



Collection Title: Jane Taylor collectin

Dates: 1972-2010 (inclusive)

Extent: ~7,000 photographs

Creators: Taylor, Jane, 1940-

Language (s): Materials are in English

Repository: American Center of Research

Biographical Note: Jane Taylor (1940-) is a British author and photographer who has been photographing the region since the mid-1970s. Taylor is the author of numerous books, including *Jordan: Images from the Air* (Al Uzza Books: Amman, 2005), *Petra, Petra and the Lost Kingdom of the Nabataeans*, and *High Above Jordan* (Jordan: 1989). She also wrote a contributing essay with Christopher Tuttle, former ACOR Associate Director, in Humberto Da Silveira's *Hegra* (2013).

Scope and Content: The Jane Taylor collection features approximately 7,000 photos of cultural heritage sites, landscapes, events, architecture and people in countries throughout the Middle East and Asia spanning two centuries and covering over 33 years. In addition to extensive coverage of Jordan (including a significant collection of aerial photography), the collection includes photography from Yemen, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Palestine, Egypt, Iran, Lebanon, Turkey, and Pakistan. The collection also includes photography from Taylor's work with UNICEF and other relief agencies in the aftermath of the Gulf War in the 1990s, documenting the effects of the war and sanctions on the people of Iraq, in particular the children. The physical collection includes 35mm slides and film transparencies.

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.digitalrehab.com); please contact the ACOR Archives for access to physical items.

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Acquisition Information: Donation from Jane Taylor.

Processing Information: Processed with funding provided by Title VI Fiscal Year 2016 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: Publications by Jane Taylor available at the ACOR Library are viewable here: [Taylor publications at ACOR](#)

Processing Information: Finding aid by Corrie Commisso April 2018. Updated by Jessica Holland February 2019 and Ryder Kouba June 2023.

Subjects:

Middle East
Material culture--Middle East--History
Cultural Heritage
Architecture--Middle East
Photography
Aerial Photography
Landscapes
History
Archaeology
Mosaic floors

Subjects (Persons):

Taylor, Jane, 1940-

Organizations:

American Center of Oriental Research (ACOR)
UNICEF

Geographic:

Middle East
Jordan--History
Yemen--History
Iraq--History
Saudi Arabia--History
Syria--History
Palestine--History
Israel--History
Egypt--History



Iran--History
Lebanon--History
Turkey--History
Pakistan--History

Document Types

35mm slides
Negatives

Organization and Arrangement of Collection

The collection is arranged in eleven series by geographic region. Larger collections are broken down into further geographic and topical subseries.

Series 1: Jordan (1978, 1984 - 2005 inclusive)

Series one includes photographs of cultural heritage and archaeological sites and events in Jordan, as well as aerial and landscape photography.

Subseries 1: Material Culture

Photographs of ceramics, sculptures, inscriptions, and coins from Jordan.

Subseries 2: Petra and Surrounding Area

Photographs of Petra and the surrounding Bedouin communities, with numerous aerial and landscape photographs.

Subseries 3: Wadi Ramm (Rum)

Aerial and landscape photography of the Wadi Ramm Desert, in addition to documentary photos of events celebrating the birthday of HM King Hussein I, rock inscriptions, and agricultural projects.

Subseries 4: Amman and North Jordan

Aerial and landscape photography of Amman and northern communities, including As-Salt, Jerash, Umm Qays, Umm al Jimal, Pella, Khirbet, and others, in addition to documentary photography of the Royal Stables and the flooding of the Jordan River in 2003.

Subseries 5: Eastern Desert and Umayyad Palaces

Aerial, landscape, and documentary photography covering Qasr al-Hallabat, Hamam as-Sarah, Qasr al-Kharaneh, Qusayr Amra (inc. some frescoes pre-cleaning), Azraq castle, Azraq Wetlands reserve, Qasr at-Tuba, Qasr al-Mushatta and Castal (including mosaics and stone carvings).

Subseries 6: Madaba and the South



Aerial, landscape, and documentary photography covering the Madaba region, including religious sites (Mt. Nebo, Machaerus [Mukawir], the Baptism site), agricultural and nature reserves, archaeological sites and castles, the Dead Sea, and Aqaba.

Subseries 7: Miscellaneous

Documentary and aerial photography covering miscellaneous events, people, and landscapes, including the Badia police force, Evacuee camps at Ruweishid, wildlife and wildflowers, handicrafts, the Hijaz Railway, and the Royal Jordanian Air Force.

Series 2: Egypt (1975, 1988, 1999, 2002, 2007)

Series two includes photographs of cultural heritage and archaeological sites and events in Egypt.

Subseries 1: Cairo and surrounding areas

Landscape, and documentary photography covering the city of Cairo, including Ibn Tulun mosque, views over the city and Nile River, the Coptic Museum, the Byzantine capital Saqqara, the stepped pyramid of Zoser, Memphis (including the hand of statue of Ramses II, and the head of the alabaster sphinx), and the famous sites at Giza including the Great pyramid of Khufu and pyramids of Khafre and Menakaure and the Sphinx.

Subseries 2: Luxor and Thebes/Qurna

Documentary photography of cultural heritage sites in Luxor, including the Colossi of Memnon, the houses of the Qurna village built amongst the Tombs of Nobles, including detailed shots of the reliefs from the tomb of Ramose; Ramesseum and views over the Nile valley, Madinat Habou and the mortuary temples of Ramses II and III, and the nearby Hatshepsut's mortuary temple in Deir el-Bahari.

Subseries 3: Sohag, Asyut

Documentary photography of cultural heritage sites including the white monastery of St Shenoute and the red monastery/Dayr Anba Bishoi in Sohag and Dayr al-Muharraq/the Burnt monastery at Asyut.

Subseries 4: Eastern Desert

Documentary photography of cultural heritage sites including St Anthony's Monastery, and St Paul's Monastery keep and bridge in the Eastern Desert and Suez regions.

Subseries 5: Wadi al-Natrun

Documentary photography of cultural heritage sites in Wadi Al-Natrun including Dayr al-Baramus (sometimes referred to as the monastery of St John the Black or Moses the Black), Dayr Anba Bishoi, and the ruins of church of St John the Short.



Subseries 6: Alexandria and surrounding areas

Documentary photography of cultural heritage and modern urbanism in Alexandria and the surrounding areas including photos of objects within the Greco-Roman Museum, the New Bibliotheca Alexandrina/Library of Alexandria, Qayt Bey /Qaitbay fort, Mustafa Kamel Necropolis - Tombs 1 and 2, Villa of the Birds/Kom al-Dikka, Sphinx and 'Pompey's Pillar,' Serapeum, the Vaults of Serapis Temple, Philoxenite - the 5/6th century port, baths and church complex, Lake Mariut, Abusir/Taposiris Magna (Temple of Osiris and a ¼ size replica of Alexandria Pharos), Dayr Mari Mena/St Menas' Monastery, and the 4th century mud-brick hermitage at Kellia.

Subseries 7: Sinai

Documentary and landscape photography of cultural heritage in Sinai including: St Catherine's Monastery, Wadi Leja, Deir al-Arba'in, Mount Sinai/Jabal Mousa, al Raha plain, Elijah's basin, Wadi Shreij/Shrayj, Mount Horeb/Jabal Safsafa, Jabal Katerina, Wadi Feiran (date palms) and Jabal Muneijah, Jabal Serbal, Ain Hudra, Naqab, Wadi Hudra, Wadi Haggag, Nawamis, Tamarisk trees (*Tamarix nilotica*) in Wadi Sheikh, Nabataean inscriptions in Wadi Mukatteb, Wadi Daba'iya and standing stones, Serabit al-Khadim, Temple of Hathor.

Series 3: Yemen (1995)

Subseries 1: Sana'a

Documentary, landscape, architectural and street photography of the city of Sana'a including: the National Museum, the Old city, gardens in Harat al-Wadi, Souk al-Milh & its shopkeepers, the Great mosque, Bakiriyya mosque, Daoud Mosque, Tulhah mosque, al-Filayhi mosque, Salah Ad-Din mosque, Masjid Ali, Shahidayn mosque, Masjid al-Madhab, Jabal Nuqum, Samsarat Mohammad ibn Hassan, Masjid Aqil, Rawda mosque, a camel-powered sesame mill, Bayt Mutahar, Hadda.

Subseries 2: Thula, Kawkaban and Shibam

Documentary, landscape, architectural and street photography of Thula, Kawkaban and Shibam, including photographs of street scenes, cisterns, house façades and details in Thula and Kawkaban, as well as the town of Shibam seen from Kawkaban on mountain above and the Great mosque.

Subseries 3: Wadi Dhahr

Documentary, landscape, architectural and street photography of Wadi Dhahr including close ups of exterior and interior decoration and stained glass windows of the Palace of Imam Yahya as well as aerial views of the Wadi Dhahr and rural life scenes.

Subseries 4: Dhi bin and Zafar



Documentary, landscape, architectural and street photography of the mosque & pool at Dhi Bin / Zafar, and the Cairo fortress of Zafar.

- Subseries 5: Jabal Harraz
- Subseries 6: Shaharah
- Subseries 7: Sa'ada and area
- Subseries 8: Jawf Area
- Subseries 9: Baraqish
- Subseries 10: Marib
- Subseries 11: Timna
- Subseries 12: Shabwa
- Subseries 13: Mayfa'at
- Subseries 14: Hadhramaut
- Subseries 15: Bir Ali, Qana, Baynun
- Subseries 16: Southern Highlands
- Subseries 17: Aden and area
- Subseries 18: Tihama
- Subseries 19: Soqotra

Series 4: Iraq (1991, 1992, 2001)

- Subseries 1: Baghdad
- Subseries 2: Zakho
- Subseries 3: Tikrit
- Subseries 4: Sulaimaniya
- Subseries 5: Mosul
- Subseries 6: Kirkuk
- Subseries 7: Samarra
- Subseries 8: Hatra
- Subseries 9: Babylon
- Subseries 10: Karbala
- Subseries 11: Najaf
- Subseries 12: Nasiriya, Amara
- Subseries 13: Basra

Series 5: Saudi Arabia (1994, 2003)

- Subseries 1: Tabuk
- Subseries 2: Bid'a
- Subseries 3: Tayma
- Subseries 4: Mada'in Salih
- Subseries 5: Al Ula
- Subseries 6: Dawmat Al-Jandal



Subseries 7: Rajajil
Subseries 8: Ithra - Al Qurayyat
Subseries 9: Qaf
Subseries 10: Dag Al Marashan

Series 6: Syria (1975, 1978, 1997, 1999, 2005)

Subseries 1: Bosra
Subseries 2: Hauran Villages
Subseries 3: Burqush
Subseries 4: Krak Des Chevaliers
Subseries 5: Palmyra
Subseries 6: Apamea
Subseries 7: Aleppo
Subseries 8: Damascus
Subseries 9: Qala'at Seman

Series 7: Palestine (1972 - 2010 inclusive)

Subseries 1: Bethlehem
Subseries 2: Jerusalem
Subseries 4: Sobata, Obodat, Makhtesh Ramon, Nessana

Series 8: Iran (2006)

Subseries 1: Tehran
Subseries 2: Shiraz
Subseries 3: Persepolis
Subseries 4: Naqsh-e Rostam
Subseries 5: Pasargadae
Subseries 6: Yazd
Subseries 7: Esfahan
Subseries 8: Natanz
Subseries 9: Kashan

Series 9: Lebanon (1999, 2003, 2005)

Series 10: Turkey (1986, 1988, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2004, 2006, 2008)

Subseries 1: Divrigi
Subseries 2: Euphrates Area and Sultanhani
Subseries 3: Istanbul
Subseries 4: Bursa, Iznik, Bodrum, Ephesus
Subseries 5: Edirne
Subseries 6: Cappadocia



Subseries 7: Antakya, Seleucia Pieria
Subseries 8: Urfa
Subseries 9: Harran
Subseries 10: Turabdin, Mardin, Nusaybin
Subseries 11: Alahan
Subseries 12: Silifke, Corycus
Subseries 13: Kanlidivane, Uzuncaburç, Viranşehir
Subseries 14: Tarsus

Series 11: Pakistan (2006)

Subseries 1: Lahore
Subseries 2: Swat Valley
Subseries 3: Khyber Pass
Subseries 4: Takht-i Bahi
Subseries 5: Taxila & Islamabad