Preserving Jordan’s Cultural Heritage: ACOR’s Archaeological Development Projects

The Temple of Hercules Project is one of several archaeological development activities currently being undertaken by ACOR in an effort to help preserve and protect Jordan’s rich cultural heritage. In 1990, ACOR completed the Amman Citadel Feasibility Study under a grant from USAID. Conducted under the auspices of Jordan’s Department of Antiquities and on behalf of the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, this study proposed a comprehensive site development plan to create an archaeological park on the Citadel (Jabal el-Qala’a). This plan identified specific priority areas for archaeological work and touristic site enhancement over a fifteen-year period in support of the long-term goal of developing and administering the Amman Citadel, the Roman Forum and other downtown archaeological and historical sites as a national park. The Temple of Hercules Project, also funded by USAID, represents a major step towards the creation of such a park. The goal of this project is to provide a partially restored view of the Temple of Hercules and its enclosure.

Cultural History of Amman

The Citadel lies in the heart of modern Amman, which was known in antiquity as Rabbah or Rabbath-bené ‘Ammón. In the Iron Age, it was the capital of the Ammonite Kingdom. It later received its Greek name of Philadelphia from Ptolemy II Philadelphus (285-247 B.C.) after the city passed to Ptolemaic control. Listed by the Roman author Pliny as one of the cities of the Decapolis, it was subsequently incorporated into the newly-formed Province of Arabia after the annexation of the Nabataean Kingdom in A.D. 106. It reached its greatest classical splendor under the Severan dynasty in the second century A.D.

While it remained an important urban center throughout the subsequent Byzantine and Umayyad periods, the sweeping political and economic changes initiated by the Abbasids in the
second half of the eighth century led to the city’s rapid decline. Even so, it was a settled community (on a far smaller scale) throughout the Abbasid and Ayyubid periods. However, at some point in the early Mamluk period (around the thirteenth or fourteenth centuries A.D.), its urban history came to an end. The ruins of ancient Amman remained virtually abandoned until they were resettled with Circassians by Sultan Abdul Hamid in 1878. In 1921, the Emir Abdullah chose Amman as the capital of Transjordan.

The Temple: A principal urban monument

The Temple of Hercules was one of the principal monuments of Amman during the classical period. It is dated by an inscription on its portico architrave dedicating it to the emperors Marcus Aurelius Antoninus and Lucius Aurelius Verus (A.D. 161-169) during the governorship of P. Julius Geminius Marcianus (attested elsewhere in the Province of Arabia in A.D. 162-166).

Excavations of the temple precinct are being conducted by Dr. Mohammed Al Najjar of the Department of Antiquities of Jordan, aided by other members of the Department and by students from the University of Jordan. These excavations have uncovered large parts of the temple as well as remains of the Bronze and Iron Ages and the Hellenistic, Umayyad, Abbasid and Ayyubid periods.

In September 1991, part of the inscribed architrave which fell from the portico of the temple during the great earthquake of A.D. 748 was found lying face down. In early October, an “unveiling ceremony” was held to turn over the stone (opposite) so that it could be seen for the first time in over 1200 years.

The stone contained new evidence concerning the nature of the temple and the deity to which it was dedicated. Although it is commonly referred to as the “Temple of Hercules,” the actual identity of the ancient deity to which it was dedicated has long been a matter of scholarly debate. Known as the “Castle of Goliath” (Qast Jalut) in late Abbasid geographical works, most scholars have long suspected that it was dedicated to Hercules, the Greek and Roman equivalent of the ancient Ammonite god, Melkom. Hercules and his “sacred chariot” were frequently portrayed on the city coins of Amman during the Roman period.

Previously known fragments of the architrave inscription were noted by numerous early travellers, and have been variously translated by later scholars. The most recent treatment was by the French scholar Pierre-Louis Gatier in his 1986 Inscriptions de la Jordanie. His version of the inscription was as follows:

For the well-being of our Lords, Emperors Marcus Aurelius, Antoninus Augustus and Lucius Aurelius Verus...has offered, with them...the sanctuary...under Geminius Marcianus legate of the proper Emperors.

Following the recovery of the new fragment, Dr. Kenneth Russell, ACOR archaeologist, and Chryssanthos Kanellopoulos, a Greek archaeologist and classical architect working for ACOR on the reconstruction of the temple, were able to restore most of the inscription, including the name of the deity to which the temple was dedicated. The results would verify the structure as a temple dedicated to Hercules. Their proposed restoration of the inscription is as follows:

[To the well-being] of our emperors Marcus Aurelius Antoninus and Lucius Aurelius Verus, together with whom he dedicated this Hercules’ sanctuary and festival place. In the term of Geminius Marcianus, legate of the righteous emperors.

The name of the local benefactor responsible for the

Chryssanthos Kanellopoulos’ preliminary plan for the Temple reconstruction

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construction of the temple is known from another Greek inscription found on Jabal Webdeh in 1905. This inscription, located in the ruins of the Church of Saint George, was a tribute given by the city council and people of Amman to one Martan Diogenes, who was a city magistrate and “the constructor of the Heracleion,” which is now identified as the temple on the Citadel.

The evidence provided by ancient city coins indicates that an annual festival to Hercules was celebrated in Roman Amman, during which a sacred “Chariot of Hercules” (a wheeled shrine) was paraded through the city as part of a religious procession. From the new evidence provided by the inscription, it appears that the temple on the Citadel served as the principal sanctuary to Hercules, while its large enclosed courtyard (known as a temenos) functioned as the site of this annual festival. More than simply a religious event, this festival would have been integral to the economy of Roman Amman.

Reconstruction of the Temple

The directors of the reconstruction component of the project are Alexander Papanicolaou, architect, and Chryssanthos Kanellopoulos. All architectural elements which have been located are now being studied so that the architecture of the Temple may be understood. After conservation and consolidation work has been completed on the individual stones, actual reconstruction will begin. Three areas of the temple are expected to be reconstructed. First, work on the NW corner of the podium or platform on which the temple stood was scheduled to begin in late 1991. This small project will test the methods and personnel for the second phase—the larger effort involved in restoring the foundation of the facade. At least three columns with their capitals and architraves will be re-erected on that foundation. The column shafts of the Temple of Hercules are 10 m long and consist of five to six drums weighing an average of 7 tons each, so the foundation must be restored to a condition in which it can hold columns of 35 to 40 tons each. Problems concerning the consolidation, reversibility of the reconstruction and, most importantly, seismic safety are currently under study. Finally, at least four columns of the temenos which surrounded the temple will be re-erected. Those columns are only 5 m high and, when they are re-erected, the massive scale of the temple will be visible by comparison. The podium restoration will be completed in early 1992 and work on the facade will begin after that.

Part of the American Schools and Hospitals Abroad grant which ACOR received in 1990 was for the procurement of computers, and ACOR now has a variety of hardware available for use. In May, Autodesk, Inc. of Sausalito, California, donated AUTOCAD 11 to ACOR. Our thanks go to James Purcell and Richard Weiss of Autodesk, Inc. for their efforts in obtaining this donation. Temple of Hercules project engineer Mohammed Tayyem is currently using this powerful software package as part of the reconstruction phase of the Temple of Hercules project. Each stone which will be used for the reconstruction is being entered, and AUTOCAD-generated drawings will be used for some of the documentation of the temple. ACOR’s computer resources also include new Macintosh SE 1/40’s. The reconstruction of the facade of the temple (cover) was done on a Mac.

Engineer Mohammed Tayyem using AUTOCAD 11 in ACOR’s computer room.
Pella and Umm Qeis

In September of this year, the Pella and Umm Qeis Resthouses were finished and the Umm Qeis Resthouse was inaugurated in October by Queen Noor at a party attended by a number of Jordanian, American and other guests. The resthouses will now be used by the Department of Tourism as part of their program to encourage tourists to visit these important archaeological sites.

The construction of resthouses at Pella and Umm Qeis with a USAID grant administered by ACOR and construction design and supervision by Ammar Khammash set several important precedents. Conducted as part of ACOR’s continuing work in Cultural Resource Management in cooperation with the Department of Antiquities, that project used methods which, with further development, may serve as a model for employment-generating cultural preservation activities. Those precedents were that the projects were labor intensive and used local labor, so that the financial benefit to the rural communities in which the projects were located was maximized and, secondly, that the design of the structures stressed traditional building methods and materials. The resthouses are experimental revivals of Late Ottoman structural designs combined with modern comfort features. The success of the experiment lay in the economy of materials, and the reintroduction of skills attainable in rural societies and economies. The structures
are visually compatible not only with the antiquities they serve and also with the rural villages that surround them. These buildings not only provide a visual link between the rural villages and the antiquities, they also provide a functional link. The participation of the villages' labor force in their construction in a meaningful way has given these communities a share of interest in the antiquities themselves. Such meaningful improvements of rural society and economy represent a precedent for implementation elsewhere in Jordan. In July, ACOR received grants from USAID and the Canada Fund to continue this work at the site of Madaba.

Madaba
The Roman Street Complex in Madaba is located in a dense neighborhood. It includes a well preserved stretch of late Roman street paved and curbed like the main street of Jerash, two mosaic floors which were built adjoining the street in the Byzantine-Umayyad eras, two cisterns, and a Byzantine crypt. Since their discovery over fifteen years ago, the mosaic floors have been kept covered with soil because it was feared that exposure without proper restoration and sheltering would doom them to destruction. The best preserved panel (opposite) depicts Aphrodite seated near Adonis, who threatens with her shoe the young Eros seized by a Grace. In this project, architect Ammar Khammass will build a protective shelter of traditional design over the Roman street complex.

The second part of the project is to rebuild the shelter at the Church of the Apostles. In addition to the main mosaic floor with its famous emblem of the sea nymph Thalassa and its depiction of the four seasons, the building serves as a museum for important mosaic floors and pieces from the entire Madaba region.

With the recent exposure of numerous such floors throughout the country and the expected discovery of many more, Jordan's need for mosaic conservators has become urgent. That conservation skill has traditionally been the expertise of Italians, who have provided leadership in Jordan, and there is now an agreement for a cooperative venture between the Department of Antiquities and the Government of Italy to establish a school for mosaic conservation in Madaba.

While Italy will provide the curriculum and experts to launch the school, the Government of Canada has given ACOR a grant to renovate the actual school facility which will be in modest traditional buildings adjacent to the Roman street complex. [Materials supplied by Dr. Bert de Vries and Fr. Michele Piccirillo].

Cultural Resource Management
The Cultural Resource Management Project, a joint effort by the Department of Antiquities and ACOR, has been funded by USAID into 1992. This program is essential for Jordan as it is the only office in the country which is developing mechanisms for preventative planning to protect archaeological sites. This is becoming increasingly important for Jordan since USAID, the World Bank and other international funding agencies now require Environmental Impact Reports prior to funding of construction projects, and these reports must include a cultural statement. At the moment, ACOR's CRM project, as small as it is, is the only agency equipped to generate the necessary cultural assessments. As part of this, Dr. Gaetano Palumbo, CRM archaeologist, has developed a system now being used by the Department of Antiquities to register all archaeological sites in Jordan by their map coordinates. The Jordan Antiquities Database and Information System (JADIS) will make it possible for any developer or agency to locate immediately any archaeological sites in the path of construction projects and it will also be useful to archaeologists. It is estimated that 20,000 sites will be registered by the end of the project. The Department of Antiquities has assigned five employees to the project, and it took a big step forward this summer when Dr. Palumbo turned over the JADIS cards to the Department's Registration Center.

Dr. Gaetano Palumbo presents the JADIS registration cards to Dr. Safwan Tell

Director of Antiquities
In May of this year, Dr. Safwan Tell succeeded Dr. Ghazi Bisheh as Director of the Department of Antiquities. Dr. Tell received his M.A. from New York University and his Ph.D. in Istanbul where he specialized in Byzantine and Islamic art and architecture. From 1964 to 1970 he was with the Department of Antiquities and worked in that era with Kathleen Kenyon and James Pritchard, among others. In 1970 he joined the Archaeology Department at the University of Jordan where he rose to the rank of professor and sometimes served as Chairman of the Department. His interests include numismatics, mosaics, sculpture, miniature paintings and calligraphy. The Department has a new fax: (962-6) 615-848.
Tell Jawa

A Canadian-American team of archaeologists spent six weeks excavating at Tell Jawa, which is located between the villages of Jawa and al-Yadudah approximately 10 km south of Amman. The team was headed by Professor P. M. Daviau of Wilfrid Laurier University, and the project was supervised by the Jordanian Department of Antiquities. The project opened fields on the tell during the months of June and July and uncovered a variety of archaeological materials. Most of the artifacts and architecture has been dated to the Iron II period, about 2700 years ago. These remains include an extensive fortification system. A casemate wall, which has been mapped, measures about 7 m thick and appears to surround most of the mound. In addition to the casemate wall, the team also excavated a large, single-course wall of monumental dimensions. One of the stones from this wall is over 2 m in length. The probable remains of the ground floor of a defensive tower have also been found.

Humeima

Excavation in 1991 at Humeima, the site of ancient Aaura, has produced important new information concerning the character and development of the site, as well as some spectacular objects of ancient Islamic, Christian and numismatic art. The excavation was directed by John Oleson of the University of Victoria, Canada, and co-directed by Dr. Khairieh Amr of the Department of Antiquities and Dr. Robert Schick of Case Western Reserve University. Funding was provided by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada and the Taggart Foundation. Excavation at three areas within the settlement center has shown for the first time that many of the structural remains visible on the surface of the site date to the Umayyad and Abbasid periods rather than to the Byzantine or earlier periods of occupation. The extent of these structural remains is testimony to the importance of the site during this early period of Islamic history. It may be that the Abbasid conspiracy was hatched at Aaura both because of the site’s significant size and because of its location on or near the Pilgrimage Road and trade routes.

In the excavations of the Lower Church, the vestry was identified, and significant remains of the chancel screen were found. This constitutes a remarkable and beautiful monument of Byzantine art located far from the centers of Byzantine culture. Data was also recovered concerning other fixtures in the church, such as the foundation for the pulpit, mudbrick niches along the walls of the side aisles, a stair to a gallery, crosses engraved on the paving stones, painted plaster, and even remains of the bronze and glass church lamps.

Finally, during a survey walk 2 km west of the
ACOR Fellowships

ACOR has four Travel Grants of $750 each for U.S. graduate students to explore research topics in Jordan during the summer of 1992 (deadline: March 1, 1992), and will have the following fellowships available beginning in the fall of 1992:

- **USIA Fellowships.** Subject to funding, ACOR will have five or more fellowships available for research in Jordan in any area of the humanities or sciences and for a Resident Specialist in the area of computerization. U.S. citizens and permanent residents may apply. Fellowships will be offered for terms of 4 to 6 months with an award of up to $6000 plus room and board at ACOR or for 6 to 8 weeks with an award of up to $3000 plus room and board at ACOR (Maximum total value: $10,000). Grantees are expected to pay for transportation on a U.S. carrier from their award funds. Deadline: March 1, 1992.

- **Dodge Fellowship.** Subject to funding, there will be an award of up to $10,000 for a four to six month stay at ACOR. This fellowship is open to scholars in the social sciences and humanities and for the processing of field data. Deadline: Feb. 1, 1992.

- **Winnett Fellowship.** In memory of Fred Winnett and sponsored by his heirs, ACOR, the Embassy of Canada, and the Dept. of Near Eastern Studies of the Univ. of Toronto. Scholars at the Ph.D. and post-doctoral levels are eligible to apply. This fellowship promotes research in the history and culture of Ancient Arabia. The 1992-93 award is for work in the history of hydraulic engineering in the Jordanian desert, including the application of ancient technology to modern water resource development. The amount of the award will vary, but will not exceed $6000 plus room and board at ACOR for a term of 4-6 months. Deadline: Feb. 1, 1992.

- **Jennifer C. Groot Fellowship.** Two awards of up to $1000 to help undergraduate or graduate students meet the expenses of participation in an archaeological project in Jordan.

Recipients of ACOR Fellowships are expected to participate in the scholarly and cultural activities of the ACOR community and to submit a final report to the Fellowship Committee and to the ACOR director. For more information on these and other fellowships which can be used for research in Jordan, contact ASOR, 3301 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21218, or the Fellowship Committee Chairperson, Nancy Lapp, 18 Oxford Ct., Pittsburgh, PA 15237.

Arabic Speaking Academic Immersion Program (ASAIP)

ASAIP offers fellowships to both faculty and graduate students enabling them to spend a full semester at the University of Jordan enrolled in three graduate seminars conducted exclusively in Arabic. ASAIP fellows select the three seminars most closely related to their individual specializations and scholarly disciplines from the list of available courses in the humanities and the social sciences.

Fellowships cover round-trip international travel, lodging and meals at ACOR and fees at the University of Jordan for the entire semester.

Non-native speakers of Arabic who are just on the threshold of fluency and who seek an “immersion” experience in order to improve their oral/aural skills in the Arabic used in academic circles (i.e. formal modern standard Arabic) are the group targeted by ASAIP. To qualify, applicants must be graduate students or faculty at an American college or university and must demonstrate sufficient Arabic competence to be able to follow seminar teaching and discussion conducted in Arabic. A significant additional goal is the interchange of ideas between ASAIP fellows and the Jordanian academic community.

Funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, ASAIP is governed by a consortium of 17 American universities. For further information and application forms please contact: Ahmed Ferhadi, Executive Secretary, ASAIP, New York University, 50 Washington Square South, New York, NY 10012. (Application deadline for Fall 1992 is March 2, 1992).
settlement center, the excavation team stumbled by chance on a spectacular hoard of gold and silver coins and jewelry. The hoard contained 5 gold solidi of the Byzantine emperor Arcadius (383-408) and 18 silver drachms of the Sassanian king Yazdegard I (399-420). All the coins were in mint condition, and all the solidi were struck from the same dies, while the drachms were struck from a very limited number of dies. Also included in the hoard were two heavy earrings composed of pearls and gold beads strung on gold wire. This hoard, which was clearly accumulated by someone close to the minting or issuing authorities of both cultures, will provide important information concerning trade between Arabia and Persia at the very beginning of the fifth century.

Iraq ed-Dubb

As part of the Wadi el-Yabis survey and excavation project, excavations at the cave of Iraq ed-Dubb have documented the early Neolithic (c. 10,500-9,300 years before present) use of upland areas near Ajlun, in northwestern Jordan. Funded by the National Science Foundation, the Department of Anthropology of Harvard University, the Peabody Museum, and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the excavations are in their second year of a three-year project to understand the nature of Neolithic settlement and subsistence practices in the forested regions of Ajlun surrounding the Jordan Valley. The 1991 excavations were conducted in September under the direction of Ian Kuijt (Harvard University), and have uncovered remains of two stone habitation structures with internal plastered mud floors. The first of these had an upright 50-cm-high stone wall enclosing a four-by-three-meter living area. The floor of the structure has been radiocarbon dated to 9,950 ± 100 years before present. The second structure has yet to be dated, but is similar in shape, size and construction technique. Excavations in the interior and exterior areas of the structure have provided important evidence for the types of foods eaten by the Neolithic people, including: bones from goats, sheep, gazelle and several birds as well as carbonized seeds from wild and domesticated cereals.

Preliminary study of the food remains indicates that not only were the upland areas near Ajlun forested, but that cereal farming was practiced in conjunction with the hunting of local animals. As one of the earliest farming communities in Jordan, the cave of Iraq ed-Dubb provides archaeologists with a better understanding of how and when agricultural practices first developed in the upland areas of Jordan. [Reports supplied by: Dr. P. M. Daviau, Dr. John Olleson and Mr. Ian Kuijt.]

The Dodge Fellow

Burton MacDonald, Professor in the Department of Theology, St. Francis Xavier University, Antiochian, Nova Scotia, is this year’s Dodge Fellow at ACOR. His main research project is to attempt to identify the location of biblical sites east of the Jordan River in what is now Jordan. He is making use of the latest methods and results of biblical criticism, the study of toponymy, and archaeological research to identify, insofar as is possible, these sites. In the process of site identification, he is considering information from ancient written sources, particularly the names of ancient cities and clues regarding their historical and topographical circumstances, modern place-names which sometimes preserve the memory of ancient names, and artifact evidence recovered by archaeologists.

Dr. MacDonald has been working in Jordan for the past 14 years, having first come to work with The Expedition to the Southeast Plain of the Dead Sea at Bab edh-Dhra’ in 1977. In 1979, he worked both as a member of the Central Moab Survey and as director of the Wadi al-Hasa Archaeological Survey (1979-1983). In 1983-86, he directed The Southern Ghors and Northeast Arabah Archaeological Survey. Most recently (1989-90), he participated in the excavation of the EB IV cemetery at Khirbet Khanazir near the southeast end of the Dead Sea. The Dodge Fellowship is open to senior scholars in the area of the social sciences and humanities or for the processing of field data.
I would like, first of all, to acknowledge all the help that ACOR has received during the past year from the U.S. Mission in Amman headed by Ambassador Roger Harrison. They recognized that ACOR had been dealt a serious setback by events beyond its control and have been tremendously supportive.

U.S. scholars found it difficult to plan for field seasons in 1991 because of the Gulf Crisis. Readers of this newsletter will note that Canadian scholars are much in evidence at ACOR. In the year that \textit{ASOR Canada} may become a reality, it is appropriate for us to recognize that without Canadian use of the facility during the these last months, our situation now would be rather bleak.

Finally, in a period during which uncertainty about the future caused a dip in individual donations to ACOR, I would like to recognize those who have been contributors since I became director: Keith Beebe, Robert A. Coughenour, The Dodge Foundation, Tim C. Ferrell, Elizabeth Gamble, Joseph Greene, Robert Johnston, Norma Kershaw, Richard Mattersdorf, Anne Ogilvy, Elizabeth Platt, Murray Seeman, Patrica Velites, Peter Warnock, and Donald Wimmer.

Library

There were many contributors to the library over the past year, and we are grateful to all of them. We are particularly grateful for major donations received from Richard Antoun, Robin Brown, Meryle Gaston, Bruce Gould, who has generously donated the library of Dr. Jennifer Groot in her memory, Alfred Howell, the New York University Library, Ann Ogilvy, Edwin Schick, Robert Schick, Bayly and Viola Hitti Winder, and Mrs. Judy Zimmerman.

Technical assistance and donations of time and expertise to the library were also received from Meryle Gaston, Burton MacDonald, Gaetano Palumbo, Glen Peterman, Kenneth Russell and Robert Schick.

Fellows in Residence

Dr. Al Wolters, holder of a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada grant, did research on the Copper Scroll in July. Kelly Low, holder of the Jennifer Groot Fellowship, participated in the excavation at Humeina, and Kristen Finnegan worked on architecture with an Aga Khan Fellowship. Dr. Thomas Schaub, Fulbright Scholar, was in residence this past summer and, before leaving, generously donated a sherd storage cabinet for the Early Bronze Age study collection he developed for ACOR researchers.

Drs. Carl Brown, Lynn Killean, and Fred Cadora arrived in September to test the Arabic-Speaking Academic Immersion Program, which is funded by a grant from the Mellon Foundation. They are attending seminars at the University of Jordan, and it is hoped that their Arabic will improve to a level at which they can lecture in Arabic. We have been heartened by the welcome they have received at the University and we would like to thank in particular the President of the University, Dr. Fawzi Ghraybeh, Vice President Mohammed Adnan Bakhit and Dr. Talib Rifai for all they have done to make this possible.

Dr. Laurie Brand, Fulbright Scholar, is researching the role of economics and economic policy in Jordan’s inter-Arab relations. Dr. Burton MacDonald, the Dodge Fellow, will be in residence all year. The M.A. students in archaeology from the University of Jordan, continue to make progress through use of our growing library.

We are looking forward to the arrival of three USIA Fellows in early 1992. Our congratulations go to Dr. Allison Betts who has recently resigned the Winnett Fellowship as she was offered a permanent position in Australia. Consequently, this fellowship will be available in ’92-’93 for an archaeological project which includes an economic development component. Information about the Winnett and ACOR’s other fellowships can be obtained from ASOR, 3301 North Charles St., Baltimore MD 21218.

Staff

Dr. Gaetano Palumbo continues as Cultural Resource Management Archaeologist, and Dr. Kenneth Russell as Projects Archaeologist, CRM Planner Ruba Kana’an left in September to pursue graduate studies at Oxford. Cynthia Shatzer left in June for a position in Cairo, and Patricia M. Bikai is now Director of Grants Administration. Marwan Yassin has become Grants Accountant. After a procession of temporary helpers in

Dr. Thomas Schaub presenting the sherd collection and cabinet to Director Pierre Bikai
office during the summer, Kathy Nitmi has taken it on as a full-time position. Scott Quinlan, who is studying Arabic at the University of Jordan, is helping out with answering the telephones in the evening and with the newsletter. Humi Ayoubi, Patricia Masi, Sa‘ad Asfour, Mohammed Adawi, and Sa‘id Adawi continue as before.

**Activities**

Lectures at ACOR:

- July 10: “Pots as Containers,” Dr. Thomas Schaub.
- Oct. 3: “A Visit to Yemen from the Touristic Point of View,” Dr. Jacques Seigne.

In June, Patricia and I attended the gala opening of the new home of CAARI in Nicosia with Bert and Sally de Vries and ACOR President Dr. James Sauer. When we returned, Bert and Sally continued to explain the workings of ACOR and we are grateful to both of them for all that they did for us. On June 15, a reception marked the transition. On July 20 there was a working luncheon at ACOR. In early September, Dr. Eric Meyers, the President of ASOR, visited and we held a reception for him. Eric and I then went on together to the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) meeting in Athens, where problems common to all the centers were discussed. The Fall Reception welcoming the scholars in residence was held on Oct. 20.

In November, to the great relief of all, I submitted the final version of my Ph.D. dissertation, “The Cedar of Lebanon: Archaeological and Dendrochronological Perspectives,” to my committee at the University of California, Berkeley.

**Around the House**

ACOR is more than a list of lectures and projects; it is a place where people live, sometimes for extended periods of time. We would like to share some of the more human events that we, both the staff and the residents, have enjoyed/survived:

- Visitors coming from abroad continue to bring chocolate and brown sugar so Mohammed Adawi can work his magic on them.
- Elena Balzarini from Italy, who is studying Arabic at the University of Jordan, instituted 5 o’clock high tea with music. This has now become a daily event and a wonderful break for everyone.
- John Oleson of the University of Victoria renamed ACOR the *Academia Canadensis Orientalis Regionis*, and the Canadian flag flew in the lobby for part of the summer.
- In an effort to express ACOR’s ties to the Jordanian community, I’ve asked a number of Jordanian artists to contribute paintings to ACOR. At the moment works by Ali el-Ghoul and Ammar Khammass grace the dining room and others have promised to participate.
- A virus jumped from a Temple of Hercules project computer into two other computers in the house. “Hackers” Horst Wattenbach and Gaetano Palumbo set up an intensive care unit with regular progress reports, and the patients were eventually cured.
- Chryssanthos Kanellopoulos returned from a month in Greece and reported to those greeting him on his progress regarding the plans for reconstruction of the Temple of Hercules. He then added, “By the way I got married.” The bride, Anthi, is expected at ACOR in early November.
- Finally, ACOR survived an attack of marauding goats. Sometime in the morning on October 18, one of the local shepherds lost control of his herd, and they advanced all the way to our front door. The damage report includes trimmed geraniums along the entry, and pruned (and topped) juniper trees on the front porch.
The ACOR Library Seeks the Following Out-of-Print Books

Aharoni, Y.
Avi-Yonah, M.
Bar-Yosef, O.
1972 On the Paleo-ecological History of the Site of ‘Ubeidiya.
Blake, G.S.
Boase, T. S. R.
1971 Kingdoms and Strongholds of the Crusaders. London.
Bodenheimer, F. D.
Boulanger, R.
Buhl, F.
Dunlop, D. M.
1981 Arab Civilization to A.D. 1500. London.
Garstang, J.
Ginsberg, C. D.
Grabar, A.
1979 L'igi paleochristian et l'igi byzantine: Recueil d'etudes. London.
Hestrin, R.
Hor, S.
Kenyon, K. M.
Koppelman, R.

Elena Bazarani and Scott Quinlan installing the Loeb Classical Library

Lawlor, J. I.
1974 The Nabataeans in Historical Perspective. Grand Rapids, MI.
Littmann, E.
1910 Greek and Latin Inscriptions: The Southern Hebran. (PAS III; A2). Leyden.
Moorey, R. and Parr, P., eds.
Moscati, S.
Muller-Wiener, W.
Negev, A.
1976 Die Nabataer. Oren, E. D.
Palmer, P.
Reisner, G. A.
1924 Harvard Excavations at Samaria. 2 vols. Cambridge, MA.
Rosenberger, M.
1978 The Coinage of Eastern Palestine.

Jerusalem.
Schmitt-Korte, K.
Todd, I. A.
1976 Cults in Perspective. Menlo Park, CA.
Tufnell, O.
1940 Lachish II (The Fosse Temple). London.
1953 Lachish III (The Iron Age). London.
Vordermann, J.
1969 Preliminary Reports on the Excavations to the East of the 1968 Excavations at Machaerus. Louisville, KY.
Wein, S.

ACOR’s library is also seeking any volume of Publications of the Princeton University Archaeological Expeditions to Syria in 1904-5 and 1909. Leyden: E. J. Brill.

Merlcy Gaston, a member of the Library Committee, serves as the "clearing house" for donated books, which can be evaluated for income tax purposes. She may be contacted at 18 E. 89th St., #3B, New York, NY 10003 or at the E.H. Bobst Library, New York University, 70 Washington Square South, New York, NY 10012.

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