

## Karen L. Wilson

**Karen Wilson's** book *Bismaya: Recovering the Lost City of Adab* (Oriental Institute Publications 138; Chicago: The Oriental Institute, 2012), arrived at the Institute in July of 2012. This report chronicles the history and presents the results of the University of Chicago's first expedition to Iraq in 1903–1905.

During the past year, Karen continued to work on the final publication of the Oriental Institute excavation of the Inanna temple at the site of Nippur in Iraq during the late 1950s and early 1960s. This project is a joint endeavor undertaken with Robert Biggs, Jean Evans, McGuire Gibson (University of Chicago), and Richard Zettler (University of Pennsylvania). The project has included the preparation of a digital catalog of finds linked with images of the objects plus the scanning of all negatives and drawings as well as the field records generated by work on the site. Michael K. Hannan, of Hannan Architecture and Planning, has prepared final architectural plans for the Inanna temple levels at Nippur using AutoCAD, Angela Altenhoffen has produced final inked drawings of the sealings, and Steven George digitized the drawings of stone vessels. Karen was awarded a fellowship by TAARII (The American Academic Research Institute in Iraq) to support her research on Nippur during the summer of 2012. She is pleased to report that the manuscript for the final publication of the Inanna temple excavations was given to Mac Gibson on May 31, 2013, for review.

Karen also continued to serve as Kish Project Coordinator at the Field Museum, preparing the final publication of the results of the Joint Field Museum and Oxford University Expedition to Kish in 1923–1933. She is extremely pleased that the Oriental Institute Publications Committee has agreed to publish the manuscript as a volume in the Oriental Institute Publications series. The work will include papers presented at a symposium in November 2008 focusing on current research and updated excavations at the site. Contributions include studies of the human remains, textual evidence, lithics, animal figurines, and stucco as well as a catalog of the Field Museum holdings from Kish and Jamdat Nasr.

Karen's manuscript "Ancient Mesopotamia: Highlights from the Collections of the Oriental Institute, University of Chicago," is in progress and, when published, will serve as the gallery guide to the Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery. It will also provide a much-needed general book that will introduce the reader to the history and culture of ancient Mesopotamia.

---