

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.