



# The Archaeological Institute of America Western Illinois Society



## PUBLIC LECTURE

### A Wealthy Athenian Builds a Roman Bath near Corinth: Archaeology in the Sanctuary of Poseidon at Isthmia



#### Dr. Jayne Reinhard

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Dr. Reinhard holds a B.A. in art history from Colorado College, an M.A. in art history from Ohio State University, and a Ph.D. in ancient medieval art and archaeology from the University of Minnesota, where she wrote a dissertation entitled “The Roman Bath at Isthmia: Decoration, Cult and Herodes Atticus.” In addition to her work at Isthmia, she has done archaeological field work in the western Peloponnese of Greece with Minnesota Archaeological Research.

**7:30 P.M.**

**Monday, September 18, 2006**

**Huff Center Classrooms 1012 A & B**

**Monmouth College, Monmouth, Illinois**

In the second half of the second century CE, an enormous, lavishly decorated Roman bath was built at Isthmia. Although no dedicatory inscription exists, many details of the building’s construction, decoration and function suggest that the famous rhetorician and philanthropist Herodes Atticus (Herod of Athens) was the dedicator of this bath. Most conspicuously among the sculptural ornamentation were two identical portrait herms of a youth named Polydeukion, a student of Herodes. The Isthmian baths’ interior fittings, scale, design and placement within a panhellenic sanctuary convey an imperial character so in keeping with Herodes’ own that I suggest the building should be added to his known oeuvre.



CPDU’s are available for attendance at this lecture.

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