Museum Building Project Inaugurated

On May 3, 2009 the Horn Archaeology Museum celebrated previous accomplishments and inaugurated its new building project by honoring Lawrence T. Geraty, former curator and founding director of the Institute of Archaeology. Dr. Geraty, recently retired president of La Sierra University, was previously professor of Archaeology and History of Antiquity at Andrews University Theological Seminary from 1972 until 1985, at which time he was also the director of the Andrews University Heshbon Expedition, in Jordan.

Dr. Geraty later went on to became the senior project director of a followup series of excavations in central Jordan, known as the Madaba Plains Project (MPP), also serving as vice president of the American Center for Oriental Research (ACOR), and president of the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR), as well as publishing nearly 50 scholarly articles, contributing to more than 30 books and editing eight others. Dr. Geraty has made a lasting contribution to Near Eastern archaeology in general and Seventh-day Adventist archaeology in particular and was appropriately presented with an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters earlier in the day at the University graduation.

At the celebration Constance Gane, current curator of the Museum, presented a vision for the Horn Archaeological Museum, followed by Randall Younker, the director of the Institute of Archaeology, who honored Dr. Geraty with a summary of his many achievements, after which

(con’d. on p. 2.)
Geraty was presented with a portrait of himself by Andrews University Art professor Brian Manley, who has also spent time working in Jordan and on various art-related projects in connection with the Institute/Museum. A large painting for the Institute lobby, by Alides S. Goulart, mother of current Ph.D student Christie Goulart-Chadwick was also unveiled followed by hors d’oeuvres and a Museum open house.

The building program is an interdisciplinary effort incorporating the expertise from schools across the campus of Andrews University including the Institute/Museum, the SDA Theological Seminary, the School of Architecture, the Departments of Art and Design and Digital Marketing and Communication in cooperation with the Design Services of Icon International Exhibits of Fort Wayne, IN. The end product will introduce people to God through the archaeology of the biblical world, facilitate academic excellence through its resources and scholarly research, and promote an educational environment to the public as well as developing scholars. Dr. Geraty serves as the chair of the Horn Museum Building Committee. (Paul J. Ray, Jr.)

NEH Summer Institute for School Teachers

Thirty public and private school teachers from 16 States spent 4 weeks (June 30 - July 24, 2009) at Andrews University as part of a summer institute to foster archaeology education in precollegiate classes. The topic “Daily Life in Ancient Times: Archaeology of Israel and Jordan,” utilized artifacts in the collection of the Horn Archaeological Museum. Lectures and labs presented by resident scholars, as well as invited speakers, took place at the Museum, Architecture Building and Biology Department.

Teachers enjoyed sitting in the Bedouin tent, learning about animal bones, pottery sherds, and Museum exhibits. The cuneiform tablets, carefully maintained in a temperature-controlled environment, left the biggest impression. Teachers made their own cylinder seals and cuneiform tablets. Some of the teachers have since replicated the hands-on lesson in their classrooms. In addition, each teacher created a lesson plan on ancient life in antiquity. Participants received a DVD of all the lesson plans for use in schools throughout the country. They are also currently available on the web at: http://home.earthlink.net/~galondon//NEH2009/index.html.

Along with using the Horn Museum study collections of pottery sherds, teachers assembled modern and ancient pots in the Museum. “Broken pottery will never look the same” one teacher remarked. A seed laboratory, made possible by the Biology Department, which rounded up 30 microscopes for the session, allowed teachers to examine, count and draw seeds native to the Middle East. The group visited the Fort St. Joseph excavation site in Niles, MI where teachers would have gladly stayed to excavate. Some teachers have since simulated digs for their students and it is hoped that they themselves might have the opportunity to join the Madaba Plains Project excavations at Tall Jalul, Tall Hesban or Tall ‘Umayri this coming summer or some other time in the future. Michigan and
Wisconsin participants plan to bring their students back to Berrien Springs to visit the Horn Museum.

Codirectors Professor Rhonda Root (Andrews University, Architecture Department) and Dr. Gloria London (Seattle) organized the program funded by the National Endowment of the Humanities (NEH). Participating Andrews University faculty included Professors Younker, Gane, LaBianca, Ray, Elkins and Manley along with invited guests Drs. Herr, Bedell, Bates, J. Delcolle and T.

Modern Cuneiform Tablet.

Largy. Annually the NEH sponsors 20 three - six week Summer Institutes and Seminars for school teachers K-12 and another 20 for college professors at different campuses across the country. (Gloria London)

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**Ottoman Pottery Book:**

Congratulations are due to Madaba Plains Project member Bethany Walker who has recently edited the book *Reflections of Empire: Archaeological and Ethnographical Studies on the Pottery of the Ottoman Levant* (AASOR vol. 64), 2009. Walker contributed two chapters along with Miriam Avissar, Marwan Abu Khalaf, Hamad Salem and Ruth Smadar Gabrieli, reflecting an overview of Ottoman-period ceramics in Israel, Gaza, Palestine, Jordan and Cyprus. Burt de Vries and Øystein Labiana provided a preface for the volume.

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**New Tomb Found at Thebes:**

Egyptian archaeologists digging in the west-bank necropolis of Thebes, at Dra Abu el-Naga, have recently found an 18th-dynasty (1577-1295 BC) tomb that belonged to an official known as the Amun-em-Opet (Supervisor of Hunters). Two other undecorated tombs were found northwest of this tomb of which the associated names were the Supervisor of the Cattle of Amun and the Royal Messenger and Supervisor of the Palace. Fragments of mummies and ushabtis were also found in the tombs.

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**Earliest Image of Paul?**

A 4th century fresco of the apostle Paul has been uncovered in the catacomb of Saint Thekla, in Rome, with the aid of a laser, which cleared away centuries of grime. Thekla was a follower of Paul who was put to death at the beginning of the 4th century under the Emperor Diocletian.

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**Ancient Jar Burial Found in Iran:**

An intact jar burial containing a skeleton in fetal position was discovered during an excavation carried out at Haft-Tappeh, a major Elamite site, near Susa, in Khuzestan Province, Iran, which dates to the Middle Elamite period (ca. 1500-1100 BC).

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**More LMLK Seals Found:**

Four LMLK-type impressions have recently been found together with seal impressions of two high-ranking officials named Ahimelek ben-Amadyahu and Yehokhil ben-Shahar, who served in the government of the kingdom of Judah probably during the reign of Hezekiah (end of the 8th century BC), at the Israel Antiquities Authority excavations at Umm Tuba (biblical Netofa, 2 Sam 23:28-29), in the southern hills of Jerusalem.