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The Institute of Archaeology & the Horn
Archaeological Museum

Spring 2019

The Institute of Archaeology & Siegfried H. Horn Museum Newsletter Volume 40.2

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The Institute of ARCHAEOLOGY Siegfried H. Horn Museum



ASOR 2018 Annual Meeting

The venue for the 2018 Annual Meeting of the *American Schools of Oriental Research* (ASOR) was at the Marriott Tech Center in Denver, CO, and was held between November 14 and 17. Registrants at this year's meetings attended 100 sessions and workshops, listened to 450 paper presentations, and viewed 37 posters. Hélène Sader, of the American University of Beirut, was the speaker for the plenary session this year, with a paper entitled "Between Looters, Private Collectors, and Warlords: Does Archaeology Stand a Chance?"

Madaba Plains Project members and affiliates who presented papers this year include: Moise Isaac (Negotiating Refugee Identity in Judah: Israelite Tribal Names in Judean Inscriptions in the Wake of the Assyrian Invasion), Chang-Ho Ji and Aaron Schade (The Khirbat Ataruz Project, 2016-2017: Excavations of the Acropolis and Southeastern Slope), Paul Gregor (Khirbet Safra: Military Installation or Regular Settlement), Owen Chesnut (The Late Iron Age Acropolis at Tall Safut), Øystein LaBianca, Stanley Lebrun, Jared Wilson, and Paul Roschman (Ground-Truthing of Animated Renderings of the Historical Landscape of Hisban and Vicinity), Gary Rollefson (How ACOR-Affiliated Projects Have Transformed Knowledge of the Prehistory of Jordan), S. Thomas Parker (ACOR's Research Projects: A Scholarly Appraisal), Abelardo Rivas (Colors of Jalul: A Study on the Painted Pottery Found in Field G), Michael Orellana (Iron Age IIA Assemblage at Tall Jalul), Timothy Harrison (The 'Lady of Tayinat' and other Recent Discoveries at Kunulua: Royal City of the Kingdom of Palastin/Walastin), David Graf (The Nabataean Crocodile Betyl), Darrell Rohl, and Elizabeth Osinga (The Hisban North Church: New Insights on the Byzantine Period at Esbus/Esbounta, Jordan), Robert Bates and Bethany Walker (Living the Domestic Life: A Preliminary Report of the Medieval Village at Tall Hisban from the 2016-2018 Excavation

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Chang-Ho Ji Presenting Paper at ASOR Meeting.

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INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY
HORN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
MUSEUM
NEWSLETTER

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Seasons), Maia Elena Ronza and Erin Addison (Community Archaeology in Jordan), Matthew Grey, with Jodi Magness, Shua Kisilevitz, and Dennis Mizzi (The 2017-2018 Excavations at Huqoq in Israel's Galilee), Douglas Clark, Suzanne Richard, Andrea Polcara, Marta D'Andrea, and Basem Mahamid (The Madaba Regional Archaeological Museum Project: Community Archaeology in Its Third Season), Bert deVries, with Jenna Morton (Why Cultural Heritage Management: A Community Perspective in Umm el-Jimal, Jordan), Craig Tyson and Friedbert Ninow (A Basalt Volute Capital Fragment from Khirbat al-Balu'a), and Bethany Walker (Pottery for the General Staff: What was the Function of the Mamluk Barracks Wares?).

In addition, Bert deVries was a discussant at the ACOR at 50: A Retrospective and Prospective for the American Center of Oriental Research session, S. Thomas Parker was a discussant in the Session on Power and Memory: The Transformation of Communities in the Roman Near East from Classical to Late Antiquity (Essays Honoring Kenneth G. Holum), and Timothy Harrison was a discussant in the session on The Tenth Century B.C.E. Borderlands of the Greater Hesi Region: Implications.

Those Madaba Plains Project members and affiliates who chaired sessions for the program this year include: S. Thomas Parker (ACOR at 50: A Retrospective and Prospective for the American Center of Oriental Research), Owen Chesnut (Archaeology of the Southern Levant II), and Gerald Mattingly (Recent Fieldwork Related to Iron Age II on Jordan's Karak Plateau). In addition Bethany Walker presided over the Consultation of Dig Directors in Jordan.

Two workshops connected with the Madaba Plains region included: "Madaba Plains Project —'Umayri and Khirbat Balu'a" chaired by Douglas Clark, Kent Bramlett and Monique Vincent, and Madaba Regional Archaeological Museum Project (MRAMP), chaired by

Douglas Clark, Suzanne Richard, Andrea Polcara, and Marta D'Andrea.

Concurrent Annual Meetings of the *Society of Biblical Literature (SBL)* and the *Near East Archaeological Society (NEAS)* were held from November 17-20 and 12-15 respectively. (Paul J. Ray, Jr)



New Collection

The Hester Thomsen Chilson Collection is among the latest additions to the Horn Archaeological Museum. Hester Thomsen Chilson (1914-2001) of College Place, Washington, was an active participant of the Madaba Plains Project at both Tall Hisban and Tall al-'Umayri. In September of 2018, the Hester Thomsen Chilson Archaeological Collection was donated to the Siegfried H. Horn Archaeological Museum at Andrews University. Hester's son, Halvard Thomsen, and daughter, Joyce Thomsen-Blake contacted me while we were on excavation in Jordan and expressed the family's desire to have their mother's personal collection brought from Walla Walla, Washington to the Horn Museum. Joyce personally delivered the artifacts and was able to see her mother's collec-

tion received with respect and appreciation.

Hester had a passion for the sciences and spent most of her working career as an high school science teacher. She did not retire until she was well into her eighties and even after that she continued tutoring students until her death at the age of 86. During summers she participated in archaeological excavations directed by Dr. Siegfried Horn at Tall Hisban and joined the Tall al-'Umayri excavation for their first season in the field. Hester brought to the excavations her organizational skills and acute attention to detail. From 1968 to 1976 she was the pottery registrar for the Heshbon Expedition and in 1984 the pottery registrar for the Madaba Plains Project: Tall al-'Umayri excavation. She worked with Horn, Geraty and others, participating in some thirteen seasons in the field and is responsible for creating the template for processing pottery that we still follow today.

During summers in the Middle East, Hester accumulated a number of artifacts for her own collection. These provided valuable educational examples in her teaching. The collection contains some seventy artifacts including nineteen lamps, eleven juglets, twelve bowls, two scarab seals, as well as a jug, jar, cup, and cooking pot. Her collection also includes



Hester Thomsen Was the Pottery Registrar for the Heshbon Expedition (1968-1976).

a Sumerian cuneiform tablet and a coin. A large collection of sherds and a few replicas round out the collection. The dates of the artifacts range from the Early Bronze Age into the Islamic period.

The Hester Thomsen Chilson Collection has been on exhibit in the Transjordanian Exhibit Hall in the Siegfried H. Horn Archaeological Museum since September 2018. Some of the artifacts in her collection fill in gaps in the Horn Museum collection so they will gradually be incorporated into the narrative of the museum exhibits that provide a gateway to the past and a deeper understanding of how God has interacted with humanity through the cultural setting of the biblical world. (Constance E. Gane)



Some of the Hester Thomsen Chilson Collection in the Horn Archaeological Museum.



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RANDOM SURVEY

Boat Tableau Found:

The remains of a 21 x 4 m building that once housed the solar boat of Sesostris III, the fifth Pharaoh of the 12 Dynasty of Egypt, has recently been reopened near his tomb complex at Abydos, by Egyptologists. While only a few planks of the actual boat remain, the interior of the building exhibits over 120 images of boats incised on its white-plastered walls. The images are depicted in great detail, showing cabins, deck houses, masts, rudders, sails, and sometimes even rowers. The images range from ca. 10 cm to 1.5 m in length.

New Papyrus Found:

An 11 x 2.5 cm papyrus, ostensibly found in Nahal Hever, has recently been recovered. Dating to the 7th century BC, and written in palaeo-Hebrew script it reads: "from the female servant of the king, from Naharata, two wineskins to Jerusalem." The papyrus is unique in that it mentions a prominent woman and has an unusual spelling of Jerusalem, with an additional letter *yod*.

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Phoenician Boat Discovered:

An international team of archaeologists has recently excavated the wreck of a Phoenician ship off of coast of Gozo, among the Maltese islands, which are now known to have been part of an international trade network. Amphoras from North Africa and western Sicily were found, along with a locally-made jug, demonstrating that the ship had recently docked somewhere on the Maltese archipelago rather than just sinking during a voyage from elsewhere, as did the ship carrying Paul to Rome in the first century AD (Acts 27-28).

Nero's Golden House Found:

Archaeologists have recently excavated part of a room in Nero's Golden House, decorated with wall paintings depicting centaurs, panthers, and a sphinx. Originally, ca. 125 acres in size, the estate was built over parts of the Caelian, Esquiline and Palatine hills, and included a concrete vaulted palace, decorated in gold, marble, and pompeian-style wall paintings, with an artificial lake and gardens. The structure was later incorporated into Trajan's bath house.

Inn Complex Found:

An inn complex which both accommodated patrons and treated patients has recently been located behind the western gate of Assos, Turkey. Found beneath Byzantine period earthquake ruins, the inn complex had its own bakery, cisterns, kitchen, and a chapel.

N E W S L E T T E R



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