





MUSEUM - CONSERVATION / Laura D'Alessandro

In January and February, the conservation staff conducted workshops and training sessions on artifact sampling and sample preparation for Yener and Kouchoukos' course "The Archaeology of Technology and Instrumental Analysis in Archaeology."

Alison Whyte, this year's Getty intern, is hard at work on her research project on the study of the glazed brick tableau from the entrance to the Sin Temple at Khorsabad. The research will incorporate polarized light microscopy, petrographic thin section analysis, x-ray diffraction, scanning electron microscopy and electron microprobe analysis in order to characterize the composition of both the brick fabric and the coloured glazes. The results of the project will add to the body of data on these ancient materials as well as aid the conservation department in making appropriate choices regarding their treatment.

In March, the conservation staff continued their mandatory OSHA training in occupational and environmental health and safety by attending a one-day course at the Art Institute, co-sponsored by OSHA, the Smithsonian and the Art Institute. Also in March, the conservation lab was visited by conservators representing the British Museum and the Chicago Historical Society. This presented another opportunity to demonstrate current work on the Assyrian relief project to other museum professionals. Earlier in the year, the lab hosted a conservator from the Brooklyn Museum of Art who visited the museum to compare our methods with conservation currently underway on Brooklyn's reliefs.

In April, the conservation lab, in conjunction with Andrew Davis, the director of the Department of Geophysical Sciences' scanning electron microscope, hosted visitors from three departments of the Field Museum (Anthropology/Botany/Conservation). The Field Museum representatives were on a facts-finding mission in preparation for purchasing a new scanning electron microscope for their facility.

Also in April, Laura attended a one-day conference at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in Gaithersburg, MD, on the inert, hermetically sealed environments recently developed by NIST in conjunction with scientists at NASA to house the Charters of Freedom displayed at the National Archives Museum in Washington, D.C.

The Babylonian lions glazed bricks were stabilized, framed, and installed during this period. The stone threshold from Khorsabad's new mount, begun by Preparation, was completed by Belding Walbridge.

Work on the Khorsabad Court area reliefs continues. The final conservation and restoration work on these 6 reliefs is scheduled to be completed by the end of August 2002. And, of course, conservation continues on objects slated for the new Mesopotamian Gallery.

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MUSEUM - EDUCATION / Carole Krucoff

Museum Education

More than 5,000 people took part in Museum Education programming during the fall and winter quarters. Activities and events included adult education courses, lecture series, professional development seminars for teachers, hands-on arts programming for children, and day-long festivals for families.

Many of our programs were collaborative ventures with sister institutions on campus, including the College Programming Office, the Graham School of General Studies, and the Smart Museum. Partners city-wide included the Field Museum, the City of Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs, and the Teachers Academy for Professional Growth of the Chicago Public Schools.

In a recent Newsletter issue, we reported on the new self-guided activities for families that are now available for the Egyptian Gallery. Last month, our Family Activity cards received national recognition when the American Association of Museums (AAM) selected them to be exhibited as exemplary museum education materials at the AAM's annual meeting in Dallas in mid-May. "Life in Ancient Mesopotamia," a curriculum guide developed in partnership with a panel of Chicago Public School teachers, will also be on exhibit as a model for collaborative development of educational materials. Both the Family Activities and Curriculum Guide projects have been funded by generous grants from the Polk Bros. Foundation.

#### Volunteer Program

During the fall and winter quarters, the Volunteers have been extremely productive. Throughout the Institute and the Museum, over 120 active docents and volunteers have helped with museum tours, outreach visits, and family and teacher programs. Volunteers have also donated many hours working in the Sug and behind-the-scenes assisting faculty and staff.

Docents have taken 5,311 visitors through the Museum galleries. These visitors were:

2,237 students from Chicago schools  
1,768 students from suburban schools  
1,306 out-of-state visitors

The student groups came from 120 different schools, and twenty-one universities. We also had thirty adult groups and twenty-two religious groups visit and tour the museum with the docents.

Docents also presented four Outreach programs for 425 school or adult group participants.

In addition to service at the Oriental Institute, more than twenty docents participated in a collaborative fall training program with the Field Museum of Natural History for the Cleopatra exhibition. After training, these Oriental Institute docents served as facilitators, guides, and interpreters for the exhibition.

The Volunteer Program joined with the Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio to host a program for Volunteer Coordinators and other staff from cultural institutions throughout the metropolitan area. Over 250 visitors came to the University of Chicago to participate in this collaborative program held at the Robie House and the Oriental Institute.

The Volunteer Coordinators provide in-service training for the volunteers each month. This year, the Coordinators also arranged for field trips for

volunteers, faculty, and staff to see new exhibits or learn about new projects at the Robie House, the Field Museum, the Spertus Museum, and the Garfield Park Conservatory.

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MUSEUM - REGISTRATION / Ray Tindel

The big news from Museum Registration is the arrival of more storage cabinets. Thanks to another successful grant application by Laura D'Alessandro and Karen Wilson, we have another twenty-one Delta Design cabinets into which we will unpack and store the Egyptian New Kingdom pottery over the next few months. Overall, we have at this point unpacked approximately 1,250 boxes and crates, which means that we have only about 3,400 to go. Of course, a major and continuing effort goes into the tracking of the material currently under consideration for the reinstallation - some 2,700 pieces for the Mesopotamian hall, nearly 1,200 for the Syro-Anatolian exhibit, and more than 300 for the developing Megiddo exhibit. We are also in the process of retrieving material from a number of old loans, including the Nubian textiles from the Art Institute, and we have just recently retrieved some seven cartons of Prehistoric Project material from the Matson Museum at Penn State - many thanks to Claire Milner - and some very important Banahilk painted ware from Washington University - warm gratitude to Patty Jo Watson. We currently await the return by Tom Loy of the Barda Balka flints with some of the oldest known human blood deposits.

Ongoing projects include the registration of the Amuq and Prehistoric Project collections and the Institute's extensive collection of tablet casts. We have recently completed a field number index of Chogha Mish I, to facilitate the registration of the Chogha Mish material when we get to it.

Current users of the collections include Robert Ritner and his hieroglyphs class reading heart scarabs, Kathryn Piquette of University College London who is coming to study early Egyptian bone and ivory tags and labels, and Aslihan Yener and Jesse Casana who are coming down to review Amuq phase K, L, & M material before heading off to the field.

We are saddened by the passing of Georgie Maynard who died April 27. Mrs. Maynard was a volunteer in registration for many years and one of the people on whom I relied to show me the ropes when I became registrar in 1986. I wish there were some way to count all of the small finds, flints, potsherds, spindle whorls, bronzes, etc., etc., etc. which she inventoried, registered, packed, and unpacked, all with diligence and unfailing good humor; the number would be staggering. She will be sorely missed.

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MUSEUM - REINSTALLATION / Eleanor Barbanes

On February 15th the six month construction phase in the museum's north gallery was brought to a close. Each one of the museum galleries re-installed thus far has required different degrees of reworking, and the north gallery was probably the most complex. Teams of people from sixteen different design and construction firms joined the museum staff in recrafting the space from the

ground up, literally -- new wiring under the terrazzo floors, new partition walls with granite fittings, built-in furniture, new lights, shades, refinished floors and walls -- all were necessary before the new casework could be brought in from Baltimore. The future home of the Mesopotamian collection now stands ready for the installation of the newly-designed exhibit.

With the design and construction administration of the north gallery completed, and the plan for the east gallery (Syria/Anatolia and Megiddo) well along in terms of design and exhibit organization, my job now is to assist full time in the curatorial part of the reinstallation of Mesopotamia, as the conceptualization and research continues and the exhibit content and layout continue to be refined. My main occupations since February have been topic research, provenience searching, and writing up text to accompany the objects we've selected for the upcoming Chronology case, as well as developing a new exhibit on aspects of daily life.

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MUSEUM - STATISTICS / Carla Hosein

Since the beginning of this year we have had 13,171 people visit the Oriental Institute; 2,507 have been here for special events and 10,664 just to visit the Museum. For Museum attendance this is actually a 25% decrease from last year at this time. However, as you will all remember, in January 2001 we were still hosting the Ur exhibit, which greatly increased our visitation.

So far this year the Members Lecture featuring Aslihan Yener in February was our most attended in-house special event. Of course, we had a more-than-full house with the largest event so far -- the launch of the Chicago Initiative on April 12th.

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PUBLICATIONS / Tom Urban

We expect delivery of CHD S/1 during the week of May 6 and delivery of OIP 119 (Darnell's Theban Desert Road Survey volume) at the end of May or beginning of June.

Work continues on the other volumes as reported previously.

The CDD .pdf files continue to receive the majority of "hits" on the Publications Office's webpages.

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RESEARCH ARCHIVES / Chuck Jones

Thanks to everyone for their indulgence during the kickoff of the University's fundraising effort in April. The Research Archives was the venue for two panels of speakers: The Stem-cell/Cloning panel had a standing-room only crowd (i.e., 90+), the Art for Art's Sake panel drew ca. fifty souls.

As audience and participants came and went we managed to hand out a large number of Annual Reports and recent issues of News & Notes.

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PROJECTS  
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CAD / Martha Roth

The CAD is pleased to report the light is shining strong at the end of the tunnel. (1) We have been busy working on the citation-check phase for the edited volume Tet. This has occupied Roth and Tim Collins and Gertrud Farber, as well as Editorial Board members Bob Biggs, Erica Reiner, and Matthew Stolper. Meanwhile, Tony Brinkman, who usually reads the entire manuscript at the galley stage, has been reviewing selected lemma at this earlier stage and providing his suggestions and comments; Wilfred Lambert has also been returning his comments to the manuscript. It is thanks to everyone's efforts that this volume is progressing so well and will certainly go to press in 2002. (2) The P Volume galleys have all been distributed to the editorial board (Biggs, Brinkman, Civil, W. Farber, Reiner, Stolper) and to our outside readers (Parpola, Veenhof). They have all been returning the galleys with their corrections, comments, and suggestions. Tim Collins and I then work to incorporate these to be set as page proofs. We hope to see the P Volume published in the winter of 2002/03. (3) The T volume (which had been read and approved by the Editorial Board in the early 1990s) is being reset in galleys by Eisenbrauns and proofread in-house. This volume, too, should appear in 2002/03.

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EPIGRAPHIC SURVEY/ W. Raymond Johnson

On April 15th the Epigraphic Survey successfully concluded its 78th six-month field season in Luxor. While the staff departed Chicago House for home, Tina Di Cerbo kindly stayed behind to oversee the closing down procedure for the next two weeks. I spent several days in Cairo wrapping up the paperwork for the season at the American Research Center, submitted my final report and application for next year's work with the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities, and touched base with our friends at the US Embassy, USAID, and Egyptian Museum. I also spent a very pleasant evening with our dear Dr. Henri Riad, who is now living with his family at his home in Heliopolis and is doing quite well.

March and April saw a continuation of the drawing and collating of the drawings for the first two volumes of the Medinet Habu small Amun temple series, and I was able to 'director's review' all twenty-four of the drawing enlargements for the two southern sanctuary rooms which had been paint collated by the artists and epigraphers. These two rooms are now ready for publication in Volume 1, while an additional two scenes in the front central sanctuary have been collated and are ready for my review next season after the rest of the chamber has been completely cleaned. End of the season tallies indicate that a total of thirteen new drawings for Volumes 2 and 3 of the small Amun temple series were penciled at the wall by the artists this season, ten new drawings were inked as studio

work, and twenty additional drawings (some penciled last year) will be inked over the summer for collation starting next season. In addition to the Volume 1 material, eleven new drawings for Volume 2 were collated by the epigraphers at the wall, while the artists transferred corrections to nine additional drawings which were transfer-checked and cleared by the epigraphers. Director's checks were completed on seven drawings, four of which will appear in Volume 1 and three in Volume 2, with more ready for my review next year. Epigrapher Brett McClain assisted by Harold Hays oversaw the epigraphic recording as well as the training of the new epigraphers Randy Shonkwiler and Steven Shubert. Both new epigraphers trained capably and well and were producing solid collations during the latter part of the season.

Tina coordinated the sorting, cleaning, identification, labeling, photography, storage, and cataloging of the 196 objects (not counting pottery) found during cleaning and restoration work in the sanctuary area of the small Amun temple since 1984. This group of objects includes beads; copper fragments; glass; ostraca; ushebties; a small, inlaid eye with copper rim; and stone fragments, including 111 sandstone relief fragments, eight of which Tina was able to place in four of the back sanctuary rooms and the bark sanctuary ambulatory. In addition, Tina created an illustrated database of 204 graffiti at the small Amun temple (including forty additional unpublished graffiti from the sanctuary rooms, the roof, and the façade) and 263 graffiti in the Ramesses III mortuary temple which will help us track old and new examples for publication. In March Photographer Yarko, assisted by Photo Archivist Sue Lezon and assistant Ellie Smith, photographed all of the wall surfaces in the southern and front central sanctuaries after cleaning with 35mm and 4x5 color transparency film for the final publication. Yarko and Ellie also finished the photography of the Ptolemaic pylon doorjambs and lintel on the west side, over eleven meters in height, with large-format b+w film in ten sections, for drawing enlargements and photographic details which will be published in Volume 4.

During March and April Senior conservator Lotfi Hassan, assisted by conservators Adel Aziz Andraws and Nahed Samir, cleaned two and a half walls in the front central chamber, including the western wall and inscribed doorway with flanking reliefs of Hatshepsut (cartouche changed to Thutmosis III) embracing Amun. Adel and Nahed replaced deteriorated mortar between the wall courses with hydraulic lime and sandstone powder, and assisted in the wall cleaning. They also cleaned the surface of the black granodiorite offering table of Shepenwepet II from the naos room (which Yarko and Ellie then photographed), and which is now temporarily stored in the small Amun temple bark sanctuary. Stonecutter Dany Roy completed the grouting with liquid mortar of the sanctuary roof area, and continued the patching - with new sandstone - of missing roof blocks over the bark sanctuary and ambulatory, replacing ancient Ptolemaic ones removed since antiquity. In all, seventy-eight new sandstone slabs of varying sizes (covering twelve square meters in total surface) were laid on the northern section over the bark sanctuary, and a new drain spout off the northern side of the roof was put into place.

At Luxor Temple field conservator Hiroko Kariya coordinated the Luxor Temple Fragment Project through March 30th. This season marks the seventh and final year of a grant approved by the Supreme Council of Antiquities and the Egyptian Antiquities Project, USAID, and ARCE for the consolidation of deteriorating decorated sandstone wall fragments in the Luxor Temple blockyards. While the grant is expiring this year, EAP and ARCE have allowed us launch a long-term storage, consolidation, and documentation program for the preservation of this

priceless, inscribed material which the ES is committed to continue, and we are extremely grateful for the initial boost by ARCE.

Thanks to a Robert Wilson matching grant and the World Monuments Fund, in April the Epigraphic Survey completed the first year of a two-year program to raise all of the decorated stone wall fragments around Luxor Temple off the ground, away from corrosive groundwater, up onto protective, damp-coursed brick platforms designated by category. By the end of this season 310 meters of damp-coursed storage and treatment mastaba platforms (thirty-five mastabas total) had been constructed east of the temple precinct to the north and south of the present ES blockyard, and 5,000 decorated wall fragments had been raised from the ground onto the new platforms for storage, conservation, and analysis. Mastaba categories include Hatshepsut/Thutmosis III; Amenhotep III back sanctuary; Amenhotep III sun court; Akhenaten talatat; Colonnade Hall; Ramesses II first court interior and exterior; Ramesses III exterior back sanctuary; 25th Dynasty; 26th Dynasty; Akoris and misc. raised; misc. sunk; Ptolemaic/Roman raised relief; Ptolemaic/Roman sunk relief; and misc. Christian and medieval. While I marked the fragments with mastaba numbers designated by category in chalk, Jamie Riley took over the supervision of the fragment moving in March and worked with our workmen right until the end of the season. Because of his efforts, and those of Nan and David Ray before him, we were able to get far more accomplished than I had believed we would, which means far more material saved, and it really made a difference. The good will this project is generating among the local antiquities officials in Luxor is enormous.

As part of this program, in the north area Hiroko supervised the emergency moving of ninety-two severely decaying fragments (mostly unaccessioned Akhenaten talatat) from the damp ground onto two damp-coursed platforms. These mastabas were then covered with a framework over which was stretched Tyvek (spun-bonded olefin made of high-density polyethylene) and plastic-lined fabric, for protection against the wind and rain. One additional fifteen-meter mastaba was constructed west of the Ramesses II court for the storage of 500 remaining inscribed block fragments reused in the cornice retaining wall, built at the turn of the last century, which was dismantled and replaced by the SCA this winter. Another 500 inscribed blocks were placed on designated mastabas by the Epigraphic Survey for the SCA in part of the new southern block storage area. This sample of material contained examples of all of the categories listed above, and was also organized by category.

Last season, in response to our growing concerns over questions of the structural stability of the Luxor Temple monument in light of the changing environmental conditions in Luxor, with the permission of the SCA the Epigraphic Survey sponsored a structural condition study of Luxor Temple. For the last two seasons structural engineer Conor Power surveyed the entire temple. He found that while the Colonnade Hall is structurally sound (for now), the Ramesses II pylons show signs of instability, and he recommended that they be monitored closely for signs of any future movement. Conor consulted with the Swedish SWECO de-watering engineers (currently studying a near-future Karnak and Luxor de-watering project), and coordinated the monitoring with them. At the beginning of the year SWECO installed two plumb bobs (over targets) and several surveying points on the south face of the east pylon for that task. At Conor's advice, in March, and with the kind assistance of the SWECO engineers, conservator Hiroko Kariya installed one additional plumb bob against the east pylon's south face, and two crack monitors about half way up the pylon to supplement the monitoring. It is a great pleasure to have Steven Shubert back







EMILY TEETER

Emily Teeter presented a paper "Aspects of Piety in First Millennium B.C. Thebes" at the Johns Hopkins- University of Chicago Theban Symposium on April 29th at Johns Hopkins.

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JASON UR

This spring I was part of the Tell Brak excavation, digging in Area TC, which in previous seasons had produced a burnt ED III public building (the "Brak Oval") with Akkadian and post-Akkadian structures above it. I dug most of an Akkadian period private house in the level above the Oval, so that more of the Oval can be cleared in future seasons. The crew at Brak is fantastic, easygoing and highly professional, although the living conditions (tents, occasional electricity, very weak tea) leave a lot to be desired. Also, supervising thirty men without an assistant can be stressful.

I took a vacation in the middle of the Brak season to attend the Paris 3ICAANE conference, where I gave a paper on the three seasons of the Hamoukar survey as part of the Hamoukar session, which was well attended and also featured talks by Mac Gibson and Clemens Reichel. Our papers should appear in a forthcoming volume of Akkadica.

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KAREN WILSON

April saw the publication of my article "The Temple Mound at Bismaya" in *Leaving No Stones Unturned: Essays on the Ancient Near East and Egypt in Honor of Donald P. Hansen*.

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