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THE  
ORIENTAL  
INSTITUTE



1989 ▼ 1990  
Annual Report



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INSTITUTE



1989 ▼ 1990  
Annual Report

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▶ INTRODUCTION

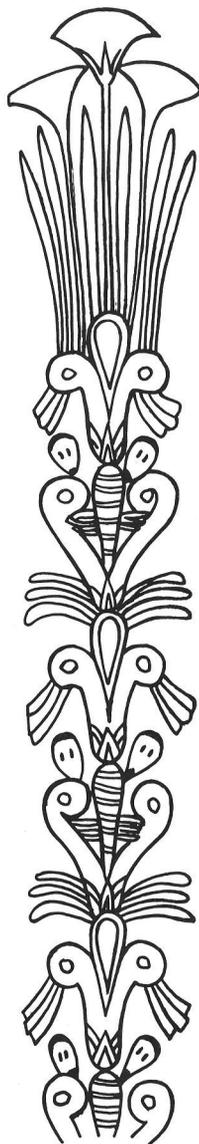
# INTRODUCTION

*William M. Sumner*

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INTRODUCTION

The various chapters of this report describe activities at the Institute during the past year. These include a number of improvements in the facilities, additions to the staff, new initiatives, and significant progress towards completion of established projects. I am taking the opportunity in this introduction to comment on three topics: research funding, the plans for climate control and a new wing, and the recent retirement of a distinguished member of the faculty. ▼ **Research Funding** ▼ The mission of The Oriental Institute is to conduct research on the archaeology, history, and languages of the Near East. This year important discoveries were made by Oriental Institute archaeologists in the field, and the dictionary projects have continued to publish a steady stream of fundamental research tools. I am happy to report that three projects received grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities: for excavations at



Yaqush in Israel (three years), the Assyrian Dictionary (two years), and the Hittite Dictionary (two years). The Members' Dinner provided a significant proportion of the matching funds for the Yaqush Project, and we are vigorously seeking additional matching funds for all three projects. The Epigraphic Survey received a U.S. Government endowment in Egyptian pounds to cover local expenses at Luxor, and a major grant from the Getty Foundation for conservation work on the invaluable photographic archives at Chicago House. Other smaller grants and generous gifts provided essential support for the field projects, the museum, and other Institute activities. Readers of this report will find recent research activities described in greater detail in the individual chapters, including the wide-ranging research of individual scholars.



## Climate Control and Additional Space

The highest priority on The Oriental Institute agenda at this time is climate control and additional space for the museum and archaeological research. The Institute is now engaged in an architectural program study to address this priority. This project is of great importance to the future of the Institute and, because we will need the advice and support of members and friends to bring the project to fruition, it is discussed in some detail here.

The Oriental Institute Museum collection is among the finest collections in the world of excavated objects from the Near East. The history of the collection began with the founding of the Haskell Oriental Museum, which was also the headquarters of The Oriental Institute until the present building was dedicated in 1931. The collection grew rapidly during the second and third decades of this century when the great expeditions fielded by James Henry Breasted in every region of the Near East brought to Chicago hundreds of magnificent examples of ancient art and artifacts of daily life. The growth of the collection resumed after World War II, as expeditions returned to the field, and has continued until the present day. The Institute's computer database register now contains over 70,000 objects and there are perhaps 100,000 or more additional objects still in the custody

of field directors for analysis and publication.

The curatorial responsibility for this splendid collection has been a matter of deep concern since the Institute was founded. The scope of this responsibility is indicated by the meaning of the word *curator* — the person who cares for something, protects it from harm. For centuries, in some cases millennia, the objects in our collection were curated by Mother Earth



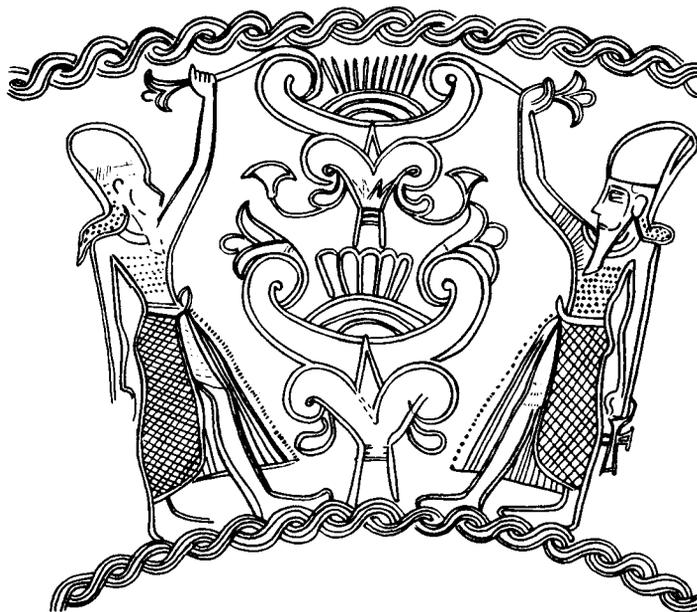
herself. Deeply buried in the relatively stable soil of the Near East and further protected by the generally arid climate of the region, some of our objects were in pristine condition when they were excavated. Then they were brought here, to suffer the rude shocks of the Chicago climate. Having excavated these priceless objects, we now have an imperative ethical duty to guard them from all hazards.

It should be emphasized that the collections are not being held for some vague unspecified future purpose. On the contrary, the collections are a vital resource for current research activities undertaken by Oriental Institute scholars and visiting scholars from all over the world. Recent scientific and technological advances make it possible to address a host of provocative new questions and to open novel avenues of inquiry that were unheard of when the collections were first excavated. Furthermore, the rapid growth and the sustained interest in the public educational programs of the museum constitute an invaluable bridge between The University of Chicago and the public. It is the policy of the Institute to develop and enhance these outreach programs at every opportunity, and the collections are an essential element in this effort.

Mindful of the responsibility to preserve the collections, and aware of scientific advances in solving the problems of museum storage, the Institute commissioned a conservation study in 1969. The report of that study plainly showed that many objects in the collection had suffered deterioration and that the entire collection, both in the galleries and in storage, was at risk. Although storage facilities were far too crowded, with the attendant danger of mechanical damage, the principle source of risk was the local climate. Daily and seasonal fluctuations in temperature, and particularly relative humidity, and the presence of gaseous and particulate contaminants in the air, continue to create conditions that lead to unacceptable deterioration. Although organic and metallic materials suffer the greatest risk, other materials, including ceramics and stone, which may contain soluble salts, are also at risk.

Interim steps have been taken to preserve the most endangered objects. In 1974, the urgent need for a full time professional conservator on the staff was fulfilled at last. In addition, a generous grant from the Women's Board of the University enabled us to establish and equip the present conservation laboratory. A metals storage room, designed to maintain temperature at 65° Fahrenheit and relative humidity at 30% ( $\pm 3\%$ ) was constructed in 1979, using funds provided by the National Endowment for the Arts. An organics storage room, designed to maintain temperature at 68° Fahrenheit and relative humidity at 48% ( $\pm 3\%$ ), was completed in 1988. This project was funded by the Institute of Museum Services.

However, despite these commendable temporary measures, we must provide for the permanent long term security and preservation of the entire collection as quickly as possible. This project requires a state-of-the-art climate control system that will maintain temperature, relative humidity,

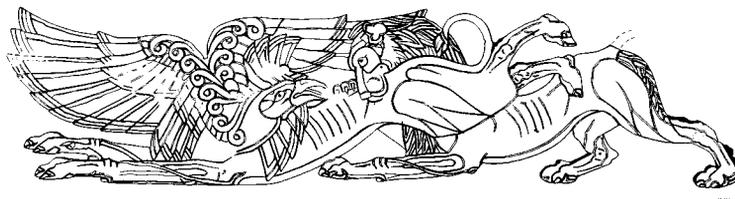


and pollutant levels within the optimal range for each type of material in the collections. The high priority of climate control, underscored by the fact that conservation proposals are not usually funded unless the objects to be conserved can then be stored under proper conditions, has been recognized for decades. An environmental control feasibility study was conducted by an engineering consulting firm in 1973. The recommendation of this study, to expand the basement and first floor into the museum courtyard in order to accommodate the required mechanicals and additional storage space, was deemed unacceptable. A more comprehensive engineering study in 1988 resulted in recommendations that were also unacceptable due to the high cost, the reduction in object storage space, and the unsatisfactory design of duct-work to the galleries.

Early in 1990 a contract was awarded to Skidmore Owings & Merrill for a planning study of the climate control and space needs of the Institute. The faculty and staff responded wholeheartedly to requests for information and thoughtful evaluation of the space needs and other requirements to facilitate research and museum activities. Karen Wilson and the museum staff devoted a great deal of time and energy to the planning process, and the highest priority requirements are now clearly identified. The program study will be completed in the autumn of 1990. Once the program is approved we will seek bids for the architectural design. With the appointment of Margaret Sears as Assistant Director for Development, we are formulating plans for The Oriental Institute's participation in The University of Chicago Centennial Campaign. We must raise not only capital improvement funds for construction of the new wing, but also endowments to support operations in the expanded space and to augment

the facilities for scientific analysis and conservation of archaeological and archival materials. As this process evolves, we will keep the membership informed through *News & Notes* and special mailings.

## The Retirement of Professor Helene J. Kantor



Professor Helene J. Kantor retired from the faculty of The Oriental Institute and the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations on the first of October, 1989. Miss Kantor's long association with The University of Chicago began in 1938, when she enrolled as one of the youngest graduate students ever admitted to the University. Her dissertation was written under the supervision of H. Frankfort and she received her Ph.D. in 1945. That year she accepted an appointment as Research Assistant in The Oriental Institute to continue her research and to assist P. P. Delougaz, then Curator of The Oriental Institute Museum. Over the years she continued to work in the museum, conducting research, planning exhibits, and rearranging the storage areas. She produced scholarly labels for exhibits and wrote museum notes on important objects in the collection, illustrated with lively drawings. A number of Miss Kantor's drawings are reproduced throughout this report.

Miss Kantor's first major publication, *The Aegean and the Orient in the Second Millennium B.C.*, appeared in 1947 and established the high standard that has characterized her research and scholarship throughout her career. The theme of this work, interregional stylistic connections in the art of the ancient Near East, appears frequently in her later work and in her teaching. Miss Kantor's artistic eye and stylistic acuity are matched by few other archaeologists or art historians. Recently I visited her office and she enthusiastically showed me a sealing she was studying. I could barely see that the clay lump had been impressed at all, but by shifting the light source and turning the sealing she quickly demonstrated that it bore repeated impressions of the same cylinder seal. She showed me details that were obliterated on some parts of the object and preserved on other parts, all the while describing the meticulous process of reconstructing the entire scene, shown in the lovely drawing reproduced here. When I asked permission to reproduce the drawing, Miss Kantor characteristically pointed out that she was just "doing the final checking"; credit for the initial drawing belonged to two of her students.

In 1951 Miss Kantor accepted an appointment as Assistant Professor in The Oriental Institute and the Department of Oriental Languages and Literatures, as it was then called. At that time she assumed the duty of teaching courses in archaeology, including "Principles of Near Eastern Archaeology", formerly taught by Frankfort. As a student she had felt the lack of opportunities to study in detail the stylistic variations in ceramics that form the backbone of archaeological chronologies in the Near East. Consequently she introduced the study of ceramics in the "Principles" course and, by the end of term, tables in the basement classroom would be covered with nearly the entire ceramic chronology of the Near East. Lest this be taken as a myth perpetuated by generations of students, we publish here photographic documentation. Miss Kantor is noted for her deep concern for the welfare and progress of students; her door was open at all hours, every day, for whatever help they needed. She was mentor to numerous students, including students from overseas, who found in her a teacher eager to help them overcome the difficulties of adapting to an unfamiliar academic system in an alien culture.

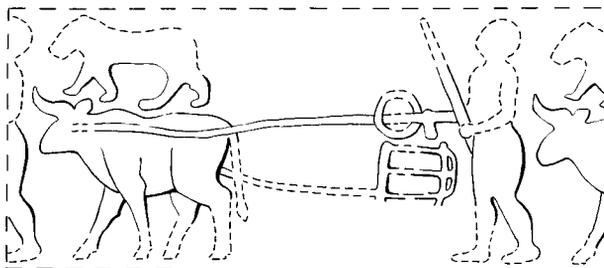
Miss Kantor was promoted to Associate Professor in 1958 and to Professor in 1963. In 1961 she began excavations at Chogha Mish, in Khuzistan, Iran. She and P.P. Delougaz were co-directors of the project from 1969 to 1975; she has continued as director of the project since Delougaz' death. The excavations at Chogha Mish, familiar to members of the Institute through many articles in *News & Notes* and *The Annual Report*, have made notable contributions to our understanding of the life and art of the inhabitants of ancient Susiana and we all look forward eagerly to the detailed publication now in preparation.

No one deserves the title "Emeritus Professor" more than Helene Kantor. Her retirement leaves a great gap for those of us who teach



Array of pottery from Miss Kantor's "Principles" course.

Drawing of  
cylinder seal  
impression  
from Chogha  
Mish.



archaeology to attempt to fill. Happily, she is still pursuing her scholarly interests as vigorously as ever and the door to room 224 is still open every day to colleagues and students alike.

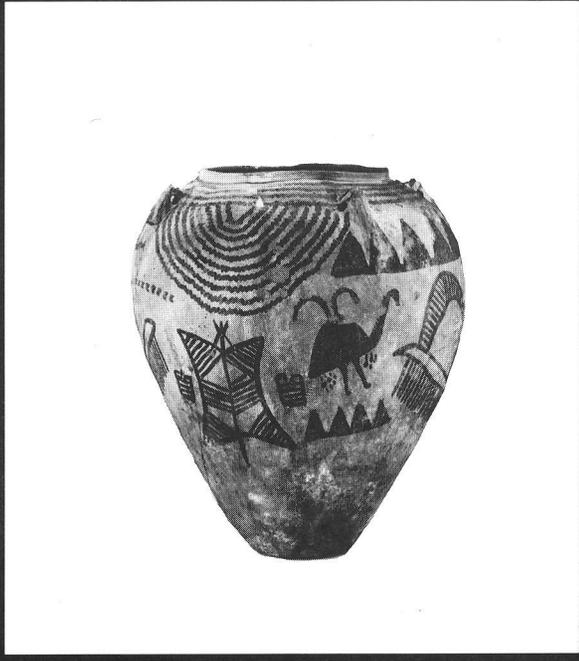
In summary, I cannot improve on Janet Johnson's tribute published in the festschrift presented to Miss Kantor in 1989:

*With limitless patience and unswerving devotion to humane learning, she has contributed works that will remain examples of the best scholarship can achieve. Surely the astonishing erudition and profound insight of her work would be an adequate accomplishment, but whole generations of scholars also have been enriched by her teaching.*

To conclude on a personal note, my first year as Director of The Oriental Institute has been challenging and most satisfying. I look forward to new challenges in the coming year, confident in the knowledge that, as in the past, I can count on the support of faculty, staff, volunteers, and members of the Institute.

William M. Sumner  
Director

January 1991



► ARCHAEOLOGY

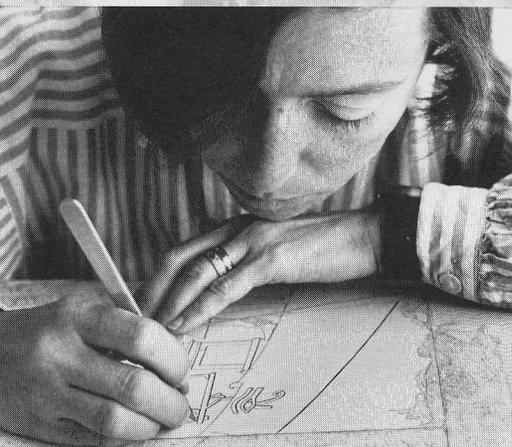
# THE EPIGRAPHIC SURVEY

Peter F. Dorman

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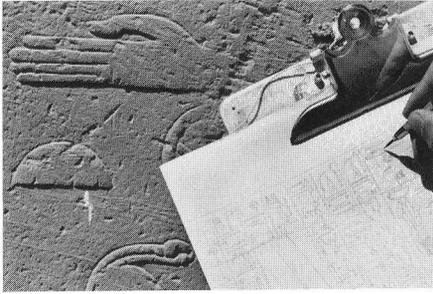
ARCHAEOLOGY

The sixty-sixth season of the Survey opened on October 15, 1989, and ended on April 15, 1990. During these six months, the staff of Chicago House devoted most of their field work to the Colonnade Hall in Luxor Temple, renowned for its exquisite reliefs laid out during the reign of Tutankhamun and which depict the festival of Opet, enacted annually by the inhabitants of ancient Thebes. ▼ Much of the work of past Survey seasons has been devoted to final corrections on the drawings of the end walls of the Hall and of the great riverine procession of Opet, whose enormous wealth of detail has been recorded at a 1:3 scale. During the present season, the artists and epigraphers finalized certain correc-



*Artist Carol Meyer makes a delicate correction with a surgeon's scalpel during a final director's check.*

tions on these superb 1:3 drawings, but concentrated primarily on several major sections of the Hall that depict the more prosaic offering scenes and the priestly parades connecting the riverbank to the temples, these executed at a scale of 1:6. The scenes on the west wall showing the departure of the divine



*Thirty feet above the ground in the Colonnade Hall, senior artist Ray Johnson pencils a correction onto a blueprint of the offering scene of Column 12.*

barks from Karnak and their arrival at Luxor were largely inked and collated; on the east wall, the return departure from Luxor was virtually completed, and the preliminary penciling was begun on the triumphal return to Karnak. Artists Carol Meyer and Sue Osgood completed much of this work. For the first time, it was possible for us to make an extensive comparison between the 1:3 and 1:6 scale drawings, and it is heartening to note that nothing is lost to accuracy or detail in the smaller scale drawings—but much has been gained in efficiency and time.

One of the challenges presented by the Colonnade Hall has been the recording of the great offering scenes on the colossal columns, which stand 20 m. high. Corrected collations were penciled this year on four of the offering scenes, a difficult task undertaken mostly by Vivienne Groves for inking over the summer, and other portions of the Hall were documented as well, many of them by Tina Di Cerbo: the north jamb of the ruined Ptolemaic gateway leading into the Hall from the Ramesside court; the west thickness of the north portal, decorated with an offering scene of Seti II; and two of the three statues still in situ at the north end of the Hall.

Epigraphers Richard Jasnow and John Darnell and the author undertook collations on forty-one drawings and wrote or revised several epigraphic reports dealing with specific questions raised during this work. At the end of the field season, the epigraphers also completed 35 mm. photography on all inked drawings of the Colonnade Hall, permitting us to bring back to Chicago a complete, though informal, record of our documentation and allowing us to proceed with our major summer project: the revision of the translations and commentary on the dictionary cards.

Of all the Colonnade Hall drawings, sixty-three were penciled, inked, or collated this season; nineteen were given final director's approval, of which six are the new 1:6 scale drawings.

It is not often acknowledged that the drawings produced by the Survey are more than accurate depictions of "what is on the wall." For example, the precise placement of a line, the extent of damage, and the correct use of sun and shadow conventions are hotly debated topics on our scaffolds in Luxor Temple and in the artists' studios at Chicago House, because the resolution of such issues depends to a large extent on experience, practical skill, personal judgement, and a commitment to clarity. Survey drawings are highly interpretive documents. As part of a general

stock-taking, therefore, and in preparation for the publication of the Colonnade reliefs, a complete survey was made of drawings approved in past seasons, for the purpose of verifying both internal logic and the consistency of the standards used by past artists and epigraphers. All fifty-five of these drawings were reviewed, as well as their associated epigraphic reports, and minor adjustments were made accordingly.

In a continuing study of the shattered temple blocks recovered in recent excavations, senior artist Ray Johnson registered an additional 152 fragments of decorated relief that belong to the Colonnade Hall, the sun court of Amenhotep III, or the talatat groups reused by Tutankhamun and Ay. All of these were photographed by Danny Lanka in the three blockyards around Luxor Temple, in addition to 275 fragments identified in previous years, for a total of 427. Many of the newly registered blocks belong to the third register of the Colonnade Hall, entirely missing from the Hall itself, which depicts a series of offerings to the great ennead. Several of these blocks are in fragile condition, and during the winter the Survey erected two more mastabas behind the temple to increase the safe storage area for these perishable reliefs. New ropes and signs were set up to keep ever-curious tourists at a distance from the fragile material in our study area.

In addition to the eventual publication of the Colonnade Hall, planning for forthcoming years of work involved a hard look at our next major project: the small temple of Hatshepsut and Tuthmosis III at Medinet Habu. At the beginning of the season, staff photographers Sue Lezon and Danny Lanka completed the final chromes required for the forthcoming color publication of the painted chapels in the temple, to be produced as a very generous gift to the Survey by Walter Tower of Nimrod Press in Boston. Also reviewed was the existing black-and-white photography for the small temple, which is essential for making the enlargements that serve as the artists' drawing surface. It was discovered that virtually all the exterior views of the small temple must be redone, since the existing photographs are either too small to be used, poorly lighted, out of plumb, or incomplete in their coverage. Photography at the small temple will be a major priority for next season, as it represents the first step in the epigraphic process for any Survey project. The question of appropriate scale was discussed as well, and Sue Lezon produced a series of enlargements to test the scales chosen both for our planning photographs—essential for laying out the work of the temple as a whole—and for the artists' drawings.

The photographers were kept busy in their tasks of bleaching and blueprinting by the voracious demands of the staff working at Luxor Temple, and took special delight in equipping the darkroom with modern equipment made possible through a special gift of money from the Amoco Foundation, designated for photographic purposes. The arrival of an 8" x 10" Besseler enlarger and a Gravity Works archival print washer has allowed the photographers to process film and prints in a fraction of the time it took previously, in a manner that approaches archival quality. In the course of the season forty rolls of 35 mm. film and 848 large-format



*A block fragment from the Colonnade Hall is set in position on a new mastaba in the blockyard behind Luxor Temple. Shown (L-R): Hassan, Aly, Ray Johnson, Gharib, Abu'l Gossam.*

negatives were newly recorded in the photo registry at Chicago House. Thirteen individuals or expeditions received prints from our photo archives for study purposes, and author Jill Kamil was loaned forty-four prints for inclusion in her planned biography of Labib Habachi. The contribution from Amoco also permitted the purchase of badly needed peripheral equipment to replace deteriorating stock.

Especially welcome was the visit to Chicago House in November of artist Will Schenck and architect Bill Davis. Will completed the inking of several pencil drawings he had previously made of small objects found by the Survey during the early years of excavation at Medinet Habu, and Bill created an interior perspective view of the great Colonnade Hall, which can be used for the reconstructions of the upper registers upon completion of the fragment project at Luxor Temple.

Last summer the Survey submitted a proposal to the Getty Grant Program of the J. Paul Getty Trust to preserve and catalogue our extensive photographic archives, portions of which have been threatened by the gradual deterioration of nitrate or early safety-based negatives. In November 1989 the Getty Grant Program announced the award of a generous grant, over the course of the next three seasons, to permit the salvage of these endangered negatives and provide them with proper archival storage. An important outcome of the project will be a computerized catalogue of the archival registry, for use both by staff and academic colleagues, that will provide internal cross-references, as well as indexed notations to The Oriental Institute photographic archives and to the monuments themselves. Sue Lezon initiated the project this season with the assistance of Di

Grodzins and Ellie Smith. Di completed a survey of all 15,000 negatives, noted their condition, and pulled those in need of immediate duplication, while Ellie transferred hundreds of negatives into archival envelopes and boxes for safe storage. The cabinets containing Chicago House and Metropolitan Museum prints of Theban monuments were also reorganized and numerous problems corrected. A group of unregistered glass plates from the tomb of Mereruka were recorded, and several hundred negatives and plates were identified by John Darnell. For many of these tasks, we enjoyed the valuable assistance and congeniality of two visitors who volunteered their services in the photo archives: Susan Johnson of the U.S. Embassy in Cairo and Charlie Secchia of the U.S. Embassy in Rome. This summer (1990), a beginning will be made on entering the negative registry onto a data base.

Under the direction of Richard Jasnow, the library acquired 253 new books and offprints, bringing the accession registry to 15,773. With the help of Tina Di Cerbo, Ellie Smith, and John Darnell, Richard also reorganized the librarian's office, taking stock of established procedures for ordering books and identifying duplicate monographs and offprints. Ellie spent six weeks taking a complete inventory of our major shelf holdings, updating and verifying the shelf list, and xeroxing the result, which has provided the Survey with a means to computerize the library in a manner that will make our research collection far more accessible to scholars and that will facilitate book ordering and administration as well. In early April, we were very grateful to receive the assistance of our colleague May Trad, who supervised the packing of books that needed binding and arranged for their shipment to Cairo, where she will continue to oversee them during the summer.

With the invaluable help and advice of Rita Joyce, Peter Piccione took over the administrative aspects of the Survey, with the myriad details this daunting task imposes, from making local shopping trips and greeting daily visitors (1,066 signed our guest book this year) to handling the monthly payroll and dispensing medication to our workmen. Special priorities this year have been the streamlining of our financial procedures and the investigation of software programs for our projected needs in the library and photo archives. Kathy Dorman skillfully handled the daily kitchen and household routine at Chicago House, with Peter assuming these tasks in her absence. Aside from many colleagues who came to use the library, we extended the use of other facilities to the Cambridge Theban Tomb Project, The Brooklyn Museum Expedition to the Temple of Mut at Karnak, the Polish-Egyptian Mission to the Temple of Hatshepsut at Deir el Bahri, the Hierakonpolis Expedition of The University of South Carolina, and the joint Bersheh Tombs Project of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, The University Museum in Philadelphia, and The Leiden Museum.

Jill Carlotta Maher continued to spearhead the fundraising efforts for the Survey, and in this regard we completed a most satisfactory year. In addition to the Getty grant, the Xerox Foundation also made us a generous

award of unrestricted funds for the next three years, to further our efforts in studying the history of the written word. Numerous tour groups continue to stop by Chicago House during our six-month season: this year Carlotta, Peter Piccione, Kathy Dorman, and the author gave thirty-one library tours to organized tour groups, seven of which were followed by courtyard receptions to meet the staff of the Survey. Forty-seven other tours were given to individuals, often Oriental Institute members interested in visiting our headquarters and stopping by for afternoon tea. To keep our friends more in touch with our activities, we initiated this season the *Chicago House Bulletin*, which is distributed to our mailing list and discusses not only our official work but describes how we live in Luxor and reports unusual items of local news. The initial response to the *Bulletin* has been very gratifying, and Debbie Darnell worked part-time in the Survey office in our absence during the winter to record the many contributions sent in by new donors. Other fundraising projects are planned, including the development of a video film, made possible by the generous gift of a VCR camera from Jack and Fran Getman, showing the Survey at work in the temple and in our studios.



*The 1989-1990 staff at leisure in the artists' courtyard. Seated (L-R): Sue Lezon, Emily Dorman, Kathy Dorman, Carlotta Maher, Di Grodzins, Vivienne Groves, Tina Di Cerbo (with Fuzzy), Richard Jasnow; standing (L-R and upstairs): Peter Piccione, Carol Meyer, Danny Lanka, Sue Osgood, Peter Dorman, Ray Johnson, John Darnell, Margaret Dorman. Not pictured: Elinor Smith, Dr. Henri Riad.*

The staff this season consisted of the author as field director; Richard Jasnow and John Darnell, epigraphers; W. Raymond Johnson, Carol Meyer, Christina Di Cerbo, Vivienne Groves, and Susan Osgood, artists; Susan Lezon and Daniel Lanka, photographers; Kathy Dorman, Peter Piccione and Rita Joyce, house and office administrators; Jill Carlotta Maher, assistant to the director; Diana Grodzins and Elinor Smith, library and photo archive assistants; and Saleh Suleiman Shehat, chief engineer. For most of the season we enjoyed the delightful and distinguished presence of Dr. Henri Riad, who administered the Labib Habachi Archives on behalf of the Survey and continued to assist us, and intervene where necessary, in the areas of public relations and local contacts in town. The physical facilities were kept running by the efforts of our twenty-seven Egyptian employees, some of whom have worked at Chicago House for over 30 years. We are especially grateful to the members of the Egyptian Antiquities Organization who contributed directly to the success of the season: Dr. Sayed Tawfik, Chairman; Mutawia Balboush, Supervisor of Antiquities for Upper Egypt; Dr. Mohammed el-Saghir, Director of Antiquities for Southern Upper Egypt; Sayid el-Hegazy, Chief Inspector of Karnak and Luxor and Co-Director of the Centre Franco-Égyptien at Karnak; Abd el-Hamid Marouf, Inspector of Karnak; and Dr. Mohammed Nasr, Chief Inspector of Qurna.

In addition to those mentioned for specific contributions, I gratefully wish to acknowledge the assistance and support of many other colleagues and friends: the United States ambassador to Egypt, His Excellency Frank G. Wisner, and Mrs. Christine Wisner; Mark Johnson, Kenton Keith, Frank Ward, and Ken Robinson of the United States Embassy in Cairo; Ann and Ron Wolfe; Marc and Charlene Volland; Ashraf and Henny Ghoneima; Candace Raphoon of British Airways; John Marrs of Xerox Egypt; Gerry Vincent; Terry Walz, Robert Betts, Amira Khattab, and Albert Abdel Ahad of the American Research Center in Egypt; Helen and Jean Jacquet; François Larchet, Phillippe Martinez, and Robert Vergnieux of the Centre Franco-Égyptien at Karnak; Saad Riad; Fathi Salib; Bill Spreadbury; and Gretel Braidwood, Evada Waller, and Florence Bonnick of The Oriental Institute.

As in past years, we will be delighted to welcome members of The Oriental Institute and other friends to Chicago House from October 1 to April 1 (please note that the dates of our season have shifted slightly). Please write to us in advance, to let us know the dates of your visit, and call us as soon as you arrive in Luxor to confirm a time that is mutually convenient. Our address in Egypt: Chicago House, Corniche el-Nil, Luxor, Arab Republic of Egypt; the telephone is 382525 (direct dial from the United States 011-20-95-382525).

## NIPPUR, 1990: The Temple of Gula and A Glimpse of Things to Come

*McGuire Gibson*

The Oriental Institute's 19th Season at Nippur was a remarkable one, resulting in the identification of a major temple and the excavation of an important tomb of the Akkadian period (c. 2300 B.C.). The current program of investigations at Nippur, in south central Iraq, is intended to elucidate the entire occupational history of the city, to gain insights into its internal organization, to understand the relationship of the sacred to the secular, and to place this most sacred of Mesopotamian cities in its geographical, ecological, historical, and cultural context. To carry out these aims, we have, since 1972, incorporated natural science studies and computer-aided recording and surveying into the traditional excavation and recording system. ▼ In the 11th Season, 1972, having taken over as director of the Nippur Expedition, I made a decision to turn away from the ziggurat area, which was the heart of religious life not only of the city but of early Mesopotamian civilization in general. I did so in order to try to discover more about the

17



*Area WA. View over the temple to Gula, goddess of medicine and healing.*

governmental, commercial, industrial, and residential aspects of the city. Directly across the now-dry bed of the ancient Euphrates that divides the ziggurat area from the much larger western mound of the site, was a very large pit. More than 100 by 150 meters in size, this pit was created by the pioneering expedition of The University of Pennsylvania, which worked there in the 1890s. It was especially inviting for us because all the occupational debris of the latest periods at the site had been removed. Here, in what we named Area WA, we had the chance of reaching ancient Babylonian and Sumerian material much more easily than in most other places on the site. Pennsylvania had reported finding a group of Kassite period administrative tablets (c. 1250 B. C.) in a tunnel in this area. It was also in this trench that the expedition found the archive of the Murashu family, powerful merchant-bankers of the Achaemenid period (c. 500 B. C.).

When we began working in WA, very little was known of the Kassite period in archaeological terms. Most of what we knew of the history of this dynasty had come from tablets found by Pennsylvania. If we could reach Kassite levels, we would be assured of significant results. We intended, however, to go below the Kassite remains and excavate as deeply as possible. Excavations at Nippur in the 1950s had provided two vital sequences of pottery, by which archaeologists at all Mesopotamian sites have continued to date their finds. We knew that there were problems with those sequences and intended to set up a new sequence to complement and correct the other two.

Within two weeks of opening WA in the 11th Season, we were aware that we were excavating not houses or a government building, but another temple. This was a small, three-room shrine datable to the Achaemenid period (c. 500 B. C.). It had been built against the wall of a much larger, older

building, decorated with niches and buttresses, and thus identifiable as a temple. Although we could examine only a few meters of the outer wall of the larger building, from sherds and other artifacts found on the ground outside we could say that it had been built in the Neo-Babylonian period (c. 575 B. C.), and lasted into the Achaemenid period. We were prevented from clearing the larger building by a sand dune that covered it, rising to more than seven meters in height.

Having exposed and recorded the small Achaemenid shrine, we dug below it and were



*Baked clay figurine from the Gula Temple. The hand at the throat indicates an illness from which a devotee sought relief.*

*Bronze figurine of  
a dog from the  
Gula Temple.*



able to reveal the outer wall of the large niched-and-buttressed temple and could determine that there were at least two earlier buildings below it. We removed some of the sand dune and sank small pits in two rooms of the Neo-Babylonian version. These pits proved that there were Neo-Assyrian (c. 630 B. C.), Kassite (c. 1250 B. C.), Old Babylonian (c. 1800 B. C.), and Isin-Larsa (c. 2000) temples below.

In the 12th and 13th Seasons, 1973 and 1975, we spent weeks removing some of the sand dune above the temples in WA. This allowed us to expose about six rooms of the Neo-Babylonian temple and to dig down in these rooms to investigate the earlier versions below. We knew that we had found a major temple, with many objects left in place, but were unable to examine more than a fraction of it, even of its upper level, because of the sand.

We abandoned the effort in WA until this year, the 19th Season, when work became feasible once more. During the intervening years, we have been witnessing a tremendous ecological change in the Nippur area. The dune belt that stretched from Nippur toward the north, east, and south for dozens of miles has been shifting farther east and has been diminishing. New irrigation canals are being cut, allowing new cultivation to be started in the areas abandoned by the dunes. The new cultivation prevents the removal of topsoil by the wind, reducing the supply of material to make and replenish the dunes. And as the dunes are themselves reduced by wind, they are becoming smaller and the dune belt less dense. You can drive through the dune belt quite easily now, even with two-wheel drive vehicles, because the density is so reduced. The western edge of the dune belt that used to lie on Nippur is now more than a kilometer to the east of the site. I feel safe in predicting that there will be no desert in ten years, just cultivation as far as the eye can see. The desert may return, however, if the application of irrigation water is not carefully regulated. Over-irrigation can create a salt problem, and large areas of farmland can be turned back to dunes in a couple of decades. This process has been repeated many times in the past and can certainly happen again.

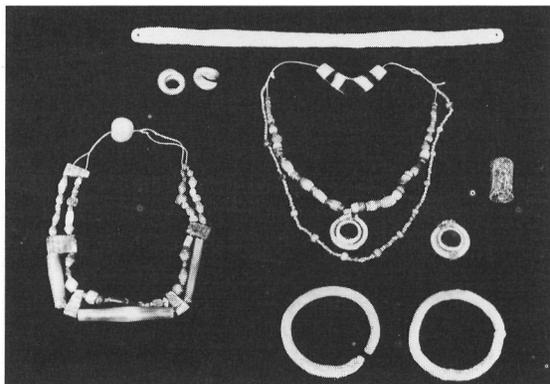
The 19th Season began on January 4 with the arrival of part of the expedition in Baghdad. The team moved down to Nippur on January 12 and preparation of the digging area began immediately. It was our intention, over the course of several years, to excavate the stack of temples in WA one by one, exposing the uppermost one entirely, recording it, then demolishing it and going below and repeating the process. We also hoped to expose some of the houses and other buildings that presumably lie around the temple. To reach the earliest temple will take years of work. If

we can excavate according to our plan, and if we are lucky enough to find inscribed documents (cuneiform texts and inscribed stone objects) along with the other artifacts, we should know more about the functioning of a Mesopotamian temple than has been possible before.

To prepare an area large enough to expose the entire temple and some of its surroundings, we needed to undertake a sizable preliminary clearance in WA. Although most of the sand has shifted from the mound, there was still one very large dune running across part of Area WA. There were also two large debris dumps left by Pennsylvania, and one small one left by us in the eleventh season, directly above where we wanted to work. I hired a front-end-loader and two trucks to move the dune and dumps. After ten days, we had moved parts of the dumps and a large part of the dune, but there was still a lot left. By then we had more than enough room to work for the season, even though we would not be able to expose the entire plan of even the topmost temple. It was clear that we could spend half the season just moving dunes and dumps, so I decided to stop the machines and get to work with small picks and trowels.

For the first time since 1975, we assembled the railroad and used it effectively to remove dirt. We had stopped using it because, in the mid-1970s, there was much development work in Iraq and we could hire only boys, who could not handle the hand-pushed cars safely. With the end of the Iran-Iraq War, we had plenty of men once again. With the railroad, we could remove the debris quickly as we began to re-expose the Neo-Babylonian temple.

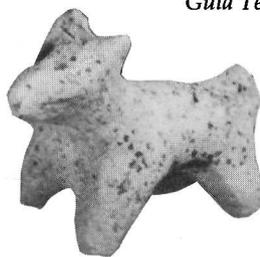
After 17 years of lying under sand, the mudbrick walls of the Neo-Babylonian temple were only slightly eroded. We uncovered all that we had recorded in earlier seasons, looking forward to seeing the ends of rooms that we had left undug and new rooms adjacent to them. What we found, just twenty centimeters (about 8 inches) beyond our earlier clearance, was not more of the walls and rooms, but an abrupt cut, caused by the digging of foundations for a very large Parthian building (c. 100 A.D.) that had rested above the temple. The Parthian building, called "The Villa with a Court of Columns" by Pennsylvania, had foundations five meters deep.



*Jewelry and a lapis seal from Burial 14, Skeleton 2.*

In our previous work this foundation seemed to go no deeper than a half meter above remnants of the Neo-Babylonian building. Now we saw that toward the center of the Villa, the foundation was dug about another meter deeper, slicing away our Neo-Babylonian temple on the southwest. On the southeast, we could see that ancient erosion had destroyed this level of the building. Clearly, our Neo-Babylonian level was not to be examined in any more detail.

*Baked clay figurine  
of a dog from the  
Gula Temple.*



We decided to go to the next lower building, the temple of the Neo-Assyrian occupation of Nippur (7th Century B. C.). To do this, we had to remove a meter of intervening ancient debris. When the Neo-Babylonian builders decided to construct a new version of the temple, the 7th Century building was still standing. They took off the clay roof of the old building, removed the reed mats and wooden roof beams for reuse, then knocked down the mudbrick walls, leaving only stubs intact. The debris from the Neo-Assyrian roof and walls formed a meter-thick platform on which the Neo-Babylonian temple was constructed. The railroad was essential to remove this debris efficiently.

The Neo-Assyrian building was a renovation of a Kassite temple that had been built and abandoned in the 13th Century. We know from our previous work in WA and other parts of the site that between about 1225 B. C. and 800 B. C., much or all of Nippur was abandoned. Dunes covered the site. When the city was repopulated, new temples were built on the ruins of old ones. This can only mean that a kind of archaeology was already being practiced in ancient times. After hundreds of years, unbaked mudbrick buildings do not normally leave any traces. There are exceptions. I have walked through the rooms of mudbrick palaces in Afghanistan that were abandoned five hundred years ago. If there was no water near Nippur during most of the period of abandonment, the major buildings might still have been visible, at least as vague building plans. The 7th Century builders must have investigated the most prominent of the ruins, digging for things like stone door-sockets and foundation deposits that carried inscriptions indicating the deity to whom the temples were dedicated. In the case of the temple in WA, we have evidence that the stubs of walls of the 13th Century Kassite temple were used as the foundations for the 7th Century temple, following the same plan as in the earlier building. On the outside of the Kassite building, a new facade was built of mudbricks, almost doubling the thickness of the walls. Inside, however, the faces of the Kassite walls were cut back in order to lay in a baked-brick facade. This facade may have been merely at the base of the new walls, not all the way to the roof, to provide protection against rain and damp in the ground.

In the Kassite level we found the first hints of the identification of the deity who was worshipped in these rooms. Small baked-clay dog figurines had been sealed deliberately behind the mudplaster on some walls. There was also, in a bit of Old Babylonian (c. 1800 B. C.) debris we encountered, a bronze figurine of a dog. We found a very similar bronze dog in the same level during the 13th Season, along with a mold-made figurine of a dog lying on its side and suckling puppies. In debris on floors of the Kassite temple we found fragments of baked clay human figurines, one holding his throat, one with his hands on his chin and stomach, another with a hand on his head. The dogs began to make us think that we were dealing with a temple to Gula, the goddess of healing, whose symbol is a dog. The human figurines we interpret as showing distress, indicating where they were ailing. The final piece of proof came in the form of a fragmentary lapis lazuli disc, with an inscription *a-na* "Gu-la" "to Gula."

Even without this inscription, the figurines would have been enough for an identification. In 1947, Sayyid Muahammad Ali Mustafa, working for the Department of Antiquities, excavated a site near Aqar Quf, the Kassite capital city west of Baghdad. Here he found hundreds of figurines very similar to ours, some with inscriptions mentioning Gula.

In future seasons, as we excavate this sequence of temples, we expect to find tablets related to the goddess' role in healing. We hope that we will be able to determine more clearly the relationship of this temple to the two kinds of medical practitioners in Mesopotamia. There was a herbal healer, the *asu*, who diagnosed illness, concocted remedies, instructed the patient on how to use them, and sometimes predicted the outcome. This person did not include ritual in his practice. The *ashipu*, in contrast, was a magician or exorcist, whose role it was to drive out demons which had made people ill. He did perform rituals and sometimes also used herbs. Dr. Robert D. Biggs has indicated that the magician seems to have dealt with mental illnesses.

It is not certain that sick people went to the Gula Temple, but the presence of the figurines argues that they did. Did they go after they saw the doctor, before, at the same time? We hope to find out. It is clear that Gula, who first appeared at about 2000 B. C., had a special role in medicine, as did earlier Sumerian goddesses such as Bau and Nintinugga. We expect that our sequence of temples at WA will have a number of levels earlier than 2000 B.C., and assume that they will be dedicated to one of the earlier goddesses of healing, giving over to Gula in the Ur III or Isin-Larsa period.

Thus far, we have been excavating in the more utilitarian parts of the WA temples, where food was prepared and metal objects fabricated. When we return for the next season, we once again will hire machines to complete the clearance of the sand and three other dumps that rest on the remainder of the temple. The area that we clear will be larger than the temple itself. We intend to excavate not only the temple in each level, but some of the houses around it. We have already gotten a glimpse of the houses awaiting us east of the temples. In 1972, we sank a deep pit in the southern end of



*Area WF, Burial 14, Skeleton 2, a richly-equipped burial of the mid-Akkadian Period (ca. 2300 B.C.).*

WA, hoping to gain insight into the occupations that awaited us far below. In this pit, called WA50c, we first exposed a stratum of garbage that we could date to the Seleucid period (c. 200 B. C.). Among the finds in the garbage were three cuneiform tablets with medical texts dealing with gynecological problems. Although later than the uppermost temple, these tablets seem to indicate a continued role in medicine for the WA area. Below the garbage layer was a sequence of house occupations. The lowest level we reached could be dated by inscriptions and pottery to the Akkadian Period (c. 2300 B. C.), and we thought that we were only a few centimeters from the Early Dynastic level below.

During the 18th Season, 1989, we excavated an even larger, deeper pit alongside WA50c. This operation, WF, was intended to investigate the Akkadian level more fully, in order to gain data on the transition from the Early Dynastic Period to the Akkadian, an important focus of research. We reached the Akkadian level and discovered that we had been nowhere near the Early Dynastic level in WA50c. The Akkadian level is a substantial one, consisting of occupation floors more than two and a half meters in total thickness. After digging a pit 10 meters deep, we had still not gotten into the Early Dynastic levels. The finds in the Akkadian level that season were extraordinarily important, including the world's earliest datable man-made glass (two beads on a floor that could be dated by Akkadian tablets), and a very rich burial of an official who was identified on his two cylinder seals as "Lugal-DUR the scribe."

This season, we continued work in WF by expanding the top of the pit from 7 meters square to 10 meters, which would allow us to excavate even deeper and prevent cave-ins. We were obliged to remove about two meters of sand that had blown into the pit during the year. During this season, we excavated only two meters lower in WF because we encountered a com-

plex, multi-occupant tomb that required a great deal of time and care to excavate. We did, however, reach Early Dynastic levels and have extremely good evidence that will allow the reconstruction of the transition from Early Dynastic to Akkadian.

Directly below the place where we had found the grave of Lugal-DUR last year, we became aware of a tomb that had been created by cutting a chamber out of accumulated debris. At one side of the tomb, there was a shaft going even deeper. Off this shaft were at least four small tunnel-like chambers, each with a skeleton and a few bowls, sealed with mudbricks. In the main chamber were three human skeletons. One had with it a “goddess-handled jar,” that is, a jar with a handle in the form of a female wearing only a necklace and headband. A second skeleton had a table-like pottery item that we traditionally call a “fruit stand.” The goddess-handled jar and the fruit stand are types that until recently were thought to have marked only the Early Dynastic Period. We suggested a few years ago that these and a few other pottery types continued into the Akkadian period. Now we can prove that they did, because the principal skeleton, a couple of feet away in the chamber, had a wealth of pottery and other objects that must be dated to the early part of the Akkadian period.

The principal skeleton had on its shoulder a copper pin and a lapis lazuli cylinder seal (of official style), on its forehead a gold fillet, and also was furnished with gold earrings and an elaborate necklace. The necklace included beads of lapis, gold, carnelian, and agate. The dominant features of the necklace were two large circular agate discs mounted in gold, with silver attachments. The agate discs were cut so that they appear to be eyes, with brown pupils surrounded by white. At the back of the neck we found a large V-shaped bead of banded agate (brown and white), with gold fittings on the ends. This was a counterweight, intended to balance the necklace and keep it in place. On the wrists of the skeleton were silver bracelets, one on each arm. In each armpit was a small copper bowl.

Next to the principal skeleton were copper vessels and another necklace of gold, lapis lazuli, and carnelian. Nearby was an extremely important find—the remains of a wooden box with a lid made of tiny pieces of bone inlay. Catherine Sease, the Field Museum conservator who joined us for the last month of the season, was able to reconstruct the pattern on the lid and suggest the position of two tab handles at the ends of the ovoid box. A floral decoration, still retaining some colored paste (red and yellow), could not be placed exactly, but it was probably central to the design on the box itself, not the lid. The wooden box was preserved only in minute fragments.

At the head and feet of the skeleton were several copper and pottery vessels. One pottery jar had fallen over and a white substance had run out onto and under objects and the skeleton. We think the substance is yoghurt. It is being analyzed at the Smithsonian Institution and we should know for certain fairly soon. Under the skeleton were the remains of a complete onager, a type of equid, and next to it were three sheep, two adults without their heads and a complete lamb.

Due to very poor preservation, we could not consolidate many of the human bones for study, but, since the burial lacked weapons, we think this skeleton was female. Ordinarily, the official-style cylinder seal would argue for its owner's being a male, but the inscription on the stone had been erased in antiquity, probably causing a crack that mars the seal. I would suggest that this cylinder had been the official seal of the husband of this woman. At some point, the seal was going to be re-carved and it cracked. The woman then received it to wear as a piece of jewelry. As to her husband, I think we found him last season. Lugal-DUR, clearly a very important official of some kind with two extraordinary cylinder seals, was in effect the last person buried in the tomb. He



*So-called "goddess-handed" jar from Burial 14, Area WF, with applied and incised decoration.*

was buried by cutting into the tomb after it was filled. We are assuming that the persons buried in the tomb were related, probably one family.

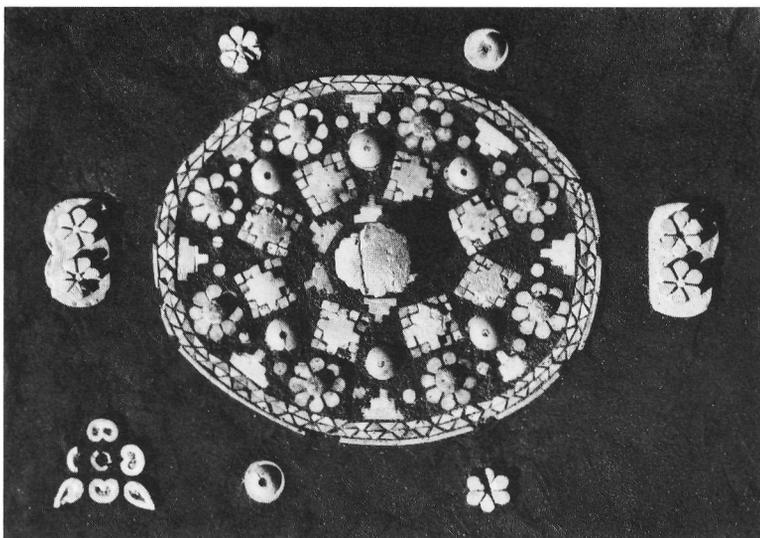
The richness of finds in the Akkadian level, both on the house floors and in the burials of WF and WA50c, allow us a glimpse of the exciting seasons that are to come as we excavate the Temple of Gula and the surrounding area. The Akkadian level draws our attention not only because of the sample of objects thus far recovered, but because the period is so little known through excavation. The excellence of the artwork of the Akkadian period is commonly recognized as the peak of Mesopotamian accomplishment. The Akkadian empire was marked by masterpieces of stone and copper statues, relief sculptures, cylinder seals, and even naturalistic baked-clay human figurines. But very little excavation has been done on sites and levels of this period. The reward in objects and information will justify the time, expense, and effort to reach the Akkadian occupation deep down in Area WA.

Our work this season was made more productive than usual by the cooperation of Dr. Moayyad Said Damirchi, the Director of Antiquities. We were once again lucky enough to have Sayyid Abbas Fadhil al-Obaydi as our representative, along with Sayyid Ahmad Hamud Abdullah. Sayyid Khalaf Bedawi was once again the key to effective work, as our foreman. Dr. James A. Armstrong and Beverly Armstrong joined us for the season. Jim oversaw the excavating of WA, while Beverly managed the house, assisted in registration of objects, and worked with accounts. John and Peggy Sanders were with us once again doing the computer-aided surveying, drafting, and recording. Augusta McMahon was responsible for Area



WF, while Joel Sweek and Jennifer Artz excavated Area WA. Dr. Miguel Civil was epigrapher. Margaret Schröder was tablet conservator. Catherine Sease acted as conservator and David Reese was responsible for bones and shells. The photography was done by John Hudson. Two Friends of Nippur, Marnie Akins and Alice R. Hayes joined us for part of the season, giving valuable help in pot mending and cataloguing of human bones. A team of Smithsonian conservation researchers, consisting of Dr. Pamela Vandiver, Dr. Martha Goodway, Blythe McCarthy, and Amy Vandiver, continued their studies of glaze deterioration begun last season.

Once again, the generosity of Friends of Nippur made our season much more effective than it would have been otherwise. Their continued interest in our work is greatly appreciated. It is hoped that conditions will make it possible for more of them to visit us in future.



*Inlaid bone box lid from Burial 14, Skeleton 2.*

# THE JOINT PREHISTORIC PROJECT

Robert J. and Linda S. Braidwood

At the end of the 1985 field season, with our co-director Halet Çambel's legal retirement from Istanbul University impending (the Braidwoods were already over that legal hump much earlier), we agreed that we would terminate our own involvements in *field operations* at Çayönü in three years. Wulf Schirmer, our architectural colleague of Karlsruhe University also fully agreed. Thus, the last (1988) field season marked the end of earth-moving activities on the site for Halet, Wulf, and the Braidwoods. It also marked the end of The Oriental Institute's financial responsibilities for *actual excavation* at Çayönü. At the same time, however, we still face the moral responsibility of completing the reporting of the evidence we've recovered since our start at Çayönü in 1963/64; thirteen field seasons. ▼ Since by Turkish law all the artifactual yield must remain in Turkey, the processing and much of the interpretation of the evidence from Çayönü has to be done in Turkey. (Happily, non-artifactual, e.g., botanical, geological, and zoological samples, may be sent abroad for analyses.) However, over the years we have been successful in training a core of Halet's graduate students and younger colleagues who are well qualified to undertake much of the task of reporting. For some categories of artifacts, however,



we need to bring non-Turkish experts to Istanbul.

There will, naturally, also be financial requirements: for drawing, photography, typing, editing, computer analyses, and publication costs as well as modest honoraria and/or salaries, in which The Oriental Institute must be involved. At first, there did appear to be the promise of respectable financial aid on the Turkish end. For some years now, we have had the interest of a remarkable Turkish gentleman, a good friend of Hallet's (once a finance minister, also once the president of the Middle East Technical University). In the autumn of 1988, it was our good fortune to have Carlotta Maher come to Istanbul (and Çayönü) with us, and to have her meet with Kemal Bey. She can, better than we, describe his enthusiasm for the creation of a research fund in support of the Çayönü publication program. On our March/April 1990 trip to Istanbul to begin pushing towards publication, we had lunch with Kemal Bey, and heard his plans for contacting various highly placed business people.

It is anticipated that the Prehistory Section of Istanbul University will continue to excavate in a modest way at Çayönü and in the general area under one of Hallet's younger colleagues, Dr. Mehmet Özdoğan, who first came to Çayönü as a young grad student in 1964. Mehmet has already established a very respectable reputation for himself. Among other things, he enjoys a warm friendship with the staff of The University of Rome's team at Aslantepe, near Malatya, now focussed on levels ca. 4000 B.C. (much later than Çayönü). For the present (1990) field season, Rome's Isabella Caneva, a respected prehistorian and an expert on chipped stone, and her husband Alberto Palmieri (a geomorphologist) are joining the Çayönü team. We have every reason to hope that Çayönü will soon formally become a Joint Istanbul-Rome Prehistoric Project (with Italian financial support), probably concentrating on strata somewhat later than those of our own earlier efforts.

During the earliest field seasons, we naively assumed that "our" Çayönü represented the simplest possible village-farming community way of life. How incredibly wrong we were. The social complexity suggested by Çayönü's remains is far from simple and there are even hints of pyrotechnology and metallurgy still to be probed. There is a great deal of raw evidence still to untangle and interpret, and we look forward to it.

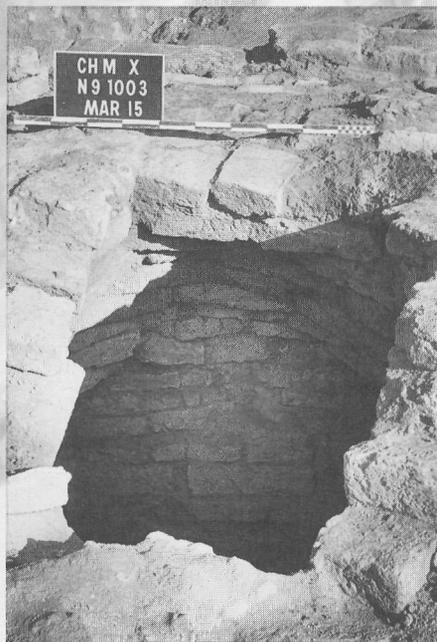
Again, we express our warm thanks to the very special volunteers and good friends of the Prehistoric Project who aid and abet us.

# CHOGHA MISH

*Helene J. Kantor*

The Chogha Mish project does not have the excitement of newly unearthed discoveries to report. Instead, in recent years our efforts have been devoted to the often unglamorous details attendant on the preparation of the final report covering the first five seasons of excavation. With that process close to completion, it is appropriate to recall some of the main results achieved during our work in southwestern Iran. ▼ Chogha Mish is strategically located close to the northern foothills of the central plain of Khuzestan, the Susiana of the classical geographers. The site, midway between the emergence of the Dez and Karun rivers from the Zagros mountains, controlled one of the main routes of the Susiana plain. The trial season of excavation in 1961 marked the implementation of a plan long-cherished by the late P.P. Delougaz, namely to find in the Susiana area a site where the early phases of elaborate civilization, the Protoliterate period, were not buried under the deep debris of later occupations. Ten exca-

29



*Figure 1: Protoliterate pit on the high mound constructed of baked bricks.*

vation seasons and one study season followed. The loss of Delougaz at the end of the ninth season (1975) was a grievous blow, but the project was carried on until changes in Iran made further work impossible (1978).

## The Protoliterate City:

### Topography

Chogha Mish occupies some 18 hectares, with a high area on the north and a lower terrace on the south. After the Protoliterate period (around 3400 B.C.) the terrace lay deserted for over two thousand years, until it was occupied around 600-500 B.C. by an Achaemenid village. In the centuries that followed, the deserted terrace was eroded so that for the most part even the top of the Protoliterate level was destroyed. On the north, however, thick Elamite walls (ca. 2000 B.C.), the removal of which was impractical, covered the Protoliterate remains. They could be explored only in the sloping edges of the mound. Features unparalleled on the terrace indicated the existence of an acropolis with important structures. One was a thick retaining wall of unbaked bricks that may well be part of a platform. Near it were underground pits carefully constructed of small baked bricks (Figure 1). In addition, terracotta cones, well-known at Warka in Mesopotamia as the decoration of Protoliterate temples and public buildings, were ubiquitous on the high mound.

Public structures probably also existed on the highest points of the terrace. A platform of packed earth was found on the northwest, with its top, as preserved, at the modern surface. Only a structure of some importance would have had such a foundation. The likelihood that it was a shrine is increased by the discovery of a jar with two spouts, a type known as a ritual vessel in later times (Figure 2). On the northeastern part of the terrace the occurrence of a cluster of terracotta cones still stuck together

suggests that there, also, a shrine once existed in the midst of private houses separated by narrow lanes with terracotta drains in the middle.



Figure 2: Protoliterate two-spouted jar with appliqué of snakes biting goats.

### Finds

In addition to its size and topography, many complete or fragmentary objects provide outstanding evidence for the surging complexity of Early Protoliterate civilization at Chogha Mish. Of particular significance are seemingly nondescript finds, for example, broken bits of clay with seal impressions. The impressions were made, for the most part, by cylinder seals, an invention of the Protoliterate



Figure 3: Inner surface of a Protoliterate door sealing.

the door sealings well-known in many parts of the ancient Near East in later periods (Figure 3). The conical sealings covered one end of a string looped around a door handle and a wooden peg projecting from the adjacent wall. By making it impossible to open doors without detection, they secured storage rooms and their contents. Their frequency at Chogha Mish (21% of the sealings found) implies the existence of economic conditions of a complexity beyond the routine needs of a single household.

A type of object important as evidence for record keeping and economic activity, and by now much-discussed, is the hollow clay ball covered with seal impressions. Four of the intact examples found in the second season (1963) were x-rayed by Delougaz at The University of Chicago Hospitals, revealing small clay tokens inside. Since the balls were covered by seal impressions the record provided by the tokens within could not be tampered with. Such objects could, for example, have served as bills of lading. In the third season (1965-66), a group of 21 balls was found where it had been secreted under the wall of a room. In the same year an analogous deposit was discovered in Mesopotamia at Warka. The balls were impressed in a standard manner: one seal around the equator and others covering the poles (Figure 4). A likely explanation for this consistent scheme is that the equatorial seal belonged to the main person involved in the record and the polar seals to the witnesses. In the Chogha Mish group a number of different equatorial seals occur. We may speculate that the person who "filed" the balls was the recipient or administrator of deliveries from or dues owed by various individuals.

Chogha Mish also yielded a few tablets, for the most part small fragments. They were impressed by a single cylinder seal, usually only on the obverse but in

period developed in response to the needs of individual persons and officials to safeguard possessions or commodities and to authenticate their transactions. Conically-shaped sealings with the imprints of string and a smooth stick on the inner side are early examples of



Figure 4: Protoliterate clay ball showing equatorial and polar cylinder seal impressions.



Figure 5: Protoliterate tablet with seal impressions and numerals.

tion of art. For example, men guide cattle (Figure 6) or carry boxes (Figure 4). An incomplete design shows a battlefield with bound prisoners (Figure 7). Among the unique scenes from Chogha Mish is one showing a city ruler returning with his retinue by ship from a victorious campaign; he holds a mace and the rope binding two prisoners (Figure 8). The full modelling characteristic for Early Protoliterate cylinder seals and for the art of that phase as a whole is also exemplified by a bone figurine (Figure 9).

Chogha Mish is an excellent representative of an Early Protoliterate city. It shares identical pottery, recording practices, and artistic traditions with Susa, with the great Mesopotamian center, Warka,



Figure 7: Protoliterate cylinder seal design showing a battlefield.

one case also on the narrow sides. A few numerals, long strokes for "1" and round imprints for "10", were imprinted on top of the seal impressions (Figure 5).

The representations preserved by the sealings are a treasury of information concerning human activities and preoccupations, whether political or religious or more mundane, and for the creation of a highly sophisticated tradi-

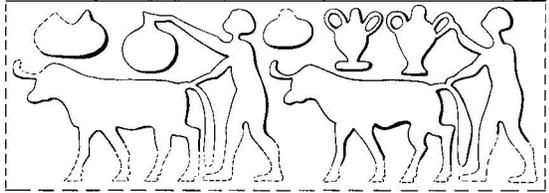


Figure 6: Protoliterate cylinder seal design showing men with cattle.

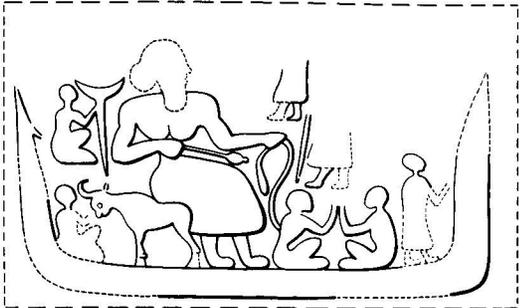


Figure 8: Protoliterate cylinder seal design showing a victorious ruler, enthroned in a ship, holding a mace and rope binding two prisoners.

and with the Protoliterate outposts far away on the Euphrates in Syria. The archaeological evidence mirrors momentous historical developments, the emergence and expansion of the earliest great civilization in Western Asia.

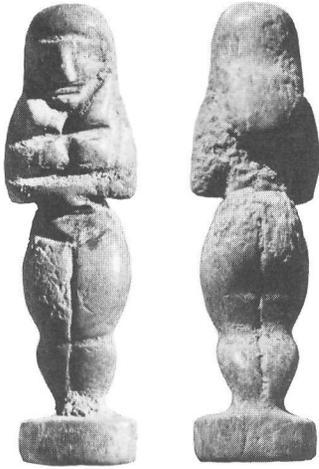


Figure 9: Protoliterate bone figurine.

In the Late Protoliterate period Chogha Mish was deserted, while some thirty-five kilometers to the west, across the large Dez river, the site of Susa continued to flourish. The most likely historical implications of the desertion of Chogha Mish is that Susa had become strong enough to conquer formerly independent local states and to assert its hegemony over the entire Susiana plain.

### The Prehistoric Sequence

Underlying the Protoliterate city, Chogha Mish provided, as a "bonus" not foreseen in the original plan of the project, levels deposited by a long sequence of prehistoric periods. The changing size and character of the settlement were traced by areas of excavation placed strategically over the site. The new evidence for the prehistoric sequence provided some of the most important results of the Chogha Mish project.

### The Character of the Middle Susiana 3 Period

Stratigraphic data accumulated over several seasons increased our precision in recognizing a phase termed by us Middle Susiana 3, and in distinguishing it from the succeeding, Late Susiana, phase. In all areas where excavation was continued below the Protoliterate levels we found characteristic Middle Susiana 3 pottery. This widespread distribution indicated that the entire site was occupied at that time. The revelation of a prehistoric settlement covering a site of about 18 hectares changed our conception of the population density and complexity possible in the Susiana area in the later fifth millennium B.C.

The size and highly developed crafts of the Middle Susiana 3 settlement in themselves imply an advanced stage of development, which was strikingly confirmed by the Burnt Building discovered in the ninth season. Its substantial walls, some of them ca. 1.50 m. thick, the plan of regularly aligned rooms, and the facade with symmetrical buttresses give it a monumental character. A back room was still filled with storage jars (Figure 10). Another room had a stack of thin-walled bowls.

The Burnt Building can be compared with the plan of a contemporary house recovered in a rescue operation at Chogha Bahnut, a small site six kilometers west of Chogha Mish. In the eleventh season (1977), although bulldozing had destroyed the upper part of Bahnut, we were able to salvage the site when, by good fortune, a patch of a Middle Susiana village still remained. The Bahnut house has the same basic plan as



Figure 10: Excavation of the east part of the Middle Susiana 3 Burnt Building, looking from a store room in the back toward the L-shaped front room and the entrance.



Figure 11: Middle Susiana 3 excavated at the small site of Chogha Bahnut, looking from the front toward the back.

the east part of the Burnt Building at Chogha Mish, but is smaller and without buttresses; its walls are only about 30-40 cms. thick (Figure 11). The two structures mirror clearly the difference between a small local settlement and an important center. The archaeological evidence shows that already in the late fifth millennium B.C. a distinctly stratified society existed.

After the apex of the prehistoric settlement in Middle Susiana 3 a sharp contraction occurred. In the following period about two-thirds of Chogha Mish was deserted; the Late Susiana deposits left by people living only in the northern part of the site created the present configuration of a northern high mound and a southern terrace (Figures 12, 13). The contraction at Chogha Mish was not a purely local phenomenon. In surveys directed by Henry Wright more settlements were dated to Middle Susiana 3 than to any other prehistoric period; in Late Susiana the number of communities declined. This evidence has been interpreted as indicating a marked depopulation in the Susiana plain. There must have been, however, some redistribution of populations. The foundation in the Late Susiana period

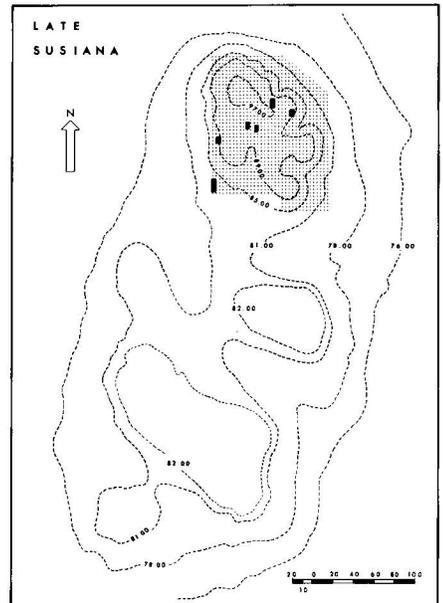
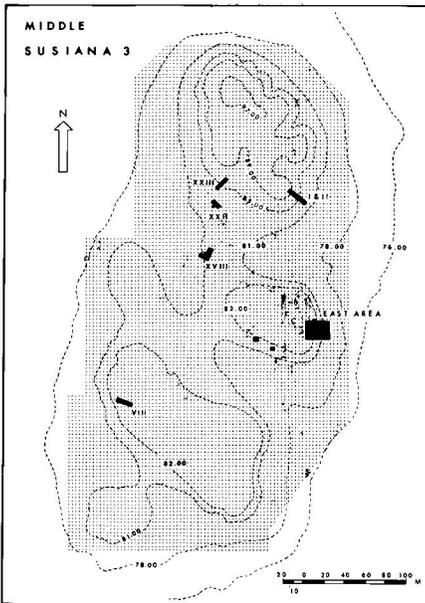


Figure 12: Sketch maps showing the extent of the Middle Susiana 3 and Late Susiana settlements at Chogha Mish.



Figure 13: Pottery vessels characteristic of various Susiana periods: A. Early Susiana painted ware; B. Archaic Susiana 2 Red-line ware; C. Archaic Susiana 1 Painted-burnished ware; D. Middle Susiana 1 painted ware; E. Archaic Susiana 3 Close-line ware; F. Archaic Susiana 3 Matt-painted ware.

of the new and large community at Susa must have brought struggles for political and economic power that ended in the aggrandizement of the new central site and the decline of older centers.

### The Earliest Phases of Occupation in the Susiana Plain

In the second season (1962) a small exploratory trench on one of the lowest parts of the Chogha Mish terrace produced sherds of wares previously unknown in central Khuzestan. Their elucidation became an important goal of later seasons. The evidence eventually obtained revealed a major new period, Archaic Susiana, characterized by unpainted straw-tempered ware. The stratified occurrence of the much rarer painted vessels also in use showed that Archaic Susiana must be subdivided into three phases, the latest with Matt-painted (Figure 13F) and Close-line (Figure 13E) wares. Below, Archaic Susiana 2 has Red-line (Figure 13B) and related wares, while Archaic Susiana 1 with Painted-burnished ware rested on virgin soil (Figure 13C). Fragmentarily-preserved Archaic Susiana rooms were built of unusual bricks, about a meter long and marked with finger imprints on one side.

The discovery of Archaic Susiana 1 on virgin soil at first inclined us to take it as representing the earliest habitation on the Susiana plain, but we soon realized that even that early cultural stage was too advanced

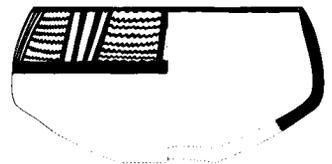
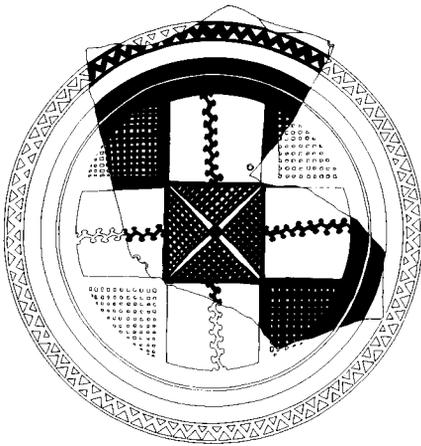


Figure 14: Primitive Painted-burnished ware from Chogha Bahnut assignable to a final phase of the formative Susiana period.

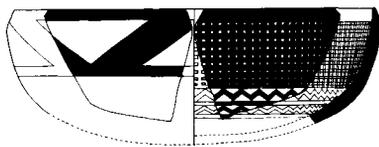
for a beginning. Moreover, we had also the problem as to the character and date of sherds found in one small area on virgin soil below prehistoric levels drastically disturbed by Protoliterate pits. Some of the sherds looked like simple variants of the Painted-burnished ware, but others were unfamiliar. Our rescue excavation at Chogha Bahnut provided the answer in the twelfth season (1978). Unlike Chogha Mish, Bahnut had not been continuously occupied. Its Middle Susiana 3 level stood directly on a level containing the same types of sherds that had puzzled us at Chogha Mish (Figure 14). Below, still earlier types of pottery proved that Bahnut was settled before Chogha Mish and established the existence of a period, Formative Susiana, preceding Archaic Susiana. The Susiana sequence is probably taken back to a pre-pottery phase by the deepest deposits of Bahnut, characterized by small flint cores, tiny fragments of stone vessels, and primitive clay figurines.



*Figure 15: Design on the interior of an Early Susiana bowl closely paralleled by pottery found in southern Mesopotamia at Eridu (Ubaid 1 period).*

### Connections with Mesopotamia

Throughout the historical period the Susiana plain and its capital, Susa, were intimately related with Mesopotamia, politically and culturally. Evidence from Chogha Mish shows that these relationships go back far into the prehistoric period. Archaic Susiana 3 is now closely linked with Mesopotamia by pottery recently discovered at Tell el-Oueilli in levels below those of the Ubaid I (Eridu) period and assigned to an initial "Ubaid 0" period. The excellent parallels between the Close-line ware of Archaic Susiana 3 and the el-Oueilli pottery of Ubaid 0 establish the contemporaneity of the two periods and a close connection between the Susiana plain and southern Mesopotamia. The connection continued in the following periods. Early Susiana and the Eridu stage of the Ubaid



*Figure 16: An Early Susiana bowl, reconstructed from a fragment, closely paralleled by pottery found in Southern Mesopotamia at Eridu (Ubaid 1 period).*

culture share important types of painted pottery (Figures 15, 16). In addition, links with the Samarra culture of northern Mesopotamia are provided by various features of Early Susiana painted pottery and by terracotta figurine heads. This three-way synchronism is pertinent to some much-discussed chronological problems in Mesopotamian prehistory.

In Middle Susiana 1 (ca. early 5th millennium B.C.) the close connections with Mesopotamia continued. Much of the painted pottery from Chogha Mish and sites of the Hajji Mohammed stage of the Ubaid culture is identical in shape and decoration (Figure 13D). A great change had occurred by the time of Middle Susiana 3 and the contemporary standard Ubaid culture. Although general affinities remain, as well as some special types held in common, the Susiana and Mesopotamian potters were following divergent paths. These and other cultural differences may well reflect the developing individuality of the Sumerians and Elamites still shrouded in prehistoric anonymity. Not until the Protoliterate period were the two areas again to share cultural elements, this time in a major historical development that must have brought Mesopotamians into the Susiana plain.

The excavations at Chogha Mish, supplemented by those at Chogha Bahnut, have provided a wealth of information for a long span of prehistoric and protohistoric development in a crucial part of the ancient world.

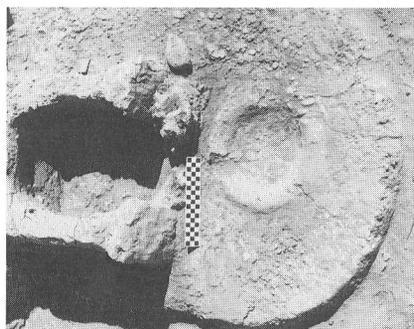
# THE CHICAGO EUPHRATES PROJECT

Thomas L. McClellan

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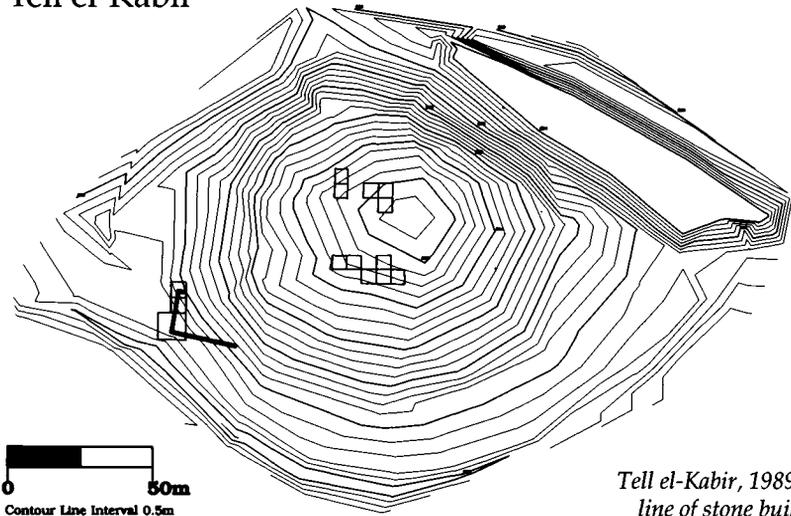
ARCHAEOLOGY

A second season of excavations was conducted by The Oriental Institute in the Tishreen Dam flood zone from late July to October, 1990. This year, work concentrated on the small 2.3 hectare site of Tell el-Kabir (formerly called Tell Mresh) with the purpose of exploring the interrelationship of satellite sites to main sites (i.e. Tell el-Banat Village) during periods of simultaneous and alternating occupation. Anne Porter, a graduate student from Chicago, directed a small team consisting of Joe Baruffi (Chicago), Mandy Mottram (Canberra), and surveyor Richard MacNeill (Melbourne). ▼ In 1989 portions of a stone building dating to the Early Bronze II/III? period were excavated in the southwest corner of Tell el-Kabir. Its size, thick walls, careful construction and straight lines indicate it was a public structure. After it was abandoned, circular storage pits, which we tentatively date to Early Bronze IV, were cut into the stone building. The floor of the stone building was devoid of objects, but the pits contained pottery and figurine fragments.



*Horseshoe hearth and circular feature in Intermediate Early Bronze - Middle Bronze building, Tell el-Kabir*

## Tell el-Kabir



Tell el-Kabir, 1989. Dark  
line of stone building of  
Early Bronze III/IV

An Intermediate Early Bronze–Middle Bronze stratum was encountered while excavating more of the stone building. Six rooms of a mudbrick structure were filled with pottery. The roof had fallen in on some rooms and their contents were well-preserved — two horseshoe hearths, small storage bins, storage vessels, grinding stone, and domestic vessels *in situ*, including a jar with a tubular spout flanked by lions, like a pot at Sweyhat. The mud-plaster surface of several walls was painted with widely spaced white dots.

This ceramic assemblage is of special interest because it contains an unusual combination of forms that are normally attributed to different periods of time: the Syrian Early Bronze IV and Middle Bronze I periods. The assemblage has similarities to the Intermediate Early Bronze–Middle Bronze period III at Kurban Hoyuk and to elements of Early Bronze IV at Tell es-Sweyhat, and Middle Bronze I and IIA at Tell Hadidi. The assemblage may fill a gap between the Early and Middle Bronze Ages that exists between Tell Mardikh IIB2 and IIIA, and it may necessitate moving up some Early Bronze IV dates or moving down some Middle Bronze dates in the Syro-Palestinian chronologies.

Also over 80 burials, usually with no grave goods, have been excavated in two seasons. A small flat (bulldozed) site several hundred meters to the south was examined and planned this year; it dates to the Byzantine-Islamic period. It is probably the true Tell Mresh, while the site being excavated is probably Tell el-Kabir. Many of the burials at Tell el-Kabir may be part of cemetery for the inhabitants of this later site.

During the year an article "Archaeological Surveys of the Tishreen Dam Flood Zone" was submitted for publication as well as a preliminary report on the excavations of 1989. A comprehensive ceramic typology

based on pottery from 1988 surface surveys was completed. Research on the Early Bronze rampart fortifications at Tell el-Banat Village led to investigation of early fortifications and earthworks throughout Syria and adjacent areas.



*Intermediate Early Bronze - Middle Bronze building at Tell el-Kabir*

**AQABA***Donald Whitcomb*

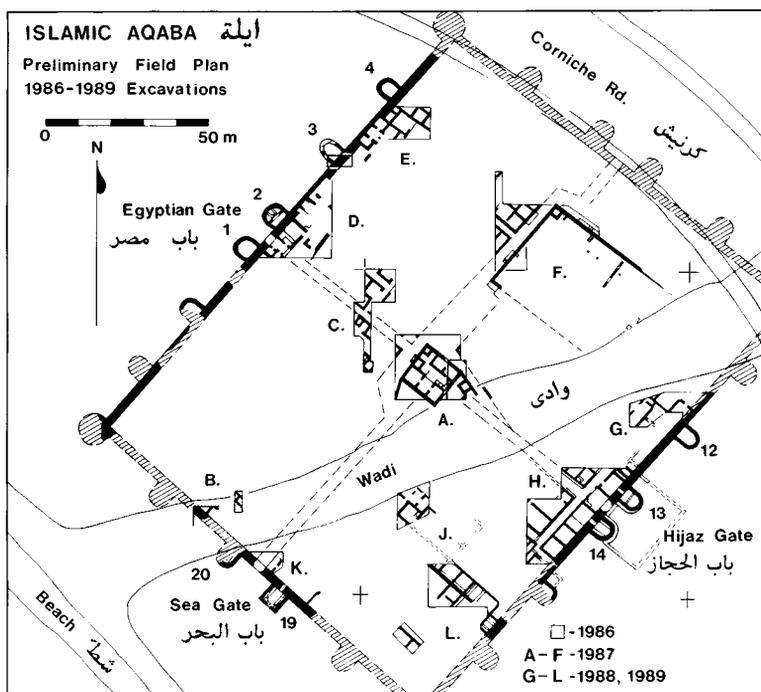
Almost 900 years ago the Crusader King Baldwin came to Aqaba and took over the city. His purpose was to blockade the port, to separate the Syrian and Egyptian parts of the Mamluk sultanate and to interdict their trade and that going to Arabia. This was one of the few times when international politics seems to have affected the history of this sleepy little port. This event has no direct evidence in The Oriental Institute excavations at Aqaba; negative evidence, the lack of 12th century artifacts and relative poverty of the 11th century levels, suggests that this event may have been the cause for movement to a new site, the building of a new town, and in effect the beginning of a new period in the history of Aqaba. ▼ The excavations at Aqaba illustrate the value of archaeology in clarifying aspects of history in relatively well-documented times. The translation of potsherds and building strata into historical evidence is not easy, even when key events are known. The method of archaeology is essentially careful recording of stratified layers and comparison of multiple examples of architectural and artifactual details, all seeking repetitive patterns. The process is very complicated and slow. The Oriental Institute excavations have completed four seasons and the evidence is reaching sufficient, if not intimidating, quantity.

The following report will illustrate several aspects of the Aqaba research program, accomplished in the year 1989-90. Three different aspects are: (1) the interaction of hypothesis and interpretation through large area excavations; (2) the stratification of the square tower as an example of historical sequence; and (3) the Geo-historical Reconnaissance of West Aqaba, extending our understanding of long term occupation in this region.

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## The 1989 Excavations

The Annual Report for 1988-89 briefly outlined the 1988 season of excavations, which concentrated on the southeast quadrant of the city, on land belonging to the Royal Yacht Club of Jordan. The construction of a new marina on this property has been delayed as a result of and in deference to these archaeological investigations on this property. Within the 200 meters of the city walls in the southeast quadrant, there are three mounds of some 4 m. of stratified remains (see map). We returned to this area during the



Map of the excavations in Islamic Aqaba (Ayla) from 1986 to 1989.

1989 season; given the extremely limited funding, horizontal excavations were limited to relatively low areas behind the Hijaz gate (area H, between the mounds of areas G and J) and near the old road in the south corner of the city (area L, south of area J mound).



*Abbasid street  
excavated in area  
H, looking  
southwest.*

Relatively low areas, which should contain only early Islamic materials, were selected for excavation in order to test hypotheses on the structure of the early Islamic city. These working hypotheses were described in the last Annual Report, actually as an "optimistic dream." Thus, the area behind the Hijaz gate (H) was suggested to have been the location for the *Dar al-Imara*, or administrative center, for Ayla in its earliest period. A model for an early *Dar al-Imara* was taken from the citadel of Amman. The results of these excavations were somewhat different from what had been anticipated, since much more of the area in question held early Abbasid remains than had been anticipated. The plan of this Abbasid architectural complex strongly indicates that a new urban plan, perhaps necessitated by destruction caused by the 748 earthquake, obscures the earlier structures.

The Abbasid "urban renewal" is interesting in itself. A street was laid out parallel to the city wall and cross streets and alleys divided the area into structural blocks. Several of the rooms excavated had well-preserved plaster floors; within the rooms a number of fine artifacts of the Abbasid period were found. A distinguishing characteristic of this architectural phase is the use of chancel screen posts for door thresholds; this suggests church elements were available for reuse during this period (post 800 A.D.). The street leading from the blocked Hijaz Gate is of special interest. This was not axial with the gate, though it retained a curbing or bench on either side. One may suggest that the building situated where the axial street should have passed is actually a filling element where an open court once stood.

This speculation is frustrated by the limited soundings made into the earlier architectural levels. A large probe excavated the large room directly behind the locked gate; this showed special usage but no street paving. Indeed, the city wall foundations were covered with 1.5 m. of clean sand, up to the level of the blockage. Similar sand deposits filled Tower 14. Both of these areas were excavated down to the water table, which covered the lowest foundations. No pre-Islamic artifacts were found in these lowest levels. Other probes into the lowest levels of the street showed complex

buttresses and other architectural features, though nothing clearly indicating an administrative center.

The 1989 working hypotheses had indicated the earliest city mosque, presumably that built by the Caliph 'Uthman ibn 'Affan (about 650 A.D.), in area L. The model for seeking the mosque in the south or southeast corner of the city follows hypotheses on the influence of the mosque of Madina and other early mosques such as that of 'Amr in Fustat (Cairo). The mound in this area had been destroyed, making it feasible to recover this building just beneath the present surface. The walls revealed in this area were stone rubble and mud-brick, forming rectangular rooms, often with double, parallel walls, perhaps from re-building operations. While these walls might have been interpreted as cribbing foundations for a hypostyle hall (for the mosque), the irregularity and certain architectural features weigh against this interpretation. The relatively few artifacts found in undisturbed context were uniformly early Umayyad in date (ca. 650-750). A single Byzantine gold coin was found in the surface; this was minted under Heraclius, a type datable to 638-641 A.D.

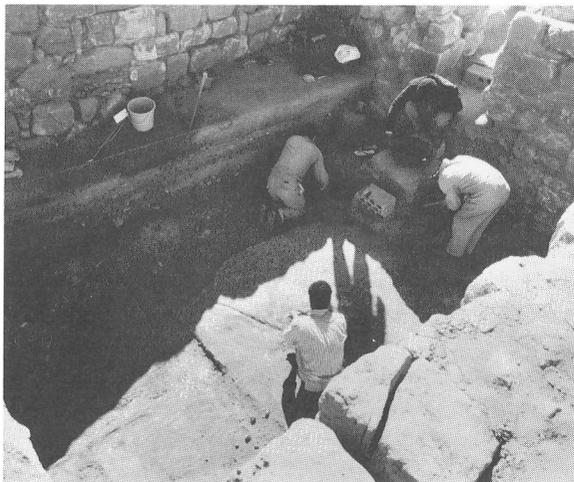
One of the ironies of this season is the importance of the early Islamic evidence uncovered outside of the walls. The sand and soil accumulations against the exterior of the city wall were cleared for a length between Tower 12 and Tower 15. More of this wall is well preserved to a depth of over 2 m. (further clearance would have needlessly endangered the wall). This work further clarified the extramural cemetery, first discovered in 1988. This year the temenos wall of the cemetery was found in conjunction with the gate blockage and thickening of the flanking towers. This very early architectural alteration and the deposition of Umayyad sherds on the cemetery suggest a date within the first 50 years of the Islamic era, that in fact Companions of the Prophet may be buried here. Unfortunately a considerable overburden of sand prevented determination of the southeast temenos wall — obviously careful investigation is a high priority before development in this area.

### **The Square Tower**

Attention was attracted to this tower south of the Sea Gate since it presented an anomaly, being square in plan with an external doorway. Surface collections, including a glass weight, a fragment of Sung celadon, and a finely carved piece of steatite, suggested special usage of this area. The excavation of the interior of this tower not only "explained" the square plan but it revealed an excellent example of architectural and ceramic sequence for determining an archaeological history in the early Islamic period.

Below the topsoil (i.e., refuse from removal of the army barracks) were large blocks of wall collapse in two stages lying on occupation layers (floors with in situ jars). The threshold of the exterior doorway was a reused chancel screen post made of marble. Artifacts confirmed late Abbasid and Fatimid depositions (ca. 950-1100) amid collapse of the room (one coin

*Cleaning the  
plaster floor in  
the square tower,  
looking south.*



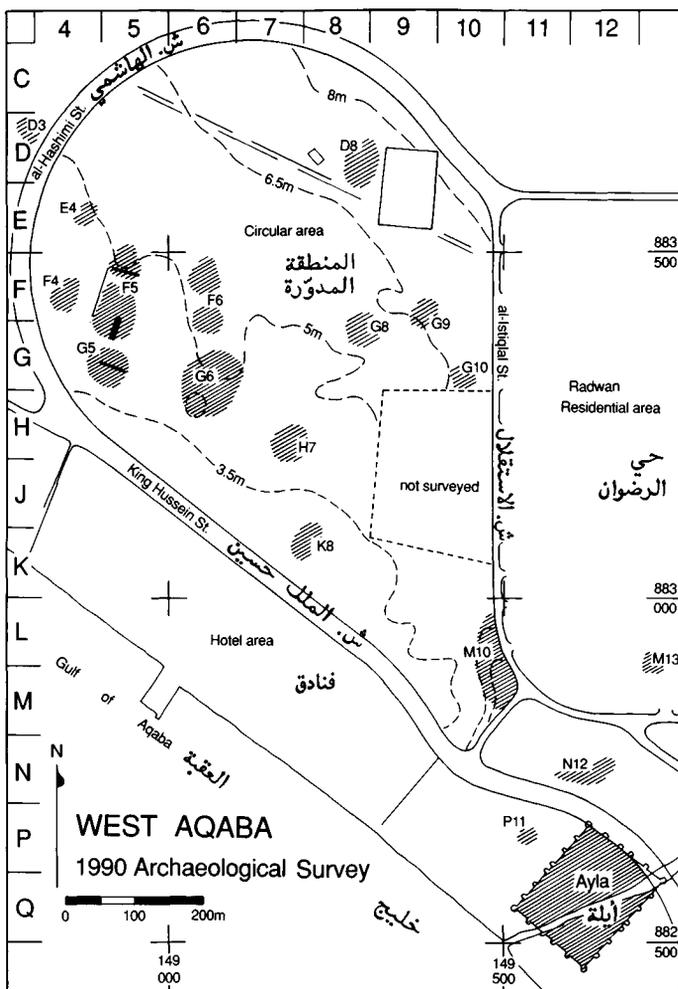
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from this level was a Fatimid dirham). Depositions beneath these occupational surfaces indicate the slow decomposition of thin mud brick partition walls around a central room. The building had a fine plaster floor and the walls likewise had a fine plaster surface and perhaps red paint. The doorway to the south was used with an earlier threshold. One coin found in the brick detritus was an Umayyad fals probably minted in al-Ramla, a type which post-dates 708 A.D. and may be early Abbasid (post 750 A.D.). Ceramics nearest to the plaster floor are of a type called Mahesh ware, transitional Umayyad — early Abbasid unglazed ceramics. Above these were glazed Abbasid wares of the classic Samarran types.

The plaster floor signals more dramatic architectural change. Beneath this floor was the curve of the original tower, identical with each of the other towers. This tower contained refuse dumped from the city wall (i.e. sloping northeast to southwest) leveled off with sea sand; this was done quickly as the plaster floor slumps in the center. This fill beneath the plaster floor contained Mahesh ware again, and in addition one interesting copper coin, a rare Ethiopian (Axumite) issue datable from the 7th to the mid-8th century A.D. The lowest occupation levels were burnt lenses with fish bones, complete vessels, and great quantities of Umayyad sherds. Beneath these layers there were irregular footings for the tower walls and the threshold of the door of the passageway leading through the city wall. The water table prevented discovery of wall footing bases and pre-fill layers.

### **The West Aqaba Survey**

From the first discovery of the site of Ayla, presently under excavation, we have been aware of additional sites within the Aqaba region. In 1987 surface collections were obtained from a site 250 m. to the northwest, referred to as Ailana (and now the more prosaic, site M10). That same year an amphora from a kiln site was presented to the excavations (from site



Map of sites discovered in the West Aqaba survey.

M13). These pieces of evidence for the settlement history of Aqaba showed the need for a systematic survey within the town and its region.

A first step toward such a survey was undertaken by John Meloy in the summer of 1990. This was a preliminary survey of the Circular Area (see map), an area lying north of the hotels along King Hussein Street (the Corniche) and west of the residential and commercial sections of Aqaba. The West Aqaba survey was confined to this Circular Area, an area as yet undeveloped, comprising about 1.6 by 0.6 kms. of sand scrub, palm groves, desert pavement, and accumulations of windblown sand. Development plans by the Aqaba Region Authority intend this area as a cultural park, with auditoriums, theaters, and a museum. Plans remain flexible and await embellishment with further archaeological monuments.

Casual descriptions of the archaeological remains near Aqaba by travelers and archaeologists alike have been vague, but nonetheless they indicate that the ruins in the north and west parts of the modern city extend beyond the chronological and geographical boundaries of the early Islamic site of Ayla. In 1878, Sir Richard Burton associated extensive remains with a Biblical site, without artifactual justification, writing:

*"... inland and to the north rise the mounds and tumuli, the sole remains of ancient Elath... During the rain-floods the site is an island: to the west flows the surface-water of the Wady el- 'Arabah, and eastward the drainage of the Wady Yitm has dug a well-defined bed... A line of larger heaps to the north shows where, according to the people, ran the city wall. Finding it thickly strewn with scoriae, old and new, I decided that this was the Siyaghah or 'smiths' quarter.' Between it and the sea the surface is scattered with glass, shards and slag."* (1879, vol. 2, 240-1)

Some 50 years later Nelson Glueck found the area "was mostly covered with sand, but the surface of the ground was strewn with Nabataean sherds of all kinds"; for him this was the site of an extremely large "Nabataean city." (1934, 10).

Sites within the Circular Area are represented by fifteen separate sherd scatters; these accumulations of sherds are diffuse and limited in quantity, due to the intensive aggradation of sand from the prevailing northerly winds coming down the Wadi 'Araba and other causes. Consequently, it is likely that the scatters should be grouped into more complex archaeological sites and that some settlement remains obscured beneath the surface.

Topographic considerations suggest that the crescent-shaped mound, M10, is the remnant of a major settlement. This mound is at least 100 meters in breadth and an elevation of at least 3 meters in its height. Artifacts found on this site include a piece of carved marble, fragments of millefiori glass, and sherds of storage jars including amphorae. Preliminary examination of the pottery collected suggests continuous occupation from the Nabataean, Roman, and Byzantine period. Although most of the site is covered by modern construction, this mound offers promising possibilities as a connection between the Classical and the Islamic settlements.

A very large settlement may be represented in sites F5, G5, F6, G6, and possibly including E4 and F4. Site G6 is the largest of the sites in horizontal extent. The surface of these mounds consists of loose sand lying on harder layers containing fine ash and mudbrick debris. Site F5 has the vestiges of a mudbrick wall about 37 m. long and further walls were found in site G5 (including an area measuring at least 9 m. by 3.5 m. of mudbrick, either a pavement or a very wide wall). Despite the deflated appearance of these mounds, pottery sherds are few. Most noticeable are the many "Nabataean" sherds of fine, orange ware, some with a gray-black core or decorated with red paint. The spatial relationships and orientation of these sites indicate

that they are the vestiges of a site up to 250 m. by 200 m. in extent. This may be Glueck's "Nabataean city"; alternatively, the size is consistent with the usual dimensions of Roman legionary camps.

Another series of mounds in G8, G9, and G10 seem likely to form part of a large settlement that remains unsurveyed in the relatively high ground of a military post. The westernmost of these mounds, G8, is the highest hillock in the survey area with slag and fine orange wares and thin but gritty orange and gritty cream wares. The northernmost site, D8, has a substantial amount of pottery slag, suggesting an industrial center of some importance. The occurrence of slag in sites E4, F6, and G8 forms a rough line recalling Burton's observation of scoriae and slag mentioned above. Thus in the pantheon of archaeological heroes who contributed to discoveries in Aqaba, we may list Sir Richard Burton, who first described the Nabataean city, and T. E. Lawrence, who first described the Islamic city. The sands which have since obscured these discoveries were swept away from the Islamic city in 1985 and now from the Nabataean city in 1990.

### Future Research

The survey just completed in the summer of 1990 was called the Geo-historical Reconnaissance. We used "reconnaissance" since a systematic and complete survey seemed unlikely in the very short time available under the brutal summer sun of Aqaba. John Meloy's results have shown this designation to be unjustly pessimistic, as we now have a more than adequate base for future research on the archaeology of West Aqaba. The second member of the survey team was Dr. Basil Gomez, a geologist charged with beginning examination of the geology and geomorphology of the Ayla site and the Aqaba region. Basil will investigate evidence for archaeoseismic damage, sea-level and water table change and the origin of the wadi. A series of bore holes has been established on the periphery of the site to begin gathering data for these questions. Basil has also given preliminary advice on geotechnical aspects of site preservation.

The geomorphological investigation will be an important aspect of the next seasons of excavation. Indeed, a number of specialized scientific fields will be included in the coming seasons. The archaeobotany, faunal studies, shells, etc., were begun in 1987 and analyses of these materials are proceeding. Nevertheless, due to the salvage nature of the project and its limited funding, the inclusion of these important lines of evidence has been less complete than might be desired. The next scheduled excavations, in Fall 1991, will address these wider anthropological concerns.

Finally, one continuing concern of this project is the interaction with tourism and education in Jordan. This last spring saw the opening of a permanent museum on the archaeology of Ayla in a completely refurbished historical building in Aqaba, the Sharif Hussein House. This display was set up by Jim Richerson, working with Hanan Kurdi of the Department of Antiquities and Amar Khamash of the Department of Tourism. Jim also completed a series of bilingual signs set up on the site, a sort of self-guided

tour explaining the archaeological remains. This sign project, in addition to a strong beginning in the preservation of the architectural remains, has been supported by the USAID in conjunction with Dr. Bert de Vries of ACOR. One further project, the creation of a Visitor Orientation Center, has received strong support (with funding) from the Department of Tourism. Jim Richerson and I have finalized plans to build it in the form of a reconstruction of the Syrian gate, complete with its flanking towers, next to King Hussein Street (the Corniche Road). Plans for the displays within this building are already well under way and will provide visitors with a ready understanding of the excitement of archaeology in Aqaba.

## **Acknowledgements**

The 1989 season of excavations lasted from November 22 until December 28, a total of 32 days of excavation. The team consisted of six archaeologists; the author, Department representative Dr. Khairieh 'Amr, John Meloy, Rebecca Foote, Kevin Rielly, and the surveyor Hugh Barnes. A work force of about 25 men was employed. This small season could not have been accomplished without the active assistance of Dr. Ghazi Bisheh and the Department of Antiquities. We are grateful for permissions and active cooperation of officials and contractors of the Royal Yacht Club, particularly Mr. Anis Mouashir and Mr. Hasan Aweidah. Support was provided by The University of Chicago, The National Geographic Society, and The American Center for Oriental Research.

The 1990 Geo-historical Reconnaissance also benefited from the support of Dr. Ghazi Bisheh and the staff of the Department of Antiquities. The Aqaba Region Authority offered the Reconnaissance team invaluable assistance. We wish to thank Gen. Bassam Qaqish, Dr. Dureid Mahasneh, and Mr. Muhammed Balqar, as well as the survey team led by Mr. Nawaf Awad.

## THE NUBIAN PUBLICATION PROJECT

*Bruce Beyer Williams*

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ARCHAEOLOGY

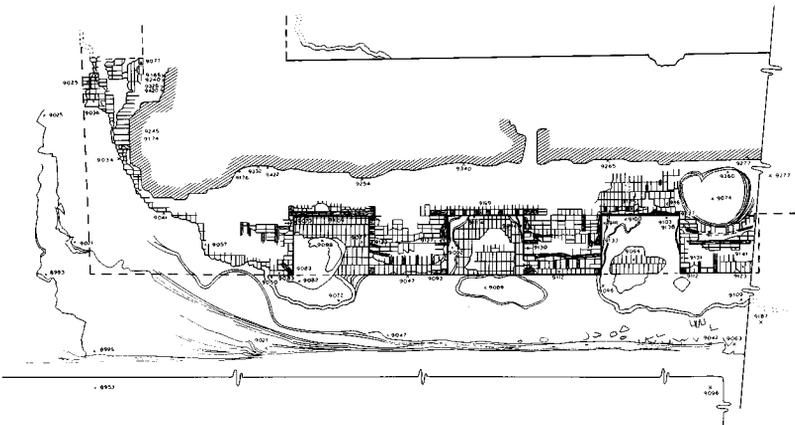
This year, attention was focused on developing the publication of Serra fortress. This installation was established in the late Twelfth Dynasty about 1850 B.C. by Pharaoh Senwosret III, to guard the east bank of the Nile from incursions by the desert-dwelling Medjay. This formidable people frequently served and just as frequently opposed the rulers of the Valley-centered states and principalities down to the present day. To secure his vulnerable southern boundary, Senwosret constructed and reconstructed a vast system of forts stretching from Faras West in the north (the modern Egypto-Sudanese boundary) to Semna, covering about a hundred kilometers of river. The Oriental Institute Nubian Expedition worked at fortresses at either end of the chain, Semna South and Serra East. Although not one of the largest of the chain, the fortress of Serra, whose name was "Repelling the Medjay," played an active role in frontier defense, for a dispatch sent by one of its officers recorded in a unique collection of six "contact reports" tells of tracking a body of 30 Medjay (a significant force) at the desert edge. The fort itself presented a valuable opportunity to study the most important aspect of Egyptian engineering, mud-brick construction. Its walls were preserved to a considerable height, and, unlike

most of the expeditions operating in Nubia, the first season's architect and second season's director, James Knudstad, had spent many years excavating and recording the mud-brick architecture of Mesopotamia. He was able to dissect and record a complex combination of bricks, beams, poles, and mats, that was used to make a structure capable of resisting an organized and well-equipped opponent.

In fact, so much timber was used in the construction that it must have strained available supplies in a wood-starved country. A few photographs from older publications indicate that the same methods were used at other fortresses, but the details were not made clear; it may be that Knudstad's work will have to provide the record of construction technique for the entire Sudan frontier.

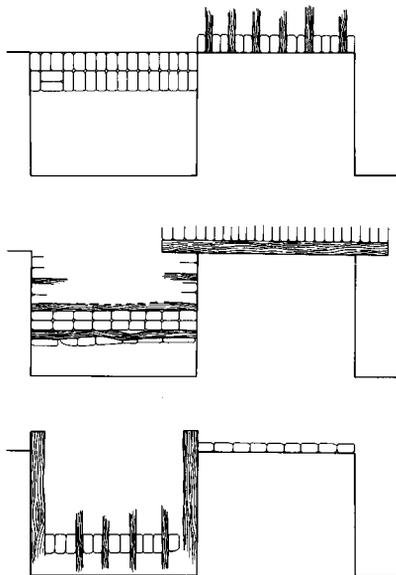
With a few interesting exceptions, the internal structures of the fort were demolished almost to the ground, leaving only the bare plan behind. The entire center of the fort was occupied by a broad rectangular ditch. Dominating the fort, this feature has remained to puzzle the excavators and mystify everyone who has looked at the record since. The ditch was lined with mud-brick and faced with stones revetted at a steep angle. Originally, the excavators thought this was a harbor, but there is no outlet to the river. Curiously, the facing resembles no structures as much as the stone-lined ditches that surround the fortresses themselves. The possibility of paradox and contradiction may be dispelled by noting that the structures nearest the basin were obliterated and the fact that images from this period in Nubia often stress the taking of prisoners (see *Oriental Institute Annual Report 1984-1985*, p. 45). A detention area, presumably walled, would certainly fit with the known records.

The dispatches mentioned above tell about the routine garrison and patrol activities of the forts and their personnel -- Egyptian cadre and Nubian (Medjay) soldiers. The occupants left other records in hundreds of seal impressions that were made regularly on documents, containers, and



the bolts of doors. The completion of a drawing program of these seals by Carol Abraczinskas represents a milestone in the progress of the project. Apart from a few seals from documents sent by the Pharaoh, the vizier, or a neighboring fortress *Ink-Tawy* (Faras?), most of the sealings belonged to the fort itself, its granary, and the treasury "of the two northern fortresses." Mostly placed on door-bolts, these were often counterstamped with the personal seal of an official. Most of these have designs of types that occur in other forts; some are identical and may represent the transfer of personnel. Inscribed personal seals name mostly an official called the "Retainer," the *smsw*, the very type of officials responsible for the reports we have.

All of the work preliminary to publication was completed this year on *OINE* VIII and IX, which deal with Meroitic and X-Group remains. *OINE* VII, on the Napatan material, was published. All efforts are now directed toward completing *OINE* VI, on New Kingdom remains from Qustul and Adindan, *OINE* X, on funerary remains from Serra East, and *OINE* XI, on Serra fortress.



*Detail of wood and brick construction depicted in Figure 1, divided by levels.*



► PHILOLOGY

# THE CHICAGO ASSYRIAN DICTIONARY

Erica Reiner

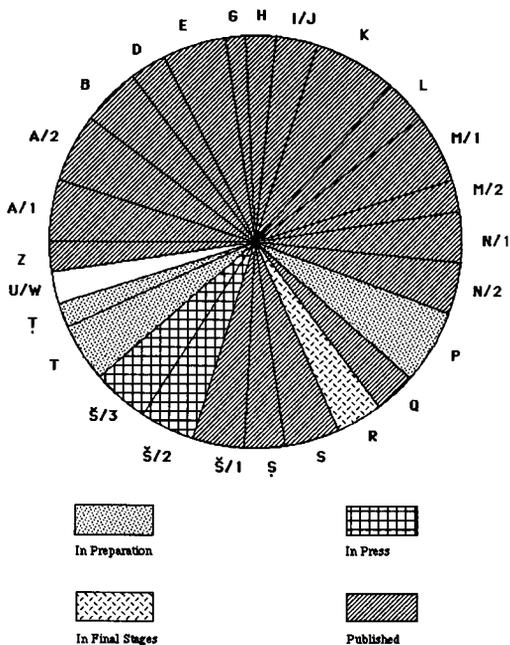
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PHILOLOGY

The good news is that the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary Project was again funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities for another two years, from July 1, 1990 to June 30, 1992. The not-so-good news is that, as has been increasingly the practice of the NEH, part of the funds have been awarded on a matching basis, so that again we will have to appeal to our friends for help in raising the funds to be matched by the NEH. ▼ More good news is that the first part of the Š Volume (the 17th in the CAD series) appeared in early 1990. While we in our hemisphere had to wait for the shipment of the volume, our European colleagues have long ago received theirs from our German printer and some have already written glowing letters of congratulations and thanks. Not-so-good news is the delay in publication of Parts II and III, but since both are now in page proofs, or at least second galleys, we can expect their coming out in quick succession. (Part I, which runs from *ša* through *šap*, has 492 pages; Parts II and III will each be about 450 pages long.) ▼ As usual, we have three volumes in what we affectionately call — recalling the old Chicago days of the stockyards — the “*Wurstmaschine*” (sausage machine); that is, while the sausage (Š) emerges at the end, the next volume — T — is being churned inside the

machine, and the one to follow — T̄ — is being fed into it bit by bit. While the editor-in-charge had time off to do research at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, Martha Roth, Associate Editor, saw to it that Volume T was checked for references and brought up to date, so that in 1990 the final reading of the volume by the editorial board could be finished and the manuscript sent to the printer.

On Volumes T and T̄ we had the indispensable help of our friends and colleagues: during the summer of 1989 we profited from the assistance of Hermann Hunger, and during the winter and spring terms of 1990 we were aided by Burkhard Kienast and Johannes Renger. Kienast's help was sought with the checking of the Old Assyrian references, a period on which he is an expert, but he was also helpful in many other ways. As for Renger, who has a special knack for putting order in the chaos of thousands of cards containing citations of a very common word, he undertook to write drafts of the verb *rasû*, which is as difficult to define and appears in as many idioms as its English translation "get." (In the Oxford English Dictionary the word "get" occupies over seven pages.) He also wrote draft manuscript for the noun which means both "head," "top," and "slave," and for various derivatives of these words. What we find gratifying is the return of many former faculty members to help us with our task, and the interest expressed by junior scholars in using a visiting appointment as a means of enhancing their own expertise. We have invited a young Georgian Assyriologist from Tbilisi for the academic year 1990-91, so now the reach of the CAD has extended to the Caucasus.



# DEMOTIC DICTIONARY PROJECT

*Janet H. Johnson*

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PHILOLOGY

Last year's report on the Demotic Dictionary Project concentrated on things mechanical: making photocopies or hand copies of all the words which are being cited in the dictionary and the promise which computers, especially scanners, have in assisting this work. This year we have continued the time-consuming production of facsimiles and have now prepared the facsimiles for not quite half the words and phrases which will be included in the final publication. While the students prepare facsimiles, the senior editors continue the time-consuming job of checking — checking every word of every entry to ensure that both senior editors agree on suggested meaning and derivation, checking to be sure that all the relevant examples of a word have been included, checking to make sure all references to journal articles and the like are complete and correct, checking every facsimile to make sure that all the ink, and only the ink, has been copied, and the like. Such extensive and



*Current and former demotic dictionary staff.*

detailed checking, while never as much "fun" as the original writing of the dictionary entries or preparation of the facsimiles, is just as important to the quality of the final publication. It is much like The Oriental Institute's Epigraphic Survey in Luxor, which is justly famed throughout the Egyptological world for the quality of its publications, due in large part to the extensive system of checking and rechecking which is done on every drawing.



*Professor Karl-Theodor Zauzich and  
Richard L. Jasnow.*

What I want to talk about most this year is people: people who will use the Dictionary when it appears. When the International Congress of Demoticists met in Cambridge, England, three years ago, they decided that they would like to have their next meeting in Chicago, partly to see the Dictionary Project and its extensive files and other resources, and partly to have a chance to meet George Hughes, one of the foremost Demoticists in the world and the backbone behind our Dictionary Project. It was also agreed that it would be good if we could lure to our meeting scholars working on other aspects of Egypt during the time Demotic was in use (i.e. from approximately the time of the Persian Empire until the later part of the Roman Empire). Therefore, we invited Aramaicists, Greek papyrologists, people working on late period hieroglyphic and hieratic texts, classicists and ancient historians, religious and legal historians, archaeologists and art historians working on Egypt during this period to participate in a symposium entitled "Life in a Multi-Cultural Society: Egypt from Cambyses to Constantine." This symposium was scheduled to take place for the two days before the Fourth International Congress of Demoticists the first week of September, 1990. We were delighted when so many scholars agreed to participate in the symposium that it had to be expanded from two days to three, and the title was modified slightly to "Life in a Multi-Cultural Society: Egypt from Cambyses to Constantine (and Beyond)," the latter at the request of scholars working on a collection of texts from Elephantine dating from the Byzantine period.

After many weeks and months of preparation and anticipation, we were delighted when over 80 scholars (from twelve countries in North America, Europe, the Middle East, and Australia) arrived at The Oriental Institute, in 90+ heat and humidity, to discuss such wide-ranging topics as "The Jews in Late Period Egypt," "Literacy in Ptolemaic Egypt," "Demotic Literature and Egyptian Society," "Property, Status, and Ethnicity in Early Roman Egypt," "Languages, Literacy, and Ethnicity in Late Roman Egypt," "A Cult Function for the So-Called 'Fayum Mummy Portraits'?", and "Implicit Models of Cross-Cultural Interaction: A Question of Noses, Soap,

- ⲑⲃⲱ(?)** In  
 reread of "to be long" (EG 531 & below, p. xxx)  
 vs. Sp., *Mythus*, glossary, # 1005, who trans. "to be wide (?)" (< *iw*  
 EG 57) ↔ R P Mythus, 5/12 428  
 & *passim*
- ⲑn-m-ⲃⲱ** In  
 reread *n-m-sš* "very much, thoroughly" (EG 521 & under *sš*; below,  
 p. xxx)  
 vs. Reymond, ed., who took as unique writing of *šw* "length" (< *šwi* "to  
 be wide" *Wb* 1, 5) R P Vienna 6319, 4/35 2213 -
- ⲃⲱ** graphic error for *šws* "resin, incense" (EG 2) In compound *wmm šws*  
 "resin eater," below, p. xxx
- ⲃⲱ(ⲥ)** v. ft. "praised ts ...; to hail!"  
 = EG 2  
 = *šw. iw Wb* 1, 28/6  
 = OEDYWT: CD 62b, CED 40, *KHWb* 42, *DELG* 49a  
 for alternate interpretations, see Edel, *ZAS* 79 (1954) 88 (who took as  
 n.), & Osing, *Sprh*, pp. 155-60 (who took as either adj. pred. & pn.  
 subj. *iw* or "folk-etymological" writing of *iy-wy iw* "welcome!"  
 = *Wb* 1, 38/4)
- var  
 ?; **iw(?)** R P Berlin 6750, 4/8 234 20  
 MSWb 2, 53 trans. "laboratory for myrrh(?)"  
 cf. also *iw* meaning uncertain, below, p. xxx
- ?; **iw iw(?)** ↔ R S Cairo 31112, 1 311 2 3  
 so Sp., ed., w. ?  
 or ? *iw iw* v. ft. meaning unknown, below, p. xxx  
 distinct from Interjection *i* (EG 15 & above, p. xxx) elsewhere in text
- (**ⲃⲱ**) n. "praise"  
 var  
**ⲃe** " ↔ P O Hor 19 v, 9 7100
- ✓✓ vs. Ray., ed., who read **ⲑⲃs** "to hasten (?)" (< *ys* EG 50 & below, p. xxx)  
**iw** " ↔ P/R O Naville, 7 2  
 In phrase: *m iw*  
 = *Wb* 1, 28/5  
 for late hieroglyphic parallels, see M. Smith, *Anchora* 7 (1977) 123  
 for phonetic writing w. walking legs, cf. *iw* "payment," below, p. xxx
- ✓✓ vs. Möller, ed., who read **ⲑ isw** (?) "praise"  
 hieroglyphic parallel in P. Rhind I, 8h6 reads *isw* R P Rhind I, 8d5 2
- in compound  
**ir iw** "to praise" ↔ R P Mythus, 21/5 2245 5  
 vs. Sp., ed., w. glossary, # 81, who read *ir isw*  
 cf. EG 2 *ir šwy* (*isw*) ↔ 21/10 2245 5
- ⲃwyw(?)<sup>oo</sup>** n. a type of vessel R P Carlsberg 41A, 2/11 2310 2  
 = ? *w. l. w. jug det. Wb* 1, 172/9  
 ? *šw. l. altar Wb* 1, 5/13  
 for discussion, see Teit, *JEA* 68 (1982) 218-19

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 PHILOLOGY

*Sample dictionary page.*

and Prejudice." Those whose main scholarly activity involves deciphering, translating, and interpreting written sources interacted with archaeologists and art historians who themselves were tying their artifacts to the literate cultures which produced them. The specialists in various stages and scripts of the Egyptian language in use during the "Late Period" had the opportunity to talk in depth with scholars working on the massive collections of non-Egyptian papyri, especially Greek, which have been found in Egypt. We learned of the major focuses of current research in the various fields represented and, especially, we realized once again how much each of the "separate" disciplines has to offer to an adequate solution of the problems being tackled by any of us. Everyone talked about interaction—how much interaction was there between Egyptians, Greeks, speakers of various Semitic languages, and the like; what did this interaction consist of—among the culturally or political elite, among the bureaucracy, among the varied inhabitants of a provincial capital, and so

on; what is the significance of the amount and type of interaction which did occur? Many of the Greek papyrologists stayed on for the more purely "Demotic" meetings of the Fourth International Congress of Demoticists, where the more detailed studies of individual Demotic texts or text categories, reports on major projects (including a proposal for a group of scholars to work on the publication of the ostraca, especially the Demotic ostraca, found during The Oriental Institute's excavations at Medinet Habu, in Western Thebes), and discussions of works in progress were presented.

It is this whole range of scholars, as well as traditional Egyptologists, who will most use and profit by the Dictionary when it is finished (hopefully by a year from this time) and published (within a few months after that). Demotic, because of the great difficulty we have in reading the extremely cursive, ligatured script, has always scared away most non-Egyptologists working on Egyptian materials as well as the majority of

Sample dictionary page.

<p>3</p> <p>ḫwḫy ∞ n. meaning uncertain, w. animal-skin det. Erichsen, ed. distinguished from ḫwḫy: t meaning uncertain (EG 2 &amp; following)</p> <p>ḫwḫy. t n.f. meaning uncertain = EG 2 for discussion, see Erichsen, <i>MIO</i> 2 (1954) 374</p> <p>ḫwḫ n.m. "resin, incense," see under ḫwḫs, following</p> <p>ḫwḫs n.m. "resin, incense" = EG 2 = <i>HB</i> 1, 6/1 vs Parker, <i>JEA</i> 26 (1940) 100, n. to l. B/26, &amp; <i>CEED</i> 122 &lt; <i>iws</i> "dough, paste" <i>HB</i> 1, 5B/2-3, &amp; <i>WMT</i> 34 = <i>QYUQ</i> "gruel" <i>CD</i> 257a, <i>CEED</i> 122, <i>KHHB</i> 142, <i>DELC</i> 156a for discussion, see de Cenival, <i>Assoc.</i>, pp. 16-17; Charpentier, <i>Botanique</i>, S7 (but vs. S92); &amp; Ebbell, <i>Acad.</i> 17 (1939) 92-94, who trans. "galbanum"</p> <p>?? vs. Sp., <i>QD</i> 2, ?, who read ḫwḫy: t as var. of <i>iwsy: t</i> "security, pledge" (EG 2 &amp; below, p. xxx) see Sottas, <i>LIII</i>, p. 64, n. 3; de Cenival, <i>Assoc.</i>, pp. 16-17</p> <p>var. ḫwḫy so Bresciani, ed., as graphic error in compound <i>wmm ḫwḫs</i> "resin-eater," below, p. xxx</p> <p>ḫwḫ ∞</p> <p>ḫwḫs ∞</p> <p>ḫs ∞</p> <p>in compounds <i>wmm ḫwḫs</i> "resin eater," see under <i>wmm</i> "to eat," below, p. xxx <i>ḫny (n) iws</i> "incense of resin," see under <i>ḫny</i> "incense," below, p. xxx <i>s n iws</i> "incense seller," see under <i>s</i> "man," below, p. xxx</p> <p>ḫ(w)ḫsm ∞ v.t. "to knead" = <i>wsm</i> "to mix w. a liquid" <i>HB</i> 1, 373/9-10 = <i>QYUQ</i> <i>CD</i> 503a, <i>CEED</i> 221, <i>KHHB</i> 282 &amp; 553, <i>DELC</i> 240b for discussion, see Parker, <i>JEA</i> 26 (1940) 100, but vs. suggested link w. <i>ḫwḫs</i> "resin," preceding</p> <p>ḫwḫst ∞ n. a type of plant Reymond, ed., trans. "pitch-plant" or, pharm., #2, "pine resin" see Devauchelle &amp; Pazin, <i>CAE</i> 53 (1978) 59 = Charpentier, <i>Botanique</i>, S8</p> <p>✓✓ vs. Reymond, ed., who read <i>/i/s/</i> "perseae tree" (EG 45 &amp; below, p. xxx)</p>	<p>ḫwḫy P/R P Berlin 13602, 29 ḫwḫy</p> <p>P P Ox Griff 56, 18 ḫwḫs</p> <p>P P Phila 30, 2/6 ḫwḫs</p> <p>P P Cairo 30605, 1/8 ḫwḫy</p> <p>P P Cairo 31179, 1/9 ḫwḫy</p> <p>R P Krall, 5/14 ḫwḫy</p> <p>R P Teb Botti 3, 4 ḫwḫy</p> <p>P O Leiden 200, 1/x+5 ḫwḫs</p> <p>P P Lille 29, 7 &amp; 3 ḫwḫs</p> <p>R O MH 4038, B/25-26 ḫ(w)ḫsm</p> <p>R P Vienna 6257, 14/1 &amp; (?)14/10 &amp; 13/31 ḫwḫst</p> <p>9/35 ḫwḫy</p>
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Egyptologists. This has meant that the vast collections of Demotic texts in museums around the world, collections being supplemented annually with finds from excavations throughout Egypt, remain basically unknown. The richness of literary and religious texts, the wealth of low- and middle-level administrative documents, the vast number of private documents (legal and otherwise) have been underutilized in our analysis of "Late Period" Egypt, the Egyptian elements in this multi-cultural society, and its connections to its Egyptian past. The Demotic Dictionary Project was designed to produce a research tool which would encourage the publication of many more of these texts. Although the Dictionary will be used more frequently by Demoticists studying Demotic texts (or Demotic subscriptions to Greek or Aramiac texts), looking for parallels to help with decipherment or translation, it will help the non-Demotic specialist both directly and indirectly. The inclusion in the Dictionary of equivalencies and correspondences between the Demotic and Greek and various Semitic languages, as well as other stages of the Egyptian language, will enable those with no knowledge of Demotic, or only a minimum, to track down concepts, types of documents, and important discussions of such things in the secondary literature. The scholarly information exchanged at the meetings, the renewed awareness of the range of materials and approaches needed for fuller understanding of this important period in world history, the enthusiastic recognition of the growing interest of a wider scholarly world in the contents of the largely unfathomed mass of Demotic texts, and the personal ties established or renewed by the week's contacts indicate that Demotic studies are moving forward with a firm and sure foot; there will be an ever wider and more receptive audience for the Dictionary when it appears.

It gives me great pleasure to note again this year the highly gifted and hard working members of the Dictionary staff: Dr. Robert K. Ritner, Associate Editor, who worked with me on the checking of entries and facsimiles; Drew Baumann, Heinz Felber, Joe Manning (in Egypt for much of the year doing dissertation research on a grant from the American Research Center in Egypt), and John Nolan, who have learned not only to write excellent Demotic but to copy words exactly as a sometimes skilled, sometimes not-so-skilled ancient scribe actually wrote them; Sally Zimmerman, whose editing skills have not yet become overwhelmed by our small print and numerous, often somewhat esoteric abbreviations; and Sheldon Gosline, who has been tracking down bibliographic information on all the hundreds of texts from which words are being cited. All of the Demotic Dictionary staff, many other members of The Oriental Institute staff (especially administrative personnel, members of the Museum Office staff, and docents who helped with registration and the like), and Anton Nielsen, a recent graduate of the College, assisted with all the preparations for the Symposium and Congress and helped to make it a success. George Hughes, despite failing eyesight, remains an invaluable resource — he can't see the Demotic unless he puts it under his special machine, but he remembers possible parallels to check, and he lets us know when our suggestions seem unlikely; we all benefit from his constant presence and knowledge.

# THE HITTITE DICTIONARY PROJECT

*Harry A. Hoffner, Jr.  
Hans G. Güterbock*

Continuity and change — each plays a role in the on-going Chicago Hittite Dictionary Project. Since work began on the dictionary some fifteen years ago, continuity has been provided in the persons of the two project directors, Professors Güterbock and Hoffner. Barely a year after the project commenced Richard Beal arrived at the Institute to begin his graduate studies. After serving as a graduate student assistant he has been a Research Associate on the project for the past five years. As a trainer of graduate student assistants and one who often helps new Research Associates to become oriented in the workings of our project, Beal helps provide continuity. ▼ But there must be change as well. Ever since the National Endowment for the Humanities allowed us to employ two Research Associates on the project we have been able to fill one of those two slots with a scholar with training and perspectives differing from our Chicago ones. The first of these overseas scholars was Dr. Silvin Kosak. Yugoslavian by birth and early training, Kosak had finished his Hittitological studies under Prof. Heinrich Otten, then of the Philipps University at Marburg, Germany. Kosak was extremely productive, leaving behind him when he departed for Germany to assume a position in Mainz a large backlog of

finished first drafts of dictionary articles which we are only just now finishing. His successor was Dr. Ahmet Ünal. Of Turkish birth and early education, Ünal had done his Ph.D. under Prof. Annelies Kammenhuber of The University of Munich. Since Kammenhuber is the director of the only other current project for the production of a Hittite dictionary, Ünal was able to stimulate our thinking with ideas coming out of this parallel project. Today he holds the chair of Hittitology in Munich which Kammenhuber vacated when she became emerita a few years ago. From 1988 through 1990 our second Research Associate was Dr. Theo van den Hout. Van den Hout was trained in Amsterdam by Prof. Houwink ten Cate, a scholar with Oriental Institute connections dating to the 1960s. Van den Hout also spent a year of study in Bochum, Germany under Prof. Eric Neu. He brought to our project a keen linguistic sense and an intimate knowledge of historical texts from the last century of the Hittite empire. Meticulous is the word for his work in the processing of new texts for our dictionary archives. With July 1990 we have acquired our most recent staff addition, Dr. Silvia Luraghi. Her training is multi-national, some in Italy, some in Germany, and some in the U.S.A. (at Yale). Luraghi's strengths are in general linguistics, in particular the syntax of Old Hittite. Her book *Old Hittite Sentence Structure* has just been published (1990) by Routledge in London and New York. Already she is expanding her skills to include the preparation of dictionary file cards from newly published texts.

With each passing grant period our graduate students working on the project change as well. Currently we are being helped by Joseph Baruffi and Anne Porter. Baruffi is in the Committee for the Ancient Mediterranean World program, while Porter is in NELC, doing Syrian archaeology.

But new personnel are not limited to full time staff and graduate student assistants. One of the particular benefits of conducting research and teaching at The Oriental Institute is the contact one has with the Institute volunteers, men and women from outside the academic world whose talents are varied and whose creativity is refreshing. About three years ago, when Ahmet Ünal was still one of our Research Associates, Mr. Irv Diamond began taking lunch with several of us on the CHD staff. In those days Irv was helping Ray Tindel design and set up a data base for the register of artifacts in the museum collections. Because of his enthusiasm and expertise people liked to think of him as "Mr. dBase IV" (apologies to Ashton-Tate). When Irv heard me describe some of the difficult and tedious tasks which I wanted to use my computer to automate, he opined as how he thought he could arrange that. And he did! Now he occupies a permanent desk in my office (OI 218), testing and customizing software on a Macintosh SE-30. Between Irv and John Sanders I figure I have about the best computer advisory team a man could want.

The Hittite Dictionary doesn't have the budget that many projects do, but we are fortunate in being able to obtain the minimal necessary tools. When as yet the Institute-wide network is not in place, we are running our own Apple Talk Local Area Network (LAN) between my office (218), the

Research Associates' office (226B) and the laser printer in the Director's outer office. Staff members can access centrally maintained lexical and bibliographical data and the latest revised form of all dictionary articles on my computer in 218. They can send and receive files from each other and use the Institute's laser printer for especially high quality output. In addition, last year we acquired a flatbed scanner and Optical Character Recognition (OCR) software, which permits us to read into the project computers large amounts of typed or printed material. One of the first tasks for which we used this capability was the creation of a disk version of all published and not-yet-published dictionary articles. Irv Diamond designed a program which generated a printed concordance of all passages from Hittite texts which we have cited and translated in existing parts of the dictionary. A copy of this manual now sits on the desk of each staff worker. We are also reading onto disk a large body of previously prepared translations in typescript. It is our plan to create and maintain on a central file server a complete corpus of translated Hittite texts, which staff users can flag at points which may need correction or improvement. Staff members as they prepare dictionary articles can consult this corpus and save themselves from "re-inventing the wheel" each time they must treat a given passage.

The fourth fascicle of the *Chicago Hittite Dictionary* appeared in the winter of 1990. This rounded out the first complete volume of the dictionary, containing articles on words beginning with L, M, and N. Copies of the dictionary can now be purchased in a single hard-bound volume with an attractive red cover.

New staff, using new tools, have been able to try their hand at new texts. The flow of published texts from the old source, the backlog of texts and fragments from the Boghazköy excavations now stored in museums, continues but at a much slower rate. The past two years have seen two text volumes based on tablets which were housed in Berlin and one volume of texts from the Ankara museum. Van den Hout prepared dictionary cards from most of these. Luraghi is in the process of finishing the job. These are mostly fragments of festival descriptions. Their value lies in the possibility of using our exhaustive lexical files to identify them as joins or duplicates to other texts and fragments already known.

But there is now also hope of adding entirely new material to our dictionary base. A postcard from Ahmet Ünal in late September informed us that during the summer of 1990 at a site near Ortaköy, 50 kilometers south of Çorum, an archive of over 700 Hittite tablets was uncovered! This is the largest archive of Hittite tablets yet discovered outside of the capital city Hattusa. Among the lot it is reported are letters, festival descriptions, cult inventories, bird oracles and Hurrian texts. One doesn't know how long it may take for whoever is charged with their publication to release at least provisional transliterations, but we can hope that the delay will not be too long.

New discoveries like this, coupled with solid progress in the production of basic reference and research tools (dictionaries, concordances, grammatical studies, lists of geographical names), make it an especially exciting time to be involved in Hittite studies. If you see a Hittite dictionary staff member walking down the corridors of the Institute, and it looks like he is walking about a foot off the ground, now you know the reason.

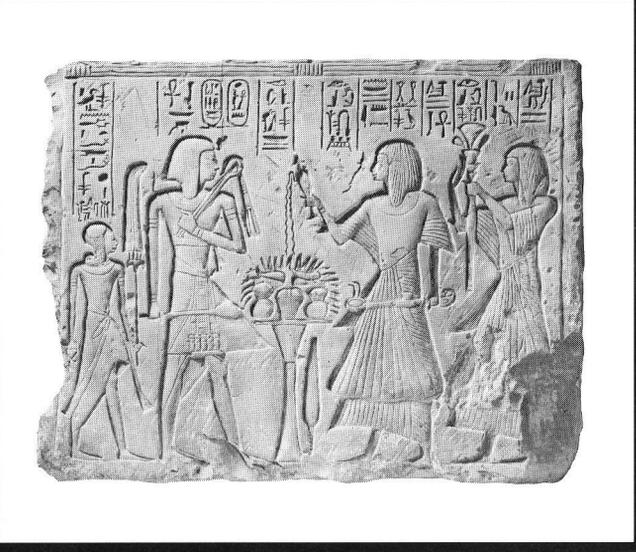
## MATERIALS FOR THE SUMERIAN LEXICON

*Miguel Civil*

After a long period of "wait and see", motivated by the hope of incorporating the new lexical tablets from Sippar into the MSL edition of the series *Diri = atru*, this ambition almost became a reality—only to be thwarted by the latest political developments in Iraq. Since the Sippar materials for *Diri* are not as significant as first thought (or at least so it seems from Civil's preliminary examination of the available tablets), it has been decided to go ahead and publish the final major volume of MSL with the sources at hand. We hope to have the camera ready plates finished before the end of the year. ▼ After the publication of volume XV with the above-mentioned lexical compilation *Diri = atru*, and with volumes XVI and XVII already published, another volume (XVIII) will include the remaining minor lexical texts, and the collection started by Landsberger in 1937 will finally come to completion. A Supplementary Series, the first volume of which appeared in 1986, will be continued to keep the editions up-to-date. ▼ In addition to the Supplementary Series, an electronic edition of the entire MSL, based on the files prepared last year, is reaching its definitive form. It will be published in the format provided by Hyper Writer! (a product of Ntergaid Inc.), which allows the reader to annotate and

update the text.

Most of this year's work on the MSL project has been devoted to the study of the recently recovered lexical tablets from northwestern Mesopotamia. The joins proposed last year among fragments of the Emar tablets were verified last June in the Aleppo Museum and practically all turned out to be correct. The edition of these lexical texts can now proceed with confidence.



► SCHOLARSHIP

## INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH

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SCHOLARSHIP

After twelve years in the field, **Lanny Bell** returned to full-time teaching as Associate Professor of Egyptology in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations. He even taught Ancient Egyptian Literature in Translation during the 1990 Summer Quarter to try to reach a broader academic audience; except for Arabic, this seems to be the first time any NELC class was ever taught over the summer, at least as far back as current records and memories go. In the fall, he served as first reader for graduate student Edward Castle's M.A. thesis on "The Dedication Formula *di.n.f m mnw.f*" (usually translated "he made it as his monument"). He spoke to his colleagues (in the Department's "brown-bag" luncheon series) on "Lexicography and Late Egyptian Orthography: The Problem of the 'Weak' Radicals"; he also served on the NELC Admissions and Aid Committee. In the graduate Egyptology students' Workshop on "The Society and Religion of Ancient Egypt", he talked on "The Tombs of the Ramesside High Priests of Amun at Thebes: Dira Abu el-Naga Excavations, 1967-74." He produced an article on "The Epigraphic Survey and the Rescue of the Monuments of Ancient Egypt" in *The Ancient Eastern Mediterranean*, the publication of the Centennial Symposium of the Chicago Society of the Archaeological Institute of America, held at The Oriental Institute on March 31, when he also lectured on this subject. He delivered a lecture on "Some Secrets of Luxor Temple" during the national meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt on the Berkeley campus at the end of April. In conjunction with this professional gathering, he chaired a session on Analytical Archaeology; and, as a member of the Board of Governors, he also attended their annual business breakfast. For the National Geographic Society, he served as consultant for a forthcoming (April 1991) magazine article on Ramesses II. In preparing the text of his contribution for *The Shrine of Hatshepsut at Medinet Habu* (a book of six-color-separation plates of the decoration cleaned and consolidated under Lanny's direction, to be published for The Oriental Institute by Walter Tower of Nimrod Press), he found himself touching on such themes as primitive cultures, the meaning of the complicated concepts of *ma'at* and the *ka*, *shari'a* (Islamic law) and ancient Egyptian conservatism, sacral kingship and the nature of Christ, genetics and the transmission of the divine life force, renewal festivals and rites of transition, ritual drunkenness, cyclical eternity, androgyny, the Primaeval Ocean, the Primordial Event (the "Big Bang"), the Ogdoad, and the cosmogonic myth, henotheism, and the meaning of history. This year Lanny also collaborated with his

archaeologist wife Martha on her article entitled "An Armchair Excavation of KV 55," scheduled to appear in the *Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt*, vol. 27 (1990); his special contribution to this work is in the reconstruction of the hieroglyphic inscriptions on the now largely destroyed gold shrine of Queen Tiy found in the "tomb of Akhenaten" in the Valley of the Kings at Thebes.

Bell's lecture skills were much in demand in various public education programs around the country. His first lecture of the summer, in July (barely a week after returning from Egypt), was on the topic "What the Temples Tell Us About Daily Life," presented for the Dallas County Community College District and the Dallas Museum of Natural History in The Ramses Lecture Series organized around the traveling Ramses the Great exhibition. He gave a version of this lecture at The Oriental Institute for The University of Chicago Humanities Open House in October, under the title "Popular and Profane Experiences with the Sublime: The Temple as Cultural Focus in Egyptian Society." For Henry and Marian Precht, good friends since their days at the United States Embassy in Cairo, Lanny participated in the orientation lecture the week before Christmas for the 1990 Egypt Tour of the Cleveland Council on World Affairs, including his own summary of the basic tenets of ancient Egyptian culture. (Henry's efforts in 1984 had been decisive for the successful outcome of our two month struggle with the Luxor bureaucracy over the exercise of our legal rights to the Chicago House river landing.)

During the spring academic break, he served as Guest Lecturer (accompanied by co-lecturer Gene Garthwaite of Dartmouth) for the 56 members of the joint University of Chicago Alumni Association and Dartmouth College study trip to Egypt; current records indicate that this was the first ever Alumni Association Egyptian tour. For the Alumni Association, he also spoke on "Chicago House: Salvage Archaeology in Luxor, Egypt" for local clubs in Milwaukee (co-sponsored by the Archaeological Institute of America and the Biblical Archaeology Society), Chicago, San Francisco, Philadelphia (co-sponsored by the American Institute of Architects), and Pittsburgh. For The University of Pennsylvania's Alumni Association, he appeared as respondent to a lecture by David O'Connor on "The Origins and Construction of the Egyptian Pyramids," given at The University Museum as part of Penn's 250th Anniversary Celebration. For the Archaeological Institute of America, he also talked in Winnipeg on "The Tombs of the High Priests of Amun-Re of Karnak and the Viceroys of Kush in the Time of Ramesses II" and in Minneapolis on "Recent Discoveries in Luxor Temple." For The Oriental Institute, he spoke at the annual Docent Holiday Buffet in December on "The Divine Aspects of Conception and Birth in Ancient Egypt" and in May for the docent training course on "Egyptian Writing and Literature."

The establishment of a substantial endowment in Egyptian pounds and the continued success of the fund raising efforts at Luxor have alleviated the funding crisis faced by Lanny when he first took up his duties

as director at Chicago House. The Oriental Institute owes Lanny a debt of gratitude for his diligence in guiding the Epigraphic Survey through difficult times. He leaves the project in excellent condition that will allow his successors to focus on developing the necessary support to assure the long-term future of the Epigraphic Survey.

**Robert Biggs**, continuing his long-term interest in the third millennium site of Abu Salabikh in Iraq, is collaborating with J.N. Postgate in publishing the texts which have been discovered at Abu Salabikh since the publication of their previous joint article in 1978. For several years he has been working on administrative documents from private collections and small institutional collections which date to the Ur III period (ca. 2000 B.C.). A number of these documents have now been published in *Acta Sumerologica*, with Richard Zettler, now at The University Museum, Philadelphia, as co-author. In a volume honoring Åke Sjöberg, Biggs published a literary text in Old Akkadian, the language of the Akkadian period. The text was excavated by The Oriental Institute at the site of Umm al-Hafriyat in 1977. While it is often said that the traditions of the "evil eye" were widespread in ancient Mesopotamia, this is in fact not the case. This text, however, has one of the earliest references to an "evil eye stone." In connection with his work on Babylonian potency incantations and rituals to update his monograph on the subject (1967), he will spend part of September 1990 at the British Museum to work on recently identified texts of this genre.

In addition to his own scholarly activities, Biggs is now in his twentieth year as editor of *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*. Since 1985, he has been president of the Chicago Society of the Archaeological Institute of America.

**John A. Brinkman** has continued preparing a critical edition of Babylonian texts (1595-1155 B.C.) for the Royal Inscriptions of Mesopotamia project, at The University of Toronto. At the national meeting of the American Oriental Society in Atlanta in March, he delivered a paper on "Problems of Mesopotamian Chronology," in which he pointed out the evidentiary weakness of prevalent reconstructions of Babylonian historical chronology for the period 2400-1600 B.C. He also participated in a pilot seminar program presenting classical texts from ancient Mesopotamia, Egypt, and Greece to Chicago public school teachers for classroom use. These teachers work with students ranging in age from 5-18 and from diverse social and economic backgrounds. The Epic of Gilgamesh proved a great favorite with all ages, and the teacher's adaptations were lively and varied. For five-year-olds, Enkidu's encounter with the prostitute became: "The beautiful woman did as the trapper asked and let Enkidu touch her skin." In one of the toughest city neighborhoods, a class from Englewood High School wrote and presented a Gilgamesh play—with considerable research into authenticity of costuming, architecture, food, music, and

customs—which proved to be the star attraction of the seminar’s first year. Nine of these Englewood students came to the Institute for a special tour of the Mesopotamian section of the museum and kept Mr. Brinkman going for an hour and half with their questions. As part of the ongoing work of the seminar, Brinkman has prepared an updated English translation of the Laws of Hammurabi and part of the Middle Assyrian Laws—to replace the last easily available translation, first published forty years ago. Sample updating:

*old version:*

If a seignior came forward with false testimony in a case, and has not proved the word which he spoke, if that case was a case involving life, that seignior shall be put to death.

*new version:*

If a citizen came to give false witness in a lawsuit and has not proved his testimony, in a case involving the death-penalty, that citizen shall be put to death.

**Miguel Civil** published a unique inscription on a statuette of Sulgi in a festschrift honoring Å. W. Sjöberg, and a number of lexical and literary notes. For instance, he was able to show that a small cuneiform fragment in the Völkerkunde Museum in Vienna was part of a large tablet with Inanna-Dumuzi poems preserved in Manchester, and that a troublesome word, which used to be translated “sister-in-law,” in a song attributed to the princess Enheduanna, meant in fact “jealousy.” His chapter on Sumerian grammar and lexicography appeared in G. Lepschy’s *Storia della Linguistica*. He also has in press similar contributions to the *Handbuch zur Sprach- und Kommunikationswissenschaft*, the *Oxford International Encyclopedia of Linguistics*, the *Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry*, and the *Anchor Dictionary of the Bible*.

In February, Civil visited Baghdad to examine lexical tablets from the recently-discovered Sippar cuneiform library. He reached an agreement with Jadir al-Walid, director of the Sippar excavations, and Faruk al-Rawi, in charge of publishing the finds, to study the lexical tablets for eventual publication. The first step was to have been a study of photographs to be provided by The University of Baghdad, to be followed by a re-examination of the tablets in Baghdad in November-December. Needless to say, given the present political situation, Civil bitterly regrets not making a full transliteration then and there.

In June, he visited the Aleppo Museum to examine the Emar lexical tablets in order to verify the “paper and scissors” joins he proposed last year. He is happy to report that, with one or two exceptions, all the hypothetical joins turned out to be correct. During the same trip he participated in the Spanish excavations in Tell Qara Quzaq, a mound that does not seem to have had significant occupation after the Middle Bronze



period, located on the Euphrates some 25 km. south of Karkemish. He attended the international meeting of the Sumerian Agriculture Group in Barcelona in July, presenting a paper on the Sumerian terminology of dairy products. He also gave a seminar and some lectures in the brand new Institute of Oriental Studies of The University of Barcelona.

**Fred M. Donner** continued his work on the translation of a section of the chronicle of al-Tabari (d. 923), a cooperative undertaking organized by Bibliotheca Persica and funded in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities. The section in question deals with the ridda wars (632-633 C.E.), during which the nascent Islamic state consolidated its control over the tribes of the Arabian peninsula. He submitted an article entitled "Mesopotamian Trade from the Tenth to the Fifteenth Centuries C.E.," which is to appear in a special issue of *Jahrbuch für Wirtschaftsgeschichte* devoted to Mesopotamian trade in various historical periods. He also completed two entries for the *Encyclopaedia of Islam*, the premier scholarly work of reference in the field of Islamic studies. The first was on al-Muthanna ibn Haritha, a seventh-century Arab chieftain who played an important role in the early Islamic conquest of Iraq. The second was on the Arab tribe of Muzayna, which resided in the vicinity of Mecca and Medina at the time of the rise of Islam. Donner also completed several reviews of scholarly books in the field of early Islamic history. In June, he conducted a workshop for teachers at Butler University who are planning to offer a course on Islamic civilization as part of that university's innovative "Change and Tradition" program. In addition, he engaged in his usual teaching and administrative duties and served as coordinator of The University of Chicago-University of Damascus faculty exchange program. This program has benefitted The Oriental Institute by bringing several outstanding Syrian scholars to Chicago for several months' research apiece, and by supporting Chicago faculty who have conducted archaeological, historical, or textual research in Syria.

**Peter Dorman** completed the editing of his manuscript on the funerary complex of Senenmut, to be published in 1991 as volume 23 of the Metropolitan Museum series *Publications of the Egyptian Expedition*. The volume contains an analysis of the museum's excavation records concerning Senenmut's tombs, as well as a description of their architecture and decoration. As a complement to this work, he prepared a brief article with Eberhard Dzierzek of the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut on several newly-discovered "name stones" of Senenmut, rough-cut flakes of limestone bearing Senenmut's titles and name, which were built into the superstructure of his tomb and apparently intended to identify the fabric of the tomb with the owner. Dorman also wrote a chapter for general audiences on the history of the reign of Queen Hatshepsut, for inclusion in

a forthcoming color publication by Nimrod Press of the painted chapels, decorated during Hatshepsut's years of coregency with Tuthmosis III, at the small temple of Amun at Medinet Habu.

In July 1989 (on what was surely the warmest evening of the year), Dorman delivered a summer members' lecture on "The Work of the Epigraphic Survey," an historical and methodological review of past and present projects at Chicago House. At the generous invitation of Bechtel Corporation, he paid a visit in September 1989 to the Bechtel facilities in Gaithersburg, Maryland, together with Prof. McGuire Gibson and John Sanders, to consult with their engineering division regarding the potential for computers to assist the epigraphic, architectural, and archaeological recording methods presently used in the field.

**Douglas L. Esse** completed the manuscript of his book *Subsistence, Trade, and Social Change in Early Bronze Age Palestine*, which is now in the final stages of editing. The book will be published by The Oriental Institute in its series *Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization (SAOC)*. He also submitted an article on the Early Bronze Age seal impressions recovered in excavations sponsored by The Oriental Institute at the site of Beth Yerah, located at the southwestern corner of the Sea of Galilee. These impressions will be published in the Ruth and David Amiran Festschrift volume of the series *Eretz Israel*. Much of the rest of the 1990-91 academic year was spent on preparations for the second season (1991) at the Early Bronze Age site of Yaqush in the Jordan Valley, Israel. The first season was supported generously by a grant from the National Geographic Society. The next three excavation seasons will be partially supported by a substantial grant from the National Endowment of the Humanities in addition to private contributions made to The Oriental Institute. The summer of 1990 has been spent on research involving the recovery of an elusive stratum from Megiddo, Stratum VI, dated to the mid-11th century B.C. The original publication of the stratum was deficient, owing as much to problems and disruptions among Megiddo staff members as to the fiery destruction which sealed the fate of the ancient inhabitants of Megiddo. Esse has devoted much of his time to a re-analysis of the original plans and unpublished photographs and will present the new evidence for a more complete picture of the mid-11th century at Megiddo in a monograph to be published by The Oriental Institute.

Apart from her work for the *Assyrian Dictionary* and the *Materials for the Sumerian Lexicon* project, **Gertrud Farber's** private interest concentrates more on Sumerian literary texts. She is currently working on an edition of the "Hymn to the Hoe", a highly sophisticated text using puns and alliterations as its main stylistic devices.



During the last year, she published an article in the Sjöberg Anniversary Volume on material used for building a schoolhouse. She also finished an article for the Reallexikon on the concept of *ME*, the well-known religious term denoting divine power.

**Walter Farber's** research over the past year has centered mostly around matters Assyrian. The results now in press include a new edition of an unusual Old Assyrian royal inscription which, besides other textual difficulties, is written in mirror writing; the publication of an Old Assyrian contract recording the self-sale of an Anatolian woman with interesting legal implications; and a study of some vegetable names occurring in Old Assyrian, Neo-Assyrian, and Hittite texts. In addition, he wrote a lengthy review about a new volume of early Assyrian royal inscriptions, and another one of a book containing Old Assyrian texts from the museum in Istanbul. To round out this "Assyrian" year, he is currently preparing a note on some Middle Assyrian texts and a rare way of sealing found there, in which the hem of a garment is imprinted in lieu of a cylinder seal.

Farber also continued his ongoing research on magical texts and their textual traditions. He lectured on related topics in Chicago and Brandeis University; this lecture was co-sponsored by Harvard University.

He attended the 36th Rencontre Assyriologique in Ghent (Belgium) and afterwards spent part of the summer collating magical texts in the British Museum. He also took part in a session at the AOS meeting in Atlanta honoring the 100th anniversary of Benno's Landsberger's birth, where his paper on the term 'forerunner', as applied to literary and religious texts, led to a vivid discussion of oral and written tradition in Mesopotamian literature.

**McGuire Gibson** continues to do research on the social and economic structures of Mesopotamian civilization as well as more down-to-earth issues such as the more correct reconstruction of the artifactual sequence. He is a co-convenor of a workshop on pottery and another on the ancient environment, in which Belgian, Dutch, British, German, French, and American colleagues take part. He edited and wrote chapters of *Uch Tepe II, Technical Reports*. He began service on a committee that is planning a major exhibition of Mesopotamian Antiquities from the Iraq Museum, which was to have toured the U.S. during 1992-93; he is also on the selection committee and is a contributor to the catalogue. The exhibition has been postponed. During the year, he was named to the advisory board of an Italian conference on *Arabia Antiqua*, which will take place in 1991 and for which he has written a paper. A great deal of his time from March until August was devoted to The American Association for Research in Baghdad, a consortium of more than twenty-five American universities and museums with scholarly interests in Iraq. As the Association's first president, he

gained the agreement of Iraqi authorities for the establishment of a permanent research facility in Baghdad and began a successful fund-raising campaign, which was halted by the crisis of August. It is hoped that the facility can be opened in the future. Gibson continues to serve on the Board of Directors of the American Institute for Yemeni Studies. He is the Treasurer of the Council of American Overseas Research Centers.

**Gene Gragg's** activities centered around the Cushitic-Omotoc database. He is in the process of incorporating into it material pertaining to Cushitic loanwords in earliest Ethiopic Semitic. The object of this extension is to characterize the earliest contact between the Cushitic languages of Ethiopia and first Semitic-speaking settlers from Southern Arabia. This information will make it possible to fix more accurately the socio-linguistic context of the interaction of the two population groups, and hopefully to establish some chronological limits for the beginning of this interaction. Meanwhile the entire corpus is being edited, and an appropriate interface designed for use by interested groups, among the first of which will be an Afroasiatic dictionary team organized by Professor I.M. Diakonoff in Leningrad and Moscow.

**Hans G. Güterbock** continued his work on the final draft of articles on words beginning with "p" for the *Chicago Hittite Dictionary*. In February of 1990 he attended the Mid-West Meeting of the Oriental and Biblical Societies at Madison, Wisconsin, which was devoted to the contributions of archaeology to the understanding of written sources. The focus of his presentation was how written sources, especially bilingual seals, helped date and interpret works of Hittite art. At the meeting of the American Oriental Society in Atlanta, Georgia, in March, 1990, he took part in an informal session of recollections of Benno Landsberger on the 100th anniversary of that scholar's birth; Güterbock spoke mainly about Landsberger's years in Leipzig and Ankara.

Later in May, Güterbock participated in a symposium held at Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island. The topic was "The Crisis Years: The Twelfth Century, B.C.". He was the respondent to H.A. Hoffner, drawing attention to the findings of J. David Hawkins about the survival of the title "Great King" after 1200 B.C. in parts of the Hittite Empire. Earlier in May he spent a week in Boston, studying an object housed in the Museum of Fine Arts. This is a Hittite silver vessel in the shape of a life-sized human fist, decorated about its wrist with a frieze in relief. He had known of the object for several years, but its surface was only recently cleaned so as to show the details. The decoration depicts a scene from the royal cult as described in numerous texts: the king libating to the god, followed by the "Kneeling Cupbearer" and musicians with lyres and cymbals. A joint publication with Timothy Kendall, Associate Curator in

the Department of Egyptian and Near Eastern Art, is being prepared. With Theo P. J. Van den Hout, Güterbock completed a new edition of "The Hittite Instructions for the Royal Bodyguard." This is scheduled to be published by The Oriental Institute in its series *Assyriological Studies*.

The lion's share of **Harry A. Hoffner, Jr.**'s research time is spent in collaboration with Hans Güterbock in the production of the Hittite Dictionary. During the fall of 1989 it was necessary for him to prepare the application for a new two-year grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. In December he circulated an announcement of the two Research Associate positions to all centers of research in Hittite studies in the United States and abroad. Applications came in from many younger scholars which had to be evaluated and a choice made among them. When it was announced in early June that we had received the new grant, he corresponded with the applicants of first choice. During 1990 the fourth fascicle of the *Chicago Hittite Dictionary* appeared in print. In consultation with Güterbock, Hoffner selected a firm to manufacture the case binding for the first complete volume of the dictionary and contracted with them for the delivery of a number of separately bound volumes of the dictionary.

In November of 1989 Hoffner lectured on Hittite kingship in The Oriental Institute annual fall symposium, "Images of Power". At the March annual national meeting of the American Oriental Society in Atlanta he gave a lecture "From Head to Toe in Hittite" as part of a panel on the subject of the nomenclature of body parts in various languages of the Near East. In May 1990 he gave a lecture on the last days of the Hittite empire as part of a Brown University symposium entitled "The Twelfth Century B.C.E.: The Crisis Years". All papers and discussion from this symposium will be published in forthcoming issues of the journal *Berytus*.

In 1990 his essay "Hittite Religion", originally published in *The MacMillan Encyclopedia of Religion*, was reissued as part of a new book, *Religions of Antiquity*, targeted at the university textbook market. Also during 1990 he saw to the editing of the manuscript for his book *The Myths of the Hittites*, which is scheduled to be published in November of 1990 by The Scholars' Press as volume two in a new series *Writings from the Ancient World*. Volume one, a translation by Prof. Wentz of Egyptian letters, will appear at the same time. To celebrate the release of these two books the Society of Biblical Literature and the American Academy of Religion have organized a panel for their November meeting in New Orleans. The panel will explore ways to exploit the material for religious studies utilizing the comparative method.

Work on the Demotic Dictionary Project and preparations for the Symposium "Life in a Multi-Cultural Society: Egypt from Cambyses to Constantine (And Beyond)," held at The Oriental Institute in conjunction with the Fourth International Congress of Demoticists, September, 1990, occupied most of the year's research time of **Janet H. Johnson** (see the separate report on the Demotic Dictionary). Her work in Demotic studies has led to her appointment as the American representative on the International Committee for the Publication of the Carlsberg Papyri; this committee is overseeing the cataloging and eventual publication of an extensive collection of Demotic texts (mostly but not exclusively Roman period literary materials, frequently unattested in other collections) which were purchased with funds from the Carlsberg Foundation and are housed in the Carsten Niebuhr Institute of The University of Copenhagen. She was invited to present a paper on "The Persians and Continuity of Egyptian Culture" to the 10th Annual Workshop on Achaemenid History, held this year in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Her major publications which appeared during the year include "Multiple Meaning and Ambiguity in the 'Demotic Chronicle'," with Robert Ritner, (which appeared in *Studies in Egyptology Presented to Miriam Lichtheim*, a study of the conscious literary usage of vocabulary in a Persian or early Ptolemaic period text), and a section on the knowledge the ancient Egyptians had about the way their own language worked, which appeared in *Storia Della Linguistica*, edited by Giulio C. Lepschy. During the year, Jan was appointed a member of the James Henry Breasted Prize Committee of The American Historical Association, elected Vice-President of The American Research Center in Egypt, continued to serve on the Board of The Institute for Semitic Studies, and continued to serve as an advisor to the Departmental "Workshop on The Society and Religion of Ancient Egypt."

**Erica Reiner** spent the Winter and Spring Quarters of 1990 at The Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, devoting her full time to research on Babylonian prayers and appeals to the stars for good health and good fortune. She lectured on this topic at Columbia University in April, and in Leiden (Netherlands) in February, where she and three other American scholars were awarded honorary degrees on the occasion of the 415th anniversary of the founding of Leiden University. She submitted an article to a planned festschrift and has several other articles in process. The topics for these articles emerged from her discussions with fellow members at The Institute for Advanced Study, especially classicists and historians, since it becomes increasingly evident that research on the ancient Near East can greatly profit from ongoing research in classical literature and religion. In April she returned to Chicago for a week to discuss matters pertaining to the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary, but in the main the editorial duties on the CAD were taken over in her absence by Martha Roth, so that only a minimal number of consultations — by phone or fax — were necessary.

In the past year, **Robert Ritner's** research has covered a broad spectrum of Egyptian social and religious history, ranging from investigations of Libyan influence during the Third Intermediate and Saite Periods (ca. 946-525 B.C.) to late manifestations of Egyptian magic under the Roman Empire (Third - Fifth centuries). Ritner's public lectures have been correspondingly varied. At the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, he presented an overview of "Curses, Love Charms and Magic in Ancient Egypt."

At Yale, he delivered a lecture on "The Libyan Anarchy in Ancient Egypt Re-evaluated." "Ancient Egyptian Medical Practice" was the subject of his presentation at Rodef Shalom Biblical Botanical Garden in Pittsburg, while a lecture in Berkeley identified "The Last Meshwesh Chieftain." Most recently, Ritner was a co-host for the Fourth International Congress of Demoticists held at The Oriental Institute, and delivered a lecture entitled "Implicit Models of Cross-Cultural Interaction: A Question of Noses, Soap and Prejudice." This "grim catalogue of past speculation" detailed the influence of modern prejudices and false assumptions upon historians of Ptolemaic Egypt, who have been too quick to dismiss late Egyptian culture as moribund, and who have viewed the Greeks in Egypt variously as Nineteenth-Century European imperialists, "quasi-Marxist" totalitarians, or culturally superior practitioners of racial "apartheid."

Articles published or in press include "Egyptian Magical Practice under the Roman Empire: the Demotic Spells and their Religious Context"; "Egyptian Magic: Questions of Legitimacy, Religious Orthodoxy, and Social Deviance"; "O. Gardiner 363: A Spell against Night Terrors"; "The End of the Libyan 'Anarchy' in Egypt: P. Rylands IX, cols. 11-12"; and "Multiple Meaning and Ambiguity in the Demotic Chronicle" (with Janet Johnson), as well as a number of reviews of recent volumes on Egyptian religion and medicine.

Ritner has also completed an analysis of "magical spitting" for his volume on *The Mechanics of Ancient Egyptian Magical Practice*, soon to be published by The Oriental Institute.

In March, Ritner led his Oriental Institute tour of Egypt for the third consecutive year, and he is scheduled to repeat the highly successful tour again in March of 1991. In the summer of 1990, Ritner was asked to compose a hieroglyphic text for an Egyptian-style stela commissioned by the Dallas city council. This stela commemorates the Ramses II exhibit in that city, and the text describes the visit of Ramses to the "great foreign land named Texas." A copy of this "latest" hieroglyphic inscription appeared in the summer *Docent Digest*.

In addition to these activities, Ritner continued his role as Senior Lecturer in Egyptology, offering courses on such subjects as Coptic Monasticism, Demotic Papyrology, and Nubian royal inscriptions, and he oversaw production of the final manuscript and text facsimiles in his capacity as Associate Editor of the Demotic Dictionary Project.

**Martha T. Roth** continues her research into the social and legal history of ancient Mesopotamia, concentrating on the family history of late first-millennium B.C. Babylonia. In particular, her investigations focus on the "marginal" populations: on women, children, male and female dependent classes — that is, on those elements of society other than the free, male, elite populations associated with the established economic and political structures of the temple and palace — and on the institutions and societal norms within which these marginal groups operated. Some of her recent work has explored questions relating to these groups. She has published and lectured on the age at first marriage for males and females and its ramifications for household structure; on adultery and marital exclusivity; on social and economic options available to unmarried women. Two studies currently in press deal with dowries and marriage strategies: "The Dowries of the Women of the Itti-Marduk-balātu Family" (to appear in the *Journal of the American Oriental Society*) is a case study of the matrimonial properties of nine women in three generations who marry into and out of a single Babylonian family; and "The Material Composition of the Neo-Babylonian Dowry" (to appear in *Archiv für Orientforschung*) explores the categories and components of first-millennium dowries. Work in progress includes a study of widows in first-millennium Babylonia and a study of "mixed marriages" between members of the slave and free populations and the heritability of dependent status.

Autumn 1989 saw the publication of *Studies in Honor of Åke W. Sjöberg*, a festschrift with fifty-nine contributions to Assyriological, Sumerological, and Biblical studies, which Roth was pleased to co-edit (with H. Behrens and D. Loding) in honor of her friend and teacher. Roth's own offering in the volume publishes a cuneiform tablet from The Oriental Institute's collections, a record of a court case heard by the judges of King Cyrus II in Uruk in 530 B.C. in which a former slave, who had been dedicated to the temple almost nine years earlier by his now-deceased master, successfully contested the right of the latter's widow to transfer ownership of his person.

In addition, Roth continues her work on the *Chicago Assyrian Dictionary*, of which she is an Associate Editor (see separate report).

As **Matthew W. Stolper** works on a monograph about the Kasr archive (described in *The Oriental Institute Annual Report* for 1988-89) he continues a series of articles on topics arising from other Achaemenid Babylonian business texts. One of them, mentioned in the Annual Report for 1988-89 under the working title "More Babylonians at Ecbatana," returns to a theme that Stolper discussed in "The Neo-Babylonian Text from the Persepolis Fortification," in *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 43 (1984), the theme of Babylonians abroad in the Persian Empire. It was eventually submitted to *Archäologische Mitteilungen aus Iran* under the title "Tobits in Reverse," to indicate that unlike the Biblical Tobit, who laid up silver in Media for a rainy

day, the Babylonians documented in the article acquired debts in Media that were to be repaid at home in Babylonia, as other Babylonian businessmen sometimes did elsewhere in Achaemenid Iran. The heads of some of the leading Babylonian business houses of their day traveled to the Achaemenid imperial capitals—not only to Ecbatana, but also to Susa, and to a town in the shadow of Persepolis. They surely did not have to go to the capitals themselves just to conduct the routine transactions that were actually recorded in the surviving texts, the article suggests, but they went to keep their political fences mended, so the texts are not evidence of interregional trade under the imperial umbrella, but rather evidence of the relationships between Babylonian business and court politics—ancient clout.

An article submitted to *Revue d'Assyriologie*, “The Murasû Texts Written at Susa,” treats the evidence for another case of the same phenomenon. It argues on various grounds that the texts mentioned in the title were actually drafted at the city of Susa, the Achaemenid imperial residence in Khuzistān, and not (as a recently published proposal has it) at a village near Nippur that was named after the imperial city. The article includes an edition of one of those texts, put together from pieces in three different publications, the record of a complicated lawsuit involving a large amount of cash.

“A Property in Bīt Paniya,” also submitted to *Revue d'Assyriologie*, treats three new texts and one previously published text that make it possible to observe a date-orchard in a small town near Kutha (not far from Babylon) over the course of about twenty-five years in the reigns of Xerxes and Artaxerxes I. The orchard, part of a woman’s dowry, was first rented out, later put up as security for a debt, still later sold, and then rented out again by the new owners. This little dossier may reflect a practice found in other Neo-Babylonian archives: before the orchard was sold, the woman who first owned it had died, and her husband had married her sister in order to retain control of the original dowry.

An article on “Late Achaemenid Texts from Dilbat,” now in preparation, returns to another theme raised in an earlier article, the distribution of textual evidence among the cities of Achaemenid Babylonia. Although Dilbat was important throughout Babylonian history, and is well represented in texts from Neo-Babylonian kingdom and from the time of the first Achaemenid rulers, the period after the early reign of Xerxes is blank in its history. There is only one published later Achaemenid text from Dilbat, and that one was published only last year; there are no published Seleucid or Parthian texts. This article presents textual evidence from and about Dilbat dated in the period between Xerxes and Alexander, including five previously unpublished business documents. These imply that legal, commercial and administrative interactions still tied Dilbat to Babylon, Borsippa, and the other cities of northwestern Babylonia. In fact some of the unpublished Kasr texts, though archived at Babylon, were written at Dilbat and concerned nearby properties.

Also in preparation is an article that expands some observations made in a paper "On Some Formal Resemblances Between Achaemenid and Hellenistic Babylonian Legal Texts" presented at the Tenth Achaemenid History Workshop in Ann Arbor, in April, 1990. The article discusses Achaemenid and Seleucid records of deposits of silver (mostly temple assets), and related promissory notes that apparently had the effect of transforming simple deposits into interest-bearing, income-producing investments. The whole procedure was recorded in distinctive forms, and it was governed by some state regulation, a "royal edict" cited but not described in some of the texts.

A short note on "Chronicle of the Diadochi r. 3f." in *Nouvelles Assyriologiques Brèves et Utilitaires* 1990 No. 1 comments on the possibility of using evidence from Seleucid astronomical diaries to restore a broken passage in this unique record of events in the tumultuous period of political manoeuvre and warfare that followed the death of Alexander.

In March 1990, Stolper presented a paper on "The Neo-Assyrian Province of Elam" at the annual meeting of the American Oriental Society. The paper gathered passages in texts from the years before the massive Assyrian campaigns that reduced Susa to ruins, indicating that the Assyrian king considered his treaty relations with some Elamite puppet rulers, and his supply of political or military advisors, as reducing Elam (or some part of it) to the political status of an Assyrian province.

Another Elamite project is an article on "Elamite Brick Fragments from Chogha Pahn East and Related Fragments," co-authored with Henry T. Wright of The University of Michigan, and forthcoming in a festschrift. It summarizes the results of surveys at Chogha Pahn (KS 102), on the northern piedmont of the Susiana plain in Khuzistān, and it presents editions of three very modest fragments of Middle Elamite inscribed bricks found in the survey and of four somewhat larger fragments from the *Nachlass* of George G. Cameron that probably came from the same site. Unprepossessing as they are, these fragments make it possible to reconstruct part of another recently published, damaged Elamite text, and to propose a likely provenience for it.

Stolper and Charles E. Jones continue to collate the late Richard T. Hallock's transliterations of Persepolis Fortification tablets and to prepare them for publication in electronic and hard-copy forms.

**William Sumner** continued his long-standing research on the archaeology of the Persepolis region, Fars Province, Iran. A paper on Anshan in the Kaftari Phase (ca. 2100-1600 B.C.) appeared in a festschrift honoring Louis Vanden Berghe. This paper presented an analysis of settlement patterns and land use to show that agricultural production was organized around three separate irrigation systems that provided sufficient productive capacity to provision the city of Anshan (Tal-e Malyan), which at the time had an estimated population of more than 20,000, mostly engaged in

administration, trade, and craft production. Two other papers appeared, both concerned with methodological issues in regional archaeological research. One of these papers addressed issues concerning the use of ethnographic analogy to establish the relationship between archaeological settlement area and population. The analysis demonstrated a close correlation between settlement area and population in contemporary Marv Dasht farming villages. Several factors, such as the age and life cycle of villages, dominant productive systems, and temporary economic contingencies, were shown to modify the relationship between population and settlement areas in predictable ways. A second paper, concerned with the relative merits of full coverage versus sampling survey methods in regional archaeological studies, demonstrated that many structural relationships among settlements in a region are difficult to discover using only sampling survey designs.

Sumner also contributed a paper on the arrival of the Persians in Fars to the Achaemenid History Workshop, and served as a commentator for several symposia at professional meetings. He is now engaged in completing a monograph on the Proto-Elamite buildings on Operation ABC at Malyan and a paper on settlement and land use during the first cycle of population expansion in Fars, ca. 6000-4000 B.C.

At the international conference of the Valley of the Kings, held at the Earl of Carnarvon's Highclere Castle in June, 1990, Edward F. Wente, in collaboration with Dr. James E. Harris, presented a joint paper, "Royal Mummies of the 18th Dynasty: a Biologic and Egyptological Approach." As a result of recent research on the craniofacial morphology of the royal mummies in the Cairo Museum and the mummy of Tutankhamun, some commonly accepted identifications of these mummies are called into question. On the basis of a re-evaluation of the mummy docket and the archaeological context surrounding the discovery of the royal mummies, this paper, which is to be published in the volume *After Tutankhamun: Research and Excavations in the Royal Necropolis at Thebes*, proposes historically viable identifications suggested by the biologic evidence.

Scheduled for publication in November, 1990, is Mr. Wente's *Letters from Ancient Egypt*, one of the inaugural volumes of the Society of Biblical Literature's series, *Writings from the Ancient World*. This book, which provides translations of most of the letters that have survived reasonably intact from the Old Kingdom to the end of the New Kingdom, includes a general discussion on epistolography and introductory sections providing background information regarding the historical and social settings of the documents.

Currently, Mr. Wente is preparing an essay, "The Scribes of Ancient Egypt," for Scribners' projected *Civilizations of the Ancient Near East*, and is engaged in writing an article on a cube statue of the post-Amarna period.

**Donald Whitcomb** continued to spend much of his research time working on the history and archaeology of Aqaba. In addition to the 1989 field season of excavations in November and December, he had returned to Jordan in the Spring of 1989, when he showed the site to Crown Prince Hasan of Jordan. He also returned during the summer of 1990 to finalize plans for the reconstruction of the Syrian Gate (the Visitors' Orientation Center). Two papers have resulted from this recent fieldwork, a study of the history of Aqaba based on the findings from the Square Tower, and a more general study of the trade of Ayla, the latter to appear in a special volume on the Islamic archaeology of Jordan. He has begun work on a first volume of preliminary reports for the Aqaba excavations, to be titled *The Gates of Ayla*. Whitcomb has developed a new course entitled, "Late Levant: Islamic Archaeology of Syria-Palestine;" as an outgrowth of this research, he will be travelling in Syria during the coming months.

The year began for **Bruce Williams** with the publication of an early incised vessel in The Oriental Institute Museum in *Essays in Ancient Civilization Presented to Helene J. Kantor*. The vessel shows a series of hunting animals and a ship, a series of images much like the Hierakonpolis Painted Tomb and the Turin textile. However, although it dates to the Naqada I period, the procession is labelled with the standard of the goddess Neith and a pair of falcons which must indicate the pharaonic ruler. The crudity of the incised decoration appears to contrast with the exalted theme of the composition until it is remembered that even humble objects could be given high-flown stamps and labels if their function required the protection of the gods and universal order. This was particularly true of containers of life-sustaining or protective contents (oils). This magical function explains why the pottery of early Egypt often has decoration of far lower quality than some of the best-made objects; the beauty of the painting or incision was not as important as its presence.

Fragmentary as they are, the pieces of Egypt's early assays into historical culture are easier to find and interpret than its daily life. Millennia of accumulating Nile sediments and the use of nutrient-rich occupation debris for fertilizer have left only fragments of Egypt's earliest sites to be studied. Lying on the fringe of the most promising land, these cannot be assumed to give a fair or accurate portrait of the original towns. However, great walled places, some with the names of known cities appear on documents from the time of the earliest recorded rulers. An effort in this year's personal research was to trace these representations backward in time, connecting them with a clay model of a walled place dating to the Amratan or Naqada I period. This tradition of representing towns in a period many have assumed to be pre-urban in Egypt can be related to fragments of an actual early town at Elephantine to produce a tentative reconstruction of an early urban landscape in Egypt.

## RESEARCH ARCHIVES

*Charles E. Jones*

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►  
SCHOLARSHIP

In June 1990 we installed in the Research Archives an integrated computer-based library management system. The primary function of the system is the production of an on-line catalogue of the library collections of The Oriental Institute, and the management of acquisitions and serials. Because most of the published material acquired by the Research Archives is produced by small, mostly European, academic presses which do not participate in national or international pre-publication cataloguing programs, we in the Research Archives are obligated to catalogue each item independently. Over the years we have developed a fairly sophisticated list of cross-referencing rubrics, and have worked out a clearly defined system of cataloguing. With the implementation of an on-line catalogue we are in a position to expand substantially the detailed analysis of our holdings. In addition to simple author, title, or series searches, we now are able to perform complicated key-word and context searches of the data base. Ultimately we will be able to produce complete topographical bibliographies; text name and lexical lemma lists; and subject, author, chronological, and retrospective bibliographies. The catalogue will be of fundamental importance as a research tool in The Oriental

Institute, and in the international scholarly community. By mid-September, 1990, we had processed 5061 records which represent our acquisitions since August 1987, and a substantial portion of our basic Egyptological collection. Working in concert with our colleagues at Chicago House in Luxor, we expect to have the majority of the Egyptological collections of the Epigraphic Survey Library and of the Research Archives on-line in short order. An added benefit of our collaboration with the Epigraphic Survey will be the availability of both library catalogues in each location.

During the past year we have expended considerable effort on the production and distribution of the *Research Archives Acquisitions List*, and the compilation and production of additional library materials e.g.:

*Appendixes to the Research Archives Acquisitions List*

*Research Archives Serials List*

*Periodicals Currently Received By the Research Archives -  
Oriental Institute*

*Research Archives of The Oriental Institute: Introduction and Guide*

*Abbreviations of Serials and Periodicals (Near and Middle East  
and Classics)*

*Dissertations on the Ancient Near East in Preparation -  
A Preliminary Listing*

(all of which are available in 'final' form).

We have also initiated a series of long-term bibliographical projects and concomitant databases. Included among these are:

*The University of Chicago Dissertations on the Near and Middle East*

*Dissertations on the Ancient Near East*

*Festschriften for Scholars of the Ancient Near East*

*Bibliographical Sources and Resources for the Study of the  
Ancient Near East*

*Directory of Scholars in Ancient Near Eastern Studies.*

Tools such as these provide an extremely important adjunct to the direct responsibilities of the Research Archives to The Oriental Institute community. They provide scholars with useful information, considerably simplifying the process of research and reference, and they provide an essential link with the extramural scholarly community. Our *Research Archives Acquisitions List* (the six lists produced in 1989-1990 include 208 pages of bibliography), in particular, is now well established as one of the primary bibliographic tools for the study of the ancient Near East.

We continue to entertain a broad range of visiting scholars who come to Chicago for varying periods of time to make use of the facilities of the Research Archives. The editors of several periodicals, and the editorial staff of a number of publishing concerns, make regular use of our facilities to check reference and illustration citations in their manuscripts.

With the arrival of our new Director, and with the planning for the future needs of The Oriental Institute, planning for the physical and fiscal needs of the Research Archives is being consolidated within a general plan. It remains my goal to establish the fiscal independence of the Research Archives. With this in mind, I would like to mention a few sobering (if not frightening) thoughts. Because most of the published material on the ancient Near East is imported, we are dependent on the fluctuating rates of exchange; in recent years these fluctuations have been to our detriment. It is now routine for a book to cost more than one hundred dollars; it is not unusual for a book, or a periodical subscription to cost three times that price. We cannot expect prices to go down in the foreseeable future, nor can we reasonably expect the economic climate and exchange rates to improve. Because of these and other difficulties it is remarkable that we are able to maintain the level of acquisitions reflected in the statistics which follow. The last four years have shown an extraordinarily consistent yearly increase in our collections. It is only through the competence, generosity and cooperation of the other departments of The Oriental Institute, and the generosity of members and friends that we are able to maintain the Research Archives at its current high standard of accomplishment. One of the more unfortunate results of the skyrocketing cost of books is that is no longer possible for us to do blanket purchasing of older material to fill the lacunae in our collections or to trim down our "want-list". For this reason, donations of books on the ancient Near East become particularly important. We are frequently able to negotiate exchanges of older material which duplicates our holdings for thing we need. As you cull titles from your personal libraries, please keep the Research Archives in mind.

It has been my pleasure to have had the help of Terry Wilfong for a fifth year as my chief assistant. Fortunately, Terry will be continuing with us next year. My second assistant, Anthony Tomasino, who has served diligently for two years, will be leaving us to act as Research Assistant to Prof. Mike Wise.

### **Acquisitions Statistics**

The Research Archives acquired and catalogued 1685 items with the following results:

	<b>4/89 - 3/90</b>	<b>Total</b>
Monographs	775	11,528
Series	178	4,468
Journals	246	7,782
Total Books	1,199	23,778
Maps	25	
Pamphlets	91	

## PUBLICATIONS OFFICE

*Thomas A. Holland*

The 1989-90 fiscal year was very busy, as usual, for the staff of the Publications Office. Several changes occurred in the staff of both the editorial and sales offices. Joan Hives, our previous production coordinator, obtained employment elsewhere in the university. Thomas Urban, employed in the Publications Office since June 1987, is now our senior computer and editorial assistant and oversees the running of the sales office. In March 1990, Richard M. Schoen was employed as a computer and editorial assistant and becomes the third, full-time staff member of the editorial office. Prior to coming to The University of Chicago to study Syro-Palestinian archaeology at The Oriental Institute, Rick attended John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio, where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in archaeology. Rick is a welcome addition to our staff. In the sales office, the excellent work of the part-time, student staff, Ariel Jolicoeur, Sophia Stergianis, and Carolyn Swain, is very much appreciated. Finally, I am pleased to announce that a fourth full-time staff position was created in the publications office at the end of the fiscal year. ▼ The editorial staff is happy to announce that four of the five volumes listed in last year's Annual Report as having been sent to press during 1988-89 are now

available for sale. The plate volume for *The Earliest Land Tenure Systems in the Ancient Near East: Ancient Kudurrus* (OIP 104) has been printed, but will not be sold until the text volume, which was sent to a typesetter in late 1989, is published in early 1991. The text volume of *The Holmes Expeditions to Luristan* (OIP 108) was also completed. *Old Babylonian Public Buildings in the Diyala Region* (OIP 98), the ninth of twelve volumes planned for presenting the work of The Oriental Institute's Expedition in the Diyala Region of Iraq, was published at the end of the fiscal year.

Four volumes on which work began at the end of the previous fiscal year also have been published. A revision of Michael Wise's doctoral dissertation (1988), *A Critical Study of the Temple Scroll from Qumran Cave 11*, was published as the forty-ninth volume of the series *Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization*. *Twenty-Fifth Dynasty and Napatan Remains at Qustul: Cemeteries W and V* (OINE VII) was Bruce Williams' fourth entry into The Oriental Institute Nubian Expedition series. Vivian Broman Morales had her study, *Figurines and Other Clay Objects from Sarab and Çayönü*, published as the twenty-fifth issue of The Oriental Institute Communications series. *Uch Tepe II: Technical Reports*, the second volume in the series of the Iraq Hamrin Reports, edited by McGuire Gibson, was printed in Denmark.

The status of the other new volumes submitted during the year is as follows:

*Town and Country in Southeastern Anatolia, Vol. I: Settlement and Land Use at Kurban Höyük and Other Sites in the Lower Karababa Basin*. OIP 109. T. J. Wilkinson. The entire summer of 1990 was devoted to preparing this volume for press.

*Town and Country in Southeastern Anatolia, Vol. II: The Stratigraphic Sequence at Kurban Höyük*, Two Volumes, Text and Plates. OIP 110. G. Algaze, ed. The summer of 1990 also was spent preparing these volumes for press.

*Egyptian Phyles in the Old Kingdom: The Evolution of a System of Social Organization*. SAOC 48. Ann Macy Roth. Work continued by the author on this publication throughout the year, and it will be sent to press in late 1990.

The latest manuscripts received for publication are:

*Meroitic Remains from Cemetery Q at Qustul and Cemetery B and a Settlement at Ballana*. OINE VIII. Bruce Beyer Williams.

*Noubadian X-Group Remains from Royal Complexes in Cemeteries Q and 219 and Private Cemeteries Q, R, V, W, B, J, and M at Qustul and Ballana*. OINE IX. Bruce Beyer Williams.

*The Hittite Instruction for the Royal Bodyguard*. AS 24. H. G. Güterbock and Theo P. J. van den Hout.

*The Road to Kadesh*, 2nd ed. rev. SAOC 42. William J. Murnane.

*Subsistence, Trade, and Social Change in Early Bronze Age Palestine* (to be published in the SAOC series). Douglas Esse.

In order to make some of our publications more widely available to the general public, a selection of twelve titles from the fifty-six volumes now in print were introduced this year into the stock of books sold in the *Suq*, the Museum Gift Shop of The Oriental Institute. In addition to the *Suq*, other institutions and museums in the Chicago area sell some of our publications, including The Art Institute of Chicago Gift Shop and the Field Museum Gift Shop.

The editorial office purchased a new Mac IIcx computer with a full-page monitor. The second computer allows production to proceed simultaneously on two manuscripts. The full-page monitor with the new computer and the two-page monitor with the Mac II facilitate better editing and page design of the increasing number of manuscripts now being received for publication. A font, "CuneiformOr," was especially designed for our publications by Ecological Linguistics in Washington, D.C. This new font contains most of the diacritics and special characters that are needed to produce manuscripts of a Near Eastern genre, especially those that pertain to Anatolian and Mesopotamian topics. Additional fonts, one to produce Greek characters and another to produce Northwest Semitic characters, also have been purchased from Ecological Linguistics and will allow for the quality publication of an even greater range of manuscripts. These fonts allow our office to produce manuscripts that range from very detailed philological studies to manuscripts that contain only a few specialized diacritics with great accuracy and unsurpassed quality on our in-house laser printer. The ability to produce good quality diacritics and special characters goes hand in hand with our ability to produce good quality manuscripts in-house and at lower cost.

### Table of Sales

<i>Series</i>	<i>Number of Volumes Sold</i>
Assyriological Studies .....	40
Chicago Assyrian Dictionary .....	254
Chicago Hittite Dictionary .....	66
Materials and Studies for Kassite History .....	20
Oriental Institute Communications .....	144
Oriental Institute Nubian Expedition .....	139
Oriental Institute Publications .....	176
Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization .....	466
Miscellaneous Volumes <sup>1</sup> .....	30
	<b>TOTAL 1335</b>

<sup>1</sup>Volumes published jointly with other institutions:

- Ancient Textiles from Nubia: Meroitic, X-Group, and Christian Fabrics from Ballana and Qustul*, by Christa C. Mayer Thurman and Bruce Williams.
- Quseir Al-Qadim 1978: Preliminary Report*, by Donald S. Whitcomb and Janet H. Johnson.

*The Joint Istanbul-Chicago Universities' Prehistoric Research in Southeastern Anatolia*, by Halet Çambel and Robert J. Braidwood.

*Uch Tepe I: Tell Razuk, Tell Ahmed Al-Mughir, Tell Ajamat*, edited by McGuire Gibson.

*United with Eternity: A Concise Guide to the Monuments of Medinet Habu*, by William J. Murnane.

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► SCHOLARSHIP

This year also was notable in that a separate office, room 207, was permanently established for publications sales; the previous office, room 206, was shared with the staff of the *Suq* and had become very overcrowded. Even though we had to suffice with intermittent part-time, student help, the total number of volumes sold (see table above) was good. The new computer in the editorial office allows the Mac SE, our very first computer, to be used in the sales office for the implementation of a database program (Double Helix) with applications for maintaining inventory, invoicing, and the effective use of direct marketing mailing lists. Additionally, the sales office will be able to take over the production of our book catalog, which has been updated quarterly during the past two years in order to record the many titles that have gone out of print and the many more that have been published.



▶ MUSEUM

## THE MUSEUM

Karen L. Wilson, Curator

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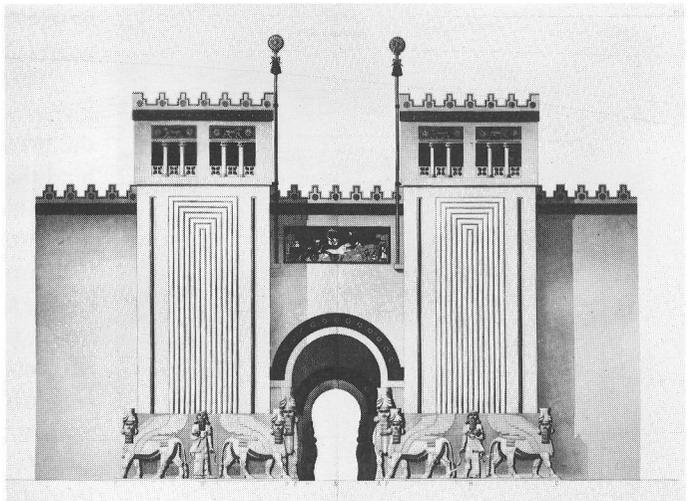
MUSEUM

As I read the notes (amounting to a considerable stack of papers) that the museum staff has prepared to document the activities of the past year, I marvel at the quantity and quality of what has been accomplished in the space of only twelve months. Perhaps we in the museum need more tasks, such as the writing of annual reports, that force us to stop what we are doing in order to take stock of and appreciate what we have done. ▼ The human-headed winged bull from Khorsabad, which stands as a somewhat incongruous focal point at the end of the Egyptian Gallery, was also a focal point for a number of the past year's museum projects. Joan Barghusen, director of museum education, produced a *Featured Object Brochure* about the bull, with text written by myself and a translation of the full inscription provided by John A. Brinkman. (This was the first time that the inscription on this particular bull had ever been translated.) In mid-February, Michel Bourbon arrived from Paris to test the possibility of making a cast of the bull to be used in the upcoming reinstallation of the ancient Near Eastern galleries of the Musée du Louvre. This rather unbelievable project was inspired by the fact that the Louvre possesses the figure that originally stood behind our bull in ancient Dur-Sharrukin

and wishes to reconstruct the entire portal to which the sculptures belonged. Prior to Mr. Bourbon's arrival, the massive bull had to be cleansed of years of south-side soot – so, under the watchful eyes of conservator Laura D'Alessandro, he was, literally, given a bath. Mr. Bourbon's test patches of mold-making materials worked well and he is confident that a cast can be produced. (In addition, upon his return to Paris, he talked the Louvre into providing us with a cast of *their* figure, which will be installed in our gallery in its original position behind our bull.) We are eagerly anticipating Mr. Bourbon's return to produce the mold at a future date to be determined by his busy schedule.

The Khorsabad bull was also the impetus for a project to relight the entire museum in a manner that will make our objects more clearly visible and the galleries as a whole more aesthetically pleasing and dramatic. I had noticed that the bull was often a focus of photography sessions in the Museum – publicity photos for the university as a whole, video taping for programs on the ancient Near East, and so on. During those sessions the photographers or filmmakers brought in additional lights to illuminate the sculpture, in the process revealing details – such as the creature's ribs and the rosettes adorning its crown – that were invisible under normal circumstances. After consultation with other Chicago museums, we hired the lighting design firm of Schuler and Shook, Inc. to draw up a lighting design plan for the entire museum. As a result of their proposal, the fluorescent fixtures in all cases are being changed to provide truer color renditions of the rich tones that characterize our objects, and new track lighting is being installed to highlight certain pieces. Implementation of that design is well underway and the results are astounding. One need only look at the Khorsabad bull and the colossal statue of King Tutankhamun or the painted predynastic Egyptian pottery in the new light to appreciate the quality of the collection housed within our walls.

*19th century reconstruction of the main entrance to the throne room at Dur-Sharrukin. The Oriental Institute's bull is on the far right. Victor Place, Ninive et l'Assyrie (3 vols.; Paris, 1867-70), pl. 21.*

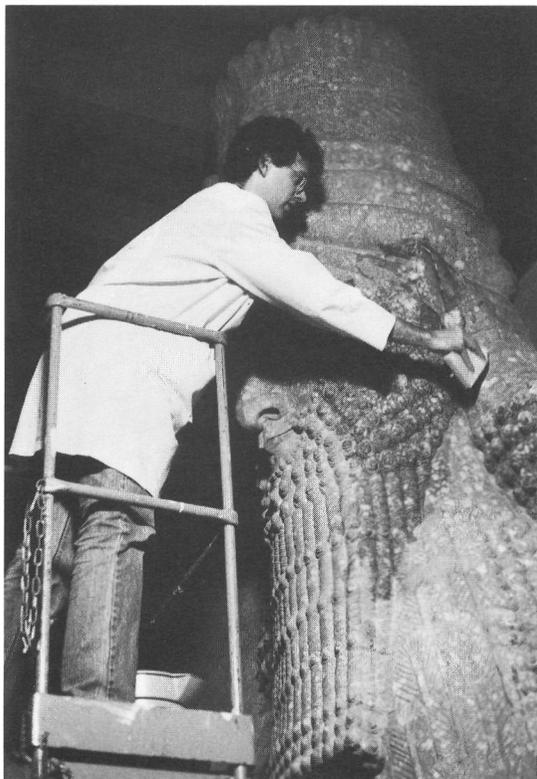


Of course, the bull really belongs in the Assyrian Gallery, adjacent to the other sculptures from King Sargon II's palace in his new capital city of Dur-Sharrukin, and over the past few months we have begun our long-planned renovation of that gallery. Thanks to preparator Philip Petrie and our new assistant preparator Mary Carlisle, the Assyrian hall has now been completely repainted in a color that compliments the reliefs, and a program is underway to make the widely different materials on display more comprehensible to the visitor. Each alcove now bears a color bar and letters identifying the city, region, or country from which its contents come. New labels including drawings of the reliefs in their original positions have been completed, and new graphics and text panels on subjects such as ancient Nimrud and temple architecture at Khorsabad are being produced. Once we have completed our improvements in the Assyrian Gallery, we will turn our attentions to Egypt, which will also be repainted and provided with new graphics and label copy.

Prior to its refurbishment, the Assyrian Gallery was the site of the exhibition "The Arabic Calligraphy of Mohamed Zakariya," which opened November 13 and closed December 20, 1989. Sponsored by the American-Arab Affairs Council, The Oriental Institute, and the MidAmerica-Arab Chamber of Commerce, the exhibit featured the work of a modern American Arabic calligrapher. The

pieces, of a type not usually seen within the walls of The Oriental Institute, were beautifully hung by preparator Philip Petrie and assistant preparator Greg Arahamian and served as a reminder that some of the medieval arts encompassed by our collections are still very much alive.

While obvious improvements were being made in the museum, important behind-the-scenes changes were also taking place. Thanks to the efforts of museum security supervisor Scott Neely, smoke alarms were installed for the first time in the galleries, basement and Breasted Hall in January. Scott has also written a *Guide for Museum Guards*, upgraded guard training, and revamped the



*Phil Petrie washing the Khorsabad bull.*

key control system for the building as part of the continuing professionalization of Oriental Institute security. In addition, key museum staff are being trained in bomb detection, the use of fire extinguishers, CPR, and First Aid. Scott and Laura are currently completing a written disaster plan – a manual that would serve as a resource in the unlikely but potentially catastrophic event that a disaster such as fire or flood were to affect the Institute.

During the early months of the year, much of the museum staff's time was spent on the production of *The Oriental Institute Museum: Highlights from the Collection*. Assistant curator Kim Coventry coordinated the work of museum photographer Jean Grant, museum archivist John Larson, and photographic intern John Hudson to produce a work that is both attractive and informative, and which has proven to be extremely popular. Kim left us early in the year to become coordinator of exhibitions and conservation in Special Collections at Regenstein Library. Although she is still a frequent visitor, we miss her constant presence.

*Highlights from the Collection* was designed both as a small handbook to the collection and as a self-guided tour of the museum for the interested visitor. To this end, each object featured in the booklet was given a new, updated label, mounted on Plexiglas the same color as the cover of *Highlights*, so that it would be easy to identify. The production of these labels was undertaken by former assistant preparator, Greg Aprahamian. Greg recently left the museum to hone the carpentry skills he uses in his artwork by participating in the construction of a house.

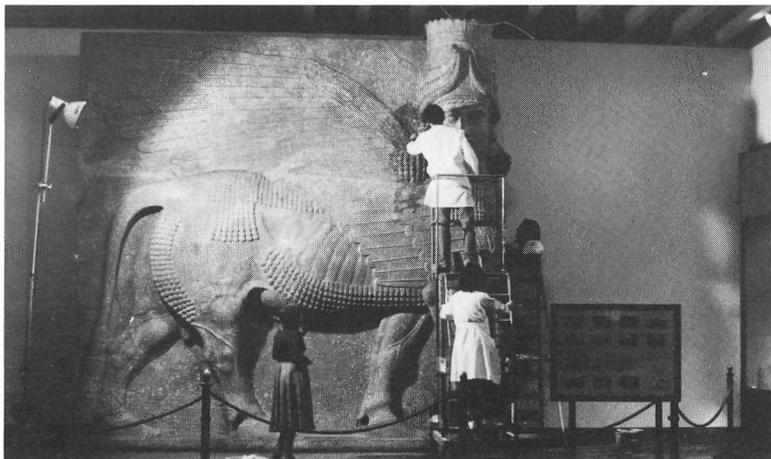
On April 13, 1990, registrar Raymond Tindel and his corps of amazingly dedicated and capable volunteers reached a true milestone in the history of The Oriental Institute Museum – the completion of basic data entry on computer for all-but-a-scattered-few of the 70,000 pieces in our registered collection! Data on the number of museum collections so computerized is not available, but it is significant to note that curators at The Boston Museum of Fine Arts, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, and The Brooklyn Museum have all expressed their envy of the ease with which we can now identify groups of objects in our collection, along with relevant cataloguing information, for such purposes as study and loans to other institutions. While this computerization process was in progress, volunteer Lilla Fano was also busy registering (assigning numbers to and computerizing) some 800 objects from The Oriental Institute's Nubian Salvage Project.

Jenny Gersten, an intern from Oberlin College who was participating in the Chicago Semester on the Arts, catalogued and moved into proper storage conditions the bulk of the unregistered Morris Collection of ancient artifacts - a project that was begun by Kim before her departure. In addition, work-study student David Anderson organized and began the inventory and cataloguing of the Prehistoric Project's collections, probably one of the largest single groups of material that the museum possesses. Following his graduation from The University of Chicago, Dave has gone

on to become Assistant Registrar for Loans at The University Museum of The University of Pennsylvania.

The rate of growth of the museum's artifact collections has slowed, but by no means halted, over the past decades, due to more stringent antiquities laws promulgated in many of the countries in which Oriental Institute expeditions work. We are fortunate, however, that private donors continue to consider us the appropriate repository for some of their treasured possessions. In December, Mrs. Maria Horner, of Beverly Shores, Indiana, presented us with a wedding ensemble from turn-of-the-century Syria. The outfit consists of a pair of balloon pants and a scalloped V-necked top, both made of cotton intricately wrapped with silver-plated wire, and a velvet hat with gilt brocade and a striped silk veil. In May, F.G.L. Gremliza – a German physician and long-time friend of Helene Kantor and Pierre Delougaz – donated an extensive collection of sherds that he had collected systematically on sites in Khuzestan during a seventeen-year residence in Iran. This collection, which will soon be published by Dr. Abbas Alizadeh of the Harvard Semitic Museum, is unique in this country and will serve as an important reference tool for any archaeologists engaged in regional studies of southwestern Iran.

The Oriental Institute Museum's public education programs are the most visible way in which the museum reaches out to and educates the non-OI community. However, it is worth noting that twenty-five visiting scholars, with interests ranging from Mesopotamian votive objects to Ottoman firmans, also utilized the museum's collections over the past twelve months. In addition, objects from the collection were loaned to a number of American institutions for exhibit and study – five to the Louisiana Arts and Science Center, two to the Princeton University Art Museum, ten to the Witte Museum of San Antonio, two to MASCA, at The University Museum, The University of Pennsylvania, and one to The Art Institute of Chicago.



*Washing the Khorsabad bull.*

The many accomplishments of Registration were based on the work of volunteers Debbie Aliber, Ruth Caraher, Elif Denel, Irv Diamond, Margaret Fitzgerald, Lilla Fano, Leila Foster, Betty Geiger, Melana Heinss, Joan Margolis, Georgie Maynard, Lillian Schwartz, and Peggy Wick. This spring, Glenn Carnagey, an advanced graduate student in NELC, was hired to fill the new post of part-time assistant registrar. Glenn can be found in Registration most days between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m., both assisting and filling in for Ray.

Many and varied projects have been underway this year as part of the museum's conservation program. In mid-October, the Mitchell Hospital requested that a new portable x-ray machine they were receiving from General Electric be delivered to us, and members of the hospital's Radiology Department arrived on our premises to x-ray four of our mummies. After the x-raying had been completed, Lady Meresamun, in her brilliantly painted cartonnage, was placed back on exhibit in her case that had been carefully modified in the hopes that it could maintain a constant level of internal relative humidity (RH). To our great satisfaction, this modified case has been able to maintain a consistent RH of 42+2% in the gallery over the past winter and summer.

Laura also has been conducting a conservation survey of the collection, both on exhibit and in storage, to determine future conservation needs and set priorities, and is finishing the writing of a long-range conservation plan. Occasionally her profession takes her on some unusual visits to other institutions. Last year she went to the Entymology Department at the Field Museum to have insects found in our building identified (the beginning of an integrated pest management program at The Oriental Institute) and to the Chicago Police Department Crime Lab to study their latest forensic methods. Laura subsequently hosted a reciprocal visit by members of the police crime lab, who toured the galleries and the basement. This past summer, The Oriental Institute Conservation Lab became the first university member of the Getty Conservation Information Network, a bibliographic and suppliers database for the conservation community. We are pleased to report that the university has agreed to fund a second conservation position at the museum and that an assistant conservator will join Laura in the Conservation Lab in October.

Except for a three-month hiatus during the winter when she was in Iraq as a member of the Nippur Expedition, museum secretary Margaret Schröder continued to assist the museum archivist John Larson in the day-to-day operation of the photographic services program. During fiscal year 1989-1990, we received and processed over 200 requests for photographic materials and reproduction permissions.

As part of the on-going conservation program in the photo archives, a safety cabinet for the temporary isolation and storage of our unstable cellulose nitrate negatives was purchased and installed in the spring of 1989 with monies from a grant from IMS. Archives volunteer Sandra Jacobsohn has nearly completed resleeving the negatives in the main

“museum” numbering system (approximately 46,000 negatives). When all of the stable negatives in this group have been placed in archival (“acid-free”) envelopes, we will begin identifying and transferring our cellulose nitrate negatives – most of them archaeological expedition field negatives from the 1920s and 1930s – to the new safety cabinet.

In August 1989, Professor Edward F. Wentz turned over to the Photographic Archives a collection of approximately 1,000 mounted 19th century photographs, mostly of Egyptian subjects, which once belonged to the late Professor Keith Seele. These prints had been deaccessioned in the 1940’s and distributed to interested faculty members. Archives volunteer Carolyn Livingood has dusted and sorted this collection and placed them in acid-free storage boxes. Mrs. Livingood is also continuing with her project to up-grade the storage condition of the print files in the Photographic Archives.

Plans are underway for computerization of the data relating to photographic images in the collections. Computerization of these records should enable us to generate a series of specialized lists and catalogues for outside photographic researchers and for in-house needs. Archives volunteer Kay Ginther is continuing with the computerization of the available data pertaining to the 8,000 Megiddo Expedition field negatives. Archives volunteer Lilian Cropsey has completed the inventory of the Khorsabad Expedition field negatives, which were partially integrated into the main “Museum” numbering system many years ago.

Much work in the Archives over the past year has focussed on the papers of past faculty members of The Oriental Institute. The archivist and volunteers have up-graded the storage condition of about half of the papers of James Henry Breasted, NELC graduate student Terry Wilfong has completed the inventory of the papers of Klaus Baer, and John Larson spent considerable time sorting and organizing the papers of Charles Francis Nims. Archives volunteer Joan Rosenberg completed an inventory–finding aid for the Nims correspondence and listed the contents of the Nims manuscripts and offprints.

In addition to the volunteers mentioned above, the Archives were fortunate to have the assistance of an intern from Lake Forest College, Ms. Kiley K. Mitchell, who worked 300 hours in the Museum Archives between January and May 1990. With Kiley’s help, we were able to begin a long-deferred project to organize the museum curatorial files going back to the 1930s.

Our photographer, Jean M. Grant, returned to work in the autumn, after a six-month medical leave of absence as a consequence of serious injuries which she sustained in an automobile accident. Jean came back to find a wealth of projects waiting for her, and we welcomed her with open arms. I am pleased to say that, as of this writing, things in the museum photography department have finally returned to normal after Jean’s long absence.

Jean notes that volunteer Joe Denov is starting his ninth year at The Oriental Institute in early 1990. Mostly he can be found on Tuesdays in Darkroom C, often hunched over the copy stand. Volunteer Ria Ahlstrom gives generously of her time between other obligations and visits to her only grandchild in London to make things happen in the darkroom. David Dekert put in a short, but sweet, return as a volunteer. Inke Arns, an archaeology student visiting from Berlin, volunteered to work some four-day weeks in March, placing duplicated lantern slides in archival storage boxes.

Assistant curator Lorelei H. Corcoran joined the museum staff in October for an all-too-brief period. Lorelei led a 19-day Oriental Institute Members' tour to Egypt last fall, visiting sites from Alexandria to Aswan. She also supervised the reprinting of the museum brochure and undertook the task of publicizing museum events. New venues for ads procured by Lorelei included *Inside Chicago* magazine and a spot on the Assyrian radio station WEEF. Lorelei also coordinated the assembling of the exhibit "Another Egypt: Coptic Christians at Thebes (7th - 8th centuries A.D.)," which is being curated by Terry Wilfong and will open on October 3, 1990. Lorelei left the museum in July to assume the position of assistant professor in the Department of Art and assistant director of The Institute of Egyptian Art and Archaeology at Memphis State University, Memphis, Tennessee. We all wish her the best of success in her career.

In September of 1989 we said goodbye to our friend and office manager, Pat Monaghan, who accepted the position of Manager of Financial and Administrative Systems for the Office of Facilities Planning and Management at The University of Chicago. Happily, we continue to have a great deal of contact with Pat through her new job. Pat's extremely capable replacement, Regina (Gigi) Weitzel, came to us fortuitously from The High Museum in Atlanta, Georgia, having recently relocated to Chicago. She has spent an active year learning the ropes and not only running the museum office but also taking care of the entire Oriental Institute building.



*Laura D'Alessandro, Ray Tindel, and Phil Petrie maneuvering the styrofoam blocks supporting Meresamun to make room for a x-ray plate to be placed beneath her.*

## MUSEUM EDUCATION PROGRAM

Joan D. Barghusen

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MUSEUM

Activities of the Museum Education Program during the past year reflect the broad approach to diverse audiences this program has always maintained. On the assumption that it is desirable to attract people of various ages and levels of background to visit the museum, our outreach takes varied forms, designed to encourage interest in the artifacts, culture, art and history of the ancient Near East. ▼ As part of its regular annual activities, the Education Office sponsored seven quarter-long members' courses this year on topics as diverse as *Hittite Literature* and *History of Islamic Civilization*. We also offered weekly special interest tours for adults throughout the summer, Sunday films and slide talks throughout the year, and presentations to teachers as requested at educational in-service meetings. *Featured Object Brochure No. 8* was published, featuring the Assyrian human-headed winged bull, one of the most popular of the museum's exhibits. In addition to the text, written by Karen Wilson, the brochure includes a translation by John Brinkman of the entire inscription carved on the colossus. "Kingship in the Ancient Near East" was the topic of the third annual symposium for members, held in November 1989. The presenters included Oriental Institute faculty and staff members

McGuire Gibson, Karen Wilson, Harry Hoffner, and Lorelei Corcoran; Margaret Root from The University of Michigan and John Russell from Columbia University completed the roster of scholars who made presentations to an audience of approximately 250 participants.

Alongside its offerings for the adult museum visitors, the Museum Education Program has always emphasized programs for young children, valuing them as enthusiastic visitors now and potential audiences in future years. We continue to offer craft workshops in the winter and special interest tours for young children in the summer months when the docents are less involved with school groups.

For several years, we have maintained the children's adventure sheets, self-guiding gallery handouts that children can use to focus their visit and find objects of particular interest. These adventure guides are used by children independently, or by families, with parents and children working together. Over the years these sheets have drawn enough comments and questions from other professionals that, this past year, we focused attention on them in a display at the Marketplace of Ideas held as part of the annual meetings of the American Association of Museums. The Marketplace of Ideas is an exchange of information within professional circles about programs and activities that have worked effectively for the presenting institution. Besides the 150 or so people who visited our display table, picked up our printed material and samples, and engaged us in conversation about this program, we continue to receive inquiries about the adventure guides from other museum professionals interested in adapting these ideas for their own galleries.

A new project designed primarily for young children was completed this year with the publication of *Voyage to the Past: A Coloring Book and Guide to The Oriental Institute Museum*. This 32-page book contains line drawings



Instructor Manuela Lloyd teaches the Members' course "Boats and Trade in the Ancient Near East." Docents Dorothy Blindt and Kay Matsumoto attend.

of museum objects to be colored and a simple text emphasizing the relationship of the natural world of plants and animals to the lives of the ancient people represented in the museum. The drawings depict objects from all the galleries and include such favorite displays as the Assyrian winged bull and the bull's head from Persepolis as well as everyday objects such as a basket, a decorated bowl and a wooden spoon. The book also includes a hieroglyphic alphabet and cartouche for writing names in hieroglyphs and a map of the ancient Near East. We expect this coloring guide book to appeal not only to children and their parents, but also to teachers who will use the images to illustrate and enrich their classroom study of ancient civilizations.

The Museum Education Program was the recipient of a generous gift from Mr. and Mrs. Howard Haas to honor the 50th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Haas. This gift is being used for the development of a videocassette presentation highlighting the artifacts and the work of The Oriental Institute. Scheduled for release in Spring, 1991, this videotape can be used in schools to portray the sweep of ancient Near Eastern history as it can be seen in the galleries of The Oriental Institute Museum; at the same time it will help viewers develop an appreciation of the contributions of The Oriental Institute to the study of ancient civilization and an awareness of its on-going work.

We gratefully acknowledge the award of a generous grant from the Women's Board of The University of Chicago. These funds are being used to enhance Sunday program offerings for families and to initiate special publicity efforts to announce them.

A pressing need for assistance in our office has been alleviated with the addition of the permanent part-time position of program assistant. Terri Barbee, our new program assistant, comes to us with several years of experience in the world of tourism and has taken over major responsibility for the smooth functioning of museum visits, enrollments in classes and workshops, publicity releases and many other administrative aspects of our work.

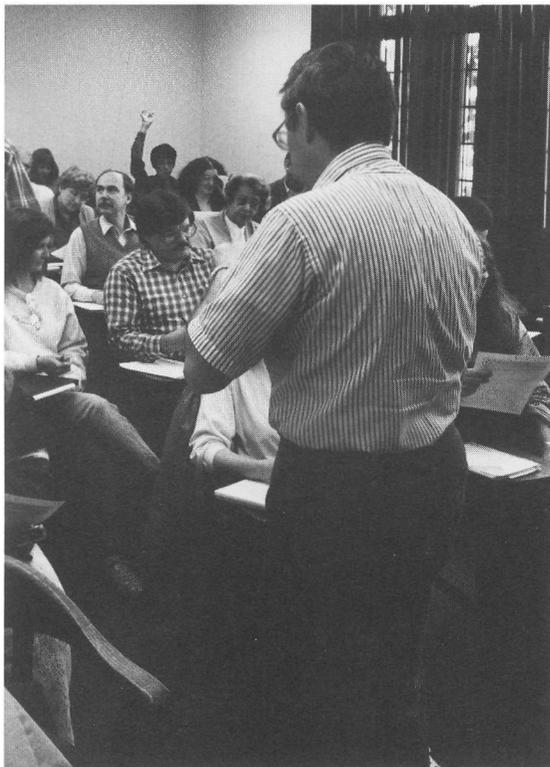
Since its inception in 1980 the Museum Education Office has shared quarters with the Volunteer Guide Program in a small office which grew even smaller with the growth of both programs. Our space problems were considerably ameliorated this past spring with the move to Room 202, a space large enough for us to function in a more efficient, productive and orderly manner. We continue to share this space with the Volunteer Guide Program and the shared space has historically been a factor in the successful implementation of both programs, as it holds open the doors of communication between education staff and volunteer guides that is vital to both endeavors.

We acknowledge our considerable debt to the help of talented and dedicated docents and other volunteers in activities that require special expertise; Kitty Picken and Georgie Maynard are invaluable in assisting with the children's craft workshops and Joan Hives continues as consultant

for craft projects, computer graphics, and other creative endeavors. Volunteer Chairman Emeritus Peggy Grant co-authored the script for the developing videotape project. The on-going cooperation of Janet Helman, the volunteer chairman, remains a cornerstone of the Education Program and I express my appreciation once again for her help and counsel at all levels of our very interdependent work.

The efforts of staff, faculty and docents join together in making possible the broad range of activities described in this report. To all these people I extend my sincere gratitude for their willingness to make possible this varied outreach to a public eager to share in their interest and work in the study of the ancient Near East.

*Instructor Frank Yurco teaching the popular Members' course "History of Ancient Egypt."*



## VOLUNTEER GUIDE PROGRAM

*Janet Helman*

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▼

MUSEUM

A move to spacious new quarters marked the end of the 1989-90 season for the volunteers. Our bright new office, located in Room 202, now has space for docents to come in, use their library, have a cup of coffee and socialize with their colleagues. Books which were hidden on high shelves and articles that were locked away in the filing cabinet are now easily accessible to all docents. ▼ Since its inception in 1966 under the leadership of Carolyn Livingood, who remains a valued Oriental Institute volunteer, the Docent Program has trained new museum guides every year to provide a constantly growing and vital group that conducts daily tours in the museum. With a slow rate of attrition and docents who have been active for more than 20 years, our numbers have grown each spring. ▼ The course for new docents has lengthened to 9 weekly sessions, each of which is comprised of a lecture by a university faculty member and a workshop in the gallery. Faculty members who participated in this year's course were: Lanny Bell, Tony Brinkman, Doug Esse, John Larson, Robert Ritner, William Sumner, Theo Van den Hout, Ed Wentz, and Karen Wilson. ▼ The docent library has grown to fill the bookcases in the office and is augmented by a file of articles and reprints as well as a reference file on



*Dorothy Mozinski and Kitty Picken make use of the docent library in the spacious office in Room 202.*

the artifacts in the galleries. The circulation of our books and articles requires the services of a volunteer librarian, a job admirably done by Debbie Aliber.

Several years ago, with great prescience, volunteer coordinator Peggy Grant realized that a museum education coordinator would infuse new life into the Docent Program by producing materials to prepare the school classes which visit us. Joan Barghusen has held that position ever since it was established and has been a constant source of inspiration to the docents. The materials that she has devised have made it possible for the teachers to bring students who have some knowledge of the ancient Near East, and have enabled docents to develop many specialized tours. Our visitors can look at the artifacts in terms of the Bible, the environment, magic and everyday life. Under Joan's guidance the Thursday and Friday morning docents have offered special interest tours for children and adults during the summer months when schools are not in session.

Docents have also been encouraged to develop tours based on special interests of their own or of groups which request them. Besides the special summer tours, six of our docents participated in the University's Humanities Open House program. Presenting tours of their own devising were Georgie Maynard, Debbie Aliber, Steven Ritzel, Dorothy Blindt, Marianne Ford and Carole Yoshida. Docents also contributed to the wider University community by giving tours for prospective students, alumnae reunion groups and Business School orientation.

Six years ago, this office took over the job of keeping the tour schedule, relieving the museum secretary of the job of scheduling tours, sending out confirmations and communicating with the docent captains about the

schedule. The constantly ringing telephone and the increased clerical work of scheduling led to the hiring of a part-time office assistant, Terri Barbee. She has handled these and so many other jobs this year with competence, intelligence and great patience in times of stress.

All of the above simply shows that we no longer fit in Room 204 and are very grateful for the additional space Room 202 allows.

We are also grateful to every volunteer who gives time and skill and effort to the Institute every day that we are open.

Like every volunteer program, we have lost some docents during the year. Marianne Ford retired after many years as a Saturday afternoon captain and docent, and Melanie Petroskey has stepped into the job. We were saddened this year by the deaths of three long time volunteers who had each given many years of service to the museum: Jane Imberman, Wednesday morning captain, Kathryn Kimball, Wednesday morning docent and Harold Dunkel, former Friday docent and office volunteer. The task of being captain on Wednesday morning has fallen to Nina Longley and Joann Putz. They and the other captains are the link between the office and the docent groups who must be informed of what each tour will need.

*This year's captains are:*

Alice Rubash, Tuesday morning  
 Terry Friedman, Tuesday afternoon  
 Nina Longley, Wednesday morning  
 Joann Putz, 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  
 Melanie Petroskey, Saturday afternoon  
 Carole Yoshida, Saturday afternoon  
 Peter Hancon, Sunday  
 Teresa Hintzke, Sunday  
 Steven Ritzel, Sunday

*New docents who joined us this year include:*

Nancy Baum  
 Elizabeth Flury  
 Janet Ilten  
 Judy Licata  
 Jean Niblack  
 Carolyn Payer  
 Laura Sanchez-Olson



*A group of visitors looks at the Assyrian Bull as it is discussed by docent Bill Boone.*

**Regularly Scheduled Docents**

Ute Bernhardt	Anita Greenberg	Pauline Pantsios
Christel Betz	Mary Grimshaw	Rita Picken
Dorothy Blindt	Sally Grunsfeld	Dawn Prena
William Boone	Marsha Holden	Maria Redd
Teddy Buddington	Alice James	Patrick Regnery
Charlotte Collier	Barbara James	Joan Rosenberg
Lilian Cropsey	Samantha Johnson	Janet Russell
Catherine Duenas	Mary Jo Khuri	Lawrence Scheff
Gordon Evison	Barbara Klawans	Lillian Schwartz
Marilyn Fellows	Kay Matsumoto	Mary Shea
Laurie Fish	Caryl Mikrut	Daila Shefner
Margaret Foorman	Joan Mitchell	Bernie Shelley
Shirley Freundlich	Michele Monsour	Richard Watson
John Gay	Dorothy Mozinski	Beverly Wilson
Helen Glennon		

**Part Time Museum Docents**

Betty Baum	Peggy Grant	Cissy Haas
Mary D'Ouville	Bud Haas	Alice Mulberry
Barbara Frey		

**Regularly Scheduled Suq Docents**

Lisa Barbee	Jane Hildebrand	Nita Rattenborg
Muriel Brauer	Ruth Hyman	Rochelle Rossin
Lois Cohen	Carol High Johnson	Mary Schulman
Charlotte Collier	Inger Kirsten	Eleanor Swift
Rama Gautam	Peggy Kovacs	Barbara Watson
Kate Grodzins	Norma van der Meulen	

**Part Time Suq Docents**

Ria Ahlstrom	Barbara Frey	Jo Jackson
Betty Baum	Peggy Grant	Mardi Trosman
Miriam Borelli		

**Museum Archives Volunteers**

Lilian Cropsey	Carolyn Livingood
Kay Ginther	Joan Rosenberg
Sandra Jacobsohn	

**Museum Office Volunteer**

Harold Dunkel



**Registrar's Office Volunteers**

Debbie Aliber

Lilla Fano

Joan Margolis

Ruth Caraher

Leila Foster

Georgie Maynard

Elif Denel

Betty Geiger

Lillian Schwartz

Irv Diamond

Jenny Gersten

Peggy Wick

Margaret Fitzgerald

Melana Heinss

**Photography Lab Volunteers**

Ria Ahlstrom

Inka Arns

Joseph Denov

David Deckart

**Volunteers in the Education Office**

Debbie Aliber

Joan Hives

Laura Barghusen

Georgie Maynard

Peggy Grant

Kitty Picken

**Assistant to Epigraphic Survey**

Diana Grodzins

**Assistants to Prehistoric Project**

Diana Grodzins

Andrée Wood

**Assistant to Demotic Dictionary Project**

Sally Zimmerman

**Assistants to Nubian Project**

Daila Shefner

Beverly Wilson

**Volunteers in Suq Office and Stockroom**

Georgie Maynard

Eleanor Swift

**Volunteer in Membership Office**

Helen Glennon

## THE SUQ

Denise Browning

Despite all of the talk of an economic recession, the *Suq* had another outstanding year. Even during the arctic temperatures last December we could hardly keep up with the holiday shoppers. Our gross sales were only \$82 short of a record \$300,000. Both our sales and profits were up over 3%.

▼ All of this success is due to our wonderful volunteers. I seriously believe we have the best volunteers anywhere. Their knowledge and dedication is remarkable; we are truly fortunate. They show patience in dealing with the sometimes difficult customer (including 100 children descending on the store all at once), while working the cash register, the inventory, and the charge machine simultaneously. The docents are our best asset. ▼ I want to say a special thanks to those who helped us during inventory, counting all of those numerous postcards and slides. Also a special thanks to Mrs. Swift who keeps us so organized, Georgie Maynard who keeps our books restocked and to Florence Ovadia who makes all of those beautiful displays. ▼ This year we have also had two volunteers stringing beads in the basement, making beautiful necklaces. Thanks to Marie Baxter and Norma van der Meulen. ▼ Our *Suq* merchandise was also enhanced by Charlotte Collier's purchases in Egypt, and Bob and Linda Braidwood's shipments from Turkey.



**Volunteers in the Sup**

Ria Ahlstrom

Lisa Barbee

Miriam Borelli

Muriel Brauer

Susan Chan

Lois Cohen

Charlotte Collier

Barbara Frey

Rama Gautam

Peggy Grant

Kate Grodzins

Janet Helman

Jane Hildebrand

Jo Jackson

Carol High Johnson

Inger Kirsten

Peggy Kovacs

Georgie Maynard

Adrienne Mong

Agnethe Rattenborg

Rochelle Rossin

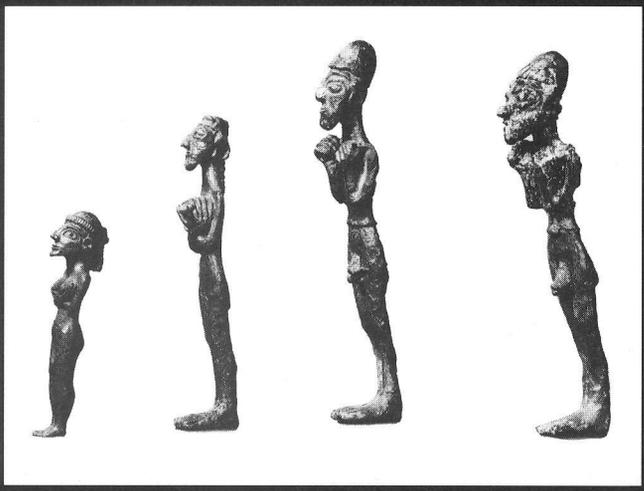
Mary Schulman

Eleanor Swift

Mardi Trosman

Norma van der Meulen

Barbara Watson



▶ PEOPLE

## MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

*Gretel Braidwood*

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PEOPLE

The opening lecture for the 1989-90 membership series was presented in October by William Sumner, The Oriental Institute, on "The Persians and Elamites in Anshan", and was followed by a gala reception in the museum. In November we heard from Elizabeth Stone and Paul Zimansky, State University of New York, Stony Brook, and Boston University, on "The Archaeology of Mashkan-Shapir: the Anatomy of a Mesopotamian City." In December, The Oriental Institute's Matthew Stolper presented a joint lecture with the Chicago Society of the A.I.A., "Fire in Babylon, Fire in Syria: the Kasr Texts and Achaemenid Babylonia." January lecturers were Robert and Linda Braidwood, The Oriental Institute, "Digging Beyond the Euphrates." March brought T. G. Harry James, The British Museum, speaking on "Howard Carter: the Early Years." In April we heard from Ann Murray, The University of London, "Views from a Turkish Mountain Top: the Græco-Persian Burial Complex on Nemrut Dagh, Turkey" (another joint lecture with the Chicago Society of the A.I.A.), and Rita Freed, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, ended the series in May with "Excavating Ancient Memphis, Egypt." There were also two summer lectures. The Institute's Steven W. Cole told us about "Nippur, Assyria, and the Tribes of

Babylonia: Evidence from the Recently Excavated Governor's Archive," and Richard L. Jasnow, the Assistant Director of the Epigraphic Survey, presented "And Pharaoh Laughed...: A Look at the Lighter Side of the Sons of Re." The speakers and audience had a chance to chat informally at the gallery receptions which followed each of the lectures.

The bimonthly newsletter, *News & Notes*, contains articles about the current work of The Oriental Institute, both in the field and here in Chicago, and also lists the various upcoming programs, events, exhibitions, lectures, and the members' courses offered every quarter by the Institute's Education Office. The *Annual Report* publishes longer articles which cover all phases of the Institute's research for the year just past.

The Membership and Education Offices again joined forces in November to present their third day-long symposium, "Images of Power: the Iconography of Kingship in the Ancient Near East." The attendance for these symposia continues to be large and enthusiastic. An in-depth look at an ancient Near Eastern topic seems to be a sought after program format.

The Institute's tours to the Middle East have become so popular that the 1989-90 season featured two tours to Egypt. Assistant Curator Lorelei Corcoran led one in October of 1990, and the Associate Editor of the Demotic Dictionary, Robert Ritner, led his usual trip in March. Both groups included a visit to Alexandria in the Delta area on their itineraries.

May 21st was the date of the Visiting Committee's festive annual dinner. This year, it honored the work of archaeologist Douglas Esse at Tell Yaqush in Israel. Esse had just received a three year matching grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, so contributions made for this event were doubled for the excavation. Those attending the dinner enjoyed cocktails in the Palestinian and Persian halls and then moved on to dinner in the Assyrian and Egyptian halls.

The Membership Program is dependent upon many people. Volunteer Helen Glennon works on our mailings, including the never ending preparation of the monthly renewal notices. Visiting Committee member Jill Carlotta Maher works tirelessly to raise money for the Institute and its projects. Many other staff and volunteers also assist with various phases of our programs, and membership associate Karen Kao was an invaluable help over the year. She left the Membership Office in May and is sorely missed.



## ORIENTAL INSTITUTE NAMED ENDOWMENTS

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PEOPLE

During 1989-90, income from the following named funds helped support various activities, scholarships, teaching, publications, and projects, both in the field and here at The Oriental Institute:

**The Ira M. and Elizabeth M. Price Memorial  
Endowment Fund**

**The William J. Roberts Endowment Fund**

**The Maurice D. Schwartz and Lois M. Schwartz  
Endowment Fund**

**The Chester D. Tripp Endowment Fund**

**The John A. Wilson Professorship in Oriental Studies**

**The Ruby K. Worner Endowment Fund**

The Oriental Institute depends greatly upon income from its endowments. While endowments are generally created with one gift, they may also be established over a period of time, with an initial gift and a commitment to add to the fund over the years until it reaches the level of an endowment. The latter method is currently being employed by some of our members. ▼ Endowments may be named for the donor, for someone the donor wants to honor or memorialize, or may be anonymous. Endowments may be established for a specific purpose, or the expenditure of the income may be left to the discretion of the Institute's Director.

# THE VISITING COMMITTEE TO THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

Mrs. George G. Cameron, *Chairman*  
Mrs. John Livingood, *Vice Chairman*

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▼

James W. Alsdorf\*  
Mrs. James W. Alsdorf  
Margaret Campbell Arvey  
Bowen Blair  
Harvey W. Branigar, Jr.  
Robert E. Brooker  
Jean McGrew Brown  
Elizabeth R. Gebhard  
Isak V. Gerson  
Mrs. Isak V. Gerson  
Isaac S. Goldman  
Mrs. Michael Goodkin  
Margaret H. Grant  
Mrs. Richard Gray  
Diana L. Grodzins  
Albert F. Haas  
Alice Ryerson Hayes  
Thomas C. Heagy  
Janet W. Helman  
Doris B. Holleb  
Marshall M. Holleb  
William O. Hunt  
George M. Joseph  
Daniel A. Lindley, Jr.  
Jill Carlotta Maher  
Carol Green-Nash  
Mrs. Albert H. Newman

Rita T. Picken  
William J. Roberts  
Barbara W. Rollhaus  
Joan G. Rosenberg  
Alice E. Rubash  
Norman J. Rubash  
Bernard G. Sahlins  
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Members' dues

96,165

**Total:**

109,555

109,555

**Expenditures:** *July 1, 1989 - June 30, 1990*

Salaries and benefits

48,248

Publications: *Annual Report, News & Notes*, etc.

24,734

Lecture program

8,397

Postage

5,858

Supplies, equipment, operating expenses

6,571

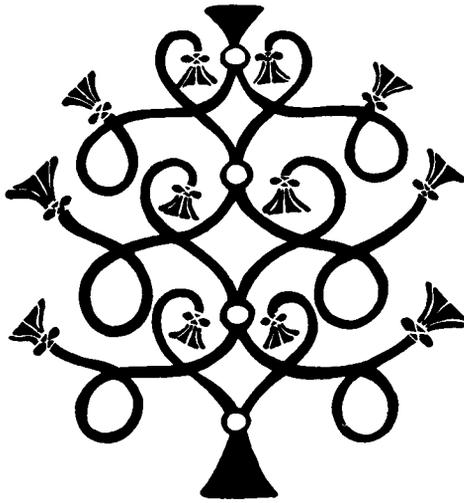
**Total:**

93,808

93,808

**Balance:** *June 30, 1990*

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