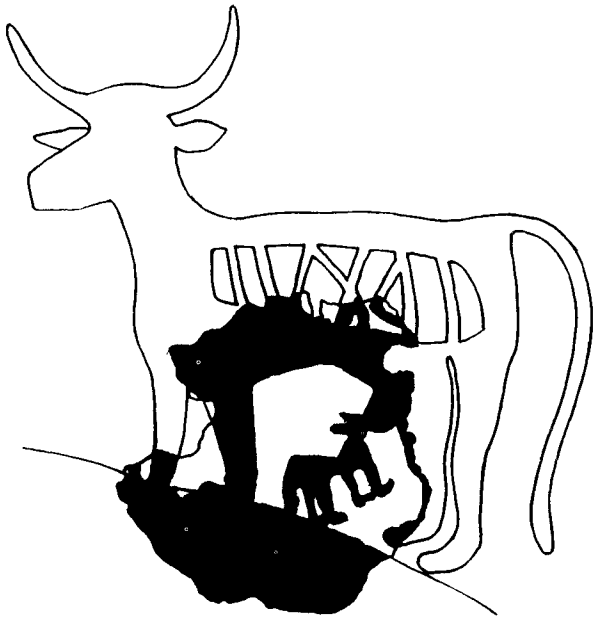


THE  
ORIENTAL INSTITUTE  
1991-1992  
ANNUAL REPORT





*THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE*  
*1991-1992 ANNUAL REPORT*



**Cover and Title Page Illustration:**

**Reconstructed scene showing suckling calf and mother standing  
on a mountain side, from fragment of wall painting found at  
Tell es-Sweyhat, Syria**

**The pages that divide the sections of this year's *Annual Report* feature  
photographs and drawings of objects excavated from Tell es-Sweyhat,  
Syria**

**Editor: William M. Sumner**

**Production Editor: Melanie Jansen Marhefka,  
with the assistance of Thomas G. Urban**

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# INTRODUCTION



Head of a lion figurine, modeled in clay, from Tell es-Sweyhat, Syria

## INTRODUCTION

WILLIAM M. SUMNER, DIRECTOR

Highlights of the year at the Oriental Institute were the approval of our proposed building project and two wonderful exhibits mounted in the museum as our contribution to the University of Chicago's centennial celebration—*Sifting the Sands of Time: The Oriental Institute and the Ancient Near East* and *Vanished Kingdoms of the Nile: The Rediscovery of Ancient Nubia*. A number of exciting events scheduled during Black History month in connection with the Nubian exhibit drew large crowds, including many people who had not visited the museum before. In addition, the National Endowment for the Humanities funded proposals for the Assyrian Dictionary and the Hittite Dictionary, each for a three year period (1992–95); both dictionary projects have been funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities continuously since 1976. The museum received an operating grant from the Institute of Museum Services for the second year in a row.

The primary mission of the Oriental Institute is to conduct research on the archaeology, history, and languages of the ancient Near East. As the detailed accounts in this report indicate, this has been a productive year for research. Among the highlights in research this year were the discovery of a cache of gold coins at Aqaba in Jordan, the mapping of a Byzantine mining village at Bir Umm Fawakhir in the Eastern Desert of Egypt, the completion of the Opet Festival drawings at Luxor after sixteen years of work, the excavation of a bakery in the shadow of the pyramids at Giza, and the discovery of remarkable wall paintings at Tell Es-Sweyhat in Syria.

In the autumn of 1991 the scope of the climate control, renovation, and expansion project for the Oriental Institute was established, based on the final report submitted by Skidmore, Owings & Merrill in March 1991. The plan called for the construction of a new wing composed of a basement and two floors with a combined floor area of 17,000 sq ft, renovation of the basement in the existing building, and the introduction of high levels of climate control in all galleries and object storage areas. Space vacated in the existing basement is to be dedicated to the conservation laboratory, the archaeological research center with laboratories for field projects and interdisciplinary analysis, preparation shop, photography darkrooms and studio, object storage, a variety of work areas, and, if feasible, a multi-purpose room for public educational and other activities.

The firm of Hammond Beeby and Babka was selected to provide architectural design services and the first meeting of the building committee was convened on February 3, 1992. Throughout the late winter and spring the Building Committee, composed of McGuire Gibson, Joan Rosenberg, Margaret Sears, Matthew Stolper, William Sumner, and Karen Wilson met with Kenneth Lyon, Project Architect for the University of Chicago, and Thomas Beeby, Bernard Babka, and Dennis Rupert. On several occasions representatives of Turner Construction Company, contracted for engineering and cost estimating services, and museum climate control consultants were present. Twelve detailed variations on the schematic plan were discussed. Some plans involved enclosing the courtyard but in the end cost constraints forced us to focus on a wing to be constructed to the south of the present building. The final schematic plan was submitted by the architects for our approval on August 13th. In the autumn of 1992 the scope of the project was increased to include a third floor in the new wing for library stacks and the revised schematic plan was approved by the University Campus Planning Committee at the November meeting of the Trustees. We are now engaged in planning the campaign to raise funds for the project, which has an estimated cost of \$10.1 million.

In recent months our lives were saddened by the deaths of Martha Bell, Douglas Esse, George Hughes, and Helene Kantor; tributes to their memory are published here rather than waiting until next year's *Annual Report*.

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# MEMORIALS

*DEDICATED*

*TO*

*THE MEMORY*

*OF*

**MARTHA HOPE RHOADS BELL**

**DOUGLAS L. ESSE**

**GEORGE R. HUGHES**

**HELENE J. KANTOR**

## MARTHA HOPE RHOADS BELL

APRIL 27, 1941–NOVEMBER 12, 1991

**Martha Hope Rhoads Bell**, independent scholar and wife of Oriental Institute Egyptologist Lanny Bell, was killed outright shortly after midnight on November 12, 1991, in a fiery car crash on I-78 in New Jersey. Born in Philadelphia on April 27, 1941, she was half a century, half a year, and half a month old when she died. Her funeral was attended by friends and colleagues from all over the Northeast; and she was buried with fresh flowers from the Chicago House garden strewn over her coffin—her sister Mary had been traveling in Luxor at the time of Martha’s death. Killed with Martha was good friend Dr. Gerald M. Quinn, Classical Greek scholar and Dean of Fordham University’s College at Lincoln Center in New York City. After attending a performance of *Così fan tutte* in New York, they were driving to Center Valley, Pennsylvania, where they were to help celebrate Martha’s mother’s eighty-first birthday that very day. Gerry and Martha had become fast friends in 1966, while they were attending the American School of Classical Studies in Athens; he visited Chicago House in 1983 and again in 1989 and had helped identify some graffiti high up on the Eighteenth Dynasty facade of Luxor Temple. Martha’s mother, Oriental Institute member Elsie Teetsel Rhoads, entered the hospital on the evening of November 13th, and she died there just over a month later on December 14th.

Martha had just been awarded her Ph.D. in Classical Archaeology at the University of Pennsylvania on May 21, 1991; the title of her dissertation is “The Tutankhamun Burnt Group from Gurob, Egypt: Bases for the Absolute Chronology of LH III A and B.” Martha’s unique ability to handle both Aegean and Egyptian evidence in her extensive work with Mycenaean imported pottery and imitations found in Egypt and Nubia, and her research on Egyptian-Mycenaean interconnections in the New Kingdom and their implications for chronology have long been familiar to Egyptologists; e.g., Keeper Vivian Davies’ acknowledgment in his preface to Stephen Quirke and Jeffrey Spencer, eds., *The British Museum Book of Ancient Egypt* (London, 1992), p. 9: “Other participants include ... the late Dr Martha Bell, who provided advice and information on Aegean connections ... .” Martha had submitted a three-year grant proposal to the National Endowment for the Humanities for the completion and publication of her life’s work, the documentation of Mycenaean pottery from Egypt; the project had received very good preliminary reviews from the referees, before the application had to



be withdrawn. Martha is receiving excellent notices of her major article, “An Armchair Excavation of KV 55,” *Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt* 27 (1990): 97–137; e.g., Jim Allen, “Akhenaten’s ‘Mystery’ Coregent and Successor,” in *Amarna Letters: Essays on Ancient Egypt, c. 1390–1310 BC*, vol. 1 (San Francisco: KMT Communications, Fall 1991), p. 79: “Despite the tomb’s undisturbed state, however, its contents were in poor condition (fig. 7) and the excavation was not well recorded. As a result, Egyptologists have spent years trying to reconstruct the history of this tomb and the identity of its occupants. Martha Bell’s recent ‘armchair excavation’ now seems to have settled the first question once and for all.” The results of her study of a jeweler’s hoard excavated at Amarna, containing a silver Hittite divine figurine, published as “A Hittite Pendant from Amarna,” *American Journal of Archaeology* 90 (1986): 145–51, are featured in Barry Kemp’s *Ancient Egypt: Anatomy of a Civilization* (London and New York: Routledge, 1989), pp. 244–46. As she developed into a mature scholar, she turned more and more to Egyptologically oriented research—the conclusions of her still incompletely published study on the iconographic signification of the floral collar, the *wšḥ ny mꜣꜥ-ḥrw*, for instance, are utilized in the exhibition catalogue, *Egypt’s Dazzling Sun: Amenhotep III and His World*, edited by Arielle Kozloff, Betsy Bryan, and Lawrence Berman (Cleveland Museum of Art, 1992), pp. 411, 435.

Lanny and Martha both entered the University of Pennsylvania as graduate students in the fall of 1963, and they were married on September 22, 1968. More than half of their married life of twenty-three years was spent focused on the Epigraphic Survey and Chicago House, its rambling Egyptian headquarters in Luxor—its reorganization, its refurbishing, its maintenance, its running, its future, the welfare of its staff, its public face, and its finances—during Lanny’s twelve-year tenure as Field Director (1977–89), stressful years characterized by a constant stream of visitors, capped by the massive and successful fundraising effort of their last few years there. Martha’s role in the operation, and the respect which she gained from the Egyptian staff, is measured in part by her colloquial Arabic title *el-Sitt el-Mudira*, “The Lady Directress” (rather than *sitt el-Mudir*, “the director’s wife”). Only the second wife of a Field Director also to be a professional in the field of archaeology, Martha was naturally included in the expression of gratitude of the international community which was published in Tony Leahy’s editorial foreword to the *British Journal of Egyptian Archaeology* 75 (1989): x, at the time of Lanny’s “retirement” from Chicago House: “Change has also come to Chicago House in Luxor. After a long, successful and, no doubt, exhausting period as Director of its Epigraphic Survey, Dr Lanny Bell has ‘retired’ to a professorship at the Oriental Institute, Chicago. Scholars visiting Chicago House were sure of a generous reception from Lanny and Martha, however

trying the times ... ." Somewhat imprecisely, Colin Osman in a footnote to his article on "Antonio Beato, Photographer of the Nile," in *History of Photography: An International Quarterly*, vol. 14, no. 1 (January–March 1990; London, New York, Philadelphia: Taylor and Francis, Ltd.): 111, also speaks of "Directors Lanny and Martha Bell of The Epigraphic Society, Luxor." A paragraph on Martha's life and work will appear in the forthcoming third edition of *Who Was Who in Egyptology*, revised and edited by Morris Bierbrier.

Besides a tremendous international outpouring of grief, sympathy, and personal remembrances of Martha, masses were performed for the repose of her soul, and crystal pendulums were swung to clear her energies; Gideon Bibles have also been placed in hotel rooms for her, and trees have been planted in Israel. Lectures were dedicated to her at the Southern California and Washington, D.C., chapters of the American Research Center in Egypt. Many other gifts have been presented in her name: among them contributions to the Salvation Army and to Lindsey Wilson College in Columbia, Kentucky; contributions have been made to the Epigraphic Survey, the Giza Project, and the Demotic Dictionary Project at the Oriental Institute; in addition, donations have been made to a special memorial fund established at the Oriental Institute which Lanny will use to help defray the costs of publishing Martha's dissertation and her other research.

The forthcoming *Cahiers de la céramique égyptienne*, vol. 3, edited by Pascale Ballet (Cairo: Institut Français d'Archéologie Orientale), will be dedicated to Martha; and a memorial volume, which will contain articles by many of her closest friends, is being prepared by Dr. Jacke Phillips of the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, with the assistance of Dr. Bruce Williams of Chicago. Many tributes to Martha have already been published. The *Oriental Institute Research Archives Acquisition List*, No. 1, for August, September, and October 1991, was "Dedicated to the Memory of our Friend and Colleague, Martha Rhoads Bell," by editors Charles E. Jones, Terry Wilfong, and Paul Cobb. Kozloff, Bryan, and Berman (eds.) relate in the acknowledgments to *Egypt's Dazzling Sun*, p. xix: "Visits to Amenhotep III's favorite city and ours, Luxor, were always made even more fruitful and happier thanks to the scholarship, hospitality, and friendship of the directors and staff of Chicago House. Above all, we think of Lanny Bell and the late Martha Bell, whom we greatly miss ... ." Renée Friedman and Barbara Adams (eds.) also include Martha in their preface and acknowledgments to *The Followers of Horus: Studies Dedicated to Michael Allen Hoffman 1944–1990* (Oxford: Oxbow Books, 1992), p. ii: "One particular contributor, Michael's distant relative [they shared a Pennsylvania Dutch heritage, and both are buried in Allentown, Pennsylvania], Martha Bell, was unable to finish her paper before her own untimely death in November, 1991. She and her

husband, Lanny Bell, often provided hospitality and good cheer to Mike and members of the expedition in their capacity as former directors of Chicago House, Luxor. She mourned Michael deeply, and we in turn mourn her and the absence of both of them in our lives and work. With their passing, the world has become an infinitely less interesting and less exciting place.” And once more in the editorial foreword to the *Journal of Egyptian Archaeology* 78 (1992): x–xi, Tony Leahy offers the following appreciation: “Saddest, because least expected, was the death at only 50 in a traffic accident on 12 November 1991 of Dr Martha Bell, a specialist in the New Kingdom and especially Egypt’s relations with Mycenae. Many will remember with affection the warmth and vivacity with which she and her husband, Professor Lanny Bell, made Chicago House in Luxor such a welcoming place for so many years.”

Lanny Bell

## DOUGLAS L. ESSE

DECEMBER 1, 1949–OCTOBER 13, 1992

Douglas L. Esse, archaeologist, professor, and foremost authority on the Early Bronze Age Levant, died on October 13, 1992, at home with his family in Hyde Park, after a long battle with stomach cancer. He was forty-two years old.

I knew Doug for more than a decade and a half: first as a student at the Oriental Institute, then as a colleague in the field and in the classroom, and throughout as a very best friend.

He began his field work in 1975 at Tel Dan and Tel Qiri in Israel and continued to develop as a stratigrapher and strategist in the following year, when he joined our staff at Carthage. By the time we launched the excavations at Ashkelon a decade later, where Doug served as associate director and as director of the lab in Jerusalem, he had become one of the very best excavators I have ever known. Few archaeologists could excavate the backfill of robber trenches the way he could and retrieve in negative form so many coherent building plans.

Through his meticulous excavation and recording, he was able to recover dozens of unbaked clay cylinders at Ashkelon, which when found in rows indicated they had fallen from a vertical loom in a weaving factory. Since this type of loom weight is totally alien to the Canaanite culture, these homely artifacts have become valuable documents for tracing the Philistines back to their place of origin; these mud cylinders are found in abundance at Minoan and later Mycenaean sites.

Doug received his M.A. in 1977 and his Ph.D. in 1982 “with distinction” from the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago. I had the privilege of serving as primary reader of his doctoral dissertation, which he revised and published last year as a book, *Subsistence, Trade, and Social Change in Early Bronze Age Palestine* (Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization, No. 50). It is a tour de force, a grand synthesis that analyses the rise and fall of civilization in Palestine from about 3500 to 2200 B.C. Using the material from Beth Yerah excavated by Professors P. P. Delougaz and Helene Kantor in 1963 and 1964, Doug shows us how to move from the particular to the general, from potsherds to international trading networks, as he turns “heaps of broken images” into patterns that give us glimpses of the unbroken reality behind the sherds and scraps of evidence.

The renowned archaeologist William Dever graciously sent Doug an advance copy of his review of the book, now published in the *Journal of the American Oriental Society*. Dever proclaimed Doug's book a masterpiece of archaeological analysis and exposition—a model for us all.

His most succinct and theoretically sophisticated statement of the problem appears in “Secondary State Formation and Collapse in Early Bronze Age Palestine,” published in the proceedings of an international colloquium held by the CNRS in Israel. There Doug explains how Egypt catapulted Canaan into its First Urban Age through economic stimulus. Commenting on the proceedings, the distinguished prehistorian Jean Perrot considered this piece the highlight of the conference.

In 1987 Doug was well on his way toward the summit of academic success: he was appointed Assistant Professor of Syro-Palestinian Archaeology at the Oriental Institute. Just two years later he was diagnosed with cancer. Nevertheless in 1989 he launched the Oriental Institute expedition to Tel Yaqush in the Jordan Valley, where for three seasons he and his students investigated Early Bronze Age lifeways. At the same time he continued to teach, to research, and to publish. He was an excellent teacher, regarded with affection and esteem by students and colleagues alike.

Whether digging in the field, or through old explorers' accounts of the Holy Land, or Ottoman tax records or whatever, Doug was a virtuoso in seeing how bits and pieces fit together to provide fresh insights.

By digging into the Research Archives of the Oriental Institute, Doug discovered a prosperous Canaanite city at Megiddo (Stratum VI), built at the beginning of the eleventh century B.C. and destroyed at the end. The original excavators from the Oriental Institute had published only a small portion of this stratum in *Megiddo II: Seasons of 1935–39* (Oriental Institute Publications, Vol. 62). The confusion resulted in part from major staff changes made in 1934 by the inimitable founder and director of the Institute, James Henry Breasted.

From the original plans and unpublished photographs of the excavations, Doug was able to recover streets and pillared buildings, along with dozens of crushed collared-rim jars and the skeletons of numerous individuals who had perished in the fiery destruction. From this startling evidence he was able to reconstruct the plan of the city and recover some of its history. It appears that Megiddo continued to prosper as a Canaanite city well into the Iron Age, including among its ruins some presumed hallmarks (such as pillared houses and collared-rim pithoi) of the early Israelites. Doug began to explore the meaning of these discoveries in an article published in the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* just before his death. All future studies dealing with the emergence of Early Israel and its relation with Canaan must take these new discoveries into account.

During the last three years, even though cancer was wracking his body, Doug somehow managed to continue his Early Bronze research at Tel Yaqush in northern Israel. During the last exciting season at the site, Doug's father, Doug's wife Ann, his son Joey, and daughter Allison (ages nine and six) participated in the excavations. Throughout the long ordeal, his priorities and passions never changed: family, friends, and archaeology, in that order.

I talked with Doug almost every other week during the past year. Just a month ago, embattled but not embittered by the cancer, he told me about the articles he was writing, and alas, never finished, and the classes he would be teaching next year. Highest on his list of priorities was the publication of his excavations at Yaqush, followed closely by publication of his new discoveries about Iron Age Megiddo (tentatively titled *Megiddo Stratum VI: The Iron I Period*) and a volume dealing with tombs excavated by Kantor and Delougaz (to be issued in the series Oriental Institute Publications, with the title *Nahal Tabor: An Early Bronze Age Cemetery in the Northern Jordan Valley, Israel*). His spirit and courage were indomitable right up to the end.

Ann, his wonderful wife of twenty-one years, put beside him in the coffin a Marshalltown trowel and three Early Bronze Age potsherds—the tool of his trade and the artifacts that he was able to transform into documents by which he read the past. T. S. Eliot asks us:

“What are the roots that clutch, what branches grow out of this stony rubbish? Son of man, you cannot say, or guess, for you know only a heap of broken images, where the sun beats, and the dead tree gives no shelter, the cricket no relief, and the dry stone no sound of water.”

Doug loved the “Waste Lands”—the mounds of ruin with their “stony rubbish” and “heaps of broken images.” In both his profession and his life (they were inseparable) Doug knew that the truth of existence, the truth of reality, is not some absolute proposition about truth, nor ultimate despair, but something in between, a quest (whether in archaeology or in life) for something beyond the broken images of past and present, a quest for the unbroken reality behind the broken images.

We will sorely miss Doug Esse, the best and brightest of his generation of archaeologists, the kindest and most gentle person of any generation.

Lawrence E. Stager  
Dorot Professor of the Archaeology of Israel  
Harvard University

## GEORGE R. HUGHES

JANUARY 12, 1907–DECEMBER 21, 1992

George Hughes was a fine gentleman and scholar who contributed much to the work and the reputation of the Oriental Institute during his forty-five years of association with it. He was born in Wymore, Nebraska, in 1907; his native language was Welsh and he remained proud of his Welsh heritage all his life. From the proverbial one-room school of his early years he went on to what must have been for him the mammoth University of Nebraska, from which he graduated Phi Beta Kappa in 1929. He wished to become a minister and came to Chicago to study at McCormick Theological Seminary. His love of languages and history led him to take courses on elementary Egyptian hieroglyphs and his ability to read and to understand such material impressed his teachers at the University of Chicago. Several major steps occurred in his life and career in 1932. He graduated from McCormick, was ordained, married his high-school sweetheart, Maurine Hall, and enrolled for graduate studies at the University of Chicago, first in the Divinity School and then in the Department of Oriental Languages and Civilizations, from which he received his Ph.D. in 1939. His dissertation, supervised by William F. Edgerton, was a study of a collection of leases of farmland that were written in Demotic (the name given to a stage of the Egyptian language and script used from about 700 B.C. until the third century of our era) and were dated to the middle of the first millennium B.C. This work, which was later published as *Saite Demotic Land Leases*, clearly demonstrated his superb ability to decipher the words, meaning, and implications of the records of ancient Egypt. When the United States entered World War II, Hughes, like so many linguistically skilled academics, turned from deciphering ancient languages to cracking codes, and worked in U.S. Intelligence from 1942 to 1946. At the end of the war, as the Oriental Institute prepared to return an Epigraphic Survey to Luxor, Hughes was selected as epigrapher. He and Maurine went to Egypt for the first time in the fall of 1946; by January 1949, he was appointed Field Director of the Epigraphic Survey.

For almost twenty years he directed the Institute's Epigraphic Survey in Luxor and made Chicago House a center for Egyptological research, both formal study and publication and the informal exchange of information over famous "Chicago House teas." He oversaw the publication of eight of the mammoth volumes of the Epigraphic Survey: four on the temple and associated buildings at Ramesses III's mortuary temple at Medinet Habu; one

on the private tomb of a high official named Kheruef; two on aspects of the decoration of the huge temple complex at Karnak; and one, during the Nubian Salvage Campaign, that recorded the scenes and inscriptions of a temple of Ramesses II in Nubia. During the 1961–62 season of the Nubian Salvage Campaign, he also oversaw the Oriental Institute's excavations at Serra East in the Sudan. His dedication to preservation of the Egyptian heritage and his extraordinary skill at reading damaged wall scenes and inscriptions set the standards for subsequent work by the Epigraphic Survey.

In 1964 he returned to full-time work in Chicago, where he enjoyed the traditional academic life of research and teaching. He was a stimulating teacher. He was a modest, quiet man who never imposed himself, his knowledge, or his ideas; rather, he taught by example, listening to his students' suggestions, helping them follow a train of thought, or providing a reference to keep their research going. Long after a student had become a "colleague," he or she could go to Hughes to try out a new idea, knowing that even if the idea were proved wrong, he would consider it carefully, treat it respectfully, and test it to the full reaches of his knowledge. Hughes also was a very popular lecturer. He had won a prize in seminary as the best preacher in the senior class (he also won the senior class prize in Old Testament, a fellowship which first brought him to the University of Chicago) and he knew how to convey thoughts, concepts, and emotions. When he first returned to Chicago from work with the Epigraphic Survey in Egypt, he spent a couple of years traveling frequently to speak with alumni groups and to present the film "The Egyptologists" (soon he could recite much of the narration by heart). One time he was scheduled to give an Oriental Institute Members' Lecture on mummification or King Tutankhamun (both were big hits), and so many people wanted to come that he had to give a repeat performance the next night.

But he was not allowed to remain "just" a teacher and scholar, for within five years of his return to Chicago he had been selected by his colleagues on the faculty to serve as Director of the Oriental Institute (1968–1972). His modesty, his sincerity, and his commitment to the Oriental Institute enabled him to lead it successfully through a financially difficult period for the University. One of the achievements of which he was most proud was that he had persuaded the University's administration to hire a full-time, professional curator for the Oriental Institute's Museum, which enabled it better to serve the needs of both the scholarly and public communities.

He was an exceptional scholar; his "eye" for reading temple inscriptions was matched by his "eye" for reading Demotic. His publications of documents originally written in Demotic are exemplary, both for his reading of the difficult cursive script and for his analysis of the cultural, social, or economic



implications of the documents. His extensive knowledge of Demotic allowed him to serve the Demotic Dictionary Project not merely as “consultant” or “advisor,” but as basic resource person. If a word in a Demotic text could not be read, or it was thought that the original editor of the text might have gotten something wrong, chances were that Hughes could not only read the word but tell of another occurrence, frequently in an unpublished text of which he had seen a photograph or made a copy. Without his backing and support, the Demotic Dictionary Project would never have begun nor would it have made the progress it has made. He will remain for its staff a model and an inspiration.

When he retired in 1975, he had the opportunity to serve a slightly different community, and to serve in the manner which he had first envisioned when he left Nebraska for seminary. Fellow students from McCormick had frequently persuaded him to give guest sermons to their congregations, but now he was asked by the Hyde Park Union Church, of which he had long been an active member, to serve as interim pastor. He served there as pastor from July to December 1975; his sermons were collected and published by the church, as *Chastened in Time*, in 1976.

During his retirement he continued to come to his office every day, publish significant articles on Demotic texts, answer questions for the staff of the Demotic Dictionary Project, and reminisce with everyone about the old days of Egyptology and people he had known through the years at Chicago House. His kindness, his gentleness, his knowledge, and his constant encouragement will be greatly missed.

Janet H. Johnson

## HELENE J. KANTOR

JULY 15, 1919–JANUARY 13, 1993

Professor Helene J. Kantor died of heart failure at Mitchell Hospital on January 13, 1993. She was born with *amortous congenital myopathy*, a rare muscular disease that progressively robbed her of her muscles and increasingly made her great mind the prisoner of a failing body. During the past two years, Helene Kantor suffered substantially from this disease. Despite this, her love for life, her unflinching optimism, and her radiant spirit not only sustained her throughout her life but also made her a heroic example of the triumph of mind over body.

Helene Kantor was born in Chicago in July 1919. Soon after she moved with her parents to Bloomington, Indiana, where her father took up a teaching position at Indiana University. She was taught at home by her mother, Helen Rich, until the age of fifteen when she entered college. Her vast and impressive knowledge of classical, medieval, and Renaissance art and literature was the product of her “cottage” education and her mother’s devotion to her upbringing. An accomplished artist herself, Helen Rich soon realized the artistic talent in Helene Kantor and devoted a great deal of time fostering it. Helene Kantor began to study the piano at an early age and developed sufficient skill to play Mozart’s sonatas with her teacher.

Confined to a life at home in the countryside, Helene Kantor developed an immense interest in animals and nature. She initially wanted to become a physician. She entered college and took a B.A. in zoology/biology. She was eventually dissuaded from pursuing her field of interest and was forced to study humanities, which was not unfamiliar to her—thanks to her mother’s teaching and the numerous trips they took together to Europe and the Middle East. Helene Kantor received the Edward L. Ryerson Fellowship for graduate study and entered the University of Chicago in 1938 and completed her Ph.D. in 1945. She was awarded the Alvin K. Brown Fellowship in 1943 and the Edward L. Ryerson Fellowship in 1944 for outstanding study in archaeology. She accepted a Research Assistant appointment in 1945 and became Assistant Professor in 1951. She was promoted to Associate Professor, then to Professor in 1963. Helene Kantor retired from the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago in October 1989, after a long and productive career in teaching and scholarship.

A scholar of impeccable credentials, Helene was also an exceptionally gifted teacher. To be unprepared for a class was for her an unthinkable act.

While she was active teaching, she taught her classes having read or at least having seen the latest work on the subject at hand. While she presented her lectures articulately and eloquently, her personal and human feelings for the subject matter instilled in students the enthusiasm and admiration she possessed for the ancient Near East. Professor Kantor was never parsimonious with time spent helping and guiding students, often at the expense of her own projects. She taught classes in a number of distinct fields of inquiry, including Iranian art and archaeology, Mesopotamian art and architecture, art and architecture of Egypt, and Aegean art and archaeology, all with admirable command of the subject and materials. She also directed dissertations in many of these fields, a feat that was as remarkable as it was vital to the academic growth and reputation of the Oriental Institute.

Her scholarly contributions to the field of ancient Near Eastern art and archaeology are precise, clear, exhaustive, well documented, and classical examples of a deep understanding of and intimacy with the subject matter. Her book, *The Aegean and the Orient in the Second Millennium B.C.*, as well as numerous articles are testimony to her rigorous style of research and her unsurpassed knowledge of ancient Near Eastern art and archaeology. Helene Kantor received the prestigious *Schimmel Prize* for her profound lifetime academic achievements.

Helene Kantor conducted field work at Nahal Tabur, Beth Yereh, and Nahariya in Israel and at Chogha Mish, Chogha Banut, and Boneh Fazili in Iran. Iran held special fascination for her and played a significant part in her archaeological career. Her investigations at Chogha Mish started in 1961 and ended in 1978, for a total of thirteen seasons. She contributed greatly to the understanding of the prehistoric and proto-historic life in southwestern Iran by publishing a number of important articles. Her *opus magnum*, however, was the complete report on the first five seasons at Chogha Mish. Despite her heroic effort to finish this monumental work, death denied her the pleasure of seeing it published. Nevertheless, because of her insightful and realistic nature, she made certain that her monumental work would be completed when she no longer is around.

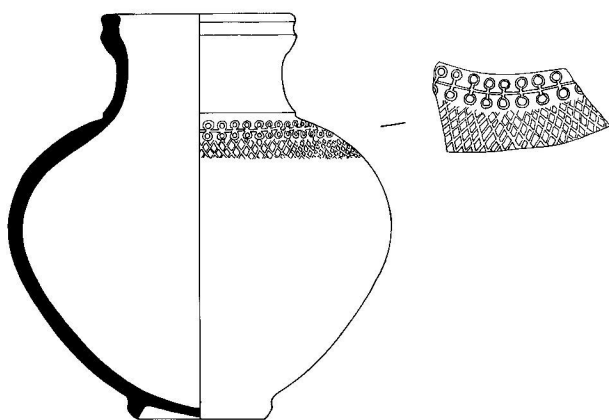
Professor Kantor was a combination of Renaissance “man” and Victorian scholar. Her discussion of a piece of prehistoric painted pottery would very relevantly take her, for example, to Impressionism and vice versa. She possessed an unsurpassed knowledge of Near Eastern pottery, as well as other art objects. Her keen observation would reveal such subtle nuances of art objects and painted pottery that one would wonder whether she could “communicate” with them. However, despite, and perhaps, because of her vast knowledge of art and archaeology of the ancient Near East, she was never given to generalizations and had certain mistrust for theoretical elaboration.

While this abbreviated account of the accomplishments of Helene Kantor reveals her brilliance, it does not indicate what she meant as a person to others. Professor Kantor was not an anthropologist by training, but she had a deep understanding of cultural relativism and, more importantly, she used her understanding of human nature and cultural relativism in real life—it is no coincidence that she had *true* friends on five continents. Her love for Iran and the bond of friendship she had developed with the villagers in the vicinity of Chogha Mish had become so strong that she had planned to live in the village of Doulati, Khuzestan, after she retired. Unfortunately, the political upheavals in Iran deprived her from reuniting with, as she put it, her people, a calamity from which she never recovered. She was an ardent supporter of a number of important issues, such as gun-control, the pro-choice issue, wildlife preservation, and environmental protection. She was also a foster-mother and long-time supporter of a number of poor and orphaned children in various countries around the globe.

Helene J. Kantor will remain justly famous for her solid contributions to the study of ancient Near Eastern art and archaeology. The number and variety of ongoing projects she left behind is daunting, and a testimony to her unabated enthusiasm until the end. Although Miss Kantor has physically left us, her memory will always be with those who were fortunate enough to have known her.

A. Alizadeh

# ARCHAEOLOGY



Third millennium B.C. gray-burnished jar with cylinder seal decoration around shoulder, reconstructed from pottery sherds found at Tell es-Sweyhat, Syria

## AQABA

DONALD WHITCOMB

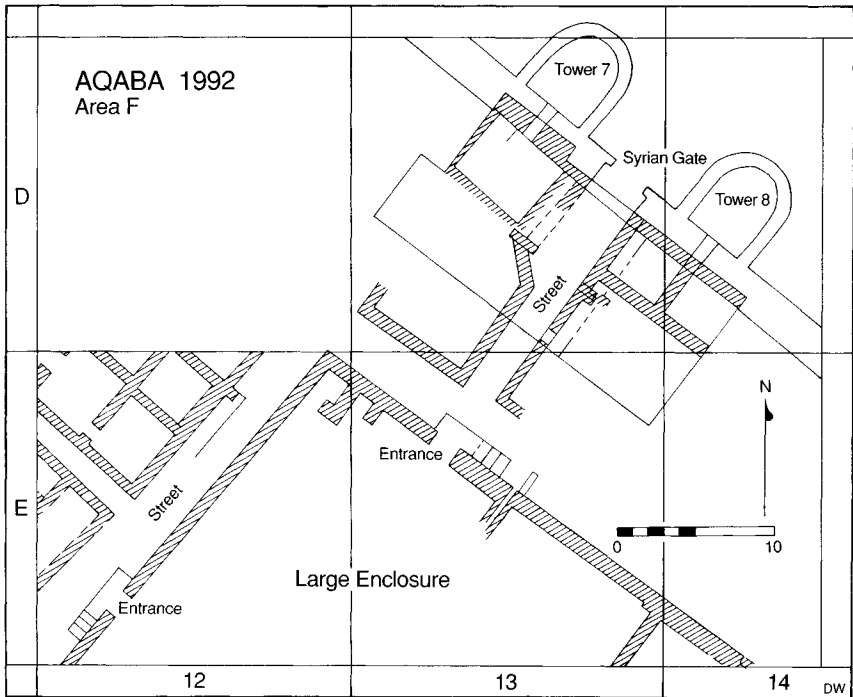
Excavations in 1987 at the site of early Islamic Ayla (modern Aqaba, Jordan) revealed a city plan that included four gates. The northeast, or Syrian, gate was posited to lie beneath the modern street and sidewalk of the Corniche Road. As discussed in the *Annual Report* for 1990–1991, plans are underway to construct the Ayla Orientation Center on almost the exact location of the ruins of the original Syrian gate. The center will feature a reconstruction of the gate and its two flanking towers and will introduce visitors to the history and archaeology of Aqaba.

In 1991, prior to the construction of the center, the Department of Antiquities and the American Center of Oriental Research began archaeological investigations; the fragmentary results of these excavations prompted the 1992 excavations under discussion. These excavations revealed the complexities introduced by modern disturbances. A modern fence marks the edge of the sidewalk and street; about 2 m from the fence is a modern pipeline (ca. 80 cm wide and 1.0–1.2 m deep; antecedent to the pipeline was a broad ditch, again running parallel to the street). Both features contained thoroughly modern artifacts.

The 1992 season excavated a 20 × 10 m trench from late April into May (thirty-two digging days). The team consisted of five students from the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University and Mr. Romel Greyb as Department representative. This small season could not have been accomplished without the active assistance of Dr. Safwan Tell of the Department of Antiquities, Drs. Pierre and Patricia Bikai of the American Center of Oriental Research, and Mr. Bassam Kakish and Mr. Bassam Noueirani of the Aqaba Region Authority. Funding was provided under a USAID grant.

### THE GATE AND CHRONOLOGY

The 1992 excavations produced detailed stratigraphic information in the context of an important architectural sector of the city of early Islamic Ayla. The chronological framework for this occupation is from ca. 650 A.D. to the early twelfth century (ca. 1116 A.D.). A historical reconstruction is possible due to the detailed studies of the ceramics from earlier seasons. It should be emphasized that other artifacts, particularly some forty non-aureic possible coins, remain to be analyzed.



**Figure 1. Plan of the Syrian gate and large enclosure (Area F)**

**Phase A (650–750 A.D. = Rashidun and Umayyad)**

Gate architecture of this period is not well known due to the massive overburden from later periods; fortunately, numerous parallels with other gates allow an increasingly detailed reconstruction. Most dramatically, the line of the inner face of the city wall is now known. The arch of the doorway into Tower 7 gives, for the first time, the height of the passageway, which is surprisingly low, ca. 1.5 m. The jamb indicates the precise positioning of the Syrian gate. The Syrian street was limited by a stone wall to either side and behind each tower was a large room. An interior arch may have provided a transition from a vestibule into the town itself (as may be seen near the Egyptian gate).

**Phase B (750–850 A.D. = Early Abbasid)**

This phase is anticipated by the introduction of a new corpus of ceramics, the Mahesh wares (post-700 A.D.). There are clear architectural manifestations: new walls, floors, and occasionally complete reorganization of architectural space. The two sides of the Syrian street have radically differing histories. While the northwest side remained virtually unaffected, the

southeast side was totally razed and an architectural complex was built without regard to the former limits of the city. This reinforces the implications of the Square Tower, excavated in 1989, that expansion and vigorous reorganization occurred during the early Abbasid period.

#### Phase C (850–950 A.D. = Middle Abbasid)

This century of development is difficult to distinguish from the preceding phase. Architectural evidence suggests continuities from earlier patterns, but ceramic assemblages are marked by the presence of more sophisticated, imported glazed wares; ceramics thus presage attributes of the subsequent century.

#### Phase D (950–1050 A.D. = Late Abbasid or Fatimid)

The rooms on both sides of the gate have hearths and midden debris, which suggest a change in function of these buildings. These changes in the character of deposition suggest two possible interpretations: the area was more residential in nature, and the level of prosperity (implied in sanitation and order) had abated. Not only was the street increasingly narrow, but a portion was given over to a drain. The archaeological remains recovered from this phase may reflect the political and social vagaries of this troubled century.

#### Phase E (1050–1116 A.D. = Fatimid)

This last period is the most difficult to assess, due to the combined factors of the street, pipeline, ditch, and 1991 excavations. Walls attributable to this period, chiefly in and near Room A, show a tendency to tilt dramatically. This may be attributable to subsidence (and poor construction techniques), but this may also be evidence of the impact of the 1068 earthquake. The highest layer of the Syrian street contained, amidst late ceramics, a hoard of 32 dinars (see below).

### **THE AYLA HOARD**

In the popular imagination, archaeological excavation is often thought of as a search for gold—the first excavators at Aqaba in 1985 were rumored to have found many caskets of gold. But in reality the archaeologist is searching not for buried treasure but for information on cultural and historical development of ancient cities and cultures. The excavations in Aqaba have aimed at the recovery of the early Islamic city of Ayla, a port which participated actively in the prosperous international trade extending from Egypt and the Mediterranean to the Indian Ocean and Far East.

As had been predicted from earlier excavations, the inner face of the ancient city wall appeared just beneath the sidewalk of the modern street. The jamb of a gate was visible as well as a doorway, with its arch still standing,



leading into the tower flanking a gate. (Unfortunately, digging through this doorway into the tower would have meant rather dangerous tunneling under the street.) The gate led into the city of Ayla and the main street just inside the gate showed, for the most part, only the slow accumulation of silt that is typical of well-used thoroughfares. The ground level slowly rose, accompanied by occasional rebuildings of the structures on either side, about one meter for each century. Given adequate sanitation services in a city, there is nothing less interesting than excavating a street.



**Figure 2. General view of the Area F excavations, looking to the south. The street and location of the Ayla Hoard in center foreground**

But there is the unusual event, whether personal misfortune or urban disaster, upon which archaeology thrives. A hoard of gold coins is evidence of just such an event. Into the eleventh century street levels, less than a meter from the present surface, someone placed a cloth sack full of gold coins, 32 dinars. The initial assessment suggested regular Fatimid dinars, standard currency for anyone passing through or having business in Ayla in the eleventh century. But the story is more complex and, at present, has not been completely unraveled.

Three of the coins appear to be standard issues of the Fatimid dynasty, all minted in north Africa; the latest is a coin of the caliph al-Hakim, datable from 997 to 1010 A.D. The remainder of the hoard is remarkably homogeneous group of gold coins (over half these coins were minted from only two sets of dies). These dinars were probably minted in Sijilmasa, a southern Moroccan town on the edge of the Sahara and the first city with a mint on the caravan route that brought West African gold to the Islamic world. Virtually all the dinars bear the name of Hisham II, who ruled from 976 to 1013. Michael Bates of the American Numismatic Society suggests that this Umayyad caliph of Spain may have been recognized in Sijilmasa or his coins may have been imitated for their prestige value. The regional coins are extremely rare and, other than a poorly illustrated catalogue of 1939, there has been no systematic study of the Sijilmasa mint.

One is left with the preliminary impression that the composition of the hoard was mainly Sijilmasa dinars to which a few Fatimid coins had been added some time in the first quarter of the eleventh century A.D., possibly to bring the weight up to a standard "purse." Such purses were assembled for the convenience of merchants and travelers, as witnessed in the accounts of the geniza in Cairo. Bates suggests that the purse might have been lost by a pilgrim from Morocco on his way to Mecca. If so, this north African pilgrim may have been with the caravan attacked at Ayla in 1024. In that year, the town was thoroughly sacked by local bedouin, its inhabitants sold into slavery and over three thousand dinars taken. Whether the hoard of gold coins is mute witness to this catastrophe that overtook Ayla or rather represents the solitary misfortune of an individual traveler, it serves as eloquent testimony to the vast economic relationship connecting the entire medieval world, encompassing the Mediterranean, African, and Asian regions.



**Figure 3. A selection of the gold coins (dinars) minted at Sijilmasa in southern Morocco**

## CHRONOLOGY AND CONTEXT

The 1992 excavations in area F provided the precise location of the northeast city wall, the Syrian gate, and its two flanking towers. Though the Syrian gate may have functioned as a gate only in the earliest period, the Syrian street remained an important avenue for the city. This was one of four axial streets which led directly to the Central Pavilion. This urban plan changed radically, probably in phase B (the early Abbasid). The Syrian street was blocked by an immense structure, the Large Enclosure, itself apparently surrounded by open passages. The Syrian street led directly to one of the entrances to this building, approached by stairs and a platform.

After the excavations in 1987, it was clear that the location of the Syrian gate had been seriously disturbed by modern activities. The gate and its towers remain obscured by the Corniche Road; we now know that the gate has been destroyed since the eighth century. Aside from the benefit of a record of its precise location, further evidence confirms architectural and stratigraphic patterns already learned from the other three gates excavated. The Syrian street held its treasure but it more importantly indicated the promise of the secrets of the Large Enclosure. This neutral label was given to the building in 1987, despite speculations that this might have been the Congregational Mosque and Dar al-Imara. Further excavation, planned for 1993, will confirm this hypothesis.



**Figure 4.** General view of the Area F excavations, looking to the southeast. The Corniche Road (King Hussein Street) is on the left

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## TALL-E BAKUN

ABBAS ALIZADEH

After I returned in September 1991 to Chicago from Cambridge, Massachusetts, I began preparing for publication the results of 1937 season of excavations at Tall-e Bakun, one of the first sites excavated by the Oriental Institute in Iran. Tall-e Bakun consists of two mounds, designated as Tall-e Bakun A and B by the original excavators, the latter being the earlier. Tall-e Bakun A is located in the fertile Marv Dasht plain of Fars province, near Persepolis, the ceremonial capital of the Persian Achaemenids (fig. 1). The site was excavated for two seasons in 1932 and 1937 by Alexander Langsdorff and Donald E. McCown.

Tall-e Bakun A is one the few sites in the Near East that was excavated in the 1930s with the then newly developed techniques of stratigraphic control. The precision of the excavators in retrieving data and their remarkable ability in stratigraphy resulted in meticulously recorded evidence which has enabled me to analyze and reconstruct various aspects of this late prehistoric community.

Excavations of 1932 revealed a large area in the northern sector of the mound (see *Tall-I-Bakun A: Season of 1932*, A. Langsdorff and D. E. McCown, Oriental Institute Publications 59). Here, a series of contiguous buildings was discovered (fig. 2). Four occupational levels were reported; Level I is the earliest, Level III is the best preserved and most extensively excavated, and Level IV is the latest. The evidence from the initial phase of the settlement consists of a 15 cm thick layer of ash, kilns, fireplaces, hard burned floors, and postholes. Most of Level I seems to have been leveled and used during Level II as foundation for buildings. However, the state of preservation was bad and only a few wall fragments and floors were discovered in Level II. But the presence of ashy layers and at least one kiln indicates industrial activities in this phase as well.

Level III contained a complex of buildings consisting of rectangular houses with walls in common. In general, the buildings of Level III suggest a planned architectural layout; they are oriented northeast-southwest with nicely aligned and carefully abutted common walls (fig. 2). Some of these houses were furnished with storage areas containing large jars and other vessels still intact. Traces of red and yellow paint were found on some walls. Level III also produced most of the artifacts, including many clay sealings (fig. 3).

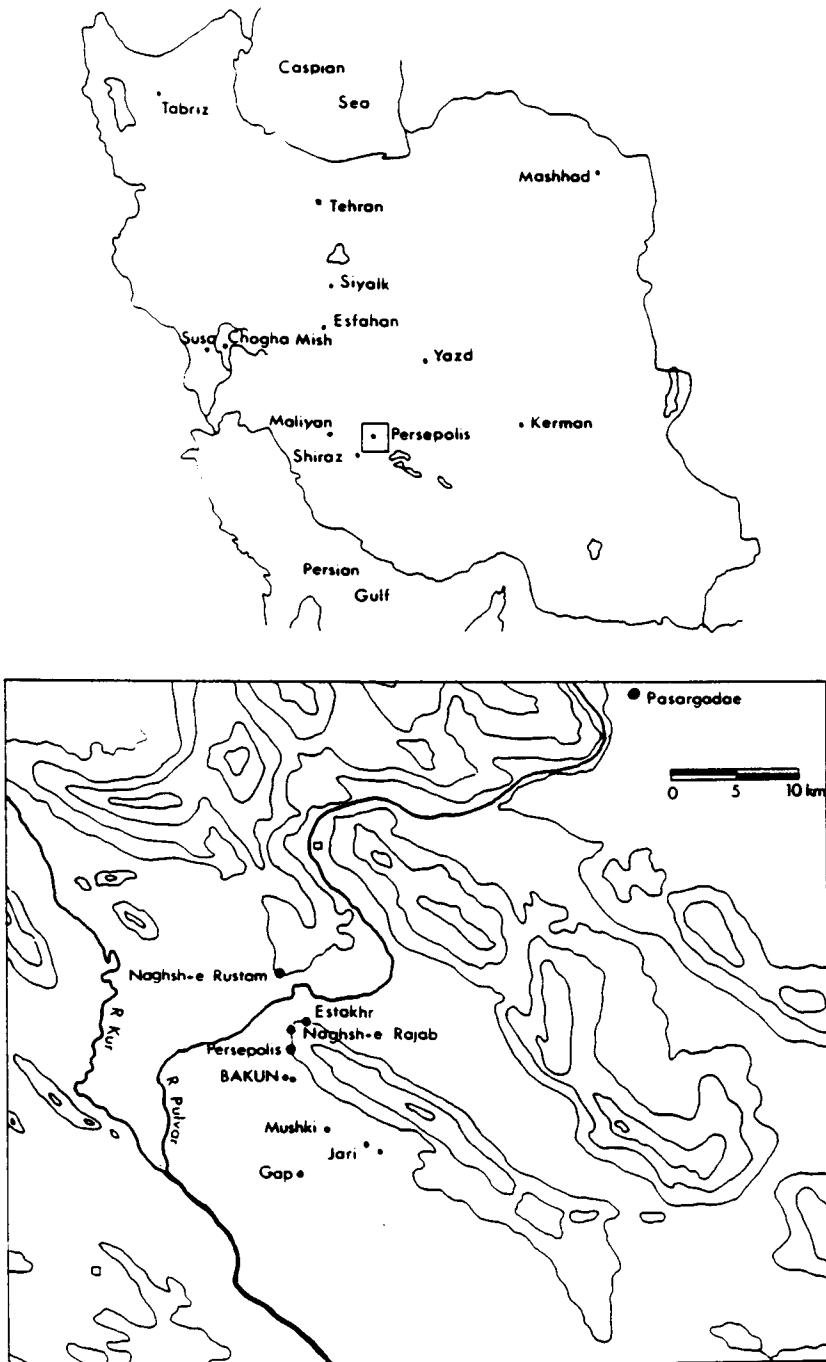
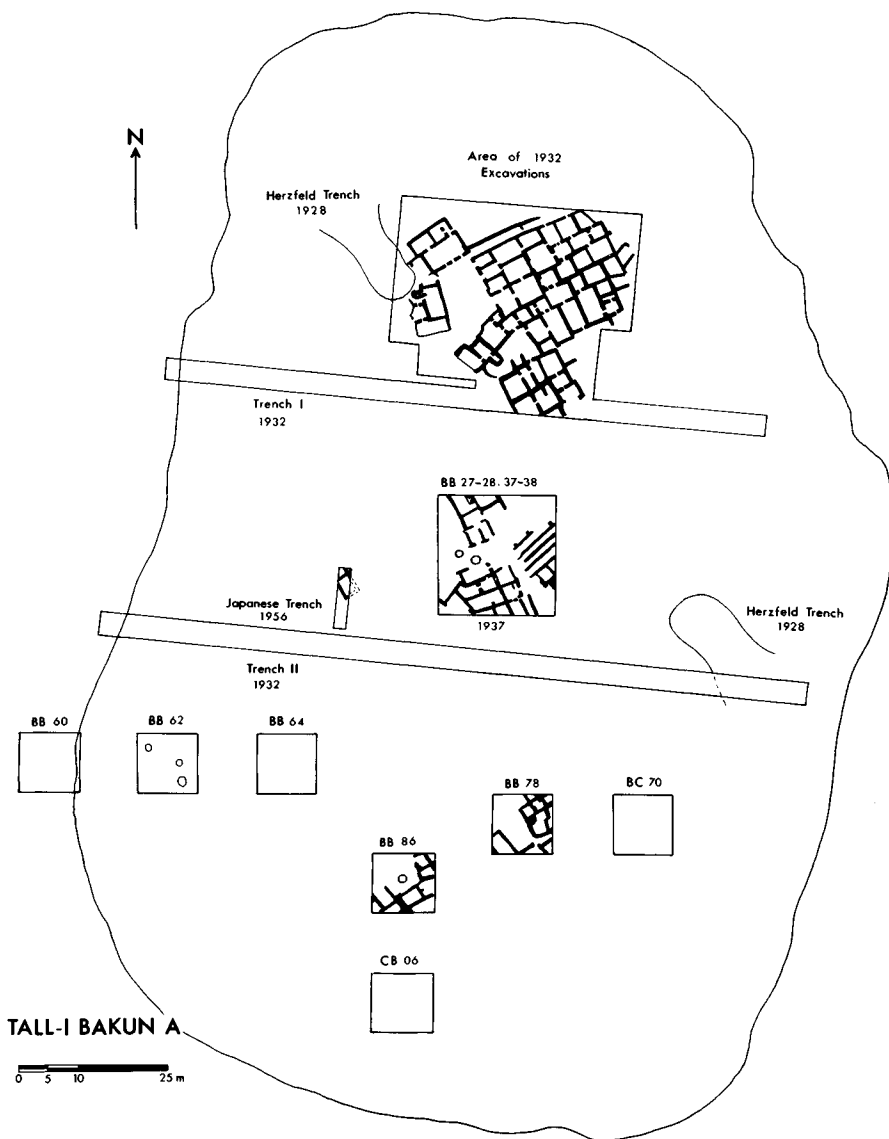


Figure 1. Map indicating the location of Tall-e Bakun A in Fars



**Figure 2. Various areas of excavations at Tall-e Bakun A**

The majority of the sealings found in the northern area were door sealings. They were used to protect rooms and their contents from unauthorized entry (fig. 4). The door sealings from Bakun are so far the earliest examples of this administrative technique in the ancient Near East. A study of these sealings and an analysis of their spatial distribution in the five buildings of Level III (fig. 5) are expected to contribute to the understanding of the historical



Figure 3. Samples of sealings from Tall-e Bakun A

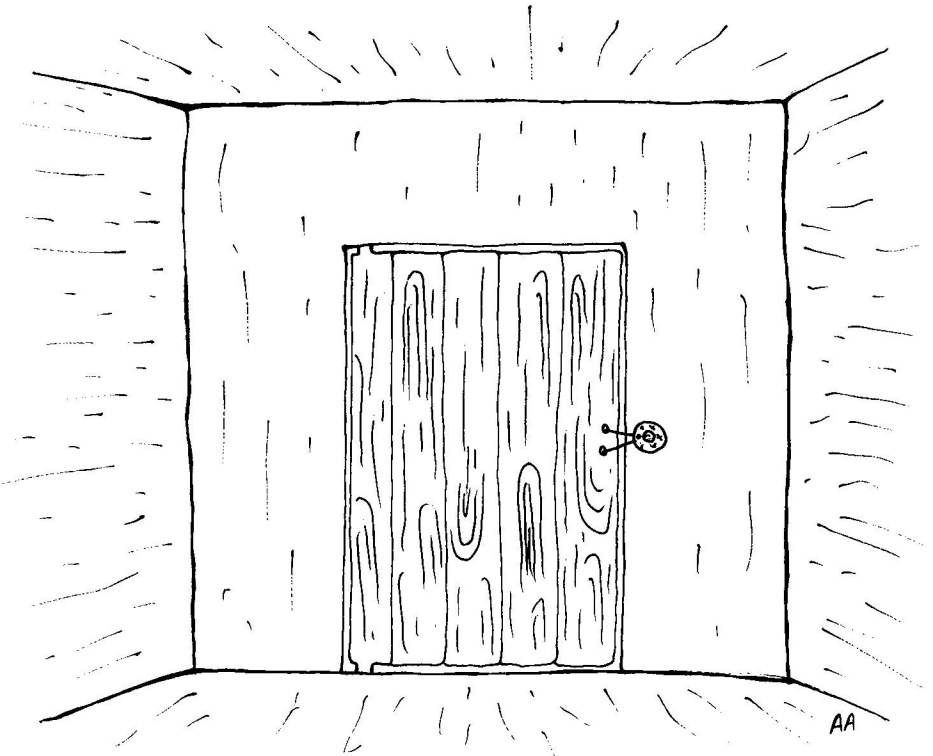
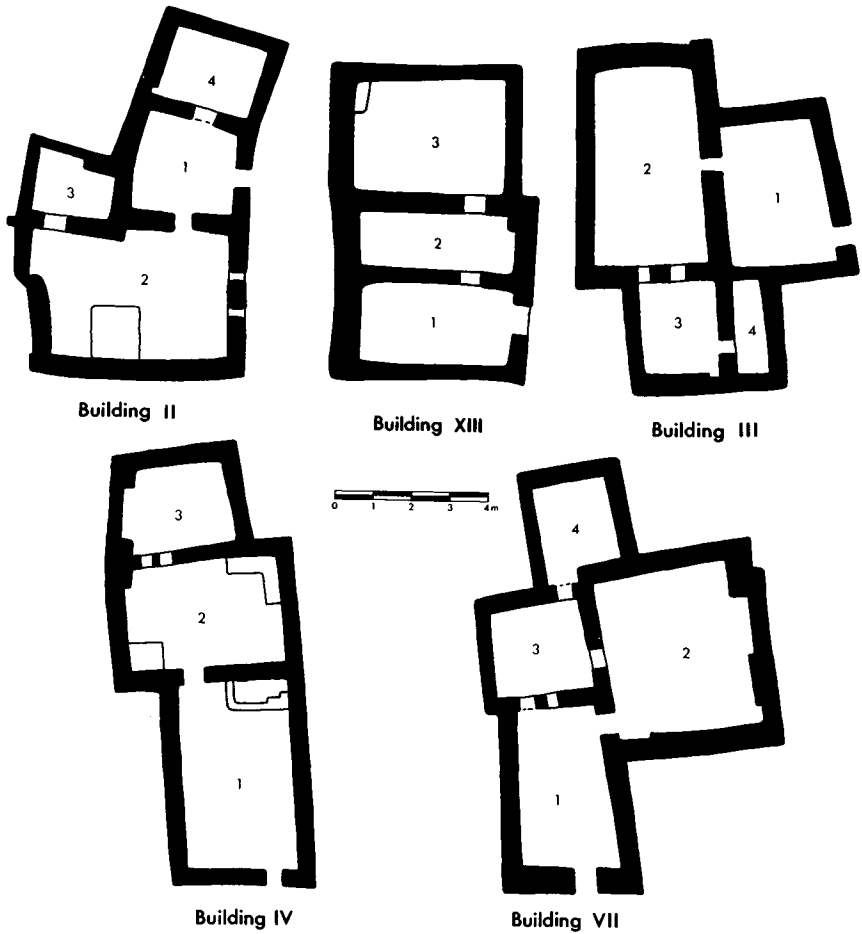


Figure 4. Hypothetical reconstruction of a warehouse with door sealing



**Figure 5. Top plans of the buildings that contained sealings**

development of the precursors of the later urban societies, when the practice of sealing doors proliferated throughout the ancient Near East.

Excavations at Bakun also brought to light a highly sophisticated painted pottery. The painted pottery at Bakun is arguably the highest manifestation of prehistoric ceramic art. It exhibits mastery in the organic relationship between the shape of a vessel and the design. The artist employed a vast repertoire of designs and created a harmonic relationship between the painted and unpainted areas of the vessel (fig. 6).

Important additional information about the site came with the results of the second season of excavations in 1937. Unlike the work of the 1932 season, which was concentrated in one large area, eleven 10 m squares were opened in the central, southeastern, and southwestern areas of the mound (fig. 2).





Figure 6. Samples of painted vessels from Tall-e Bakun A

Only the central and southern areas contained architecture; other squares yielded only kilns of various sizes surrounded by thick layers of debris and ash.

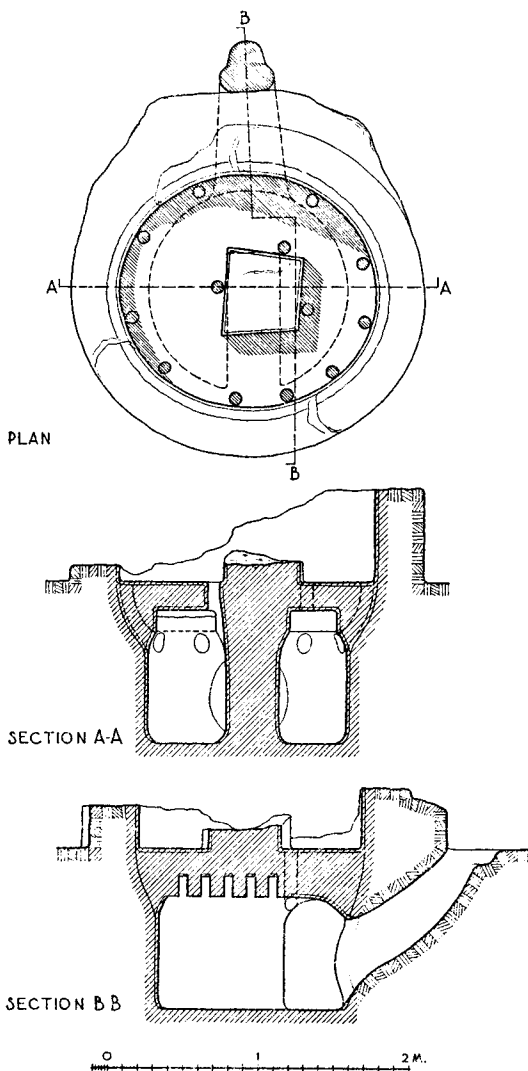
The central area consists of four contiguous 10 m squares. Although several buildings were discovered at the northeast corner of this area, even here most of the exposed area is devoid of architecture (fig. 7). These buildings demonstrate at least three different architectural phases. Since the lowest level rests on sterile soil and as such is the earliest, the architecture in this area can fill in the gap in architectural levels I and II of the northern area that was excavated in 1932. To the south of these buildings, and almost at the center of the mound, several well-constructed kilns were discovered (fig. 8). The open space in this and other areas was filled with layers of ash and soot.



**Figure 7. Three pottery kilns in the central area, looking to the north**

In the northern area the architecture was predominantly domestic in contrast to the central and southern areas which seem to have been the loci for manufacturing goods. The results of the 1937 season provide evidence of craft production in the central and southern parts of the site. Products produced include copper tools, pottery, carved stone and bone ornaments, and possibly cloth. Moreover, various imported materials provide important evidence of trade with distant regions such as Anatolia (obsidian), the Persian Gulf (sea shells), Central Iranian Plateau (copper ore), and northeastern Iran (turquoise and lapis lazuli).

The different types of architecture, their location, and the spatial and temporal distribution of artifacts in various buildings provide evidence to reconstruct intrasite settlement and industrial activities patterns. For example, the contrast at Bakun between the northern quarter and central and southern quarters indicates that some activities were spatially segregated. The central and southern parts were the location of craft and industrial production. The northern quarter was residential. However, some buildings in the northern quarter, namely Buildings II-IV, VII, and XIII also contained door sealings as well as sealings of movable objects, such as jars, bales, and bags (fig. 5). The presence in these buildings of sealings suggests that they were not merely residential but were the loci of administrative activities.



**Figure 8. Top plan and section of a pottery kiln at Tall-e Bakun A**

The combined archaeological materials from both seasons provide important evidence of an incipient administration and control of the flow of goods in a late prehistoric context. The results of the second season with important unpublished lines of evidence from the first season will appear as a volume in the Oriental Institute's series Oriental Institute Publications in the near future.

## THE BIR UMM FAWAKHIR SURVEY PROJECT

CAROL MEYER

The Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago carried out an archaeological survey project in the Eastern Desert of Egypt at Bir Umm Fawakhir between January 11 and 23, 1992. The site lies about 5 km to the northeast of Wadi Hammamat, famous for its quarries and graffiti, or about halfway between the Nile and the coast of the Red Sea. The modern settlement at Bir Umm Fawakhir consists of a guard post, two tea houses, a few houses, and a mosque still under construction. The settlement lies in a fairly wide, flat, sandy area (ca. 7.5 sq. km) surrounded by jagged, precambrian mountains dissected by numerous wadis. In the mountainside on the west are a number of ancient gold mines, and at its foot are the wells, all-important in the desert. The main group of ancient ruins is situated in a long narrow wadi hidden from the road by a spur of hills. Other, smaller clusters of ruins nearby have not yet been investigated.

It is quite a remarkable experience to walk through the ancient settlement at Bir Umm Fawakhir. It consists of several hundred buildings strung out on either side of a sandy wadi bottom serving as the main street. The buildings are all dry stone masonry but are well enough preserved that doors, niches, benches, trash heaps, and other features are readily visible. Steep granite cliffs enclose the settlement as if walled. The best views in fact are those from the tops of the cliffs; then the irregular, independent character of the house units becomes clearer. Our expectation was that a map would make the site still more comprehensible, and mapping and documentation of the surface remains were our major goals. Bir Umm Fawakhir provides an opportunity to study an entire ancient community with or without excavation. Urgency to study this site now stems from the fact that it is being looted, from the increased traffic on the Red Sea road, and hence from visitors who can too easily tumble the dry stone masonry.

The team consisted of Dr. Carol Meyer, Director; Henry Cowherd, photographer; Lisa Heidorn, archaeologist; Abdel Regal A. Muhammad, Inspector; Muhammad Omar, geologist; and Terry Wilfong, Egyptologist. Thanks are due to Dr. William Sumner, Director of the Oriental Institute which funded the project; to Dr. Peter Dorman, Director of Chicago House which served as our base of operations; to Dr. Ahmed Moussa and Dr. Mutawiya Balboush of the Egyptian Antiquities Organization; to Amira Khattab of the American Research Center in Egypt; to Dr. Henri Riad; to Dr. Muhammad

Sughair, Director of Antiquities of Southern Egypt; and to Rabia Hamdan and the inspectorates at Qena and Quft.

No systematic archaeological survey or excavations had been carried out at Bir Umm Fawakhir prior to 1992, but the site is mentioned in quite a few travelers' accounts. Most of them note the gold mines, wells, hundreds of "Roman" huts, and parts of the site now lost, such as the Ptolemaic temple. One of the early visitors was Arthur E. P. Weigall, who published an excellent account in *Travels in the Upper Egyptian Deserts* (1909). He left the most complete description of the Ptolemaic temple as well as the only known copy of its inscriptions. Couyat (1910) called Bir Umm Fawakhir "une véritable ville," but his most interesting contribution was a report of a papyrus, now lost, and two statues found in the quarries. Battered, headless, and almost armless, they are nonetheless in a classical style and were identified by Couyat as a nude Apollo and a semi-draped Venus. In the wake of renewed mining activity in 1940 and 1941, Guéraud published sixty or so ostraca found in the mining debris along with ancient grinding stones, pottery vessels, lamps, beads, and a few coins. Paleographically dated to the late first and second centuries A.D., seven ostraca have Latin writing and the rest Greek. Almost all of them have to do with military personnel in the Eastern Desert, and usually with provisions sent or desired. Zitterkopf and Sidebotham (1989) in their detailed survey of the Coptos to Quseir route were the first, however, to publish a Byzantine date for the sherds and ancient settlement at Bir Umm Fawakhir.

The published accounts of the site are fragmentary and sometimes conflicting, and without good maps either of the region or of the site itself it is difficult to resolve the problems. Some parts of the site have been destroyed, such as the Ptolemaic temple, and others remain unpublished, such as the artifacts found at the same time as the ostraca. Perhaps most seriously, the main body of ruins was mistakenly called Roman for at least 150 years.

The misidentification may have been due partly to the difficulty of visiting the site, and partly to the long-held belief that the Byzantine presence in the desert was minimal or non-existent. Alexandria indeed dominated Egypt politically, economically, culturally, and religiously, but there are scattered references to Clysma (Suez), Antinoopolis, and Myos Hormos (north of Bir Umm Fawakhir), and the ancient port at Berenice to the south. In light of new evidence from sites such as Abu Sha'ar, Wadi Nakheil, Bir Umm Fawakhir, and what can be gleaned from old accounts concerning Berenice, the idea of Byzantine neglect of the Eastern Desert needs to be re-examined.

As part of the initial work, the project carried out a brief study of the local geology, which explains a great deal about the layout of Bir Umm Fawakhir and about its reasons for existence. The only resources are mineral; the site lies in the middle of a hyperarid desert where nothing larger than camel thorn

grows. The Fawakhir granite to the east is the aquifer; the water is carried in fine cracks in the rock until it meets the dense ultramafic rocks at the western end of the area, and the wells are in fact dug near the contact zone. The pinkish granite was quarried at one time, probably in the Roman period. Extensively worked gold mines follow the quartz veins in the Fawakhir granite. The main group of ruins lies in a narrow wadi eroded in the granite; the steep sides serve as a boundary and almost as a town wall. The site's southeastern end is defined by a high dike of tough felsite rock with a natural gate in it.

Pre-Byzantine remains at Bir Umm Fawakhir are limited. From the pharaonic period we have, perhaps, a few sherds and above all, the Turin Papyrus. The latter may be read as a map drawn up in the Twentieth Dynasty to show the bekhen-stone quarries in the Wadi Hammamat and the gold mines a little farther to the east at Bir Umm Fawakhir. Evidence for a Ptolemaic presence is limited to the now lost temple Ptolemy III Euergetes, though we have many travelers' descriptions of it. Our attempts to locate the site of the temple or any surviving blocks have not yet succeeded.

The Roman remains are actually rather sparse, but nonetheless we do have the watch tower over the western gap leading into Bir Umm Fawakhir, some sherds, a few bits of faience, graffiti, the granite quarries, and perhaps one wall remnant of a large building or way station. The graffiti number eleven in all, painted or carved in a cave behind the modern tea house. Two of the graffiti represent a lion and a ship, perhaps a merchant galley. One graffiti appears to be a quarry mark, three more are illegible, and one is a seven-line painted inscription in Epigraphic South Arabian, perhaps first-second century. The remaining four graffiti are all in Greek; three have names plus a good luck wish. The fourth and most elaborate graffiti is written in part cryptographically and reads "Longinus gives thanks to all the gods in this place," which suggests a pre-Christian date.

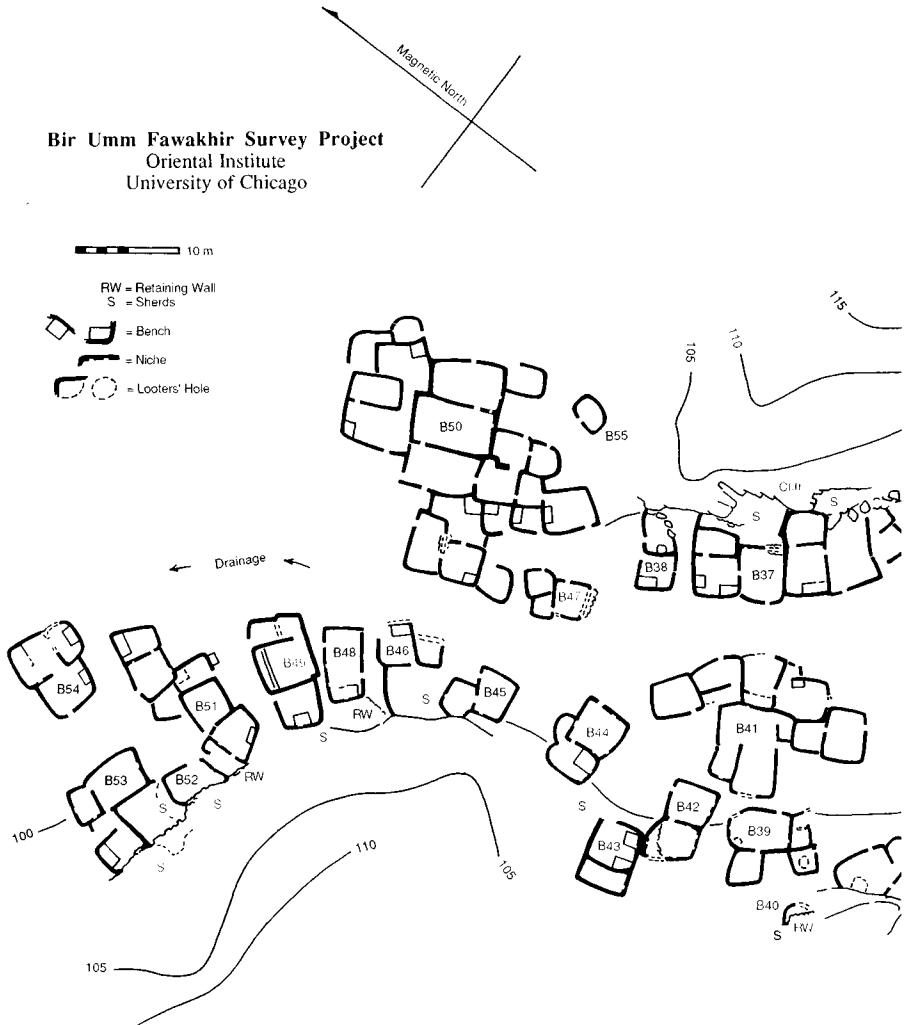
The goals of the Bir Umm Fawakhir Survey were to map the main group of ruins, to take a sample of surface pottery, and thus preserve at least some record of the site. With only twelve working days, we mapped fifty-five buildings and some of the topography, copied the graffiti, and took seven sherd collections. Mapping began at the southeastern end of the main wadi because a high felsite ridge there defines the eastern limit of the site and because the houses are better preserved (if looted) and easier to understand than the more ruined buildings closer to the modern road. The orientation off of magnetic north comes about because we followed the natural alignment of the settlement, strung out along its main street. In all, about one quarter of the buildings in the main wadi were plotted.

Turning to the map, we can see that the wadi bottom plus some small side branches are the main streets of the site, quite broad in places and narrow in others. Clearly there is no evidence of a classical town plan laid out on a grid system. The houses too are irregular, typically consisting of two or three rooms with one entrance from the street (e.g., B4, B24, B34, B42–B45 [B = building]). Two or more houses may be agglomerated into a larger unit (e.g., B3, B5, B37, B50). Scattered on the slopes behind the houses or in the empty spaces between them are a number of one-room outbuildings, either rounded or sub-rectangular in plan (e.g., B1, B2, B18, B36, B40, B55). What the function of the outbuildings may have been—storage, animal shelter, workshops, or latrines—we cannot yet ascertain. Thus, although we mapped fifty-five buildings, only sixteen to twenty-one are houses, ten or eleven are large, agglomerated houses, and the remaining twenty-two or twenty-three are outbuildings. The separateness of the houses and the lack of crowding are also noteworthy. When population estimates are made for the ancient community, this will have to be taken into account.

All of the buildings appear to have been built of dry stone, uncut masonry. There is as yet virtually no evidence of mortar or plastering. Most of the building stones are granite cobbles or felsite chunks filled and chinked with smaller stones and sometimes potsherds. Some of the buildings, such as B50, seem to have added on exterior one-room units, annexed a neighboring house, or blocked up a doorway, but apart from this there is not as much evidence of adding on and expanding as one might find in long-inhabited homes. This is one reason for suggesting that the community was fairly short-lived.

Enclosed courtyards or work areas are common features of most Middle Eastern architecture, but as yet few “rooms” can be identified as possible courtyards at Bir Umm Fawakhir. The only clues come from the circulation pattern, areas too large to be roofed easily, or perhaps from wider than usual doorways.

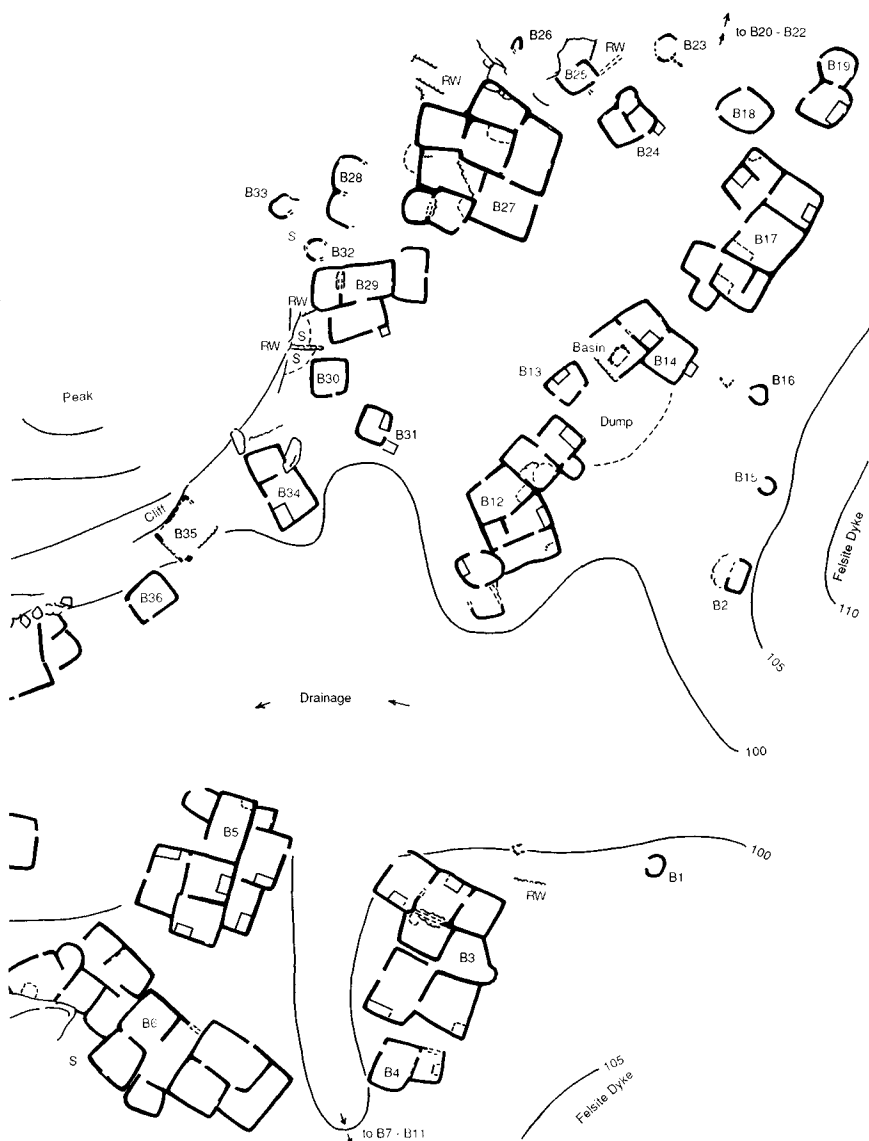
The houses are typically provided with wall niches for storage, though the number of niches varies widely, and in badly ruined walls the niches may of course be totally lost. Benches are another characteristic, built-in feature of the houses. They are generally made of a row of slabs set upright and apparently filled with sand and small stones. Several buildings have outside benches as well. Looters have consistently clawed into the interior benches and sometimes the shape of a looter’s hole is the only indication that a bench once existed there (cf. B17). Hearths are so far surprisingly uncommon, perhaps four noted to date, even though it gets cold in the desert during the winter. Fuel was probably scarce, and winds have blown away most of the surface ash, but nonetheless, we would expect more hearths. Building 14 has a stone-lined basin or trough of unknown function. The grinding stones and mortars found in



the houses may or may not pertain to domestic use; they are generally considered to be ore crushing stones reused as building material. In any case, only one crushing stone so far has been found in situ, a threshold block in B17.

The trash heaps, located immediately adjacent to each house or group of houses or else dumped up on the slopes behind them, are an opportunity to investigate deposition patterns of a specific house or group of houses without much, if any, of the reworking, pitting, clearance, or redeposition usual on long-lived sites. Sherds or other artifacts can with some security be attributed





to the closest house or houses, though more caution must be exercised with surface material.

We have no floors or remains of door panels or roofing material yet, and only two or three doubtful windows. Doors, at least those opening onto the streets, would presumably have been made of wood; at least one stone door socket is still visible. All of the niches have been labeled "niches" even when the thin back walls have fallen away so that the features now look like windows. The two most problematic cases are the window/door in B27 and the

two westernmost niches in B11; they do go through the wall and do seem more finished than the usual broken niches. Of roofs we have not a scrap. The rooms were presumably spanned by palm logs, stringers, and some sort of roofing material. It had to be solid enough to stand the *hamsin* winds, but not necessarily waterproof. Wood for doors, roofs, and anything else is valuable in the desert and was probably one of the first things stripped away.

What we do not have at Bir Umm Fawakhir is almost as interesting as what we do have. First and foremost there are no defenses, even though security was always a concern in the desert. A gold miners' camp would be rather tempting to raiders, as would a caravan marching to or from the Red Sea ports with trade goods. The Byzantine fort at Abu Sha'ar, also long identified as Roman, does have a defensive wall, towers, barracks, and a central building (*principia* or a church). Even most of the monasteries of the period had some defenses. None of the buildings mapped so far looks like a warehouse, and there must have been some facility for storing food and supplies. Almost everything had to be hauled from the Nile Valley, and hence there must have been some central point for loading and unloading, distributing, and storing goods, even if only temporarily. We do not know what a Byzantine administrative building in the desert may have looked like, but there must have been some sort of administration for a settlement of this size. Given the Byzantine government's direction (or misdirection) of its citizens' taxes and lives, not to mention producing gold mines, it may be assumed that some representative kept track of activities at Bir Umm Fawakhir. At the very least, we would expect ostraca. That at least some of the inhabitants of Bir Umm Fawakhir were Christians is indicated by bowls with stamped crosses, but we have not found a church. Animal lines or shelters are not in evidence, even though animals must have carried supplies to the inhabitants of Bir Umm Fawakhir. Camels, which do not need much shelter, probably bore most of the traffic, but a few donkeys, sheep, or goats might have been tended, as they are by the present-day bedouin. Some of the outbuildings might conceivably have sheltered animals, but this has not yet been demonstrated. A study of the bones from the trash heaps next to the houses could answer some of these questions. If baked bread were brought from the Nile Valley, it would have reached the hardtack stage by the time it got to the settlers, but it could have been done. Fuel for baking or heating would always have been at a premium, and as mentioned hearths are uncommon and ovens are totally undocumented so far. Mining tools also had to come from the Nile Valley, but there must have been an on-site smithy to resharpen and mend them. This facility, however, would most logically have been located near the mines, a part of the site much disrupted by modern activity.

Far and away the most abundant surface finds at Bir Umm Fawakhir are potsherds. In order not to spend the entire field season on sherds, we took a limited sample from seven areas, which will provide at least a preliminary working corpus. There are also some splintery bone fragments on some of the trash heaps or in the spoil from looters' holes. Other finds are meager, notably granite crushing or pounding stones, three glass sherds, a sandstone trough, a ceramic lamp fragment, and one mud brick.

One type of crushing stone consists of a heavy, lower stone and a smaller upper handstone for rubbing back and forth, though only the heavy, concave lower stones have been found so far. The other type of crushing stone is a rotary mill; both upper and lower stones have been recorded on site. Unfortunately, neither the date of the crushing stones—whether Ptolemaic, Roman, or Byzantine—nor the gold extraction techniques used in the Byzantine period have received much attention.

Again, what we do not have is interesting. There are as yet no textile fragments, no metal, and no wood fragments, though the latter two materials were probably scavenged almost immediately after abandonment of a building or the site.

The goals of the Bir Umm Fawakhir Survey were to document the surface remains of the site and thus preserve a record of it and to investigate more thoroughly the nature of the site, which to date has almost always been called Roman rather than Byzantine. In twelve days we succeeded in mapping approximately one quarter of the community in the main wadi, collected a sampling the sherds, and clarified some questions about the different periods of occupation. The geological study explains many features of the site, why it exists and why it is laid out the way it is.

We can begin to see the pattern of the ancient community with buildings strung along either side of the sandy wadi bottom. From the maze of walls and doors and rooms we can now discern three main kinds of buildings: a two- or three-room house, an agglomerated unit made up of two or more connected houses, and one-room outbuildings.

The rest of our conclusions, as is often the case in an archeological project, are more questions than answers. Who were these people and what was their relationship to the cities, towns, and capitals in the Nile Valley, and with contemporary sites in the Eastern Desert? What were their means of supply and support? What, in short, were they doing there? Of four possible reasons—the gold mines, granite quarries, caravan trade, or a military post—we consider the first the most likely, though this is now more a question to be explored than a final statement.

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## THE EPIGRAPHIC SURVEY

PETER F. DORMAN

The Epigraphic Survey opened its sixty-eighth season on October 1, 1991 and closed its doors again on April 5, 1992, after six months of field work at Luxor Temple and at the Temple of Amun at Medinet Habu. The most memorable achievement of the year was the completion, after sixteen years of work, of the one hundred twenty-six drawings that document the reliefs of the Opet Festival, which adorn the lowest and best preserved register in the Colonnade Hall at Luxor Temple. Brought back to Chicago in April, these drawings will be the subject of the first volume by the Epigraphic Survey in a new sub-series within the Oriental Institute Publications series, *Reliefs and Inscriptions at Luxor Temple, Volume I: The Festival Procession of Opet in the Colonnade Hall*.

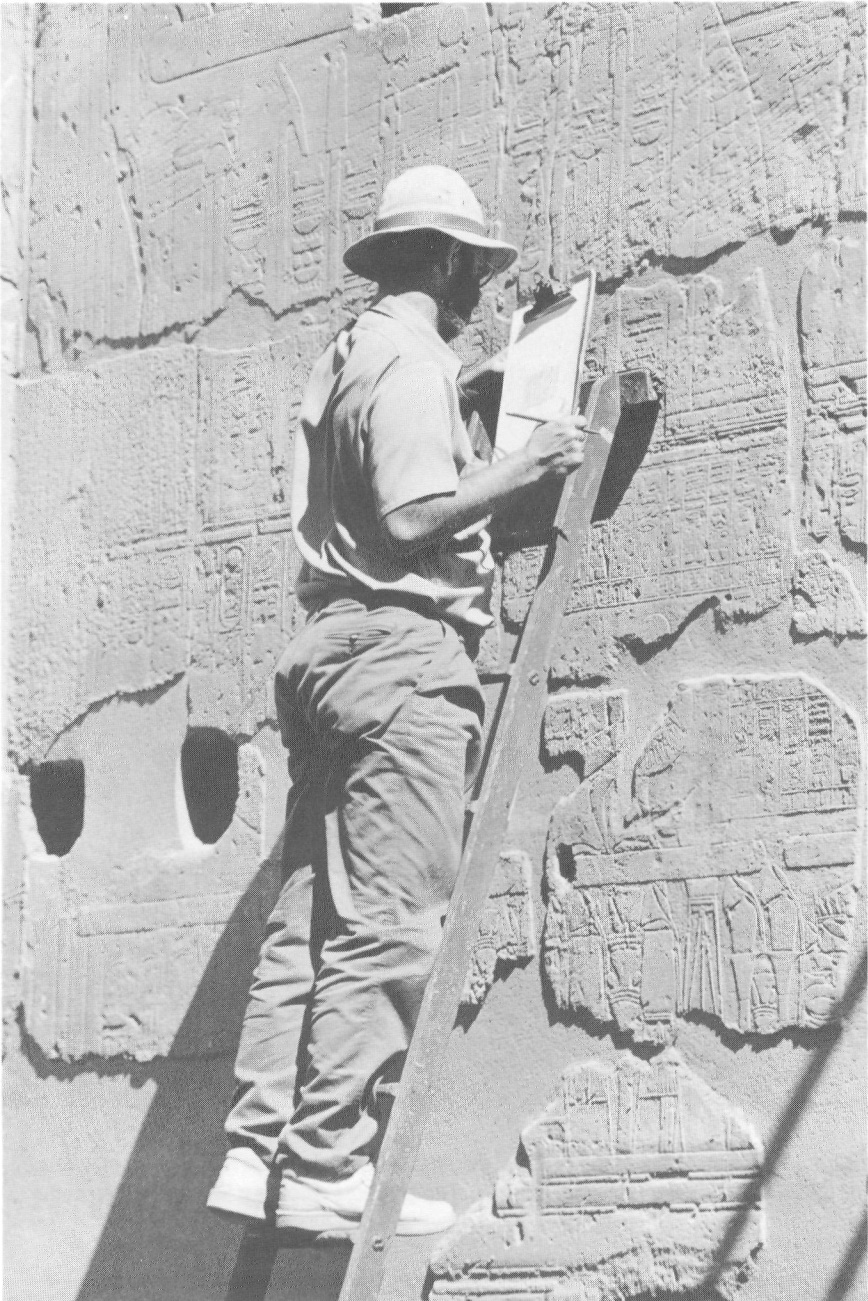
The “beautiful Festival of Opet,” as it is referred to in the inscriptions, was a great celebration of annual renewal, in which the divine triad resident at Karnak Temple—Amun, Mut, and Khonsu—were escorted southward in procession three kilometers to Luxor Temple, called in antiquity the “Southern Opet,” or southern sanctuary. Enshrined in Luxor for a specified number of days, the portable barks of the three gods came into proximity with another manifestation of Amun, a creative force resident at Opet, after which they were ushered back to their own sanctuaries at Karnak. Depictions of these rituals and processions are preserved—at least in part—on the long side walls of the Colonnade, the western wall portraying the southward journey from Karnak to Luxor, and the eastern wall depicting the return voyage.

It has long been recognized that the Opet reliefs are among the more elaborate portrayals of any ancient Egyptian festival, but the Survey’s documentation has captured numerous details that eluded earlier publications. Each of the long side walls of the Hall is essentially divided into five large scenes, but the peripheral elements flow easily from one to another, so that the divisions between scenes are somewhat ambiguous. This is an intentional compositional device to emphasize the narrative continuity of the festival, which unrolls before one’s eyes as the visitor strolls through the monument. In situ, the reliefs of the Colonnade are spread over eighty feet of horizontal wall space, a span that simply cannot be comprehended in a single glimpse. The completed drawings, however, brought back to Chicago in April, are enabling us to see the festival with new clarity.



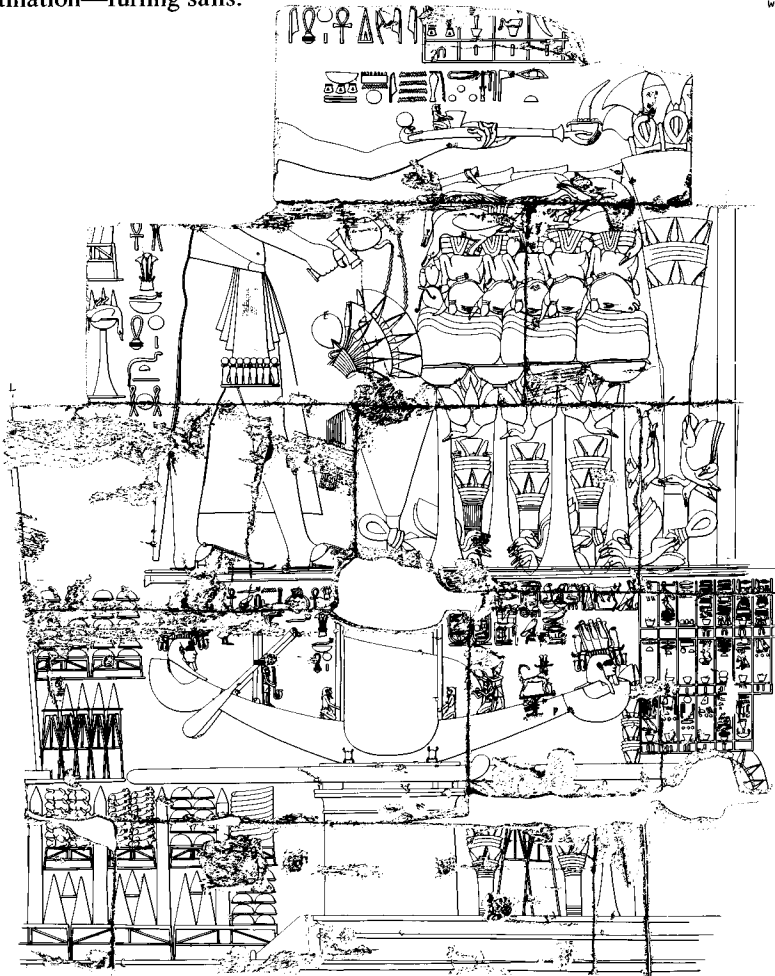
**Figure 1. In the shadows of the colossal columns of the Colonnade Hall and the minarets of the Mosque of Sidi Abu'l Haggag, artists and epigraphers discuss a final correction at the wall**

Formal offering scenes show the king offering libations and incense to the gods in the seclusion of their shrines and open and close the Opet narrative; the texts consist of formulaic inscriptions, menu lists, and ritual utterances by the gods in favor of the king. Carried in portable barks on the shoulders of priests, Amun, Mut, and Khonsu then depart the temple in stately fashion for



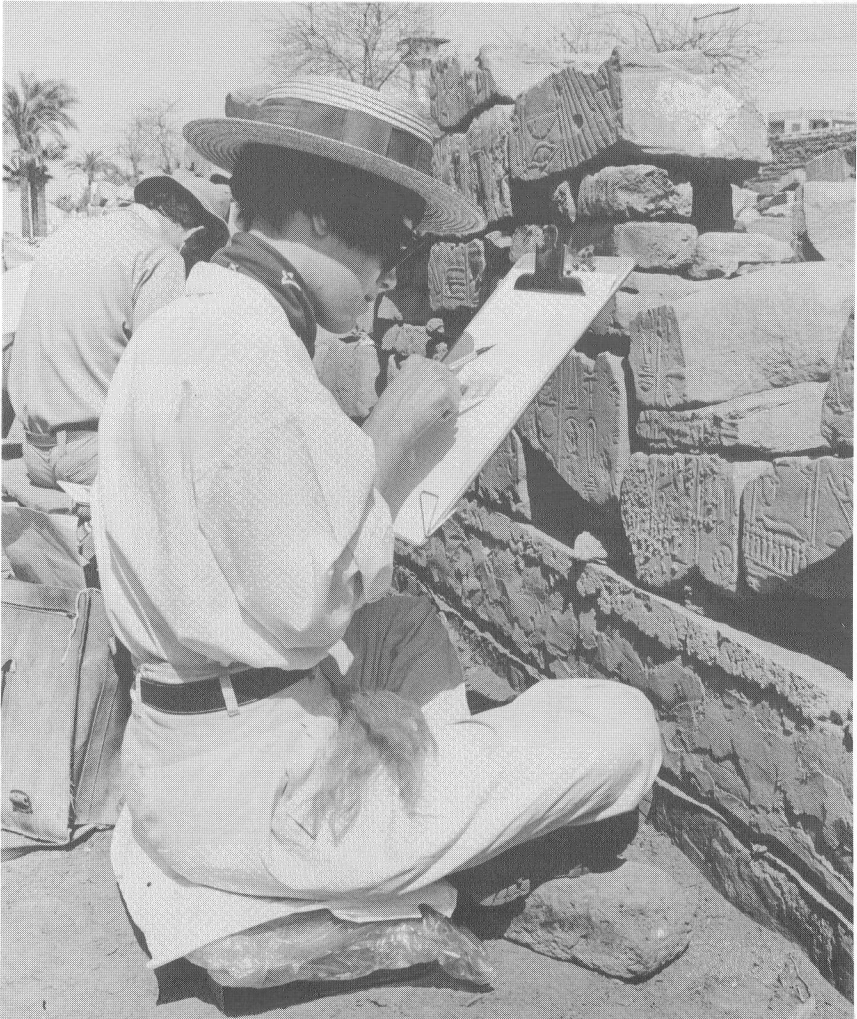
**Figure 2. Senior epigrapher Richard Jasnow collates the speeches of the divine standards positioned behind the Bark of Amun, depicted here in the final episode of the Festival of Opet narrative**

the richly adorned barges that await them on the riverbank to carry them upstream to Luxor. As they are towed southward to Luxor, however, a riot of activity erupts on the riverbanks: soldiers and citizens haul on the towropes and chant hymns of praise, others kneel in adoration or bend to kiss the earth, musicians and Nubian dancers perform for the throngs, shouts of acclamation fill the air, and prancing horses with their grooms attend the royal chariot. Proceeding at a more sedate pace, priests clap their hands to keep time and women shake sistra to pacify the gods. Aboard the river barges, oarsmen pull against the current to the encouragement of bosuns, and sailors clamber over the cabins and masts, adjusting towropes and—as the boats approach their destination—furling sails.



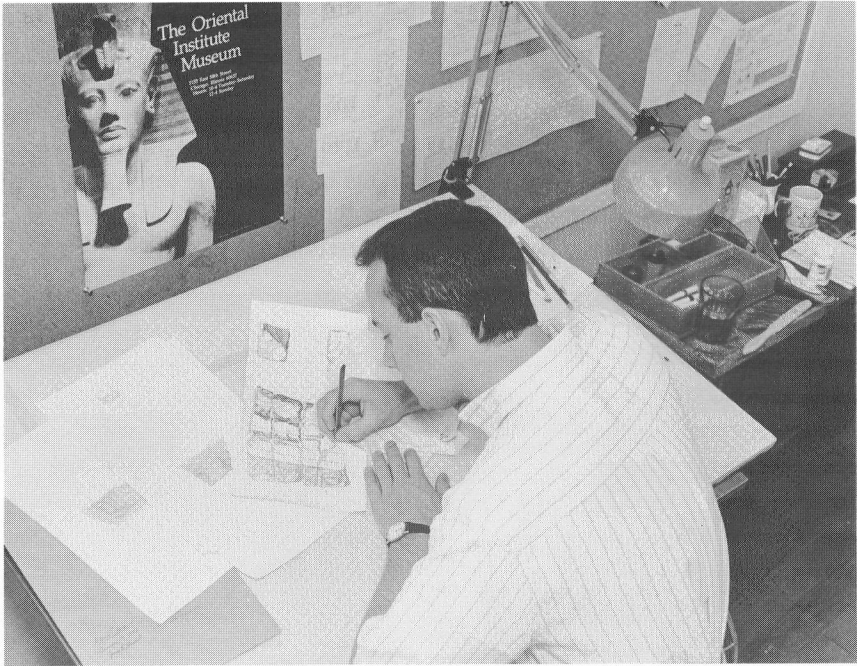
**Figure 3.** In a drawing completed this season by artist Carol Meyer, Tutankhamun presents a libation, incense, and several altar stands to the gods of Karnak; the royal bark rests below his feet on a lower register

The collations of the last drawings and the scheduling of the final record photography required careful planning throughout the season and a concerted push during the month of March, with many of the staff working long extra hours to meet the deadlines. Epigraphers Richard Jasnow, John Darnell, and Debbie Darnell worked steadily on the collation sheets (I joined them at the temple whenever possible), and fortunately an unusually cool winter kept the outdoor temperatures pleasant until the very end of the season. Artists Carol Meyer and Sue Osgood completed large areas of the side walls that portray the beginning and closing episodes of the Opet narrative.



**Figure 4.** Down in the dust behind Luxor Temple, epigrapher Debbie Darnell collates several block fragments that belong to the long-vanished scene of the bark sailing downstream to Karnak





**Figure 5. Artist Jay Heidel corrects a group of block fragments in his studio, under the impassive but approving gaze of an old friend from the Oriental Institute**

A number of reconstructed groups of block fragments will also be published as part of the Opet Festival volume, and during the season Ray Johnson pasted up twelve large plates of these fragment groups. These were then distributed for inking and correcting, a task Ray completed together with Jay Heidel and Tina Di Cerbo. Tina also corrected several drawings that will be published in our second volume from Luxor Temple, and she was invaluable in organizing the finished work of the artists as it came off the drawing tables, assigning groups for final photography and packing portfolio boxes for shipment home to Chicago.

Although the Opet Festival was our main priority, the artists also spent many hours at the Temple of Amun at Medinet Habu, beginning the penciling of scenes that will in future seasons provide a good deal of epigraphic fodder for Egyptologists. Thanks to this concerted effort, by the end of the season forty-eight drawings had received the field director's approval for publication, and approximately twenty other drawings had been worked on by the artists and epigraphers. In preparation for the volume on the Opet Festival, a plate layout was finalized and reductions calculated for joining the drawings at the correct scale for each plate.

For the month of February, we were delighted to have Jean and Helen Jacquet join the Chicago House team after the completion of their own season at North Karnak. Using our somewhat antiquated but still usable surveying equipment, Jean provided us with detailed elevations of the interior walls and the facade of the Colonnade Hall, and his drawings will be used as the basis for the architectural key plans in the first two volumes on Luxor Temple. Helen assisted Jean by taking measurements in the temple and spent many hours in the library, poring over prints and slides from the Habachi archives in order to identify and categorize them for registration.



**Figure 6. Balanced on the aluminum scaffold, photographer Cecile Keefe takes documentary shots of the architraves of the sun court of Amenhotep III at Luxor Temple**

The Chicago House photographers undertook two major documentary projects this season. The first project was suddenly prompted by the proposed dismantling, under the supervision of the Antiquities Organization, of the eastern double colonnade of the sun court of Amenhotep III at Luxor Temple, which has long been surrounded by wooden scaffolding. Cecile Keefe and James Riley maneuvered our cumbersome 8" × 10" field camera up onto the colossal architraves of the columns, and, by a combination of sitting, squatting, and lying flat, obtained excellent close-up views of the interior architrave inscriptions, which will eventually be used for artists' drawings. The tall

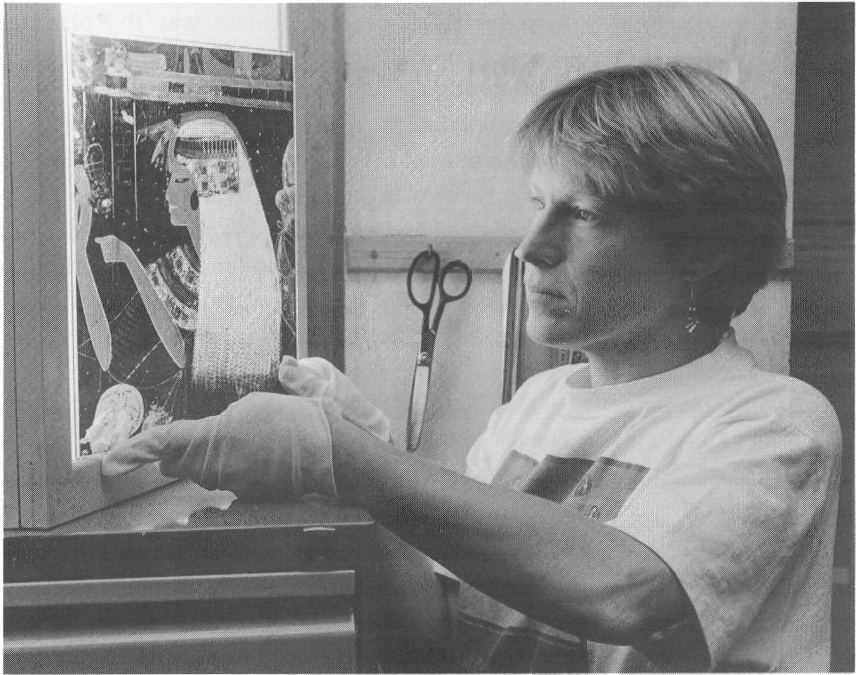
aluminum scaffold was utilized for general shots of the colonnade and the exterior sides of the architraves. The second project was the planning photography for the peripteral bark sanctuary of the Temple of Amun at Medinet Habu. Tom Van Eynde and Cecile Keefe, ably assisted by James Riley and Ellie Smith, spent the month of November shooting with strobe lights and an enormous black tarpaulin draped over the temple to block extraneous sunlight, achieving remarkable success in some very cramped areas. These new negatives document the columns and architraves thoroughly for the first time, augmenting the original photography taken under the directorship of Harold Nelson in the 1930s. Cecile also shot several detail views in the Colonnade Hall, which will appear in the forthcoming volume on the Opet Festival.

To meet the demands of the final epigraphic work on the Opet reliefs, Sue Lezon and Cecile made twenty new enlargements for the artists to pencil, bleached thirty-three drawings, and produced twenty-six sets of blueprints for new collation sheets. Four special sessions were scheduled in the final month for the 104 approved drawings that needed final photography, and in the course of the season the photographers made 1,644 prints for the work of the Survey and for study purposes by scholars. An additional thirty-four block fragments from the Colonnade Hall were photographed for registration. In all, 327 large-format negatives were registered, bringing the total in the Chicago archives to over 18,000, including the historic glass-plate negatives and the Labib Habachi special collection.

The photographic archives benefited from the help of many willing workers, foremost among them our irreplaceable archival assistant Ellie Smith, who completed the enormous task of computerizing all the archival entries through April 1991. She also compiled a set of guidelines for operating the Double Helix database. The desktop publication of a Chicago House archival registry is anticipated next summer.

Conservation work in the photographic archives, spearheaded by Sue Lezon and funded for the last three years by the Getty Grant Program, culminated with the duplication of another 445 large-format negatives in a precarious state of deterioration; only forty-four remain to be finished next season, in addition to others of smaller size. Several staff members and volunteers pitched in to sort, register, and identify images from the Habachi archives and the glass-plate negative collection; thanks for this assistance are due especially to John Darnell, Helen Jacquet, Henri Riad, Kathy Dorman, and Nan Ray.

Sue also began the first experiments with printing the old glass-plate negatives according to a process developed in the nineteenth century, exposing each glass plate individually to direct sunlight on "printing-out-paper."



**Figure 7. A lady from the Tomb of Userhat gazes serenely out at photographer Sue Lezon from one of the glass plate negatives in the special collection of the photographic archives. Since this image was taken, the face of the lady has fallen victim to vandalism. Thirty of these negatives were selected for publication by the Survey in *Lost Egypt*, a photographic portfolio series**

Depending on the strength of the sun and the density of the negative, exposure time varies between five minutes and two hours. The print is then toned in a gold chloride solution to determine the final color of the image, then fixed in two separate sodium thiosulfate baths. This process produces prints resembling those that one might have purchased while journeying through Egypt a century ago. Thirty of the Chicago House images have been selected for inclusion in a limited edition of photographic portfolios entitled *Lost Egypt*, to be published by the Oriental Institute and to be distributed in the winter and spring of 1993.

Debbie Darnell very ably assumed the administration of the library this season, and the number of books and offprints received totaled 340. Because of the epigraphic pressures of the season, however, the accessioning of many of these items was discontinued and will have to be completed next year. The management of the Chicago House library continues to be a major task by itself, involving correspondence with American and European booksellers from both Luxor and Chicago, and constant comparison of prices in Cairo and Chicago against those listed in book catalogues. A special thank-you is due to

many of our professional colleagues who substantially enriched our holdings by depositing their own works with us during the season.

Kathy Dorman once again assumed the duties of house manager, organizing the kitchen, household, and laundry schedules, preparing the daily menu, planning for receptions, and dealing with the countless unpredictable annoyances and idiosyncrasies that seem to be an inseparable part of running a household in the Near East.

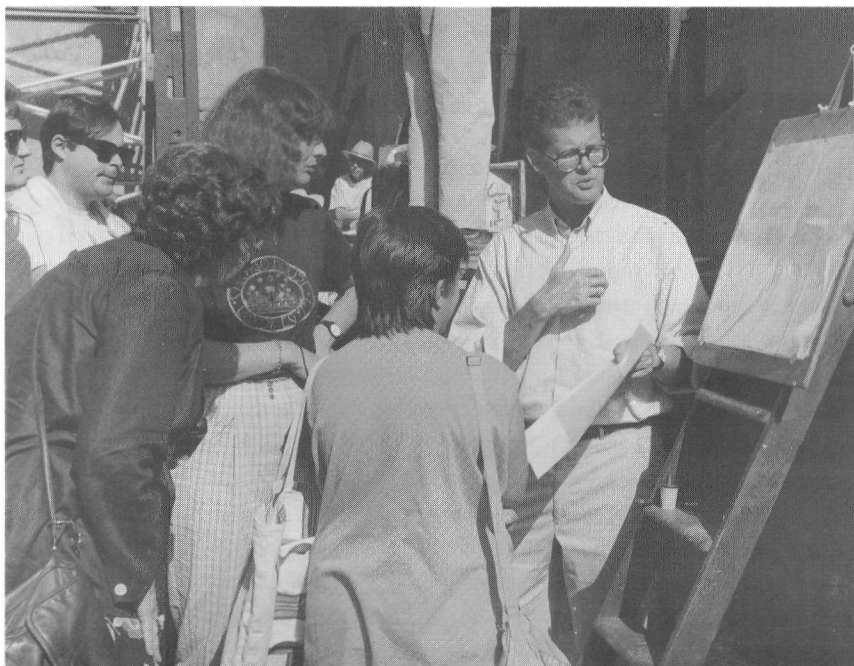
As office manager, Paul Bartko opened the season by connecting our new Macintosh IIsi computers and laser printer into a modest network, making both our administrative life a good deal easier and presaging a full computer network in the next two years. He continued to manage financial accounts, payday, and office correspondence, along with other less definable functions, such as dispensing first aid to our workmen and hunting down local repairmen in times of insoluble mechanical or electrical problems. In the meantime, the Survey office at the Oriental Institute was efficiently run by Joe Manning, who mailed out our December *Bulletin* and responded promptly to our not-infrequent requests for assistance.

Carlotta Maher led the Survey's fundraising efforts in Luxor, Chicago, and all places in between, and for a month at Chicago House she was assisted by Nan Ray, who kindly volunteered her formidable services both as fund-raiser and organizer. Despite the very generous support the Survey has received over the years from so many different sources, fundraising continues to be a perennial preoccupation. Our in-country expenses are now paid out of a cultural endowment in Egyptian currency, of which the Epigraphic Survey is one of the beneficiaries, but this marvelous resource cannot subvent our commitments in U.S. dollars, which comprise the largest portion of our budget.

On the other hand, the Egyptian pound endowment has permitted the Survey to plan a sixteen-month renovation and expansion of Chicago House itself, scheduled for completion in October 1993. In order not to interfere with the field season, the construction is scheduled to take place in three distinct phases, primarily during the summer months. Basic services throughout the complex, such as electrical power, water circulation, and heating, will be upgraded, and all buildings will receive a facelift of new paint and floor tiling. Our aging kitchen will be supplied with new stoves, sinks, stainless steel counters, a heavy-duty dishwasher, a large water purifier, and proper ventilation. The library building will receive a new reading hall, which will double our presently available shelf space and provide room for another sixty years of book acquisitions. It will be equipped with vastly improved lighting, new readers' tables, and underground electrical circuits for reading lamps and personal computers. Another artist's studio will be built, and the library guest rooms will be converted into offices for the photographic archives and for

administrative purposes. To add more living space for staff, a new residence building will rise on the site of the old Healey House. The photographic studio will be overhauled as well, and the rear gate, which has been closed for many years, will be reopened to provide a second access to the property.

In November, four architectural firms in Cairo were invited to submit proposals for the renovation project at Chicago House, and after examining the different alternatives for expansion, the design contract was awarded to Bechtel Egypt in February. During the spring, detailed design plans were submitted, and at the end of June I traveled to Egypt with James Riley and Sue Lezon, who agreed to endure the frightful heat of a Luxor summer in order to supervise the first phase of the renovation. As this report is being written, the new residential building is almost complete and will be ready to receive the staff for the 1992-93 season.



**Figure 8.** At the wall in Luxor Temple, senior artist Ray Johnson describes the epigraphic method to a group of friends from Cairo, during the annual tour of the monuments of ancient Thebes sponsored by Chicago House

Chicago House continues to be a place where colleagues and friends from all over the world tend to gather. This season our library guest book was signed by just over one thousand visitors, and eighty-one library tours were given to tour groups and individuals who requested an introduction to our epigraphic method. We entertained twenty-three overnight guests in the course

of the season and hosted an unusually large and lively Halloween party that was attended by every expedition in the Theban area. Our annual Friends of Chicago House tour (postponed from the previous February due to the Gulf War) brought forty-eight visitors to Luxor by train over Thanksgiving weekend, highlighted this year by a day trip to the quarries and rock-cut shrines at Gebel el Silsila, the source of so much of the building stone for the temples of ancient Thebes. Three weeks before the Thanksgiving tour, our Friends of Chicago House members enjoyed a delightful introductory cocktail party given at the home of Tom and Ellen Granger in Maadi. Other special visitors to Chicago House included His Excellency Peter Secchia, the American ambassador to Italy, his wife, Joan, and their family during the Christmas holidays, and Warren Heemann, Vice-President for Development at the University of Chicago, and his wife, Ellen, who experienced one of the season's more spectacular electrical blackouts on their first night with us.

One true highlight of the year was the grand reception given in honor of the Survey at the Zamalek residence of the American ambassador, His Excellency Robert J. Pelletreau, Jr., and his wife, Pamela. During the evening, mounted prints from our new portfolio publication, *Lost Egypt*, were displayed for the many friends and colleagues who attended.

We were especially pleased to welcome two of our most steadfast sponsors at special receptions at Chicago House this year. In early December, we hosted directors of three of the divisions of the J. Paul Getty Trust to lunch and a library tour: John Walsh of the Getty Museum, Miguelangel Corzo of the Getty Conservation Institute, and Deborah Marrow of the Getty Grant Program, which has generously provided the funds for the conservation of our photographic archives. In January, a group of executives representing the Middle East branches of the Xerox Corporation arrived for an evening reception with the Chicago House staff and for a first-hand look at how the Xerox Foundation has directly contributed toward the preservation of Egypt's ancient records.

For two weeks in January, Healey House was given over to the staff of the Oriental Institute's Bir Umm Fawakhir expedition, directed by Carol Meyer (see separate report). Their presence among us was a sheer delight at a time in mid-season when spirits are traditionally low.

It is with personal regret that I report that, after seven years of exemplary work with the Epigraphic Survey, Carol has resigned her position as artist in order to pursue her own considerable professional talents as an archaeologist. We will miss not only her keen eye and her unsurpassed technical skill with the pen and scalpel, but her many contributions toward making Chicago House a more congenial place to live. She departs with our fondest wishes for success.



On January 29, Yusuf, one of our oldest Egyptian staff members, passed away, marking another transition. Yusuf was first employed by the Survey as a boatman in charge of running the expedition's river launch. He was later trained as a photographer's assistant by field director Charles Nims and acquired extraordinary independent skill in the darkroom and in the field. Many past and present staff members will remember Yusuf as one of the most unforgettable personalities of Chicago House, and the photographic studio will be a very different place without him.



**Figure 9. The crew of *Star Trek* pays a surprise visit to Chicago House on occasion of the Field Director's birthday. Standing, left to right: Peter Dorman, Helen Jacquet, Richard Jasnow, Jean Jacquet, Ray Johnson, Sue Osgood, Paul Bartko, Ellie Smith, Jay Heidel; seated or kneeling: Carol Meyer, Henri Riad, Jamie Riley, John Darnell, Kathy Dorman; foreground: Margaret and Emily Dorman. A Christmas tree (visible behind) was also beamed aboard**

The staff this season consisted of myself as field director; Richard Jasnow and John and Deborah Darnell, epigraphers; W. Raymond Johnson, Carol Meyer, Christina Di Cerbo, James Heidel, and Susan Osgood, artists; Susan Lezon, Cecile Keefe, and Thomas Van Eynde, photographers; Jean and Helen Jacquet, field architects; Kathy Dorman and Paul Bartko, house and office administrators; Jill Carlotta Maher, assistant to the director; Elinor Smith, photographic archives assistant; and Saleh Suleiman Shehat, our extraordinary chief engineer, whose services to the Survey cannot be adequately acknowledged here. We were very fortunate, too, that our dear friend Dr. Henri Riad was in residence for most of the season, to assist us in the areas of



public relations and local contacts; he also continued to administer the Labib Habachi archives on behalf of the Survey.

We are especially grateful to the members of the Egyptian Antiquities Organization who contributed directly to the success of the season: Dr. Muhammad Bakr, Chairman of the Egyptian Antiquities Organization; Dr. Mutawa Balboush, Supervisor of Antiquities for Upper Egypt; Dr. Muhammad el-Saghir, Director of Antiquities for Southern Upper Egypt; Sayid el-Hegazy, Chief Inspector of Karnak and Luxor and Co-Director of the Centre Franco-Égyptien at Karnak; Abd el-Hamid Marouf, Inspector of Karnak; Dr. Muhammad Nasr, Chief Inspector of Qurna; and Dr. Madeleine el-Mallah, Director of the Luxor Museum.

In addition to those mentioned for specific contributions, I gratefully express thanks to many other colleagues and friends: the United States Ambassador to Egypt, His Excellency Robert J. Pelletreau, Jr., and Mrs. Pamela Pelletreau; Wes Egan, Kenton Keith, Frank Ward, and Ken Robinson of the United States Embassy in Cairo; Ashraf and Henny Ghonima; Tom and Ellen Granger; David Maher; Mark Rudkin; Lucia Woods Lindley and Daniel Lindley, Jr.; Jack Josephson; Walter Tower; Gerry Vincent; Louis Byron, Jr.; Terry Walz, Ibrahim Sadek, Amira Khattab, and Albert Abdel Ahad of the American Research Center in Egypt; Fathi Salib of American Express in Luxor; and Margaret Sears, Evada Waller, and Florence Bonnick of the Oriental Institute. I also wish to acknowledge the fundamental assistance and support of three institutions that have been instrumental in the success of the season: the Amoco Foundation, Inc., the J. Paul Getty Trust, and the Xerox Foundation.

As always, we will be very pleased to welcome members of the Oriental Institute and other friends to Chicago House from October 1 to April 1. Please write to us in advance to let us know the dates of your visit and call us as soon as you arrive in Luxor to confirm a time that is mutually convenient. Our address in Egypt: Chicago House, Corniche el-Nil, Luxor, Arab Republic of Egypt. Please note that, by fiat of the inscrutable powers that inhabit the local telephone office, our telephone number has changed once again: 372525 (direct dial from the United States: 011-20-95-372525). We now have a second phone (and fax) number as well: 011-20-95-581620.

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## GIZA

MARK LEHNER

The fall-winter fieldwork of 1991 lasted from October 15 until December 13. Once again, our work was made possible through the generous support of David Koch of Koch Industries, Inc. and Bruce Ludwig of TCW Realty Advisors. Our team of twenty students, archaeologists, surveyors, artists, and photographer devoted all their efforts to Area A, the tract of low desert, about  $450 \times 300$  m, to the south of the large stone wall that is about 400 m to the south-southeast of the Sphinx.

The last communication on Giza for the *Annual Report* was written between the spring and fall-winter seasons of excavations by the Giza Plateau Project in 1991. In the spring season we opened a new excavation area, A7, where a backhoe had recently gouged a large trench into the desert, cutting through extensive Old Kingdom settlement remains. When we cleaned this area, we found stone rubble foundation walls that belong to a complex of square rooms attached to a large mudbrick building. During the fall-winter season, we discovered that two of the rooms in Area A7 were relatively intact bakeries of the kind in which the Egyptians made bread in large bell-shaped pots, called *bedja*, during the time the pyramids were constructed. These bakeries are common in Old Kingdom tomb reliefs that show the large pots being stacked and heated over an open fire, perhaps to “temper” the interior of the pots so that the bread would not stick. The pots were placed in baking pits in the ground, were filled with dough from nearby vats, and were covered with another pot upside down and then with hot embers and ash to complete the baking (see further *Oriental Institute News and Notes*, No. 135, Fall 1992). Ours are the first intact bakeries of this kind dated to the Old Kingdom so far discovered in Egypt. Our work during the fall-winter season of 1991 consisted of two operations, Areas AA and A8, in addition to the discovery of the bakeries in A7, which are summarized below.

### AREA AA

We continued to excavate the area formerly designated squares A1–6, now renamed Area AA. The central feature here is a rectangular building of stone rubble and marl clay, divided in half by a low central wall; each half of this building contains a row of pedestals that might be supports for grain storage silos (fig. 1). Fiona Baker supervised the excavation area around this building which we expanded during the fall-winter season. Peter Piccione

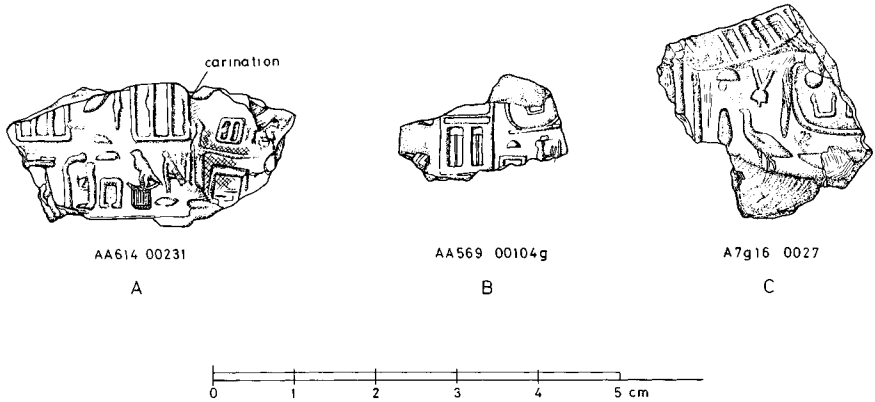
excavated the 5 × 5 m square that linked this building complex to the first of the tombs, apparently belonging to Old Kingdom tomb builders and other workmen, that the Egyptian Antiquities Organization team, under Dr. Zahi Hawass, is excavating up the slope from Area AA.



**Figure 1. Excavation in Area AA, the pedestal building**

During this season we realized the importance of faint traces of partition walls that run across the centers of some of the pedestals. The thin walls formed the sides of compartments, probably for some kind of storage, that sat upon the pedestals. However, the compartments spanned the 10 cm spaces between the pedestals as opposed to being centered squarely on each pedestal. Toward the end of the season, Fiona began to excavate some compartments that are largely intact and attached to the back wall of the building. These are about the same size as those that stood above the pedestals. Unfortunately, the end of the season was upon us and we will have to wait until next season to learn if these compartments contain important clues about the function of this building.

Meanwhile, other clues began to turn up in the mud seal impressions found in Area AA, particularly in the corridor between the pedestal building and another building just to the east (fig. 1, where Mr. Merzug Abd al-Qadar is working in the foreground). This corridor was filled with trash, probably cleaned out of the well-maintained pedestal building. Several of the seal impressions mention the *w 'bt*, sometimes, the "*w 'bt* of Menkaure" (fig. 2a–b). The word is written with the sign of a kneeling man with a pot on his head from which liquid flows down over his outstretched hands. This figure is



**Figure 2. Seal impressions from the Giza excavations: (a) *wʿbt*, “mortuary workshop,” and “beloved of Sokar(?)” from Operation AA; (b) *wʿbt* [of Menkaw-Re] from Area AA; (c) *ḥtm wdj*; “storehouse seal,” with part of Menkaw-Re cartouche on right, from Operation A7**

followed by the *t* hieroglyph and the house-determinative. In figure 2b the top of this group is shown underneath a cartouche that contains the bottom of a *k3* sign, no doubt the end of the name Menkaw-Re, the builder of the third pyramid at Giza. To the left is the bottom of a stylized palace facade, or serekh, which must have contained the Horus name of Menkaw-Re. *Wʿbt*, derived from the root denoting “pure,” is a term for “embalming workshop” but may have signified the entire royal administrative unit that equips the grave. If so, a *wʿbt* could include workshops with metal workers, joiners, painters, draughtsmen, and possibly storage for food offerings.

John Nolan of the Oriental Institute is presently studying the corpus of sealings. One sealing from Area AA may have the word *šnw.t*, “granary,” and another mentions *wdj*, “storehouse.” More sealings mentioning the latter term were found in A7.

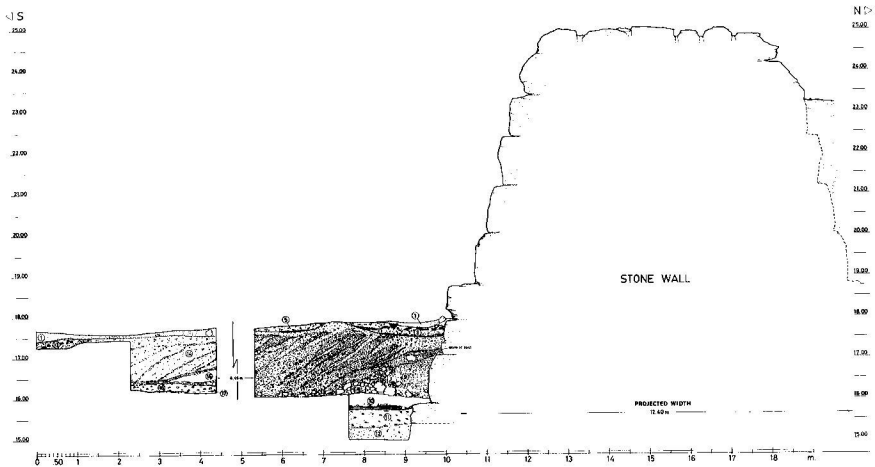
## AREA A8

During the fall-winter season of 1991, Augusta McMahon supervised our third operation in Area A. Designated A8, this operation is located against the southern side of the massive stone wall that forms the boundary to Area A on the north (fig. 3). Augusta excavated about 3 m of limestone chip construction debris that had been left against the wall by its ancient builders. This excavation allowed us to draw this gigantic structure and to learn more about Area A. The wall, built of limestone blocks as large as those in the pyramids, is nearly 200 m long. It extends farther eastward from the escarpment of Giza than any other structure except the causeway of Khufu to the north with which the wall is roughly parallel. The trench and profile (fig. 4) revealed a wall that is at least 10 m tall, which indicates that the gateway through the center of the



**Figure 3. Large stone wall and location of Operation A8**

wall is about 7 m in height, making it one of the larger gates in the ancient world. The base of the wall is more than 12 m wide. The sides of the wall are battered so that, as John Nolan suggested one day on site, the Egyptian builders must have intended a battered wall with a rounded top, a larger version of the enclosure walls around the pyramids. The builders probably stopped work before they completed the rounded top and fine limestone casing.



**Figure 4. Profile of large stone wall and trenches A8a-b**

Such a massive wall certainly exceeds what was required for retaining workmen's quarters, storage facilities, and the industry associated with processing the raw materials that must have come into Giza from the harbors of the pyramid complex just to the north of the wall. The gate appears to have been intended as a major entrance to the Giza Necropolis, and there was probably an important road or track leading to and from it.

Another interesting fact about the wall is that it is founded at an elevation 15 m above sea level. This is generally the *top* of the Old Kingdom level of settlement remains that Zahi Hawass and the Egyptian Antiquities Organization team have found in their monitoring of the AMBRIC/Cairo Waste Water Management Project in Nazlet es-Samman, the Giza suburb that extends eastward from the base of the plateau. The flood plain under Nazlet es-Samman is about 18.50 to 18.00 m above sea level; thus there has been three or more meters of alluvial buildup since the Old Kingdom, more than enough to cover substantial settlement remains. The recent boring and trenching for the sewage project indicates that there may be third millennium settlement covering more than 100 ha stretching from the floor of the Giza Plateau.

## AREA A7

Our fall-winter season of 1991 excavations in A7, under Michael Chazan's supervision, revealed that the backhoe took a bite out of the southeastern corner of a massive mudbrick building with an outer wall up to 1.5 m thick (fig. 5). The two rectangular bakery rooms, A7d-e, are attached to the southern wall of the mudbrick building. There is no access from the bakeries into the mudbrick building. Broken bread pots and other trash were discarded to the east of the mudbrick building and bakeries during the time that the bakeries were in use. During the final phase of the site, shallow (10-20 cm) stone rubble wall foundations were laid down over the thick accumulation of this trash. The areas excavated within Area A7 are described below (see fig. 5).

### Area A7a

Nicholas Conard and John Nolan trimmed back the eastern section of the backhoe trench in the spring season of 1991. This profile shows a series of living floors and controlled burning pits under a layer of discarded bread molds and trash.

### Area A7b

This area, excavated by Meg Hainer of the University of Chicago, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, is the floor area just inside the southeastern corner of the mudbrick building. A narrow corridor



Figure 5. Composite map of excavations in A7 at close of fall-winter season of 1991

leads from the west into a broader corridor with low marl-paved shelves or benches separated by narrow channels. On one of these benches we found a cache of pottery consisting of shallow bowls with an interior flange (these were probably covers for jars or bowls) and cylindrical stands for jars or bowls.

#### Area A7c

In this small chamber, entered from the west by another narrow corridor, round ceramic bread trays with thick walls were fired, judging by the fact that we found several of these trays within fire-reddened earth.

#### Area A7d-e

These two bakery rooms, excavated under the supervision of Ann Foster and John Nolan, were filled with homogenous black ash under a layer of mudbrick tumble. In each room there was an entrance at the southwestern corner, a hearth platform in the southeastern corner, and large vats in the northwest corner (fig. 5). The "loose" contents of the two rooms were also similar. Each contained a cache of nearly complete and broken *bedja* pots at the southern end of the room (fig. 6), few flat bread trays, and half of a Nile alluvial clay jar. Apparently, as they were used, the bakeries were allowed to simply fill up with ash. In the final days of the bakery, the ash filled each room to the brim of the vats. In A7e the stone and brick hearth platform, where the bread pots were stacked to be heated, was built on top of successive layers of ash that were intercalated red, black, and gray, a result of the oxidizing atmosphere of the open hearth and its wood fuel, probably acacia (fig. 7). As we cleared the ash down to the marl clay floor in each bakery, we found a series of circular holes in a depression along the eastern wall (figs. 5, 8). We already expected these egg-carton-shaped baking pits from the much more badly denuded bakery that Augusta McMahon discovered near the large stone wall in Area A8. There were three vats in A7d and only two in A7e, although in this room there was a clear impression where a third vat had been removed in ancient times (fig. 9). The bottoms of these vats broke during their use and they had been reinforced with pieces of limestone and granite (fig. 8, nos. 203, 238). The marl clay that composed the floor (fig. 8, no. 122) was packed around the vats to more than half their height, making it difficult, one would imagine, for someone to stand and bend over the vats to mix their contents. It is possible that the mixing was done with feet and legs by someone actually standing in the vats.

#### A7f

From Norm's meticulous recording of the stratigraphy in this area just outside the threshold to the A7e bakery, excavated under the supervision of Janet Helman and Norm Rubash, we can ascertain that the immediate



environment of the bakeries was sandy low desert at the time the bread was baked 4,600 years ago.

#### Area A7g

The excavators in this area, supervised by Ann Roth and Michelle Fost, opened a deep trench into the bakery dump. The fill mostly consisted of enormous quantities of ash and bread mold sherds. At the end of the season, stone rubble foundations below a marl clay floor were exposed in this trench (see fig. 5).

#### Area A7h

The excavators in this area, supervised by Janet Helman, went through the same massive deposit of discarded ash and bread mold sherds as in Area A7g.



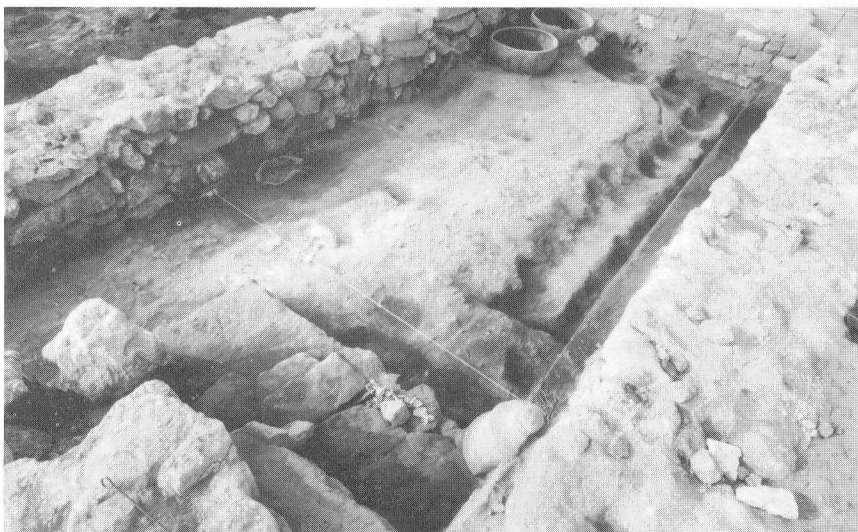
Figure 6. Bakery rooms A7d-e with top of black ash layer, caches of broken bread pots

## Area A7i

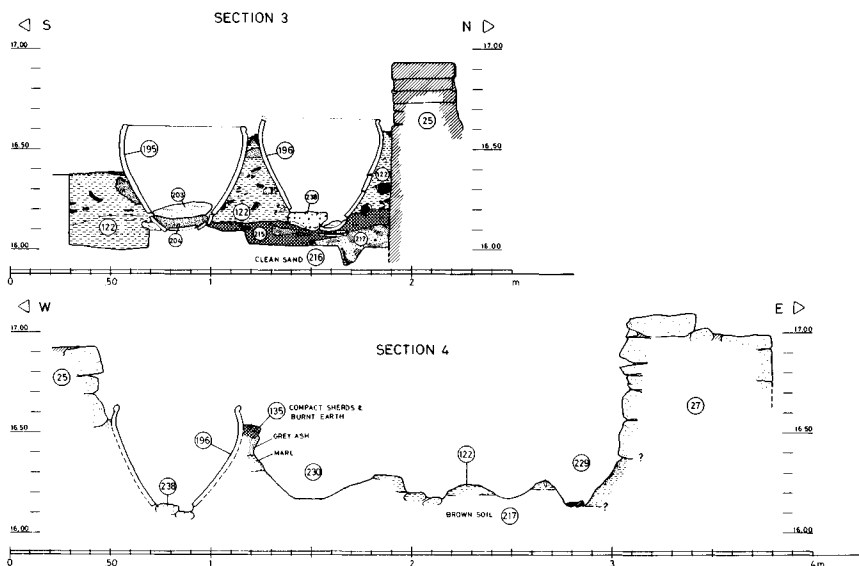
The excavators in this area, supervised by Meg Hainer and Ann Roth, exposed a series of large pits in a marl floor. These pits are part of one of the living floors exposed in the section of Area A7a.



**Figure 7.** Hearth platform in bakery A7e area



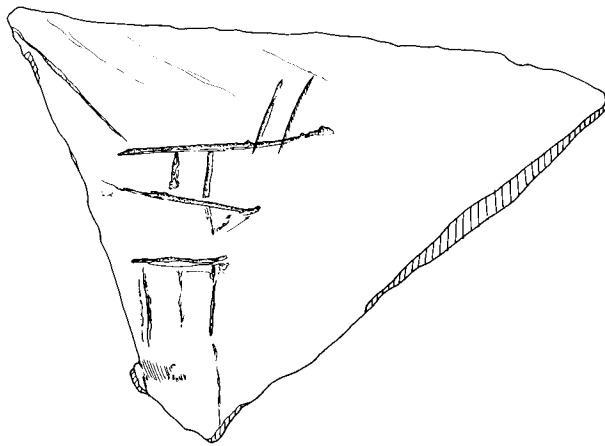
**Figure 8.** Bakery A7e after removal of black ash layer down to marl clay floor. The hearth is in the southeastern corner (foreground), the dough vats are in the northwestern corner (top of view). Egg-carton-shaped baking pits are along the eastern wall (right)



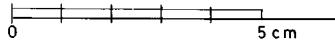
**Figure 9. Profiles of dough mixing vats in bakery A7e**

In summary, the excavations in A7 have given us two intact bakery rooms attached to a much larger installation, the dump from the bread baking, and an ephemeral late phase when thin stone rubble wall supports were laid down on top of the dumping from the bakery. In the Old Kingdom tomb scenes, bread baking and beer brewing occur as part of the same labor establishment, probably because lightly baked dough, in which the yeast was activated but not killed by the heat, was used for the beer mash, while froth from the beer may have gone back into the dough. Bread and beer were also the staple rations in ancient Egypt. Bakeries-breweries were labeled *pr šn* in the tomb scenes. This term indicates a food production house, an establishment that included bakeries, breweries, and granaries. We may be digging a *pr šn* in A7. This is indicated by the fact that we have the clearest possible archaeological correlate of the kind of state, or estate, bakery shown in the tomb scenes and labeled with this term. In addition, we found what is probably a corrupt writing of *pr šn* with the plow- and house-signs etched crudely on a sherd from the discard area of A7 (fig. 10).

The excavations in three widely separated spots in Area A hint at royal institutions connected with mortuary services, storage, and food production. There is still some question as to whether bread baking in these large pots was exclusive to the royal house, temples, and special purposes, or whether it was a common part of the mode of production during the Old Kingdom. The fact that the typical *bedja* pots are found in widely disparate contexts, including



A7g16 0088



**Figure 10. Sherd from A7 bakery trash deposit inscribed *pr šn***

settlements and campsites, since they first make their appearance near the beginning of the First Dynasty, argues that pot-baked bread was fairly common. There is no doubt, at any rate, that the Giza bakeries are royal. At issue is whether the bread was ceremonial, special purpose bread or whether bread of this rather expensive production was an integral part of the economy of building or maintaining the pyramid complex.

In any case, it may be that in the Fourth Dynasty the area to the south of the large stone wall was the natural place for storage and production, given that there must have been at least three substantial canal-fed harbors to the north of the wall, one for each of the three pyramid complexes at Giza. Here would have been delivered all the goods, cattle, and produce from new towns and estates that were created for endowing the tombs of kings and courtiers. The massive funneling of products from the provinces is expressed by the common scenes of long lines of offering bearers, each a personification of a named estate or foundation, bringing produce to the pyramid and tomb complexes. As the excavations at Giza continue, our goals include learning more information about the relationship between the core area of the Egyptian state at the Delta apex and the development of Egypt's provinces, a relationship that fueled not just the building of the pyramids but the building of the Egyptian nation state. Much of the vital evidence awaits the analysis of the ancient floral, faunal, and ceramic material that we have retrieved from these excavations.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are grateful to the members of the Egyptian Antiquities Organization who make our work possible: Dr. Mohammed Ibrahim Bakr, Chairman; Dr. Ali Hassan, Director of Antiquities for Pharaonic Monuments during the spring season; and Dr. Zahi Hawass, Director General for Giza and Saqqara for his assistance and collaboration in the research. We owe a special thanks to Amal Samuel, Chief Inspector of Giza, and to the inspectors with whom we had the pleasure of working on the site: Mansour Radwan, Zaghoul Ibrahim, Mahmoud Afifi, and Mohsen Kamel, and Eman Rashid.

We are grateful to David Koch and Bruce Ludwig who made our research possible again through their generous financial support. I thank Steve Burns and Amy Bucher of National Geographic for their support, Norm Rubash and AMOCO-Egypt for their loan of a vehicle. I am grateful to William Sumner, Director of the Oriental Institute, for the support he gave to the fall-winter season of 1991 and his patience. Lietz-Sokkisha of Overland Park, Kansas once again donated the use of state-of-the-art surveying equipment for which we are extremely thankful. David Goodman, as always, gave his constant good humor and assistance to the entire team, in addition to acting as senior surveyor. John Sanders took over this role when David had to leave. I thank John for his time and for teaching several expedition members the use of the Total Station. Wilma Wetterstrom continues to be our paleobotanist and most cheerful project member. I have already mentioned those who supervised the various excavation areas. I am grateful to all of them. I also want to thank Diane Kerns who, as registrar organized beautifully our Giza storeroom, Brigitte Crowell for processing the ceramics, Ann Roth for assisting us with the seal impressions, and Kathrine Noujaim and Lynn Martella for their volunteer assistance. I thank Peggy Sanders for her work as artist and Augusta McMahon for carrying on in this capacity after Peggy left. I am especially grateful to Peter Piccione for acting as administrator in addition to working full-time as an archaeologist in the field and to John Broughton who donated his insight, energy, and time away from Helix to be our photographer.

I would also like to thank the staff of the American Research Center in Egypt: former Director Illya Harik, current Director Mark Easton, Assistant Director Ibrahim Sadek, New York Director Terry Walz, Albert Abd al-Ahad, and above all, Assistant to the Director Amira Khattab and her son, Amir.

The AMOCO corporation has provided financial support for a monograph on the results of the Giza excavations, the first, we hope, of a new series, *Giza Reports*.

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## NIPPUR

MCGUIRE GIBSON

For the Nippur Expedition, this was a year devoted to analysis and publication of findings. Since 1972, our program has been a multi-faceted one, seeking the answer to a number of archaeological, historical, and environmental questions not only for the site of Nippur but also for a much broader area. Barred from field work by the current embargo on Iraq, the staff spent the year preparing or revising manuscripts and drawings and doing page-layout for two volumes that are in preparation. More importantly, we brought another volume through the editorial process and most of the way to publication.

Richard Zettler's monograph on the Kassite buildings in Area WC-1, which will appear in 1993 as *Nippur III*, was submitted last year, was sent out for scholarly review, and then was returned to Zettler for minor revisions. With Zettler's agreement, as editor of the series I made some decisions that would improve the book but would delay its appearance by a few months. For instance, we included photographs of all the cuneiform tablets to supplement the descriptive catalogue. Such photographs of tablets are relatively rare in archaeological reports, but these are good enough to convey information readily.

This book, based on excavation of Area WC-1, carried out by Zettler and Elizabeth Stone, records an unusually large private house, perhaps owned by merchants, which was built some time in the thirteenth century B.C. and was then altered and rebuilt and finally was abandoned. Above the Kassite levels was a very badly eroded building dated to the seventh century B.C. when the Assyrians ruled Babylonia. Although the original Kassite house was unusually well preserved, with walls standing more than a meter and a half high, the amount of material found in it was disappointing. The occupants of the house had been relatively neat, and before each renovation there had been a general cleaning out of the building. However, there were enough pottery and other artifacts to help solidify our notion of the Kassite assemblage. The chapter on the pottery contributed to this volume by James A. Armstrong is, as of now, the definitive statement on the later part of the Kassite period, incorporating, as it does, important earlier work by Judith Franke in Area WB. Armstrong's discussion is significant not only for Nippur but also for Babylonia in general.

We have made considerable progress in finishing our report on Area WG, the operation at the top of the West Mound that was designed to investigate

the transition between the Sasanian and the Islamic periods. In fact, in that operation we reached Parthian levels (ca. A.D. 100), so that we have a very good sequence from this period through the early part of the Abbasid period (ca. A.D. 800). The transition from Sasanian to Islamic has not been detailed in excavations in Iraq, and thus we have no demonstrable material evidence of this most important civilizational transition. We have hypothesized that artifacts did not immediately reflect the political, economic, and religious changes that Mesopotamia underwent at important junctures in its history, even one as profound as the Islamic conquest. We assumed that there must have been a delay in the adoption of symbols of the new regime and religion. We expected that pottery would change more slowly than other items that are more linked with politics, for instance, the coinage or other items directly linked with the governmental administration. Thus far, analysis of the artifacts proves that there were different rates of change in these different classes of artifacts. An early assumption, that we might see a shift in the kinds of animal bones as we entered the Islamic levels (consumption of pigs is forbidden for Muslims), apparently does not hold, according to preliminary study of the material. Perhaps we were digging in a Christian area of the town.

James A. Armstrong and I are writing the main text of the WF operation, while John and Peggy Sanders work on the plans and illustrations of objects. We have received several analyses of the finds: The pottery was analyzed by Edward J. Keall and C. Ciuk of the Royal Ontario Museum, Erica Hunter analyzed the Aramaic incantation bowls found buried upside down under floors of a house in the Early Islamic level, and David Reese analyzed the animal bones and shells. We will receive shortly the technical reports on glazed pottery from Pamela Vandiver of the Smithsonian Conservation Analytical Laboratory. We hope to have this manuscript ready for the editors in 1993.

On another front, James A. Armstrong has been revising and expanding his doctoral dissertation, which was based on his work in Areas WC-2 and TC. This important piece of research has resulted in the first clear idea of the sequence from the Kassite through the Achaemenid period at Nippur. And once again, as with his work on the Kassite pottery, his analysis of this material is critical for giving a sound underpinning to southern Mesopotamian archaeology from the twelfth century through the sixth century B.C. It was in excavating Trench TC that we became aware of a major environmental crisis at Nippur that occurred in the latter half of the second millennium, which led to an abandonment of all or most of the city and was comparable to an earlier disaster that we had demonstrated for the Old Babylonian period (eighteenth century B.C.). In TC, we exposed evidence of dunes and abandonment in the archaeological strata, marking both these abandonments below and above of

the Kassite levels. Tying this archaeological evidence with the environmental findings that we have been making on and around the site since 1972, we have been able to build up a picture of the ancient Mesopotamian environment as a fragile one, greatly affected by human action, resulting in sometimes catastrophic events for humans.

The archaeological information derived from the work in Area TC can be correlated somewhat with data derived from a group of tablets found in Area WB in 1973. Steven Cole, a former Chicago student and a member of the Nippur Expedition, completed a doctoral dissertation based on that set of tablets. Now, when his teaching duties at Harvard allow him the time, he is preparing a publication that uses these documents to lay out an economic and social history of the early first millennium, when Aramaeans and Chaldeans made up a major component of the Babylonian population and Arabs were just beginning to settle among them. These texts from Nippur, in fact, give the earliest mention of Arabs in Babylonia, about 750 B.C. Cole's book will be published eventually by the Oriental Institute. It will be an appropriate companion volume to Armstrong's important study, which will be completed in 1993 and will appear as *Nippur IV*.

As she has for several years, Augusta McMahon has worked as my assistant for the past year, while also completing a part of her own Ph.D. dissertation. McMahon's dissertation, based on excavation she supervised at Area WF in the eighteenth and nineteenth seasons (1989-90), is devoted to a study of the Akkadian period (ca. 2350-2200 B.C.), when the world's first truly effective empire was created. Despite the fact that very important social, political, economic, religious, linguistic, artistic, and other changes accompanied the rise of the Akkadian empire, this period is still only vaguely known. In particular, McMahon is interested in the transition from the Early Dynastic to the Akkadian because earlier excavations that encountered material of this time were misinterpreted and confusion has resulted. McMahon has been awarded a Whiting Fellowship, a rare honor, to complete her dissertation in the 1992-93 academic year. Her dissertation will also be published, eventually, in the Nippur series.

In a related research activity, the Nippur Expedition has turned to the skies for data on the ancient landscape around the site. One of the results of the Gulf War has been a tremendous increase in satellite imagery for southern Iraq. The satellite technology that underlay the United States' war effort can be employed for peaceful purposes. Tapes from satellites can be purchased not only from the United States' government but also from European and even Russian sources. Before the war, such images for the area around Nippur were not available, unless one paid an extra amount to have the satellite focus on the area. Nippur was of strategic interest, apparently. In the wake of the Gulf



War, the available coverage is tremendous. Every inch of the country has been recorded thousands of times. Presumably, the images that are available commercially are nowhere as precise as some of those used by the military, but they are more than adequate to use for the mapping of ancient sites, ancient canal systems, and abandoned fields, and they can be enhanced through computer technology to show buried features, such as walls, water courses, and ancient river levees. With the environmental specialist, Tony Wilkinson, now on the Oriental Institute's staff, and with John Sanders in his new role as computer specialist, we are able to make great strides in the use of such technology to carry out analyses of ancient landscape even while sitting in Chicago. In this aspect of our program, we are continuing a fruitful collaboration that we have had for years with the Belgian Expedition to Iraq.

In January 1992, James Armstrong and I went to Ghent for a meeting with our Belgian colleagues to consult on the production of a general corpus of second millennium pottery that we are creating jointly. James is doing most of the work on the Nippur side of this effort. We have arranged for him to stay in Ghent for a month during the summer of 1992 and to work on the manuscript. The corpus should appear in 1993.

In summary, this past year has been very productive for the Nippur Expedition, even though we could not go digging. We miss the field work and wonder, occasionally, whether our Iraqi friends and colleagues are well.

Amazingly, although the destruction in Iraq was tremendous, and although the bombardment of the army at the front was unprecedented, military casualties were relatively light. The civilian casualties were enormous and, because of disease and deprivation, have now reached something between 150,000 and 200,000 deaths. The lack of electricity during the war led to the spoilage of medicines, of blood plasma, and of insulin, resulting in the death of thousands of people on maintenance drugs. Medicines, such as antibiotics, soon ran out. The loss of electricity also resulted in the halting of dialysis machines, iron lungs, and even lights in operating theaters of Iraq's very modern hospitals. Generators eventually ran out of fuel because the refineries had also been destroyed. More importantly, without electricity, the water supply could not be maintained, sewage treatment came to a halt, and tons of raw sewage were dumped into the Tigris, spreading infection downstream.

In light of this human tragedy, it seems inappropriate to write about the loss of material things, but the ancient culture of Iraq is precious in itself, and when destroyed it cannot be renewed. I had no thought that Nippur would be damaged during the war, since it is far from anything militarily important. The site and the expedition house came through the war unscathed. There was no damage from the war, and even the post-war looting of archaeological expedition houses that occurred at a number of other sites did not happen at

Nippur. Our guard heard that people were coming to rob the house in March 1991. He sent his son to get brothers and cousins who surrounded the house with Kalishnikov machine guns. When the mob came, the guard said that anything that happened would start a tribal feud, which stopped the event in its tracks.

For anyone who wishes to know about damage to the archaeological sites in Iraq, I can state that there was some, but that we will not know how much until a group of professional archaeologists is allowed to form a fact-finding commission and visit all parts of the country. We know that there are 400 new holes in the ziggurat of Ur, caused by one strafing run by a jet. There are also four large bomb craters in the sacred area near the ziggurat. There is documented damage to one other site near Ur, where a unit of troops from the United States dug in with bulldozers and left behind a mass of rocket tubes and ration containers. The hundreds of other sites in the battle zone have not been visited, as far as I know. There was damage to historic structures in Baghdad, Basra, Mosul, and other cities, as well as to the Arch at Ctesiphon. Most of the damage seems to have been caused by the shaking of the ground from nearby bombing. One year after the war, January 1992, most of the surface evidence of structural damage (cracks, some shrapnel holes) had been completely patched in these buildings. It is not clear if there is deeper structural damage that will show up later.

At present, it looks as if the loss to important archaeological sites may have been minor. The same cannot be said of Iraq's regional museums. In nine of the provinces in the south and in the north, the local museums were entered, vandalized, and looted by people taking part in the insurrections that followed the end of the war. More than 4,000 artifacts were stolen or destroyed, and many are already appearing in the antiquities market of Europe and the United States. Included in the number of missing objects are important sculptures and cuneiform tablets from Nippur, as well as from other sites dug by the Oriental Institute. In case anyone may think that Iraq has not taken care of its artifacts and any that now come to the United States are better off, let me assure you that the Iraqi Department of Antiquities has had an exemplary record of protecting sites and artifacts since 1923, when it was founded. There has been virtually no traffic in illicit antiquities for many years. Probably no other country in the Near East has as good a record. Knowing that to be the case, reports that the Iraqis had built air bases right next to sites to deter attack or were placing missiles and planes at archaeological sites during the war were not credible to any of us who have experience in the country. We knew, for instance, that some of the military bases being mentioned by the media were already there in Ottoman Turkish times (before 1918) or were established under the British in the 1920s and 1930s. The air base at Ur, much discussed

during the war, was founded by the British shortly after its entry into Iraq in the First World War. Anything can happen in war, but as far as I can find out, none of the accusations that Iraq was deliberately endangering ancient monuments was true.

Any notion that objects are better off outside Iraq because the Iraqis are negligent can be countered by the statement that the Directorate of Antiquities in Iraq is more professional than most others in the Near East. The National Museum in Baghdad is one of the great depositories of Mesopotamian antiquities, and its displays, before the war, were well done. Modern conservation laboratories and equipment were installed in the 1970s, and staff was sent to Europe for training. The effort made to educate the populace by building museums in all provinces and stocking them with first-class antiquities has led, unfortunately, to the loss of thousands of items in the insurrection. In a letter, the Director of the National Museum, who received his Ph.D. under my supervision here in 1988, says that he is working to assess the losses from the thefts, as well as damage done by the shaking of the ground to the thousands of objects in the storerooms of the main museum in Baghdad.

Some media figures have implied that the loss of Iraq's artifacts is just recompense for the treatment that Kuwait's museum received. But the Directorate General's handling of the artifacts from the Kuwait Museum was in fact exemplary, in keeping with international agreements. In the fall of 1990, the Director of Antiquities, in conformance with the Hague Agreement, informed the United Nations that he was going to remove the objects and records from the Kuwait Museum to safeguard them from damage in the impending war. The staff of the Iraq Museum went to Kuwait, found the museum intact and guarded, worked with some employees of the Kuwait Museum to pack and load the antiquities, and took them by truck to Baghdad. The crates of antiquities and records were deposited in the storerooms of the Iraq Museum and remained there, unopened, throughout the war. Shortly after the war ended, the Iraqi authorities, again following the international agreements, informed the United Nations that it was ready to return the objects to the Kuwait Museum. The Kuwait Museum sent two Europeans to represent them and these persons worked with the personnel of the Iraq Museum, under supervision of the United Nations, for several weeks to open the crates, examine the objects and records, catalogue them, and hand them over. Kuwait's representatives had come to Baghdad with a list of 2,500 items. The Iraqis turned over more than 25,000 items, completing the entire procedure by October 1991.

I have received letters from the Director of Antiquities and it is clear that we are welcome to come back to resume our work at any time. I look forward to the lifting of the embargo.

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## TELL ES-SWEYHAT EXPEDITION TO SYRIA

THOMAS A. HOLLAND

The fifth season of archaeological excavations was conducted during October and November 1991 at the Early Bronze Age site of Tell Es-Sweyhat, which is located on the left bank of the Euphrates River in northern Syria. The expedition was sponsored by the Oriental Institute (University of Chicago) and the University Museum (University of Pennsylvania) under the joint directorship of Dr. Thomas A. Holland and Dr. Richard L. Zettler. Both institutions and private donors from Chicago and Philadelphia generously financed the work, for which we are very grateful. The staff consisted of ten full-time and four part-time members from the United States and Britain. We also had two Syrian representatives from the Department of Antiquities, Mr. Bassam Falhout from Damascus and Mr. Ma'an Hassoun from Raqqa, who greatly facilitated the work of the expedition.

Five new trenches (Operations 1, 5, 6, 7, and 8) were excavated in the walled inner city of the main mound and two areas (Operations 4 and 9) were excavated in the northwestern sector of the lower town, which is encompassed by an earthen fortification wall enclosing a total area of about forty hectares (see fig. 1).

The major goals of the season were: 1) to obtain more information with regard to the architectural planning as well as to the dates of different phases of occupation on the site; 2) to compare the relationship of occupation in the central walled town to that in the lower, outer town; and 3) to investigate changes in the pattern of settlement with respect to the physical landscape.

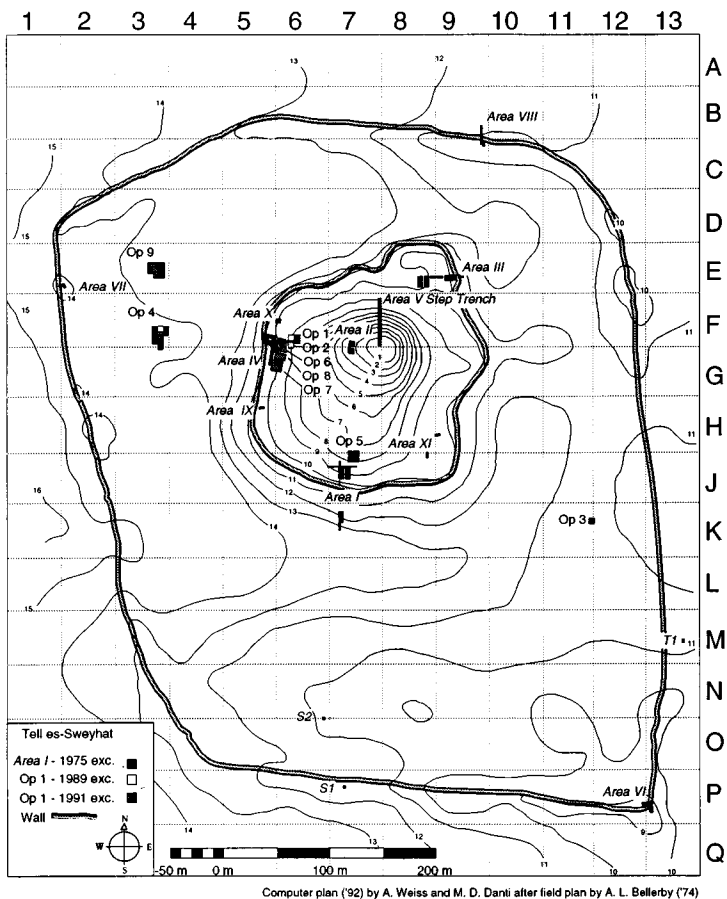
The first goal was initiated by expanding Operation 1, first excavated in 1989, by 10 m to the east and opening up new areas of excavation in Operations 6, 7, and 8 on the western side of the site in Area IV as well as a 10 × 10 m square, Operation 5, on the southern slope of the mound north of Area I (see fig. 1). To compare the inner and outer towns, Operation 4 (begun in 1989), located in the outer town, was greatly expanded and Operation 9 was started to the north of Operation 4 in grid square E3. The third goal, the relationship of the site to its regional environment, was the responsibility of Tony Wilkinson, who did an extensive survey by foot in an area of 5 km surrounding the main site.

The expansion of Operation 1, located to the east of the inner ring road or street discovered during the 1989 season, gave us valuable information about the later phases of the Early Bronze Age buildings, which were aligned at a

different angle from the earlier town layout and were more crudely constructed.

Operation 6 was designed to continue the 1970s excavation of the large building complex constructed against the inner face of the mudbrick town wall on the western side of the mound. This resulted in the complete excavation of a well-defined central building unit of eight rooms situated between the town wall and the inner street, which measured 10 m in width and 13.50 m in length.

Operation 7 was laid out 10 m to the south of Operation 6 against the town wall in an area suspected to be the location of one of the city gates. Although not completely excavated, two stone foundation piers were found positioned against the city wall on opposite sides of a 3 m wide street, which led eastward through the city wall into the town and which probably joined up with the inner ring road. The stone foundations of a large mudbrick guard house were also situated to the north of the street just inside the gateway. The position of the gate is in direct alignment with a saddle-shaped depression located in the



Computer plan ('92) by A. Weiss and M. D. Daniil after field plan by A. L. Bellerby ('74)

Figure 1. Plan of Tell es-Sweyhat

rampart surrounding the outer town to the west in grid square G2. This probably is another gate since Wilkinson's studies show that there is a hollow way leading from that position in the outer defensive wall to the southwest, which leads in the direction of another Bronze Age settlement at Tell Jouweif, located in the Euphrates valley flood plain.

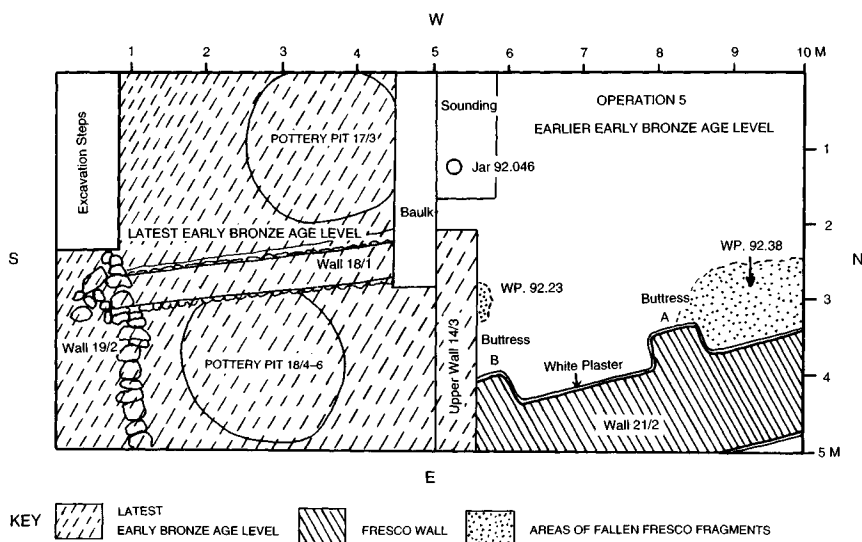
Operation 8, a 5 × 10 meter trench, was positioned against the town wall between Operations 6 and 7 in order to ascertain the relationship between the large central building unit to its north and the street and gateway to its south. Although this trench was not completely excavated to Bronze Age levels, the stone foundations of a north-south wall in its eastern end confirm that there are more rooms adjoining the large central building complex to its north.

On the southern slope of the main mound another large square, 10 × 10 m, designated Operation 5, was laid out in grid squares H7 and J7 to throw more light on the architecture and finds which were discovered in Area I during the 1970s. The upper levels of occupation were dated to the Hellenistic and Roman periods. The remains of the latest Early Bronze Age levels were encountered about 1.50 m from the topsoil. Towards the end of the season, a most remarkable discovery was made in the northeastern quadrant of the operation. When the top portions of earlier Early Bronze Age walls were exposed and the mudbrick debris from the fallen wall was removed, the excavator, Jennifer Arzt (former graduate student in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations), detected a few small pieces of brightly painted plaster amongst the broken mudbricks (see fig. 2).



Figure 2. Fragment of painted wall plaster in situ, Operation 5

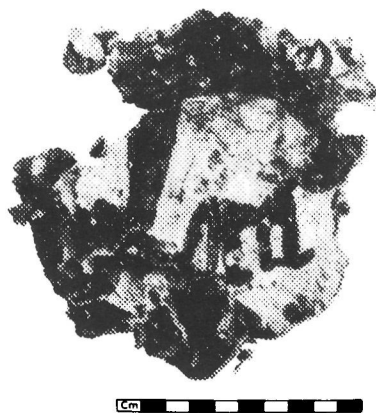
Upon closer inspection at the end of the workday, it was evident that the white jus plaster from the fallen wall(s) had been painted with some fresco-like scene or scenes. Our two conservators were immediately sent to work in the square the following morning and spent the next ten days laboriously uncovering each piece as it appeared with dental tools and fine brushes. Each fragment then had to be consolidated with chemicals and strengthened with fine gossamer gauze and left to dry out before the pieces could safely be removed to the lab workroom. Each piece then had to receive yet more chemicals after consolidation in order to remove the gauze backing (applied to the face of the fresco, the back of the plaster, or the actual mudbrick, depending upon the position each fragment had landed on the floor when the wall originally collapsed). In total, twenty-six fragments varying in size were recovered and then photographed and drawn. The area from which the plaster was removed measured approximately 1.0 m by 1.50 m in front of the wall, which extended to the northwest into the northern section of the square. Due to the meticulous care that had to be taken to lift the fragments, excavation proceeded to a depth of only fifteen centimeters and the area had to be covered with plastic sheeting, stones, and backfilled with earth to preserve the unexcavated portions of the fresco until the following season.



**Figure 3. Plan of Operation 5**

Although the present report only concerns the fiscal year 1991–92, the importance of a major wall painting from the third millennium B.C. warrants our preempting somewhat the 1992–93 Annual Report by briefly announcing here the sensational results of the work in Operation 5 during the 1992 season. When the work was resumed during September, 1992, Mark Fenn (conservator

from the Smithsonian Conservation Analytical Laboratory) continued to lift the fresco fragments and Clemens Reichel (graduate student in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations) excavated the areas to the south and west of the fallen wall in order to determine the extent of the fallen plaster and to investigate the nature of the building to which the fresco belonged (fig. 3). The wall which originally held the fresco is oriented northwest by southeast and is 1.25 m wide, double the width of any previously excavated Early Bronze Age walls at Sweyhat with the exception of the town wall. Although it is still not completely excavated, the wall has at least two buttresses on its western face and it is also plastered on its eastern face (unknown as yet if this face is also painted), which implies that it is an internal wall of a very large building complex that may belong to a temple, an official governor's residence, or possibly a palace belonging to the still unknown ruler of ancient Sweyhat. One of the more important discoveries of the season was the discovery of a large fragment of painted fresco in front of the southern buttress B, which most probably belongs to a second fresco from that portion of the wall still unexcavated in the southern half of the operation. At present, there is no evidence of painted plaster on the portion of the wall between the two buttresses. During the season, another seventy-six fragments were lifted to a

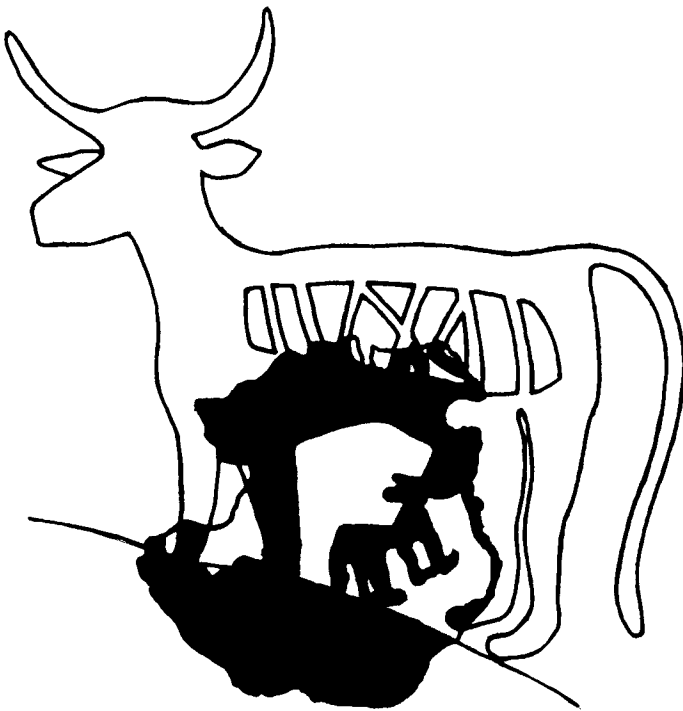


**Figure 4. Fragment of painted wall plaster showing bovine suckling calf**

further depth of 20 cm from the original fresco area north of buttress A, bringing the present total of fragments to 103. Although the 1991 fragments had some similar border designs to a small fresco found at the Bronze Age site of Munbaqa, located on the Euphrates about 15 km south of Sweyhat, no recognizable scene could be reconstructed from the Sweyhat pieces. However, the 1992 season produced enough large fragments to enable us to attempt some reconstruction of designs such as the border patterns consisting of red,



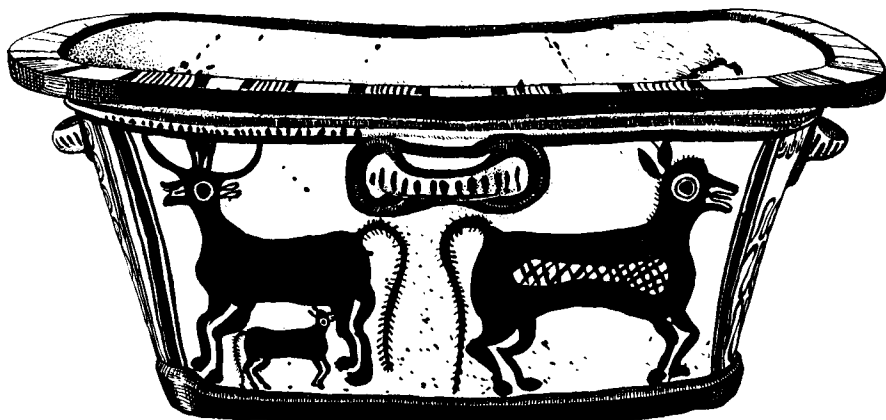
black and white-painted, wedge-shaped, alternating horizontal bands as well as linking chain bands and solid bands painted in circular patterns. But of even greater importance for the development of Near Eastern art history and possible foreign trade connections was the discovery of a fairly large fragment, 14 × 16 cm (WP.92.38), which depicted a calf suckling its mother (figs. 4–5). The animals are painted black except for a rectangular white box on the mother's body, which contains a geometrically red-painted pattern. A few fine paint drip lines, produced when the fresco was painted on the wall, extending vertically from the mother's stomach, indicate the exact directional position of this scene on the wall. This shows that the base upon which the animals are standing, painted red, is positioned at a 45° angle so that the mother is standing and facing uphill, on the right-hand side of the representation of a mountain,



**Figure 5. Line drawing of bovine suckling calf from painted wall plaster fragment (Drawn by Abbas Alizadeh)**

which is a well-known Near Eastern motif. Another similar scene was probably depicted on the left-hand side facing the scene under discussion. At present, no painted parallels for this suckling calf motif have been found by us from other Near Eastern sites, but an Akkadian stamp seal from Tell Brak (ca. 2350–2000 B.C.) has an engraved scene which depicts a triple-headed long

horned cow giving birth and giving suck to a second calf at the same time (*Iraq* 9 [1947], pl. 16:9). However, a remarkably close painted parallel comes from the site of Gurnia in Crete (fig. 6); it is painted on one side of a large clay basin or tub with horizontal loop handles on each side and end (Boyd Hawes, *Gournia*, pl. 10, fig. 44). The vessel from Gurnia depicts two bovines standing back to back and facing vertical border patterns, one of which is similar to our chain pattern. The horned cow on the left has a suckling calf and the animal on the right is shown without a suckling calf, but it does have a rectangular-shaped box on the body with a geometrically painted design that is very



**Figure 6.** Scene depicting bovine suckling calf painted on vessel from Gurnia, Crete

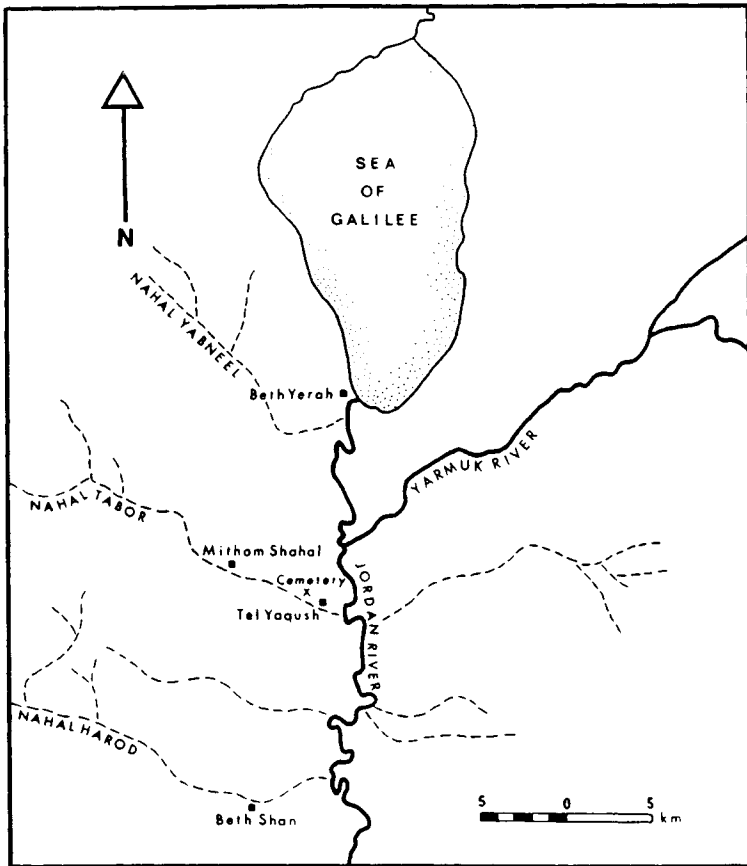
similar to that on the Sweyhat example. The Gurnia vessel is dated to the Late Minoan III period, about the fourteenth century B.C., about a thousand years later than the Sweyhat painting! Another example of the suckling calf motif is painted on the lid of a clay sarcophagus from Episkopi in Crete and is also dated to the first half of the fourteenth century B.C. (see W. Orthmann, *Der Alte Orient*, Berlin, 1975, no. 443). The presence of this extraordinary fresco from Sweyhat is the first evidence we possess from the northern Syrian Jazira that there may have been cultural and trade contacts between the upper Euphrates Valley and the Aegean during the Early Bronze Age. A preliminary assessment of the pottery from the later part of the Early Bronze Age phase of occupation in pits 17 and 18 above and to the south of the painted wall indicates that the Sweyhat fresco may be dated to the middle part of the Early Bronze Age, sometime between ca. 2,600-2,300 B.C.

## YAQUSH

DOUGLAS ESSE†

## IDENTIFICATION

Yaqush (map ref. 2024.2244) is located on the rim of the *Ghor*, facing the Jordan River to its east and backed by the dominating heights of the eastern Lower Galilee to its west. It overlooks the small Wadi Kuraiyim, which drains into the Jordan River and which runs parallel to the larger Naḥal Tabor, the mouth of which is directly west of the site (fig. 1).



**Figure 1.** Map of the Tel Yaqush area showing Beth Yerah (major city), Tel Yaqush (medium sized agricultural village), Naḥal Tabor (cemetery of Tel Yaqush), and Mitham Shahal (specialized pastoralist site)

Yaqush was first depicted on the Palestine Exploration Fund map of 1890, where it was identified as Tell ez-Zanbakiyeh (Tell of the Lilies). The Mandate period map of 1930–32 shifted the name Zanbakiyeh to a site 750 meters to the southeast, leaving the site now known as Yaqush nameless. The comprehensive survey of the region conducted by Nehemiah Zori described the site as Giv'at HaMoqšim ("Hill of the Mines," site no. 8) because the site was heavily mined during Israel's War of Independence in 1948 (Zori 1962). The site was cleared of mines and is now listed as Horvat Yaqush on modern maps. Yaqush's position near one of the major fords of the Jordan River may explain its settlement during the Early Bronze Age. Directly to the east of the site, across the Jordan River, lies the site of esh-Shuneh (North), one of the major urban sites of the Early Bronze Age in the Central Jordan Valley. An Islamic period bridge across the Jordan (Jisr el-Majami') as well as an earlier, still preserved, bridge from the Roman period attests to the importance of this ford. Roman milestones, charted by Thomsen in 1917, indicate that the ancient Roman road passed directly by Yaqush (Thomsen 1917). The rusting tracks of the former Haifa-to-Damascus railroad cut the eastern edge of Yaqush. Although Yaqush was essentially abandoned at the end of the third millennium, nearby sites dated to later periods attest to the importance of its location astride the major ancient thoroughfare for north-south travel from Syria to Egypt.

Excavations were conducted in 1989 and 1991 by the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago. A total area of 1055 sq. m was cleared during the two seasons (figs. 2–3). A preliminary estimate indicates that the site was approximately 2.5 ha in size during the EB I period. By the EB III period the village had declined in area to roughly 0.50 to 0.75 ha.



**Figure 2. Aerial view of Yaqush, 1991; looking to the east over the fish ponds and fields of Kibbutz Gesher toward the Hills of Jordan in the background; Squares K 9 and L9 in foreground**

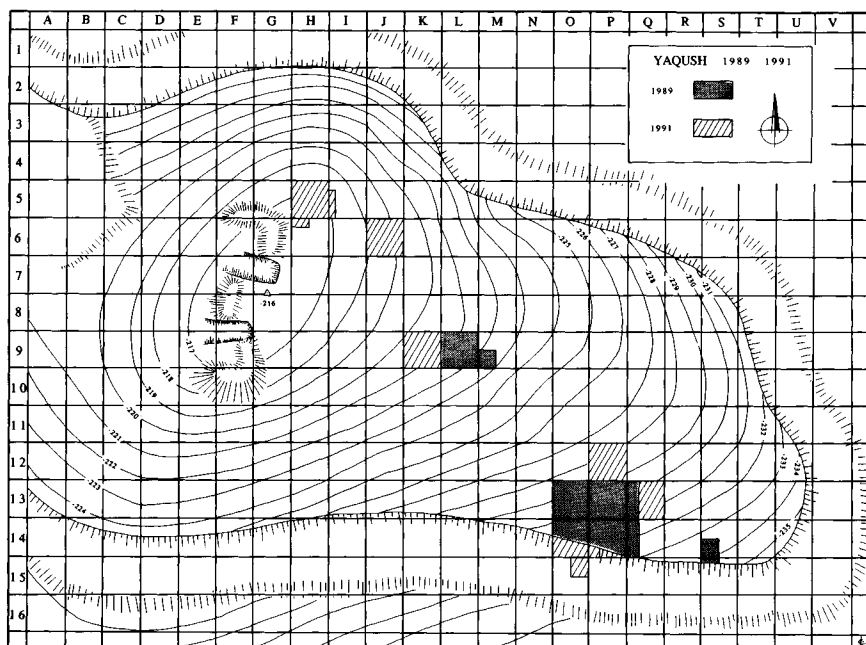


Figure 3. Contour map of Yaqush showing areas excavated in 1989 and 1991

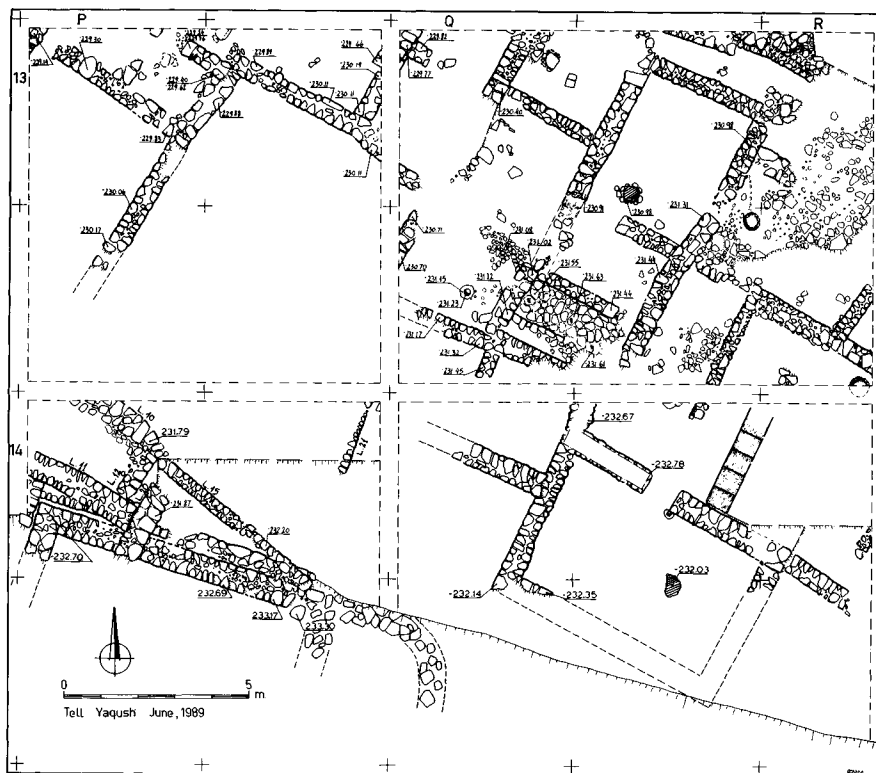
## EXCAVATIONS

### Early Bronze Age I

The Early Bronze I was the earliest period reached at Yaqush. Evidence for at least four architectural phases of the Early Bronze I was recovered. One of the earlier phases was represented by a large building in Square P 14 at least 11 m in length (fig. 4). Although severely damaged by modern military earth moving equipment, at least four courses of a stone wall forming the northern edge of the building were preserved. The stones were laid in a herringbone fashion. Traces of later EB I remains sealed this structure.

The latest phase of the Early Bronze I was recovered more extensively on the summit of the mound (Square H 5) and in a small trench to the east of the main excavation area at the southeast edge of the site (Square T 14). Both areas were dominated by evidence of an extremely destructive conflagration. Traces of carbonized roofing beams and roof fall were preserved well enough to indicate that the roofs of the EB I houses were constructed using small wooden beams with brush and twigs placed above them. This framework was then covered and sealed with successive layers of packed clay.

The northern end of one of the structures on the summit was curvilinear. Although not completely excavated, at least two flat stone pillar bases placed



**Figure 4. Plan of main excavation area, 1989 season**

along the main axis of the room were recovered as well as a stone mortar. Dozens of smashed pottery vessels, some containing charred grain, were found on the floor, exhibiting a wide array of ceramic forms, including large grain-wash store jars, a grain-washed spouted vat with loop handles, red-burnished jugs, small jugs and juglets, and a bottle. Bone awls and flint knives and sickle blades were recovered, as well as a perfectly preserved copper ax. Sealed beneath the collapsed roof of a nearby structure were two store jars, one a common grain-washed store jar, the other a fully developed combed metallic-ware store jar. Ceramically, this would force a date at the very end of the EB I.

The small trench along the southeastern edge of the mound also yielded dramatic evidence for a great conflagration. The main walls, separated by a doorway, of the room exposed in this trench were constructed with a stone foundation and a brick superstructure, with at least four courses of vitrified brick remaining in place. The destruction debris was 0.75 m thick, and consisted of burnt brick and large chunks of roof fall. In one of the rooms a large ceramic silo set on a stone base held a substantial cache of carbonized

emmer wheat. Carbon 14 tests on the wheat indicate a date of 3200 B.C. Also found on the floor was the antler of a deer.

The discovery of complete grain-washed ware and combed metallic-ware jars sealed on a floor beneath burnt roof fall on the summit of the mound would strongly argue for a date at the very transition from EB I to EB II. The  $^{14}\text{C}$  date of 3200 B.C. from the emmer wheat in the lower area of the mound, keeping in mind the possible chronological variance for any single  $^{14}\text{C}$  date, would strengthen this assessment. Earlier phases of EB I were recovered at Yaqush. The ceramic repertoire of these stratigraphically earlier phases is not yet clearly defined. Although present, no significant amounts of Gray Burnished ware have been recovered in any architectural context. This suggests that the village of Yaqush underwent its greatest development and expansion in the latter part of EB I and reached its greatest extent at the transition from EB I to EB II, when the entire village was violently destroyed.

### Early Bronze Age II

Evidence for Early Bronze Age II occupation was recovered in the main excavation area (fig. 4). A house measuring  $7 \times 5$  m (Square Q 14) partially eroded along its southern edge, was recovered. A large stone slab served a pillar base for roof support, while a carved basalt door socket was located just inside and to the left of the doorway. Traces of an adjacent room or building were recovered along the eastern wall of the house. A small forecourt opened off the entrance to the north.

The house was apparently destroyed by earthquake, for the entire structure was sealed with sheets of collapsed mudbrick walls. The bricks remained coursed, indicating a sudden and complete collapse, although at least four courses of mudbrick remained intact on the stone foundations. Some traces of burned brick and charred wood were recovered in the forecourt. Wood charcoal samples sent to the Oxford University Radiocarbon Lab for  $^{14}\text{C}$  analysis were removed from the forecourt, the interior of the house itself, and the area just west of the house. Most of the dates clustered around 3100 B.C. The latest date was 2745 B.C., and probably more accurately reflects the destruction date of the house, because the samples were wood charcoal and not a short-lived sample like grain.

A street 2.50 m wide ran adjacent to the EB II house. The street was in use over a fairly long period of time with at least six detectable surfaces and a total buildup of at least 0.40 m over the years. A row of small boulders aligned along the southern, or downslope, side of the street formed a curb which delimited the street through several phases.

The ceramic repertoire was typical of the EB II of northern Palestine. Predominant among the forms and wares was an orange/brown metallic ware,

used both for small bowls and platters, as well as for larger store jars with combed exteriors. The ceramic finds from EB II Yaqush were identical with those from the EB II levels of the major urban site of Beth Yerah ten kilometers to the north.

### Early Bronze Age III

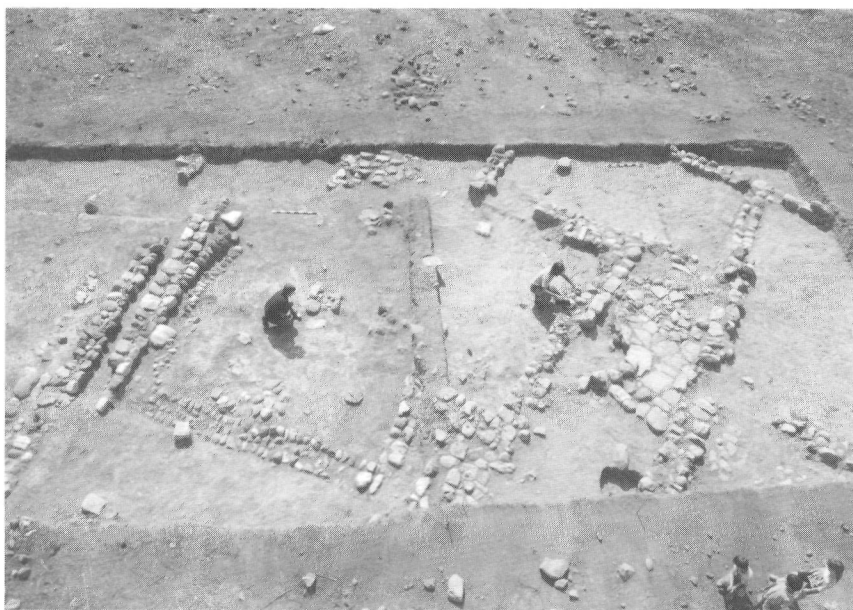
By the EB III period, the village had declined in size to an area roughly 0.50 to 0.75 ha in area. Remains from the EB III village were detected in two areas of excavation (Squares K9 / L9 and Squares P 13, Q 12-13, R 13). The largest area exposed was located in the main excavation area along the southern edge of the mound. At least three major superimposed architectural phases dated to this period have been revealed.

The earliest and most complete phase yielded a complete house/courtyard complex (fig. 4, Square Q 13). The house was composed of at least three rooms, one of which was built perpendicular to the main axis. Two of the rooms had earthen floors, while a third was paved with large flat stones. Flat stones also served as pillar bases for wooden pillars. The pillars were held in place by a small circle of wedging stones which were discovered in situ. The house had both an eastern and western entrance. The western courtyard was partially paved with stone. Set into the earth was a basalt mortar. Nearby was a large basalt saddle quern. The small eastern courtyard held several clay and stone supports for storage vessels, the bases of which were recovered in the excavations. Two clay ovens were located to the east of the house, both constructed with successive layers of clay with their exteriors packed with broken store jar fragments to conserve heat. A pebbled path, lined with curbstones on each side led from the eastern courtyard toward the southeastern area of the site. The street was deliberately constricted at the point where it met the courtyard, and a door socket located at this junction indicates that a small "garden gate" would have given privacy to the household.

Although only exposed in a limited area in the 1991 season, the following architectural phase (Square Q 12) seemed to be unrelated in plan to the earlier house/courtyard complex. A portion of a building was excavated, with its main wall running northeast-southwest and exposed for a distance of at least 7.5 m. The wall was built with stone foundations and at least five courses of the brick superstructure were preserved. The floor of the building was partially paved with large flat stones. During the life of the building the floor was raised and a partition wall was added, dividing the building into at least two rooms. The building may have served as a shrine. Recovered from the earliest floor was a large well-made Khirbet Kerak ware andiron, a complete Khirbet Kerak ware red polished bowl and a highly polished red slipped button base juglet. In the later phase of the building a cache of ten votive juglets was found in association with two votive bowls, one of which had been used as a lamp.



The latest phase of EB III in this area saw a reversion to domestic architecture. Just below the mound's surface, a pebbled street and several small domestic structures and rooms were excavated. One house was of broad-room type with a large stone mortar and a stone pillar base. Khirbet Kerak ware was ubiquitous, with all types of the standard assemblage represented.



**Figure 5. Aerial view of Squares K9 and L9, 1991 season**

In Squares K9/L9 (figs. 2, 5) erosion had damaged the EB III levels, but a portion of one large structure remained, with stone-paved floors and fairly substantial walls. Nearby, a broad street, 3 m wide, ran in a north-south direction. The street was composed of packed earth, small pebbles and pottery sherds, including a large percentage of Khirbet Kerak ware. Running along the western edge were at least two phases of curbing, indicating that at some point the street had been widened. The street was supported on the east by a battered retaining wall constructed of boulders, which was at least 5 m wide and 1 m high. The width of the street, the effort made to modify the site topography to support it, and the strong and well-built character of the building with stone-paved floors would suggest a possible public function for this quarter of the village.

The ceramic repertoire of both excavation areas was typical of EB III in northern Palestine. Red washed platters with radial burnish, buff storage vessels, and Khirbet Kerak ware were present, similar to the late EB horizon attested at Beth Yerah. The range of Khirbet Kerak ware was complete, with

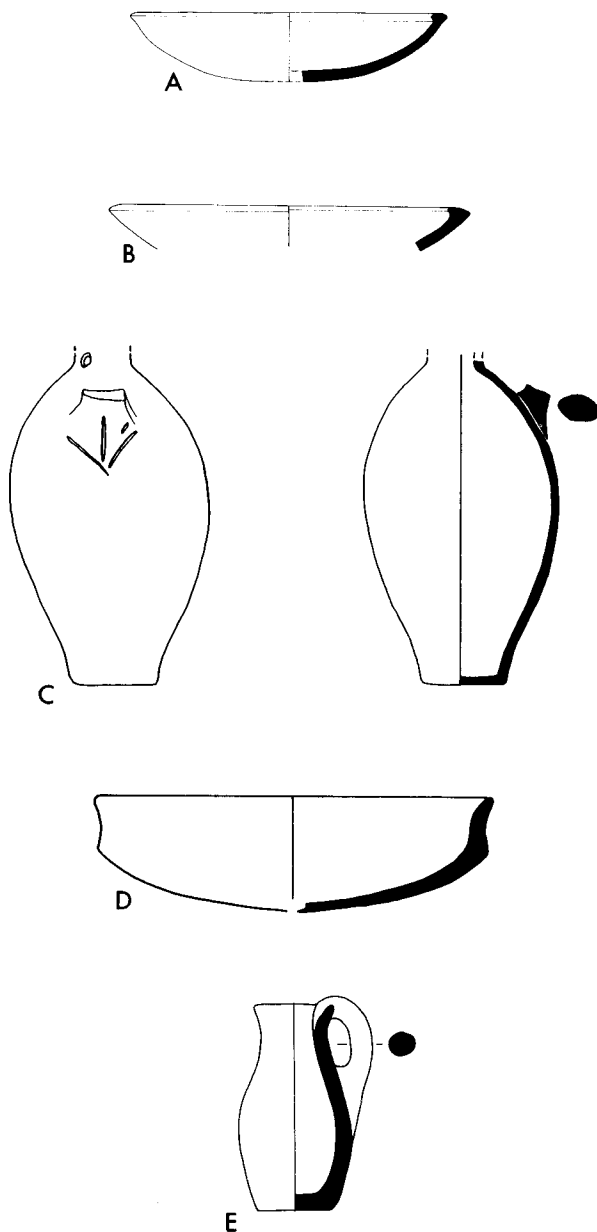
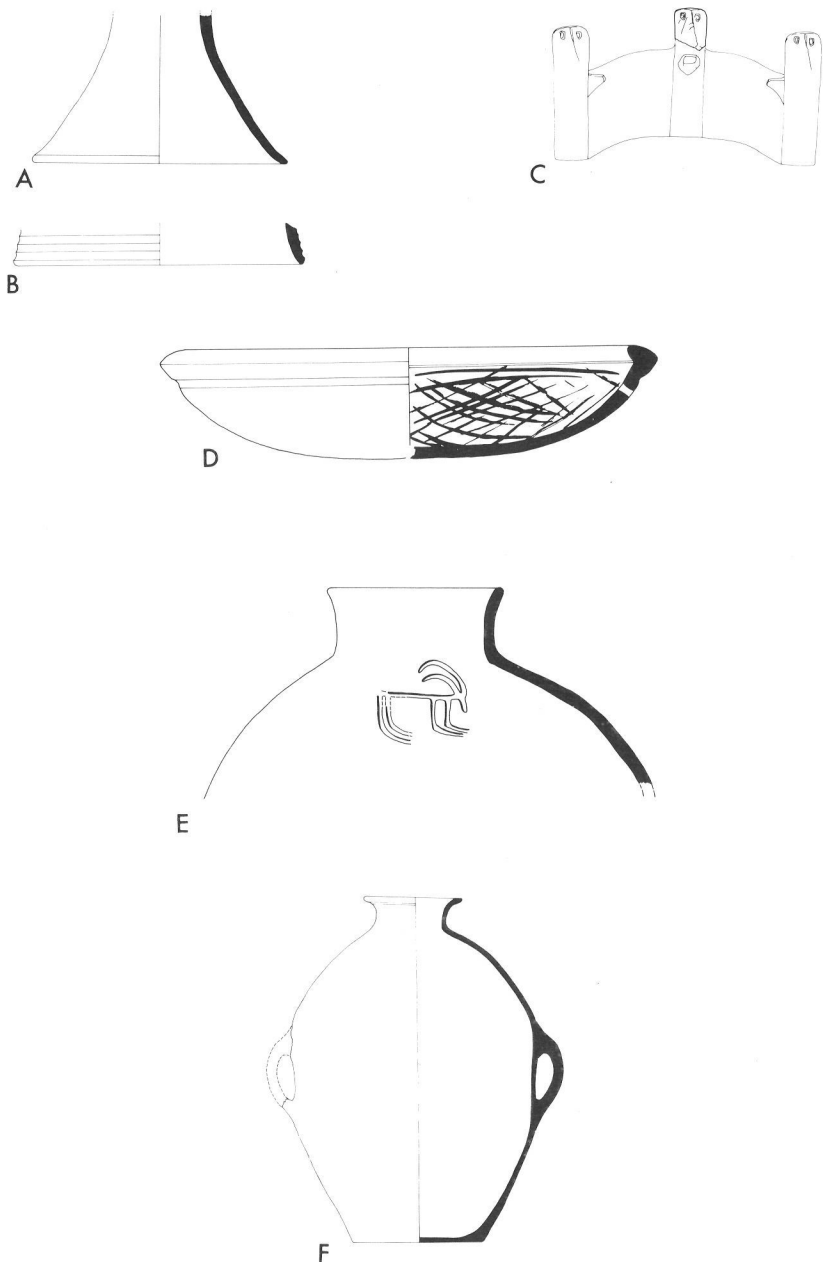


Figure 6. Diagnostic pottery vessels. (A-B) metallic-ware bowl, EB II; (C) two views of metallic-ware flask with potter's mark on base of handle, EB II; (D) metallic-ware bowl, EB VII Transition; (E) metallic-ware flask, EB VII. Scales 2:5, except A 1:10 and B 1:5



**Figure 7. Diagnostic pottery vessels. Intrusive Khirbet Kerak pottery, EB III: (A–B) ridged stands, (C) andiron with human faces restored from fragment. EB III pottery: (D) metallic-ware with irregular burnish, (E) standard-ware jar fragment with incised animal figure, (F) metallic-ware pithos. Scales 1:10, except D–E 1:5**

small red and red/black bowls, kraters, stands with corrugated decoration, knobbed lids, and andirons, including one andiron fragment with a human face modeled and incised on it. Two loop handled lids have their closest parallels with sites of the “Red/black Burnished Ware” or “Karaz” ware tradition in central and southern Anatolia.

A stone-lined pit was built into the retaining wall’s slope. The pit yielded sherds from the Middle Bronze–Late Bronze Age transition, the only indication encountered during the 1989 or 1991 seasons of a post-EB III phase.

The evidence from the excavations suggests that Yaqush was predominantly an agricultural settlement located on the major north-south thoroughfare that linked Canaan with Syria. The flint repertoire yielded hundreds of Canaanite-type sickles and knives in addition to many locally made flake tools. Wheat, barley, and lentils were the main crops. The faunal remains suggest a dependence on sheep, goat, and cattle husbandry. Remains of fallow deer and hartebeest were also recovered.

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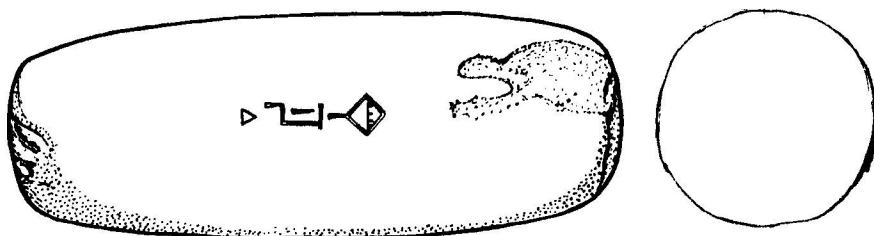
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**Editor’s note:** This article, to appear in the English translation of *The New Encyclopedia of Archaeological Excavations in the Holy Land*, was the last article completed by Douglas Esse. It is printed here, with additional figures, by permission of CARTA, The Israel Map and Publishing Company Ltd., POB 2500, Jerusalem, Israel. The Encyclopedia will be distributed in the United States by Simon and Schuster, 15 Columbus Circle, New York, NY 10023.

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# PHILOLOGY



Stone "mana" weight with cuneiform inscription (1 MA.NA), used for weighing various goods, from Tell es-Sweyhat, Syria

## THE CHICAGO ASSYRIAN DICTIONARY

ERICA REINER

The Assyrian Dictionary Project is pleased to announce that our funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities was renewed, this time for a period of three rather than two years. In a time of reduced spending, it is reassuring to know that we still have the support of the Endowment. We were particularly encouraged when we read the positive reviewers' comments that were sent to us by the Endowment.

During 1991–1992 the staff of the Assyrian Dictionary project worked on several volumes of the dictionary. We have received over 600 pages of first galleys for the T volume, and the pages have been distributed to dictionary staff, members of the editorial board, and outside consultants, who have all begun to read, correct, and comment on the pages. Much of the editing on the R volume has been completed, and the typist is preparing clean copy that can be checked and sent to the printer. Part 2 of the Š volume needs only the corrected front matter before it is printed and the second page proofs of part 3 are being checked. Only a few long entries remain to be written for the ʾ volume.

Some careful readers may notice that we are again working on the letter R after having completed two later letters, Š and T. The R volume was begun by our late colleague Kaspar K. Riemschneider, the German Assyriologist and Hittitologist. He spent one year as a visiting scholar at the Oriental Institute; he was killed in a tragic automobile accident while in this country. Several efforts were made over the years to complete work on the manuscript; we have now undertaken to finish the editing and prepare the volume for publication.

Last summer we were aided by a number of visiting scholars. Hermann Hunger of the University of Vienna revised some previously written manuscripts. Burkhart Kienast of the University of Freiburg made comments on and corrections to the draft manuscript for the R volume. Brian Keck, a graduate student from the University of Michigan, spent six weeks with the dictionary project during the summer of 1991 tracking down errant references and working on indices. Erekle Astakhishvili, from the Institute of History in Tbilisi, Georgia, left us in the fall after having spent a year working on the dictionary.

During the academic year we profited from the able assistance of Erin McKean, an undergraduate at the University of Chicago who volunteered her

services through the College Research Opportunities Program. Ms. McKean, who has wanted to be a lexicographer since grade school (her interest in the field was kindled by reading an article about lexicography in *The Wall Street Journal* at the age of eight), checked bibliographical references, filed cards, and generally provided invaluable support around the office.

While the completion of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary is the immediate goal toward which we are directing our efforts, we have also started formulating plans for the future use of the data accumulated in connection with the work on the dictionary and of the talents of the resident staff. We hope some of our ideas will have crystallized by next year's report. These plans should include applying many of the individual research projects of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary staff toward a collective enterprise.

In the winter, the Benton Fellows visited the dictionary project to learn about lexicography and about the Institute's commitment to long term research projects. The Benton Fellows are broadcast journalists who spend nine months at the University and enroll in classes and attend lectures on campus and around Chicago. Professors Erica Reiner and Gene Gragg discussed the rewards and frustrations of producing dictionaries. The journalists eagerly examined clay tablets, texts that had been transliterated, dictionary cards, and the completed volumes, and as you might expect from people who ask questions for a living, had a number of queries about lexicography and about the Institute. Everyone came away from the encounter invigorated and enthusiastic.

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## THE DEMOTIC DICTIONARY PROJECT

JANET H. JOHNSON

Work on the Demotic Dictionary proceeded smoothly this year with staff members Joe Manning and John Nolan checking content and format of dictionary entries and staff members Tom Dousa and Todd Hickey checking appendixes while I made final checks on dictionary entries and continued preparing "scans" of Demotic texts from which words are being cited in the dictionary. Richard Jasnow and Tina di Cerbo, staff members of the Oriental Institute's Epigraphic Survey stationed in Luxor, Egypt, both worked with us for part of the summer checking content of entries. Richard worked for the Demotic Dictionary for several years while he was a student and we were delighted to have both of them join us. We now have three letters done (all

entries checked, all scans done and all facsimiles inserted) and four letters completely checked although the scans are only partially done and many facsimiles must yet be added. We are working on checking five letters as well as the appendices, including a "text information" list which gives date, provenience, and full publication history of every text cited in the dictionary.

I gave a report on the scope and status of the dictionary at the 20th International Congress of Papyrologists held in Copenhagen during the summer, thereby bringing the dictionary and its resources to the attention of a wide range of scholars working on Greek materials from Egypt contemporary with Demotic materials. Our inclusion of non-Egyptian derivations or correspondences for as many Demotic words as possible will enable scholars such as Greek papyrologists to make the widest use possible of the dictionary. Similarly, our inclusion of lists of titles, temples, etc. associated with particular deities and cities will enable people working on cultural studies to include Demotic material even if they read little or no Demotic themselves.

Demotic, or rather the new ways we have developed to study Demotic, will soon be affecting even more scholars with little direct connection with the language itself. This methodology, developed because of the importance of graphics in the study of Demotic, has been described in earlier *Annual Reports*. When the 4th International Congress of Demotists met in Chicago in 1990, I gave a demonstration of our use of the scanner for preparing, saving, and working with photographs on the computer. As a result, I was invited to talk at the papyrology meetings in Copenhagen in a session on "The Future of Papyrological Tools in the Era of Electronic Information." Papyrologists were among the first scholars in "humanistic" disciplines to harness the computer's potential. Almost twenty years ago, scholars began recording all Greek texts, both literary and documentary, in massive databases which are now available to classicists and papyrologists around the world. The time it takes to find a parallel or to find all known examples of a word or concept has been dramatically reduced. It is now much easier for scholars to move beyond the basics of preparing accurate primary editions, and synthetic studies combining sometimes massive amounts of material are appearing. What we were able to add is the graphic component.

I demonstrated how we scan and then work with our documents. I showed examples of enlarging a document right on the computer screen and of enhancing, on the screen, the contrast of a photograph or changing its brightness to make it possible to read badly preserved text. I also demonstrated how one can "put together" fragments which are now separate but which originally belonged to the same document. All of this can be done without ever touching the delicate originals—and it can be done for pieces



residing thousands of miles apart! I talked with numerous people, ranging from the heads of a team studying the carbonized papyri from Herculaneum to people responsible for cataloguing major papyrus collections, about the specific needs and problems of their projects. Several Greek papyrologists are now talking about the most efficient way to undertake scanning the vast collections of Greek texts. And we have begun to think about “publishing” the Demotic scans together with such Greek ones. As this happens, the artificial scholarly barrier between, for example, those studying Egypt in the Hellenistic and Roman periods using the Egyptian documentation and those using the Greek documentation will be broken and a broader yet more detailed picture of life in the ancient world will emerge.

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## THE HITTITE DICTIONARY PROJECT

HARRY A. HOFFNER, JR.

In the offices of the Hittite Dictionary these days we are watching our P's and Q's, well, at least our P's, since Hittite does not have a letter Q. That is right—the manuscript for our P volume is in the reference-checking stage. This is a somewhat tedious, but for a reference work absolutely indispensable, stage of the work. We have essentially finished the creative part, the composition of the articles. Now it remains to ferret out the typographical errors and the inconsistencies of style and organization, so that our users may use the fruits of our creative labors without the distractions and the wasted time of “dead-end” cross-references, incorrect text references, and contradictory dates assigned to the same composition. You would think that in the age of computers there would be automated shortcuts to all this painstaking checking. Do not think we have not looked for them—with zeal! In fact, there are a few ways in which we now use the computer to ensure a consistent presentation of the data, but there are still many areas where it takes the alert eyes and mind of a trained Hittitologist to see that something is just not right! So you might express your sympathies to Rich Beal and Billie Collins when you see them in the halls. They are bearing the brunt of the thankless labors. “How much longer until the P volume is completed?” We estimate until well into the summer of 1993.

“But what about newer articles?” you ask. “Has the project just ground to a halt, while this checking is going on?” Production of first drafts for future volumes in fact has been suspended for the time being, but Professors

Hoffner and Güterbock are continuing to revise, augment, and improve the articles on the S words. "What sort of words will I find in the S volume?" Well, there are all sorts of emotional words—loads of them just bubbling over with anger and rage (*sa-*, *sant-*, *sawar*). A Rip van Winkle-type god named Telipinu was rudely awakened by the sting of a bee and complained: "Why did you wake me, when I was sleeping so soundly? Why are you making me talk, when I enjoy pouting (*sant-*)?" Ever feel like that when the alarm goes off? There are clever and bright words like *sakk-*, "to know." Lovely put-downs like "You are just like a woman: you do not know (*sakk-*) anything at all!" (I am sure you did not expect such a remark from the Hittites, now did you?) There are up-tight words like *saklai-*, "law, custom, rule." Here too are some marvelous insults: "In Hatti we have an important law: No man shall sleep with his sister or female cousin. But your land is barbaric: there men sleep with their sisters and cousins!" Have I already sold you on this volume? Better get your order into the Publications Office!

"Any new texts being discovered?" Sure. In fact, we are busy adding new occurrences of many words to the first drafts of articles written only three years ago. The newest texts are the letters found at Masat Höyük, now published in a definitive, two-volume edition by Sedat Alp in 1992, and the Hurrian-Hittite bilingual from Boghazköy. The cuneiform copies of the latter were published during the past year, but the edition by Erich Neu has still not appeared. We are able to use the Hittite version from the published hand copies, but the Hurrian version will remain elusive to most of us until Neu's edition appears. It is a fascinating text, full of unexpected things, including some remarkable parallels to social and religious institutions previously known principally from the Hebrew Bible.

On July 1, 1993, we will begin the second year of our current three-year grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Money is still tight, but we are grateful that this time around the National Endowment for the Humanities gave the project a three-year grant, instead of the usual two-year grant. This means less unproductive time making renewal applications. Our staff remains what it was before the current grant. Professor Güterbock's eyesight continues to deteriorate, but thanks to his own determination not to quit and the willingness of staff to read material to him for comments, we are able to benefit from his astute and extremely valuable contributions. Did you know that he and Frances now have a Macintosh computer? This enables him to work at home writing articles for *Festschriften* of much younger people! Thankfully, we still have the valuable services of Dr. Rich Beal, whose dissertation (a fundamental study of the organization of the Hittite military) has now been published in Germany in a clothbound volume which will cost you all your Microsoft stock to buy. I was lucky: as the first reader I received

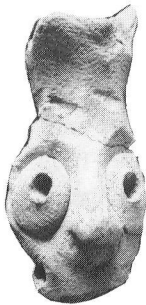
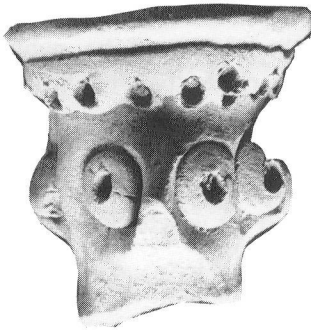
a free copy from the author. Do not wait for it to be discounted at Crown Books. Dr. Billie Collins is editing her dissertation on wild animals in Hittite texts for publication. It should be a great contribution to the field. We are happy to have her with us on the project for another term. Joseph Baruffi, who is in the "all but dissertation" stage of his graduate work, continues to keep our files up to date and to key textual material into the project's computer. Volunteer Irv Diamond keeps our computers supplied with data he has scanned in on our flatbed scanner. He also calms down Dr. Hoffner when the latter is tempted by computer system crashes to rip out the remaining few hairs on his head.

"When are you guys going to be finished with this project?" What an impertinent question! We have already done the L, M, and N volumes, and P will go to press in 1993. I do not think we will make it through S (I warned you there was not a Q), T, U, W, Z, A, E, H, I, and K next year. Seriously, it is obvious that a project like ours cannot and should not be rushed through in ten or fifteen years. If it is worth doing at all, it must be done thoroughly and carefully. With the present staff level we will probably need about twenty more years. Since the project is firmly planted in the Oriental Institute, its completion happily does not depend entirely upon the continuance of the present directors. Even in its present incomplete stage its volumes are part of the indispensable tools for Hittitology. The importance and centrality of the project can only become more pronounced as additional volumes of the dictionary appear.

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# RESEARCH



Heads of human figurines, modeled in clay, depicting various styles of headdresses, from Tell es-Sweyhat, Syria

## INDIVIDUAL SCHOLARSHIP

RICHARD BEAL

In 1991–92 **Richard H. Beal** spent much of his time transliterating Hittite texts from the newly published volume in the series *Keilschrifttexte aus Boghazköi*, vol. 34; i.e., converting the cuneiform signs of the hand-drawn copies into roman letters to be put on cards and into computers for the Hittite Dictionary Project. Toward the end of this business year, the pressing task has been the checking of the multitude of references that make up a dictionary article against the original cuneiform copies and against published editions and commentaries.

Aside from work for the Hittite Dictionary, he spent a great deal of time on the completion of his book *The Organization of the Hittite Military*, which is a revised version of his Ph.D. dissertation of the same title submitted to the University of Chicago's Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations in 1986. The book will be published by Carl Winter-Universitätsverlag (Heidelberg) as part of the series *Texte der Hethiter* (edited by Professor Annelies Kammenhuber). Topics of this book include the standing army, levies, allies, provisioning and training, branches of service (chariotry, infantry, archery, and arguments for the existence of a small cavalry and navy), guards and the watch, size of the army, and various levels of officers.

His review of Christel Rüster and Erich Neu's *Hethitisches Zeichenlexikon*, a much needed list of Hittite signs with their various possible shapes, phonetic values, and logographic meanings has appeared in *Journal of the American Oriental Society* for 1992. He has also written an article to be published in the journal *Anatolian Studies* for 1992 on the location of the ancient city of Ura in southeastern Anatolia. Hittitologists have known the city to be a port and, ignoring Babylonian evidence, have placed it at modern Silifke; Assyriologists have known that it was reached through the mountains and, ignoring Hittite evidence, have placed it near modern Uzuncaburç, miles from the sea. Putting the evidence from Babylonian and Hittite sources together results in a suggestion that the city should be a sea port surrounded by mountains. It is then suggested that ancient Ura should be looked for under the classical port-city of Celenderis (modern Gilindere).

He is also writing a paper on the magic rituals used by the Hittite army to ensure the loyalty of the troops and the help of the gods, the latter rituals are designed for what we would call morale building. This paper will be delivered

at a conference on Ancient Magic to be held in August 1992 in Lawrence. (His wife and Oriental Institute alumna, JoAnn Scurlock, will be speaking on private rituals piggy-backed onto seasonal festivals of the dead in Mesopotamia. Also giving papers will be his Hittite dictionary colleague Billy-Jean Collins, as well as Oriental Institute alumnus and now Yale Professor Robert Ritner, an expert on Egyptian magic, and Chris Faraone, an expert on Greek magic who was recently hired by the University of Chicago's Department of Classics.)

Finally in May 1992 he and his wife spent four weeks touring and photographing the various sights of Tunisia (old Islamic cities, traditional pit houses [the bar scene in the Star-wars trilogy was filmed in one of them], cave towns, and communal granaries [*ghorfas*], not to mention many magnificent Roman mosaics and ruins). While in Carthage, a place whose somewhat scanty remains poking out from amid the houses of the modern upscale suburb called Carthage do not live up to the city's fame, they ran into Oriental Institute alumnus, Jim Richardson and his wife Judy Lee. Supported by Fulbright grants and aided by American "Earth Watch" volunteers and American aid money, they are preparing new galleries for the National Museum of Carthage. The two large galleries, which Jim has finished so far, should in themselves make this one of the showpiece museums in Tunisia. He explained that he is buying in Tunisia all materials needed to prepare the exhibits (the cases, for instance, from a Sfaxi company that makes cases for jewelers). Thus Tunisians will not see aid money immediately spent outside of the country. Tunisian museum curators and those who fund them will realize that they can build world class museum exhibits while supporting their own manufacturers and without spending valuable foreign currency.

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### LANNY BELL

The tragic death of Martha Hope Rhoads Bell on November 12 in a fatal traffic accident on I-78 near Hillside, New Jersey (see above, pp. 6-9), has forever changed the life of **Lanny Bell** and has overshadowed all of his activities described in this report.

Lanny's published work this year includes the 2nd English edition of the *Chicago House Map and Mini-Guide to Luxor* (jointly with Carol Meyer), and the 1st French edition (with a German edition forthcoming). Accepted for publication is Lanny's "New Kingdom Epigraphy," an essay for the catalogue to accompany the exhibit, "The American Discovery of Ancient Egypt," co-sponsored by the American Research Center in Egypt and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

Lanny's university service included membership on the Priorities Committee of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations. Lanny's lectures for the University community included "Mythology and Iconography of Divine Kingship in Ancient Egypt: How Could the Ancient Egyptians Believe their Kings were Gods?"—given for the University of Chicago Humanities Open House; "Chicago House: Salvage Archaeology in Luxor, Egypt"—for the University of Chicago Alumni Association's Clubs in Tucson (organized in conjunction with the University of Chicago's centennial celebration) and in New York City; and "Mummies, Magic, and Medicine: An Introduction to Ancient Egyptian Funerary Beliefs and Practices"—for the annual meeting of the American Association of Academic Chief Residents in Radiology, held in Chicago: versions of this talk were presented for the Archaeological Institute of America's Northern New Jersey Society and for the Oriental Institute's "Chicago Day" program. He served as co-lecturer with Professor Gene Garthwaite of Dartmouth for the two week joint University of Chicago Alumni Association and Dartmouth College study trip, "Egypt: Ancient Land in a Modern World," during the spring break. Lanny gave a report on the highly successful tour for the Standing Committee on Alumni Educational Services at the semi-annual meeting of the Board of Governors of the Alumni Association. Lanny conducted an introductory tour of the Oriental Institute Egyptian gallery for members of the National University Continuing Education Association's conference, "Developing and Teaching Programs for Adults in the Humanities, Arts, and Sciences: Teaching Adults in Changing Times." For the Oriental Institute, he gave a topical gallery tour, "Scribes and Secretaries in Ancient Egypt," for Professional Secretaries' Day. He gave a lecture, "The Ancient Egyptian Language and the Art of Writing," for the full-day Members' Symposium, "Literacy and Scribal Traditions in Ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia"; he gave an expanded version of his talk, "An Introduction to Ancient Egyptian Language, Writing, and Literature," for the annual docent training course. For a special Docent Day organized in conjunction with preparations for the opening of the exhibition, "Vanished Kingdoms of the Nile: The Rediscovery of Ancient Nubia," he served as a panel member on "Ethnicity in Ancient Egypt." His teaching this academic year included the course Introduction to Egyptian Epigraphy. This was the first time this course had ever been taught at the University of Chicago, despite the sixty-eight-year history of the Oriental Institute's Epigraphic Survey: the class examined both epigraphic theory and practice, considering what to look for on a wall and how to represent its various features, as well as how to evaluate an epigraphic publication.

This year Lanny became a Consultant for the Brooklyn Museum's Department of Egyptian, Classical, and Ancient Middle Eastern Art for the



reinstallation of the thematic Egyptian galleries under the title, "Temples, Tombs, and the Egyptian Universe." Additionally, his external professional activities included gallery tours of the Egyptian collections of the Field Museum of Natural History and the Oriental Institute for Dr. Mohammed Ibrahim Bakr, newly appointed President of the Egyptian Antiquities Organization, at the annual meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America. He was also elected President of the Chicago Society of the Archaeological Institute of America. Lanny's presentations as a National Lecturer for the Archaeological Institute of America included "In the Tombs of the High Priests of Amun-Re of Karnak and the Viceroys of Kush in the Time of Ramesses II" for the Long Island Society (at Great Neck) and the New York City Society (co-sponsored by the American Research Center in Egypt). He served as lecturer for the Archaeology Project of the Archaeological Institute of America, a pilot outreach program for seventh graders in the Chicago Public Schools, presented in conjunction with the Field Museum of Natural History in the Chicago Board of Education's "Adopt a School" program: here he discussed "The Work of the Archaeologist in Egypt." He spoke in Hyde Park on "Egypt from Top to Bottom: Thirty Years in the Field" in Kenwood Academy's Science Seminar Series for high schoolers. He was a co-lecturer (with Frank Yurco) for the Field Museum of Natural History's Education Department's program, "Ancient Egypt in Chicago." At the triennial International Congress of Egyptology (held this time in Turin, Italy), his lecture, "Family Priorities and Social Status: Preliminary Remarks on the Ancient Egyptian Kinship System" (abstract published in *Sixth ICE: Abstracts of Papers*, pp. 96-97), was featured in a plenary session: one of twenty-two plenary speakers at the week-long conference, Lanny was the only one representing a North American institution. His other national lectures included "Recent Discoveries in Egypt: Luxor Temple" for the Arizona Chapter of the American Research Center in Egypt (at Tucson) in the series "Modern American Exploration of Ancient Egypt." He also presented "The New Kingdom 'Divine' (Cultic) Temple: The Example of Luxor" for Fordham University's Charles and Elizabeth Holman Symposium on Ancient Egypt, "Ancient Egyptian Temples: Rituals, Functions, and Meanings." The symposium was dedicated to the memory of Gerry Quinn and Martha Bell, as will be the resulting publication.

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### ROBERT BIGGS

**Robert Biggs** is continuing his work on cuneiform texts of the third millennium B.C. His article on the third millennium texts from Ebla (Tell Mardikh) in Syria appeared in the *Anchor Bible Dictionary*. The editors, aware

of the publicity and controversy generated by claims that the Ebla texts would revolutionize our understanding of the Old Testament and the role of the biblical patriarchs in the history of ancient Israel, asked him, as a specialist in contemporary Mesopotamian texts of the third millennium, to assess the evidence. Citing the supposed evidence for relevance to Old Testament studies and pointing out where, in his opinion, some scholars had misinterpreted the texts, he concluded that the Ebla texts, while important in their own right for our understanding of ancient Syria, have nothing to do with the Old Testament and are of no direct relevance for biblical studies.

Again, regarding third millennium texts, he has resumed work on the Early Dynastic and Akkadian period texts from the Inanna Temple at Nippur. Donald Hansen and Richard Zettler, who are preparing the archaeological report on the Early Dynastic and Akkadian levels of the Inanna Temple, invited him to include the texts in the volume they are preparing. He is of the opinion that it is especially important that textual finds be integrated with the other stratified artifacts. A close study of the pottery from these levels of the Inanna Temple (mostly unpublished) and the pottery and other artifacts from Abu Salabikh (twelve miles distant) may help refine the relative chronology of the mid- to late third millennium. It may be possible to determine whether or not there is a chronological explanation for the fact that among the administrative texts from the Inanna Temple in Nippur, there are virtually no persons listed whose names are Semitic whereas at nearby Abu Salabikh, approximately half the personal names are Semitic and the other half Sumerian or unidentifiable.

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### J. A. BRINKMAN

**John Brinkman** has translated a series of historical, legal, and literary documents for use in teaching: two sixty-page experimental volumes covering 3000-1600 and 1600-1000 B.C. were used in his undergraduate courses this year. A further volume (1000-300 B.C.), at present about 130 pages in draft, is still being prepared. In April, a three-year seminar project sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities to introduce the ancient literature of Mesopotamia, Egypt, and Greece to Chicago public school teachers came to an end; Mr. Brinkman had directed the Mesopotamian sections of that seminar and translated such documents as the Laws of Hammurabi and the Middle Assyrian Laws for classroom use. The techniques pioneered in this seminar were written up in educational journals and served as a model for developing programs in New York, Los Angeles, and Washington, D.C. The seminar directors presented a panel on their work at the American Historical Association convention in Chicago in December 1991. As an offshoot of his

continuing research on historiography, Mr. Brinkman delivered two invited papers at sessions commemorating anniversaries of the American Oriental Society: "Middle Assyrian Perspectives on the Past" (Notre Dame, February 1992, seventy-fifth anniversary of the Midwest Branch of the American Oriental Society) and "Neo-Assyrian Attitudes toward and Treatment of Foreigners" (Harvard, March 1992, one-hundred-fiftieth anniversary of the national American Oriental Society). He also completed the catalogue of the cuneiform tablets found at Nippur in the 1975 and 1976 seasons, which will appear in a volume of the Oriental Institute Publications series which is currently in press.

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### BILLIE JEAN COLLINS

**Billie Jean Collins** joined the Hittite Dictionary staff as a Research Associate in December 1991. This appointment followed upon a very rewarding year teaching Greek and Roman history and Hittite language at the Institute for the History of Ancient Civilizations, a part of Northeast Normal University in Changchun, People's Republic of China. Her work on the Dictionary has centered on writing articles for the Š volume and on helping to prepare the final manuscript for the P volume. Her own research includes a revision her Yale Ph.D. dissertation, "The Representation of Wild Animals in Hittite Texts," which will be published by the Nederlands Instituut voor het Nabije Oosten in Leiden. She is also currently preparing a paper, "Ritual Meals in the Hittite Cult," to be presented at a conference on Magic in the Ancient World, hosted by the University of Kansas in August 1992, while her article, "The Puppy in Hittite Ritual," recently appeared in the *Journal of Cuneiform Studies*. Dr. Collins' own publication, *The Newsletter for Anatolian Studies*, saw a very successful eighth year thanks to the resources of the Oriental Institute's Research Archives and the Publications Office. The number of subscribers continues to grow as does the scope and variety of the newsletter, which covers all disciplines of research into pre-Hellenistic Anatolia.

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### JOHN COLEMAN DARNELL

**John Darnell's** personal research continues to center on the final stages of his work on netherworld cryptography. During the past year he essentially completed examination of the enigmatic treatise in the tomb of Ramesses IX. Along with the "cryptic" outer sides of the second shrine of Tutankhamun, this late Ramesside composition is an ancestor of many Third Intermediate Period mythological papyri, with a mixture of Amduat/Netherworld Book imagery

and texts, and Book of the Dead excerpts (in the Ramesses IX work is a variant of the first half of chapter 106 of the Book of the Dead, text 179 of the Coffin Texts). He also worked on a now much damaged hymn to the goddess Rait-Tawy as Hathor, located in a gateway into the Ptolemaic temple of Monthu at Medamud, to the northeast of Karnak. The final portion of the hymn describes the people and animals, real and mythic, of the lands to the south of Egypt praising the goddess. Lybo-Nubians dance ecstatically and chant, while griffins cover themselves with their wings in adoration, like the seraphim around the throne of Jehovah in Isaiah and Ezekiel. The hymn contains parallels to hymns in the Mut ritual, and portions of the Medamud text contribute to one's understanding of passages in the Tombos inscription of Thutmosis I and a love poem in P. Harris 500. There is even an interesting reference to a drunken call to prayer.

This year was Mr. Darnell's fourth season as epigrapher with the Epigraphic Survey in Luxor, Egypt. At odd times in the midst of completing work on the first volume of the Luxor Temple Colonnade Hall publication, his wife, Deborah Darnell, also an epigrapher with the Epigraphic Survey, and he explored the cliffs around Luxor. In January, while walking along ancient desert paths, they made the chance discovery of a fragmentary New Kingdom stele (mentioning Mut and Amun of Luxor) and broken sandstone blocks that may once have formed a desert shrine. Subsequent investigations in the area revealed hill shrines of the sort which the Davies found on the side of the Gorn, remains of Byzantine period huts, and a fragment of a possible second stele. They are now studying the desert routes in the area of the Thebaid and hope soon to produce a preliminary study of the stele, shrines, and surrounding areas. These remains, with the abundant pottery surrounding them (dated as early as the beginning of the Eighteenth Dynasty), may provide useful information on the now little understood internal, short range caravan routes that connect portions of the Nile Valley and link up with longer routes through the eastern and western deserts.

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### FRED M. DONNER

**Fred M. Donner** continues to await the appearance of his segment of the translation of the Arab historian al-Tabari's extensive universal history, still in press; for details on this project, readers can consult the *Annual Reports* for the preceding two years. While taking care of proofreading and indexing this volume in spare moments, he proceeded with several case studies that form part of his continuing work on the origins and early development of historical writing in the Islamic community. In particular, he has collected material for studies dealing with the Islamic conquest of Egypt and with the treaty terms for

the town of Khaybar, in western Arabia, at the time of the Prophet Muhammad. His general approach is to view the historical narratives not simply as collections of “facts,” but as reflections of the self-conception of the early Islamic community as it evolved between the seventh and tenth centuries C.E. That is, the modern reader must first ask of these historical narratives what kind of image of the Islamic community they strive to represent, before he or she can assess the accuracy of what the narratives say about a particular set of events.

In November 1991, Mr. Donner presented a draft paper on “The Origins of the Conceptual Dichotomy ‘Abode of Islam’/‘Abode of War’ (*Dâr al-Islâm / Dâr al-Harb*) in Islamic Law” at the Middle East Studies Association annual meeting in Washington, D.C. He looks forward to developing the tentative conclusions of this paper in fuller form after some of his other projects have been submitted for publication.

During the winter, he drafted the article on “Arabs” for the next edition of the *World Book Encyclopedia*. This proved to be a challenging task because the entry was expected to provide not only a summary of all major aspects of life in the Arab world today, from food and clothing to patterns of family life and aspects of high culture, but also a summary of the history of the Arabs, which reaches back about three thousand years—and to do all of this in a very brief article. Writing such a piece forces one to leave behind the scholarly minutiae on which most of us spend much of our time, and to try to present a general picture in bold strokes that is comprehensible to those with little or no background in the subject. Because such publications shape the basic attitudes of people learning about a subject for the very first time, they have a much more direct impact on the knowledge of the Near East among the general public than most of the technical scholarship we at the Oriental Institute produce. Yet, we recall that writing for a general audience is also an old tradition here; after all, the founder of the Oriental Institute, James Henry Breasted, authored a textbook and produced films designed to communicate the importance of the Institute’s work to a broad public.

During the year, Mr. Donner was engaged in his usual teaching and administrative duties for the Oriental Institute, the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, The Center for Middle Eastern Studies, and the Humanities Division. He was gratified to receive at the spring convocation the Quantrell Award in Humanities for excellence in undergraduate teaching. He continued to serve as coordinator of the University of Chicago-University of Damascus Affiliation program, which arranges research visits to Chicago by scholars from the University of Damascus, Syria, and sponsors Chicago scholars in Syria. During the winter of 1990–91 the Oriental Institute benefited from the presence here of Dr. Najda al-Khammash, an early Islamic historian

from the University of Damascus' Department of History, who proved to be a lively participant in several classes and in a workshop on Middle Eastern urbanism organized by Donald Whitcomb.

In November, Mr. Donner was elected president of Middle East Medievalists, an international organization that serves as a network for those who have a special interest in the Near East and North Africa between roughly 500 and 1500 C.E. Part of this job involves editing *Al-'Usûr al-Wustâ*, the Bulletin of Middle East Medievalists, which Donner enlarged so that it could include more material of scholarly interest and could better serve the organizations' members as a vehicle for the exchange of information, opinions, and opportunities. John Sanders of the Oriental Institute Computer Laboratory, and Tom Holland, Tom Urban, and Richard Schoen of the Publications Office, all helped provide technical assistance in producing an improved version of *Al-'Usûr al-Wustâ*.

In the autumn, Mr. Donner was elected to serve a three-year term on the board of directors of the Middle East Studies Association of North America, the main scholarly organization serving the needs of those concentrating on the study of the modern and medieval Islamic Middle East.

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### WALTER FARBER

In the fall of 1991, **Walter Farber** was invited to attend a symposium that brought together astronomers, historians of science, and Assyriologists to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of Ernst Weidner. The meeting took place in Graz, where Weidner taught for many years, and had as its topic "The Role of Astronomy in the Cultures of Mesopotamia." In his paper Farber explored some aspects of textual tradition and transmission, exemplified by a chapter of the lengthy compendium of astrological omens, *Enûma Anu Enlil*. Perhaps more importantly, at the symposium he learned a great deal about a particular area of Mesopotamian civilization in which he before had only limited expertise. He thoroughly enjoyed this opportunity to meet colleagues from the sciences who do not regularly attend Assyriological meetings but are nevertheless constantly making contributions to the knowledge of our field.

Farber also finished and submitted for publication an article on the concept of "forerunners," as used in cuneiform studies. The term is often used to describe diachronic stages of textual development, specifically with scholarly, religious, or literary texts in Sumerian and Akkadian. The paper tries to define the conditions under which the term is correct and applicable but also shows that in many other cases it distorts more than it clarifies.

Besides this, his research on magical texts and amulets continues. He hopes to finish several articles on these topics in the near future and also to get

the long-awaited new edition of the Lamaṣtu texts into print not too long after that.

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### MCGUIRE GIBSON

During the past academic year, **McGuire Gibson** has been occupied mainly in teaching and preparation of Nippur publications, but he has also been involved in a number of other activities. He completed an essay on the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers for the forthcoming Encyclopedia Britannica. He finally saw the publication of an article, "Duplicate Systems for Trade, a Key Element in Mesopotamian History," which was submitted to the editors of the book, *Asian Trade Routes*, in 1984.

He is working with an international group of archaeologists to help recover the antiquities lost by the regional museums of Iraq. As part of that effort, he and Augusta McMahan have published a volume entitled *Lost Heritage: Antiquities Stolen from Iraq's Regional Museums*. This book, has been issued by the American Association for Research in Baghdad, of which Gibson is the president.

In January 1992, Gibson visited Yemen in part to assess the possibilities for personal field work. Yemen, after the unification of two very dissimilar regimes into one country, presents greatly increased opportunities for research. Gibson's first visit to Hadramaut and the magnificent port of Aden has rekindled interest in the effort to establish the still little-known archaeology of South Arabia.

Shortly after returning from Yemen, he took on the office of President of the American Institute for Yemeni Studies, a consortium formed by American and Canadian universities and museums to encourage and facilitate research in Yemen. He was instrumental in founding the institute in 1978, and served as its first president.

He still serves on the Board of Trustees of the Council of American Overseas Research Centers, headquartered in Washington, D.C. For a conference, "Research Access in the Mediterranean Basin and the Middle East in the Aftermath of the Gulf War," he delivered the introductory address and reported on the situation in Iraq, Syria, and Yemen. This meeting, held in Athens, was attended by resident directors of American research centers from Morocco to India. The papers from this conference will be published in 1993.

During the year, he delivered lectures to various public and academic groups in Chicago, Washington, Ghent, Belgium, and Amman, Jordan, and he attended a symposium on Islamic Palaces at Harvard.

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## GENE GRAGG

**Gene Gragg** has begun to distribute preliminary versions of the Cushitic-Omotic Etymological Database, a computerized tool for investigation into the historical relationships of the vocabulary of the Cushitic and Omotic branches of the Afroasiatic superfamily of languages. He is now turning his attention to the problem of developing the same kind of tool for the study of Cushitic and Omotic historical grammar. This involves a number of preliminary studies developing data-structures to represent paradigms and form-sets together with the morphological generalizations and rules that underlie them and applying object oriented data-base techniques to keep track of these complex structures.

Articles and chapters are also being prepared for various collections involving the so-called "Unaffiliated" (i.e., non-Semitic, non-Indo-European) languages of the ancient Near East.

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## HARRY A. HOFFNER, JR.

As usual, many of **Harry Hoffner's** scholarly activities are included in the report for the Hittite Dictionary Project. Much time in the late summer and early fall of 1991 was spent finishing and submitting the renewal application for a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, which was granted in the summer of 1992, for the Chicago Hittite Dictionary Project.

October 1991 witnessed the University of Chicago's Centennial Convocation, at which Hoffner was chosen to present Professor Oliver R. Gurney of Oxford University for an honorary degree. It was a festive and joyous occasion and a privilege to be Professor Gurney's host in Chicago.

In late December 1991 he presented a paper, "Syrian Cultural Influences on the Hittites," at the annual meeting of the American Historical Association as part of a symposium on ancient Syria. The paper will be published in 1993 as "Syrian Cultural Influence in Hatti" in *New Horizons in the Study of Ancient Syria*, edited by Mark Chavalas (Malibu: Undena Publications).

In late March 1992 he traveled to Boston for the annual meeting of the American Oriental Society and presented a paper there, "Akkadian *šumma immeru* Texts and Their Hurro-Hittite Counterparts," which will be published in 1993 in a *Festschrift* for William W. Hallo, to be edited by Mark Cohen.

Late spring and early summer months were spent on articles for the Chicago Hittite Dictionary in the P volume (*pi* and *pu* words) and in preparing for publication his English translation of the latest German edition of Arthur Ungnad's classic *Akkadian Grammar*, to be published in late fall of 1992 by Scholars Press.

During 1991-92 his reviews of the following books appeared in print: *Althethitische Ritualtexte in Umschrift*, by E. Neu (Wiesbaden: Otto



Harrassowitz, 1980) in *Orientalia*; and *Hethitica VII and VIII*, edited by P. Cornil and R. Lebrun (Louvain: Peeters, 1987) in the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 51: 148–49.

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### THOMAS A. HOLLAND

Beginning September 1, 1991, **Thomas A. Holland** was appointed a Research Associate at the Oriental Institute for one year.

His main task during the summer and early autumn was the editorship of *Oriental Institute Communications*, vol. 26, *Publications of the Oriental Institute 1906–1991: Exploring the History and Civilizations of the Near East*, written to celebrate eighty-five years of publications by the Oriental Institute as well as in commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of the University of Chicago.

During October and November 1991, he was co-director of the fifth season of excavations at Tell Es-Sweyhat in Syria, which was jointly sponsored by the Oriental Institute and the University Museum of the University of Pennsylvania (see separate report). His responsibilities during that season included the overall supervision of four operations on the site, which were Operations 6, 7, and 8 in the large building complex constructed against the inner town wall where one of the city gates was discovered and Operation 5 on the southern slope of the site, where an Early Bronze Age painted wall fresco was discovered. During the season, he also worked on the pottery typologies from different periods of occupation and studied the small finds from these and other operations excavated.

At the end of December, he attended the annual meetings of the Archaeological Institute of America held in Chicago and helped organize the Oriental Institute book sales booth to promote a wider audience for all of the Oriental Institute publications.

During the early part of the new year his article entitled “Jericho” on the final results of Dame Kathleen Kenyon’s excavations at Jericho was published in the *Anchor Bible Dictionary* (Vol. III, pp. 723–40). Later in the spring of 1992 he wrote an article, “Excavations at Tell Es-Sweyhat in Syria 1989–1991” for the *Oriental Institute News and Notes*, no. 134 (summer 1992), pp. 1–6, and also gave an Oriental Institute Members’ lecture on May 13 entitled: “Recent Excavations at Tell Es-Sweyhat in Syria.”

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### RICHARD JASNOW

Professor George R. Hughes worked for several years on ten Demotic papyri from a town called Hawara in the Egyptian Fayum. Due to failing

health, it became clear that he could not complete this project without assistance. Professor Janet Johnson therefore proposed that **Richard Jasnow** help Hughes in the preparation of the text edition, a suggestion which he accepted. Most of Mr. Jasnow's personal time has thus been spent on completing the publication of these papyri, which are in the collection of the Oriental Institute. The documents belong to an archive that began in the middle of the fourth century B.C. and continued for about two hundred years. The Oriental Institute possesses the earliest of the texts; later papyri from the archive are in the collections of Cairo, Copenhagen, Hamburg, and London. One of the great joys of studying with Professor Hughes was receiving the opportunity to read through these imposing papyri, which were given a place of honor on the long table in his office. He well recalls how excited he was to encounter a papyrus dated "year one of Alexander" (the Great). The archive consists of marriage settlements, transfers of property, and sale contracts; the information gleaned from them will be a significant contribution to the economic history of the period. The style of script is quite elegant and beautiful; one document is, in fact, exhibited in the Oriental Institute Museum. Professor Hughes had prepared virtually final translations, but Mr. Jasnow is writing the commentary and compiling the necessary indices and glossaries. Apart from his work on the Hawara archive, he notes that the article written jointly with Günter Vittmann on the abnormal hieratic letter to the dead is finished and has been submitted for publication. This letter was apparently dictated by a woman and addressed to her deceased husband. In the document she describes the terrible injustices she has suffered at the hands of other members of the family; the dispute is probably over inheritance. She appeals to her husband to come to her aid in the letter, which was recited at the tomb of the dead man. We do not know, unfortunately, whether her plea was successful.

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### JANET JOHNSON

**Jan Johnson's** personal research this year included a re-analysis of a group of mid-first millennium contracts which refer to the earliest known examples of a type of document called a "document of making live," i.e., an "annuity contract." Later examples of such annuity contracts (they had become fairly common by the early third century) were made by a man on behalf of his wife. In the contract, the man pledges all his property as guarantee that he will provide his wife with money for her food and clothing "in whatever place she desires." That is, the man must continue to support her even if she moves out of his house. In addition, most such contracts explicitly name his children by

her as his legal heirs. He is not allowed to sell or give any of his property to anyone without her permission or the permission of her eldest son. Many people refer to these “annuity contracts” as “marriage contracts,” but they are actually economic documents executed within the framework of a marriage—it is clear in many of the documents that the couple has already been married for some time and already has one or more children. The contracts which she re-analyzed refer to “annuity contracts” made by a man and his father on behalf of a woman. Because of the involvement of the father, and because the woman’s brother later ends up in possession of the contracts, some scholars have questioned whether these earliest annuity contracts were also made in the context of a marriage. She retranslated the broken, and often difficult to read, texts and did a careful genealogical reconstruction of several generations of the two families involved. Her work has shown that these earliest annuity contracts were indeed made between husband and wife, that the husband’s father was involved because the property the husband was pledging was property he was inheriting from his own father, and that the wife’s brother came into possession of the contracts after the husband and wife divorced, the husband remarried, and fighting erupted over inheritance of his property. The elements of this story—marriage, divorce, attempted disinheritance—form a wonderfully illustrative example of why familial economic arrangements of this sort came to be written down in formal legal form, and in more and more detail, during the first millennium.

During the year Jan Johnson continued to work extensively on the Demotic Dictionary Project (see separate report), she served as the American representative on the International Committee for the Publication of the Carlsberg Papyri (a large collection of mostly Roman period Demotic literary texts, often very fragmentary, housed in the Carsten Niebuhr Institute of Ancient Near Eastern Studies of the University of Copenhagen), and she continued to serve as Vice President of the American Research Center in Egypt, as a member of the University’s Humanities Institute Faculty Governing Board, and as a member of the Board of Directors of the Institute for Semitic Studies. *Life in a Multi-Cultural Society: Egypt from Cambyses to Constantine and Beyond*, the proceedings of an international symposium held at the Oriental Institute in 1990, edited by her, was published by the Oriental Institute Publications Office.

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## W. RAYMOND JOHNSON

**W. Raymond Johnson** finished his dissertation, “An Asiatic Battle Scene of Tutankhamun from Thebes: A Late Amarna Antecedent of the Ramesside Battle-Narrative Tradition,” received his Ph.D. degree in Egyptian Archaeology in August 1992, and was made a Research Associate of the

Oriental Institute in the fall. In his capacity as Senior Artist of the Epigraphic Survey he spent the better part of the summer assisting in the production of *Reliefs and Inscriptions from Luxor Temple I: The Colonnade Hall Opet Register*. In addition to his Epigraphic Survey work he contributed an article to the Klaus Baer Memorial Volume, entitled "Honorific Figures of Amenhotep III in the Luxor Temple Colonnade Hall," and submitted another paper for publication, "The Deified Amenhotep III as the Living Re-Horakhty: Stylistic and Iconographic Considerations," which he had presented at the International Congress of Egyptology in Turin, Italy, last year. In the late summer he wrote a chapter for a volume of collected essays on the reign of Amenhotep III, *Amenhotep III: Perspectives on His Reign*, entitled "Monuments and Monumental Art under Amenhotep III: Evolution and Meaning."

This year marks Ray's fourteenth season working in Egypt for the Oriental Institute at Chicago House. He is also preparing his doctoral thesis for publication and is expanding his study of the relationship between the deification of Amenhotep III and the Aten cult of Akhenaten. He will present a paper, "Amenhotep III at Amarna: Some New Considerations," in June at a colloquium sponsored by the Metropolitan Museum of Art. He is working on a study of the portraiture of the last rulers of the Eighteenth Dynasty, stimulated in part by recent discoveries in Upper Egypt that shed interesting new light on the problem. He is also continuing his study and documentation of *talatat* blocks of Akhenaten from Karnak that were reused by Tutankhamun and Ay (the battle blocks studied in his dissertation are part of this corpus) in collaboration with the Franco-Egyptian Center at Karnak for future publication. In any remaining spare time, he is inking the final drawings of Akhenaten's Re-Horakhty blocks at Karnak, also for the Karnak Center.

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### MARK LEHNER

**Mark Lehner** was in Cairo at the beginning of the academic year preparing for the fall-winter season of excavations that took place from October 15 to December 15, 1991.

Lehner gave a lecture, "The Archaeology of the Pyramids: A Report from the Field," to the University of Chicago Women's Board on February 4, 1992. On February 7th he participated in the American Association for the Advancement of Science's popular symposium, "How Old Is the Sphinx?," during the its annual meeting in Chicago. On February 9th, Lehner delivered a lecture on his recent field work at the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto.

Lehner was back in Cairo from February 29th until March 3rd to participate in the Egyptian Antiquities Organization's First International Symposium, "The Great Sphinx: Towards a Global Treatment of the Sphinx."

Seventy specialists in engineering, conservation, geology, art history, and archaeology met at the Mena House Hotel near the foot of the Giza Plateau to hear presentations on research already carried out on the Sphinx, to discuss possible future treatments, and to visit the site of the Sphinx. Lehner's contribution was entitled "Documentation of the Sphinx." The Egyptian Antiquities Organization's publication, *Book of Proceedings of the Sphinx Symposium*, is soon to appear.

On April 10th Lehner contributed a paper, "Archaeology of the Giza Plateau," to a symposium, "Beyond the Elite: Archaeology and the Giza Plateau Mapping Project," organized for the Society of American Archaeology's 57th Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh. On April 22nd Lehner delivered a lecture, "Food for the Pyramid Builders: Excavation of a 4,600 year-old Bakery in Egypt," for the Program on Ancient Technologies and Archaeological Materials at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. On May 22nd Lehner lectured about his work at Giza to the Evanston chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America.

Lehner wrote an article, "Reconstructing the Sphinx," that was published in the *Cambridge Archaeological Journal* 2(1) (1992). He has begun to edit contributions to a monograph, the first of a Giza Reports series, about the results of the excavations at Giza. Lehner is working on a book about the pyramids for Thames and Hudson. He is preparing his dissertation, "The Great Sphinx of Giza: The Archaeology of an Image," for publication by the University of Chicago Press.

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### JOSEPH MANNING

In addition to working for the Demotic Dictionary Project, editing the final text of the letters, **Joseph Manning's** time this year was mainly devoted to finishing his dissertation, which was defended in May. This study, entitled *The Conveyance of Real Property in Upper Egypt During the Ptolemaic Period: A Study of the Hauswaldt Papyri and Other Related Instruments of Transfer*, sought to place the private legal records of land sales written in Demotic into the wider social and historical context of Ptolemaic Egypt. A paper was presented at the Workshop in Ancient Societies at the University of Chicago critiquing the anthropologist Jack Goody's new book *The Oriental, the Ancient and the Primitive: Systems of Marriage and the Family in the Pre-Industrial Societies of Eurasia* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990). One of the chapters of this book, which is a comparative sociological approach to marriage and kinship structure in Europe, Asia, and the ancient Near East, discussed the unusual feature in Roman period Egypt of consanguineous brother-sister marriage. The critique involved the discussion of Demotic family

archival material from Ptolemaic Egypt which had been left out of Goody's and other scholar's analyses. In December, an expanded version of this paper was presented at the annual meeting of the American Philological Association meetings in Chicago. In June, Manning also attended the Second Conference of the Association International pour l'Étude du Droit de l'Égypte Ancienne held in Vogüé (Ardèche), France, where he presented a paper entitled "Irrigation Terminology in the Hauswaldt Papyri and Other Texts from Edfu during the Ptolemaic Period." Manning was appointed a Research Associate in the Oriental Institute on July 1, 1992.

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### CAROL MEYER

In August **Carol Meyer** attended the meeting of the Association Internationale pour l'Histoire du Verre in Vienna, and presented a paper, "Glass from Quseir al-Qadim," which is being published by the *Annales du A.I.H.V.* In the fall an article entitled "From Zanzibar to Zagros: A Copal Pendant from Eshnunna" co-authored with Joan Markley Todd, an amber specialist, and Curt Beck of the Vassar College Amber Research Laboratory appeared in the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*. The article deals with a unique pendant of copal, a resin that looks like amber, found in a grave at Eshnunna (Tell Asmar). Identification by infrared spectroscopy indicates that the copal came from the Zanzibar/Mozambique region. The best available date, approximately Akkadian or Ur III, makes it the earliest documented evidence of contact (probably indirect) between East Africa and Mesopotamia. In January Meyer directed an archaeological survey project at Bir Umm Fawakhir in the Eastern Desert of Egypt (see separate report). A long-term effort, the manuscript of *Glass from Quseir al-Qadim and the Indian Ocean Trade*, was completed, revised, and will be published in the Oriental Institute's Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization series. The book is not only a description of the first-second century A.D. Roman and thirteenth-fourteenth century Islamic glass from the Oriental Institute excavations at Quseir al-Qadim, but it is also a study of the glass trade from Egypt to Yemen, East Africa, and western India.

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### ERICA REINER

The celebrations of the centennial of the University of Chicago brought many personal contacts for **Erica Reiner**; at the October convocation, Professor Oliver R. Gurney, Emeritus Professor at Oxford and a long-time collaborator on both the Assyrian Dictionary Project and on the Materials for the Sumerian Lexicon Project, received an honorary degree. Professor Gurney

had been most helpful in the past with her personal research. His visit gave them an opportunity to discuss textual problems, and she had the pleasure of hosting a dinner in his honor. At the spring convocation she had the privilege of presenting for an honorary degree our former colleague and her collaborator on the project of editing Babylonian celestial omens, Professor David Pingree of Brown University.

As a past president, Ms. Reiner was asked to address the plenary session of the American Oriental Society's Middle West Branch, which was celebrating its seventy-fifth anniversary in February 1992 at the University of Notre Dame. She took advantage of several other shorter trips to the East to discuss details of the forthcoming fascicle of Babylonian Planetary Omens with David Pingree. Her personal research was deferred to parts of the spring and summer quarters that were spent at the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton making revisions on the manuscript she was able to prepare there earlier. Her commitment to the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary continued over the academic year (see separate report).

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#### EMILY TEETER

In January 1992, **Emily Teeter** gave an invited lecture at Chatham College in Pittsburgh. Later in that month, she delivered a series of training lectures to Oriental Institute docents in preparation for the exhibit *Vanished Kingdoms of the Nile: The Rediscovery of Ancient Nubia*. Emily's several years involvement with the planning and installation of the Egyptian gallery at the new Seattle Art Museum was finalized with the opening of the exhibit in February 1992. In April, she returned to Seattle to introduce Seattle Art Museum docents to specific objects and to themes which might be explored in the course of gallery tours.

She was also invited in April to give the opening lecture for the annual meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt, held in Seattle, speaking on the "History of the Egyptian Collection of the Seattle Art Museum." She spent the month of May in eastern Turkey, acting as the escort-lecturer for the Oriental Institute member's tours.

She continues to contribute book reviews to journals including *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, *History: A Review of New Books*, and *KMT: A Modern Journal of Egyptology*, and she edited a chapter in a college level text on the history of Nubia.

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## EDWARD F. WENTE

The newly published *Anchor Bible Dictionary* contains several articles written by **Edward Wente**, including the entries "Egyptian Religion," "Rameses (Place)," and "Ramesses II." A joint article with Dr. James E. Harris, "Royal Mummies of the Eighteenth Dynasty: A Biologic and Egyptological Approach," appeared in the volume *After Tut 'ankhamun: Research and Excavation in the Royal Necropolis at Thebes*, edited by C. N. Reeves.

Mr. Wente continues his work on the royal stelae of the Ramesside Nineteenth and Twentieth Dynasties. In this study, which will provide translations of the hieroglyphic texts, the issue of literacy in hieroglyphic writing will be addressed, for royal stelae were frequently proclamations in stone placed in areas to which the public had access. From the many contemporary documents written by scribes in the cursive hieratic script we possess considerable knowledge about the colloquial language of the period known as Late Egyptian, and the question arises to what extent people who were literate in the hieratic script could read stelae written in the formal hieroglyphic writing. In evaluating the communicative aspect of hieroglyphic stelae, Mr. Wente is examining the documents to determine the extent to which the vernacular language intruded into the composition of the texts. We are quite certain that student scribes learned hieratic Late Egyptian before proceeding to master the hieroglyphic "picture" writing (just the opposite of what we do in teaching students of Egyptology). Because many of these royal stelae were written in a phase of the language quite removed from colloquial Late Egyptian, a significant percentage of the official class may have been literate in both hieratic and hieroglyphs. It seems reasonable to suppose that those who were most successful in ascending the ladder of the bureaucratic hierarchy were individuals who possessed competency in both forms of script, each of which demanded special language ability to be understood.

Of special interest to Mr. Wente is the use of circumstantial clauses in direct speech and in captions accompanying scenes. He has been collecting data on this subject for some time and plans to present his conclusions in a future article. He is also preparing a short article on a hieratic ostrakon, inscribed with a communication that can be variously interpreted.

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**DONALD WHITCOMB**

One of the more general results of the Aqaba excavations (see separate report) has been a focus on the phenomenon of the *amsar*, the new urban foundations which accompanied the Muslim conquest. **Donald Whitcomb's** first exploration into this subject, reported in the *Annual Report* for 1990-1991,



was expanded into a panel for the Middle East Studies Association meeting in Washington, D.C., in November. This panel was called, "New Approaches to the Early Islamic City," and examined a variety of early Islamic cities. This was followed in December by participation on two panels convened during the annual meetings of the Archaeological Institute of America. The first panel reported on Islamic Archaeology in Egypt and the second was a workshop on Islamic ceramics. He also attended a meeting of the North American Historians of Islamic Art, part of the College Art Association, in February. In the meantime he finished a study of the glass and bronze weights from the Aqaba excavations, entitled "Ayla in the Balance."

On the lighter side, Whitcomb was a negative voice during the brief excitement caused by mysterious discoveries in South Arabia. Reports of the legendary city of Ubar effectively masked the probably interesting and important results by Juris Zarins, an experienced Arabian explorer. This excitement coincided with an article he was preparing on the Arabian context of the results of the Aqaba excavations, provisionally entitled, "Out of Arabia." With visions of the golden towers of Ubar in mind, Whitcomb set off for his spring season at Aqaba.

This field season was preceded by participation in the Fifth Conference on the History and Archaeology of Jordan, held in Irbid, Jordan. Mr. Whitcomb presented a paper on the "Misr of Ayla," revising his earlier ideas with important new additions on the Arabian city (in effect arguing for a combination of orthogonal and cluster patterns). This conference was the occasion of the appearance of his "Reassessing the Archaeology of Jordan of the Abbasid Period," in the *Studies in the History and Archaeology of Jordan IV* and, by coincidence, "The Islamic Period as Seen from Selected Sites," in *The Southern Ghors and Northeast Arabah Archaeological Survey*.

In the fall Mr. Whitcomb taught his popular course, "Egypt after the Pharaohs," as well as a reading course on Islamic architecture and a class for the archaeological theory course. He began work on a single volume encyclopedia, *An Encyclopedia of Islamic Archaeology*, contracted with Garland Press, which will be part of a series including encyclopedias of Egyptian, Anatolian, and Levantine archaeology. A board of advisors, made up of active archaeologists and historians of art in the Islamic field, has been assembled and invitations for articles have been sent out to over one hundred scholars with enthusiastic responses returned. Despite the excellent beginning, many scholars and subjects remain to be matched for this complex endeavor.

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## COMPUTER LABORATORY

JOHN C. SANDERS

PEGGY M. SANDERS

### INTRODUCTION

During its second year of operation the Oriental Institute Computer Laboratory expanded its services to include a diversity of projects. Besides addressing daily issues of computer operations or malfunctions of every imaginable sort, there has been a steady flow of graphics production for archaeological publications, as well as programming and applications development. Not least in significance was the compilation of a document describing the evolution of computer use at the Oriental Institute.

As Institute sections and projects acquire new computers, the laboratory is consulted on the shuffling and reassigning of older computers to where they are most needed or best suited. This often involves upgrading the machines with more memory and/or higher capacity hard disk drives. With the rising demand for computers, few, if any, remain unused.

### INSTITUTE COMPUTER NETWORK

The computer network provides a means for all Institute personnel to communicate by electronic mail, or to send messages to colleagues in other institutions that are also connected to the world-wide computer network. This same process also allows computer files or documents to be transferred between individuals over the network, a definite improvement in speed and ease of communication among scholars. The network also provides access from a desktop computer to the University of Chicago On-Line Library Catalogue, as well as more than 300 other library catalogs around the world. Access to laser printers by all Institute faculty, staff, students is also available over the network, which improves the quality of computer documents that must be printed.

After only a year and a half, the Institute's computer network seems to have reached a very important point in its life. Given the comments and general state of anticipation that pervades the halls during its not too frequent "down time," it appears that the computer network has developed the capacity to inflict Institute personnel with the "how did we manage without it" syndrome. Use of electronic mail as the preferred means of intra-building communications amongst the Institute's faculty and staff has steadily

increased, and in some sections of the Institute, such as the Research Archives, electronic mail and use of the Institute's fax machine has virtually replaced the voice telephone for communications outside the building.

Practically all of the Institute's computers are connected to the building's computer network: sixty-three of sixty-seven Apple Macintosh computers are connected to the AppleTalk network, with two of the remaining four Apple Macintosh computers directly connected to the Ethernet network; six of fourteen IBM PC compatible computers are likewise connected to the AppleTalk network. And the Institute's Sun SPARCstation computer located in the Computer Laboratory is connected to the Ethernet network. Similarly, eight of ten laser printers in the Institute are connected to the building's AppleTalk network.

## LABORATORY PROJECTS

Considering the volume of drawings produced by the Computer Laboratory, whether printed or plotted images for publication, or slide images for lectures, the assistance and graphic skills of Peggy Sanders is gratefully acknowledged. Ms. Sanders, who has been the artist for the Nippur Expedition since 1977, maintains a relationship with the Oriental Institute as an independent contractor with Archaeological Graphic Services. Her work is divided between manual and computer-aided drawing, both of which have their place in various projects at the Institute.

The Computer Laboratory staff assisted several research projects and Institute sections during the past year. The following discussions briefly summarize our work, the methods employed, and their results.

### The Nippur Expedition

Although the Gulf War caused a distressing interruption to excavations at Nippur, a small consolation is increased time to spend preparing publication maps, plans, pottery, and object drawings from several seasons of excavation at Nippur. The list includes the operations in areas:

WC-1, an area of Kassite buildings and surface graves

WC-2, an area of seventh and sixth century B.C. houses

WC-3, Nippur city wall excavations from several periods

WF, a small stratigraphic exposure of continually rebuilt houses from the Early Dynastic through the Ur III period, as well as Kassite and first millennium B.C. remains

WG, an area of Parthian through Sasanian buildings

Umm al Hafriyat (a site 20 km to the east of Nippur)

With regard to area WG and the site of Umm al Hafriyat, the work involved simply digitizing, or transferring, original field drawings (pencil on

paper) to computer files in preparation for future editing. Once in the computer, drawing files can be edited and re-edited in accordance with the excavation's corresponding field notes and publication manuscripts.

In the case of the area WC-1 report, whose primary author is Richard Zettler, numerous drafts of the individual level plans and sections were produced during the course of editing over the past year. The final, publication-ready, ink-on-mylar versions of these drawings were plotted and given to the Oriental Institute Publications Office, along with the completed manuscript. The volume, entitled *Nippur III: Kassite Buildings in Area WC-1*, will be published about the same time as this *Annual Report*.

Drawings of area WF, which will illustrate the dissertation of Augusta McMahon, have gone through a similar metamorphosis and will be plotted a final time during the coming year. James Armstrong is reworking, for publication, his dissertation on excavations in area WC-2. During the past year the Computer Laboratory added to these plans some important details which were brought to light in his 1987 excavation of the same area.

Drawings such as those described above, whether produced on a computer or by more traditional means, have been for years and continue to be a routine part of any excavation report. The Computer Laboratory staff, however, in conjunction with Nippur Expedition members, is utilizing the graphic capabilities of our computers to produce three-dimensional visualizations of the site of Nippur and its environs. For many years each excavation report from Nippur has relied solely on a topographic plan to orient the reader. Two years ago that original two-dimensional contour plan was transformed into a three-dimensional surface terrain model of the site. With this computer model it is possible to "fly around" as if in a helicopter and to view the site in three-dimensions from any angle or height you choose. This type of imaging enhances one's ability to understand the topography of Nippur and to locate features and excavation areas at the site. Examples of several such images became part of the Interactive Computer Display in the Oriental Institute Museum's Centennial Exhibit, "Sifting the Sands of Time." Photographs produced from these computer images will appear in future Nippur Expedition publications, in the same manner as color slides that are now being used to illustrate lectures given by members of the Nippur staff.

During this past year the three-dimensional surface terrain model of Nippur was enlarged to include an 11 × 23 km area surrounding the site. This expansion of the model is a direct result of collaboration with Tony Wilkinson, the Institute's geomorphologist, who has spent many hours in the field studying this region around Nippur. In the future, coverage will be expanded further as the necessary topographic data is acquired and can be verified by ground survey.

## Giza Plateau Mapping Project

In the spring of 1991 public television station WGBH, in Boston, contacted Assistant Professor Mark Lehner, the Institute's Egyptian archaeologist, with an idea for a show that investigated the construction of the Giza pyramid complex to be broadcast in their NOVA series. One part of the show was to be an animated "fly-over" of the Giza Plateau as it might have looked at the time the pyramids were being constructed.

Mentioned briefly in last year's *Annual Report*, a computer model of the entire plateau and its architectural components had to be created from existing maps, and published survey and excavation reports. Lehner supplied the Computer Laboratory with a one-meter contour map showing the topography of the Giza Plateau. The original Giza map was broken down into twenty-five 500 × 500 meter squares. The contour lines in each square were "digitized" into drawing files using the AutoCAD graphics program on an IBM AT computer. Once all twenty-five squares were completed these files were processed to extract the X, Y, Z coordinates for every line segment of each contour, producing a data file of just over 100,000 point proveniences for a 3.5 × 4 km area of the Giza Plateau. This file of point proveniences was then used to generate a three-dimensional surface terrain model of the Giza Plateau using the ARRIS graphics program and an add-on module called Topographer, from Aritek Systems, Inc., on a Sun SPARCstation 1+ computer.

We would like to thank Mr. Al Hart and Mr. Dan Moore of Aritek Systems for their assistance in this project. The need to process over 100,000 data points to generate a single surface model required modifications to the Topographer program itself, changes which they graciously undertook at no charge and which have now been incorporated into the latest release of the Topographer program. We could not have produced the Giza Plateau model for the NOVA production without their help and that of the entire Aritek Systems staff.

In addition to the Giza surface terrain model, the Computer Laboratory constructed basic three-dimensional volume models of the architectural monuments on the Giza Plateau. These building components were added to the surface terrain model in their appropriate locations.

With the computer model of the Giza Plateau completed, the use of animation software will permit one to "fly" into, around, and through the model and to record what one sees on videotape. Because the Computer Laboratory does not yet have the animation software necessary to accomplish this, a copy of the Giza Plateau computer model was shipped to an architectural firm in Venice, California, The Jerde Partnership, who assisted Lehner with his computer mapping of the Sphinx during the 1980s. With Lehner's assistance, Tom Jaegers, the firm's computer specialist, merged their

surface model of the Sphinx with the Giza Plateau surface model, decided on the path of the "fly-over," added a sky backdrop, and produced the forty-five second video sequence that was seen in the NOVA special entitled "This Old Pyramid," which was broadcast on November 4, 1992.

Beyond this "popular" use for the Giza Plateau database, future enhancements to the basic computer model are already underway that will greatly increase its use and potential for analytical and educational studies. One by one, each of the architectural volume models will be replaced with more accurate and detailed three-dimensional reconstructions of the architectural constructions on the plateau. Construction of the first two detailed models, that of the Sphinx Temple and the Khufu Pyramid itself, are nearly completed. These particular structures were chosen because of the needs of a second project Lehner is involved in, the publication of a new survey of the Egyptian pyramids by Thames and Hudson.

Additional work in "re-contouring" the plateau's surface is also planned, in order to produce four separate computer models of the Giza Plateau in accordance with Lehner's reconstructions of the different stages of the plateau's development: before any construction was undertaken, and after each of the pyramids of Khufu, Chephron, and Mycerinus were built.

#### Tal-e Malyan Project

William Sumner asked the Computer Laboratory to prepare a number of pottery and lithic plates for a forthcoming publication of his excavations at Tal-e Malyan in Iran. The work involved the final hand inking and page layout of pottery profiles and lithic illustrations, most of which were originally drawn years ago by other members of the excavation staff.

#### Paper on Oriental Institute Computer Usage and History

During the first half of 1992, Charles Jones, the Institute's Research Archivist, and John Sanders collaborated on a paper describing the various uses of computers at the Oriental Institute. Entitled "The Oriental Institute: Computer Usage and Applications Development," it also contains a brief history of how the incorporation of computers into the research projects of Institute faculty and staff has evolved from the early 1960s. It is our intention to update this document as events and projects change over time. We foresee several uses for this paper, either in part or in its entirety:

1. To provide general, background information on the types of research projects and methodologies undertaken at the Oriental Institute
2. To provide more detailed information on the use of technology by these research projects

Copies of this paper are available from either the Oriental Institute Computer Laboratory or the Research Archives.

### Publications Office Accounts Receivable Database System

During the past year we helped the Publications Office staff assess their computer software for accounts receivable and shipping of books to their clients. After discussions with the University Computing Organizations' staff, it was decided that the Computer Laboratory would write a new prototype database system on an IBM compatible computer using the dBASE III+ programming language. When the programming is completed and fully tested the dBASE code will then be "ported," or moved, to the Apple Macintosh computers used by the Publications Office. The new Accounts Receivable system should be operational by the summer of 1993.

### Rewrite Field Mapping and Recording Software

The Nippur Expedition has used a Hewlett-Packard hand-held computer, the HP-71B, for on-site mapping of field excavations since 1985. John Sanders developed and wrote the computer database programs used at Nippur in the mid-1980s, when the HP-71B was the only affordable hand-held computer with the requisite power, speed, and durability. In writing the mapping and recording software he took advantage of specific features built into the HP-71B computer. When Hewlett-Packard announced in 1988 that it would stop manufacturing the computer immediately, and stop supporting the HP-71B in five years, our continued use of this computer system was called into question.

It was decided this past year to take advantage of the interruption in field operations at Nippur and to start a rewrite of the entire set of recording and mapping programs using a more general-purpose programming language and to remove any computer-specific code that limits the types of machines the programs will operate on. Such changes are advantageous now because the number of hand-held computers we can choose from to replace the HP-71B has increased dramatically in the past year. At present, half of the primary recording program has been rewritten in the dBASE III+ programming language. The entire process, including the addition of several new features that enhance the overall capabilities of the software, should be completed by next fall.

### Integrated Computer Database

Discussions continue concerning the development of a single, integrated computer database that would link the various Oriental Institute collections: Research Archives, Photographic Archives, Museum Registration, Museum Conservation, Cuneiform Tablet Collection, and the Epigraphic Survey Archives. This integrated database would incorporate not only textual information from each collection but also images of artifacts and photographs where appropriate. The integration of these related collections would greatly enhance their analytic potential for faculty and staff, as well as scholars

outside the Institute, and provide for very efficient management of these collections.

During the past year and a half three companies have demonstrated their Museum Management and/or Text and Image Management computer programs to representatives of the various Institute collections mentioned above. Several more commercial programs will be evaluated during the coming year. Throughout this process the Institute's original requirements for this type of integrated database are assessed, and adjustments are made as new technologies and methods of achieving our goals are developed and made available.

### **LABORATORY EQUIPMENT / RESOURCES**

In the last *Annual Report* we mentioned that several of the Institute's archaeologists, McGuire Gibson and William Sumner, in particular, had expressed an interest in the use of satellite imaging for their respective projects and in developing a capability within the Institute to process and analyze satellite image data obtained from government and private sources. After discussions with Dr. Raymond Pierrehumbert, Director of the Computer Laboratory in the Geophysical Science Department, the University of Chicago, and Dr. Robert Beck, Director of the Center for Imaging Science, the University of Chicago, it was decided that the Institute should take a two-fold approach to this new technology: first, continue to build on our relationship with these two local resources for image processing and satellite data analysis; and second, to obtain the Spyglass software for the Institute and to start training selective faculty, staff, and students in the use of the programs to view, process, and analyze satellite images and other remote sensing data. The Computer Laboratory has purchased and installed the Spyglass series of software on its Apple Macintosh IIfx. We have also obtained a tape containing SPOT satellite image data covering an area of Iraq to the north of Nippur. This is the image data that will be used as a teaching aid as faculty, staff, and students learn to master this new technology in the coming year.

SPOT Image Corporation is a commercial remote sensing resource owned and operated by the Centre National d'Études Spatiales (CNES), the French space agency. Along with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the EOSAT Corporation, these are the primary sources through which the Institute will obtain further satellite data of the Middle East.

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## PUBLICATIONS OFFICE

THOMAS A. HOLLAND

An important milestone was reached by the Publications Sales Office this year as it sold and shipped twelve hundred more books than last year, which caused sales to top one hundred thousand dollars for the first time ever. An accelerated pace of publication and effective marketing ideas fueled this year's record-setting performance. During the first half of the year, the Publications Office sent nine books to press, one of which was the first-ever complete catalog of Oriental Institute publications (*Publications of the Oriental Institute 1906–1991*, OIC 26). The aggressive distribution of the catalog dramatically increased the scope of our advertising. The Publications Sales managers began representing the Oriental Institute at archaeological,

Table of Sales

<i>Series</i>	<i>Number of Volumes Sold</i>
Assyriological Studies (AS)	378
Chicago Assyrian Dictionary (CAD)	709
Chicago Hittite Dictionary (CHD)	95
Materials and Studies for Kassite History (MSKH)	17
Oriental Institute Communications (OIC)	773
Oriental Institute Nubian Expedition (OINE)	221
Oriental Institute Publications (OIP)	465
Studies in Ancient Oriental Institute Civilization (SAOC)	924
Miscellaneous*	53
TOTAL	3635

\*Volumes published jointly with other institutions:

*Prehistoric Research in Southeastern Anatolia I*. H. Çambel and R. J. Braidwood.

*Quseir al-Qadim 1978: Preliminary Report*. D. S. Whitcomb and J. H. Johnson.

*Quseir al-Qadim 1980: Preliminary Report*. D. S. Whitcomb and J. H. Johnson.

*Uch Tepe I: Tell Razuk, Tell Ahmed al-Mughir, Tell Ajamat*. McG. Gibson, ed.

*Uch Tepe II: Technical Reports*. McG. Gibson, ed.

philological, and medical conventions, for which a professional book display was acquired. It attended and displayed our books at the American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature/American Schools of Oriental Research convention in Kansas City and the Archaeological Institute of America convention in Chicago. Also, several titles were sent for display at the 202nd Annual Meeting of the American Oriental Society in Cambridge.

Additionally, Scholar's Choice and EBSCO subscription services displayed several of our titles at the following conferences: American Research Center in Egypt in Seattle, the American Association for the History of Medicine in Seattle, and the Annual Meeting of the Medical Library Association in Washington.

Amidst the energetic advertising and increasing sales, Louis C. Anthes resigned the position of Sales Manager in April. I am very happy to report that James W. Willis was hired as the new Sales Manager that same month. Jim was able to pick-up the work without pause so not a moment—or sale—was lost. The Double Helix sales and inventory program was scrapped in favor of a much faster, though transitional, invoicing system created with Microsoft Word. Jim and John Sanders, Head of the Oriental Institute Computer Laboratory, are designing a new and even more efficient sales and inventory program for another data-base software package, FoxBase. Jim and John hope to have the new system in operation before the end of the 1992–93 fiscal year.

The Editorial Office continued to be staffed by Thomas Urban, Rick Schoen, and myself. The five titles listed as “in press” in last year's *Annual Report* were printed—OIP 3, OIP 4, SAOC 48, AS 25, and OINE IX. In addition to these publications, nine other volumes were printed, were sent to press, or were in preparation, as follows:

1. *Publications of the Oriental Institute 1906–1991: Exploring the History and Civilizations of the Near East*. OIC 26. T. A. Holland, ed. Printed.
2. *Thus Wrote 'Onchsheshonqy: An Introductory Grammar of Demotic* (Second Edition Revised). Janet H. Johnson. SAOC 45. Printed.
3. *Life in a Multi-Cultural Society: Egypt from Cambyses to Constantine and Beyond*. Janet H. Johnson, ed. SAOC 51. In preparation.
4. *A Late Period Hieratic Wisdom Text (P. Brooklyn 47.218.135)*. Richard Jasnow. SAOC 52. Printed.
5. *Chicago Assyrian Dictionary*, Vol. 8, K. Reprinted.
6. *Chicago Assyrian Dictionary*, Vol. 9, L. Reprinted.
7. *Chicago Assyrian Dictionary*, Vol. 11, Part 1. Reprinted.
8. *Chicago Assyrian Dictionary*, Vol. 11, Part 2. Reprinted.
9. *Excavations Between Abu Simbel and the Sudan Frontier, Part 6: New Kingdom Remains from Cemeteries R, V, S, and W at Qustul and Cemetery K at Adindan*. Bruce B. Williams. OINE 6. In preparation.

The production of these titles pushed to the limit the Editorial Office's capabilities in desktop publishing. Our catalog (OIC 26) was printed in two colors (black and University of Chicago maroon). Our unique hieroglyphic typeface was used in several manuscripts—SAOC 45, 51, 52 and OINE 6. Richard Jasnow's *A Late Period Hieratic Wisdom Text* (SAOC 52) is the first book in a long time to be printed under the Oriental Institute imprint with a glossy insert for the plate section. Somewhat outside the scope of desktop publishing, although our computers and laser printers were used to prepare camera-ready text for covers, copyright information, and correction of typographical errors, we oversaw the reprinting of another four volumes of the *Chicago Assyrian Dictionary* in the U.S.A.

The following manuscripts have been accepted for publication:

1. *Excavations at Serra East, Parts 1–5: A-Group, C-Group, Pan Grave, New Kingdom, and X-Group Remains from Cemeteries A–G and Rock Shelters*. Bruce B. Williams. OINE X.
2. *Glass from Quseir al-Qadim and the Indian Ocean Trade*. Carol Meyer. SAOC 53.
3. *The Mechanics of Ancient Egyptian Magical Practice*. Robert K. Ritner. SAOC 54.

A significant investment was made in the Editorial and Sales Offices' hardware. The Editorial Office acquired a new laser printer, the LaserMaster Personal Typesetter 1200, which has vastly improved the appearance of our volumes. The new printer prints at 1200dpi, which is a great improvement in resolution over the 300dpi of our LaserWriter IINTX. Our Macintosh SE was upgraded to an SE/30 and a special controller board was installed in it to allow the use of a two-page monitor. The Sales Office obtained a Hewlett-Packard DeskWriter, which is an ink jet printer that prints at 300dpi.

Progress was also made in our offices' computer software. The system software of all our computers was upgraded to version 7.0. A four-user version of MasterJuggler was purchased for our offices. Our principal typesetting application, Microsoft Word, was upgraded to version 5.0, and we upgraded PageMaker to version 4.2. We also had further modifications made to our specialized laser printer fonts. Lloyd Anderson of Ecological Linguistics added to CuneiformOriental, our standard, Times-based font, the following characters: 3̄ (double-Egyptian 'aleph), = (Fraktur Hyphen), t̄, T̄, h̄, and H̄ (special characters for the printing of ancient Egyptian and related languages). Cleo Huggins of Mountain View, California added several special characters to our hieroglyphic fonts. She also upgraded the hieroglyphic fonts and they now look and work much better than the earlier versions.

**PUBLICATIONS**  
**THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE**  
**1906-1991**

**EXPLORING THE HISTORY AND  
CIVILIZATIONS OF THE NEAR EAST**

*Edited by*

**THOMAS A. HOLLAND**

*with an Introduction by*

**WILLIAM M. SUMNER**

*and Contributions by*

**THOMAS G. URBAN, RICHARD M. SCHOEN, AND LOUIS C. ANTRES IV**

A COMPLETE CATALOG OF THE TWELVE SERIES PUBLISHED BY THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

AN ILLUSTRATED CATALOG OF THE VOLUMES IN PRINT

A SELECTION OF ITEMS AVAILABLE FROM THE *Sûz*,  
THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE MUSEUM GIFT SHOP

ORIENTAL INSTITUTE MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

BOOK ORDERING INFORMATION

**THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO**  
*ORIENTAL INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS* • No. 26  
CHICAGO • ILLINOIS

The achievements of the Publications Office were manifold this year. Our catalog was a smashing success. Our hardware and software upgrades have kept our operation on the cutting edge of technology in the desktop production of books of a Near Eastern genre. We continue to be well poised to take publishing at the Oriental Institute into the next century of the University of Chicago.

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## RESEARCH ARCHIVES

CHARLES E. JONES

The library is the most essential feature of scholarship in any humanistic discipline. It encompasses the corpus of primary sources as well as the indices and analyses that permit their continuing interpretation. It is thus both the foundation upon which the scholarly process stands, and the source from which that process draws sustenance. In the final analysis, it is the repository of future as well as past scholarship.

Since the founding of the Research Archives twenty years ago, the Oriental Institute has committed itself to the development of such a tool. In doing so, it has also committed itself to styles of research and pedagogy that are centered on that facility. As a result the Research Archives is the central research and teaching facility of the Oriental Institute. For the student of the ancient Near East, the Research Archives surpasses all other similar facilities in North America and abroad, not only because of the breadth of its coverage, the simplicity and elegance of its organization, and the unparalleled availability of its collections, but also because it represents a standing seminar in which scholars from a wide variety of disciplines and approaches are continuously exposed to each other and to the products of each other's research. It is the availability of such a resource that has made the fundamental scholarly projects of the Oriental Institute possible, and which, to an extraordinary extent, determines the quality of the current projects as well as the nature of those envisioned for the future.

The Research Archives is also an extraordinary collection of artifacts, fully as important as the collections of a museum. It is common for books in our collections to have as many as three generations of scholarly marginalia. One can routinely find editorial and interpretive comments (including significant corrections of text copies) written by such luminaries as James Henry Breasted, John Wilson, William Edgerton, I. J. Gelb, and others. This collection is heavily used and has very specific preservation priorities. The survival of the collection of the Research Archives depends upon the mitigation of environmental factors, such as extreme fluctuations of temperature and humidity, and intense light, which are now uncontrolled.

It has been our exceedingly good fortune over the past decade to have had the opportunity to pursue a policy of comprehensive acquisition of published material on the ancient Near East. We may, in fact, be in the unique position of having an expanding budget at a time when most major university libraries

are undergoing severe across-the-board cutbacks in the material they are able to acquire. The distribution of *The Oriental Institute Research Archives Acquisitions List* [RAAL] is our attempt to discharge the responsibilities consequent to our acquisitions policy by supplementing the existing bibliographical resources in ancient Near Eastern studies. As reported in the last *Annual Report*, we had expanded RAAL in June 1991 to include an analytical listing of essays, articles, and reviews included within the books and periodicals acquired by the Research Archives. We received an immediate and overwhelmingly positive response to that reformatting, and in January 1992 we inaugurated the formal publication of RAAL. This first issue included material acquired and catalogued in the Research Archives during the period August–October 1991; the second issue, which appeared in April 1992, covered material acquired and catalogued during the period November 1991–January 1992; and the third and fourth issues, appearing together and covering material acquired and catalogued during the period February–July 1992, will appear in November 1992. Thus, the first year of the publication of RAAL covers 897 pages of text and includes full bibliographical entries on the 2095 items processed into the collection of the Research Archives and 8509 essays, articles, and reviews.

As a frequent, but irregular, supplement to RAAL we also began this year to publish another series: *Oriental Institute Research Archives Bibliographical and Informational Documents: Supplements to Oriental Institute Research Archives Acquisitions List*. Our intention is to produce a series of topical bibliographical guides to material in the collections of the Research Archives and, eventually, research tools of a more comprehensive nature on subjects related to the study of the ancient Near East. To date each of the Assistant Research Archivists has compiled and prepared an issue of this series:

Paul M. Cobb *Islamic Studies at The Oriental Institute Research Archives* [February 1992], provides a classified listing of more than four hundred publications relating to the study of the Islamic Near East that are available in the Research Archives

Terry G. Wilfong *Women in the Ancient Near East: A Select Bibliography of Recent Sources in The Oriental Institute Research Archives* [May 1992], provides an indexed listing of nearly five hundred recent sources available in the Research Archives

The compilation, preparation, and formal publication of the *Acquisitions List* and its supplements have already become a central feature of daily life in the Research Archives. It provides us with an additional level of editorial

control over our acquisition and cataloguing procedures and encourages each member of the staff to pursue in greater depth particular research interests and problems while developing the resources of the Research Archives and their accessibility.

We have found that the development of the On-Line Catalogue of the Research Archives has had an impact beyond our (guarded) expectations. The database is currently resident on a file serving component of the administrative computer of the Research Archives. We will soon transfer the database to a dedicated file server that will be jointly administered by the Research Archives and the Oriental Institute Computer Laboratory. Upon this move the Catalogue will be the first locally produced, fully accessible resource of the Oriental Institute. The move will also enhance the multi-user searching capabilities as well as the data-entry and editorial procedures. The catalogue can be searched from any Macintosh computer connected to the University of Chicago network.

At the time of writing, the On-Line Catalogue contains slightly more than twenty thousand records. We estimate that the collections of the Research Archives will generate more than one half million records when fully catalogued. Of the two important projects that we intend to initiate in the next few months, the retrospective cataloguing project (which we have been planning for some time, and have mentioned in previous *Annual Reports*) will be the most far reaching. When complete, it will be a unique resource, providing a complete index to all published material on the ancient Near East. The second of the two immediate projects is the establishment of a library-based facility for the access, management, manipulation, and distribution of on-line and digitally based resources for the study of the ancient Near East. Along with the Oriental Institute Computer Laboratory we have begun the process of acquiring the appropriate hardware, application software, and data files that will enable us to provide the rudiments of such a facility in the near future. Indeed, we have already made available to all users of the Research Archives a number of resources that are only available in electronic form. Further developments and the public announcement of this facility will be forthcoming as the project unfolds.

I am extraordinarily fortunate to have had Terry Wilfong and Paul Cobb as Assistant Archivists while both continue to pursue their degrees. Each of them has made an important contribution to the new publication series mentioned above, and Terry has joined me as Assistant Editor of RAAL. They are regularly called to demonstrate their expertise in reference matters both general and specific. I am particularly grateful for their acumen, flexibility, and cheerfulness. Both Terry and Paul will continue to work in the Research Archives in the coming year. John Sanders, Head of the Oriental Institute

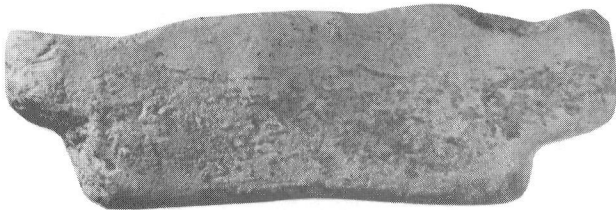
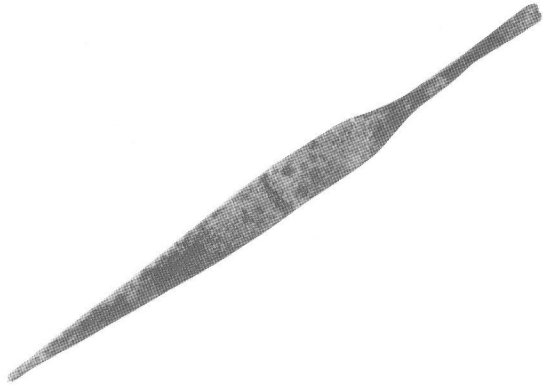
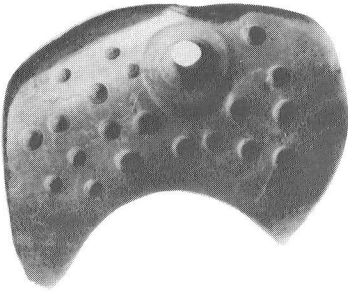
Computer Laboratory, has provided us with invaluable support, cooperation, advice, and encouragement in the development of our on-line resources and in the planning and execution of our computer facilities.

In the year ending March 31, 1992, the Research Archives acquired and catalogued 1992 items with the following results:

	<i>April 1991-March 1992</i>	<i>Total</i>
Monographs and Series	960	17,926
Journals	<u>200</u>	<u>8,237</u>
Total Books	1160	26,163
Maps	48	
Pamphlets	279	



# MUSEUM



Shell pendant, bronze spatula, and stone cosmetic box used for personal adornment, from Tell es-Sweyhat, Syria

## THE MUSEUM

KAREN L. WILSON

During the past year, most of the museum staff's considerable energies was focused on the two exhibits that were mounted in conjunction with the University of Chicago centennial celebrations: "Sifting the Sands of Time: The Oriental Institute and the Ancient Near East" opened on October 6 and "Vanished Kingdoms of the Nile: The Rediscovery of Ancient Nubia" on February 3. Both were so well received by both the Oriental Institute community and the general public that they are being held over for most of this year as well. Congratulations are due to each and every member of the museum staff who contributed to this success—and, especially, to Assistant Curator Emily Teeter, who shouldered the bulk of the curatorial responsibility for both exhibits, and to Preparators Mary Carlisle and Joseph Scott, who designed, built, and installed these two very special shows.



**View of the entrance to the exhibit "Sifting the Sands of Time: The Oriental Institute and the Ancient Near East"**



**The first section of the exhibit “Vanished Kingdoms of the Nile: The Rediscovery of Ancient Nubia”**

Thanks to the efforts of Emily Teeter and of University News Staff Writer William Harms, “Vanished Kingdoms of the Nile” received widespread media coverage, including major features in the *New York Times*, the *Chicago Tribune*, and *The Miami Herald*, as well as interview and feature spots on prime time television. Other projects such as last year’s CT scanning of the Egyptian mummies continued to result in media coverage as far afield as *Al Ahrām* in Cairo, as well as front page coverage in the *Chicago Tribune* and numerous television and radio spots. Due in large part to all this new publicity, museum attendance increased more than 6% last year, making us one of the few Chicago area museums whose visitorship has not decreased over the past 12 months! Our more active days were Centennial Arts Day (Oct. 6—939 visitors), Celebrate Nubia! Day (Feb. 8—523 visitors), and Chicago Day (May 3—862 visitors).

Registrar Raymond Tindel and Assistant Registrar Glenn Carnagey spent much of their time keeping track of the movement of objects for the centennial exhibits, while at the same time playing host to more than fifty researchers from around the world. Visiting scholars ranged from old friends such as Jack

Foster of Roosevelt University and James Keenan of Loyola University, both of whom have long-standing interests in particular groups of Egyptian ostraca, to Françoise Tallon of the Musée du Louvre, who came to look for comparative material amongst the museum's collections of Iranian and Mesopotamian metal objects. Ray and Glenn also continued such daily duties as identifying and describing the objects in the museum collections and recording certain basic facts about each piece—its age, provenience, the material of which it is composed, its cultural affiliations, and its general description. Working with Abbas Alizadeh, who has been preparing material from the Institute's excavations at Tall-e Bakun, Iran, for publication, the staff in registration registered over 3000 objects. Glenn also finished a catalogue of approximately 4600 ostraca from the Institute's excavations at Medinet Habu, which will make this collection of ancient 'business notes' of Greek and Coptic Egypt much more useful to researchers.



**A museum visitor on Celebrate Nubia! Day examines one of the sculptures on display in "Vanished Kingdoms of the Nile"**

Once again it is a pleasure to thank all the volunteers on whom so much of the work in the registry depends. They catalogue and register, they get objects out for scholars and put them away again, they inventory cabinets, and they spend hours at computers entering data. Several visiting scholars have complimented our organization of the collections and our inventory control; it is the volunteers who have made it all possible: Debbie Aliber, Michelle Biehl,

Aimee Drolet, Anita Eller, Lilla Fano, Leila Foster, Peggy Grant, Mary Grimshaw, Shehla Khawaja, Georgie Maynard, Megan McArdle, Eric Poryles, Patrick Regnery, Lillian Schwartz, and Peggy Wick.

While all of this was going on, Registration, working closely with Conservators Laura D'Alessandro and Barbara Hamann and Preparators Mary Carlisle and Joseph Scott, transferred the manuscript collection into new cabinets especially designed for it and purchased with a Conservation Grant from IMS and installed new shelves for mummies and coffins in the organics room. When not so engaged, Barbara spent most of her time working on objects for the exhibits and for five loans to other institutions, while Laura ran the lab, wrote grant proposals, and began collecting data for an exciting new project. When climate control is installed in the museum galleries, we plan to reinstall our collection of Assyrian reliefs next to the Khorsabad Bull in what is now the Egyptian Gallery; this will recreate the ambiance of the original courtyard in which they stood. (The Egyptian Gallery, along with the statue of King Tut'ankhamun, will move into the present Mesopotamian Hall). Jerry Podany, Head of the Department of Antiquities Conservation at the J. Paul Getty Museum, consulted with us on a preliminary feasibility study for relocating these monuments. Then, in June, Laura spent a week in Paris watching Michel Bourbon prepare the Louvre's Khorsabad bulls and reliefs for reinstallation. Her notes and photographs will be invaluable in helping us plan and successfully execute the movement of our own reliefs.



**Awad Abdelgadir in Breasted Hall describing life in modern Nubia on Celebrate Nubia! Day**

When not recording all these activities on film, Photographer Jean Grant was kept busy taking photographs and producing prints for the many outside scholars and publishers to request images from us each year. We extend our thanks to her volunteers: David Deckert and Xiaomei Gu, who have done a great deal of slide work. Ria Ahlstrom experienced the tragedy of losing her husband Gösta in January, but has returned to the Photographic Lab again—and we are glad to have her back.

In September 1991, through the good offices of Assistant Professor Peter Dorman, the Oriental Institute Archives acquired four original sketches by artist/curator/scholar Charles K. Wilkinson (1897–1986)—a name that will be familiar to many Oriental Institute members and friends. Mr. Wilkinson joined the Egyptian Expedition of the Metropolitan Museum of Art as an artist in 1920 and, in 1963, “retired” as Curator Emeritus of the museum’s Department of Near Eastern Art. The Wilkinson sketches are the gift of the artist’s widow, Irma B. Wilkinson, and we gratefully acknowledge her generosity and thoughtfulness in seeking to find an appropriate home for some of her husband’s non-archaeological drawings. Included in the group are portraits in pencil of Oriental Institute Egyptologist William Franklin Edgerton (1893–1970) and his first wife Jean, dated to about 1930.



**Drawing by Charles K. Wilkinson of Oriental Institute Egyptologist William Franklin Edgerton**

Special projects in the Oriental Institute Archives would not be possible without the assistance of regularly-scheduled volunteers and occasional interns. The many hours donated by our able and dedicated museum archives

volunteers enable Archivist John Larson to maintain our range of day-to-day activities at current levels, and we are pleased to be able to take this opportunity to recognize them and to thank them for their valuable contribution. The official roster of Archives volunteers for the fiscal year 1991–1992 includes Carolyn Livingood, Joan Rosenberg, Kay Ginther, Lilian Cropsey, Melanie Petroskey, and Sandra Jacobsohn. In addition to this group who continued in their volunteer roles from previous years, we were fortunate to have the assistance of an undergraduate intern from Lake Forest College, Ms. Sarah E. Lepinski, who worked 150 hours in the Museum Archives from September 1991 to January 1992. With Sarah's help, John was able to continue working on a project to organize the inactive Museum Curatorial files.

As we move into the new year, Museum Office Manager Lisa Snider continues to keep the details of our daily business (from telephones to ledgers to photo orders) running smoothly and cheerfully. Our sights are increasingly focused on the renovation and expansion project, including planning for redesign and reinstallation of the galleries—all of which we will be telling you more about in the next *Annual Report*.

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## MUSEUM EDUCATION PROGRAM

CAROLE KRUCOFF

This was a year of continued growth and development for the Oriental Institute's Museum Education Program. Services of long standing were maintained with continued success; an important special project was completed; and two innovative programs with great potential for future development were begun.

Members' courses have been a popular Education Department program for many years. This season a total of 276 participants attended the wide variety of courses offered on Saturday mornings and Wednesday evenings. Frank Yurco's Egyptian history sequence, requiring six quarters to complete, continued into its second year, with many students enrolled for the whole cycle. Other courses included *Egyptian Odyssey: Up the Nile on a Wing and a Chair*, an armchair travelers' tour, taught by John Larson; *Coptic Egypt*, by Terry Wilfong; *Exploring the World of Ancient Nubia and Sudan*, by Bruce Williams; *An Introduction to the Dead Sea Scrolls*, by Stuart Creason; *Valley of the Kings: A Survey of Archaeological Work in the Royal Necropolis at Thebes*, by John Larson; *The Amarna Period in Egypt*, by Frank Yurco; *Literature and*

*Propaganda: Middle Kingdom Egypt*, by Frank Yurco; and *Introduction to Hieroglyphs*, by Peter Piccione.

Another adult education program of long standing has been the symposium sponsored jointly by the Education and Membership offices. *Literacy and Scribal Traditions in Ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia* was the topic of the fifth annual symposium, which attracted nearly 200 participants on November 9, 1991. Presenters for the day-long event were Oriental Institute faculty and staff members Matthew Stolper, Martha Roth, Lanny Bell, Jan Johnson, and James Armstrong.



**Youngsters repair broken pottery during the children's workshop, "What an Archaeologist Does," one of the many Museum Education programs offered for the general public**



Outreach to the general public has been an important component of the Museum Education Program, with the summer season offering special opportunities to attract adults and young people. Summer Special Interest Tours for adults, offered by the Museum Docents each Friday during July and August, invited visitors to learn about such topics as “Women, Queens, and Goddesses of Ancient Egypt,” or to discover collection highlights during tours entitled “The Treasures of the Oriental Institute.” Summer Special Interest Tours for children were given on Thursday mornings in July and August, as they have been annually since 1982. Docents introduced more than 100 youngsters to the Museum’s exhibits, inviting them to view artifacts related to such special topics as “A Child’s Life in Ancient Egypt,” or “Egyptian Magic.” All children’s tours were followed by optional pen-and-pencil activities that encouraged the youngsters to explore the galleries and learn more about the tour’s theme.

Children were invited to take part in special hands-on museum experiences during the winter season. Saturday morning Winter Workshops engaged seven-to-twelve year old youngsters in craft activities related to museum objects. Children in the 1992 workshops created replicas of ancient crowns, including the double crown of Egyptian kings and the blue crown of Queen Nefertiti; they also constructed an Egyptian pyramid and decorated its interior. More than 40 youngsters took part in these workshops that attracted participation from throughout the Chicago area.

As part of its goal to reach a wider community and regional audience, the Education Department developed a new series of Family Programs in 1991–92. Offered in conjunction with the Sunday afternoon film series, these programs provided children and their parents with the opportunity to create and take home special craft projects related to artifacts on view in the museum’s galleries. Over the year, participation in these programs grew, with many families returning again and again. The Education Office and the museum also offered a similar family program on Saturday, February 8, 1992, in conjunction with the opening of the exhibit “Vanished Kingdoms of the Nile: The Rediscovery of Ancient Nubia.” Hundreds of visitors came to take part, with more than 250 Education Program craft projects completed that one afternoon.

Developing resources for students and teachers has been a Museum Education priority since the program’s founding in 1980. This past year saw the completion of a video production for educators, the offering of a special course for teachers, and the piloting of a new outreach program for Chicago public school classes.

Two years in the making, the video production “*The Oriental Institute: Its Collection and Its Work*” provides an overview of ancient Near Eastern history

and culture as represented in the collections of the Oriental Institute Museum. The video also includes photographs of excavation sites and computer-animated maps. Sold to teachers and the general public through the Suq, *"The Oriental Institute: Its Collection and its Work"* has generated interest nationwide.



**High school students study the museum's Amarna House exhibit using gallery guide sheets from study kits prepared by the Education Office**

In the fall of 1991, the Museum Education Office offered "Ancient Egyptian Math and Science," an eight-session evening course taught by Frank Yurco especially for teachers. Ten Chicago-area educators explored the nature of the number system in ancient Egypt, concentrating on the many sophisticated uses mathematical computation served; they also discussed Egyptian mathematical and scientific influence on Greece and later western culture. The course emphasized ways the teachers could incorporate this material into their classroom curriculum.

The Museum Education Program received a special gift in 1991 to develop a curriculum enrichment project for elementary school teachers in the Chicago Public Schools. Funded by Oriental Institute Visiting Committee members Albert F. Haas of Chicago and Maurice D. Schwartz of Los Angeles, the Ancient Egyptian and Mesopotamian Civilizations Curriculum Enrichment Project provided specially designed educational materials to help teachers give their students a better appreciation of ancient civilizations. Materials included the Oriental Institute Museum Teachers' Kit, Art Projects Manual,

and the new Oriental Institute video. Teachers used these materials to enhance their classroom lessons and to prepare their students for a visit to the Oriental Institute Museum. Also included was the program's most innovative feature—a visit to each classroom by an archaeologist, who discussed the history and archaeology of the ancient Near East. All aspects of the program were funded by the special grant, which enabled teachers and students who had not previously visited the Oriental Institute to derive maximum benefit from the museum's unique resources. Teacher evaluation of this pilot program was designed to serve as the basis for development of expanded curriculum outreach by the Museum Education Office.

Participating in various community and University events has often been part of the agenda for Education Program staff. This past year, the Museum Education Program was once again a sponsor of the second annual University of Chicago Arts Day on Campus, an event to acquaint Chicago Public School art teachers and students with campus organizations. The Museum Education Program also took part once again in the annual 57th Street Children's Book Fair, where graduate students operated a booth at which children could learn to write their names in hieroglyphs and make cartouches in ancient Egyptian style. Outreach events such as these have served to widen the museum's circle of friends and visitors

In March, 1992, after 12 years of dedicated service to Museum Education, Joan Barghusen, the Program's founder, retired. She leaves a legacy of extraordinary accomplishments that provide a firm foundation for the continued growth and development of educational programming at the Oriental Institute Museum. At the end of her *Annual Report* in 1991, Joan expressed her appreciation for the expertise, inspiration, and steadfast support of people who were indispensable to the many projects of the Museum Education Program. Those special friends and colleagues are listed again here: Terri Barbee, Programs Assistant; Janet Helman, Volunteer Coordinator; the Museum Docents, with special thanks to Kitty Picken and Peggy Grant; volunteer Joan Hives; and the entire staff and faculty of the Oriental Institute.

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## THE SUQ

DENISE BROWNING

Our sales this year were higher than ever before for a grand total of \$301,602.69, one and one-half percent over last year's mark, which is quite amazing considering these difficult economic times. Part of this success was due to the opening of the Nubian exhibit, which drew many new visitors to the museum, and to our participation in the "Newberry Very Merry Bazaar." This bazaar took place at the Newberry Library (located on the north side of Chicago) on the weekend before Thanksgiving. We were among twenty other non-profit organizations who offered their merchandise for sale. Not only was the adventure lucrative—our sales were over \$4,000.00—but it also introduced many new people to the Oriental Institute. Many thanks are due to Jane Hildebrand and Michelle Monsour for their help in this monumental undertaking.

This year we also had a Christmas brochure mailing that was moderately successful. Thanks are due to Chris Galvin for the professional way in which he filled and kept track of all those orders.

Special thanks are also due to Florence Ovadia who creates our beautiful displays, to Georgie Maynard and Jo Jackson who keep the Suq clean and restocked, to Norma Van der Meulen and Marie Baxter who designed some of our most beautiful jewelry, and to Norma Van der Muelen and Carol Johnson for their help during inventory.

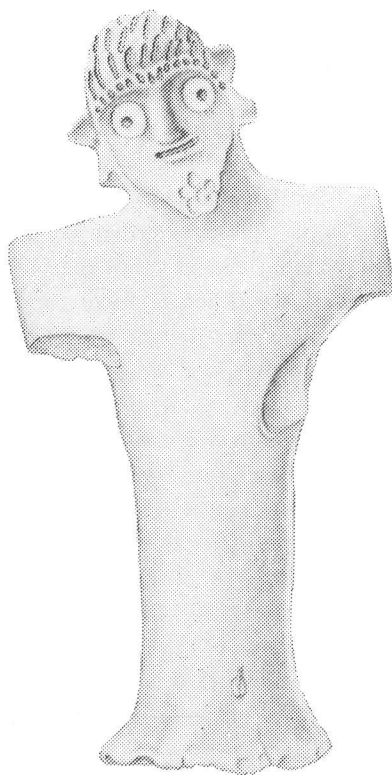
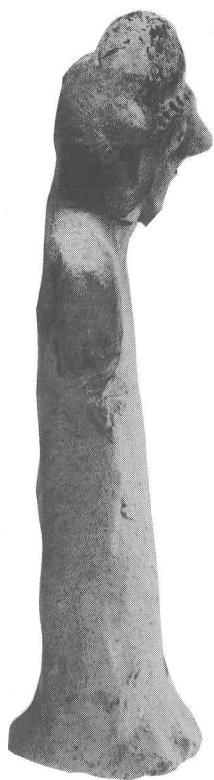
Our docents are amazing! Our real success lies with their patience and enthusiasm in dealing with the customers. If service is the key word of the 90s, we've certainly got it. With great affection and appreciation I also would like to thank:

Muriel Brauer  
Lois Cohen  
Charlotte Collier  
Barbara Frey  
Bette Goldberg  
Peggy Grant  
Janet Helman  
Jane Hildebrand  
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# MEMBERSHIP



Male figurine, modeled in clay, with an elaborate headdress and beard, from Tell es-Sweyhat, Syria  
(A postcard showing this figurine in color is available from the *Suq*)

## MEMBERSHIP OFFICE

MELANIE JANSEN MARHEFKA

The past year has been a busy one for the Membership Office. In the fall of 1991 the Alumni Development Database System was put on line for the membership records, which was the culmination of many long months of program designing and records verification. A great deal of time was also spent planning new events for members—the number of events in 1991–1992 was more than double that in the previous year (1990–1991).

One of the most important changes this year was the introduction of new types of activities offered to members. In addition to the traditional Wednesday evening Members' Lecture Series, members were able to come to gallery tours (conducted by Lanny Bell, Walter Farber, Emily Teeter, and Karen Wilson), a champagne reception (for the opening of the exhibit, "Sifting the Sands of Time"), a special lecture series held in conjunction with the Oriental Institute Museum for the opening of the Nubian exhibit, and a dinner lecture with Professor Martha Roth. The Members' Lecture Series itself was host to a stellar cast of visiting speakers, including Thorkild Jacobsen, former director of the Oriental Institute; John Curtis, Keeper of Western Asian Antiquities at the British Museum (co-sponsored by the Archaeological Institute of America); Martin Bernal of Cornell University (co-sponsored by the Workshop on Ancient Societies of the University of Chicago); Dietrich Sörenhagen, Universität Heidelberg; John Baines, Professor of Egyptology at Oxford University; and speakers from the Oriental Institute, including Tony Wilkinson, the late Gösta Ahlström, Norman Golb, and Thomas Holland.

The Annual Dinner, held on June 1, 1992, was a great success, with 203 attendees and over \$18,000 raised for the benefit of the Research and Publications Fund. We were honored to have British Consul Ray Mingay and his wife as guests of the Oriental Institute at the dinner and were pleased that so many of our members and friends were able to join us on this special occasion.

1992 was the charter year for The James Henry Breasted Society, comprised of members who contribute \$1,000 or more in unrestricted gifts to the Oriental Institute. In 1992 the number of Breasted Society members increased from twelve to thirty members in a six-month period. The James Henry Breasted Society members not only help to support the Research and Publications fund, but they also serve as a vital link to other members who would like to get more involved with the Oriental Institute.

The Members' Travel Program also had a successful year, with a sold-out trip to Yemen, led by Registrar Raymond Tindel, in January 1992, and two sold-out trips to Eastern Turkey with Assistant Curator Emily Teeter in May 1992. Many thanks go to Emily for all of her invaluable assistance with these tours and in the planning of others as well.

The Membership and Development offices were pleased to be able to contribute to the planning of two very special events held at the Oriental Institute in the fall of 1991: a reception for Oliver Gurney and Albert Hourani, who received honorary degrees from the University of Chicago as part of its centennial celebration, and a luncheon for the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Docent Program. One of the highlights of the luncheon was the announcement that Monday, December 9, 1991, had been officially declared "Carolyn Livingood Day" by Mayor Richard Daley, in honor of the founder of the Oriental Institute Docent Program. Visiting Committee member Terry Friedman was instrumental in making the luncheon a success.

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Please contact the Membership and Development Office if you wish to make any changes in your honor roll listing.

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