



The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

DEPARTMENT OF
ANTIQUITIES

**RULES
OF
EXCAVATION**

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RULES OF EXCAVATION

January 1, 1975

Dear Sir :

Archaeological research in Jordan has always been an international effort, and the Department of Antiquities is very proud of the cooperative spirit which has existed between Jordan and other countries in this effort.

The Department is anxious to maintain and expand this cooperative research, and it wants to encourage major foreign archaeological work on sites from all periods.

Prehistoric Sites	ca.	—	3000	B. C.
Bronze - Iron Age Sites	ca.	3000	—	332 B. C.
Classical Sites	ca.	332	B. C.	— 636 A. D.
Islamic Sites	ca.	636	—	A. D.

To facilitate major foreign archaeological research in Jordan, the Department has prepared the following pamphlet, **Rules of Excavation**, which updates and interprets certain essential points of the 1968 Antiquities Law.

The Department wants to stress that it is interested only in excavations which are scientifically and financially qualified to carry out their research. The Department holds the excavations responsible for the conservation of their sites, and thus it requires that they make at least a 10% deposit to the Department for that purpose. Likewise, the excavations are responsible for producing prompt published reports, and thus the Department wants to emphasize that compared with many other countries in the Near East, Jordan still maintains a very generous division - of - finds policy towards foreign excavations.

The **Rules of Excavation** will become effective on January 1, 1975. It will apply primarily to major excavations, but many of its points will pertain to soundings, surface surveys, architectural surveys, and other types of archaeological research.

The Department looks forward to cooperating with many foreign excavations in the common effort to discover, protect, and publish the archaeological heritage of Jordan.

1. Excavation

A. Permit

17 J.D. or 1/10/75

The Department requires that every excavation have a yearly permit (valid to December 31). An application for a permit should be submitted to the Department at least several months prior to the time when the season of excavation is to begin. To allow the Department to evaluate the scientific, financial, and other qualifications of an excavation, an application for a permit should contain at least the following information :

1. Site Information
 - a. Name
 - b. Location (Map)
 - c. Plan
2. Logistics Information
 - a. Roads
 - b. Water
 - c. Work Force
 - d. Housing
 - e. Equipment
3. Land Information
 - a. Private Ownership (Rental, Lease)
 - b. Government Ownership
 - c. Military Status
4. Time Information
 - a. Length of Season
 - b. Number of Projected Seasons
5. Statement of Objectives
6. Detailed Budget
7. Staff List (Detailed Vitae for Director and Senior Staff)

B. Representatives

The Department requires that up to two representatives be present on an excavation, in responsible capacities. The representatives are to be paid the current rate by the excavation, and they are also to receive free room, board, and transportation.

C. Seasons

The Department requires that an excavation spend a minimum of three seasons at the same site, before work begins at another site. If more than three years pass without a season at the site, the site shall be open to other excavations, unless a valid excuse for an extension has been submitted to the Department.

II. Conservation

A. Staff

The Department requires that if the site of an excavation requires extensive reconstruction or reconsolidation, the excavation have among its staff members qualified specialists to deal with such conservation matters.

B. Budget

The Department requires that every excavation deposit at least 10% of its in - field operating budget at the Department, prior to a season, for use by the Department in the preservation, beautification, and protection of the site or portion of the site.

III. Publication

A. Unpublished Records

1. The Department requires that an excavation turn in a brief report to the Department immediately after the conclusion of a season, for the Department files and for possible press release.

2. The Department requires that an excavation turn in an object list, including drawings and photographs, to the Department immediately after the conclusion of a season.

B. Published Preliminary Reports

The Department requires that an excavation submit a publishable preliminary report to the editors of **ADAJ** after each season. This report must be submitted prior to the next season, or within two years of the last season, or the Department will not approve an application for a new or renewed permit to excavate.

C. Published Final Reports

The Department requires that an excavation prepare and publish a final report after the last season of work at a site. This report must be completed within five years of the last season, or the Department will not approve an application for a new or renewed permit to excavate.

D. Copies of Published Reports

The Department requires that an excavation send two free copies of every published report (preliminary and final) to the Department library.

IV. Division

The Department requires that an excavation complete a division of finds with the Department shortly after the conclusion of a season. The Department will usually keep for its museums the unique and rare pieces, as well as a representative collection of other finds, and it will usually give a fair share of the finds to the excavation. The Department will also usually allow the excavation to take out of Jordan on official loan the pieces kept by the Department which need study or publication, provided they be returned to Jordan immediately, upon notification at any time.