Petra at the Joukowsky
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Instructions:

This project is designed to provide a quick, accessible 20-minute tour related to the objects from Petra located in the Joukowsky building, as well as to correlate these objects with broader themes connected to Petra and its peoples throughout history.

The goal of the project was not only to provide insight and information into the context of these objects in the building but also to make Brown’s archaeological work more accessible to the Providence and Brown community. Our intention is to either use formal labels or a pamphlet-style guide with minimal information about the objects, but QR codes that can be scanned with a phone camera. The QR codes link to our website with different information about each object, (including write-ups, photos, and video interviews) as well as about Brown’s work at Petra.

Please explore our website here: https://petraatthejoukowsky.wordpress.com

TOUR:

Homepage – Project Introduction
Late 1st c. B.C.E. - 1st c. C.E.
Limestone
Reused in Roman Wall in the East Triple Colonnade, Lower Temenos, Great Temple Complex, Petra, Jordan, excavated in 1998

Today this wreath carving serves as the logo of the Joukowsky Institute for Archaeology and the Ancient World. During the excavation of the Great Temple, the wreath was discovered in 1998 as a part of a wall from the Byzantine Period. This reminds us that the usage of the Great Temple did not end with ancient Nabataean society, instead, the Great Temple was reused and occupied by different people beyond the Nabataeans and Romans.

**Elephant Capital**

Elephant Capital, recreation (left image)
Carved by Dakhilallah Qublan in 2005
Modeled after Asian Elephant head column capitals from the Great Temple Complex at Petra, Jordan

Elephant-Headed Capital, original (right image)
Late 1st c. B.C.E. - 1st c. C.E.
White Limestone
Lower Temenos and Propylaeum, Great Temple Complex, Petra, Jordan, excavated 1993-2008
Over 142 elephant capitals like this were found at the site. The recreation of a capital, found outside the Joukowsky, was carved during Brown’s excavation of the Great Temple. In reality, these capitals would have been much larger (such as the one inside the Joukowsky) and would have had tusks.
Late 1st c. B.C.E. - 1st c. C.E.
White Limestone
Great Temple Complex, Petra, Jordan, excavated 1993-2008

Petra was in contact with the Roman Empire through trade and eventually annexed by the Empire in the 2nd century CE, and so it makes sense that we see elements of Hellenistic and Roman architecture at the site. Nabataeans used Hellenistic and Roman styles in their architecture alongside local styles to create their own unique architecture, hence the Nabataean Corinthian Capital design (also known as Floral Corinthian).

**Pinecone Capital Fragments**

Late 1st c. B.C.E. - 1st c. C.E.
White Limestone
Great Temple Complex, Petra, Jordan, excavated 1993-2008

These are carved fragments of Nabataean Corinthian column capitals. They are likely a depiction of an Aleppo Pine-cone, which is imagery that is associated with Dionysus. They were constructed out of white limestone and were inset in the center top of the capital itself.
Engaged Nabataean Capital

Late 1st c. B.C.E. - 1st c. C.E.
Great Temple Complex, Petra, Jordan, excavated 1993-2008

This piece of stone is a Nabataean column capital. Here you can see a protruding semi-circle on the top, a typical element of Nabataean architecture. The chisel marks are also intentionally visible on this capital, showing Nabataean building techniques. This capital was engaged, meaning that it sat right against a wall or facade, apparent by its flat back.

Basalt Grinding Mill

Grinding Mill, Basalt
Great Temple Complex, Petra, Jordan, excavated 1993-2008

The manual labor of animals or slaves with this mill crushed various grains. The mill is made from basalt, another stone found at Petra that comes from a previous volcanic eruption near the site.