

THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE 2014-2015 ANNUAL REPORT



© 2015 by The University of Chicago. All rights reserved.
Published 2015. Printed in the United States of America.

The Oriental Institute, Chicago

ISBN: 978-1-61491-030-5

Editor: Gil J. Stein

Production facilitated by Editorial Assistants Jalissa Barnslater-Hauck and Le'Priya White

Cover illustration: Overleaf: Folio from a Qur'an. Mamluk, 1435/6 AD. Ink on paper. 30 × 21 cm. OIM A12030A (photo D. 027328: Anna Ressman)

The pages that divide the sections of this year's report feature images from the special exhibition *A Cosmopolitan City: Muslims, Christians, and Jews in Old Cairo*, on display at the Oriental Institute from February 17 to September 13, 2015.

Printed by King Printing Company, Inc., Lowell, Massachusetts, USA



Above: Bowl fragment with sgraffiato decoration. Pottery with glaze. Mamluk, early 1300s AD. Fustat, Egypt. 12.4 × 4.3 cm. OIM E25431 (photo D. 027372: Anna Ressman)

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION. <i>Gil J. Stein</i>	5
IN MEMORIAM	7

RESEARCH

PROJECT REPORTS

ACHEMENET. <i>Jack Green and Matthew W. Stolper</i>	11
AMBROYI, ARMENIA. <i>Frina Babayan, Kathryn Franklin, and Tasha Vorderstrasse</i>	14
ÇADIR HÖYÜK. <i>Gregory McMahon</i>	21
CENTER FOR ANCIENT MIDDLE EASTERN LANDSCAPES (CAMEL). <i>Emily Hammer</i>	28
CHICAGO DEMOTIC DICTIONARY (CDD). <i>Janet H. Johnson</i>	36
CHICAGO HITTITE AND ELECTRONIC HITTITE DICTIONARY (CHD AND eCHD). <i>Theo van den Hout</i>	41
EASTERN BADIA ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT: WISAD POOLS, JORDAN. <i>Yorke M. Rowan</i>	43
EPIGRAPHIC SURVEY. <i>W. Raymond Johnson</i>	52
GIZA PLATEAU MAPPING PROJECT. <i>Mark Lehner</i>	74
JERICO MAFJAR PROJECT. <i>Donald Whitcomb</i>	97
KERKENES DAĞ PROJECT. <i>Scott Branting</i>	101
MARJ RABBA. <i>Yorke M. Rowan and Morag M. Kersel</i>	108
MUMMY LABEL DATABASE (MLD). <i>François Gaudard</i>	117
NIPPUR. <i>McGuire Gibson</i>	122
ORIENTAL INSTITUTE–NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFGHANISTAN PARTNERSHIP. <i>Gil J. Stein</i>	125
ORIENTAL INSTITUTE NUBIAN EXPEDITION (OINE). <i>Bruce B. Williams, Lisa Heidorn, Alexander Tsakos, and Joanna Then-Obluska</i>	130
PERSEPOLIS FORTIFICATION ARCHIVE PROJECT. <i>Matthew W. Stolper</i>	144
POSTDOCTORAL SEMINAR: STRUCTURES OF POWER. <i>Ilan Peled</i>	152
TELL EDFU. <i>Nadine Moeller and Gregory Marouard</i>	153
WRITING IN EARLY MESOPOTAMIA. <i>Christopher Woods and Massimo Maiocchi</i>	167

INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH	171
-------------------------------	-----

RESEARCH SUPPORT

COMPUTER LABORATORY. <i>Paul D. Ruffin</i>	209
INTEGRATED DATABASE PROJECT. <i>Foy Scalf</i>	210
OCHRE DATA SERVICE. <i>Sandra Schloen</i>	217
PUBLICATIONS OFFICE. <i>Thomas G. Urban</i>	219
RESEARCH ARCHIVES. <i>Foy Scalf</i>	222

MUSEUM

MUSEUM. <i>Jack Green</i>	233
SPECIAL EXHIBITS. <i>Emily Teeter</i>	240
PUBLICITY. <i>Emily Teeter</i>	243
REGISTRATION. <i>Helen McDonald and Susan Allison</i>	245
ARCHIVES. <i>John A. Larson</i>	251
CONSERVATION. <i>Laura D'Alessandro</i>	253
PREP SHOP. <i>Erik Lindahl</i>	257
SUQ. <i>Denise Browning</i>	258

PUBLIC EDUCATION

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH. <i>Catherine Kenyon</i>	263
--	-----

CONTENTS

FAMILY AND YOUTH PROGRAMS. *Moriah Grooms-Garcia* 257

TEACHER PROGRAMS. *Carol Ng-He* 270

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM. *Susan Geshwender* 273

DEVELOPMENT AND MEMBERSHIP

DEVELOPMENT. *Tracy Tajbl* 283

VISITING COMMITTEE 284

MEMBERSHIP. *Amy Weber* 285

SPECIAL EVENTS. *Brittany F. Mullins* 291

HONOR ROLL OF DONORS AND MEMBERS 296

FACULTY AND STAFF OF THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE 313

INFORMATION 324

INTRODUCTION

Gil J. Stein

It is my honor to present you with the *Oriental Institute Annual Report* for 2014–15. Cultural and academic institutions often feel obliged to justify their existence and explain to their audiences (or critics) how what they do is relevant to modern life — and why people should care. Current events in the Middle East — most notably the savage attacks by the self-declared “Islamic State” (also called Da’ish, ISIL, and ISIS) on the irreplaceable museums, monuments, and ancient artifacts of the cradle of civilization make it painfully obvious why people should care. This horrific ongoing destruction serves as a daily reminder of the extraordinary significance and relevance of the cultural heritage of the heartlands where the world’s earliest civilizations developed. The eradication of this patrimony is erasing our own history — how we came to be who we are. All of us share the moral obligation to do whatever we can to preserve the cultural heritage of the ancient Near East. Few places feel this obligation more keenly than the researchers, staff, students, members, and supporters of the Oriental Institute. For the last ninety-six years, since its founding by James Henry Breasted in 1919, the Oriental Institute has devoted itself to exploring the origins of civilization, to preserving that heritage, and to disseminating knowledge of the ancient Near East to both scholars and the public. In the face of those who seek to destroy the heritage of Near Eastern civilization, we will do everything we can to explore, understand, preserve, and teach about that heritage.

Every page of this *Annual Report* is a testimony to that commitment. Even though many of the modern Middle Eastern countries where we have traditionally conducted our excavations, surveys, and historical studies are temporarily closed to us because of political turmoil, the Oriental Institute has continued and even expanded that research. This past year alone, we continued existing projects and began new initiatives in Egypt, Israel, the Palestinian Authority, Jordan, Turkey, the Kurdistan region of northern Iraq, Azerbaijan, and Armenia. We now have a total of thirteen excavation projects in these areas. Our Demotic and Hittite dictionaries are documenting the ancient languages of Egypt and Anatolia, and are developing fundamental research tools for exploring those civilizations. Chicago House and the Epigraphic Survey are not only recording the monuments of Luxor and Medinet Habu, they are also preserving and restoring the architecture and art of this UNESCO World Heritage area. Our researchers are exploring the earliest origins of writing and mathematics in Mesopotamia. Our Integrated Database, CAMEL lab, and Achemenet and OCHRE projects are building invaluable new tools to document and organize the crucial data sets for understanding ancient Near Eastern civilizations. In Kabul, the Oriental Institute is helping to rebuild the National Museum of Afghanistan and is initiating a new project to map the archaeological sites of that country with an eye toward documenting the looting. We are making sure that knowledge of the ancient Near East is more accessible than ever before by making every publication that the Oriental Institute has ever produced — all 768 of them! — available for free from our website to anyone, anywhere in the world who wants to learn about this heritage. We are not only continuing our efforts, we are expanding them, as can be seen by our hiring three new Assyriologists (Susanne Paulus, Hervé Reculeau, and John Wee) and one new

Anatolian archaeologist (James Osborne). Finally, in this past year we have established the Chicago Center for Archaeological Heritage Preservation (CCAHP) to serve as a focal point for preservation efforts, and to develop new initiatives to safeguard this patrimony. There is so much more that we could do, and that I hope we will do; but this is an impressive and successful effort that is making a difference in the world. I want to express my profound respect for and gratitude to the people of the Oriental Institute community for everything they are doing to explore and protect what Assyriologist Thorkild Jacobsen called “the Treasures of Darkness,” while bringing those treasures to light for future generations. I am confident that, as you read this Annual Report, you will appreciate their efforts as much as I do.

IN MEMORIAM

Harry A. Hoffner, Jr.

Last March, Harry Hoffner, one of the founders of the Chicago Hittite Dictionary and a leading expert on the ancient Near East, died at the age of 80. Hoffner was the John A. Wilson Professor Emeritus of Hittitology and was internationally recognized as “one of the leading figures in the study of the Hittite language,” according to Oriental Institute Director Gil Stein.

In 1976, Harry Hoffner and Hans Güterbock co-founded the Chicago Hittite Dictionary Project at the Oriental Institute to document the first Indo-European language committed to writing. Hittite civilization is important to scholars because of their its history with the Old Testament Hebrews and its impact on Western thought. The project continues today under the leadership of Theo van den Hout.

“His work as editor of the Chicago Hittite Dictionary laid the foundations for the most important research tool for scholars studying the world’s oldest written Indo-European language. Scholars of linguistics and of the ancient Near East will always be in debt to him for his many contributions to these fields,” Stein said.

“He was absolutely a great scholar,” van den Hout told the *Chicago Tribune* in March. “He had an extremely sharp mind, and the Dictionary is and will be a monument in its field.”

In addition to his work on the Chicago Hittite Dictionary, Hoffner authored several foundational books on the Hittite language and culture: *Alimenta Hethaeorum*, a study of Hittite food production; *The Laws of the Hittites: A Critical Edition*, and *A Grammar of the Hittite Language*, which van den Hout describes as “a landmark publication” for the field.

Hoffner was born and raised in Jacksonville, Florida. He graduated from the Hill School in Pennsylvania and received his bachelor’s degree in 1956 from Princeton University, where he initially pursued a pre-med curriculum before taking up a major in German. He subsequently earned a master’s degree from Dallas Theological Seminary in 1960 and then continued his studies at Brandeis University, where he earned a master’s degree in 1961 and a doctorate in 1963.

Hoffner briefly taught Hebrew and biblical studies at Wheaton College before returning to Brandeis to teach ancient Near Eastern languages. He taught at Yale University from 1969 until 1974, when he joined the Oriental Institute as professor of Hittitology and had the chance to work alongside Güterbock. He retired in 2000, but continued his work on the Dictionary until his death.

Along with his numerous intellectual accomplishments and his enormous contribution to Hittitology, Hoffner will be remembered as a kind and attentive colleague and as a wise advisor to many young scholars throughout the world. A deeply religious man, Hoffner also taught Bible Study classes and sang in the chancel choir at Wheaton’s College Church for two decades.

The faculty and staff of the Oriental Institute extend their deepest condolences to Harry’s wife, Winifred; their three children, David, Karen, and Leel; and two grandchildren, Samantha and Maija.

