Robert D. Biggs participated in the excavations at Umm al-Hafriyat near Nippur, and has since been studying the cuneiform texts found there. He also supervised construction of a new kiln at Nippur—the fifth or sixth one since excavations were resumed there in 1948. He continues to work on mid-third millennium texts, including those from recent British excavations at Abū Ṣalābikh, and has become increasingly involved in the problem of relations between Abū Ṣalābikh and the now-famous site of Ebla in Syria. In connection with this he gave a lecture at the Chicago chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America, “Ebla—An Interim Perspective.”