

## **CBRL Strategic Research Plan 2006-9 (updated summer 2006)**

### **Introduction**

CBRL aims to promote, sponsor and carry out high-quality research in the range of subjects supported by the British Academy throughout the countries of the Levant: Cyprus, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine and Syria. Only a small proportion of this research will be directly funded by CBRL. The focus of CBRL's research interests tends to be in subjects such as archaeology (including science-based archaeology and cultural resource management), architectural and art history, economics, geography, history (economic, political and social), Islamic studies, linguistics, musicology, political science, religious studies, social anthropology and tourism studies. This list, however, should not be regarded as exhaustive. CBRL has adopted a new Strategic Research Initiative: "Exploring Identities in the Levant". This is to be our new flagship project for the coming years. This Research Plan should be read with reference to CBRL's Corporate Plan.

### **Aims and Objectives**

In promoting, sponsoring and carrying out research, the CBRL has the following aims and objectives:

*Aim 1:* To continue to broaden the scope of CBRL's support for inter-disciplinary projects and non-archaeological projects, while recognizing its traditional strengths in archaeology, architectural history and history, by

- Developing a programme of Strategic Research Initiatives
- Maintaining a broad range of disciplines represented on the committee of management
- Maintaining a broad range of disciplines represented among directly employed research staff
- Awarding strategic funding to areas not otherwise covered by British Academy or Research Councils' grants programmes
- Employing a research-active Director, with annual research leave and occasional sabbatical leave

*Aim 2:* To support new and younger scholars, by

- Continuing to offer one- or two-year scholarships to graduates who have not yet enrolled for a Masters degree or Ph.D. (Amman and Jerusalem Scholars)
- Continuing to offer post-doctoral fellowships (Amman and Jerusalem Senior Visiting Fellows) and commencing a new programme of doctoral fellowships (Junior Visiting Fellows).
- Continuing to offer *travel grants* to undergraduates and research students who wish to pursue a piece of original research in the Levant
- Awarding small *pilot study* grants to enable scholars to develop applications for major funding from the British Academy and Research Councils

*Aim 3:* To increase the level of collaboration with the local academic communities and institutes of other European countries working in the Levant, by

- Organizing joint seminars in Amman and Jerusalem
- Encouraging UK researchers to work with local partners, providing contacts and introductions where required, and resources to assist the development of such links

- Exploring the possibilities for joint research projects with other EU countries and the host countries, which would then attract EU funding
- Working with EU outreach programmes
- Maintaining and developing a series of research resources, including the libraries and reference collections, which are made open to the local research communities.

*Aim 4:* To increase and strengthen links with UK academic institutions, by

- Encouraging all employed research staff to be affiliated in some way to a UK academic institution
- Ensuring that a broad spread of UK institutions is represented on the committee of management
- Making joint funding proposals with UK institutions
- Working in collaboration with other British Schools and Institutes, both the British Mediterranean Institutes and the other Middle Eastern schools.

*Aim 5:* To ensure support for high-quality and innovative research projects, by

- Awarding *strategic research* grants and commissions on the basis of the merit of the research design submitted by the applicant and assessed by the CBRL Research Committee, in accordance with fair and transparent procedures (including peer-reviewing) as set out in the CBRL Manual for Research Support
- Appointing staff to research posts on the basis of a fair, open and transparent procedure as set out in the CBRL Appointments Manual
- Liaising more closely with the BA and Research Councils with regard to other UK-sponsored scholars working in the Levant
- Subjecting long-term projects to regular peer-review
- Targeting the award of research grants and commissions to areas that the CBRL Research Committee has identified as being of strategic importance

*Aim 6:* To facilitate high-quality research through the maintenance of well-found research centres and field bases, by

- Levying a financial contribution to the maintenance of research centres from the projects and individual scholars using them
- Actively seeking external sponsorship of facilities, in addition to that provided by the BASIS annual grant-in-aid
- Maintaining the necessary research facilities, including libraries, laboratories, and field equipment

*Aim 7:* To disseminate information about British research in the region to scholars and to the wider public at home and abroad, by

- Organizing lectures in London and elsewhere in the UK
- Publishing research reports, including the results of backlog projects
- Organizing a series of lectures/seminars in Jerusalem and Amman
- Supporting the attendance of CBRL research staff at international conferences and at the annual BANEA conference
- Participating in exhibitions, television documentaries
- Funding research travel to the UK by local academics

## **Strategic Research Initiatives**

In response to British Academy comments regarding the development of new flagship projects CBRL has introduced Strategic Research Initiatives. These are intended to build on the very successful experience of our Wadi Faynan project, where CBRL (initially BIAAH) established a research focus, provided pump priming grants, conducted some initial research through its staff members, provided infrastructure support, and supported publication. Much of the specific research funding within the project was obtained as individual research grants from other funding bodies, including BA, HRB, and AHRB. This model has been much more successful than directly funded large-scale single projects, such as the former BSAJ Tel Jezreel project. It was repeated in our Homs Regional Project, where CBRL funded part of the research and provided infrastructure support, but other aspects of the research have been funded by the British Academy and NERC. The new SRIs will be thematically based. This is designed to encourage a greater range of academic disciplines to be involved

### *Exploring Identities in the Levant*

This SRI combines elements from many of our key research themes. CBRL's main role is to provide a research network, linking people working in different disciplines, facilitating research, establishing local and regional academic links, sponsoring and organising meetings. The theme is specifically linked to the UK Government *Science and Innovation Investment Framework 2004-2014* multidisciplinary research theme of identities and cultures. The Framework document identifies that within this theme "There is a need to develop a more sustained and cohesive programme, building research capacity and new intellectual strategies and approaches drawing leading researchers into interdisciplinary programmes". CBRL's multidisciplinary interests and the complex nature of identity in the Levant (and related migrant populations in the UK) make us ideally placed to support this research theme incorporating identity, migration, diasporas, culture and language. More details are provided in Annex One.

## **Key Research Themes**

Within the very broad spread of academic disciplines supported, CBRL has identified a number of key research interests. Initially these were based on existing research programmes, but they are intended to develop over time in light of UK academic demands and emerging priorities. The list will be reviewed annually by the CBRL Research Committee. Applications to the CBRL *Strategic Research Fund* will be invited on the basis of this list. In addition, although there will be some scope for research outwith this list (*Travel Grants* and *Pilot Studies* in particular), all staff appointments, funding of *staff research*, and *fellowships* will be considered within this research framework.

- a) The spread of early humans through the Near East from Africa.
- b) The origins, development and practice of economic and social strategies in the Middle East from earliest times to the modern day.
- c) The development and workings of complex societies and their products.
- d) Long-term landscape and settlement studies.
- e) Synthetic studies of key historical periods.
- f) The interface between East and West.
- g) The investigation of multiple identities in the Middle East.

- h) The diachronic and synchronic study of the use of language and the written record in Middle Eastern society.

These themes are all aspects of the reason why the Levant has a continuing importance in research terms. Details regarding each theme and the projects currently supported are provided in Annex Two. The CBRL Research Committee will specify narrowly defined areas of strategic interest within these broad themes for funding through our Strategic Research fund, and may add or remove categories as research within the region develops. We shall invite proposals for new topics in the future, in order to help widen our disciplinary coverage.

### **CBRL Funding of Research**

The CBRL provides funding to research projects by means of grants made available from the funds that it receives from the BA through its grant-in-aid. At present CBRL has no other source of general research funding, although it manages certain restricted funds related to specific projects, including Ancient Jerusalem and Tel Jezreel, inherited from the former British School of Archaeology in Jerusalem. A key aspect of CBRL's research funding is the employment of research-active staff, at present comprising three post-doctoral and three postgraduate individuals. This has enabled a significant widening of the disciplines covered, with only one staff member being an archaeologist in 2004-6, and the range of disciplines covered by recent staff members now having included anthropology, archaeology, architectural history, classics, human geography, religious history, and sociology.

All projects awarded research funding are subsequently regarded as CBRL-affiliated projects and as such receive all the support and benefits of 'in house' projects. It is also possible for projects that receive no financial support from CBRL to apply for CBRL affiliation and thus obtain the same benefits (other than funding). This includes all BA-funded projects, which may now obtain CBRL affiliation by a streamlined procedure. The facilitation of non-CBRL funded projects is another key aspect of our strategy, as clearly the number of projects directly managed or funded by CBRL will always be small compared to the volume of research activity in the Levant.

The CBRL will not award grants from the funding that it receives from the BA on the basis of an open competition in 'responsive mode', since that would duplicate existing BA grants programmes. Potential applicants will therefore be advised to apply directly to the BA. Nor, for the same reason, will CBRL use its research funds to supplement the research budgets of projects already receiving funding from the BA, AHRC or ESRC. Instead CBRL will seek to use the research funding that it receives from public sources in ways that complement the BA, AHRC and ESRC research programmes, while being consistent with its declared aims as a charity.

#### *Travel grants:*

These are small grants (in 2006-7 up to £800 per application) to fund the basic costs of individual travel for the purpose of research and are generally but not exclusively intended to fund junior researchers. Such grants are not awarded to assist individuals to join a project when that could be seen as a hidden subsidy to the project in question, nor are they available when the principal reason for travel is training, as opposed to research.

*Staff research:*

Staff residing overseas are not eligible for BA, AHRC or ESRC awards. An element of funding for official staff projects is therefore retained within the CBRL budget. CBRL research staff are appointed on the basis of a plan of research submitted with their job application. Individual research plans are approved at the appointment stage and at periodic staff appraisal meetings. CBRL staff are required to submit applications for research funding to the CBRL Research Committee for assessment in line with the normal CBRL research funding procedures.

*CBRL projects:*

Apart from projects in which CBRL staff are themselves directly involved, the CBRL at present has only four in-house projects. Two are concerned with the publication of excavations undertaken by the former BSAJ: the Tel Jezreel Post-Excavation Project, for which CBRL has commissioned a researcher, managed by the Director, to oversee final publication and archiving; and the Ancient Jerusalem Project, which employs a researcher to complete the final publication of the late Dame Kathleen Kenyon's excavations. The other two are the former 'flagship' projects of Wadi Faynan and Homs Region (including the publication of the Tell Nebi Mend excavations). The first phase of Faynan projects are in press or nearing publication. Second phase projects are seeking funding from the AHRC. A researcher has been commissioned in order to see through the final publication of Professor Peter Parr's excavations at Tell Nebi Mend, managed by the Director in liaison with Professor Parr. We are now developing the CBRL Strategic Research Initiatives (described above) to develop CBRL research.

*The CBRL Strategic Research Fund*

This fund exists to support projects working within the Key Research Themes advertised. All existing CBRL funded projects (and a number that have applied and been awarded affiliated status without funding) have been considered as affiliated to CBRL, and a commitment has been made to help bring them to completion, including publication. Such projects may continue to bid to CBRL for funding, but under our normal rules for the duration of projects (in particular a normal limit of three years of fieldwork).

*Pilot Studies:*

These fall into two categories: (1) support for research projects from non-archaeological disciplines, where CBRL is actively seeking to encourage greater diversity among the projects that it supports; and (2) support for researchers undertaking initial exploratory work or a study feasibility with a view to preparing an application for major funding from a Research Council or the British Academy in due course. Awards under either heading may be used to cover travel, round tables, seminars, or initial exploratory fieldwork. In addition CBRL will assist such feasibility studies through the provision of its facilities and in establishing local contacts. To be eligible under this scheme, a project must involve an element of travel to (or from) the Middle East.

*Visiting Fellowships:*

These are available to enable established scholars to spend a period of between 3 and 9 months attached to the British Institute in Amman or the Kenyon Institute in Jerusalem in order to undertake a piece of research. Under the terms of the fellowship, CBRL will provide a return air fare from the UK, accommodation at the Institute concerned (with a minimum of one month's residence in the relevant institute) and a paid allowance for food. Salaries, research expenses, and teaching-replacement costs will not be covered by the award, but it is

envisaged that a fellowship may be held in conjunction with a BA or Research Council award that does cover such costs (such as a research fellowship or readership), so long it does not also cover travel, food or accommodation. The fellowships are to comprise Senior Visiting Fellowships intended for post-doctoral researchers and Junior Visiting Fellowships, intended for doctoral researchers. The scheme has been modified to reduce the proportion of time spent in the institute following analysis of requests for support from scholars, especially social scientists, for whom it was important to spend several months embedded within a community.

All of the above methods of funding will be open to applications submitted annually. To ensure that the highest quality research can be supported all applications will be submitted to a single panel which may allocate research funds between the above categories.

### *Honorary Fellowships*

CBRL awards non-stipendiary Honorary Fellowships. Honorary Fellows are appointed to enhance the academic standing of the CBRL through the conduct and publication of research of high quality within the arts and humanities. They receive access to research facilities and work space in CBRL institutions. Honorary Fellows play an active role in the life of CBRL's overseas institutes, through participation in the academic life of these establishments. Honorary Fellowships are often awarded to individuals who do not have an institutional affiliation. At present there are five of these Fellows. Two have been awarded to assist promising junior scholars in their research (Genequand and Sayej). Three have been awarded to assist in the publication of backlog projects (Kehrberg, McQuitty and Whiting). Applications may be made throughout the year.

### **Conference and Outreach funding**

CBRL will formalize its existing conference funding arrangements, requesting formal applications for support for conferences, exhibitions, or other forms of outreach to be made to the full Committee four times a year. Details of current conferences are provided in separate annexes. CBRL runs lectures and workshops in Amman and Jerusalem, a programme of this year's activities is provided as an annex.

### **Dissemination of Information**

The CBRL places great importance on the prompt publication of research results. We will continue to produce our refereed journal *Levant*, and are investigating possibilities of internet publication. The journal will continue to focus on its traditional subject material. Details of our fully refereed archaeological monographs series – the *Levant Supplementary Series* – are provided in a separate annex. We are investigating the possibilities of developing similar collaborative publication ventures with non-archaeological publishers as a means of facilitating the publication of other research strands (see separate annex).

## **Annex One: Strategic Research Initiatives**

In response to British Academy comments regarding the development of new flagship projects CBRL has introduced Strategic Research Initiatives. These are intended to build on the very successful experience of our Wadi Faynan project, where CBRL (initially BIAAH) established a research focus, provided pump priming grants, conducted some initial research through its staff members, provided infrastructure support, and supported publication. Much of the specific research funding within the project was obtained as individual research grants from other funding bodies, including BA, HRB, and AHRB. This model has been much more successful than directly funded large-scale single projects, such as the former BSAJ Tel Jezreel project. It was repeated in our Homs Regional Project, where CBRL funded part of the research and provided infrastructure support, but other aspects of the research have been funded by the British Academy and NERC. The new SRIs will be thematically based. This is designed to encourage a greater range of academic disciplines to be involved

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CBRL's Research Committee has agreed that having established the outline of this SRI our next step is to consult with a wide range of scholars from many disciplines. A key means of achieving this consultation will be through the medium of a number of workshops to be held in 2007. The first of these (Feb 2007) is on *Shifting Boundaries*. Here we are bringing together a group of invited participants from different backgrounds and disciplines to debate and challenge some of the popular perceptions of division between 'East' and 'West' that are often encouraged for example in modern journalism and even some academic debate. By examining the long sweep of history from the ancient world to the present day we hope to show how there is nothing fixed or inevitable about these boundaries and we hope to continue this perspective with a final session on the present day including discussion for example on the Moslem population in Great Britain and perhaps elsewhere in Europe to help reduce some of the geographical categorization that develops in popular practices of understanding.

The second related workshop concerns *Refugees and other forced migrants*. We are holding a preliminary meeting on this subject in Oxford in January 2007, intending to hold a larger workshop in the subsequent financial year. While the majority of people falling into the category of refugees and forced migrants arise from generally well-known complex humanitarian emergencies or natural disasters, the topic encompasses many others, including those who have been resettled due to government policies to reduce nomadic mobility, biodiversity conservation programmes, and economic duress. There are many significant research issues arising out of this complex phenomenon, and an increasing number of relevant

grant applications are being made to the British Schools and Institutes in the area. However the researchers involved appear to be very tightly focused on their individual study areas, potentially leading to an apparent fragmentation of research effort.

We plan to hold a third workshop in 2007 on the subject of archaeology and the heritage industry (details yet to be arranged). Participants at all three meetings will be asked to spend time examining potentials for future research within the framework of the CBRL SRI *Exploring Identities in the Levant*. Other interest groups working on specific issues (for example, the question of identity in particular historic periods, for example the Crusades or the Ottoman Empire) will be invited to contribute suggestions and proposals. Several of the workshops identified above have remit that cover an area wider than the Levant, including links to other British Schools and Institutes. We will actively seek to develop these links.

In 2007/8 we propose to set aside a sum from our research budget to begin to develop the research network required and to pump prime any small start-up projects, arrange meetings, and advertise the agendas more widely.

#### *Potential future SRIs*

Initial discussions have commenced on whether CBRL could launch a second SRI on *Landscapes and Transition*. This would be able to play a role in research outlined by the UK Government *Science and Innovation Investment Framework 2004-2014* on landscape and environment, where research in the arts and humanities is described as “fundamental to understanding the changing relations between people and their environment to better understand the changing natural and built environment, the character and history of that environment, and the ways that people relate to the environment, shaped by a number of factors such as culture”, and could be a topic to develop following our March 2007 workshop on *Landscapes in Transition: understanding hunter-gatherer and farming landscapes in the early Holocene of Europe and the Levant*. At present this proposal is in its early stages and we may decide that capacity limits us to one major SRI at a time.

## **Annex Two: Key Research Themes**

### **a) The spread of early humans through the Near East from Africa:**

The various routes by which early humans emerged from Africa are part of the important debate on human origins. With an increasing understanding that the Jordanian plateau was at times a broad savannah it is now believed that the corridor through the Levant from Africa was much wider than previously understood. In addition, some models now suggest a route not across the Sinai, but over the Red Sea into Arabia. Developing dating techniques are beginning to have a significant impact on our potential to understand much of the open air (as opposed to cave sequence) evidence. At the same time, it has recently become possible to commence fieldwork in Lebanon, a key area of the coastal strip that has been inaccessible due to the civil war. The Palaeolithic archaeology of the Levant is consequently going through an important phase of development. CBRL has been supporting the following projects:

#### *Associated Research Projects and Research Partners*

- Survey of Lower and Middle Palaeolithic in the Dana-Faynan-Ghuwayr Early Prehistory project (Dr Bill Finlayson, CBRL, and Prof Steven Mithen, Reading University); publication expected 2006.
- Dating framework for Levantine rivers project: Dr David Bridgland, University of Durham  
To provide a new framework for Lower and Middle Palaeolithic archaeology in the Levant by obtaining age estimates from fluvial terrace deposits that re repositories of archaeological material. Sequences in the rivers Orontes and Euphrates will be targeted using luminescence, uranium series, and potassium/argon dating techniques.
- Palaeolithic artifacts and river terrace sequences in Syria: Andrew Shaw, University of Durham (PhD research)
- Qadisha Valley Early Prehistory (Lebanon): Dr Andrew Garrard, UCL with Dr Corinne Yazbeck, St Joseph's University, Beirut  
The Qadisha Valley Project is the first prehistoric field research in Lebanon for 30 years. It was initiated to explore the adaptations of Palaeolithic and Neolithic communities to the highly mesic forested environments of the north Lebanese Mountains. Of particular interest is a cluster of three cave-sites at Moghr el Ahwal, where surface material was recovered dating from the Lower Palaeolithic through to the Late Neolithic. This is a project where funding has successfully moved from an initial grant from CBRL to larger scale BA funding. The project is Affiliated to CBRL.

### **b) The origins, development and practice of economic and social strategies in the Middle East from earliest times to the modern day:**

This theme includes the study of late Pleistocene hunter-gatherer developments of agriculture and sedentism. The start of the Neolithic has always represented a major Near Eastern research theme. Despite discoveries of independent processes around the world, it appears that the Near Eastern developments remain the earliest, and for European developments, the most important. Recent research has indicated that there are two key areas within the Levant, the southern Levant and the northern Euphrates. CBRL is actively involved in research in the southern area, and in projects in Lebanon which potentially connect the two areas. The theme however also includes later developments in nomadism, modern economics

and sociology. These are critical to the current development of society in the region, with specific issues such as the settlement of the Bedouin and large scale refugee and migrant worker population movements. CBRL has been supporting the following projects

#### *Associated Research Projects and Research Partners*

- Badia Development Project (Jordanian Higher Council for Science and Technology, (British) Royal Geographic Society, Durham University. This is a long term initiative (running for 10 years so far) where CBRL has supported a series of sub-projects and provided a base for visiting senior UK academics and postgraduate scholars.
- Reconstructing Social Agency through use-wear analysis in the Natufian of the Levant: Tobias Richter, Lampeter, University of Wales (former CBRL Scholar), MPhil project
- Experimental Archaeology at Beidha (Jordan): Samantha Dennis, University of Edinburgh (former CBRL Scholar, PhD research)  
Reconstructing a series of early Neolithic structures for research and presentational purposes. Part of a larger conservation and presentation project organized by CBRL with the Department of Antiquities of Jordan.
- Dana-Faynan-Ghuwayr Early Prehistory: Dr Bill Finlayson, CBRL, University of Edinburgh with Reading University  
Survey and trial excavations in the Faynan region on Palaeolithic to aceramic Neolithic occupations. (part of CBRL Faynan Flagship Project) Publication expected 2006
- Dhra' Excavation: Dr Bill Finlayson, CBRL, University of Edinburgh, with University of Notre Dame  
Multi-disciplinary project that seeks to recover data on the transition from foraging to farming. Dhra' is the only known apparently sedentary village from the PPNA outside the Mediterranean woodland zone and contains data critical to the PPNA social and economic adaptations. Final field season completed 2005.
- Beidha Conservation and Presentation: Dr Bill Finlayson, CBRL, University of Edinburgh, Dept of Antiquities (Jordan)  
A joint project with Dr Mohammed Najjar (Dept of Antiquities) and Samantha Dennis (PhD student) to protect the important Neolithic site of Beidha and demonstrate how sites of this period may be presented to the public. This is also supported by the British Embassy (Amman) and has now developed EU links (Germany and Denmark) in the development of small-scale tourism with direct economic gains for the local population.
- The End of Mamluk Dhiban: Bruce Routledge, Liverpool University: A study of the abandonment of a Mamluk village and its use in the Ottoman period, representative of an important phenomenon in the shaping of modern Jordan. The project will integrate archaeological research, sustainable site development, and direct community engagement in heritage interpretation, management and presentation.
- Naccharini Cave Excavations (Lebanon): Dr Andrew Garrard, UCL  
Final excavations recently published.
- Qadisha Valley Early Prehistory (Lebanon): Dr Andrew Garrard, UCL with Dr Corinne Yazbeck, St Joseph's University, Beirut  
The Qadisha Valley Project is the first prehistoric field research in Lebanon for 30 years. It was initiated to explore the adaptations of Palaeolithic and Neolithic communities to the highly mesic forested environments of the north Lebanese Mountains. Excavations were undertaken in one of three caves at Moghr el Ahwal.

Prehistoric deposits included well preserved occupational horizons relating to the Geometric Kebaran, Natufian and the Late Neolithic. This included a rare human burial with grave goods from the Geometric Kebaran and secondary or disturbed burials from the Natufian. Subsistence strategies show a shift from the hunting of species such as roe deer and wild goat in the Epipalaeolithic to animal herding in the Late Neolithic.

- An examination of social change in the Cypro-Geometric period: Sarah Janes, University of Glasgow, PhD project

#### *Additional activities*

- Conference published as “Neolithic Revolution” in the Levant Supp. Series
- Organization of a session on “Formal typology, function and chronology within the PPNA: Views from the southern Levant” at the Neolithic conference in Fréjus
- Planned conference in Jordan on “Landscapes in Transition: understanding hunter-gatherer and farming landscapes in the early Holocene of Europe and the Levant” to bring together perspectives from NW Europe and the Levant.

#### **c) The development and workings of complex societies and their products**

In a similar manner to theme (b) this is a subject that continues to be of great archaeological importance, especially as it includes the origins and development of urbanism. It also includes the development of art, architecture, ceramics and religion. In addition to supporting new research, this theme also involves the completion and publication of two tell excavation projects, the continuing publication of the work of Kenyon in Jerusalem, and the publication of work at the Jerash Hippodrome.

#### *Associated Research Projects and Research Partners*

- Tell Nebi Mend, Peter Parr, UCL; backlog publication project, currently part funded by BA, but moving to complete CBRL funding and management. First manuscript due end 2006.
- Tel Jezreel Post-Excavation and Publication: Dr Charlotte Whiting, CBRL Research Fellow, backlog publication project  
Drawing together of previous work of a former BSAJ excavation to bring the results to publication.
- South Jordan Iron Age II: Dr Charlotte Whiting, CBRL Research Fellow  
Survey and test-pitting of an area between Showbak and Wadi Musa to reassess previous models of Iron Age society on the South Jordanian plateau.
- INAA Iron Age II Ceramics: Dr Charlotte Whiting, CBRL Research Fellow  
Instrumental Neutron Activation Analysis to enhance our understanding of the nature of south Jordanian Iron Age II ceramic production, consumption, and distribution.
- Socio-Political Complexity and Inter-Regional Connections in the 5<sup>th</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Millennia Syro-Mesopotamia: Philip Karsgaard, University of Edinburgh (PhD Research)
- Jerablus-Tahtani: Professor Edgar Peltenburg, University of Edinburgh  
Inter-disciplinary primary research programme designed to investigate the precocious expansion of the Uruk civilization, secondary state formation in Early Bronze Age Syria, environmental and political reasons for widespread urban recession in the late 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium BC in the Near East and the early history of archaeologically

inaccessible Carchemish. Final manuscripts now being produced, volume I for 2005, volume II for 2006/7.

- Wadi Rayyan, Ajlun (2001-2007): Dr Jamie Lovell, University of Sydney  
Investigation of olive production and the Late Chalcolithic to Early Bronze transition in the Southern Levant. Funded by Australian Research Council and affiliated to CBRL. Dr Lovell will be employed by CBRL from 2006 and will be developing studies to place sites from these periods into their landscape contexts.
- Dhiban site conservation/reconstruction and excavations at Khirbat al-Nudayna Al-'Aliya (Tall As-Sa'idiyya cemetery): John Green, UCL (PhD Research)
- Ritual Practices in Mortuary and Domestic Contexts in Prehistoric East Mediterranean: Vasiliki Koutrafouris, University of Edinburgh (PhD Research)
- Household and Community Storage Strategies in 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium BC Cyprus: Sorina Spanou, University of Edinburgh (PhD Research)
- Palaeographical and archaeological analysis of the undeciphered syllabary of Bronze Age Cyprus, Cypro-Minoan: Silvia Ferrara, UCL
- Investigation of Bronze Age pottery found in cemetery at Kissonerga, Western Cyprus: Lisa Marie Graham, University of Edinburgh
- Investigation of Bronze Age pottery found during emergency excavation of cemetery at Kissonerga, Cyprus: Thomas Lucas, University of Edinburgh
- Death, burial and memory in Early Prehistoric Cyprus: Paula Jones, University of Wales, Lampeter
- Psemitismenos Trelloukas and polity origins in Maroni Valley, Cyprus: Dr Sturt Manning, University of Reading
- Archaeological exploration of Aredhiou-Vouoppes: Dr Louise Steel, University of Wales, Lampeter  
Intensive surface survey, topographic and geophysical survey, and excavation of a small inland settlement identified as a LBA farmstead in order to examine evidence of agricultural exploitation of LBA Cyprus hinterland.
- Excavation at Sidon, Lebanon: Dr Claude Doumet-Serhal, British Museum  
To reconstruct Sidon's history through examination of city's stratified layers.
- Ancient Jerusalem: Dr Kay Prag, University of Manchester  
Vols 1-IV already published, Vols V-VI in preparation
- First hand study of Levantine Bronze and Iron Age material culture and sites, in particular at museums in Damascus, Aleppo, Latakia, Beirut and Amman: Rachel Fentem, UCL
- Redefining the ceramic 'regions' of Iron Age West Syria: Matt Whincop, University of Durham (PhD Research)
- Care of collections at St Katherine's Monastery on Mount Sinai, Egypt: Nikos Androutopoulos, University of Durham, MA project
- Timothy Smith: Israelite Sanctuaries: New Theoretical Approaches, University of Cardiff (PhD Research)

#### *Additional activities*

Publication of "the Carchemish Region in the 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium BC" conference session within the Levant Supplementary series.

#### **d) Long-term landscape and settlement studies: the relationship between people, past and present, and their built and natural environment**

Survey has been and continues to be one of the great archaeological strengths of CBRL with major survey projects such as research in Wadi Faynan in Jordan (which involved teams and staff from 15 UK universities), studying prehistoric settlement, the transition to sedentism, water management and agriculture, the changing natural environment, and the effects of pollution (ancient and modern) from copper mining and processing. Survey in the Homs region in Syria has developed a sophisticated and highly integrated use of high and low satellite data and ground truthing to examine long-term landscape change, with spin off projects studying landscape aspects such as Roman agriculture, and the dating of river terraces containing Palaeolithic remains. Recent multi-period survey in the Troodos mountains in Cyprus has also been looking at long-term land use and settlement patterns in an area away from the better known coastal fringes. A significant aspect of all these surveys has been their multi-disciplinary nature, involving archaeologists, geomorphologists, geologists, anthropologists and architects. This relationship is most directly expressed by the availability and use of water. It cross cuts many of the other themes and is as important to the present as it was to the past. In addition to environmental research, projects supported by CBRL are engaged in such issues as tourism and water management and the social and religious acceptability of the use of grey water as a resource. This topic has a close fit with current British and EU interests within the region

##### *Associated Research Projects and Research Partners*

- Wadi Faynan Survey, Jordan: Professors Graeme Barker, David Mattingly and David Gilbertson, University of Leicester and other UK universities  
Study of the environmental and landscape context of later prehistory and historical periods in Faynan. (Part of CBRL Wadi Faynan flagship project) Final report nearing completion for Levant Supplementary Series
- Settlement and Landscape Development in the Homs region, Syria: Dr Graham Philip, Dr Paul Newson University of Durham, Dr Michel Maqdissi DGAM Damascus) & Dr Maamoun Abdulkarim, University of Damascus  
Investigation of long-term trends in landscape development and diversity in Homs region using a combination of mapping from remotely sensed and ground data, surface collection, fieldwalking, and geomorphological investigations.
- Troodos Archaeological and Environmental Survey: Dr Michael Given and Professor Bernard Knap, University of Glasgow, Vasiliki Kassianidou, University of Cyprus  
The Troodos Archaeological and Environmental Survey Project (TAESP) investigated human activity across the landscape during all time periods, using intensive archaeological and geomorphological survey. A successful example of a project with pilot funding from CBRL followed by a major award from AHRB. Final report in preparation.
- Evaluation of high and low resolution satellite imagery for aerial survey in Syria: Anthony Beck, University of Durham (PhD Research)
- Evaluation of Corona imagery, case study in West Syria: Nikolaos Galiastatos, University of Durham (PhD Research)
- Badia Development Project (Jordanian Higher Council for Science and Technology, (British) Royal Geographic Society, Durham University. This is a long term initiative (running for 10 years so far) where CBRL has supported a series of sub-projects and provided a base for visiting senior UK academics and postgraduate scholars

- **Water, Life and Civilisation:** Professor Steven Mithen et al, Reading University, CBRL and partners in Jordan, including the National Center for Agricultural Research and Technology Transfer, Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Antiquities, and Ministry of Tourism.  
Multi-disciplinary project developing climate models for the last 20,000 years and predictive models up to 2100AD and examining these in terms of past human activities and future development. (A Leverhulme Trust Project) A five year project commenced at the end of 2004.
- **Excavations at Al-Andarin (Androna), Syria:** Dr Marlia Mango, University of Oxford with teams from Hama Museum, Syria and Heidelberg University  
Work to distinguish and date developmental phases from Roman to Byzantine to Islamic and assess technological and financial resources. Use of survey, excavation and study to clarify the environmental position of the site regarding water management and agriculture, its defensive organization and settlement layout.
- **Umayyad settlements, Qasr Al-Hayr Al-Sharqi, Palmyrena, Syria:** Denis Genequand CBRL Research Fellow, Service cantonal d'archéologie, Genève, Walid al-As'ad DGAM, Palmyra  
Part of a large project researching the economic role of the Umayyad desert castles.
- **Dayr Mar Elian, Syria:** Dr Emma Loosely, University of Manchester  
Examination of the archaeological record of this mudbrick monastery in an oasis village on the Palmyra-Damascus trade route and positioning of this monument within the wider sacred and social landscape of the region.
- **Settlement on the Syrian Littoral 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> Centuries:** Balazs Major, Cardiff University (PhD Research)
- **From water every living thing: Perceptions and use of water in the Ayyubid and Mamluk Levant:** Charlotte Schriwer, St. Andrews University (PhD Research) Water, mill technology and agriculture in Ayyubid/Mamluk -period Syria and Jordan, thesis examined and passed.
- **Settlement and Development in the Basalt Region of Homs, Syria:** Dr Paul Newson, Durham University. This is a successful spin-off from the larger Durham survey project in the Homs region that is now funded by the BA and is a CBRL Affiliated project.
- **Identifying Ancient Land Use through the Functional Ecology of Crop Weeds:** Dr Michael Charles, Sheffield University. Affiliated project
- **Constructing landscapes of home: Palestinian refugees in Lebanon:** Adam Ramadan, UCL, PhD project
- **Crusader Churches Corpus:** Professor Denys Pringle, Cardiff University. Former BSAJ Project, aimed at compiling a detailed corpus of all the church buildings constructed or in use on the Kingdom of Jerusalem in the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries. vol. 3 (on the city of Jerusalem) is now in press with Cambridge UP and is due to appear in Feb, 2007. Vol 4 (on Acre and Tyre, with addenda etc.) will go to press in spring/summer 2007 is about to be submitted to Cambridge UP
- **Ramla Project:** Professor Denys Pringle, Cardiff University. Former BSAJ Project, aimed at producing an archaeological and historical assessment of the city of Ramla, AD c.715-1917.

### *Additional Activities*

Workshop held in Durham University (connecting CBRL and BIAA survey projects)

Major publications from the Faynan projects are in the process of publication with Levant Supplementary Series.

### **e) Synthetic studies of key historical periods**

This topic differs from the above as its focus is on examining, for example, the economy, society and culture of a single historically defined period. The theme is part of the joint British Mediterranean Institutes collaborative projects, designed to help synthesise the results of many of the surveys undertaken under the auspices of the group.

#### *Associated Research Projects and Research Partners*

- Aqaba Castle, Jordan: Professor Denys Pringle, Cardiff University, Professor Johnny De Meulemeester, Heritage Dept Walloon Government and Ghent University, and Department of Antiquities, Jordan  
Post-excavation work forming part of an archaeological assessment to characterize and date the late Mamluk castle's phases of structural development and investigate the remains of earlier structures beneath it.
- Homs Citadel, Syria: Dr Geoffrey King, SOAS  
Post-excavation study of finds from Homs excavations in 1997, 1999, 2000 and 2001. Completion of registration and study of pottery, glass and other material excavated in preparation for second interim report and final publication.
- Ottoman Hajj Forts in Jordan (2002-2005): Dr Andrew Petersen, UAE University, Honorary Research Fellow, Cardiff University
- Publication of Jerash Hippodrome Excavations 1984-1996: Drs Antoni A. Ostrasz, (1929-1996), DoA (1983-1996), University of Warsaw and Ina Kehrberg, CBRL, DoA (1983-1998), University of Sydney  
The importance of the publications of the Jerash Hippodrome lies in its unique architectural components, their study and the complete material history of the site from pre-construction, to planning and building, to chariot racing and industrial occupancy allowing a rare and complex insight into workshop organizations and mass production of ceramics in the first seven centuries AD. Unlike most monuments at Jerash and other Jordanian Decapolis cities, the hippodrome encapsulates an uninterrupted and integer sequence of commercial enterprises, political events, cultural trends, and natural disasters which befell and shaped the townships of Roman Gerasa and Byzantine Jerash from the Early Roman period to the Umayyads.
- Land of Carcemish Project: Tony Wilkinson, University of Edinburgh. Sub-surface investigation of the buried landscape of the area around Carcemish in Syria.
- Roman Settlement and land use in the Faynan: Hannah Friedman, Leicester University, PhD project
- Field Survey of medieval Rural Settlements in the area of Safita and 'Arima castles in Syria: Balazs Major, Cardiff University, PhD project

#### *Additional Activities*

We will be an active participant in a conference to be held in Rome in 2006 under the auspices of the British Mediterranean Institutes on the synthesis of survey results in the study of broad scale historical issues.

## **f) The interface between East and West**

This theme is considered currently to be highly relevant to most of the subjects within our remit to improve understanding of cultural behaviour: expressed in numerous ways such as the Roman frontier, the Crusades, current politics, and gender roles, political ideology, whether expressed through political means or literature.

### *Associated Research Projects and Research Partners*

- Usamah Ibn Munqidh and the Emergence of the ‘Coastal Frank’: John Harte, former CBRL Research Scholar  
Christian-Muslim relations in 12<sup>th</sup>-Century Northern Syria
- Legend, History, Hospitality: Exploring geographical imaginations of the Levant: Dr Jessica Jacobs, CBRL Research Officer (Amman), Research Fellow Open University  
Investigation of the role of contemporary tourism practice in the construction of opinions and attitudes towards the Arab world and its people, involving interviews with tourists and people working in the tourism industry in Jordan and Syria.
- Classical art and literature in the early Islamic world: Tim Moore, CBRL Research Scholar (Jerusalem)
- Jinnis and Science: Modernising Islam in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries: Dr Matthew Elliott, former CBRL Research Officer (Jerusalem)
- Nationalist Headgear in inter-war Egypt, Iraq, Syria and Palestine; Dancing in Arabia: Ibn Saud, Wahhabism and the World Depression 1930-31; A music ‘revolution’ in Turkey: Dr Matthew Elliott, former CBRL Research Officer (Jerusalem)
- Jerusalem between two Empires: The transition between Ottoman and British Rule: Roberto Mazza, SOAS
- The role of Bethlehem policewomen in local conflict resolution: Jenny Steel, University of Cambridge
- Survey of 13<sup>th</sup>-Century Crusader cemetery at ‘Atlit: Jennifer Thompson, Cardiff University (part of PhD Research on death and burial in the Frankish East, thesis now examined and upheld, due to be published)
- Fortification of Cyprus under the Lusignans, 1191-1489 AD: James Petre, Cardiff University (PhD Research)
- Investigation of Primary Source Material in Venice related to Medieval Cyprus: Dr Aysu Dincer, University of Birmingham

### *Additional Activities*

In 2007 we intend to hold a multi-disciplinary conference in Amman (jointly with the British Mediterranean Institutes and the British School of Archaeology in Iraq) on this subject. We have supported the publication of a booklet on the Roman frontier, bringing Syria and Jordan into the overall plan to develop a multi-national world heritage site. Importantly we translated this largely European inspired book into Arabic, helping to bring Levantine government agencies into the project with a sense of ownership.

## **g) The investigation of multiple identities in the Middle East**

Identity is far from simple in the modern Middle East, involving at its simplest a combination of political, ethnic, religious, economic and linguistic facets. Combined with the above

research theme this theme is designed to help improve contemporary cultural understanding at a time of increasing public factionalism.

*Associated Research Projects and Research Partners*

- Sexuality, Shame and Honour: theory and practice in relation to same-sex relationships in Jordan, Syria and Lebanon: Hazel Simons, CBRL Research Scholar (Amman)
- Educated wives, prestigious mothers: Education and gendered identity in Syria: Kate Washington, CBRL Research Scholar (Amman)
- UN Convention on the rights of the Child: UNRWA and service provision for stateless Palestinian refugees: Fay Mahdi, SOAS  
Interviews in Beirut and Damascus
- The ideology of the Muslim Brotherhood in Jordan: Anne-Liliane Jordan, former CBRL Research Scholar (Amman)
- Dissident Bedouin poetry: The work of Ghassan Shbayl: Professor Clive Douglas Holes, University of Oxford  
The recording, transcription, translation and annotation of a selection of poems by the dissident Bedouin poet, Ghassan Shbayl from Jordan. This project also includes a commentary on the poetic and linguistic features and socio-political significance of his work and of oral popular poetry in contemporary Jordan.
- New Beginnings? Education development in the informal Palestinian refugee camps of Southern Lebanon: Maria Ali-Adib, University of Manchester
- Syrian Migrant Workers in Lebanon since 1990: Dr John Chalcraft, University of Edinburgh  
Research on the micropolitics of Syrian's migration to Lebanon since 1990 with a focus on the production and reproduction of social networks between workers and employers.
- Arabic references on Wahhabism in AUB Library: Namira Nahouza, University of Exeter
- Religious symbolism in Israeli politics: Strategies and counterstrategies of the secular left and the religious right: Mark Hudson SOAS, postgraduate project
- Ethnic Conflict and memory: Remembering, forgetting and forgiving the Past in Lebanon: Craig Larkin, University of Exeter, PhD project
- The Greek speaking community of Mina in Lebanon: Lasithiotaki Efsevia, University of Exeter, PhD project
- Ancient and Modern fortification in Israel/Palestine: Material Culture, Subjectivity and Conflict: Juliana Ochs, University of Cambridge, PhD project
- The involvement of torture survivors in the rehabilitation programmes implemented by humanitarian agencies in Iraq and Lebanon: Marie-Helene Pare, Oxford University, PhD project
- Roderick Millard: Muslim Communities in the Crusader States: A Historical and Archaeological Study, Cardiff University (PhD Project)

## **h) The diachronic and synchronic study of the use of language, music and the written record in Middle Eastern society**

### *Associated Research Projects and Research Partners*

- Corpus of Phoenician Inscription in Cyprus: Dr Robert Allan, CBRL Jerusalem Research Officer. The production of three volumes on the inscriptions, textual commentary, glossary, onomasticon, theophoricon' grammatical sketch of the Cypro-Pheonician dialect, palaeographic charts, bibliography and concordance.
- Safaitic Database, Syria: Michael Macdonald, Oxford University  
The Safaitic inscriptions are graffiti carved by nomads on the rocks of the desert in southern Syria, eastern Jordan and northern Saudi Arabia from 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Century AD. They are the only first-hand source for information about the history, way of life and language of these nomads. This project will create an electronic database of all known Safaitic inscriptions (about 20,000) making it possible to produce new editions of the inscriptions as well as indexes and concordances of their content.
- Safaitic Epigraphic Survey Project, Syria: Dr Michael Macdonald, Oxford University with the Directorate General of Antiquities and Museums of Syria. Its aims are (a) to identify the sites in southern Syria where Safaitic inscriptions were discovered in the 19th and early 20th centuries and to record them accurately on maps; (b) to rediscover and photograph as many as possible of the Safaitic inscriptions copied at these sites by early travellers, so that their readings can be verified before they are entered in the Safaitic Database; and (c) to make systematic and comprehensive surveys of each of these sites, and others discovered by the SESP, to record all the epigraphic material present including the large numbers of previously unrecorded texts. There have been four seasons of fieldwork in which over 4000 inscriptions were recorded and the two-volume final report will be completed in 2006.
- The Fones of Cypriot traditional music: Nicoletta Demetriou, SOAS, PhD project

### **Annex Three: Backlog Progress**

Beidha: CBRL has recently (2005) published *Early village life at Beidha, Jordan: Neolithic spatial organization and vernacular architecture* (the final BAMA monograph currently envisaged) the detailed architectural study arising from the excavations of Diana Kirkbride. We are in discussions with the active participants regarding the production of the second volume regarding the Neolithic at Beidha.

Tell Jezreel (BSAJ project): A major article arising from this project was submitted ready for publication. This was a requirement of the original commission, but in the light of overall progress and referees comments, it was considered more useful to postpone its publication and produce it as part of the final project monograph. We anticipate funding the research for one more year (06/07) with publication in 07/08.

Tell Nebi Mend (Institute of Archaeology Project): CBRL has commissioned Dr Stephen Bourke to produce a manuscript ready for publication on the Middle and Late Bronze Age periods by October 2006. The British Academy has provided Peter Parr with funding to produce the Early Bronze Age manuscript. CBRL has indicated to Peter Parr that we are willing to take on the publication of the volumes arising from this work as part of our Levant Supplementary Series, and to assist in organising long-term archiving of the project. A PhD student at Durham is currently working on the Iron Age period ceramics. We are planning to commission him on the completion of this PhD to bring together the Iron Age volume, with a target date of 2008. There is some classical material from the site, but the volume of material does not warrant the production of a separate monograph. We will consider combining its publication with new survey data from the Homs regional survey project.

Shuna (Liverpool and Durham University Project): This project is approaching completion. CBRL has awarded Dr Graham Philip a visiting fellowship to come to Amman and complete the final monograph early in 2006 (this was initially intended to take place during 2005, but Dr Philips duties as HoD made this impossible). We envisage its publication in the Levant Supplementary Series.

Teleilat Ghassul (BSAJ and Sydney University): CBRL has recently been approached by Sydney University regarding the publication of this project. Although the work has largely been conducted by Sydney University and the project had not been included in our backlog list before, the first season was conducted as a BSAJ project, and the project made extensive use of BIAAH's facilities. We consider it appropriate for this project to be assisted to publication.

Azraq (Institute of Archaeology): Dr Garrard has a one year sabbatical commencing at the end of 2005 to bring this to publication

Jerusalem V (Prag, Kay (ed.). *Excavations by K.M. Kenyon in Jerusalem 1961-1967. Volume 5: Hellenistic to Ottoman Jerusalem*) This volume is now in press. Work on volume 6 has commenced.

Khirbet Faris Vol. 1 Alison McQuitty, Holly Parton, Jeremy Johns, et al. *Rural settlement, continuity and change in southern Jordan throughout the Islamic centuries. Volume 1: Stratigraphy, architecture and small finds* is now complete, barring final contributions from Dr Johns.