

## IN MEMORIAM

### **Barbara L. Hamann**

It is with great sadness that we learned that Barbara L. Hamann, who worked in the Conservation Laboratory from October 22, 1990, to September 5, 1998, passed away in November after losing her battle with cancer. Barbara initially pursued a career in archaeology and was awarded an MA in classical art and archaeology from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, but then decided to take a parallel track, that of archaeological conservation. After her graduation with honors from the Institute of Archaeology, University of London, with a degree in archaeological and ethnographic conservation, she spent a year at the Art Institute

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as the Getty Trust Post-Graduate intern before coming to the Oriental Institute as our first assistant conservator.

During Barbara's tenure, she played a key role in the Assyrian relief relocation project. During the years of preparation for the relocation and stabilization of the Museum's large-scale reliefs from Sargon's palace at Khorsabad, she tested and researched products and techniques that would be used in the stabilization of the reliefs. She worked closely with the riggers and framers as the

reliefs were moved and placed in steel frames, and spent many hours ensuring that conservation standards and procedures were followed.

Her hard work and dedication to the field was evident from the beginning and she continued to grow as conservation professional throughout her career. When Barbara left in 1998 to broaden her conservation experience, her absence was keenly felt. Her contribution to conservation at the Oriental Institute, and her legacy, is something that will live on in the Institute's memory. Anyone who has worked in the Lab after Barbara's time here recognizes her name, from her countless conservation treatments to her pivotal work on the Khorsabad Assyrian Relief Fragment Project. Her contribution was instrumental in making that undertaking a success. We missed her dry wit and conservation expertise when she left Chicago. We are even more saddened that her life and career were cut so short.

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