

“While objectives of archaeological photography have remained quite unchanged since its inception, techniques of achieving these aims have been in a state of sweeping modification.... And certainly there are even more far-reaching transformations in the offing for the near future which undoubtedly will make recent ones appear insignificant by contrast.”

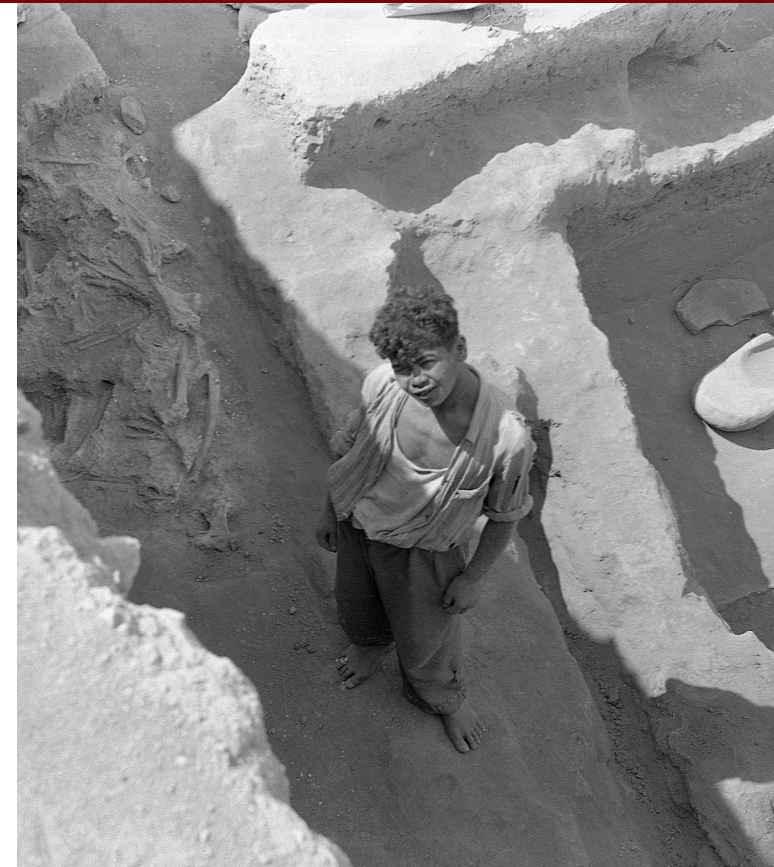
(Harold C. Simmons, 1969)

Roland de Vaux of the École Biblique at Tell el-Farah, 1950s



**NPAPH
PROJECT**

www.npaph.com
info@npaph.com
www.facebook.com/npaph
[@npaph](https://twitter.com/npaph)
IBAN: NL39INGB0008754732
BIC: INGBNL2A



The Non-Professional
Archaeological
Photographs Project



The project's aims

In 2013 the Non-Professional Archaeological Photographs project was initiated. The project aims to preserve non-professional visual documentation of archaeological campaigns - prior the 1980s - to the future and makes it accessible to the public.

The term 'non-professional' refers to records made by visitors or participants of excavations who were not part of the trained staff, but who assisted as part of their continuing education or out of interest, for instance students, volunteers, reporters or sponsors. Secondly, this category of documentation includes also the private photos, slides or films made at the excavation by the archaeological staff.



Archaeologist Dan P. Cole with volunteers at Tel Gezer, 1966

Unlike official records, which can be consulted in published reports and is kept in libraries, museums, archives and on the internet, non-professional documentation is generally not accessible to the public. Furthermore, it is possible that these non-professional photographs, slides or films have not always been stored in the best conditions over the years. For these reasons the NPAPH project was started.

How does the NPAPH work?

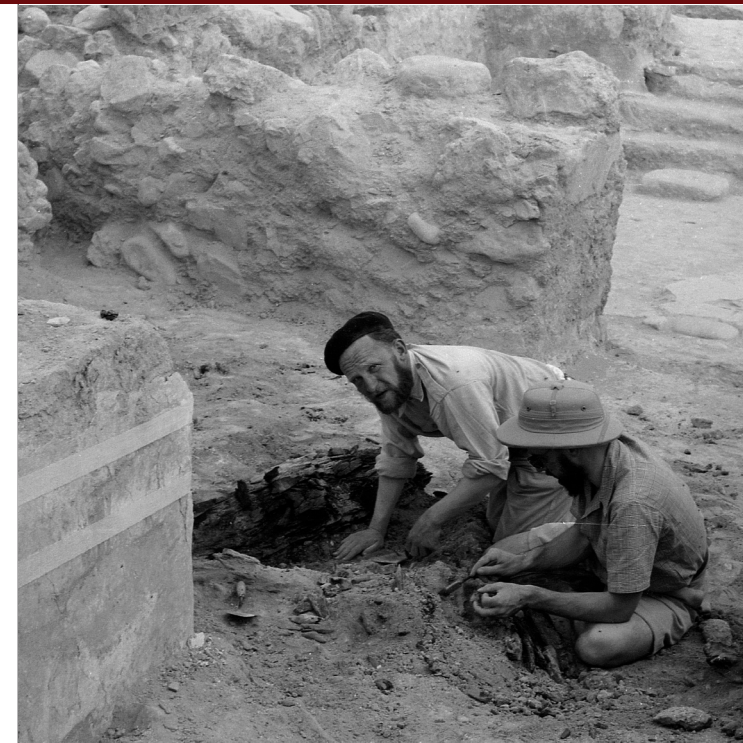
As the principle aims of the NPAPH are to preserve non-professional archaeological data for the future and to make it accessible to the public, the project will use both a national data repository and a website to achieve these goals.

All traced material will be archived with the Data Archiving and Networked Services. This data repository stores records according to the Data Seal of Approval guidelines, an internationally established data quality mark. The copyright stays with the creator of the records.

In order to make the archival documentation user-friendly, NPAPH has created a website that will enable users to search through the records that were traced and digitized by the project (www.npaph.com). The records are supplied with metadata and can be searched either by archaeological site or creator.



Tel Gezer, 1967



Thanks to this non-professional photo (1954) a new premise about the function of this block (left) in Khirbet Qumran has been put forward

We need your support!

Although non-professional photographs, slides or films have not always been stored in the best conditions over the years, it is important that efforts are now being made to secure this valuable type of documentation. Additionally, due to the significance of the material for current archaeological research, the records are digitised and placed in accessible digital archives for both scholars and the general public. However, this can only be achieved with support from you. So please visit our website, admire the digital archives and show us your generosity. If you would like to cooperate with us or have questions about the project, please contact us at info@npaph.com. It will be worth the effort!