

ANNUAL REPORT (5-1-11 to 4-30-12)

Personnel

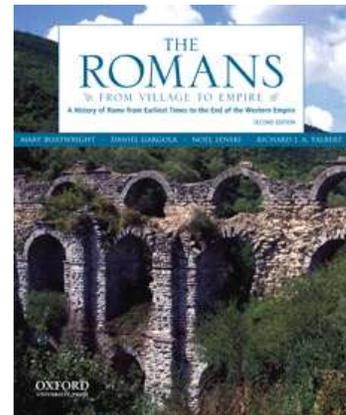
- Jeffrey A. Becker Ph.D. RPA *Acting Director*
- Ryan Horne *Graduate Research Assistant*
- Ross Twele *Graduate Research Assistant*
- Ray Belanger *Cartographic Research Assistant*
- Steve Burges *Cartographic Research Assistant*
- Ashley Lee *Cartographic Research Assistant*

Summary

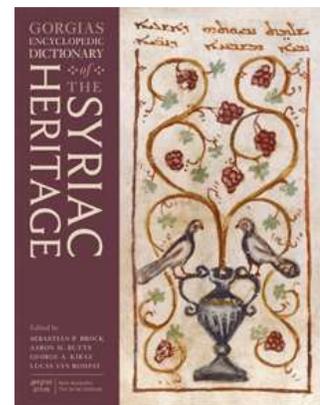
The past year has been one of continued activity in the Ancient World Mapping Center. The report presented here outlines the main areas of activity, divided into commissioned map work, the Center's own research activities, and collaborative efforts.

Commissioned map work

AWMC has continued to produce, at a steady pace, maps on commission for scholarly publication. Several major projects came to completion during the past twelve months, with others due to appear imminently. One major publication is the second edition of *The Romans from Village to Empire* (Boatwright *et al.* Oxford, 2012). Digital versions of the 40 maps and city plans are hosted on the AWMC website.



AWMC also supported the creation of maps and figures for *Highways, Byways and Road Systems in the Pre-Modern World* (S. E. Alcock, J. Bodel, and R. Talbert, edd. Wiley-Blackwell, 2012). Additional commissioned map work included the production of color maps that have now been published in the *Gorgias Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Syriac Heritage* (S. Brock *et al.* edd. Gorgias, 2012).



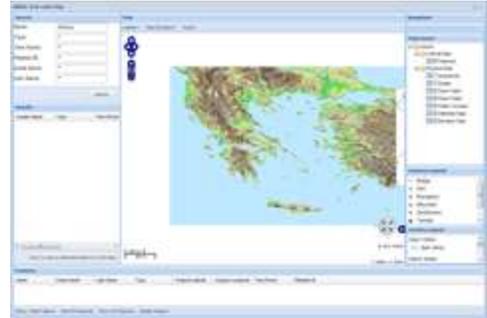
AWMC prepared 13 maps for J. Magness (UNC Religious Studies) to complement a forthcoming Cambridge University Press textbook on the archaeology of the Holy Land. Work continues on the production of over 15 maps for the forthcoming *Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Ancient History* (R. Bagnall *et al.* edd.). Additional commissioned map work was completed for C. Ando's contribution to the forthcoming *Blackwell Companion to Roman Italy* (A. Cooley ed., 2013), S. James and S. Dillon edd. *Blackwell Companion to Women in the Ancient World* (2012), a re-issue of the *Song of War* Latin textbook edited by R. LaFleur (Pearson, 2012), and two maps for a forthcoming English language edition of J. Andreau's *Economie du monde romaine* (D. S. Potter and

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E. Bauerle, ed., Michigan Classical Press). A commissioned map was also prepared for a brochure produced by the Etruscan Foundation. Various other commissioned work was licensed for re-use in whole or in part.

AWMC Research Activities

- 1) AWMC's "Antiquity à la carte" application initiative represents the future direction of the Center's work in digital mapping. Engineered by Ryan Horne with support from Talbert and Becker, this online application allows users to manipulate, create, and export map content. Working with information derived from the AWMC database, this platform represents the initial phase of a more comprehensive approach to web-based digital mapping of the ancient world. An initial version of the program gained very favorable attention at the March 2012 meeting of CAMWS in Baton Rouge, La., and the application is enjoying significant web traffic.



- 2) A scholarly map of Asia Minor ca. 100 CE (Talbert, Turner, and Becker ed.) is currently under production by AWMC. This single-sheet map is produced at a scale of 1:750,000 and will be accompanied by a digital gazetteer. The map goes out to be reviewed by experts during summer 2012. A draft version was presented for the poster session at the January 2012 meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America in Philadelphia, Pa.



- 3) Future research aims include a possible project that would digitally map the sea, coastlines, trade routes, and shipwrecks of the ancient Mediterranean world. Another project under development seeks to accurately model the ancient terrain within the city of Rome using LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) data.

Collaborative Efforts

AWMC continues in its partnership with New York University in managing the Pleiades Project (pleiades.stoa.org), an online successor to the print version of the *Barrington Atlas of the Greek and Roman World* (R.J.A. Talbert ed. Princeton, 2000). The Pleiades Project continues to refine geospatial coordinates and metadata for ancient places in and around the Mediterranean basin and is in the process of expanding both its chronological and its geographic remit to include other areas of a more broadly construed ancient world.

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Social Media

AWMC joined the world of online social media in fall 2011 by establishing a presence on both Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/ancientworldmappingcenter>) and Twitter (https://twitter.com/AWMC_UNC). Each platform has allowed AWMC to cultivate a following of interested online parties and also offers additional opportunities to promote and advertise AWMC's activities and scholarly output. The online response has been vigorous; as of early May 2012, AWMC on Facebook has approximately 380 followers, while on Twitter AWMC has approximately 315 followers. For fall 2012 AWMC projects rolling out a new web presence, including a wiki site, driven by Wordpress.

Staff

Jeffrey Becker will continue in his position as Acting Director for AY 2012-2013.

The Center's projects this year have been ably assisted by a number of student workers, both at the graduate and undergraduate levels. R. Horne (Ph.D. student in Ancient History) continues to serve an instrumental role in the maintenance and development of AWMC's geo-database as well as serving as the lead designer for the "Antiquity à la carte" application. R. Twele (Ph.D. student in Ancient History) ably saw to completion maps in the *Gorgias Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Syriac Heritage*. Undergraduate student S. Burges (Classical archaeology) played a leading role in the creation of city plans for *The Romans from Village to Empire*, and is now experimenting with digital elevation modeling (DEM) as part of a planned undergraduate honors project to be undertaken during AY 2012-13, advised by R. Talbert. Undergraduate students R. Belanger and A. Lee assisted in the tasks related to creating digital layers of content derived from the *Barrington Atlas* using ArcMap 10.0; their painstaking work is creating content that will continue to be invaluable for all of AWMC's map-making endeavors.