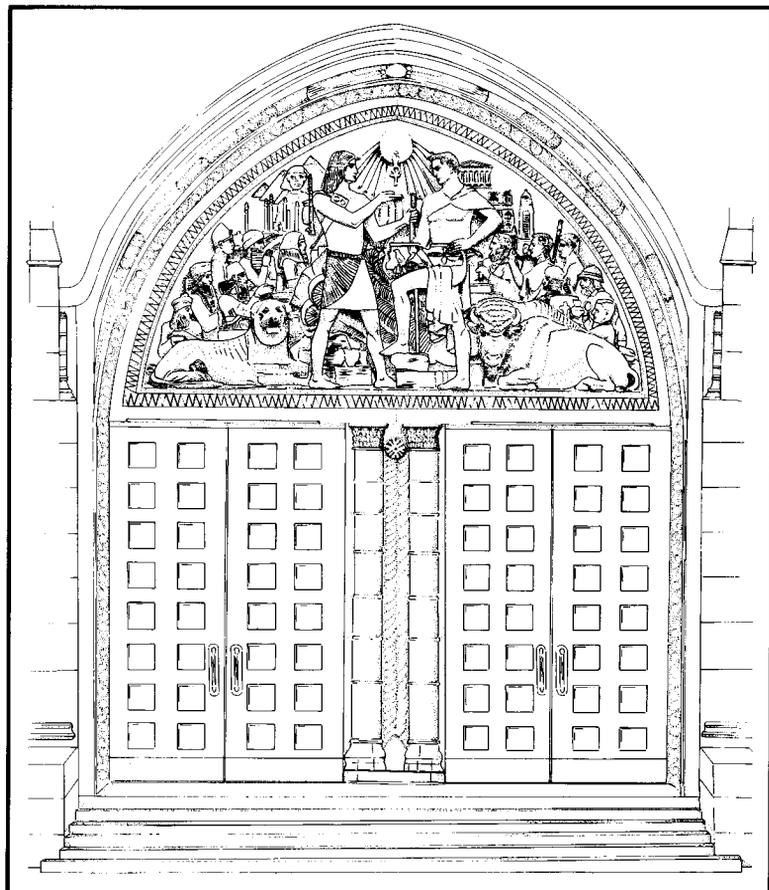


THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE  
ANNUAL REPORT

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

1986-87  
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INSTITUTE

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1986-87

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*Cover: drawing by Carlene  
Friedman of the front entrance of  
the Oriental Institute, including the  
tympanum over the door which  
was designed to suggest the  
transition of civilizations from the  
ancient Near East to the West.*

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# INTRODUCTION

**JANET · H · JOHNSON**  
**DIRECTOR**

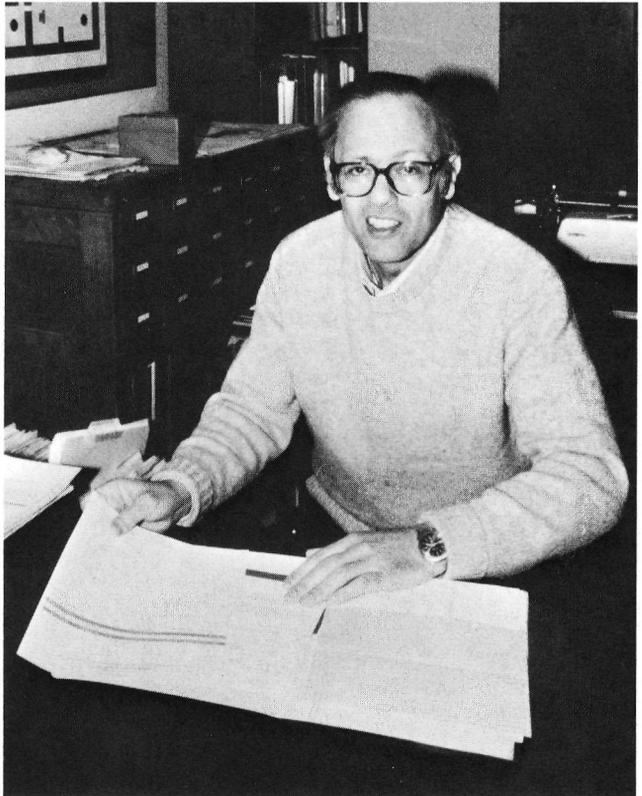
**T**he *Oriental Institute Annual Report* is our opportunity to gather for our members accounts of what is going on in the Oriental Institute, the range of questions with which our faculty  
 ●●●●● and staff are currently wrestling, the directions of current research in the wide field of ancient Near Eastern studies. Each year builds on the past while branching out in new directions. Long-time members of the Oriental Institute will have a chance to make a couple of “new friends” as they read through this year’s report and they will recognize many “old friends” as well. But one “old friend” is very sadly lacking.

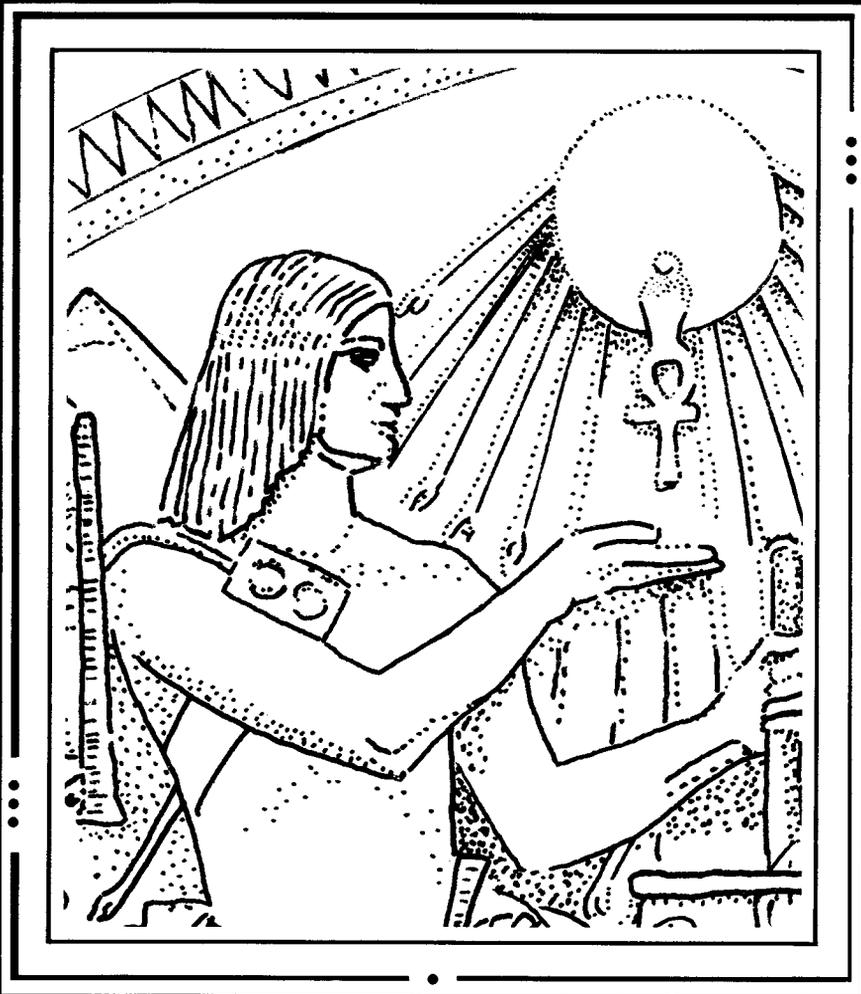
Klaus Baer first came to the Oriental Institute almost 40 years ago as a young graduate student who had already begun teaching himself Egyptian hieroglyphs. He has been a mainstay of the teaching faculty since he returned to Chicago from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1965. He loved teaching and was constantly preparing teaching aids for his classes. Although he was very demanding, of his students as of himself, and although he felt it his duty to warn students of the realities of attempting a career in a field like Egyptology, his students soon realized that he cared deeply about them and was merely challenging them to become the best that they could be. His students and former students constitute one of his valuable legacies. He was a warm and giving man who encouraged and assisted people not only as a teacher but in his private life as well. He loved solving Egyptological puzzles and read grammar books (of European, African, American Indian, and Asian languages) as “light reading.” He was a perfectionist in his own research (whether grammatical, such as his research and teaching grammars of Coptic, or historical, such as his minutely reasoned and argued chronology of Egyptian history) and his scholarship has rightly been described by his long-time friend and colleague Ed Wente as “elegant.” Klaus was a font of information for students and colleagues alike, frequently being consulted not only by Oriental Institute colleagues but by members of the wider University community because of

the broad scope of his knowledge and interests. He served as Chairman of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations from 1972–75 and as President of the American Research Center in Egypt from 1981–84. During this time he made regular trips to Egypt and stimulated the work of students and colleagues from across the United States and Canada with his direct and indirect assistance. Klaus also contributed greatly to the more public functions of the Oriental Institute. He was a regular and popular lecturer in the Docent training program and a favorite of the Docents, who knew that they would get an informed and interesting answer to any question that they might ask him. His death of heart failure on May 14, 1987, has left a large hole in the Oriental Institute and in the lives of all who regularly frequent it.

It is to Klaus that this issue of the *Oriental Institute Annual Report* is dedicated, with great respect and affection.

• Klaus Baer 1930–1987





ARCHAEOLOGY

# THE EPIGRAPHIC SURVEY

LANNY • BELL

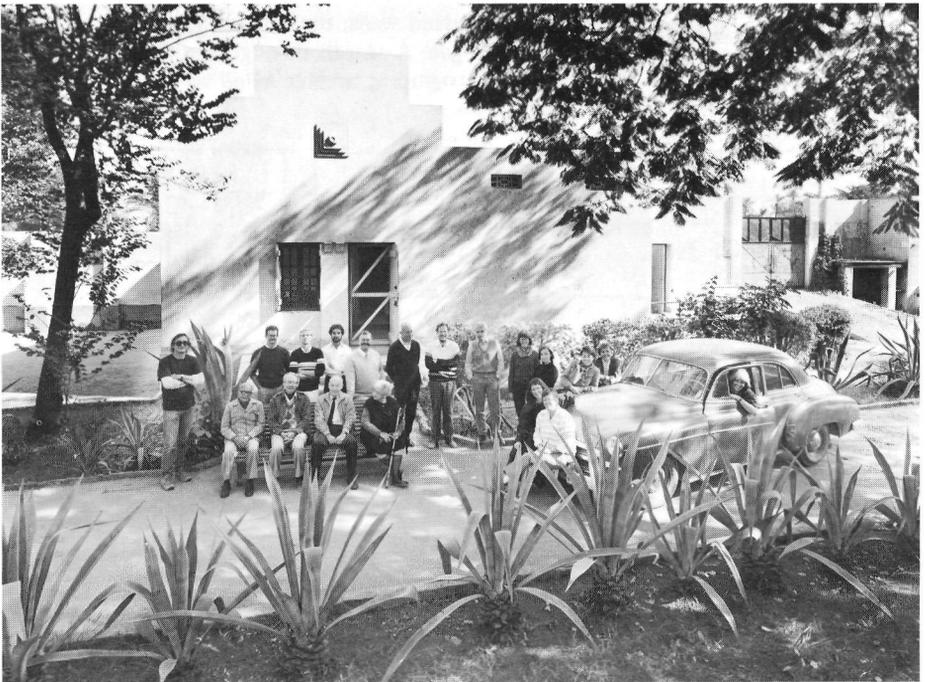
**T**he 1986–87 season of the Epigraphic Survey was our sixty-third. The major field work of Egyptologist-epigraphers Lorelei Corcoran and Eddie Walker consisted of continuing the  
 ●●●●● checking of preliminary hand-copies of the decoration of the Small Temple at Medinet Habu, in addition to assisting the artists in making final corrections to drawings of the reliefs on the standing walls of the Colonnade at Luxor Temple. The hand-copies will be used to help guide the artists in the production of facsimile drawings at Medinet Habu (once we have finished our recording at Luxor), as well as providing the basis for completing a dictionary file on all the inscriptions at this site. The epigraphers also made considerable progress in identifying the mysterious piles of old prints which continue to haunt the photographic archives.

A specialized project which was undertaken and completed by Heinz Thissen of the University of Cologne was the collation of the published facsimiles of some 340 Demotic graffiti at Medinet Habu. Arranged in two groups dating to 313–242 B.C. and 77–37 B.C., these inscriptions were assembled in 1937 by the late William F. Edgerton in volume 36 of the Oriental Institute Publications series. In 1984 Dr. Thissen presented his “Habilitationsschrift” (post-doctoral thesis) on them, consisting of transliterations, translations, and commentaries based on Edgerton’s work. The opportunity to examine the texts themselves, against the full background of his prior ten-year study, has permitted him to confirm the overall accuracy of Edgerton’s copies, while making a few of his own additions and corrections at the same time. Not surprisingly, he has observed that the condition of the ink graffiti, in contrast to those which are incised, seems to have deteriorated noticeably in the last fifty years. Dr. Thissen will now be able to publish his results as a complement to our original facsimile edition.

Progress in the checking and completion of facsimile drawings in the Luxor Colonnade (mostly decorated by Tutankhamun, 1334–1325 B.C.) was particularly marked this season, due in large part to the return of all five artists who had served on our 1985–86 staff, and the devel-

opment of a labor-saving technique, pioneered by Carol Meyer, for transferring corrections from 1:3 scale drawings to 1:6 scale redrawings. In all, 9 drawings were completely finished, work on 11 was substantially done, and 19 await final collation and correction. In addition, a total of 19 more should be ready for collation at the beginning of the 1987–88 season. Housekeeping in the artists' quarters included the washing of all studio windows and the reinstallation of a sink for washing rapidograph pens. During January we had the pleasure of a visit by Paul Hoffman, artist with the Survey in 1982–83. Paul had later served as editorial assistant for our publication of *The Battle Reliefs of King Sety I*, shepherding this large volume through the press, and actually developing some of the techniques required for the production of its plates. While he was staying at Chicago House, he very generously applied his expertise, uniquely gained from both the drawing and printing angles of our work, to help plan the layout of our forthcoming Luxor volume. He is currently conducting experiments in preparing negatives for the various reductions which will be needed for the process of joining up the individual drawings of some of the most complicated scenes in the Colonnade.

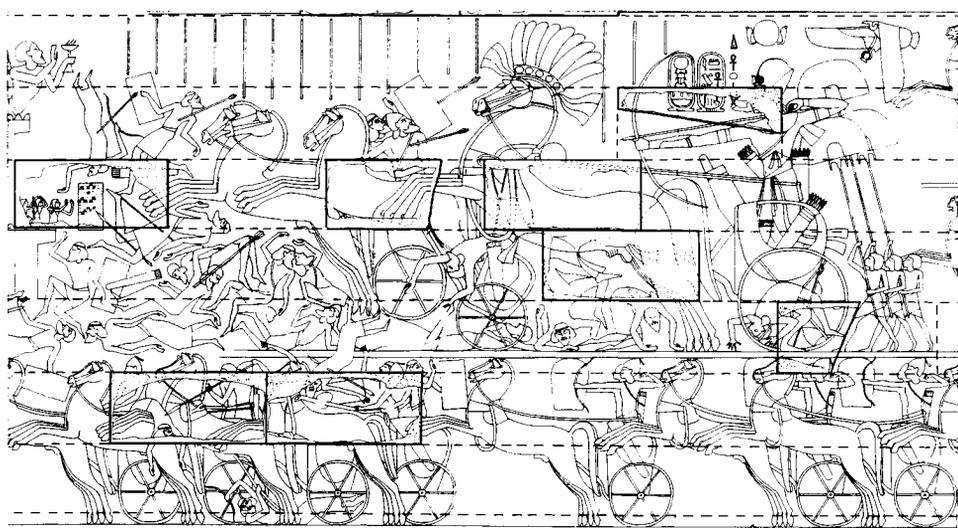
● *Epigraphic Survey staff members and 1950 Chevrolet posed outside Chicago House darkroom, with guests Jan Johnson, Don Whitcomb, and Gerhard Haeny. Photo by Tom Van Eynde.*



The primary field work accomplished by photographer Tom Van Eynde was the production of most of the large-format (8" × 10") black-and-white negatives of the recently cleaned and consolidated inner walls of the six roofed chapels decorated by Queen Hatshepsut and Thutmose III (1504–1450 B.C.) at the Small Temple of Medinet Habu. The preservation of considerable color remains in this early New Kingdom temple will permit us to record many of the delicate color details which have normally already disappeared from the great bulk of relief materials with which we work. These new negatives will serve as the basis for our facsimile drawings of this part of the monument. A plan was also devised this season to complete our photographic dossier on the hundreds of decorated fragments built into later additions to the Eighteenth Dynasty Temple, many of which have not been photographed until now.

In spite of the 660 plates in the eight folio volumes produced by us between 1930 and 1970, the site of Medinet Habu contains a few scattered constructions associated with the Great Temple of Ramesses III (1182–1151 B.C.) which still remain unpublished. These include the two decorated subterranean staircase wells located one each to the north and south of the main building. My inspection of the southern well revealed the perilous condition of its damp, salt-encrusted walls; the northern one was found to be nearly as fragile. A search through the Chicago House library and photographic archive failed to identify any

• *Detail of Tutankhamun pursuing foreign chariotry in newly reconstructed talataat battle scene. Drawing by Ray Johnson.*



comprehensive record of the decoration of these wells. Permission was immediately sought and granted by the re-sponsible local Egyptian Antiquities Organization officials to enter and make an emergency photographic record, as a safeguard against further imminent damage, possibly even collapse, due to the increasing salinization. Inasmuch as the lower reaches of the staircases leading to the bottoms of the wells are now permanently flooded beneath the current high level of the standing groundwater, a portable wooden "bridge" was required to carry out this task. Designed by me and constructed in house by our chief engineer and carpenter, this device permitted examination of the staircases even beyond their right-angle turns. Since space is extremely tight within these passages, however, our large-format cameras could not be employed here; even the securing of a special 20mm wide-angle lens (kindly carried out by Gretel Braidwood) for one of Tom's 35mm cameras did not permit the making of parallel, distortion-free negatives of the interiors. Nevertheless, the best possible photographic record has now been made of as much decoration as could be reached under these circumstances. Next season we shall attempt to improve on both the quality and extent of this coverage. In the meanwhile, Eddie Walker has begun to investigate the symbolic role of these wells in New Kingdom theology.

For three weeks in January we enjoyed the visit of Susan Lezon, photographer with the Survey for the three seasons of 1982–85, while she was in Luxor awaiting the beginning of her field season in the upper tomb of Senenmut with Peter Dorman of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. (Peter, who completed his Ph.D. at the University of Chicago in 1985, had himself served as "guest epigrapher" with the Survey for a month during the 1984–85 season.) Sue spent most of her time with us continuing to monitor the condition of our deteriorating nitrate negatives. In 1984–85, she and I had gone to examine a photographic archive of nearly 900 glass plate negatives (about half of which are large-format, 8" × 10" or bigger) which was being offered for sale in Luxor. At that time we had been unable to afford to purchase this collection, and I was afraid that it might be dispersed or destroyed. Then on the 10th of May this year, as Martha and I were once again alone closing down Chicago House, while waiting for the final two performances of *Aida* at Luxor Temple, we had a sudden windfall: the official US dollar/Egyptian pound exchange rate was effectively floated, leaping overnight from LE 1.353 per US 1.00 to LE 2.165, an increase

of more than 60%! Since our friends in the Cairo business community had kept us informed on the impending repeal of artificially low bank rates, I had delayed exchanging the money necessary for the conduct of Epigraphic Survey business during my absence in the summer. As a result, we gained enough at our first transaction after the currency reforms to be able to offer a reasonable price to the owner of these negatives; a little more than a day before our departure from Luxor, we had them safely stored in the Chicago House library. Most of these images are views of monuments in the Luxor area, taken by the Egyptian photographer Seif Taudros Ibrahim around the turn of this century. He died in the 1920's, and his photographic plates have been in storage for a long time. The primary value of this collection to the Epigraphic Survey lies in the fact that it provides nearly contemporary coverage of the architecture and setting of many of the monuments whose decoration is documented so meticulously in our own detailed negatives, which date primarily to the mid-1920's and '30's.

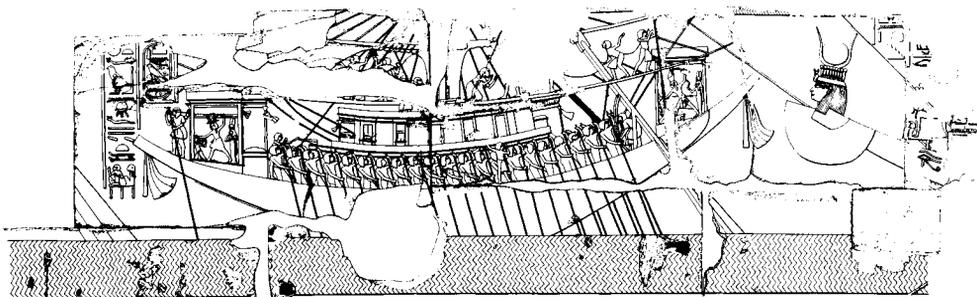
As the study of the Luxor stone piles continued, our chief artist Ray Johnson identified 108 new Tutankhamun fragments from the Colonnade (including 2 from the Opet Festival registers and an *ished*-tree scene, where the god inscribes the king's name for eternity on the leaves of the sacred "persea"), 8 pieces from the Eighteenth Dynasty facade of the Colonnade (with decoration by King Eye, 1324–1321 B.C.), and 3 additional fragments from the offering scenes associated with the representation of the barque of Amun-Re in the northeast corner of the Court of Amenhotep III (1386–1349 B.C.). With the identification of 131 more raised relief sandstone *talatat* (the small blocks characteristic of the reign of Akhenaton, 1350–1334 B.C.), the total of this category of Tutankhamun material now known stands at 202, including 67 found at Luxor last season, 5 from this season, 126 at Karnak, and 4 from the nearby site of Medamoud—all reused from the Akhenaton temples at Karnak, and employed secondarily in an otherwise unknown dismantled Karnak monument of Tutankhamun. A major battle, with chariotry, the fall of a foreign bastion, and the triumph of the Egyptian ruler, is represented on 33 of these blocks; other subjects include processions and divine barques and barges. The battle scenes were executed on a large scale, and contain some unique elements; although their study has yet to be completed, according to Ray's preliminary findings they appear to be the direct antecedent of the Karnak battle reliefs of Sety I, recently published by the Epigraphic Survey.



● *John Stewart consolidating fissured sandstone fragments at Luxor Temple. Photos by Tom Van Eynde.*

Ray also assisted the Luxor Inspectors in the transfer of fragments to new *mastabas* (fired brick “benches”) built along the Avenue of Sphinxes at the north of Luxor Temple, in preparation for the staging of the opera *Aida*. In addition to new Tutankhamun and Amenhotep III pieces, many incised-relief fragments from the exterior wall flanking the western gateway to the Court of Ramesses II (1279–1212 B.C.) were recovered. These are currently being registered by the Luxor Inspectors, and Ray is acting as advisor for their reconstruction; some of these have already been temporarily reassembled.

Our conservation efforts at Luxor Temple revolved around the initial stages of returning some fragmentary sandstone blocks to the walls from which they were removed between the 7th and 19th centuries A.D. to provide building material for the growing medieval and modern town of Luxor. Over the years we have been able to demonstrate the association of these pieces with Luxor Temple; and most of them had already been collected by us on *mastabas* in our own blockyard at the southeast of the temple precinct, to protect them from further damage by the continued penetration of groundwater. In anticipation of their restoration, Ray supervised the arrangement of many of the more than 1000 fragments stored here into the 24 major groupings to which they belong. For this purpose, one of the stone *mastabas*



● *Queen Ankhnesenamun's barge and prow of the Mut barge, from Opet procession on west wall of Luxor Colonnade: as depicted in three preliminarily joined facsimile drawings by Carol Meyer, Thad Rasche, and Ray Johnson.*

constructed in this area by the Luxor Inspectorate was most generously put at our disposal. As a test of the special system developed on site by our conservator John Stewart, the ten surviving fragments of a single original block have now been reconstructed in place just to the south of the Colonnade, in the northeast corner of the Court of Amenhotep III, where the king is depicted offering before the barque of Amun-Re.

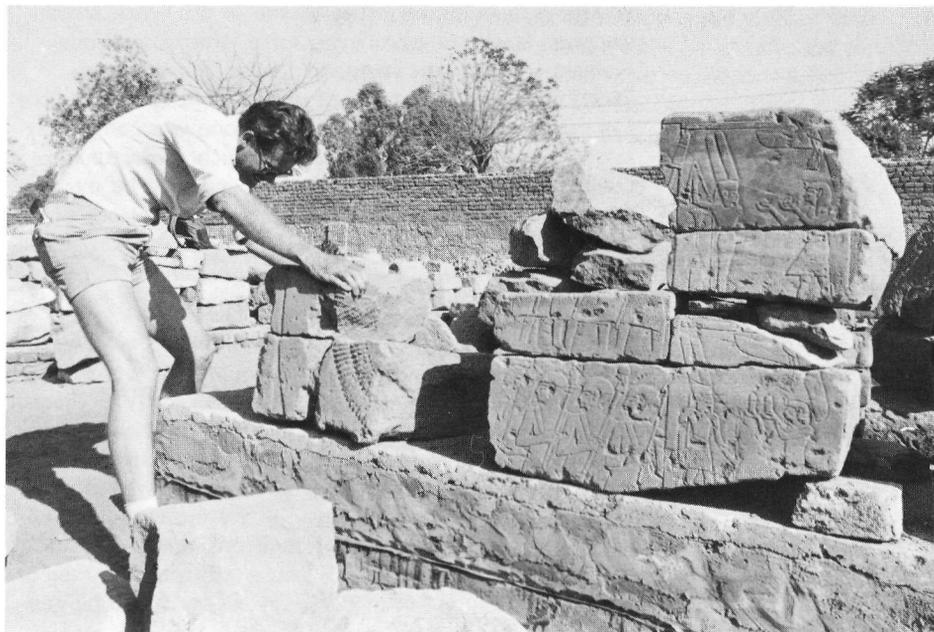
As part of a general survey preceding the actual replacement, the condition of each of the 103 fragments belonging to this scene (measuring approximately 12 meters long by 6 meters high) was analyzed, and their physical consolidation was undertaken. The most common problem encountered in these stones is the fissuring of their surfaces, with 55 of them requiring treatment before their reerection. These cracks are being filled with a thermosetting polyester resin (SEBRALIT), which is injected into them after their edges have been strengthened with ester of silicic acid (WACKER OH). Since these materials are highly toxic, protective gear must be worn during the treatment, and special precautions must be taken to prevent accidental exposure by workmen and visitors. In addition, the surfaces of 14 stones were found to be particularly friable (powdery), with the loss of the natural binder between the quartz grains of the sandstone attributable to contact with salty groundwater. These are also being consolidated by repeated spraying with light coats of the ester of silicic acid.

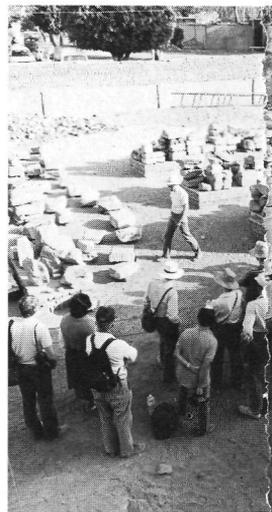
All the fragments can be expected to have been contaminated with varying concentrations of salts; and further infiltration of water, which would activate the salt crystals, would increase their instability. With this in mind, a damp course of polyethylene sheets was laid on top of the standing wall, and the fragments were essentially molded into position in a dried mortar matrix. Wrapped individ-

ually in polyethylene as they were layered one-by-one into position in a bed of wet white cement, they were carefully removed when the mortar had set, freed of their plastic sheaths, and reinserted for final adjustment in the hollows of the framework thus prepared to encase them. Structural stability is assured by backing the stonework with a red brick core wall. Eventually the visible surfaces will be cleaned in situ, and the gaps between them will be rendered with a superficial coating to enhance the final appearance of the construction. Provision is thus also made for the insertion of additional fragments as they emerge in the course of future excavations.

Conservation work in the Small Temple at Medinet Habu continued our 1982–85 restoration program, with the laying of a new floor in a second chapel (Room N), and preparation of the foundations for a third (in Room P). The purpose of these floors is to reduce air-borne dust, facilitate the safe evaporation of groundwater, and provide a level working and walking surface. In each case, the surviving ancient flooring blocks, which had subsided well below the original floor level, were cleaned and carefully planned before being covered over. The recovery of small scraps of gold foil from between some of the blocks in Room N necessarily slowed the cleaning process. In all,

● *Ray Johnson assembling Luxor Colonnade fragments on blockyard mastaba. Photo by Tom Van Eynde*





• Ten fragments from single original sandstone block reconstructed in place atop standing wall in northeast corner of the Court of Amenhotep III at Luxor Temple. Photo by John Stewart.

perhaps two grams of alloyed gold were found, and this was immediately deposited in the safe of the Qurna Inspectorate. The major problem faced in the cramped space of Room P was to avoid undermining the heavy red granite naos, or shrine, which had been reconstructed on top of loose debris against the western wall of this room around the turn of this century. Among the fragments which were identified in the course of this work was an inscribed black granite offering table which was firmly wedged between the naos and a large flooring block. Probably originating in one of the adjacent Chapels of the Saite Princesses, the surface of the stone was completely salt-saturated and crumbled to the touch. Unfortunately, it could not be consolidated in situ, nor could it be extracted without endangering the precarious balance of the naos itself, so there was no alternative to repacking it in the damp earth where it seems to have lain since it was deposited here in antiquity.

Due to the generosity of two private donors, we were presented with two Macintosh computers for our offices in Luxor. Their presence in the field has greatly facilitated record-keeping and improved the overall efficiency of our whole administrative setup. With the printer happily cranking out documents to my specification, while I am already engaged in another chore, I have finally discovered the secret of being in two places at one time! In addition to simple word-processing of letters, reports, and memos, budgets, accounts, and monthly pay sheets can all be gen-



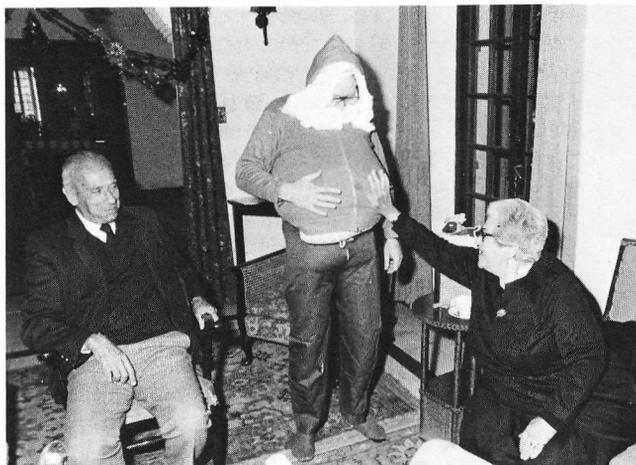
● *John Stewart and Ray Johnson show Friends of Chicago House group their work in the Luxor blockyard. Photo by Tom van Eynde.*

erated on the computer. Because of the sophistication of various graphics programs, research projects, even hieroglyphic dictionary cards, can also be prepared on it. One result of a most felicitous visit to Chicago House during the course of the season was the promise of another two Macintoshes, presented over the present summer, and given for the purpose of establishing a small computer center at Chicago House. With more and more people working on computers, we can expect a great proliferation in the uses to which they will be successfully applied.

In the library 344 items have been accessioned since last year's report. The treatment of old leather-bound books with neat's-foot oil and lanolin dressing was continued, and some small repairs were made. A start has now been made in the computerization of our library files, beginning with the journals, periodicals, and series; it is anticipated that a computerized card-index will eventually be available for readers' use. This system will be of enormous assistance in book ordering in general, and particularly in the transfer of information back to Chicago for processing summer orders. Multiple record-keeping and cross-referencing for the research libraries (and the photographic archives, as well) of both Chicago House and the Oriental Institute will permit us to coordinate the two collections and find and fill gaps in either. In the Labib Habachi archives, meanwhile, 3269 slides were preliminarily sorted; and the appearance of "Ein Friedhof der Maadikultur bei es-Saff", edited and completed by Werner Kaiser, marked the first posthumous appearance of a manuscript from Labib's unpublished papers.

Major renovation at Chicago House was limited to the restoration of our small greenhouse, which will now be put into service in starting seedlings for transplant to our vegetable and flower plots. Gifts by Ingeborg Aeschlimann and Hourig Sourouzian resulted in our acquisition of a genuine Nile papyrus plant and several persea tree seedlings (the latter originating from a specimen brought back from North Yemen by Georg Schweinfurth and planted in the garden of the Cairo Museum in 1889). An experiment conducted by Carol Meyer also left us with two tiny avocado trees. The tragedy in our garden was the death of our faithful and playful watchdog Barghuta, "Flea," known to all Chicago House visitors since 1982. She was run over by a taxi she was chasing in our own driveway one night in early February. Soon friends had brought two puppies, Fulla and Fuzzy, for us to begin training before the summer.

- *Atteiya Habachi and Henri Riad with Santa Claus at Chicago House. Photo by Tom Van Eynde.*



We have two major grant applications pending at this time, designed to provide funds for both our negative preservation project and our architectural conservation activities at Medinet Habu and Luxor temples. Fund-raising activities necessitated my presence in Cairo on five different occasions during our six-month season, for a total of 18 days away from Luxor. At a reception held at the Nile Hilton in December, where Their Excellencies United States Ambassador to Egypt Frank Wisner and former Egyptian Ambassador to the United States Ashraf Ghorbal served as Distinguished Patrons, the Friends of Chicago House in Egypt were hosted by Ron and Ann Wolfe of Professional Business Services, generously assisted by Dick Undeland and Reda Afifi. After a slide presentation on the dangers confronting the ancient Egyptian monuments, plans were announced for a second Upper Egyptian tour for the Friends of Chicago House. Then we watched a video of the first Chicago House tour (held in May of 1986). By the end of the evening, 65 persons had indicated their intention to accompany us on the new trip.

With the planning and hard work of Ron and Ann Wolfe, our Cairo coordinator Saad Riad, Fachi Salib of American Express in Luxor, and Ingeborg Aeschlimann, our Oriental Institute member in Luxor, this excursion took place on the weekend of March 12–15. The group of 60 participants from Cairo was augmented by David and Jill Carlotta Maher, Oriental Institute Visiting Committee member Bill Roberts, University of Chicago Development Officer David Gillingham and his wife Paula Harbage, and Gretel Braidwood from the Oriental Institute's Member-

ship Office, all of whom flew in from Chicago just for the tour. We had the additional pleasure of hosting several executives from corporate donor Amoco, and their families, who had scheduled their trip from America to the Gulf to permit them to spend as much time as possible with us. Besides a reception at Chicago House, where the Epigraphic Survey staff explained all aspects of our life and work, the tour members visited our special sites in the Luxor area, saw several other expeditions up close and behind the scenes, and went 85 km into the desert east of Luxor, halfway to the Red Sea. Local press coverage was very good. Although we were caught in a raging sand-storm at the ancient gold-mining camp of Bir Fawakhir near the Wadi Hammamat, the only accident associated with the expedition was the demise of our 1950 Chevrolet, which threw a rod, blowing its engine on the trial run for the trip the previous Sunday. Our chief engineer Saleh, however, has promised to prepare a new motor for installing in the Chevy over the summer. The Chicago House Cairo calendar concluded in late April with a gala reception for tour members and their guests, elegantly hosted by H. E. Frank Wisner and Mrs. Wisner at the Ambassador's Residence. The summer began in America with another sumptuous reception on June 2 at the Park Avenue apartment of Chicago House Friends Tom and Francesca Bennett.

The major international social event in Luxor was the performance of Verdi's *Aida*, grandly staged by the Arena di

- Ray Johnson and Peter Der Manuelian present jubilee symbols at celebration of Lanny Bell's twentieth anniversary in Egypt. Photo by Tom Van Eynde.



- *Epigraphic Survey staff at Chicago House Halloween party.*



Verona at Luxor Temple on ten nights in early May. Due to the generosity of an Oriental Institute donor who had come to Luxor for the opening night, Martha and I were treated to the spectacle of Placido Domingo singing the role of Radames. During these days I was interviewed by numerous newspapers and television networks. More than a little concerned about the possible adverse effects on the monument of so many artists and spectators gathered at one time in such a restricted space, I was most pleased that every eventuality seemed to have been taken care of, and no damage appears to have occurred. With the beginning of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan nearly coinciding with the final preparations for the opera, it was stunning to see Luxor in festival, even the center of world attention, much as it must have been during the great celebrations of the time of the pharaohs.

Because of the size of our staff this year, the space available for overnight guests at Chicago House was practically limited to two rooms in the small house at the back of the garden (variously known as the Healy or Quseir House). Nevertheless, 57 scholars, friends and staff members' relatives spent a total of 332 guest-nights with us, for an average of 1.8 residents per night over the whole season. This year 25 Oriental Institute members were among the 850 visitors who signed our library guestbook, in addition to the hundreds of others who came in with tour groups, which always include many persons who do not sign in. As an example of the activities of our kitchen

staff on special occasions, 29 people were seated at our dining room table for Thanksgiving, including 14 staff members, 2 in-house guests, and 13 guests who were living outside the house. Let me extend once more our invitation to Oriental Institute members and friends to visit Chicago House as part of any tour you might be planning to Egypt. Only please let us know as far ahead as possible when you expect to be in Luxor, and contact us as soon as you arrive in town to confirm your arrangements or schedule the best possible time for your visit. Our address is very simple: Chicago House, Luxor, Egypt; telephone 82525. Just remember that our season opens on October 15 and ends on April 15.

The professional staff of the Epigraphic Survey this season consisted of myself as field director; Martha Bell as Chicago House librarian; Dr. Heinz Thissen, Lorelei Corcoran, and Edward Walker, epigraphers; W. Raymond Johnson, Peter Der Manuelian, Dr. Carol Meyer, Barbara Arnold, and Susan Osgood, artists; Thomas Van Eynde, photographer; John Stewart, conservator; Jill Carlotta Maher, assistant to the field director for development, and Chicago House photo archivist; Christian Loeben, administrative assistant; and Saleh Shehat Suleiman, chief engineer. Our thanks go to Mrs. Atteiya Habachi and Dr. Henri Riad for their progress in organizing the Labib Habachi archives, and for continuing efforts on our behalf in the areas of public relations, official liaison, and translation. In addition to those already cited in connection with their specific contributions toward the successes of this season, we would like to mention the following friends: Jean-Claude Golvin, Robert Vernieux, Daniel Le Fur, and Alain Bellod of the Franco-Egyptian Center at Karnak; Robert Betts, Amira Khattab, and Albert Abdel Ahad of the American Research Center in Egypt; Dick Undeland of the United States Embassy in Cairo; Jack Britain and Richard Weinberger of Trans World Airlines; Charles Carr and Aziz el-Aguizy of Amoco Egypt; May Trad, Gretel Braidwood, Katherine Rosich, and Emily Teeter. The members of the Egyptian Antiquities Organization to whom we owe a special debt of gratitude include Dr. Ahmed Qadry, Chairman; Mutawia Balboush, Supervisor of Antiquities for Upper Egypt; Dr. Mohammed el-Sogheir, Director of Antiquities for Southern Upper Egypt; Sayid el-Higazy, Chief Inspector of Karnak and Luxor; Abd el-Hamid Marouf, Inspector of Karnak; and Mohammed Nasr, Chief Inspector of Qurna. Finally, we wish to express our great sadness at the untimely death of our long-time colleague and friend Sayid Abd el-Hamid, former Chief Inspector of Karnak and Luxor.

## NIPPUR

M c G U I R E • G I B S O N

**E**ven with the best intentions of everyone involved, the 17th Nippur season had to be postponed for the second year in a row. We sent in the required forms and the Iraqi authorities issued the permits and okayed visas, but there was a hitch somewhere in the transmission of the information. We waited in Chicago through the autumn of 1986, working on reports and ready to depart at a moment's notice, but the word never came.

In March, 1987, I went to Iraq to find out what had gone wrong with the visa notifications and to make more secure plans for a season of work in the fall. I found Baghdad much as I had left it in 1985, except that more new buildings had been completed. The staff in the State Organization of Antiquities was very gracious and was pleasantly surprised when I informed Dr. Moayyad that I had brought with me a hundred cuneiform tablets that had been borrowed by the expedition in the early 1950's. To call these items "tablets" is a bit misleading. These were really fragments that had broken off tablets in antiquity or in the course of excavation.

During the 3rd Nippur season (1951–52), the expedition recovered from Trenches TA and TB more than three thousand tablets and fragments, many written in the Sumerian language. When the season ended there were still several hundred small bits that had not yet been catalogued in detail. The epigrapher asked permission to take these fragments to Chicago for a year so that the reading and identification could be completed. It was thought that some pieces could be joined to other, larger, fragments. Almost all of the fragments brought to Chicago were lexical texts, that is tablets related to the meaning of words. In most cases, they were probably the exercises of student scribes. The epigraphers read and catalogued them, but then the process went awry. The fragments were never returned to Baghdad. After our attention was called to the situation last year, we took the tablets from their drawers and found that they needed repair and consolidation before their return. Augusta McMahan, an advanced graduate student in Mesopotamian archaeology, and Mar-



- *The new Saddam Reservoir created by building a dam north of Mosul, in Iraq. Islands in the distance are the tops of mounds that were excavated partially by Iraqi and foreign expeditions as salvage operations.*

garet Schröder began a program of baking and repair immediately. The first hundred fragments were ready for me to take in March. The rest of them will be delivered when we return for the upcoming season in the fall of 1987.

While in Iraq, I went down to Nippur with a group of students from the British Expedition. Anyone who made the arduous eight-hour journey to Nippur in the 1950's or the five-hour trip in the 1960's would be amazed to drive there now. The site is at present only an hour and a half from Baghdad by the new freeway. Because it is so reachable, with a secondary tarred road right up to the mound, Nippur has become popular with Iraqis and foreigners on weekends. Not so many years ago, authors described Nippur as having an eerie, desolate beauty. Other than the isolation due to bad roads, this description reflected the sand dunes that have covered the site for more than fifty years. Because only parts of the site were visible between dunes, Nippur was more mysterious than other mounds. The atmosphere was intensified by passing caravans of bedouin, eagles that hovered over the ziggurat, the foxes and wolves that scurried away when people approached.

- *The mound of Tell as-Sawda in the Jawf area of North Yemen. The upright stones are part of a temple that has not yet been excavated.*



For the past ten years or so the sand dunes have been moving off the site at an accelerating rate as the enormous dune belt that stretches for miles north, east, and southeast of Nippur, shifts away. There are still some major dunes on the mounds, but great parts of Nippur are now completely visible for the first time since the 1920's. The eagles, foxes, and wolves are still there, but I don't think they will be able to stay much longer. As I stood on the ziggurat this time, I could see that a sandstorm was raging in the distance, about a mile away, where the edge of the dune belt now lies. At Nippur, where previously we would have been involved in the sandstorm, the wind was throwing occasional scatters of sand our way, but there was no real discomfort.

In March, I saw for the first time baked-brick walls that the old Pennsylvania expedition had exposed in the 1890's. I was able to examine the sides of newly revealed trenches and could pull sherds from strata to gain an idea of the date of occupation in places I had not seen before. In short, the conditions that have made Nippur difficult to dig are changing drastically for the better.

As I indicated in last year's *Annual Report*, when we do get there for the 17th Season, we expect to be working near the ziggurat, where we intend to expose early levels of occupation. Work by Pennsylvania in this area indicated that we can expect Early Dynastic through Ur III levels and we think we have a good chance here of reaching the earliest occupation at the site, in the Hajji Muhammad phase of the prehistoric Ubaid Period (c. 4500 B.C.).

While we are excavating the earliest levels, we will also make trenches in the small Il-Khanid settlement just outside the city wall nearby. This settlement, exposed when the dunes moved, can be dated by pottery and coins picked up on the surface to the early 14th century, after the Mongol conquest. Until we saw this little mound, we had thought that settlement in the Nippur vicinity had come to an end about 1200 A.D.



● *A temple near Tell as-Sawda, showing upright posts and slanting roof slabs.*

Back in Baghdad, I joined up with David Stronach of the University of California at Berkeley, who had just arrived to investigate the possibilities of starting a project in the north of Iraq. We took a taxi to Mosul, where Dr. Abdul Sattar Al-Azzawi, the Director of Antiquities for the Northern Region, gave us great hospitality, including rooms in an old house on the top of Nebi Yunus. Nebi Yunus is the southern mound of Nineveh and was the site of a palace of the Assyrian king Esarhaddon (680–669 B.C.). Little archaeological work has been done on this mound because it is dominated by an important mosque that is traditionally cited as the tomb of Jonah. Some Turkish-style houses surround the mosque and a cemetery covers the rest of the mound. Recently, the State Organization of Antiquities has been buying the houses and may

retain some of them as tourist attractions. Most, however, will be demolished to make excavation possible. In the process of demolition, the Antiquities Organization has already exposed a magnificent winged bull that must mark a major gateway of Esarhaddon's palace. This bull is remarkable not just in its finely rendered details, but in its construction. Whereas other winged Assyrian bulls, such as the one in the Oriental Institute, are of one large slab of limestone, this one was formed from several smaller blocks of stone. The head of the bull was removed in Islamic times, to make way for a house foundation, but the rest of the figure is in such good condition that we can anticipate extraordinary finds of relief sculpture in the building. Dr. Al-Azzawi and his staff are eager to get on with the work.

Stronach and I walked across much of Kuyunjik, the other, larger mound of Nineveh. Here, thousands of cuneiform tablets were found in the mid-1800's in the "library of Assurbanipal" and were taken to London to form the core of the British Museum collections. Here also were excavated the reliefs of Sennacherib and Assurbanipal, including the famous lion hunt series, that are on display in the British Museum.

● *Abandoned building built in 1957 of ancient stone blocks at Marib.*



Kuyunjik is a very large, high mound, reaching more than 20 meters in height. The mound's high edges are composed of dark red clay, in which you can sometimes see horizontal and vertical lines. The red clay is, in fact, an enormous city wall of unbaked bricks that was faced by a stone wall. At various points along the edge of the mound, water has cut gullies through the city wall and the occupational debris behind it. From the top of these gullies, one can see dozens of striations, blackened ash-strewn floors, limestone pavements, and blocks from walls. Stronach was looking for a good place to make a stratigraphic cut along one of the gullies, to gain a quick notion of the material in the high mound for later exploration. He also looked at several places on lower parts of the mound for possible sites of excavation. (Stronach returned for a season of digging at Nineveh in late Spring, 1987.)

From Mosul, we went west to Tell Afar, a beautiful little town located in low, rolling, grassy country. This town surrounds an ancient mound that has not been dug because there is a large, beautifully restored Ottoman fortress on top of it. This fortress sits on older Islamic and pre-Islamic buildings. The Ottoman fortress is now used as the local headquarters of the State Organization of Antiquities. At the time we visited, the British Expedition was being allowed to use part of the restored buildings as a residence and lab. The British, like several other foreign expeditions, have been working for several years in a salvage project along the Tigris, where a dam has been completed. Now the water has risen and the project is almost at an end. Attention is being turned to the plain north of Tell Afar, where hundreds of mounds dot the landscape. The British have already begun work on a very large mound called Tell al-Howa, which had important occupations of Uruk (3500 B.C.) and Neo Assyrian (8th–7th C. B.C.) times, as well as other periods. This area, completely within the rainfed agricultural belt, has always been a major food-producing region for Mesopotamia. There is already in progress a major project to bring water from the new reservoir by pipes to irrigate these fields and make them even more productive. Therefore, archaeological salvage must be carried out here also. We hope to take part in this work in the future.

I left Stronach and returned to Baghdad for further talks. Then I flew to North Yemen, where I had initiated a project ten years before. Dr. Selma Al-Radi, an Iraqi and an old Nippur hand (1964–65), is still working there as a consultant for the Yemeni Department of Antiquities. With her I once again explored the city of Sanaa, which is

significantly changed from the last time I saw it in 1981. Oil has been found in Yemen and the pace of life is quickening. The town has grown enormously, but the wonderful old houses are still much sought after and are as exciting to visit. I went with Dr. Al-Radi and two French archaeologists to Marib, where the Antiquities Department is conducting its first large-scale excavations. Marib, the capital of the Sabaeans (Sheba), is the most famous site in southern Arabia because of its remarkable ancient dam. With the production of oil east of Marib, the small town that used to rise up in multi-storied splendor atop the ancient mound has moved to a new location on the plain. The old town still has in it five or six families, but most of the tall, mud-constructed buildings are crumbling. That is just as well, since there will be excavations on the mound in a very few years.

The new town of Marib, strung out along both sides of the new highway from Sanaa, boasts a Sheraton under construction and four or five restaurants. The existing hotel, the Two Paradises, where we stayed for three nights, houses dozens of foreigners who are working for an American company involved in laying a pipeline. Hunt Oil has the major drilling concession and Exxon is exploring. People are already running their cars on Yemeni gasoline.

As a result of the new prosperity, many of the people of Marib are investing in artesian wells and are watering crops on the rich alluvial deposits that were laid down in the valley in antiquity. In the process, remnants of ancient irrigation canals and sluices are gradually disappearing but the ancient dam, which made the alluvial deposits possible, is still a witness to magnificent engineering. A new dam, up the wadi a few miles behind the ancient dam, is constructed in much the same way as its predecessor and will add some irrigation water to the valley, but the majority of farms will be watered by artesian wells.

In flattening land for a field in the alluvium, a bulldozer struck a building made of well-dressed stone. The Department of Antiquities halted the operation and Qadi Ismail Al-Aqwa, the Director, sent in a team to excavate. This is the first large, scientific excavation carried out by the Department. Dr. Al-Radi has been spending about three days a week with the expedition, advising and digging. In the three days we were there, the two French archaeologists made record photographs of the two buildings that have been exposed and made plans of them. I spent my time working with a pick and defining some mudbrick that had been built over and around the stone foundations. The

buildings are clearly religious in function, as shown not only by the plan, but also by motifs on dozens of fragments of decorated stone found in the burned debris. The foundations are of beautifully cut and laid ashlar masonry, often marked in Sabaean script. The superstructures were, apparently, of mudbrick and wood.



● *The town of Marib perched on the top of the ancient capital of the Sabaeans, North Yemen.*

We went to visit several sites in the valley, all presumably satellite towns and temples of the main *tell* of Marib. We visited the temple of the Moon God, excavated by Wendell Phillips in the early 1950's. We also saw another temple with tall, erect, stone pillars about 15 feet high awaiting excavation. The American Foundation for the Study of Man, which has been working in Yemen for five years on survey and soundings, hopes to begin digging at Marib in the near future. A German expedition has been doing intensive surveying and mapping of the area recently and other scholars have studied aspects of the site for a number of years.

One long day we went north of Marib into a remarkable area called the Jawf. Here, there is a string of ancient settlements, never before dug and seldom visited by foreigners until recently. On one site, there is extraordinary preservation of wood. The tops of wooden pillars project from the *tell* so that you can see mortices and pinions. In places, slabs of decorated and inscribed stone mark the position of major buildings. At another site, there is a fascinating temple with elaborately decorated slabs. The vertical stone columns stand in place and the stone roof slabs lean against them, ready to be lifted back into place. Here, it is apparent that with little excavation and a lot of care,



- *One of the two main sluice gates left from the destruction of the famous dam at Marib, North Yemen.*

one can expose a complete plan of the temple and restore it as it was when built in 300 B.C. or earlier. At the same site, local people have been making unofficial excavations. Here they found dozens of small pieces of wood with inscriptions on them. The National Museum in Sanaa has obtained some of these items. Epigraphers who have examined them say that the writing is a cursive form of Early South Arabic script, not known before. This cursive script is different from the beautiful, geometric, Early South Arabic script that occurs on hundreds of stone slabs in buildings all over Yemen and will take some time to decipher. One of the epigraphers I spoke to thinks that the wooden documents are probably the day to day records of a temple or government building. These documents are, then, of extraordinary importance for the reconstruction of history and daily life in ancient Yemen.

Archaeologically, North Yemen is in general on the threshold of tremendous developments. In recent years, although Yemeni, Iraqi, American, Canadian, French, British, Italian, and German expeditions have been working in the country, only surveys and very limited soundings have been permitted. Now, however, real digging is starting. With economic development, the Department of Antiquities will be obliged to do more and more salvage operations and is encouraging foreign teams to excavate. Besides the probable expedition of the American Foundation at Marib, digs will be started this coming year at a number of sites. A Canadian expedition, headed by Edward Keall (another old Nippur hand, 1966–67), will

work at a magnificent Islamic town called Zabid. The French will begin in the coming year on one of the sites in the Jawf. The Italians will initiate a very elaborate, long-term project for the excavation and restoration of Barakish, a site with city walls that are intact up to 14 meters high. Here there is an Islamic settlement resting on an ancient one. The Islamic occupants used parts of the older ruins in their houses. Thus, much of the ancient stone work is intact. At one place, I crawled through a stone-built opening and lay down to see the sunlight coming through thin roof slabs of alabaster. This roof and the building of which it is a part, cannot be dated securely as yet, but it is safe to say that I was lying under a roof that is about two thousand years old.

On my return to Chicago, I resumed working on the Nipur volume that has involved me and a number of others for several years. John Sanders and Peggy Bruce Sanders delivered final plans of architecture and objects for the volume. I have finished most of the descriptive and analytical sections on Area WA, where we exposed parts of a series of temples, and the Ur III city wall in Area WC. Judith Franke completed her Ph.D. dissertation on the Old Babylonian houses at Area WB and is converting that into her portions of the volume on the Old Babylonian and Kassite occupations of WB. Richard L. Zettler, who is now on the faculty of Pennsylvania, is finishing his sections on the Kassite building in Area WC, as well as analytical studies of the pottery of the earlier periods. James A. Armstrong is completing his chapter on the 7th century buildings in Area WC and analyses of the pottery of the later periods encountered in our work. We hope that concentrated effort in the summer of 1987 will bring the volume close to publication.

While working to publish the results of past seasons, we are planning for future campaigns. In the past three years, we have been cooperating closely with the Belgian Expedition on a number of technical projects. We have agreed to share certain kinds of technical staff, for example geomorphologists, zoologists, and botanists. Stephen Lintner and Margaret Brandt have already visited the Belgian site of Tell ed-Deir and have exchanged soil samples and information. In the future, members of our staff will spend time with the Belgian Expedition and vice versa. We are also beginning to cooperate on ceramic technology studies and the compilation of a corpus of pottery types for the historic periods. We are hoping to combine settlement pattern information and geomorphological studies for a general view of the Mesopotamian alluvium through time.



● *Barrakesh, an important town north of Marib, North Yemen. The lower parts of the walls are pre-Islamic. The upper parts are Islamic constructions.*

The German expedition from the University of Munich is also working with us on some aspects of these projects and we hope others will join.

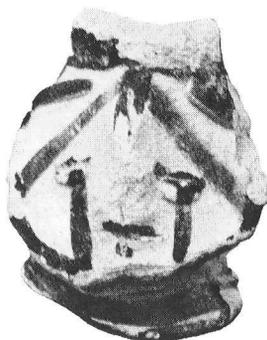
In Chicago, our work is aided, as usual, by the generosity of the Friends of Nippur. Although we have had no new archaeological excavations to report, the Friends have continued to contribute to our research. I would like to acknowledge, in particular, a generous gift from Mrs. Carolyn Livingood, in memory of her husband Jack, who was one of the original Friends. Likewise, I must thank Mrs. William F. Regnery for her gift in memory of Jack.

## CHOGHA MISH

HELENE · J · KANTOR

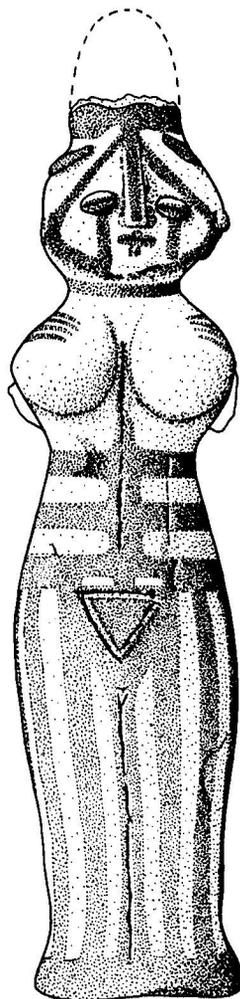
**T**he female figurines found almost universally in early prehistoric cultures are normally interpreted as reflections of the concern of early agriculturalists with fertility, whether of their fields, flocks, or themselves. Chogha Mish is no exception to the rule; female figurines are prominent in the early prehistoric periods, but rare or non-existent in the later ones. Levels of the Early Susiana period, datable to the early part of the fifth millennium B.C., yielded parts of terracotta figurines representing women standing or sitting with outstretched legs. Head and torso fragments that did not originally belong together (Figs. 1–4) can be combined into a composite reconstruction of a standing figure (Fig. 5; drawing by Abbas Alizadeh). The execution is quite elaborate. On the head pellets of clay represent eyes and eyebrows; paint emphasized the features of the face and ornamented it with diagonal and vertical bands. Horizontal stripes of paint on the waist and vertical ones on the lower body indicate a patterned robe. Good parallels for the Chogha Mish torso fragments were found in the Early Susiana settlement at Jaffarabad near Susa (G. Dollfus, "Les fouilles à Djaffarabad de 1972 à 1974," *Cahiers de la Délégation française en Iran*, Vol. 5 [1975], Fig. 32: 1, 3). Related figures occur across the modern Iran/Iraq border in the Mandali area of the Upper Diyala at Choga Mami in deposits of the Samarra culture (Joan Oates, "Prehistoric Investigations near Mandali, Iraq," *Iraq*, Vol. XXX [1968], Pls. I, II A [heads] and "Choga Mami 1967–1968: A Preliminary Report" *Iraq* [1969], Pls. XXVI A–F).

• Fig. 1. Head of an Early Susiana figurine (Ch.M. VIII–85). Field photograph.



In prehistoric studies comparable objects are of great value since frequently they are the only clues to the relationships and relative chronology of different sites and cultures. The presence of the same figurine types at Chogha Mish and Jaffarabad is part of the evidence identify-

- Fig. 5. Composite reconstruction of an Early Susiana figurine based on various fragments (Figs. 1–4). Drawing by Abbas Alizadeh.



ing both as Early Susiana villages. The similarities between the figures from Khuzestan and those from eastern Mesopotamia are part of a cluster of features that show the contemporaneity and the connections between the Iranian Early Susiana and the Mesopotamian Samarra cultures. In historical periods, also, archaeological evidence may provide information not available in the written sources. Similarities, however, even when strikingly close, must be used with caution, particularly if they are isolated features occurring in countries far apart. This is the case with some figurines from Neolithic Greece that resemble examples from Chogha Mish in general shape, painted decoration, and, in particular, an unusual character not yet pointed out. Several figurine fragments from Chogha Mish consist of only one half of the body in lateral section (Figs. 6, 7). This does not seem to be accidental; the fragment of an upper torso used in the reconstruction of Fig. 5 shows a deep cleft remaining between the

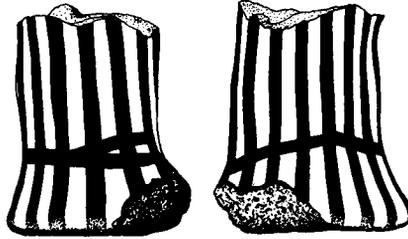
- Fig. 2. Fragment of the upper torso of an Early Susiana terracotta figurine (Ch.M. 8.695). Photograph by Diana Olson Rasche.

- Fig. 3. Fragment of the lower body of an Early Susiana figurine (Ch.M. VIII–84). Field photograph.



breasts but almost filled in at the waist (Fig. 2). It is likely that many of the figurines at Chogha Mish were made in two lateral halves which were then pressed together to make the cylindrical figure. This seems to be a purely technical feature, with the discovery of individual halves showing that the welding of the two parts was not always done tightly.

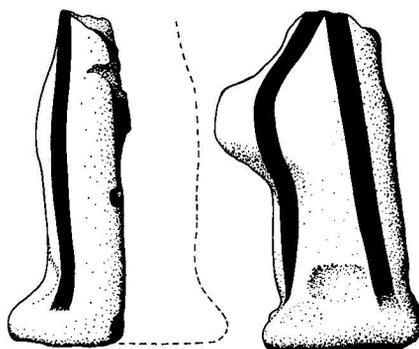
● Fig. 4. Fragment of the base of an early Susiana figurine (Ch.M. 5.702). Drawing by Abbas Alizadeh.



The features just described for Chogha Mish are matched by figurines of the Middle Neolithic period from the northern Peloponnesus (Lauren E. Talalay, "Rethinking the Function of Clay Figurine Legs from Neolithic Greece: An Argument by Analogy," *American Journal of Archaeology*, Vol. 91 [1987], pp. 161–169; compare her Figs. 3–6, two figures from Francthi cave, with our Figs. 3, 4, 6, 7). As far as the chronology goes, these figures also belong somewhere in the fifth millennium B.C. They occur in a far distant country in a culture totally different from and unrelated to Early Susiana. Nonetheless, examples from the Francthi Cave painted with vertical stripes (*ibid.*, pp. 164–165, Figs. 3–4) are practically interchangeable with Figs. 3, 4, 6, 7 from Chogha Mish. Furthermore, the Greek fragments occur as lateral parts, in two instances with a lump indicating that they had once been joined to a second leg (*ibid.*, pp. 166–167, Figs. 5–6).

An ingenious proposal has been advanced to explain the discovery of separate figurine legs in the neolithic Peloponnesus. After citing ethnographic analogies and written evidence from classical Greece, Lauren Talalay suggests that the function of the figurines was to serve as "contractual devices or identifying tokens" rather than to invoke the forces of fertility. Among her examples from classical Greece and Rome is the retention of the parts of irregularly broken tokens by each party to an agreement or by families linked by ties of hospitality. The gap from the classical period back to the Neolithic is huge, but

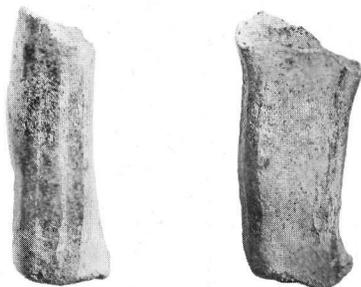
- Fig. 6. Front and profile views of right half of lower body of an Early Susiana figurine (Ch.M. Ill-731). Drawing by Abbas Alizadeh.



nonetheless the suggestion is an attractive one. The striking similarity between the single figurine legs from Chogha Mish and neolithic Greece must be completely fortuitous. Still the function Lauren Talalay proposes for the legs from Greece indicates the possibility of explanations other than mere technique of manufacture.

The Early Susiana figurines from Chogha Mish enlarge our knowledge of the representational style and preoccupations of the period. The apparently exclusive production of female figurines and the emphasis on the breasts and pubic triangle indicate the strong concern with fertility, though there is no reason to identify the figures as fertility goddesses rather than as human women. In addition, the comparisons both with adjacent areas in western Asia and the coincidental similarity with figurines far removed geographically add more dimensions to the significance of these objects.

- Fig. 7. Back and profile (median side) views of left leg of an Early Susiana figurine (Ch.M. 8.1011). Photograph by Diana Olson Rasche.



# THE EL-QITAR PROJECT

THOMAS · L · MCCLELLAN

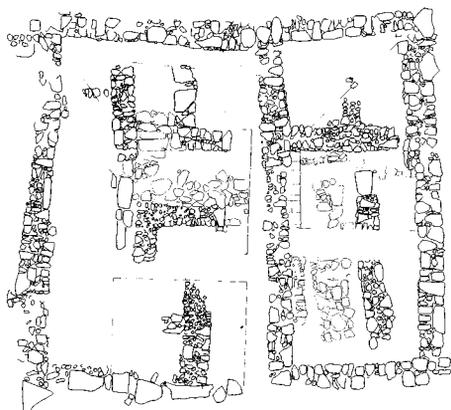
**T**he 1987 season at el-Qitar ran from May 2 to July 29th and marked the last major season of excavation there because the site has been selected as the spot for the new Tishreen Dam across the Euphrates River. The dam will raise the water level 30 m high and create a lake about 60 km long, extending northward to the Turkish border.

Upstream modern villages and ancient tells will be inundated within about five years, but at el-Qitar extensive bulldozing and drilling was already underway this past season, and with construction on a huge dam shortly to begin directly on top of our River Gate and Lower Settlement (Area X) we faced the equivalent of archaeological triage. Consequently we broke off work in places like the Lower West Gate, where there are still unanswered questions, and opened up several entirely new parts of the site in order to gain a more complete picture of the overall site.

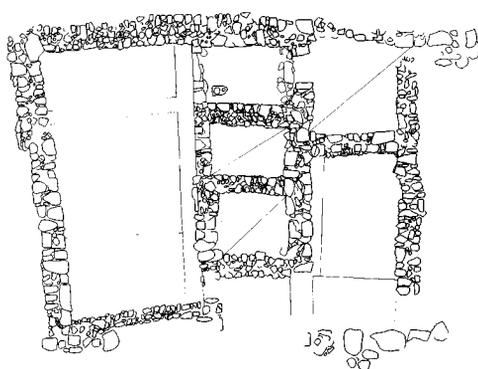
● *Postholes in Building 17 looking southwest.*



● Building 16



● Building 17



early phases

EL-QITAR

1987



We located our camp in the village of Abu Qal Qal this year to take advantage of electricity, a good water supply, and new paved roads. Katie Snell cooked and organized the kitchen and dining room the first eight weeks. In camp Mandy Mottram spent most of the season working on neolithic lithics and sherds collected by stratified random sampling in 1986 from Haloula, north of el-Qitar. Dorothea Ditchfield was in charge of the pottery processing and registration of objects and samples.

On the Upper Settlement at el-Qitar Joanna McClellan continued work on the Orthostat Building where she found eastern walls of two rooms that had eluded us in previous seasons. One of the walls was lined with orthostats that had fallen or been intentionally shoved out of place in the construction of a later building; another wall was largely carved out of bedrock, in imitation of orthostat construction. Or perhaps the reverse, orthostats imitate walls of solid rock. She also found good stratigraphic and architectural evidence for an intermediate phase between the Orthostat Building (Building 14) and a later structure, Building 15.

New trenches were opened by Daniel Snell, Anne Porter, and Radi Ukhdi near the highest point on the site, (north of Building 10) where portions of several large structures were found. Several Classical period graves were cut into these ruins, and Snell found traces of gold leaf in the robbed burials and one beautiful gold earring.

In the Lower Settlement which is most directly threatened by the dam, Buildings 16 and 17, located along the

city wall southwest of the River Gate, were excavated under the supervision of Andrew Anastasios and, for several weeks, by Dora Constantinides, both from the University of Melbourne. We wished to compare the function of structures abutting the city wall with Buildings 11 and 12 more centrally located in Area X. One hypothesis was that structures next to the city wall were more likely to be related to defensive or administrative functions, such as barracks or store rooms, in contrast to buildings in the center of the site that were domestic in nature. We also suspected Building 16 might have a plan similar to domestic houses at the German excavation of Mumbaqa where a central court with platforms and hearths is flanked by small square rooms. Any resemblance to that building type was dispelled when excavation revealed new lines of walls not anticipated. Furthermore the stratigraphy was much more complex than that of Buildings 11 and 12. Erosion, and possibly intentional destruction along the city wall, had eradicated the southern portions of Building 16 in its latest stages, while its northern portions were still intact. Thus the plan of the structure based on visible walls prior to excavation was of composite elements from several periods.

By the end of the season the basic outline of an early phase of the building was recovered; it revealed that our initial division of the structures into Buildings 16 and 17 was not applicable in the earlier phases since a doorway, later blocked, joined the two. On the other hand, we could find no connecting doorway from the eastern side of Building 16 to its "central" room, in any phase. Thus in the early phase we may speak of an eastern building and a western building. The western structure was a "split level" built with three different levels to accommodate the steep slope between the city wall on the lower side and the street on the upper side. Although the upper part was eroded, there was a stairway, flanked by walls, leading from the street down into a passageway paved with stones. From it one doorway led into a room at the same level, while another led up into a small room at an intermediate level between the street and the passageway and a third passed down into a lower room(s) that adjoined the city wall.

The larger eastern structure was filled with thick ashy deposits in some rooms, broken pottery, several basalt bowls, and internal features such as benches, ovens, and postholes. One long central room contained four or more

ovens dating from slightly different periods, and must have been unroofed. Over one hundred postholes were found in it in almost but not quite recognizable patterns which we are still analyzing. It is doubtful that the posts or wooden poles were implanted all at one time since it would have created an impenetrable forest. In a post hole phase ovens and shattered pots were found in the same area. About five boxes of potsherds from these structures are being shipped to Chicago for stratigraphic and functional analyses.

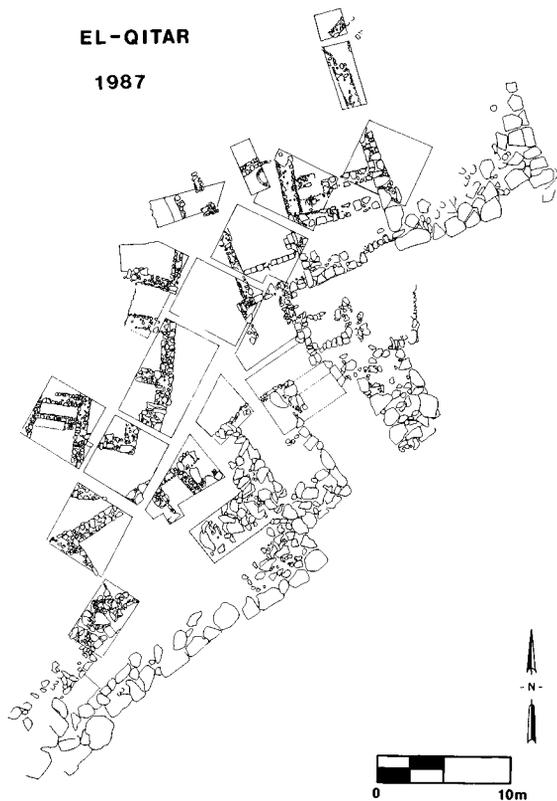
Excavations in these buildings along the city wall demonstrate that there was no typical tripartite structure of the Mumbaqa type here, nor was this an area of domestic structures. The use of space adjacent to the city walls in Area X at el-Qitar seems to be rather different from the domestic use of space towards the center of Area X, at least on the evidence of architecture and non-movable features. On the other hand, they are not obviously military in nature. The large number of postholes and ovens in one unroofed room may point to some kind of craft activity next to the city wall.

At the River Gate we set out to recover the architectural design of its different construction phases, and, as part of our special interest in settlement design, see how street systems, recorded from aerial photographs, connected to the gate. We did not entirely succeed in these goals because severe erosion had carried away most traces of later gates, nor paradoxically did we recover the complete plan of the earliest because we could not dig through the deep deposits of soil covering it just a few meters up slope. But we recovered a stratigraphic sequence rich in complexity and we found orthostats in the earliest exposed city gate.

We had walked over and examined the exposed remains of the (earliest and main phase) River Gate on and off for over ten years, but details of its layout eluded us. With the discovery several years ago of orthostat-piers in the Lower West Gate of Area Y (Upper Settlement) we took more seriously the identification of one or two stones that previously we had rather skeptically noted as possible orthostats in the River Gate. But within a day or two of removing loose rocky debris we exposed a pair of orthostat-piers in the passageway. The eastern one was still basically intact and had cut marks where another architectural element fitted in above it. But the western orthostat-pier was shattered down to within 1–2 cm of its base. In a typical city gate of the Middle Bronze-Late

Bronze period there should be one or two more sets of orthostat-piers in the passageway. These two orthostats, which must have been partially exposed above ground for centuries or millennia, may have had another set, all traces of which have disappeared, placed in front of them near the entrance of the River Gate. Alternatively, yet another set may have been located behind them. So we dug behind, and up slope from, the set of newly discovered orthostat-piers. Instead of finding other orthostats, we discovered that on the west side of the gate, at the inner end of the western orthostat, its flanking wall ended and a passageway or street led up slope. At first it was quite reminiscent of the stairway found between two sets of orthostats in the Upper West Gate, but by the end of the season we found no trace of a flanking wall to delimit the other side of such a stairway; rather the area was a wide street or open plaza.

- *River Gate, all phases.*



Thick deposits of stony street material were found along the inner edge of the large tower that protected the southwest side of the River Gate. One and possibly two doorways opened from the street into rooms built on top of the tower's stone foundations. Thus in several details the plan of the earliest exposed River Gate shows similarities to the Lower West Gate:

1. orthostat-piers,
2. streets leading off at almost a right angle from the gates,
3. rooms built on top of defensive walls.

There were virtually no traces of later city gates, but we found several phases of streets leading to the gate area, and portions of structures some of which are related to the defensive system. One of the most important aspects of our work in this area was the recovery of a good stratigraphic sequence of several phases, beginning with the River Gate just discussed, which is either Middle Bronze Age or early Late Bronze Age in date, and ending sometime near the end of the Late Bronze Age. Augusta McMahon spent most of the season excavating and drawing the city gate, while Anna Curnow, Lorraine Brochu, and Anne Porter (all from the Oriental Institute except Ms. Curnow who studies at Melbourne University), dug the adjacent trenches.

The combined work in the River Gate and Buildings 16 and 17 abutting the city wall shows that the area immediately inside the city wall was devoted to non-domestic activities; it also shows that the urban plan of the Lower Settlement that I have published elsewhere, with its buildings, streets, and city walls, does not represent one single period, rather it is a palimpsest of several architectural periods, especially on the edge of the settlement near the defensive walls. This realization was reinforced when our departmental representative Radi Ukhdi excavated a stone circle on the northeastern edge of the Lower Settlement and showed that it is a Classical circle-grave (possibly the foundation of a small tumulus) unrelated to the Late Bronze Age settlement.

# THE PREHISTORIC PROJECT

LINDA · S · BRAIDWOOD  
ROBERT · J · BRAIDWOOD

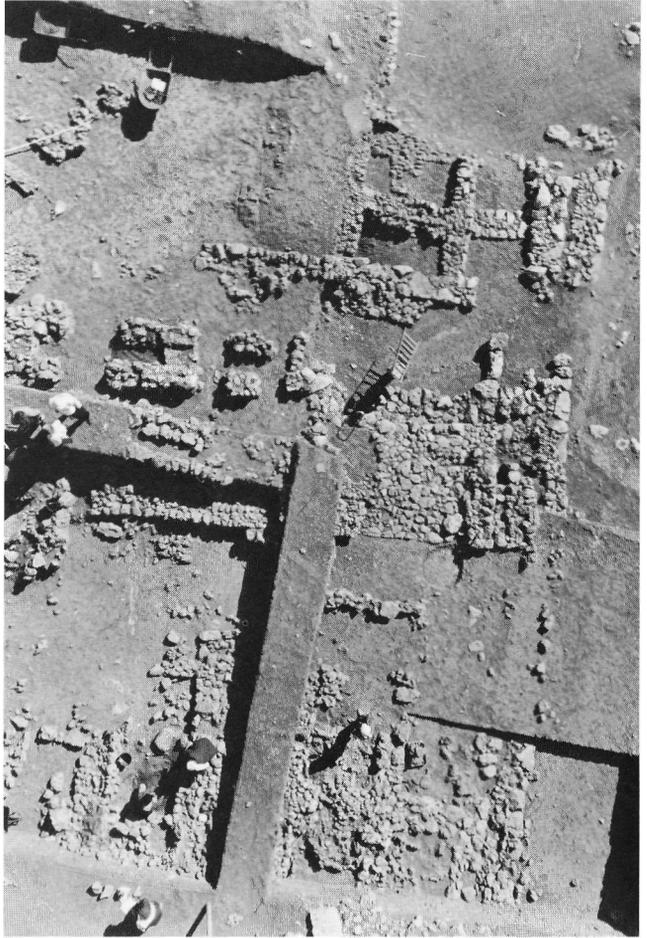
**A**s of this autumn, the Oriental Institute's Prehistoric Project has a 40th birthday. In November, 1947, we (Bob, Linda, our two children, and a graduate student) left Chicago for Iraq. Post-war travel was just renewing itself. The Italian Line's *Vulcania* was still only a partially converted troop carrier and her captain put an extra watch in the bow, for mines, as we approached the Straits of Gibraltar.

It is surely easy, after 40 years, to exaggerate how clearly we had already visualized our goal. At the very least we had an idea for a new field research focus that germinated over the war years, and 1947 seemed to be the time to try it out in the field.

In our pre-War II years in Syria, we had excavated some rather early villages. But we wondered, *what would we learn* were we to concentrate on that *threshold* of cultural change that must have attended the very earliest domestication of plants and animals? We reasoned that the beginnings of village-farming community life, which domestication made effectively possible, must really have been a great change. Human beings had already been around for at least a million years, but their subsistence had depended entirely on hunting, collecting, even simply scavenging. The change to agriculture and an assured food supply, and the growth of year-round settled communities must—we reasoned—have been change on a grand scale. The late British prehistorian Gordon Childe visualized such change as analogous to that which attended the Industrial Revolution. What fascinated us about all this was that excavated traces of the beginnings of this early "agricultural revolution" had not yet been recovered. Thus our field research goal, in 1947, was to try to find the traces of such a threshold.

Well, we were indeed lucky with our first site, Jarmo, in Iraq, and we've also been very lucky (both in Iran and in Turkey) ever since. Too lucky, indeed, to account for it all

● Kite photo—workman clearing building foundations on Çayönü.



in detail here. One big volume (695 pages) reporting on what we found in Iraq and concluded from it is already out. Reports on the work in Iran and Turkey are also in progress. There are, however, other important—and lucky—dimensions concerning the Prehistoric Projects's success.

First—indeed back of it all—was the Oriental Institute. There are very few organizations that from the start would have countenanced and encouraged what we planned to do. Ours was a Near Eastern field program with *no* promise of a *spectacular* yield of objects for museum exhibits. We could absolutely guarantee *no* gold, *no* royal tombs! But with the Oriental Institute as our home

base, we had no reason to worry. From the start we were assured that our research goal and its yield in knowledge was the important thing.

Next came the make-up of a field staff to cope seriously with the broad spectrum of research problems we faced. We both had had our training in culture history. Our colleague Bruce Howe, then of the Peabody Museum at Harvard, was also focused on culture history. But in his case it concerned what went on during the approach to the "threshold" in the very latest Pleistocene ice-age times. However, much of the potential yield of materials we expected to recover would reflect the ancient environmental situation. This would require competent analysis and interpretation by colleagues in the natural sciences.

Here, too, we were extremely lucky, both in the natural sciences colleagues who joined us and in the fine results they got and also in the means we obtained for getting the colleagues themselves into the field. A new program was being developed in the National Science Foundation (N.S.F.) in Washington. In 1954 we received the larger of the first two grants made by the new anthropology section of the N.S.F. This gave us the field support we needed for the natural sciences colleagues.

The evidence recovered by our botanical, geological, and zoological field companions has stimulated other field directors to seek similar help. Thus much has continued to be learned of the ancient environmental background of the time when a food-producing and village-farming community way of life began.

There is, also, a fascinating aside regarding the matter of chronology. When we first went out to Jarmo in 1947, the late Willard Libby, then at Chicago, was developing his radioactive carbon age determination technique and he urged us to bring him samples. Before Libby's radiocarbon age assays, the dating of excavated materials from before the time of written history (say before 3000 B.C.), was mainly guesswork. Now, for our Turkish site, Çayönü, we have—from trustworthy findspots—some sixteen radiocarbon age assays, all clustered within the time range from 7450 B.C. to 6750 B.C.

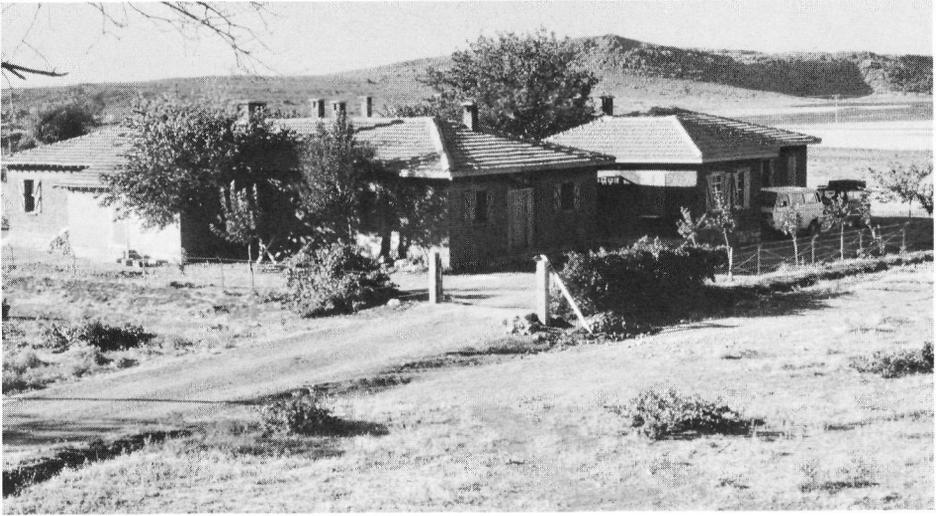
In 1962 the Project became the Joint Prehistoric Project of Istanbul and Chicago Universities. We had long hoped to work full-time with a national of the country where we planned to excavate. Furthermore, for southeastern Turkey an exclusively American expedition could not have had permission to work in the environmentally critical but

militarily sensitive region of the Tigris river headwaters. Happily, our old friend and colleague, Prof. Dr. Halet Çambel, of Istanbul University's prehistory section agreed to become "joint" with us. She devised the conditions that would allow us, jointly, to do an extensive surface survey for sites within the military zone beyond the Euphrates, and then—once a site was chosen—to undertake its excavation. In the spring of 1964 we began the excavation of the early village site called Çayönü. The Joint Project's excavations have resulted in a very substantial yield of evidence for understandings of the culture history of the beginnings of the new food-producing way of life.

A further fortunate aspect of the joint arrangement has been the field training it provides for both Halet's and our own students. Here, too, the Joint Project's yield in competent young field staff has been most gratifying.

There are other parts of the story. At about the time our last N.S.F. grant ran out (when Bob reached emeritus-hood), Halet began to lobby in Ankara. The Çayönü excavations now receive basic Turkish grants for workmen's wages and "materials deemed essential" for running the camp. Friends of this Institute's Project have been gratifyingly generous in allowing Linda and me to hold up the now modest American end of the "Joint." Further, colleagues in the natural sciences have maintained and supported their own special interests. Prof. Dr. Willem van Zeist, of Groningen University in Holland, has continued his long interest in the Çayönü botanical materials. We have also had much cooperation and interest, in the yield of simple copper tools at Çayönü, from the MASCA group in the University Museum in Philadelphia, and MASCA's Dr. Tamara Stech was at Çayönü during the 1986 season. The Hacettepe University-Ankara physical anthropologist, Asst. Prof. Dr. Metin Özbek, has tackled the restoration and interpretation of the large number of human skulls, recovered from one particular Çayönü building. The Prehistoric Project's volunteer, Andrée Wood, is deeply involved in the study of blood residues she has been recovering over the last three field seasons at Çayönü. "What animal did they butcher with that flint knife, Andrée?"

Another major staff impact began in 1978, when Prof. Dr. Wulf Schirmer, director of Karlsruhe University's Institut für Baugeschichte (history of building) joined us at Çayönü. Wulf always brings at least four or five students as well as his excellent senior assistant, Werner Schnuchel. Wulf also has German financial support to cover the cost



● *The Çayönü expedition house.*

of their travel and living expenses in the field. In addition, work on the architectural reports proceeds in the Karlsruhe Institute. Given the number of field seasons we have had (twelve, since 1964) and the broad areas we have excavated by excavation, we are extraordinarily lucky to have the interest of the Karlsruhe architectural staff in Çayönü. This is especially so because the site has yielded at least some building remains that cannot be understood as those of simple domestic structures. Increasingly we feel bound to wonder whether the Çayönü villagers were a bit higher on that “threshold” of change than we’d first thought.

We face another particular problem, as well, in not yet being able to define exactly how the end of the Çayönü settlement came about, and why. We have no trouble in digging down, in space and in time, to virgin soil, observing and recovering as we go. The site has, however, had a certain amount of near surface disturbance and erosion, since it was last lived on, some nine thousand years ago. This means that our control over the latest/uppermost layers of the site has—so far—not been ideal. We believe, however, that we now have better ideas as to where we may recover untouched uppermost layers of the site; with real promise for understandings of how and why the settlement at Çayönü ended.

Our veteran American field research assistant, Mike Davis (ten field seasons since 1970), is particularly concerned

- Staff at lunch on the site.



with this latest prehistoric subphase at Çayönü. Although domestic wheat and several pulses were already present with the earliest Çayönü settlers, sheep and goats—the earliest animal domesticates save for the dog—only began to appear after the settlement was already well established. Mike speculates that herd animal production was, in effect, a beginning form of stock venturing. He thinks it provided expendable *interest* (milk, wool, hair), consumable *dividends* (males and infertile females for meat), and of course *growth* capital (fertile females and stud males). Mike even hopes to inspire the interest (and the support) of today's investment community in his idea. There will, however, surely be other interesting things to learn if we can discover how Çayönü came to its own particular end.

All in all, forty years of the Oriental Institute's Prehistoric Project have provided much new information about a significant moment in the human career. Also, of course, for those of us involved in the Project, these years have been ones of great fascination and satisfaction.

# LUXOR TEMPLE PROJECT

**DONALD·WHITCOMB**  
**JANET·H·JOHNSON**

**T**he Luxor Temple Project had a short study season in Luxor during December and January of this year. The purpose of this season was the completion of the drawing and photography of the objects discovered during the previous season. Some time was spent cleaning the coins discovered in these two trenches near Luxor Temple. Unfortunately, corrosion had effaced most features from many of these coins, though further work by an experienced conservator may recover some information from these bits of bronze. Otherwise, the broad range of history revealed in the excavation of what little is left of the Roman and medieval town mound may be determined through study of the glass and ceramics.

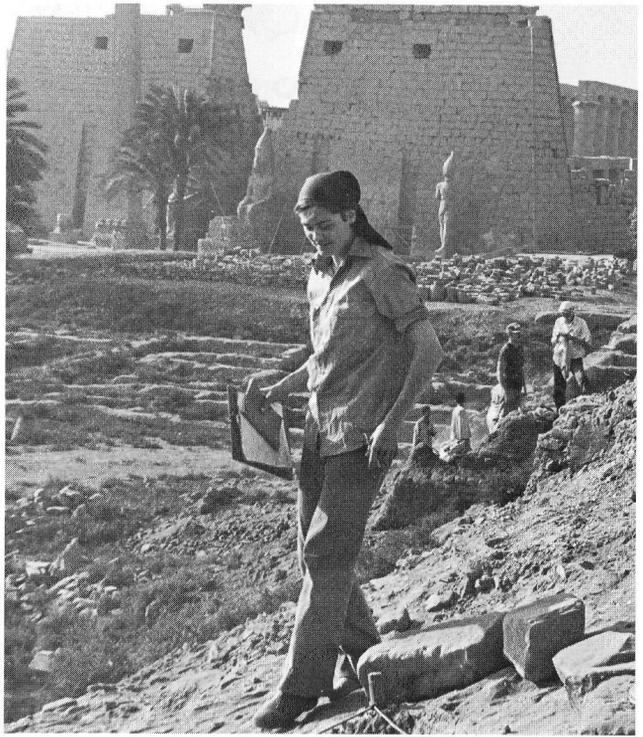
Through hundreds of careful drawings of the ceramics used in Luxor, one is able to reconstruct the forms and the assemblages of objects typical of the late Pharaonic, Ptolemaic [Hellenistic], Roman, Coptic [Byzantine], early, and medieval Islamic periods; the records of this stylistic change over 2000 years in a small but important town will be most interesting. The drawing was done by John Meloy and Don Whitcomb, while a photographic record was made by Jan Johnson. As one might expect, most of the pottery was "every-day" ware—bowls, cups, and other tableware, cooking pots, and large storage vessels, including the ever present amphorae used for storing liquids of all kinds. The corpus contains a record of chronological and functional characteristics of life in Luxor. Periodically within the stratigraphy one finds fancier Egyptian and imported pieces. Such wares are better (and more often) studied and, in association with ostraca, some of the coins, and other inscribed fragments, will provide clues to the relationship of Luxor to the other cities of Egypt. Much of this trade was no doubt associated with the continuing role of Luxor, in Pharaonic, Coptic, and Muslim cultures, as a religious center, a role which has been generally documented through archaeological (and epigraphic) research.

While the study of the history of Luxor and its functioning as a town and religious center are the broad goals of

this project, there are more specific and "special" finds from these excavations which are being prepared for publication. Perhaps the closest to the main work of the Oriental Institute at Chicago House is the analysis of the reused building blocks taken from Luxor Temple itself. These were generally found in the upper layers of each trench and give a chronology for the dismantling of the temple walls. Ray Johnson, senior artist for the Epigraphic Survey, has prepared a short report on all of these blocks, presenting not only a drawing of the blocks but an identification of the point of origin in the temple, the king under whom they were originally carved, and, to the extent that he can match them with other known fragments, what the original scene was of which they formed a part. This work has fit in perfectly with his study of the thousands of blocks which are stored in "block-yards" around the temple, a study which will eventually enable some scenes to be reconstructed and re-erected on the walls of the temple itself.

In the northern of the two trenches was found, in the Coptic levels, a room decorated with a "fresco" on the walls. Only two walls were uncovered during excavation, but both had remains of the "fresco." Not enough of the walls and the shape of the room was revealed to be able to identify the original function of the room, though preliminary analysis suggests that this is a rare instance of decoration of a secular building rather than, as was more common, Coptic churches. Though this is one of several areas which would encourage further excavation at Luxor, the problem of preservation of this simple plaster of mud brick must first be addressed. The recording and study of the frescoes so far uncovered has been undertaken by Ann Roth, who recently received her Ph.D. in Egyptology from the Oriental Institute. She has found interesting parallels for the decoration (an imitation of stone, and especially marble, paneling) within the history of Coptic decoration.

The contents of this decorated room were also extraordinary; they include several Coptic coins (identified by size and minimal decorative features), several complete or almost whole examples of Coptic pottery, a small steatite relief depicting the head of the Egypto-Greek deity Serapis, and a beautifully carved and very well preserved royal head which, on stylistic grounds, must date from the XVIIIth Dynasty. One can only speculate what the heads



● *View from the top of the mound of medieval Luxor. Trench A/D is out of view to the right, Lisa Heidorn is in the foreground.*

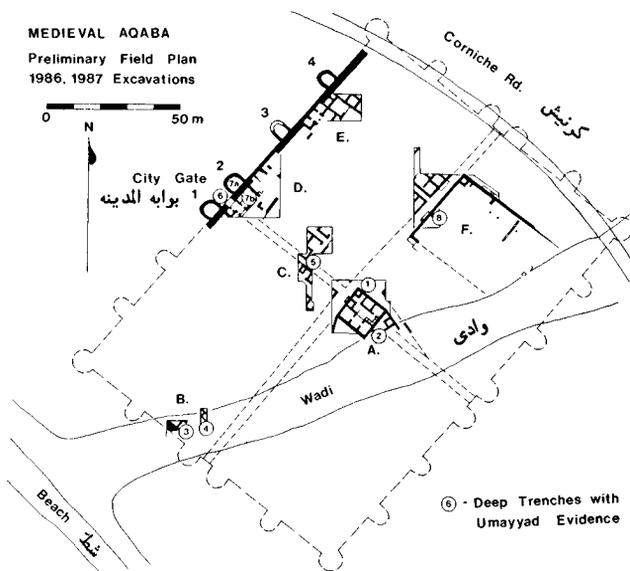
of an XVIIIth Dynasty king and a pre-Christian deity were doing in a Coptic context (it would be nice to think that there was a small museum here, predating the current Luxor Museum), but the corpus of material is being prepared for publication to allow scholars to discuss just such questions.

We benefitted during this season, as during all seasons in Egypt, from the kind cooperation and assistance of the Egyptian Antiquities Organization, especially Dr. Mohammad Sugheir, Mr. Magdi al-Mullah, and Mrs. Somai Mohammed Labib, who worked with us on a daily basis in Luxor Temple. We stayed at Chicago House and received the usual assistance from Lanny Bell and the entire staff. We should mention specifically Tom Van Eynde's large-format photographs of the royal head and Sue Lezon's beautiful artistic rendering of the same, both of which will add immensely to the value of the publication of the piece.

## AQABA

DONALD • WHITCOMB

The initial exploration of the site of medieval Aqaba (Ayla) in Jordan was reported in the 1985–86 *Annual Report*. While that was the first season of work at this site, the full-scale excavations this spring seem like a second “first” season. They have revealed over 80 m of the city wall, with towers and a gateway, a major public building, and the archaeologically ever present enigmatic structure. This spring’s trenches also revealed the accuracy and luck enjoyed by the 1986 season; for those small exploratory soundings (by 3 archaeologists and 15 workmen) provided an accurate feel for the architecture (construction techniques), for the stratigraphy (character of deposition), and for chronology and trade (ceramic inventory) and allowed the hypothesis of the town plan (see below). The basic historical outline has proven accurate, an occupation from the 7th to early 12th century, from the Umayyad through the Fatimid periods. Ceramics from this occupation, and particularly the Abbasid period (9th–10th centuries), indi-



cate participation in an extensive trade network connecting Egypt and Syria with Iraq and China.

Elucidation of some of the architectural features of this city has been the primary result of the more extensive 1987 excavations. The most dramatic is the city wall; over 80 m have been excavated, as well as four semi-circular towers. If one consults the plan published in the 1985–86 *Annual Report*, one sees such semi-circular towers had been hypothesized on the basis of the small corner in trench D. This small part of the city wall, combined with the fragment in trench B and the 6 m contour line, allowed a prediction of the orientation of the walls, the size of the town and the position of the gates. However, this season's excavations have shown that the north corner of the wall is not at the 6 m contour but seems to lie beneath the Corniche Road. Thus the northwest city gate was found 10 m further toward the Corniche Road than the original reconstruction had assumed. This gate, flanked by two towers, opened onto an axial street. If the perpendicular street running beside the large enclosure (area F) is also axial, the enclosed area of the city was 120 m wide.

These axial streets meet in the center of the town near a large building first uncovered in 1986. This is now called area A. A deep probe at the juncture of the streets showed the wall of the building preserved 3.5 m in height with at least two rebuilds. The sequence of street levels indicated use from the 7th through the 11th centuries. The building in the late Abbasid/Fatimid period (950–1100 A.D.) was a residential structure with a configuration of rooms around a small court, entrance stairs on the northwest, and stairs to an upper floor or the roof. The south rooms have a central *iwan* (a covered room open to the courtyard) and two side rooms, one of which had fresco decoration on at least one wall. The fresco consisted of floral motifs and geometric designs in red and black paint. More interesting, however, were the numerous graffiti scratched on the fresco in Kufic Arabic script.

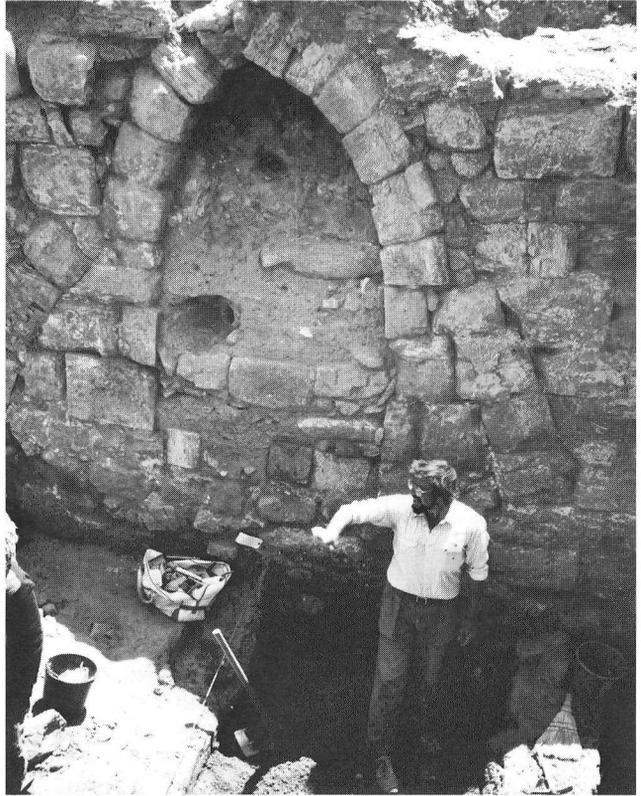
Behind the fresco, the southwest wall of the building revealed traces of an earlier monumental arch, 3.5 m wide. More surprisingly, an identical arch was found on the southeast wall, in line with the axial street from the northwest city gate. The jamb of this early arch was traced down 4 meters to a fine plaster floor; materials below this floor were all Umayyad (650–800 A.D.). These two arches suggest that, in its earliest form, this building must have been a sort of pavilion, almost a tetrapylon, in

the center of the city. Thus we have its provisional name, the Pavilion Building. While there is too little evidence for a palace, some association with a governor's residence is not unlikely.

Between the Pavilion Building and the northwest city gate was a series of large residences on either side of the street, called area C. Another probe into the street (4.5 m deep) illustrated how later buildings had slowly encroached on the originally wide thoroughfare. The northernmost part of this area showed a different sort of spatial use in the latest period of occupation. Here the structures were entirely mud-brick, and the courtyards featured numerous *tabuns* or ovens. Analysis of remains in and around the ovens suggests that, in addition to bread, a favorite recipe was fish seasoned with plenty of ginger root.

Perhaps the most fascinating structure revealed in the 1987 excavations was the northwest city gate (this was probably the *Bab al-Misr* or Egyptian gate). The complex history of this gateway could be read in the 4.5 m of preserved height; at this depth we encountered the water table (sweet water) without reaching the wall foundations and street pavement. The gate was 3 m wide with a round arch in its earliest form; this was narrowed and, as the street levels rose, a secondary pointed arch was built into the filled-in gateway. Eventually only a basalt drain pipe ran through the small doorway. Within the fill in front of the gate were blocks with a monumental Kufic inscription; this was identified as the *Ayat al-Kursi* verse from the Qur'an, intended for protection of the city. Inside the gate was a wall parallel to the city wall with a similar large arch. The space between these arches was later narrowed and occupied by shops. The extent of this rebuilding makes the original formal plan of the area difficult to determine.

Tower 2, immediately north of the gate, was excavated revealing an internal arch and, below that, brick partition walls. The tower was entered through an arched doorway in the city wall. In the course of tracing the city wall north of the gate, two more towers were found. The southern of these, tower 3, had been severely damaged by a bulldozer pit made during the construction of the Corniche. Between the towers, the city wall narrowed to a thinner curtain wall which accommodated buildings on the inside. An area between towers 3 and 4 was excavated to reveal the latest structures, a combination of stone and mud-brick construction. Most stones, including several col-



● The gateway in the city wall showing its original round arch and the secondary pointed arch.

umn drums, were reused from earlier, more carefully constructed buildings. One of these columns had been set in the center of the *iwan* of a Samarra-style *bayt*, a popular form of domestic architecture during the Abbasid period.

There is some irony in the fact that the largest structure found to date is also the most enigmatic. Area F continues the residential architecture west of the axial street, here about 2.5 m wide, which probably connected the Pavilion Building with the northeast gate (the *Bab al-Sham* or Syrian gate). East of the street was the Large Enclosure, characterized by long walls of substantial construction with distinctive grey mortar. Features along the northeast wall include a small corner room, a well-constructed platform and stairway associated with an elaborate drain, a poorly constructed perpendicular wall, and 3 columns, apparently in place but late additions. The northwest wall had a second stairway, behind which was a plastered pilaster; at this point, a deep test showed gravel floors resting



● *Aqaba: Overview of excavations with Pavilion Building in center background and the Large Enclosure closer to the road.*

on 2.5 m of fill. The walls continued down to a running foundation and plaster floor. All materials below the floors were Umayyad. Finally the southwest corner was found associated with two well-constructed platforms, possibly associated with a corner entrance. None of these architectural features or associated artifacts allows a persuasive argument for a mosque, church, palace, reservoir, or other hypotheses. The answer lies, happily, in further excavation. These hypotheses about the layout of medieval Aqaba reveal some testable rules, if not general laws, for urban planning in this period.

Analysis of the artifacts from the 1986 season also proved a reliable guide to the materials recovered this season. The larger 1987 excavations increased the corpus of complete and reconstructible ceramic vessels, including a number of large storage jars. Even more importantly, several complete Chinese vessels, including a stoneware jar standing over 1 m high, were found. Analysis of the Chinese celadons and porcelains from the 1986 season has completely confirmed the 10th to 11th century dating of their appearance at Aqaba. Also present were both Egyptian and Iraqi imports, including numerous pieces of fine Fatimid and Abbasid lustre wares. At the other extreme of this medium, there is now a large corpus of hand-made and painted vessels securely dated to the late Abbasid and Fatimid periods and anticipating the later development of geometric painted wares in the Ayyubid and Mamluk periods (13–14th centuries).

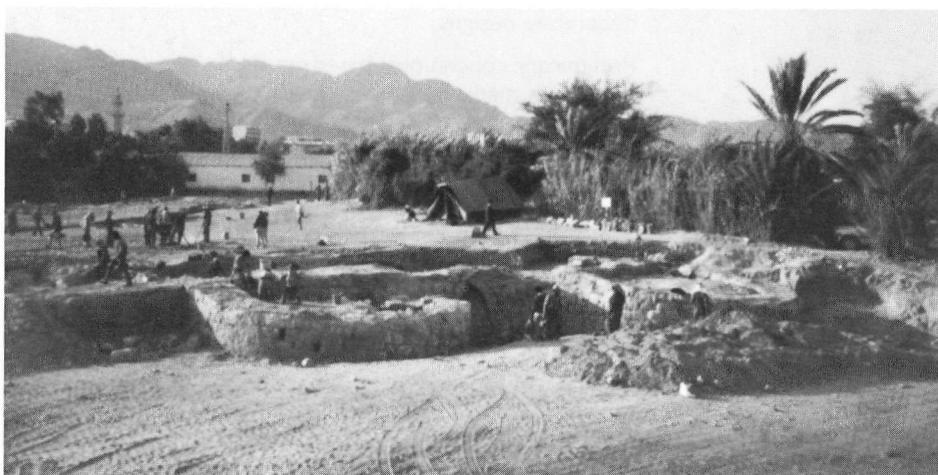
The glass from the site also offers an important, and indeed unique, corpus of Abbasid period. Several glass weights, like the coins, will add important political and chronological information for the site. In addition to vessel forms were some tesserae suggesting mosaics somewhere on the site. Metalwork, usually badly damaged by the sea salt, provided a pleasant surprise as field cleaning showed well-preserved and interesting decorative pieces. Stonework included numerous pieces of marble discussed below; basalt was used for pipes, mentioned above, and mortars and grinders in a wide range of sizes. Finally there is now a large corpus of steatite cooking pots and several lamps and incense burners with late Abbasid or Fatimid decorative designs.

Preliminary conclusions, based on the large corpus of artifacts from medieval Aqaba, testify to the unique archaeological character of this site. For the first time the sub-periods within the early Islamic may be distinguished on the basis of stratigraphic evidence. Not only is the initial Umayyad period more fully understood, but the Abbasid and Fatimid periods, which have been rather neglected in Jordan, may now be viewed in the light of correlations with imports from Iraq, Egypt, and even the Far East. Important historical evidence is found to no less a degree in the architecture. This walled city was subject to a precise, formal plan maintained through most of its history. The numerous deep soundings have produced evidence that the city was founded before the Umayyad period, probably just after the Muslim conquest, about 650 A.D.

- *Blocks fallen from the monumental Kufic inscription which originally capped the gateway.*



We know that the Byzantine town, called Ailana, made a treaty with the Prophet in 630 and continued as the seat of a Christian bishopric. Pieces of marble from churches have been found in the excavations as well as a fine Latin dedicatory plaque, apparently set up by Constantine (about 336, when the 10th legion was transferred to Ailana from Jerusalem). There is no evidence for this Roman/Nabataean and Byzantine town beneath the Islamic city. Rather we have found an extensive scatter of sherds and foundations of walls on the surface running from the northwest gate for over 500 m to the northwest. This



● *Aqaba: City wall with towers and gateway.*

area forms a mound and is undoubtedly the earlier Ailana. The explanation is apparently the same as that for Cairo, Basra, and many other Islamic cities—that they began as new foundations established beside older cities. In time most of these new Islamic cities, called *amsar*, replaced the pre-Islamic town which was left to ruins, used for building materials and eventually built over. While most of the examples of this historical phenomenon have continued as prosperous cities, Aqaba was destroyed in the early 12th century and remains mostly undisturbed. Thus the opportunity to excavate one of the earliest examples of Islamic urbanization, revealing early forms of the mosque, administration, markets, etc., is possible at the site of Aqaba.

The success of this 1987 season of excavations, which lasted from March 2 to April 29, is due to a unique combination of people and resources.<sup>1</sup> Funding of the project was provided by grants from the United States Agency



● *Aqaba: View along city wall. The towers in the foreground flank the gateway.*

for International Development (US AID) and the National Geographic Society as well as support from the Oriental Institute. The AID funding was provided as a pilot project in tourism development, sort of from the ground up. Within a few weeks of beginning excavations, the dramatic walls appeared in what had been an open field and the crowds of visitors, both local citizens and tourists, began to appear. Simple ropes were put up around the actual trenches but otherwise visitors were encouraged to look around. We provided 3 guides who showed people around and distributed simple leaflets with a plan, description, and history of the site.

An interesting by-product of this PR effort was the collapse of the rumor system. As it was initially assumed that the only reason for digging was gold, our success suggested plentiful golden finds (7 caskets were reported). The explanations of the guides, the distribution of over 7000 leaflets in Arabic, and the presence of an old glass-fronted bookcase next to the guards' tent (filled with representative pottery, glass, and metal objects) completely put to rest these rumors (which were indeed false). The site was, and remains today, completely open for the people of Aqaba and other visitors. Future work must include more permanent educational material, ideally

a small site museum. What is now becoming the pride of the town of Aqaba may become an educational and entertaining point of interest for all Jordanians and those lucky enough to visit that country.

- *Lustre sherd of man with a turban produced in Fatimid Egypt, late 10th century.*



First of all was the support and assistance of Dr. Adnan Hadidi, Director of the Department of Antiquities. He arranged for the participation of the Jordanian team from the Department: Dr. Ghazi Bisheh, Mr. Suleiman Farajat (who was our official representative), Dr. Khairieh 'Amr, and Ms. Hanan Azar. Dr. Dureid Mahasneh of the Aqaba Region Authority led the enthusiastic local cooperation enjoyed by the project. Other participants in the excavations made a talented multi-national team; they include Essam El Hadi (Sudan), Allison McQuitty (UK), Rosa Frey and Jessica Hallett (Canada), Robin Brown, Cathy Valentour, Jim Knudstad, Bob Smithers (USA). The Oriental Institute was represented by Carol Meyer, Yvonne Seng (also "representing" Australia), Guillermo Algaze (Cuban by birth), and, not in the least, Jan Johnson.

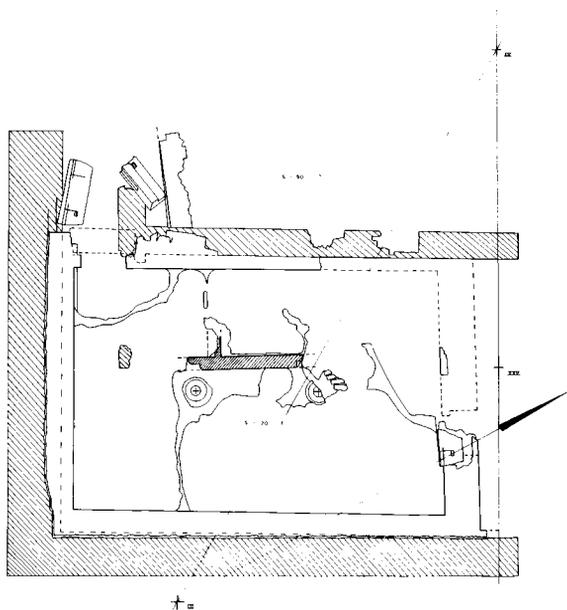
# THE NUBIAN PUBLICATION PROJECT

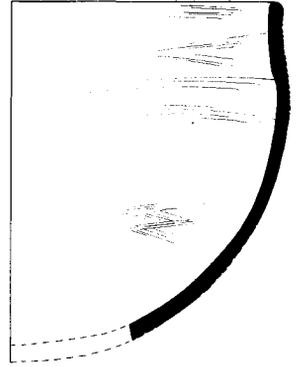
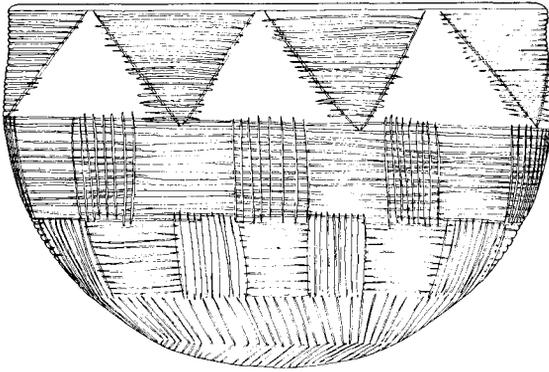
**BRUCE · B · WILLIAMS**

**T**he fifth volume published by the project appeared this year, *The A-Group Royal Cemetery at Qustul: Cemetery L*, joining Oriental Institute Nubian Expedition volumes I, II, and V, as well as *Ancient Textiles from Nubia*, as OINE III. The archaeological community can now examine independently some of the most remarkable contexts found in the Nile Valley. The next volume, OINE IV, was advanced by selection of an editor and the completion of photoreduction.

As the bulk of manuscripts for the concession at the southern end of Egyptian Nubia were completed, work on Serra East and its contributions to knowledge intensified. The site was a fortress only in the late Twelfth and early Thirteenth Dynasty, when it protected the east bank of Egypt's Nubian frontier zone from the formidable desert-

● A plan of a reception hall in the residence of the rulers of Teh-khet. Almost nothing was known of the local princes' residences in early New Kingdom Nubia before the excavation at Serra East. This pillared hall, with its reused stone door jambs and thresholds, was built in imitation of Egyptian structures. The small partitions in the center are later additions. Plan by James Knudstad.





● *An incised bowl of the Medjay culture from a quarry dump outside Serra Fortress. This pottery is evidence to identify a new phase in Nubia's cultures. By Lisa Heidorn.*

dwelling Medjay people. Members of this very group were employed in the fortress itself and staffed its patrols; they left evidence of their presence behind in their very special pottery. This year, materials from Serra East produced new evidence for an internal chronology of this pottery in two phases, one about 1800–1750 B.C., the other about 1650–1550 B.C. The earlier vessels appeared with a great deal of contemporary Egyptian pottery in debris that filled older clay quarries near the fort, and these comprise some of the most important late Middle Kingdom contexts south of the capital (near el-Lisht) itself and they offer much new evidence for chronology and regional variation in Egyptian archaeology of the period.

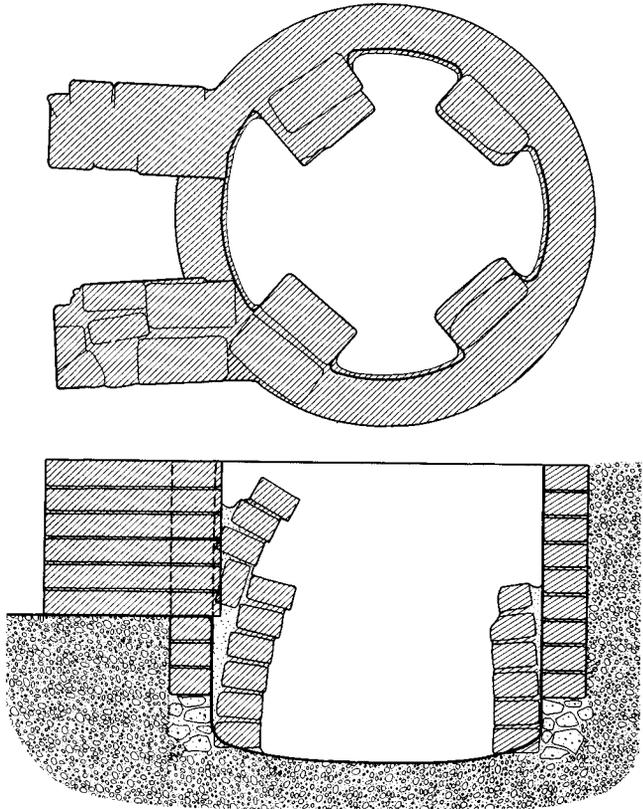
In the second phase, Serra was probably not a complete fortress, although its structure may have been substantially intact. Only some rubble wall foundations remain from added structures, although pottery of the Medjay and from Kerma, deep in Sudan, remains to tell us that Serra was an outpost of the Kushite empire that expanded to Egypt's borders between 1650 and 1550 B.C.

Although its destruction might have been earlier, it is most likely that the fortress' northern wall was burned about 1550 B.C. as Egypt expanded again to capture an even greater empire in Nubia than before. Serra did not disappear in this change but entered the most interesting period of its ancient existence, as the seat of important local rulers who served the Egyptian pharaohs, the Princes of Teh-khet. The Expedition found part of their residence in the fortress, a columned hall with reused stone door-jambes which must have been an inner audience or reception hall. The early princes were buried outside the fort

under a series of tomb structures, the earliest ones round tumuli, the later ones pyramids. Although the two last princes of the line, Amenemhat and Djehutyhetep, were buried under pyramids some distance to the south, at Debeira, their retainers and administrators continued to use a cemetery in a wadi just east of Serra Fortress.

The rather large area that belonged to Teh-khet included extensive date palm plantations, as it did even in modern times before the High Dam. However, Serra was not just a center for agricultural administration. Industry had existed there since the Middle Kingdom. Kilns in the fortress had been used to fire a wide range of pottery vessels, as we know from unfired fragments and deformed "wasters." Industrial installations are not common in Egyptian archaeology, and pottery kilns from Egypt's great ages are even less common, so the discovery of actual kiln structures with evidence of the products is an archaeological event. In fact, a tradition of pottery manufacturing continued into

• *Plan (above) and section (below) of a kiln in Serra Fort. Pottery kilns are not common in the debris of Egyptian towns. Kilns at Serra were remarkable because fragments of unfired pottery and deformed "wasters" also occurred. Drawing by James Knudstad, inked by Lisa Heidorn.*

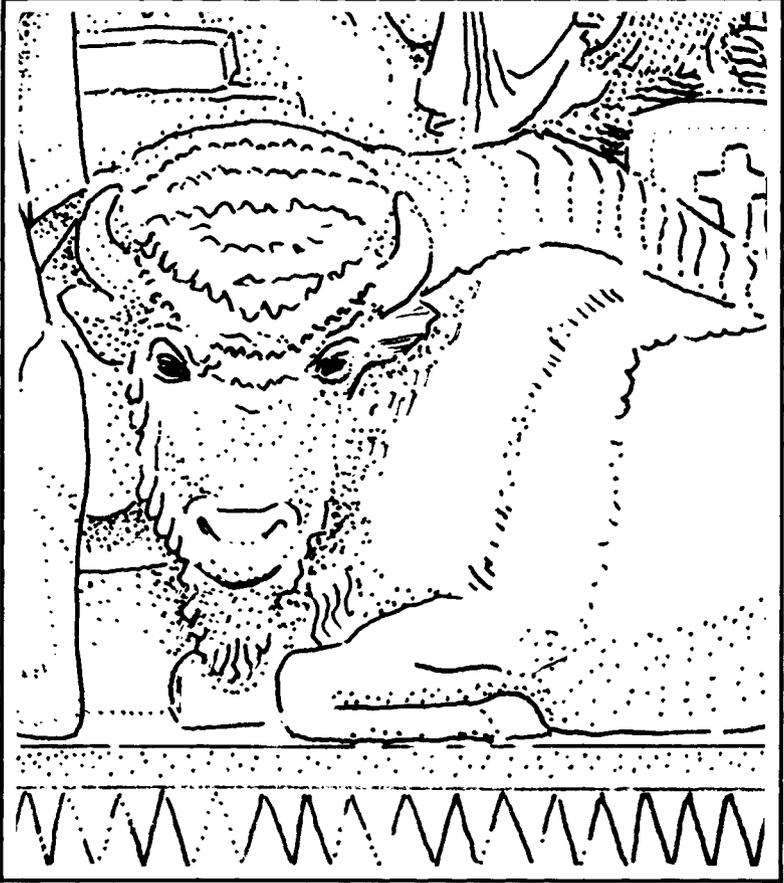


the New Kingdom at Serra, for deformed and overfired pieces of this period were scattered about the fort. These included surprisingly elaborate vessels, some burnished or painted.

Pottery was not the only industry at Serra, for copper was worked there as it was in other fortresses, and we have remains of crucibles, pottery hobs used to hold the crucibles in the furnace, and possibly even the furnace itself.

The major work this year was pottery. Vast amounts were recovered in the rescue, and retained, and the classification will make a contribution to an archaeological framework for Nubia and Upper Egypt, but the large task of recording the sherds has just begun.

After a year teaching in China and excavating in Egypt, Lisa Heidorn returned to the project, not only as its artist, but as a major contributor. In this capacity, she has made exciting discoveries in material from yet another Nubian site which will be the subject of a more detailed report in the future.



PHILOLOGY

# CHICAGO ASSYRIAN DICTIONARY

**ERICA • REINER**



ur major accomplishment in 1987 was sending Š Part II to the printer in March. Each part of Š will be larger than the largest volume published to date, K. Writing had begun seven years ago on this huge volume, and the staff was pleased to complete the writing, editing, and checking. We should begin receiving first galleys for Part II shortly.

About one third of Š Part I has been set as page proofs.

After Š was mailed, editing began on T and we have started to get manuscript pages back from the typist. Professors Martha Roth and Matthew Stolper wrote drafts for T, and visiting scholars Professor Brigitte Groneberg of the University of Tübingen and Professor Hermann Hunger of the University of Vienna also worked on T.

# DEMOTIC DICTIONARY PROJECT

JANET · H · JOHNSON

**A** couple of years ago the report on the Demotic Dictionary Project highlighted our knowledge of the animals familiar to the Egyptians who lived and wrote during the ..... millennium from the 7th century B.C. until the 3rd century A.D. This was the time when Demotic was the standard script used by residents in Egypt who wished to write in the Egyptian language; many Greek immigrants and their descendants wrote in Greek, which was also the language used for most formal government administrative records. We have been collecting the vocabulary found in such Demotic texts (both literary and non-literary) and studying its relation to the vocabulary found in earlier "classical" Egyptian texts and in later Coptic texts. "Coptic" is the name not only of the latest stage of the Egyptian language, written in Greek letters, but also of the Christian church in Egypt, which still flourishes today; it is from the latter that the term "Coptic" is used to describe that period of Egypt's history which corresponds to the Byzantine period. From our studies, we have deepened our understanding of such diverse aspects of Egyptian culture as the legal system, the concept of the "hero" in fiction, and the pervasiveness of taxes in almost every aspect of life (including death).

One of the texts which has provided a wealth of new words, and new appreciation of the extent of Egyptian scientific knowledge, is a medical text, dated approximately to the 3rd century of the modern era. Its compilation was due to the work of learned men associated with temples in the Fayum. Egypt has a long and very rich tradition of accomplishment in medical matters. Several important medical texts, including the famous Edwin Smith surgical papyrus (detailing various types of injuries to the head and upper torso with which a surgeon might have to deal and remarkable for its "modern" clinical, non-emotional approach to the problems presented), are known

from the Middle and New Kingdoms. Greek writers on medicine and medication claimed an Egyptian origin for many of their ingredients and prescriptions, partly, perhaps, because of the traditional Greek view of Egypt as the source of knowledge and wisdom. But until this major Demotic text was published, we had little direct evidence for the range and quality of Egyptian medicine contemporary with the Greek. The Demotic text is basically a series of prescriptions for medications (salves, potions, etc.) which will cure various ailments.

One of the more interesting aspects of this long text is the information it provides about the medical use of a range of both common and rare plants and animal products. The text is very badly broken, but a couple of sample passages give its flavor.

Another (prescription to) stop a cough: Cook the ingredients also [as in the preceding prescription]: Myrrh . . . [measured] exactly, pepper, 10 parts of grain, terebinth, 3/4 part bitter vetch (Greek "orobion"), iris, . . . (4/11-12)

Another (prescription for) drying up putrefaction in the ear: Cheap wine and heated copper. Grind and administer . . . . Another: . . . , tar, honey, red orpiment. Grind and administer to it. A bandage of linen boiled in water is made for every illness of the ear. (4/25-27)

Remedy for skin blotches: 1 dry measure of cress, 1 dry measure of mustard, 3 parts "rocket" plant (a type of cabbage), . . . (15/4-5)

The healing action of such products as honey and copper, or a sterilized bandage, is known (for an interesting history of ancient medicine, see Guido Majno, *The Healing Hand*).

Many of these products are also mentioned in non-medical texts, sometimes in leases in which the lessee agrees to raise a particular product on the land he is leasing, sometimes in tax receipts, where different rates of tax are paid on different agricultural products. Some of the crops which we think of as typically Egyptian (cotton, sugar cane) are not present (sugar cane was introduced after the Arab invasion; cotton became common only during the middle ages), but others are frequently mentioned (wheat, figs, dates from palm trees, papyrus). The range of herbs, spices, and "condiments" mentioned suggests that Egyptian cooking was far from bland and boring (e.g., dill, sesame, garlic, fennel, cardamum, cumin, fenugreek, mustard, and, perhaps,

anise, and rosemary). As a supplement to the staples of bread and vegetables (e.g., various types of beans, lentils, cucumber, onions), the Egyptians had had both wine and beer from early in recorded history (if not before). They had several varieties of oil—for cooking, for anointing the body and for burning in lamps. Although most of the plants and other food products mentioned in Demotic texts were probably grown in Egypt itself, some, at least, were imported; for example, spices such as pepper came from South India (a peppercorn was actually found in an archaeological context during the Oriental Institute's excavations at the Roman and medieval port site of Quseir al-Qadim, on the Red Sea coast) while high grade olive oil came from Palestine.

Unfortunately, many of the names of plants and foods which occur in Demotic texts occur infrequently, in contexts which do not make their identification clear. Thus, one of the jobs of the Demotic Dictionary Project has been to attempt to identify ancestors or descendants within Egyptian or related words in other ancient languages (especially Hebrew, Aramaic, or Greek) so that we may suggest a meaning or translation of the word. We have called on the services of a specialist in the history of medicine for help with the plant (and animal) names which occur in the medical text. Although we have benefitted from the extensive work done on Coptic etymology (the study of the derivation of words and their relationship to words in other languages) in this task, many words remain identified only as "a type of plant." It is frequently the "plant-determinative" written by the ancient scribe at the end of the word which allows us to identify the word as a plant of some sort; we hope that, as more texts are studied, fresh examples of these words will appear which will make further, more precise identifications possible.

Although new texts are being published each year, and although we try to keep our files up-to-date, the prime activity of the Demotic Dictionary Project staff this year has been to finish writing the first draft of the entries in our Supplement to the *Demotisches Glossar* published in 1954 by W. Erichsen and to begin the double-checking of all the information contained therein. Since the first draft for each letter has been written by one senior member of the Dictionary staff, a different senior member checks every word for content (all the cards in the file are re-examined by the "second reader" to make sure that both agree on the

meaning and usage of the words), for clarity of expression and presentation, and for accuracy of page references and the like.

Our staff is small. The only senior staff are myself and Robert Ritner, associate editor. George Hughes, with his extensive and intensive knowledge of Demotic texts and his acute understanding of what one can and can not do with a broken and damaged text, remains an invaluable source of information and a calming hand to keep us from making suggestions which we can't fully substantiate. Joe Manning and John Darnell provide invaluable leg-work and are preparing an appendix which will provide users of the Supplement with the publication information on every text from which a word is cited in the Supplement. In addition, this appendix will give an approximate date for the text (when within the 1000-year span of the use of Demotic the text was written) and an approximate provenience (where within the expanse of Egypt it was written). Perhaps just as importantly, the appendix will indicate the reliability of these attributions: Does the text state that it was written in a specific city or was it found in an archaeological context? Was it dated to a specific year of a named king or is the date derived from an analysis of the style of handwriting? We are also benefitting greatly from the proof-reading of Sally Zimmerman, who is checking the semi-completed draft for consistency in style and helping transfer information on date of composition of texts from the appendix to the individual citations.

Thus, although we make progress only slowly, we are making good progress—two letters  $\text{ⲓ}$ , the 1st letter of the alphabet, and  $\text{ⲛ}$ , the last letter) are completely checked (they still await facsimiles of the Demotic, which will be included for every word cited in the Supplement) and work is in progress on two more letters. Although one of the frustrations with work on a Supplement such as this is the number of words for which we can not specify an exact meaning, one of the challenges is analyzing the examples of a word carefully enough so that we can identify various nuances of the same word. For example, the verb *ph* might be used either transitively (with a direct object) to mean “to reach” (a place) or intransitively (without a direct object) to mean “to arrive,” often with a preposition “to arrive at” (a place). But in speaking of inheritance, the Egyptian might say the inherited property “reached” the heir, i.e., the heir

inherited the property. When used intransitively, the same verb might also mean not merely “to arrive” but “to come to fruition,” i.e., “to succeed,” or “to be appropriate.” Similarly, the compound noun *ḫyṛ*, which meant literally “crossing (the) river,” might mean a “journey” or “voyage” in general; it might mean “ferry-service;” and by extension it might refer to a “ferry boat” or to a “ferry tax.” As the reader can see, one of the pleasures of work on the Supplement is that, to paraphrase a comment about reading Webster’s *Dictionary*, the topic keeps changing.

# THE HITTITE DICTIONARY

HARRY · A · HOFFNER, · JR.

**T**he Hittite language, which was spoken all over what is today the Republic of Turkey 4,000 years ago, was written on clay tablets in the familiar cuneiform script used for the languages of Syria and Mesopotamia. When Hattusha, the ancient capital of the Hittites, was first excavated in the second decade of the 20th century and an international team of scholars had succeeded in deciphering the language, work began on the publication and interpretation of the thousands of tablets recovered. Word lists for individual bodies of texts were published very soon. But it was not until the 1930s that an American scholar, Edgar H. Sturtevant of Yale University, published the first glossary for all the texts. A much larger and improved glossary was published in 1952 by the German scholar Johannes Friedrich. For the past 12 years work has been progressing here in Chicago on a project to produce the first true dictionary of Hittite. The Chicago Hittite Dictionary under the co-directorship of H. G. Güterbock and Harry A. Hoffner, Jr. has enjoyed since its inception financial support from grants by the National Endowment for the Humanities. But a sizeable portion of the funding from these grants is generated by federal matching of private gifts to the Oriental Institute designated for the Hittite Dictionary. With each successive grant period a larger percentage of the total project costs must be met by this gifts and matching segment of the grant. Members are invited to be a part of the work of the Hittite Dictionary through designating gifts for this project. Members who thus join in the support of the dictionary will receive regular newsletters, keeping them abreast of all aspects of the on-going work.

1986–87 was the second of a two-year grant period from the NEH. The senior staff members, Professors Hoffner and Güterbock, continued their work on the production of final copy for the fourth fascicle of the dictionary. This involved intensive study and revisions to large articles in the N section of the alphabet. In particular, much effort was devoted to certain conjunctions (Hittite *namma*) and negatives (Hittite *natta*). The junior staff consisted of Drs. Ahmet Ünal and Richard Beal. Dr. Ünal, a Turkish scholar

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who received his Hittitological training at Munich under Prof. Annelies Kammenhuber, is a prolific researcher and writer. Dr. Beal, who has recently received his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago with a dissertation on the Organization of the Hittite Army, is a young scholar of considerable promise. Their dictionary tasks involve the preparation of first drafts of articles on words beginning with the letters P and S. The third level of personnel is made up of graduate student assistants. Gregory McMahon, currently writing his dissertation on the Cult of the Tutelary Deities, is responsible for the processing of newly published Hittite texts and putting them on dictionary card masters. Margaret Schröder assists in this task and serves as an office manager. James Spinti, still fulfilling his course requirements, assists in the parsing and filing of dictionary cards and advises Prof. Hoffner on matters relating to the project's computers.

The Hittite Dictionary welcomes volunteers from the membership who wish to perform non-technical tasks in the main dictionary office. Assistance is always welcome in entering text on the project's computers, making photocopies, proofreading of manuscript, compiling bibliographies, and filing. A reading knowledge of German, French, or Italian is helpful, but not necessary. Interested members are invited to inquire at the Dictionary Office, Oriental Institute Room 218 (directly opposite the Museum Office).

The Hittite Dictionary received a visit last year from the Italian Hittitologist and Ebla epigrapher, Prof. Alphonso Archi. Prof. Archi was very supportive and encouraging to the dictionary personnel and donated to the project a copy of his newly published volume of Hittite texts from the Berlin Museum's collection.

Published reviews of the CHD continue to affirm its high quality and usefulness. It is our hope to be able to submit manuscript to our photocompositor, James Eisenbraun by the beginning of 1988 for the fourth fascicle.

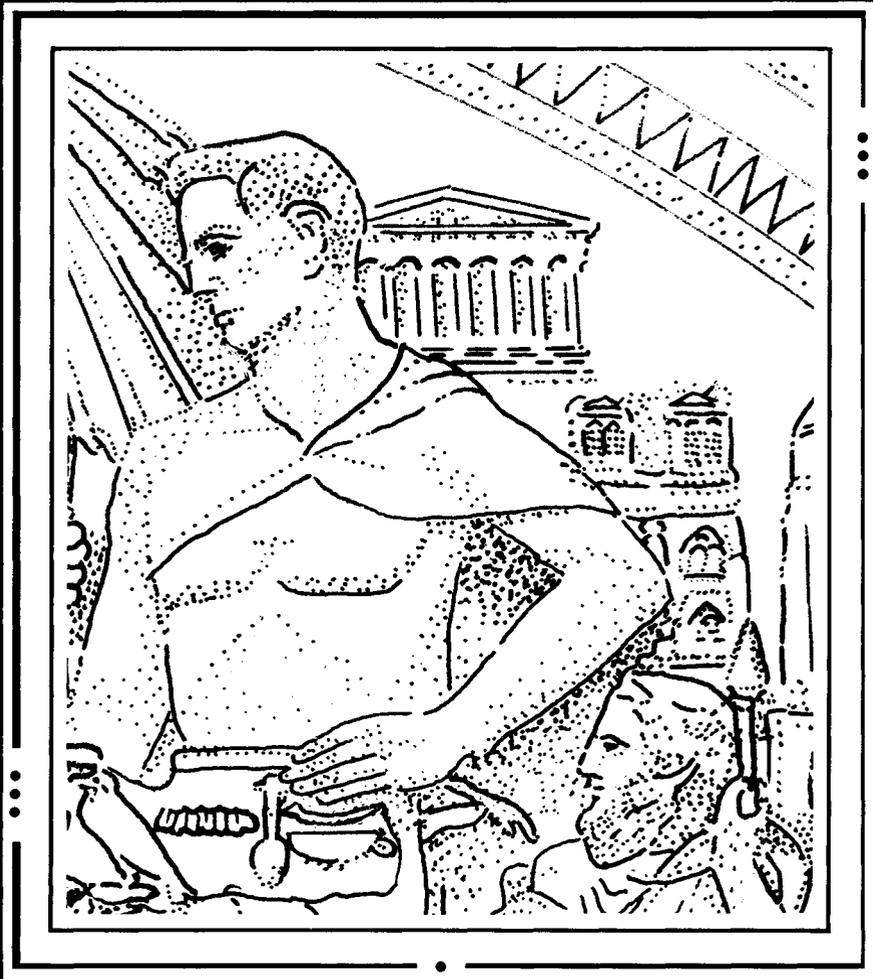
# MATERIALS FOR THE SUMERIAN LEXICON

MIGUEL • CIVIL

**P**revious *Reports* have at times mentioned the apparition, year after year, of new lexical texts which need to be processed and incorporated into the body of the already known texts published in the seventeen MSL volumes. The past year has been unusually productive in new materials. The texts found by the French in Emar (Meskéné) became available before the end of 1986 in two volumes of copies prepared by D. Arnaud.<sup>1</sup> Out of about 1880 copied fragments (some of which are parts of the same tablet), close to 500 are lexical. They have been transliterated and studied by M. Civil, with the assistance of Gertrud Farber, and some of them were discussed in weekly sessions of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary staff. These texts represent a branch of a poorly attested stage in the evolution of the Mesopotamian lexicographic tradition, namely the Middle Babylonian period, immediately preceding the textual stabilization (canonization) of the series. The Emar texts are one of the most significant discoveries of recent years. Important as they are, the discovery of a tablet archive at Sippar, with the tablets still in their original location in niches and shelves, promises to be still more significant. Most of the Sippar tablets are still in situ. They are being slowly extracted from the ground to ensure their proper recovery and preservation. Among the few tablets published in photo, one of these is a perfectly preserved copy of the VIth tablet of the series *Diri = watru*.<sup>2</sup> More lexical tablets will undoubtedly be found in Sippar. Even with MSL practically finished, the new lexical tablets will keep us busy for years to come.

<sup>1</sup>Daniel Arnaud, *Recherches au pays d'Aštata. Emar VI/1-2*. Éditions Recherches sur les Civilisations. Paris, 1985.

<sup>2</sup>*Archeologia* 224 (May 1987).



SCHOLARSHIP

# INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH

## LANNY • BELL

Lanny Bell's professional activities once more revolved around public relations and fund-raising for the Epigraphic Survey. In July he delivered two lectures, "An Introduction to Egyptology" and "The Epigraphic Survey," for the Oriental Institute's second Summer Institute for Secondary School Teachers, organized by Joan Barghusen, Museum Educational Services Coordinator, with major funding provided by a grant from the Illinois Humanities Council. In September he spoke on the work of the Epigraphic Survey before two groups in the "Know Your Chicago" program, coordinated on behalf of the Oriental Institute by docent Mary Shea; then he gave an informal presentation entitled "Regulations, Riots, and Rumors, or What They Didn't Teach Us at the Oriental Institute" to the Friends of Chicago House after a dinner held in their honor in the Egyptian hall of the Oriental Institute Museum. And just days before leaving Chicago on his way back to Luxor, he returned to DeKalb for a student seminar on "The Symbolism of Ancient Egyptian Iconography in New Kingdom Paintings and Reliefs" followed by a public lecture on "Some Recent Discoveries in Luxor Temple" for ALPHA: Friends of Antiquity and the College of Visual and Performing Arts at Northern Illinois University. In Cairo he spoke on the Epigraphic Survey for the Pyramids Rotary Club and the Skål International Travel Club. To the members and fellows of the American Research Center in Egypt he described "Salvaging the Monuments at Luxor;" and to the faculty and Egyptology students of the Anthropology and Sociology Department of the American University in Cairo he presented "Mythology and Iconography of Divine Kingship During the New Kingdom." Right before leaving Luxor in May he completed his brief entry on "Luxor Temple" for *The Dictionary of Art*.

## ROBERT • BIGGS

Robert Biggs continued research in cuneiform texts of the third millennium B.C., particularly those of Ebla. In February he gave a lecture "Discovery of a Third Millennium B.C. Archive: New Cuneiform Texts from Ebla" at the Detroit Institute of Arts on the occasion of the opening of the exhibition "From Ebla to Damascus," an exhibition of Syrian antiquities on loan from the government of Syria. In

May he was elected to a second term as president of the Chicago Society of the Archaeological Institute of America. After many difficulties adapting to current publication technology, he finished editing (with McGuire Gibson) the volume *The Organization of Power: Aspects of Bureaucracy in the Ancient Near East*.

## JOHN · A · BRINKMAN

John A. Brinkman has continued his work on textual evidence for Mesopotamian metallurgy by studying early documentary attestations for iron in Babylonia between 1600 and 500 B.C.; a report on this research was delivered at the national meeting of the American Oriental Society in Los Angeles in March. At the Amarna Centennial Symposium in February, he presented a paper on "The Babylonian and Assyrian Amarna Correspondence" in the context of diplomatic relations between major powers in the Near East in the Late Bronze Age. He contributed an article on "The Akkadian Words for Ionia and Ionian" to the *Festschrift* in honor of his former Greek teacher, Raymond V. Schoder. He has almost completed a joint edition, with Stephanie Dalley (Oxford), of a Babylonian kudurrū (royal property grant) in the Ashmolean Museum. Research has continued on the volume of Middle Babylonian royal inscriptions for the University of Toronto editorial project; and a research trip to London and Oxford in June carried that effort forward. A second edition of the *Mesopotamian Directory*, an address list of scholars in the New World interested in pre-Islamic Iraq, was published in February.

## MIGUEL · CIVIL

Besides the work on the Emar tablets mentioned in the report on the MSL Project, Miguel Civil has spent considerable time on his edition of the "Farmer's Instructions", an agronomic manual from the XVIIIth century B.C. or older. The critical edition of this work and a 75 pp. abbreviated commentary to it were presented at the Meeting of the Sumerian Agriculture Group in Leiden (The Netherlands) in July 1987. It will be published in full by the SAG (Cambridge) this year. His collection of all known Sumerian riddles appeared in *Aula Orientalis*, and "Feeding Dumuzi's Sheep: The Lexicon as a Source of Literary Inspiration," a literary text of botanical interest, in the volume in honor of E. Reiner. "Studies on Early Dynastic Lexicography III" will be published in this fall's issue of *Orientalia*.

**FRED · M · DONNER**

Fred M. Donner has continued to work on the problem of early Arabic-Islamic historiography, which has occupied him for several years, and about which he hopes to complete a monograph during 1987–88, when he will enjoy a fellowship granted by the National Endowment for the Humanities for this purpose. During the fall of 1986, he read papers on the Qur'anic view of personality and of history before scholarly groups at the Ohio State University and the University of Pennsylvania, and he has continued to compile information on particular historiographical themes of interest, such as the construction of chronological schemes by early Arab historians. In a somewhat different vein, he presented an illustrated lecture on "Some Traditional Crafts of Syria" in the membership lecture series in January, 1987.

**DOUGLAS · ESSE**

Douglas Esse, Associate Director of the Leon Levy Expedition to Ashkelon, spent the year in Jerusalem working on the material excavated from this Mediterranean coastal site. His research at Ashkelon focused particularly on the material from the Persian period, a period in which Ashkelon was particularly rich. He gave a public presentation of the results of the first two seasons at the Rockefeller Museum Archaeological Lecture Series in Jerusalem. In addition to directing the work of the Ashkelon archaeological laboratory at the Albright Institute in Jerusalem, Esse pursued his own work on the Early Bronze Age in Palestine. He presented a paper at an international symposium on urbanization sponsored by the French archaeological mission to Israel (CNRS) in which he discussed the nature of secondary state formation in third millennium Palestine. He also presented a summary paper on "The Archaeology of Palestine in the Bronze Age" at the annual meetings of the American Schools of Oriental Research/Society for Biblical Literature in Atlanta. Esse excavated at Ashkelon for the third season from May through August, 1987. He has now returned to Chicago to take up teaching responsibilities at the Oriental Institute.

**WALTER · FARBER**

Walter Farber is now seeing his book on Baby Incantations through publication; it will inaugurate the new Mesopotamian Studies series published by Eisenbrauns, and should be out by early 1988. He also finished an article on the

Library of Iqīša from Seleucid Uruk, several book reviews, and a lengthy manuscript on some new amulets against Lamaštu, Pazuzu, and other demons. He is now concentrating once again on his planned new edition of the Lamaštu text corpus.

In summer 1986, he attended the XXXIII Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale in Paris and spent some time in the British Museum, copying and collating ritual texts. He did further museum work in the fall, in the tablet collection of the Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum, San Jose, California, which will result in the publication of an unusual Late Babylonian magical tablet.

## **M c G U I R E • G I B S O N**

McGuire Gibson continues to serve as Chairman of the Council of American Overseas Research Centers, which is housed in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. As part of that responsibility, he has become involved in planning joint research efforts that will allow scholars working in American research centers in places such as Italy, Egypt, India, and Hong Kong to cooperate on large scale, coordinated programs. His interest in far-ranging programs of this kind is related to his search for recurring ecological/social patterns in Mesopotamia through time. He has been studying documents, such as the records of the East India Company in Baghdad and the Gulf, for possible correlations of environmental conditions and social change in the past few hundred years. He hopes to show that such evidence can be used as part of a larger, long-term model for understanding ancient Mesopotamia. His work, with members of the Nippur team and the Belgian Expedition in Iraq, on environment and settlement patterns is another aspect of the same research. During this year, he worked with Robert D. Biggs in collecting and editing the contributions to the volume *The Organization of Power: Aspects of Bureaucracy in the Ancient Near East* (SAOC 46), which was the result of a symposium he organized in 1984.

## **G E N E • G R A G G**

Gene Gragg has been awarded a National Science Foundation grant for the Cushitic/Omotc Etymological Database project. The goal of the project is to produce, distribute, and periodically update a historical-etymological dictionary of the Cushitic and Omotic language families in electronic form. The Omotic language family (spoken in South-West

Ethiopia) and the Cushitic (spoken in the Horn of Africa generally) each contains some forty languages. The two families are related to one another (but distantly), and to the better known Semitic, Egyptian, Berber, Bedja, and Chadic language families. Thus the dictionary should help elucidate the nature of the super-family constituted by these six branches, the so-called Hamito-Semitic (or, better, Afro-Asiatic) language family—a family which is thought to descend from a language spoken by a people living in the North-East corner of Africa sometime during the transition from epipaleolithic to neolithic. The dictionary will be in electronic form both for ease of manipulation and because of the constant updating of indices and cross-references made necessary by continually arriving new data. Gragg also participated as Ethiopian specialist in a symposium on Southern Arabia held at the University of Pennsylvania in May.

## HANS · G · GÜTERBOCK

Apart from his ongoing work on the Hittite Dictionary Project, Hans G. Güterbock put some finishing touches on his part of the publication of Hittite seals from Boğazköy co-authored with R. M. Boehmer (*Glyptik aus dem Stadtgebiet von Boğazköy*, Boğazköy-Hattuša 14, forthcoming). He also wrote a few articles for *Festschriften* or memorials. One of these, "Bilingual Moon Omens from Boğazköy," (for the Abraham Sachs Memorial) grew beyond its original scope through the discovery of a parallel from Emar on the Middle Euphrates by Erica Reiner.

By coincidence, he had occasion to write about two very different pioneers of Hittitology: Emil Forrer (died 1987) and Hans Ehelolf (died 1939). Forrer aroused much interest but also controversy by his claim to have discovered mentions of Greeks in Hittite texts, but he also made other important contributions (obituary to appear in *Archiv für Orientforschung*). Güterbock was asked to write about his teacher Hans Ehelolf's work on the Boğazköy archive in the Berlin Museum as one among other essays on Berlin Scholars on the occasion of the 750th anniversary of the city (*Das Altertum* 33 [1987]). Ehelolf was one of the foremost critics of Forrer. In his own work, mainly contributions to lexicography, he maintained the highest standards of accuracy. He directed the publication of the Boğazköy texts and contributed several volumes of his own cuneiform hand copies; he also started a thesaurus. Thus he laid a solid foundation for subsequent work in Hittitology.

## HARRY · A · HOFFNER · JR

As in previous years Harry A. Hoffner, Jr. spent most of his time in the work of the Chicago Hittite Dictionary (see separate report under "Philology"). He attended the meetings of the American Oriental Society in Los Angeles during the spring of 1987 and read a paper entitled "A Scene in the Realm of the Dead." This paper had been prepared as an article contributed to the planned volume in memory of Prof. Abraham Sachs of Brown University. The text treated not only gives us our first view of the Hittite conception of the afterlife in the netherworld, but offers the first evidence for the pronunciation of the Hittite word for "brother," *negnas*. It now appears that in Hittite, as opposed to many other languages, the word for "brother" (*negnas*) was derived from the word for "sister" (*negas*) rather than the converse.

During 1987 *The Encyclopedia of Religion* edited by Mircea Eliade and others was published by MacMillan Publishing Company. The enormous work contains two articles by Hoffner, the larger of which is entitled "Hittite Religion" and appears in volume 6. Also scheduled to appear in 1987 in the Spanish Journal *Aula Orientalis* is a scientific edition of "Paskuwatti's ritual against sexual impotence." Although translated into English by A. Goetze in the 1950s as part of the volume *Ancient Near Eastern Texts Relating to the Old Testament*, this important ritual has never before been edited with complete transliteration, translation, philological, and grammatical comments. Also expected to be published in the fall of 1987 is a complete edition of the myth about the god Kumarbi entitled "the Song of Silver."

## JANET · H · JOHNSON

Janet H. Johnson devoted most of her research efforts to the work of the Demotic Dictionary Project (see separate report) although she participated briefly in the study season at Luxor Temple and in the excavations at Aqaba (see separate reports). Her teaching grammar of the stage of Egyptian known as Demotic appeared in December and her article "Focussing on Various Themes," the summary of discussions and "Papers from the Conference on Egyptian Grammar," held in Helsingor, 28–30 May 1986, appeared in *Crossroad: Chaos or the Beginning of a New Paradigm*. She gave a paper entitled "Late Period Literature" for the symposium "Tales of the Pharaohs: The Literature of Ancient Egypt," in conjunction with the annual

meeting of the Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities in Toronto in the fall.

## CHARLES · E · JONES

Charles E. Jones has begun the process of collating (along with Matthew W. Stolper) the preliminary editions of the more than 2600 Persepolis Fortification Tablets studied by the late Prof. Richard T. Hallock. The corrected transliterations are being entered into a computerized database after conversion from Hallock's simplified transliteration scheme to a more standard cuneiform transliteration. This database is expected to facilitate the analysis of economic and linguistic data. Continuing research projects on the Persepolis archives include a study of the administration of herds and the role of animals in the economy of central Fars at the beginning of the fifth century; preparation of the small corpus of Aegeo-Anatolian inscriptional material; and preparation of the corpus of seal inscriptions. "Two Late Elamite Tablets at Yale," written with Matthew W. Stolper, appeared in *Fragmenta Historiae Elamicae: Melanges offerts a M. J. Steve*. Paris: Editions Recherches sur les Civilisations, 1986.

Work continues on a number of bibliographical projects including, *inter alia*, a comprehensive bibliography of North American doctoral dissertations pertaining to the pre-classical ancient Near East. This project should be completed within the next year.

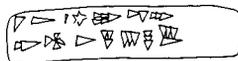
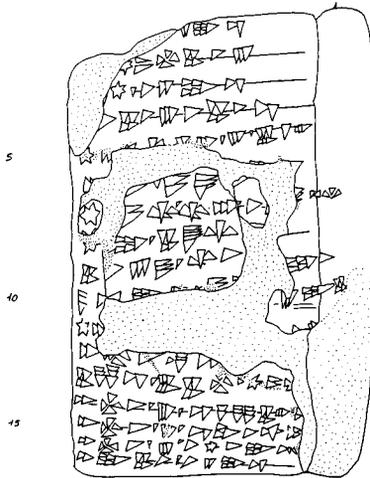
## DENNIS · PARDEE

Dennis Pardee has been concentrating on the Ugaritic ritual texts this year. His edition of nine texts that contain ritual and mythic elements will appear later this year (*Les textes para-mythologiques de la 24 campagne*). He spent an inordinate amount of time getting the texts into final form for laser printing of camera-ready copy—a process that has the advantage of permitting the author absolute control over text and format but the disadvantage of placing upon him many of the tasks that used to be the printer's.

He benefitted from a "Travel to Collections" grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities during the summer of 1987 which enabled him to travel to Paris and oversee a relatively rare form of tablet collation. Convinced that the fragments of a Ugaritic ritual tablet discovered in 1929 and now kept at the Louvre had been incorrectly reassembled, he obtained permission from

Mme. B. André, curator of the tablet collection, to have the plaster mounting removed in order to see the inner workings of the restoration. Mme. A. Corbelletto performed the delicate task of destroying the plaster without harming the baked clay of the tablet then turned the fragments over to Pardee for restudy. The operation can be termed a partial success: the fragments are now correctly oriented (see the hand copy illustrated here), but enough is missing—minute fragments never discovered by the excavators—to preclude a full understanding of the text. The results, such as they are, will be published as “Troisième réassemblage de RS 19.019” in the journal *Syria*.

During June the final data were gathered by Pardee and P. Bordreuil in Damascus, Aleppo, and Lattakia for their joint work listing the vital data on all inscribed objects from Ras Shamra (see last year's *Report*) and during July and August a final preliminary manuscript was prepared for distribution to the other members of the Mission de Ras Shamra and to other experts for verification of data unfamiliar to us (especially the archaeological data on find-spots of the inscribed objects). It is hoped that the manuscript will be ready for publication in late 1987 or early 1988.



Pardee has also completed several projects in another field of interest, Ugaritic and Hebrew poetry. He has corrected proof for a volume scheduled to appear in late 1987 on *Ugaritic and Hebrew Poetic Parallelism* and has prepared poetic studies of Psalm 23 and of Psalm 93 for *Festschrift* articles.

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**EDWARD · F · WENTE**

Edward F. Wente attended the meetings of the Society of Biblical Literature held at Atlanta in December, 1986, participating in discussions relating to the translation project, "Writings from the Ancient World." He was selected to serve as a member of the editorial board in connection with translations of Egyptian sources. For the initial phase of this translation project, it is planned to issue several volumes concentrating on letters from various areas of the ancient Near East, and Wente has agreed to prepare the one on ancient Egyptian letters since this is a subject upon which his research has focused in recent years. This work will include translations of royal and private correspondences that have been preserved mainly on papyri and ostraca from the Old Kingdom to the Twenty-first Dynasty.

**DONALD · WHITCOMB**

Most of Donald Whitcomb's research efforts this year were devoted to field archaeology. In addition to the study season at Luxor Temple, he directed the major excavations at Aqaba, Jordan (see separate reports), where he was presented a medal from the Aqaba Region Authority for his contributions to the city of Aqaba. Between these projects, he worked with the Canadians at Dakhleh Oasis, in the western desert of Egypt. There he made a study of all the Islamic pottery which had been discovered by the team headed by Tony Mills during the several seasons of survey throughout the oasis. He was able to identify an early, a medieval, and a late component to the Islamic materials, identifications which should help in studying the distribution of settlement in the Oasis through the many periods of its occupation. He also participated in a conference in Göttingen, West Germany, entitled "Cultural Change and Exchange in the Gulf Region from the 2nd Millennium until the Rise of Islam," where he presented a paper on "Pseudo-prehistoric ceramics from southern Iran." He also presented papers, on the results of his excavations at Aqaba, at the annual meeting of the American Society for Oriental Research, in Atlanta, and to the American Center for Oriental Research, in Amman, Jordan.

**BRUCE · WILLIAMS**

Certainly the publication of Cemetery L at Qustul (see above) was a most gratifying event in Bruce William's research for the year, but there were others as well, some

founded on it. In February, an article "Forebears of Menes in Nubia; Myth or Reality?" (*JNES* 87, 15–26) defended Cemetery L's significance and tried to show that it represented an entirely comprehensible development in the wider context of Egyptian and Nubian history. Almost at the other end of the pharaonic historical career, "A Chronology of Meroitic Occupation below the Fourth Cataract," (*Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt* XXII, 149–195) defined phases and dated sites within the period between about 200 B.C. and 300 A.D. based on evidence derived from very large cemeteries at Qustul and Ballana. The period has been a difficult one for archaeologists and historians alike, but by defining four major phases and two stages in the distribution of the sites, as well as identifying a "Ptolemaic" phase in southern Lower Nubia, it was possible to reconcile apparent discrepancies and show that the archaeological and historical records for the period are in close agreement.

New submissions were also made this year. A brief article written in collaboration with Thomas J. Logan on a small basalt figurine from Megiddo resumed a series of articles generally called "Oriental Institute Museum Notes" which used to appear regularly in *JNES*. For some time, a continuing effort in research has been to identify and interpret early images in pharaonic art. It began with the unexpected emergence of documents in the material from Qustul that bridge the gap between enigmatic representations of the Naqada Period, (the Amratian and Gerzean) and the familiar ones of Dynasties "O" (Scorpion, Iry-Hor or Ra, Ka or Sekhen, and Narmer), and I (Aha and later). It was continued last year in an article with Logan which added newly recovered documents to those from Qustul that enabled the definite interpretation of earlier large-scale representations as pharaonic. This year, a monograph developed from a paper given at a symposium in New York last September compared a series of painted vessels from Qustul with others from Egypt and Nubia to identify a third phase in the decorated pottery of Egypt before the First Dynasty. This final phase of decorated pottery in early Egypt was comparable in significance to its predecessors in periods generally considered prehistoric, the Naqada II or Gerzean, and the Naqada I or Amratian periods. Moreover, the subjects of the decoration provide a basis for identifying not only a general phase in Egyptian culture, but also major pharaonic features in the earlier periods as well. As a result, a thesis can be stated that Egypt in these early periods was as much imbued with pharaonic culture as it was in the age of the pyramids.

## RESEARCH ARCHIVES

## CHARLES·E·JONES

**F**ourteen years ago, when the Research Archives was being set up, estimates indicated that a complete library in the appropriate fields of interest would contain some twenty thousand volumes. This year we have surpassed that magic number, but have not achieved the elusive (and probably unattainable) goal of a "complete" library.

During the decade and a half of its operation, the focus of collection development in the Research Archives has slowly and significantly matured. With our core collection of periodical and serial publications firmly established, we have become free to concentrate our efforts on the acquisition of new material, and to expand our holdings in related disciplines. While our greatest strength continues to be in Egyptology and Assyriology, we are to a significant extent a function of our academic constituency. Thus the opening of new positions in the Oriental Institute; for example those in Syro-Anatolian Archaeology, and Aramaic; requires us to expand our holdings in those important fields. The result is a broader based, and more useful library. Another important measure of the maturity of the Research Archives is the great demand for our Acquisitions List. This list, produced on a bi-monthly basis, was originally intended as an informational guide for internal consumption. Recently, however, the list has been more widely distributed, and is now a regular and valued source of information for such central bibliographical resources as the *Keilschriftbibliographie*, and the *Annual Egyptological Bibliography*. The cost of producing the list has become so great that I can no longer distribute it except in exchange for similar bibliographical tools. The most extraordinary feature of the Research Archives, the feature which makes it most useful as a research tool, is the availability of the collections. It was originally, and remains today, one of the basic principles of the Research Archives that the organization and cataloguing of the collection remain simple and transparent; and, most importantly, that all of the books be available all the time—books do not circulate except on a short-term, intramural basis.

The primary emphasis of the staff of the Research Archives during the year 1986–87 has been to continue the

project to recatalogue the collections, and to turn the catalogue into the tool it should properly be. We have concentrated on areas of particular difficulty, with the goal of making obscurely catalogued items more accessible to our users. We have been researching the needs of the Research Archives, both administratively and bibliographically, for the inevitable computerization. I believe it to be essential that a central resource such as the Research Archives, be both internally consistent, and externally accessible through the various systems now available. We expect to initiate some degree of automation within the next year.

Pat Monaghan of the Museum Office has convinced the Plant Department of the University to exercise their obligation to properly maintain the floor of the Reading Room. The floor, which had been neglected since the removal of the Oriental Institute Library to Regenstein, was completely restored and resurfaced early this summer. This renovation, along with last year's repair and restoration of the ceiling frescos, makes the Reading Room far more attractive and presentable.

Last summer we negotiated, on behalf of the Oriental Institute and Regenstein Library, the extraordinary gift of the library of Col. Alan MacKenzie of Holmes Beach, Florida. We retained his collection of travels, history, and geography of the Near East, constituting one-third of the sixteen hundred volumes he donated. The remainder went to Regenstein Library. We are slowly processing this very generous gift.

Acquisitions statistics  
for the past year are  
as follows:

	April 1986–March 1987	Total
Monograph	742	9,440
Series	138	3,963
Journals	259	7,059
Total books	1,139	20,462
Pamphlets	48	

We are, as usual, indebted to Thomas Holland and the Publications Office, and to Robert Biggs and the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* for their willingness to support our efforts through exchanges of publications.

## PUBLICATIONS OFFICE

## THOMAS · A · HOLLAND

In my report on the status of publications during the 1985–1986 fiscal year, I began by listing the two newly published volumes which had become available: OIP 107, *Reliefs and Inscriptions at Karnak IV*: ● ● *The Battle Reliefs of King Sety I*, by the Epigraphic Survey, and AS 23, *Kaniššumar—A Tribute to Hans G. Güterbock on His Seventy-Fifth Birthday, May 27, 1983*, edited by H. A. Hoffner, Jr. and G. M. Beckman. This year it is a pleasure to announce that three additional volumes were produced in 1986, bringing the total number of titles now available to forty-eight. The new books are:

1. Rudolph H. Dornemann,  
*A Neolithic Village at Tell El Kowm in the Syrian Desert*  
(SAOC 43)
2. Bruce B. Williams,  
*The A-Group Royal Cemetery at Qustul: Cemetery L*  
(OINE III)
3. Janet H. Johnson,  
*Thus Wrote 'Onchsheshonqy: An Introductory Grammar of Demotic*  
(SAOC 45)

Concerning the other seven manuscripts in various stages of production last year, four were sent to the printer and work continued on the remaining three volumes. The titles of the four new books for publication in the fall of 1987 are:

1. Robert M. Whiting,  
*Old Babylonian Letters from Tell Asmar*  
(AS 23)

2. Elizabeth C. Stone,  
*Nippur Neighborhoods*  
(SAOC 44)
3. McGuire Gibson and Robert D. Biggs, eds.,  
*The Organization of Power: Aspects of Bureaucracy in the Ancient Near East*  
(SAOC 46)  
[Note that this title was revised after the publication of last year's *Annual Report*]
4. Lawrence E. Stager and Anita M. Walker, eds.,  
*The American Expedition to Idalion, Cyprus: Second Preliminary Report*  
(OIC 24)

With regard to the publication staff, I have to report that our editorial and production assistant, John S. Palmer, resigned his position at the end of May so that he could continue full time with his academic studies in Massachusetts. On behalf of both the Publication's Office staff and other Oriental Institute colleagues, I wish to thank John for his invaluable assistance and to wish him much success in his future career. Fortunately, we were able to find another excellent person, Joan Hives, to take the position of editorial and production assistant. Joan has worked in other divisions of the University of Chicago for over twenty years and is well versed in the art of academic book publishing. I heartily welcome Joan to our publication's department and wish her happiness in this very demanding job. Kerry Bedford, who was in charge of publication sales, also announced her resignation so that she could return to Australia with her husband, Peter, an Oriental Institute Ph.D. candidate. I am happy to welcome Kerry's replacement, Thomas G. Urban, who will be working part-time in our sales division and continuing with his Ph.D. research as an Oriental Institute student. Again this year we had to rely upon the following part-time production people for various specialized services for which we are much appreciative: David Baird (computer typesetting and laser printing of camera-ready volumes), Rainer Mack (proofreading and opaquing line illustrations and photographs), and volunteer Sally Zimmerman (editing and proofreading).

The sales figures listed below vividly illustrate the growing importance of our publications to both the academic community and to the general public at large.

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Table of Sales

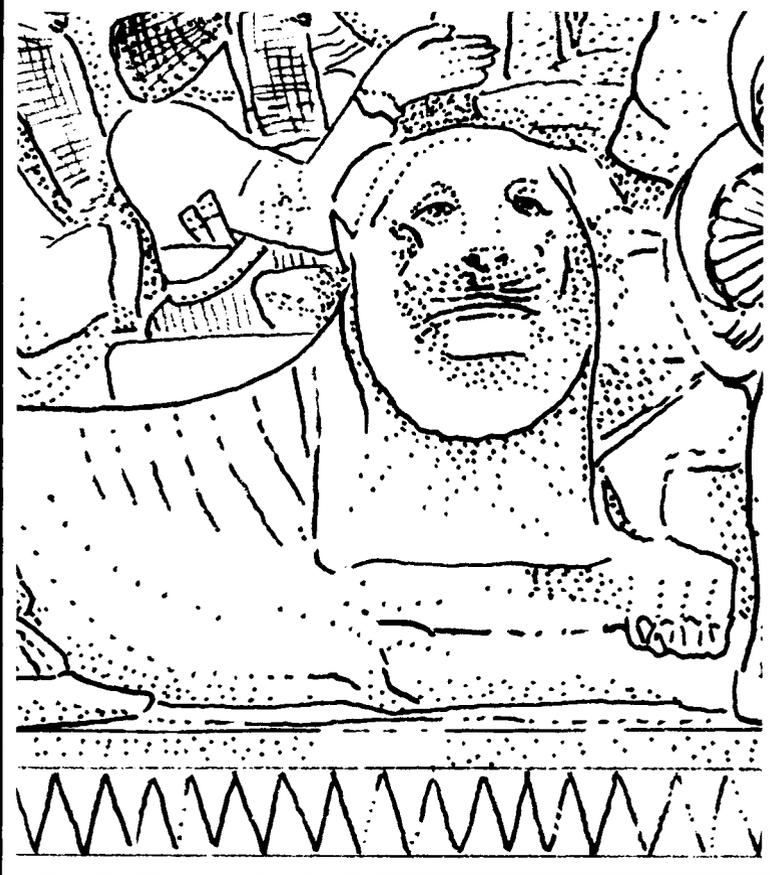
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AS (Assyriological Studies)	258
CAD (Chicago Assyrian Dictionary)	338
CHD (Chicago Hittite Dictionary)	411
MSKH (Materials and Studies for Kassite History)	15
OIC (Oriental Institute Communications)	12
OINE (Oriental Institute Nubian Expedition)	113
OIP (Oriental Institute Publications)	329
SAOC (Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization)	578
MISC* (Miscellaneous volumes)	63
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Total	2,117

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\*The miscellaneous volumes which are not published by the Oriental Institute are:

- 1) *Ancient Textiles from Nubia: Meroitic, X-Group, and Christian Fabrics from Ballana and Qustul* by Christa C. Mayer Thurman and Bruce Williams, et al.
- 2) *Quseir Al-Qadim 1978: Preliminary Report* by Donald S. Whitcomb and Janet H. Johnson
- 3) *The Joint Istanbul-Chicago Universities' Prehistoric Research in Southeastern Anatolia* by Halet Çambel and Robert J. Braidwood, et al.
- 4) *Uch Tepe I: Tell Razuk, Tell Ahmed Al-Mughir, Tell Ajamat* edited by McGuire Gibson



MUSEUM

# THE MUSEUM

## RAYMOND · D · TINDEL

**I** 986–87 has certainly been an interesting year for the Museum, a period of high activity and major staff changes. We have lost our curator Thomas Logan to the prestigious Gibbes Art Museum in Charleston, South Carolina, where he is now director. We wish him the best of luck in his new position. However, we have also welcomed two new permanent staff members, Laura D'Alessandro as conservator and Pat Monaghan as office manager.

Our year began last summer with preparations well underway for the Museum benefit held October 21. Mary Shea and Kitty and Rita Picken chaired the project with the support of Gretel Braidwood. They organized it and recruited the numerous volunteers who wrote and mailed the invitations, solicited contributions, made jewelry, and crafted the hundreds of blue-glazed ushebtis, copied from an original in the Museum collections, which were given as favors at the event. Those who attended were encouraged to come in black-tie or costume and were treated to dining, dancing, a rug and jewelry bazaar, a silent auction, and a live auction with McGuire Gibson as auctioneer. A highlight of the evening was the performance by Kitty Picken and friends from Court Theatre. We thank you all for helping to make the Museum benefit such a spectacular success.

The night of the benefit also marked the opening of our exhibition, "The Unseen Collection: Treasures from the Basement," which remained on display until January 4, 1987. It is no secret that less than ten percent of the Museum's holdings are on display, and that thousands of important pieces are locked away in storage where few but staff and scholars get to see them. This sampling ranged from ancient glass to traditional Middle Eastern costume, and included coins from the Museum's numismatic collections and pieces of Egyptian sculpture whose significance hitherto had not been fully appreciated. Principal among the latter were a granite head of Ramesses VI and a small bronze figure of one of Egypt's Nubian pharaohs. Both of these pieces have since been incorporated into the Museum's permanent exhibits.

● A selection of objects from the exhibition "The Unseen Collection: Treasures from the Basement." Clockwise from top: OIM A17478, terracotta ram's head excavated at Çatal Hüyük, Syria; OIM 22631, decorated pottery jar excavated at Qustul, Nubia; OIM 16721, polychrome faience tile excavated at Medinet Habu, Egypt; OIM X304, polychrome core-formed glass vessel, possibly from Rhodes; OIM A30482, green glass vessel excavated at Khirbet al-Kerak, Israel.



The Institute served as host to a scholarly symposium on the Amarna Period February 1–3. In honor of this event, one of the alcoves in the Egyptian Hall was reorganized to feature the flowering of Egyptian art which took place during the Eighteenth Dynasty, in particular during the reign of the Amarna pharaoh Akhenaten.

The Museum also hosted two traveling exhibits. The first of these, March 14–April 19, was "Twenty-Five Years of Discovery at Sardis," organized by Harvard and Cornell Universities, the Corning Museum of Glass, and the American Schools of Oriental Research. There was also a symposium on Sardis held in Breasted Hall on March 25 which was organized by Eleanor Guralnik of the American Institute of Archaeology. This exhibit recalled for us fond memories of the late Dr. Gustavus F. Swift III who was long associated with these excavations before becoming curator of the Oriental Institute Museum, and we used this occasion to feature his work.

- *Cartonnage mummy mask, late first century A.D., loaned by Mr. Eugene Chesrow for the exhibition "The Unseen Collection: Treasures from the Basement."*

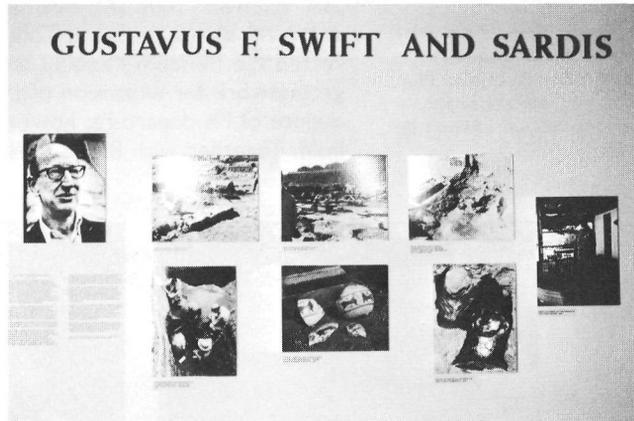


The second of these exhibits, "Site Drawings by Martyl: The Precinct of Mut at Luxor," June 1–July 26, 1987, presented the work of the prominent Chicago artist Martyl. She had been invited by The Brooklyn Museum to record her impressions of their excavations at the Mut Temple, and this experience inspired the works on display. The exhibit was celebrated with an opening reception and an intimate dinner in the galleries for supporters. We are pleased to express our appreciation to The Brooklyn Museum for having organized the exhibition, and to Allied Signal Engineered Materials Research Center, AT&T, Illinois Bell, William Drake, the Institute of Museum Services, Kraft, Inc., and Diane Legge Lohan for their local sponsorship of the exhibition. We especially want to thank the Playboy Foundation for their assistance in producing the poster for this exhibition.

Pieces from our collections have also been displayed in exhibits at other institutions over the past year. Thirty-three of the Museum's finest pieces were lent to the Art

Institute of Chicago for the exhibition, "The Art of the Fertile Crescent: Masterpieces from the Oriental Institute Museum," November 11–February 22, which opened with an introductory lecture by Curator Tom Logan. We wish to thank the Art Institute for this opportunity to bring our collections to the attention of a new and wider audience. We have also made major loans to museums in Memphis, Tennessee, for exhibits co-ordinated with the visit of the Ramesses II exhibition to that city; seventy objects were lent to the Memphis Pink Palace Museum and twenty-two pieces to the Mississippi River Museum. Closer to home, fifty-seven pieces from our Nubian collection were exhibited February 1–28 at Oak Woods Cemetery in "Nubia: Its Glory and Its People," celebrating Black History Month.

- *The Oriental Institute Museum's supplement to the traveling exhibition "Twenty-five Years of Discovery at Sardis," in memory of Gustavus F. Swift III.*



In addition to these rather major efforts, we can also report a number of additional successes and projects completed. The Khorsabad panel in the Assyrian Hall has been completed, thanks to major assistance from Peggy Grant. An exhibit featuring Thomas McClellan's excavations at el-Qitar in Syria was prepared for the occasion of the Institute's Annual Members' Dinner. A minor reorganization of the Iranian Hall displays is currently underway, under the supervision of Helene Kantor and we hope soon to have our Cypriot exhibit completed. The Museum welcomed visitors on the University's Alumni Day on November 8 with behind-the-scenes tours of storage, work, and research areas, and a reception in the galleries hosted by University of Chicago President Hanna Gray.

The Museum's modest operating budget received a substantial subvention during 1986–87 in the form of a grant from the Institute of Museum Services. It supported our temporary exhibits and paid for plans for a new alarm system. Thanks to the grant we could hire Karen Bradley for a year as assistant registrar. It also paid for the design of the Museum's new brochure and made it possible for the Education Office to buy two new films. Also, thanks to the grant, Kim Coventry was able to attend the annual meetings of the American Association of Museums in San Francisco, Jack Kish was able to attend a Smithsonian Institution workshop in Washington, D.C., on museum security, James Richerson was able to attend a Smithsonian workshop on museum lighting, and I was able to attend a Smithsonian workshop on computerizing registration records.

- *General view of the exhibition "Site Drawings by Martyl: The Precinct of Mut at Luxor," and the acrylic painting entitled Sakhmet by Martyl.*

Staff members have also been busy with individual projects and areas of responsibility. Tom Logan, our curator, directed the Museum's exhibit and loans programs, and did groundwork for expansion of the Museum. As a consequence of his departure, however, the latter is now on hold. Together with Bruce Williams he has authored an



article on an unusual Syrian figurine excavated by the Institute at Megiddo. The article will appear shortly in *The Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, reviving the series "Museum Notes."

In the registry we have made great progress with the physical inventory of the collections and the computerization of our registration records. We are very much indebted to AT&T for their donation of an AT&T 6300 computer, and to all of the volunteers who have carried both of these projects along. Debbie Aliber, David Anderson, Leah Baer, Rebecca Binkley, James Bodefelf, Lilian Cropsey, Irv Diamond, Lilla Fano, Leila Foster, Di Grodzins, Steve Knapp, Georgie Maynard, Carmen McGarry, Barbara Ramlo, Mila Rowton, Lillian Schwartz, Luciana Stefani, Rose Wagner, and Peggy Wick have spent long hours checking locations, writing shelf lists, correcting records, and entering records into the computerized database. It is a tribute to their thoroughness that we have found objects missing since the 1920's. I have also been very fortunate to have the aid of assistant registrars Karen Bradley and Frank Yurco. Karen, *inter alia*, has registered thousands of palaeolithic Egyptian flints and begun to put our loan records in order. Frank is in charge of our subsidiary research files and has helped greatly in preparing loans.

Kim Coventry, Museum administrator and assistant curator, contributed to the success of the exhibitions listed above, and has had major successes in publicizing the Museum's activities. Thanks to her efforts "The Unseen Collection" and the Martyl and Sardis exhibits were all covered extensively by the local media. Pieces from "The Unseen Collection" were featured in the fall issue of *The University of Chicago Alumni Magazine*. The Martyl exhibit was reported nationally by the Associated Press and will be the subject of a feature article in the fall issue of *Aramco World Magazine*. The Museum also received coverage on WBBM television and on WFMT radio with Harry Borrás and has received first-time coverage in media as diverse as *Crain's Chicago Business* and *Midwest Gallery Guide*. We are indebted to Bill Harms of the University's News and Information Office for his assistance with our publicity efforts. Kim supervised the design and production of the new Museum brochure which will appear shortly; many thanks to John Mahtesian and Joan Barghusen for their help with the photography and text. Kim is currently cataloguing the Museum's glass collection.

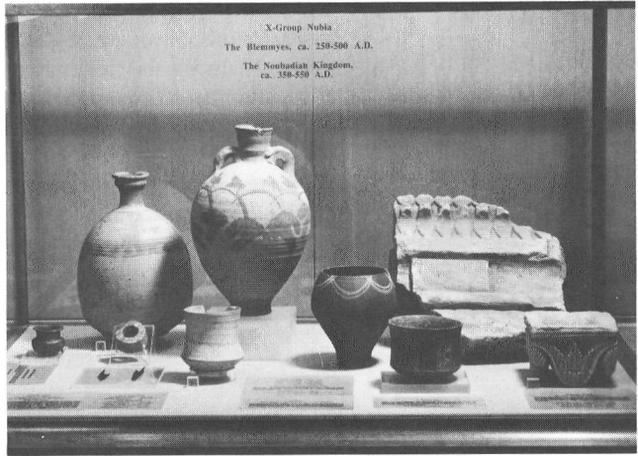
In addition to its conventional functions, the Museum is a major research facility. As such, it houses the Institute's record and photographic archives which are in the charge of Museum archivist John Larson. He answers numerous requests by scholars and publishers for information from these archives and he also does much of the basic research for exhibits and collections management. In the management of the archives he has been assisted over the past year by volunteers Hertsell Conway, Kay Ginther, Kate Grodzins, Joan Rosenberg, Jesse Sheidlower, and Rose Wagner. Kay is involved in a long-range project sorting and cataloguing some 11,000 Megiddo field negatives. Joan is reconstructing from scattered records a field catalog of objects which the Institute excavated at Medinet Habu; their original catalogue was destroyed in Germany during World War II. Kathryn Almy, an intern from Kalamazoo College in Michigan, worked as a volunteer on special projects in the archives from April to June. Kathryn also worked on the inventory of Museum's numismatics collections under the supervision of Kim Coventry.

It is the Museum preparator Honorio Torres who is responsible for the care and appearance of the galleries. He assists with the myriad other tasks which are required to keep the Museum functioning, and had a major hand in installing the Nubian exhibit at Oak Woods Cemetery.

The Museum's security supervisor Jack L. Kish has been constantly upgrading our security procedures and Museum attendant training and has maintained active liaison with Chicago Fire Department and professional museum security associations. Over the past year he supervised a review of the Museum's security systems and procedures by Steven Keller and Associates, consultants on museum security. We hope to implement some of their recommendations over the course of the current year. Jack's increasing reputation within the field of museum security led to his being asked to join the Art Institute as supervisor of its security training program. We wish him the best of luck in his new position.

Jean Grant's progress, as the Museum's photographer, is measured over the course of the year in hundreds of photographs taken and thousands of prints developed. She carefully documents all Museum objects which go out on loan—more than 2,000 prints last year. Well over a thousand more were printed for upcoming Oriental Institute publications, and some 1200 copy negatives were made of an important collection of documentary aerial photos. In addition, there are the numerous scholarly and publication

- *Pottery vessels and carved stone architectural fragments excavated by the Oriental Institute's Nubian Expedition in the exhibition "Nubia: Its glory and its people," held at Oak Woods Cemetery, Chicago.*



photos which she makes either from objects in our collections or from negatives in our archives for users all over the world. Her photograph of the Museum's Assyrian relief A7363 was chosen by President Gray for her official 1986 Christmas card. All of this would scarcely be possible without the assistance of her capable volunteers, Ria Ahlström, Joe Denov, and Kate Grodzins. Jean also took part in the Fort Dearborn–Chicago Camera Club project to celebrate Chicago's sesquicentennial, in which approximately 100 photographers recorded "tomorrow's history today" by making a photographic record of the city over 24 hours, June 27–28, 1987.

As exhibit designer and coordinator James Richerson had primary responsibility for installing the Museum's exhibits during this very active year. In addition he also assisted in installing the Museum's masterpieces in "Art of the Fertile Crescent" exhibit at the Art Institute of Chicago, helped with the Nubia exhibit at Oak Woods Cemetery, and worked with Denise Browning to set up a satellite of the *Suq* at Harper Court over the Christmas sales season. He designed and erected the Museum's booth for the Chicago International Exposition at Navy Pier, which also featured the University's Smart Gallery and Renaissance Society. We very much appreciate the volunteers who manned the booth and helped make it a success. Jim also attended a workshop on computer graphics at the Art Institute of Chicago and he continues to win recognition as an artist; his work "Painted Women" took Second Prize out of 1092 pieces submitted in the 1987 Whirlpool Foundation Sculpture Exhibition.

Pat Monaghan came to work for the Museum in October as part-time secretary; it is a tribute to her initiative and comprehensive abilities that she was promoted soon thereafter to office manager. As such, she has filled a major gap in our organizational structure. She manages the Museum's operating budget, supervises Museum rentals (Breasted Hall, the galleries, etc.,) and takes care of many of the administrative functions which are required by daily operations of the Museum and Institute. Thanks to her efforts our aging and temperamental slide projectors in Breasted Hall have been replaced with two new machines, and there is also a new lens on the movie projector so that films now fill the screen. She is capably assisted by Margaret Schröder and volunteer Harold Dunkel.

Laura D'Alessandro, the Museum's new conservator, joined the staff last November. She is responsible for the physical condition of the collection. She has to stabilize, prepare condition reports, and assist in packing the objects which are loaned to other museums. She also cleans and prepares objects for photography or exhibit in the Museum. Since her arrival she has worked on more than 150 pieces. Because she was particularly distressed by the deterioration of the organic materials in our collections, she wrote an application to the Institute for Museum Services for a grant to create a climate-controlled organics storage room in a portion of the Institute basement. Her application has been successful, and we look forward to reporting to you next year on the installation of this facility. Also during the past eight months she has served as courier for our loans to the museums in Memphis, Tennessee, and supervised assistants Augusta McMahon and Margaret Schröder in the preparation of cuneiform tablets for return to Iraq.

Those of us on the staff are continually reminded of how much we owe the many who volunteer time to the Museum. There are those who, like Elizabeth Tieken, have been working here for decades; there are others who have come to us only this summer. The volunteers do everything from clerical work in the Museum Office, to cleaning in the galleries, to inventorying the collections. Thanks to the volunteers we have an exemplary guide and education program and an efficient and profitable gift shop. I do not know what we would do without them.

The Museum continues to receive donations to its collections from its friends and supporters. Notable this year were the items of Egyptian jewelry from Mrs. Mildred

Othmer Peterson, and a collection of amulets from Mr. Jack Beem.

Looking to the future, the Chicago summer of 1987 has persuaded us forcefully that the Museum must have climate control. There is no other single step that we could undertake which would help more to preserve our collections and make the Museum more useable. There is probably no other museum in North America of this stature and with collections of this importance which has not already taken this step. Chicago's temperature and relative humidity fluctuate dramatically throughout the year. This causes the salts which permeate many of our artifacts to crystallize, often with disastrous results; limestone reliefs flake and crumble and the surfaces sluff off of decorated pottery. The humidity also helps cause bronzes to develop bronze disease and promotes the growth of mold and fungus in organic materials. It is distressing to realize that some important pieces in our collections have deteriorated more during their few decades in our custody than in the preceding thousand years of stable aridity in the Near East. We are currently getting estimates and developing plans. Generous donors have given us seed money for the project. Thanks to Kim Coventry's successful application, we have received a matching grant from the National Endowment for the Arts that will help with the architectural and engineering plans. Your aid and support in the coming months will be greatly appreciated. We shall report to you on our progress next year.

In our last report to you, we were looking forward optimistically with plans for renovation and expansion. This year we are looking forward to the selection of a new curator. At the time of this writing a committee of Oriental Institute faculty is engaged in the search for someone to fill this position, and by the time you read this report, the decision will have been made. Watch for further developments.

# MUSEUM EDUCATION PROGRAM

**JOAN · D · BARGHUSEN**

**T**he Museum Education Program was initiated in fall 1980 with the mission of developing the Museum as an educational resource. Today, seven years later, the Oriental Institute maintains a comprehensive Museum education program offering materials and services for children and adults, individuals and groups, school audiences and the general public. This past year was one of consolidation as we worked to refine the projects that make up the basic program.

The Saturday morning workshops in January and February were highlights of our program for young visitors. These two hour workshops had literary themes, with myths from ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia retold especially for the children and tours and craft projects related to the stories. Projects included making replicas of Egyptian crowns, construction of a three-dimensional cardboard model of the god Marduk in his chariot drawn by a team of dragons to illustrate the creation myth "Enuma Elish," and a hand puppet inspired by the serpent god in the Egyptian tale "Shipwrecked Sailor." The creative staff that makes these programs possible includes Joan Hives, artist and craft consultant, Kitty Picken, who assists in planning and developing programs as well as in their implementation, and Georgie Maynard, Peggy Grant, and Laura Barghusen. Special interest tours offered in July and August, also for young visitors, often draw upon ideas developed for the workshops; the special interest tours, given on Thursday mornings, are followed by pencil and paper activities in the galleries. The Thursday morning docents, under the leadership of Kitty Picken, are responsible for these popular tours, which sometimes draw as many as thirty youngsters.

The Children's Adventure Sheets, gallery activity and sketching guides available to young visitors to use as part of a family visit, were improved and printed in quantity this past year with the help of funds directed to the Education Office from the Museum's grant from the Institute for Museum Services, a federal agency. Artist Melissa Gol-

ter, who came to us from the Cooperative Education Program of The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, helped with the drawings for these, as did Laura Barghusen, a long-time friend of this office. These much-used children's guides include a search for lost objects, another for lost animals, an Egyptian crossword puzzle, and a mummy case to be decorated. The addition of drawings to these guides gives the searchers better clues and provides an interesting memento for children to take home from their museum visit.

Institute of Museum Services grant funds also helped to purchase two new films which are now being shown as part of the Sunday Free Film Series. "Champollion: Egyptian Hieroglyphs Deciphered," which explores in detail the achievement of the man credited with deciphering ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs, helps visitors appreciate the inscriptions they see in the Egyptian gallery. "The Royal Archives of Ebla," which includes comments by Robert Biggs and the late I. J. Gelb of the Oriental Institute, informs visitors about recent important finds at the site of Tell Mardikh, where archaeologists uncovered an ancient city with language and trading links to Mesopotamian cities of the third millennium B.C. Two slide talks by graduate students were introduced as part of the Sunday Series this summer, giving visitors an opportunity to learn about on-going field work of the Institute from young scholars in training at the University. Rick Schoen spoke about the site of Ashkelon, where he excavated in 1986, and Lorelei Corcoran talked about her work as an epigrapher at Chicago House. Sundays bring a large number of visitors attending the Museum as individuals or families rather than as part of an organized tour group; the audiovisual activities help to expand their historical and cultural perspectives on the ancient Near East.

The statue of Tutankhamun was the subject of the Featured Object brochure prepared for fall 1986. Written by William Murnane, then senior epigrapher at Chicago House, the brochure was available for several months for visitors to pick up from a stand located next to the statue in the gallery, thus calling attention to the statue and giving visitors current and authoritative information about the sculpture and its significance. It even answered the question so familiar to our docents, "What is he holding in his hands?" The next Featured Object, a Lydian coin from the time of King Croesus, was brought out of storage for showing in connection with the exhibit "Twenty-five Years of Discovery at Sardis." This finely cast and well-preserved silver stater from one of the world's most

ancient coinage systems, was minted in the country of Lydia in western Anatolia and later carried to Persepolis, where it was excavated by the Oriental Institute's Persian Expedition. Featured Object brochures are one of several Museum programs directed to individual adult visitors, many of whom show a serious interest in Museum objects. We are grateful to Bill Murnane, author of the Tutankhamun brochure and to Ronald Gorny, who wrote the Lydian coin text, for their assistance in these endeavors.

Our program especially for teen-aged students, "Sketching Is Seeing," had a successful third year with artist Myra Herr returning as instructor for a second year. With a large enrollment of twenty students (several more had to be turned away), artist Eileen Lynch was hired to assist. This program brought Chicago area students, ages 12–18, to the Museum for six three-hour sessions of drawing instruction and sketching, working from Museum objects. The participants came to us through notices sent to art teachers in the public and private schools. Support for this program from an Illinois Arts Council grant keeps the cost to individual students at a level affordable by almost everyone. The program attracts very hardworking and often very talented students; for some of them this course represents the first drawing instruction available to them since many schools have cut art programs in response to economic pressures. We are proud of this project which reaches out to an age group that is not often attracted by more usual museum offerings. Our contacts with high school teachers through the regular program of tours by the volunteer guides, the Summer Teacher Institutes and other outreach activities for the education community, have been helpful in developing the sketching program since most students come to us through the recommendation of their teachers. Thus our education projects build upon each other. Not only the sketching program, but all the programs mentioned above are supported in part by the Illinois Arts Council, which has generously granted funds to the Museum Education Program since it began in 1980.

The fall of 1986 marked the end of the Summer Teacher Institute "Before the Greeks: Origins of Civilization in the Ancient Near East" which met for its final seminar on October 25. This Institute, funded by a grant from the Illinois Humanities Council, brought 25 Chicago area high school and junior high school teachers to the Oriental Institute for an intensive workshop on the history and culture of the ancient Near East with a special emphasis on the Museum collection and use of the Museum as an edu-

cational resource. This was the second Teacher Institute offered in conjunction with the Illinois Humanities Council. We were gratified by the enthusiastic response of the teachers who participated and by the recognition of the National Endowment for the Humanities, the federal agency which funds the Illinois Humanities Council, which featured this Teacher Institute in a two-page article in its national publication *Humanities* for October, 1986.

The Museum Education Program received further publicity in a *Chicago Tribune* article focusing on the museum education coordinator. The program of the Education Office is, by its nature, a highly visible one for the Museum, the Institute and the University; the continuing press attention both reflects and attracts the larger public interest that is our "raison d'etre."

Adult education courses this past year saw the innovation of a series of courses on Egyptian history which will give participants an in-depth survey of that ancient civilization from its archaic period to the Roman conquest in 30 B.C. The series will take two years to complete and is enrolled to its maximum capacity. As an experiment in offering our

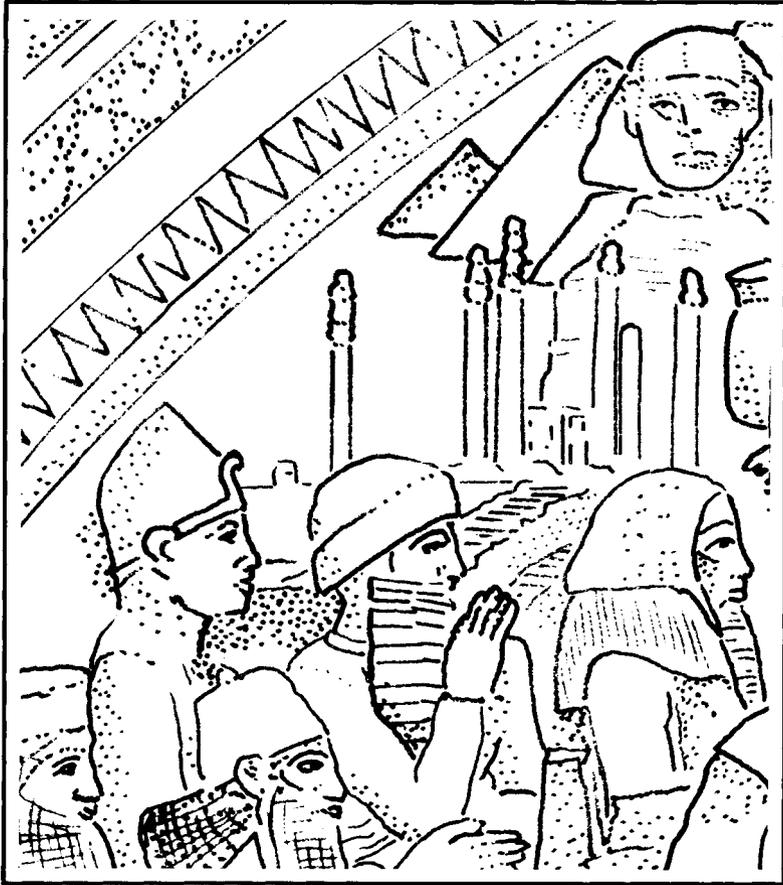
- A young participant gets acquainted with the sea serpent hand puppet he has just made in one of the Children's workshops.



class participants more detailed material than the usual one-quarter format allows, it has confirmed our impression of a serious level of interest among many of our adult education students. Other adult education courses throughout the year included topics on Hittite Anatolia, Archaeology of the Holy Land, and Ancient Elam. Hieroglyphs-by-Mail has continued with offerings of the Introductory Hieroglyphs, the Advanced Hieroglyphs which deals with the verbal system, and a Hieroglyphs Reading course for approximately ten hardy souls who had completed their grammar study and were ready to move on to reading actual texts.

Part of my work as museum education coordinator is to meet with teachers, administrators and other educators, including museum educators. Besides teacher institutes which meet here at the Museum, I participated in a panel discussion on using museum resources in teaching social studies at the Chicago Metro Social Studies Conference which met in April, 1987 at the Field Museum and attracted over 200 teachers. At the Midwest Museums Conference held in Springfield, Illinois, I was a presenter in the Marketplace of Ideas, an exchange of project and program ideas by museum educators.

Each year in this report I confess the enormous debt of the Museum Education Program to the many individuals who give support and encouragement in myriad ways. The debt increases with the years. I thank especially Janet Helman, the chairman of volunteers, whose daily presence and aid on all fronts is simply indispensable. This year our day to day activities enjoyed the able assistance of our work-study student Ping Hin Yu. The volunteer guides, of course, provide the foundation on which the Education Program builds; in addition, many of them help the Education Office in special ways such as those docents mentioned above who work with the children's programs, and Mary Jo Khuri, who continues to be our outreach docent to senior citizen centers. I would like to commend all the docent guides for their enthusiasm and dedication, their knowledge and their willingness to extend themselves to meet the needs and interests of their listeners. Finally, we depend on the advice and support of other Oriental Institute Museum staff and on the help of many faculty members who take time for our activities and interest in our work with the public. The Education Program combines resources from all parts of the Oriental Institute in its efforts to develop audiences and promote the Museum as an intellectually exciting place that is responsive to its many and diverse visitors.



PEOPLE

## MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

## G R E T E L • B R A I D W O O D

**T**he Membership Program at the Oriental Institute exists to help our members keep current with our increasing knowledge about the rise of human civilization in the ancient Near East.

.....

To this end we publish a bimonthly newsletter and an *Annual Report*. We offer an evening lecture series for members, with both outside lecturers and Oriental Institute speakers, and we run archaeological tours to the Near East. A series of Saturday classes for members is presented by the Education Office, which also runs free Sunday afternoon films on archaeology and the Near East. Every year and a half we also open the offices and basement of the Institute to members for Members' Day, with behind-the-scenes tours of the projects and workrooms of the Oriental Institute.

The opening lecture for the 1986-87 membership series was presented in October by C. A. Keller, of the University of California at Berkeley, on "The Painters of Pharaoh's Tomb" and was followed by a gala reception in the Museum. In November we heard from Father Stanislaw Loffreda, of the Franciscan Biblical Institute in Jerusalem, on "Excavations at Capernaum," followed in December by Richard Fazzini, The Brooklyn Museum, on "Brooklyn and the Lady of the Lake: The Brooklyn Museum Excavations at the Precinct of Mut at South Karnak." In January, the Oriental Institute's Fred Donner presented "Some Traditional Crafts of Syria," and Thomas McClellan, also from the Oriental Institute, told us about his "Excavations at el-Qitar: Late Bronze Age Fortress on the Euphrates." At the end of the month George Bass, from Texas A&M University, talked on "A Late Bronze Age Shipwreck near Kas, Turkey," and in February Bryn Mawr College's Richard Ellis lectured on "A Village on the Euphrates: Four Seasons of Excavations at Gritille, Turkey." Both of these lectures were jointly sponsored by the Chicago Society of the A.I.A. In March we heard a lecture by Gary O. Rollefson, of San Diego State University, on "Neolithic Developments at Ain Ghazal, Jordan." In April we heard from John A. Brinkman, The Oriental Institute, on "The Laws of



● Party goes at the black-tie/costume fall benefit.

Hammurabi," and Machteld J. Mellink, from Bryn Mawr College, told us about "East and West in Anatolian Art of 700 to 500 B.C.: Myth, Cult, and Kingship." The series ended in May with a presentation by Israel Finkelstein, Bar-Ilan University, Israel, on his "Shiloh Excavations." There were also two summer lectures. In July Oriental Institute Conservator, Laura D'Alessandro, spoke on "Archaeological Conservation: What Is It and Why Do We Do It?," and the Institute's Robert K. Ritner told us in August about "Egyptian Religion and Magic." Each of the lectures was followed by a reception in the Museum halls or the Institute's garden, allowing the speakers and audience a chance to chat informally.

The bimonthly newsletter, *News & Notes*, has articles about the current work of the Oriental Institute, both in the field and here in Chicago, as well as listings of the various upcoming programs, events, exhibitions, and lectures. It also carries announcements of the members' courses offered every quarter by the Institute's Education Office.

On October 20th we had our second gala benefit, *Passport to the Past*, to aid the Museum. It was co-chaired by Kitty Picken, Rita Picken, and Mary Shea, ably assisted by the Museum's Ray Tindel, Jim Richerson, and Denise Browning, all of whom put in countless hours to make things work smoothly. It was a great success and a wonderful party.

The Visiting Committee to the Oriental Institute presented its annual dinner this year on the 18th of May. Given for the Institute's excavations at el-Qitar, it fea-



● *"Ziggurat" cake at the October benefit.*

● *Food at the benefit took the familiar shapes of an Egyptian temple and an obelisk.*

tured a special exhibition on Tom McClellan's work at this important site on the Euphrates. Those attending enjoyed cocktails in the Iranian Hall and the courtyard garden and dinner among the mummies and Assyrian reliefs in the Museum.

The Membership Program couldn't function without the aid of many people. Helen Glennon, our long-time volunteer, manages to stay cheerful in the face of the never-ending cycle of membership renewal notices she prepares and sends out each month. Jill Carlotta Maher, head of the Visiting Committee's Sub-committee on Development, works with us on every phase of raising money for the Institute and its projects. Elda Maynard, who edited *News & Notes* for many years, continues to offer advice and counsel. Finally, on a sad note for me, my membership associate of many years, Kerry Bedford, has left to return home to Australia. She is deeply missed by us all.

# THE VOLUNTEER GUIDE PROGRAM

**JANET · HELMAN**

**D**ocent activities this year were highlighted by trips to two exciting exhibits of Near Eastern artifacts. In October, we took advantage of the chance to see treasures from Syria in Cincinnati at the "Ebla to Damascus" show and, in May, we went to Memphis, Tennessee to see the travelling exhibit, "Ramesses the Great" from Memphis, Egypt.

In Cincinnati we were guided through the Museum of Art by one of our counterparts from their volunteer staff. In Memphis, we went through the main exhibit, as well as several ancillary exhibits, with our Museum archivist, John Larson. John won the high accolade of a good docent; he gathered lots of "drop-in listeners" on his tour.

Taking trips to other museums is one of the ways the docents keep up with what is current in Near Eastern archaeology. Our monthly Docent Days are another. This year, as usual, the faculty and staff of the Institute have been generous with their time and have presented several programs: Frank Yurco on Egypt in the first millennium, Norman Golb on the Cairo Genizeh, and Abbas Alizadeh on pastoral nomads and their migration in the Zagros Mountains. John Larson took us through the new Amarna exhibit in our own gallery piece by piece, and Kim Coventry did a presentation on the Sardis exhibit. Lorelei Corcoran gave a slide lecture at our summer Docent Day about her work at Chicago House entitled "A Season in Egypt."

Afternoon programs, usually prepared by docents themselves, included this year, "Archaeology and the Bible," a tour led by Dorothy Blindt; a workshop on Teacher's Kit materials led by Joan Barghusen; "A Volunteer at Ashkelon," a slide talk by Teddy Buddington; "The Synagogue at Sardis," a slide talk by Erhard Loewensohn; and a preview of some new training films.

More educational material as well as news about the Institute and the Docent Program was disseminated through



● *Volunteers addressing envelopes for the Museum benefit.*

the Docent Digest, our monthly newsletter. This year's contributors included Peggy Grant, John Larson, Janet Helman, Elda Maynard, and Margaret Foorman.

Well-trained and re-armed with new material our docents are efficiently organized and directed by the daily captains who keep track of the groups which plan to visit us and make certain that we have sufficient guides to make their tours as informative and entertaining as possible. This year has been the last year for Alice Mulberry as the Tuesday morning captain, as she is returning to teaching Latin at the Ray School: our loss, their gain. Her place will be taken by Mary Jo Khuri, and Alice will join the list of substitutes. This year's captains have been:

Alice Mulberry,  
Tuesday morning  
Terry Friedman,  
Tuesday afternoon  
Jane Imberman,  
Wednesday morning  
Muriel Nerad,  
Wednesday afternoon  
Kitty Picken,  
Thursday morning  
Elizabeth Spiegel,  
Thursday afternoon  
Debbie Aliber,  
Friday morning

Gloria Orwin,  
Friday afternoon  
Georgie Maynard,  
Saturday morning  
Dorothy Blindt,  
Saturday afternoon  
Peter Hancon,  
Sunday  
Teresa Hintzke,  
Sunday  
Steve Ritzel,  
Sunday

The largest group of volunteers here at the Museum is made up of docents, with *Suq* volunteers the second largest. This group of faithful and dependable people has helped to make our Museum Shop one of the most successful in the country and is responsible for bringing many new people into the galleries.

Other volunteers in the Institute work for the Museum archivist, the registrar, the photographer, Museum Education, the Membership Office and for various faculty members. Many of our volunteers perform several different services for the Institute—and they are all members.

The work of many docents, under the leadership of Kitty Picken, Rita Picken, and Mary Shea, on the big benefit party in the fall is a whole subject unto itself. Docents did everything from stringing beads to writing invitations, to arranging the flowers for the tables to make the benefit a success.

Besides the benefit, two docent parties take place every year: our Christmas buffet and the spring picnic. This year's Christmas buffet was preceded by a slide talk by James Armstrong on "Caravan Cities of the Late Period." The lavish lunch was followed by the presentation of longevity awards to the following docents:

#### **5 Year Awards**

Elaine Antoniuk  
David Cooper  
Cathy Dombrowski  
Helen Glennon  
Peter Hancon  
James Meany  
Joan Mitchell  
Steven Ritzel  
Jane Hildebrand

#### **10 Year Awards**

Mary d'Ouille  
Milton Droege  
Mary Jo Khuri  
Georgie Maynard  
Rochelle Rossin  
Mary Schulman

#### **15 Year Awards**

Laurie Fish  
Peggy Grant  
Joan Rosenberg  
Elizabeth Spiegel

20 Years of Service was celebrated by Jane Imberman and by Bud and Cissy Haas.

A large group of new docents went through this year's training course and are helping to fill in spaces on our regular tour groups as we face our twenty-second year.

One space that will not be filled is that of Egyptologist, Klaus Baer. Professor Baer had been part of the docent training course for many years, and also a member of the

advisory committee which planned the course every year. His death last May was a great loss to our program as well as to the Institute as a whole.

Jan Johnson, John Larson, and Ed Wentz all volunteered to take over the lectures that Professor Baer was scheduled to give during the course that included also lectures by James Armstrong, John Brinkman, Israel Finkelstein, Harry Hoffner, and Helene Kantor.

Gallery study was directed by Joan Barghusen and Janet Helman with the help of current docents who came to explain not only what is in a gallery, but what one has time to say about it. Support in planning was also provided by Peggy Grant and Carolyn Livingood.

Completion of the course was celebrated at our June picnic in Debbie Aliber's backyard following a slide travelogue by Joan Rosenberg of her trip to India, "Tombs and Temples—Dirt and Density." The new docents are:

Ute Bernhardt	Dawn Prena
Pat Clavier	Dr. Lawrence Scheff
Shirley Freundlich	Lillian Schwartz
Maureen Herencia	Barbara Stemer
Kay Matsumoto	Richard Watson

Margaret Foorman rejoined the docent group after living several years in England and along with Alice Rubash joined the Tuesday afternoon docents this year.

- *Ushebtis (made by volunteers from molds from an ushebtis in the Institute's collection) to be used as favors for the benefit.*





• *Volunteers packing the ushebtis.*

Our thanks always go to Joan Barghusen, museum education coordinator whose programs, ideas and support help keep the Docent Office functioning and the enthusiasm of the docents high.

*Regularly Scheduled Docents*

Ginny Arata  
Christel Betz  
Rebecca Binkley  
Teddy Buddington  
John Burton  
David Cooper  
Lilian Cropsey  
Mary D'Ouville  
DeeDee Dieffenderfer  
Cathy Dombrowski  
Milton Droege  
Catherine Duenas  
Gordon Evison  
Marilyn Fellows

Laurie Fish  
Marianne Ford  
Helen Glennon  
Anita Greenberg  
Pauline Grigelaitis  
Sally Grunsfeld  
Dianne Haines  
Marsha Holden  
Alice James  
Julie Katz  
Mary Jo Khuri  
Kathryn Kimball  
Nina Longley  
James Meany  
Joan Mitchell  
Dorothy Mozinski  
Mary Naunton

● *Docents on the trip to Cincinnati to view the Ebla to Damascus exhibit. Photograph by Larry Scheff.*



Melanie Petroskey  
Rita Picken  
JoAnn Putz  
Joan Rosenberg  
Janet Russell  
Mary Shea  
Marceine Street  
Yvonne Wesley  
DeWitt Williams  
Beverly Wilson  
Carole Yoshida

*Part Time Museum  
Docents*

Betty Baum  
Calla Burhoe  
Ida DePencier  
Peggy Grant  
Carol Green  
Bud Haas  
Cissy Haas  
Erhard Loewinsohn  
Roberta Tracy

*Regularly Scheduled Suq  
Docents*

Sonja Allen  
Muriel Brauer  
Charlotte Collier  
Evelyn Dyba  
Carol Goldstein  
Kate Grodzins  
Diana Grodzins  
Barbara Gubbins  
Jane Hildebrand  
Chris Kim  
Inger Kirsten  
Peggy Kovacs  
Mary Martino  
Carmen McGarry  
Norma van der Meulen  
Pat Mjølhus  
Susan Nowak  
Carmen Pena  
Rochelle Rossin  
Jeanne Schalk  
Mary Schulman  
Eleanor Swift  
Amanda Toole  
Mardi Trosman  
Barbara Watson  
Lee Weaver

*Part Time Suq Docents*

Ria Ahlström  
 Betty Baum  
 Barbara Frey  
 Peggy Grant  
 Carol Green  
 Sarah Helman  
 Jo Jackson  
 Norma Kruskal  
 Yvonne Wesley

*Museum Archives  
Volunteers*

Hertsell Conway  
 Kay Ginther  
 Kate Grodzins  
 Harold Rantz  
 Joan Rosenberg  
 Jessie Sheidlower  
 Rose Wagner

*Museum Office Volunteer*

Harold Dunkel

*Registrar's Office  
Volunteers*

David Anderson  
 Leah Baer  
 Jim Bodefeld  
 Lilian Cropsey  
 Irving Diamond  
 Lilla Fano  
 Leila Foster  
 Diana Grodzins  
 Stephen A. Knapp  
 Georgie Maynard  
 Barbara Ramlo  
 Mila Rowton  
 Lillian Schwartz  
 Luciana Stefani  
 Peggy Wick

*Ceramic Restoration*

Elizabeth Tieken

*Photography Lab  
Volunteers*

Ria Ahlström  
 Joseph Denov  
 Kate Grodzins  
 John Mahtesian

*Volunteers in the  
Education Office*

Debbie Aliber  
 Peggy Grant  
 Joan Hives  
 Georgie Maynard  
 Kitty Picken

*Assistant to Miss Kantor*

Carolyn Livingood

*Assistant to  
Epigraphic Survey*

Katherine Rosich

*Assistants to  
Prehistoric Project*

Andrée Wood  
 Freda Young

*Assistant to Aqaba and  
Demotic Dictionary Project*

Sally Zimmerman

*Assistants to  
Nubian Project*

Carmen McGarry  
 Debbie Schwartz

*Volunteer in Suq Office  
and Stockroom*

Eleanor Swift

*Volunteer in Membership  
Office*

Helen Glennon

THE *SUQ*

## DENISE • BROWNING

Gross <i>Suq</i> Sales	244,791
Wholesale & Royalties	970
Harper Court Gross Sales	10,504
<b>Total</b>	<b>256,265</b>

This has been an especially busy year for the *Suq*. The staff and docents not only had their normal activities in the *Suq*, but many were involved in the benefit *Suq* in October for the Museum, which grossed almost \$25,000. We had stacks of Oriental rugs, Egyptian gallabias, copper pots, and beautiful necklaces handmade by our own docents from old beads that we had collected. Just about the time we were recovering from all the excitement and work of the benefit, we were invited to open a second shop, during Christmas, in the Harper Court Shopping Center located here in Hyde Park. So we joined with two other museums in the area, the DuSable Museum of African American History and the David and Alfred Smart Gallery, to clean, paint and design, and purchase additional merchandise for an empty shop in the shopping center. It was a lot of work (just ask Peggy Grant!), but it paid off with lots of free publicity and extra sales which purchased a desk top computer for the *Suq*.

All of this activity did lead to extra sales. Our total gross sales from both stores, plus wholesale sales and royalties, were over a quarter of a million dollars!

The gross sales for the *Suq* alone were up \$41,817 above last year, an increase of almost 21%. With the addition of Harper Court, our sales were up \$52,321 or 26%.

All of this would not have been possible without our excellent staff; Florence Ovadia who does our beautiful displays, Barbara Baird who does the inventory control on our merchandise, including marking all of those hundreds of pairs of earrings, Ed LeMay who does our mail orders, and Mike Westerhouse who orders the books.

A special thanks to Eleanor Swift who donates extra time every Monday to keep the store and the staff organized, and to Peggy Grant without whose help the benefit and Harper Court *Suq* would not have been possible.

But it is the docents who make the store what it is. They are the ones who bring all of their talents and energy to the store every week, to represent us to the public. It is



● *The Suq decorated for the October benefit.*

this service and knowledge which brings our customers back to the *Suq*. Thank you for a wonderful year.

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**U**nder the terms of the will of Mr. Tripp, who died in 1974, an endowment fund was established to support the programs of the Oriental Institute. During 1986–87, income from the fund helped support the following activities and projects:

- purchase of reference material for the Research Archives
- payment of the salary for the Nippur site guard
- portions of the staff and support costs for preparing the manuscript for the final report on the Turkish Salvage (Kurban Höyük) archaeological project
- Kish soil-sediment analysis
- portions of staff costs for preparing the manuscript of reports of recent seasons at Nippur.

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**T**his past year the income from the Schwartz endowment underwrote:

- Portions of support costs for preparing the manuscript of the final report on the Turkish Salvage (Kurban Höyük) archaeological project
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<b>Total</b> .....	89,527	89,527
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Computing expenses .....	<u>2,059</u>	
<b>Total</b> .....	79,657	79,657
<b>Balance:</b> June 30, 1987 .....		9,870





