
Scribes at the Assyrian royal court on occasion referred in their official documents to earlier events with remarkable chronological precision, e.g., that Shamshi-Adad I rebuilt the Assur temple 126 years after Ushpiya, and that Shalmaneser I rebuilt the temple 434 years after Shamshi-Adad. **John Brinkman** has been examining this Assyrian use of history, looking at its literary context, the ancient sources which the Assyrians used to make chronological calculations, and the accuracy of their statements. He gave an introductory presentation on the subject entitled "Assyrian Reflections on History" at Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati, in April. Mr. Brinkman has also continued preparing Babylonian texts for an edition of royal inscriptions. In the past year, he has visited the Yale Babylonian Collection, the World Heritage Museum (University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana), and the British Museum to prepare texts for publication. He has recently published two brief texts, one from the fourteenth century B.C. (an inscription of the grandson of the Kassite king Kurigalzu I) and one from the eleventh century (a damaged inscription from the reign of the little-known king, Simbar-Shipak). He compiled, edited, and published the *Mesopotamian Directory 1991*, the fourth edition of a reference work which lists more than 435 professionals involved in the study of pre-Islamic Greater Mesopotamia. Current research projects include an edition of a private donation stele in the British Museum which deals with the area west of Haditha on the Middle Euphrates (where many important new texts were found in international salvage operations in the early 1980s) and a catalogue of the cuneiform tablets discovered in the thirteen and fourteenth seasons of excavations at Nippur (1975, 1976).