

<b>Name of Creator:</b>	Albright, William Foxwell, 1891-1971.
<b>Title:</b>	William F. Albright Papers
<b>Dates:</b>	1936-1964
<b>Collection Number:</b>	Coll. 002
<b>Extent:</b>	3 boxes (1.7 cubic feet)
<b>Location:</b>	SB2
<b>Biographical Abstract:</b>	<p>William F. Albright was a founder of biblical archaeology. He earned his doctorate in archaeology and linguistics in 1916 from Johns Hopkins University. He became the acting director of the American School of Oriental Research in Jerusalem in 1920, then director from 1921-1929 and 1933-1936. In 1929, he became the W.W. Spence Professor of Semitic Languages at Johns Hopkins University and chairman of the university's Oriental Seminary. He served as professor at Johns Hopkins until his retirement in 1958.</p> <p>Albright was the first long-term director of the American School of Oriental Research in Jerusalem and served during the time the School was built. In 1970, the Jerusalem School was renamed the William Foxwell Albright Institute of Archaeological Research.</p>
<b>Scope and Content Abstract:</b>	<p>The collection primarily contains correspondence with other archaeologists and ASOR colleagues regarding research, excavations, new archaeological methods, and logistical aspects of publishing ASOR bulletins, journals, scholarly papers and monographs. Of particular interest is correspondence with Nelson Glueck, prominent biblical archaeologist and director of the Jerusalem School throughout the 1930s and 1940s. The letters also describe the political events in Jerusalem, the Arab Revolt (1936-1939) and ongoing tensions between the city's religious communities.</p>

	<p>The Financial files contain budgets and annual reports.</p> <p>The Corporation and Board of Trustees files contain memoranda, meeting agendas and minutes.</p> <p>The Baghdad School Committee files contain memoranda and meeting notes documenting research projects, excavations, and joint expeditions in Iraq.</p>
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<b>Languages:</b>	The materials are primarily in English, with some Hebrew and Arabic.
<b>System of Arrangement:</b>	Alphabetical
<b>Restrictions:</b>	Publishing restrictions may apply.
<b>Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use:</b>	Copyright restrictions may apply.

<b>Biographical Note:</b>
<p>William F. Albright (WFA) was a founder of biblical archaeology. He earned his doctorate in archaeology and linguistics in 1916 from Johns Hopkins University. He became the acting director of the American School of Oriental Research in Jerusalem in 1920, then director from 1921-1929 and 1933-1936. In 1929, he became the W.W. Spence Professor of Semitic Languages at Johns Hopkins University and chairman of its Oriental Seminary. He served as professor at Johns Hopkins until his retirement in 1958.</p> <p>Albright was a specialist in modern and ancient languages. He developed the standard pottery chronological sequence for all of Palestine. He studied the Dead Sea Scrolls shortly after their discovery in 1947 and helped confirm their authenticity. In 1919 he founded ASOR's <i>Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research</i>, which he edited until 1957. Albright devoted much time to fieldwork and excavated at sites in Palestine, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen. He directed excavations at Gibeah, Tel Beit Mirsim, Bethel, and Ader. His voluminous technical publications include <i>The Excavation of Tell Beit Mirsim</i> (1943), and <i>The Proto-Sianatic Inscriptions and Their Decipherment</i> (1966). Later in his career, he led numerous organizations, among them the International Organization of Old Testament Scholars, the Society of Biblical Literature, the American Oriental Society, and the Palestine Oriental Society. From 1956 until his death, he served as senior editor of the Anchor Bible</p>

series.

Albright was the first long-term director of the American School of Oriental Research in Jerusalem and served during the time the School was built. In 1970, the Jerusalem School was renamed the William Foxwell Albright Institute of Archaeological Research.

**Bibliography:**

Seger, Joe D., ed. *An ASOR Mosaic*. Boston: American Schools of Oriental Research, 2001.

**Collection Inventory**

<i>Box</i>	<i>Folder Number</i>	<i>Folder Title</i>	<i>Dates</i>
1, 3	1, 44	General	1955-1964
1	2	Baghdad School Committee	1953-1961
1	3	Board of Trustees	1939-1964
1	4	Corporation	1949-1964
1 - 3	5 - 40, 45	Correspondence (38 folders)	1936-1964
2 - 3	41, 44 - 47	Financial (4 folders)	1938-1965
2	42	Press	n.d., 1953
2	43	Photographs	n.d.

**Subject Headings**

600 - Subject - Personal Name	Albright, William Foxwell, 1891-1971
600 - Subject - Personal Name	Glueck, Nelson, 1900-1971
610 - Subject - Corporate Name	American Schools of Oriental Research. American School of Oriental Research in Jerusalem
610 - Subject - Corporate Name	American Schools of Oriental Research
610 - Subject - Corporate Name	Albright Institute of Archaeological Research
650 - Subject - Topical Term	Archaeological expeditions.
650 - Subject - Topical Term	Biblical archaeology
650 - Subject - Topical Term	Archaeology--Iran.

*This collection was processed by Cynthia Rufo in August, 2009. The materials were digitized by Sophie Mpunzwana in September, 2009.*