



ACOR
أخبار أكور

AMERICAN CENTER OF
ORIENTAL RESEARCH
المركز الأمريكي
للأبحاث الشرقية

أخبار أكور NEWSLETTER

Volume 25.1 Summer 2013

Pre-Classical Pella in Jordan: A Conspectus of Recent Work

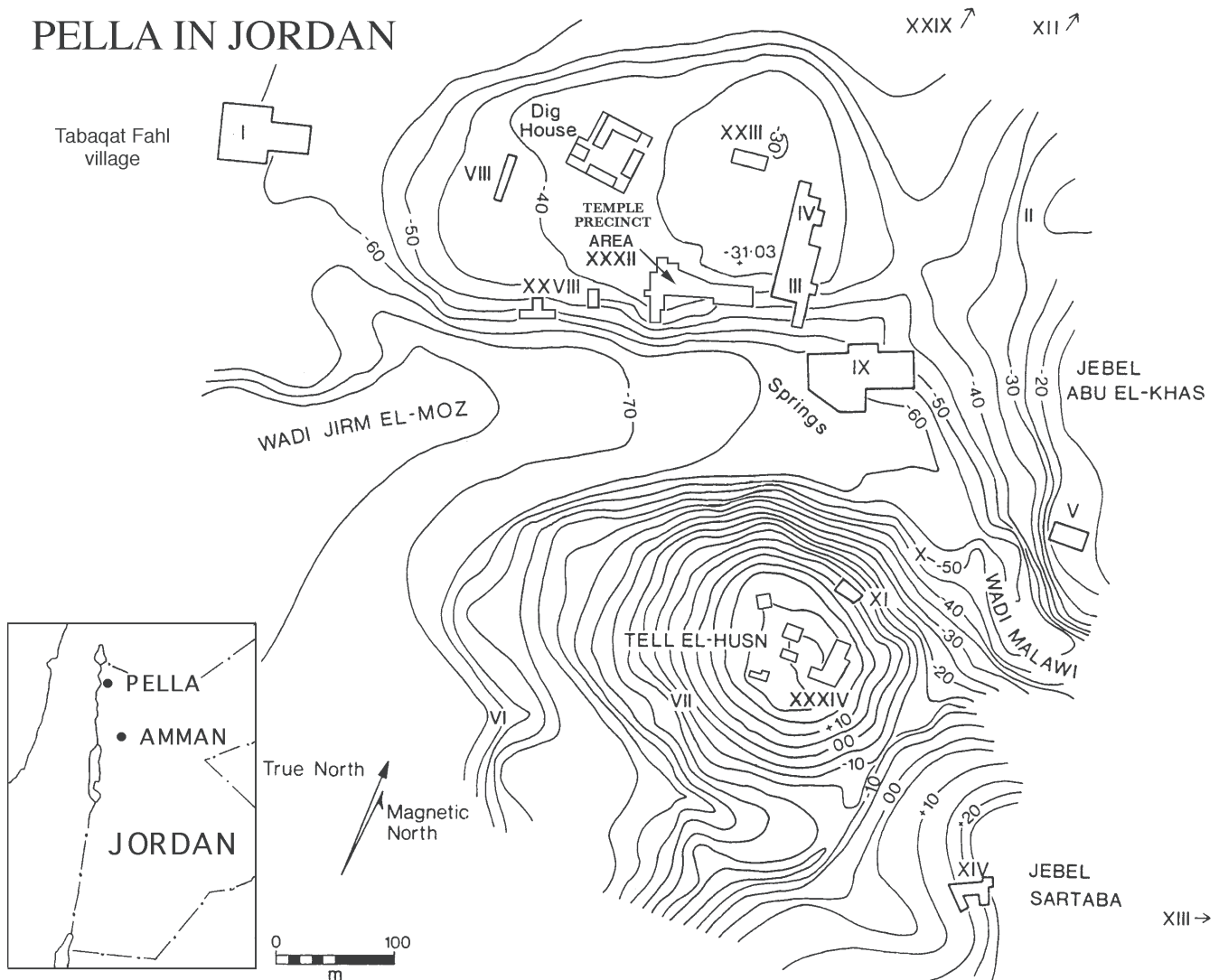
Stephen Bourke

Ancient Pella of the Decapolis, modern Tabaqat Fahl, is located in the eastern foothills of the north Jordan Valley, 5 km from the Jordan River, and a journey of about an hour and a half by road from Amman. The main settlement site, 30 m high and roughly 8 hectares in extent, is one of Jordan's most important ancient settlements. First settled in the Neolithic period around 6500 B.C., Pella has been continuously occupied for much of the last eight thousand years. Although best known for its classical (theater, bath house, nymphaeum) and Late Antique remains (at least three churches, a mosque, and extensive domestic housing insulae), Pella enjoys one of the longest pre-classical histories of any site in Jordan. Huge Bronze Age city walls, Egyptian-style residences, and monumental stone temple complexes on the main mound vie for prominence with later classical period remains, in a site which has something for everyone's interests. A walk around Pella's extensive ruin fields provides many a vivid snapshot relevant to key episodes in Jordanian history.



General view of the main tell of Khirbet Fahl and Wadi Jirm looking northwest with temple excavations in center; photo by Barbara A. Porter; all other images, unless otherwise noted, courtesy of Pella Excavation Project, The University of Sydney

PELLA IN JORDAN



Contour plan showing main excavation areas

Ruins at Tabaqat Fahl were first recorded by the English travelers Irby and Mangles in 1818, but identification with ancient Pella awaited Robinson's second visit to the region in 1852. Thereafter, Pella was often the focus of western scholarly attention, most notably at the hands of Merrill (1876), Schumacher (1887), Foxwell Albright (1927), and Richmond (1933). The first archaeological investigations included the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) soundings in 1958, Jordanian Department of Antiquities' salvage work in 1963–64, and Robert Houston Smith's first (1967) season of full-blown excavation for The College of Wooster, Ohio, immediately before the June war.

When conditions normalized in the Jordan Valley in the mid-70s, Smith contemplated a return to Pella, but the cost of excavating such a large site meant that he required a partner-investigator, and as Smith and Basil Hennessy of The University of Sydney had been colleagues of long standing, Smith invited Hennessy in 1978 to collaborate. The Joint Sydney-Wooster Expedition worked together at Pella between 1979 and 1985 after which the Wooster field program ended. The fruits of the Joint Expedition have been summarized in four excavation volumes, two published by Wooster and two by Sydney.

Since 1985, in conjunction with Jordanian colleagues from the Department of Antiquities, Australian archaeologists continued to work at Pella. Hennessy retired from active fieldwork after 1990, and the program that he oversaw was largely completed by 1993.

The following summation is essentially a short description of three of the main pre-classical fieldwork endeavors undertaken under my direction since 1994. It begins with a description of excavations of Prehistoric (ca. 6500–4000 B.C.) levels across the main mound, followed by a report on the monumental Early Bronze Age (EBA, ca. 3500–2800 B.C.) building works on Tell Husn, and finishes with a short summary of our long-term exploration of the largest pre-classical structures ever uncovered at Pella, namely the six-phased Bronze and Iron Age Fortress Temple complex (2000–800 B.C.), located on the south-central area of the main mound in Area XXXII. A report on recent discoveries concerning the classical and Late Antique periods, for which Pella is well known, will be reserved for a future newsletter.

Prehistoric Pella (ca. 6500–4000 B.C.)

Although Neolithic sherds were recovered in the 1960s, the first in situ Neolithic remains were not reached until 1994, in small soundings below extensive classical period and Bronze Age horizons.

Over the next ten field seasons, pockets of Neolithic housing—the earlier Yarmukian (ca. 6000 B.C.) rectilinear, multi-roomed and plaster-floored and the later ‘Ziqlab’ Neolithic (ca. 5400 B.C.) ovoid, semi-subterranean and earthen surfaced—were recovered from across the southern reaches of the main tell, in places 16 m below the modern surface. The presence of all major domesticated animals (sheep, goat, cattle, pig) and plants (wheat, barley, legumes) and the lack of imported goods, suggest that Neolithic Pella flourished as a small (perhaps 100–300 people), prosperous but relatively insular agrarian community.

The Early Chalcolithic period (ca. 4700 B.C.) was typified by single-roomed, semi-subterranean ovoid houses and a domestic ‘tool-kit’ of agrarian plants and animals little changed from the preceding Neolithic. However, some alteration was evident with more cattle kept to older ages and sheep numbers on the rise, perhaps indicating increased dairy and wool production. More productive strains of wheat and barley were grown and olive became more common. Occasional imported goods (ceramic, stone, ivory, shell) also began to appear. These slight changes were harbingers of the ‘secondary products revolution,’ which saw a sharp increase in the productive range of the economy, with eventual knock-on effects for social change.

The economic changes first detected in Early Chalcolithic assemblages became key elements in the later Late Chalcolithic period (ca. 4200 B.C.). Across the southern reaches of the main tell, rectilinear multi-room (occasionally two-story) houses, lav-



Late Chalcolithic (ca. 4200 BC) rubble platform at the base of the Grain Storage structure in Area XXXII

ishly provisioned with thick lime-plastered walls and plastered internal features (bins, benches, storage pits) were uncovered beside often much less elaborately provisioned two-roomed dwellings. Imported materials featured more commonly in Late Chalcolithic assemblages, with this exotica consisting mainly of items of personal adornment (copper, ivory, faience and shell beads), rare foodstuffs (date, fish), and fine tableware (stone vessels and burnished pottery). Together with the evidence for architectural variation, they suggest the development of a modest social differentiation.

For the first time, special purpose-built grain storage structures were uncovered, one featuring two lines of very large plaster-lined, ceramic-topped bins, with a storage capacity far greater than required for single families. When one such facility was destroyed towards the end of the Chalcolithic period (ca. 4000 B.C.), the burnt destruc-

tion layer consisted of 99 percent grain, which sealed a 20 × 20 m area, graphically illustrating the large amounts of grain stored in this one place. Associated with this destruction were the first stone and pottery tokens, record-keeping devices generally considered the precursors of writing.

Husn East Summit Early Bronze Age (EBA) Complex (ca. 3500–2800 B.C.)

At the end of the Chalcolithic period (ca. 3900 B.C.), Pella seems to have suffered a short break in occupation. It is not clear why this might have occurred, but the general assumption is that in such a rich environment only the absence of water could have materially affected settlement. It is assumed that earthquake activity interrupted the flow of the springs for a short time. In any case, by 3500 B.C. at the latest, EBA settlement returned to the main mound, and especially to nearby Tell Husn, where recent work has concentrated on a massive fortification system lining the eastern summit. This dates from around 3200 B.C., thus matching the large fortification wall uncovered in two areas (south and east) of the main mound in the early 1990s.

On the main mound, the 2 m thick stone and mudbrick circuit wall rings the settled perimeter. However, getting access to meaningful EBA horizons within the walls has been frustrated by the size and similar placement of later even more massive Middle Bronze Age (MBA) mudbrick circuit walls (up to 4 m thick), as well as by deeply trenched, stone-walled civic structures (palaces and temples), which lined the south side of the settlement. Together these later remains have cut down into and largely removed the preceding EBA strata across much of the southern edge of the main mound. With this in mind, we concentrated our recent efforts on the summit of Husn as the remains there are far better preserved and, as it has turned out, more massively built.

Below a Byzantine-era fortress, a series of EBA stone rubble platforms, 15 × 15 m in size and up to 5 m thick, line the eastern edge of the Husn summit in places separated by meter-wide passageways which lead to narrow postern gates in the east wall frontage. On the southeastern corner of the summit, a 2 m wide paved roadway runs through a simple ‘direct-access’ gateway, flanked by 2 m thick projecting towers. Along the northern edge of the summit, a 3.6 m thick mudbrick wall runs west from the inner west face of the northern rubble platform, suggesting the circuit combined massive stone platforms in the more gently sloping east and a thick mudbrick



General view of the Tell Husn east summit excavations (Area XXXIV) showing Early Bronze (ca. 3100 B.C.) rubble platforms and the gateway, looking west

wall on the precipitous north edge, facing the equally heavily fortified main mound below to its north. It would appear that EBA Pella was a ‘twin-centered’ town, which consisted of a massively fortified civic/administrative ‘acropolis’ on Husn, somewhat removed from, but associated with, the equally well-defended township below on the main mound.

Beneath the massive fortifications on the east Husn summit, at least two earlier phases of EBA material have been detected in narrow soundings down to bedrock, documenting the long developmental history that lay behind the final monumental achievements. Radiometric data suggest that the earliest materials may date as early as 3600 B.C., with the main platform phase beginning around 3200 B.C.



Early Bronze copper hoard as found in situ (ca. 2900 B.C.)

Objects recovered from the Husn strata make it clear that Pella participated in a flourishing age of international trade which linked cities across the east Mediterranean world. Imported copper drawn from all known production centers (Cyprus, Anatolia, Sinai, Jordan) illustrate further the

point first made via architecture, that an economically vigorous and socially stratified society, very probably geared to the production and export of agricultural surpluses, thrived in the margins of the Jordan Valley throughout the first half of the Early Bronze Age.

At some time around 2900/2800 B.C., this sophisticated society came to an end at Pella, very probably due to a severe earthquake of regional significance. Many other Jordan Valley sites (Beth Shan, Abu Kharaz, Tell es Saidiyeh, Jericho) were destroyed at the same time. While several sites were immediately re-inhabited, Pella was not, and it remained abandoned for nearly a millennium, probably because the severe earthquake affected the flow of water from the springs for a second time.

The Middle-Late Bronze–Iron Age Fortress Temple Complex (ca. 2000–800 B.C.)

One of our more spectacular recent endeavors has been the excavation of the six-phased Bronze and Iron Age temple precinct on the south-central area of the main tell. Initially our excavations concentrated on the massive (28 × 24 m) stone Fortress Temple, with 3 m thick walls often preserved nearly 5 m high. Over the course of the last ten field seasons, we have been able to determine that the stone Fortress Temple had two earlier, much smaller (ca. 11 × 10 m) mudbrick, anten-temples partly preserved within the margins of the stone temple foundations (Phases 1 and 2). These early Middle Bronze temples (ca. 2000–1800 B.C.) are similar in date and design to the five small mudbrick temples excavated by archaeologists from Arizona State University at nearby Tell Hayyat in the early 1980s.

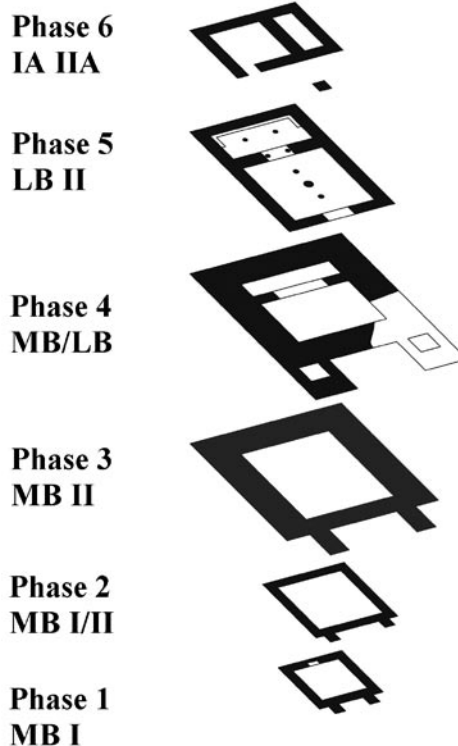
The massive stone Fortress Temple consists of two distinct phases, one built on top of the other (Phases 3 and 4). The first is a typical Syrian anten-temple featuring solid rectangular stone buttresses projecting 3 m out from the doorway in the east wall and the second, the so-called ‘Migdol’ or Fortress Temple form,



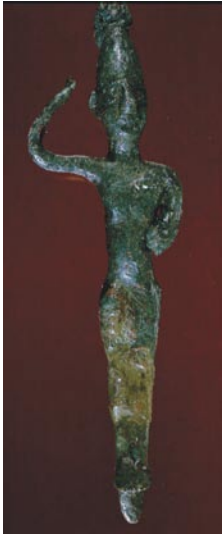
General view of Fortress Temple excavations (Area XXXII) and the southern tower (ca. 1650 B.C.) looking southwest

featuring 5 m² hollow stone towers built over the earlier antae, abutting a massively reinforced 4 m thick east wall of the temple. Close parallels to this Fortress Temple form are structures excavated at Shechem as well as at Megiddo in the 1930s.

The temple was modified in the early Late Bronze Age (LBA) (ca. 1500 B.C., Phase 4) when the internal ‘hollow-box’ temple cella was subdivided and a dedicated Holy of Holies was delineated. Additionally, a temenos wall now ringed the temple precinct, marking off secular from sacred space for the first time. Together these two modifications suggest a profound change in the rituals and the relationship between man and the deities worshipped, as sacred and profane areas were now clearly defined. This arrangement survived for slightly more than a hundred years before a severe earthquake around 1350 B.C. destroyed the northern third of the massive structure, necessitating a complete reconstruction.



Sequential phases of six superimposed temples showing approximate position of one above the other from Middle Bronze I to Iron Age II



Copper alloy statuette of smiting god ('Reshef') (H. ca. 11 cm) from offering pit in LB temple (ca. 1250 B.C.)



Ceramic head of a bearded male (H. ca. 8 cm) from offering pit in LB temple (ca. 1300 B.C.)

This extensive architectural remodeling—occurring at the high-water mark of the Egyptian New Kingdom Empire in Asia—reflects a conscious Egyptianization for the first time (Phase 5). The much narrower (18 × 12 m) and far less massive structure, stripped of its exterior towers, was provided with an internal columned

hall and a re-centered Holy of Holies, now equipped with its own monumental basalt-paved stone entrance. The Holy of Holies itself gained benches along the three interior walls, and an elegant basalt columned pavilion was positioned over the central region of the interior, perhaps to enfold a cult statue. Aspects of this structure find some parallels in the Acropolis Temple at Lachish and the later North and South Temples at Beth Shan. Votive offerings include Egyptian stone statuary, a copper alloy Reshef smiting god statuette, and numerous clay figurines (male and female), along with Mycenaean, Cypriot, and Egyptianizing pottery, gold, silver and lapis jewelry items, faience and pottery rhyta, and numerous beads in precious metal, ivory, glass, and semi-precious stones. This Egyptianizing 'Pillared Hall' Temple survived until the end of the Bronze Age, when Pella was destroyed, again perhaps by an earthquake.

The early phases of the Iron Age (ca. 1200–1000 B.C.) saw only very slight and poorly executed rebuilding across the temple precinct, although it may be that the Holy of Holies area retained a sacred function throughout this period of decline. However, the temple cella area outside and to the east of the Holy of Holies was left in ruins, with lightweight domestic structures erected within and against the heaped debris—all that remained of the once-mighty structure.

It was only with the onset of Iron IIA (ca. 950 B.C., Phase 6) that a final major rebuilding of the Pella temple occurred. This much smaller (12 × 8 m) two-roomed structure was nonetheless quite massively built. It was positioned directly over the previous Holy of Holies but was now oriented north-south and had a small entranceway in the southeast corner of the structure. The best parallels for this 'Bent-Axis' design are with Philistine Tell Qasile on the coast and select materials (cult stands and figurines) from the Pella temple also have close parallels in the Qasile assemblage.

A 1.5 m² single-stone altar was positioned in an open-air courtyard to the east of the temple. A number of shattered incense cups, a large chalice, and a unique bull-headed model shrine were found mixed in with thick destruction debris sealing the altar



Bull Box Model Shrine (Dim. 55 × 35 cm) dated to Iron Age II (ca. 850 B.C.)

area. The entire settled area of the main mound was devastated in a thorough destruction around 800 B.C. Associated militaria (scale armour, spearheads, arrows) suggest a human agency behind this final destruction, perhaps at the hands of Hazael of Damascus (ca. 830 B.C.). Pella was to remain largely deserted thereafter until the coming of the Greeks and the birth of classical Pella under the Ptolemies in the late 4th to early 3rd century B.C.

A Final Thought

At Pella, we have preserved in this one singular and very beautiful place, a perfect example of Braudel's *longue durée* which awaits further study. The archaeological record is exceptionally long, wonderfully well preserved, and incredibly important to furthering our understanding of Jordan's rich history through the ages. We look forward to many more productive years of research on one of the world's great archaeological sites.

Acknowledgments

Funding for the Pella Excavation Project has been drawn from many sources over the years. Main supporters include the Australian Research Council, the National Gallery of Australia, the Near Eastern Archaeology Foundation of The University of Sydney, and numerous private donors. Digging at Pella has been a huge undertaking for nearly 40 years and its success relies on the constant hard work of a large number of dedicated staff spread across several continents. Staff and specialists as well as numerous students and volunteers are mostly drawn from universities and towns across Australia, although largely from The University of Sydney. Our work would not be possible without the continued enthusiastic support of the Jordanian Department of Antiquities, dedicated Amman staffers, and our representatives from the Pella Regional Office. Our local Pella dig house staff (drawn from Amman and Tabaqat Fah) and workforce bid us welcome on arrival and grin and bear the rain every winter when we are in the field. We also appreciate the targeted assistance and constant support of the British (CBRL) and American (ACOR) institutes in Amman.



Stephen Bourke at his February public lecture at ACOR; photo by Barbara A. Porter

Excavating Machaerus in Mississippi

The Hungarian Academy of Arts in collaboration with the Jordanian Department of Antiquities has been conducting archaeological excavations and architectural surveys at Mukawir, the location of the ancient Royal Palace and City of Machaerus, since July 2009. The Herodian fortified royal palace, overlooking the Dead Sea in Transjordan, is the historical place where, according to Flavius Josephus (AJ XVIII 5, 2), Saint John the Baptist, one of the holiest men of his era (also known as Yokhanan the Baptizer and Prophet Yahya ibn Zakariyya), was imprisoned and executed by the Tetrarch Herod Antipas nearly two thousand years ago.

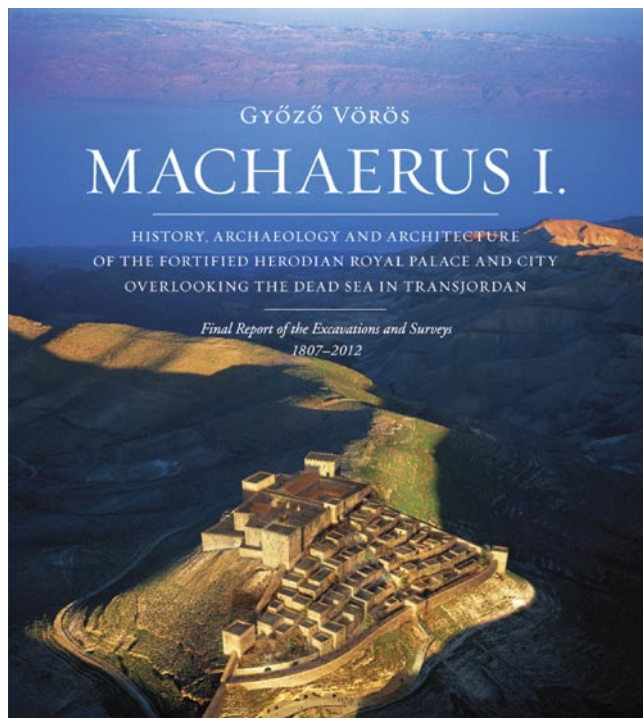
An exploratory trial excavation conducted in June 1968 by the American Baptist Minister E. Jerry Vardaman (1927–2000) lasted for three weeks. Afterwards, the 4,973 registered archaeological objects were shipped to the United States thanks to the permission granted by the Jordanian Government. This Machaerus excavation has never been published and my involvement will be discussed below.

The second and third Machaerus excavations were led (in 1978–1981 and 1992–1993) by two professors of the Studium Biblicum Franciscanum in Jerusalem: Virgilio Canio Corbo (1918–1991) and Michele Piccirillo (1944–2008). From an architectural point of view, Father Corbo concentrated primarily on the excavations of the citadel, and his mission was the first to prove that Machaerus was unquestionably one of the mosaic-decorated fortified royal palaces of King Herod the Great, and that it was erected around 30 B.C.

Following the unexpected death of Father Piccirillo in 2008, the Hungarian team took up where the Studium Biblicum Franciscanum had left off. The Research Team of the Hungarian Academy of Arts has determined that there were three historical periods for this hilltop site, which was part of a military fortress-network aimed at the defense of Jerusalem from the east during the first centuries B.C. and A.D.



Cutaway view of the architectural reconstruction of the Herodian Palace superimposed on an aerial photograph by David Kennedy (Courtesy of APAAME—The Aerial Photographic Archive for Archaeology in the Middle East)



Front cover of *Machaerus I*, published as the Jerusalem Studium Biblicum Franciscanum Collectio Maior 53 (Milan: Edizioni Terra Santa, 2013) and showing a theoretical reconstruction of the city superimposed on the 2004 aerial photograph by Jane Taylor (all images courtesy of Győző Vörös)

My recently published monograph, *Machaerus I*, covers the history of the site, as well as past and current scientific exploration with a focus on the archaeology and architecture. It contains several theoretical reconstructions, such as the above view of the Herodian fortified palace seen from the east and showing the the Lower City (πόλις) and the Herodian Royal Fortified Palace (βασιλειον) with careful consideration of the ancient colors based on the archaeological evidence.

I was able to connect in June 2012, after much searching, with Vardaman's widow, Madame Alfalene, who is now eighty-five years old. She arranged to send to Budapest copies of the surviving unpublished excavation field-notebooks and drawings belonging to her late husband, as well as the invaluable archaeological object-catalogue and the original 1968 Kodak slides documenting the excavations. It was truly wonderful that all arrived safely.

Based on the 300 pages of the archive, it became obvious that there had to be a large archaeological collection somewhere in the United States. After contacting several American institutions, the Director of the Cobb Institute of Archaeology at Mississippi State University, Professor Joe D. Seger, Past President of ASOR, sent the surprising answer that they had 13 boxes labeled "Machaerus—1968" in their basement.



The central building of the Cobb Institute of Archaeology at Mississippi State University

Joe Seger kindly invited me to evaluate and publish this material and appointed me as a Scholar-in-Residence before we had even met. During spring 2013, I was able to spend time there and received the help of several people. Prior to my arrival and thanks to the supervision of Associate Professor James Hardin, all the information on the excavation cards that accompanied the archaeological material had already been digitized and this was a tremendous help. Furthermore, Christofer Howell, an archaeological photographer and research assistant, and Dylan Karges, a graphic artist, both helped further the documentation process.

The June 1968 American Machaerus Excavations and Survey in light of the later Italian-Franciscan and Hungarian excavations

will be presented in *Machaerus II*, which will be published by the Edizioni Terra Santa. When I was in Berlin in May 2013 for the 12th International Conference on the History and Archaeology of Jordan (where I delivered a paper on this topic), I received word from Joe Seger that I was appointed as an Honorary Senior Research Fellow of his Institute. I am indebted to his generosity and feel it reflects the core spirit of American academic hospitality and scientific collaboration in the Levant.

Győző Vörös



At the entrance of the Cobb Institute of Archaeology (from left): Dylan Karges, Győző Vörös, Joe D. Seger, James Hardin, and Christofer Howell



Győző Vörös in the basement of the Cobb Institute examining the Mississippi Machaeriaca during spring 2013

ACOR's New Look

In fall 2012 and continuing through early summer 2013, ACOR worked with a local graphic designer to refresh our look in terms of our logo, letterhead, and brochure as well as new development materials. Jumana Abdel Aziz is an independent designer and visual communications consultant who received her bachelor's degree in Graphic Design from the American University of Beirut. Thanks to her efforts and those of Yumna Abuhassan, ACOR Development Officer during this period, we have new promotional materials for the ACOR Library and Jordanian scholarships. We are preparing further promotional materials on ACOR's cultural resource management endeavors, particularly in Petra at the Temple of the Winged Lions. Much of this work stemmed from a consultancy—thanks to the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC)—with Nanette Pyne who came to Jordan in October 2012 to help us in development matters. At the same time ACOR Assistant Director Sarah Harpending and Assistant Librarian Samya Kafafi worked with Yadonia to refresh the look of our website and incorporate new elements and ideas that reflect the design changes.

It is fitting that this issue marking twenty-five years of the *ACOR Newsletter* has the redesigned logo on its masthead. Our newsletter was initiated by Bert de Vries and first published in November



New ACOR promotional materials created spring 2013
(photos by Barbara A. Porter)

In Memoriam: Donald H. Wimmer

Donald H. Wimmer died at age 80 on 20 May 2013 at his home in South Orange, New Jersey. He was a professor of religious studies at Seton Hall University from 1965 until 2003. Don began excavating Tell Safut, just north of Amman, in 1982 as part a rescue excavation. The Amman-Jerash highway was slated to remove most of the ancient tell and as a result of that season, the road was moved and most of the site saved. In 1982 many people associated with ACOR participated, as did his children, Paul, Richard, and Stephanie. He conducted excavations at Safut until 1989 and from 1995 to 2001. In 2007 he turned over the responsibility of publishing to Owen Chesnut. Thanks to an ACOR-CAORC pre-doctoral fellowship and the assistance of the Department of Antiquities, Owen was able in 2011 to examine the relevant material in Jordan, thus allowing the legacy of Don Wimmer's Safut project to live on.

1989. That issue featured a sketch of the then new ACOR building as the masthead image. Today the symbolic image is the panther vase excavated by ACOR in the Petra Church in early the 1990s and restored from many fragments. This 2nd century A.D. vessel, carved out of marble from Turkey, was an heirloom when it was used in the 6th church and it continues to represent ACOR's efforts to preserve Jordanian heritage.

A drawing of the vase by Catherine Alexander was used on the cover of *ACOR Newsletter* 5.1 (Summer 1993)—very soon after its discovery and restoration—and this same elegant image is on the front of *ACOR: The First 25 Years* (1993) (all available on our website). Since Vol. 16.2 (Winter 2004), a drawing of the vase has been the exclusive newsletter logo.

This current newsletter incorporates the panther vase as redrawn by Jumana Abdel Aziz and integrated into a new heading by her and Isabelle Ruben, who has been one of the editors of the newsletter and layout designer since 2006. As a long-term resident of Jordan and an archaeologist who has excavated and explored many places in the country, Isabelle Ruben is an invaluable contributor to the *ACOR Newsletter*.

Barbara A. Porter
ACOR Director and Newsletter Editor



Isabelle Ruben and Jumana Abdel Aziz redesigning the *ACOR Newsletter* masthead for issue Vol. 25.1 (Summer 2013)

In Memoriam: J. Basil Hennessy

J. Basil Hennessy passed away on 27 October 2013 in Goulburn, Australia at age 88. He completed his D.Phil. (1962–64) at Oxford under Kathleen Kenyon and served first as Deputy (1964–66) and then Director (1966–70) of the British School of Archaeology in Jerusalem. At that time he excavated the Amman Airport Temple and Teleilat Ghassul. He moved back to Australia, first to be Visiting Professor (1970–72) and then the Edwin Cuthbert Hall Professor (1973–90) of Middle Eastern Archaeology at The University of Sydney. Returning to Jordan in 1975, he led three more seasons at Ghassul before the long-term excavations at Pella between 1978 and 1990. He was awarded the Order of Australia in 1991 for services to archaeology and foreign relations. Hennessy was a wise mentor and a firm friend to several generations of Australian archaeologists. He is survived by his wife Ruth and children David, Sarah, and Linda.

**Public Lectures at ACOR
(January–June 2013)**

January 29—Robert Schick (ACOR Publication Fellow), “Daily Life on the Masjid al-Aqsa Compound in the Ottoman Period”

February 26—Stephen Bourke (Sydney University and Director of the Pella Excavations), “From Village to Bishopric: Pella in Jordan 2013”

March 12—Gaetano Palumbo (Program Director for North Africa, the Middle East and Central Asia for the World Monuments Fund), “Qusayr ‘Amra Conservation Project, 2010–2012”

April 9—Christopher A. Tuttle (ACOR Associate Director), “A Holistic Approach to Preserving Petra – Introducing the Temple of the Winged Lions Cultural Resource Management (TWLCRM) Initiative”

May 29—Andrew M. Smith II (Assistant Professor of Classics and History at the George Washington University), “Exploring the Hinterland of Petra: Bir Madhkur and the Central Wadi Araba”



Gaetano Palumbo (right) before his lecture chatting with Ghazi Bisheh (Photos by Barbara A. Porter)



H.R.H. Princess Dana Firas, Aysar Akrawi (Petra National Trust), and Tahani Al Salhi (Petra Archaeological Park) meeting after Chris Tuttle’s presentation



Chris Tuttle with colleagues involved in Petra, (from left) Bénédicte Khan, Giorgia Cesaro, Caroline Durand, and Aurélie Hamm



Stephen Bourke addressing the ACOR audience



Sharifa Nofa Nasser (Jordan Museum Director) posing questions to Andrew Smith

To be on the mailing list for ACOR public lectures or to receive our newsletter, please send a message to acor@acorjordan.org with your mailing address.

For ACOR Fellowships, including scholarships for Jordanians to attend the ASOR Annual Meeting in November 2014 in San Diego, information can be found on the ACOR website.

Fellows in Residence (January–June 2013)

ACOR Publication Fellow

Burton MacDonald, Religious Studies, St. Francis Xavier University;
Historical Archaeology of the Southern Trans-Jordanian Plateau and
the Northern Central Arabah



Burton MacDonald on a visit to Pella

Pierre and Patricia Bikai Fellow

Teresa Wilson, Anthropology, University of Arkansas; Health Nutrition and Disease: A Study of the Developmental Features and Defects of Teeth from Four Bronze Age, Roman, and Byzantine Cemeteries in Northern Jordan



Teresa Wilson on a visit to Pella

ACOR Special Anniversaries

As ACOR was founded in 1968, this year marks its 45th anniversary in Jordan. Here we acknowledge the Board members and staff who are still actively involved and have passed the 15 year milestone. Mohammed Adawi has served by far the longest as he started with ACOR in its first year. Included in this legacy are Pierre and Patricia Bikai who led ACOR from 1991 to 2006 for neigh 15 years as they are very much part of these shared long-term memories. Happy Anniversary to one and all!

Board Member	Start Year
S. Thomas Parker	1987
H.R.H. Prince Raad bin Zeid	1988
Mohammed Asfour	1988
Widad Kawar	1988
Nancy Lapp	1988
Randolph B. Old	1990
Artemis A.W. Joukowsky	1992
Henry Christensen III	1993
Leila Sharaf	1994
Bert de Vries	1995
James R. Wiseman	1996
Øystein S. LaBianca	1997
John P. Oleson	1997

Staff Member	Start Date
Mohammed Adawi (Abu Ahmed) Chef	Summer 1968
Sa'id Adawi Facilitator	July 1988
Carmen Matsuno Ayoubi (Humi) Head Librarian	August 1988
Naif Zaban Conservation Technician	September 1988
Kathy Nimri Administrator	July 1991
Abed Adawi Facilities Manager	February 1992
Nisreen Abu Al Shaikh Comptroller	April 1995
Cesar Octavo Head of Housekeeping	July 1995
Donald Keller Associate Director, Boston Office	December 1996

ACOR Annual Appeal Results 2012 and 2013

Funds and Endowments	Fiscal Year 2012	Fiscal Year 2013
Annual Fund	\$42,743	\$68,622
Annual Library Support	\$7,005	\$15,315
ACOR General Endowment	\$4,807	\$2,045
ACOR Jordanian Graduate Student Scholarship Fund	\$20,334	\$16,440
ACOR Publication Fellowship Fund	\$1,000	–
Anne C. Ogilvy Memorial Library Endowment	\$3,800	\$4,100
Pierre and Patricia Bikai Fellowship Endowment	\$1,781	\$4,940
Bert and Sally de Vries Fellowship Endowment	\$1,597	\$3,310
Jennifer C. Groot Memorial Fellowship Endowment	\$1,634	\$3,050
Harrell Family Fellowship Endowment	\$2,950	\$1,500
Burton MacDonald and Rosemarie Sampson Fellowship Endowment	\$1,960	\$35
Kenneth W. Russell Memorial Fellowship Endowment	\$300	\$280
James A. Sauer Memorial Fellowship Endowment	\$2,875	\$2,505
Petra Papyri and Other Publications Fund	\$300	\$100
Petra Church Conservation Initiative	\$225	\$570
Temple of the Winged Lions (TWLCRM) Initiative	–	\$75
Total	\$93,311	\$122,887

Donations to ACOR (January–June 2013)

General Donations to the Annual Fund

Mohammed Asfour; Edward and Jocelyn Badovinac; Roger Bagnall; Bana Barazi; Leigh-Ann Bedal; Joyce E. Chelberg; Susan B. Downey; Anne M. Dunn; Paul Fitzpatrick; Ellen Porter Honnet; Lois C. Houghton; Abed M. Ismail; Artemis A.W. and Martha Sharp Joukowsky and Nina Joukowsky Köprülü (through the auspices of the Joukowsky Family Foundation); Hisham Khatib; Nancy Lapp in honor of Marilyn and Tom Schaub; Holly Mak and Marc Hersh; Noor Mulder-Hymans; Richard and Anne Murphy (through Fidelity Charitable); Margaret Pratt Porter and James G. Porter; Jothi Ann Ravindran; M. Barbara Reeves; Sarah and David Roberts; The Rogers Foundation—the Ayco Charitable Foundation (through the auspices of Theodore C. and Elizabeth Barlow Rogers; Barbara Sampson; Warren C. Schultz (for DePaul University Study Tour students); The Selz Foundation (through the auspices of Bernard and Lisa Selz); Rochelle E. Snee; Deborah K. Solbert; Darcy and Daniel Sreebny; Joseph Stanik; Jan Wechsler; James R. and Margaret L. Wiseman

Annual Fund Donations for Library Support

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Petra Papyri and Other Publications Fund

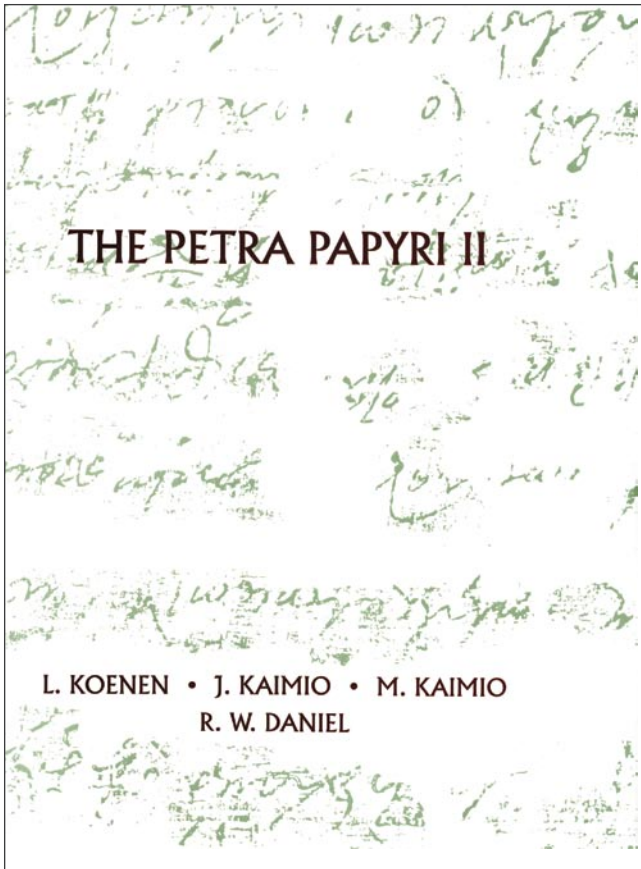
George W. Justice in memory of Frank Vocci and Gladys Vocci Justice

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Donations to ACOR Library (January–June 2013)

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ACOR is pleased to announce the publication in summer 2013 of *The Petra Papyri II*, edited by Ludwig Koenen, Jorma Kaimio, Maarit Kaimio, and Robert W. Daniel. With contributions by Antti Arjava, Matias Buchholz, Robert C. Caldwell, Hani Ali Falahat, William H. Finch, Jaako Frösén, Traianos Gagos, Omar al-Ghul, Ahmad M. Al-Jallad, Clement A. Kuehn, Marjo Lehtinen, and Tiina Purola. Plates were prepared by Maija Holappa and the layout was undertaken by Isabelle Ruben. This volume contains the edition of a single document, P. Petra 17, concerned with the division of property amongst three brothers. The document bears the name *Papyrus Petra Khaled and Suha Shoman*. The cost to purchase the Petra Papyri volumes is:

- Vol. I (2002) \$50 at ACOR; with shipping total \$80
- Vol. II (2013) \$60 at ACOR; with shipping total \$100
- Vol. III (2007) \$60 at ACOR; with shipping total \$100
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April 2013 Board Meeting

The ACOR Board of Trustees held their annual spring meeting in Washington D.C., at The Elliott School of International Affairs at George Washington University. Programs in Jordan, development, and financial issues were major points of discussion. The class of 2013 members were re-elected as the Class of 2016 with the exception of Michel Marto who retired after serving on the Board since 1989 and Artemis Joukowsky who was elected Trustee Emeritus.

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