

# Susan Masten

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## EDUCATION

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B.A. **Biblical Archaeology**, minor in **Biblical Hebrew** and in **Anthropology**, May 2012

*Wheaton College*, Wheaton, IL

M.A. **Anthropology**, concentration in **Museum Training**, May 2015

*The George Washington University*, Washington, DC

## EXHIBITIONS

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### **Jerusalem and Rome: Cultures in Context in the First Century CE**

*Museum of the Bible, Washington DC, 2018*

Joint exhibition between Museum of the Bible (MOTB) and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

The exhibit tells the story of the Jewish struggle to live under and interact with Roman culture in the first century CE and the events of the Great Jewish Revolt and fall of Masada. Jerusalem and Rome features 195 artifacts from the collection of the Institute of Archaeology at Hebrew University and will be on display for one year.

### **People of the Land**

*Museum of the Bible, Washington DC, 2017*

Joint exhibition between MOTB and the Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA). The exhibit looks at the history of the people of the land of Israel through archaeological discoveries made over the last 70 years. It includes over 700 artifacts from the IAA collection and will be on display at MOTB through Nov. 2027.

### **‘Ertez Yisr’ael: Jews and the Land of Israel**

*AIPAC (American Israel Public Affairs Committee) Conference, Washington DC, 2017*

Exhibition created for the three-day AIPAC Conference in Washington DC. The exhibit looked at the dynamic relationship the Jewish people have with the city of Jerusalem and the land of Israel throughout their history, from 200 BCE to 1300 CE. It featured a number of archaeological artifacts and medieval manuscripts from the collection of MOTB.

## EXPERIENCE

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### **Tel Shimron Excavations**, Tel Shimron, Israel, Registrar June 2019-present

- Conducted registrar tasks in the field during the excavation season including documenting new finds in the excavation database, conducting inventories of finds from previous seasons, overseeing the inventory and distribution of registrar supplies for the excavation, and reviewing the excavation database for errors and missing data.

### **Museum of the Bible**, Curatorial Department, Washington, DC, Curator of Antiquities July 2015- July 2020

- Served as the subject matter expert on all archaeological collections and content in the Museum. Oversaw the archaeological artifacts within the Museum collection including ceramic vessels, numismatics, Jewish incantation bowls, jewelry, textiles, seals, glass vessels, and books.
- Organized and catalogued extensive collection of Bibles in over 1,000 languages.
- Developed a custom database to track and manage the accessioning and display of over 1,500 Bibles in the Museum collection.
- Updated and maintained database records and catalogued new acquisitions.

- Conducted research on object history, provenance, and material to improve documentation of the collections.
- Secured loans from national and international museums and cultural institutions for permanent exhibitions.
- Recommended new artifact acquisitions to the Board of Directors for the museum collection
- Assisted with the installation of many national and international exhibitions- Buenos Aires 2015, Philadelphia 2015, Santiago, Cuba 2016, Jerusalem 2016, Washington DC 2017.
- Conducted condition reports and packed objects for transport and storage.
- Participated in the exhibit planning and installation of two major international exhibitions at the Museum.
- Applied for Digital Humanities Grant to develop a virtual exhibit of the Tel Shimron excavations.
- Maintained institutional relationships through tours, lectures, and engagement with staff and visitors.

**Smithsonian, National Museum of Natural History** Education and Outreach Department, Washington D.C., Intern, August 2013- June 2015

- Conducted museum collections processing including inventories of collections storage areas, Integrated Pest Management, rehousing of artifacts, moving collections to and from Collections storage areas to Exhibit space, object labeling, specimen preservation, and data entry
- Provided collections database support in a museum setting
- Led a team of interns in selecting objects from storage areas, rehousing objects, and moving them into the Lab where they will be used and studied by visiting school groups
- Mounted new botanical specimens for use in the Collections Zone of [Q?rius](#)
- Completed the Smithsonian's Introduction to EMu training course and the EMu Methods and Tools training course

**Smithsonian, National Museum of Natural History** Anthropology Department, Washington D.C., Intern, May 2014- November 2014

- Prepared data for entry into an online finding aid on the Smithsonian's holdings from the River Basin Surveys (RBS); this will allow other institutions and individuals access to the information and material held at the National Museum of Natural History
- Ensured the listing (and accuracy) of: reservoir projects, archaeological sites, project archaeologists, accession numbers, and catalog records.
- Carried out archival research on documents related to the RBS and conducted searches on EMu to locate and confirm information on the RBS material
- Conducted historical research on the Causten family at a variety of archival collections including the National Archives and Daughters of the American Revolution Library. This was assembled and given to family descendants as part of a restoration project on the family vault at the Congressional Cemetery

**The Field Museum** Anthropology Department, Chicago, IL, Intern, October 2012- May 2013

- Rehoused and stabilized artifacts from the Chinese Shipwreck Collection in order to ensure their long-term preservation and safety
- Inventoried and applied labels to bowls in the Chinese Shipwreck Collection as part of the acquisition and cataloging process
- Assisted with Behind-the-Scenes Tour of the Anthropology Collections as part of a cultural visit from the Yokut Tribe, helping them to gain a stronger connection to their heritage

**The Field Museum** Education Department, Chicago, IL, Contractor, September 2012-May 2013

- Independently led and taught a range of activities to groups of Boy Scouts as part of the [Badge Day Program](#) at the Field Museum, helping them learn about science and nature while earning a Boy Scout badge
- Processed incoming and outgoing loans in the [N.W. Harris Learning Collection](#) where Museum materials can be used in the classroom, allowing children to learn and explore a variety of topics

**The Field Museum** Education Department, Chicago, IL, Intern, January 2012- September 2012

- Conducted inventory and rehousing project to update and fix materials in the N. W. Harris Learning Collection
- Organized zoology and botany inventory of the N.W. Harris Learning Collection so that material could be easily found and accessed
- Created the inventory for and put together the new Experience Boxes, which are used and enjoyed by children in local Chicago public schools

**Leon Levy Expedition to Ashkelon** Ashkelon, Israel, Volunteer, June-July 2010

- Worked with other volunteers to excavate a Roman drainage system, Middle Bronze Age house, Persian wall, and a Philistine house
- Excavated and handled material culture at the site
- Washed, marked, and sorted pottery that had been recently excavated
- Traveled extensively in Israel and obtained firsthand knowledge of Israeli culture