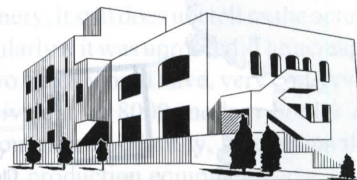


ACOR Newsletter

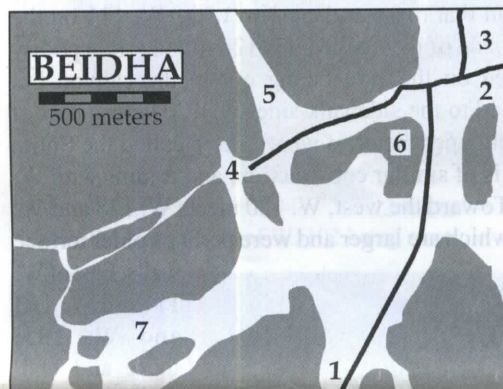
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Vol. 15.2 Winter 2003

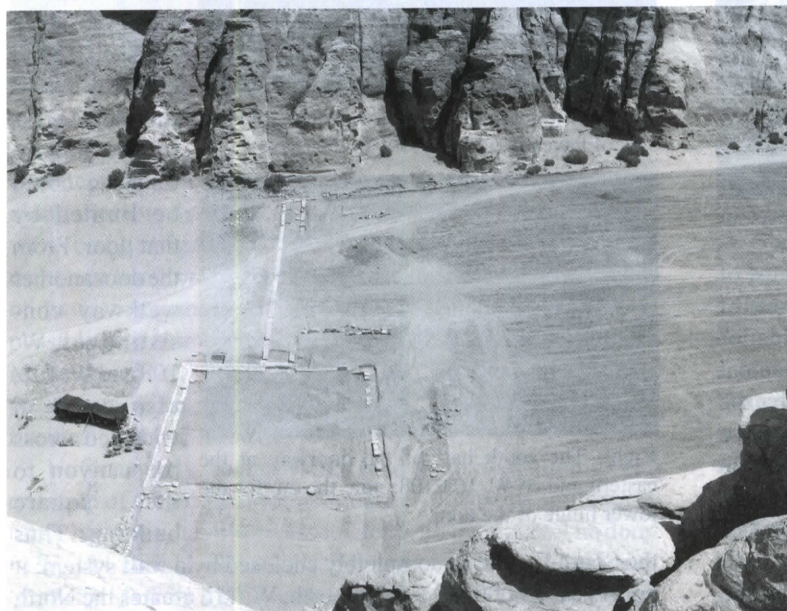


Beidha al-Amti

Patricia Maynor Bikai



1) Road from Wadi Musa and Petra; 2) Road from Shobak, Hisheh and the Amareen village; 3) Road from Wadi Araba; 4) Entry to the Little Siq (Siq al-Barid); 5) Siq al-Amti (named for a tree that grows in the canyon); 6) Nabataean village, Umm Qussa; 7) Neolithic village



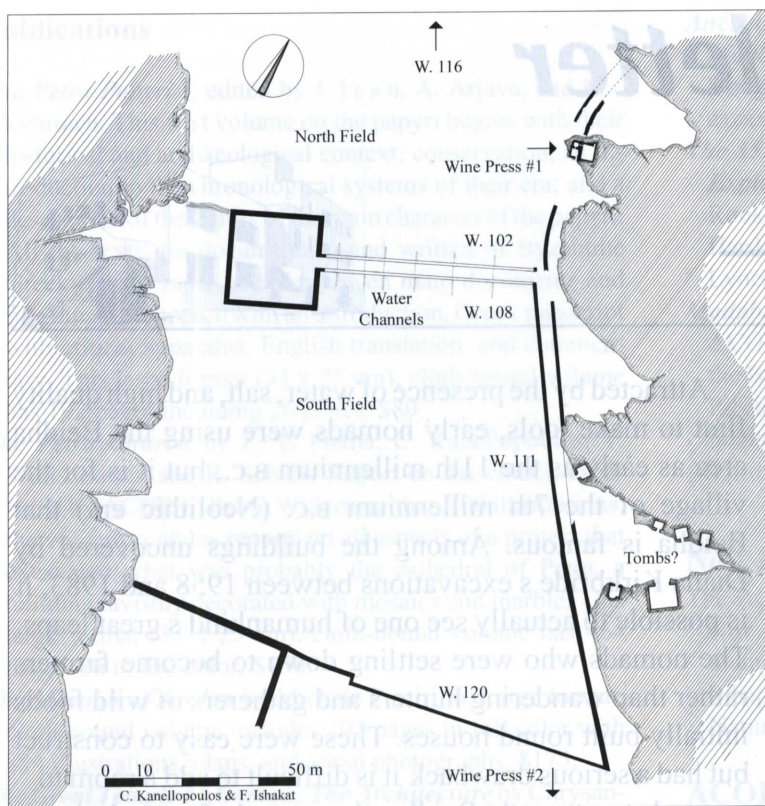
View to the east in Siq al-Amti with a north/south walkway near the cliff and an east/west walkway leading to the square building in the foreground; part of the South Field is to the right; photo by Fraser Parsons

Attracted by the presence of water, salt, and high quality flint to make tools, early nomads were using the Beidha area as early as the 11th millennium B.C., but it is for the village of the 7th millennium B.C. (Neolithic era) that Beidha is famous. Among the buildings uncovered by Diana Kirkbride's excavations between 1958 and 1983, it is possible to actually see one of humankind's great leaps. The nomads who were settling down to become farmers rather than wandering hunters and gatherers of wild foods initially built round houses. These were easy to construct but had a serious drawback it is difficult to add a room to a round structure. At Beidha, the struggle for a solution is visible and, ultimately, rectangular structures emerge.

Beidha is just a few minutes drive north of Petra, and it is often called Little Petra because in Siq al-Barid (Cold Canyon) there are Nabataean carved facades that make it reminiscent of Petra. However, most of the structures were probably not tombs but homes and shops. The location could be easily defended; one can see remains of a door in the narrow entry. In a nearby area called Umm Qussa, there

are many caves that were used for storage and as housing. These are a good illustration of the way the Nabataeans used the soft sandstone as a building material in an area where wood was very scarce. The multiple cisterns and water channels also demonstrate the ability of the Nabataeans, and the other inhabitants of the region before them and since, to exist in an arid environment by saving every drop of water that they could. One large Nabataean cistern is in use by the Amareen Bedouin of Beidha. The Amareen were traditionally camel and goat herders who provided services to passing caravans. As late as 1929, caravans of 300 camels could be seen at Beidha.

It is also possible that large caravans stopped in Beidha in the Nabataean era.



Ground plan of part of the complex by C. Kanellopoulos and F. Ishakat



View to the southwest across the South Field; photo by Fraser Parsons

There is no place inside the city of Petra for large groups of camels and so there had to be one or more stations outside of the city. The existence of large cisterns and open fields for grazing, plus the security offered by Siq al-Barid for actual trading, make it likely that the Beidha area was used by the caravans. It is against that background that visitors have speculated as to the nature of the large square building in Beidha s al-Amti Canyon. Some called the building a large khan; others saw it as a fort. With this as background, ACOR began excavations in al-Amti in the fall of 2003.

The large square building (ca. 24.5 m on a side) at the center of the canyon has been reduced to its foundation and in some places to the sub-foundation. In the center of the east side (W. 100) are two steps that lead to the interior. Soundings on

the interior were inconclusive as to whether there were once any intermediate supports, either walls or piers, that would have allowed the building to be roofed. Recent mechanized plowing within the building (to the sub-foundation level in at least some areas) may have permanently destroyed the evidence for such supports. Some insubstantial fragments were found and one large stone, somewhat displaced by plowing, may constitute all of any possible evidence of piers for roof supports. Displaced stones in or near the building included a simple capital and fragments of a double-faced arch, the original location of which is unknown.

The building itself yielded no evidence as to its use, but the surrounding area may be more helpful. Access to the building was not direct; it was approached by a walkway up the eastern side of the canyon that measured ca. 3 m wide. W. 111 on the outer side of the walkway is 126 m long. It is poorly dressed on the side facing out to the canyon but finished to the sidewalk side. W. 120 across part of the south perimeter of what is here called the South Field is of similar construction, and it joins with W. 111. Toward the west, W. 120 meets W. 128 and W. 118, which are larger and were perhaps older terrace

walls. East of W. 111 are W. 133 and W. 103; these and bedrock in some places formed the eastern boundary of the walkway. Opposite the building, a break in W. 111 has a substantial doorway (ca. 3 m wide). Access to the square building could be limited by that door. From the door another walkway consisting of W. 108 and W. 102, also ca. 3 m wide, led across the canyon to the square building. Thus



View to the south of the walkway along the east side of the canyon; W. 111 is to the right



Right: The south half of the doorway at the eastern end of W. 103/108; note the cut for the lower hinge of the door

the South Field was completely enclosed by a wall system; it covers ca. 13,000 m². Farther north, W. 116 creates the North Field of ca. 10,000 m².

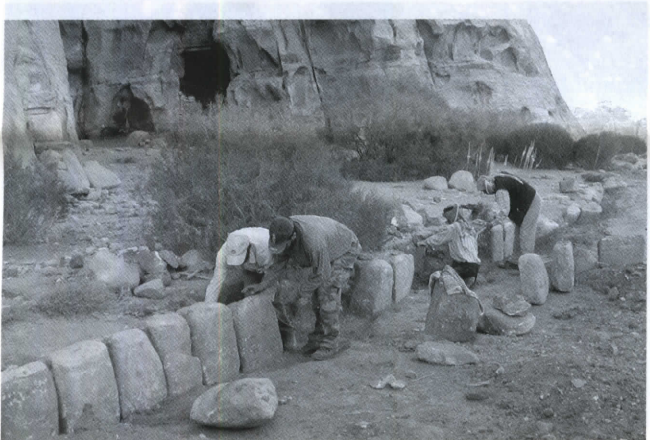
One clue that our structure is neither a khan nor a fort is in the walkway of W. 102/108; it has well cut channels for water



W. 102 with a slot for a channel in it; note the large size of the stones in the upper course



One of the large stones of W. 102 being reset



Restoration of W. 111

or water pipes; the channels are aligned across from each other along those walls. These suggest that the two enclosed fields were being irrigated, something that would be unlikely if camels or horses were being housed in the fields. The presence of two wine presses adjacent to the enclosures makes it possible that grapes were being grown in the fields. Z. al-Muheisen (*SHAJ* 4) has already noted the presence of wine presses at Beidha. Local informants state that the name Beidha itself refers to white wine.

Unfortunately, that does not lead us to a solution to the question of the purpose of the square enclosure or building. It must, however, have been associated with the fields. The door in W. 111 could isolate the building as well as the North and South Fields from traffic on the W. 103/133/111 walkway, but the walkway of W. 102/108 was probably just an elevated path above an irrigation system and the consequent muddy fields. Project architect Chrysanthos Kanellopoulos suggests that the

walls themselves may have had no height to them as the huge stones of the only preserved course seem to be a sort of enormous stylobate. Further, unless the two fields and the building were a unit, it is difficult to explain the door in W. 111. If the whole area was a winery, it still does not tell us the actual use of the building, particularly if it was unroofed. The acreage in the enclosures of the two fields would have, very conservatively, produced the equivalent of 8000 modern bottles of wine. This amount is a commercial quantity, so perhaps the building was for storage of production equipment.



Press no. 1



Press no. 2

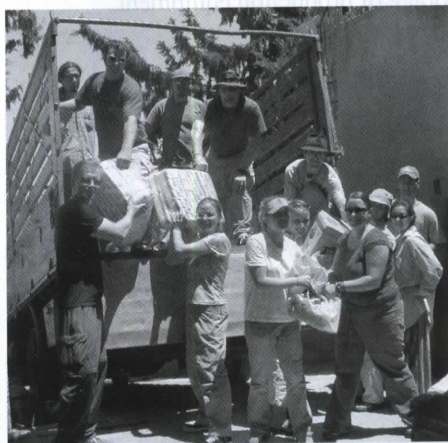
Dating the complex will not be simple; there was an exceptional paucity of finds; they range from the 1st c. A.D. on. The early material, however, may be debris created by the robbery of Nabataean tombs (see plan). A coin, in very poor condition, of a type belonging to the late 4th to early 5th c. A.D. was found in a sounding east of the foundation of W. 100.

Staff members were architect Chrysanthos Kanellopoulos, archaeologists Shari Saunders and Pierre M. Bikai, and Eng. Tahani es-Salihi of the Department of Antiquities. Na if Zaban carried out the conservation work. Work was funded by a grant from the AMIR program (a project of USAID, the United States Agency for International Development) and by income from ACOR's Petra Endowment, a grant from USAID. In-kind donations were given by the Department of Antiquities, by the Petra Region Authority (thank you to Director Shahadeh Abu-Hdeib and Eng. Sa'ad al-Rawajfa), and by Hashemite University (thank you to Dr. Talal Akasheh).

ACOR also thanks the Department of Antiquities, in particular the director, Dr. Fawwaz al-Khraysheh, and Mr. Suleiman Farajat, director of the Petra National Park, for their assistance.

Emergency Excavations in the Wadi Fidan: Development, Education, and Preservation

Out of all things bad, something good can come. This was the perspective the Department of Antiquities of Jordan (DOA) and the University of California San Diego (UCSD) team took when, in May 2003, we learned that the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) was going to begin implementing a plan to build a 10 million cubic meter earthen dam across the Wadi Fidan. The



The UCSD team loading equipment at ACOR

Wadi Fidan is part of a larger drainage system known as the Wadi Faynan, the main seasonal stream that flows westward across the copper ore rich Faynan district located about mid-way between Petra and the Dead Sea. Faynan represents one of the world's most unique landscapes of ancient mining and metallurgy with some of the best-preserved remains that have been found.

Since 1997, Thomas Levy (UCSD), Mohammad Najjar (DOA) and Russell Adams (McMaster University) have

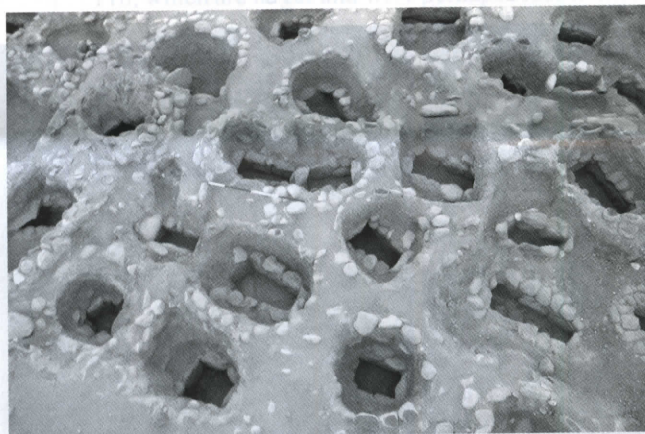


Tom Levy and DOA surveyor Qutaiba Aldasuki with the Total Station and data collector at Wadi Fidan

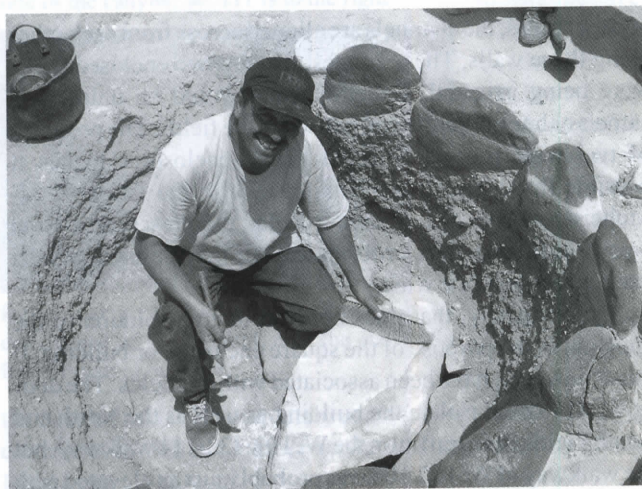
brought together an international archaeological team to excavate five major sites in the Jabal Hamrat Fidan, a narrow mountain range bordering the Wadi Araba that served as the gateway to the Faynan district. Each of the sites excavated by the team has international scientific significance, tourist attraction, and their own intrinsic beauty. Thus, the news that a dam was going to be constructed directly across the main Wadi Fidan drainage channel, in an area that would destroy two of the most precious sites in the region, was met by great fear and trepidation by the UCSD-DOA team.

Fawwaz al-Khraysheh, Director General of the DOA, convened an urgent meeting of experts where archaeologists and JVA representatives could meet and discuss what could be done in light of the impending construction of the dam. The JVA team argued that the dam was important for the economy of the local Bedouin tribes living in the area, especially the village of Qurayqira, the settlement situated closest to the location of the proposed dam. Qurayqira is located in a region that receives less than 90 mm of average annual rainfall and is in one of the poorest and least developed areas of Jordan. Most of the inhabitants have no dependable annual income and little water to support their small herds of goats or small vegetable farms. In theory, the construction of the dam will benefit these people by providing enough water to help establish over 300 family farms in the area. Given these parameters, it is difficult for archaeologists to argue against the needs of local development. In fact, if one looks carefully at the landscape of Faynan, it is embedded with archaeological remains representing thousands of years of man's effort to harvest water, including ancient dams, drainage channels, water diversion systems, agricultural terraces and other features. Taking an historical perspective, the JVA dam is just the latest effort to provide water and employment for the inhabitants of Faynan.

The group decided the solution to the problem would

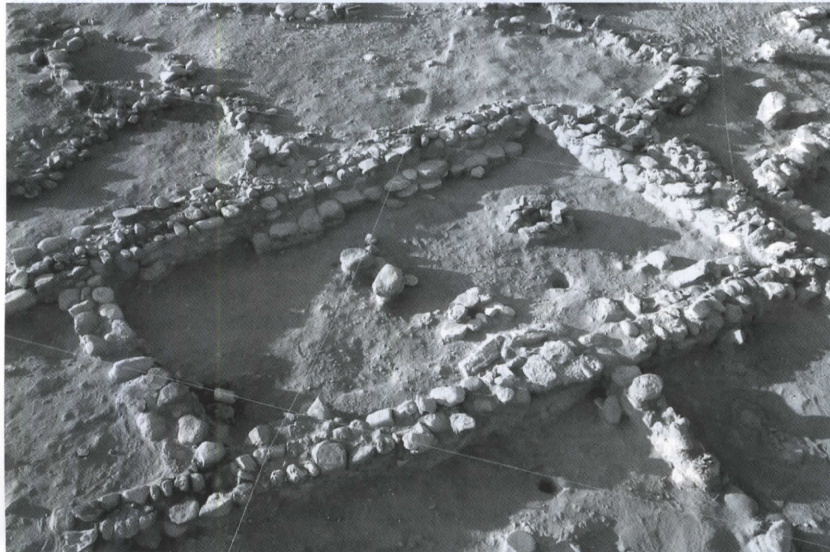


Overview of the 2003 emergency excavations in the Wadi Fidan 40 Iron Age (ca. 1100 to 900 B.C.) cemetery



DOA archaeologist Khalil Hamdan excavating a tomb in the Wadi Fidan 40 cemetery

involve integrating development, education and preservation within the context of dam construction.°Some 22 archaeological sites will be destroyed by the dam; the two most important sites being the Early Bronze I (ca. 3600-3300 B.C.) metal workers' village called Wadi Fidan 4 and a unique Iron Age cemetery (Wadi Fidan 40, ca. 1100-800 B.C.) that belonged to a group of nomads known from ancient Egyptian texts as the



Domestic house found in the village of Wadi Fidan 4 ; it dates to the Early Bronze Age IA (3600-3300 B.C.)

Shasu (Levy, Adams, and Shafiq in *Levant* 31, 1999).°Funding from the JVA would be used to excavate the two sites, build a small museum and dig house in the research area, and bring a core team of 9 UCSD specialists to teach the DOA team the rudiments of the latest archaeological recording techniques they have developed over the years with the Jabal Hamrat Fidan project.°Thus, the excavation would serve as an open-air classroom for teaching the DOA a wide range of computer-based technologies known as digital archaeology. Since 1998 and working in Jordan, the UCSD team has developed one of the most sophisticated fully integrated systems of recording archaeological excavations.°It involves using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) as the computer program of choice to integrate all aspects of archaeological data collection from the day-maps of excavation, to digital photographs, to the inclusion of databases of the thousands of archaeological finds that come to light in an excavation (i.e., pottery, flint, animal bones, shells, groundstone, etc.).°

In five weeks of DOA-UCSD collaboration, excavations at the village called Wadi Fidan 4 revealed a previously unknown domestic quarter with rectangular buildings, cooking installations, courtyards and other features. This changes our perception of the site by showing that not all members of the community participated in metalworking and that the organization of craft specialization may have been more developed at this time.°At the Iron Age cemetery site (Wadi Fidan 40), the team excavated 57 graves and found clusters of beautifully built stone-lined tombs.°While most of the tombs were robbed in antiquity, the burial structures and limited finds point to a very wealthy nomadic community who lived in Faynan some 3,000 years ago. Wadi Fidan 4 will be totally

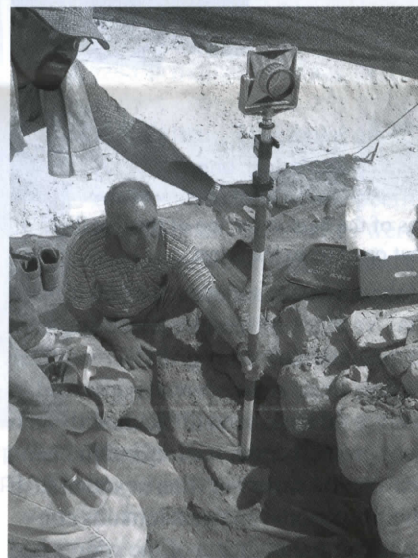
destroyed by the dam, making it necessary for the DOA team to spend an additional two months in the field after the departure of their UCSD colleagues.°However, there is still time to mount large-scale excavations in the cemetery before it is fully impacted by the dam project. In June 2004, the group will return for more intensive work.

Was the Phase I emergency excavations at the Wadi Fidan

a success from the viewpoint of the goals originally set for the project?°The answer is a qualified yes.°In terms of training and collaboration, we achieved our aims.°The major problem was lack of funding for the project.°While the JVA generously provided support for the excavation, construction of a small museum, some equipment and travel for the UCSD specialist team, it was not enough.

The DOA had to contribute considerable resources to the project.°In addition, without a last minute grant from the National Geographic Society to the UCSD team, the international component of the project would not have been possible.°

The construction of the dam is a 30-month project that will be completed in December 2005.°Now that we know what is facing us, in the near future, the UCSD-DOA team will apply to



Mohammad Najjar (DOA) and surveyor Jamal Safi (DOA) use a prism to take digital measurements in an Iron Age tomb at Wadi Fidan 4

Middle East.°The richness of the archaeological finds from the emergency excavations, the truly collaborative nature of our work, and the international attention that is being given this project will hopefully contribute to making Jordan's Faynan district a new UNESCO Cultural Heritage Site.°If this happens, Faynan, one of Jordan's unique cultural resources, will add an additional day to the itinerary of tourists visiting the country and truly contribute to the local economy of the area.

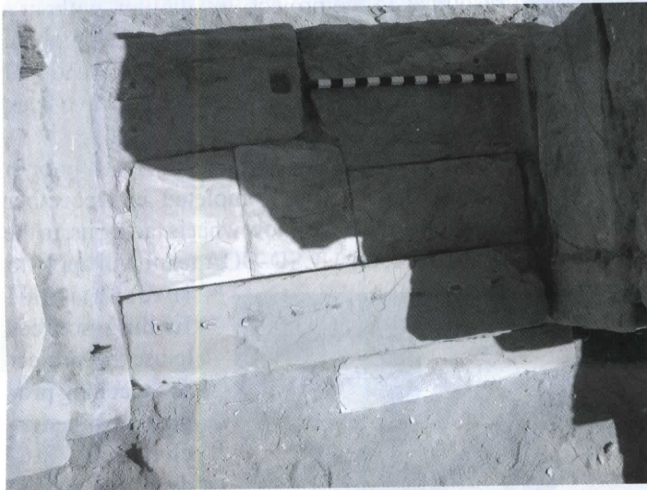
Thomas Levy
University of California San Diego

international funding sources to use this project as a teaching program for gifted archaeology students from around the Middle East.°By carrying out this program in the Faynan area, we hope to contribute to making archaeology in Jordan a scientific clearing house or center for the transfer of new technologies for recording the human past of the ancient

Excavations at the Petra Great Temple: The Eleventh Campaign, 2003

Brown University's eleventh season of excavations, which continued in the Great Temple Propylaeum East, took place from July 5 until July 31, 2003.

A large portion of the Propylaeum East was completely exposed within its 11 m NS x 17 m EW borders to an approximate depth of 7.5 m. Although the finds were homogeneous, the architectural character of the East Propylaeum was considerably different from its counterpart to the west. We uncovered three entries from the Colonnaded Street, two of which were self-contained rooms and one which was a passageway into the East Cryptoporticus, indicating that major revisions were undertaken during the Roman period. It was during this period that the character of the Propylaeum East changed from EW galleries and cryptoporticoes to NS rooms.



View down to the remains of the bars in the top of the threshold of one of the three rooms that open on to the street

Most curious about these rooms is that each of their three limestone thresholds has vestiges of ten closely fitting bars that must have served as stationary iron grills across their doorways. We question how these rooms may have served in antiquity because access would have been difficult with such impedimenta. If what was protected was secured behind bars, the rooms may have been a state treasury or where exotica such as animals were kept their functional analysis remains conjecture. What is known is that the contents of the rooms had been cleared before the collapse took place; elephant headed capital fragments and pilaster blocks were found where they tumbled onto the floors of all three rooms.

From this approximate depth of deposit in the three rooms, some 975 architectural fragments were registered, including 152 (16%) column drums; 563 (58%) ashlar wall blocks, six of which bore Nabataean mason's marks; 133 (14%) capital elements, 39% of which were elephant head fragments; and 59 (6%) cornice fragments, which clearly demonstrate the collapsed elements that fronted the Great Temple precinct.

Several extraordinary finds include 15 relief sculptures, including the fragmented relief of a female figure emerging from acanthus leaves. Another spectacular fragment is a grape cluster tied with a ribbon. Pilaster reliefs were unearthed, one



Fragment of a sculpture of Athena

with a plumed helmet with earflaps and another of Athena with her weapons and a battered Medusa relief on her chest. We also unearthed six coins, a small horned altar, a bead, and a metal clasp, all of which were entered into the artifact catalog registry.

As for consolidation, the Petra

Great Temple has achieved tremendous success in reconstruction, not only for Petra itself, but also for the elucidation and distinction of Nabataean sites in general. Restoration has been under the direction of Dakhilallah Qublan and has included numerous projects including the re-erection of columns.

Brown University Staff members included Martha Sharp Joukowsky, director, and Artemis A. W. Joukowsky. Shari L. Saunders also served as an invaluable staff member. We were supported by a work force of 24 devoted Bedouin, directed by Dakhilallah Qublan. Naif Zaban was involved in the difficult puzzle of fitting together the thousands of pottery fragments from the 2002 excavations of the Residential Quarter. In addition, Ulrich Bellwald removed decorative plaster from the Baroque Room and continues to serve as its conservator.



View of the site at the end of the season with the three rooms that open to the street to the left of the stairs; all photos on this page by Artemis Joukowsky

This campaign would not have been possible without the generous assistance of Fawwaz al-Khraysheh, Director General of the Department of Antiquities; Suleiman Farajat, our Department of Antiquities representative and Director of the Petra National Park; and Pierre M. Bikai, Director of the American Center of Oriental Research; as well as the entire staff of ACOR. We also thank Brown University and the Replogle Foundation for making this season possible.

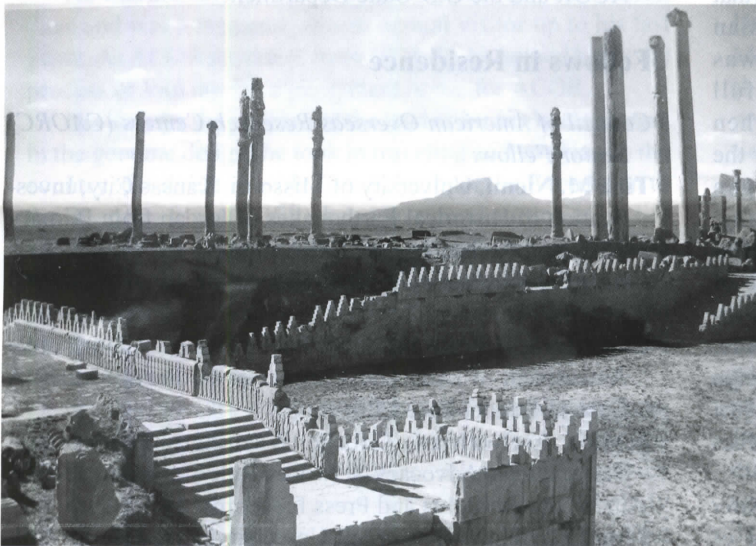
Martha Sharp Joukowsky
Brown University

Nabataean Crenelated Tombs and the Achaemenid Legacy*

Over the years, considerable attention has been given to the Hellenistic-style tombs at Petra. These tombs (e.g., the



Tombs at Petra with friezes of running crenelations; photo by the author



Vista of the Central Building and the east staircase of the Apadana at Persepolis, showing the prominence of crenelations as architectural members; photo courtesy of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago

Khazneh, the Palace Tomb, etc.) occupy a commanding position in the ancient city, and were surely commissioned by an elite subset of Nabataean society. Less attention, however, has been given to the several hundred tombs with crenelated

decoration (above, top).

These tombs are characterized by either a running frieze of repeated crenelations, or by two half-merlons that descend toward the center of the entablature. Very popular at Petra, they are even more so at the Nabataean city of Hegra in Saudi



The crenelated crown of Darius I on the rock relief at Bisitun; photo by George Cameron, courtesy of the Cameron Archive (Be 37) of the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, the University of Michigan

Arabia. There, all the known tombs are crafted in these crenelated styles. Significantly, the tombs at Hegra are also often decorated with large rosettes, either as medallions between triglyphs or as adornments to the walls or attic.

The crenelated friezes have often been characterized as indicative of a widespread Near Eastern influence. Certainly this is true the merlon motif served as a stylistic representation of the fortress in both the Assyrian and Babylonian artistic vocabulary. However, examination of the specific context in which both crenelations and rosettes were used in the royal iconography of the Achaemenid Persian Empire (c. 550-330 B.C.) invites a more nuanced understanding of the Nabataean tombs.

The crenelation and the rosette were both very significant aspects of Achaemenid royal art and architecture. This is especially marked at the capital city, Persepolis, where stone merlons ran along the stairways and battlements, set off by bands of rosettes (left). There is evidence that these motifs were not merely decorative; the context of their employment suggests that they were integral aspects of the Achaemenid dynasty's self-representation. The rock-relief at Bisitun shows Darius I wearing a crown of rosettes and crenelations, and similar crowns are attested elsewhere (above). Indeed, the Achaemenid visual evidence (glyphic, sculptural, and architectural) suggests that these were hallmarks of representing the Persian ruling ideology.

A final piece of evidence may cement the iconographic connection. This is the often overlooked tomb called Dau Dukhtar near Persepolis. Rock-cut tombs were popular with the Achaemenid kings, and this tomb (dated to the 5th century B.C.) displays a remarkable similarity to those seen at Petra and Hegra. Here, the entablature carries the same frieze of running crenelations, and the central doorway is flanked by paired

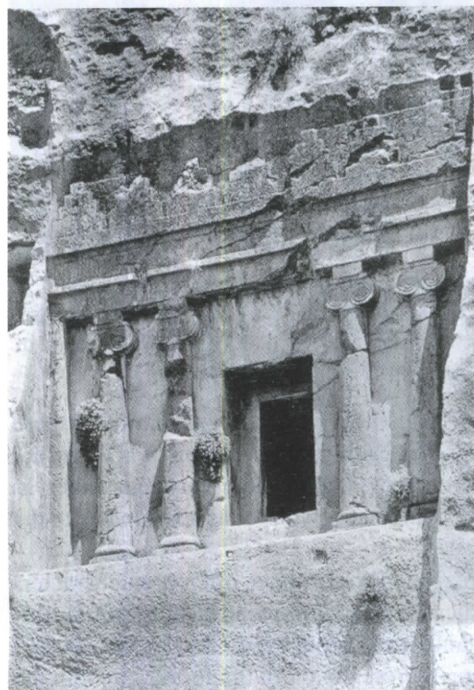
*A full study of this problem is published as Imperial Legacies, Local Identities: References to Royal Achaemenid Iconography on Crenelated Nabataean Tombs, in *Medes and Persians: Elusive Contexts of Elusive Empires*, ed. Margaret Cool Root, *Ars Orientalis* 30 (2002): 163-206. This project has raised several issues regarding cultural identity and kingship ideology. While at ACOR as a Samuel H. Kress and CAORC fellow, I am developing these matters as part of a dissertation for the Interdepartmental Program in Classical Art & Archaeology at the University of Michigan.

columns (page 8). This set a precedent for the application of the royal motifs to funerary monuments, and stood prominently along an important caravan route connecting the Persian heartland with the western Levant.

Is it merely accidental that the same juxtaposition of crenelation and rosette occurred in Persian and Nabataean monumental art? Conventional wisdom might suggest so, but this is largely based on the conceptual distance imposed between the two groups. Persia is generally thought to be too

far away, both geographically and temporally, to have any direct affect on Nabataea. However, this view is in serious need of revision.

Temporally, it should be recalled that the Persian Empire was still in full flower when Alexander the Great began campaigning, as the unfinished tomb of



The rock-cut tomb called Dau Dukhtar, from E. E. Herzfeld, *Iran in the Ancient East*, 1941: pl. XXXV

Darius III attests. Thus, while the height of the empire is thought to be during the reign of Darius I (r. 521-486 B.C.), it continued to operate until just before the first mention of Nabataeans in the classical sources (312 B.C.).

Spatially, it should be recalled that Petra is actually nearer to Persepolis than it is to Rome. During the period of Achaemenid rule, there was considerable contact between the Persian heartland and Arabia, and at least part of the group that was to become Nabataeans seem to have operated as agents of the administration. As a result, the myth of a forgotten Persia ought to be laid to rest.

Why would royal Achaemenid imagery resonate with the Nabataean elite? I suggest that the explanation may be found in Persia's role as the traditional foil of Western empires, dating back at least as far as Marathon. Augustus revived the prejudices against Persia as a way to validate his campaign against the Parthians. At the same time, he and the Nabataean King Aretas IV (r. 9 B.C.- A.D. 40) were locked in a struggle over the latter's right to assume his kingship. It is an intriguing possibility that the crenelated tombs may represent a strain of resistance to Roman interference, incorporating the legacy of Persia by reference to the central themes of its visual culture.

Björn Anderson
The University of Michigan

Director's Report: July through December 2003

Pierre M. Bikai

ACOR Projects

Petra North Ridge Project, ACOR, Patricia Bikai and Naif Zaban, USAID Petra Endowment

Petra, Petra Mapping Project, ACOR and Hashemite University, USAID Petra Endowment

Petra, Petra Documentation Project, Chrysanthos Kanellopoulos, USAID Petra Endowment

Petra Scrolls Project, U. of Helsinki/Academy of Finland: Antti Arjava, Maarit Kaimio, and Manna Vesterinen.

Baptism Site Documentation Project, Chrysanthos Kanellopoulos and the Department of Antiquities of Jordan

Islamic Ayla Project, Aqaba Technical Assistance Support Project (USAID); Ename Center (Belgium): Neil Silberman and Tom Nevejan; and ACOR: Kurt Zamora and Pierre Bikai

Iraq National Museum (Baghdad) Restoration Project, ACOR and the U.S. State Department

Fellows in Residence

Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC)
Senior Fellow:

Tina M. Niemi, University of Missouri, Kansas City, Investigation of Historical Earthquakes in Jordan from Primary Texts and Archaeological Excavations

Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC)
Fellows:

Cari Clark, Harvard School of Public Health, A Qualitative Assessment of Domestic Violence in Amman, Jordan: A Case of Gender-based Violence

Jessica Lieberman, George Washington University, Transnational Advocacy Networks: Role of Jordanian NGOs in Women's Rights and Press Freedoms

James G. Schryver, Cornell University, Evidence for Cultural Interaction in the Art and Archaeology of the Latin East
National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow:

Stephen H. Savage, Arizona State University, Converting the JADIS Database to a GIS Capable Format

Pierre and Patricia Bikai Fellow:

Farid Al-Salim, University of Arkansas, Social History of Palestine in the Late Ottoman Period, 1888-1918

For information on ACOR's fellowships contact ACOR, 656 Beacon St., 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02215-2010; tel.: 617-353-6571; fax: 617-353-6575; e-mail: acor@bu.edu; or on the web at www.bu.edu/acor.

ACOR-Assisted Projects

Leigh-Ann Bedal, Pennsylvania State U., Petra Garden & Pool Complex Excavation

P.M. Michele Daviau, Wilfrid Laurier U., and Robert Chadwick, Bishop's U., Wadi ath-Thamad Project

Jennifer Jones, U. of Minnesota, Duluth, Survey of Early Bronze Age Sites in el-Lejjun Project
 Martha Sharp Joukowsky, Brown U., Petra Great Temple
 Thomas Levy, U. of California, San Diego, Jabal Hamrat Fidan 2003 Field Project
 Tina Niemi, U. of Missouri, Kansas City, Wadi Araba Earthquake Project
 Suzanne Richard, Gannon U., Jesse C. Long, Lubbock Christian U., Bill Libby, McMurry U., Khirbet Iskander

Lectures

Aug. 9. James G. Schryver, Cornell University, The Evidence for Cultural Interaction in the Art and Archaeology of the Latin East
 Aug. 16. Farid Al-Salim, University of Arkansas, Social History of Palestine in the Late Ottoman Period, 1888-1918

In Memory: Walter Rast

Walter Rast's death on August 22, 2003, at the age of 73, is a profound loss for the entire ACOR family, past and present.

He was actively involved with the Center from its earliest days and was a frequent, almost annual visitor up to his last years. As ACOR president from 1978-82, he helped begin the process of looking for a permanent home for ACOR.

His love for the people and the land of Jordan was apparent in the genuine delight he took in traveling and working in the country. Co-director, with Tom Schaub, of the Expedition to the Dead Sea Plain (EDSP), he spent a good portion of his life working in the southern Ghor and particularly in publishing the results of the excavations. He was totally devoted to understanding the history of the Southeast Dead Sea plain and its people. One of his great pleasures was to spend time with the Ghorani at Mazra'a and Safi.

He received his Ph.D. in Bible and Near Eastern Languages and History from the U. of Chicago in 1966. His distinguished academic career spanned 40 years during which he produced an outstanding number of significant scholarly books and articles and taught archaeology and religions of the ancient Near East in the Dept. of Theology at Valparaiso U. Since his retirement in 1996, Walt's energy was directed primarily to producing and co-editing the final reports of the EDSP. The first volume of the Bab edh-Dhra cemetery excavations of Paul Lapp had been published in 1989. The second volume on the town site excavation of Bab edh-Dhra from 1975-1981 by the EDSP was published a few weeks before his death, and he was able to celebrate its appearance. Together these two final reports make an extraordinary contribution to an understanding of the dynamics of urbanization during the Early Bronze Age.

Of his many exceptional gifts perhaps the one that touched the most people was his sincere openness and warmth and genuine interest in them. His colleagues and countless friends will miss him greatly but will also rejoice with him, his wife Susanna, and his family in celebrating a long life of rich relationships and great accomplishments.

Marilyn McNamara Schaub

Sept. 6. Jessica Lieberman, George Washington University, Transnational Advocacy Networks: Role of Jordanian NGOs in Women's Rights and Press Freedoms

Sept. 28. Cari Clark, Harvard School of Public Health, A Qualitative Assessment of Domestic Violence in Amman, Jordan: A Case of Gender-based Violence

Dec. 10. Tina Niemi, U. of Missouri, Kansas City, Historical Earthquakes in Wadi Araba (held at Yarmouk U.)

Happenings at ACOR

July 3. Trustee Widad Kawar invites the residents to view her collection of regional costumes.

July 5. ACOR signs an agreement with Najjar Industrial Trading Co. to construct the two new additional half floors on ACOR.

July 8. Pierre and Kurt go to Aqaba for the day to participate

In Memory: Marjo Lehtinen

Our dear friend and colleague, Marjo Lehtinen, was lost on Oct 17, 2003, at the age of 40, when she passed away from cancer. Marjo was born on June 5, 1963, in Muhos, Northern Finland. She studied classics with tremendous success at the University of Helsinki, earning the highest grade for her Master's thesis in 2001. Her thesis dealt with the prosopography (family relationships) of 6th century Petra and was based on the carbonized papyrus archive found in the Petra Church in 1993.

Beginning in 1994, Marjo devoted her life to the conservation and publication of the Petra papyri. She soon became a central figure in the group of Finnish and American papyrologists who struggled to reconstruct and decipher the Byzantine Greek documents. Her expertise with the brittle material and her thorough knowledge of their contents will be impossible to replace. She called the carbonized papyri her babies, and she knew their contents almost by heart. She was able to see only the first volume of the Petra Papyri published, but her achievements will be reflected in all the succeeding volumes.

Over the past decade, Marjo spent so much time in Amman that ACOR became her second home. In ACOR, her closest colleagues as well as the broader scholarly community were able to enjoy her company and her wonderful sense of humor. Marjo touched the lives of so many scholars from around the world, and she will be greatly missed by all.

Marjo never wanted to take anything for granted, and she had a very private, independent, even perfectionist way of working. She also had a very strong sense of duty and of justice. We shall miss her even more as a friend than as a colleague. All of us in Helsinki feel that the best way to honor Marjo's memory is to bring the publication project of the Petra Papyri to a successful conclusion.

*Antti Arjava and Erja Salmenkivi
 on behalf of the Helsinki Papyrus Team*





The signing ceremony for the Islamic Ayla grant: Vince Ruddy of the Aqaba Technical Assistance Support Project; H.E. Aqel Biltaji of the Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority; and Pierre Bikai

in the signing of ACOR's grant from the Aqaba Technical Assistance Support Project. ACOR was awarded \$25,000 for presentation work at the site of Islamic Ayla: the installation of 14 information panels and a walking path. Design assistance will come from the Ename Center for Public Archaeology in Belgium.

July 9. Arte Joukowsky takes Kurt on a tour of Brown University's Petra Great Temple project and of the new tombs discovered below the Khazneh (Treasury).

July 14: A group from the Iraq State Board of Antiquities and



Some of those working on restoration of the Iraq National Museum: Zainab Bahrani, Bonnie Magness-Gardiner, Paul Zimansky, and Elizabeth Stone

Heritage stops by for lunch.

July 21. Trustee Randy Old stops by for a visit.

July 24. Former A C O R - CAORC fellow R o m a n Kulchitsky stops by for a visit. He is now an Assistant Professor with the American University of Beirut's Department of Political Studies and Public Administration.

July 25. Pierre takes 30 newcomers from the U.S. Embassy on tours of Madaba and Jerash.

July 29. Pierre presents a lecture, Petra: Archaeology and Tourism, at the Second Eco-

nomics Forum of Jordanian Ambassadors held in Petra.

July 31. Pierre gives a tour of Petra to a Congressional Delegation including Rep. Tom DeLay (R-TX, House Majority Leader), Mrs. Christine DeLay, Rep. Ander Crenshaw (R-FL), and Mrs. Kitty Crenshaw.

Aug. 12. David Hale, Deputy Chief of Mission of the American Embassy in Jordan, David Barth, Regional Legal Advisor for USAID, and Jim Barnhart, Private Enterprise Officer of the USAID Office of Economic Opportunities are given

a tour of ACOR.

Aug. 30. Patricia begins her excavation in Beidha.

Sept. 1. Pierre and Tom Nevejan of the Ename Center in Belgium leave for Aqaba to work on the Islamic Ayla project.

Sept. 17. Ahmed Momani makes a mad dash out the door when he sees that his car has rolled down the hill and into the field below ACOR.

Oct. 1. Pierre gives a tour of Amman's Citadel and Roman Theatre to five U.S.

senators: Mitch McConnell (R-KY), Craig Thomas (R-WY), Conrad Burns (R-MT), Larry Craig (R-ID), and Lincoln Chafee (R-RI).

Oct. 3. Cari Clark runs the Fun Run and takes 3d place- Congratulations Cari!

Oct. 9. Getty Grant Program Officer Nancy Micklewright visits ACOR.

Oct. 18. In New York, Pierre and Patricia visit the exhibit called *Petra: The Lost City of Stone* at the American Mu-



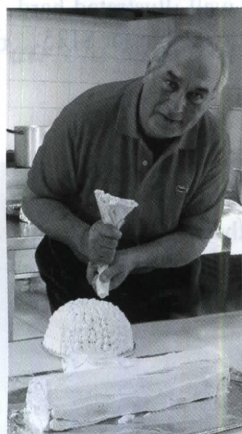
American Museum of Natural History: everything in this room of the exhibit came from ACOR projects, including the Blue Pulpit; photo courtesy of Tim Martin



Artemis Joukowsky, Christine DeLay, Rep. Tom DeLay, Rep. Ander Crenshaw, Kitty Crenshaw, and Pierre Bikai at the Treasury in Petra



Tina Niemi's son Benjamin Alpert



Holiday baking: Pierre, Eliot Alpert, and his mother, Tina Niemi

seum of Natural History. For several years, ACOR assisted the Cincinnati Art Museum with securing the necessary permits and arranging numerous details—all of which made the exhibit possible.

Nov. 21. The ACOR Board of Trustees meets in Atlanta, GA for their annual fall board meeting.

Dec. 6. ACOR hosts a training session entitled Restoration of Archaeological Artifacts that is conducted by former ACOR fellow Fatma Marii. Fatma conducts the session in ACOR's conservation laboratory for 21 students from Hashemite U.

Dec. 13. Fatma returns to ACOR to conduct another training session for Hashemite U. students entitled Conservation Science.

Dec. 25. ACOR hosts a festive holiday brunch for employees, residents, and friends.

At the annual holiday brunch: H.R.H. Prince Raabin Zeid with children of ACOR's employees and fellows

Dec. 30. Abed is kept busy with broken pipes in Apt. B, which had earlier caused a rainstorm in the library's carrel 3.

Dec. 31. ACOR wishes everyone a happy and peaceful New Year 2004.

Donors to ACOR

From July through December 2003, the following friends of ACOR made donations:

General Donations were made by Judith and James Adams, Andrews University (flystein LaBianca), Ayoubi Steel Furniture Factory (Nasser Ayoubi), Laird H. Barber, Mette and Robert Beecroft, Phyllis A. Bird, Martha Boling-Risser and Robert Risser, Elizabeth and Carroll Brown, Robin Brown, Almut Busse, Annemarie and Gerald Carr, Ellen and Nirmal Chatterjee, Joyce Chelberg, Connie and Terry Christensen, Sally and Bert de Vries, Sally S. Dunham, Virginia and Wesley Egan, Jerry Fischer, Dean Fitzgerald, Carol and Harold Forshey, Jane and Robert Geniesse, Gillian and Larry Geraty, Helen and Jonathan Goldstein, Anna Gonosova, Donald O. Henry, Linda Jacobs, Martha and Artemis Joukowsky (Joukowsky Family Foundation), Claire H. Keith, James Knight, Sara Knight, Ethel and Robert Lewis, Bill W. Libby, P. Eleanor and L.H. Linder, Stephen F. Lintner, Lubbock Christian University (Jesse C. Long), Anne Melvin (The Melvin Family Fund), Janet and Eugene Merrill, Florence Wagg and William Mierse, Charles H. Miller, John Oleson, Elizabeth and William Overstreet, Isobel and Peter Pelham, Marsha and Thomas Posusney, Marilyn McNamara and R. Thomas Schaub, Charles Schutt, Heather and Edwin Taylor, Walla Walla College (Douglas Clark), George Walker, The Webster Charitable Foundation, Inc. (David Webster), Margaret and James Wiseman, St. Francis Xavier University (Burton MacDonald), and

Judy and Harold Zimmerman.

The Harrell Family Fellowship Endowment received donations from Paula and Edgar Harrell, Matthew Paul Harrell, and Brooke and Phil Harrell.

Donations to the Jennifer Groot Memorial Endowment were received from Tim Ferrell and S. Thomas Parker.

The James Sauer Fellowship Endowment received donations from Rami G. Khouri and S. Thomas Parker.

The Anne Ogilvy Memorial Library Endowment received donations from Ames Planning Associates, Aina and Roger Boraas, and Jack Lee.

Donations of books and journals were received from the Association for the Development of Market Economy (courtesy of Dr. Abderrahman Mebtoul), Zaki Ayoubi, Jill Baker, J.M. Blazquez, Oded Borowski, Council for British Research in the Levant (courtesy of Bill Finlayson), Thomas Dailey, P.M. Michele Daviau, Department of Antiquities of Jordan (courtesy of Fawwaz al-Khaysheh), Sally and Bert de Vries, Fred Donner, Jennie Ebeling, Eisenbrauns, Jennifer Jones, Mezna Qato, D. Roman Kulchitsky, Ji-Young Park Lee, Jessica Lieberman, Burton MacDonald, Malta Center for Restoration (courtesy of M. Curuana), Fatma Marii, Glen Markoe, Jeffrey Mitchem, Robert Mittelstadt, Zakariya Nai mat, Tina Niemi, John Oleson, Polish Centre of Archaeology in Cairo, Marsha P. Posusney, Walter Rast, Alexandra Retzleff, Gary Rollefson, Thomas Schaub, James Schryver, Sanford Silverberg, State University of New York, Stony Brook (courtesy of E.C. Filstrup), Munir Taha, Ramzi Touchan, Guido Vanini, and Udo Worschech.

Publications

The Petra Papyri I, edited by J. Fr sn, A. Arjava, and M. Lehtinen. This first volume on the papyri begins with their historical and archaeological context; conservation; an introduction to the chronological systems of their era; and a description of the family of the main character of the papyri. All the texts are documentary and written in Byzantine Greek. The volume includes eleven main documents and five minor ones, each with an introduction, Greek transcript with critical apparatus, English translation, and commentary. This large format (33 x 25 cm), cloth-bound volume has 192 pages including 26 plates. \$80.

The Petra Church by Z. T. Fiema, C. Kanellopoulos, T. Waliszewski, and R. Schick. Report on the church excavated by ACOR in Petra. With more than 700 illustrations, the volume contains reports on all aspects of a project that excavated what was probably the cathedral of Petra, a building lavishly decorated with mosaics and marble. This large format (33 x 25 cm), cloth-bound volume has 464 pages, 36 in full color. \$150.

The Mosaics of Jordan by Michele Piccirillo. Large format, cloth-bound volume includes 303 pages in full color with 824 illustrations, plans, and aerial photographs. \$175.

The Great Temple of Amman: The Architecture by Chrysanthos Kanellopoulos. The architecture of the temple that was excavated and partially restored by ACOR. Large format, cloth bound. \$80.

JADIS: The Jordan Antiquities Database and Information System: A Summary of the Data, edited by Gaetano Palumbo. Basic information on nearly 9,000 archaeological sites from all periods, plus 117 maps. This 453-page, hard-bound volume is xerographically reproduced. \$40.

The Great Temple of Amman: The Excavations by Anthi Koutsoukou, Kenneth W. Russell, Mohammad Najjar, and Ahmed Momani. Description of the 1990-93 excavations. This hard-bound volume has 180 pages and 3 fold-out plates. \$65.

Madaba: Cultural Heritage, edited by Patricia M. Bikai and Thomas A. Dailey. Catalogue of the remains from the Early Bronze Age through late Ottoman vernacular houses (113 pages, paperbound) Over 150 illustrations, five in color. Includes a separate large map. An Arabic translation is available at no additional cost. \$35.

ACOR and its Newsletter

ACOR, the American Center of Oriental Research, is a nonprofit academic institute whose services are supported through endowments, donations and grants. ACOR is tax exempt as a 501(c)(3) organization, as determined by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service. Inquiries may be sent to ACOR, P.O. Box 2470, Amman 11181, Jordan, Tel.: (962-6) 534-6117, Fax: (962-6) 534-4181, e-mail: ACOR@go.com.jo, or to ACOR, Boston University, 656 Beacon St., 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02215-2010, Tel.: 617-353-6571, Fax: 617-353-6575, e-mail: acor@bu.edu. The *ACOR Newsletter* is edited by Patricia M. Bikai and Kurt Zamora. Printed in Jordan by National Press.

Ancient Ammonites & Modern Arabs: 5000 Years in the Madaba Plains of Jordan edited by Gloria A. London and Douglas R. Clark. Life across the centuries in the area excavated by the Madaba Plains Project. \$27.

The 150th Anniversary of the United States Expedition to Explore the Dead Sea and the River Jordan by Robert E. Rook. An assessment of the Lynch expedition in 1848. Hard-bound volume of 32 pages. Many reproductions of Lynch's illustrations, including his three maps. \$20.

Madaba Map Centenary 1897-1997. With assistance from ACOR, the proceedings of the international conference on the Byzantine map have been published, edited by Michele Piccirillo and Eugenio Alliata. This well illustrated hard-bound volume has 278 pages, and is available for \$125.

All prices include shipping.

Nov. 2003 Board Meeting

The ACOR Board of Trustees met in Atlanta, Georgia, on Nov. 21. Board members discussed the various challenges facing ACOR in light of the situation in the region and, on a happier note, the exhibit at the American Museum of Natural History in New York.

ACOR Trustees

Class of 2004: Mr. Henry Christensen III; Mr. Nicholas Clapp; Mr. Artemis A. W. Joukowsky (President); H.E. Mr. Abdulelah M. Khatib; Mrs. Nina K pr I; H.E. Dr. Michel Marto; Dr. Bert de Vries; Dr. Mary C. Wilson; and H.R.H. Prince Raad bin Zeid (First Vice President)

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