In the Late Antique (4th-8th centuries AD) town of Jeme (located inside the Ramses III mortuary temple at Medinet Habu), OI excavations found a large number of multi-story mudbrick houses in this densely occupied settlement. Coptic-language papyri found prior to the OI excavations reveal considerable information about houses in this settlement. The OI did not find papyri but did find ostraca which also tell us about the houses and their contents.

**Notation about pawned goods (MH 2422)**

“The woman’s dress, the two vessels, and five garments are at the house of Pegosh, in common, until called for.”

**Notation about Ownership of goods (MH 1520):**

“Divide her property among us. As for her iron furniture, it goes to(?) Sacho. Her wooden furniture to Psan.”

**Two Lists of Household Goods and a Letter (MH 855)**

“Two carvings, three coverlets, four pillows, two sheets, one bronze brazier, one candlestick, two frying pans, one image of bronze, one lion (?) of bronze, one vessel, one xestes, one censer, one sickle, one handle, four cups, one basket, one jar, one bronze bucket, one bronze cover, one bronze cup (?). This is a list of my father’s chattels. Those which have been given to Sabek: Three dyed dresses, two cloaks, two napkins, one pillow, on sheepskin, eight garments, one frying pan, one censer, one image of bronze, one candlestick. I greet you always revered fatherly piety. Be so kind as to do it for God’s sake; make a settlement between my sister and Sabek and decide their affair."
Six contracts were found in House I at Nippur, which was also found to have gone through architectural changes through time as the house changed. The events that occurred in the house were:

1. The owner of House I, Ilum-naši dies in 1742 BC and leaves his house to his four sons: Enlil-mansum, Tab-balatum, Ur-dukuga, and Enlil-galzu. A3014.
2. Tab-balatum acquires Enlil-mansum’s part of the house and Enlil-galzu acquires Ur-dukuga’s share of the house. It is not clear how they acquired these additional shares, as this is not documented.

3. Tab-balatum sells his share to a certain Ipqu-Enlil in 1738 BC for 6 shekels of silver. A30140.

4. Archaeological evidence argues that the house was unoccupied for the next four years and renovated around 1734 BC, which is the same time that House H was built.

5. Ipqu-Enlil sold one room of his portion of House I, to the owners of the newly built House H, Enlil-nišu and Etel-pi-Ištar. A30141.
6. Ipqu-Enlil then exchanged his remaining portion of House I with Enlil-galzu’s portion of the house and also pays him 1/2 shekel of silver, thereby losing money. He did this because Enlil-galzu was the owner of the portion of House I that adjoined House H.

7. On the same day as that transaction, Ipqu-Enlil then sold his remaining portion of House I to the owners of the newly built House H, Enlil-nišu and Etel-pi-Ištar for less than what he had originally paid for it. Subsequent alterations to the doorways and walls meant that Enlil-galzu now had a self-contained house and House H was connected to House I. A30138.

8. After 1732 BC, the brothers of the newly built House H, Enlil-nišu and Etel-pi-Ištar, ended their partnership and split the two houses. A30139.