



THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

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ORIENTAL INSTITUTE DHAMAR PROJECT NOTES ON THE 1996 FIELD SEASON

By T. J. Wilkinson, Research Associate (Associate Professor)

The Oriental Institute Dhamar Project completed its third field season by Thanksgiving 1996. Although all seasons have been brief—around five weeks per season—the results have been remarkably productive. One does not often have the opportunity to go to a virtually pristine archaeological region and build up a cultural and environmental sequence for thousands of years. Prior to our fieldwork, the high plains of Yemen were largely unknown but for the remains of the Himyarite state, which enjoyed control of the region between approximately the first century BC and the sixth century AD. This period was the subject of the earlier campaigns initiated by Professor McGuire Gibson during the 1970s and 1980s, when Ray Tindel (now Registrar of the Oriental Institute Museum) was effectively resident curator of the museum at Zafar, a small village that is all that remains today of the capital of the Himyarite state.

Our objective during the field campaigns of the 1990s was to build upon Tindel's archaeological and historical foundations concerning the Himyarite heartland and extend them chronologically back to the origins of complex states in the highlands. Furthermore we attempted to provide an environmental framework in order to demonstrate under what conditions early terraced agriculture was developed. Thus we wanted to know not only who the first "proto-Himyarites" were, but also what type of environment they experienced and how and when they managed to develop a viable agricultural economy. Yemen, being in southwest Arabia, is within the area that has provided compelling evidence in the

form of relict lakes for a period of moist, verdant conditions between 9,000 and 6,000 years ago. Little however was known of conditions on the high plateau, and it was therefore necessary to examine numerous stratigraphic sections to develop a full natural stratigraphic sequence in parallel to the cultural sequence (see "Investigations in Yemen: Progress Report" in *The Oriental Institute Annual Report 1995–1996*).

We must thank a number of private contributors to the Oriental Institute for making the 1996 campaign possible. Without such donations fieldwork would have been impossible. We are also grateful to the American Institute for Yemeni Studies (AIYS) which provided, through its offices and hostel in San'a and through the expert guidance of its director, Dr. Noha Sadek, an administrative foundation for the ongoing fieldwork. The AIYS must also be thanked for providing a grant that covered the expenses of Chris Edens and his excavations, which provided a major contribution to the season's success. In addition, we should thank the General Organization of Antiquities and Museums, San'a, and its director, Dr. Yusuf Abdullah, for speedily providing permits and administrative assistance for fieldwork.

Early Towns and Terraced Agriculture

Probably the most exciting aspect of our earlier field seasons was the discovery of a number of large sites of nominally Early Bronze Age date. I say nominally because our dating evidence was by ceramics alone. Such sites were dated by reference to

small sites surveyed to the northeast of our region by a team of Italian archaeologists under the directorship of Dr. Alessandro de Maigret. Their discoveries, during the early 1980s, marked a turning point in the archaeology of Yemen because they were the first to recognize a coherent archaeological signature for this period in southwest Arabia. However, their sites—in the semiarid mountain valleys to the southeast of the capital San'a—were small



Stone uprights flanking the doorway of a Bronze Age house

rather straggling agglomerations of sub-rectangular houses and compounds that were little more than villages.

In contrast, the settlements that our surveys were documenting on the relatively verdant plateau were large coherent settlements of rectangular houses, some streets, and even, in the most

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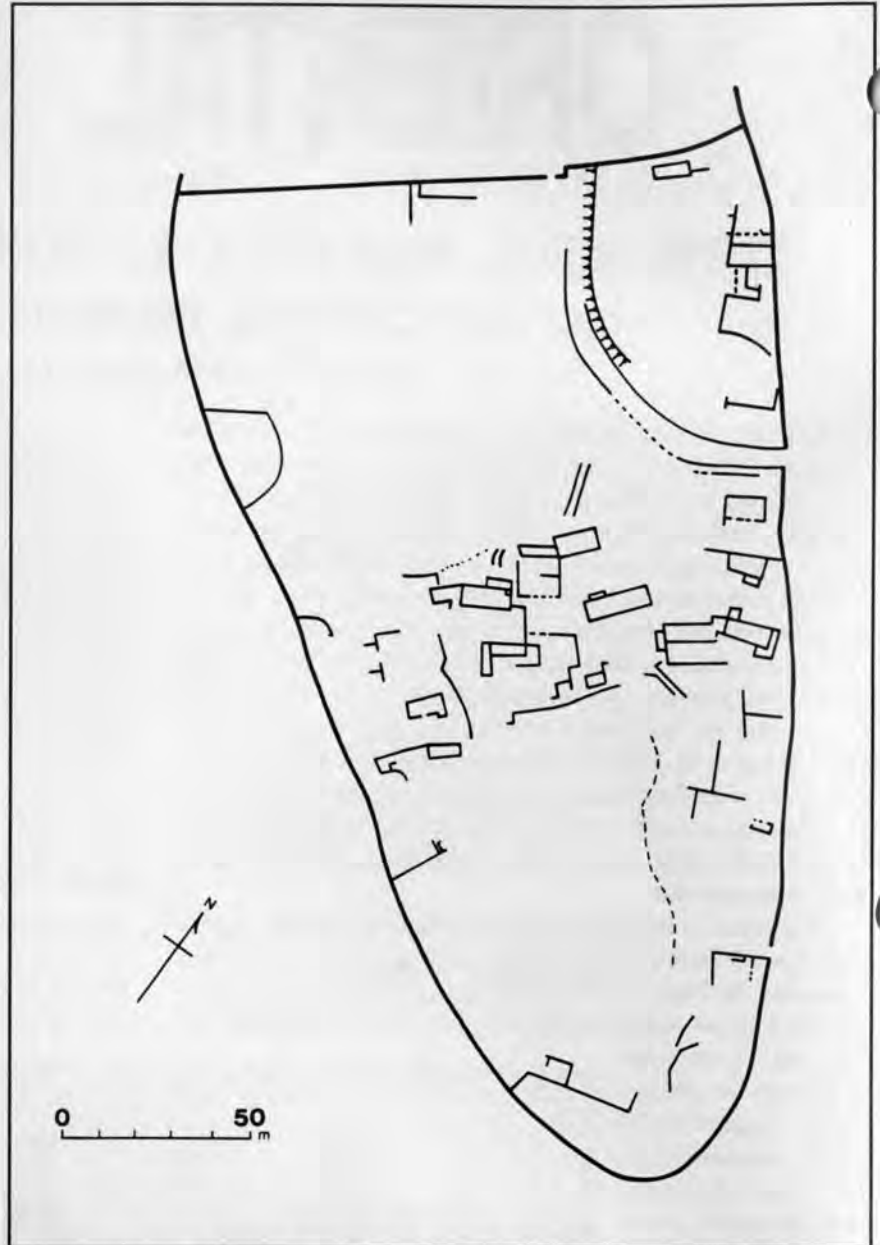


Steps along ancient paved road leading towards the Himyarite capital of Zafar

noteworthy case, an outer defensive wall. Such defenses were of course supplementary, Yemenis through the ages being more likely to adopt hilltops for occupation for reasons of both defense and status.

These sites, although yielding sufficient pottery to furnish a Bronze Age date for their occupation, were not dated absolutely. Therefore, building on the foundations laid by Professor McGuire Gibson during the 1995 field season, we decided to initiate small-scale excavations in order to define the architecture and stratigraphy of two sites and to obtain pottery in good stratified contexts in association with charcoal. This charcoal could then be subject to radiocarbon assay, thereby providing an "absolute" date for the sites in radiocarbon years before present ("BP"). Excavations were undertaken by Christopher Edens, an expert in Arabian prehistory, who with his wife (surveyor Julie Edens), took on two sites, Hamat al-Qa (site DS 101) and al-Sibal (DS 66) for detailed investigation. Of these al-Sibal had already provided two radiocarbon dates as a result of Professor Gibson's investigations in 1995, but we felt that such a chronological picture required strengthening, not only by more dates, but also by an enlarged pottery collection.

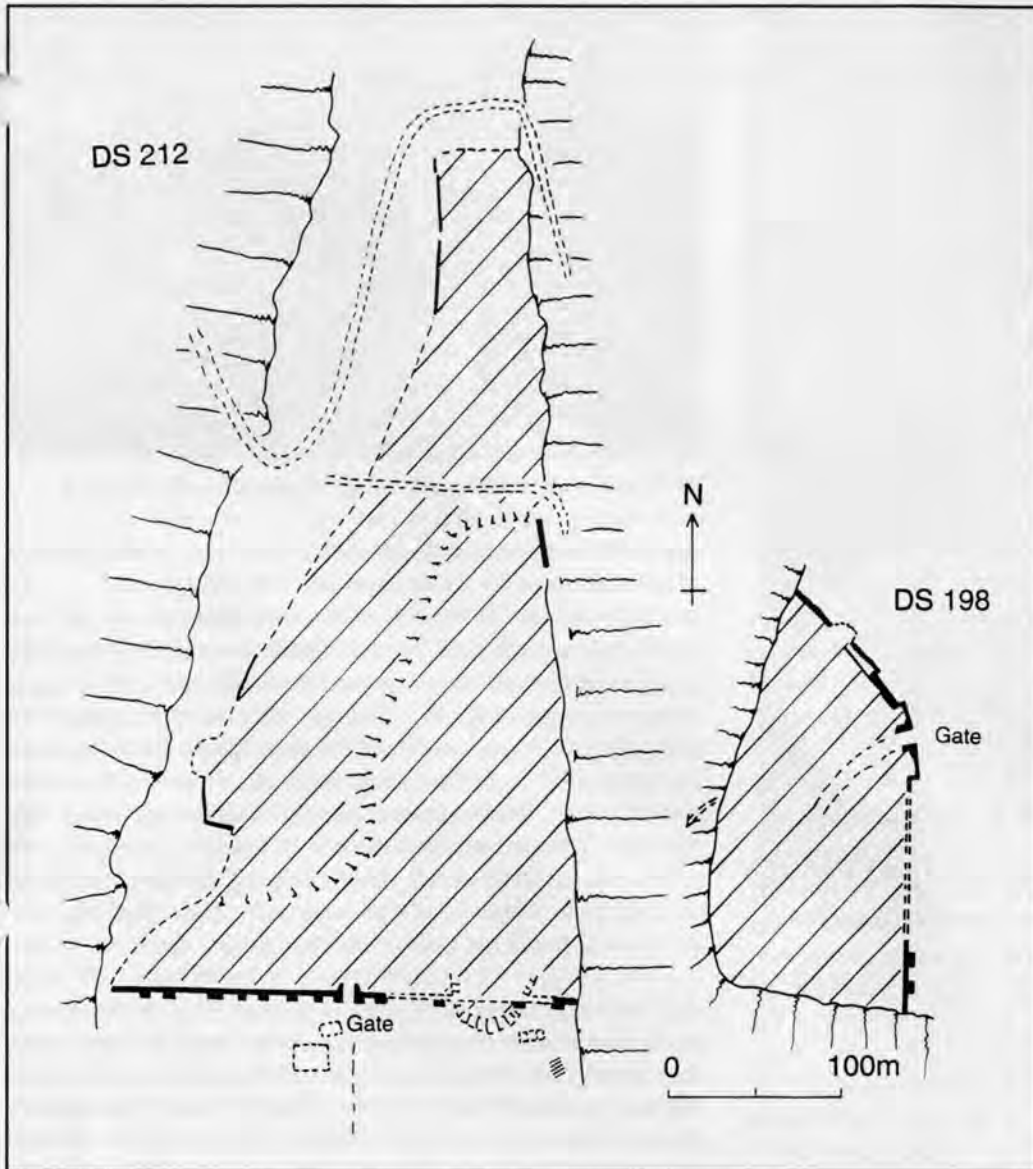
Hamat al-Qa was partially mapped, and small soundings were placed in representative parts of the site. In villages of this part of Yemen, public relations is important. By public relations I do not mean reception desks, attended by cologne-scented, power-dressed receptionists; rather I mean that labor should be carefully selected so that an equitable number of people from each affiliated village, family, or tribal subdivisions is selected. With the help of our representatives Khalid al-Ansi and Ali



Preliminary map, by Chris and Julie Edens, of the Bronze Age town of Hamat al-Qa (DS 101). Note that to date only one strip of buildings has been mapped. Most of the remainder of the enclosed area was also covered with buildings

Sanabani, as well a number of influential local sheiks, we managed to progressively iron out labor problems and rationalize our work force into functional units that provided not only valuable archaeological results but also some excellent colleagues.

One of the advantages of radiocarbon dating is that in areas where pottery sequences are not well known, the results can erode preconceptions. In this case the site that we thought was probably of distinctly third millennium BC date—Hamat al-Qa—proved to comprise occupations dating between the final quarter of the third millennium (Early Bronze Age IV in the Palestinian chronology) and the first half of the second millennium BC. Al Sibal, on the other hand, has now provided dates ranging from the mid-third millennium BC to roughly the third quarter of the second millennium. Although it is clear that more radiocarbon determinations are required, it seems that urbanization on the high plateau may not be contemporary with the communities lo-



Sketch plans of two walled Iron Age and Himyarite towns near Dhamar

cated by de Maigret in the semiarid regions to the northeast. Rather they appear to follow on from that phase of occupation that was dated to around the middle of the third millennium BC. However, because there are remarkable ceramic similarities between the Khawlan groups and those of Hamat al-Qa and related sites, it seems that we are dealing with the same ceramic tradition, but one which shifted, or became focused on the plateau, rather later in the third millennium BC.

Such sites were not investigated in isolation but were shown to form part of a remarkably dense scatter of Bronze Age settlements on the plateau. It was even possible to recognize places subordinate to Hamat al-Qa. These provided identical pottery but were rather smaller and again were primarily defensive. Agriculture in the form of relict systems of terraced fields was also evident. The faint traces of such fields clung to the hillside below Hamat al-Qa and its subordinate satellite settlement, Hait al-Ahmar (DS 192). The area can even boast industry in the form of obsidian extraction sites. Although the region has long been known as an obsidian source, in 1996 for the first time we discovered (of course on a mountain top) a Bronze Age site replete with obsidian-working debris. Thus it seems that the inhabitants

were gathering chunks of obsidian from the base of hill slopes, carrying them to specialized hilltop sites, and working them by striking blades and flakes from carefully prepared cores. The relation between the Bronze Age occupations and obsidian tool preparation are therefore unequivocal.

Iron Age Towns

I do not wish to give the impression that all of our efforts in 1996 were expended on Bronze Age sites. It is true, however, that at times they seemed difficult to avoid. Nevertheless, major advances were made in our studies of the pre-Himyarite "Iron Age" settlements, namely those that are loosely contemporaneous with the Sabaeen kingdoms of the desert fringes to the north. In the previous season we had defined this culture by reference to its distinct pottery assemblage found on numerous large hilltop and valley bottom sites. Its chronological status has been approximated by radiocarbon determinations on samples obtained from two of Professor Gibson's 1995 soundings. These confirmed a first millennium BC date for such sites. The 1996 season not only provided more sites, but also two that were equipped with outer defensive walls. Such settlements, with their massive defensive

walls of roughly-dressed stones, monumental gateways, and square interval towers, although known in other parts of Yemen, have hitherto not been recorded from the high plateau. Two walled sites are now known, and both have been mapped at a general level. From their surface pottery, both sites can be shown to belong to both the Iron Age and the Himyarite periods, and our preliminary investigations suggest that there may well have been continuity of occupation between the late Iron Age and Himyarite periods.

That the foundation of Himyarite towns lie within the Iron Age is also supported by a deep stratigraphic sequence recorded from the Himyarite town of Ribat Amran. There, deep excavations showed that prior to the Himyarite occupation, earlier occupations were present in stratigraphic sequence well back into the Iron Age (ca. mid-first millennium BC).

With regard to agriculture, our environmental investigations are providing abundant supporting data for the agricultural systems that were associated with the early towns of the Yemen plateau. In addition to the terraced fields associated with the Bronze

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The threshing of grain on a traditional threshing floor at Bosan, Yemen

Age sites, we now have radiocarbon dates associated with soils and terraced walls of the Iron Age (between 400 and 100 BC). These determinations show that agriculture on the valley floors was well under way by the Iron Age. Furthermore, a radiocarbon-dated soil behind a large valley floor terrace wall near the head of the Wadi Shalalah indicates that valley floor terracing was in existence between about 400 and 100 BC.

Dhawran: A former capital of a unified Yemen

After the decline of Himyar in the late seventeenth century AD, the leader of the Qasimis, Mutawakkil al-Isma'il (1644–76) moved his capital to Dhawran to the east of Ma'bar where it was the capital of all Yemen for a brief period. This capital underwent a decline in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and dwindled into oblivion in the twentieth century, partly as a result of the 1982 earthquake. One of our first objectives upon arrival in our headquarters at Dhamar (in fact before we had unpacked our pots, pans, and smoking jackets) was to investigate this former capital that, according to rumor, clung to a hillside one hour's drive to the northwest of Dhamar. Here was a large town, now entirely in ruins, dominated by an extraordinary mosque, ablution, and mausoleum complex (see illustration). The recording of



Entrance and ablution area of great mosque of Dhawran

this major monument will therefore provide one of the multitude of tasks allocated for the forthcoming 1998 field season.

To conclude, as a result of our investigations we can now confidently say that the Yemen highlands were well populated back to the third millennium BC and the inhabitants were living in towns as early as 2000 BC. Although many more campaigns are needed before we can confidently demonstrate that there has been continuity of occupation throughout the last four or five millennia, this seems to have been extremely likely from existing field evidence. Thus we now feel that the Oriental Institute can claim to have made a significant step in defining the development of civilization in Arabia by discovering and dating what may well be the earliest true towns of the Arabian peninsula.

After training in high Arctic geomorphology, T. J. Wilkinson became interested in the archaeology of the Near East. He worked as a free-lance archaeological consultant for several years and became Assistant Director of the British Archaeological Expedition to Baghdad, Iraq. He has been Co-Director of the Dhamar Project with Professor McGuire Gibson since 1990 and joined the Oriental Institute as a Research Associate in 1992.

ORIENTAL INSTITUTE TRAVEL PROGRAM

OTTOMAN TURKEY AND MEDITERRANEAN GEMS

12–26 October 1997

Sponsored by the Center for Middle Eastern Studies in cooperation with the Oriental Institute, this departure features **Richard L. Chambers**, Professor Emeritus of Turkish Studies, and focuses on the classical and Ottoman periods. Special attention will be paid to the masterful architecture and elegant ceramic wares of the Ottomans. You visit the three capitals of the Ottoman Empire—Bursa, Edirne, and Istanbul—and two great centers of ceramic production, Iznik and Kutahaya. The journey concludes at Antalya, the center of Turkey's Turquoise Riviera, with the nearby classical sites of Perge, Aspendos, Olimpos, and Myra, among others.

Cost (per person, based on double occupancy): \$3100 (Land/Air, Chicago-Istanbul nonstop, plus airport taxes); \$2975 (Land/Air, New York-Istanbul nonstop, plus airport taxes); \$475 (Single Supplement); \$300.00 (Tax-Deductible Contribution to the University of Chicago). Land only rates available on request from the Membership Office at (773) 702-1677.

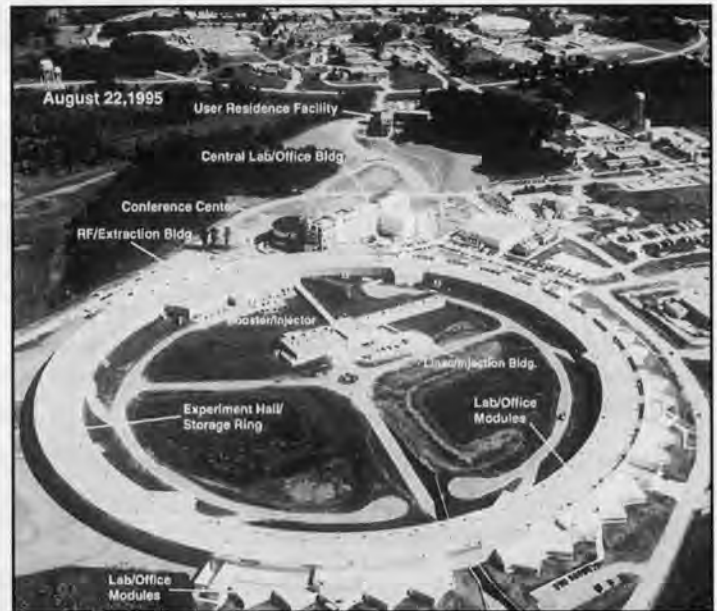
For other upcoming departures, please see pages 9 and 10.

RESEARCH GRANT INAUGURATES ORIENTAL INSTITUTE COLLABORATION WITH ARGONNE

Aslıhan Yener, Associate Professor of Anatolian Archaeology at the Oriental Institute, was recently awarded a \$40,000 research grant by the University of Chicago/Argonne National Laboratory Collaborative Seed Grant Program for the investigation of ancient Near Eastern metal production. This seed grant program encourages members of the University of Chicago community to collaborate with scientists at Argonne National Laboratory to further academic research. The award provides funding for one year with the option of renewal for a second year. "This is a first for the humanities," says Professor Yener, "we are taking a great step forward by accessing the breadth of expertise available at Argonne." In the past, humanities disciplines have rarely taken advantage of the opportunities available in the scientific community.

During the initial phase of the project, Elizabeth Friedman, Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, will be conducting X-ray fluorescence analysis of ancient metals with Dr. Esen Alp, the principal investigator from the Advanced Photon Source (APS) at Argonne National Laboratory. She will also be working with Dr. Charles Johnson, currently of Argonne, using Mössbauer spectroscopy to examine the specifics of iron and tin in metal artifacts from the Amuq excavations Phases F through J (fourth–third millennium BC).

X-ray analysis of archaeological artifacts using the Advanced Photon Source Synchrotron Beam has never before been done. This high powered energy source will enable many artifacts to be examined quickly with high precision, theoretically to parts per billion, without damage or destruction of the sample and without leaving any trace of radioactivity. X-ray fluorescence measures the spectra of X-rays emitted from the object, each element having its own spectrum. With the aid of a sophisticated software package the researchers will be able to convert these emissions into quantitative measurements of the chemical composition of the artifacts from the Oriental Institute collections that have previously had minimal instrumental analysis. The APS



Advanced Photon Source, Argonne National Laboratory

beamline is being experimentally tested for comparability with other analyses, and the potentials are being explored.

The competition for the University of Chicago/Argonne Collaborative Seed Grants was strong. Dr. Yener was one of thirteen recipients of this seed money and the only representative from the Division of the Humanities. The majority of the grants were awarded to researchers in biology, medicine, and chemistry. This is an exciting moment in archaeology with great expectations for the successful application of innovative scientific methods of analysis to archaeological materials.

FROM THE PUBLICATIONS OFFICE—NEW TITLE

THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE HAWARA PAPYRI *Demotic and Greek Texts from an Egyptian Family Archive in the Fayum (Fourth to Third Century B.C.).*

G. R. Hughes and R. Jasnow

Oriental Institute Publications, Volume 113

Pp. xxviii + 101; 4 figures, 62 plates, 2 tables. 1997

Price: \$45.00

The papyri published here, chiefly in the collection of the Oriental Institute Museum, comprise part of a large family archive from the town of Hawara in the Egyptian Fayum. Written in Demotic and Greek, the documents (annuity contracts, donations, sales, mortgage agreements, loan repayments) are an excellent source of information for Egypt of the fourth to third century B.C.

Professor George R. Hughes had worked on the ten Oriental Institute Hawara papyri for a number of years, but sadly, it was not possible to finish the manuscript before his death in December 1992; he did, however, prepare preliminary transliterations and translations of the papyri, including the Rendell Papyrus published in the Appendix. Discussions, commentaries, and glossaries are included. Richard Jasnow completed the manuscript with the assistance of James Keenan, who prepared the Greek texts. The book is of interest to Egyptologists, Hellenists, and all of those concerned with the economic and social history of the Late period in Egypt.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS SUMMER 1997

CORNERSTONE CEREMONY

Thursday 12 June 1997

11:00 AM, Oriental Institute

ASSOCIATES DINNER

Wednesday 24 September

Janet Wallach

5:30 PM, Oriental Institute

See page 12 for more information

TRAVEL PROGRAM

27–28 September

Egypt in Detroit

Emily Teeter

See page 9 for more information

12–26 October

Ottoman Turkey and Mediterranean Gems

Richard Chambers

See page 4 for more information

1–14 November

Perfect Egypt

Edward F. Wente

See page 10 for more information

ADULT EDUCATION COURSES

11 June–16 July

A Beginner's Guide to Ancient Egypt

Alexandra O'Brien

WEDNESDAYS, 7:00–9:00 PM

Oriental Institute

See page 8 for more information

21 June–16 August

Land of Plenty: The Economy of Ancient Egypt

Frank Yurco

SATURDAYS, 10:00 AM–12:00 NOON

Oriental Institute

See page 8 for more information

SPECIAL EVENTS

Monday–Friday 4–8 August

Be an Ancient Egyptian Artist: A Summer Camp for Kids

9:00 AM–1:00 PM, Lill Street Studio

See page 8 for more information

Wednesday 17 September

Mummies Meet High Tech

Emily Teeter

7:00 PM, Breasted Hall

See page 10 for more information

Sunday 28 September

The 57th Street Children's Book Fair

1:00–5:00 PM, Kimbark and 57th Street

See page 10 for more information

PARKS PARTNERS MINI-FESTIVALS

Saturday 14 June

Haines School Park

Sunday 13 July

Munroe Playground Park

Saturday 19 July

Murray Playground Park

Sunday 20 July

Indian Boundary Park

Saturday 2 August

Kelvyn Park

Sunday 3 August

Calumet Park

Saturday 9 August

Veterans Memorial Playground

See page 10 for more information

SPECIAL EXHIBIT

1 July 1997–8 March 1998

In the Presence of the Gods: Art from Ancient Sumer

Smart Museum of Art

SUNDAY FILMS

All films are shown in Breasted Hall at 2:00 PM

- | | | |
|-----------|---------------|--|
| 1 | June | <i>Nubia 64: Saving the Temples of Ancient Egypt</i> |
| 8 | | <i>Ancient Treasures from the Deep</i> |
| 15 | | Father's Day—No Film |
| 22 | | <i>Iraq: The Cradle of Civilization</i> |
| 29 | | <i>Egypt: The Habit of Civilization</i> |
| 6 | July | Independence Day Weekend—No Film |
| 13 | | <i>Land of the Pharaohs*</i> |
| 20 | | <i>The Egyptian*</i> |
| 27 | | <i>Cleopatra*</i> |
| 3 | August | <i>The Royal Archives of Ebla</i> |
| 10 | | <i>Mysteries of the Holy Land</i> |
| 17 | | <i>Mummies Made in Egypt</i> |
| 24 | | <i>The Face of Tutankhamun: The Great Adventure</i> |
| 31 | | <i>The Face of Tutankhamun: Wonderful Things</i> |

* Part of Summer Sundays at the Movies

See page 7 for more information

All Programs Subject to Change

MOVIE TIME !!!

SUNDAY FILMS

The Oriental Institute invites you to enjoy the best in documentary and feature films on ancient Near Eastern history, art, and archaeology. All films begin at 2:00 PM on Sunday afternoon and last approximately one hour, except where noted. Admission is free.

Thanks to a generous grant from the University of Chicago Women's Board, the Oriental Institute has installed the latest in big-screen video and computer projection in Breasted Hall.

- 1 June** *Nubia 64: Saving the Temples of Ancient Egypt*—this film documents the remarkable story of how monumental ancient Egyptian temples were saved from submersion just prior to the construction of the Aswan Dam. (1964)
- 8** *Ancient Treasures from the Deep*—from the PBS *Nova* series. This exciting documentary takes you to the coast of Turkey to view the underwater excavation of a Bronze Age shipwreck. Dating to the fourteenth century BC and loaded with artifacts that include pottery, copper ingots, and jewelry, this is the oldest intact shipwreck ever explored by archaeologists. (1987)
- 15** Father's Day. No film showing
- 22** *Iraq: The Cradle of Civilization*—from the PBS series *Legacy: Origins of Civilization* hosted by Michael Wood, who seeks reminders of the ancient past in the present. *Archaeology* magazine calls this series "entertaining and highly educational." (1991)
- 29** *Egypt: The Habit of Civilization*—also from the PBS *Legacy: Origins of Civilization* series. (1991)
- 6 July** Independence Day weekend. No film showing

FULL LENGTH FEATURES

- 13** *Land of the Pharaohs*—a Howard Hawks classic based on William Faulkner's screen play of an aging king dealing with palace intrigue. Jack Hawkins is the pharaoh and Joan Collins is a scheming princess. (1955; 103 minutes)
- 20** *The Egyptian*—a "sword and sandal" epic of romance and murder amidst the pyramids, based on the best selling novel by Finnish author Mika Waltari. (1954; 120 minutes)
- 27** *Cleopatra*—this grand Cecil B. DeMille epic starring Claudette Colbert offers dramatic action in lavish and remarkably authentic settings. Cleopatra's costuming was researched with special care—Ms. Colbert appears in clothing and jewelry that recreate treasures found in ancient Egyptian tombs. (1934; 101 minutes)

- 3 August** *The Royal Archives of Ebla*—the excavation and significance of cuneiform tablets dating to 2300 BC is documented in this important film made in Syria at the site of the tablets' discovery. (1980)
- 10** *Mysteries of the Holy Land*—from the award-winning *Archaeology* series produced by the Archaeological Institute of America. (1995; 90 minutes)
- 17** *Mummies Made in Egypt*—a film for the whole family, this 35-minute animated and live action movie stars LeVar Burton of "Star Trek: The Next Generation." (1990) **Every child in the audience will receive a free "mummy" souvenir.**
- 24** *The Face of Tutankhamun: The Great Adventure*—the first episode of the epic Arts and Entertainment (A&E) series that describes the discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun and the recovery and preservation of its contents. (1992)
- 31** *The Face of Tutankhamun: Wonderful Things*—the second episode of the A&E series. (1992)

**The Museum Gift Shop, The Suq, invites you to browse or shop before or after the movie.
Suq Sunday hours are 12:00 NOON—4:00 PM.**

After a September hiatus, Sunday Films will resume in October

ADULT EDUCATION COURSES

A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO ANCIENT EGYPT

11 June–16 July 1997

If you've always wanted to learn about ancient Egypt, but didn't know how to start, this is the course for you. No prior knowledge is necessary for this six-week class that will provide you with a grounding in ancient Egyptian life and culture. Learn how Egyptologists reconstruct the civilization and culture of ancient Egypt, with special emphasis on the ancient Egyptian writing system and the various texts that survive. Then survey the history of ancient Egypt from the mysterious kings of the First Dynasty (ca. 3000 BC) to the famous pharaohs and queens of the New Kingdom (ca. 1400 BC). Town life, home and family, burial customs, and mummification will all be discussed, and recommended readings will offer suggestions for further study.

Instructor Alexandra O'Brien is a Ph.D. candidate in Egyptology in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago. Her main interest is social history and how it can be reconstructed from documents relating to everyday life. She is also involved in making information about ancient Egypt available on the World-Wide Web and has produced Web pages on ancient Egyptian burial practices.

This course will meet at the Oriental Institute on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM, beginning 11 June and continuing through 16 July 1997.

Preregistration required. See coupon on page 9

Required text

The British Museum Book of Ancient Egypt. Stephen Quirk and Jeffrey Spencer, eds. London: Thames and Hudson, 1992

LAND OF PLENTY: THE ECONOMY OF ANCIENT EGYPT

21 June–16 August 1997

Ancient Egypt was a rich and prosperous land that was able to satisfy the basic needs of all its people. The waters of the Nile and its annual inundation gave Egypt agricultural abundance. The desert provided mineral resources and a wealth of gold, while Egyptian grain and papyrus supplied the whole Levant and the Mediterranean. Long-distance trade brought Egypt fine timber, exotic luxury goods, and manifold contacts with foreign countries. This course will examine all aspects of the ancient Egyptian economy, with special emphasis on ways the natural environment contributed to ancient Egypt's economic success.

Instructor Frank Yurco is an Egyptologist who has taught numerous courses on topics of ancient Near Eastern history, culture, and language, both at the Oriental Institute and at the Field Museum. This course will meet at the Oriental Institute on Saturday mornings from 10:00 AM to 12:00 NOON, beginning 21 June and continuing through 16 August 1997. There will be no class on Saturday 5 July. Preregistration required. See coupon on page 9

Required text

Pharaoh's People. T. G. H. James. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1984

SUMMER CAMP FOR KIDS

ORIENTAL INSTITUTE/LILL STREET STUDIO SUMMER CAMP FOR KIDS

Be an Ancient Egyptian Artist

Monday 4 August—Friday 8 August 1997

9:00 AM—1:00 PM

Travel back in time to spend a week exploring the arts of ancient Egypt. In this repeat of last summer's popular camp program, children ages 8–12 will use a variety of art materials to create pottery, jewelry, and paintings like those found in the palaces—and tombs—of the pharaohs. Enjoy clay activities, painting sessions, metalwork, paper making, and more!

The summer camp program will take place at Lill Street Studio, 1021 W. Lill Street in Chicago. Fee: \$130, includes all supplies and materials. Please bring a sack lunch and juice. Preregistration is required and space is limited. To register, call Lill Street Studio at (773) 477-6185.

PLEASE ENROLL ME IN THE FOLLOWING ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM(S)

A Beginner's Guide to Ancient Egypt (six-session course; \$89 for members, \$109 for non-members)

Land of Plenty: The Economy of Ancient Egypt (eight-session course; \$115 for members, \$135 for non-members)

Be an Ancient Egyptian Artist (\$130 — Call Lill Street Studio (773) 477-6185 to register)

I would like to become a member of the Oriental Institute. Enclosed is \$35 for an individual membership or \$45 for a family membership. **Please send a separate check for tax-deductible membership dues.**

Total enclosed \$ _____. Make check(s) payable to the Oriental Institute.

I prefer to pay by check money order credit card

MasterCard/Visa Account Number: _____

Exp. Date: _____ Signature: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Daytime phone _____

Send to: **The Oriental Institute, Education Office, 1155 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60637**

ADULT EDUCATION REGISTRATION AND REFUND POLICY—For multi-session courses, a full refund will be granted to anyone who notifies us about his/her cancellation before the first class meeting. A student who notifies us of his/her cancellation after the first class meeting, but before the second class meeting, will receive a full refund minus a \$45 cancellation fee. After the second class meeting no refunds will be given unless the course is canceled by the Education Office. Those who are not registered may not attend classes. All schedules are subject to change. Some courses may be subject to a small materials fee that will be announced at the first class meeting.

ORIENTAL INSTITUTE TRAVEL PROGRAM

MUSEUM WEEKEND GETAWAY

EGYPT IN DETROIT

27–28 September 1997

The Oriental Institute is proud to announce the fourth of our series of museum visits. **Emily Teeter**, Ph.D., Associate Curator of the Oriental Institute Museum, takes you to the Detroit Institute of Arts to view *Splendors of Ancient Egypt*. This collection, from the Roemer-Pelizaeus Museum in Hildesheim, Germany, includes over 200 pieces from ancient Egypt and features mummy cases, jewelry, and statues. Our visit will include lectures by William Peck, Curator of Ancient Art at the Detroit Institute of Arts; Jerry E. Kadish, SUNY-Binghamton; and Brian Madigan, Wayne State University. Tour cost includes two-day admission to the Detroit Institute of Arts, Saturday lunch, Saturday night dinner, Saturday night hotel, Sunday Continental breakfast, and all ground transportation.

Cost (per person, based on double occupancy): \$295.00; \$95.00 Single Supplement. Passengers are advised to make air arrangements on Southwest Airlines from Chicago Midway to Detroit City Airports. For those wishing to stay over Friday night at the hotel, there will be an additional charge of \$135.00 per person. *Detroit-area residents may join the tour for \$150.00 per person (does not include hotel, Sunday breakfast, and most ground transportation).* More information is available from the Membership Office at (773) 702-1677.

For other upcoming departures, please see pages 4 and 10.

SPECIAL COMMUNITY EVENTS

PARKS PARTNERS MINI-FESTIVALS

THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE AND THE CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT

Bring the whole family to see us at your neighborhood park this summer. The Oriental Institute joins other Chicago museums and cultural institutions for the fourth season of Parks Partners, a summer-long series of free family festivals cosponsored by the Chicago Park District.

You'll find us at the following parks on the dates listed below:

Saturday 14 June—Haines School Park, 247 West 23rd Place

Sunday 13 July—Munroe Playground Park, 2617 West 105th Street

Saturday 19 July—Murray Playground Park, 1743 West 73rd Street

Sunday 20 July—Indian Boundary Park, 2500 West Lunt Avenue

Saturday 2 August—Kelvyn Park, 4438 West Wrightwood Avenue

Sunday 3 August—Calumet Park, 9801 South Avenue G

Saturday 9 August—Veterans Memorial Playground, 2820 East 98th Street

Contact the Museum Education Office at (773) 702-9507 for specific times at each location.

Oriental Institute participation in the Parks Partners program is supported by a grant from the Chicago Park District.

THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE AT THE 57TH STREET CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR

Sunday 28 September 1997, 1:00 PM—5:00 PM

57th Street and Kimbark

Don't miss this free festival celebrating the wonderful world of children's books. At the Oriental Institute booth you're invited to create your own colorful version of an ancient-Egyptian style book, complete with hieroglyphs. For additional information, call the Museum Education Office at (773) 702-9507.

ILLINOIS ARCHAEOLOGY AWARENESS WEEK LECTURE

MUMMIES MEET HIGH TECH: NEW TECHNIQUES IN INVESTIGATING EGYPTIAN MUMMIES

September 14–20 is the seventh annual celebration of Illinois Archaeology Awareness Week. In conjunction with this statewide event, join us on Wednesday 17 September at 7:00 PM at the Oriental Institute for this lecture on new techniques in investigating Egyptian mummies.

The mummies of Egypt have the potential to provide a tremendous amount of information on ancient Egyptian culture, and also on health and life-style more than 3,000 years ago. What techniques are being used to study mummies? What questions are Egyptologists and doctors trying to answer with DNA and other methods, and how effective are these new approaches? Associate Curator Emily Teeter will present a slide-illustrated lecture that will give a brief history of the study of mummies, discuss some of the new research, and examine the impact of this research on our understanding of ancient Egypt.

ORIENTAL INSTITUTE TRAVEL PROGRAM

PERFECT EGYPT

1–14 November 1997

Join Professor Emeritus of Egyptology **Edward F. Wente** on this captivating tour of the finest treasures of Egypt's past. Your journey begins in Cairo, with half-day visits to the Egyptian Museum, the famed Khan el-Khalili bazaar, Islamic Cairo, Coptic Cairo, and the pharaonic monuments at Giza, Sakkara, and Memphis. A full day in Alexandria, Egypt's great Mediterranean port, is followed by a flight to Aswan for embarkation on a four-night Nile Cruise from Aswan to Luxor. This cruise features the dams at Aswan, Kom Ombo, Esna, Edfu, Karnak Temple, and several stops in and around Luxor, including a reception at Chicago House. Professor Wente worked on the Epigraphic Survey from 1959 to 1968, served as its Field Director in 1972/73, and is an experienced leader of tours to Egypt.

Cost (per person, based on double occupancy): \$4955 (Land/Air from Chicago); \$3755 (Land Only); \$675 (Single Supplement); \$350 (Tax-Deductible Contribution to the Oriental Institute). Call the Membership Office at (773) 702-1677 for more information.

For other upcoming departures, please see pages 4 and 9.

ROMANCING THE PAST 1997

On 19 May 1997 Jill Carlotta Maher was awarded the James Henry Breasted Medallion at Romancing the Past, a black-tie gala held in the Drake Hotel Gold Coast Room. After opening remarks by William M. Sumner, Director of the Oriental Institute, University of Chicago President Hugo F. Sonnenschein presented the Breasted Medallion in recognition of Carlotta's extraordinary volunteer service to the Oriental Institute. Barbara Mertz, Egyptologist and award-winning mystery novelist under the pen name Elizabeth Peters, enlivened the evening with a keynote address on the romance and lure of ancient Egypt in relation to her own fictional heroine Amelia Peabody. Guests engaged in spirited silent auction bidding, sampled the exquisite dessert bar in the Drake Room, and danced to the lively strains of the Stanley Paul Orchestra. Dinner chairs for Romancing the Past were Tom and Linda Heagy, Tony and Lawrie Dean, and Nan and David Ray. Some 350 guests joined in celebrating Carlotta's achievements.

We thank our many generous supporters and especially the Oriental Institute Visiting Committee for ensuring the success of this gala. In particular we thank John Nuveen Company (Medallion Underwriters), Dr. Henrietta Herbolzheimer, ABN AMRO, The LaSalle Banks, Lehman Brothers, and Morgan Stanley (Underwriters). Other corporate supporters included Abbott Laboratories; Amoco Corporation; Cramer Krasselt Advertising and Public Relations; MidCon Corp.; Miglin-Beitler Inc.; Peoples Energy; Schwartz, Cooper, Greenberger & Krauss; VOA Associates; and Wasserstein, Perella, & Co. Romancing the Past 1997 raised over \$100,000 for the Institute's Legacy Campaign supporting climate control, renovation, and expansion.



Photographs by Bruce Powell



Upper left: Keynote Speaker Barbara Mertz, Dinner Chair Nan Ray, Visiting Committee Member Marjorie Fisher-Aronow, and Dinner Chair Tom Heagy

Upper right: University of Chicago President Hugo F. Sonnenschein, Donna LaPietra, and Bill Kurtis

Lower left: Jill Carlotta Maher with Hugo F. Sonnenschein

Center: Barbara Mertz and Oriental Institute Director William M. Sumner

Lower right: Carlotta enjoys a celebratory dance with her husband David

THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

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All inquiries, comments, and suggestions are welcome.

Your next visit is only a "click" away!

Log on to the Oriental Institute's
World-Wide Web site:

<http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/default.html>

ASSOCIATES DINNER—JANET WALLACH

5:30 PM, Wednesday 24 September 1997

Fortnightly Club, 120 East Bellevue Place

The Oriental Institute Membership Office presents Janet Wallach, author of *Desert Queen*, for an Associates Dinner on the evening of Wednesday 24 September 1997. Ms. Wallach will be discussing the life and work of Gertrude Bell, one of the most remarkable women of the early twentieth century, among whose accomplishments was the founding of the Baghdad Museum. The venue for the evening is the Fortnightly Club, the longtime private gathering place for Chicago's own remarkable women.

Breasted Society, Associate, and Docent Members of the Oriental Institute may purchase tickets at the special rate of \$50.00 each. Other members may purchase tickets at the rate of \$75.00 each, or may choose to upgrade their memberships to the Associate level to receive the reduced ticket price. Invitations will be mailed in the summer, but early reservations are being taken at the Membership Office. Please call (773) 702-1677 for more information.

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Sale: 22–29 October 1997 — Symposium: 25–26 October 1997