



THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

NEWS & NOTES

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THE AMUQ VALLEY PROJECTS, 1995

By K. Aslihan Yener, Assistant Professor of Archaeology, The Oriental Institute,
and Tony J. Wilkinson, Research Associate (Associate Professor), The Oriental Institute

It was with great anticipation that teams from the Oriental Institute returned to the Amuq Valley in the state of Hatay, Turkey, after a 57 year hiatus. Between 1932 and 1938 the path breaking Amuq Valley Surface Survey by Professor Robert Braidwood and his Chicago coworkers found 178 mounds. The subsequent excavations, under the direction of Calvin Wells McEwan, at Hatay-Çatal Höyük, Tell al-Judaidah, Tell Tayinat, Tell Dhahab, and Tell Kurdu provided a stratigraphic sequence upon which most of the chronology of the Near East depends even today. In 1991 Professor Douglas Esse of the Oriental Institute initiated a project to reexcavate Çatal Höyük through a collaboration with the Antakya Museum. Unfortunately his untimely death delayed undertaking the excavation. Our renewed Amuq efforts began in 1995 and were intended to be the first phase of a multi-phase regional investigation.

Our enthusiasm for reactivating the Amuq projects was matched only by the excitement and support of the local population, who greeted us with warmth and hospitality. The city of Reyhanlı, where Tell al-Judaidah and Dhahab are located, extended honorary citizenship to the Braidwoods and sent them a plaque thanking them for their research contributions in their region.



The 1936 field team in front of Rehanieh (Reyhanlı) House, Amuq Headquarters, (left to right, standing) Robert Braidwood, Hamilton Darby, Calvin McEwan, (seated) Arthur Pierson, Elizabeth McEwan, Rigmor Jacobsen, Thorkild Jacobsen, Harold Hill, and Richard Haines

The 1995 field season on the Amuq Plain was divided into two operations: The first, directed by K. Aslihan Yener with graduate students Elizabeth Friedman and Clemens Reichel, was a rescue excavation that consisted of section cleaning, section drawing, and limited excavations at Tell al-Judaidah,

which would enhance the stratigraphy from previous excavations and explore the possibility of future wide scale investigation. The second, directed by Tony Wilkinson with graduate students Scott Branting and Jerry Lyon, was an ongoing program of archaeological and geomorphological surveys in the Amuq Plain. They located the mounds and other archaeological sites that were mapped by the original Chicago team in 1932, after which they attempted to reconstruct landscape changes through time and to assess the impact of human communities on the environment (see below).

EXCAVATIONS AT TELL AL-JUDAIDAH (K. A. Yener)

The Amuq Valley has held great interest to me ever since our ongoing lead isotope analysis program indicated a source of metal for several bronze and silver artifacts excavated previously from the Amuq. Several samples of copper and silver ore from mines in the nearby Taurus and Amanus Mountains, located to the west of the Amuq, matched Chalcolithic, Early Bronze, and Late Bronze Age metal artifacts, indicating that they were made from these ores. Of special interest were the Amuq G figurines from Tell al-Judaidah, which are to date



The 1995 field team featuring the Mayor of Reyhanlı, (left to right, bottom row) Mehmet Hazırlar, Elizabeth Friedman, Aslihan Yener, Mayor Mahmut Ekmen, Bekir Altan, (top row) Clemens Reichel, Scott Branting, Tony Wilkinson, and Jerry Lyon

the oldest tin bronzes in the Near East (ca. 3000 B.C.). Finding the metal workshops where the actual crafting was done lent immediacy and relevance to this project.

continued on page 2



Robert Braidwood excavating a burial at Tell al-Judaidah, 1936

Bulldozer cuts at Tell al-Judaidah had exposed substantial mudbrick architecture on its northern and northeastern edges. Ceramics in the section and sherds collected from the debris indicated that the walls dated to roughly Phase F (earlier fourth millennium B.C.) and Phase G (later fourth millennium and early third millennium B.C.). Three architectural levels were clearly apparent and were recorded in a 1:20 scale drawing. The earliest mudbrick walls had been highly vitrified due to burning, which resulted in good preservation, while the later phase walls were less coherent. A sounding 5 meters in width and 2 meters deep was initiated on top of the bulldozer cut. Thus a stratigraphic column would hopefully correlate with the established ceramic sequence as well as help generate an independent Amuq F-G transition sequence, enhanced by dates from radiocarbon samples.

Massive mudbrick walls with stone foundations (brick size: $52 \times 36 \times 7$ centimeters) were preserved to a height of 1.80 meters and 1.50 meters in width in the uppermost phase. A room of 2.60×2.50 meters formed part of a substantial architectural unit. Several occupation surfaces emerged with predominantly wheel-made Plain Simple Ware dating this later structure to Amuq G. After the removal of the foundations, the sounding descended in a narrower vertical column



Team members Elizabeth Friedman and Clemens Reichel leveling in archaeological strata at Tell al-Judaidah



Excavations at Tell al-Judaidah, 1995

measuring 2.90×1.40 meters, which was positioned just above an earlier burnt room visible in the section. The next phase contained ashy lenses, a stone alignment, and another mudbrick wall with stone foundations oriented northeast-southwest along the line of the section, but very little of this was recoverable.

The earliest floor in the building phase visible in the cross-section was not reached; however, a later mud floor with gypsum patches was recovered below the collapse level. A large ashy lens overlying several burnt destruction layers containing disintegrated mudbrick collapse represented the lowest architectural phase. Three substantial walls 1.60 meters wide and 1.50 meters high bordered a room that may have been used as a magazine or storage room and was perhaps part of an administrative unit in Phase G. Large quantities of crushed pottery were recovered on the floor of the storage room. New types of storage jars and cooking pot wares distinguished it from the phases above. Hitherto unknown Plain Simple Ware storage jars with a cream-buff paste were decorated with a red wash on the interior of the rim with red paint drizzling down vertically on the outer surface of the vessel. This decoration is not attested in the published pottery assemblage of Phase G and may belong to an earlier level of Phase G or part of an undetected F-G transition. Although several cooking pot wares and chaff-faced examples in this room do suggest a Phase F date, the more well-known Phase F strata will probably emerge from below the surface level of the present plain.

In future years the archaeological heritage of the area will be examined within the context of important technological, subsistence, and cultural changes taking place in the ancient Near East and will provide the basis for our understanding of the cultural history in this unique environment bounded by resource-rich mountain highlands.

LAKE ANTIOCH UNPLUGGED (T. J. Wilkinson)

Our main aim during the survey part of the 1995 field season was to obtain an overview of the region from the estuary of the Orontes River inland to the plain itself in order to formulate research goals for future seasons and to get an impression of how the area had changed since the 1930s when Professor Robert Braidwood conducted his groundbreaking survey.

Although our survey was hardly groundbreaking, other people *had* been breaking ground, hence we witnessed the poignant sight of several tells literally cut in half or otherwise mutilated as local farmers and landowners enlarged fields to grow more irrigated cotton. Earth-moving machines, although threatening to the existence of archaeological sites, can also provide a bonus for field archaeologists by supplying opportunistic sections through deep accumulations of soil. Such sections enable us to infer environmental changes from the layers of sediments that have accumulated through time under varying hydrological, climatic, or vegetated conditions. One of the key environmental changes that would have influenced the growth of settlement in the region must have been the development of Lake Antioch, which occupied the central part of the basin in recent centuries.

As noted by Professor Braidwood, Sir Leonard Woolley, and others, this lake may have been a relatively late feature, but if it was late, we needed to ask what the basin was like before the lake formed, and how the inhabitants may have lived under such different conditions. Although we get some hints about the lake's history from Islamic writers and even from Assyrian reliefs, it seemed logical that we also examine the landscape itself for traces of its early history. By taking advantage of the fact that the lake has now been drained, the 1995 field season was able to provide some clear evidence that related to such questions. Particularly significant was the discovery of archaeological sites within the main body of the former lake. Because such sites have their occupation levels well below the water level of Lake Antioch, it follows that when they were occupied the lake must have been much smaller.

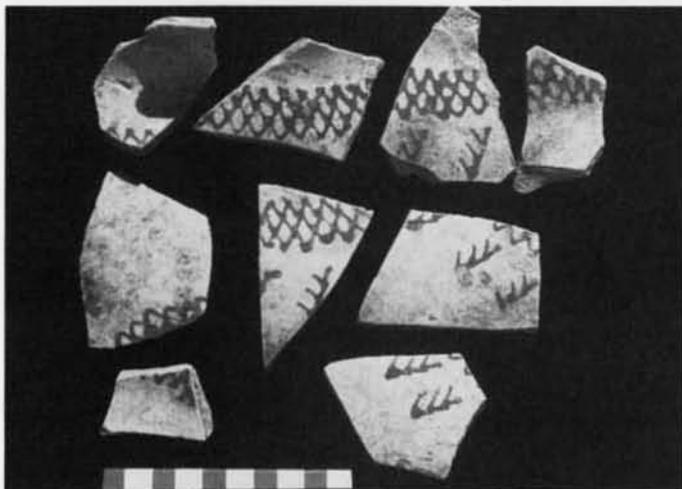
The two newly-discovered sites were recorded together with what must have been a buried ancient land surface. The sites occur some 1.5 to 2.0 kilometers to the north of the lake margin as it existed in the 1930s (see map of major sites) at a point where they must have been covered by some 2 meters of water. Hence it was possible for Woolley to declare that from a boat it was possible to lean over the gunwale and peer through the clear waters to see the ruins of Hellenistic, Roman, and Byzantine houses and churches. Such ruins evidently



The southern end of Tell al-Judaidah showing the 1995 excavated area

must have pre-dated the lake's formation. One such site—perhaps *the* site witnessed by Woolley—was visited by the Oriental Institute team during the field season. It was discovered by asking the local inhabitants whether they knew of any archaeological sites specifically within the area of the former lake. The main newly-discovered site “Tell al-Hijjar” was, it turned out, quite well known and we first heard reference to it while working well to the north of the lake in the vicinity of Qara Tepe (Site 86). We then went southward, asking for such a site en route until we eventually tracked it down, to the north of the village of Tell ed-Diss located on the former lake margin. The site when discovered was seen to occupy some two hectares rising to an impressive altitude of about 1 meter above the lake floor. Only an ant could seriously describe the site as a tell, and the only significant traces of occupation (apart from the abundant pottery) were large stones that appear to have been eroded out from probable Middle Bronze Age buildings. The range of occupation was quite impressive, however, ranging from at least the early part of the Early Bronze Age (i.e., early third millennium B.C.) through Middle Bronze Age, Hellenistic, Roman, Byzantine, and the final occupation being approximately of early Islamic date. This range

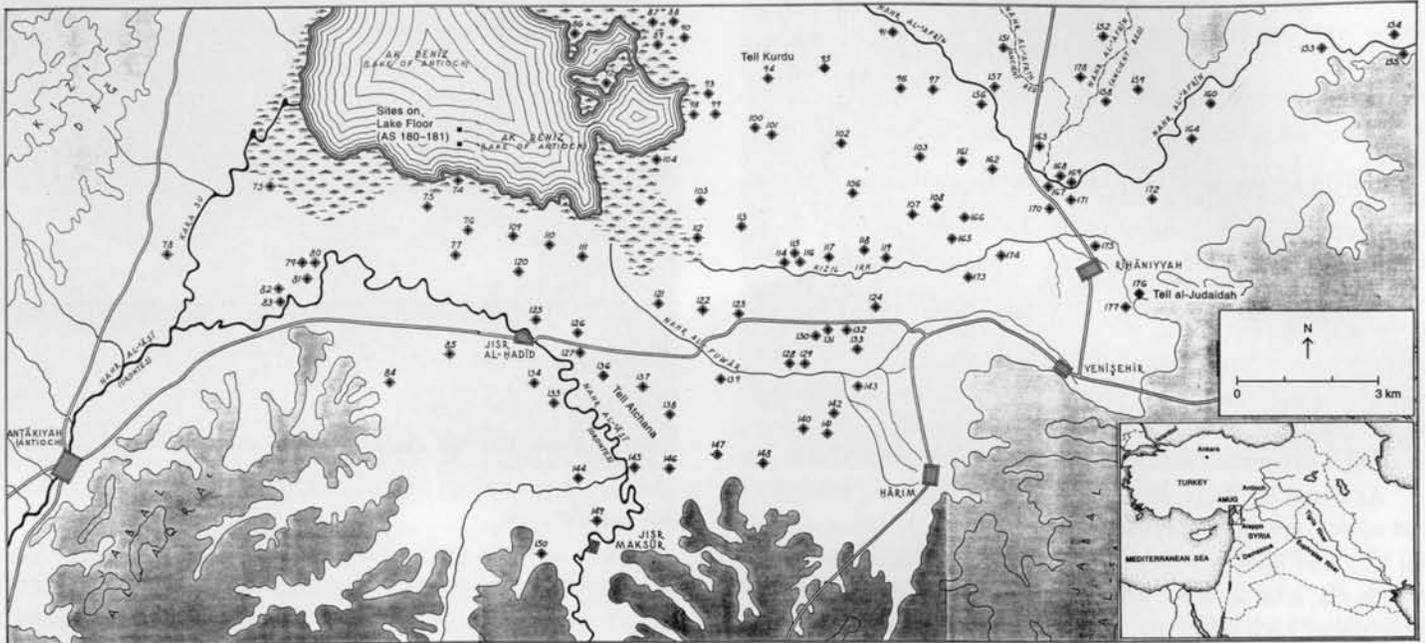
continued on page 4



Multiple-brush painted ware from the Phase G levels at Tell al-Judaidah



Scott Branting dwarfed by the mass of Site 31—cut in half by bulldozing operations



Map of major sites within the southern Amuq Plain and the submerged site of Tell al-Hijar (adapted from OIP 48, maps 6-8); map of general area inserted

of occupation was extended back to the Late Chalcolithic and perhaps even Neolithic by the nearby site of AS 181 (*nobody* had the audacity to call this scrawny patch of sherd-infested cotton field a tell). Although during the later periods of occupation it is possible that Tell al-Hijar might have formed an island within the lake, it is unlikely that the lake level can have been as high as it was in the 1930s when Braidwood surveyed the area; we would therefore argue that the mid-sixth century date for the inception of the lake suggested by Woolley is incorrect, and rather it did not attain its maximum size until after the eighth or ninth centuries A.D. This would call into question Woolley's historical dating, which blamed the formation of the lake on the 551 A.D. earthquake at Antioch. However, the lake was certainly a major feature in the writings of both Yakut and Abu-l Fida, who wrote in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries A.D.



Tell Dhahab from Tell al-Judaidah. This small site on the edge of Reyhanlı had approximately one third of its bulk removed by earth-moving activities

Soil sections exposed in the base of the former lake indicate that during long periods of time the valley axis must have been a moist environment with waterlogged, probably marshy soils. Therefore we can infer that when Tell al-Hijar was occupied, there was no major lake, but instead there existed a mosaic of marsh interspersed with localized expanses of open water. By the Middle Bronze Age such a wet valley floor environment must have extended as far east as Qara Tepe (Site 86), which Professor Braidwood described as being "in the deepest part of the marsh" (as opposed to within the lake itself). At this site, sections exposed by recent bulldozing showed that walls of the mid-second millennium B.C. were made of two types of mudbrick, both of which must have been excavated from soils in the immediate vicinity. First, a red-brown oxidized soil had been dug from dry and rather freely drained soils, and secondly, gray clay containing small freshwater snail shells was excavated from a much more waterlogged and marshy soil. The latter building material clearly indicates that wet and marshy conditions must have existed in the area during the Middle Bronze Age. Hence from this wall alone we can infer that the site of Qara Tepe was surrounded by a mosaic of drier freely-drained soils appropriate for cereals and other crops as well as waterlogged marshy and/or permanently wet soils that may indicate areas where reeds were procured and aquatic resources, e.g., fish, may have been obtained. Future work by the team will attempt to describe such environments more accurately.

A significant outcome of this environmental reconstruction is that a number of major archaeological sites, which in the recent past were surrounded by water or marsh, would have been within dry or partially dry land during the third and second millennium B.C.

Whether the lake was the result of a major earthquake dislodging a vast mass of rock to block the Orontes River, as Woolley contended, or was a more gradual process is uncer-

tain at present. However, that a gradualist view seems more appropriate comes from the ninth century B.C. gates of Shalmaneser III at Balawat in northern Iraq. These gate decorations of bronze executed in repoussé technique illustrate a number of fortified settlements within areas of lake or marsh in the land of Unqi. Thus if the Amuq Plain is indeed Assyrian Unqi, then by the time of Shalmaneser's campaign it is evident that the area was swampy and must have formed a shallow lake in places.

Such settlements are illustrated by L. W. King in the *Bronze Reliefs from the Gates of Shalmaneser* (1915) and are described by A. T. Olmstead in *History of Assyria* (1923), who states:

For the collection of this tribute, it was necessary to penetrate the great swamp of Unqi, access to which could only be gained by flat-bottomed boats that could pass anywhere in the shallows. ... Shalmaneser did not trust himself to their uncertain protection, but contented himself with a position on the shore across from where, on a low mound in the midst of the swamp, stood the capital, a double-gated fortress with battlements on its walls (pp. 127-28).

Because lakes can be formed as a result of a variety of circumstances, it is premature to postulate a single mechanism behind the formation of Lake Antioch. Lakes can develop as a result of changes in climate (increased rainfall or decreased evaporation), changes in runoff from the catchments that supply the water, or from changes in the river channels themselves, as well as from a number of other human or natural causes. An additional mechanism is the process of riverine deposition, because it is evident that the Orontes River has built up a considerable sedimentary accumulation in the form of a river levee along its course, with the result that the coarse sediments have aggraded closer to the river and finer sediments have accumulated farther away. By the time one reaches the valley axis one is therefore in a true flood basin that is several meters below the level of the levee upon which the river flows. During floods, therefore, water overflows the banks and accumulates in the flood basin to the north which then becomes the feature known as Lake Antioch.



Middle Bronze Age wall that contains freshwater mollusks indicative of a second millennium B.C. wet environment around Qara Tepe (Site 86)



The floor of Lake Antioch some forty years after draining. This is actually the site of Tell al-Hijar which may be seen as a few stones within the cotton

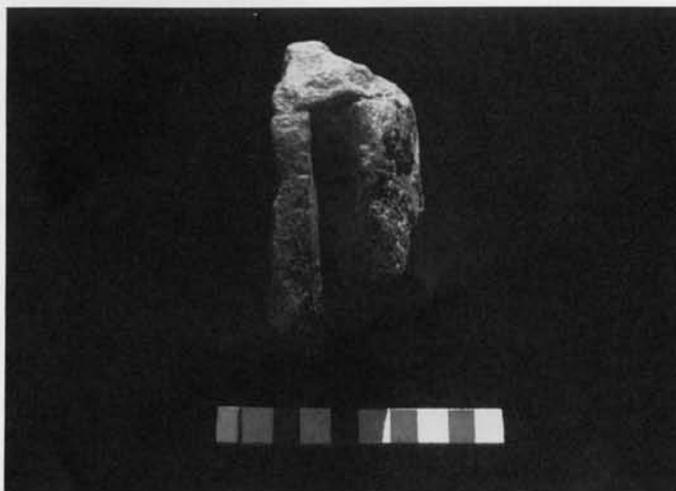
Just as Woolley describes some 5.0 meters of sedimentation at Tell Atchana (Alalakh), recently excavated drainage channels provide sections which demonstrate that alongside Atchana some 3.5 meters of alluvium/levee has aggraded since probably the late Chalcolithic period (that is since 3000 B.C. or so). Thus the Orontes levee effectively forms a barrier across the southwestern end of the Amuq Plain, a basin, which also contains the earlier phases of the Afrin River as well as the Kara Su, both of which must have exited the basin farther to the north along the present Kara Su drainage canal (the Kara Su drains from the north, the Afrin from the east, and the Orontes from the south). Together with the rising and aggrading Orontes, these rivers must have caused the plain to rise thereby causing flood waters to accumulate and marshy and eventually open water conditions to increase through time. Although tectonic uplift (perhaps associated with earth movements such as the 551 A.D. event) may have encouraged lake formation, present evidence suggests that sedimentary aggradation by restricting drainage may have been the primary cause of lake formation. In addition, the construction of irriga-



Thick accumulations of riverine silt and clay mask the landscape near Tell Atchana. Fourth millennium B.C. levels are buried at 3.5-4.0 meters depth near water level

tion canals directly from the Orontes to the valley floor must have resulted in more water flow into the valley floor. This, combined with massive overbank floods, which are a constant problem along the Orontes, might easily account for the formation of the lake.

From our brief visit to the Amuq Plain, we can therefore see that it has been a marshy—and locally open—water environment for much of the last few thousand years. However, the lake was certainly smaller during earlier phases of occupation during the third millennium B.C. Therefore, sites that Professor Braidwood had to wade through water to reach in the 1930s must have been partly surrounded by dry land when they were occupied. Other sites, such as Tell al-Hijar, which were totally submerged and inaccessible, even by boat, during the original survey must have been within wet valley floors, but how wet this was is a subject for future investigations. Furthermore, the considerable amount of sedimentation on the plain may have buried other sites beneath alluvial silt and clay. Such sediments are, however, not totally bad news for the archaeologist, because by containing pollen



A chisel mold of soft serpentine stone from Tell Rasm located near the Orontes River. Whether this really belongs to the Neolithic levels of the site as would be suggested from its context or is actually later remains a subject for future investigations

and other environmental data, these can in turn throw valuable light upon environmental change, a subject that we hope to amplify in future field seasons.

K. Aslihan Yener is Assistant Professor in the Oriental Institute and the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago. Her article on Tin Smelting (co-written with Bryan Earl) appeared in News & Notes #146 (Summer 1995).

After training in Canada in high Arctic geomorphology, T. J. Wilkinson became interested in the archaeology of

the Near East. He worked as a free-lance archaeological consultant for several years and became Assistant Director of the British Archaeological Expedition to Iraq, Baghdad. He joined the Oriental Institute as a Research Associate in 1992. He will lead an Oriental Institute tour to Syria in March 1996 (See page 7 for more details).

John Larson, Museum Archivist, provided the two pictures from the 1930s excavations at the Amuq.

NEWS FROM THE PUBLICATIONS OFFICE

NEW TITLE

The Assyrian Dictionary of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago, Š, Volume 17, part 3

Edited by Erica Reiner et al.

Pp. xxiv + 420. 1992. \$130.00

ALSO AVAILABLE

Portrait Mummies from Roman Egypt (I–IV Centuries A.D.) with a Catalog of Portrait Mummies in Egyptian Museums

By Lorelei H. Corcoran

Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization, No. 56

Pp. xxxii + 256; including 42 figures, 2 maps, 6 tables, 32 plates. 1995. \$55.00

In Egypt of the first century A.D. an alternative was introduced to the traditional use of painted masks of papier-mâché on wrapped and decorated mummies. A new technique, borrowed from the Hellenic tradition of painting in encaustic (colored wax) or water color on wooden panels or linen sheets, in-

involved the production of realistic images of the faces of men, women, and children. These idealized paintings were placed over the face of a wrapped mummy. The combination of an impressionistically rendered face and a wrapped mummiform body has been interpreted as a synthesis of two contrasting contemporary cultures—Hellenic and native Egyptian. However, Corcoran's analysis of the iconography of these mummies reveals that their decoration reflects the continuity of a cultural alignment that was fundamentally Egyptian. The author documents a vital and articulate pagan tradition that survived in Egypt until the triumph of Christianity in the fourth century A.D.

Written from the perspective of an egyptologist, this analysis of an important corpus of objects includes an illustrated catalog of twenty-three mummy coverings with "portrait" faces in the collection of museums in the Arab Republic of Egypt. The volume will be of interest to egyptologists, classicists, art historians, and historians of religion.

To place an order for these volumes, or to inquire about other titles published by the Oriental Institute, please contact The Oriental Institute Publications Sales Office, 1155 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60637. Telephone 312/702-9508, Facsimile 312/702-9853, Electronic mail oi-publications@uchicago.edu. Members receive a 20% discount.

ORIENTAL INSTITUTE TRAVEL PROGRAM

FORT WORTH: ASSYRIAN RELIEFS

January 26–28, 1996

Co-sponsored by the University of Chicago's Smart Museum of Art, this winter weekend getaway brings you to the final American visit of the British Museum's Assyrian Reliefs recently featured at New York's Metropolitan Museum. Curators Kim Rorschach and Karen Wilson provide commentary on both these ancient wonders and on the impressive modern works that call the Metroplex home. Cost: \$555 per person, land only.

WONDERS OF EGYPT AND CRUISING LAKE NASSER

February 4–18, 1996

The Oriental Institute is proud to offer you the wonders of Lake Nasser and the elegance of the cruise ship *M/S Eugenie*. In addition to the familiar sites of northern Egypt, you and your guide, Egyptologist Peter Piccione, cruise up the Nile and Lake Nasser to Abu Simbel, enjoying the newly-accessible Nubian monuments alongside the lake. Cost: \$4,825 per person, including round trip airfare from Chicago, plus an additional \$350 per person donation to the Oriental Institute.

SYRIA: THE FERTILE CRESCENT

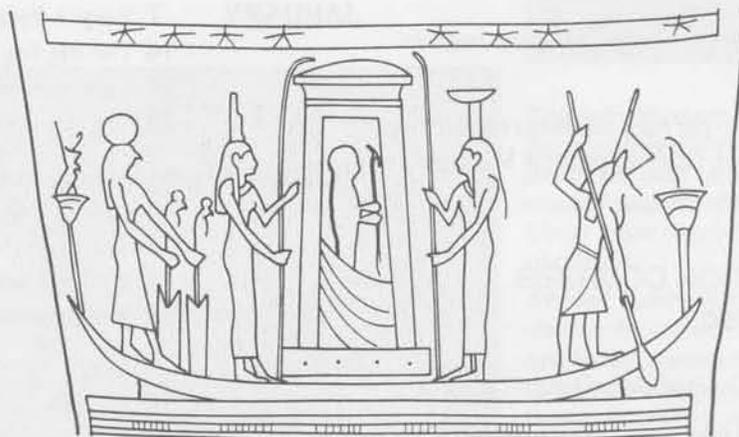
March 11–25, 1996

Archaeologist Tony Wilkinson guides you through Syria's myriad treasures, ranging from Bronze Age sites such as Ugarit through Aleppo and the crusader castle Krak des Chevaliers to Damascus, at once ancient and modern. Cost: \$4,620 per person, including round trip airfare from Chicago, plus an additional \$350 per person donation to the Oriental Institute.

TREASURES OF ANCIENT NEAR EASTERN ART: THE PARIS AND BERLIN COLLECTIONS

April 14–24, 1996

Curator Karen Wilson leads this exhilarating combination of ancient splendor and modern elegance. You visit all the archaeological museums, including the Louvre, the Carnavalet, the Island Museum, and the Egyptian Museum. Cost: \$4,980 per person, including round trip airfare from Chicago, plus an additional \$350 per person donation to the Oriental Institute.



The mythical journey to Abydos (SAOC 56, fig. 4)

If you would like more information on the travel program, or itineraries for any of the above tours, please call the Oriental Institute Membership Office at 312/702-1677.

— Watch for an itinerary of our tour of Turkey in September or October 1996 —

CALENDAR OF EVENTS WINTER 1996

MEMBERS LECTURES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

January 17, 1996

Dennis Groh, Garret-Evangelical Theological Seminary
 "Excavations in a Romano/Jewish City in the Galilee: Sephoris"
 7:30 p.m., Breasted Hall
 Reception following
 Co-sponsored with the Archaeological Institute of America

February 28, 1996

Alan H. Simmons, University of Nevada-Las Vegas
 "New Jerichos? Recent Research on the Neolithic of Jordan"
 7:30 p.m., Breasted Hall
 Reception following
 Co-sponsored with the Archaeological Institute of America

March 27, 1996

Robert D. Biggs, Oriental Institute
 "From Conception to Old Age in Babylonian Medicine"
 7:30 p.m., Breasted Hall
 Reception following

May 13, 1996

Annual Dinner
Our next Associates' Dinner will be announced by mail

TRAVEL PROGRAM

January 26–28, 1996

Fort Worth: Assyrian Reliefs
 Lecturers: Karen L. Wilson, Curator, Oriental Institute Museum,
 and Kimerly Rorschach, Director, Smart Museum of Art

February 4–18, 1996

Wonders of Egypt and Cruising Lake Nasser
 Lecturer: Peter Piccione, Ph.D.

March 11–25, 1996

Syria: The Fertile Crescent
 Lecturer: Tony Wilkinson, Research Associate, Oriental Institute

April 14–24, 1996

Art Treasures of the Ancient Near East: The Paris and Berlin Collections
 Lecturer: Karen L. Wilson, Curator, Oriental Institute Museum
See page 7 for more information.

ADULT EDUCATION COURSES

January 9–February 27, 1996

The First Empires
 Instructor: Clemens Reichel, Ph.D. Candidate, Oriental Institute

January 10–February 28, 1996

Lifelines of the City: Archaeology of the Ancient Near Eastern Landscape
 Instructor: T. J. Wilkinson, Research Associate, Oriental Institute

January 13–March 16, 1996

History of Ancient Egypt: The New Kingdom, Part II (ca. 1321-1070)
 Instructor: Frank Yurco, Egyptologist

Correspondence Course

Introduction to Cuneiform
 Instructor: Daniel Nevez, Ph.D. Candidate, Oriental Institute
See pages 10–11 for more information

MINI-COURSES

February 3, 1996

Threads through Time
 Instructors: Carole Krucoff and Jacquie Vaughn
 Co-Sponsored with the Hyde Park Art Center

March 2, 1996

Cuisine and Cookery of Morocco
 Instructor: Mary Jo Khuri
See page 11 for more information

FIELD TRIP

March 10, 1996

Ceramic Artist Kelly Kessler of Lill Street Studio
 Leaders: Janet Helman and Peggy Grant, Researchers. Prehistoric Pottery Project, Oriental Institute
See page 12 for more information

FAMILY FUN

February 4, 1996

Awesome Ancient African Arts
See page 13 for more information

SUNDAY FILMS

Films related to the ancient Near East are shown at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoons. Except where noted, each film lasts approximately 30 minutes and is free of charge.

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|-----------------|--|
| JANUARY | 7 Egypt's Pyramids |
| | 14 The Big Dig |
| | 21 Turkey: Crossroads of the Ancient World |
| | 28 Iran: Landmarks in the Desert |
| FEBRUARY | <i>Archaeology on Film Presentations (see page 13)</i> |
| | 4 <i>Iraq: Cradle of Civilization</i> (60 min.) |
| | 11 <i>Cleopatra</i> (95 min.) |
| | 18 <i>A People is Born</i> (60 min.) |
| | 25 <i>Ancient Treasures of the Deep</i> (60 min.) |
| MARCH | 3 Egypt: Gift of the Nile |
| | 10 Megiddo: City of Destruction |
| | 17 Nubia 64: Saving the Temples of Ancient Egypt |
| | 24 The Royal Archives of Ebla (58 min.) |
| | 31 Champollion: Hieroglyphics Deciphered |

Note: All programs are subject to change.

NEWS FROM THE EDUCATION OFFICE



MUMMY'S NIGHT

OCTOBER 25

Nearly 400 children and their families came to the Oriental Institute on the evening of Wednesday, October 25th, for the Museum's fourth annual *Mummy's Night*. This pre-Halloween celebration of museum tours, crafts, films, and holiday treats has become a neighborhood tradition, with parents as well as children dressing in costume to enjoy the fun! Family programs at the Oriental Institute are supported by a generous grant from the Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust.



Top left: Museum Education intern Shawn Reddy shows a young visitor how to make a paper ushebti tomb figure. Other crafts included folding origami bats and creating rubbings from reproductions of ancient Egyptian carvings

Above: Queen Nefertiti and a young King Tut were with us on Mummy's Night, although they are better known to us as Family Programs volunteer Adrienne Runge and her son Benjamin. Adrienne, a talented artist, created both costumes

Bottom left: Children learned how to write their names in hieroglyphs and how to read some of the ancient Egyptian signs and symbols on view in the Museum

Photographs by Jean Grant

ADULT EDUCATION

THE FIRST EMPIRES

January 9–February 27, 1996

Why did the first empires arise in ancient Mesopotamia? Beginning as early as the third millennium B.C., the empires of Akkad, Ur, Babylon, and Assyria began controlling large areas of present-day Iraq, Syria, southeastern Turkey, and Iran, boasting a level of organization and administration that rivals modern states. This course will introduce the ancient empires of Mesopotamia, explaining why this region was home to early, large-scale, and sophisticated societies that were able to conquer and rule most of their known world. Prehistoric antecedents to these great empires will also be discussed, looking back as far as 6000 B.C.

INSTRUCTOR Clemens Reichel (M.A., University of London) is a Ph.D. candidate in Mesopotamian Archaeology in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations. His field experience includes several projects in Syria, Turkey, and Jordan. Among his major interests is the use of cuneiform text resources in archaeological research.

This course will meet at the Oriental Institute on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. **beginning January 9 and continuing through February 27, 1996.**

Recommended Text

Cultural Atlas of Mesopotamia and the Ancient Near East. By Michael Roaf. New York: Facts on File, 1990.

LIFELINES OF THE CITY: ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE ANCIENT NEAR EASTERN LANDSCAPE

January 10–February 28, 1996

The landscape of the ancient Near East reveals the elaborate network of fields, water supply, and transportation routes that ancient cities depended upon for survival. In many cases these economic support systems have left spectacular remains—including some major monuments—that are visible to the naked eye. Other remains can be discovered in ways that range from drilling through the ground to the use of aerial photographs and satellite images.

Following a brief introduction to the environment of the ancient near East, a wide range of landscape features will be discussed. These will include the Marib dam and ancient terraced fields of Yemen; the underground water mills and channels (qanats) of Oman; the road systems of ancient northern Iraq and Syria; the major canal networks of southern Mesopotamia; and numerous other features drawn from Turkey, Morocco, Greece, Palestine, Iran, and Saudi Arabia.

INSTRUCTOR T. J. Wilkinson, a Research Associate at the Oriental Institute, has studied the landscape archaeology of the Middle East for twenty years. He is currently working on Oriental Institute projects in Yemen, Syria, and Turkey.

This course will meet at the Oriental Institute from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings **beginning January 10 and continuing through February 28, 1996.** A list of suggested readings will be provided by the instructor at the first class session.

HISTORY OF ANCIENT EGYPT: THE NEW KINGDOM, PART II (ca. 1321–1070)

January 13–March 16, 1996

The fifth installment in an eight-part series on the history of ancient Egypt, this course will focus on the political reorganization of the New Kingdom after the decline of the pharaoh Akhenaton. During this renewed military age, the pharaohs of the Nineteenth and Twentieth Dynasties reconquered the Syro-Palestinian empire, recovering lands lost by the Amarna pharaohs. Despite the reestablishment of Egyptian might under Ramesses II, quarrels over the throne among the pharaoh's numerous sons resulted in the demise of the Twentieth Dynasty and the end of the New Kingdom.

INSTRUCTOR Frank Yurco is an Egyptologist who has taught numerous courses on topics of ancient Near Eastern history, culture, and language, both at the Oriental Institute and the Field Museum.

This course will meet at the Oriental Institute on Saturday mornings from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon **beginning January 13 and continuing through March 16, 1996.** There will be no class sessions on February 10th and 17th.

Required texts

A History of Egypt. By Nicholas Grimal. Oxford: Blackwell, 1992.

Pharaoh Triumphant: The Life and Times of Ramesses II, King of Egypt. By Kenneth A. Kitchen. Warminster: Aris & Phillips, 1982.

Ancient Egyptian Literature, Volume 2. By Miriam Lichtheim. Los Angeles: University of California, 1976.

Tuition for Adult Education Courses is \$95 for Oriental Institute members; \$115 for non-members. A minimal materials fee may be charged at the first class session to cover the costs of special handouts. See page 12 for registration form.

COURSES

INTRODUCTION TO CUNEIFORM: AN ORIENTAL INSTITUTE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE

The cuneiform script is one of the oldest writing systems in the world. From approximately 3100 B.C. to A.D. 75, scribes in the ancient Near East—particularly those in ancient Mesopotamia who wrote cuneiform texts in the Akkadian language—used the cuneiform script to write a wide variety of texts, such as business and administrative records, contracts, collections of law, private and official letters, treaties, royal and historical inscriptions, myths and epics, poetic narratives, and astronomical observations. This correspondence course will introduce participants to the standard Neo-Assyrian cuneiform signs and to the Akkadian language.

The course will consist of eight lessons that will familiarize the participant with one hundred and ten frequently used cuneiform signs and a number of Akkadian words and phrases. Each lesson will allow participants to read and write Akkadian in cuneiform. As the student completes each lesson and returns the exercises to the instructor by mail or facsimile, the instructor will correct the exercise, answer any questions, and return the materials to the student. The course **begins on January 8, 1996 and continues for eight weeks.**

INSTRUCTOR Daniel Nevez is a Ph.D. candidate in Assyriology in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations.

Required texts

A Workbook of Cuneiform Signs. By Daniel C. Snell. Aids and Research Tools in Ancient Near Eastern Studies, Volume 5. Malibu: Undena Publications, 1979. \$17.50

Cuneiform. By C. B. F. Walker. Reading the Past, Volume 3. Berkeley and London: University of California Press and British Museum, 1987. \$11.00

Tuition for Cuneiform by Mail is \$115 for Oriental Institute members; \$135 for non-members.

NEW MINI-COURSES

THREADS THROUGH TIME

ORIENTAL INSTITUTE/HYDE PARK ART CENTER HANDS-ON ART CLASSES IN ANCIENT ART PROCESSES

Saturday, February 3, 1996, 1:00–4:30 p.m.

The Oriental Institute and the Hyde Park Art Center begin a new series of hands-on classes for adults interested in learning how to recreate ancient art processes. This class features the textile arts as they were practiced in ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia.

The session will begin with a slide presentation by **Carole Krucoff**, Oriental Institute Head of Education and a former instructor in spinning and weaving, who will highlight the tools, techniques, and craftsmanship of ancient Near Eastern textile workers and show representations of cloth and clothing as they are depicted in the collections of the Oriental Institute Museum. **Jacquie Vaughn**, master instructor at the Textile Arts Center, will then teach participants how to replicate ancient textile processes, including the use of the drop spindle to create wool and linen fibers, how plants that were native to the ancient Near East can be used to make dyes, and how beautifully patterned fabrics can be created on the simplest of ancient-style looms.

This class will take place at the Hyde Park Art Center, 5307 South Hyde Park Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60615. Tuition is \$21 for Oriental Institute and Hyde Park Art Center members; \$27 for non-members. Refreshments, printed materials, and all supplies are included.

THE CUISINE AND COOKERY OF MOROCCO

Saturday, March 2, 1996, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Bring the warm and sunny climes of Morocco to your table this winter. Learn the history of Moroccan food and cookery and then prepare a five-course meal featuring traditional North African cuisine. The Home Economics Laboratory at the University of Chicago Laboratory Schools is the setting for this course that stresses hands-on participation with easy-to-follow recipes. Please bring an apron—you will be cooking! End the day by sampling all the recipes as you enjoy a complete Moroccan meal.

Instructor **Mary Jo Khuri**, a professional chef and Oriental Institute Museum docent, is currently writing a Middle Eastern cookbook.

Tuition is \$30 for Oriental Institute members; \$35 for non-members. Recipes, background materials, all supplies, and Moroccan lunch are included.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

ANCIENT ARTS/CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS: A FIELD TRIP TO LILL STREET STUDIOS TO MEET CERAMIC ARTIST KELLY KESSLER

Sunday, March 10, 1996

1:00–5:00 p.m.

Join us for the fourth in our series of field trips to the studios of Chicago artists whose work is inspired by the techniques and approaches of ancient times. Led by Janet Helman and Peggy Grant, researchers for the Oriental Institute's Prehistoric Pottery Project, this trip features ceramic artist Kelly Kessler of Lill Street Studio, who has based much of her work on the designs, styles, and techniques of the ancient Near East. Last spring Professor Aslihan Yener invited Ms. Kessler to the Oriental Institute to present demonstrations on the making of ancient pottery for a graduate student course on ancient art and artisans. This field trip will be the first opportunity for the general public to see Ms. Kessler's presentation.

The program begins at the Oriental Institute, where Janet Helman and Peggy Grant will present a slide talk on ancient pottery as it is represented in the Oriental Institute Museum's collection, with special emphasis on the pottery of Tal-e Bakun, an Iranian prehistoric site that produced extraordinarily beautiful and sophisticated wares. Then all participants will travel by bus to Lill Street Studio for Ms. Kessler's program. The afternoon will end with a wine and cheese reception, followed by a return to the Oriental Institute. Fee is \$19 for Oriental Institute and Lill Street Studios members; \$24 for non-members.

IMPORTANT NOTE TO ALL MEMBERS

As our climate control renovation and expansion begins, the galleries will close sometime after January 1. We will continue to offer a wide range of membership services and outreach programs. Please call ahead if you plan to visit the galleries.

PLEASE ENROLL ME IN THE FOLLOWING ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM(S)

- _____ *The First Empires* (\$95 for members, \$115 for non-members)
 _____ *Lifelines of the City: Archaeology of the Ancient Near Eastern Landscape* (\$95 for members, \$115 for non-members)
 _____ *History of Ancient Egypt: The New Kingdom* (\$95 for members, \$115 for non-members)
 _____ *Introduction to Cuneiform: An Oriental Institute Correspondence Course* (\$115 for members, \$135 for non-members)
 _____ *Cuisine and Cookery of Morocco Mini-Course* (\$30 for members, \$35 for non-members)
 _____ *Threads through Time: Hands-On Mini-Course* (\$21 for members, \$27 for non-members)
 _____ *Ancient Arts/Contemporary Artists Field Trip to Lill Street Studios* (\$19 for members, \$24 for non-members)

_____ I would like to become a member of the Oriental Institute. Enclosed is \$35 for an individual membership or \$45 for a family membership. Please send a separate check for membership fee.

Total enclosed \$_____. Make check(s) payable to the Oriental Institute.

I prefer to pay by check, money order, credit card

MasterCard/Visa: Account Number: _____

Exp. Date: _____ Signature: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Daytime phone _____

Send to: **The Oriental Institute, Education Office, 1155 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60637**

ADULT EDUCATION REGISTRATION AND REFUND POLICY—For multi-session courses, a full refund will be granted to anyone who notifies us about his/her cancellation before the first class meeting. A student who notifies us of his/her cancellation after the first class meeting, but before the second class meeting, will receive a full refund minus a \$45 cancellation fee. After the second class meeting no refunds will be given unless the course is canceled by the Education Office. Those who are not registered may not attend classes. All schedules are subject to change. Some courses may be subject to a small materials fee that will be announced at the first class meeting.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

NEW

FAMILY FUN—AWESOME ANCIENT AFRICAN ARTS!

Sunday, February 4, 1996, 12:30–3:30 p.m.

Take a trip back in time to ancient Africa! To celebrate African-American History Month, we are offering an afternoon of crafts, demonstrations, and films that showcase ancient African arts. Activities include: pottery decorating, ancient Nubian-style leather working, making Egyptian-style musical instruments, screening of "Mummies Made in Egypt" featuring Star Trek's LeVar Burton, plus gallery tours and much more! Admission is free and reservations are not required. Call 312/702-9507 for more information.

NEW

ARCHAEOLOGY ON FILM

Sundays in February 1996

On Sundays in February the Oriental Institute Museum is presenting *Archaeology on Film*, a series of film and video screenings that provide an in-depth look at special themes and topics. Each film will be followed by a discussion session led by Oriental Institute graduate students or Museum staff. Admission is free and reservations are not required. Complimentary refreshments are included.

Iraq: Cradle of Civilization

Sunday, February 4, 1996, 2:00 p.m.

After thousands of years as hunter/gatherers, the people of ancient Iraq built the world's first cities along the Euphrates River and civilization as we know it began. Host Michael Woods takes viewers to Iraq's ancient sites and modern museums as he traces the influences of this ancient culture upon our lives today. A part of the acclaimed PBS video series *Legacy: Origins of Civilization*, this program offers some unconventional views of history and humanity in ways that *Archaeology Magazine* terms "serious and engaging." (1992; 60 minutes; color)

Cleopatra

Sunday, February 11, 1996, 2:00 p.m.

Cecil B. DeMille's grand 1934 film epic starring Claudette Colbert is being shown in its entirety as a pre-Valentine's Day treat. DeMille is at his most luxurious in this film, offering able actors, witty dialogue, and dramatic action in lavish and remarkably authentic settings. Cleopatra's costuming was researched with special care—Ms. Colbert appears in clothing and jewelry that recreate treasures found in ancient Egyptian tombs. (1934; 95 minutes; black and white)

A People is Born

Sunday, February 18, 1996, 2:00 p.m.

The first episode of the PBS series *Heritage: Civilization and the Jews*, this program spans more than 3,000 years of Jewish history. From 3500 to the sixth century B.C. a new people—with its patriarchs, prophets, and kings—is born amid the ancient civilizations of Egypt and Mesopotamia. This film, hosted by Abba Eban, former Israeli ambassador to the United States and the United Nations, explores that monumental story. (1984; 60 minutes; color)

Ancient Treasures of the Deep

Sunday, February 25, 1996, 2:00 p.m.

This exciting and extremely well-made video film from the PBS Nova series documents the underwater excavation of the Uluburun shipwreck located off the southern coast of Turkey. Dating to the mid-fourteenth century B.C. and loaded with artifacts that include copper ingots, pottery, and jewelry, this is the oldest intact shipwreck ever excavated. The film accompanies excavators and divers all the way from the sea floor to museums and laboratories as they recover a wealth of evidence on trade and technology in the late Bronze Age. (1987; 60 minutes; color)

NEWS FROM THE

APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS

Visiting Committee

We are pleased to announce three appointments to the Oriental Institute Visiting Committee: Margaret Foorman, a docent; Donald Hermann, professor of law at DePaul University; and Ira and Janina Marks, long-time members of the Institute. We thank each of these individuals for agreeing to serve on our Committee.

MEMBERSHIP OFFICE

Please welcome Tim Cashion who joined the Oriental Institute Office of Membership and Development in September as Membership Coordinator. Tim is available Monday, Wednesday, and Friday each week in room 233—stop by if you have questions about your membership renewal, upcoming lectures and events, or Oriental Institute tours.

DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Dionne Herron, a four-year veteran of the Office of Membership and Development, has been promoted to Development Associate. In her new role Dionne manages all gift processing (including documentation of charitable contributions for IRS deductions) and event planning. Dionne also oversees the James Henry Breasted Society rolls and coordinates all special events for this generous group.



Photographs by Jean Grant



JAMES HENRY BREASTED SOCIETY

On October 18th members of the James Henry Breasted Society celebrated "An Evening of Treasures from Megiddo." This exclusive Breasted Society event included a viewing of selected pieces rarely on display (pending our renovation) from the Oriental Institute Museum's spectacular collection of materials from pre-World War II excavations at the site of Megiddo. Society members then enjoyed a buffet dinner in the Director's Study and the opening Members Lecture, "Canaanites and Israelites at Ancient Megiddo," by David Schloen in Breasted Hall. See photographs on this page and facing page.

If you would like information on the privileges of membership in the James Henry Breasted Society, please contact Cynthia Echols at 312/702-9513.

Left: Ray Tindel (right) talks with Isak and Nancy Gerson about the Megiddo excavations

Top: Cynthia Echols, Assistant Director for Development at the Oriental Institute (left), and Joan Rosenberg, Oriental Institute Visiting Committee and docent

Center: Visiting Committee member Mary Gray and her husband Richard examine the Megiddo artifacts (David Schloen, lecturer for the evening, is in background far right)

DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

THE LEGACY CAMPAIGN

Visiting Committee Leads the Way

The generosity of Oriental Institute Visiting Committee members provided leadership that enabled us to reach \$5.3 million in just two years. Cumulatively the Committee has pledged more than \$1.2 million to the Institute's climate control, renovation, and expansion project. We thank each of these individuals for their dedication and extraordinary support.

ORIENTAL INSTITUTE VISITING COMMITTEE 1995-1996

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Robert G. Schloerb, Chairman | William J. O. Roberts |
| Mrs. James W. Alsdorf | Barbara W. Rollhaus |
| Margaret Campbell Arvey | Joan G. Rosenberg |
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| Patrick Regnery | |

We are also pleased to recognize the corporations and foundations who supported the Legacy Campaign during its first two years:

- Amsted Industries**
- CBI Industries**
- First Chicago**
- LaSalle National Bank**
- Luther I. Replogle Foundation**
- MidCon Corp.**
- Peoples Energy**



Top: Visiting Committee members Paul Goldstein and Albert (Bud) Haas

Center: Karen L. Wilson, Museum Curator, discusses the Megiddo gold and ivories with guests Jewel Lafontant-Mankarious and Naquib Mankarious

Bottom: Jim Sopranos, Mary Schloerb, Bob Schloerb, University Trustee and Oriental Institute Visiting Committee Chairman, and Bob Grant

Right: Richard Gray and Marion Cowan

THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

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Facsimile: 312/702-9853

All inquiries, comments, and suggestions are welcome.

Your next visit is only a "click" away!

Log on to the Oriental Institute's

World-Wide Web site:

<http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/default.html>



A SIGN OF THINGS TO COME—The University of Chicago has graciously provided funding for a wheelchair-accessible ramp entrance to the Oriental Institute. Construction is already well underway, with completion expected in January. Photograph by Jean Grant

20% OFF AT THE SUQ **THE MUSEUM GIFT SHOP OF THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE**

This coupon entitles bearer to a 20% discount on a single purchase in the *Suq*.

You must present coupon at time of purchase to receive discount.

No expiration date—the *SUQ* remains open throughout our renovations.