

THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

MICROFICHE ARCHIVES, VOL. 1

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OLD BABYLONIAN CONTRACTS
FROM NIPPUR

I

Selected Texts from the University Museum
University of Pennsylvania

Catalogue by
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Photos by
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FOREWORD

The traditional way of publishing cuneiform texts is in the form of handcopies. This system requires, on the one hand, long hours of painstaking work by an experienced cuneiformist, and, on the other hand, a modicum of artistic talent, not necessarily associated with scholarly abilities. The results are often unsightly, and worse, they may fail to give a trustworthy representation of the original, misleading the reader and creating the need for collations of the tablet. While the superiority of the photographic reproduction is generally accepted, technical and, above all, economic considerations have prevented its use on a large scale. The microfiche format seems a practical and economical solution to the problem of publishing an extensive corpus of cuneiform texts. As a bonus, since the task can be carried out by any competent photographer with a minimum of special training, the cuneiformist will have more time to devote to his specific scholarly tasks.

If the microfiche system is accepted as a useful tool by our colleagues, the present collection of Old Babylonian contracts from Philadelphia will be followed by collections of the Old Babylonian contracts found at Nippur in the postwar excavations, of the lexical sources used in *Materials for the Sumerian Lexicon*, and of other large bodies of texts.

M. Civil

CONTENTS

Abbreviations	<i>page</i> ix
Introduction	1
Catalogue	2
Microfiche	inside back cover

ABBREVIATIONS

- ARN* M. Çiğ, H. Kızılyay, and F. R. Kraus. *Eski Babil zamanına ait Nippur hukukî vesikaları; Altbabylonische Rechtsurkunden aus Nippur*. Millî Eğitim Basımevî. İstanbul, 1952.
- BE 6/2* A. Poebel. *Babylonian Legal and Business Documents from the Time of the First Dynasty of Babylon, Chiefly from Nippur* (Department of Archaeology, University of Pennsylvania. The Babylonian Expedition of the University of Pennsylvania. Series A: "Cuneiform Texts." Volume VI, Part 2). Philadelphia, 1909.
- PBS 8/1* E. Chiera. *Legal and Administrative Documents from Nippur, Chiefly from the Dynasties of Isin and Larsa* (University of Pennsylvania. The University Museum. "Publications of the Babylonian Section." Vol. VIII, No. 1). Philadelphia, 1914.
- PBS 8/2* E. Chiera. *Old Babylonian Contracts* (University of Pennsylvania. The University Museum. "Publications of the Babylonian Section." Vol. VIII, No. 2). Philadelphia, 1922.

INTRODUCTION

The Old Babylonian contracts found at Nippur during the 1888–1901 excavations of the University of Pennsylvania Expedition are presently housed in the Archeological Museum in Istanbul, in the Hilprecht Collection in Jena, and in the University Museum in Philadelphia. The Istanbul texts were published by Çiğ, Kızılyay, and Kraus (*ARN*), and an edition of the Jena texts is currently being prepared by Oelsner. The texts from the University Museum have been published by Poebel (*BE* 6/2) and Chiera (*PBS* 8/1–2). A few, however, were consciously or inadvertently omitted by Chiera, and many had not yet been accessioned when he published *PBS* 8/2 in 1922. The present microfiche contains a series of 70 unpublished contracts in the Philadelphia collection. A second microfiche will include the rest of the Philadelphia contracts and some related legal texts.

The catalogue gives first the dated texts (Nos. 1–32) in chronological order. These are followed by the undated tablets and fragments arranged roughly according to the contents. In the dates the year is given first, followed by the month and the day, if preserved. The years whose sequence is unknown are designated either by lowercase letters or, if new, by X.

I have included here only a brief description of the subject matter of each tablet and the names of the principal parties. For an index of personal names, see my forthcoming Ph.D. dissertation on the social and economic organization of Old Babylonian Nippur, which includes a complete prosopography of all parties in the contracts, along with indexes of field names, temples, professions, and the like, as well as a systematic inventory of all documents.

I wish to thank the Director of the University Museum and the Curator of the Tablet Collection, Prof. Åke W. Sjöberg, for permission to publish these texts, and especially the latter, for his kind help made the task of cataloguing and photographing the tablets easier.

Elizabeth C. Stone

CATALOGUE

1. A1. UM 29-15-383. Partition or exchange: KA-^dnin-urta, I-lu-zu, Lú-^den-líl-lá, and Ma(?)-[. . .], divide the estate of Arad-^den-líl-lá (or exchange shares of it). UR-Ninurta X/7. Date: mu ús-sa ^dUr-^dnin-urta / lugal-e a-gàr gal-gal a-ta im-ta-an-e₁₁ / mu ús-sa-a-bi.
2. A2. UM 29-15-411. Loan: Ilu-mi-lik borrows 2 gín of silver from Ilu-šu-mu-ba-lí-iṭ and ^dNanna-ma-an-sum, with a house as collateral. Sumuil 27/2.
3. A3-4. UM 29-16-98 (tablet), N 1234 (case). Sale: Lugal-á-zi-da sells 3 sar of courtyard¹ to U-bar-ru-um and Ši-lí-eštar for $\frac{1}{2}$ mana and $\frac{1}{2}$ gín of silver. Enlil-bani X/10. Date: mu ^dEn-líl-ba-ni lugal-e / erin₂ dumu Ī-si-in^{ki}-na / šu in-ne-bar.
4. A5. UM 29-15-385. Field sale: Hu-na-bi sells 3 iku to Ilu-šu-mu-ba-lí-iṭ for [x] gín of silver, in the field ^dNin-[AB×ŠE(?)]. Enlil-bani X/6/23. Date: ^dEn-líl-b[a-ni lugal-e] / ^{si}šgu-za [. . .] / ^den-ki-ra m[u-na-dím].
5. A6. N 1064. Field sale or rental: from ^dSin-še-mi (from seal) to [X]. Iter-piša a/5.
6. A7. UM 29-15-382, joins Ni 9204 (ARN 12). Court case: dispute between Ka-kù-ga-ni and SAL-kal-la, wife of Ilu-šu-mu-ba-lí-iṭ, over a share of the latter's estate. Iter-piša a.
7. B1. UM 29-13-586. Silver loan with security: A-lí-a-ḫi and A-píl-ì-lí-šu borrow 2 gín of silver from ^dSin-be-lí. Rim-Sin 23/6.
8. B2. N 4255, case of CBS 4950 (PBS 8/1 44). Rim-Sin 49/9.
9. B3. UM 29-13-154. Silver loan without interest: Ur-^dpa-bil-sag-gá borrows 1 gín of silver from ^dSin. Rim-Sin 50.
10. B4. N 2042, joins Ni 9283 (ARN 129). Sale of a courtyard: Ī-lí-[. . .] buys 1 sar from Ku-gu-za-na for 11 gín of silver. Hammurabi 32/3.
11. B4. N 922. Field rental: ^dĒ-[a- . . .] rents 6(?) iku from ^dEN. [. . .]. Hammurabi 33.

1. "Courtyard" is used here to translate *kislaḥ* (KI.UD) since this is obviously its more frequent meaning; however, in some texts, such as Nos. 3 and 13, a translation "(adjacent) vacant lot" is possibly preferable.

12. B5-6. N 1236 (tablet), N 1094 + N 1171 (case). Exchange of courtyards: Ê-kur-an-dùl and I-din-^dnin-urta exchange $\frac{2}{3}$ sar and $3\frac{1}{3}$ gín of courtyard for $\frac{1}{2}$ sar of courtyard plus 2 gín of silver. Hammurabi 42.
13. B7. UM 29-16-20 + N 968 (tablet), CBS 7134 (*PBS* 8/2 154) + Ni 9244 (*ARN*, p. 98)(case).² Partition of courtyards. Samsuiluna 5/4.
14. C1. UM 29-15-928. Field rental: Ì-lí-ip-pa-al-sà rents 10 iku from Im-di-^den-líl in the field buru_x-mah-^den-líl-lá. Samsuiluna 6/2/2.
15. C2. N 1232. Grain loan, with interest: Bur-ra-tum borrows 8 gur from Be-el-ta-ni. Samsuiluna 7/9/18.
16. C3. N 1253 + N 2528. Exchange of houses: the house of ^dSin-še-mi (1 sar 2 gín) is exchanged against the $\frac{1}{3}$ sar 5 gín of the house of Ur-du₆-kù-ga, plus a certain amount of silver. Samsuiluna 10.
17. C3. N 707, small fragment. Sale or rental of a field. Samsuiluna 11/8.
18. C4. N 1183 (tablet), Ni 9254 (*ARN* 96) (case). Field sale: Ur-du₆-kù-ga buys 1 iku in the field a-gàr-a from ^dDa-mu-e-ri-ba-am and ^dNuska-ni-šu for $6\frac{1}{4}$ gín of silver. Samsuiluna 11/10/6.
19. C5. N 1118. Sale of temple office: ^dDa-mu-i-din-nam buys from Û-ba-a-a-tum for 9 gín of silver a 10-day term of the office of gudu₄ (temple name broken). Samsuiluna 11/12.
20. C5. N 910, joins Ni 3041 (*ARN* 136). Partition: ^dDa-mu-e-ri-ba-am, ^dNuska-ni-šu, and Ra-bu-ut-^dSin, sons of Da-mi-iq-i-lí-šu, divide an estate, including houses, courtyards, fields, orchards, etc. Samsuiluna 11.
21. C6-7. UM 29-13-675. Orchard sale: Ì-lí-pa-ti buys 30 sar of orchard with trees from Ì-lí-sukkal for $5\frac{1}{6}$ gín of silver. Samsuiluna 12/3/5.
22. D1-2. UM 29-16-622 (tablet), N 1147 + N 1165a (case). Field sale: ^dDa-mu-i-din-nam buys $4\frac{1}{2}$ iku in the field ki-tur from I-na-é-kur-ra-bi for $4\frac{1}{2}$ gín of silver. Samsuiluna 12/7.
23. D3. CBS 7915. Field sale: ^dDa-mu-i-din-nam buys 1 iku in the field uz-za from U₄-ta-u_x(GIŠGAL)-lu-me-ša₄. Samsuiluna 12/11/x + 4.
24. D4. UM 29-13-40, case of CBS 7018 (*BE* 6/2 40). Samsuiluna 13/1/26.
25. D4. N 2194, fragment of case of CBS 8109 (*PBS* 8/2 182). Samsuiluna 13/2/18.

2. It is possible that Ni 9244 is a fragment of a duplicate rather than a join.

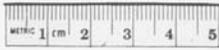
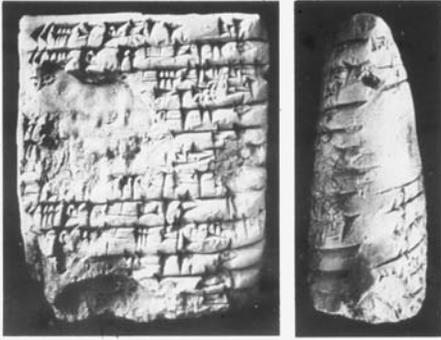
26. D5. N 3106, fragment. Partition? Samsuiluna 17.
27. D5. N 935. Uncertain contents: gift(?) of house to (or from?) Ni-iḫ-du-ši-im; I-na-é-[kur-ra-bi] receives a silver bracelet in exchange for something. Samsuiluna 24/5.
28. D6. UM 29-16-141 (tablet), case fragment Ni 9258 (*ARN* 102). Partition: ^dSin-i-tu-ra-am and Ad-da-dingir, sons of Ilu-da-mi-iq, divide an estate, including temple offices, houses, fields, furniture, and implements. Samsuiluna 25/6/16.
29. D7. UM 29-13-230 + N 1249. Partition: ^dSin-i-tu-ra-am and Ad-da-dingir divide the residue of the estate (egir ḥa-la-ba) of their father Ilu-da-mi-iq. Samsuiluna 26.
30. E1. CBS 7194, case of CBS 7023 (*PBS* 8/2 138). Samsuiluna 28/10/18.
31. E2. UM 29-15-403. Field rental or sale: I-din-eštar buys (or rents) 18 iku in the field é-danna from Šeš-kal-la. Samsuiluna 28/11/20.
32. E3. UM 29-16-214. Purchase of temple office: ^dNuska-ni-šu buys a 2-month term of the office of lú-níg-dab-ba in the temple of Nuska, from Lú-é-šu-me-ša₄, who previously had acquired the term in an exchange with Šu-mu-um-li-ib-ši. Samsuiluna 28/11.
33. E4. UM 29-15-415.* Field sale: Ḫa-al-li-i-[. . .] buys 8(?) iku in the field i-din-^dsin for $\frac{2}{3}$ mana and 4 gín of silver, from La-mi-nu-um.
34. E4. UM 29-16-375. Field sale: An-dùl-kù-ga buys a field from ^dSin-ri-me-ni for 6 gín of silver.
35. E5. UM 29-13-9. Field sale: ^dEN.[. . .], son of A-ku-ka-nu-um, buys a field from Lú-dingir-ra.
36. E5. N 1025, case fragment. Field sale: seller is U₄-ta-u_x-lu-[ḫé-ti].
37. E6. CBS 10419. Field sale: ^dSin-e-r[i-ba-am] buys $\frac{1}{2}$ iku in the field ^den-líl-gar-ra, from Ur-^d[i₉-si₄].
38. E6. UM 29-16-673. Field sale or rental: ^dNin-urta-ma-an-sum buys, or rents, 10 iku in the field gibil, from Ip-qú-er-še-tim.
39. E7. UM 29-16-343. House sale: Lú-^dnanna sells a house of $1\frac{1}{3}$ sar for 10 gín of silver.
40. E7. N 924. House sale: ^dSin-e-ri-ba-am sells a house for 3 gín of silver.
41. F1. N 1177. Sale: Na-ru-ub-tum sells something for $6\frac{1}{2}$ gín of silver.

* Tablets marked by an asterisk have only one side preserved.

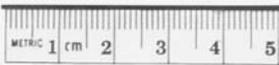
42. F1. CBS 10420. Sale: Be-el-[. . .] and Ĥu-un-du-[. . .] sell something to Mi-gir-eštar.
43. F2. N 1067. Exchange of temple offices: ^dNanna-[. . .] and ^dNin-urta-ni-šu exchange several offices; additional payment of silver.
44. F2. N 1165*b*, small fragment. Slave sale: the price is 6 gín of silver.
45. F3. CBS 2230. Redemption (or exchange?): offices and fields are exchanged; one of the parties is ^dNin-urta-ra-ĥi-im-[še-ri-im].
46. F3. CBS 10884 (case) of Ni 346 (*ARN* 117). Field redemption.
47. F4. N 1008, very small fragment. Field redemption.
48. F4. CBS 7001. Field redemption: ^dDa-mu-i-din-nam buys land in the field a-gàr-a from Ni-in-nu-tum and his brother Nu-úr-^dšamaš; this land had been sold previously to Zi-ia-tum by ^dNin-líl-zi-mu.
49. F5. N 2405, small fragment. Field redemption.
50. F5. N 1467. Field rental: Be-el-ta-ni rents 6 iku in the field gán-da from E-x-[. . .].
51. F6. UM 29-15-441.* Field rental: Ta-ri-ba-tum, KA-^dnin-urta, and ^dNin-urta-ra-ĥi-im-ší-ri-im rent 2 iku in the field é-danna from ^dNanna-ša-lá-sù for the cultivation of sesame (še-giš-i uru₄-šè).
52. F6. N unnumbered, joins Ni 9208 (*ARN* 20). Partition.
53. F7. CBS 2295, fragment. Partition: ^dSin-li-di-iš and Ilu-ta-a-a-ar (and others?) divide a house of an estate.
54. F7. N 2893, joins Ni 9294 (*ARN* 144). Partition: house, fields, and orchards divided among Ma-ru-um's son, Ši-lí-eštar, and Ĝir-ni-i-sà, heirs of Pa-at-ti-ia.
55. G1. N 1859. Partition: Nu-úr-[. . .] and his brother(s) divide an estate.
56. G1. N 1168. Loan: to be repaid in wool if possible, otherwise in silver.
57. G2. N 2936. Loan: grain to be repaid with interest.
58. G2. N 929. Loan: I-lí-ma-a-ĥi borrows 1 gín of silver from ^dSin-ma-an-[sum] without interest.
59. G3. N 1033. Loan or gift: [Ge]me₂-^den-líl-lá receives something from Gub-ba-ì-dùg.

60. G3. CBS 7156. Gift?: Lú-^dnin-urta gives two loaves(?) of bread to ^dEn-líl-me-ša₄. Akkadian.
61. G4. UM 29-15-940.* Loan: A-ku-ú borrows with interest from Dingir-ma-an-sum.
62. G4. N 2671, fragment. Court case?
63. G4. CBS 2269, fragment. Court case: Arad-^den-líl-lá must give some land to A-ba-lugal-mu.
64. G5. UM 29-13-745. Uncertain: declaration over a release from pledges? Akkadian.
65. G5. UM 29-13-407a, fragment. Disinheritance document?: mu šà-ga-ni n[u]-dùg-[. . .], ibila-a-ni nu-ak-[. . .], a níg-ba of Ī-lí-ia-tum, son of Še-rum-^dadad (written Šar-rum-^dadad on the seal) is mentioned.
66. G6. N 1449, fragment. Partition or exchange: houses, fields, and cattle.
67. G6. N 3250. Fragment with part of list of witnesses.
68. G7. N 2160, fragmentary case. House exchange: Kù-^dinanna makes an extra payment of 10 gín of silver to ^dNanna-ma-an-sum.
69. G7. N 1627, fragmentary case. Mention of temple office in Nippur and Isin, held by A-lí-[. . .].
70. G7. N 2339, fragment. Partition or exchange.

A-1



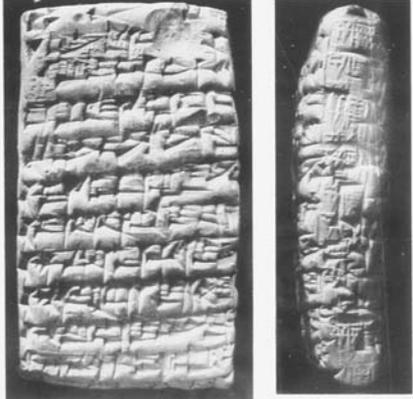
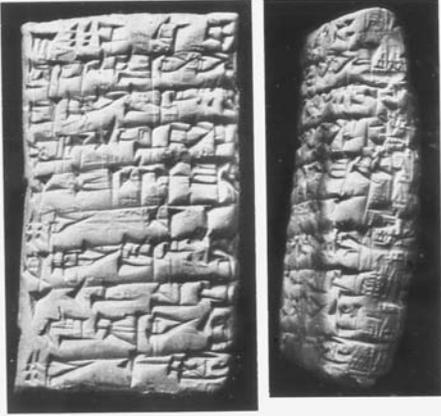
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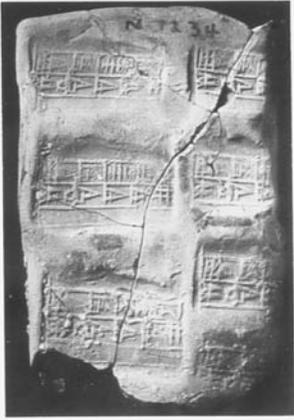
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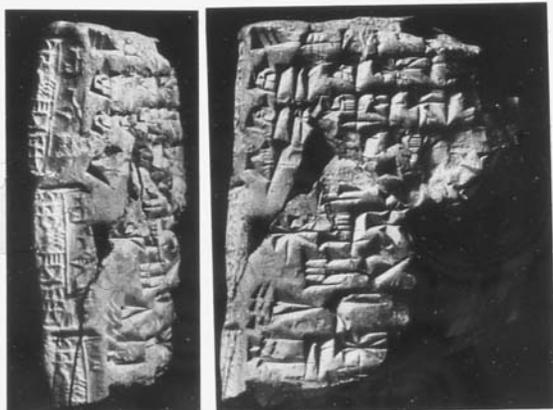
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A-5



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A-6



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A-7



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B-2



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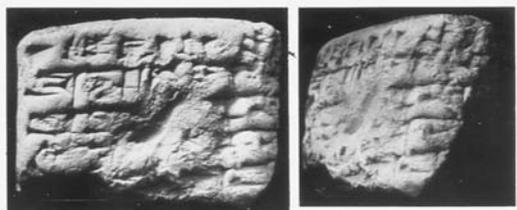


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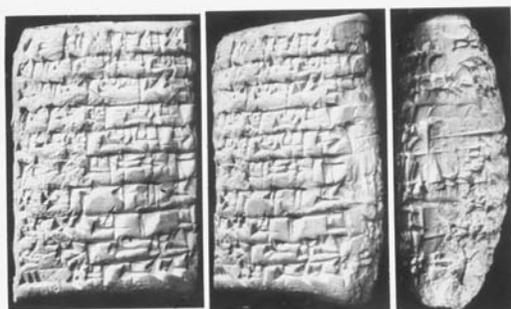
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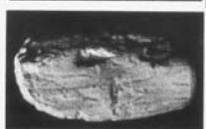


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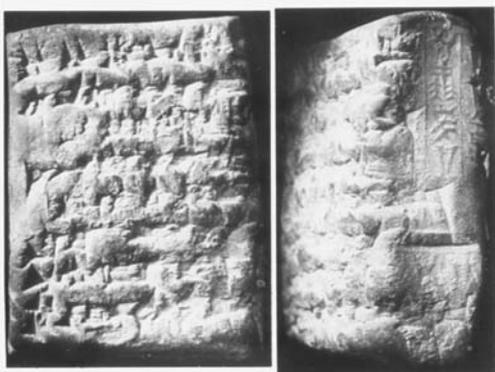
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14

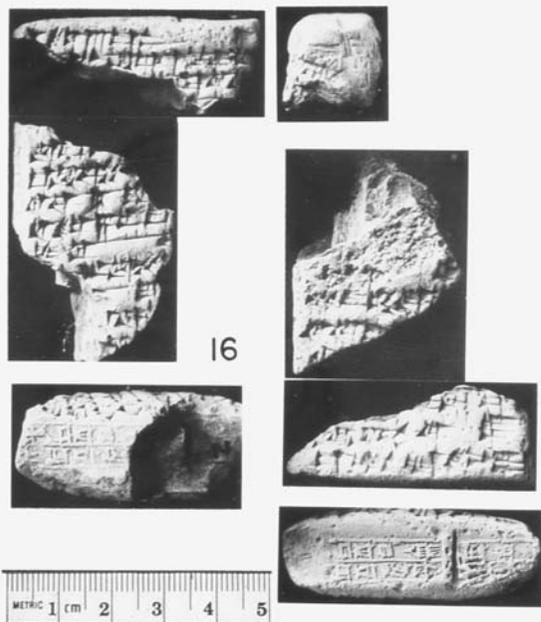


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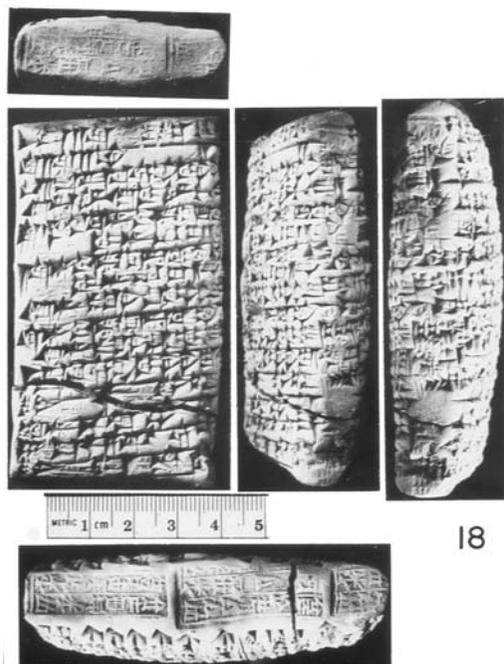


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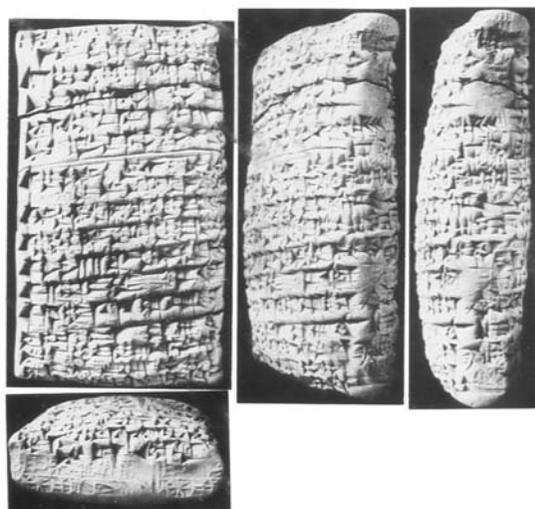




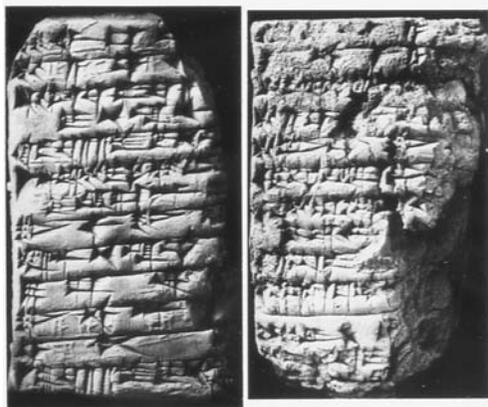
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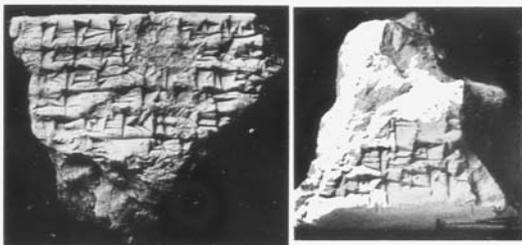
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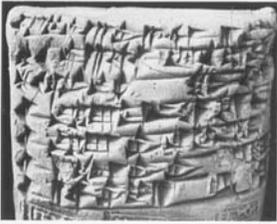
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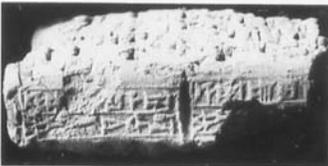
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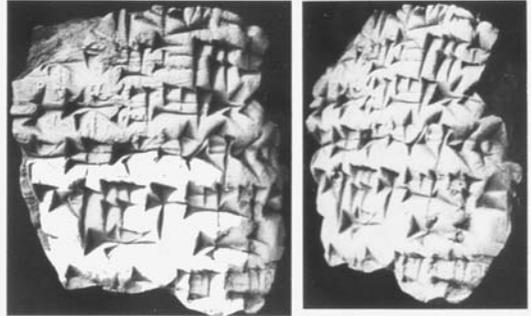


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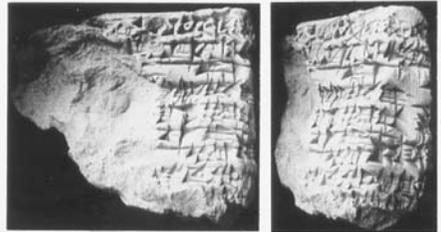
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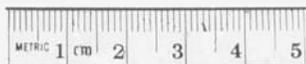
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E-1



30



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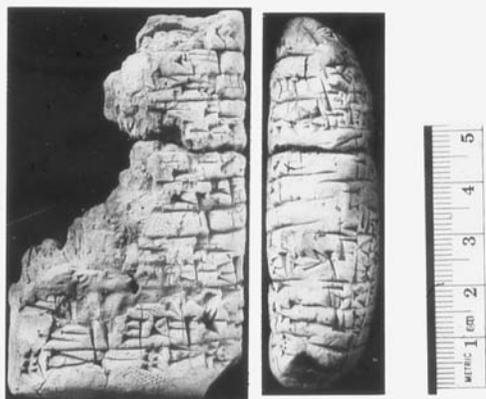
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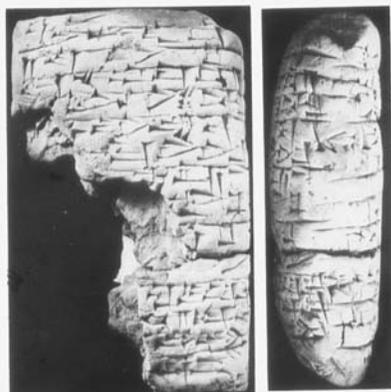
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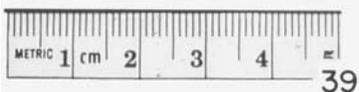
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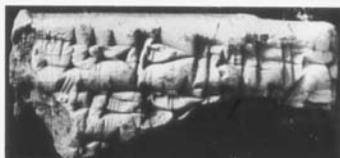
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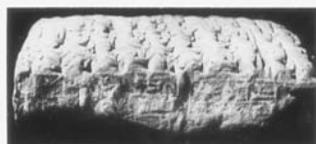


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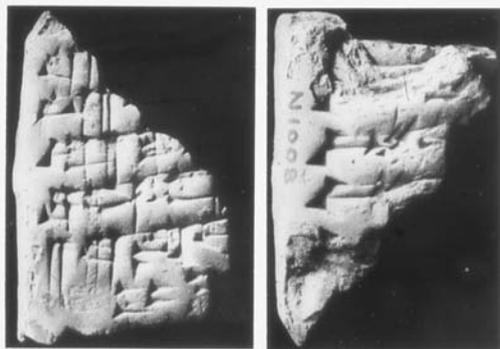


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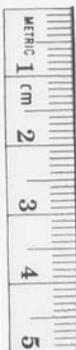


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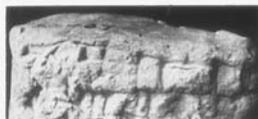
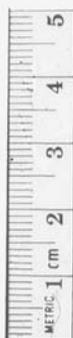


48



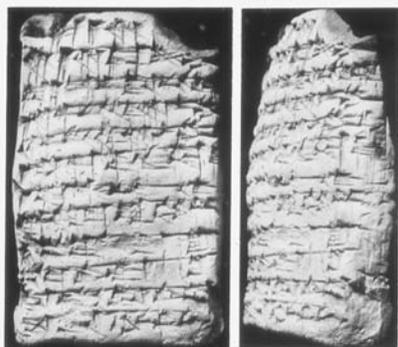
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F-5



50





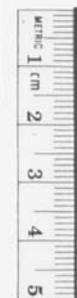
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F-6



52



53

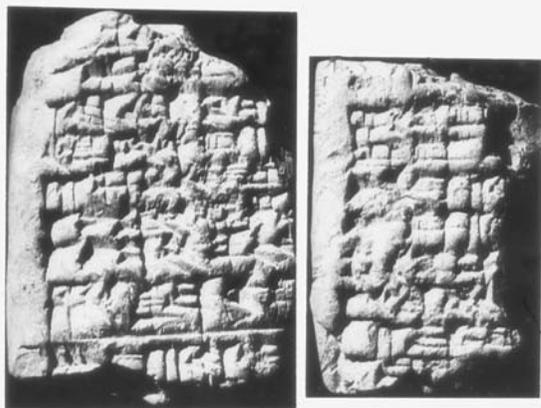
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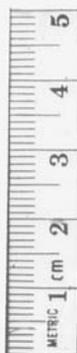
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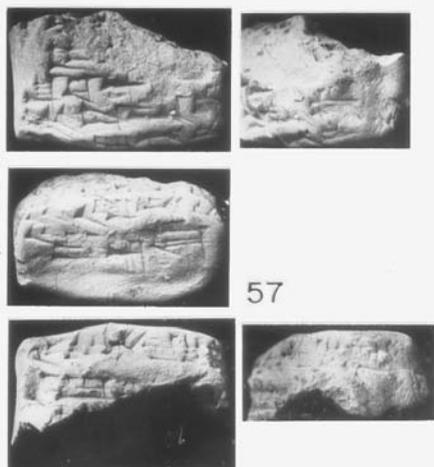
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55



56



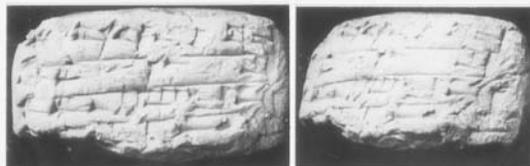
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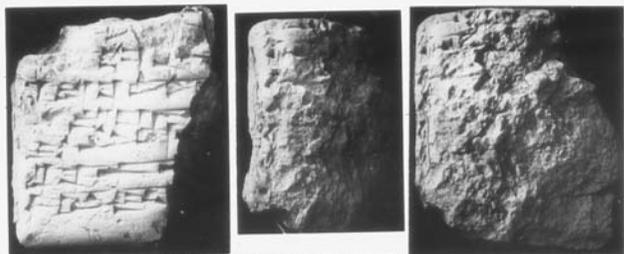


G-2

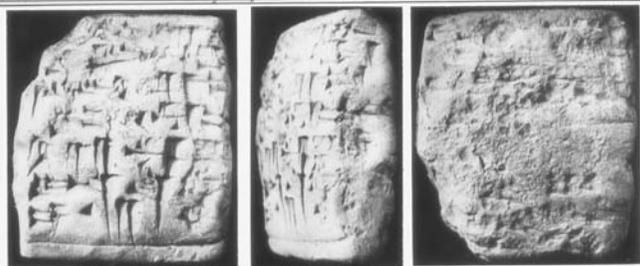


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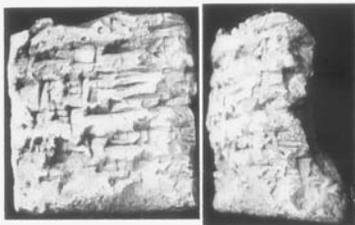


METRIC 1 cm 2 3 4 5 59



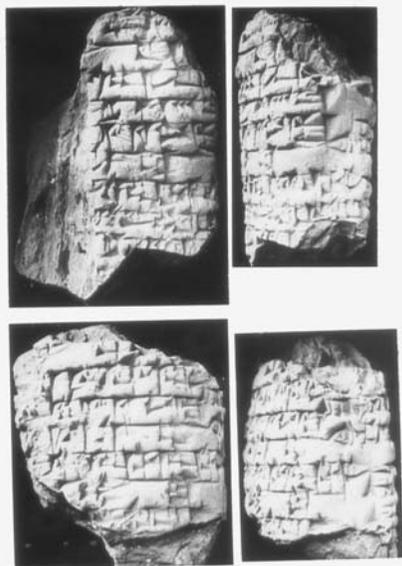
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G-3



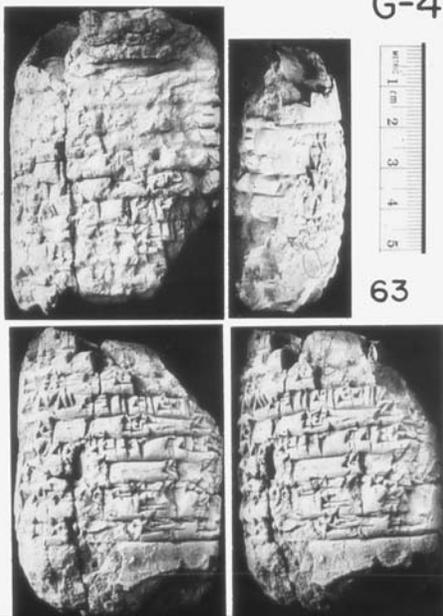
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61



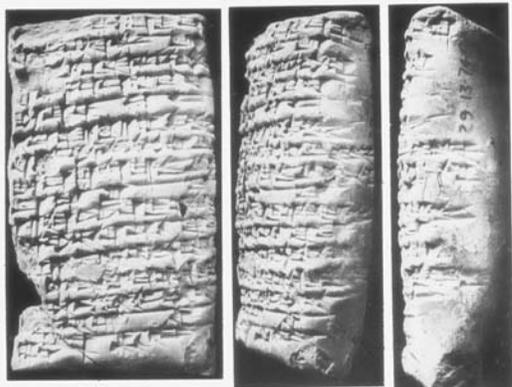
METRIC 1 cm 2 3 4 5 62

G-4



METRIC 1 cm 2 3 4 5

63



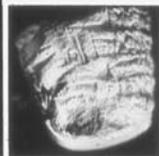
64



G-5



65



67

G-6



66



68



69



70

