Open Jerusalem: Survey Updates

Merav Mack, CRFJ, 7 May 2014

Open-Jerusalem Project
The American Colony Hotel
The American Colony and Open Jerusalem:

- 33 **photo albums**: Each album contains 400 photos, sorted and edited by Eric Metson and include captures in his hand writing (his own complementing collection of 24,000 negatives was donated to the American Congress Library and is available online)

  - **Locusts Albums** (epidemics of 1915 and 1930; more albums might exist in Istanbul or in private collections);

  - 1927 Earth Quake;

  - WWI album 1914-1918 and 1918-1925

  - Water pipe from Ein Phara (Wadie Qelt) to Jerusalem;

  - The establishment of the Hebrew University;

  - Coronation of King Abdallah.

- 55 diaries by Berta Vester (1920 – 1968) that were unknown until very recently

- Personal folders of members of the community

- Public Health: The AC founded several important institutions: The Anna Spafford Centre still exists. There are records of the girls orphanage opened after WWI for 3-4 years; an "Out Clinic" opened in 1926; an "Aid Association" opened in 1926 – (known previously as Anna's Baby Home) until today there is a day centre for children.

- Education – the files of the school disappeared, there are only some documents on recycled papers

- Building, development and infrastructure: in the architects' folder: Planning permission, plans, sketches etc
Israel Antiquity Authority

- Ample material is now available online (although the search facilities are very limited):

http://www.iaa-archives.org.il/
The Albright Institute (formerly the American School of Oriental Research)

Personal papers of orientalists and archaeologists (Morris Jastrow, Edmund I. Gordon and Douglas E. Esse)

150 Map titles

960 archival boxes – but mainly excavation reports.

Most important: a survey carried out by the institute: http://www.dlir.org

Digital Library for International Research (DLIR) > Local Archives and Libraries Directory > Browse

http://www.dlir.org/component/lalorcsurvey/?view=record&layout=browse#

Most of the relevant material for OJ was transferred to the American School of Oriental Research.

http://www.asor.org/archives


Example: Building Permits and Design : 1929 p. 39: business desk for the Albright