American Schools of Oriental Research Newsletter





ASOR at Boston University, 656 Beacon Street, 5th floor, Boston, MA 02215-2010

ASOR PUBLICATIONS AND OXBOW BOOKS

SOR Publications is pleased to announce that we have reached an agreement with Oxbow Books, trading in North America as The David Brown Book Company, for the exclusive marketing and distribution of ASOR's books. Oxbow was founded in 1983 by David Brown, for twenty years a curator at the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford, with the aim of providing book information and a point of supply for books on archaeology. Since then the range of subjects has grown to cover books on the literature, history, history and arts of the Classical and Medieval worlds as well as all aspects of Prehis-Archaeology, toric including Egyptology and the Near East, and related scientific, environmental and conservation fields.

Oxbow started its own publications series in 1990 and currently publishes some twenty-five books annually. It acts as the distributor for publications of a range of academic societies including the British Institute of Archaeology in Ankara, The British School in Rome, The Griffith Institute for Egyptology (Oxford), the British School in Iraq, the Oxford University Committee for Archaeology, the McDonald Institute at Cambridge University and the Egyptian Department of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. The Oxford office also runs a Book Club in association with an archaeological TV program.

From ASOR's point of view, the association with Oxbow is attractive for a number of reasons. Oxbow regularly exhibits at a wide range of conferences, both in North America and the rest of the world. Oxbow Book news is a bimonthly publication that has a world wide circulation of approximately 15,000. In addition, our titles will be featured in their special subject catalogs and annual Trade Catalog. This will provide us with much greater exposure to an international audience than we have previously enjoyed.

As Oxbow specializes in books on archaeology, Egyptology, classical and medieval studies, it has an in-depth knowledge of the market and can identify opportunities for joint promotions, mailings and displays with the other publishers it represents. The staff at Oxbow's office in Oxford and at the David Brown office in Oakville, Connecticut, are similarly knowledgeable. In addition, ASOR's titles will for the first time be available for on-line purchase. The Oxbow web site already has a listing of the distributed titles, together with book descriptions and illustrations. Details can be found at oxbowbooks.com

One of the principal reasons for selecting Oxbow, in addition to the market presence, was the degree of editorial control that we maintain. Discussions with other publishers indicated that while they would be interested in distributing our series, they would insist on a degree of involvement in the production and editorial process that the Committee on Publications felt would be unacceptable if the Publications program is to maintain its integrity.

With Oxbow distributing ASOR's books, the Publications office of ASOR will now be able to focus on the editing and production of its three series, the Annual, the Archaeological Reports series, and ASOR Books, as well as independent monographs such as the planned retrospective, *An ASOR Mosaic* and *Across the Anatolian Plateau: The Archaeology of Ancient Turkey.* We hope to be able to add an electronic excavation series to this list within the next few years. ASOR looks forward to a long and mutually beneficial association with Oxbow Books/The David Brown Book Co.

For information on how to order ASOR monographs and journal back issues, see the back cover of this Newsletter.

World of the Bible Ceases Production

E arly in February, Bayard Presse, the publisher of the fledgling magazine, *World of the Bible*, reached the difficult decision to discontinue production after only two issues. While the early subscription returns were substantial, they did not meet expectations and Bayard resolved that it would not be economically viable to continue.

Although the reason for the shut down of the magazine are financial and understandable, this decision comes as a disappointment, since ASOR staff had been working with Bayard Presse since the fall of 1998 to launch the English language version of *Le monde de la bible*. The magazine was to be produced with ASOR's endorsement and was to provide an additional outlet for ASOR to the lay public. ASOR had not invested in the magazine and will not suffer any financial loss as a result of the decision.

There is some good news, however. A number of issues of *World of the Bible* were in production when the decision to discontue was made. Discussions with Bayard have led to proposal to use some of the *WB* materials for a special issue (or issues) of *Near Eastern Archaeology*, to appear sometime next year.

MEMO TO ASOR MEMBERS: As announced in the Winter 1999 Newsletter, and as detailed on the back cover here, ASOR's Membership and Subscription services are now being handled by Academic Services in Canton, MA. However, as with any transition, things do not always go according to plan. The transfer of the membership records from Scholars Press was more involved than was at first thought, and as a consequence it has taken longer to get the new database fully operational. It is possible that ASOR members, particularly those joining since January 1 may have experienced delays in receiving journals. We apologize sincerely for this and ask your patience in what has been a difficult time. Note that the old Scholars Press membership database has been replaced with new searchable database, available on our web site at asor.org/memblist.htm

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Plus! The 2000–2001 Fellowship Poster CAARI • AIAR • Baghdad Committee • ACOR • ASOR The American Schools of Oriental Research is a nonprofit, scientific and educational organization founded in 1900.

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The ASOR Newsletter

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OUTREACH TEACHER WORKSHOP A SUCCESS

B oston area educators, and others from across the country enjoyed a full day archaeological workshop at Harvard's Semitic Museum in November. The program was coordinated by Judith Cochran, an educator and member of ASOR's Educational Outreach Committee. The purpose was to expose teachers to the basic tenets of archaeology, and how to translate the archaeological process into their classrooms. Though geared to teachers grades 4-9, high school and college instructors as well as ministers, and directors of youth programs attended. Everyone was more than satisfied with the information and materials received.

The day began with teachers receiving a packet of materials including copies of the national magazines DIG, ODYSSEY, DIS-COVERING ARCHAEOLOGY, and THE WORLD OF THE BIBLE, as well as several other publications directed toward archaeology in the classroom. A welcome by Outreach chair Carolyn Draper Rivers was followed by the Semitic Museum's Dena Davis who outlined a brief history of the Semitic Museum and its collections. Also presented were Neal Bierling's "Beyond Indiana Jones" CD Rom program, and Scott Carroll's "EUREKA Project" where students interact via satellite with archaeologists in the field.

Judith Cochran completed the remainder of the morning with hands-on activities from her book, ARCHAEOLOGY: Digging Deeper To Learn About the Past. These included teachers bringing artifacts from a "site" in their homes where items are lost or thrown away (as most archaeological artifacts are). Those "sites" included junk drawers, closets, under the bed, and sofa cushions. After drawing and cataloguing their artifacts on locus sheets, the artifacts were exchanged and interpreted by a partner. Participants also interpreted signs and symbols on coins. They shared activities from their own classrooms, sharing samples of time capsules and shoebox models of Egyptian tombs.

After lunch, Christine Nelson gave a detailed demonstration of simulating a dig in the classroom. Her handbook, "KIDS CAN REALLY DIG IT: A Guide to Simulating An Excavation" provided all dimensions and materials necessary.

It was a very productive program, with an enthusiastic response from participants. The Outreach Committee will offer another teacher workshop when ASOR meets this year in Nashville.

For more information, contact: Judith Cochran, Tel. (209) 527-0466, jcochran@ thevision.net.



• Christine Nelson demonstrates how to simulate a dig in the classroom.

 Judith Cochran helps participant with artifact interpretation activity



Annual Meeeting Information Nashville Nov. 15–18, 2000

Schedule

The 2000 ASOR Annual Meeting will take place at the Loews Vanderbilt Plaza Hotel, Nashville, TN, from November 15–18 (Wednesday through Saturday). Registration costs remain the same as last year. Participants may register on-line using their credit cards (www.asor.org/AM/am.htm). Your registration fee entitles you to attend the academic sessions, the ASOR Grand Reception, the Plenary Session, and to visit the book exhibit.

Housing

Accommodations are at the Loews Vanderbilt Plaza Hotel, 2100 West End Avenue, Nashville, TN 37203 (loewshotels.com/vanderbilt/). A special room rate of \$109 for a single or double has been negotiated. In order to receive this special rate, you must make your reservation directly with the hotel at (615) 320-1700, identifying yourself as part of the "ASOR meeting." Please keep in mind that the hotel rate ASOR has negotiated is based on fulfilling a contracted number of room nights. Without your help it is difficult to cover our costs with only registration fees. By staying at the conference hotel, you will help us to meet our commitment. Rooms are available as space allows, on a first-come, first-served basis.

The hotel is approximately 12 miles from the Nashville International airport. Airport shuttle service is available between the hotel and airport for \$9 one way, leaving the hotel regularly at every hour, 20 minutes after the hour and 10 minutes before the hour, from 6:10 am to 7:40 pm. Taxi service is available for about \$18 one way.

Hotel accommodation changes, and cancellations should be directed to the hotel. Note that cancellations must be received at least 48 hours prior to arrival in order to avoid a late charge of \$50.

Deadlines

- May 1 Deadline for submission of program materials by section chairs. July 10 Program Book mailed to ASOR
- members and non-member preregistrants.
- Sept. 15 Deadline for applications for Lindstrom and Dorot Student Service Scholarships.
- Oct. 15 Deadline for housing reservations at special conference rate.
- Nov. 10 Preregistration ends. Deadline for preregistration refunds.

DOROT FOUNDATION ANNUAL MEETING TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP

ASOR has received notification that the Dorot Foundation in Providence, RI will once again provide assistance to graduate students of advanced status to help with travel expenses to the ASOR Annual Meeting in Nashville this November. This program is designed to encourage and support participation in the Annual Meeting by graduate students during their final years of academic preparation. Conditions governing the application process and the distribution of the grant monies are as follows:

- 1. Individuals must be students duly enrolled in a program of graduate or advanced professional studies and in ABD status or otherwise in the final year of candidacy for their degree program. (Note:) Individuals receiving degrees after September 1999 will also qualify.
- 2. Individuals must be student members of ASOR and be duly registered for participation at the Annual Meeting.
- 3. Funds are for expenses related to travel to the Annual Meeting in Nashville, Tennessee only.
- 4. The maximum grant that can be made available to any one individual is \$1000

Applications for Dorot Annual Meeting Travel Grants can be made as follows:

Applicants must submit a brief application letter to "Dorot Annual Meeting Travel Grants" c/o Dr. Rudolph Dornemann, Executive Director, American Schools of Oriental Research at Boston University, 656 Beacon Street, Fifth Floor, Boston, MA 02215-2010. Application letters must include the following information:

- a. An affirmation regarding participation in a graduate program with details of current status (per #1 above).
- b. Proof of ASOR student membership and Annual Meeting registration (per #2 above). NOTE: Application for Student membership and/or forms for Annual Meeting registration may accompany application letters for Dorot Grants.
- c. A statement with details regarding the nature of participation at the Meeting, e.g., presenting a paper, serving on a discussion panel, serving on a committee, attending a workshop or other session with special professional relevance, hoping to make contacts referent to job prospects, etc., or otherwise indicating why it is of professional importance to attend.
- d. A detailed estimate of the cost of travel involved.
- e. In addition, applicants must secure a letter from an academic advisor affirming their program status and indicating why attendance and participation in the Annual Meeting is important. NOTE: This letter should be secured by the applicant and submitted along with other application materials! Completed applications will be reviewed by a committee of three ASOR Members appointed by the ASOR President for this purpose. Applications will be accepted through September 15 and notification of grant awards will be made as soon as possible thereafter.

Successful applicants will be advanced support monies related to cost estimates provided. After the Meeting, a summary of expenses with receipts is required of the grantee, as well as a brief report summarizing benefits received through participation at the Meeting.

The Dorot Foundation has a well-established tradition of providing support for students representing the next generation of scholarship in the disciplines of Near Eastern archaeology and biblical studies. ASOR sincerely thanks the Dorot Foundation for providing this special gift of assistance for our advanced student constituency.

LINDSTROM FOUNDATION GIFT AGAIN PROVIDES \$1 FOR \$2 CHALLENGE FOR STUDENT SUPPORT

The trustees of the Lindstrom Foundation have again provided ASOR with a grant for the support of students who want to attend and participate in ASOR's Annual Meeting in 2000. This year the Lindstrom Foundation allocated a maximum of \$2,000 on the basis that the foundation would match gifts on a one-for-two basis, i.e. that each \$1 of the Lindstrom grant be matched by \$2 contributed by others for this purpose.

The Lindstrom Foundation gift will provide for Student Service Scholarships that will require students to provide services of up to 20 hours at the Annual Meeting. Services involved will include assisting with registration and audiovisuals at program sessions, and aiding Program Committee members with other set-up and arrangement needs. Scholarships of up to \$500 will be awarded based on the participant's needs. Interested individuals should send a curriculum vitae and a letter of interest to the ASOR office that summarizes their benefits in attending the Meeting and includes a budget of projected expenses. Two letters of recommendation should also be forwarded to the ASOR office at the following address: Lindstrom Foundation Scholarships, ASOR, located at Boston University, 656 Beacon St. 5th floor, Boston, MA 02215-2010. Applications will be accepted through September 15, 2000, and notification of decisions on grant awards will be made as soon as possible thereafter. Any questions can be directed to the ASOR office (telephone 617-353-6570, fax 617-454-6575).

Tax deductible contributions for matching funds are currently being solicited. Individuals interested in supporting this program should send gifts directly to the Lindstrom Foundation office at 2128 Alvarado St., San Leandro, CA 94577. Checks should be made payable to the Lindstrom Foundation for Archaeological Research and Development. Letters of thanks will be sent directly to the contributors by the Foundation and donations may be counted as charitable donations for tax purposes.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS TO ASOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Nominations will be accepted through October 25, 2000, by the Nominations Committee for the following positions on the Board of Trustees. Candidates must be members of ASOR in good standing, willing to serve a three-year working term and to attend both fall and spring meetings. A one-paragraph biography should accompany the nomination.

• Three (3) trustees from the institutional members to be elected by representatives of Founding, Consortium, and Advisory ("Corporate") Members, to serve July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2004.

• Three (3) trustees from the individual members to be elected by the individual voting members, to serve July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2004. (NOTE: As currently defined, an ASOR "Individual Voting Member" is one that pays Professional Member dues of \$110 and received NEA and BASOR).

Current Classes of Trustees:

CLASS OF 2001 Oded Borowski (Inst) Andrea Berlin (Ind) Nan Frederick (Ind) P. Kyle McCarter(Ind) R. Thomas Schaub (Inst) Tammi Schneider (Inst) Kent Bermingham (Board)

CLASS OF 2002 Walter Aufrecht (Ind) Jeffery Blakeley (Ind) John Camp (Board) William Dever (Inst) Tim Harrison (Inst) Eric Meyers (Board) Bruce Routledge (Inst) Lydie Shufro (Board) Stuart Swiny (Ind)

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Please send nominations to Randall W. Younker, Chairperson, ASOR Nominations Committee, Institute of Archaeology, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104, Tel. 616-4713273, Fax: 616-471-3619 or e-mail: younker@andrews.edu.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR ASOR COMMITTEES

Nominations will also be accepted through October 25, 2000 by the Nominations Committee for the following committee positions:

AGENDA COMMITTEE

Agenda Committee candidates must be members of ASOR in good standing who are willing to serve a two year working term.

• One (1) Agenda Committee member from the institutional members to be elected by representatives of Founding, Consortium and Advisory ("Corporate") Members, to serve July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2003.

• One (1) Agenda Committee member from the individual members to be elected by individual voting members, to serve July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2003.

Current members of the Agenda Committee:

EX OFFICIO James Strange(ex-officio) Joe Seger (ex-officio) Rudolph Dornemann (ex-officio)

> CLASS OF 2001 J. Magness (Inst) M. Chavalas (Ind) Class of 2002: Michael Hasel(Inst) Beth Nakhai (Ind)

AGENDA ITEMS: If you have an item you would like to include on the agenda, please send it to the Boston ASOR Office and it will be passed along to the agenda committee.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Nominations Committee candidates must be members of ASOR in good standing who are willing to serve a two year working term upon appointment of the Chairperson to the Board of Trustees.

One (1) recommended trustee from the Institutional Members of the Board of Trustees to be elected by member representatives of Founding, Consortium and Advisory ("Corporate") Members, to serve July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2003.
One (1) recommended trustee from the Individual Members of the Board of Trustees to be elected by individual voting members, to serve July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2003

Current members of the Nominations Committee:

EX OFFICIO J. Seger P.E. Macallister

CLASS OF 2001 Randall Younker (Board), Chair T. Schneider(Inst) A. Berlin (Ind) Class of 2002 Holland Hendrix (Board) William Dever (inst) Jeff Blakely (Ind)

The Nominations Committee will review all nominations received and select slates for election at the Annual Meeting in November. The ballots will be mailed to corporate and individual voting members by October, 31, 2001, and should be brought to the November Meeting. Instructions will be included for absentee ballots.

Please send nominations to Randall W. Younker, Chairperson, ASOR Nominations Committee, Institute of Archaeology, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104, Tel. 616-4713273, Fax: 616-471-3619 or e-mail: younker@andrews.edu.



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W.F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research, Jerusalem

Project Descriptions of Albright Appointees 1999–2000

Edited by Seymour Gitin The following are brief reports on the research projects of the fifty-one appointees for the 1999–2000 academic year at the W.F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research in Jerusalem. Twenty-four appointees have named professorships or fellowships (one with a double appointment), and twenty-eight have associate senior, post-doctoral and research fellowships.



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1. The Four-horned Altar and the Burning of Incense: An Archaeological Perspective on Sacred Space

Seymour Gitin, Dorot Director and Professor of Archaeology, Albright Institute

The practice of burning incense on an object that has the image of a four-horned tower or altar, symbolizing a roof ritual offering to the gods, is an established cultic tradition in the ancient Near East. This phenomenon represents a relationship between form and function that maintains its distinctive sacred quality, when transmitted from one cultural horizon to another, that is from the Late Bronze Age to the Iron Age. The thirteenth/twelfth century terracotta tower models and their tenth century counterparts are the antecedents of the biblical horned-altar used for the burning of incense in sacred space, and of the Iron Age II four-horned stone altars found in cultic contexts at sites in Israel, Judah, Philistia and Assyria. This relationship of form and function is the basis for attributing the incense burning tradition to the four-horned altars found at Iron Age II sites in contexts not usually considered cultic, an attribution totally consistent with the archaeological and textual evidence. Consequently, it can be argued that the four-horned altar attested in archaeological contexts, which had over time maintained the attribute of sanctity, should be considered a criterion for defining sacred space. This study of altars is part of a long-term research project involving the investigation of the assemblage of 44 Iron Age II altars, 32 horned and 12 non-horned, with a focus on the 19 examples, 17 horned and 2 non-horned, from Tel Migne-Ekron.

2. Excavations at Busayra in Southern Jordan: Final Report

Piotr Bienkowski, Annual Professor, Liverpool Museum

Bienkowski, who is on a three-year leave from his curatorial post at the Liverpool Museum, will spend his time at the Albright preparing the final publications of the excavations of Busayra in Jordan. An important part of his work involves the study of the comparative materials from Umm el-Biyara, Horvat Qitmit and En Haseva, which are stored in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. In addition, he is also responsible for the final publication of Umm el-Biyara, and the opportunity to examine this material should prove immensely helpful when the Busayra report is finished and he begins preparing the Biyara publication.

3. Variability in the Upper Paleolithic Period of the Levant

James L. Phillips, Annual Professor, University of Illinois-Chicago

The understanding of variability in the prehistoric record is fraught with problems. This project is an attempt to confront one aspect of variability in Levantine prehistory, the concept of Upper Paleolithic archaeological traditions. Two such traditions exist in the Levantine Upper Paleolithic period, the Ahmarian and the Levantine Aurignacian. Presently, the consensus is that the Ahmarian was locally developed in the southern Levant around 45,000 years ago, while the Levantine Aurignacian was most likely a non-local development, arriving in the northern Levant ca. 35,000 years ago. Their differences, in terms of lithic production (technology) and typology are manifest in the blanks produced, the manufacturing techniques, the selection of raw material, and the tool types produced and used. Different settlement systems, site formation processes, and chronology, indicate that two very different "world views" operated during the Upper Paleolithic. Using the *chaine opératoire* and lithic economy approaches, Philips will attempt to understand the nature of these differences, their effect on the landscape, and ultimately, their subsequent development and demise.

4. Southern Jordan and the Negev: Comparative Studies in Byzantine Urbanism and Ecclesiastical Architecture

Zbigniew T Fiema, National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow (2000); Independent Researcher

This project deals with specific aspects of the Byzantine cultural history of the Negev region in southern Israel, and southern Jordan. Between the early fourth and the early seventh century A.D., these two regions constituted the western and the eastern parts of the Byzantine province Palaestina Tertia. The main focus of the research will be on the nature of Byzantine urbanism in both regions, and the development and features of the ecclesiastical architecture.

These issues will also be reviewed in the larger sociopolitical and economic context of the significance of the Palaestina Tertia within the Byzantine empire. The research will involve the reassessment of archaeological data collected by Fiema during his recent excavations in Petra, as well as library studies on parallel material from the Negev. In addition, he will continue his research on the Petra Papyri, including the comparative studies of the documents from Nessana in the Negev. The project should result in a series of publishable articles, which will concern various aspects of the main subject. By combining the data from both sides of the Wadi 'Araba, the project should substantially improve the understanding of the cultural history of the Byzantine period in southern Jordan and southern Israel, which, during that period were the complementing segments of the same tradition and culture.

5. Cult, Cache or Commodity? Comparison of Intentional Artifact Deposits as Symbolic Practice(s) During Late Prehistory in the Southern Levant

Yorke M. Rowan, National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow (1999), and United States Information Agency Junior Research Fellow (2000), University of Georgia

This study examines evidence for ritualized behaviors during the late prehistoric periods in Syro-Palestine. Particular focus will be upon artifact assemblages and their contexts recovered from intentional deposits at sites dated from the Late Neolithic (6000-4700 BCE), Chalcolithic (4700-3500 BCE) and the Early Bronze Age I (3500-3100 BCE) periods in the southern Levant. The ultimate objective of this study is to extend the understanding of changes in different forms of social behavior manifest through the intentional deposition of artifacts. To date, the general appreciation of the value and meaning of artifacts from late prehistoric inhabitants remains severely limited. Three primary avenues of investigation will be pursued to obtain the data for this study, including; 1) analysis of numbers and types of artifacts intentionally buried, and repeated stylistic motifs; 2) context in which artifacts are buried, and their association with other features; 3) ecological/regional zone in which the intentional deposits are concentrated. Methodologically, the study will provide tabulation and analysis of artifact distributions recovered from late prehistoric mortuary contexts, hoards, building deposits and offerings. The methodical comparison of these factors will be examined as motivated by different intentions regarding public vs. private burial, secular vs. ritual objects, and permanent burial as opposed to deposition with intent for future recovery.

6. The Newly (Re)Discovered Church of the Kathisma and the Origins of the Cult of the Virgin in Palestine

Stephen J. Shoemaker, National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow, Florida State University

The cult of the Virgin had its liturgical origin in a feast known as the Memory of the Virgin, first attested in several homilies from the early fifth century. According to the earliest liturgical sources from Jerusalem, including especially the early fifth century Armenian lectionary, this feast was associated especially with a Palestinian church known as the "Kathisma." One of the earliest known churches dedicated to the Virgin, the Kathisma church was built to commemorate the spot where, according to the *Protevangelium of James*, the Virgin descended from an ass and gave birth to Christ. It was long thought that the Kathisma church had been excavated in the late 1950s during the excavations at Ramat Rahel. In 1992, however, limited excavations were made near this original site in an olive grove next to the convent of St. Elias. Known in Arabic as "Bir al-Qadismu," this site, like Ramat Rahel, lies half way between Jerusalem and Bethlehem, which ancient sources specify as the location of the Kathisma church. This initial excavation, performed hastily in advance of a road widening, revealed only the existence of a very large church. Its identification with the church of the Kathisma was only confirmed in the summer of 1997, during another "emergency excavation" performed after the church's foundation was damaged by construction workers at Har Homa.

Shoemaker's project investigates the changing role of this shrine in the developing cult of the Virgin in the Holy Land. Initially associated with the feast of the Memory of the Virgin, a celebration of Mary's role in the Nativity and her Virginity on 15 August, the church (and 15 August) eventually came to be linked with the celebration of the feast of the Virgin's Dormition and Assumption. A number of early (sixth century) liturgical texts associated with the Kathisma and its liturgical celebrations are preserved in Georgian translations. These indicate a liturgical commemoration of the Virgin's Dormition and Assumption lasting from 13 until 17 August, beginning at the church of the Kathisma and concluding in Jerusalem at her Tomb in Gethsemane and the "new" church of the Virgin built by Justinian. By studying these Georgian sources along with the archeological remains, the early liturgical traditions of Jerusalem, and the related liturgical traditions preserved in the early Syriac and Coptic traditions of the end of the Virgin's life, Shoemaker will evaluate the changing role of this early Marian shrine. In light of this information, there should be a better understanding of the earliest development of the cult of the Virgin in Palestine, and more specifically, how the feast of the Memory of the Virgin, originally celebrated at the Kathisma, eventually evolved into a celebration of her Dormition and Assumption focused on her Gethsemane tomb.

7. The Late Bronze I-IIA Ceramic Corpus from Tel Beth Shean

Robert A. Mullins, James A. Montgomery Fellow and Program Coordinator; Hebrew University

For many years now, Beth Shean has been regarded as an important type-site for the Late Bronze Age in Palestine. A final report for Levels VIII-VII (LB IIB) appeared in 1993, but a full publication for Level IX (LB IB – LB IIA) is still lacking. Thanks to Frances James, a basic stratigraphic analysis and 42 pottery plates from this stratum are available in the museum archives at the University of Pennsylvania. Moreover, a comprehensive analysis of the stratigraphy and architecture using material from both the Penn and Hebrew University excavations has already been completed as part of Mullins' doctoral dissertation, written while a USIA and James A. Montgomery fellow at the Albright Institute (1997-99).

The Late Bronze I – IIA ceramic assemblage from Beth Shean is important for three reasons: First, the pottery from Stratum R2 (LB IA) increases the knowledge of vessel types that characterize the beginning of the Late Bronze Age in the north of Israel. Second, the pottery from Stratum R1 or Level IX (LB IB – LB IIA) includes an Egyptian-style component among the dominant Canaanite assemblage. This seems to harmonize well with what is known of Beth Shean as an Egyptian garrison during the Amarna era. Third, in cooperation with the University of Pennsylvania, Mullins has incorporated pottery types from the Penn corpus that do not appear in the Hebrew University assemblage. This has resulted in an enlarged sample for typological and comparative analysis that will enhance the understanding of the history of Beth Shean during the reign of the 18th Dynasty of Egypt in Palestine. Such a study would not have been possible without the cooperation of Bruce Routledge, Patrick McGovern, Shannon White, and Alessandro Pezzati.

8. The Ituraeans and the Cult and Stelae of Har Sena'im

Elaine A. Meyers, George A. Barton Fellow; University of Toronto

The project title is that of Meyers dissertation, the focus of which is the archaeological evidence relating to Har Sena'im, an Ituraean cult site on the southern slopes of the Hermon. In the first part of her dissertation, she has already assembled all of the known evidence from primary historical sources as the basis for presenting a coherent and well balanced portrait of a little-known people. She then considers the problem of the origins of the Ituraeans by examining the relevant literary references inscriptions, the geographical environment and the evidence for settlement patterns.

The second part of her dissertation, on which she will work at the Albright, focuses on Har Sena'im, especially the two standing stelae found there. The first priority will be to visit and photograph the site which, owing to its location, is difficult to access, and to meet with the site excavator, Shimon Dar (Bar Ilan University). She will also study the small finds from Har Sena'im, and in particular the pottery in comparison to the ceramic evidence from sites in the northern Golan and Galilee. The question of the pottery being designated "Ituraean" rather than "Golan Ware" remains under discussion and one she will need to address. A comparative study will also be undertaken of the standing stones in the Negev identified by Uzi Avner, in order to better understand the meaning and function of the standing stones at Har Sena'im.

9. Design and Function in Roman Theaters of the Near East

Alexandra Retzleff, Samuel H. Kress Fellow; University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

This project examines how the design of Roman theaters evolved in the Near East, as a reflection of changing tastes in performance and changing civic needs. Many theaters in the region show evidence for remodeling of the interior space, particularly in the relationship between the stage and the orchestra floor, between the orchestra and the cavea, and within the cavea itself. The evidence for these changes, mostly in the form of secondary cuttings, rope holes, and stairways, will be systematically documented in this study. The addition or modification of hydraulic installations, such as channel systems, drains, fountains, and plastering, will also be considered in relation to these design elements.

Literary sources and archaeological evidence from other Roman

provinces suggest that theaters could be used for diverse purposes, including the staging of shows that required an arena or a basin rather than a traditional stage setting, as well as the accommodation of civic functions, such as town meetings. Since the architectural typology of theaters in the Near East is quite different from those in other provinces, the solutions for such functional adaptations are also distinct. The overall aim of the project is to analyse the operation of these multi-purpose theaters from a technological standpoint, to ascertain how and where various types of spectacle could be produced, and finally to consider these questions in terms of the impact of Roman cultural institutions in the region.

10. Selected Studies in Mediterranean Bronze Age Jewelry

Thea A. Politis, Samuel H. Kress Joint Athens/Jerusalem Fellow, University of Reading, United Kingdom

This report is a cross-cultural study, which seeks to isolate and explain the specific relationship between the Levant and Crete in the Bronze age as part of the larger world system in which both regions participated. Jewelry is viewed as part of a symbolic communication system used by the elite to define cultural and personal boundaries, and to broker power and prestige. As an element of a more extensive artistic phenomenon known as the "International Style," which developed in the Mediterranean, personal adornment can be used to study interrelationships amongst elites throughout the Mediterranean. A working hypothesis postulates the potential of the development of a Mediterranean world system, which is driven by expanding Levantine mercantile activity that reaches its height under the foreign rulers of Egypt (Hyksos), centered at the sprawling capital of Avaris in the Nile Delta. This study, therefore, focuses on the interactions involving both the core (Levant) and the periphery (Aegean) of such a system. Microscopic analysis is used to differentiate technological detail and technique. This, combined with the systematic study of iconographic elements of jewelry and related material culture, will contribute to the isolation and identification of a specific "World Vocabulary."

11. The Archaeological Sites of Jerusalem

Robert Schick, Islamic Studies Fellow; Albright Institute

Schick is involved in finishing the expanded English edition of Bieberstein and Bloedhorn's three volume study of the archaeological sites and historic architectural monuments in Jerusalem: Klaus Bieberstein and Hanswulf Bloedhorn, Jerusalem: Grandzuge der Baugeschichte vom Chalkolithikum bis zur Freuhzeit der osmanischen Herrschaft. Beihefte zum Tubinger Atlas des vorderen Orients. Wiesbaden: Dr. Ludwig Reicher Verlag, 1994, 3 volumes, 1249 pages. The first volume summarizes the history, archaeological sites and architectural monuments of Jerusalem, presented by period. Volumes two and three contain a corpus of sites with brief descriptions of each archaeological site or monument followed by full bibliographic citations. Schick's main academic contribution is the strengthening of the book's coverage of the Islamic period including expanding descriptions of the Islamic sites in the corpus entries and adding citations to Arabic language publications.

12. The Changing Landscape of Byzantine Sepphoris: An Archaeological Report

Melissa M. Aubin, United States Information Agency Junior Research Fellow; Florida State University

From its foundation, the city of Sepphoris emerged as a crossroads linking Greco-Roman civilization with an indigenous, Semitic culture. The Sepphoris excavations have done much to illuminate the cultural and historical milieu of the Galilean ministry of Jesus and the formation of Rabbinic Judaism. Moreover, the Byzantine remains at Sepphoris witness an exciting and pivotal era in the history of the city. Sepphoris underwent significant changes after a severe earthquake in 363 CE; the archaeological record suggests surprising prosperity and population growth, evidenced in the expansion of the city and its water systems. The city nourished a thriving Byzantine culture with a diverse constituency, comprised of numerous rabbinical academies and a growing Christian presence in the predominantly Jewish city. As yet, two fifth-century churches, a fifth-century synagogue, and several mosaics from churches and synagogues displaying rich and varied iconography have been rediscovered. Aubin's work will highlight the physical circumstances of these vibrant cultural forces, with special attention to the architecture and urban plan in which these groups interacted. It will also correlate evidence of water collection systems on the western summit to evidence of a water infrastructure elsewhere in the city. In addition, it will document the re-use of Roman domestic space on the acropolis for industrial purposes. More importantly, this research will profile the city during the transition from the Byzantine to the Umayyad period, when Sepphoris minted Umayyad coins and became a district in the jund of al-Urdunn, the capital of which was in Tiberias. This is an especially vexing phase that has suffered outright neglect at many other sites by archaeologists who cater to a greater public interest in early Roman remains. Data from Sepphoris, along with data from other Levantine Byzantine sites, promises clearly to challenge the widely trusted but idealized reports of ninth-century Islamic sources on the seventh-century spread of Islam toward the Mediterranean

13. Understanding Chronology and Variability in the Upper Paleolithic of the Levant

Iman Nader Saca, USIA Junior Research Fellow; University of Illinois at Chicago

This study proposes to re-examine Upper Paleolithic traditional assemblages, specifically from sites which contain Ahmarian and Levantine Aurignacian material in the area of the Judean Desert. The goal is to determine if *in situ* surfaces still remain, and whether material culture from these caves can be recovered, analyzed and used as a base for comparative analytical studies with other assemblages, as well as for radiometric dating. The importance of this research is heightened by the fact that none of the Judean desert Wadi Khareitoun cave sites have been radiometrically dated, and only insignificant archaeological probes have been carried out in these sites.

Numerous theories have been advanced to explain the variability in the distribution and nature of these Upper Paleolithic traditions within each stratified site, as well as between different sites. This study will attempt to clarify the cultural variability during the Upper Paleolithic using the Judean desert as a starting point for such analyses. It will also look at intra-site and inter-site variability through both spatial activity and lithic analyses. Once this is accomplished, it should be possible to compare results with other regions of the Levant in order to develop a much broader picture than exists today.

14. Table Pottery (Fine Wares) at Tel Keisan During the Persian and Hellenistic Periods

Jolanta Mlynarczyk, Andrew W. Mellon Fellow; Research Center for Mediterranean Archaeology, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw

The project analyzes pottery materials uncovered at Tell Keisan, a site situated just 9 km inland from Akko, and excavated by the mission of the École Biblique et Archologique Francaise, Jerusalem. Results of the fieldwork done in 1971–1976 have been presented in J. Briend's and J.-B. Humbert's *Tell Keisan, une cité phenicienne en Galilee* (1980), but those of the 1979–1980 seasons still remain to be published. While studying the latter, it also became necessary to re-consider the material yielded by the earlier campaigns as well, since only a part of it has been published.

An immediately striking feature of both Persian and Hellenisticperiod pottery assemblages from Tell Keisan is the high ratio of imported vessels, which come from a number of sources. Among these imports, it is apparently the fine wares that provide the best record of various pottery manufacturing centers, some of them local to Phoenicia and Western Galilee, and others situated in the overseas world. Therefore, it became necessary to distinguish local fine wares and discuss their characteristics) and to identify the sources of importations. Comparative materials will be considered not only to obtain the dating for individual pottery forms attested at the site, but also to evaluate the Keisan's repertory against other Persianperiod and/or Hellenistic assemblages in Israel, which have been comprehensively studied, such as the coastal sites Tel Dor and Tel Michal, Gezer in the south, Tel Anafa in the north, and Sha'ar ha-Amakim in Western Galilee.

While the Persian-period pottery at Tell Keisan (which includes a good deal of Greek vessels, both Attic and East Greek) was often found in association with architectural remains, the Hellenistic pottery deposits were neither floor accumulations nor leveling layers, but fills (fosses hellnistiques), which had accumulated over fairly long periods in the third and/or second centuries BC Given the lack of Hellenistic architecture at Tell Keisan, a thorough study of these groups may fill the gap in our understanding of chronology, and perhaps of the very character, of the Hellenistic-period settlement. Therefore, the discussion of the repertory of wares and shapes attested at Tell Keisan should be made complete by addition of a list of contents of the respective deposits. Ultimately, the research in question will throw more light on the economic history of the area of Akko bay during the Persian and Hellenistic period, with Tel Keisan - a small settlement in the vicinity of Ptolemais apparently situated on a quite frequented trade route. The results will be published as a chapter of Tell Keisan, Volume II.

15. History and Myth: The Orient in Classical Art Description

Tomasz Polanski, Andrew W. Mellon Fellow; Jagiellonian University, Cracow, Poland

Polanski is involved in the research for his habilitation book, which will deal with the Oriental motifs in the Classical painting and portrait sculpture as they appear in the rhetorical description (ecphraseis) and antiquarian writings of the Greeks. In the introduction, he reviews the materials illustrating the Oriental phenomenon current in the Classical and Hellenistic art with respect to the archaeological data (vase painting, mosaic, bronze vessels, sarcophagi), and an overview of the Afro-Semitic sources for the Greek mythology. His goal is to substantiate the opinion that literary descriptions may be treated as trustworthy parallels to art. In the next two sections, he will discuss detailed problems: 1) the Iranian Orient in Greek art (large scale battle painting, historical romance), 2) the Semito-African Orient (Heracles, Andromeda, Europa).

16. "Pre-monetary" Use of Silver in the Ancient Near East and the Unpublished Silver Hoard from Tell Ajjul at the Rockefeller Museum, Jerusalem

Peter Vargyas, Andrew W. Mellon Fellow; Janus Pannonius University, Pecs, Hungary

The goal of this project is to make available one of the earliest known, so-called pre-monetary hoards in Israel found in the 1930's by Petrie at Tell Ajjul. Vargyas plans to collect the dispersed materials from all the museums in Israel and to publish them within the context of similar finds from all over the ancient Near East. He also plans to compile the written and archaeological sources pertaining to the use of silver as money from the 3rd millennium until the Hellenistic period. This evidence will be the basis of a future monograph with the working title, "Silver as Money in the Ancient Near East Before and After Coinage."

17. Architectural Decoration in Roman Period Settlements on the Northern Shores of the Sea of Galilee

Ilona Skupinska-Lovset, Andrew W. Mellon Fellow; University of Lodz, Poland

This project is connected with the excavations at Et-Tell / Bethsaida, in which Skupinska-Lovset participated. It is her intention to gather and catalogue decorated fragments from Bethsaida, especially those from the sacral building on Et Tell, and those assembled at Chorazim, Capernaum, Tabgha, and En Gev, as well as the items usually ascribed to the Golan hills. She will also register similarities in iconography and examine its sources. Further, she will compare the motifs and style to the decoration on basalt architecture of Hauran, and the marble architecture of the Eastern Mediterranean, in order to identify the sources. Here the study of M.L. Fischer, Marble Studies, *Roman Palestine and the Marble Trade*, Xenia 40, Konstanz 1998 will be useful. She will also consider the architectural decoration of Beth Shean, in consultation with Gaby Mazar.

18. The Schools of Platonic Philosophy of the Roman Empire

Robert D. Lamberton, Senior Fellow; Washington University, St Louis (Hebrew University Institute of Advanced Studies Fellow)

Thanks to the survival in whole or in part of three substantial biographies of scholarchs, the schools of Platonic Philosophy offer a window into philosophical education in the later Roman Empire that is unique. Plotinus, who taught in Rome in the third quarter of the third century, and Proclus and Isidore, who were "successors" (diadochoi) to the directorship of the Athenian school in the late fifth and early sixth centuries, are known to us from biographies by their own students. These provide details relating to social context and pedagogy, and in some cases to the texts addressed, that allow us to reconstruct the workings of these schools with exceptional clarity. The current project is a synthetic account of the workings of these schools, as a contribution to a collective study of the history of education in antiquity currently in preparation under the editorship of Prof. Yun Lee Too (Columbia). The aspect of this chapter of the history of philosophical education in antiquity that is most interesting is the use of texts: the selection of texts and the hermeneutic principles applied thereto. Lamberton's earlier work (Homer the Theologian, Homer's Ancient Readers) has focused in particular on allegorical readers, among whom the later Platonists are an important group. The work he is now doing attempts to place that mode of extracting meaning from texts in the larger contexts of literary and pedagogical hermeneutics.

19. Hellenistic Utilitarian Pottery from the Athenian Agora

Susan Rotroff, Senior Fellow; Washington University in St. Louis

The project involves the study and publication of the Hellenistic (ca. 335 to 1st century BCE) household and cooking wares from American excavations in the ancient agora, or city center, of Athens. The Agora Excavations have unearthed a large number of closely-datable deposits, including building fills and the debris in abandoned wells and cisterns. These deposits frequently contain large numbers of stamped amphora handles and coins, and consequently their closing dates can be determined with some accuracy. Some deposits, such as the building fill of the Stoa of Attalos (ruled 157-138 BCE), or debris from the Roman sack of Athens in 86 BCE, can be given absolute dates. Using these contexts as a framework, it is possible to create a chronological sequence for the materials found within them.

In two earlier studies, Rotroff refined the dating of the deposits and published the moldmade bowls and the wheelmade tableware from the site (*The Athenian Agora* XXII, XXX). The basis of the current study is a collection of some 1400 inventoried objects, mostly whole pots from from dated deposits, along with thousands of uninventoried sherds from those deposits. Almost no work has been done previously on the fabrics of Athenian coarse wares of this period, and the description and identification of fabrics forms one of the goals of the study. The project also seeks to refine the chronology of the forms and wares, and to investigage the functions of the various forms within the framework of ancient food preparation and industry. These data may then be used, in conjunction with information from the tablewares, to throw light on activities carried out in the residential and industrial areas surrounding the agora, where most of the objects were found. Distinctions between local and imported wares will also help to elucidate the relationship of Athens to the rest of the Hellenistic world.

20. A Biocultural Reconstruction of Byzantine St. Stephen's

Susan G. Sheridan, Senior Fellow; University of Notre Dame

During the Byzantine period, historical texts indicate that Jerusalem saw a great influx of travelers, some in pious search of a closer relation to God, others fleeing the encroachment of "barbarians," still others in pursuit of economic advancement. By the middle of the 5th century, the population of Jerusalem reached a level not seen since Herodian times or again until the 20th century. The site of St. Stephen's monastery (currently the École Biblique et Archéologique Française) was apparently one such site of pilgrimage. Built by Empress Eudocia to honor the memory of the first Christian martyr, St. Stephen's became the largest monastic complex in the Holy Land for almost 100 years. There is a rich historical record for this site from pilgrimage accounts detailing aspects of daily life and describing visitors to the monastery. In addition, over 15,000 bones and over 2,400 teeth of the Byzantine inhabitants have been exhumed.

Questions related to demographics, stature, relationship to nearby groups, status, daily activity patterns, and childhood health (1/3 of the 15,000 bones are the remains of subadults) have been addressed in previous years. This year's analysis concentrated on the influence of migration on community composition. Were the monks of St. Stephen's a related group of individuals from the surrounding region, or did they travel from afar as many of the textual records seem to indicate? By studying the historical accounts which survive in chronicles, ecclesiastical histories, saint's lives, and panegyrics, in conjunction with the genetic evidence for relatedness 'frozen' in the dental and skeletal remains, a pattern has emerged which indicates the diversity of people represented by this large monastic community. Dental and skeletal information can not delimit the specific geographic origin of the inhabitants, but it can help determine the degree of heterogeneity within the group. The cultural record then provides an understanding of points of origin. Given the very large sample size, the degree of preservation of the bones and teeth, the importance of St. Stephen's to the Byzantine church and the resultant historical accounts for the site, this study contributes significantly to the understanding of pilgrimage to Jerusalem/Holy Land during the early Byzantine period.

21. The Context of Agricultural Implements within Traditional Palestinian Villages

Shimon Gibson, Post-Doctoral Fellow; Independent Researcher

Since the beginning of this century, there have been a number of important studies dedicated to recording various aspects of the dayto-day routine of Palestinian "fellahic" living in highland environments (Wilson,1906; Dalmar, 1928-1942; Candan, 1932, etc.). The aim of the current project is to: 1. examine the location of traditional agricultural implements (ploughs, hoes, threshing forks, sickles, etc.) within the traditional rural dwellings of one specific village; 2. conduct interviews (in collaboration with Mr. Jamal Bargouth, of al-Quds University) with the intention of gathering information on family traditions relating to the function and design of agricultural implements within separate farming households of one community, and; 3. establish the names of procedures linking functions of tools and seasonal agricultural activities.

22. David and the Psalms in Rabbinic Literature: Studies in Hermeneutics and Culture

Esther Menn, Post-Doctoral Fellow; University of Virginia

This project was initiated when Menn was a visiting scholar in the Bible Department at the Hebrew University (sponsored by an American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship). The emphasis is on the evolution of the figure of King David, both within the many strata of the Hebrew Bible that deal with this colorful and complex character, and within later interpretive literature, including the rabbinic commentary on the Psalms. Her aim is to chart the evolution of his character, especially in relation to key issues already nascent in the biblical literature itself, and corresponding with important shifts from the Israelite religion of the Bible to later forms of Judaism. The specific focus of her project during her period at the Albright is on the biblical figure of David and his association with Jerusalem, and an examination of the archaeological evidence dated to the early period of Israelite monarchy.

23. Tails and Tumuli: Investigating the Purpose of Enigmatic Architecture in the Western Negev Highlands

Benjamin Adam Saidel, Post-Doctoral Fellow, Harvard University-Ashkelon Expedition

Surveys and excavations in the Negev highlands have recorded both circular and rectilinear stone platforms and elongated stone walls. This study seeks to examine the function of these enigmatic stone constructions, which are dated to the EBIV/MBI period. The first phase of the project, codirected with Mordechai Haiman of the Israel Antiquities Authority, involves documenting and mapping the distribution of enigmatic stone structures at selected sites. During the second stage, test excavations will be conducted at Nahal Beerotayim West, a site discovered by Tali Gini of the Israel Antiquities Authority, with whom the fieldwork will be codirected. The excavations at this site, which contains domestic structures as well as tails and tumuli, are intended to provide information on the purpose and function of these enigmatic stone constructions. The fieldwork is funded by a grant from the American School for Prehistoric Research at the Peabody Museum at Harvard University.

24. Publication of the Kudurra Inscriptions

Kathryn Slanski, Senior Fellow; Tel Aviv University

Some 160 complete and fragmented inscriptions from the Babylonian Kudurra monuments are attested to date. Most of them were published near the turn of the century. This project aims to publish, in a single volume, new photos, transcriptions and editions of the published corpus, as well as some as yet unpublished monuments. Because the old publications are scattered among a number of books and journals, many of which are difficult to find and are of poor quality, the proposed publication is a desideratum for anyone seeking to research Mesopotamian traditions and historiography from the second and first millennia.

25. Ein Gedi Ceramic Report

Anna de Vincenz, Senior Fellow; Hebrew University

The Ein Gedi ceramic report, which will be published by the Israel Exploration Society, is divided into two parts. Part one deals with the evidence from the first four seasons (1996-1999), and part two with the ceramics from the continuation of the excavation project (2000-2003). The report will deal with well dated layers from three periods:

1. The Malmuk period is well represented at Ein Gedi by late architectural features and ceramic material, which show a variety of form and design. The evidence, which comes from well-defined loci such as floors, provides the opportunity to create a secure corpus. 2. The Byzantine period is represented in different strata by dwellings and other architectural features. The material again comes from well-defined loci, and contains a variety of imported and local forms offering the possibility of demonstrating the site's trade and commercial connections with its immediate and more distant neighbors.

3. The Roman period, at this point of the excavation, has not yet been clearly defined in all areas, and thus will be the focus of the second part of the project.

The importance of the site is based on the fact that Ein Gedi is a centrally located oasis, in which contacts with the Dead Sea area, Transjordan and Jerusalem, can be defined in the archaeological record by assemblages of artifacts imported from these regions. In addition to the local pottery tradition and that of the surrounding areas, foreign influences can be seen in assemblages of imported pottery.

26. A Micro-Archaeological Study of Tel Miqne-Ekron

Azriel Gorski, Research Fellow; Hebrew University

The project concentrates on the analysis of the contents/artifacts smaller than 3 cm in surface samples from Tel Miqne-Ekron. These artifacts will be identified, categorized, and compared by areas and "rooms" to elucidate information about the human activities, which occurred on the site.

27. Hellenistic Architecture in Archaeological Sites of Palestine

Wael H. Hamamreh, Research Fellow; Yarmouk University

This study compares a number of Hellenistic sites in Palestine within three geographical areas:

1) sites located on the coast – Akko, Dor, Straton's Tower, and Ashdod; 2) sites in the Jordan Valley – Ein Gedi, Qumran, Jericho, Beth Shean, and Tell Anafa; 3) and main sites located between the coast and the Jordan Valley – Shechem, Te er-Ras (Mount Gerizim), Jerusalem, Marisa and Lachish (Tell-Edwer). The research will include both old and new excavations at these sites and the analysis of the city planning of this period, whether it is in grid or organic pattern. It will also examine the city walls, towns, gates, streets, courts, temples, and palaces, as well as the techniques and the materials involved in construction.

28. Private and Public Space in the Iron II Levant

Abigail S. Limmer, Research Fellow; University of Arizona (Foreign Language/Area Studies Fellow)

In discussions of excavated spaces, archaeologists often divide space into two components: public and private. Others, including geographers, consider this dichotomy to be too polarized and subdivide space further. Limmer will investigate the applicability of the binary paradigm to the Iron II period in terms of the following question: Can space be divided into two polar categories, public and private, or is there a continuum upon which archaeological spaces need to be paced?

In order to investigate this question, she will look at the artifacts, artifact clusters, and spatial designs in areas traditionally considered to be private, primarily domestic areas, and those thought to be public, including monumental buildings, temples and gates. Areas that may not be clearly defined as either public or private, such as alleys, will also be considered. This portion of her dissertation will allow her to look for patterns in the relevant sites. The next step is to apply theories of the gendered use of space to the dichotomy or continuum found in the first section. Gender studies that consider space often define private space as domestic and female, and public space as inherently male. While this may well be true in some societies, it is certainly questionable in others. In this section, the primary question will be, "How can spatial studies be used to isolate gendered spaces in the Iron II Levant?" Limmer intends to investigate the Iron II levels at the following sites: Tel Batash, Beersheva, Tell Beit Mirsim, Dan Tell el-Farah (N.), Gezer, and Megiddo.

29. Ceramic Analysis and Social Boundaries at Tel Miqne-Ekron in the Iron Age I

Laura B. Mazow, Research Fellow; University of Arizona (Miqne Fellow)

Mazow's project examines issues of social boundaries by exploring patterns in the distribution of pottery styles and material culture based on the excavations of Tel Miqne-Ekron in the Iron Age I. Using geographic information systems (GIS) as a method for integrating the analysis of architectural structures with their artifact contents, she will explore social patterning and socio-cultural relationships. Using GIS as a technique to combine in one database both the architecture and the artifacts, she should be able to identify diverse distribution and consumption patterns for the "Philistine" and "Canaanite" wares, which in turn may reveal social boundaries and/or economic interactions. The spatial distribution across the built-up settlement area of culturally distinct "Philistine" artifacts in relation to indigenous Canaanite material culture styles may

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provide evidence for social relationships that existed between the different populations. Over time, the Philistine cultural tradition alters through processes of acculturation to elements in the new environment. She will also investigate if variability in the patterning of the assemblage, when mapped in the different archaeological strata, mirrors changing socio-cultural interrelationships. The wider implications of the project are the development of a model underlying the spatial relationship between the built environment and the excavated artifact assemblage as reflections of cultural and social behavior.

30. The Bronze Age-Iron I Assemblages from Tel Batash-Timnah

Nava Panitz-Cohen, Research Fellow; Hebrew University

The primary focus is on processing and preparing for publication the ceramic material and small finds from the Middle Bronze Age Strata (XII-XI), the Late Bronze Age Strata (IX-VI), and the Iron Age I Stratum (V), from 12 years of excavation at Tel Batash, biblical Timnah. This very rich material will also be examined in light of Batash's well defined stratigraphy, and will form the basis for drawing chronological, typological, and regional conclusions about the Middle Bronze–Late Bronze transition, the nature of the Late Bronze – the Late Bronze-Iron I transition, and Iron Age I in the Shephelah.

31. "His-Story," "Her-Story," and Other Silly Inventions: A Review of Historiographical Method

Theodore W. Williams, Research Fellow, University of Arizona (Fulbright Fellow)

Paramount to any endeavor to write a history, one must first know what it is that actually constitutes a history. This necessity to define a "proper" historiographical methodology has come to a head in recent years, with a number of scholars claiming that a history *qua* history can never be written. It is argued that because of limited source material and the *subjective* biases of the historian, a precise history—an *objective* history—can never truly be written. Some scholars within biblical studies have latched on to this notion, contending that it is impossible to write any history of the peoples and region of Syria-Palestine, going so far as seeking to eliminate the use of the Hebrew Bible as a source that may illuminate, in *any* way, the history of the region. The implications of such an approach are far reaching, effectively deconstructing most, if not all, theories surrounding ancient Israel, and even calling into question the use of the name "Israel."

The purpose of William's research will be to study prevalent historiographical theories, and evaluate the conclusions expressed above, to see if such conclusions are justified. Particularly, this research will include a general description of what would constitute an objective history, and how it is possible to write such a history. Furthermore, the results of this research will be extended to the issues surrounding the use of the Hebrew Bible as a primary source of information for understanding the populace of Syria-Palestine, and how the archeological record supports its use.

OTHER APPOINTEE PROJECTS

32. *Islamic Jerusalem: *Marwan Abu Khalaf*, Senior Fellow; Academic Director, Institute of Islamic Archaeology, al-Quds University.

33. Churches of Jerusalem: History, Tradition and Archaeology: *Hanswulf Bloedhorn*, Associate Fellow; Director of the German Protestant Institute of Archeology, Jerusalem.

34. *The Philistine Ceramic Corpus of Iron Age I: Tel Miqne-Ekron: *Trude Dothan*, Senior Fellow; Professor Emerita, Hebrew University.

35. The Roman to Islamic Pottery from the Nile House, Sepphoris: *Barbara L. Johnson;* Associate Fellow, Independent Researcher.

36. *Anchor Bible Commentary on the Book of Jeremiah: *Jack Lundbom*, Associate Fellow; and Fellow, Clare Hall, Cambridge University.

37. *Salvage Excavations of the Palestinian Department of Antiquities: *Hamdan Taha*, Senior Fellow; Director of the Palestine Department of Antiquities.

38. The Late Bronze and Iron Age Strata at Tel Dover: *Samuel R. Wolff*, Senior Fellow; Archaeologist/Researcher, Israel Antiquities Authority.

39. Late Bronze Age Trade Relations between Egypt, Cyprus and the Southern Levant: The Impact on Indigenous Cultures: *Joanne Clarke*, Post-Doctoral Fellow; Director, Council for British Research in the Levant, Jerusalem.

40. *Tel Miqne-Ekron Field INE: The Iron Age I Period: *Ann Killebrew*, Post-Doctoral Fellow, Lecturer, Department of Archeology, Haifa University.

41. *Tel Yaqush Publication Project: *SeJin Koh*, Post-doctoral Fellow; Archaeologist, Jerusalem University College.

42. The Early Bronze Age I Mediterranean Prototype of the 'Arad House: *Hani Nur-el-Din*, Post-Doctoral Fellow; Lecturer, Department of History and Archaeology, al-Quds University.

43. The Analysis of the Egyptian Artifacts from Tel Miqne-Ekron: *Baruch Brandl*, Research Fellow; Head of the Department of Storage for Archaeological Collections, Israel Antiquities Authority.

44. The Ottoman Wall of Jerusalem: *Mohammad Ghosheh*, Research Fellow; Ph.D Candidate, Arab League University, Cairo.

45. *Iron Age Jewelry at Tel Miqne-Ekron: *Amir Golani*, Research Fellow, Archeologist/Researcher, Israel Antiquities Authority.

46. **An Archaeometric Approach to the Study of Intercultural Exchange between Philistines and Judeans in the Late Iron Age, 8th-7th c. BCE Tel Miqne-Ekron: A Case Study: *Tanya McCullough*, Miqne Research Fellow; University of Toronto.

47. Village, Town or City: Reconstructing Ancient Nazareth: *Stephen Pfann*, Research Fellow; Ph.D Candidate, Hebrew University.

48. *The Quran Manuscripts of the Islamic Museum: *Khader Salameh*, Research Fellow; Curator, Islamic Museum, al-Haram al-Sharif, Jerusalem.

49. Village Life during the Early Bronze Age I in the Region Southeast of Marj Ibn 'Amir (Palestine): A Study of the Stratigraphy and Pottery Technology at Tell Jenin: *Hamed Salem*, Research Fellow; Instructor, Birzeit University.

50. Patterns of Paleodiet and Bio-Cultural Practices of Neolithic Ain Ghazal Inhabitants in Jordan: *Issa Sarie'*, Research Fellow; Ph.D Candidate, Hebrew University, Hadassah School of Dental Medicine.

51. **An Archaeometric Approach to the Study of Intercultural Exchange between Philistines and Judeans in the Late Iron Age, 8th–7th c. BCE: Tel Miqne-Ekron, A Case Study: *Danielle Steen*, Miqne Research Fellow; University of Colorado.

•Continuation of a long term project, the abstracts of which appear in earlier editions of the ASOR Newsletter 47/3, 1997: 7–11, 14–16; 48:1, 1998: 19–25.

••Continuation of a long term project, the abstracts of which appear in *BASOR* 303, 1996: 79–93.

American Schools of Oriental Research Centennial Year Events

April 14–16, Washington DC

Centennial Celebration including Gala Dinner, ASOR at 100 Lecture Program, Grand Buffet Reception and Archaeological Periods in Perspective seminars

May 29-31, Jerusalem, Israel

Centennial Symposium (for details see pages following)

June 5, Nicosia, Cyprus

Centennial Lecture and Reception

June 7, Amman, Jordan Centennial Reception

November 18–21, Nashville, TN

Reception with the Society of Biblical Literature

January 6, San Diego, California

Joint Program Session and Reception with the

Archaeological Institute of America Sunken Ships and Submerged Cities: Recent Maritime Archaeology in the Eastern Mediterranean. A Joint AIA-ASOR Colloquium in Honor of ASOR's Centennial

The colloquium has a nautical theme, in recognition of the San Diego location for the 2001 AIA annual meeting. Participants include some of the most widely-recognized experts in nautical archaeology currently working in the eastern Mediterranean area. They will discuss their most recent findings and the implications of these discoveries. These range from the 1999 Deep Water Survey of Ashkelon which discovered, via the remotely operated vehicle system MEDEA/ JASON, two Iron Age shipwrecks resting upright on the bottom of the Mediterranean, some 50 kilometers west of Ashkelon, in waters about 400 meters deep, to the investigation of the submerged ruins of Aperlae, a small maritime city in ancient Lycia, to the 1999 INA/Robo Remote-Sensing Expedition searching for shipwrecks of all periods off the coast of Israel, and will include as well the most recent research concerning the Uluburun shipwreck and the harbor of Caesarea Maritimae. Participants: Lawrence E. Stager, Harvard University; Robert D. Ballard, Institute for Exploration; Cemal Pulak, Institute of Nautical Archaeology at Texas A & M University; Avner Raban, University of Haifa; Robert Hohlfelder, University of Colorado, Shelley Wachsmann, Institute of Nautical Archaeology at Texas A & M University.

Albright/ASOR Centennial Jerusalem International Symposium

The W.F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research and the American Schools of Oriental Research will celebrate their centennial in Jerusalem with a three-day international symposium, May 29 through May 31, 2000. The program entitled "Symbiosis, Symbolism and the Power of the Past: Canaan, Ancient Israel and their Neighbors, from the Late Bronze Age through Roman Palestinae," will focus on three primary themes:

"Historical and Political Landscape: The Levant and Beyond" with sessions on "Empire and Palace Economies, Late Bronze Age," "The Dark Age that Never Was, Iron Age I," "The Dynamics of Statehood, Iron Age II," and "Imperial Interventions: The Persian, Hellenistic and Roman Periods."

"Religion and Distinction" with sessions on "Shadow-boxing the Canaanites, The Late Bronze Age," "Emerging Forms and Practices, Iron Age I," " The Formative Period of State Religion, Iron Age II," "Cult, Coast and Interior, The Persian Period," and "Romans, Jews and Christians."

"The History of the Family: Continuity and Change," with sessions on "Units and Cultural Unities, Iron Age I," "Household Economy, Iron Age II," and "Families, Houses and Homes – The Persian, Hellenistic and Roman Periods."

The conference, to be held at the Israel Museum, will bring together scholars from America, Europe and Israel. This unique event will also feature the Israel Museum exhibit "Thunder on High, Images of the Canaanite Storm God" in honor of the Albright/ASOR Centennial, a reception hosted by members of Israeli institutions, an evening of public lectures, and a closing reception at the Albright Institute.

Registered participants will be able to attend all the lectures as well as the reception at the Museum and the closing reception at the Albright. They will be entitled to a special admission fee to the Museum, good for the duration of the conference and to a 10% discount in the Museum cafeteria.

Space is limited and advance registration is recommended. For further information about registration fee and pre-registration forms please contact:

Sy Gitin, director@albright.org.il Lydie Shufro, Albright Centennial Chair, lshufro@pipeline.com or visit the Albright website, www.aiar.org or the ASOR website, www.asor.org (registration form also on page 21)



The W. F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research and the American Schools of Oriental Research Centennial Symposium at the Israel Museum Jerusalem, May 29–May 31, 2000

Symbiosis, Symbolism and the Power of the Past: Canaan, Ancient Israel and their Neighbors From the Late Bronze Age through Roman Palestinae



8:15am-8:45am

8:45am-9:00am

Monday May 29, 2000

Registration Opening Session

Chair Greetings Seymour Gitin Joe D. Seger, President, ASOR Patty Gerstenblith, President, AIAR Ernest S. Frerichs, The Dorot Foundation

Historical and Political Landscape: The Levant and Beyond (9:00am-5:00pm)

Empire and Palace Economies, Late Bronze Age		9:00am-10:15am
Chair/Respondent	Joe Seger	
The Changing Political, Economic and Ethnic Landscape		
of Late Bronze Age Mesopotamia: New Beginnings,		0.00 0.00
Old Relations	Holly Pittman	9:00am–9:20am
Egypt's Imperial Economy: A Levantine Perspective	Eliezer Oren	9:20am –9:40am
Islands in the Sea: Aegean Polities as Levantine Neighbors Discussion	Sarah Morris	9:40am –10:00am 10:00am –10:15am
Discussion		10:00am –10:15am
Coffee Break		10:15am-10:30am
The Dark Age That Never Was, Iron Age I		10:30am-11:45am
Chair/Respondent	Michal Artzy	
The Case of Ugarit and Carchemish: A Contrast	Annie Caubet	10:30am–10:50am
Greece and Anatolia in the Early Iron Age: The		
Archaeological Evidence and the Literary Tradition	James Muhly	10:50am-11:10am
The Mediterranean Economy: "Globalisation" at the		
End of the 2nd Millennium BCE	Susan Sherratt	11:10am-11:30am
Discussion		11:30am–11:45am
Lunch		11:45am-1:00pm
The Dynamics of Statehood, Iron Age II		1:00pm-3:00pm
Chair/Respondent	Amnon Ben-Tor	
The Patrimonial Kingdom of Solomon	Lawrence Stager	1:00pm-1:20pm
City-States to States: Polity Dynamics in the Tenth	0	i i
to Ninth Centuries BCE	Israel Finkelstein	1:20pm-1:40pm
Thoughts on Biblical Traditions and Archaeological		
Evidence Concerning Early Israel	Amihai Mazar	1:40pm-2:00pm
Assyria's Expansion in the 8th and 7th Centuries B.C.E.		
and its Long-Term Repercussions in the West	Simo Parpola	2:00pm-2:20pm
Egyptian Interventions in the Levant, 1100–550 BC	Kenneth Kitchen	2:20pm-2:40pm
Discussion		2:40pm-3:00pm
Coffee Break		3:00pm-3:15pm

Imperial Interventions, the Persian, Hellenistic and Roman Periods		3:15pm-4:30pm
Chair/Respondent Early Achaemenid Persia: New Perspectives from Anshan Palestine Among the Empires from the	Moshe Kochavi David Stronach	3:15pm –3:45pm
4 th to the 1 st Century B.C.E. Impacts and Reactions Discussion	Doron Mendels	3:45pm-4:15pm 4:15pm-4:30pm
In Honor of the Albright / ASOR Centennial: Israel Muse Thunder on High, Images of the Canaanite Storm (5:30pm-6:30pm
Greetings	James Snyder, Director Israel Osnat Misch-Brandl, Curator	Museum
Israel Archaeological Institution Reception Greetings	Joseph Aviram, Israel Explora Avraham Biran, ASOR Fellov Avraham Malamat, ASOR Fe Trude Dothan , AIAR Fellow	v 1930s sllow 1940s
Tuesday M	ay 30, 2000	
Religion and Distin	ction (8:30am–5:45pm)	
Shadow-boxing the Canaanites, The Late Bronze Age		8:30am –10:15am
Chair/Respondent Canaan and Egypt — The Interface Amarna and its Aftermath Discussion	Aren Maeir Manfred Bietak Anson Rainey	8:30am–9:00am 9:00am–9:30am 9:30am–9:45am
Emerging Forms and Practices, Iron Age I		9:45am-11:30am
Chair/Respondent The Aegean and the Orient: Cultic Interactions The Cult ofAstarte on Cyprus The Use of False Dichotomies in Descriptions of the Israelite Religion Discussion	Shalom Paul Trude Dothan Vassos Karageorghis	9:45am–10:15am 10:1am–10:45am 10:45am–11:15am 11:15am–11:30am
Lunch		11:30am –12:45pm
The Formative Period of State Religion, Iron Age II		12:45pm-2:30pm
Chair/ Respondent Mesopotamian Imperialism and Israelite Religion Israel and the Hebrew Bible Israelite and Philistine Cult and the Archaeological Record in Iron Age II: The 'Smoking Gun' Phenomenon	Mordecai Cogan Peter Machinist TBA Seymour Gitin	12:45pm–1:15pm 1:15pm–1:45pm
Discussion	Seymour Ghim	1:45pm–2:15pm 2:15pm–2:30pm
Cult - Coast and Interior, the Persian Period		2:30pm-4:15pm
Chair/ Respondent Phoenician Cult: Expressions in the Persian Period Phoenician and Palestinian Religion in the Late Iron and Persian Periods	Eilat Mazar Edward Lipinski Enbraim Starn	2:30pm-3:00pm
The Sociology of Cosmology in the Persian Era Discussion	Ephraim Stern Baruch Halpern	3:00pm–3:30pm 3:30pm–4:00pm 4:00pm–4:15pm
Coffee Break		4:15pm-4:30pm

Romans, Jews and Christians

Chair/Respondent Judaism and the Coming of Rome Archaeological Testimonies: Helios and the	Jerome Murphy-O'Connor John J. Collins	4:30pm-5:00pm
Zodiac Cycle in Ancient Palestinian Synagogues. Discussion	Jodi Magness	5:00pm–5:30pm 5:30pm–5:45pm
Public Lectures		8:00pm-9:30pm
Chair Did God Have a Consort? Archaeology and "Popular"	Lydie T. Shufro	
Religion in Ancient Israel Jerusalem as a Royal and Cultic Center in the	William G. Dever	8:00pm-8:30pm
Tenth to Eighth Centuries BCE Discussion	David Ussishkin	8:30pm–9:00pm 9:00pm–9:30pm

Wednesday May 31, 2000

The History of the Family: Continuity and Change (8:30am -3:00pm)

Units and Cultural Unities, Iron Age I		8:30am-9:45am
Chair/Respondent	Dan Bahat	
Nine Months Among the Peasants in the		
Palestinian Highlands: An Anthropological		
Perspective on Village Religion in the Early Iron Age	Karel van der Toorn	8:30am-9:00am
Building Identity: The Four-Room House and the		
Israelite Mind	Shlomo Bunimovitz	9:00am–9:30am
Discussion		9:30am–9:45am
Household Economy, Iron Age II		9:45am-11:30am
Chair/Respondent	J. Edward Wright	
Material Remains and Social Relations: Women's		
Culture in Agrarian Households of the Iron Age	Carol Meyers	9:45am-10:15am
The Clan Centered Economy of Ancient Israel	Baruch Levine	10:15am-10:45am
At Home with the Goddess	Susan Ackerman	10:45am-11:15am
Discussion		11:15am-11:30am
Lunch		11:30am-12:45pm
Families, Houses and Homes: The Persian, Hellenistic a	and Roman Periods	12:45pm-2:30pm
Chair/Respondent	Sidnie White Crawford	
Textured Reflections	Hugh Williamson	12:45pm-1:15pm
Roman-Period Houses from Sepphoris: Domestic	-	
Architecture and Gendered Spaces	Eric Meyers	1:15pm-1:45pm
Apocryphal Women: From Fiction to (Arti)fact	Amy-Jill Levine	1:45pm-2:15am
Discussion		2:15pm-2:30pm
Closing Remarks		2:30pm-3:00pm
The Albright, Archaeology, and the Next Century	William G. Dever	2:30pm-3:00pm
Reception at the Albright Institute		7:30pm-10:00pm
Greetings Seymour Gitin, Director, A		
P. E. MacAllister, Chairman		
Dan Wolk, Chairman AIA	ЛК	

Representative Palestinian Archaeological Authority

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*Non-Israel Museum members, please add \$5.50 or NIS equivalent to cover the Museum entrance fee. All registrants with proper identification badges will be entitled to a 10% discount in the Museum cafeteria.

** After May 5, 2000 send all registration forms and checks to Centennial/Albright P.O. Box 19096, Jerusalem 91190 Israel.

Conference Calendar

April 14–16, 2000

ASOR Centennial Celebration, Washington, D.C. *Details provided on pages* 25-30 *of this Newsletter*. Contact: Rudy Dornemann, ASOR Boston, 656 Beacon St., 5th floor. Tel: 617-353-6570; Fax: 617-353-6575; e-mail: asor@bu.edu

April 18-21, 2000

Computing Archaeology for Understanding the Past, a joint conference of Computer Applications and Quantitative Methods in Archaeology (28th annual conference) and the Union Internationale des Sciences Préhistoriques et Protohistoriques, Commission IV. The conference will be held in Ljubljana, Slovenia. Purpose: To promote and discuss new approaches in the analysis and interpretation of archeological data. Contact: Zoran Stancic, Centre for Scientific Research of the Slovene Academy of Sciences and Arts, Gosposka 13, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia. Tel: + 386 61 1256 068. Fax: + 386 61 1255 253. Email: zoran@zrc-sazu.si. Web: www.zrc-sazu.si/www/pic/

April 25–28, 2000

SA3 - Biennial Conference of the Southern African Association of Archaeologists, Wits Club, East Campus, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa. Full details are available on the website www.wits.ac.za/archaeology/conference.

May 4–7, 2000

Association of Ancient Historians. University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI. Contact: Andrew Wolpert, Department of History, University of Wisconsin, 3211 Humanities Building, 455 North Park Street, Madison, WI 53706-1483. FAX: 608-263-5302; awolpert@facstaff.wisc.edu.

May 5–7, 2000

Millennia, Messiahs and Mayhem: Eschatology in the Western Tradition, University of British Columbia. Contact: Christopher Beall. E-mail cners@hotmail.com. http://www.arts.ubc.ca/cnrs/mayhem

May 20, 2000

Liverpool Interdisciplinary Symposium in Antiquity (L.I.S.A) "The Seas of Antiquity," University of Liverpool. Contact: www.liv.ac.uk/ ~hgs/lisa.html. E-mail: MercuryG@liv.ac.u

May 22-26, 2000

Second International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East. Theme: Near Eastern Archaeology at the Beginning of the 3d Millennium AD. Hosted by Carsten Niebuhr Institute and the University of Copenhagen. Contact: Secretary of the 2ICAANE, Carsten Niebuhr Institute, Snorresgade 17–19, DK-2300 Copenhagen. Tel. +45 35 32 89 00; Fax. +45 35 32 89 26; e-mail: 2icaane@coco.ihi.ku.dk.

June 23-24, 2000

Rezeption archaeologischer Denkrichtungen in der Vorderasiatischen Archaeologie (Adoption of archaeological approaches in Near Eastern archaeology), Berlin. The symposium is principally planned as a forum for discussion and the topics include ecological research, economy and economic administration in the ancient Near East, Iran between East and West, the neolithic period and theories about neolithisation, political history and management of conflicts, settlement archaeology and irrigation, urbanism. In each forum one speaker will give an introductory paper, which will be commented upon by two other speakers. Following these papers there will be sufficient time for a lively debate amongst the whole auditorium. Contact: Arnulf Hausleiter, Freie Universitaet Berlin, Institut für Vorderasiatische Altertumskunde, Httenweg 7, 14195 Berlin. E-mail:ahauslei@zedat.fu-berlin.de.

June 26–30, 2000

Millennium Conference on the Sea of Galilee and in the City of Jerusalem, sponsored by the Bethsaida Excavations Project at the University of Nebraska at Omaha and the Shrine of the Book in Jerusalem, Israel. Contact: Richard A. Freund, Conference Director, University of Nebraska, Omaha, NE 68182; Tel: 402-554-2902; e-mail: rfreund@unomaha.edu

July 5–9, 2000

The Eighth International Congress on Graeco-Oriental and African Studies will be held on the island of Oinousses (near Chios), Greece. Theme: Navigation and Trade in the Mediterranean from the 7th to the 19th Centuries. Sponsored by the Institute for Graeco-Oriental Studies, Athens, and the Department of History of Cairo University. Abstracts of

papers should be submitted by MARCH 1, 2000 (about 600 words). Notification of intent to participate should be received by February 1, 2000. Contact: Prof. V. Christides, Institute for Graeco-Oriental and African Studies, Solomou 39, Kryoneri, Attikis, 14568 Greece. Fax. (01) 816-1037.

July 8–9, 2000

Rome and the Mediterranean World, sponsored by the British Academy, in Oxford (Saturday) and London (Sunday). Contact: Rosemary Lambeth at the British Academy, 10 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AH. Tel: 020 7969 5200; email: rosemarl@britac.ac.uk.

July 10-12, 2000

Games and Festivals, with a focus on those held in the Ancient World. Organised under the auspices of The Traditional Cosmology Society, The Department of Classics, The School of Scottish Studies, at The University of Edinburgh, Scotland. Contact: Dr. Glenys Davies at Games_Festivals@hotmail.com. Further information available at www.arts.ed.ac.uk/classics.

July 10-13, 2000

46th Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, College de France, 52 rue Cardinal Lemoine, 75005, Paris. Theme: Nomadism and Sedentarism in the Ancient Near East. Contact: (chrinico@club-internet.fr) or fax (33-1-48-87-82-58). Or write us at XLVIe RAI, Christophe NICOLLE, Chaire d'Assyriologie, College de France, 52 rue Cardinal Lemoine, 75005, PARIS, France.

November 15-18, 2000

American Schools of Oriental Research Annual Meeting, Loews Vanderbilt Plaza Hotel, Nashville, TN. Members of the American Schools of Oriental Research are invited to participate in the 2000 Annual Meeting of ASOR. Instructions and forms are included in the insert to this Newsletter, or access our web page at asor.org.

November 15–19, 2000

American Anthropological Association, 99th Annual Meeting, San Francisco Hilton & Towers, San Francisco, CA. Theme: Public Face of Anthropology. Contact AAA Meetings Dept, 4350 N Fairfax Dr, Suite 640, Arlington, VA 22203-1620; 703/528-1902 ext 2; jmeier@aaanet.org.

December 16-19, 2000

Encounters with Ancient Egypt. The UCL Institute of Archaeology will host an international conference examining the ways in which the cultures of ancient Egypt—predynastic, dynastic, Hellenistic, Roman, late-antique, Islamic, and colonial—have perpetually been re-configured in response to changing ideologies and strategies for appropriating the past. As well as presenting new or neglected sets of data, we hope that contributors will also be inspired to offer papers that constitute a fresh look at familiar evidence from a variety of theoretical viewpoints. Contact: ancient-egypt@ucl.ac.uk. Postal address: "Encounters with Ancient Egypt Conference", Institute of Archaeology, University College London, 31-34 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PY, England.

February 24–25, 2001

Religious Texts and Material Contexts, University of South Florida, Tampa campus. Contact: Jacob Neusner or James Strange, 735 14th Avenue Northeast, St. Petersburg, FL 33701-1413; tel: 813-974-1875; fax: 727-894-8827; e-mail: jneusner@luna.cas.usf.edu

March 8-11, 2001

The Fourth Bi-annual Conference on Shifting Frontiers in Late Antiquity: "Travel, Communication and Geography in Late Antiquity," to be held at the Downtown Center of San Francisco State University, San Francisco. Presentations invited on themes involving all kinds of travel (religious pilgrimages; travel for official, commercial, or military purposes; travel for pleasure; journeys of the soul), on various kinds of communication (inter-religious or inter-cultural communication; written, spoken, or visual communication; pedagogy; linguistic change; communication between the human and the divine), and on any aspect of geography and especially its interrelationship with travel and communication (e.g., land vs. sea vs. river travel or communication; travel and communication between highland and lowland; the psychology of distance, geology, and/or geography; geography of the heavenly city). Contact: Prof. Linda Ellis, Department of Classics, San Francisco State University 1600 Holloway Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94132-4162 (FAX: 415-338-1775; e-mail: ellisl@sfsu.edu). Abstracts are due 1 October 2000.

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