

# RESEARCH ARCHIVES

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### Introduction

It is an immense privilege to work in the Research Archives of the Oriental Institute. This is the sentiment not just of the staff, but also of the scholars and students who use our library every day. An entire collection of material devoted to the ancient Near East has been collected together and housed in three adjoining rooms. We intentionally do not follow an internationally recognized organizational scheme such as the Library of Congress or Dewey Decimal classification systems as our volumes are organized by scholars for scholars. Journals and series are kept under acronyms by which they are referred in their respective fields of study. It is not uncommon to hear colleagues inquiring with each other about the latest AOAT (Alter Orient und Altes Testament), OLA (Orientalia Lovaniensia Analecta), CHANE (Culture and History of the Ancient Near East), JEA (*Journal of Egyptian Archaeology*), or ZA (*Zeitschrift für Assyriologie*) volumes. This schema allows us to keep materials together that would otherwise be separated, often on different floors or in different buildings of other institutional libraries. In few other places is it so convenient to produce the latest scholarship.

One unique area of our collection which has needed attention now for many years is our extensive pamphlet collection. Like the series and journals, the pamphlet collection is a very efficient organizational tool where offprints of articles, chapters, biographies, obituaries, and other ephemera have been gathered together under the name of the author. In some cases, pamphlets represent articles from journals to which we do not subscribe, but in other cases, the items are a convenient way to get a glimpse of the non-monographic work of a scholar. A look at the many pamphlets of James Henry Breasted, Eckhard Unger, or Wilhelm Spiegelberg immediately attests to the prodigious work of these scholars. For the last seven years of my tenure in the Research Archives the pamphlet collection has lived out its days in a series of filing cabinets in the third floor rooms off the minstrel's gallery. Unfortunately, the pamphlets have suffered over the years in that environment.

During the last few years we have embarked on a project to re-house the pamphlets for the sake of preservation as well as easier use and storage. That task is now nearing completion and the pamphlets have been moved to their new home in archival Hollinger boxes housed in the monographs stacks. We have maintained their organization by author's last name. The monographs stacks offer a more consistent climate controlled environment. More importantly, separating the pamphlets into Hollinger boxes will help preserve them, allowing scholars a much easier time to look through the material and pull only those items they need. Pre-



Figure 1. Re-housed pamphlet collection in the Research Archives

viously, a single filling cabinet drawer may have held hundreds of pamphlets, crowded together and suffering from repeated use. Now, each box contains a much smaller sample and is clearly labeled for the benefit of the researcher. We have taken these and other similar steps to increase our role in the preservation and conservation of materials under our care. These steps should help to ensure the preservation of these valuable research materials for the use of future generations of scholars.

## Acquisitions

As in previous years, the accession policy of the Research Archives has remained focused on the publication of primary source material concerning the languages and cultures of the ancient Near East as broadly defined. During 2014–2015 the Research Archives acquired over 900 volumes, a number slightly less than our historical average of 1,000 volumes (see table 1). However, a backlog of approximately 100–200 volumes remains to be processed due to time committed to other projects. As we catch up by cataloging these volumes during the summer of 2015, we will meet or slightly exceed the historical average. Acquisitions come primarily through purchases, but a significant number of volumes also derive from exchanges and donations.

*Table 1. Research Archives acquisitions July 2014–June 2015*

<i>Month</i>	<i>Number of Accession Lots</i>	<i>Monographs, Series, Pamphlets</i>	<i>Journals</i>	<i>Total Volumes</i>
July 2014	44	99	199	298
August 2014	29	25	31	56
September 2014	42	52	34	86
October 2014	19	29	3	32
November 2014	21	49	5	54
December 2014	6	12	9	21
January 2015	20	50	2	52
February 2015	31	35	47	82
March 2015	23	24	31	55
April 2015	35	41	14	55
May 2015	26	45	14	59
June 2015	13	14	44	58
Totals	309	475	433	908
		Total Volumes		<b>908</b>

## Online Catalog

Since the fall of 2007, the online catalog has grown by over 300,000 records, averaging over 30,000 records per year (see table 2). In 2014–2015, we added another 20,000 records. We have now exceeded the 500,000 mark. In 1992 Chuck Jones and Terry Wilfong estimated this

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number would represent a complete index of our collection (see the *1991–1992 Annual Report*, p. 133). When one considers the number of journal volumes and pamphlets that remain to be cataloged, that number of records easily represents less than half of a comprehensive catalog.

*Table 2. Catalog records*

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of Catalog Records Added</i>	<i>Total Number of Catalog Records</i>
2014–2015	20,000	510,000
2013–2014	30,000	490,000
2012–2013	40,000	460,000
2011–2012	30,000	420,000
2010–2011	30,000	390,000
2009–2010	40,000	360,000
2008–2009	63,000	320,000
2007–2008	62,000	257,000
2006–2007	28,000	195,000
—	—	—
2003–2004	10,000	130,000

The migration to our new EMu database platform and the restructuring of our catalog data now allows us to provide more specific analytics on the Research Archives collection, including total volumes and various breakdowns of the types of material in the collection (table 3). Readers will immediately see that journal articles represent well over half the total number of database records (290,928 of 510,000). Scholars will find especially useful our indexing of journals, conference proceedings, and *Festschriften*, all the records of which are available for download through our online catalog ([oi-idb.uchicago.edu](http://oi-idb.uchicago.edu)) in formats compatible with major bibliographic software platforms (e.g., EndNote, Zotero).

*Table 3. Research Archives analytics*

<i>Type</i>	<i>Total Number of Catalog Records</i>
Total Volumes	61,941
Monographs	15,340
Monograph Sections	58,524
Series	1,157
Series Volumes	19,048
Series Volume Sections	77,220
Journals	893
Journal Volumes	26,511
Journal Volume Articles	290,928
Theses	1,003

Pamphlets	1,654
Reviews	112,404
Festschriften	498
Digital Invoice Records	725
Digital Cover Art Records	997
Adobe PDF	1,951

Among those items cataloged in the past academic year, a selection of interesting material completed by Oriental Institute scholars can be highlighted.

1. Abbas Alizadeh. *Ancient Settlement Systems and Cultures in the Ram Hormuz Plain, Southwestern Iran: Excavations at Tall-e Geser and Regional Survey of the Ram Hormuz Area*. Oriental Institute Publications 140. Chicago: The Oriental Institute, 2014.
2. Gertrud Farber. "Aspect Distribution in the Sumerian Verb 'to Give Birth.'" *Babel und Bibel 8: Studies in Sumerian Language and Literature, Festschrift für Joachim Krecher* (2014): 123–200.
3. Walter Farber. *Lamaštu: An Edition of the Canonical Series of Lamaštu Incantations and Rituals and Related Texts from the Second and First Millennia B.C.* Mesopotamian Civilizations 17. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2014.
4. Petra M. Goedegebuure. *The Hittite Demonstratives: Studies in Deixis, Topics and Focus*. Studien zu den Boğazköy-Texten 55. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 2014.
5. Isaac Kalimi and Seth Richardson (eds.). *Sennacherib at the Gates of Jerusalem: Story, History and Historiography*. Culture and History of the Ancient Near East 71. Leiden: Brill, 2014.
6. Ilan Peled. "assinnu and kurgarrû Revisited." *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 73/2 (2014): 283–97.
7. Robert K. Ritner and Nadine Moeller. "The Ahmose Tempest Stela: An Ancient Egyptian Account of a Natural Catastrophe." In *Egyptian Curses 1*. Proceedings of the Egyptological Day Held at the National Research Council of Italy (CNR), Rome, December 3, 2012, in the International Conference Reading Catastrophes: Methodological Approaches and Historical Interpretation. Earthquakes, Floods, Famines, Epidemics between Egypt and Palestine, 3rd–1st millennium BC. Rome, December 3–4, 2012, CNR–Sapienza University of Rome, edited by Giuseppina Capriotti Vittozzi, pp. 63–81. *Archaeological Heritage and Multidisciplinary Egyptological Studies* 1. Rome: Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Istituto di Studi sul Mediterraneo Antico, 2014.
8. Robert K. Ritner and Nadine Moeller. "The Ahmose 'Tempest Stela', Thera and Comparative Chronology." *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 73/1 (2014): 1–19.
9. Matthew W. Stolper. "Case in Point: The Persepolis Fortification Archive." In *Archaeologies of Text: Archaeology, Technology, and Ethics*, edited by Matthew T. Rutz and Morag Kersel, pp. 14–30. Jankowsky Institute Publications 6. Oxford: Oxbow Books, 2014.
10. Pierre Tallet and Grégory Marouard. "The Harbor of Khufu on the Red Sea Coast at Wadi al-Jarf, Egypt." *Near Eastern Archaeology* 77/1 (2014): 4–14.
11. John Z. Wee. "Grieving with the Moon: Pantheon and Politics in the Lunar Eclipse." *Journal of Ancient Near Eastern Religions* 14/1 (2014): 29–67.

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12. John Z. Wee. "Lugalbanda under the Night Sky: Scenes of Celestial Healing in Ancient Mesopotamia." *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 73/1 (2014): 23–42.

We continue to add links to online material, both new and old (table 4). Currently, there are over 115,000 links to online material in the Research Archives catalog (roughly 25% of all catalog records). Journal articles available online, either through subscription or open access, constitute the bulk of these links. However, we also link to items available elsewhere on the internet, including books, dissertations, series, and manuscripts.

Table 4. Links to journal articles

Journal	Links	Access
<i>Journal of the American Oriental Society</i>	15,328	JSTOR
<i>Catholic Biblical Quarterly</i>	12,338	Ebsco
<i>American Journal of Archaeology</i>	11,523	JSTOR/AJA
<i>Antiquity</i>	11,324	Antiquity
<i>Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik</i>	7,366	JSTOR
<i>Syria</i>	5,891	JSTOR
<i>Journal of Near Eastern Studies</i>	5,338	JSTOR/JNES
<i>Journal of Egyptian Archaeology</i>	4,312	JSTOR
<i>Biblica</i>	3,821	Open
<i>Bulletin of the American School of Oriental Research</i>	3,747	JSTOR
<i>Palestine Exploration Quarterly</i>	3,476	Ebsco
<i>Zeitschrift für Assyriologie</i>	3,254	Open
<i>Göttinger Miszellen</i>	3,009	DigiZeitschriften
<i>Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenlandischen Gesellschaft</i>	2,817	Open
<i>Near Eastern Archaeology (formerly Biblical Archaeologist)</i>	2,474	JSTOR
<i>Académie des inscriptions et belles-lettres. Comptes rendus</i>	2,346	Open
<i>Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient</i>	1,496	JSTOR
<i>Bulletin de l'Institut Français d'Archéologie Orientale</i>	1,842	Open
<i>Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt</i>	1,316	JSTOR
<i>Journal of Cuneiform Studies</i>	1,100	JSTOR
<i>Iraq</i>	1,097	JSTOR
<i>Aula Orientalis</i>	1,094	Open
<i>Review of Biblical Literature</i>	1,092	Open
<i>Studien zur Altägyptische Kultur</i>	887	JSTOR
<i>Bibliotheca Orientalis</i>	845	Peeters
<i>Anatolian Studies</i>	825	JSTOR
<i>Polish Archaeology in the Mediterranean</i>	765	Open
<i>Iran</i>	729	JSTOR

Table 4. Links to journal articles (cont.)

Journal	Links	Access
<i>Forschungen und Berichte</i>	698	JSTOR
<i>Oriental Institute News &amp; Notes</i>	469	Open
<i>Orient: Report of the Society for Near Eastern Studies in Japan</i>	447	Open
<i>Journal of the Ancient Near Eastern Society</i>	378	Open
<i>Sudan and Nubia</i>	317	Open
<i>Bulletin: Société d'Égyptologie Genève</i>	258	Open
<i>Ars Orientalis</i>	230	JSTOR
<i>Cahiers de Karnak</i>	189	Open
<i>Achaemenid Research on Texts and Archaeology</i>	77	Open
<i>British Museum Studies in Ancient Egypt and Sudan</i>	66	Open
<i>Égypte Nilotique et Méditerranéenne</i>	56	Open
<i>Lingua Aegyptia</i>	47	Open
<i>ASDIWAL: Revue Genevoise d'Anthropologie et d'Histoire des Religions</i>	41	Open
<i>Studia Orontica</i>	37	Open
<i>Cuneiform Digital Library Journal</i>	37	Open
<i>Cuneiform Digital Library Bulletin</i>	31	Open
<i>Mitteilungen der Sudanarchäologischen Gesellschaft zu Berlin</i>	29	Open
<i>Zeitschrift für Antikes Christentum</i>	25	De Gruyter
<i>Cuneiform Digital Library Notes</i>	19	Open
<b>Total</b>	<b>114,903</b>	

## Resources on the Web

In addition to the online catalog, the Research Archives maintains a series of open access online resources.

### Introduction & Guide

[https://oi.uchicago.edu/sites/oi.uchicago.edu/files/uploads/shared/docs/research\\_archives\\_introduction%26guide.pdf](https://oi.uchicago.edu/sites/oi.uchicago.edu/files/uploads/shared/docs/research_archives_introduction%26guide.pdf)

An updated introduction and guide to the Research Archives contains a brief history, a guide to the Research Archives collection, and instructions for using the online catalog.

### Online Resources

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/research/research-archives-library/online-resources>

Links to important online resources within the fields of ancient Near East studies are provided on this page with a focus on major tools and large databases.

### ***Acquisitions Lists***

<https://oi.uchicago.edu/research/research-archives-library/acquisitions-lists-research-archives>

The acquisitions reports of the Research Archives are distributed in Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on a monthly basis. This process has been active and continuative since September 2007.

### ***Annual Reports***

<https://oi.uchicago.edu/research/research-archives-library/research-archives-annual-reports>

Annual Reports for the Research Archives are available from 1969-2014.

### ***Oriental Institute Staff Newsletter***

<https://oi.uchicago.edu/research/research-archives-library/oriental-institute-staff-newsletter>

From February 1998 until March 2005 an Oriental Institute Staff Newsletter was circulated among faculty, staff, students, and the wider academic community. In the interest of preservation, remaining copies of the newsletter have been scanned and archived online.

### ***Dissertations***

<https://oi.uchicago.edu/research/research-archives-library/dissertations>

With the permission of the authors, the Research Archives provides access to Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) copies of dissertations completed in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations of the University of Chicago.

Dissertations posted on this site that have recently been published include:

- Dennis R. Campbell. *Mood and Modality in Hurrian*. Languages of the Ancient Near East 5. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2015.
- Michael Kozuh. *The Sacrificial Economy: Assessors, Contractors, and Thieves in the Management of Sacrificial Sheep at the Eanna Temple of Uruk (ca. 625-520 B.C.)*. Explorations in Ancient Near Eastern Civilizations 2. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2014.

### ***Dissertation Proposals***

<https://oi.uchicago.edu/research/research-archives-library/dissertations/dissertation-proposals>

With the permission of the authors, the Research Archives provides access to Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) copies of dissertation proposals completed in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations of the University of Chicago.

### ***Adopt-a-Book Campaign***

<https://oi.uchicago.edu/research/research-archives-library/adopt-book-campaign>

The Research Archives has launched an “Adopt-a-Book” campaign in order to increase support for the Research Archives. Donors are recognized through personalized book plates made in their honor and placed in volumes of their choosing.

### ***Social Media Sites***

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Research-Archives-of-the-Oriental-Institute/153645450792>

The Research Archives now maintains an official page on Facebook. Information about recent publications of Oriental Institute scholars or reviews of recent Oriental Institute publications is distributed through this page. 3,377 individuals currently follow the Research Archives through this presence on Facebook.

## **Donations**

Donations continue to play an important role in the acquisition efforts of the Research Archives. Several journal subscriptions are maintained solely through donations. In the realm of preservation, tattered and aging volumes can often be replaced or supplemented through book gifts. Often donations are extremely helpful in filling past gaps in the collection. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the following individuals and institutions for their generous gifts and exchange agreements this year: Bob Biggs, Kathleen Briggs, British Institute at Ankara, Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Andrea Dudek, Elizabeth Fanuzzi, Norman Golb, Jean Grant, Jack Green, Institut Français du Proche-Orient, Jo-Anne Jahant, Steven Jones, National Museum of Beirut, Kiersten Neumann, Polish Centre of Mediterranean Archaeology, Roberta Schaffner, Sonia and Marco Nadler Institute of Archaeology, Don Whitcomb, Bruce Williams.

## **Internship and Practicum Program**

The Research Archives was proud to host three student interns over the 2014-2015 academic year. Rebecca Segall spent the summer of 2014 with us on a Metcalf Internship. After completing her internship, we were happy to welcome Rebecca onto our library staff as she transitioned into a position as library assistant. Su Hyeon Kang returned to the library in the fall from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. Su Hyeon has since graduated and moved on to a full time position with the American Theological Library Association, for which we offer our congratulations. Alongside Su Hyeon, Doris Cardenas spent the fall quarter in the library on a practicum through Dominican University, graduating at the end of the quarter after a stellar practicum. I'd like to thank all of our interns for all their help, passion, and interest in the mission of the Research Archives.

## **Volunteer Program**

Ten years ago few would have imagined the resounding success of the volunteer program in the Research Archives. The team continues to expand and we have increased our capacity to six computer terminals in our office. Through their dedication and sweat our volunteers accomplish a tremendous amount on behalf of the Oriental Institute. Such labor intensive



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work would simply be impossible without them. Without them, digitization and data collection for the Research Archives and Integrated Database would grind to a halt. The occasional lunch and acknowledgement here in the annual report seem paltry in relation to the time these impressive individuals spend helping us wade through extremely large projects. We therefore would like to extend our utmost thanks to the following individuals for their generous spirit and hard work: Laura Alagna, Joe Barabe, Rebecca Binkley, Ray Broms, Betty Bush, Gaby Cohen, Kim Crawford, Yishu Deng, Andrea Dudek, Irene Glasner, David Henson, Su Hyeon Kang, Seth Kohrman, Mark Mandle, Michael McCarthy, Marge Nichols, Ken Petchenik, Dylan Peterson, Brian Porrett, Andrew Premovich, LaQueisha Robinson, Roberta Schaffner, Gabriele Correa da Silva, Margaret Schmid, Scott Vokes, Sierra Wilson, and David Zhao.

## Visitors

The Research Archives continues to be a place of international collaboration among the community of scholars studying the ancient Near East. Over the past year, we had research visits from the following individuals (in alphabetical order) and I apologize for anyone who may have been missed: Musa Burki, Ed Castle, Eugene Cruz-Uribe, Ulla Stang Dahl, James Hoffmeier, Jackie Jay, Kai Kaniuth, Rafia Khader, Daniel Master, Adam Miglio, Ellen Moore, Diana Razmerita, JoAnn Scurlock, Oswald Sobrino, Hannah Strickland, Jason Ur, William Warmus, Jennifer Westerfeld, Daniel Wiggins, Avi Winitzer, and the Great Chicago Libraries class of Elmhurst College

## Acknowledgments

In addition to those acknowledged above, I must take this opportunity to thank our library staff who run the Research Archives in my absence and perform many of the day-to-day tasks necessary to keep the library running smooth and efficiently. The Research Archives could not do the work that it does without their help. Laura Krenz continued on into her seventh year with the library and remains our senior staff member. Taylor Coplen completed his two year tenure with us and after graduation moved on to a teaching position in China where we wish him the best. We were simultaneously sad and excited to see Andrea Brown move to Oxford where her husband has a post-doctoral position. Rebecca Segall has been a great addition to the staff following her Metcalf internship last summer along with Yishu Deng who transitioned from her volunteer position to a member of our library team. All of them are deserving of my utmost thanks and gratitude.

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