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Paul and Nancy Lapp Photographic Collection, 1957-2002

Collection Overview

Creators:	Nancy L. Lapp (1930-), Paul W. Lapp (1930–1970)
Dates:	1957-2002 (inclusive)
Provenance:	Gift to ACOR from Nancy Lapp. Deed of Gift signed June 28, 2018. Second donation August 2019.
Terms of Use:	All copyrights are held by the American Center of Oriental Research (ACOR). Photos in this collection are free to use for academic, research, and scholarly projects. Please contact ACOR for non-watermarked images. Commercial use is granted on a case-by-case basis.
Cite collection as:	The Paul and Nancy Lapp collection at the American Center of Oriental Research (ACOR), Amman, Jordan
Related materials:	The ACOR Library collection includes works about, written by, and featuring the work of Paul W. Lapp (View search results here) and Nancy L. Lapp (View search results here)
Physical location:	ACOR Archive
Collection processing notes:	Processed with funding provided by a Title VI Fiscal Year 2016 American Overseas Research Centers grant from the U.S. Department of Education.
Processing history:	Processed by Hala Saqqa and Samya Khalaf Kafafi, 2018. ACOR Library and Archives Team 2018-2019: Samya Khalaf-Kafafi, Carmen (Humi) Ayoubi, Eslam Dawodieh, Rachael McGlensey, and Ashley Lumb. Collection made available on ACOR Photo Archive online platform 2019.



Collection Summary

The Paul and Nancy Lapp Photographic Collection features approximately 4,500 images of cultural heritage sites, landscapes, and people in Jordan and the surrounding region. Also included are photographs taken during Paul and Nancy's travels through Jerusalem and the West Bank, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the Persian Gulf, starting from 1957; photos taken during excavations led by Paul Lapp during his directorship of ASOR in Jerusalem from 1960–1965; photos taken during his direction of the Bab edh-Dhra' excavations in 1965 and 1967; project photos from Nancy's involvement in later Expedition to the Dead Sea Plain project excavations co-directed by Thomas Schaub and Walter Rast; and photos taken during continued travel and tours guided by Nancy Lapp throughout Jordan and the Middle East. The physical collection is comprised of sixteen binders containing 35mm slides (24x36mm frame) in color and black and white. The majority of the color slides are Kodachrome, a film of particular quality and color saturation, which was developed and processed by Kodak from 1935–2010. Also included are several sheets of 127 slides (40x40mm frame), a number of 126 slides (28x28mm frame), and occasional 35mm photographs of lantern slide images of various sites, likely taken between 1900–1930s, the original formats of which are held by the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Along with the photographs, Nancy Lapp provided detailed lists of metadata, and this information is uploaded alongside the images to the ACOR Archive online platform.

Biographical/Historical Note

Paul Lapp (1930–1970) and Nancy Lapp (1930-) are American biblical scholars and archaeologists who met during their university studies at Johns Hopkins University under William Foxwell Albright in 1956. They excavated for the first time in the Middle East in 1957, and traveled and excavated extensively in the region from this time onward, using the American School of Oriental Research (ASOR) in Jerusalem as their home base. Paul Lapp was Director of ASOR from 1960–1965, and after he stepped down as Director he began excavations at Bab edh-Dhra'. This site has since expanded into the Expedition to the Dead Sea Plain project (EDSP) including several other sites southeast of the Dead Sea, which Nancy continued to be involved with through its 1971–1990 field seasons. Paul died in a swimming accident in 1970, after which Nancy began working at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. She taught there and was Curator of the university's Kelso Museum of Near Eastern Archaeology. Since Paul's death Nancy has been committed to publishing the results of his numerous excavations, a task which is nearly complete. She currently serves as Curator Emerita of the Kelso Museum and a Trustee Emerita on the ACOR Board of Trustees.

Selected Publications by Paul and Nancy Lapp

Books

- Barako, T.J. and Lapp, N. 2015. *Tell er-Rumeith: the excavations of Paul W. Lapp*. Boston: American Schools of Oriental Research.
- Lapp, N. 2008. "Shechem IV: the Persian-Hellenistic Pottery of Shechem/Tell Balatah". Ed. E.F. Campell Jr. *American Schools of Oriental Research Archaeological Reports (11)*. Boston: American Schools of Oriental Research.
- Lapp, N. 1983. "The Excavations at Iraq al-Amir". *Annual of the American Schools of Oriental Research v. 47*.
- Graham, J.A., Lapp, N., et al. 1981. "The Third Campaign at Tell el-Ful: the excavations of 1964". *Annual of the American Schools of Oriental Research v. 45*.



- Lapp, P. 1975. *The tale of the Tell: archaeological studies*. Ed. Nancy Lapp. Pittsburgh: Pickwick Press.
- Lapp, N. and Lapp, P. 1974. "Discoveries in the Wadi ed-Daliyeh". *Annual of the American Schools of Oriental Research* v. 41.
- Lapp, P. 1969. *Biblical archaeology and history*. New York: World Pub. Co.
- Husseini, N. and Lapp, P.W. 1963. *Arabic for the beginner in archaeology*. Jerusalem: The Commercial Press. Revised 1971, 1900 by Nancy Lapp; 2009 by Robert Schick (Boston: American Center of Oriental Research).

Articles

- Lapp, N. 1995. "Pottery Marks from the Expedition to the Dead Sea Plain". In *Studies in the History and Archaeology of Jordan* v. 5, pp. 555-571.
- Lapp, N. 1976. "Casemate Walls in Palestine and the Late Iron II Casemate at Tell el-Ful (Gibeah)". In *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research* v. 223. pp. 25-42.
- Lapp, P. 1969. "The 1968 Excavations at Tell Ta'annek". In *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research*, pp 2-49.
- Lapp, N. and Lapp, P. 1958. "A Comparative Study of a Hellenistic Pottery Group from Beth-zur". In *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research* v. 28.

Publications about the Paul and Nancy Lapp collection

Articles

- McGlensey, Rachael. 2019. "Images from a Lifetime Dedicated to Archaeology: The Paul and Nancy Lapp collection at ACOR". ACOR Photo Archive Blog. <https://photoarchive.acorjordan.org/nancy-lapp/> [Accessed 4 December 2019].
- McGlensey, Rachael. 2019. "A Record of Archaeologists Past". ACOR Photo Archive Blog. <https://photoarchive.acorjordan.org/a-record-of-archaeologists-past/> [Accessed 8 December 2019].

Notes

- Image naming guidelines: The first letter(s) in the item file name/label stands for the country. The second letter(s) stands for the format. The number after the second letter indicates the site number. For images in Jordan, there will be an additional number after the first letter which indicates the region within Jordan.
 - Collection name_Country_Original Format_Site Number_File number
 - NL_J_2_S_35_001 = Paul and Nancy Lapp collection_Jordan_2-Amman and Central Plateau_Slide_35-Iraq al-Amir_Image 001
- The ACOR Archive online platform currently displays the Lapps' photographs from Jordan. The second donation, containing photographs from the Jerusalem area, Lebanon Syria, Iraq, Iran, Saudi Arabia, the Persian Gulf, and Morocco, is currently being processed. The finding aid will be updated as this progresses.
- Lapp also had her own numbering system for her photographs. Her identification numbers are included in the metadata on the ACOR Archive online platform under "Nancy Lapp no."



- Some slides are imprinted with dates. However, these are the dates the films were processed, not when the images were taken. Therefore only the year may be adhered to with any degree of certainty, and this date may be used when no other information exists.
- Some of the individuals in these photographs were only identified by their first name. ACOR intends to make further efforts toward identifying these people, so if you recognize any of the currently unidentified individuals in these images, please contact us at: archives@acorjordan.org

Language: English with Arabic transliteration for place names.

Subject Headings

In accordance with the Library of Congress Subject Headings and Place Name authorities.

Subjects:

Middle East
 Material culture—Middle East—History
 Cultural Heritage
 Architecture—Middle East
 Photography
 Aerial Photography
 Landscapes
 History
 Archaeology
 Human remains (Archaeology)

Original Format:

35mm color photographic slides
 35mm black and white photographic slides
 127 slides, 40x40mm color photographic film
 127 slides, 40x40mm black and white photographic film
 126 slides, 28x28mm black and white photographic film

Geographic:

Middle East
 Jordan—History

Organizations:

American Center of Oriental Research (ACOR)
 American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR)
 The British Institute in Amman (BIA / CBRL)
 Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

Persons (alphabetical order by first name; not all include surnames):

Abn Issa, local worker at Bab edh-Dhra'
 Ahmed, landowner of Iraq al-Amir in 1961
 Awni al-Dajani, former Director of Jordan Department of Antiquities
 Burton MacDonald, archaeologist and member of the Expedition to the Dead Sea Plain 1977
 Carmen "Humi" Ayoubi, ACOR Library Director 1988–present
 Colin Booker, ACOR NEH Fellow 1986–1987
 Crystal Bennett, archaeologist and founding director of the British Institute in Amman
 Dakhalleh, local worker at Petra
 David McCreery, archaeologist and former ACOR Director 1981–88, husband of Linda McCreery



David Tilly
Delbert Flora
Dick Margerum
Donald Whitcomb, archaeologist
Dorothy K. Hill, archaeologist and field supervisor during fall 1962 excavations at Iraq al-Amir
Eduardo Borzatti von Lowenstern
Falah edh-Dhib and sons Ahmed, Subhen, and Ghalib, local workers during 1961 excavations at Iraq al-Amir; as well as family Fafidhi and Hamid
Fawzi Zayadine, Jordanian archaeologist
François Larché, archaeologist
Gerrit van der Kooij, co-director of excavations at Tell Deir Alla in 1987
Ghazi Bisheh, Director of the Department of Antiquities in Jordan 1994–99
Glenda Zink, worked with objects at Iraq al-Amir in 1961, wife of a 1961 ACOR Fellow
Ilene Nicholas, archaeologist and Associate Director of excavations at Jabal al-Qesir in 1987
Irene Lapp, mother of Paul Lapp and wife of Wilburt Lapp
Isam', local worker at Petra
Jack Donahue, geologist and research staff for Expedition to the Dead Sea Plain, 1977–1981
James A. Sauer, archaeologist and ACOR Director 1975–1981
Jane Barker
Jane Lutinski
Jennifer Loyd, archaeologist
Jim Irvine
Kathleen Kenyon, archaeologist
Konstaninos "Dino" Politis, archaeologist
Linda McCreery, wife of David McCreery
Lounette Nicol
Marilyn Schaub, scholar and former Administrative Director of the Expedition to the Dead Sea Plain project, wife of Thomas Schaub
Mary Lou Huffmon, in charge of object registration at Iraq al-Amir 1961, wife of ASOR Fellow and field supervisor Herbert Huffmon
Megan Perry, archaeologist
Michael Brett, architect during 1962 excavations at Iraq al-Amir
Mick Wright
Mousa, local worker at Petra
Muhammed A. Darwish, technical worker for Expedition to the Dead Sea Plain, 1979–1981
Mukhtar Sulamet, worker at 1961 Iraq al-Amir excavations, son of Nahr Salah
Mukhtar Suleiman
Murray Nichol, archaeologist
Mustafa Tawfiq, foreman for Paul Lapp's three excavation seasons at Iraq al-Amir from 1961–62
Nahr Salah, worker at 1961 Iraq al-Amir excavations, father of Mukhtar Sulamet
Nancy L. Lapp
Neil Richardson
Patrick E. McGovern, archaeologist
Paul W. Lapp
Phil McComber, archaeologist
HRH Prince Ra'ad bin Zeid



Professor R.B.Y. Scott (Robert Balgarnie Young) FRSC of Princeton University, Associate Director and Recorder during fall 1962 excavation season at Iraq al-Amir

Robin Brown, former ACOR Assistant Director in the U.S. 1993–95

Fr. Roland de Vaux, French Dominican priest with archaeological skills, former Director of the Ecolè Biblique in Jerusalem

Russ Southwick

Ruweiheh, local worker at Petra

Salim, landowner of Iraq al-Amir in 1961

Sami Rashid, Inspector of Antiquities in Irbid area 1962

Susanna Rast, wife of Walter E. Rast

R. Thomas Schaub, former co-director of the Expedition to the Dead Sea Plain project, husband of Marilyn Schaub

Thomas Maria Weber-Karyotakis, archaeologist

Walter E. Rast, former co-director of the Expedition to the Dead Sea Plain project

Wilbert Lapp, father of Paul Lapp and husband of Irene Lapp

Fr. William Casey S.J., field supervisor during fall 1962 excavations at Iraq al-Amir

Zbigniew T. Fiema, senior archaeologist and advisor to the Petra Papyri Project (at ACOR 1992–97)

Organization and Arrangement of Collection

The physical collection is arranged in sixteen series, primarily by geographic region within Jordan. Larger collections are broken down into further geographic and topical subseries. Images are arranged following the creator's organization and is primarily chronological, unless otherwise noted.

Series 1: North Jordan

Series one includes photographs of cultural heritage and archaeological sites and events in the north Jordan region.

Subseries consist of the following sites:

Ajlun, Jerash (Gerasa), Tell as Sa'idiyah, Pella (Tabaqet Fahel), Umm Qais (Gadara), Mastaba, Abila (Qweilbeh), Khirbet ez-Zeraqon, Wadi Hemmeh (Wadi Hammeh 27), Tell al-Husun, Tell er-Rumeith, Tell Abu el-Kharaz, el-Ghuweirin

Series 2: Amman and Central Plateau

Series two includes photographs of cultural heritage and archaeological sites and events in the central plateau region and several places within the capital city of Amman.

Subseries consist of the following sites:

Amman Citadel, Khirbat al-Balu'a, Ain Ghazal, Tell Umeiri, el-Karak, Deir Alla, Madaba, Mount Nebo, Dhiban, Wadi Mujib, Qasr Amra, Qasr al-Kharanah, Suwayma, Amman, ACOR, Amman Airport, Jordan Archaeological Museum, downtown Amman, Qasr al-Mushatta, Khirbet Iskandar, Ader, as Salt, al-Muwaqqar, Baq'ah Valley, Tell Hesban, Umm ad-Dananir, Tell el Mazar, Machaerus, Jabal al-Qesir, Tell Khalifeh, Umm er-Rasas (Kastron Mefa'a), Lejjun, Tell al-Hamman, Baptism site, Deir Ain Abata (Lot's Cave), Aroer, Hammam as-Sarakh, (Qasr) al-Rabbah, Wadi al-Wala, Wadi Zarqa Ma'in, Umm el Quttein

Series 3: Petra and South Jordan



Series three includes photographs of cultural heritage and archaeological sites and events in the south Jordan region, including the site of Petra.

Subseries consist of the following sites:

Khirbet et-Tannur, Umm el-Biyara, Petra, Wadi el-Hasa, Shobak, Tafilah

Series 4: Wadi Rum and Aqaba

Series four includes photographs of cultural heritage and archaeological sites and events in the regions of and surrounding Wadi Rum and Aqaba.

Subseries consist of the following sites:

Wadi Disi, Wadi Rum/Ramm, Aqaba / Ayla

Series 5: Eastern Desert

Series five includes photographs of cultural heritage and archaeological sites and events in the eastern desert areas of Jordan.

Subseries consist of the following sites:

Azraq fort (Qasr Azraq), Umm el-Jimal, Qasr al-Hallabat

Series 6: Jordan Valley, Dead Sea and Wadi Araba, Miscellaneous

Series six includes photographs of cultural heritage and archaeological sites and events in the southernmost Jordan Valley and the Dead Sea and Wadi Araba regions, as well as miscellaneous or unidentified photos of Jordan.

Subseries consist of the following sites:

Teleilat el-Ghassul, Jordan Valley, Damiyah, Tell Iktanu, Tell er Rameh, Tell Kefrein, Ayn ez-Zara / Callirrhoe, Dhra', the Dead Sea

Series 7: Expedition to the Dead Sea Plain Project Sites

Series seven includes photographs of additional archaeological sites that Nancy Lapp worked at as part of the Expedition to the Dead Sea Plain project (EDSP). A portion of these images come from the official project photography, which ACOR was kindly given permission to include. Subseries consist of the following sites, including photos of artifacts found at each site, their staff and camp life, and any other unidentified EDSP photos:

Tell Numeira/Numayra, es-Safi, Khanazir, Feifa/Fifa, Bab edh-Dhra'

Series 8: Bab edh-Dhra 1: Cemetery A

Series eight contains photos of individual tombs within the biggest cemetery at the site of Bab edh-Dhra, Cemetery A, in addition to otherwise unidentified photos of 'Bab edh-Dhra Cemetery'. These were primarily taken during excavations led by Paul Lapp in 1965 and 1967.



Series 9: Bab edh-Dhra 2: Cemeteries, Fields, and Town Site

Series nine contains photographs of various places within the site of Bab edh-Dhra, including Cemeteries B, C, D, F, the town site, and additional excavation fields. This series also includes photos of artifacts and staff and camp life from Bab edh-Dhra as well as otherwise unspecified Expedition to the Dead Sea Plain project photos. A majority of these were taken during excavations led by Paul Lapp in 1965 and 1967.

Series 10 : Iraq al-Amir

Series ten contains photos from excavations of the site and Qasr al-Abd at Iraq al-Amir under the direction of Paul Lapp from 1961-1962.

Currently being processed:

Series 11: Middle East Region

Subseries consist of the following sites:

Saudi Arabia: Dharan

Iran: Sahr-e Pol-e Zahab, Taq-I Bostan, Bisotun, Hamadan, Qom, Esfahan/Isfahan, Shiraz, Persepolis, Naqsh-e Rostam, Caspian region, Tehran, Shahr-e Rey/Ray, Susa

Iraq: Fulludja/Fallujah, Baghdad, Babylon, Birs Nimrud, Nippur, Kish, Ur, Tell Obeid/al-'Ubaid, Samawa, Kirkuk, Erbil, Ninevah, Mosul, Nimrud, Bishikah/Bashiqqa, Khorsabad, Hatra, Assur/Ashur, Samarra, Ctesiphon, Basra

Series 12: Lebanon

Subseries consist of the following sites:

Baalbek, Beirut, Byblos, Sidon, Tyre, Zahle, Beiteddine, Tripoli

Series 13: Syria

Subseries consist of the following sites:

Damascus, Maaloula, Saidnaya/Sednaya, Hama, Apamea, Ebla, Aleppo, Qala'at Semaan (the Church of Saint Simeon Stylites), the Dead Cities, Hauran villages, Bosra, Qasr al-Hayr al-Gharbi, Raqqa, al-Rusafa, Halabiye, Khabur area, Dura-Europos, Mari (Tell Hariri), Ras Shamra (Ugarit), Latakia, Tartus/Tartous, Arwad, Amrit, Margat or Marqab (Qalaat al-Marqab), Citadel of Salah Ed-Din or Qal'at Salah el Din (Sehyoyn), Krak des Chevaliers

Series 14: Jerusalem

Series 15: West Bank 1



Series fifteen includes photographs from excavations led by Paul Lapp at Tell el-Ful, Wadi ed-Daliyeh, and Dhahr Mirzbaneh.

Subseries consist of the following sites:

Bethzur, Mirzbaneh, Tell el-Ful, Wadi ed-Daliyeh, Alayiq, Hisham Palace / Khirbat al-Mafjar, Jericho, Wadi Kelt, Qumran, Nablus / Tell Balatah

Series 16: West Bank 2

Subseries consist of the following sites:

El-Jib, Ai, Bethel, Bir Zeit, Shiloh, Samaria, Herodium, Tell Beit Mirsim, Hebron, Bethlehem, al-Qubeiba, Latrun, Amwas, Bethany

About this finding aid:

Prepared by: Rachael McGlensey (March 2019).

Last update: 2 December 2019

Language: Arabic finding aid in progress (2019)

Bibliography: Lapp, N. March 2019, "Adventures and Discoveries from Half a Century of Life as an Archaeologist." Lecture given at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, Pittsburgh, PA. <https://www.pts.edu/Archaeology-Lectures> [Last accessed 20 June, 2019].
Lapp, Nancy. June 2019. By Rachael McGlensey. ACOR Photo Archive
Campbell Jr., E.F. May 1970. "Paul W. Lapp: In Memoriam," *The Biblical Archaeologist* 33(2), pp. 60-62. https://www.jstor.org/stable/3211028?seq=1#page_scan_tab_contents