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### Robert Biggs

**Robert Biggs** completed his work on the cuneiform texts from the Inanna Temple at Nippur (mainly mid-third millennium BC) which he has worked on, mostly at the Iraq Museum in Baghdad, as opportunity and time permitted in the years since 1972. See Karen Wilson's contribution for details of the project.

In the summer of 1972, he received a fellowship from the American Research Institute in Turkey to study and make drawings of mid-third-millennium Sumerian literary and lexical texts from the Iraqi site of Fara, approximately contemporary with the texts excavated by the Oriental Institute at the Iraqi site of Abu Salabikh and which he published in 1974 as *Inscriptions from Tell Abū Ṣalābīkh* (Oriental Institute Publications 99; Chicago: University of Chicago Press). The Fara tablets were excavated at a time when the Ottoman empire included present-

day Iraq, so the government's share of the finds were sent to Istanbul. They were published by a French scholar in 1937 and 1957, but in a way that does not meet scholarly needs of today. Because Biggs did not have an opportunity to return to the Turkish capital to recheck his copies against the originals, the copies were never published. Even though he has communicated individual copies to colleagues, he is now preparing to make all his copies publicly accessible. Robert Englund of the University of California, Los Angeles, who heads the Cuneiform Digital Library Initiative, has offered to make scanned copies available on this site.

Biggs has also completed his study of a number of Ur III (late third-millennium BC) documents from a museum in South Dakota.

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