



**Collection Title:** Robert Schick Collection

**Dates:** 1958 – 1999 (bulks 1980s-1990s)

**Extent:** 5 linear feet

**Creators:** Schick, Robert, 1957-; Schick, Edwin A.; Schick, Barbara A.

**Language (s):** Materials are in English

**Repository:** American Center of Research

**Biographical Note:**

Robert Schick is an archaeologist and a historian of the Byzantine and Islamic periods with a special interest in the city of Jerusalem during the Islamic periods. He has worked on excavation projects in Jordan since the 1980s.

Born in 1957, Robert Schick first visited the Middle East in 1970 with his family. After earning his Ph.D. from the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization at the University of Chicago, he taught at the Institute of Islamic Archaeology of the Palestinian al-Quds University in Jerusalem (1994-1998), Islamic history and archaeology at the Henry Martyn Institute in Hyderabad, India (2000-2006). In 2007 he was a visiting professor at the University of Bamberg and then served as a research associate at the University of Mainz for the "The Rise and Decline of Christianity in South Jordan. A Case Study of Religious Change in Late Antiquity from the 4th to the 9th Century", a Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft project.

Over his career, Dr. Schick was part of numerous archaeological projects in Jordan, including Humeima, Lejjun, Petra Church, and Ghor el-Safi, among several others. His interests were in Byzantine and early Islamic archaeology and history, particularly in the Kerak Plateau.

Publications by Robert Schick include: *The Christian communities of Palestine from Byzantine to Islamic rule: a historical and archaeological study*, *Arabic for archaeologists* and numerous articles such as "Christianity in Southern Jordan in the Byzantine and Early Islamic Periods" and "Southern Jordan in the Fatimid and Seljuq Periods"

**Scope and Content:**

The Robert Schick Collection is largely comprised of 35mm slides depicting various sites and cities throughout the Middle East, with a particular focus on Jordan. The earliest photographs are from his parents during the family's time in Jerusalem in 1970-71 and in the late 1970s when Edwin Schick served as the ACOR Annual Professor for 1978-79.



Later photographs document archaeological sites and excavations throughout Jordan and Palestine from 1980 to early 2000s. Notable sites documented include: Humayma, Petra, el-Quweisma, Umm el-Jimal, Umm er-Rasas, Caesarea, and Lejjun as well as a 1999 helicopter tour of the Jordan Valley.

In addition to the 35mm slides, a document written by Barbara Schick documenting the family's stay at the Albright Institute in 1970-71 is included as well as lecture notes.

**Arrangement:** The digitized slides have been rehoused in the order they were received. A significant portion of the slides have been digitized and are available online.

**Access Restrictions:** Digitized materials are available in the Digital Archive ([acor.digitalrelab.com](http://acor.digitalrelab.com)); please contact the ACOR Archives for access to physical items.

**Publication Rights:** 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.

**Copyright Statement:** All copyrights are held by the American Center of Research (ACOR).

**Acquisition Information:** Donation from Robert Schick, 2018 and 2022.

**Processing Information:** Processed with funding provided by Title VI Fiscal Year 2016 and 2020 American Overseas Research Centers grant from the U.S. Department of Education. A significant portion of the collection has been digitized and is accessible online.

**Associated Materials:** The ACOR Library collection includes works about, written by, and featuring the work of Robert Schick. The Audio-visual collection also include lectures by Robert Schick given at ACOR in the 1980s: "[Christianity in Southern Jordan in the Byzantine and early Islamic Period](#)", "[Monothelism: Christian theological disputes and the Muslim conquest of Syria and Palestine](#)", "[Iconoclasm in 8th century A.D. Palestine](#)"

**Processing Information:** Currently being processed by Ryder Kouba. 21 slides were processed by the 2018 Archives Team (Carmen (Humi) Ayoubi, Samya Kafafi, Razan Ahmad) as part of the 2016 Title VI grant.

**Subjects (Persons)**

Schick, Robert, 1957-

Schick, Edwin A.

Schick, Barbara



**Subjects**

Archaeology – Jordan  
Archaeology – Palestine  
Archaeological sites  
Archaeology (Excavations)  
Byzantine archaeology  
Islamic archaeology  
Landscapes  
Aerial photographs

**Geographic**

Middle East  
Jordan--History  
Jordan--History--20th Century  
Palestine--History  
Karak (Jordan : Province)  
Petra (Extinct city)

**Document Types**

35mm slides  
Postcards  
Photographs