

ACOR Newsletter

أخبار أكور



Vol. 21.2—Winter 2009

Reliving Jarash:

Glimpses and Highlights of Working Life at the Ancient Site

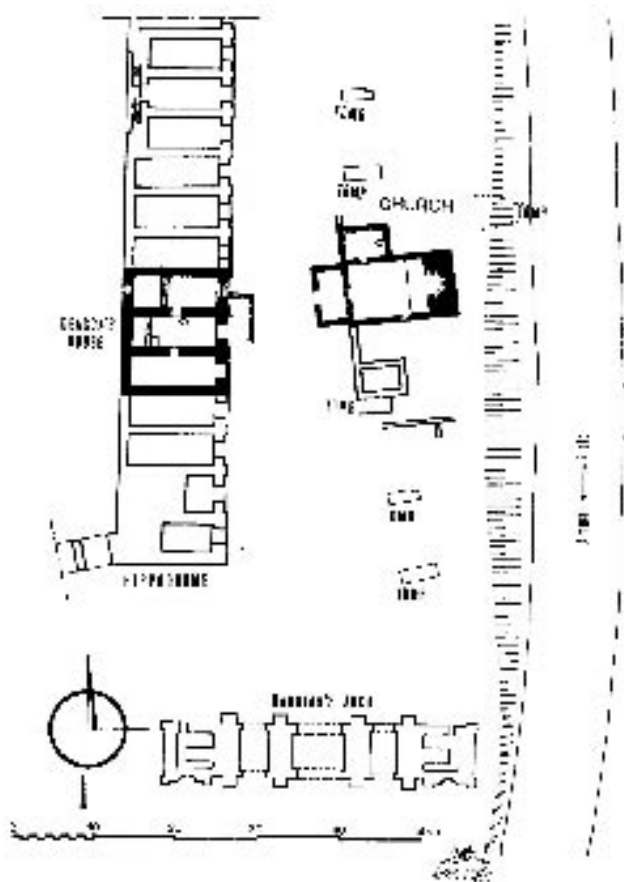
Ina Kehrberg

The story that I want to tell began in the late summer of 1982 when architect and scholar Antoni A. Ostrasz, well known for his work at Fustat (Egypt), Old Dongola (the Sudan), and Palmyra (Syria) arrived in Jarash to join the Polish Archaeological Team of the “*Jarash Archaeological Project*” (JAP) initiated by the Ministry of Tourism, with the backing of the Department of Antiquities (DOA). This ambitious international program was originally planned for five years and comprised seven international teams. Antoni’s scholarly contributions in the early years of excavations and architectural studies of Gerasa monuments are not well known outside the original international ‘Jarash crowd’ of the 1980s, so I recall them here and start from the beginning.

The first site excavated by the Polish team, in 1982, was the Church of Bishop Marianos next to the Hippodrome. M. Gawlikowski, T. Scholl, Antoni, and their DOA collaborator, the late Ali Musa, also excavated the deacon’s residence located in three *cavea* chambers of the Hippodrome (see plan on next page). Antoni was in charge of the architectural aspects of the excavations and pieced together the stratigraphical building phases and salient features of this small but exceptional church. The attractive mosaic floors included a dedicatory inscription confirming the 6th century date of the Church of Bishop Marianos. The anastyloses that he undertook revealed fundamental elements and were published in *Jerash Archaeological Project: 1981-1983* (JAP), Vol. I (1986) and duly implemented in his actual restorations.



Antoni Ostrasz
outside the Gerasa
Hippodrome in
1995; photo by
R. Khouri



Plan of the Church of Bishop Marianos and the Deacon's House in the Hippodrome area: all drawings and plans by A. Ostrasz

The Umayyad House

The next Polish project was the Umayyad House, a very significant monument at Jarash excavated by the Polish team from 1982 to 1983. Antoni completed the restorations in October 1984, almost one year after the Polish Team left. This large domestic quarter aligned with the South Decumanus

can rightly be called a highlight of Jarash discoveries. Until recently it was the only known substantial early Islamic building complex at the site. It yielded rich material evidence spanning from its foundations to final reuse by Abbasid potters after the earthquake of A.D. 749/50, which destroyed much of the upper part of the sprawling complex.

Antoni pieced together the architectural entities of sequential occupations. The last building phase of the large residence was composed of a network of divans, court yards, kitchens and other domestic and perhaps administrative rooms. His reconstruction conveys a good idea of the once gracious living quarters. The Umayyads made good use of the built environment created by the Romans and the 8th century *insula* fit well within the 2nd century Roman urban plan. Also revealed were a Roman villa and its substantive hypogean cistern used continually into Late Antiquity. The Umayyad House gives an intimate impression of spatial and social partitions of the built environment of the later 7th to the 9th century and is the only restoration undertaken by Antoni which has not subsequently been altered or built over. The recent Danish excavations have uncovered a neighbouring mosque which was once contemporary with the Umayyad House and its later Abbasid phase. If the surrounding old excavation dumps were removed, it would restore the Umayyad House to the wider panorama of the South Decumanus.

My work in Jarash as one of the archaeologists of the Australian Team began at the North Theater-Decumanus-Tetrapylon complex. At that time ancient Jarash was transformed into an 'Archaeological United Nations' where a site or monument given to each national team became their acknowledged archaeological/research territory. It took no time to get to know the other teams, and we formed a tightly-knit international family, first sprinkled throughout modern Jarash, and then together in the Archaeological Camp on the ancient site to which we moved in summer 1983. The premature cessation of JAP at the end of 1983 saw the departure of over twenty archaeologists back to their home countries, the Polish among them.



Umayyad House after restoration (October 1984) with Antoni in the foreground; all photos courtesy of I. Kehrberg



Antoni and Mark on a big machine

continuing restoration in 1984 by Warwick Ball of the Tetrapylon for the Australians required little archaeological input. This meant that I was free to become Antoni's archaeological co-worker, in particular taking on the studies of the ceramic and other finds we excavated as part of the new Hippodrome Project. Although the *Jerash Restoration Project* did not promote archaeological work, the Department of Antiquities approved my associate position and granted me full publication rights. Antoni and I chose to get married and make Jarash the center of our lives. We raised our son Mark on site and home schooled him; this included learning architectural drawing from his father and stone cutting from Abu Saleh. We were the smallest team of experts at Jarash and the only

A new "*Jarash Restoration Project*" began in 1984 and focused on restoration. Each existing or new project was headed by one of the architects of the original JAP teams. While completing his restorations at the Umayyad House in 1984, Antoni began his new project of exploration and restoring the Jarash Hippodrome south of the ancient city wall. North, inside the walled city, the

one working continuously for the DOA until Antoni's sudden and unexpected death in October 1996.

The Hippodrome/Circus

This ambitious undertaking meant massive excavation—literally peeling back each architectural and archaeological layer of the 2nd century A.D. circus building compacted and compounded by a series of earthquakes, varied occupations, and ultimate deterioration. As director of the Hippodrome Project, Antoni also oversaw the excavations, although one may safely say that he was truly preoccupied with the study of the architectural remains and, of course, the restoration.

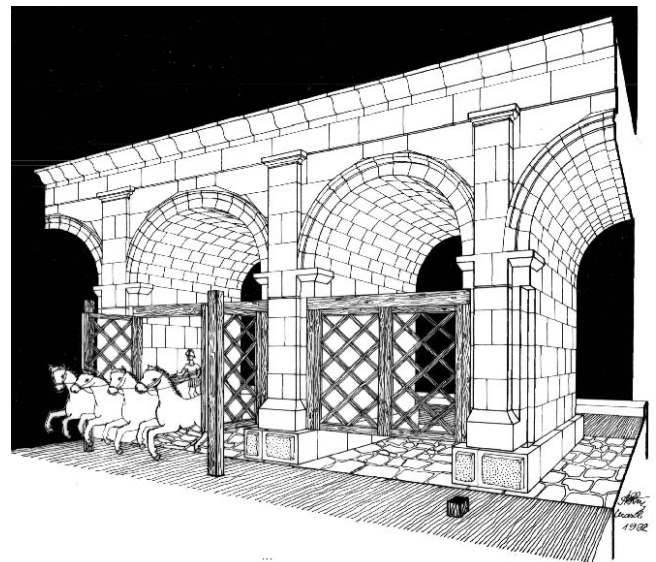
The current rebuilding of the Jarash Hippodrome now caters to mock gladiatorial shows and chariot races, but the original 2nd century circus of Gerasa is best known in the international academic world through Antoni's excavations, architectural studies, and the restoration published in a range of articles. The comprehensive excavation of the Hippodrome and its periphery from 1984 to 1996 have brought to light unparalleled copious—and some unique—evidence of architectural features and artifact assemblages spanning six centuries of intense occupation. This circus is equally well known among scholars for its secondary history of use by potters and for other workshops. It has been one of my main tasks over the past decades to study and reconstruct four hundred years of uninterrupted pottery manufacture and commerce on a scale hitherto unknown from other Decapolis cities in Jordan.

The Gerasa Hippodrome is the smallest Roman circus of the forty-eight currently known, measuring as it does about 50 x 250 m. It became the genesis of Antoni's architectural treatise on Roman circuses. With painstaking work he traced the mid-2nd century origin as a Roman circus for chariot racing through its spatial adaptations and architectural alterations for different uses over time from the 3rd to the 19th century.

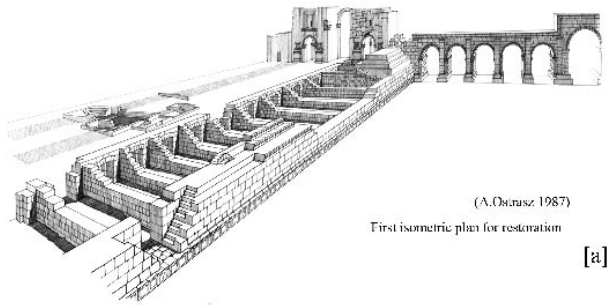
The comprehensive excavations have revealed that although the smallest, it is the best preserved of the known Roman circuses in its functional and engineering elements. It is also the most completely excavated and documented monument of its kind.



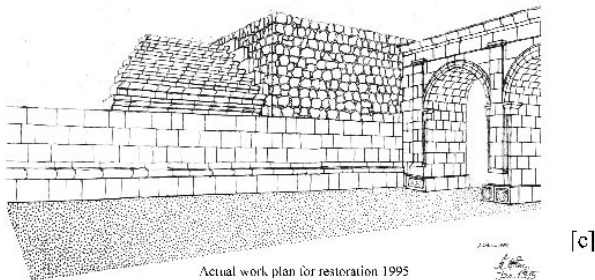
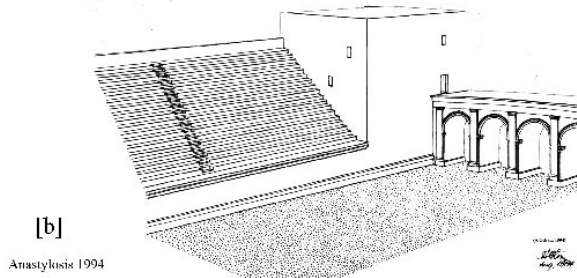
Ina with a precious barrow-load, her son Mark



East *carceres* gate mechanism; sketch from 1992



[a]



The southeast podium, tower, and *carceres* of the Hippodrome

The excavations of the *cavea*, *arena*, *euripus*, and the *carceres* have provided in situ evidence on how the racecourse functioned, the *carceres* gates' opening mechanism, the place of the tribunal, and *meta*, etc. These components were previously explained from images on reliefs, coins, and mosaics and by later period circuses. We know for a fact that chariot

racing took place here by wheel ruts marking rocks under the arena sands and by dedicatory altars once perched on top of the racing stalls (*carceres*). These altars were found within the collapsed upper registers flattened to the arena grounds by the A.D. 749/50 earthquake. Other less dramatic but plentiful finds of diagnostic pottery, lamps, and coins ascertained that the construction belonged to the Roman Emperor Hadrian's ambitious building plans for Gerasa, and showed it to be roughly contemporary with Hadrian's Arch of A.D. 129.

The preparations for restoration progressed hand-in-hand with excavations. Antoni excavated and planned his restorations systematically for small parts of the circus building in order to obtain completed 'units' of excavated, researched, and restored elements. He maintained that it was better to proceed in this constructional method than attempt an overall, large-scale exploration and subsequent anastyloses. Partly as a cautionary move due to annual contracts and budgets, it also permitted us to probe in depth and review our findings continually. It was also the safest manner of preserving the building remains. Once elements became exposed, damage due to weather and people traffic was inevitable. Lastly it satisfied the requirements of the DOA *Jerash Restoration Project*.

One example of his methodology is illustrated by the south-east corner of the circus that shows the difference between research on paper and the final result on the ground. In all it took eight years for the completion of this particular 'unit.' Once the preparation for an anastylosis of one part was in progress, excavations took place at other parts of the building until, by 1996, we had completed over ninety percent of the excavation. The parts not fully excavated, but recorded and plotted for the ground plan are a few desecrated chambers of the southwest *cavea* (seated tiers), much depleted already in antiquity and further obstructed and damaged by modern housing. The reasons for not executing his anastylosis worked out on paper for the SE Tower and the annexed seating, and opting instead for the 1995 reconstruction, were prompted by two concerns. The first was that Antoni lacked sufficient



Hippodrome, southeast arena, *carceres*, and *cavea* after restoration in 1995



The workshop in the Hippodrome chamber W7 in November 1995

evidence about the cladding or facing stones of the tower building. It was not known whether the podium molding was carried through to the angle of the *carceres* (entrance gates). In accordance with the Venice Charter, it was decided to restore only the core structure of the tower for which there was proportionate original material in the tumbled remains. The second concern was that the adjoining rows of seats could not be extended too far in spite of available seat stones. Although there were some *scalaria* blocks—stepped access ramps to segments of seating—the tumbled in situ evidence did not provide the distance or spacing of the ramps.

At the same time, Antoni applied judicious measures admissible within general principles of restoration where public safety is concerned. He built a small parapet at the restored top level of the tower and barred access to the *carceres* architrave, which cannot be seen from the ground, in order to prevent accidents (often due to foolish visitors). He gave the same cautionary consideration to his restoration of the Ayyubid Tower at the Amman Citadel (a project sponsored by ACOR with USAID in 1995/96) to ensure that public safety came first but without sacrificing the main guiding principles of restoration.

The whole circus and its grounds were surveyed by Antoni in minute detail. Along with a multitude of sections, work plans, and elevation drawings, he produced a comprehensive ground plan of the 2nd century circus that is now frequently copied. He also drew up a plan for the later periods and plotted the architectural and intrusive installations in the chambers. This leads me to the second life of the circus building, and my main share in our endeavor.



Decorated detail on Jerash Bowl (JH631)



Jerash Lamp (JH628)

The secondary history of the circus began shortly after it ceased to be a chariot racing course. The process of change began sometime in the 3rd century when parts of the *cavea* were fitted out to suit pottery workshops and tanneries. There is no doubt that the monument was Gerasa's industrial quarter as proven by traces of pottery kilns, extensive remains of workshop installations, and simple dwellings, as well as the expanse of pottery waste products discarded in the chambers and spilling onto the periphery.

Evidence suggests that Gerasa probably developed into the biggest center for pottery manufacture among the Byzantine Decapolis townships. It is apparent by the massive output, accumulated waste, and the systematic installations in the building that the Hippodrome became the "*potters' suq*" and was fully operational from the later 3rd to the beginning of the 7th century. There was some reuse of these installations after the 749/50 earthquake, but even before then the circus building was partly in a ruinous state and had been largely abandoned. The mid-7th century mass burial of over two hundred plague victims in deserted workshops of two *cavea* chambers alone pays proof to this.

The Late Byzantine potters and their prolific output dominated Jarash export trade in the 6th century. The famous 'Jerash Bowls' and other ceramic products were found as far away as Petra and in other Decapolis cities that produced their own wares. One of the prized finds is an incomplete bowl providing an almost complete narrative. This piece shows a scene in an amphitheatre – perhaps alluding to the Colosseum since there are no amphitheaters in the Decapolis cities of Jordan—in which two Christians are depicted as about to be killed by a lion (see detail above). Last but not least, internal and external trade of Hippodrome workshops can be traced using molded lamps like the Late Byzantine 'Jerash Lamp' which so often accompanied the exported Jerash Bowls. Small irregularities and state of wear of the molds replicated in the lamps can determine the place of manufacture.

In short, the secondary industrial occupancy presents the longest and most complex history of the site. The technological development, organizational skills of the ceramic industry, and changing patterns of fashions and needs are grafted in fine detail through the potters' prolific waste materials from the Hippodrome kilns from the Late Roman to the end of the Byzantine period. This is the aspect of the work in Jarash that I continue to analyze and prepare for final publication.

Temple of the Winged Lions Cultural Resource Management Initiative, Petra

ACOR and the Department of Antiquities launched a new cultural resource management (CRM) initiative for the “Temple of the Winged Lions” (TWL) building complex in Petra in 2009. The TWL monument likely served initially as a center of worship for the main Nabataean goddess (al-Lāt/al-‘Uzza) and then later included the worship of the Hellenized, cosmopolitan goddess Isis. Religious structures in ancient Nabataea that provide evidence for this type of inter-regional cultic syncretization are scarce, thus dramatically elevating the importance of this temple complex.

The TWL precinct was excavated by the independent American Expedition to Petra (AEP) program, directed by the late Dr. Philip C. Hammond (1924–2008), during twenty field seasons conducted between 1974 and 2005. Many sections of the TWL have now been exposed to the elements in some cases for thirty years, resulting in the need for significant conservation efforts.

The TWLCRM initiative seeks to conserve, preserve, and present this monument so that it can be properly seen and understood in a manner befitting its importance in Petra and the greater milieu of ancient Nabataea. All of the work will be conducted in accordance with the highest of international conservation and presentation standards. An important component of the initiative will be the development of sustainability programs that both involve and benefit the local authorities, communities, and stakeholders.

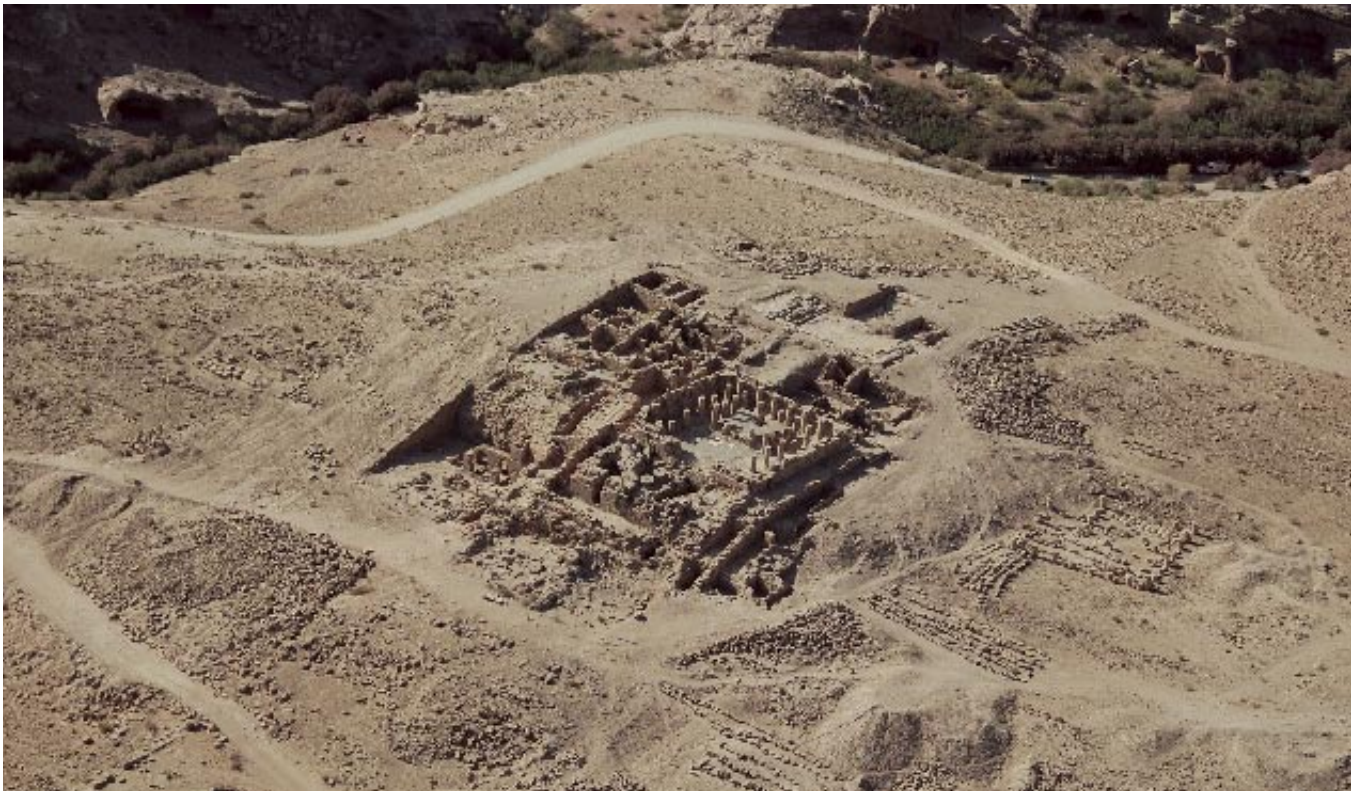
This project has two primary goals within the context of

the current efforts to develop long-term management and conservation strategies for the Petra Archaeological Park (PAP), a World Heritage site. The first of these goals is to help establish the necessary standards for subsequent conservation/preservation/presentation efforts within the PAP. The second is to further develop capacity within the PAP, the DOA, and the local communities in order to ensure that future efforts of this nature have ready access to the requisite resources.

The project will be undertaken in four phases during a five to seven year period: (1) assessment, (2) interventions, (3) presentation, and (4) publication. Various stages of the assessment phase of the project were conducted throughout the last year. The first stage included several short field seasons for assessing and documenting the current condition of the complex and considering potential interventions. The team for this work included an archaeologist (Tuttle), an architect (C. Kanellopoulos), an engineer (T. al-Salhi), a surveyor (F. Isaqat), and a conservator (C. Danielli). The second stage has focused on the original AEP excavation archives, which were generously returned to Jordan by Mrs. Lin Hammond. At present, the archives are being catalogued, organized, and preserved at ACOR. Analysis of the original excavation materials has also begun by Tali Erickson-Gini and me, and the initial results have been extremely informative for defining how the overall TWLCRM project will proceed.

Efforts are presently underway to raise the substantial funding needed for this project. The work undertaken already has been funded by the Global Heritage Fund (GHF) and ACOR’s USAID Endowment for CRM work in Petra.

Christopher A. Tuttle, ACOR Associate Director



Aerial view of the Temple of the Winged Lions complex, looking northwest; photo by C. Tuttle

Karak Resources Project 2009

Karak Resources Project (KRP) conducted its fifth season of fieldwork from 17 June to 21 July 2009. The thirty-four member team came from Germany, Jordan, and the United States and represented seventeen different colleges and universities. We employed fifteen local workers from the village of Umm Hammat, located near the project's excavation site of Khirbat al-Mudaybi^c (KaM). Two representatives from Jordan's Department of Antiquities, Khaled Tarawneh and Akram Autoom, joined this summer's field team. We serve as the project directors and John Wineland is the associate director of fieldwork.

The site of KaM, a strategically located fortress in the southeastern corner of ancient Moab, serves as an excellent case study in resource utilization; it was originally built and occupied toward the end of Iron Age II and used sporadically in the Roman, Late Byzantine-Early Islamic, Middle Islamic, and Late Islamic periods. In four seasons, we have excavated less than ten percent of this fascinating, two-acre site. KaM played an important role in checking encroachment and monitoring traffic in and around the prominent graben—Fajj al-^cUsaykir—the steep-sided valley running southeast from Karak. While we are interested in the history of the site, KRP's emphasis on resource utilization draws special attention to various categories of artifacts and ecofacts that reflect the domestic, industrial, and commercial activities at Mudaybi^c. The fortress—with a massive four-chamber gate, walls, and interval and corner towers—illustrates how the Iron II builders developed this ridge as a strategic military and/or commercial position which was remodeled later in Late Byzantine-Early Islamic times as a *khan*.

The KRP team continued research in three excavation fields (designated A, B, D) in 2009. The work in Field A continued to expose the northern perimeter wall of the fortress and its parallel casemate wall (in square J-3). Excavation in square H-5 provided additional information concerning the interior "acropolis," built on top of the Iron Age fort in Late-Byzantine-Early Islamic times.



General view in the Mudaybi^c gate complex (Field B), looking west, with threshold and upright pylons, plastered benches on both sides; gate chambers with piers are visible on the gate's south side; photo by John Wineland

In Field B, we continued to investigate the features of a large gate complex (e.g., benches, pillars, threshold). We were surprised to learn that the northern wall of this massive gate was either never completed or was robbed out in antiquity. Detailed study of photos, plans, and artifacts will shed further light on the reason why ancient builders blocked up chambers on the northern side of the gate passageway and help us understand what happened to northernmost wall of this gate complex. We found a fragment of a small limestone relief (in a secondary context) in the northern gate pier, and team members continue to search for parallels.

Excavation in Field D exposed more domestic and "monumental" architecture—with several loom weights (in the same vicinity where we had found seventy-five in the previous field season), grindstones, and a number of pottery forms. This field contained two intriguing architectural features—a substantial threshold with parallel upright stones and a door in the casemate wall with steps leading up to one of the defensive towers in the western wall. Square F-5 in Field D, yielded an interesting, albeit broken, pendant from an Iron II locus.

The objects and the pottery from the 2009 season excavations at Mudaybi^c point to a relatively short period of occupation at the end of Iron Age II, and architectural indications point to this same conclusion. The stratigraphic evidence of KaM provides enough material to define the pottery styles and technology from this late Iron II site and also offers a window on ceramic traditions from the later Byzantine and Islamic periods.

The KRP survey efforts have added more than 150 new sites to the number recorded by the Miller-Pinkerton survey of 1978, 1979, and 1982. To date, the regional scientific studies have examined bedouin and village economies, water resources, soil science, and geology. In 2009, team members focused on the region's soils, topography (through GIS applications), ancient roads, and water resources. John Foss and Mark Green completed their studies of the Karak regional soil types and surface geology. We anticipate a useful publication on soils and topography, including drainage patterns and line-of-sight studies. Foss identified the sections of the plateau that have the best soils and those that hold the least agricultural potential and gave special attention to the nature of loess deposits in and around Mudaybi^c since this is an important aspect of site formation processes. Foss and Green also collected specimens of building materials from the fortress of Mudaybi^c—mostly varieties of limestone, basalt, and chert.

In previous seasons, we investigated clay beds that provided raw materials for the manufacture of pottery. Karen Borstad, Raid Al-Baqain, Jihad Haroun, and Akram Autoom located and documented ancient roads and other sites in the vicinity of KaM. They focused their attention on the relation between roads and trade routes and water management (e.g. wells, cisterns, channels). We hope to resume fieldwork at this important and interesting site in the future to shed additional light on these periods. Meanwhile, we thank Jordan's Department of Antiquities and ASOR for allowing us to conduct this research under their auspices since 1995.

*Gerald L. Mattingly, Johnson Bible College, and
James H. Pace, Elon University*

In Memoriam: Traianos Gagos (1960-2010)

In late April 2010, the world learned the tragic news of the death of Traianos Gagos due to an accidental fall at his home in Ann Arbor. On July 5, he was to have turned fifty and this would have taken place during his summer sojourn at ACOR—the center to which he returned regularly to work on the Petra Papyri. Traianos was a fixture at ACOR for so many years and livened up all of our lives so much. We know the feeling of loss is shared by many and extend our sympathy to his widow, Gina Soter, his sister, and his parents in his home village of Karpi in Kilkis, Greece, where he was buried on 14 May.

At the University of Michigan, Traianos had many roles. He was Professor of Papyrology and Greek in the Department of Classical Studies; Archivist of the Papyrology Collection of the Hatcher Library; and Associate Research Scientist of the Kelsey Museum. He was also a very active teacher and promoted outreach and fundraising for many endeavors. He received his B.A. in 1983 from The University of Ioannina in the region of Epirios in northwestern Greece and his Ph.D. from Durham University in England in 1987, the same year that he went to Michigan to work on what became the Duke Data Bank of Documentary Papyri.

Among his many scholarly activities, he was the co-founder and co-editor of *New Texts from Ancient Cultures*

and director of Advanced Papyrological Information System (APIS)—connecting some twenty-five papyrus collections around the world. Professor Ludwig Koenen spoke of his younger colleague at the memorial gathering in Michigan. He acknowledged the important role that Traianos played in the study and publication of the Petra Papyri discovered in 1993 in the Petra Church excavated under the aegis of ACOR. Traianos dealt with the papyri assigned to the Michigan team in *Petra Papyri* Vol. III (2007) and Vol. IV (forthcoming). Traianos gave his blessing to the edits for his texts in *P. Papyri IV* just before he died to Antti Arjava in Finland, thus moving forward the project initiated by Jaako Frösén in 1994.

Ludwig Koenen also noted that “with Traianos we have lost a papyrologist of greatest originality, integrity, and ability, a scholar of highest international renown whose footsteps will remain visible.” It is fitting given his love of teaching that the University of Michigan has established an endowment in his memory for the purpose of assisting and promoting study and research in papyrology by students at all levels. Traianos helped move his disciplines into the digital age. Thus, it is also fitting that people were able to express their sorrow by reaching out on Facebook—there one can see photos posted by his friends and relive happy moments of his active life.

Barbara A. Porter, ACOR Director



Traianos Gagos examining Petra papyri in his ACOR carrel; photo by B. Porter

American Center of Oriental Research: 2010–2011 Fellowship Awardees Announcement

National Endowment for The Humanities Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship

Fida Adely (Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, Georgetown University) Courting, Match-making and the Conceptualizations of Marriage amidst a Marriage Crisis

ACOR-CAORC Post-Graduate Fellowship

James Pokines (Forensic Anthropology, JPAC Central Identification Laboratory) Paleoecology and Taphonomy of Wadi Zarqa Ma'in 1, a Natural Faunal Trap Sinkhole Site near Madaba

Louise Cainkar (Social and Cultural Sciences, Marquette University) Liminality, Loyalties, and Modes of Incorporation: A Comparative, Transnational Study of American Muslim Youth

Elena Corbett (History, Behrend College of Penn State University, Erie) A Canvas for the Nationalist Mind's Eye: Antiquity, Landscape and Hashemite Narratives of Jordan

Elise Friedland (Classical and Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, George Washington University) Seeing the Gods: Sculptures, Sanctuaries, and the Roman Near East

Konstantine Politis (Prehistory and Europe Department, British Museum) Archaeological Landscapes of Zoara: Results of the Survey and Excavations in the Ghor es-Safi (Jordan) from 1997 to 2009

Gary Rollefson (Anthropology, Whitman College) Life and Death in the Prehistoric Eastern Badia of Jordan

ACOR-CAORC Fellowship

Owen Chesnut (Ancient Near East Archaeology and Anthropology, Andrews University) A Reassessment of the Excavations at Tall Safut (1982-2001)

Matthew Gasperetti (Biological Anthropology, University of Cambridge) The Foundations of Agriculture: A Biocultural Study of Diet, Health, and Behavior in the Prehistoric Levant

Syed Junaid Quadri (Institute of Islamic Studies, McGill University) Islam, Tradition and Reform: Hanafi Scholars in the Middle East and Beyond

John Rucker (Geosciences and History, University of Missouri, Kansas City) A Search for Evidence of an A.D. 536 Cosmic Impact in Dead Sea Lake Sediments

Carolyn Swan (Joukowsky Institute for Archaeology and the Ancient World, Brown University) The Archaeology and Technology of Early Islamic Glassmaking in the Eastern Mediterranean

Anya Vodopyanov (Department of Government, Harvard University) Competing to Serve: State and Non-State Provision of Public Services in Developing Courtrooms

Jennifer C. Groot Fellowship

Tiffany Chezum (Graduate Student, Classics, Queen's University) The Humayma Excavation Project

Eliza Gettel (Undergraduate, Classics, College of the Holy Cross) Bir Madhkur Project

Sara Hodge (Undergraduate, Anthropology and Antiquities, Missouri State University) Tall Hisban

Harrell Family Fellowship; Pierre and Patricia Bikai Fellowship; and Bert and Sally de Vries Fellowship

Theresa Barket (Graduate Student, Anthropology, University of California, Riverside) Al-Jafr Basin Lower Paleolithic Project

MacDonald/Sampson Fellowship

Hilary Lock (Graduate Student, Archaeology, Memorial University of Newfoundland) The Shammakh to Ayl Archaeological Survey, Southern Jordan

ACOR Jordanian Graduate Student Scholarship

Maryam Ibrahim (Graduate Student, Archaeology and Sustainable Tourism, Queen Rania Institute, Hashemite University) A Study of Khirbet Al-Batrawy Archaeological and Tourism Development

Amer Al Suliman (Graduate Student, Archaeology and Sustainable Tourism, Queen Rania Institute, Hashemite University) Geoarchaeology of Tell Abu as Sawwan

Frederick-Wenger Jordanian Educational Fellowship

Samya Khalaf (Graduate Student, Library Information Science, University of Jordan) Archaeological Libraries in Jordan: Reality and Ambition

Kenneth W. Russell Fellowship

Luma Haddad (Graduate Student, Archaeology and Sustainable Tourism, Queen Rania Institute, Hashemite University) Amman and its Surrounding Areas in the Late Bronze Age—Sahab: A Case Study

James A. Sauer Fellowship

Ruba Seiseh (Graduate Student, Archaeology, University of Jordan) Preservation and Management of Traditional Houses in Plaza (Al-Sahab) at the Center of Salt City

For ACOR's fellowship information:

ACOR, 656 Beacon St., 5th Floor,
Boston, MA 02215-2010
Tel.: 617-353-6571; e-mail: acor@bu.edu;
www.bu.edu/acor or www.acorjordan.org

*2009 Award Recipients for the Kenneth W.
Russell Trust Annual Tawjihi Prize for
Students in Umm Sayhoun*

Ahmed Hussain Al Bedoul
Jameelah Al Bedoul

Fellows in Residence (July–December 2009)

ACOR-CAORC Post-Doctoral Fellow

Stefanie Nanes, Hofstra University; Women in Municipal Governance in Jordan: The Impact of the Gender Quota



Stefanie Nanes with HRH Prince Raad at ACOR's holiday lunch

ACOR-CAORC Fellows

Sarah Bush, Princeton University; The Politics of Promoting Democracy

Susynne McElrone, New York University; Hebron, a town among villages—urban, rural and nomadic interaction in southern Palestine society in the first half of the 19th century



Sarah Bush



Susynne McElrone

Pierre and Patricia Bikai Fellow

Micaela Sinibaldi, Cardiff University; Villages of Crusader Transjordan: Production, Circulation and Use of Ceramics in the 12th Century A.D.

Bert and Sally de Vries Fellow

Mariusz Gorniak, Jagiellonian University, Krakow; Burial Rites in Bronze Age Transjordan: Reconstruction Attempt



Micaela Sinibaldi



Mariusz Gorniak

JSTOR Access

in ACOR Library

We would like to take this opportunity to remind our researchers about the JSTOR database available at ACOR. Our library provides the only point of public access in Jordan for this important resource. JSTOR provides online access to digital versions of many academic journals that are otherwise not available in Jordan. ACOR's subscription to this service is subsidized by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation through the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC).



JSTOR computer in the ACOR Library

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ACOR would like to offer special thanks to Mrs. Lin Hammond for her guidance, support, and assistance in helping to return the American Expedition to Petra (AEP) excavation archives to Jordan. The independent AEP project was directed by the late Dr. Philip C. Hammond. These materials are now being used for the TWLCRM initiative (see page 6).



Lin Hammond and Chris Tuttle with packed AEP archive material; courtesy of C. Tuttle

New ACOR Website Reminder



Crowned crane depicted in the northern aisle of the Petra Church

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To contact ACOR in Boston:
acor@bu.edu

To contact ACOR in Amman:
acor@acorjordan.org
reservations@acorjordan.org
library@acorjordan.org

November 2009 Board Meeting

The ACOR Board of Trustees fall meeting was held in New Orleans, Louisiana on 21 November 2009 at the Astor Crowne Plaza Hotel at the time of the ASOR Annual Meetings. Susan Alcock, Megan Perry, and Bethany Walker were all welcomed to the ACOR board for their first meeting as elected trustees.

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