



# News & Notes

*Issued confidentially to members and friends  
Not for publication*

No. 101 November-December 1985

## FROM THE MUSEUM

On a hot, September day my son Sean and I drove into Chicago. It was exactly sixteen years to the day that Sean had come into the world at Michael Reese Hospital and some fifteen years since we had left Chicago. After five years of graduate work at the Oriental Insitute, I had gone to New York to become an assistant professor at Hunter College. Now, I was coming back to old friends. Former professors and fellow students who now work here had been sorely missed. I was also coming back to take charge of one of the best collections of ancient Near Eastern artifacts in the world—a veritable treasure-trove. One could spend a lifetime “excavating” the storerooms where some 75,000 objects are housed.



*The seated figure of the Canaanite god Baal was excavated by the Oriental Institute's expedition to Megiddo, the Biblical Armageddon. It was against the worship of graven images such as this that the Hebrew prophets inveighed.*

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## FROM THE MEMBERSHIP OFFICE

One of our readers called to my attention an historic moment which I had completely missed. The September-October *News & Notes* was issue No. 100!!! I went back into the files and pulled out issue No. 1 (dated October 15, 1973) and as I read it, I felt that I might note for all of you some of the changes which have taken place in the public face of the Institute in general and the membership program in particular between Nos. 1 and 101.

The membership program itself dates back to the 1930's and some of our original members are still with us. Since 1950 or before, the Oriental Institute had been sending out to its members letters from archaeologists in the field on a casual basis. However, when issue No. 1 of the *News & Notes* was published in 1973, it began with the Institute's Director, John A. Brinkman, explaining the purpose of the new newsletter.

“To our members and friends:

This year we are experimenting with an expanded newsletter which will bring you not only letters from our archeologists in the field but also other news items which we hope will be of interest. Besides reporting on the Institute's research activities at home and abroad, we also plan to tell you occasionally about important new finds turning up in other excavations (or museums) and about significant new books and articles in periodicals. Staff members have also promised to provide from time to time short feature articles on such topics as “Babylonian Medicine.” This new newsletter, entitled “News and Notes,” will appear monthly from October through June.

In September, McGuire Gibson and his staff returned to dig at Nippur; and we hope to be receiving a report from them shortly. Helene Kantor and Pinhas Delougas (UCLA) are planning to resume excavations at Chogha Mish in December; and Robert Biggs has been discussing the possibility of mounting a joint expedition with members of the British School of Archaeology in Iraq at the site of Tell Abu Salabikh, which yielded so many important early Sumerian literary tablets in the middle 1960's.

Here at home, the Institute will miss the dedicated services of Ursula Schneider, our photographer for over thirty years, who retired on September 1. Her successor, Jean Grant, will begin work about the middle of this month. Another new face around the Oriental Institute is that of Barbara Hall, our conservationist, who comes to us from the British Museum. Miss Hall is busy at present supervising the installation of a conservation laboratory to begin systematic treat-

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Going through the storerooms these past three weeks, I felt like an "urban archaeologist." While peering into one dimly lit storage vault, I glimpsed a magnificent gilt statue of a seated figure peering back at me. Grasping an emblematic wand in his left hand, this figure with cone-shaped crown, lost inlaid eyebrows, and beard was staring at the wall. It is not the Lord of the lost Ark of the Covenant sought by Indiana Jones, but the very kind of god that Isaiah inveighed against, "the idol, a workman casts it, and a goldsmith overlays it with gold." Here was the Canaanite Baal, the idol who continually tempted the Hebrews as chronicled by the Old Testament prophets. No one may ever find the lost Ark of the Covenant, but the Oriental Institute excavations at Megiddo, the Biblical Armageddon, uncovered this priceless statuette of Baal, dating to about 1200 B.C.

Prof. Klaus Baer called my attention to a block statue that had been excavated at Medinet Habu in 1929 by the staff of the Architectural Survey of the Oriental Institute



*The royal inspector Bakenwerel helped investigate tomb robberies during the twelfth century BC. His statue was excavated at Medinet Habu by Uvo Hoelscher of the Architectural Survey, and is now in the Oriental Institute collection.*



*The Qustul Incense Burner memorializes a Heb-sed jubilee celebrated by a Nubian Pharaoh about 3100 BC. The figure of a lion above symbolizes the king. The Burner was recovered during the Oriental Institute's Nubian Rescue Mission.*

under the direction of Uvo Hoelscher. Long neglected, this granite statue represents the Chief of Police of Medinet Habu, one Bakenwerel, who had his moment of glory during the reign of Ramses IX (1126-1108 B.C.). At this time, the might of Egypt was on the wain, and even royal tombs were being robbed. The administration of Thebes was shared between Pa-ser, mayor of the city on the East Bank, and Pa-wer-o, mayor of West Thebes who was responsible for the necropoleis on the West Bank. Pa-ser accused Pa-wer-o of turning a blind eye to tomb robbing. The Vizier, Kha-em-Waset, sent a commission to investigate. Our Bakenwerel, listed second in the commission, helped examine the tombs of four Divine Votaresses and several nobles, in addition to ten royal tombs. He found that the tomb of King Sobekemsaf II of Dyn. 17 (about 1600 B.C.) had been broken into, along with the tombs of the two Divine Votaresses and all the nobles. What a "Dowsha" [brouhaha] that must have been! And now Bakenwerel sits unheralded in our basement.

On another shelf, secure but inaccessible, rests the Qustul Incense Burner found in Nubia by Carl DeVries under the supervision of Prof. Keith C. Steele. This document chronicles a Heb-sed jubilee celebrated in the reign of an early Nubian Pharaoh (about 3100 B.C.). It depicts a procession by royal bark to a building decorated in the niched brick style of an Egyptian palace facade. A prisoner is being taken to this royal building or temple. What happens to him there is not completely clear, but from parallel depictions, we know that he never returns. The King, however, does return, rejuvenated and able to rule vigorously. This remarkable document is the key to the understanding of several other contemporary documents from Egypt. It is as important to Nubia as the Narmer Palette is to Egypt.

There are many other wonderful things to be seen. It is my fervent hope that soon we may be able to display many of these treasures. As a recently deceased California artist, Abby Lou Bosworth, told me "art exists only when it is viewed."

THOMAS J. LOGAN  
CURATOR OF THE MUSEUM

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ment of our many fragile antiquities which are suffering from the climatic effects of Chicago's damp weather.

On the first of October, the old Oriental Institute library quarters opened its doors to function as the new "Research Archives." The Archives boast an extensive collection of books on Egyptology, history, and archeology; and this collection is open to Institute members as well as to staff and students.

Annual membership cards are now being issued to Institute members. These cards will serve as identification for persons wishing to use the Research Archives or other Institute facilities. Your membership card is enclosed.

John A. Brinkman  
Director"

Since this letter was written 12 years ago the Research Archives has grown and contains long runs of a large number of journals as well as books, pamphlets and monographs on the ancient Near East. This non-circulating collection is still open to Institute members during normal Archives hours. McGuire Gibson is again digging at Nippur and conservationist Barbara Hall has accomplished much over all these years in her functional and busy conservation laboratory in the Institute's basement.

Issue No. 1 continued with a brief mention of a tour to archaeological museums of Europe, a discussion of various scholarly journals which are carried in the Research Archives and it ended with an archaeological field report.

*"Dr. Robert McC. Adams offers a report on the present state of the Iraq Surface Survey—Nippur Region.*

More than four years have elapsed since the last major phase of reconnaissance directed toward reconstructing ancient irrigation systems and patterns of urban settlement in Iraq, but an early resumption is now in prospect. Initial discussions were held with Iraqi authorities in March 1973, followed by a longer visit in August and September. Conditions were something less than ideal for fieldwork during the latter period (120° "shade" temperatures on a shadeless desert), but ten days or so of intensive survey helped to establish the framework for a major study next year that will complete our coverage of the remaining areas of arid, uncultivated steppe between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers.

It is important to move ahead with this without further delay. Innumerable small farmers with growing families nibble away at the remaining desert areas while simultaneously there are vast schemes of state-sponsored drainage and land reclamation. These agencies soon will forever erase the rich traces of phase upon phase of ancient land use, exposed upon the plain surface by the abrasive action of the wind and heretofore unaffected by the rare camel train and passing bedouin. Of particular interest is an important watercourse of the fourth millennium B.C. whose meanders in a generally southeastward direction can be traced for many kilometers north and east of Nippur. It appears to be the major bed of the Euphrates of its time, but from its size one cannot even preclude the possibility that it might be the considerably larger Tigris. Such are the puzzles and temptations of working in a harsh landscape whose present emptiness belies the ancient prosperity it has seen and the massive, rapid, usually tragic changes it has undergone."

*News & Notes* remained a four page monthly until issue No. 90 in September-October, 1983. At that time, rising postage and printing costs and a much greater bulk of copy caused a change to an eight (or more) page bimonthly format. The newsletter now carries not only letters from the field and articles from the home front, but announcements of tours, members' lectures and courses and other miscellaneous events, mention of new Oriental Institute publications, offerings from *The Suq*, the schedule for the free Sunday movie series, and any other information we need to pass on to our members and friends.

The Institute has passed through two Directors since issue No. 1. Robert McC. Adams took over from Brinkman in 1981 and was then succeeded by Janet H. Johnson in July of 1983. In the Membership Office, Bernie Lalor was Membership Secretary when issue No. 1 appeared and he remained there until late 1979. He was followed by Eugene Cruz-Urbe who served until May of 1981 at which point Susan Smith became the Membership Secretary. A move by her husband caused her to leave shortly thereafter, and I came to the Membership Office in December of 1981.

The volunteer program has grown as well over the years in both numbers and activities. Besides acting as museum docents (the formal docent program was started in January of 1966 by Carolyn Livingood) and manning *The Suq*, volunteers also help with faculty projects and work in various offices of the Museum as well as in the Membership Office. Housed in the same room with the volunteer offices is the Museum Education Office which offers educational programs for school children who come to visit the Museum (and courses of instruction and teaching kits for their teachers) as well as many special activities for children on the weekends and in the summers. The Education Office now also handles the members' courses, offering two or three classes a quarter on Saturday mornings for Institute members running the gamut from beginning or advanced Egyptian hieroglyphs and biblical archaeology to the history of Assyria and Babylonia or the development of monumental Egyptian architecture.

*The Suq*, which was established in December of 1966, has also grown over the years (although unfortunately not much in floor space—we have no more room to expand!). It issues a catalog from time to time and lists of books for sale. It also has become a "hidden treasure" for both shoppers from the Chicago area and out-of-town visitors to the Museum. First timers generally go away shaking their heads ruefully over having spent more than they intended to but vowing to return again soon.

The Museum, itself, has gone through many changes since issue No. 1 and will certainly go through more with our new curator, Thomas J. Logan, in place. He discusses this more fully in the first article of this issue of *News & Notes*.

I hope we'll all see as much change and growth within the Oriental Institute as we read issue No. 201 of *News & Notes* in the year 2005.

GRETEL BRAIDWOOD

## FEATURED OBJECT NUMBER THREE

The large head of a bull, carved from dark gray limestone, which dominates the Persian Hall of the Oriental Institute Museum, has been chosen as the Featured Object for Fall, 1985. The stone head belonged to one of a pair of guardian bulls which once flanked the portico of the hundred-columned Throne Hall of Xerxes (reigned 486-465 B.C.) and Artaxerxes I (reigned 465-425 B.C.) at Persepolis. The front part of the bulls projected as sculpture in the round; the rest of their bodies were carved in relief on the sidewalls of the sixteen-columned open porch.

The head arrived in Chicago from Iran in April of 1936. It was in two pieces, both being badly mutilated. These pieces, weighing about ten tons, were erected on a steel frame. The top of the head, the right eye, part of the left and the greater portion of the neck were restored here by Mr. Donato Bastiani, who had previously assisted Lorado Taft, the scul-



*Mr. Burtch and Dr. Boyes discussing the installation of the Persepolis sculpture.*

tor of the Fountain of Life in Chicago's Washington Park. Horns and ears for this type of head had not been found, so Mr Bastiani did not try to reconstruct them.

The stone bull will continue as the "Featured Object" through December, 1985 and a descriptive brochure, with photographs and text written by Professor Helene J. Kantor, is available for visitors to read and take home. Members from out of town who would like a copy of the brochure may obtain one by sending their request to the Museum Education Office. Please include a long, self-addressed stamped envelope.

## ORIENTAL INSTITUTE 1986 ARCHAEOLOGICAL TOUR

### Egypt February 28-March 18, 1986

Our tour of Egypt will be led by Ann Macy Roth, Ph.D., an Egyptologist with a degree from the Oriental Institute, and her husband, Everett Rowson, who is an Assistant Professor of Arabic at Harvard University. The trip will provide a fascinating look at the art, history, and culture which originated in the Nile Valley over 5,000 years ago. The trip will feature a five-day Nile cruise on a Sheraton ship. A complete itinerary is available from the Membership Office. The cost of the trip from Chicago is:

Land arrangements	\$2516
Roundtrip air fare from Chicago (APEX)	\$1048
Single supplement, hotels only	\$350
Single supplement, hotels and ship	\$750

plus a \$350 tax-deductible contribution to the Oriental Institute. This includes deluxe accommodations, Nile cruise, all land arrangements and most meals. A \$300 deposit is required at the time of booking.

Arrangements may be made beforehand with the travel agent (Archaeological Tours) to travel in Europe or the Near East before or after the tour. Archaeological Tours will be glad to help you with these arrangements but you will be responsible for any additional travel costs or surcharges.

*Information on all tours is available from the Membership Office. The Oriental Institute, 1155 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60637, (312) 962-9513.*

Please enroll me/us in the Institute's 1986 Archaeological Tour to Egypt: February 28-March 18, 1986.

- Share room (with?) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Single room  
 Send detailed itinerary

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Home telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$300 per person) as a deposit to hold my/our place, payable to

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TOURS, INC.

Mail to: Membership Office, The Oriental Institute, 1155 East 58th St., Chicago, IL 60637 (312) 962-9513.



## FREE SUNDAY MOVIES AT THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

All films will be shown at 2 p.m. in Breasted Hall

NOVEMBER 10	Egypt's Pyramids: Houses of Eternity
NOVEMBER 17	The Big Dig
NOVEMBER 24	Rivers of Time
NOVEMBER 30	The Egyptologists
DECEMBER 1	Iran: Landmarks in the Desert
DECEMBER 8	Turkey: Crossroads of the Ancient World
DECEMBER 15	Of Time, Tombs and Treasure
DECEMBER 22	Iraq: Stairway to the Gods
DECEMBER 29	Egypt: Gift of the Nile
JANUARY 5	Megiddo: City of Destruction
JANUARY 12	Preserving Egypt's Past
JANUARY 19	Myth of Pharaohs/Ancient Mesopotamia
JANUARY 26	Egypt's Pyramids: Houses of Eternity

## DECEMBER EVENT

Retrospective on the Oriental Institute. On this the fiftieth anniversary of the death of James Henry Breasted we will present a program of reminiscences about some of the people who worked for the Oriental Institute before 1940 and the projects and excavations on which they worked. December 2, 1985 at 8 PM in Breasted Hall.

## DECEMBER LECTURE

McGuire Gibson of the Oriental Institute will present an illustrated lecture, *Tablet Hill Revisited: Nippur 1985*, December 11, 1985 at 8 PM in Breasted Hall.

## JANUARY LECTURE

Donald Hansen, from New York University, will present an illustrated lecture, *The Architecture of the Early Dynastic Rulers of Lagash*, January 15, 1986 at 8 PM in Breasted Hall.

## CHILDREN'S WORKSHOPS

In the months of January and February the Museum Education Office will again be offering the popular Children's Workshops on some Saturday mornings. Topics and dates to be announced in November. Please call the Education Office, 962-9507, for information. Each workshop includes a gallery tour and related craft activity. A fee and pre-registration are required.

## LECTURE SCHEDULE

All lectures (except the one on Sunday, March 16th) are at 8 PM in Breasted Hall at the Oriental Institute. Reminders of the upcoming lectures will be printed in each issue of the *News & Notes*. Institute members may make dinner reservations at the Quadrangle Club, 1155 East 57th Street, 753-3696 before membership lectures. They will bill the Oriental Institute and we, in turn, will bill you. Please print your name and address at the bottom of your dinner check, as well as signing it, so that we know where to send your bill.

November 13, 1985	Donald J. Wiseman, The University of London, <i>Nebuchadnezzar &amp; Babylon</i> .
December 2, 1985	Retrospective on the Oriental Institute, 8 PM.
December 11, 1985	McGuire Gibson, The Oriental Institute, <i>Tablet Hill Revisited: Nippur 1985</i> .
January 15, 1986	Donald Hansen, New York University, <i>The Architecture of the Early Dynastic Rulers of Lagash</i> .
February 5, 1986	Robert and Linda Braidwood, The Oriental Institute, <i>The Continuing Surprise of Çayönü</i> .
February 19, 1986	Lawrence Stager, The Oriental Institute, <i>In the Footsteps of the Philistines: The First Season of Excavations at Ashkelon, 1985</i> .
March 16, 1986	Kenan T. Erim, New York University, <i>The Sculptural School of Aphrodisias</i> . A joint lecture with the Chicago Chapter of the A.I.A. NOTE: This Sunday afternoon lecture will take place at 4 PM in Breasted Hall.
April 2, 1986	Edna R. Russman, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, <i>Portrait Sculpture of Egypt's Late Period (700 B.C.-30 B.C.)</i> .
April 30, 1986	Eric Meyers, Duke University, <i>Recent Excavations in the Galilee</i> . (This is not a joint lecture as originally announced)
May 12, 1986	Annual Oriental Institute Dinner in the Museum
May 21 1986	Karen Wilson, New York University, <i>Eight Seasons of Excavation at Mendes: Capital City of the 16th Lower Egyptian Nome</i> .



Season's Greetings  
from the  
Oriental Institute

## HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS

### History Course on Tapes

Give a gift of learning with the 10-lecture cassette tape course "The Life of the Common Man in Ancient Egypt." Included is a study guide with an outline for each lecture and a short reading list for those who want to do more than just listen.

Lecturer Peter Piccione describes the course:

*"In studying ancient Egypt we usually focus upon royalty, political history, religion and the pyramids, while neglecting the lives of the common people. This course will consider the various aspects of society which affected the lives of the common people, focusing on such topics as the structure of Egyptian society; the Egyptian educational system and the opportunities it presented to the lower classes for advancement; Egyptian occupations and industry; medicine in Egypt; the position of women in society including social equality and women's rights; love and marriage; legal aspects of marriage; organization of labor; building techniques; mathematics and astronomy; and the Egyptian legal system with regard to crime and punishment."*

The cost for this course is \$85.00 for members.

### ORDER FORM

Please send me *The Life of the Common Man in Ancient Egypt* lecture series on cassette tapes.

- I enclose a check for \$85 for the series.
- I am a member
- I am not a member but enclose a SEPARATE check for \$25 to cover a one year membership.
- Please include gift card when course is sent.
- Gift card enclosed; please send with course.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime telephone \_\_\_\_\_

*Send course to (if gift):*

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please make all checks payable to THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE and MAIL TO: EDUCATION OFFICE, The Oriental Institute, 1155 East 58th St., Chicago, IL 60637 (312) 962-9507.



### Gift Memberships

A holiday gift of an Oriental Institute membership will bring the recipient a year of *News & Notes*, an Annual Report, discounts in the *Suq*, and access to the many lecture, tour and educational programs which the Institute offers. We will send a packet of materials about the Institute, a membership card(s) and a card announcing your gift on the day you specify (or enclose your own gift card for us to forward on).

Annual memberships in the Chicago area (zip codes 60000 through 60699) are \$25. Memberships for seniors (over 65), students and those outside the Chicago are \$20. All foreign memberships are \$25 (payable in U.S. dollars only). Membership Office, The Oriental Institute, 1155 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60637, (312) 962-9513.

### Cookbook

*Feasts for Pharaohs and Kings:* The Oriental Institute Volunteers' cookbook will make an unusual gift for the holidays. Send us your cards or lists of names and we will post your gifts for you on the dates you specify. Order from the Volunteer Office. The Oriental Institute, 1155 East 58th Street, Chicago, IL 60637. Send \$10 for each cookbook, + .80 tax for each delivered within Illinois + \$2.50 each postage and handling (\$1.00 postage and handling for additional copies to the same address). Please make all checks payable to THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE.

### Gifts to the Institute

Give a gift to yourself or a friend of a contribution to your (their) favorite Oriental Institute project. For 1985 the current tax laws on contributions for those who itemize deductions still hold and even those who do not itemize may deduct 50% of their gifts to the Institute. Gifts may be made to the Museum, the Volunteer or Educational programs, or to one of the many field, dictionary or research projects. We will be happy to send a gift card for you to the recipient (or enclose your own card for us to forward on). Send checks, payable to the Oriental Institute, to the Membership Office, the Oriental Institute, 1155 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60637 along with a notation of what project you wish to support.

### New *SUQ* Volunteers Needed

We need new volunteers in the *Suq* before the Christmas holiday rush. *Suq* volunteers work one half a day a week in our gift shop and training can be done on the spot. Anyone interested in volunteering in the *Suq* should call Janet Helman at 962-9507.

# THE SUQ سوق

## Oriental Institute Christmas Cards



### ISLAMIC BOOKBINDING

Persian Lacquer Bookcover of a calligraphic manual of a 16th Century master, Isfahan, early 19th century.

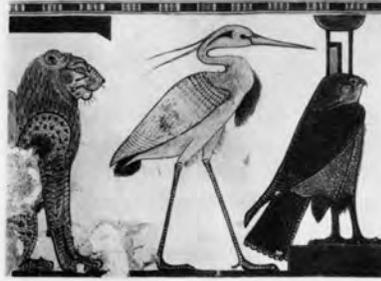
Package of 10 for \$4.00



### QUAIL CHICK

Hieroglyphic symbol, carved from limestone, Ptolemaic Period 332-30 B.C.

Package of 10 for \$6.00



### THREE VIGNETTES

From the painting of Nina Davies, Tomb of Queen Nefertari, 19th Dynasty, Reign of Ramesses II 1279-1212 B.C.

Package of 10 for \$5.00

All cards are inscribed with the notation "Season's Greetings."

Please include check or money order made out to the Oriental Institute.

Islamic bookbinding \_\_\_\_\_ pkgs. @ \$4.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Three Vignettes \_\_\_\_\_ pkgs. @ \$5.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Quail Chick \_\_\_\_\_ pkgs. @ \$6.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Subtotal \_\_\_\_\_

Less 10% Members' discount \_\_\_\_\_

8% Tax (IL residents) \_\_\_\_\_

Postage \$1.75 first pkg.

.10 each additional pkg. \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_



## The Oriental Institute

The University of Chicago

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