

NEWS & NOTES

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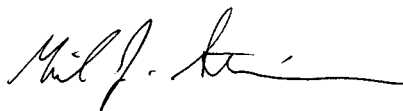


FROM THE DIRECTOR'S STUDY

Protecting the archaeological heritage of the world's first cities is a critical component of our mission at the Oriental Institute. While reports of catastrophic destruction of cultural heritage are emerging from Syria and Iraq, the Oriental Institute always stands ready to prevent this type of activity and preserve archaeological treasures in the Middle East. Last fall, Oriental Institute research associate Abbas Alizadeh was contacted by the Iranian Cultural Heritage, Handicraft, and Tourism Organization to lead a major initiative to organize and stabilize artifacts discovered by the French expedition in nearly a century of excavating at Susa. Continuously occupied for more than six millennia, Susa was home to one of Iran's earliest cities. Abbas is uniquely positioned to take on such a significant project, bringing experience from his work with Bill Sumner at the Iran National Museum and knowledge of the region gained through archaeological excavations; all of us at the Institute were delighted at this recognition of Abbas' reputation, along with the Institute's vast experience in this type of project, and I think you'll find his discussion of the project fascinating.

At almost the same time that Abbas received the call to assist at Susa, the Oriental Institute announced formation of a new endowed fund, created by John and Jeanne Rowe, that will ensure the Oriental Institute and the University of Chicago will continue to be a world leader in the study of ancient Persian archaeology, philology, and art. The Rowe gift also demonstrates just how important it is to support scholars who focus on all the civilizations of the ancient Near East, which allows the Oriental Institute to be able to emerge at the forefront of new research opportunities.

Afghanistan is another focus of the Oriental Institutes's dedication to preserving archaeological heritage. Earlier this winter, the Institute co-organized a conference on "Preserving the Cultural Heritage of Afghanistan," held in Kabul for an international audience of scholars, museum professionals, and students. I was excited and honored to attend and present at this conference, and one of the highlights was the strong attendance by Afghan students throughout the event. Their enthusiasm and the eagerness of this new generation to take up the mantle of archaeological heritage preservation were both inspirational and heartwarming.



Gil J. Stein
Director

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Cover image: Wire-and-seal security system at Susa

SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS



BRONZE LAMP, FATIMID-AYYUBID, CA. 1000S–1100S, FUSTAT, EGYPT. OIM E25547 (D. 0274361).

A Cosmopolitan City: Muslims, Christians, and Jews in Old Cairo Through September 13, 2015

How did modern Cairo come to be? Unlike many cities in Egypt which originated during ancient pharaonic or Greco-Roman times, Cairo is a relatively young city. The first permanent urban settlement began only in AD 641 but it grew quickly into a sprawling capital city. This exhibit highlights the diversity of people who were the first to make Old Cairo their home.

In the exhibit, visitors will explore how Old Cairo's communities lived together and melded their traditions to create an ever-growing, multi-cultural society during the seventh to twelfth centuries AD. Although the city was governed by Muslim Arabs, its neighborhoods were populated by people from a patchwork of religious and ethnic communities, including native Egyptians and many immigrants. The exhibit puts a special focus on the three main religious communities — Muslims, Christians, and Jews — whose members helped shape Old Cairo's neighborhoods, markets, and public places.

A Revised Exhibit of the Original Show: Our Work: Modern Jobs — Ancient Origins In the Lower Level of the Oriental Institute Through August 30, 2015

Our Work: Modern Jobs — Ancient Origins, an exhibition of photographic portraits, explores how cultural achievements of the ancient Near East have created or contributed to much of modern life. To show the connections between the past and today, artifacts that document the origins or development of professions such as baker, stone mason, manicurist, poet, potter, policeman, and judge in the ancient world are paired with a person who is the modern “face” of that profession. The resulting photographic portraits represent the diversity of Chicago residents, ranging from ordinary workers to local luminaries. The portraits are accompanied by commentary on the specific contribution of the past and remarks from the modern representative, resulting in fascinating new insights into how members of the public view their relationship to the past.



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AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND PHILOLOGICAL RESEARCH CENTER AT SUSA

PHOTOGRAPH OF SUSA CHATEAU

by ABBAS ALIZADEH

This is a preliminary report on my Oriental Institute mission to Susa to rescue and organize the archaeological materials kept in the store rooms there since the French archaeological expedition left during the Iranian revolution in 1979. But before that, the reader might be interested in some introductory remarks on Susa and the history and evolution of the French archaeological expedition there.

Susa was founded around 4400 BC. From the mid-fifth millennium BC, Susa was continuously occupied, into the post-Sasanian times. This long period of occupation created a long sequence of archaeological and textual materials that is unique in Iran and in most of the Middle Eastern regions.

With two short interruptions during the two World Wars, the site was continuously excavated for over a hundred years. In the course of this long period of excavation, the French expedition accu-

mulated an immense body of archaeological and philological materials. Although many of the excavated materials were taken to France, since 1970 the excavated materials were stored either at Susa or at the Iran National Museum.

The first director of the French expedition was Jacques de Morgan, a mine engineer and geologist who worked at Susa from 1897 to 1912. Prior to this, the French government was able to secure the monopoly of archaeological excavations in Iran from Naser al-Din Shah, the incompetent and ignorant Qajar ruler of Iran at that time. During de Morgan's tenure, the province of Khuzestan, ancient Susiana, was very unstable and unsafe. The Qajar central government was extremely weak and had almost no control outside the capital city and a few provincial towns. Khuzestan was divided among a number of nomadic and local chiefs who periodically fought one another for supremacy. It was this envi-

ronment that de Morgan faced when he came to Susa. His first and immediate goal was to create a safe and defensible haven strong enough to house the expedition members' and archaeological materials.

Since Susa had almost no settled population at the time, de Morgan hired a large number of workers from Dezful, some 30 km to the northeast. It is deplorable and painful to know that de Morgan used ancient bricks, especially inscribed and glazed bricks of the Elamite- and Achaemenid-period buildings, in constructing the huge Susa Chateau. As the cast of hundreds of workers plowed through the archaeological layers, he collected objects and dismantled Islamic, Achaemenid, and Elamite buildings and temples without even attempting to document them. Today, the Chateau itself has become ersatz Elamite temple, where inscribed bricks can be seen clearly in the walls, steps, and court pavements.

While de Morgan's destruction of Susa may be viewed against the ignorance and cultural background of the architects and mine engineers who conducted archaeological excavations in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the use of inscribed bricks from the Middle Elamite Ziggurat at Chogha Zanbil in constructing a garage by Roman Ghirshman, who directed the French expedition from 1946 to 1967, is inexcusable. Nevertheless, excavations at Susa entered a new age of modern and conscious archaeology with a competent and professional team under the directorship of Jean Perrot, who succeeded Ghirshman in 1967 and admirably held the position until 1979.

When the French expedition left Susa in midst of the Iranian Revolution, the expedition members left the materials in the various storage areas at the Susa Chateau. At the start of the Iran-Iraq War, the entire collection was hastily shipped to Tehran to a secure place and was shipped back to Susa in 1988. Subsequently, several teams came to

Susa in an attempt to rescue the materials and organize the storage areas. This and the previous shipping resulted in the loss of a large amount of stratigraphic information and almost completely disturbed the original organization of much of the stored material. Also, no serious attempt was made to rescue and stabilize the fragile archaeological materials in the damp, insect- and rodent-infested storage areas.

In the late summer of 2014, with the initiative of Dr. Mohammad Hassan Talebian (the executive deputy of the Iranian Cultural Heritage, Handicraft, and Tourism Organization, ICHHTO), Majid Arfaee (the founder of Tablets Hall at the Iranian National Museum), and I were invited to join a team of local archaeologists from Susa to remedy this problem. With the kind and thoughtful permission of Gil Stein, who immediately understood the importance of this mission, I was allowed to leave Chicago in mid-October.

In late October I went to Susa, and my arrival coincided with the UNESCO

representative who had come to Susa for a final visit to register it as a world heritage site. To honor them, Dr. Talebian had arranged for them to plant memorial trees, in which I was also included. The next day I began organizing a team of eager and talented local archaeologists to set up a new research center, as well as new storage facilities that are being constructed next to the Susa Museum. This center will include a hall for the researchers and is connected directly to new storage areas large enough to house potsherds, whole and fragmentary vessels, stone objects, carved stones, and glazed bricks. The inscribed objects (bricks, cones, and tablets) are already organized and kept in a climate-controlled area with space for scholars. This philological hall was constructed last year and is now being supervised by Majid Arfaee, a Ph.D. alumnus of the Oriental Institute.

Our job in rescuing, organizing, and dating the archaeological collection is a tough one. The storage areas were infested with all sorts of bugs, scorpions, and



2 CHOGHA ZANBIL INSCRIBED ELAMITE BRICKS USED IN GHIRSHMAN'S GARAGE.



snakes that had to be exterminated. We then have to sort the materials by the various areas of excavations (Acropolis, Apadana, Ville Royale, etc.) and stratigraphic position. But prior to this major task, we have to remove thousands of wooden trays and cardboard boxes with thick layers of dust and fungi and clean them to be processed. Once this is done, we can start dating the material by stratigraphic position. The majority of the objects excavated during the tenure of the late Jean Perrot bear inked information, but this information consists primarily of excavation area, date of excavation, and a locus registration number, without any levels assigned. Since no master register books are available at Susa, we therefore have to rely on our knowledge of pottery typology and artistic styles, a tough job indeed. I have also been in contact with the French archaeologists, who have been very helpful and generous in providing any available information they have. This is undoubtedly a big challenge, but one that has immense redeeming quality.

In 2001, when Bill Sumner was the director of the Oriental Institute, I was faced with a similar challenge in rescuing, organizing, and dating a very large collection of pottery from many surface surveys stored at the Iran National Museum. With the help of six young Iranian archaeologists at the museum, in the course of ten months we established a pottery research center that included sherds from many regions and periods in Iran. Little did I know that that wonderful experience would come in handy when Dr. Talebian invited me to Susa and Gil gave me permission to go. I am optimistic that we can successfully face this challenge and hope to do the same at Susa, though on a much larger scale.

Apart from the fact that a much-needed research center will be established at arguably the most important archaeological site in Iran, it is rewarding to have the opportunity to train the local archaeologists in the course of our work at Susa so that in the future they can supervise the center. The year-round traffic and residency of researchers at the site will also help to protect it. We



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3 NASER AL-DIN SHAH QAJAR.

4 CLEANING, STABILIZING, AND ORGANIZING SHERDS AND POTTERY VESSELS FROM THE STORE ROOMS IN THE UPPER COURT OF THE CHATEAU.

5 M. ARFAEE IN FRONT OF THE NEW STORE ROOM FOR ELAMITE BRICKS.

6 ELAMITE BRICKS IN A STORE ROOM.

have already designed an Internet site to encourage Iranian and international students and scholars to apply for research. We have designated seven double occupancy rooms at the Chateau for students and scholars with easy access to the research center.

None of this would have been possible without the help, interest, and insight of Dr. Talebian and Mr. Arastoozadeh, the head of Susa archaeological complex. I owe a debt of gratitude to both, as well as to the ICHHTO personnel at Susa.

Our life at the Susa Chateau is peaceful and simple, albeit hectic. We begin work around 8:00 am. We like to start much earlier, but we work in a bureaucratic environment. When the man officially in charge of the storage areas arrives, he breaks the steel wire attached to a piece of flat lead that is sealed by

his own seal, just as it was done in the ancient Near East from the mid-fifth millennium BC (see the Bakun volume published as OIP 128). And just as in ancient times, the broken seals and wire are stored for future reference. Once the store room is opened, we transfer wooden trays and cardboard boxes of sherds, fragmentary and whole vessels, and miscellaneous objects to the upper court of the Chateau. Here we clean, photograph, register, and date the objects. We then place them in new trays to be stored in the new storage areas outside of the Chateau.

After a short lunch break, we continue our work until 3:00 pm, when the offices are closed. We spend the rest of the day on various other activities, such as checking our records, drawing, and writing various reports, or visit a magnificent potter's shop next to the mu-

seum, where Mr. Mehrdad Mehrdadian produces beautiful replicas of the famous Susa A painted pottery. At 8:00 pm we have our dinner in what used to be Jean Perrot's private room. Sometimes we are joined by some resident conservators who work on small objects. Otherwise, our company consists of Mozart, Bach, and Beethoven. Around 9:30 pm we retire to our own rooms to get ready for the next day. Even though the work is hard, and working conditions not quite ideal, we love what we do and cannot ask for a better opportunity to work so closely with one of the most important Near Eastern archaeological collections.

Abbas Alizadeh is director of
Iranian Prehistoric Project



7 SUSA RESEARCH CENTER ORGANIZING MEMBERS (UPPER LEFT TO LOWER RIGHT): AMIR YAZDANFAR, LOGHMAN AHMADZADEH, AKRAM ZANGENEH, MAJID ARFAEE, MAHSA ZAMZAM, MOZAFAR ZARINKUH (LOWER ROW): HAMID SORKHE, NESA DINARVAND, ABBAS ALIZADEH, MEHDI OMIDFAR, HADI MIRVALI AND YOUSEF DINARVAND (NOT IN PICTURE).



8 INTERIOR OF A STORE ROOM.

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PRESERVING THE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF AFGHANISTAN

International Conference in Kabul, November 2014

by Gil J. Stein

The Oriental Institute is proud to have been the co-organizer of an international conference focused on “Preserving the Cultural Heritage of Afghanistan” (PCHA), held in Kabul at the Afghanistan Centre at Kabul University (ACKU), November 9–11, 2014. The PCHA conference

was co-organized by the University of Chicago, US Embassy Kabul, Afghanistan Centre at Kabul University, and the Afghan Ministry of Information and Culture. An edited volume of the conference proceedings will be published in the coming year.

Afghanistan is the “crossroads of Asia,” where the civilizations of the Near East, Central Asia, South Asia, and China have interacted for millennia through trade, migration, great empires, and periodic conflict. This rich blending of civilizations gave rise to some of the



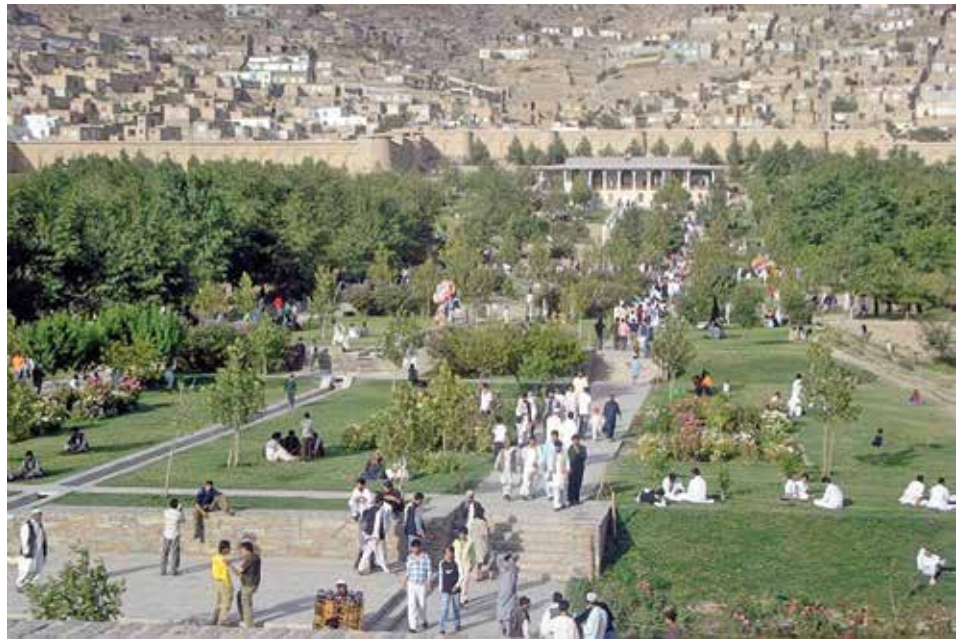
1 THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON “PRESERVING THE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF AFGHANISTAN” WAS HELD IN KABUL IN NOVEMBER 2014. THE CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS WERE BILINGUAL IN ENGLISH AND IN DARI (ONE OF THE TWO NATIONAL LANGUAGES) WITH SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION TO MAKE THE PRESENTATIONS FULLY ACCESSIBLE TO AFGHAN STUDENTS, ACADEMICS, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, AND HERITAGE SPECIALISTS.

most important archaeological, artistic, architectural, and textual treasures in world cultural heritage. Together, they define Afghan history and the unique synthesis of traditions that characterizes the Afghan nation. However, as we can see from the destruction of the Bamiyan Buddhas in 2001 and the looting of the National Museum in Kabul during the Afghan civil war and subsequent Taliban rule in the 1990s, the cultural heritage of Afghanistan is fragile and faces deep and continuing threats.

This is an especially difficult challenge because it comes at a time of increased uncertainty because international security assistance forces are largely withdrawing from Afghanistan. At the same time, it will become increasingly difficult to find funding for heritage protection programs due to the competing demands from other countries such as Iraq and Syria, which are overwhelmed by the catastrophic destruction of their cultural heritage. The reality is that there are preservation crises all across western Asia, and the limited international resources available to deal with them will be stretched almost to the breaking point.

As a result, the community of people and groups committed to preserving the cultural heritage of Afghanistan must find ways to work differently, more effectively, and with fewer resources than in the past. It is clear that to work most effectively, we must develop creative new kinds of partnerships and better information sharing among the different Afghan and international organizations doing heritage work.

The conference on “Preserving the Cultural Heritage of Afghanistan” brought together for the first time the leading Afghan and international cultural heritage specialists from a variety of different organizational contexts: provincial and national governments, universities, museums, and private foundations. The conference was unique in several important ways. Generally, meetings of this sort have been held outside of Afghanistan, in limited-access venues, and with only limited participation by Afghans. In organizing the PCHA confer-



2 THE BAGH I BABUR (BABUR'S GARDEN), DESIGNED BY THE FIRST MOGHUL EMPEROR IN THE 16TH CENTURY, HAS MADE THIS MAGNIFICENT PUBLIC GREEN SPACE FULLY ACCESSIBLE TO THE PEOPLE OF KABUL. SINCE ITS RESTORATION IN 2008, 2.8 MILLION VISITORS HAVE COME TO BAGH I BABUR.

ence, we wanted to do something more inclusive and accessible, and we had several key goals. First, we wanted to bring people together to share information and to understand the broad range of heritage preservation projects that are currently underway in Afghanistan at the initiative of both Afghan and international individuals, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), universities, and various government entities. We especially wanted to highlight the important role that specifically Afghan organizations and individuals are playing — on their own initiative — in preserving their own cultural heritage. Finally, we thought it was especially important to hold the conference inside Afghanistan in a university setting where Afghan students, university professionals, government officials, and media could have their first chance to learn about these encouraging developments. Half of the conference presenters were Afghans, and half were from the international community. The conference papers and discussions were bilingual in English and Dari (one of the two national languages of Afghanistan) with simultaneous translation. We were gratified to see that on each day of the conference, about half of the 130 people in the audience were stu-

dents — the exact group in whose hands the preservation of Afghan heritage will rest. The significance of the conference was underscored when newly elected Afghan president Dr. Ashraf Ghani phoned in by a live link to give a ten-minute welcoming address to the attendees in which he emphasized the urgent need to protect Afghan cultural heritage as a key element in defining the country's national identity as it enters into an era of reconstruction.

The papers and moderated panel discussions focused on current and recently completed projects and highlighted practical measures being undertaken in five key areas: museums, monuments, archaeological excavations and surveys, repatriation and the fight against looting, and education and “intangible heritage.” The presentations also explored the different types of partnerships that are proving most successful as ways to carry out effective projects of heritage preservation. A sampling of the papers shows the range of these programs.

Museums

National Museum of Afghanistan (NMA) director Dr. Omara Khan Masoudi described the horrendous damage done to the museum in the Afghan civil war and

subsequent Taliban rule. Mike Fisher, field director of the OI-NMA Partnership's Kabul team, described the ways that the Museum staff and the OI team have jointly developed a bilingual English–Dari database to do the first full inventory of the NMA's surviving holdings. In this way we are both providing the first full assessment of the museum's losses, while implementing an objects curation infrastructure that meets international standards for best museum practices. Abdul Ghafoor Shaikhzada (director of the Herat Museum) described the ways that one of Afghanistan's first provincial museums was established as a way to extend preservation efforts outward from the national capital of Kabul into other key regions of the country.

Monuments

Amanullah Sahibzadah described the ways that the Bagh-i Babur — the lovely garden in the heart of Kabul, built by the first Moghul emperor Babur in the sixteenth century, was restored by the Agha Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC) and opened for public use. One of the most important aspects of this project was the way that the sustainability of the garden was guaranteed by creating a public–private trust in which the Kabul Municipality and the AKTC partnered to develop a budgetary and administrative framework to ensure the economic viability of the garden.

Another example of monument preservation was presented by Bert Praxenthaler of UNESCO and ICOMOS, who showed the ways that these organizations have worked with the Afghan Ministry of Information and Culture to stabilize and preserve the remnants of the monumental Buddhas of Bamiyan and the associated medieval Islamic city of Shahr-i Gholghola, destroyed by Genghis Khan and the Mongols in 1221.

Archaeology

Afghan archaeologists have been playing an important role in the preservation of their country's threatened heritage. Abdul Kadir Timuri (Archaeological Institute of Afghanistan) outlined the joint Afghan–International salvage excava-



3 AFGHAN AND INTERNATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS HAVE COOPERATED IN THE RESCUE EXCAVATIONS AT THE FOURTH-EIGHTH-CENTURY AD SITE OF MES AYNAK. THE SCULPTURE, ARTIFACTS, AND ARCHITECTURE FROM MES AYNAK HAVE REVOLUTIONIZED OUR UNDERSTANDING OF EARLY BUDDHISM IN AFGHANISTAN.

4 BRITISH TROOPS RETURNING CRATES WITH SEVERAL TONS OF LOOTED AFGHAN ANTIQUITIES THAT HAD BEEN INTERCEPTED AT HEATHROW AIRPORT IN LONDON. THE OBJECTS WERE REPATRIATED TO THE NATIONAL MUSEUM IN KABUL.





5 AT THE CONFERENCE, DR. OMARA KHAN MASOUDI, DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFGHANISTAN, WAS PRESENTED WITH AN AWARD RECOGNIZING HIS DECADES OF TIRELESS EFFORTS IN THE PRESERVATION OF AFGHAN CULTURAL HERITAGE.

tions at the enormous Buddhist site of Mes Aynak, while Zafar Paiman (College de France) showed how the Archaeological Institute of Afghanistan's excavations at the monastery of Tepe Narinj demonstrated the survival of Buddhism as a religion in the Kabul Valley as late as the ninth-tenth centuries AD, hundreds of years later than anyone had suspected. Philippe Marquis, the former director of the French Archaeological Mission in Afghanistan (DAFA), explained the ways that remote sensing is being used to document the enormous ancient city of Balkh, the capital of Bactria whose 8,000-year history of occupation establishes it as one of the most important archaeological sites in the country.

Education and "Intangible Heritage"

Education and training are key elements in any national effort at heritage preservation. A joint paper by Laura D'Alessandro (OI) and Abdullah Hakimzadah (NMA) described the ways that OI train-

ing of archaeological conservators is building capacity for Afghans to take charge of preserving the priceless objects of Afghanistan's cultural heritage. Education is also the key to preserving "intangible heritage" — Afghanistan's traditional music, crafts, poetry, and literature. Dr. Ahmad Sarmast highlighted the role of the National School of Music in preserving the knowledge and appreciation of Afghanistan's traditional music, while ensuring that Afghan children learn to play the instruments and compositions that constitute this art form. Waheed Khalili explained the role of the Turquoise Mountain Foundation and School in preserving the traditional crafts of

Repatriation and the Fight against Looting

Omar Sultan of the Ministry of Information and Culture presented an overview of the key treasures of Afghanistan's cultural heritage and the ways they are threatened. Dr. St. John Simpson (British Museum) described the ways that British Customs officials had confiscated literally tons of smuggled Afghan antiquities at Heathrow Airport, and then repatriated them to the National Museum in Kabul. Dr. Simpson also highlighted the ways that through the cooperation of the National Museum, the British Museum, and private philanthropists, a number

of the priceless Bagram Ivories were rescued from the antiquities/art market, conserved, and then returned to their rightful home in Afghanistan. In my own paper at the conference, I described the ways in which international legal frameworks such as bilateral agreements between the United States and countries such as Afghanistan could be used to discourage looting and the international illicit trade in antiquities.

Overall, the conference papers and panels showed that, despite many challenges and uncertainties, Afghans and the international community have been successfully implementing innovative projects to preserve the cultural heritage of Afghanistan, while helping the people of this war-torn country to develop the skills and organizational capacity to take the lead in preservation efforts in the years ahead. We can be cautiously optimistic that these partnerships will save the treasures of the "crossroads of Asia."

Acknowledgments

We are deeply grateful to the president of Afghanistan, Dr. Ashraf Ghani, for his support of this conference, and to Minister of Information and Culture Raheen and Deputy Minister Khalili for their participation. I also want to express my thanks to Waheed Wafa, Liza Schuster, and Freshta Nehar from the Afghanistan Centre at Kabul University, and Michael Fisher and Steven Camp from the Oriental Institute for all their hard work in the organization of this conference. We have also benefited greatly from the advice of Jolyon Leslie, Ajmal Maiwandi, and Laura Tedesco of the US Department of State in planning this event. I especially wish to thank the conference co-sponsors — the University of Chicago, US Embassy Kabul, Afghanistan Centre at Kabul University, and Afghan Ministry of Information and Culture. And finally, we are all deeply grateful to the director of ACKU, Nancy Hatch Dupree, for her hospitality in making it possible for us to meet and hold our discussions at ACKU.

Gil J. Stein is the director of the Oriental Institute.



1 WORKROOM IN THE IRAQ EXPEDITION HOUSE, TELL ASMAR, JANUARY 29, 1934.

LENDING THE COLLECTIONS

From Ancient to Modern in New York

by JACK GREEN

Behind the scenes in recent months, the staff of the Oriental Institute Museum has been busy helping with the preparation of a number of ancient objects and archival records that will contribute to a new special exhibit at the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, part of New York University.

From Ancient to Modern: Archaeology and Aesthetics explores the ways in which archaeological objects make the transition from archaeological artifacts to being considered artworks or icons in their own right. This exhibit traces the journey from their initial excavation to the museum displays, publications, and mass media that in turn have made some of these objects widely known to the public. The exhibit, curated by Jennifer Chi and Pedro Azara, includes ancient Mesopotamian objects and original archival documents, photographs, and drawings from institutions including the Oriental Institute Museum of the University of Chicago, the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

The exhibit focuses on excavations from the 1920s and 1930s, a “golden age” of archaeology when many of the most important finds were first discovered. This was a time when systematic chronological and interpretive frameworks were first being established for Mesopotamia, particularly ancient Sumer. The exhibit explores the role of archaeologists, art historians, journalists, and curators, and their role in creating new identities and interpretations for ancient artifacts that positioned these finds within an art-historical continuum that eventually led to Western civilization and the present day.

The role of Early Dynastic period (ca. 2900–2350 BC) sculpture is explored especially through the findings of the Oriental Institute’s Iraq Expedition to



2 TOP HALF OF A GYPSUM MALE FIGURE, EARLY DYNASTIC, CA. 2700–2500 BC. KHAFAJAH, IRAQ. OIM A12340 (D. 027523) (PHOTO: ANNA RESSMAN).

the Diyala region of Iraq, 1930–1937. Objects include a selection of “worshipper” statues (and fragments) from Khafajah, Tell Agrab, and Tell Asmar, many of which were considered at the time by

Henri Frankfort and James Henry Breasted to be representative early examples of so-called primitive art. These will be displayed alongside the iconic headdress and cape of Queen Puabi from the Royal



3

3 STATUES IN SITU, LOCUS D17: 9, SQUARE TEMPLE (SHRINE II), TELL ASMAR, IRAQ; CA. 1934.

4 EARLY DYNASTIC STATUES FOUND IN SITU, KHAFAJAH, IRAQ, CA. 1937.

Cemetery of Ur, now in the University of Pennsylvania collections. The role of original archival material, including photographs and record cards, highlights the importance of archaeological recording, as well as the more evocative and dramatic moments of discovery. These records continue to be essential for research purposes (as demonstrated by the Oriental Institute's Diyala Database), but they were also popular images used in books and mass media publications, such as the *Illustrated London News*.

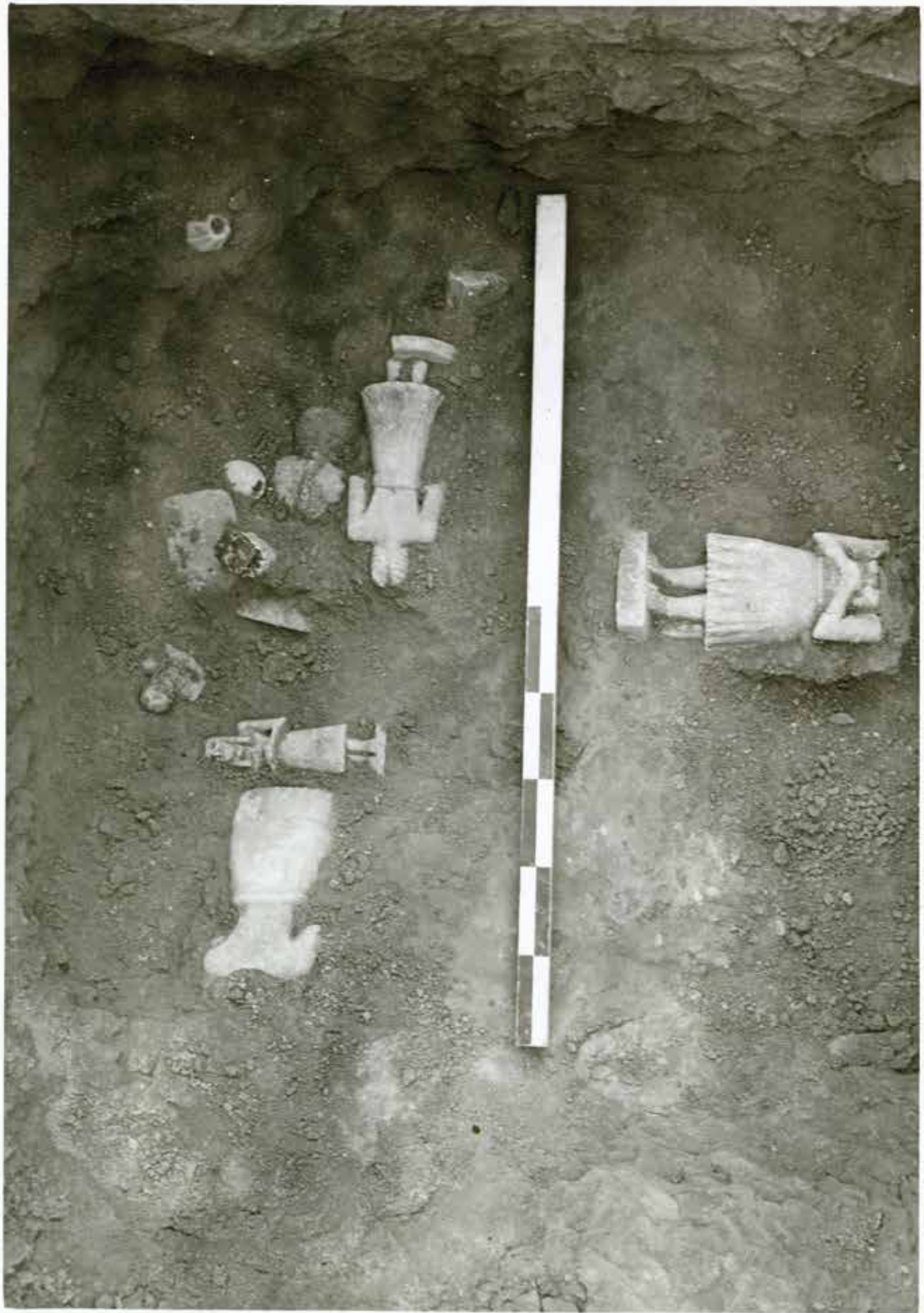
Partially inspired by the Oriental Institute's recent display of Michael Ra-

kowitz's "The Invisible Enemy Should Not Exist," the exhibit will also feature modern and contemporary art that draws upon the rich ancient heritage of Iraq, inspired by famous archaeological discoveries from ancient Mesopotamia, as well as recent events that have led to its theft, damage, and destruction. Modern works by Willem de Kooning, Henry Moore, and contemporary artists Jananne al-Ani and Michael Rakowitz will be presented in the exhibit.

A catalog of essays to accompany the exhibit, published by Princeton University Press, includes contributions from

Oriental Institute research associates Jean Evans, Clemens Reichel, and chief curator Jack Green. *From Ancient to Modern: Archaeology and Aesthetics* runs February 12–June 7, 2015 at the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, New York.

Jack Green is chief curator of the Oriental Institute Museum



CONTINUED EXCAVATION AT AMBROYI, ARMENIA

by KATHRYN FRANKLIN, TASHA VORDERSTRASSE, and FRINA BABAYAN

When driving or riding in a minibus along the highway that runs from Yerevan north toward Tbilisi through the Kasakh Valley, Armenia, a popular traveler's stop is at the Gntunik Bakery in Aparan, famous for cakes, sweet pastries, and traditional breads. The most famous bread baked at the Gntunik is *puri*, large and bubbly flat loaves that are baked in a gas-fired semi-subterranean *tonir* oven. Bus passengers, tourists, locals, and hungry archaeologists wait in lines in the steaming hot bakery, watching the virtuoso bakers throw balls of *puri* dough into

the *tonir* in acrobatic motions, kicking their feet into the air as they stick the flattened balls to the walls of the cylindrical oven (see fig. 2). Standing outside the bakery, one can watch people of all descriptions gingerly carrying stacks of bread back to their cars or minibuses to eat on their journeys — or just eating the piping-hot bread on the sidewalk.

Several centuries ago, in the late medieval period (twelfth–fifteenth centuries AD), the Kasakh Valley was just as, if not more, busy with travelers — though they rode in caravans of

donkeys, horses, and camels instead of in minibuses. By the time these travelers reached the Kasakh, they (and their animals) were no doubt tired and hungry, either from climbing nearly 1,000 meters in elevation northward from Ashtarak, or from descending south out of the Pambak Mountains. The members of the Project for Medieval Archaeology of the South Caucasus (MASC) have been studying the interactions of these medieval travelers with the local people of the Kasakh Valley for the past several years. We research how — like in Aparan



1 THE 2014 EXCAVATIONS AT AMBROYI, VIEWED FROM THE NORTHWEST. THE *TONIR* OVEN INSTALLATION IS VISIBLE IN THE TRENCH AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PHOTOGRAPH.



2 BREAD BAKING INSIDE THE *TONIR* OVEN AT THE ROADSIDE BAKERY IN APARAN, ARMENIA (PHOTO: D. ZARDARYAN).

today — medieval villagers in the valley provided lodging and food to highway caravans as well as trading in goods from towns beyond the valley. This research has enabled us to begin to imagine what daily life in the village context may have been like during late medieval period in Armenia, as well as how village activities intersected with the movements of travelers, traders, and traded goods along the Kasakh Valley branch of what we now call the Silk Road. These excavations are significant as well because relatively little is yet known about life in Armenian medieval villages, which are archaeologically underrepresented compared to medieval villages in other parts of Anatolia.

For two years, the MASC Project has excavated the late medieval village known ethnographically as Ambroyi; this village is located on the western side of the Kasakh Valley to the south of the modern village of Arai-Bazarjugh (for further details, see our earlier coverage in *News & Notes* Winter 2014). The project started with a small excavation that

confirmed the existence of preserved medieval contexts within an area of architectural remains preserved from Soviet-era agricultural modifications. Our 2014 excavations, carried out as before in collaboration with the Republic of Armenia National Academy of Sciences Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography, involved opening up three 5 x 5-meter trenches in order to further explore the medieval occupations discovered in the previous season.

The total of four trenches at Ambroyi revealed different types of architectural space in the village, which points to the variety of activities that were going on in these occupation areas. The southernmost area of the excavated village contains an activity space cut from the yellow bedrock of the valley, and paved over with cobbles and mud. It was in this area in 2013 that we uncovered pits of various depths and a single clay oven, of a style similar to the *tonirs* used in medieval villages across the Near East, which are still used in traditional baking in the Caucasus — including at

the Gntunik Bakery in Aparan. North from this occupation area and contained within meter-thick, double-faced walls of fieldstone and rubble was another area that seemed to have been for more intensive and densely interposed activities. The excavated area of our northwestern trench (see figs. 1 and 3) contained a number of *tonir* ovens and pit features clustered in a single walled space. This included not only ovens built on top of and inside other ovens once the earlier ovens had ceased to be in use, but also a more elaborate round oven with a specially built underground flue system. The oven and oven-cluster were accompanied by nearby “work stations”: pits of various sizes and depths dug into the bedrock floor. While one bell-shaped pit was more than 2 meters deep and was almost certainly for storage, some of the pits were quite shallow and may have been constructed for the different activities that took place in this space. One might imagine the small round ovens being used to bake bread or other foods, and the adjoining shallow clean

pits being used as kneading troughs for dough or perhaps sieving areas for flour. We are still in the process of assembling and processing data informing on this question, but this theory of bread production seems reasonable so far. Though we found a few small pieces of pottery slag (production waste) in the excavated fills, we did not find extensive evidence for production of ceramics in the spaces excavated, which would be another possible explanation for the *tonir* installations.

To the east of the preparation area associated with the ovens and separated only by a small fieldstone divider, we discovered a storage area. This consisted of a long narrow room section that was paved — initially it appeared to be some sort of alleyway, albeit with only one entrance and exit. The large flat flagstones of the pavement proved to be an installation surrounding a bell-shaped storage pit in the middle of the room, fitted with a heavy stone cover. The neck of the storage pit was lined with corbelled layers of stones lining the cut bedrock, which itself was still so hard that it served as a cistern for intrusive groundwaters that had penetrated the storage pit from the shifting Kasakh Valley water table. It is likely that this pit served as a grain store, similar to medieval examples found in eastern Turkey.

The architecture of the village uncovered at Ambroyi is thus far different from the known urban architecture of contemporary cities and monasteries, which form the basis for knowledge of architecture in late medieval Armenia. Architecture at Ambroyi is predominated by minimally dressed field- and river stones. Our excavations revealed that the village buildings were constructed by carving floors into the variegated valley bedrock, which was then leveled with brown clay that dried to rock-like hardness. This clay was used in the foundations of walls, which were constructed as parallel faces of stone filled with earth and rubble. While the thick primary walls are orthogonal (they meet each other at right angles), smaller walls were used to divide spaces — especially after a structure had collapsed or been filled in, as was the case with the southern parts



3 AN INSTALLATION OF OVERLAPPING *TONIRS* OR CERAMIC OVENS IN THE PRODUCTION AREA EXCAVATED AT AMBROYI IN 2014.

of our excavated village. The design of the village is likely similar to that of Mren (now in eastern Turkey) and other settlements, all of which are considerably distinct from the architecture of cities, whether in layout (Ani) or building material (Dvin). What Ambroyi shares with contemporary urban centers is the constant activity of dwelling: architectural structures and living spaces were being continuously refurbished over the course of village life.

In both seasons we uncovered red ware and glazed pottery, all of which dated to the late medieval period (roughly between the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries AD, though more detailed chronologies are pending). We can make a strong argument for the local production of red ware ceramics in the Kasakh Valley through comparing the coarse dishes and pots used in the village with the clay ovens, which were almost certainly made and fired in the nearby vicinity. With the more local jars and red-slipped bowls can be juxtaposed polychrome (multicolored) glazed and sgraffiato-decorated bowls of a type familiar in the urban apartments of Armenia's medieval cities; however, only detailed material and stylistic analysis can demonstrate these material proveniences securely. Artifacts that were almost certainly brought by travelers were an assemblage of blue glass bracelets found throughout the excavations,

and of a kind popular throughout late medieval Eurasia. Fragments of these bracelets — all different colors of blue, in braided and twisted glass — were found wedged between floor stones and caught between the bedrock floor and the wall of the *tonir* oven. One can imagine the frustration of a medieval baker rushing to pull a hot loaf from the coals who breaks their bracelet against the oven, knowing that little blue ornament came all the way up the mountainside in a caravan pack. Another important aspect of medieval life that was discovered this year was coinage: two coins were found associated with the *tonir* ovens. The two coins, which are of a local thirteenth-century type, are currently illegible; however, the coins point to a partly monetized economy in the village, whether in terms of tax paying or trade.

As we continue to analyze the material from Ambroyi, we hope to continue to evolve the understanding of the medieval Armenian village and how it fits into the narratives and imaginaries of medieval archaeology in the wider Near East.

Kathryn Franklin, Tasha Vorderstrasse, and Frina Babayan are Doumanian lecturer of Armenian Studies in NELC at the University of Chicago, research associate at the Oriental Institute, and senior scientific member of the Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography in Yerevan, Armenia, respectively

NEWS

Online Collections Search Gets Facelift

by FOY SCALF, HEAD OF RESEARCH ARCHIVES

Searching our collections has never been easier! The online Collections Search oi-idb.uchicago.edu of the Oriental Institute has received a facelift, and users will now find it easier to use and more intuitive. A simple search box at the top of the screen is your gateway to our world-renowned collections. Search nearly 1,000,000 records from the Research Archives catalog, Museum Collection database, and the Photo-

graphic Archives collection, all of which are accompanied by over 50,000 multimedia images. Browse highlights from these collections by clicking on the images in the rotating slideshow or browse objects on display in our galleries with the Browse Museum Galleries menu. Further instructions can be found on the OI Collections Search Wiki page oicollectionsearch.wiki.spaces.com. Dig into the ancient Near East like never before!

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Highlight from the Photo Archives

Dr. James Henry Breasted, his wife Mrs. Breasted, and their son Charles at Abu Simbel (P. 27265/N. 13623). Just one of approximately 50,000 archival images available in the collections search.

How can we make this a more valuable resource? Let us know what content and features you would like to see. [Feedback](#)

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SCREENSHOT FROM THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE COLLECTIONS SEARCH PAGE.

A New Commitment to Ancient Persia

by TRACY TAJBL, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Gil Stein and the Oriental Institute are proud to announce a significant new gift in support of ancient Persian studies. John and Jeanne Rowe have made a major philanthropic commitment to endow the Rowe Family Fund at the Oriental Institute. Proceeds from the Rowe Family Fund will be used to establish, support, and maintain a new professorship in ancient Persian studies. This new professorship will be a permanent faculty line within the Oriental Institute, along with the John A. Wilson and Rita T. Picken professorships.

From its inception, the Oriental Institute has been internationally recognized as both a pioneer and a continuing leader in the archaeology, history, languages, and art of ancient Persia. In 1931, the Oriental Institute became the first American institution to conduct archaeological excavations in Iran. In contrast to many peer institutions, the Oriental Institute has remained firmly committed to ancient Persian studies and has retained outstanding specialists in the field and continuing academic connections with Iran. Current research initiatives, including the Persepolis Fortification Archive Project, have ensured that the Oriental Institute is at the forefront of this field. In creating this new professorship, the Oriental Institute and the University of Chicago firmly demonstrate the centrality of ancient Persian studies by building the programmatic infrastructure that will attract a new generation of ancient Persian scholars to Chicago.

"You can't understand the arc of human history without thorough knowledge of ancient Persia, which was the world's first superpower," according to Gil Stein. In a time when many American universities have stepped away from ancient Persian studies, this gift from John and Jeanne Rowe ensures that the Oriental Institute is positioned for true leadership in ancient Persian as we approach our centennial in 2019. We are deeply grateful for their vision and generosity."

John Rowe is a Life Member of the Oriental Institute Visiting Committee. He currently serves as chairman emeritus of Exelon. John and Jeanne are deeply engaged in the Chicago community, most notably through their longstanding commitments to the Rowe-Clark Math and Science Academy and the Rowe Elementary School. John is a history enthusiast and teaches a section of world history at Rowe-Clark each year, culminating in a field trip to the Oriental Institute. Jeanne is an active volunteer at both schools and established a mentoring program for young women at the Rowe-Clark Math and Science Academy. Students from Rowe-Clark have participated with the Galilee Prehistory Project at Marj Rabba, Israel, during the 2012 and 2013 seasons. John and Jeanne Rowe were honored with the James Henry Breasted Medallion for outstanding service to the Oriental Institute in 2013.



JEANNE AND JOHN ROWE

Volunteer Book Club

by SUSAN GESHWENDER, VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Volunteers have started an informal, social book discussion group that meets at the Oriental Institute. They discuss and compare interpretations and opinions and gain a better understanding and appreciation of the selected book through a communal analysis.



Projects Currently in the Field

The Oriental Institute has sponsored archaeological and survey expeditions in nearly every country of the Near East. There are projects currently active in Egypt, Turkey, Israel, and the West Bank. These completed and ongoing excavations have defined the basic chronologies for many ancient Near Eastern civilizations and made fundamental contributions to our understanding of basic questions in ancient human societies, ranging from the study of ancient urbanism to the origins of food production and sedentary village life in the Neolithic period. Follow the upcoming projects through their websites:

Epigraphic Survey

Luxor, Egypt

October 15, 2014–April 15, 2015

Director: Ray Johnson

oi.uchicago.edu/research/projects/epigraphic-survey

Oriental Institute–National Museum of Afghanistan Partnership and Cultural Heritage Protection Work Kabul, Afghanistan

Ongoing

Director: Gil Stein

Field Director: Michael Fisher

oi/research/projects/afghanistan.html



If you're interested in supporting one of the Oriental Institute's archaeology field projects, please contact Tracy Tajbl, director of development, at ttajbl@uchicago.edu or 773.702.5062.

The James Henry Breasted Society Recognition

The Oriental Institute would like to recognize new and returning members who have made a contribution to the Oriental Institute at the James Henry Breasted Society level.

Mr. Charles Bidwell

Mr. & Mrs. Eric Clark

Ms. Andrea M. Dudek

Mrs. Anita & Mr. James Dulak

Ms. Delores & Mr. Richard Eckrich

Mrs. Judy Fitz

Mr. & Mrs. James J. Glasser

Mrs. Margaret H. Grant

Mrs. Susan & Mr. Byron Gregory

Mrs. Susan & Mr. Walter Guterbock

Mrs. Rosalind & Mr. Michael Keiser

Ms. Patricia & Mr. Stephen L. Holst

Dr. Rebecca & Dr. Joseph Jarabak

Dr. Morag M. Kersel & Dr. Yorke Rowan

Mr. Julius Lewis

Mr. James Lichtenstein

Mr. Albert Lyons & Ms. Margaret C. Brandt

Mr. & Mrs. John W. McCarter, Jr.

Ms. Andrea Morgan

Ms. Sara N. Paretsky & Mr. S. Courtenay Wright

Hon. Anne & Mr. David R. Patterson

Ms. Aimee Drolet Rossi & Mr. Peter E. Rossi

Ms. Alice Sgourakis

Mrs. Trudy & Mr. James Westerman

Dr. Katherine Wier

For information on the James Henry Breasted Society, please contact Brittany F. Mullins, assistant director of development, at bfmullins@uchicago.edu or 773.834.9775.

New Event: Celebrate the History and Culture of Old Cairo

Join us on Sunday, April 19, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., for an afternoon of activities and fun celebrating the history of Old Cairo, the subject of our new exhibit *A Cosmopolitan City: Muslims, Christians, and Jews in Old Cairo*. The day's activities echo the theme of the exhibit — how different communities lived together to create a vibrant culture in medieval Cairo.

Activities include:

- History of Cairo, lecture by Heather Badamo, PhD, Harper-Schmidt Fellow, Department of Art History and the College of the University of Chicago
- Reading of selections of the rich poetic tradition of Old Cairo, reflecting Christian, Muslim, and Jewish literary traditions
- Gallery talk by exhibit co-curator Tasha Vorderstrasse, on the range of languages used in Old Cairo and how they are represented by objects in the exhibit
- A musical performance of the Middle Eastern Music Ensemble of the University of Chicago

Activities for families and kids include:

- Readings from *The Thousand and One Nights*. See a fragment from the oldest copy of this literary treasure on view in the exhibit
- Play games such as backgammon, chess, and dice that were played in Old Cairo
- Be inspired by the architecture of Old Cairo to create your own buildings in Lego blocks
- Make your own version of one of the dolls in the exhibit
- Challenge yourself with a scavenger hunt

Programs in conjunction with the exhibit are presented with the support of:



THE FRANKE INSTITUTE
FOR THE HUMANITIES



REGISTER To register, visit oi.uchicago.edu/register. For assistance or more information, email oi-education@uchicago.edu.

TEACHER CORNER

Growing Together

by CAROL NG-HE, K-12 & CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAM DEVELOPER

The season of spring brings many new and refreshing elements to teacher programs offered through the Public Education and Outreach Department at the Oriental Institute. Throughout the school year we have a range of professional development programs for teachers across disciplines and grade levels. These programs include the quarterly Educator Welcome Days, a collaborative effort with the Smart Museum of Art, and the monthly Teacher Workshop Series, a series of full-day Saturday workshops featuring different themes based on the Oriental Institute Museum's collections. Building on the success of these offerings, our teacher programs are growing steadily. Teachers have the opportunities to not only explore the Museum's collections in more depth, but also engage with practical instructional strategies for use in the classroom. Looking forward to the spring and summer, we are pleased to deliver three major events:

Teacher Appreciation Night

On May 20, we will host our second annual Teacher Appreciation Night to salute our teachers for their commitment to education. This year we partner with ten other organizations to connect our teachers with a broader range of resources on campus. This year's event is proudly co-sponsored by the Center for International Studies, Center for East Asian Studies, South Asia Languages and Area Center, Center for East European and Russian/Eurasian Studies, the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Center for Latin American Studies, UChicago Promise, and the Neighborhood Schools Program. Additional participating organizations include Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts, and DuSable Museum of African American History.

The event will have a reception, gallery tours, and information and activity tables staffed by our campus partners in the Museum. The highlight of the night will be a lecture given by Tanya Treptow, PhD, co-curator of the special exhibit *A Cosmopolitan City: Muslims, Christians, and Jews in Old Cairo*.

Here are some comments we received about last year's Teacher Appreciation Night: "[I] really found the events educational and enjoyable." "[The most valuable things about this event were] the historical artifacts, and how they are associated with the World Studies textbook that is used at my school."

This event is free and open to educators who teach pre-kindergarten through college as well as school administrators. To register, please go to page 39. We hope to see you at the event!



TEACHER APPRECIATION NIGHT 2014.

Summer Teacher Institute on Inequality: Conditions, Consequences, Solutions

This is the second year that we are collaborating with the Center for International Studies for the off-site Summer Teacher Institute. This three-day institute, which runs from June 29 to July 1, incorporates interdisciplinary perspectives on the issue of inequality. The Oriental Institute contributes by bringing a scholar of ancient Near Eastern studies to present at the event and helping teachers explore causes and possible remedies to social and natural disparity from an international and historical perspective. Visit oi.uchicago.edu for details.

Curriculum Publication Collaboration with Project Archaeology and Associated Teacher Conference

Since 2013, the Oriental Institute has been one of the certified Illinois State Chapters of Project Archaeology, a joint program of Montana State University and the Bureau of Land Management to combat the vandalism and looting of archaeological sites. Beginning in 2014 we have partnered with Project Archaeology to publish a new curriculum, called *Investigating Nutrition*. In spring 2015, the curriculum will be released and used in our summer teacher conference Project Archaeology Leadership Academy Legacy, on August 4-6, at the Oriental Institute. Teachers will experience how archaeological inquiry can engage students and meet Common Core State Standards in literacy and mathematics. To find out more, contact us at oi-education@uchicago.edu.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Semra Prescott

by SHIRLEE A. HOFFMAN, VOLUNTEER ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

Shirlee Hoffman, Oriental Institute volunteer, sits down and interviews fellow volunteer Semra Prescott.

1. How did you become interested in volunteering at the Oriental Institute (OI)? How long have you been a volunteer?

I joined the OI's Eastern Anatolia and Black Sea Tour of Archaeology led by Professor Richard Chambers in early 2000. During this expedition Professor Chambers and Mari Terman encouraged me to become a volunteer docent. Thankfully, I took their advice and have been a volunteer since July 2000.

2. Did you have any interests or training in the ancient Near East?

I have always had an interest in the ancient Near East. I was born and raised in Turkey. The country itself is like a museum. My mother had a special interest in antiquity. When I was a little girl we visited almost every museum and historical site in the area. One of my most cherished memories is seeing Assyrian clay tablets (a clay envelope, too) written in cuneiform. I was so curious to know what was written on the tablets. When an archaeologist translated the text, I was totally surprised that the text contained commercial and payment agreements. From those early experiences as a child, I ended up studying Geological Engineering and Geochemistry with an emphasis in "Heavy Metal Analysis." As part of that career, I spent much time on exploratory expeditions in remote parts of Turkey, where I would often encounter ancient ruins and artifacts, further fueling my passion for studying antiquity. Later in life, I pursued an MA in Golden Age Spanish Literature. My thesis research took me to the Castilian Archives in Madrid as well as to the Ottoman Turkish archives in Istanbul.

3. What have you done at the OI? What do you do now?

As a volunteer Museum docent, I provide gallery tours in English, Spanish, and Turkish. There have been several occasions when the OI received visitors from Turkey, including groups of governors or business people who appreciated hearing about the OI's artifacts in their own language. When I give tours to children in Spanish for the "Día del Niño" holiday, they really love the amazing exhibits. I particularly enjoy seeing their expressions as I tell stories that help them connect with and understand how things were done in the past. My most interesting special tour was the one for the representatives of the US State Department and UNESCO. The members' interest in understanding antiquity made me feel that I was helping the world be a better place by sharing the wealth of knowledge that the OI holds with people who can make a difference.

4. What do you particularly like about being a volunteer?

There is no end to learning at the OI. It is truly the ideal place to learn more about antiquity. I enjoy the friends I have made, as we often have similar interests. However, I most enjoy reminiscing my childhood days as I stroll the galleries ... thinking of my mother and our museum adventures.



5. What has surprised you?

As the years pass, I consider the artifacts I see and think about human history. It surprises me that truly "nothing is new under the sun." The basics of life are not that different today than they were thousands of years ago. Humans were making toys for their children, playing games to pass the time, writing letters, playing music for entertainment, and using straws for sipping beer and other beverages.

6. What would you say to someone who is thinking of volunteering at the OI?

If you'd like to live more than one life in your lifespan, come join us. Understanding whence you came is an amazing and soul-satisfying journey.

Join in the fun and the meaningful work. Explore becoming a volunteer at oi.uchicago.edu/support.

IN STORE

The Suq

Suq Seasonal Sale

Monday, June 1 – Wednesday, June 10

Members receive 20% off books and 30% off everything else.

Non-members receive 15% off books and 20% off everything else.

Rug Sale

Thursday, June 4 – Sunday, June 7

Members receive 30% off.

Non-members receive 20% off.

CALENDAR

APRIL

Wednesday, April 1

The Fatimid Caliphate and Its Non-Muslim Subjects

Lecture
5:00–6:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 2

Cylinder Seals: Miniature Masterpieces of Mesopotamia

Lecture
12:15–1:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 15

Threshold to the Sacred: The Ark Door of Cairo's Ben Ezra Synagogue

Lecture
5:00–6:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 18

Teacher Workshop: Geometry and Islamic Arts

Teacher Programs
9:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 19

Celebrating the History and Culture of Old Cairo

Adult, Family, & Youth Programs
1:00–4:00 p.m.

Monday, April 20–Sunday, June 7

Egyptian Hieroglyphs for Beginners

Course

Saturday, April 25

Ancient Earth Day

Family & Youth Programs
1:00–4:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 26

Building Pharaoh's Ship

Film
2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 29

Multiculturalism and Christian Art in Old Cairo

Lecture
5:00–6:00 p.m.

Wednesdays, April 29–June 3

Temples and Palaces of Ancient Near Eastern Empires

Course
6:00–8:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 30








By Our Birdhouse You Will Know Us

Family & Youth Programs
1:30–3:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 30

Light Up the Night at the 2015 Oriental Institute Gala

Special Event
6:30 p.m.

-  Adult Programs
-  Courses
-  Family & Youth Programs
-  Films
-  Lectures
-  Members' Events
-  Teacher Programs

Unless noted, all programs take place at the Oriental Institute. All programs are subject to change

Saturday, May 2

Teacher Workshop: Material Science in Archaeology

Teacher Programs
9:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

Saturdays, May 2–June 13

Nubia in the Ancient World

Course
10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 5

New Discoveries in the Ancient Village and Synagogue at Huqoq in Israel's Galilee

Lecture
7:00–9:00 p.m.

Wednesdays, May 6–June 24

Islamic Civilization through Jewish and Christian History

Course
6:00–8:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 7

From the Arabian Nights to Taxes: Texts from the Old Cairo Exhibition

Lecture
12:15–1:00 p.m.

Monday, May 11

Young Professional Leaders' Dine Around

Members' Event
6:00–8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 13

The Material Turn in Cairo Genizah Research

Lecture
5:00–6:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 14

Sacred Trash: The Lost and Found World of the Cairo Genizah

Lecture
7:00–9:00 p.m.

Friday, May 15

Splendors of Georgia and Armenia Travel Program

Members' Event
Runs through Saturday, May 30

Saturday, May 16

Junior Archaeologists

Family & Youth Programs
1:00–3:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 17

Building Pharaoh's Chariot

Film
2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 20

Teacher Appreciation Night

Teacher Programs
5:00–8:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 23

Boy Scouts: Archaeology Merit Badge Workshop

Family & Youth Programs
9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 23

Little Scribe

Family & Youth Programs
1:00–4:00 pm

Wednesday, May 27

From Fustat to Cairo: The Many Meanings of "Old Cairo"

Lecture
5:00–6:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 28

How To Make an Exhibit

Family & Youth Programs
1:30–3:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 30

Rosehill Cemetery Walk

Adult Program
10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.



JUNE

Monday, June 1

Suq Sale

Runs through Wednesday, June 10

Thursday, June 4

Rug Tent Sale

Runs through Sunday, June 7

Thursday, June 4

The Ancient Egyptian Book of the Dead

Lecture
12:15–1:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 6

Ancient Game Day

Family & Youth Programs
1:00–5:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 7

Braving Iraq

Film
2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, June 10

Epic Wednesday: Cosmos in Cairo

Adult Program
5:00–8:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 11

Egypt-o-Mania

Family & Youth Programs
1:30–3:30 p.m.

Monday, June 22–Sunday, August 9

Before the Alphabet: Writing Systems in the Ancient World

Course

Saturday, June 27

Islamic Architecture Bus Tour

Adult Program
10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

- Adult Programs
- Courses
- Family & Youth Programs
- Films
- Lectures
- Members' Events
- Teacher Programs

ADULT PROGRAMS



Celebrate the History and Culture of Old Cairo

Sunday, April 19

1:00–4:00 p.m.

Registration required. Free.

This program is generously sponsored by The Franke Institute for the Humanities at the University of Chicago.

Everyone can celebrate Old Cairo at the Oriental Institute. Both adults and families are invited to drop by the Museum throughout the afternoon to experience the topic of our special exhibition *A Cosmopolitan City: Muslims, Christians, and Jews in Old Cairo* through music, hands-on activities, poetry, and more. The event begins with a lecture on the history of Old Cairo and ends with a performance by The Middle Eastern Music Ensemble.

Rosehill Cemetery Walk

Saturday, May 30

10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

\$20 members; \$25 non-members

Registration required by May 23.

Did you know that you can visit Egyptian-style architecture and monuments right here in Chicago? Join Egyptologist Michael Berger for a two-hour walk through Rosehill Cemetery and explore the magnificent obelisks and grand mausoleums. This tour is a follow-up to the very popular Graceland Cemetery tour of 2014. The group will meet in front of the cemetery office, 5800 N Ravenswood, Chicago, IL 60660, near the eastern entrance to the burial grounds.

Epic Wednesday: Cosmos in Cairo

Wednesday, June 10

5:00–8:00 p.m.

Free for Young Professional Leaders; \$10 students; \$12 members/faculty/staff; \$15 non-members.

Registration required.

This program is generously sponsored by Great Lakes Brewing Company, Chicago Reader, and the Young Professional Leaders.

Celebrate the beginning of summer with all things “cosmopolitan” — from the drink to a tour of our special exhibit *A Cosmopolitan City: Muslims, Christians, and Jews in Old Cairo*. Enjoy a night of music, gallery tours, hands-on art projects, interactive group activities, trivia challenges, and refreshments.

Islamic Architecture Bus Tour

Saturday, June 27

10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

\$30 students; \$50 members; \$60 non-members

Registration required by May 26*.

Hop on the bus and follow Michael Bechtel, PhD candidate in Islamic history and civilization, to discover the Islamic-style architecture found in the city of Chicago. Explore architectural form, style, and ornamentation and learn how it compares to the role of ornamentation in Islamic architecture and influence. The tour will start and end at the Oriental Institute Museum.

*This program is subject to change based on enrollment.

ADULT PROGRAMS meet at the Oriental Institute unless otherwise noted.

REGISTER To register, visit oi.uchicago.edu/register. For assistance or more information, email oi-education@uchicago.edu.

COURSES



Temples and Palaces of Ancient Near Eastern Empires **Wednesdays, April 29–June 3** **6:00–8:00 p.m.**

\$175 members; \$245 non-members
12 CPDUs for Teacher Re-certification

This introductory course uses palaces and temples of Assyria, Babylonia, and Persia to explore the architectural history and visual culture of these empires. Using various material groups, we will examine the visual and architectural traditions of these empires discussing themes of the cultural value of building materials, the relationship between text and image, the building programs of innovative kings, the depiction of kingship, and the palace and city as cosmological center.

Instructor: Kiersten Neumann, curatorial assistant at the Oriental Institute Museum.

Nubia in the Ancient World **Saturdays, May 2–June 13** **10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.**

\$175 members; \$245 non-members
12 CPDUs for Teacher Re-certification

This course examines the historical and cultural developments of the ancient land of Nubia from the Neolithic to early Christianity, around 550 AD, with emphasis on the forgotten monuments, kings, and societies uncovered in the last hundred years. Themes include religion, trade, politics, and the role of women, as well as the contributions of the Oriental Institute Nubian Expedition.

Instructor: Debora Heard, PhD candidate in the University of Chicago Department of Anthropology.

Islamic Civilization through Jewish and Christian History

Wednesdays, May 6–June 24
6:00–8:00 p.m.

\$295 members; \$345 non-members
16 CPDUs for Teacher Re-Certification

This course examines “Islamicate” civilization from the perspective of the Jewish and Christian communities living in Egypt in the tenth, eleventh, and twelfth centuries. Drawing extensively on primary source material, our goal is to arrive at a nuanced understanding of medieval Middle Eastern history unencumbered by contemporary ideologies, attitudes, and prejudices.

Instructor: Alexander Barna, outreach coordinator and director of the Middle East Education Initiative at the University of Chicago’s Center for Middle Eastern Studies.

Online Courses

Egyptian Hieroglyphs for Beginners **Monday, April 20–Sunday, June 7**

\$295 members; \$345 non-members
24 CPDUs for Teacher Re-certification
Registration required by April 13.

Learn to read the “words of the gods” through this eight-week online course on Egyptian hieroglyphs. Students are introduced to the basics of ancient Egyptian grammar and learn to read texts on objects encountered in museums. Online discussions focus on the cultural and historical aspects of the ancient objects and their hieroglyphic inscriptions.

Instructor: Foy Scalf, head of the Research Archives at the Oriental Institute.

Before the Alphabet: Writing Systems in the Ancient World

Monday, June 22–Sunday, August 9

\$295 members; \$345 non-members
24 CPDUs for Teacher Re-certification
Registration required by June 15.

This online course surveys the ways humans make language visible. Topics include the definition of writing, the typology of writing systems, the invention and evolution of writing, and some of the cultural issues intertwined with scripts. The focus of the course includes the earliest original writing systems and the social, cultural, and historical contexts of their inventions, and their decipherment by modern scholars.

Instructor: Massimo Maiocchi, Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow and Assyriology instructor in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations.

Members
save up
to 25%
on classes!

COURSES meet at the Oriental Institute unless otherwise noted.

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For assistance or more information, email oi-education@uchicago.edu.

FILMS



Join us on the following Sunday afternoons to enjoy the best in documentary films on the ancient Near East at the Oriental Institute. Films running times range from 30 to 50 minutes. Docents are in the galleries following each film.

Oriental Institute Museum, 2:00 p.m.

Registration not required. Free.

Building Pharaoh's Ship

Sunday, April 26

A trading vessel embarks on a royal expedition to a mysterious land called Punt. This journey is intricately depicted on the wall of one of Egypt's temples. NOVA travels to the temple, built 3,500 years ago for the celebrated female pharaoh Hatshepsut, in search of answers. NOVA follows a team of archaeologists and boat builders as they reconstruct the vessel shown on the carving and then launch it on the Red Sea on a unique voyage of discovery.

Building Pharaoh's Chariot

Sunday, May 17

3,600-year-old reliefs in Egyptian tombs and temples depict pharaohs and warriors proudly riding into battle on horse-drawn chariots. Some historians claim that the chariot launched a technological and strategic revolution, and was the secret weapon behind Egypt's greatest era of conquest, known as the New Kingdom. NOVA's experts test the claim that the chariot marks a crucial turning point in ancient military history.

Braving Iraq

Sunday, June 7

Nature's Braving Iraq unravels this story about what was once one of the richest and most important wetlands in the world — from its virtual destruction by Saddam Hussein's regime to the exciting new prospects for a miraculous recovery.

FILMS meet at the Oriental Institute unless otherwise noted.

QUESTIONS? To learn more visit oi.uchicago.edu. For assistance or additional information, email oi-education@uchicago.edu.

LECTURES



Sacred Trash: The Lost and Found World of the Cairo Geniza

Thursday, May 14

7:00–9:00 p.m.

Free for members; \$10 non-members
Registration required.

Writers Adina Hoffman and Peter Cole will take us inside a remarkable time capsule: the Cairo Geniza. MacArthur Fellowship-winning poet and translator Peter Cole and acclaimed essayist and biographer Adina Hoffman are co-authors of *Sacred Trash: The Lost and Found World of the Cairo Geniza*, winner of the 2011 American Library Association prize for the Jewish book of the year.

Lectures on Medieval Cairo Series

In joint collaboration between the Oriental Institute and the Chicago Center for Jewish Studies, this lecture series brings together a number of specialists in the history, art, and archaeology of Old Cairo (Fustat) for a unique exploration this Cosmopolitan City and its place within the wider Mediterranean and Islamic world.

The lecture series is supported by the Center for Jewish Studies, the Franke Institute for the Humanities, the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, and the Divinity School of the University of Chicago.

Oriental Institute or Divinity School, as listed

5:00–6:00 p.m.

Registration not required. Free.

The Fatimid Caliphate and Its Non-Muslim Subjects

Wednesday, April 1

Oriental Institute, Breasted Hall

Paul Walker, deputy director of academic programs of Center for Middle Eastern Studies, University of Chicago
Followed by a half-hour gallery tour.

Threshold to the Sacred: The Ark Door of Cairo's Ben Ezra Synagogue

Wednesday, April 15

Oriental Institute, Breasted Hall

Amy Landau, associate curator of Islamic and South Asian art at Walters Art Museum, Baltimore

Multiculturalism and Christian Art in Old Cairo

Wednesday, April 29

Divinity School, Swift Common Room

1025 E 58th Street, Chicago, IL

Tasha Vorderstrasse, research associate and co-curator of the exhibit *A Cosmopolitan City* at the Oriental Institute, University of Chicago

The Material Turn in Cairo Genizah Research

Wednesday, May 13

Divinity School, Swift Common Room

1025 E 58th Street, Chicago, IL

Marina Rustow, Charlotte Bloomberg Associate Professor in the Humanities, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore

From Fustat to Cairo: The Many Meanings of "Old Cairo"

Wednesday, May 27

Oriental Institute, Breasted Hall

Donald Whitcomb, research associate at the Oriental Institute, University of Chicago
Followed by a half-hour gallery tour.

LECTURES



The David Kipper Ancient Israel Lecture Series

The David Kipper Ancient Israel Lecture Series was established through a gift from Barbara Kipper and the Kipper Family and includes a free annual public lecture as well as a workshop for scholars at the Oriental Institute.

New Discoveries in the Ancient Village and Synagogue at Huqoq in Israel's Galilee

Tuesday, May 5

7:00–9:00 p.m.

Registration required at kipper.eventbrite.com. Free.

Join Jodi Magness, the Kenan Distinguished Professor for Teaching Excellence in Early Judaism at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, as she presents the third annual Kipper Lecture.



Missed a lecture in this series? Watch it online at www.youtube.com/JamesHenryBreasted.

Lunchtime Traveler Series

On the first Thursday of every month, explore the ancient world with a forty-five-minute gallery talk in the Oriental Institute Museum. Travel to a time and place beyond the University to learn about significant archaeological discoveries, unlock the secrets of civilization, and gain a greater appreciation of our ancestors.

Oriental Institute Museum, 12:15–1:00 p.m.

Registration not required. Free.

Cylinder Seals: Miniature Masterpieces of Mesopotamia

Thursday, April 2

Join Oriental Institute Museum curatorial assistant Kiersten Neumann, as she traces the relationships among material, shape, imagery, identity, and ideology of cylinder seals from ancient Mesopotamia. The discussion will highlight what properties were of the greatest cultural value, with visual support provided by the rich collection on display in the Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery.

From the Arabian Nights to Taxes: Texts from the Old Cairo Exhibition

Thursday, May 7

Join Tasha Vorderstrasse, Oriental Institute research associate and co-curator of *A Cosmopolitan City: Muslims, Christians, and Jews in Old Cairo*, to discuss the different types of texts on display and provide an in-depth examination of some of the important aspects of these texts, which include the oldest known fragment of the *Arabian Nights*, illuminated religious manuscripts, and inscriptions on stone.

The Ancient Egyptian Book of the Dead

Thursday, June 4

Join head of the Research Archives Foy Scalf for a discussion about the ancient Egyptian Book of the Dead. His talk will focus on what this “book” was, what it wasn’t, how it was used in funerary ritual, and its relationship to the contemporary literature of its time.

LECTURES meet at the Oriental Institute unless otherwise noted.

REGISTER To register, visit oi.uchicago.edu/register. For assistance or more information, email oi-education@uchicago.edu.

FAMILY & YOUTH PROGRAMS



Ancient Earth Day

Saturday, April 25

1:00–4:00 p.m.

Registration recommended. Free.

We love our earth now, and so did the ancient Mesopotamians! Learn how the ancient Mesopotamians cared for the earth and how they thought it was created. Make a model ancient Mesopotamian temple from recycled materials. (Please bring your extra cardboard shoeboxes and paper towel rolls to help us with this project.) Recommended for ages 5-12.

Junior Archaeologists

Saturday, May 16

1:00–3:00 p.m.

\$10 members; \$14 non-members. One child age 5-12 plus one adult

Additional registrant: \$5 members; \$7 non-members

Registration required.

Let loose your inner Indiana Jones! Children and parents have a chance to dig into our simulated excavation in the Kipper Family Archaeology Discovery Center. The program also includes an interactive guided tour of the galleries.

Boy Scouts: Archaeology Merit Badge Workshop

Saturday, May 23

9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

\$15 members; \$20 non-members

Registration required.

Earn your archaeology merit badge at the Oriental Institute! Items that are required to be completed prior to the badge workshop will be e-mailed to participants upon registration. Badge certification will be available at the workshop.

Little Scribe

Saturday, May 23

1:00–4:00 p.m.

Registration recommended. Free.

Can you imagine a world without writing? Learn how writing began, how it changed over time, and how it changed the world forever through this hands-on program. Kids ages 9-12 help us “evolve” a writing script, while kids ages 5-8 take part in an interactive tale that describes how the alphabet was created. Presentations and guided writing-themed tours begin at 1:30, 2:00, and 2:30. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Ancient Game Day

Saturday, June 6

1:00–5:00 p.m.

Registration recommended. Free.

Explore the board games the pharaohs of Egypt enjoyed and the rulers of Mesopotamia and Persia taught in their own courts. Take your gaming inspiration outside the museum to try your hand at making your own board game. In the event of inclement weather, this program will be moved inside.

HOMESCHOOL PROGRAMS

By Our Birdhouse You Will Know Us

Thursday, April 30

1:30–3:30 p.m.

\$10 members; \$16 non-members.

Additional registrant: \$5 members; \$8 non-members

Registration required

Explore life as an ancient Egyptian by helping us build a scale model of the Temple of Aye and Horemheb. Our finished product will become a home for Chicago birds.

How to Make an Exhibit

Thursday, May 28

1:30–3:30 p.m.

\$10 members; \$16 non-members.

Additional registrant: \$5 members; \$8 non-members

Registration required.

Work with Oriental Institute chief curator Jack Green to learn how curators make a museum display.

Egypt-o-Mania

Thursday, June 11

1:30–3:30 p.m.

Registration recommended. Free.

Join us for some FREE homeschool-exclusive end-of-the-year fun with Egypt-themed games, food, music, and more!

FAMILY & YOUTH PROGRAMS meet at the Oriental Institute unless otherwise noted. Children under 13 must be accompanied by an adult.

REGISTER To register, visit oi.uchicago.edu/register. For assistance or more information, email oi-education@uchicago.edu.

TEACHER PROGRAMS



Teacher Workshop: Geometry and Islamic Arts

Saturday, April 18
9:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

Early-bird rate (Register before April 12): \$15 member; \$20 non-member
Regular rate (Register after April 12): \$30 member; \$40 non-member
5 CPDUs for Teacher Re-certification.
Registration required.

Using objects in the special exhibit *A Cosmopolitan City: Muslims, Christians, and Jews in Old Cairo* and excerpts from Islamic literature as the primary sources, teachers will explore the relationship among Islamic religion, arts, and geometry. This workshop is recommended for mathematics, social science, history, and art teachers.

Presenter: Tasha Vorderstrasse, Oriental Institute research associate and co-curator of *A Cosmopolitan City: Muslims, Christians, and Jews in Old Cairo*.

Teacher Workshop: Material Science in Archaeology

Saturday, May 2
9:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

Early-bird rate (Register before April 26): \$15 member; \$20 non-member
Regular rate (Register after April 26): \$30 member; \$40 non-member
5 CPDUs for Teacher Re-certification.
Registration required.

Archaeology has long been an enthusiastic borrower from other disciplines such as ecology, geology, and geography. Investigate the microstructure, physics, and chemistry of materials such as clay, gypsum, bronze, and iron and the way these materials helped shape ancient civilizations. This workshop is recommended for high school STEM teachers, and those who teach at AP level.

Presenter: Oya Topçuoğlu, PhD candidate in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago.

Teacher Appreciation Night

Wednesday, May 20
5:00–8:00 p.m.

3 CPDUs for Teacher Re-Certification.
Registration required. Free.

May is Teacher Appreciation Month, and to express our appreciation, the Oriental Institute is hosting an event for classroom teachers and school administrators. Meet staff from a wide range of K–12 education and outreach offices at the University of Chicago. Enjoy tours led by an Oriental Institute archaeologist and Egyptologist, and explore the premier educational resources and research materials available to teachers.

TEACHER PROGRAMS meet at the Oriental Institute unless otherwise noted.

REGISTER To register, visit oi.uchicago.edu/register. For assistance or more information, email oi-education@uchicago.edu.

MEMBERS' EVENTS & TRAVEL



Light Up the Night at the 2015 Oriental Institute Gala Thursday, April 30

6:30 p.m.

**The Four Seasons Hotel Ballroom
120 East Delaware Place**

HONORING

Thomas C. Heagy
with the James Henry Breasted Medallion

For inquiries, contact Brittany F. Mullins at
773.834.9775 or bfmullins@uchicago.edu.

Young Professional Leaders' Dine Around Monday, May 11

6:00-8:00 p.m.

Meet up with fellow YPLers and friends at a local Middle Eastern restaurant for dinner and chat with one of the Oriental Institute's scholars. RSVP to Amy Weber at 773.702.9513 or amyweber@uchicago.edu.

Suq Sale — Oriental Institute Gift Shop Monday, June 1, through Wednesday, June 10

Members receive 20% off books and 30% off all items.

Rug Tent Sale — Oriental Institute Gift Shop Thursday, June 4, through Sunday, June 7

Members receive 30% off all rugs.

Splendors of Georgia and Armenia Travel Program May 15-30, 2015

Join us on a unique tour of the archaeology, landscape, and culture of Georgia and Armenia on this joint departure with the Oriental Institute and the University of Chicago Alumni and Friends. The South Caucasus is a complex land of contrasts — filled with many languages, peoples, and cultures — and this tour will examine its full history, allowing you to fully experience the region. In Georgia, you will view medieval Byzantine wall paintings and visit Stalin's birthplace in Gori. In Armenia, visit archaeological sites, prehistoric standing stones, the magnificent Roman temple of Garni, and medieval monasteries. Through the tour you will explore the rich heritage of both these countries through their world-famous music and cuisine.



MEMBERS' TRAVEL is a series of international travel programs designed exclusively for Oriental Institute members and patrons. For questions about bookings, call Archaeological Tours at 866.740.5130 or email archtours@aol.com.

FOR ASSISTANCE or more information about Members' programs call the Membership Departments at 773.702.9513 or email oi-membership@uchicago.edu.

SOCIAL MEDIA SNAPSHOT

via Tumblr by UChicago College Admissions

JOIN THE FUN

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube, and through our e-publications to experience each day at the OI as it happens! We'll also keep you up to date on events and programs, and we encourage you to share your experiences, too.



THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE MUSEUM: OPEN EVERY DAY EXCEPT MONDAY AND A GREAT STOP AFTER AN ADMISSIONS INFO SESSION OR TOUR!

Programs Registration Form

Don't miss out — register early!

REGISTRATION

PLEASE ENROLL ME IN THE FOLLOWING PROGRAM(S):

Fee: member rate/non-member rate
Please indicate number of registrants

- ☐ Epic Wednesday: Cosmos in Cairo (\$12/\$15; \$10 group) Wednesday, June 10 at 5:00-8:00 p.m.
- ☐ Rosehill Cemetery Walk (\$20/\$25) Saturday, May 30 at 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- ☐ Islamic Architecture Bus Tour (\$50/\$60; \$30 student) Saturday, June 27 at 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- ☐ Temples and Palaces of Ancient Near Eastern Empires (\$175/\$245) Wednesdays, April 29-June 3 at 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- ☐ Nubia in the Ancient World (\$175/\$245) Saturdays, May 2-June 13 at 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- ☐ Islamic Civilization through Jewish & Christian (\$295/\$345) Wednesdays, May 6-June 24 at 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- ☐ Egyptian Hieroglyphs for Beginners (\$295/\$345) Online, April 20-June 7
- ☐ Before the Alphabet: Writing Systems in the Ancient World (\$295/\$345) Online, June 22-August 9
- ☐ Boy Scouts: Archaeology Merit Badge Workshop (\$15/\$20) Saturday, May 23 at 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- ☐ Junior Archaeologists (\$10/\$14 adult + child; \$5/\$7 for each additional registrant) Saturday, May 16, 1:00-3:00 p.m.
- ☐ Homeschool: By Our Birdhouse You Will Know Us (\$10/\$16; \$5/\$8 for each additional registrant) Thursday, April 30 at 1:30-3:30 p.m.
- ☐ Homeschool: How to Make an Exhibit (\$10/\$16; \$5/\$8 for each additional registrant) Thursday, May 28 at 1:30-3:30 p.m.
- ☐ Teacher Workshop: Geometry and Islamic Arts (\$30/\$40; early-bird \$15/\$20) Saturday, April 18 at 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
- ☐ Teacher Workshop: Material Science in Archaeology (\$30/\$40; early-bird \$15/\$20) Saturday, May 2 at 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
- ☐ I am a K-12 teacher seeking CPDUs for eligible programs.
- ☐ I would like to become a member of the Oriental Institute. Enclosed is \$50 for an individual membership or \$75 for an annual family membership. **Please send a separate check for membership.**

Total enclosed: \$ _____

Enclosed please find my check or money order made payable to **The Oriental Institute.**

Please charge my:

☐ Visa ☐ MC

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Daytime Phone Number _____

E-mail _____

Credit Card Number _____

Exp. Date _____ Signature _____

Send to: The Oriental Institute
Public Education Office
1155 E. 58th St.
Chicago, IL 60637

All programs are subject to change without notice



THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

The University of Chicago
1155 East 58th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637
oi.uchicago.edu



INFORMATION

Membership

Your Partnership Matters!

The Oriental Institute depends upon members of all levels to support the learning and enrichment programs that make our Institute an important — and free — international resource.

As a member, you'll find many unique ways to get closer to the ancient Near East — including free admission to the Museum and Research Archives, invitations to special events, discounts on programs and tours, and discounts at the Institute gift shop.

\$50 Annual / \$40 Senior (65+) Individual
\$75 Annual / \$65 Senior (65+) Family

How to Join or Renew

- Online: oi.uchicago.edu/getinvolved
- By phone: 773.702.9513
- On site: at the Gift Shop



Accessibility

Handicapped and Stroller Access. The Museum is fully wheelchair and stroller accessible. The University Avenue west entrance is accessible by ramp and electronic doors.



Parking

FREE parking half a block south of the Museum on University Avenue, after 4:00 pm daily and all day on Saturday and Sunday.

Group Visits

For information about group visits, please go to oi.uchicago.edu/museum/tours

THE UNIVERSITY OF
CHICAGO
CAMPAIGN
INQUIRY & IMPACT

General Admission

FREE

Adults

\$10 suggested donation

Children 12 or under

\$5 suggested donation

Museum & Gift Shop Hours

Closed Monday
Sun–Tue, Thu–Sat:
10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Wed:
10:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m.

The Museum is closed

- January 1
- July 4
- Thanksgiving Day
- December 25