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Archaeological Museum Newsletter

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Spring 2012

The Institute of Archaeology & Siegfried H. Horn Museum Newsletter Volume 33.2

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The Institute of ARCHAEOLOGY Siegfried H. Horn Museum



Tall Jalul 2012

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INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY
HORN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
MUSEUM
NEWSLETTER

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From May 17- June 8, 2012 Andrews University continued excavations at Tall Jalul. Excavations this summer focused on the reservoir in Field W, on the tell, and were directed by Randall Younker, Paul Z. Gregor and Paul Ray of the Institute of Archaeology at Andrews University. Hanadi Taher served as representative for the Department of Antiquities of Jordan.

Field W was opened in the 2010 season in order to explore the nature and function of the water channel, discovered in Field G during the 2007 and 2009 seasons, and its relation to the water reservoir. Five squares (W7-11) were opened this season. Work also continued in Square W2, opened in 2010, in order to obtain datable material to establish the possible origin of the reservoir wall discovered during the 2011 season.

In Square W11, located north of Square W6, a portion of the bottom of the 7th century BC water channel was revealed. Since the floor of the channel is close to the present-day surface, little has survived beyond a few medium-sized flagstones which were discovered along with some traces of plaster. This season's excavation has extended the exposure of the channel up to a distance of nearly 50 meters. It still seems that this channel was constructed to drain water from the reservoir to natural pools located downslope, outside the tell. However, the exact relationship between the channel and the reservoir is still unclear. Underneath the channel three surfaces, or floors, from 8th and 9th centuries BC were discovered. These surfaces correspond to those found

(cont'd on p. 2)



Field W, Square 2 at Jalul.

in Square W2 during the 2011 season. A well-preserved section of the eastern wall of the water reservoir was also found in this square. While the relationship of the second floor and reservoir wall is not yet clear, the lowest floor, dating to the 9th century BC, seals against the wall of the reservoir, indicating that the reservoir is earlier than the 9th century BC. Ceramics excavated from under this floor possibly date to the 10th century BC, but more pottery is needed before this date can be stated with certainty. Thus, further excavation is planned for this area in the future.

While Squares W8, W9 and W10 revealed only post-7th century BC fill, without any architecture, Square W7 revealed a large section of the southern wall of the reservoir. This wall was constructed in the same fashion as the eastern wall of the reservoir, i.e., a stone wall, covered with a thick layer of plaster on the interior. Another stone wall, which may have served as a partition of the reservoir, was also revealed in the same square. It is constructed in such a way that it is narrow at the top, but widens out towards its base. At the present time it is impossible to date this wall as its foundation has not yet been reached.

As mentioned above, excavation continued in Square W2 this season. Material under the 9th century BC floor revealed Early Iron Age II, possibly 10th century BC pottery. In addition, a short section of another wall was discovered. Its construction was dated by the pottery found at its foundation, and below, to the Early Bronze Age III/IV. The most common forms were “envelope” ledge handles, and holemouth jars. Some of the jars were burned on the surface, suggesting that they had been used as cooking pots. This wall was cut by the reservoir wall, indicating minimally that the construction date of the reservoir is sometime after the end of the Early Bronze Age. Hence, the current range for the construction of the reservoir runs between the Middle Bronze and Iron Age I/II. (Randall Younker, Paul Z. Gregor and Paul J. Ray, Jr.)



Field W, Square 7, at Jalul.

Bridge Building

On April 21, 2011 the Horn Archaeological Museum presented a program entitled “Bridge-building: Personal Encounters in the Middle East Through Art and Ethnography” with presentations by Brian Manley, former Professor of Art at Andrews University and Kristen Witzel, of the Communications Department at Andrews University.

Following a short reception, Brian Manley began the program with a presentation on the “The Art of Peacemaking,” which focused on Orientalism and Orientalist painters. This refers to a period of time when artists in Europe got out of their studios and explored the Orient, painting pictures that were extremely well executed. The heyday of Orientalist painting was from the 1860s to the early 1900s, and included artists such as Edward Lord Weeks, who painted epic portrayals of animals, multiple figures, and architecture from direct observation of the Arab world, in North Africa, India and Persia; Jean-Léon Gérôme, known for fusing his paintings with bold amounts of color in a very dramatic way; and Léon Belly, who is famous for his painting entitled “Pilgrims on the Way to Mecca,” of

which there is a reproduction in the lobby of the Institute of Archaeology.

The Orientalist painters were actually responding to phenomenon that somewhat repeats itself today: the fear of Muslims. The famed historian Bernard Lewis stated: “it was fear more than any other single factor which led to the beginnings of Arabic scholarship in Europe.” This fear drove scholars to start looking at Islam and the regions inhabited by Muslims. In so doing, these scholars took artists along for documentation purposes and much of the work of these artists is documentary in nature. It should not be understood as stereotypical or exaggerated. Many Orientalist painters lived in a region for 2-5 years as they traveled through the Middle East.

Orientalism needs to be redefined, as fear is again rising towards the inhabitants of the Middle East, requiring the need to break down stereotypes.

Kristen Witzel followed with a presentation entitled “Hospitality and Resilience.” She noted that in the Middle East, hospitality has been described as a part of warfare. In order to support the small tribes it was important to have a leader with influence, and hospitality was the way that tribal leaders gained their influence. Tribal leaders didn’t have

absolute power, but they had warriors who could be supportive if their leader was nice enough to them. Burckhardt in his *Notes on the Bedouin and Wahabys* says: "it may be truly said that wealth alone does not give a Bedouin any importance among his people. A poor man, if he be hospitable and liberal according to his means ... obtains infinitely more consideration and influence among his tribe than the *Bakheil* or avaricious and wealthy miser who receives a guest with coldness and lets his poor friends starve."

Many Bedouin tribal leaders did strive to obtain wealth, but it was largely for the purpose of showing their generosity or taking care of the poor. Hospitality is from an Arabic word commonly associated with generosity. But it also implies

nobility, grace, and refinement. So when someone acts hospitable to you, they are building up their own honor as well. In this way, an Arab is judged by how he treats his guests. A coffee pot that is never off the fire speaks well of a good host. Any time a guest leaves your house, what they say to others affects your status, reputation, and your honor. All of this affects your breadth of influence on other people.

The program also featured the artwork of Brian Manley and his students Naudline Pierre and Michelle Ahn, and the photography of David Sherwin of the Department of Digital Media and Photography at Andrews University which was available for perusal by those who attended. (Kevin Burton)

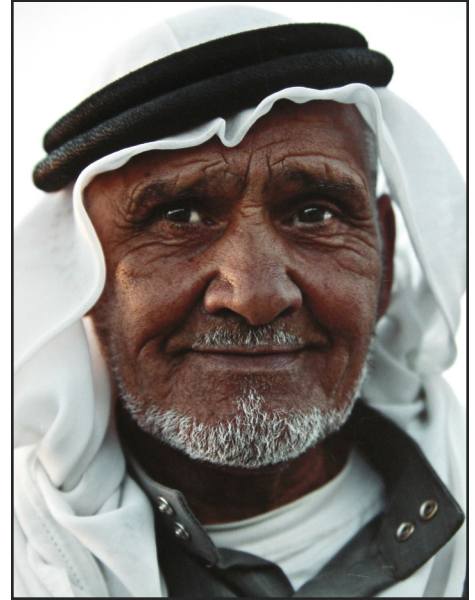


Photo by David Sherwin.

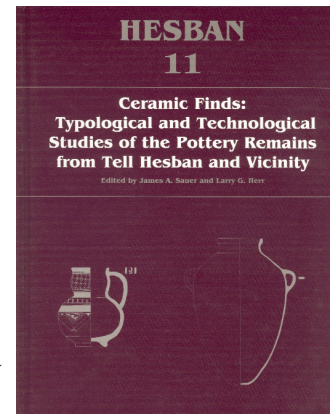


Ceramic Finds: Typological and Technological Studies of the Pottery Remains from Tell Hesban and Vicinity

edited by James A. Sauer and Larry G. Herr.

Hesban 11 is devoted in part to the typological analysis of the Tall Hisban pottery. It comprises many of the ca. 6000 sherds from the 1971, 1973, 1974, and 1976 excavation seasons at the site. It also provides a technological analysis of more than 200 sherds along with six Iron Age sherds from Tall al-ʿUmayri, as well as a detailed Instrumental Neutron Activation Analysis of 99 Iron Age sherds from Hisban and ʿUmayri.

Using the masterful study of the Hesban pottery begun by Jim Sauer as a starting point, Larry Herr and his fellow contributors Yvonne Gerber and Bethany Walker cover the spectrum of Hesban pottery from the Iron Age through the Classical and Islamic periods at the site. The technological studies by Gloria London and Robert Shuster, and Michael Glascock and Hector Neff round out this long awaited volume on the pottery from Tall Hisban.



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RANDOM SURVEY

Pyramid Builders Found:

Several 2.75 m deep mud-brick shaft tombs containing a dozen skeletons have recently been found near the Giza pyramids, dating to the 4th Dynasty (2575-2467 BC). The bodies were found in a fetal position with heads pointing to the west and feet to the east, along with jars once containing beer and bread for the afterlife. The discovery of these tombs, in close proximity to the pyramids, and the manner of burial, in preparation for the afterlife, indicates that private citizens rather than slaves built these ancient monuments.

New Seal Found in Jerusalem:

A 1.5 cm seal has recently been found in Jerusalem with the name Bethlehem on it. The seal dates to the 8th or 7th centuries BC based on its paleography and the ceramics found with it. It was probably used to seal tax documents, and is the oldest extrabiblical reference to the town.

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

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Zeus Shrine Found in Greece:

Archaeologists have recently found a shrine on the southern peak of Mount Lykaion, in Arcadia, Greece, that was in continual use from the Mycenaean (Late Helladic) through the Hellenistic periods (ca. 1400-100 BC). Artifacts such as Mycenaean drinking vessels (kylikes), miniature double-headed axes, bronze tripods and bronze hands holding silver lightning bolts, were found at various levels, represent dedications to Zeus, who is first mentioned as receiving votive offerings in Linear B texts, about the time when the altar came into use.

Four Pasts:

Archaeologists by inclination are interested in the past, but it is the definition of the past which is of interest to Øystein LaBianca, who has recently elaborated on four different types of past: 1) the desired past, 2) the contested past, 3) the forbidden past, and 4) the propaganda past. The ideas behind these types of past are explained with pertinent archaeological examples in the First Person section of the July/August 2012 *Biblical Archaeology Review* 38.4: 4, 60.

Lion Statue Found:

Archaeologists have found the remains of the gate complex of the citadel of Kunulua, capital of the Neo Hittite Kingdom of Patina, at Tell Tayinat, Turkey. The citadel dates to ca. 950-725 BC, and is adorned with stone sculptures, including a 1.3 x 1.6 m lion.

NEWSLETTER



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