Institute/Museum Update

The Institute of Archaeology/Siegfried H. Horn Museum continues to go through a period of change. Several years ago we reported in the Newsletter (24.4, and 26.2) information about various renovation projects to the inside of the building. Following this up, in the summer of 2012 renovation work was begun on the outside of the Institute of Archaeology. At this time, the drive-through road to the old bank, which was the predecessor to the Institute/Museum, was removed as well as the wooden siding on the building which had severely deteriorated over the years.

In preparation for the new veneer, which provides a weather-resistant barrier, the foundation was repaired by Andrews University Plant Services and Transportation Departments with the help of Exquisite Homes of Michigan, Inc. At the same time, basement waterproofing was provided by Michigan Waterproofing Systems, Inc. The new cement-board siding, trim and soffits were then put on by Exquisite Homes of Michigan, Inc., with L & A Gutters providing the work for this aspect of the project.

This year, following a very late Michigan spring, a second layer of paint was added to the veneer by the Andrews University Plant Services Dept. A large bidirectional sign advertising the Institute/Museum to the public has also been provided by AU Plant Service. As the summer moves along the work is still in progress as grading, curbs, landscaping and paving will round out the renovation project. This work will be provided by the AU Transportation and Grounds Departments, with Kaiser Excavating and AU Transportation providing excavation expertise. In addition, AU Plant Services will be laying conduit and electricity to shine lights at night upon a series of panels depicting in a singular way unique aspects of the Museum’s collection. These panels will be forthcoming in the near future.

(Cont’d on p. 2)
A number of individuals have recently become part of the Institute/Museum staff and are helping with various projects. These include Amanda McGuire-Moushon, who serves as Administrative Assistant; Jacob Moody, as Assistant to the Curator; Christopher Chadwick, as the Museum Librarian; Kevin Burton, as Assistant to the Director of Publications; and Jeff Hudon, Scottie Baker, Christine Chitwood and Jared Wilson, who serve as Graduate Research Assistants.

Jacob and Scottie have been responsible for designing or updating a number of the new displays now featured in the Museum. These include the remodeling of the Cuneiform Tablet room, now with several display cases on top of the cabinets, an Egyptian tomb complete with replicas of a sarcophagus and funerary furniture, and separate exhibits featuring ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia.

In addition, the Madaba Plains Project Room, featuring various aspects of the University’s excavations in Jordan at the sites of Jalul and Hesban, has been updated as well as the New Testament Archaeology Room, with several new display cabinets and the recently-renovated Jerusalem topographical map. Finally, there is now an exhibit of ethnographical artifacts, reflecting the bedouin way of life, recently donated by William Dever.

(Paul J. Ray, Jr)

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**Photo Essay**

Amanda McGuire-Moushon.  
Jacob Moody.  
Scottie Baker.  
Christine Chitwood.  
Kevin Burton.  
Jared Wilson.
Jeff Hudon.

Christopher Chadwick.

Cuneiform Tablet Room.

Black Obelisk in the Mesopotamian Room.

Egyptian Tomb.

3-D Models in the Madaba Plains Project Room.
New Egyptian Tomb:
Tomb KV64 has recently been found in Egypt, in the Valley of the Kings. The tomb itself is a 1.60 x 1.10 m shaft, with a single 4.0 x 2.4 m side chamber at a depth of 2.5 m. While there is a debris layer with remains dating to the 18th Dynasty, the decorated sarcophagus with hieroglyphs dates to the Dynasty 22 (Third Intermediate Period). The coffin contains the wrapped mummy of Nehmes Bastet. From the inscription she is known to be the Singer of Amun Re in the Temple of Karnak, and a Daughter of Amun.

Ancient Sewage System Found:
Archaeologists have uncovered 20 m of a canal, which was part of the sewage system of the ancient city Persepolis, in Iran, built by Darius I (521-486 BC). The sewage system branches off into other directions, and several bas-reliefs have also been discovered in the excavations.

Ancient Seal Found:
Archaeologists have recently discovered a clay seal with an Aramaic inscription that says “pure for God” under Robinson’s Arch, in Jerusalem, that appears to be linked to religious rituals on the Temple Mount, next to it. The seal dates between the First Century BC and AD 70, and was apparently used to indicate what objects or offerings were approved for ritual use in the temple. Strict guidelines for such activities are known from the Mishna.

Tower of Babel Stele?
A new Cornell University Studies in Assyriology and Sumerology Series publication entitled *Cuneiform and Royal Inscriptions in the Schøyen Collection*, includes information on some of the earliest-known documents in history, including the so-called Tower of Babel Stele. This black stone stele dates to the time of Nebuchadnezzar (605-562 BC), who says he mobilized people from all over the world to build the Great Ziggurat (Etemenanki) of Babylon. It also includes an image of himself, wearing a conical hat and holding a staff, next to the ziggurat.

Olympic Walk of Shame:
Outside the stadium in Olympia, Greece, are the remains of statues, known as Zanes, reminders of those who disgraced their communities. If an athlete broke his Olympic oath, he was fined and had to purchase a statue of Zeus, who was thus offended.