

**RESEARCH****Robert Biggs**

**Robert Biggs** continues his studies of various aspects of Babylonian medicine. With a goal of documenting botanical remains from excavations in Mesopotamia to establish what plants were potentially available locally for medicinal use, he spent quite a bit of time reading archaeological reports from the past few years. Part of his results were presented in a lecture, "Babylonian Medicine: Botanical Perspectives and Prospects" at the symposium "Progress and Change in the Ancient Near Eastern Diet and Medicine" given at the Rodef Shalom Biblical Botanical Garden, Pittsburgh, in September 1996. Another of his interests in the Near East is reflected in his lecture "Turkoman and Turkish Weavings" at the Oriental Rug Symposium held at the Oriental Institute in October 1996.

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