

Robert D. Biggs

Robert D. Biggs has continued his study of the mid-third-millennium BC cuneiform texts from the Temple of Inanna at Nippur, collaborating in particular with Karen Wilson and Richard Zettler on matters of dating of occupation levels. He has also resumed study of the second-millennium Babylonian texts dealing with extispicy (the Babylonian “science” of interpreting ominous signs in the internal organs of sheep) from the Hittite capital of Hattusha. With a fellowship from the American Research Institute in Turkey in the summer of 1972, he studied the originals in Ankara and Istanbul, and subsequently, in 1981, the originals now in Berlin. Although very fragmentary (with very few lines of text being complete), these texts nevertheless constitute a valuable source for the corpus of omens in the second millennium BC. He will be preparing an edition of the texts.
