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Finding Aid USAID SCHEP Collection, 2014-2018 (inclusive)

Collection Overview

Creators: USAID SCHEP
Dates: 2014-2018 (inclusive)
Provenance: Created by USAID SCHEP
Terms of Use: All copyrights are held by the American Center of Research (ACOR). Photos in this collection are free to use for academic, research, scholarly, and editorial projects. Please contact ACOR for non-watermarked images.

Cite collection as: USAID SCHEP collection at the American Center of Research (ACOR)
Related materials: The ACOR Library collection includes work featuring SCHEP. View search results here. The Photo Archive website regularly shares articles about collections.

Location: Born-digital photographs held on ACOR Archive server


Processing history: Processed by Nizar Al Adarbeh, Ashley Lumb, Jessica Holland, Shatha Abu Aball, Starling Carter, Khadija Alfaqeer & Nora Alomari. Expertise relating to metadata provided by: Jehad Haron, Konstantinos Politis, Bert de Vries, Douglas Clark & Mohammad Saedeen.

Collection Summary

The USAID SCHEP collection is comprised of 4,710 selected born-digital photographs from the first four years of SCHEP (2014 – 2018), making 4,265 of them available to the public as a special collection within the ACOR Photo Archive. The photos showcase SCHEP-supported site development work at nine sites throughout Jordan (Bayt Ras, Umm al Jimal, Madaba, Ghawr as Safi, Busayra, Bir Madhkur, Temple of the Winged Lions, Wadi Rum, Ayla), highlighting modern conservation methods and local community involvement. The collection also includes images of SCHEP’s capacity building and tourism development efforts, as well as awareness activities and special events (including conferences, site launches, meetings, and lectures) from 2014 to 2018.

Biographical/Historical Note

A variety of people took the photographs within this collection. The below list includes all of those contributors, including the SCHEP Communications team, which was established in April 2015.


Other Contributors: Bidaya Marketing Communications, The Royal Marine Conservation Society of Jordan (JREDS) Team, Temple of the Winged Lions (TWL) Team, Bayt Ras Team Project Team, Friends of Archaeology and Heritage (FOAH) Team
Publications

About SCHEP


About SCHEP-supported sites

Bayt Ras


Umm al Jimal


Wadi Rum


Busayra


4. Singer-Avitz, Lily. 2004. “Busayra Painted Ware' at Tel Beersheba.” Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv University Institute of Archaeology.


Ghawr as Safi


Temple of the Winged Lions


Madaba


Bir Madhkur


Ayla


Notes

- Image naming guidelines: UJ_SD_0001 identifies Umm al Jimal_Site Development_File number. SD = Site Development; AW = Awareness; CB = Capacity Building; TD = Tourism Development; ECL = Events, Conferences, and Lectures.
- There is a gap in the image sequencing: TWL_SD_258, 2018_AW_0052, 2018_AW_0053, 2018_AW_0076, 2017_AW_0190 and 2016_CB_0137 were removed as it was a duplicate.
- Site development and selected capacity building images from inside the Bayt Ras tomb are not yet available to the public. For this reason, there may be gaps in the sequential numbering of image files in these categories. To request access to these images, please contact us at: archives@acorjordan.org.
- 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: Bilingual (English and Arabic) for following metadata fields: title, description, keywords.

Subject Headings

In accordance with the Library of Congress Subject Headings and Place Name authorities and in addition to contextually relevant terms.

Subjects:
- Middle East
- Material culture--Middle East--History
- Cultural Heritage
Architecture—Middle East
Photography
Landscapes
History
Archaeology
Events
Awareness
Capacity Building
Tourism

**Original Format:**
Born digital photographs

**Geographic:**
Middle East
Jordan—History


**People pictured:** Eman Abdessalam (site steward), Shatha Abu Aballi, Ruba Abudalu, Erin Addison (USAID SCHEP), Yousef Ahmed, Mustafa Ajlouni (site steward), Nizar al Adarbeh, Amjad al Batayneh, Bilal Al Dghemat (site steward), Firas Bqa'in, Ghassan al Deir, Mohammed al Domyan, Sana al Hamadeen, Abdul Qader al Housan (Department of Antiquities), Ahmed al Marafi (surveyor), Ahlam al Masaeed, Ahmad al Masaeed, Ali al Masaeed (foreman), Muaffaq al Masaeed (site steward), Na'el Aqeeq al Masaeed, Nayef al Masaeed, Balqees al Mohaisen, Ahmad al Momanim, Halemah al Nawafleah, Safa al Rafoh (site steward), Ali al Soide, Emad al Thros (Director of the Department of Antiquities Tafileh Directorate), Salem al Zalabieh, Bassam Alfaqeer, Ghaith Alfaqeer, Shaker Alfaqeer, Khitmeh Aljdelat, Dr. Alexandria Arriotti, Manal Basuoni (Director of the Aqaba Directorate), Dr. Soizik Bechetoille-Kaczorowski, Jean-Sylvain Caillou, Douglas Clark (MRAMP Project Co-director), Glenn Corbett (ACOR), Bert de Vries, Obada Farajat, Dana Farraj, Chiara Fornace, Jack Green (ACOR), Sarah Harpending (ACOR), Jehad Haron (SCHEP), Dr. Monther Jamhawi (Department of Antiquities), Baha’ Jankhot, Ageleh Jmeidi, Zaid Kashour (SCHEP), Hussein Khirfan (SCHEP), Huda Kilani (USAID SCHEP), Ahmed Lash (Department of Antiquities), Charmaine Ledesma, Ahmad Mowasa (site steward), Zachharia N. A. Na’mat, Raneen Naimi (SCHEP), Abd al Rohman Nasarat, Wajd Nawafleah, Heba Odeh (SCHEP intern), Konstantinos Politis, Barbara A. Porter (ACOR), Elena Ronza, Abdallah Saedeen, Mohammad Saedeen (site steward), Miriam Saleh (ACOR), Franco Sciorilli, Nayef Shamalat (site
steward), Fareed Shishani (SCHEP), Mohammad Shobaki, Islam Sleim, Sofia Smith (SCHEP), Andrew Smith, Jehad Suleiman (site steward), Anas Taani, Maria Trogolo, Hamza Wakhyan, Alice Wells (US Ambassador), Naif Zaban (ACOR).

Organizations Represented: American Center of Research (ACOR), Petra Development & Tourism Region Authority (PDTRA), Mars Robotics, Ammon College, The Royal Marine Conservation Society of Jordan (JREDS), Bayt Ras Consortium, Department of Antiquities (DOA), Istituto Superiore per la Conservazione ed il Restauro (ISCR), Institut Francais du Proche Orient (Ifpo)

Organization and Arrangement of Collection

The collection is arranged in five series by categories: Site Development, Capacity Building, Awareness, Events, and Tourism. Further information on each category and site can be seen here.

Site Development: SCHEP selected nine cultural heritage sites across the country to develop, ranging from well-known locations such as Petra to those that rarely, if ever, received visitors before. Given the diversity of the areas the project was involved with, there was no standard model that could be followed to preserve, protect, develop and promote the sites with the direct involvement of the surrounding communities.

- Bayt Ras - In 2016, a painted Roman-era tomb was discovered at Bayt Ras in Irbid. The wall paintings feature unique images depicting the founding of the city and the daily lives of those who lived there almost 2000 years ago. In Bayt Ras, USAID SCHEP worked as part of a consortium including the Department of Antiquities of Jordan (DOA), American Center of Oriental Research (ACOR), Istituto Superiore per la Conservazione ed il Restauro/Italy (ISCR), Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS), Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale/Italy (ISPRA), and Institut Français du Proche Orient (Ifpo). This consortium conducted excavation, documentation, and conservation work inside the tomb.

- Umm al Jimal - Just east of Mafraq, Umm al Jimal has been continually inhabited since its inception as a Nabataean trading post. The buildings were constructed and re-constructed out of black basalt stones, giving this ancient city a distinct appearance. At Umm al Jimal, SCHEP partnered with the Umm el-Jimal Archaeological Project under the leadership of Dr. Bert de Vries to clear pathways for visitors and install interpretive signage throughout the site, among other interventions.

- Wadi Rum - Although Wadi Rum is both a natural and cultural heritage site, home to settlements and cultic structures from various periods throughout history. Throughout this famous desert landscape, rock art and inscriptions in various ancient languages can still be seen clearly to this day. In Wadi Rum, SCHEP supported The Community-Based Rock Art and Epigraphic Recording Project (CB-RAER) to conduct documentation, observation, and limited conservation of rock art and inscriptions, as well as training local community members in these activities.
• **Busayra** - Busayra was the capital of the Iron Age Kingdom of Edom, which held power in the area alongside the Ammonites and Moabites. Today you can see the remnants of an ancient palace, cisterns, and what is believed to have served as a temple at the site. SCHEP worked with the Busayra Cultural Heritage Project from 2015 – 2017, with a focus on cleaning and protecting the archaeological site. Beginning in 2018, SCHEP worked with the Department of Antiquities to improve site presentation and navigability.

• **Ghawr as Safi** - The southern Jordan Valley was a hub for sugar production between the eleventh to the fifteenth centuries. This history can be experienced today at the medieval Islamic sugar factory that still stands in Ghawr as Safi. SCHEP worked with the Ghawr as Safi project to help stabilize aspects of this site, clean it up, and make it easy for visitors to access and interpret.

• **Temple of the Winged Lions** - The Temple of Winged Lions lies at the heart of Petra’s city center and is named for the distinct lion-shaped capitals that rested atop its central columns. An idol of the Nabataean goddess Al-Uzza was discovered at the temple, leading scholars to believe that this deity was worshipped here. SCHEP supported site development activities at the site through ACOR’s Temple of the Winged Lions Cultural Resource Management Initiative (TWLCRM).

• **Madaba** - The Madaba Archaeological Park West is a cross section of Madaba’s past and present, including remnants from the Roman, Byzantine, and Ottoman periods. Here, USAID SCHEP partnered with the Madaba Regional Archaeological Museum Project (MRAMP), a partnership between American, Italian, and Jordanian institutions, to help prepare the site eventually to become home to a regional archaeological museum.

• **Bir Madhkur** - Bir Madhkur served as a prominent fort during the Roman and Byzantine eras. It was once a key site along the ancient Incense Route that stretched from India to the Mediterranean. With support from SCHEP, the Bir Madhkur Project aimed to revitalize the trails that link Bir Madhkur to Petra, as well as to further conserve the site and make it more comprehensible to public audiences.

• **Ayla** - As it is now called, was known during Islamic times as Ayla, the jewel of the Red Sea. The city served as an important regional port, and holds a vital place in Jordanian maritime and Islamic heritage. In Ayla, SCHEP signed an agreement The Royal Marine Conservation Society of Jordan (JREDS) to implement the “Discover the Depth of Aqaba Marine Heritage Project” in 2017 and 2018. Key activities of this project included underwater surveying, GIS mapping, and design and installation of new interpretive signs at the Ayla archaeological site.

**Awareness**: Between 2014 and 2018, USAID SCHEP’s awareness program sought to bring together communities and strengthen bonds, while also educating children, youth, adults, and families about their local cultural heritage and the importance of preserving it. To this end, SCHEP implemented
educational workshops, field trips, and events, with an emphasis on hands-on learning and direct participation.

**Capacity Building:** Cultural heritage conservation, management, interpretation, and presentation demand a wide variety of skills. These fields are often on the cutting edge of technology, necessitating up-to-date, and detailed knowledge. SCHEP had to assess, the skills that would be most useful for the cultural, heritage sector in Jordan, as well as how to train, people with varied backgrounds and skill levels in a short period of time, as most participants in SCHEP programs were also full-time employees or students.

**Events:** The USAID Sustainable Cultural Heritage Through Engagement of Local Communities Project, implemented by ACOR, supported and participated in a number of special events, high-level meetings, lectures, and conferences from 2014 – 2018. Such events provided opportunities to exchange knowledge, develop and present policies and guidelines, plan collaborations, and strengthen the community of practice around Jordan’s heritage.

**Tourism:** Building on the economic momentum generated by Jordan’s growing tourism sector over recent years, USAID SCHEP worked to support local actors seeking to develop their own enterprises to manage and benefit from their cultural heritage. By 2018, SCHEP had supported the establishment of four local Micro & Small Enterprises (MSEs) to manage cultural heritage resources and develop tourism products and experiences, attracting new visitors and providing income and employment opportunities for the local community.

**About this finding aid:**

Prepared by: Ashley Lumb 2020, Jessica Holland 2021

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