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AMERICAN CENTER OF
ORIENTAL RESEARCH
المركز الأمريكي
للأبحاث الشرقية

أخبار أكور NEWSLETTER

Volume 29.2 Winter 2017

The TWLCRM Initiative: Ensuring the Temple's Long Term Preservation

Glenn J. Corbett and John D.M. Green

In 2017, the Temple of the Winged Lions Cultural Resource Management Initiative (TWLCRM) undertook a series of critical site preservation and presentation interventions to help ensure the temple remains safe, accessible, and comprehensible for years to come. ACOR also continued to work closely with the TWLCRM local team to grow the “Experience Petra” program, a first-of-its-kind, hands-on learning experience that has engaged hundreds of Jordanian school children as well as scores of foreign visitors in Jordan’s rich cultural heritage. The project has benefited from financial support from the U.S. Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation (AFCP) and the USAID Sustainable Cultural Heritage Through Engagement of Local Communities Project (SCHEP), as implemented by ACOR, and from the collaboration and support of the Department of Antiquities (DOA) of Jordan and the Petra Development and Tourism Region Authority (PDTRA).



View of the east side of the Temple of the Winged Lions (ca. A.D. 25–363) within Petra. The photograph shows the site following the AFCP-supported interventions completed in January 2017. The site is now more accessible to visitors than ever before. Facing west, part of the site of the 12th century Crusader castle is visible beyond the temple and above the windows of the former Nabatean museum (photo by Yusuf Ahmed)

Securing the Sanctuary



Before and after the application of a protective mortar capping on the cella podium (photos by Franco Sciorilli)

One of the most vexing problems faced by the TWLCRM Initiative was how to properly preserve the central cultic podium of the temple's inner sanctuary (or cella). While the project had had some success in repairing the podium's weathered and salt-encrusted sidewalls, the broad upper surface of the sacred altar had become, in the four decades since being excavated, a highly degraded mass of crumbling mortar and pebbles. In antiquity, this bedding had functioned to secure carefully cut marble tiles that decorated the platform's surface with beautiful geometric designs. However, after excavation, the surface quickly began to breakdown and continued to deteriorate at an alarming rate. What is more, this continual breakdown has allowed rainwater to seep into the underlying construction, thereby causing significant damage to the podium's foundations.

What is equally problematic has been the poor condition of the ten free-standing columns that adorn the temple's inner sanctuary (presumably once supporting the temple's second story).

In particular, two columns in the cella's west aisle are now leaning precariously (likely due to soil subsidence and weak foundations), while a significant fracture in the central drum of a third column could lead to imminent collapse if not repaired. Given the size and height of these columns, their collapse—in addition to destroying the columns themselves—would inflict heavy structural damage on both the cella's podium and the sanctuary's monumental Nabataean walls.

In August 2017, the TWLCRM Initiative launched an emergency campaign to address the critical preservation issues that had long plagued the exposed ruins of the temple's cella. Led by conservation specialist Franco Sciorilli and consulting engineering geologist Giuseppe Delmonaco, the TWLCRM local team, together with conservation assistants Baha' Jankhot, Hamza Wakhyan, and Khaled Wakhyan worked throughout September and October to preserve the cella podium and secure the temple's columns. Together, the team created a protective but completely reversible



Columns in the west side of cella undergoing work led by Lead Conservator Franco Sciorilli with senior conservation assistant Hamza Wakhyan (left); TWLCRM documentation assistant Halemah Nawafleh applying mortar to a column (center); and one of the leaning columns after the addition of a wooden bracing structure (right) (all photos by TWLCRM team)

mortar capping for the podium surface. Below the capping, the team added a breathable layer of thin geotextile fabric that will slow the buildup of moisture and destructive salts within the podium. As part of this work, the TWLCRM team also created a simple but effective shelter to cover the large open niche in the back wall of the podium that once functioned to hold cultic and ritual items. This shelter, together with the slightly graded surface of the new capping, will ensure that damaging winter rains glide gently off the podium and towards the wadi below.

Franco Sciorilli and Giuseppe Delmonaco designed and installed a special brace and support system that brings added strength and stability to the temple's two leaning columns. To repair the third column, the team had to completely dismantle the column drum by drum in order to remove the severely fractured drum near the column's base. After this drum was replaced with another original Nabataean drum from the nearby architectural gallery (lapidarium), and as the column's other drums were consolidated and repaired, the team carefully re-erected the column back into its original position.

A View into the Past

Thanks to support from the U.S. Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation (AFCP), in May 2017 the TWLCRM Initiative installed an innovative interpretive sign at the entrance to the cella. The sign, which was developed by Elena Ronza, Qais Tweissi, and Jihad Haron, features a transparent vertical glass plane through which visitors view a to-scale graphic reconstruction of the cella's interior modeled atop the extant remains, along with a text panel describing the cella and how it functioned. The sign, which is an



The newly installed interpretive sign at the cella entrance that allows visitors to see a reconstruction of the temple's interior (photo by Qais Tweissi)

example of an “augmented reality” approach to visualizing heritage sites, has already received high praise from the Department of Antiquities and local officials and, most importantly, is drawing more and more casual visitors to the temple. Later in the year, preparations continued on the development of additional signage for the site to be installed in 2018.



Nearing completion of the backfilling in the SW Quadrant in mid-December (photo Jack Green)

Stabilizing the Southwest Quadrant

This area had already undergone significant preparations to buttress, conserve, and stabilize the standing architecture and rubble slope thanks to generous AFCP support in 2016 and early 2017. The aim of this emergency conservation project was to provide a long-term buttressing solution to help prevent collapse of the slope, as well as to facilitate improved drainage through the creation of a gradient to allow water run-off. This was in response to the deep-level excavations conducted by Philip Hammond's American Expedition to Petra, which left the arches and the rubble slope in danger of collapse, affecting the overall stability of this part of the site and the temple architecture which stands on it. The identification of a geological fault that runs directly underneath the area of the temple places it under threat from earthquake tremors.

Preparations began in August and September by removing the sandbags and geotextile that had surrounded the arches to protect them from accumulation of moisture. Scaffolding provided by the PDTRA enabled the erection of a chute to convey the significant quantities of soil into the SW Quadrant, as well as ease of access to the rubble slope for the consolidation. Franco Sciorilli and Giuseppe Delmonaco provided advice and support throughout this process. Giuseppe Delmonaco assessed the soil type to be used for backfilling, which was carefully sourced from outside the Petra Archaeological Park with the involvement of the TWLCRM team. Over the next three months until mid-December, over 100 m³ of the soil was deposited down the chute, sifted, and compacted by the TWLCRM team.

This work was completed in mid-December, resulting in a compact and secure buttress that extends east-west along the 10 m length of the slope, with two layers of fill overlaying. An additional layer of fill was deposited and extends across the entire roughly square area of the SW Quadrant. One of the dilemmas of this project was the extent to which the imposing arches of the SW Quadrant would remain visible to visitors, or be covered by backfill. An original plan suggested complete coverage, though this would necessitate a larger amount of soil than needed for emergency conservation. A com-



Photogrammetry model of the main lapidarium at the Temple of the Winged Lions. Created by Marco Dehner from photo-documentation carried out in October 2017.

promise was reached whereby the upper parts of the architecture would be exposed, allowing suitable drainage through the arches down to the projected visitor pathway. This allows parts of the arches to remain visible. Site signage will help to show the original depth of the arches, while drawing attention to the need to protect the site from future erosion or damage. Although the project originally considered the use of geotextile and a gravel layer to help facilitate drainage, the selection of this soil and its level of compaction was deemed sufficient. Finally, drainage channels were created in the backfilled area to enable rainwater to flow away from the site and down the hill. Thankfully, the work was completed prior to the arrival of the late winter rains.

Work began in December on the stabilization of the rubble slope and the filling in of gaps in its adjacent supporting wall led by lead conservator Franco Sciorilli, and to be completed in early 2018. Hands-on conservation training was provided to TWLCRM team member Halemah Nawafleh, who made significant contributions to this stage of the project. Wajd Nawafleh of PDTRA and Ahmad Mowasa of the TWLCRM team contributed to the remortaring efforts on the slope. It is also worth noting that considerable backfilling efforts were also carried out in the SE Quadrant in 2017. While not as critical as the SW Quadrant, this work will, once completed,



Marco Dehner of Humboldt University, Berlin, within the main lapidarium (photo by Jack Green)

provide much more efficient water runoff from the temple area. In summary, by the close of 2017, our objective to provide increased stability, site safety, and suitable drainage has been met. The site is now in a greatly improved state, and should remain stable for the foreseeable future.

Lapidarium Project

Our commitment to combining documentation, training, and research at TWL continued in 2017 through an effort to more fully assess and reorganize the multiple lapidaria spread across the site. The main lapidarium at the site forms a square arrangement of several hundred

diagnostic architectural fragments from the temple, which has developed since the time of Hammond's excavations. Following documentation efforts by Qais Tweissi in 2014, and through the research interests in the architectural material of Marco Dehner (a Ph.D candidate of Humboldt University, Berlin), it became apparent that Hammond had only selectively documented and published the architectural fragments from TWL. It was therefore determined that there should be a future project to more consistently document, reorganize, and share information about this important resource of Petra's built Nabataean heritage. Documentation assistant Halemah Nawafleh continued to measure and photograph the fragments. During October 2017, Marco Dehner undertook an extensive rapid photo-documentation of the lapidarium, resulting in a photogrammetric model that will serve as a useful tool for documentation and preparing for conservation and reorganization efforts. It is intended that the Lapidarium Project will become an important part of the TWLCRM Initiative for the future, given that these fragments may yield important data for archaeologists and architects working on the Nabataean period.

Educational awareness

The outreach work of SCHEP site stewards Eman Abdessalam and Ahmad Mowasa, alongside other TWLCRM team members increased significantly in 2017 through a special program in partnership with the Ministry of Education and in cooperation with the PDTRA. This helped to bring hundreds of school children from public schools around the country to experience Petra and hands-on-activities at the temple. This was a continuation of the TWLCRM Experience Petra program, which provides informal educational opportunities to visitors to help them understand the importance of archaeology and cultural heritage preservation and participate in such activities as sifting for artifacts, identifying pottery, documentation of architecture, and conservation. Through the SCHEP project, a total of 326 school students from 14 schools participated in the Experience Petra program. Schools included those from Ayla, Bayt Ras, Busayra, Ghor as-Safi, Madaba, Bir Madkhur, Wadi Musa, Umm el-Jimal, and Wadi Ramm. Students were between 10 and 17 years of age, with a higher representation of female pupils. A local school group from the Umm Seyhoun community also visited the site, as did various tourist groups, a student group from

Hashemite University, as well as a group representing the Jordan In Photos competition. These visits helped to raise greater awareness of the needs of site preservation and heritage to new generations of Jordanians and international visitors. In addition, Glenn Corbett took part in filming for the Discovery Channel's documentary series *Unearthed*, which was aired in August 2017, exposing the work conducted at the site to an international audience.

Farewells and Arrivals

The TWLCRM Initiative went through changes in senior staffing and partnership during 2017. Co-director Elena Ronza stepped down from the project in March, while ACOR Associate Director Glenn J. Corbett continued as TWLCRM Initiative Director up until October, at which time John (Jack) D.M. Green, took over the responsibility.

The AFCP grant and activities came to a close in May with the addition of the glass sign. From the spring of 2017 the support of USAID SCHEP enabled us to focus on site capitalization and the educational awareness campaign over the year. This year also saw continued support by Royal Jordanian. In summer 2017, the grant-based partnership with Sela came to a close. We were able to achieve our goals through the continued presence and dedication of site steward and acting project manager, Eman Abdessalam, and



Eman Abdessalam and school children from Busayra visiting the Temple of the Winged Lions in October (photo by Shaker Alfaqeer)

site steward and assistant acting project manager Ahmad Mowasa, as well as the rest of the TWLCRM local team. We are grateful to the support of ACOR staff and project partners, including the DOA, PDTRA, lead conservator Franco Sciorilli, and engineering geologist Giuseppe Delmonaco.

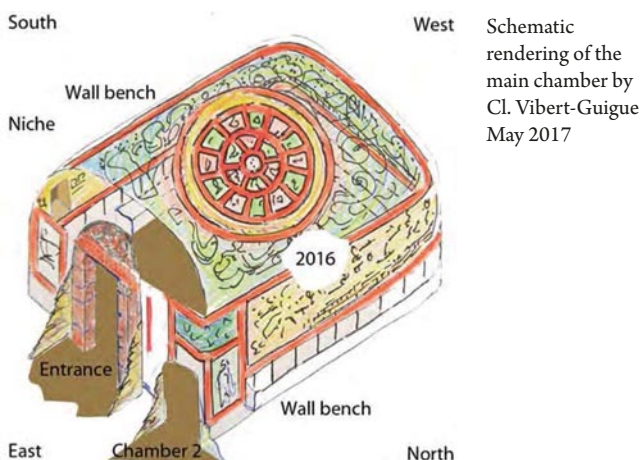
USAID SCHEP Update: The Bayt Ras Tomb Project

Nizar Al Adarbeh, Jihad Haron, and Barbara A. Porter

In 2017, SCHEP continued to work throughout the country from north to south on many activities but the one that was the biggest surprise stemmed from the accidental discovery in mid-November 2016 during infrastructure work in front of a boy's elementary school in Bayt Ras, north of Irbid. What was revealed was a spectacularly painted underground Roman period structure cut into the local limestone. The Director General of the Department of Antiquities (DOA), Dr. Monther Jamhawi, and the Minister of Tourism and Antiquities, H.E. Lina Annab, visited soon after with other officials, including Amjad Bataineh of the Irbid DOA office, and some photos were shared then on Facebook but otherwise the formal announcement had to wait for some time in order to ensure the protection of the tomb. The significance of the discovery was apparent from the outset as were the challenges of how to protect and document what had been found.

In December, discussions were initiated by the DOA that led to the creation of an international consortium of experts (see below). This effort has been coordinated and funded by USAID SCHEP as implemented by ACOR. Jihad Haron, the SCHEP Cultural Heritage Resources Projects Lead, Nizar Al Adarbeh, SCHEP Chief of Party, and Fared Al Shishani, the Capacity Building Coordinator, were the key actors within SCHEP to plan and manage the program in 2017, and their expertise facilitated the work carried out in this fragile, subterranean environment—taking into consideration the safety of the wall paintings and people, as well as the need to control the environment. The logistics of this undertaking were intricate and involved many local stakeholders, to whom thanks are due. The tomb was reopened in April 2017.

Bayt Ras was known in the Roman period as Capitolas of the Decapolis (a league of ten cities) and this is demonstrated by the inscription and image of a female personification of the city's good fortune (*Tyche*) standing beside the enthroned figure of Zeus Capitolanus on the upper part of the west wall. The epigraphic assessment was conducted by the CNRS/HiSoMA team of Julien Aliquot, Pierre-Louis Gatier, and Jean-Baptiste Yon, all of whom have many years of experience in Jordan. They have shown that many of the inscriptions written in Greek are actually transcriptions of the spoken Aramaic language, and some are captions, such as "Alas for me, I am dead." Claude Vibert-Guigue (CNRS, ENS) undertook the careful documentation of the wall painting program, including renderings of line drawings of the scenes. Soizik Bechetoille-Kaczorowski (Ifpo Amman) spent many days below ground in order to document as much as possible in a scientific manner with photogrammetry. She also undertook part of the structural assessment with Mohammed El-Khalili of Hashemite



Schematic rendering of the main chamber by Cl. Vibert-Guigue May 2017



South wall photogrammetric rendering by Soizik Bechetoille-Kaczorowski

University. The geo-physical survey was conducted under the direction of Giuseppe Delmonaco (ISPRA) whose work also included ground penetrating radar to better understand the surrounding area as well as the geo-structural assessment of the interior of the hypogeum (i.e., structural conditions, rock strength, and cracks). The DOA undertook the laser scanning documentation.

The wall and ceiling paintings of the main large chamber covers an area of approximately 62 m². The ceiling is dominated by mythological subjects related to the sea and the walls by scenes of everyday life. This wide expanse of painted surfaces in the fresco technique has been studied and received emergency conservation by a team from ISCR as lead by Giovanna De Palma in July and August 2017. The conservators have had to contend with extensive lack of adhesion of the paint layers and the main goal of their interventions was to stabilize the wall paintings. They also undertook a disinfection effort to avoid biological deterioration and a study of the micro-climatic conditions. Their research has reinforced the need to limit the numbers of people inside the space.

Several training sessions for DOA and PDTRA (Petra Development and Tourism Region Authority) staff as well as young professionals in cultural heritage took place in the fall and covered aspects of conservation (September) and documentation (October). Many awareness events took place with students from the local schools and the Bayt Ras SCHEP site steward, Anas Taani, took the lead on these activities. A launching ceremony will be coordinated with the DOA and local authorities in Bayt Ras and Irbid, and for that event a video will be released. There remains much to do and to plan in order to preserve the tomb, including future conservation and documentation missions as well as excavation, and of course, publication.



Italian conservator Francesca Mancinelli consolidating the preparatory layers of the ceiling (photo by Giulia Pompa)

CONSORTIUM PARTNERS

ACOR (American Center of Oriental Research)
 DOA (Department of Antiquities of Jordan)
 CNRS (Centre national de la recherche scientifique, UMR 8546)
 ENS (École normale supérieure, Paris)
 HiSoMA (Histoire et Sources des Mondes Antiques), Lyon University
 Ifpo Amman (Institut français du Proche-Orient)
 ISCR (Istituto Superiore per la Conservazione ed il Restauro)
 ISPRA (Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale)
 SCHEP (Sustainable Cultural Heritage Through the Engagement of Local Communities Project)
 USAID (United States Agency for International Development)

ACOR's Kenneth W. Russell Memorial Trust Tawjihi Prize

on the occasion of the 10th Anniversary of the Annual Tawjihi Prize for Students in Umm Seyhoun, Petra, we celebrate the recipients who passed the exams with the highest marks in recent years.

2016 Amani Ali Hammad **2017** Dalia Haron Al Fakeer and Ahmad Hatim Al Samaheen

H.R.H. Prince Raad Bin Zeid's ASOR Award Citation

American Schools of Oriental Research **The W. F. Albright Service Award** 2017

H.R.H. Prince Raad Zeid Al-Hussein

This award honors an individual who has shown special support or made outstanding service contributions to one of the overseas centers, ACOR, AIAR, CAARI, or to one of the overseas committees—the Baghdad committee and the Damascus committee.

H.R.H. Prince Raad Zeid Al-Hussein, of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, has been a strong supporter of ACOR for decades. He honored ACOR by serving as the First Vice President of the ACOR Board of Trustees, and was instrumental in the process that led to securing the land and funds for the building of ACOR's permanent headquarters in Amman. The Jordan Committee that he headed has become an integral part of the Board with his leadership. Through the years he has given wisdom to his fellow board members and to ACOR staff and has engaged with countless researchers including many archaeologists. He even participated in digs, including during the early days of Hesban where he helped excavate a large cistern and learned the ways of field excavators. He and his wife, H.R.H. Princess Majda Raad, have generously opened their home in Amman, hosting numerous special gatherings for ACOR Board members and friends.



Prince Raad receiving his ASOR Award from Barbara A. Porter on the occasion of ACOR's December holiday lunch (photo by Steven Meyer, ACOR Project Archivist)

The key to ACOR's successful integration into Jordan is in large part due to the mutual trust fostered by Prince Raad. He has received many distinguished awards and this modest honoring of his special role in ACOR's 50 years is long overdue and well deserved.

Fellows in Residence (July–December 2017)

Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC)

CAORC Post-Graduate Fellow

Susynne McElrone, Independent Scholar; *The 1858 Land Code and the Transformation of Rural Property Tenure in late-Ottoman Palestine*

CAORC Graduate Fellows

Lillian Frost, Political Science, George Washington University; *Redefining Co-Nationals: Variations in States' Citizenship Policies over Time*

Ian Jones, Anthropology, University of California, San Diego; *Settlement and Movement on the Karak Plateau in the Middle Islamic Period: The Case of Khirbat al-Balu'a*

Steven Schaaf, Political Science, George Washington University; *Lawful Resistance: Legal and Political Contention in Jordan*

Patricia Ward, Sociology, Boston University; *How Humanitarian Relief Really 'Works': Examining International Organizations' Use of Local Labor in Crisis Contexts*

Zachary Sheldon, Sociocultural and Linguistic Anthropology, University of Chicago; *Resettling the Past: The Social Meaning of the Nation-State among Iraqis in Jordan*



Patricia Ward, Zachary Sheldon, Steven Schaaf, Lillian Frost



Susynne McElrone



Ian Jones

American Center of Oriental Research 2018–2019 Fellowship Awardees Announcement

National Endowment for the Humanities Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship

Bridget Guarasci (Anthropology, Franklin & Marshall College) Ecologies of War: Restoring Iraq's Marshes in Counterinsurgency

ACOR-CAORC Post-Graduate Fellowship

Kimberly Katz (History, Towson University) Law and Society: Jordanian Rule in the Hebron District, 1951–53

Michael Morris (Independent Conservator) The Conservation and Restoration of the Petra North Ridge Aphrodites

Jennifer Olmsted (Economics, Drew University) Gender, Displacement, and Economic and Social Sustainability: A Study of Two Refugee Communities

ACOR-CAORC Pre-Graduate Fellowship

Josephine Chaet (Anthropology, University of Illinois at Chicago) 'Homeland's Daughter, Everyone's Sister': Women's Organizations, Political Participation, and the Jordanian State

Julia Gettle (History, Brown University) Popular Politics in Greater Syria: Marxism and the Clash of Nationalisms, 1948 to 1970

Amy Karoll (Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, University of California, Los Angeles) Between Collapse and Mobility: Environmental Refugees in the Third Millennium B.C. Southern Levant

Nadirah Mansour (Near Eastern Studies, Princeton University) A Global History of the Arabic Press

Jennifer C. Groot Memorial Fellowship

Joseph DiManno (History, SUNY Brockport) The Petra Garden and Pool Project

Jordan Dopp (Lamar Dodd School of Art, University of Georgia) The Petra Garden and Pool Project

Brittany Ellis (Anthropology, Harvard University) A Developing Field: Public Archaeology at Tall Hisban

Pierre and Patricia Bikai Fellowship

Emily Edwards (Anthropology, East Carolina University) Hesban Skeleton Sample from the Ottoman Era

Bert and Sally de Vries Fellowship

Michelle Heeman (Anthropology and History, SUNY Brockport) The Petra Garden and Pool Project

Harrell Family Fellowship

Maria Magdalena Gajewska (Archaeology, University College London) Hisban Cultural Heritage Project, Tall Hisban

James A. Sauer Fellowship

Salama Kassem (Archaeology, Bonn University) Technology and Provenance of Glazed Pottery from Tall Hisban during the Middle Islamic Period

ACOR Jordanian Graduate Student Scholarship

Lama Al Hayek (Epigraphy, Yarmouk University) The Aramaic Dead Sea Scrolls at the Jordan Museum

Neda'a Al Khazali (Epigraphy, Yarmouk University) The Late Aramaic Tomb Inscriptions from Ghor al-Safi in the Historical, Religious, and Linguistic Contexts

Esam Al Omari (Epigraphy, Yarmouk University) New Old North Arabian Inscriptions from Wadi Salhub

Wafaa Al Shalabi (Epigraphy, Yarmouk University) Epigraphy Study

Kenneth W. Russell Memorial Fellowship

Wurood Abu-Mahfouz (Epigraphy, Yarmouk University) University Study

Frederick-Wenger Jordanian Educational Fellowship

Mariam Mufleeh (The Hashemite University) Bergesh Cave, University Study

Public Lectures at ACOR (July–December 2017)—all on YouTube and ACOR's Website!

July 19—Bert de Vries (Calvin College), SCHEP Lecture, "Why Umm el-Jimal Should Be Included in Tourism Packages and Itineraries"

August 21—Kaelin Groom (Arizona State University), SCHEP Lecture, "From the Ground Up: Community Engagement in Rock Art Management in Wadi Rum"

September 20—Geoffrey Hughes (London School of Economics and ACOR NEH Fellow), "The Internet and Social Media in Jordan's Information Age"

October 18—Gary Rollefson (Whitman College and ACOR NEH Fellow) "Who Were the People in the Neolithic Black Desert?"



Gary Rollefson (center) with Juan José Ibáñez and his son Juan



Geoffrey Hughes (left) and Philip Proudfoot

In Memoriam: Henry Christensen III



ACOR notes with sadness the death of Henry Christensen III (widely known as Terry) who died on November 3, 2017 at age 72 in Brooklyn, New York. He served on the ACOR Board since 1993 when he came to Amman to attend ACOR's 25th anniversary gathering as presided over by Board Chairman Artemis Joukowsky, who invited Terry to join the Board. Terry was a trust and estates lawyer in New York City—since 2007 as a partner with

McDermott Will & Emery LLP and previously for almost 30 years with Sullivan & Cromwell LLP. His distinguished career included being an adjunct professor at NYU School of Law and the University of Miami Law School. He served on many boards, including The Peddie School (his alma mater), the Brooklyn Academy of Music, The Prospect Park Alliance, The Tate Americas Foundation, The Prince's Trust, and Theater for a New Audience.

Terry grew up in New Jersey and later attended Yale University (B.A. 1966) and Harvard Law School (J.D. 1969). He and Connie, his wife of 50 years, were avid travelers and they fortunately visited Jordan many times. His wise counsel and thoughtful advice will be sorely missed at ACOR meetings. He was also a very generous trustee. ACOR extends sympathy to Connie and their close-knit family as well as to their wide network of friends the world over.

Growing ACOR

Nancy Lapp, ACOR Board Member Emerita

In 1976 when I first became a member of ACOR's Board of Trustees, I had no idea what this would mean for truly the rest of my life. At that time ACOR was in its infancy. There was only a small group of American scholars working in Jordan, but service on the Board meant close acquaintance and work with founding colleagues—Rudolph Dornemann, Roger Borass, Siegfried Horn, James Pritchard, George Landes, Walter Rast, and John Marks.

My husband, Paul Lapp, had carried out three excavations in Jordan, first at Iraq al-Amir in 1961–62, a first sounding at Rumeith in 1962 followed by excavation in 1967, and the first discoveries at Bab edh-Dhra' in 1965. These excavations had taken place from the ASOR institute in Jerusalem, but by the time I took over the publication of his work in 1970, the institute in Amman became the headquarters for my research. I shall ever be grateful for those "founding fathers" (I can use the term "fathers" as they were all men at that time) who had the vision of what ACOR might be in the future.

Jim Sauer had become Director of ACOR in Amman in 1975, and it was during his term that I was able to visit ACOR for the first time. By then ACOR had moved from its early offices to rented property between the fifth and sixth circles where there were hostel rooms for visiting scholars, along with study areas, and a growing library. ACOR reached out in those years by offering their services and coordinating their work with the University of Jordan, Yarmouk University, and especially the Department of Antiquities of Jordan. In addition, from its early years, continuing the tradition that began in the 1960s by those working in Jordan from the institute in Jerusalem, the staff reached out to the Friends of Archaeology—the lay people of Jordan interested in the antiquities around them. Cooperating with their field trips and lectures, Jim Sauer also taught classes in pottery identification and excavation methods. It was a wonderful beginning for what ACOR was to become. As has been the custom at ACOR, the Director and other staff were ever ready to assist younger and older scholars at the institute with excavation help and equipment, library research aids, contacts with other academic and archaeological institutes, the Department of Antiquities and museums, and necessary travel



Nancy Lapp at Iraq al-Amir in 1962 (photo courtesy of Nancy Lapp)

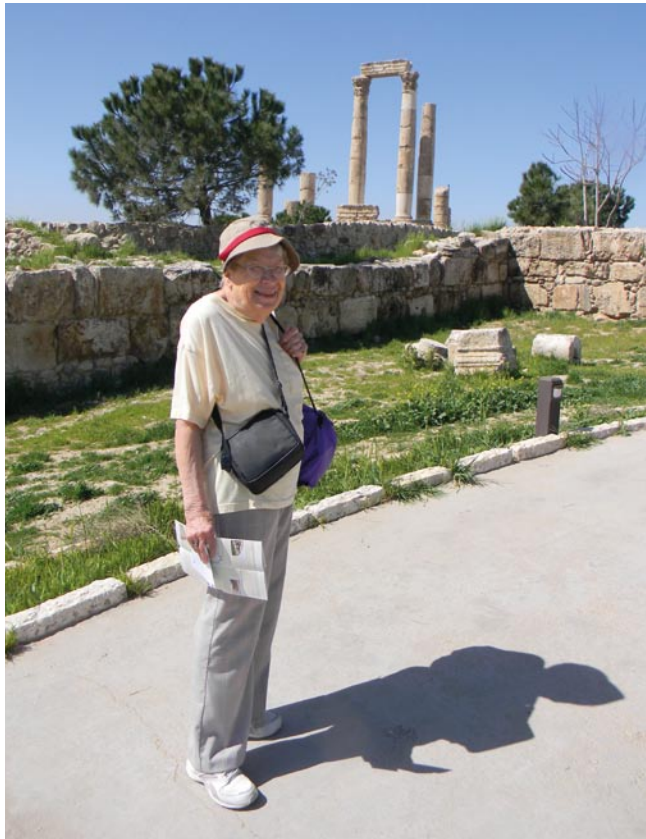
for work in Jordan. In addition under the succeeding directors, I was able to go to Syria and Lebanon several times, and for those opportunities I will be ever grateful.

David McCreery, who became Director in 1981, planned and raised money to construct our present ACOR facility. The vision for this structure included hostel accommodations, work rooms and carrels, a library, and kitchen and dining space under the supervision of Mohammed Adawi. Mohammed will soon complete his 50th year and has been a dear friend back to his days on the staff of the ASOR institute in Jerusalem (now the Albright). In 1984, I gave to the ACOR building campaign and I continue to support ACOR.

I had to resign in 1986 from the ACOR Board in order to take an NEH Fellowship at ACOR. My fellowship year of 1986–87 encompassed the first year of occupancy in the new building. We were a small group most of the time and I obtained long lasting friendships not only with Americans but those at the British and German institutes in Amman. At this time I learned from a colleague my first computer word processing program ("Wordstar"), with little idea what computers would mean for the future of archaeology.

In 1988 when I returned to the States, I was asked to come back on the ACOR Board and chair the Fellowship Committee.

It was not a difficult job at that time, with the aid of a few other academics, we scrutinized a handful of applications and were able to make two awards. This was to change a couple years later when funds from the United States Information Agency (USIA) and the Near and Middle East Research Training Program (NMERTP) became available. The number grew from 14 in 1991–92 to as many as 28 in 1995 and 1996. Those may have been peak years, but the number of fellowships has remained high in the 20 years since that time, particularly with the increase of endowed fellowships. We are so thankful that so many young and seasoned scholars have had these opportunities.



Nancy Lapp at the Amman Citadel in 2012 (photo by Henry Smith)

Acknowledgement of Legacy Gift from Joy M. Hebert



Photo courtesy of Gigi Cohen

In November 2017, ACOR was informed by the Estate of Joy M. Hebert, who resided in Evanston, IL, that she had designated in her will that ACOR should receive along with several other special charities around \$250,000. This is the first major legacy gift to ACOR and it is with the deepest appreciation that we acknowledge her generosity. Joy Hebert (1938–2017) received her B.A. from Pomona College, her M.A. from Columbia University, and her Ph.D. in English education from

During this time, I returned to Jordan to take part in the excavations of the Dead Sea Plain. Walter Rast and Thomas Schaub, who had been on my husband's excavation staff at Bab edh-Dhra', continued his work there and brought to conclusion the publication of his excavations. They explored further on the Dead Sea Plain and I was privileged to be a part of their excavations at Bab edh-Dhra', Khanizir, and Feifa. We experienced ACOR as an aid to excavations in so many ways and the hospitality for excavation participants in their times both for work and play.

After 15 years as Chair of the Fellowship Committee and a member of the ACOR Board, it seemed time to pass my work on to others. As I still had research and publication to do, I returned to ACOR in Amman with CAORC fellowships in 2008 and 2012. The glories and benefits ACOR offered continued to grow. The contacts for sharing research and friendships multiplied at each opportunity with the many exchanges of ideas which often helped with the work I was doing. Colleagues I met contributed chapters and footnotes to reports I was working on.

Through the years it has been a joy to share my ACOR experience with visiting friends and family. They have always been welcome at ACOR, whether a group of exuberant young people, young members of my family on their first visit to Jordan, fellow scholars I was working with in the States, or elderly friends on their last opportunity to visit the Near East. ACOR always welcomed the tour groups I brought to Amman, often with an arranged meal and always "tours" of the facilities and privileged peeks at such things as the Petra papyri. These visitors all became familiar with the hospitality and advantages I have had with ACOR as a place for study and research.

Much of my love for the Near East and particularly Jordan is due to what ACOR has offered over the years. We are thankful for the directors and staff members who have gone before and contributed so much, the contemporary leadership which continues their work, and the many students and scholars who have offered and gained so much in the fields of Near Eastern studies. Last but not least, even greater thanks should go to the ACOR Board of Trustees, North Americans and Jordanians, who have guided the institute through the years, and its other friends, whose financial gifts made these things possible.

Northwestern. She taught in many places and programs and was active in developing educational materials for the Encyclopedia Britannica Education Corporation and as editor-in-chief of Follett Publishing Company. She was involved in philanthropy but usually anonymously, as in the example of two substantial previous gifts to ACOR. This legacy may be realized in ACOR's 50th anniversary year and a fitting testament to Joy Hebert will be created. Among her many interests was a love of travel.

Legacy Gifts to ACOR

If you plan to include ACOR in your will and would like to discuss how you wish to be remembered and your legacy honored, please be in touch with the ACOR Director in person or via confidential email (director@acorjordan.org).

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In-Kind Donations

Andrea Atalla; Shams Amman

Donations to ACOR Library (July–December 2017)

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ACOR Special Announcements



Glenn Corbett and Jack Green in front of the Temple of the Winged Lions in Petra during the handover ceremony

In October 2017, John (Jack) D.M. Green became the ACOR Associate Director upon the departure of Glenn J. Corbett to the United States where he will serve as ACOR Grant's Officer. Jack Green received his Ph.D. in Archaeology in 2006 and M.A. in Archaeology in 2001 from the Institute of Archaeology, University College London. His B.A. in Archaeology (1999) is from the University of Liverpool. He continues to be involved in the final reports of the Tell es-Sa'idiyeh cemetery publication of the British Museum. His recent positions have included Deputy Director at the Corning Museum of Glass, Chief Curator at the Oriental Institute Museum of the University of Chicago, and Project Curator of the Ancient Near East in the Department of Antiquities of the Ashmolean Museum, University of Oxford. He has participated in many surveys and excavations in the Near East including at Khirbet al-Mudayna and Dhiban in Jordan. He and his wife Akemi Horii and daughter Ayaka have now joined the ACOR family. His ACOR responsibilities include directing the Temple of the Winged Lions Cultural Heritage Management (TWLCRM) Initiative in Petra and involvement in the steering committee of USAID SCHEP.

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for your stories!

November 2017 Board Meeting

The ACOR Board of Trustees' fall meeting took place at The Westin Boston Waterfront Hotel on November 18, 2017 in conjunction with the ASOR Annual Meeting. Board President Randolph B. Old presided. Anne Aarnes was elected Board Secretary and David Nickols Board Treasurer. James Wiseman announced his retirement from the Board, and S. Thomas Parker noted that David McCreery was also stepping down as of this meeting. A moment of silence was held for long-term and dedicated Board member Henry Christensen III who died on November 3. The Board initiated a Strategic Planning process and David Nickols was asked to head this effort and report at the June 2018 Board meeting in Amman, when ACOR will also celebrate its 50th Anniversary. Jenna Morton accepted the position of Chair of the Development Committee. China P. Shelton, ACOR Assistant Director in the Boston office, served as Recording Secretary.

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Contents

The TWLCRM Initiative:

Ensuring the Temple's Long Term Preservation.....	1
USAID SCHEP Update: The Bayt Ras Tomb Project.....	5
H.R.H. Prince Raad Bin Zeid's ASOR Award Citation	7
Fellows in Residence (July–December 2017).....	7
ACOR 2018–2019 Fellowship Awardees Announcement	8
Public Lectures at ACOR (July–December 2017).....	8
In Memoriam: Henry Christensen III	9
Growing ACOR: Nancy Lapp	9
Acknowledgement of Legacy Gift from Joy M. Hebert	10
Donations to ACOR (July–December 2017)	11
Donations to ACOR Library (July–December 2017).....	11
ACOR Special Announcements	12
November 2017 Board Meeting	12
ACOR Trustees	12

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Printed in Jordan by National Press



ACOR—advancing knowledge
of Jordan, past and present



A workshop attendee inspects a drone during a SCHEP survey methods workshop at Umm el Jimal. Photo by: Yusuf Ahmed

For our 50th anniversary, we asked you how we can improve, and we overwhelmingly heard the same request—offer more to Jordanian researchers.

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