Thomas A. Holland

Thomas A. Holland is happy to report that the Oriental Institute’s Publications Office is moving nearer to the beginning of the work for the final publication of the archaeological and landscape studies conducted at Tell es-Sweyhat in Syria. Leslie Schramer, one of the present work-study students in the Publications Office, has made good progress during this year on the preparatory work of checking the bibliography, spelling, and organization of Tony J. Wilkinson’s introductory volume to the Sweyhat excavation reports, entitled Tell es-Sweyhat, Syria, Volume 1: Settlement and Land Use on the Margin of the Euphrates River and in the
Upper Lake Tabqa Area. This volume is slated for final publication in 2003 as was estimated in last year’s Annual Report.

In the 2000/2001 Annual Report, Holland reported upon the unpublished material remains from Area I, Trenches ID to IJ, that provided much new information not only concerning the third-millennium occupation on the site, but also about the extensive Roman period settlement, which was situated primarily on the southern slope of the upper town at Tell es-Sweyhat. During this academic year, work has continued intermittently on some revisions to the second volume of the forthcoming Oriental Institute Publications final Sweyhat reports, as suggested by the external reviewer of the manuscript, which is authored by Holland and entitled Tell es-Sweyhat, Syria, Volume 2: Archaeology of the Bronze Age, Hellenistic, and Roman Remains at an Ancient Town on the Euphrates River. The report concerning Sweyhat in this year’s Annual Report (see separate report) is presented as part of the preparatory re-examination of certain aspects of the final archaeological report as well as the more recent publications with new evidence from other Early Bronze Age sites in Syria and various requests from other scholars and graduate students who have asked for more information concerning the architecture and archaeology at Sweyhat prior to its final publication, which is planned to follow Wilkinson’s settlement and land use volume, sometime towards the end of the year 2003.

Once again, on behalf of the Sweyhat Expedition to Syria, Holland wishes to thank those who have given encouragement and assistance to this publication project, especially the staff and work-study students in the Publications Office: Tom Urban, senior editor and computer expert; Curtis Myers, publications sales and mailer of all important documents worldwide; and Dennis Campbell, Leslie Schramer, and Munira Khayyat, all graduate students in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations who have computer scanned line and halftone illustrations for final publication.