in Jordan to receive the award at a special signing ceremony at Tall Hesban on September 29, 2005. The award will be used to restore various areas of Tall Hesban including part of the citadel erected during the Iron Age and used throughout the Hellenistic period, as well as the Roman plaza and a Byzantine church. The site will also be made more accessible to tourists and tour buses, enabling the site to become more educational to its visitors.

The US Embassy of Jordan Chargé d'Affairs, David Hale, signed the award. Randall Younker, director of the Institute of Archaeology at Andrews University, represented both the University and the Hesban Project and presented a speech on behalf of the director of the Hesban Project, Øystein LaBianca, who is professor of Anthropology at Andrews. The Mayor of the town of Hesban, Khalil Dabbas, and the Provincial Governor of Hesban, Ahmad Khatatbeh, also attended the ceremony.

The archaeological site of Hesban has been excavated since 1968, when Siegfried Horn, an Andrews University archeologist, began work at the site. Lawrence Geraty, then of Andrews, and more recently LaBianca have continued work at the site. Andrews University has also been involved at several other archaeological sites in Jordan. (Andrew Gerard)



Randall Younker (second from right) at the Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation ceremony.

Institute Update

Recently (Newsletter 26.4: 2005) we reported on some of the activities and new personnel of the Institute of Archaeology/Siegfried H. Horn Museum since the move to its new location. In this article we would like to continue to bring our readers up to date on these aspects of our work.

Dr. Kathy Koudele, the bone specialist of the Jalul excavations, has set up a Bone Lab at the Institute, where for the past academic year several students have been cleaning and processing the bones on which she is doing scientific study in preparation for publication. Darrell Rohl, an undergraduate student in Archaeology, in addition to being the assistant to the director of publications, has done considerable work on updating the Institute/Museum website, which now has a brand new look. He has also been scanning the objects from the 2005 season at Jalul with a Konica Minolta Vivid 9i 3D Digitizer and putting some of the Hesban data into a Geographic Information System (GIS) database for future analysis.

Pedro Ribeiro, an undergraduate in Physics, has been developing a new excavation database, which when completed will have the ability to be manipulated in the field and have the data stored on a server.

Patrick Mazani, a PhD student in Archaeology, has been updating object data to the accession database of the Museum; Jeremy Jacko, an MDiv student, has been helping Dr. Øystein LaBianca with grant writing; Derrick Whitlow, an MA student in Archaeology, has been entering the Jalul data into a GIS database; and Kristy Witzel, who has recently earned her BA in Anthropology, has been helping Dr. LaBianca prepare material for the forthcoming book *Ethnoarchaeological Foundations: Hesban 4*.

Several undergraduate students, through Andrews University's undergraduate research assistantship program, have been developing Dr. LaBianca's concept of using civilizations and empires to better understand the dynamics of the interactions between Great and Little Traditions. Out of this LaBianca has developed his own broadened definition of civilization. Andrew Gerard has been

trying to understand past concepts and definitions of civilizations in relationship to LaBianca's research. Using LaBianca's definition as a starting point, Ehren Lichtenwalter has done further work on Greek Civilization, Darrell Rohl on Roman Civilization and Benjamin Oliver on Jewish Civilization. All of this research has ultimately been done for the purpose of getting a better window on how the local populations of Jordan (the Little Tradition) functioned during the advent of each of these civilizations or empires. Each of these students have presented their work in an on-campus lecture series. In addition, Rohl and Gerard have recently presented papers on their work at the Annual Meeting of the Central States Anthropological Society, a regional section of the American Anthropological Association.

Two other undergraduate students have been functioning as technological assistants in the Hesban Research Lab. Kathleen Schwartz has been digitizing the Hesban photos and Jennifer Castillo coordinating the Madaba Plains Project web site. (Paul J. Ray, Jr.)



Photo Essay



Dr. Kathy Koudele.



Darrell Rohl.



Pedro Ribeiro.

3



Patrick Mazani.



Jeremy Jacko.



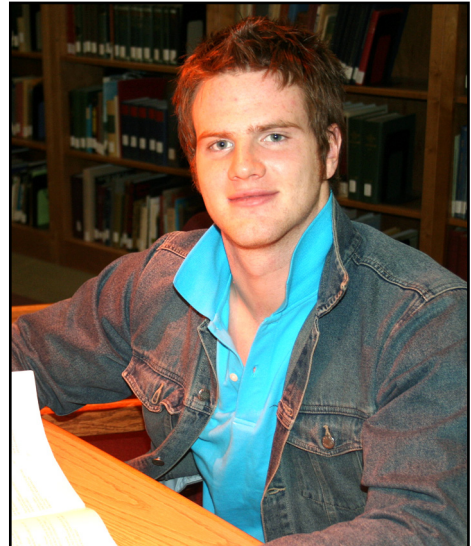
Derrick Whitlow.



Kristy Witzel.



Andrew Gerard.



Ehren Lichtenwalter.



Benjamin Oliver.



Kathleen Schwartz.



Jennifer Castillo.

RANDOM SURVEY

Ancient Egyptian Ship:

Archaeologists have discovered the remains of a 4,000 year-old Egyptian cargo ship while excavating five caves near the Red Sea port town of Safaga. Seals from the era of Pharaoh Mentuhotep III (2133-1991 BC) have been uncovered. The ship carried a cargo of wooden boxes covered with gypsum, bearing the inscription, "Wonders of the land of Punt." Other artifacts include 80 coils of rope and many sherds dating to the reign of Mentuhotep III. The exact location of Punt, a source of incense, ivory, and ebony, is unknown.

Palace on Salamis Found:

A 750 square meter Mycenaean-era complex from the 13th century BC has been located on the island of Salamis, near Athens, Greece. The complex was built on 4 levels and had at least 33 rooms. Artifacts from Anatolia, Cyprus, and Egypt have been excavated at the site.

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

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or visit our Web site at:
www.andrews.edu/archaeology

2000 year-old Road in Paris:

Archaeologists have discovered a 2000 year-old road beneath a path on left bank of the Seine in Paris. In this city, known as Lutetia in Pre-Roman and Roman Gaul, ruins were found that date back to the time of Roman emperor Augustus (63 BC - 14 AD). Along with the discovery of the road are remnants of houses with private baths and heated floors. Other items such as flowerpots, ceramics, and bronze chains were also found. The first houses were made of clay and straw, with those made of masonry and tiled roofs appearing later.

Saudi Arabian Stonehenge:

In Rajajil, Saudi Arabia, a town that is near the Jordanian border, there is an interesting pattern of stones that remind the observer of England's Stonehenge. The 50 groups of 5 pillars stand clustered on the edge of the Nafud Desert in northwestern Saudi Arabia. Archaeologists have dated the stones, some of which have graffiti that link them to Pre-Islamic deities like the female goddess Widd, to 3000 BC, though there is no ceramic evidence to support this.

Tablets Found in Iraq:

A team of Italian archeologists headed by Sylvia Chiodi have discovered numerous tablets at an archaeological site close to the ancient city of Ur. Giovanni Pettinato, an expert in Sumerian civilization, estimates that they date from 2700-2100 BC.

N E W S L E T T E R



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