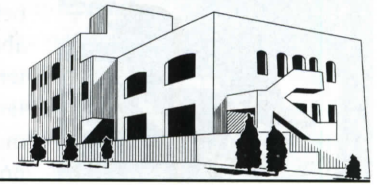


# ACOR Newsletter

## أخبار أكور

Vol. 15.1—Summer 2003



### The Blue Pulpit

Patricia Maynor Bikai



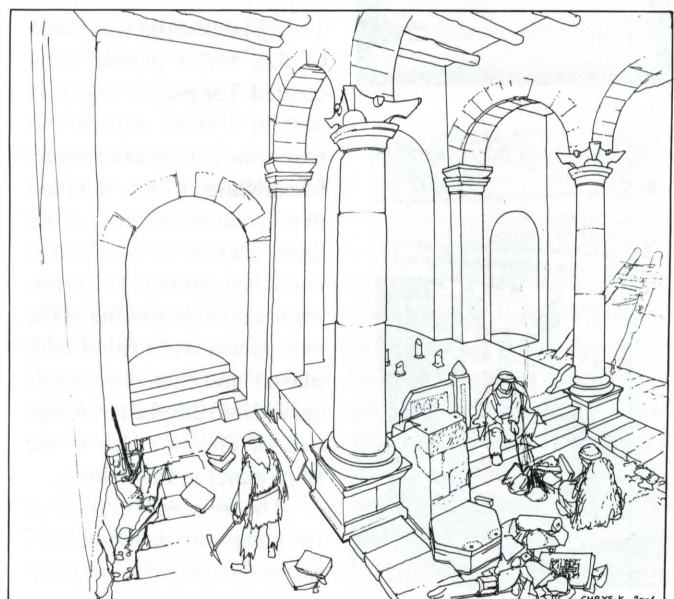
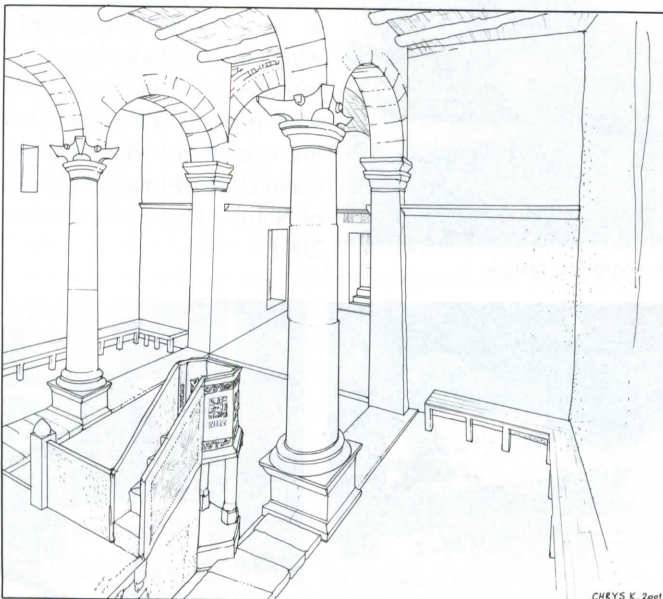
Remains of the pulpit's base and steps



Scattered fragments of the basket of the pulpit

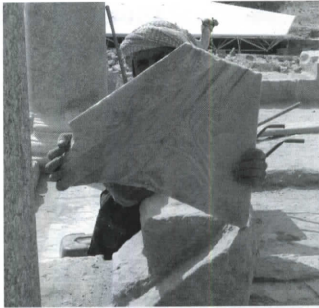
During ACOR's excavation of the Blue Chapel in 2000, partial remains of a pulpit dating to the late 5th or early 6th c. were found *in situ*. Nearby were found fragments of the marble surround of that pulpit as well as parts of the columns that supported the pulpit's basket. The marble, which probably originated in Turkey, has a distinctive bluish color, undoubtedly chosen to go with the chapel's blue Egyptian granite columns. More fragments were found during the 2001 and 2002 seasons, as was a piece of one of the panels decorating the steps.

In ACOR's lab, Naif Zaban was able to join many of the pieces. It was soon discovered, however, that of the original five panels of the basket, only parts of three had been found; of the four supporting columns, only fragments of two were

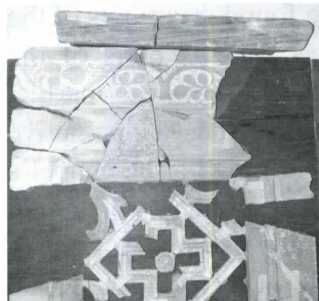


Two views of the interior of the Blue Chapel: left, during its use; right, after it was abandoned; drawings by Chrysanthos Kanellopoulos

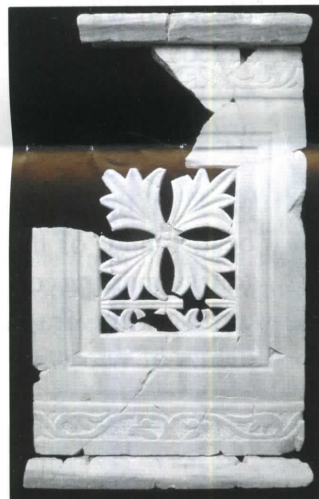




A part of the panel of the steps shown (just after it discovered) in the general area of its original location



The pieces start to come together



The pieces joined



The gaps filled with plaster and carved

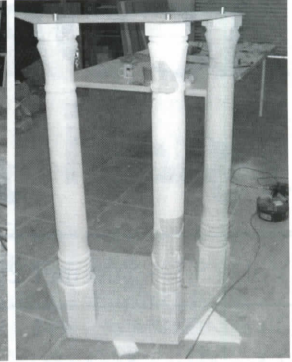
found; and of the staircase panels, only one large piece and one small piece remained. It seems that in the period after the church was abandoned, the pulpit shattered, and the remnant population scattered the fragments. However, the fact that nothing was found of two of the panels suggests that they may have been removed intact for use elsewhere. Enough was left of the pulpit to restore it on paper, and project architect Chrysanthos Kanellopoulos was able to do that.

Meanwhile, ACOR had been involved in the planning for an exhibit called "Petra: Lost City of Stone." Glenn Markoe of the Cincinnati Museum of Art, on seeing the pulpit, asked if it could be in the exhibit. If it were going to be exhibited, the paper restoration would have to become a reality. Under the sponsorship of the Cincinnati Museum of Art, Thanassis Gritzapis and Nikolaos Kiritsis, as well as Dr. Kanellopoulos, came from Greece in Jan. 2003 to do the restoration. They first restored the only leg for which large pieces remained. Then a latex mold was made of this and a plaster copy created. The plaster copy was sent to a stone mason and two stone copies were made. Meanwhile, it was decided that in reality only two of the three panels of the basket could be restored. The missing areas of the marble of the two panels were filled with plaster and then the motifs carved into the plaster. A replica of one of these is the third panel in the exhibit.

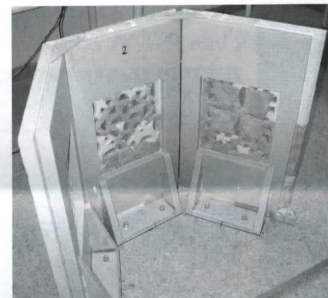
The tops and bottoms of the panels are decorated in a technique called *champlevé* in which the marble is carved around the motif, in this case



Thanassis Gritzapis restoring a leg; that leg and the two stone copies



Nikolaos Kiritsis restoring the staircase panel



The backing and assembly system



Assembly is tested



Left: one of the panels goes into its custom-built box; right: the box is loaded on a truck



vines. The carved area is left rough and on to it was put a mastic so that it would appear to be a different color of marble. Since the rest of the decorative program of the church seems to have been limited to blue and white, it is possible that a white mastic was used in the pulpit. It was decided, however, not to attempt to restore that element.

In order to give the pulpit stability for exhibition, a backing of Dupont Corian® was fitted to the panels. This allowed the creation of a very simple way to assemble and disassemble the piece for exhibit and transport. The two parts, legs and basket, were not joined at ACOR; they will come together in the actual exhibit. In June 2003, Hasenkamp movers, experts in the transport of works of art, packed it up to go to New York. The exhibit, which also includes a number of pieces found during ACOR's other projects at Petra, including one of the Petra Papyri, opens at the American Museum of Natural History in October 2003.



## The Wadi Araba Earthquake Project

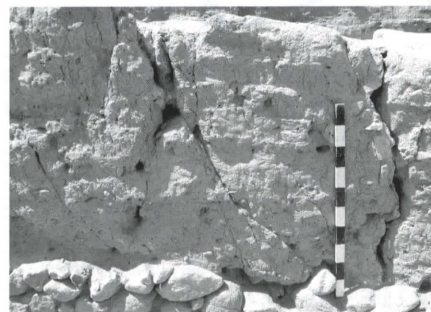
Since 1996, the Wadi Araba Earthquake Project (WAEP) has conducted geologic and archaeological field studies of the active fault system in Wadi Araba, Jordan. The goal of the project is to understand the rupture history of the southern Dead Sea Transform fault system and to document damage from earthquakes in antiquity. This research requires an interdisciplinary approach that combines historical textual evidence of earthquakes, excavation of archaeological sites damaged by earthquakes and primary rupture, and geological study of the stratigraphic and geomorphic evidence of earthquakes. The project, directed by geologist Tina Niemi of the University of Missouri-Kansas City, has concentrated on documenting historical earthquakes at two archaeological sites—the Roman-Early Islamic site of Qasr Tilah just south of the Dead Sea and the Roman-Islamic ruins in Aqaba, both of which were built directly over active faults.

The field of archaeoseismology is the study of ancient earthquakes based on damage found in the archaeological record. Throughout history, fault motion along the Dead Sea Transform has been a major source of earthquakes, which are generated by sudden slip of a fault. In a major earthquake (Richter magnitude greater than M7), the ground surface is ruptured and offset, thus leaving clear physical evidence of the event on the landscape. The archaeological record can be used to ascertain the date of past earthquakes by providing stratigraphic age control of seismically-induced structural failures and collapsed buildings. The distribution of archaeologically-stratified earthquake damage can also help refine the epicentral location of past earthquakes. For example in Jordan, Kenneth Russell (*BASOR* 238: 47-64) compiled the evidence of the A.D. 363 earthquake from seismic damage documented at regional archaeological sites. He used these data to suggest a northern Wadi Araba epicenter for that earthquake. Even more detailed information about fault rupture and earthquake magnitude can be gleaned from archaeological sites that are built directly over active faults, such as the antiquities in Aqaba and Qasr Tilah.

Two field seasons were conducted during 2003. Between December 29, 2002, and January 16, 2003, archaeological excavation was conducted at Qasr Tilah. A second field season took place during July 1-31, 2003, at both the Qasr Tilah and Aqaba archaeological sites. The specific goal of the 2003 field season was to excavate three areas (one each at Roman Aila, Islamic Ayla, and Qasr Tilah) across locations where previous investigators had documented or proposed that earthquake faults cut across ancient structures. The purpose of the study was to identify primary evidence for ground-rupturing faulting events caused by earthquakes and document the associated collapse, damage, and repair of the architecture in antiquity.

In Roman Aqaba, earthquake investigations took place in Area J-East, which has been excavated since 1994 by the Roman Aqaba Project; this site incorporates Early Islamic and Early Byzantine eras, and includes a suggested Early Byzantine Church (probably built at the end of the Late Roman period). The "church" is also built upon and modified from an earlier Nabataean complex of structures. The objectives of the

WAEP 2003 excavation in J-East were to date evidence for primary tectonic faulting and to document the earthquake damage to the J-East site across the whole range of its occupational phases. Our investigations identified four ground-rupturing earthquakes that transect the J-East area; these post-date the main collapse of the putative church. These N-NW-trending faults accommodate tectonic subsidence at the northern end of the Gulf of Aqaba. Dating of these earthquakes awaits further analyses of the archaeological materials recovered in our excavations. We also have evidence for at least three additional earthquakes (during Nabataean times to the



Fault offset of a mudbrick wall in the church complex. To the right of the meter stick is evidence for seismic damage that was repaired in antiquity with cobbles and mud. The fracture was reactivated in a later earthquake.

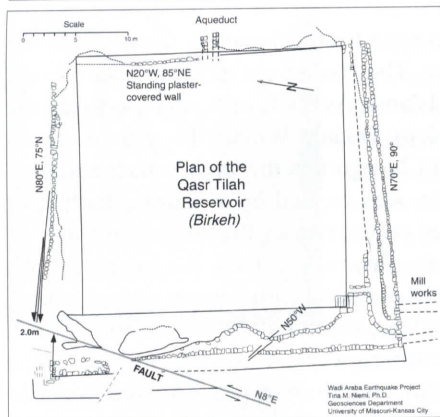
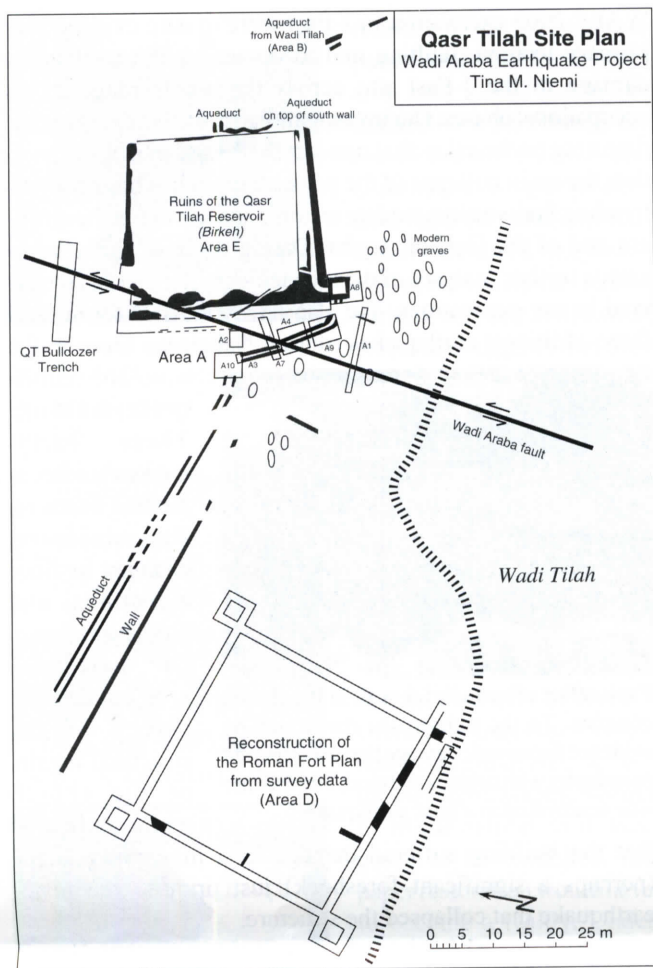
A.D. 363 earthquake) at the site. These earthquakes are documented based on site subsidence, changes in floor elevations, and building collapse. Of particular note, our detailed survey of the structural repairs of the church walls indicates

that the building suffered damage in a minor earthquake (perhaps a significant foreshock) just prior to the major earthquake that collapsed the structure.

The ruins of Islamic Ayla, a walled city founded in the Umayyad period, are also located in Aqaba. Ayla is historically documented to have been completely destroyed in the A.D. 1068 earthquake. The goal of our excavations of a very small portion of the Islamic Ayla site in Aqaba was to test the hypothesis proposed by Donald Whitcomb of the Oriental Institute at the U. of Chicago that the wadi, which currently cuts through the site, was created by a seismic fault. Our research concentrated on excavating the NE corner tower of the city wall across the floor of the wadi. We excavated one square that exposed the northeast corner tower under the King Hussein St. bridge and two squares along the eastern city wall in the wadi. The NE corner tower and adjacent city walls of the Islamic Ayla site in the wadi do not appear ruptured by active faulting. Although significant seismically-induced subsidence, liquefaction, and structural damage have been documented elsewhere at the site, no conclusive evidence for primary faulting has yet been found in the wadi. If the misalignment of the city wall at the sea gate is due to primary tectonic faulting, then the fault must traverse the site in a location other than the wadi. Future excavation should concentrate on a potential offset near the southeast corner tower or along a trend from the sea gate toward the NW corner tower.

At Qasr Tilah, located along the northern Wadi Araba fault portion of the Dead Sea Transform, the objectives included identification of points of rupture and lateral offset of archaeological features, documentation of aqueduct and other features associated with the birkeh, and determination of the relationships between various water transport features present at the





site. The excavations concentrated on exposing the settling pool at the base of the birkeh and the aqueduct leading from the birkeh in Area A. Several surveys in the environs of Qasr Tilah were also conducted in order to under-

stand the phases and types of occupation at the site. This included mapping the aqueducts in Wadi Tilah (designated Area B), surveying agricultural fields to the west (Area C), investigating the southeast corner tower of the fort and older Nabataean structures exposed in the incision of the wadi (Area D), and mapping the birkeh (Area E). The WAEP03 season collected evidence for four well-constrained, historical earthquakes that occurred since the Late Byzantine period. The exact timing of these earthquakes will require analyses of the coins and potsherds and additional radiometric dates. Further excavations at the site may help to constrain earthquakes that occurred during earlier Roman through Early Byzantine phases of occupation at the site.

Over the past 2000 years, numerous earthquakes are said

in historical accounts to have affected the region along the active Dead Sea transform plate boundary fault system. However, the potential for hazardous earthquakes along this populated fault system remains largely uninvestigated. The Wadi Araba Earthquake Project seeks to better understand the archaeological and historical record of past earthquakes, to increase the scientific knowledge of earthquake rupture models, and to help quantify the probability of future earthquakes in the region. The research is a collaborative project that has involved 2003 team; front: Alivia Allison, students and professionals Janice McCabe, and Tina Niemi; back: John Rucker, Ross Thomas, and from several universities. Three undergraduate geology majors (Alivia Allison, Janice McCabe, and Rachel Smith) and three masters degree students (Jeremy Haynes, Nasser Mansoor, and Hongwei Zhang) have or will be completing thesis projects on material from the Wadi Araba Earthquake Project. The project is conducted under permits from the Department of Antiquities and in collaboration with geology Professor Mohammad Atallah of Yarmouk U., and in close cooperation with the Roman Aqaba Project directed by S. Thomas Parker of North Carolina State U. The project has been funded by the National Geographic Society, the American Chemical Society-Petroleum Research Fund, and the U. of Missouri. Logistical support has been extended to the WAEP by the Jordan Valley Authority and by the Aqaba Special Economic Zone for which we are grateful.

Tina M. Niemi, U. of Missouri-Kansas City



## Mapping and Survey at Early Bronze Age el-Lejjun

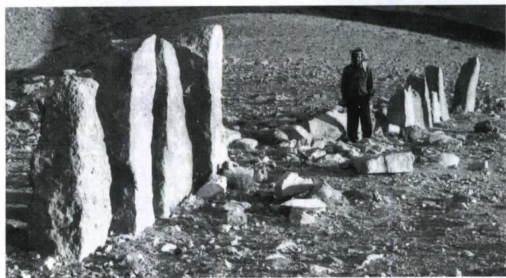
The goal of the 2003 field season of the University of Minnesota-Duluth Early Urbanism Project (UMD-EUP) was to begin the work necessary to identify whether craft production occurred in dispersed or nucleated spaces inside and around Early Bronze Age (EB) el-Lejjun. Determining the location of production for a variety of crafts in one community will allow a nuanced understanding of the organization of craft production as urbanism developed in this region. During the summer 2003 season a two-person team, including Mr. Jihad Darwish from the Department of Antiquities, mapped architecture within the settlement, executed plan and profile drawings of menhirs adjacent to the site, and counted ceramics, lithics, and ground stone in transects within EB el-Lejjun.

The Early Bronze Age site of el-Lejjun is an ideal place to examine the transformations in craft production that accompanied early urban societies. El-Lejjun (JADIS #2307-001) is located in south-central Jordan between Kerak and Qatrana in the steeply dissected wadi region of Moab (UTM East: 772300, UTM North: 3459600). The settlement sits on top of a ridge with a precipitous drop to Wadi Fitiyan; a perennial spring and a small creek lie to the southeast. The wadi and spring have



attracted settlement intermittently over the millennia: Paleolithic flints, a Roman/Byzantine legionary fortress, Ottoman period barracks, and modern era burials occur in the near vicinity.

Records of EB el-Lejjun date back to at least 1896, and professional interest has continued through the years with visits from Glueck (1934), Albright (1934), Parker (sherd collecting in 1987), Miller (1991), and Chesson (2001). Four general architectural elements are visible at the site: a fortification wall and towers; a 2-3 m thick enclosure wall that separated part of the southwestern section of the city; a row of menhirs; and smaller wall segments scattered within the fortification wall that are presumably from domestic architecture. The fortification wall is a substantial stone structure, 3 m wide and preserved several courses high in sections. The towers were rectangular and not standardized in size. For example three towers along the southeastern side of the fortification wall varied in their dimensions from 10.3 x 8.5 m, 6.6 x 7.6 m and 14.3 x 7.0 m. Mapping the entire settlement will be done in future seasons of the UMD-EUP.



Department of Antiquities guard, Abu Fies, stands next to the menhirs at el-Lejjun.

Preliminary examination of whether craft production was dispersed or nucleated at EB el-Lejjun required us to collect quantifiable data on artifact densities across the settlement. A transect counting method quantified ceramics, lithics and ground stone artifacts along transects 10 m apart in four sections of the site. Diagnostic and non-diagnostic sherds from utilitarian and burnished ceramics were counted, with the bulk of the ceramics being non-diagnostic body sherds. Ground stone quern fragments were made from vesicular or non-vesicular basalt. These types of basalt are available at distances from 3.5-19.0 km from Lejjun. Chipped stone material was abundant and lithic debitage will provide the best evidence for location of craft production at el-Lejjun based on surface counted artifacts. Excavation will be necessary to more fully understand the organization and location of craft production for ceramics and ground stone since no wasters or shaping flakes were identified within the surface counted transects. Summary counts for ceramics, lithics, and ground stone artifacts per transect, section, and area are currently being analyzed.

Plan and profile maps of the menhirs at el-Lejjun were drawn during the 2003 season as they were significant features and had been noted by previous surveys. The 17 menhirs, ranging from 1.00-2.25 m in height, lie in a north-south line. The 2003 field season also identified what may be the quarry area for one of the three raw material types from which the menhirs were cut; it lies upslope from the currently standing menhirs.

The 2003 season of the UMD-EUP was sponsored by the

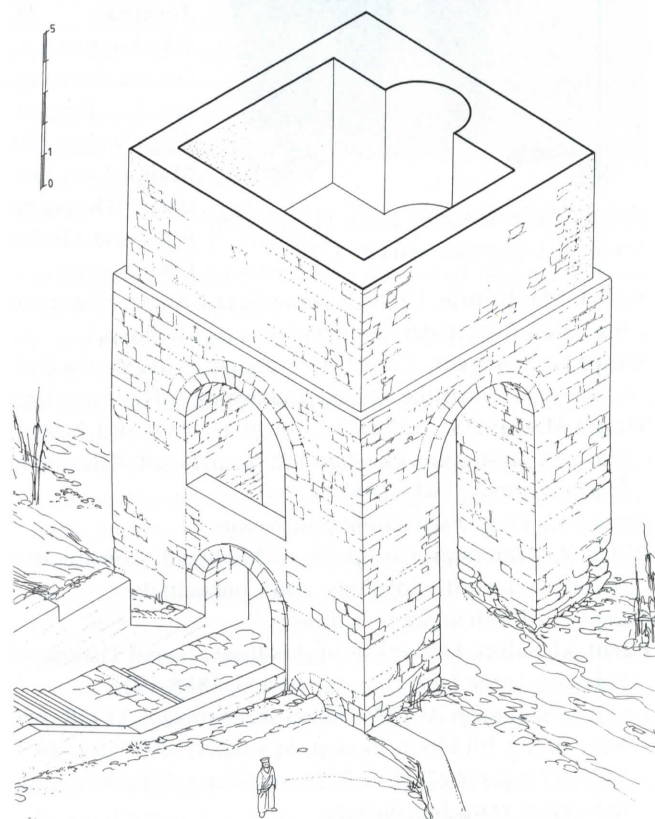
U. of Minnesota, the McKnight Foundation, and the College of Liberal Arts at the U. of Minnesota-Duluth and was carried out in cooperation with the Department of Antiquities and with the assistance of ACOR. The EB site of el-Lejjun holds considerable promise for understanding craft production and intrasite architectural patterning in this early urban community. The UMD-EUP plans to continue these studies in the future by fully mapping the surface architecture and excavating to recover further evidence of craft production.

*Jennifer E Jones, U. of Minnesota, Duluth*

## Baptism Site Documentation Project

In January 2003, at the invitation of the Department of Antiquities, ACOR began the Baptism Site Documentation Project. In the first phase of this, Chrysanthos Kanellopoulos worked at the "John the Baptist Church" site near the Jordan River. Other participants in the project are Rustom Mkhjian of the Department of Antiquities, geologist Nikos Mourtzas, and surveyor Fawwaz Ishaqat of Hashemite U.

Among the remains at the site is a Byzantine basilica. From this, a staircase/ramp runs for about 31 m east down to what was once an arched structure, presumably a canopy over the spot where Jesus was thought to have been baptized. Each of the four piers of the canopy measured ca. 2.8 to 2.9 m on a side; the structure itself was about 9.25 by 9.25 m. In the drawing below (by C. Kanellopoulos), the canopy supports a chapel. Arculfus (A.D. 670, *PPTS* 3: 36-38) said: "At the edge of the river is a small square church, built ... on the spot where the garments of the Lord were taken care of at the time He was baptized. This is raised, so as to be uninhabitable, on four stone vaults, standing above the waters which flow below."





**Director's Report:  
January through June 2003  
Pierre M. Bikai**

I thank everyone who responded so generously to ACOR's emergency fund-raising appeals this spring, especially as these appeals immediately followed our annual fund-raising campaign that most of you donated to as well. I also thank ACOR's Board of Trustees who generously matched every donated dollar with an additional dollar. As you know, ACOR has incurred significant financial losses over the past couple of years as a result of increased conflict in the Middle East. In difficult times, ACOR relies on donations such as yours. Thank you again for your faithful support.

## Fellows in Residence

*Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC)*  
*Fellows:*

**Betty S. Anderson**, Boston U., Political Education in Jordan and Palestine



Fellows Farid Al-Salim, James G. Schryver,  
Jessica D. Lieberman, and Cari Clark

**Cari Clark,**  
Harvard School of  
Public Health, A  
Qualitative As-  
sessment of Do-  
mestic Violence  
in Amman, Jor-  
dan: A Case of  
Gender-based  
Violence

**Jessica D. Lieberman**, George Washington U., *Embedding Civility: The Middle East, Voluntary Organizations and Global Civil Society*

**Neil D. MacKenzie**, *Urban, Economic and Social History of the Ajlun Area under the Ayyubids and Mamluks*

**James G. Schryver**, Cornell University, Evidence for Cultural Interaction in the Art and Archaeology of the Latin East

**Mezna M. Qato**, St. Antony's College, U. of Oxford, Narrating the Catastrophe: Counter-Nationalism and Palestinian Historiography, 1948-1961

*Samuel H. Kress Foundation Fellowship:*

**Björn P. Anderson**, University of Michigan, Constructing Nabataea: Identity, Ideology, and Connectivity

*Pierre and Patricia Bikai Fellow:*

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

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

## Happenings at ACOR

Jan. 3. Chrys Kanellopoulos arrives to begin work on documenting the Baptism site.

Jan. 6. Marjo Lehtinen arrives to work on the Petra papyri.

Jan. 8. Jaakko Frösén and Antti Arjava arrive, also to work on the Petra papyri.



Trustee Widad Kawar (right) and ACOR staff member Cesar Octavio's daughter Mona Lisa, who models a headdress from Husn in northern Jordan

Feb. 7. Pierre and Patricia host a reception for Wesley Egan, former U.S. Ambassador to Jordan.

Feb. 24. ACOR closes. Pierre and Patricia leave for Cyprus. Kurt leaves for the U.S.

Feb. 25. Amman receives a heavy snow fall that closes roads for four days and breaks many of ACOR's pine trees.

March 28. Kurt visits with AORC, in Washington, D.C.

Mary Ellen Lane, Director of CAORC, in Washington, D.C.  
April 10. Kurt visits Don in the Boston office for the first time.

Former ACOR-CAORC fellow Betty Anderson takes him on an exciting gastronomical tour of Boston.

May 7. ACOR reopens. Everyone is happy to be back.

May 13. ACOR hosts a lunch for the new USAID Mission Director to Jordan, Anne Aarnes, and the U.S. Ambassador to Jordan, Edward Gnehm.

May 17. Kurt returns from the U.S.

May 31. Pierre gives FBI Director Robert Mueller a tour of Jerash.

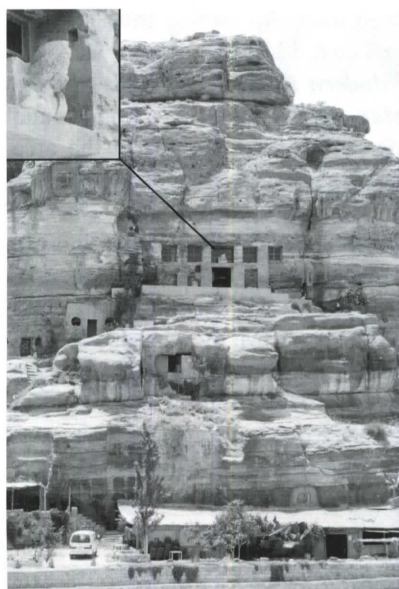


Pierre and FBI Director Robert Mueller in the theater at Jerash; photo by J.G. Schryver

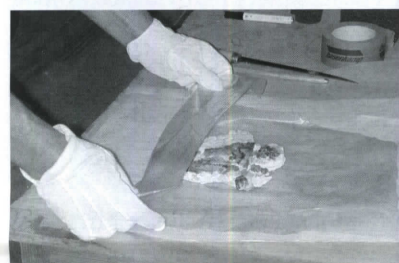
June 8. Pierre leaves for Petra where, over the next three days, about 25 people will struggle to bring the sculpted head of Dushara down from its location over the door of the Petra Museum so it can be in the Petra exhibit. It weighs about 750 kilos (1650 pounds).

June 16. ACOR receives a grant in the amount of \$200,000 from the U.S. Department of State to support their project for recovery and restoration of looted and damaged Iraqi cultural property for the Iraq National Museum in Baghdad. Under this grant, ACOR assists by purchasing furniture,





Petra: the head of Dushara (inset) and its location on the cliff; photo courtesy of Tarmeem International



Wall mosaic fragments being packed to go to New York.

office equipment, and computers for the museum.

June 19. A team from the Cincinnati Art Museum arrives to prepare the artifacts that will be included in their exhibit on Petra that will shown at several museums in the U.S. and Canada between Oct. 2003 and December 2006. At ACOR they pack materials from ACOR's projects.

June 19. Pierre attends a conference on the issue of stolen Iraqi antiquities sponsored by the Islamic Education, Science and Cultural Organization (ISESCO).

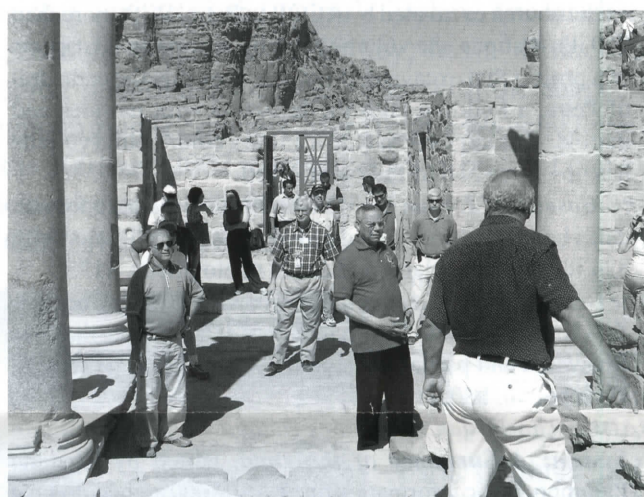
June 21. Pierre gives a tour of Petra to U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell.

June 25. ACOR hosts a lunch for Haynes Mahoney, the Press and Cultural Affairs Attaché of the U.S. Embassy in Jordan. He meets with the team of archaeologists going to the Iraq

National Museum to supervise the installation of the furniture and office equipment and also with ACOR's resident fellows.



June 30. Arte and Martha Joukowsky arrive to begin their season of excavation at the Petra Great Temple. The focus is on archaeology again!



Above: Secretary Powell and Pierre Bikai; below: the party in the Blue Chapel with Amb. Edward Gnehm at left; photos by D. Mosel

## Donors to ACOR

From January through June 2003, the following friends of ACOR made donations:

General Donations were made by Carol Andreae and James Garland, Anonymous, Othman Bdeir, Gail and David Boesel, Bruce Borthwick, Sarah and Oscar Brooks, Nick Clapp, Nancy Coinman, Molly Davies, Martha Demas, Sally and Bert de Vries, William Dickens, Margaret Fallers, Dean Fitzgerald, John Fornaciari, Carol and Harold Forshey, Nancy Frederick, Gannon University (courtesy of Suzanne Richard), Russell Hopley III, Adalat and Abed Ismail, Martha and Artemis A.W. Joukowsky (Joukowsky Family Foundation), Karak Resources Project (courtesy of Gerald Mattingly), Asta and Øystein LaBianca, Nancy Lapp, Anne and Robert Latz, Patricia March, W. Harold Mare, Patricia and Robert McWhorter, Annette Kestell Mellott, Jody and Randy Old, S. Thomas Parker, Estelle and Jack Peisach, Megan Perry, Ann Boon Rhea, Gary Rollefson, Richard and Joan Scheuer Family Foundation, Barbara and Edwin Schick, Denise Schmandt-Besserat, Keith Schoville, Elizabeth Sherman, Christine Sleeper, Laurie and Timothy Snow, George M. Walker, Theresa and Thomas Whetstine, Janet

and Donald Whitcomb, Jane and Prescott Williams, Mary Wilson, Constance Worthington and Terry Tullis, and Judy and Harold Zimmerman.

The Harrell Family Fellowship Endowment received a donation from Edgar C. Harrell.

A donation to the Jennifer Groot Memorial Endowment was received from S. Thomas Parker.

The James Sauer Fellowship Endowment received a donation from S. Thomas Parker.

The Dick and Betsy DeVos Foundation made a donation to the Beidha Project.

Donations of books and journals were received from the Abdel Hameed Shoman Public Library, Leigh-Ann Bedal, Rachel Ben-Dov, Pierre and Patricia Bikai, Thomas Dailey, Edith Dunn, Patricia Fall, Michal Gawlikowski, Seymour Gitin, Martin Hermannsen, Horn Archaeological Museum (courtesy of Paul Ray), Stefano Jedrkiewicz, Marjo Lehtinen, Thomas Levy, Burton MacDonald, Mike McVicar, Tina Niemi, Michele Piccirillo, Benjamin Saidel, Robert Schick, Henry Wright, University of Tsukuba (courtesy of Akira Tsuneki), and Francois Villeneuve.

Special thanks goes to Doris Borthwick for assisting with Bruce Borthwick's donation of his personal library.



## Publications

**The Petra Papyri I**, edited by J. Frösén, A. Arjava, and M. Lehtinen. This first volume on the 6th century A.D. carbonized Petra papyri begins with the historical and archaeological context of the papyri, their conservation, an introduction to the chronological systems of their era, and a description of the family of Theodoros son of Obodianos, the main character of the papyri. All the texts are documentary and were written in Byzantine Greek. The volume includes eleven main documents and five minor documents, each with an introduction, Greek transcript with critical apparatus, English translation, and commentary. This large format (33 x 25 cm), cloth-bound volume has 192 pages including 26 plates. \$80.

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

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

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

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

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

**Madaba: Cultural Heritage** edited by Patricia M. Bikai and Thomas A. Dailey. Catalogue of the remains from the Early Bronze Age through late Ottoman vernacular houses (113 pages, paperbound) Over 150 illustrations, five in color.

### ACOR and its Newsletter

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Includes a separate large map. An Arabic translation is available at no additional cost. \$35.

**Ancient Ammonites & Modern Arabs: 5000 Years in the Madaba Plains of Jordan** edited by Gloria A. London and Douglas R. Clark. Life across the centuries in the area excavated over the past 30 years by the Madaba Plains Project. \$27.

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

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

All prices include shipping.

## May Board Meeting

The ACOR Board of Trustees met in Providence, Rhode Island on April 19. Board members discussed the effects that several years of intensified conflict in the Middle East have had on ACOR and its programs.

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