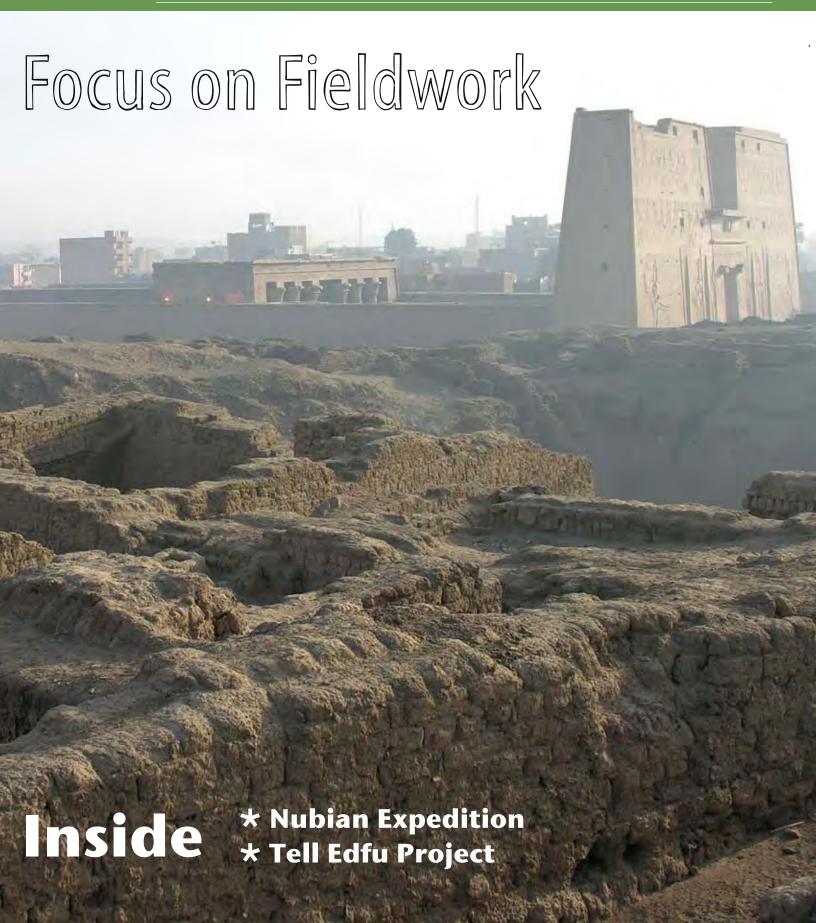
NEWS & NOTES

NO. 198 SUMMER 2008

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NEWS & NOTES

A Quarterly Publication of The Oriental Institute, printed exclusively as one of the privileges of membership

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Cover: Tell and Temple at Edfu. Photo courtesy of G. Marouard, Tell Edfu Project

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S STUDY

Exploration is the lifeblood of the Oriental Institute. Archaeological fieldwork (along with text-based research) forms a central part of the Oriental Institute's mission to explore the civilizations of the Near East and communicate the results of our discoveries to both the scholarly community and the general public through our publications, museum, and programs of educational outreach.

From the time of the Institute's founding eighty-nine years ago, James Henry Breasted had a vision of a broad-based research effort that involved pioneering archaeological expeditions across the whole arc of what he termed the "fertile crescent" in order to develop a comparative understanding of how early civilizations developed in such diverse areas as Egypt, Palestine, Syria, Anatolia, Mesopotamia, and Iran. The Oriental Institute's excavations in the 1920s and 1930s at Medinet Habu, Megiddo, the Diyala, the Amuq, Alishar, and Persepolis revolutionized our understanding of the ancient Near East and provided the basic chronological structure that researchers still use today.

One of the most exciting aspects of the Oriental Institute is the fact that this work of exploration continues unabated today. Our archaeologists are breaking new ground in Egypt, Sudan, Syria, and Turkey. When compared with the expeditions of the Institute's "Golden Age" in the 1930s, our fieldwork projects focus less on the great palaces and temples and more on the basic building blocks of those civilizations. At the same time, the antiquities laws of modern Near Eastern countries changed so that with rare exception, the artifacts we recover can no longer be brought back to Chicago for display in our museum. Instead, they quite properly remain in their countries of origin.

But — as you will see from the articles in this issue of *News & Notes* — we continue to make important new discoveries that can change long-held conventional wisdom about ancient Near Eastern civilizations. Nadine Moeller's excavations at Edfu go beyond the traditional explorations of tombs and temples and are giving us instead a first-hand look at ancient Egypt as an urban society — a land of cities and towns filled with houses, granaries, and the buildings of the local administrators who governed Egypt and managed the daily life of its inhabitants. Geoff Emberling's rescue

excavations at the cemetery site of al-Widay along the Fourth Cataract of the Nile in present-day Sudan are providing us with a rare, unprecedented view of the lives and deaths of the villagers who mined the gold that was the economic lifeblood of the Nubian state of Kerma in the second millennium BC.

By combining the "bottom-up" perspective of our current fieldwork with the "top-down" view from the historical work of our founders, the Institute's fieldwork projects are slowly generating a nuanced, holistic view of how the earliest civilizations of the Near East developed, functioned, and ultimately collapsed.



Mill. to

Gil J. Stein Director, Oriental Institute

Correction

In the Spring 2008 issue of *News & Notes*, we incorrectly credited the photo of Ms. Betsey Means performing as Gertrude Bell on page 19; the photograph was taken by Anna Ressman, Oriental Institute Museum Photographer. We regret the error, and thank Anna for her beautiful work. To see Anna's photographs from our most recent special exhibit opening, see pages 22–23 of this issue.

FIELDWORK AT THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

In addition to our excavation at Edfu and salvage excavation in Sudan, both featured in this edition of *News & Notes*, the Oriental Institute has additional excavations in the field on a continuing basis.

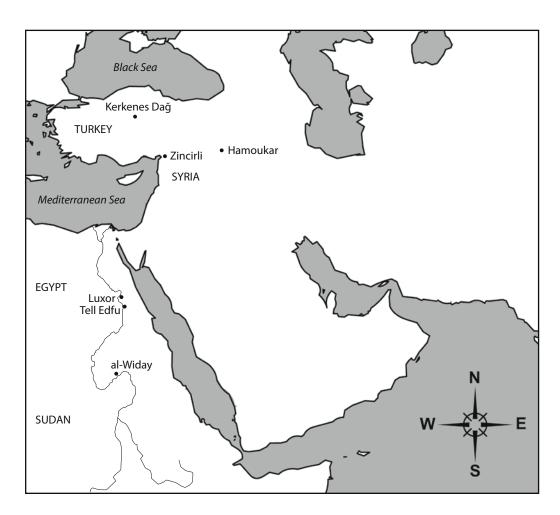
The Hamoukar Expedition is a joint expedition with the Syrian Department of Antiquities (Damascus) in northeastern Syria. Traditionally, it has been accepted that the earliest cities in the Middle East arose in southern Mesopotamia in the fourth millennium BC, while elsewhere villages remained the dominant form of settlement well into the mid-third millennium BC. Work at Hamoukar, however, suggests that cities may have emerged in this area as early as 4000 BC. This city subsequently was destroyed around 3500 BC by invaders from the south — the earliest case of urban warfare proven so far. After only four seasons of work at Hamoukar it is clear that major theories on the development of urbanism in the Middle East will have to be revised.

Two projects are currently underway in Turkey. At Kerkenes Dağ, researchers working under the co-directorship of both the Oriental Institute and Middle Eastern Technical University in Ankara, believe the site may be the ancient city of Pteria. According to Herodotus, Cyrus the Great began his conquest of King Croesus' Lydian empire here. Investigations focus not only on the historical background of the city, but also on the questions of the ways that ancient urban centers actually worked as communities of living people.

The Oriental Institute's excavation at Zincirli, located in southeast Turkey, investigates key research problems, such as: the Late Bronze-Iron Age transition, the different ethnic groups who inhabited Neo-Hittite city-states, and Assyrian imperial administration. This excavation will increase our understanding of the social, political, and economic organization of this pivotal region in the Bronze and Iron Ages.

Based at Chicago House in Luxor, Egypt, the mission of the Epigraphic Survey since its founding in 1924 has been to produce photographs and precise line drawings of the inscriptions and relief scenes on major temples and tombs at Luxor for publication. More recently, the Survey has expanded its program to include conservation. The Epigraphic Survey completed its eighty-fourth field season at the end of April 2008.

The Institute also plans to begin new excavations in Israel and Syria. Watch for more details about these developing plans in future issues of *News & Notes*.



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TELL EDFU THE 2007 SEASON

Nadine Moeller, Assistant Professor of Egyptian Archaeology and Director of the Tell Edfu Project

TELL EDFU — THE SITE

The remains of what once had been the provincial capital of the Second Upper Egyptian nome can be found at Tell Edfu, which is one of the last well-preserved ancient cities in Egypt. This site is

situated a few meters west of the well-known Ptolemaic temple (fig. 1). Tell Edfu is one of the rare examples where almost three thousand years of ancient Egyptian history are still preserved in the stratigraphy of a single mound. The Edfu excavations thus have enormous potential

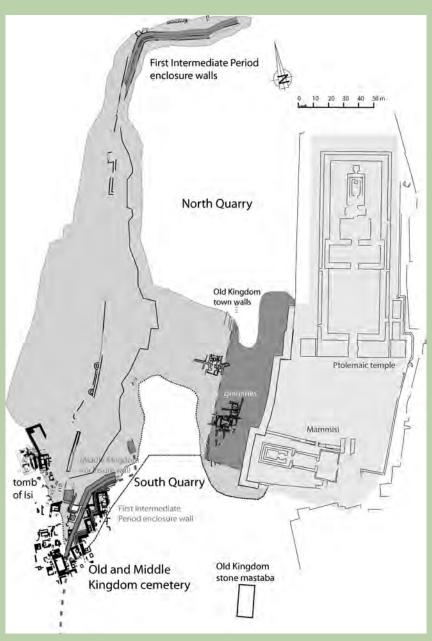


Figure 1. General plan of Tell Edfu

for increasing our understanding of ancient urbanism in Egypt.

Egyptological fieldwork has traditionally focused extensively on tombs and temples; by contrast, the study of settlements is a fairly recent discipline within Egyptology, in which the idea that Egypt was a "civilization without cities" prevailed until the 1970s. Tell Edfu provides the unique opportunity to contribute new data to this area of research. The site has suffered great losses by the sebbakhin, local farmers who, at the turn of the twentieth century, quarried away these abandoned mounds in order to reuse the loose soil and mudbricks as fertilizers for their fields. At Edfu they left two empty areas, the so-called North and South Quarries, where settlement remains were cleared down to the natural bedrock. This destructive activity was stopped only after World War II. From 1921 to 1939 Tell Edfu was excavated by several Institut Français d'Archéologie Orientale (IFAO) and Franco-Polish missions exploring the Byzantine, Roman, and Ptolemaic settlement remains on top of the tell, as well as the Old and Middle Kingdom cemeteries that occupy the southwestern corner of the site.

The current Tell Edfu Project started in 2001 on a relatively small scale, focusing on the study of the visible enclosure walls in order to analyze the development of this provincial capital. During the first three seasons of this survey we have identified the Old Kingdom town center, which lies quite close to the Ptolemaic temple. Remains of the oldest town walls are visible in the eastern part of tell, running along its southern end where they seem to have formed a corner turning eastward. Further elements have been detected in the north, where five walls are clearly visible in the exposed vertical cuts left by the sebbakhin. These walls can be dated by ceramic evidence to the Fifth and Sixth Dynasties. Furthermore, the archaeological evidence shows clearly that several new enclosure walls were erected during the First Intermediate Period incorporating a much larger area

than before. Fortified town walls dating to this period have been identified in the northern and southwestern part of the site. Thus, the town expanded westward to almost double its size, from about 7 ha to at least 13 ha. This is a period which has generally been regarded as the "First Dark Age" of ancient Egyptian history, a theory that needs to be revised in view of new evidence from Tell Edfu and other provincial towns in Upper Egypt.

From 2005 onward the Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA) granted us permission to start archaeological fieldwork at the site. The main structures that have been excavated so far are a large silo courtyard of the Seventeenth Dynasty (1630-1520 BC) consisting of at least seven round silos which have a diameter between 5.5 and 6.5 meters, making them the largest examples so far discovered within a town center. Storage installations of such kind have been poorly investigated but played a crucial role in the redistributive character of the ancient Egyptian economy. In an earlier building phase a hall with sixteen wooden columns stood in this place, which was later used for the granaries. According to the pottery and seal impressions found within this context, this columned hall can be dated to the early Thirteenth Dynasty (1773-1650 BC). The seal impressions were made with scarab seals and provide much evidence for the administrative activities taking place, such as accounting and the opening and sealing of papyri, boxes, ceramic jars, and other commodities.

The 2007 season of the Tell Edfu Project took place from the 3rd of October until the 1st of November 2007. The members of the mission were Natasha Ayers (drawings and small finds), Barbara Böhm (pottery), Richard Bussmann (small finds), Georges Demidoff (Egyptology), Dominique Farout (ostraca and texts), Gregory Marouard (archaeology, Ptolemaic houses), Aurelie Schenk (archaeology), Jane Smythe (pottery), and Nico Staring (archaeology). The SCA inspector has been Osama Ismail Ahmed.

SILO AREA

One of the main tasks for this season was to find the limits of the large silo court discovered during the previous seasons (fig. 2). A large amount of rubbish and debris, almost three meters thick, covering the archaeological remains south and east of the silos discovered in previous years, has been removed. This layer of debris turned out to be much thicker than previously thought and was left mainly by the former French excavations and the sebbakhin, a fact confirmed by various finds such as some pages of an Arabic newspaper from 1914. The pottery coming from these layers was carefully checked for its date but turned out to be of very mixed periods, mainly Coptic and Roman. Numerous grinding implements of various hard stones such as red granite

were also found here, left by the former excavations and without context. They were recorded and added to the catalog of small finds. In the east of the silo area we were finally able to reach some undisturbed occupation levels which had been cut into by the *sebbakhin*, leaving some holes but much of the stratigraphy still intact. The precise excavation and study of these remains, which seem to belong to numerous buildings, will be

carried out next season. We also identified several stratigraphic sequences that are still in situ and linked to the large ash layer as well as the square storage compartments covering much of this area. One of the main problems with dating these remains so far has been the total lack of intact stratigraphy because of the French excavations in the 1930s. In the south, the eastern half of Silo 393 was discovered, as

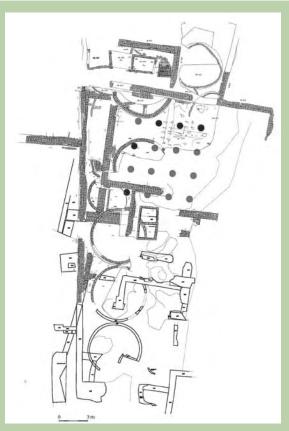


Figure 2. Preliminary plan of silo area and columned hall at Tell Edfu

well as a new silo (Si 502) in the same alignment as the previous ones. This one is founded on a much higher level but shows the same architectural features as Silos 405 and 393. In parts only one course of mudbricks has been preserved. The corner of some mudbrick walls was excavated southeast of Silo 502 and this corner seems to be the only remaining part of the original enclosure wall of the silo courtyard (fig. 3). This needs also to be studied in further depth next season,



Figure 3. Silo 502 and the corner of the silo court enclosure wall

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but it seems almost certain that Silo 502 is the last silo of this storage installation in the south.

Furthermore, the long north-south wall running west of the silos (Wall 300) was investigated and cleared in order to clarify its different architectural features. It is clear that it had been in use for a long time and was frequently rebuilt. One of these phases is contemporary with the silos, which means we can identify it as the western enclosure wall. Additionally, the clearance of the sand and debris layers just next to this wall led to the discovery of further elements of the Old Kingdom enclosure walls (fig. 4), clearly visible in the southeastern part of the North Quarry as well as in the northeast corner of the South Quarry (see fig. 1).

COLUMNED HALL

Another aim of this season was the excavation of the thick mud floor belonging to the columned hall of the late Middle Kingdom (figs. 2 and 5). The compact mud floor with its five sandstone column bases preserved in situ was excavated this season. Last season we were able to reconstruct a columned hall with sixteen wooden columns belonging to the administrative center of the town. The floor associated with this building consists of a multitude of subfloor phases. The last layer of occupation, which lies directly on top of the thick mud floor, is characterized by a large quantity of broken pottery and animal bones (fig. 6) that seem to correspond to the last phase of activity within this structure before its abandonment. Several layers of the mud floor were excavated until we reached a phase that showed numerous holes in the

floor, most of which were still covered by a later floor phase (fig. 7). The holes were carefully cleared of their contents and turned out to be quite shallow, ca. 5-8 cm deep × 15-20 cm in diameter. They were filled with broken pieces of Middle Kingdom drinking cups as well as seal impressions and organic remains. Several new seal impression motifs have been found, one of which shows the king wearing the crown of Upper and Lower Egypt with a tiny cartouche in front of him. It is most likely Amenemhat III; research is in progress. Others show spiral ornaments and signs typical for the period between the end of the Twelfth and the early Thirteenth Dynasty. The arrangement of these holes seems to follow a regular pattern and the sides of the holes show impressions left by heavy objects pressing down on the surface. These observations seem to exclude

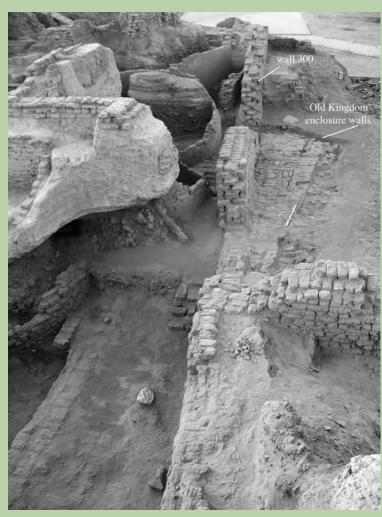


Figure 4. Parts of the Old Kingdom enclosure wall on the surface



Figure 5. The columned hall showing thick mud floor and



Figure 6. Last layer of occupation of the columned hall

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Figure 7. Holes in the mud floor of the columned hall

their possible function as postholes and suggest that they were used to place large pottery jars. Close parallels have been found at Buhen, where comparable holes were discovered in the floor of the Commander's Building. Here, the base of a round jar was found in situ in one of the holes.

When a new floor was added on top, these holes were completely covered and invisible in the later phases of the columned hall. It is quite likely that the use of the columned hall as administrative center, which has been well confirmed by the associated finds, stretched over a considerable amount of time, extending back into the earlier Twelfth Dynasty, a fact that can be confirmed by the ceramic analysis.

STUDY AND CLEANING OF PTOLEMAIC HOUSES

This season, eight domestic buildings dating to the Ptolemaic and Roman periods along the western part of the tell were partially cleaned in order to clarify their architectural features and details. A comparison was made with the already published information from the excavations in the 1930s, when this area of the tell was excavated by the Franco-Polish mission. It turned out that the publication of the plans of the houses are to some extent lacking precision, especially with regard to the details of the mudbrick walls and vaults, which have been very sketchily documented and are therefore missing many important details. The excellent state of preservation

of these houses and the insufficiency of the accuracy in the publications justifies a more detailed study in the future.

SMALL FINDS

During the 2007 season, analysis and drawing of material from the 2005 and 2006 seasons continued. Most of the finds excavated this season came from the rubbish layer, context 2218. A large number of stones (grinding stones, worked stone, etc.) also came from the same layer. The ostraca analyzed and photographed this year are also mostly from context 2218. Thirteen new ostraca have been recovered; most are Demotic, but some are inscribed with Coptic texts. Two very small pieces of hieratic ostraca were found in the area of the columned hall, one inside the mud floor. Their texts were copied in detail for further translation. Jar stoppers and net sinkers constitute the majority of the small finds recovered this year. Seal impressions were recovered from the holes in the floor of the columned hall (fig. 8). A variety of designs that are typical of the late Twelfth and early Thirteenth Dynasty are present. All were described and photographed.



Figure 8. Seal impression of the early Thirteenth Dynasty

POTTERY

Analysis and recording of all pottery sherds continued during the third season of work at Tell Edfu. Preliminary analysis of the pottery material from the past two seasons was completed. A total of 200 contexts containing these potsherds

were analyzed; we were able to produce preliminary dates for 122 of these contexts.

From each of the contexts a number of diagnostic sherds were separated for recording and further fabric description. Technical drawing and fabric description was conducted in the field by Jane Smythe, Barbara Böhm, and Nico Staring. A total of twenty-five contexts were completed with preliminary dates given; these will be the focus of further study and dating refinement. A number of imported pottery has also been found within various contexts, including a Mycenaean ware from context 2224 that can be clearly dated to the New Kingdom. Levantine/Canaanite fabrics have also been documented. As expected, there are also significant amounts of Nubian pottery sherds coming from the Middle Kingdom layers. All imported fabrics have been kept for future analysis by specialists. It is hoped that work will continue in the following seasons with the aim to complete the drawings and analysis of the remaining and future contexts that come from the tell.

The next season at Tell Edfu will focus on further study of the granary courtyard and the columned hall by extending the excavation area toward the north and east. Ancient Egyptian administration is mainly known from texts, but the full understanding of the institutions involved and their role within towns and cities has been so far difficult to grasp because of the lack of archaeological evidence with which textual data needs to be combined.

In the name of the director and the whole team, we would like to thank the Edfu Inspectorate and the Supreme Council of Antiquities in Cairo for their help and support. A special thank you also goes to Ms. Faten Abd El-Halim Saleh for her help with the paperwork and its Arabic translation.

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THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

RESEARCH ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN

The Oriental Institute is first and foremost a worldclass research institution. One of its great strengths is its ability to undertake large-scale, long-term research projects focused on the major questions and issues in the study of ancient Near Eastern civilizations. These projects require significant financial resources and the need will only increase over time.

The Research Endowment Campaign is a five-year campaign to increase funding for the core research areas of the Oriental Institute, providing a stable and predictable level of support for this work. To reach this goal the Campaign will raise \$3 million to boost our research endowments from their current level of \$2.2 million to \$5.2 million.

The Research Endowment Campaign targets five crucial areas that require long-term financial resources:

* ANCIENT LANGUAGES

This endowment will support the writing of dictionaries such as the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary, the Chicago Demotic Dictionary, and the Chicago Hittite Dictionary. It will also support text-based research in Egyptology, Assyriology, Iranian languages, ancient Hebrew, and Northwest Semitic by funding:

- 1. Research travel costs
- 2. Programming support
- 3. Editing support

* RESEARCH ARCHIVES

This endowment will support the Oriental Institute's Research Archives. Containing more than 45,000 volumes, it is the foremost library on the ancient Near East in the Western Hemisphere. This endowment will fund:

- 1. The purchase of new collections
- 2. The transition to digital holdings (in parallel to print holdings)
- 3. The construction of new stacks and other infrastructure to house collections and address growing space restrictions due to the natural growth of collections
- 4. The completion of the online catalog to cover all acquisitions made prior to 1990

* TECHNOLOGY

This endowment will support the technological needs of all areas of the Institute by funding:

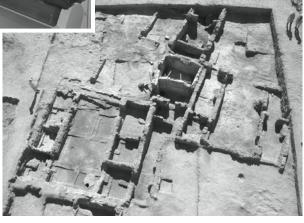
- 1. Computers
- 2. Programming support
- 3. Satellite imagery
- 4. Remote-sensing equipment



The collections of the Oriental Institute Research
Archives span the history of the Near East from
prehistoric times through the rise of Islam

Digitizing the vast collection of historic and modern maps is one of the many projects of the Center for Middle Eastern Landscapes (CAMEL)

Archaeologists at the site of Hamoukar investigate the origins of cities and warfare in northern Mesopotamia





★ ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK

This endowment will support five current excavations in Egypt, Syria, and Turkey and provide resources for future fieldwork throughout the Middle East by funding:

- 1. Field project start-up costs
- 2. Building infrastructure and hiring guards to protect excavation sites
- 3. Student travel costs
- 4. Laboratory work such as radiocarbon dating

★ MUSEUM HOLDINGS AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The Oriental Institute's museum holds a position of extraordinary importance for researchers. Many of these collections form the primary or only stratigraphic record for key regions of the Fertile Crescent. The goal is to make these collections more accessible for study and publication by Institute scholars as well as those from other institutions. Museum exhibits are also a key part of the Oriental Institute's mission to communicate the results of its research to the public. We plan a regularized program of mounting two rotating special exhibits each year, to be displayed in the Marshall and Doris Holleb Family Gallery for Special Exhibits. This endowment will fund:

- 1. Grants to researchers
- 2. Curatorial fees
- 3. Exhibit installation
- 4. Loan fees
- 5. Development of special exhibits



The Oriental Institute is home to the most comprehensive program for the study of Hittitology in the world



RESEARCH ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN

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A complete list of donors will appear in the 2007–2008 Annual Report

A gift to the Research Endowment Campaign will ensure the continued excellence of long-term Oriental Institute projects such as these, and the many others for which the Institute has gained its worldwide reputation. For more information, contact Monica Witczak, Director of Development, at (773) 834-9775, or via e-mail, at mwitczak@uchicago.edu

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TEACHER SERVICES

ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA: THIS HISTORY, OUR HISTORY — AN ONLINE COURSE FOR K-12 EDUCATORS

Geoff Emberling and Wendy Ennes
June 22—August 15

Registration Deadline: June 16

Based on the latest University of Chicago research, this online graduate-credit course for K–12 educators nationwide supports local, state, and national standards as participants learn about ancient Mesopotamia in detail. We use discussion boards and reflective analyses, as well as indepth individual and group assignments to increase your knowledge about ancient Iraq and the legacy this great civilization has left us. In addition, we explore ways to enhance your students' critical thinking skills with Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS), a unique learner-centered method that uses art to develop visual literacy and communication skills.

INSTRUCTORS:

Geoff Emberling is the Director of the Oriental Institute Museum. He holds a PhD in Anthropology and Near Eastern Studies from the University of Michigan and serves as academic advisor for the course.

Wendy Ennes is the Teacher Services and e-Learning Coordinator for the Oriental Institute Museum at the University of Chicago. She holds a Master Online Teaching Certification from the University of Illinois/Illinois Online Network. Ms. Ennes serves as course facilitator.

This course takes place entirely online, and educators should be willing to commit 5 to 8 hours of online work each week. Participants are expected to be comfortable using computer software and tools such as Microsoft Word, e-mail, an Internet browser, and search engines. Please contact Wendy Ennes at (773) 834-7606 or wennes@uchicago.edu for additional information. To register, contact Val Huston, (773) 702-6033 or vhuston@uchicago.edu

CREDIT OFFERINGS: 5 quarter hours of graduate credit (3.3 semester hours), 50 CPDUs, 3 Lane Credits

TUITION: \$1,200 (5 quarter hours of graduate credit, 3 semester hours); \$600 (50 CPDUs and 3 Lane Credits)

RECOMMENDED TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:

- Reliable Internet access via a dial-up modem or DSL Internet service provider
- Access to the online environment for a minimum of 5–8 hrs/week
- An e-mail account for sending and receiving electronic mail via the Internet
- Access to an IBM-compatible or Macintosh system with the following minimum specifications:

For PC Users:

- ✓ Any IBM compatible Pentium II 500 MHz PC or better
- ✓ Windows 98 Operating System or better
- Browser plugins for Flash, Quicktime, and Shockwave (available here: Adobe & Software Patch)

For Mac Users:

- Power PC, G3, or G4 500 MHz machines or better
- ✓ Mac Operating System 9.2 or higher
- Browser plugins for Flash, Quicktime, and Shockwave (available here: Adobe & Apple)

For All Participants:

- ✓ The latest Firefox browser (other browsers do not work well)
- ✓ 512 MB RAM
- √ 56.6 kbps modem (but DSL or cable modem is preferred)
- ✓ Sound card and speakers
- Microphone (preferred but not necessary)
- ✓ At least 80 MB free disk space

TEACHER PRACTICUM

VISUAL THINKING STRATEGIES: A PRACTICUM FOR TEACHERS PRESENTED BY THE VISUAL UNDERSTANDING IN EDUCATION (VUE) ORGANIZATION OF NEW YORK, NY

Wednesday, June 25, at the Art Institute

Thursday, June 26, at the Oriental Institute and Smart Museum of Art

Friday, June 27, at the Loyola University Museum of Art

Instructors: VUE Staff

Hosts: Education Staff at Each Museum

9:00 AM-3:00 PM daily

This practicum is a three-day workshop focused on developing facilitation skills for Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS), a unique teaching strategy that uses art to develop literacy and critical thinking skills.

Using the collections and educational resources at each museum, participants will:

- Examine the learning theory and research underpinning VTS
- Practice facilitating VTS discussions for classroom
- Learn ways VTS discussions can become tools for collaborative learning in the classroom

CREDIT OFFERINGS: This program provides 18 CPDUs from the Illinois State Board of Education and Lane Promotional Credit from the Chicago Public Schools

FEE: \$365; \$265 for Chicago Public School teachers.

To register, or for additional information, contact Stephanie Hughes at (212) 253-9007 or shughes@vue.org



SUMMER ADULT ELDERHOSTEL EDUCATION PROGRAM

The following course is co-sponsored by the Graham School of General Studies. The course provides Teacher Recertification CPDUs from the Illinois State Board of Education. For more information, call Museum Education at (773) 702-9507.

THE WORLD'S FIRST CITIES

Geoff Emberling Wednesdays, July 16-August 20 7:00-9:00 PM

Oriental Institute

Around 4000 BC, people across ancient Mesopotamia — today's Iraq — started moving from smaller towns, villages, and nomad camps and began to build cities. This process would fundamentally reshape society, leading to the rise of the first kings, spectacular developments in art and architecture, and the invention of writing. By 3000 BC, Mesopotamian cities could have

been home to perhaps 50,000 people.

Until very recently, scholars thought that the first Mesopotamian cities appeared exclusively in southern Mesopotamia, and they developed explanations that were specific to that environment. There is now exciting new archaeological evidence for early cities much farther north on the Mesopotamian landscape. Largely based on the work of Oriental Institute scholars, this evidence throws previous explanations for the "urban revolution" into doubt.

In this course we take a new look at the rise of cities in Mesopotamia. We begin in prehistoric towns and villages and then move to close examinations of two early cities: Uruk in the south, and Tell Brak

in the north. The course ends with a discussion of the "Uruk expansion," in which people from southern Mesopotamia moved across the Near East, even waging war along the way. During the course, we examine sculpture, carved stone seals, writing, and first attempts at mass production, getting what glimpses we can of the changing social relations that produced these physical remains. We also take a close look at relevant material in the collections of the Oriental Institute Museum.

INSTRUCTOR: Geoff Emberling is Director of the Oriental Institute Museum. From 1998 to 2004, he directed excavations at Tell Brak in northeastern Syria, where his team recovered new evidence for the growth of the city from 4000 to 3000 BC. He has lectured and published widely on this formative period of Mesopotamian history.

LOOTING THE CRADLE OF CIVILIZATION: THE LOSS OF HISTORY IN IRAQ — A DAY OF DISCOVERY AT THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

Donny George, Former Director of the Iraq National Museum in Baghdad

McGuire Gibson, Professor of Mesopotamian Archaeology, University of Chicago

This special event will take place in early September. Contact Museum Education at (773) 702-9507 for details.

The looting of the Iraq Museum in Baghdad stunned the world in 2003. Much less well known is the ongoing looting of archaeological sites throughout Iraq, which poses an even greater threat to the history of the land that gave the world its earliest writing system, the first cities, and the concept of the rule of law. Mesopotamia — today's Iraq — is quite literally the cradle of civilization, making the disappearance of its cultural patrimony a loss for all humanity.

This Day of Discovery at the University of Chicago's Oriental Institute offers the unparalleled opportunity to examine the archaeological tragedy taking place in Iraq with scholars who have experienced the situation first hand. Join McGuire Gibson, Professor of Mesopotamian Archaeology at the University of Chicago, to see how illicit digging is taking place at sites throughout Iraq, and the ways looted artifacts move from Iraq to art markets around the world. Dr. Gibson has been a powerful and eloquent voice on the urgent threat to antiquities in Iraq, as well as the at-risk status of archaeological sites worldwide.

Then join Donny George, former Director of the Iraq National Museum in Baghdad, to hear the latest information on the looting of the museum, what has been lost, and what has been recovered. Currently a visiting professor at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, Dr. George has presented guest lectures on the Iraq National Museum and its renowned collection of antiquities at universities and museums throughout the Middle East, Europe, the Far East, and all across the United States.

Offered in conjunction with the special Oriental Institute exhibit Catastrophe! The Looting and Destruction of Iraq's Past, this Day of Discovery also includes a guided tour of the exhibit and the extraordinary collection of ancient art and artifacts on display in the Oriental Institute Museum's Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery.

A catered lunch will take place at the University of Chicago's Graduate School of Business, a nearby structure where outdoor terraces and a soaring atrium were designed to complement the architectural styles of Frank Lloyd Wright's Robie House and the Rockefeller Chapel, the building's neighbors on the University's campus.

CPDUs: 12

RECOMMENDED TEXTS:

Nissen, Hans J. The Early History of the Ancient Near East, 9000–2000 BC. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1988.

Van De Mieroop, Marc. The Ancient Mesopotamian City. New York: Oxford University Press, 1997.

This class meets at the Oriental Institute from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM on Wednesday evenings beginning July 16 and continuing through August 20. Pre-registration is required.

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SUNDAY FILMS

Each Sunday afternoon, enjoy the best in documentary or feature films on the ancient Near East at the Oriental Institute. Films begin at 2:00 PM and are free. Unless otherwise noted, running times range from thirty to fifty minutes. Following the films, museum docents will be available in the galleries to answer questions about our exhibits.

June 22 Iran: Seven Faces of a Civilization (2007)

This major new documentary uses the latest technology to showcase the celebrated art and archaeology of Iran over 7,000 years. A cinematic adventure that features spectacular graphic reconstructions superimposed on images of actual architectural remains, the film brilliantly recaptures the ancient treasures of Iran in ways never before possible.

June 29 The Dark Lords of Hattusha (2006)

This BBC film introduces the Hittites, a people that arose in ancient Turkey more than 3,000 years ago and built an empire that rivaled Egypt and Babylon. Then, just as it was at the height of its power, this great empire vanished. Now archaeologists have rediscovered Hattusha, the long-lost Hittite capital, and are unearthing one of the most astonishing and ingenious cities of the ancient world. Buried in this lost city is a great library where ancient texts are bringing the world of the Hittites to life, helping reveal what caused an empire built to last forever to vanish so completely from history.

July 6 As It Was in the Beginning (1989)

The first episode in the critically praised series, *Testament: The Bible and History*, this film searches for the roots of the book of Genesis in the great civilizations of Egypt and Mesopotamia. Narrated and hosted by John Romer.

July 13 Chronicles and Kings (1989)

How accurate is the Bible as a geography, archaeology, and history text? This second episode in the *Testament* series compares archaeological evidence with biblical history.

July 20 Mightier Than the Sword (1989)

The third episode from the *Testament* series examines the written word in Judaism, as host John Romer visits Qumran and Masada in search of the origins of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

July 27 Breaking Ground: The Story of the Oriental Institute (2004)

Produced by Chicago Public Television, this film includes breathtaking images and footage from historic Oriental Institute excavations as well as projects currently underway in Turkey and Egypt.

Aug. 3 Ancient Treasures of the Deep (1987)

From the PBS Nova series, this documentary on the underwater excavation of a fourteenth-century BC shipwreck found off the southern coast of Turkey shows how the ancient world from Africa to the Baltic was united by trade.

Aug. 10 Alexander the Great (2001)

Beginning in Macedonia, the empire of Alexander the Great quickly grew to include virtually all the known world in ancient times. This film from the Discovery Channel *Conquerors* series profiles a warrior-king of mythic proportions who continues to live on as an icon of martial prowess and a figure of fascination.

Aug. 17 Nubia 64: Saving the Temples of Ancient Egypt (1987)

Winner of the Grand Prix at the Cannes Film Festival, this film highlights the unprecedented international campaign to salvage and reconstruct ancient monuments in Egypt and Sudan that were threatened by the building of the Aswan Dam. The film's rare footage tells the story in human terms, vividly documenting the massive efforts to save temples and shrines from the rising floodwaters.

Aug. 24 Raiders of the Lost Ark (1981)

Special showing in Breasted Hall. See p. 27 for details.

Aug. 31 Labor Day Weekend -- No film showing

In September, we present screenings from the acclaimed BBC series *King Tut: The Face of Tutankhamun* (1992). Courtesy of the A&E Network.

Sept. 7 The Great Adventure

The first episode in the series retraces Howard Carter's momentous journey from rural England to the doorway of King Tut's tomb.

Sept. 14 Wonderful Things

Howard Carter unseals the tomb, revealing a vast treasure beyond imagination.

Sept. 21 The Pharaoh Awakes

"Tutmania" sweeps the world, influencing fashion, art, and the movies.

Sept. 28 Heads in the Sand

Scientific studies confirm the pharaoh's age and royal heritage, while his treasures are imperiled by modern civilization.

SAVE THE DATE!

Jazz Enthusiasts! The second annual Hyde Park Jazz Festival, fifteen hours of *free* back-to-back jazz for music lovers of all ages, takes place on Saturday, September 27. Experience some of the biggest names in local jazz on indoor and outdoor stages located in cultural venues throughout Hyde Park, including our own Breasted Hall.

For more information, visit www.hydeparkjazzfestival.org

SUMMER 2008 CALENDAR

Unless otherwise noted, all programs take place at the Oriental Institute. All programs subject to change

JUNE 27 | SUNDAY **Breaking Ground: The Story of** the Oriental Institute Film 22 | SUNDAY Ancient Mesopotamia: This History, 2:00 PM **Our History** See page 12 for details An Online Course for K-12 Educators June 22-August 15 **AUGUST** See page 10 for details Iran: Seven Faces of a Civilization 1 | FRIDAY "Dig It" Weekend Film Oriental Institute/Center for American 2:00 рм Archaeology Family Event See page 12 for details Begins at the Oriental Institute; 23 | MONDAY Be an Ancient Egyptian Artist Continues at the Center for American Summer Day Camp Archaeology, Kampsville, Illinois Monday, June 23–Friday, June 27 See page 24 for details 9:00 ам-1:00 рм 3 SUNDAY **Ancient Treasures of the Deep** Lill Street Art Center Film See page 24 for details 2:00 рм 25 WEDNESDAY **Visual Thinking Strategies:** See page 12 for details A Practicum for Teachers 4 MONDAY Be an Ancient Egyptian Artist June 25–27 Summer Day Camp 9:00 ам-3:00 рм Monday, August 4–Friday, August 8 See page 10 for details 9:00 AM-1:00 PM 29 SUNDAY The Dark Lords of Hattusha Lill Street Art Center Film See page 24 for details 2:00 PM 10 SUNDAY Alexander the Great See page 12 for details Film JULY See page 12 for details 17 | SUNDAY **Nubia 64: Saving the Temples** 6 | SUNDAY As It Was in the Beginning of Ancient Egypt Film Film 2:00 рм 2:00 PM

See page 12 for details

13 | SUNDAY Chronicles and Kings

Film 2:00 PM

See page 12 for details

16 | WEDNESDAY The World's First Cities

Adult Education Course Wednesdays, 7:00–9:00 PM See page 11 for details

20 | SUNDAY Mightier than the Sword

Film 2:00 pm

See page 12 for details

23 | SATURDAY Indianapolis Museum Day Trip

Travel Program

See page 12 for details

Begins at the Oriental Institute; Continues at the Indianapolis Museum

of Art 7:00 am

See page 21 for details

24 | SUNDAY Raiders of the Lost Ark

Special Film Showing Breasted Hall

2:00 рм

See page 27 for details

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SUMMER 2008 CALENDAR

27 | SATURDAY

SEPTEMBER

7 | SUNDAY The Great Adventure

Film 2:00 PM

See page 12 for details

14 | SUNDAY Wonderful Things

Film 2:00 PM

See page 12 for details

21 | SUNDAY The Pharaoh Awakes

Film

2:00 рм

See page 12 for details

Hyde Park Jazz Festival

See page 12 for details

28 | SUNDAY Heads in the Sand

Film 2:00 pm

See page 12 for details



Hittite Scholar's Centenary

Theo van den Hout, Professor of Hittite and Anatolian Languages

May 27, 2008, marked the 100th birthday of Hans Gustav Güterbock, co-founder of the Chicago Hittite Dictionary. Born in Berlin, Germany, he studied Hittite and Assyriology in his hometown and in Leipzig. His first publication was a volume of hand copies of Hittite cuneiform texts, published in 1930. This was the beginning of a long stream of books and articles that would span seventy years; Güterbock continued to publish until his death in March 2000.

In 1933 he joined the renewed excavations at the site of the former Hittite capital Hattusha near the Turkish village of Boghazköy. The political situation in Germany soon made it impossible for him to continue his studies. In 1936 he was forced to leave the country and moved to Ankara, Turkey, where he became professor of Hittitology. It was in Turkey that he met his future wife, Frances, the daughter of a German family likewise living in exile. After Hans had trained a first generation of Turkish Hittitologists, the young Güterbock family spent one year in Uppsala, Sweden, before moving to Chicago in 1949.

At Chicago, as a member of the Oriental Institute faculty, Hans worked tirelessly for the next fifty years, the last twentyfive of which were devoted largely to the Chicago Hittite Dictionary that he and his successor Harry Hoffner had founded



HH Fritalook

in 1975. As one of the long-term enterprises for which the Oriental Institute is so famous, the dictionary is still progressing, both in print and online, and it needs a few more decades to finish.

To mark the 100th anniversary of Hans Güterbock's birthday and to honor the memory of this extraordinary scholar the Güterbock family has announced a special donation to the Chicago Hittite Dictionary Project for which we are immensely grateful. They have also expressed the hope that you will join in the celebration of his memory with a gift of your own. For more information, please contact Monica Witczak, Director of Development, at (773) 834-9775 or mwitczak@uchicago.edu

THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE NUBIAN EXPEDITION FIELD OPERATIONS, 2008

Geoff Emberling and Bruce Williams

For the second time, the revived Oriental Institute Nubian Expedition took the field for rescue archaeology in the region of the Fourth Cataract of the Nile, which the construction of a dam will soon flood (fig. 1). Armed with the experience of the 2007 excavation, and hoping to work on the still-untouched island of Shirri, we organized a larger team, fortified it with staff with wide local experience, and rented two vehicles. We were joined once again by our inspector, Mahmoud Suliman, whose skill and hard work had been instrumental to our success last year. We were also able to re-hire our cook from the previous season. This can be a surprisingly important position when working in an area where logistics are difficult, and Hashem could not only feed us safely with minimal equipment, but he did it to a high standard, serving as quartermaster in the bargain.

The team assembled in Khartoum at the archaeologists' favorite hotel, the Acropole, run by the Pagoulatos brothers, whose accomplished services have even included organizing the air rescue of famed photographer Leni Riefenstahl after a crash in the Nuba Mountains. We traveled to Kareima, a trip now made easy by paved road and, miraculously, a brandnew bridge. There, we gathered the gear and furniture stored in the house of the local museum director, loaded a truck, and drove into the cataract led by last year's GPS tracks.

As hopes go, our original concession, Shirri Island, was certainly remote, even if worth planning for, and we arrived with a Plan B. This extended the generous offer of collaboration from the Gdansk Archaeological Museum's director Henryk Paner to do an archaeological survey of the island of Umm Gebir ("Mother of Tombs") just south of al-Widay and continue excavation of the Old Kush (Middle and Classic Kerma Period, ca. 1800–1550 BC) cemetery at

al-Widay itself. The Gdansk team uses the term "Old Kush" to indicate that the material culture of the Fourth Cataract during this period is a local variant of that known around the capital city, Kerma.

The challenge we faced this year was all the greater because many families had left the Amri region, as it is called, for the resettlement area of New Amri, in the desert southwest of Kareima. We had reason to expect a serious manpower shortage, and in fact, a shortage of housing as well, for they remove roof and

doors when they leave their old homes, making even empty houses dangerous. Shortages were not to be; on arrival, we found many villagers had decided to stay, getting last crops out of the fields in a time of international food crisis, and even reviving the local school in determination to somehow make a life above the shore of the future lake. We rented two houses from the family of Hassan Ahmed Ali, the man whose gold-panning demonstration last year found its way into the press around the world, and an able crew of

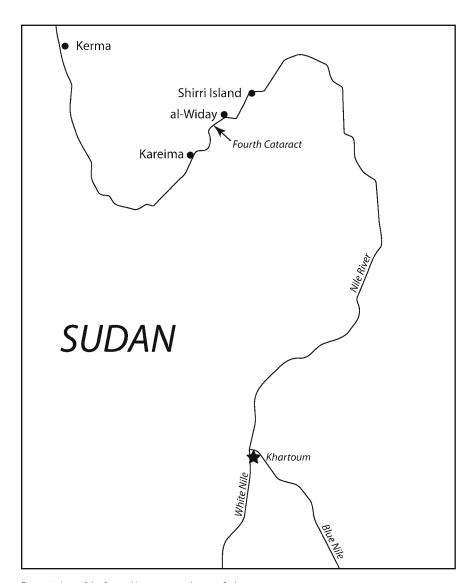


Figure 1. Area of the Oriental Institute expedition to Sudan

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willing workmen showed up for hire. In fact, a number of them returned from the resettlement areas, and at least one came from distant Khartoum.

All this was fortunate, for the Manasir were unable to reach agreement with the government in a way that would allow us to work at Shirri, so Plan B became The Plan. As we moved into the field and began to work, we resolved on a new goal. Instead of excavating an expanded sample of the tombs in al-Widay, we would do something new for the Old Kush (Kerma) Period in the Fourth Cataract, excavate the cemetery in its entirety (figs. 2–3), not just for the tombs, but external deposits and

cult activities (fig. 4). Excavating all tombs had been standard practice in the old Nubian Expedition days, but standards of documentation are now more demanding, and this was, in fact, a challenging program.

The documentation problem led to a development that promises to ease the burden of low-level planning considerably. Measured sketching and drawing of small-scale plans is a staple of archaeological work; on a small scale however, photographic documentation can be much richer. We have had satellite photos and aerial photos, but nothing able to convey structures or objects in any detail. In the last several

years, however, high-quality, inexpensive digital cameras have become small, light, and feature rich, some including the ability to support remote control from a computer. Sure enough, one such camera was already in our possession and provided with the necessary software. It needed only a 15-foot USB cable and a long pole or pipe to be operational. How, though, would we get it to stay pointed downward? Erik Lindahl, Oriental Institute Museum Preparator, created an answer; he welded a mounting jig to hold the camera straight down and attached it by a D-ring to a bracket that could be attached (in our case by duct tape) to a rod or pipe. Armed with this self-



Figure 2. Area of excavation of the al-Widay I cemetery looking northeast (kite photo #1011793, courtesy of the Gdansk mission)



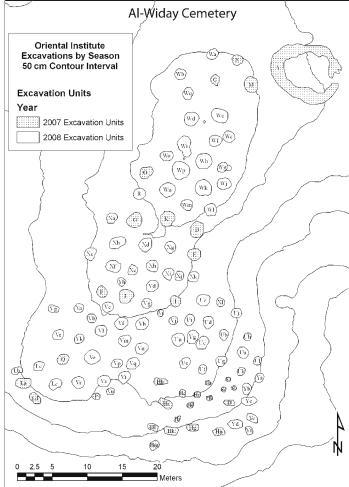


Figure 3. Plan of Oriental Institute excavations at the al-Widay cemetery

Figure 4. Two upside-down bowls outside a tomb in al-Widay I (Locus W-3, pot 1 to right; photo #442)

pointing device (fig. 5), we got top-down photographs of every feature we dug, and some done at request for the Gdansk team. They are taking the idea back to Poland for use in urban archaeology.

After a few days of establishing a routine for the work, we were able to expand excavation of al-Widay I in broad areas, each archaeologist excavating and supervising at least two tombs at a time. Mahmoud undertook oversight of the crew that cleared the cemetery areas around the superstructure: physically demanding because it meant moving a lot of rocks and gravel, but precise at the same time, not just delineating the superstructures, but finding external deposits of pottery and thin ashy layers where funerary cult meals were perhaps prepared. Four deposits of upside-down bowls in the manner of C-Group in Lower Nubia (ca. 2400-1500 BC) were found and at least two burned areas. There might even have been a bovine horn core deposited, an important Nubian connection. In 2007, we excavated thirtytwo graves, and in 2008, seventy-seven, including the most difficult part of the cemetery. Most of the burials dated to

Old Kush II (Middle Kerma), but a few — fewer than last year — dated to Old Kush III (Classic Kerma). Two tombs were actually Napatan (ca. 750–300 BC), which, with the large, enigmatic stone circle at the north end of the cemetery, show that this site was known and revered for many centuries after its primary use.

The typical Old Kush II tomb at al-Widay I was made by cutting a shallow, generally circular pit in the red, gravely soil to a depth of about half a meter. Generally, some of the earth made a ring around the shaft as a kind of foundation for the superstructure. The body generally was placed on the right side, head north, facing west in a posture that resembles a sleeping position, except that the legs were folded. Sometimes the body was placed on leather and was

often accompanied by a sheep or goat, a custom common at Kerma. Two or three,



Figure 5. Camera assembly for overhead photographs (inset) being used by Bruce Williams and Scott Bierly

sometimes more, vessels were placed in the burial, generally one or two bowls or beakers and a jar, and occasionally a small cup with ash, probably from incense (fig. 6a). Sometimes there were palettes, two of a curious geometric shape (fig. 6b). One tomb contained bone weapon points of a type recently in use in southern Sudan (fig. 6c). Jewelry included beads, mostly faience from Egypt or Kerma and ostrich eggshell. This year, a substantial number of tiny gold beads were found in one tomb, many perfect circles of astonishing workmanship (fig. 6d). The other items



Figure 6. (a) "Pan-Grave" pot with unusual painted decoration from al-Widay I, Tomb U-b (2008.89; photo #6388); (b)

Ferruginous sandstone palette from al-Widay I, Tomb W-a (2008.284; photo #6694); (c) Long bone point from al-Widay I,



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of note were scarabs, one found against the wrist of the burial (fig. 7a). Most people did not live much beyond their 30s, and child burials were frequent. In stark contrast with Kerma, where violence often left its mark on the bodies, evidence of trauma was rarely found in al-Widay.

The shaft was larger than needed for the body and grave goods, and the burial was generally surrounded by large stones. Some of these were piled together in the shaft fill. Above, the superstructure was constructed almost directly above the shaft as a circle of large stones filled with soil, gravel, and stones, smaller ones piled above, and curving inward to a height of about half a meter, then paved over, in a kind of cushion shape.

Among the most interesting burials in the al-Widay cemetery was the Middle Kerma burial of a child of about ten years old that contained two pots, more than 850 shell, faience, and carnelian beads (fig. 8), an imported sandstone palette, a large oyster shell perhaps also for cosmetics, and two scarabs, one of which was inscribed with the name (Nebsumenu) and rank (Shemsu n Remen-tep, retainer or captain of the First Battalion) of an Egyptian officer serving in one of the Egyptian fortresses near the Second Cataract (fig. 6a). Sealings of these officers are known from the fortress at Uronarti and from Serra East.

found in Oriental Institute excavations. This was Nebsumenu's personal seal, his identification and his authentication, so the story of its arrival in the burial of a child at the Fourth Cataract likely invokes episodes of danger and conflict.

This year, we dug fewer Old Kush III (Classic Kerma) burials, but these confirmed the difference of location from the earlier phase, being all at the south end of the cemetery. Not only did they differ in shape, tending to be rectangular rather than circular, but in orientation, with head to

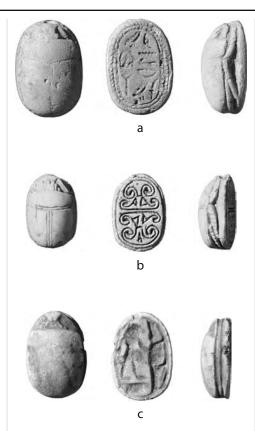


Figure 7. Scarabs found at al-Widay I: (*a*) Scarab found in Tomb X-h inscribed with name and rank of Nebsumenu, retainer or captain of the Egyptian First Battalion (2008.436; photo #7285); (*b*) Scarab with floral design from Tomb W-c (2008.289; photo #7294); (*c*) Scarab with man and crocodile from Tomb L-e (2008.21; photo #7288)

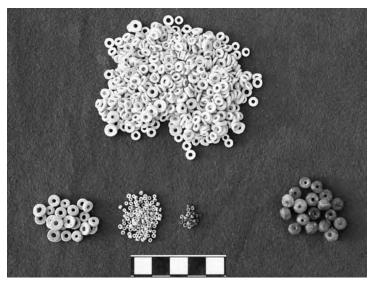


Figure 8. More than 850 faience, shell, and carnelian beads from al-Widay I, Tomb W-h (2008.501; photo #6666)

the east, face to the north, the direction normally found at Kerma itself.

While we were digging al-Widay I, four of us completed a walking transect-survey of Umm Gebir Island as a kind of afternoon project, for then the light is better for such work. The number of sites was large, some 112, and this provided the raw material for operations in the second part of the season when we had completed both the survey and the excavation of al-Widay I (fig. 9).

We divided into three field groups. One went to the western part of Umm Gebir to test a cluster of so-called dome graves dotting the hillsides there. These are Napatan-era (ca. 750–300 BC) surface burials with roughly domical field-stone superstructures. Afterwards came a brief but interesting look at a Neolithic settlement site. This period is an odd reversal in the Fourth Cataract, for settlements are known, but no burials.

The second operation was the most important. We had planned to test a large, plundered Old Kush (Kerma) cemetery in the eastern part of the island, but we found after opening it that plundering had not been as thorough as we had expected. Also, it was not early, as we had thought, but quite late, continuing deep into the Egyptian New Kingdom and probably later still. While the period is represented in the Fourth

Cataract, it is very poorly known. Even more poorly known in Nubia generally is surviving local culture, for Egyptian ways penetrated Nubia quite thoroughly. Here, we finally found dated tumulus tombs of the New Kingdom (fig. 10). With a few tombs excavated, we barely scratched the surface of understanding a dramatically important site.

Finally, we took up excavation in a transitional Napatan settlement near the eastern village of Umm Gebir itself. The Gdansk team had begun work there, discovering enigmatic

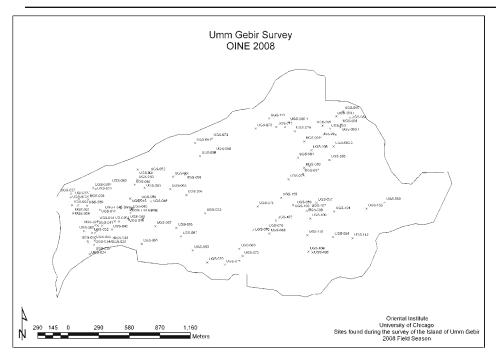


Figure 10. Objects from New Kingdom tumulus tombs on Umm Gebir: (a) Painted jug of the Egyptian Eighteenth Dynasty from UGS 101, Tomb C-a (2008.527 and 535; photo #6747); (b) "Post-Classic" Kerma pot (black-topped redware with painted yellow spots) from UGS 101, Tomb C-a (2008.496; photo #6644)

Figure 9. Map of sites discovered in the survey of Umm Gebir Island

circular and oblong stone pavements and, with time running short, asked us to continue the work (fig. 10). We did, finding two more such pavements and fragments of more such that it appears they were some kind of building floors accompanied by storage bins.

Following our work last year at the Kerma/Napatan gold-extraction site at Hosh el-Guruf, Professor Jim Harrell of the University of Toledo continued investigation into possible local sources of gold. After local surveys and discussions with local gold miners, he discovered that locals select sand for gold panning based on the visible presence of "feyrous," in this case, garnets. Garnet and gold are both dense, heavy minerals and so they settle in similar places in alluvial environments. He was able to predict the location of garnet deposits with some accuracy in the vicinity of al-Widay.

The 2008 season of the Oriental Institute Nubian Expedition was certainly challenging, and even more productive. Like 2007, it was more productive by far than our original expectations, leaving us with the sense that the losses to archaeology will be huge, even if we work until we join the sites underwater.

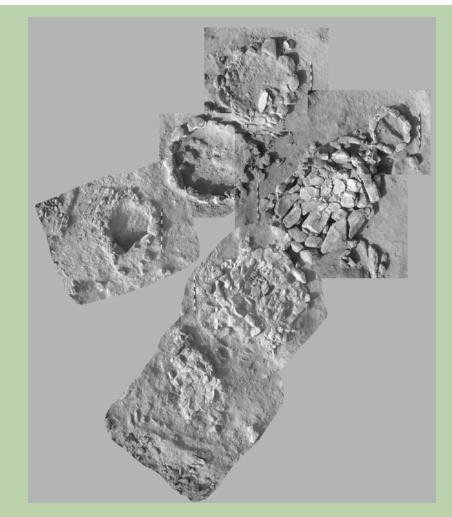


Figure 11. Stone platforms and circles associated with burned layers in Post-Classic Kerma or Napatan settlement on Umm Gebir Island (UGS 112); features to the right were excavated by the Gdansk mission

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Shirri aside, the island of Amri itself, just
west of Umm Gebir, has not even been
surveyed.

* * * * * *

It is a pleasure to thank the staff who worked extremely hard under difficult conditions to make the season a success: Kat Bandy, Scott Bierly, Christina Fojas, Jim Harrell, Debora Heard, Megan Ingvoldstad, Megaera Lorenz, Justine James, Tom James, Edyta Klimaszewska-Drabot, and Margaret Wilson.

We also thank the staff of the National Corporation for Antiquities and Museums, particularly our Inspector, Mahmoud Suliman, for their collegial and professional support. We also

acknowledge the brothers Pagoulatos and the staff of the Acropole Hotel, as well as Ahmed "et-Turabi" for help with accommodations and with vehicles, respectively. Our work was made possible by the very generous support of the Packard Humanities Institute (PHI).



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		MEMBERS	NON-MEMBERS	TOTAL
_ ·	The World's First Cities	\$165	\$205	
	"Dig It" Weekend	\$69	\$75	
	Elderhostel Day of Discovery: Looting the Cradle of Civilization For information on fees and registration, call Oriental Institute Museum Education at (773) 702-950	07		
	Ancient Mesopotamia: This History, Our History To register, contact Val Huston at (773) 702-6033 or vhuston@uchicago.edu			
	Visual Thinking Strategies: A Practicum for Teachers To register, contact Stephanie Hughes at (212) 253-9007 or shughes@vue.org			
			GRAND TO	AL
	ould like to become a member of the Oriental Institute. Enclosed is \$50 for an Annual Membership; \$ than 100 miles from Chicago within the USA). Please send a separate check for membership.	40 for seniors, UC/UCH Fo	aculty & Staff, and National Associ	ates (persons livii
l prefe	r to pay by 🔲 Check (payable to the Oriental Institute) 🔲 Money order 🗇 MasterCard	□ Visa		
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Name				
Addre	ss: City/Sta	te/7in·		

Cut out and send form to: The Oriental Institute Education Office, 1155 East 58th Street, Chicago, IL 60637

REGISTRATION AND REFUND POLICY

Daytime phone:

For multi-session on-campus courses, a full refund will be granted to anyone who notifies us about his/her cancellation before the first class meeting. Those who cancel after the first class meeting, but before the second class meeting, will receive a full refund minus a \$50 cancellation fee. After the second class meeting, no refunds will be granted unless the course is canceled by the Education Office. Failure to attend a class does not entitle a registrant to a refund. Some courses require a small materials fee to be paid at the first class meeting.

E-mail:

For single-session programs, no refunds will be granted, but if the Museum Education Office is notified of cancellation at least 48 hours before the program begins, a credit voucher will be issued for the full amount. With less than 48 hours notice, a voucher for the full amount, less a \$5 cancellation fee, will be issued. Credit vouchers can be used for any Oriental Institute single-session program for one full calendar year from the date on the voucher. Only those registered for classes may attend them. The Museum Education Office reserves the right to refuse to retain any student in any class at any time.

WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE COMING YEAR

DOMESTIC TRAVEL

AUGUST 23, 2008

To Live Forever: Egyptian Treasures from the Brooklyn Museum — day trip to Indianapolis Museum of Art

Escorted by Emily Teeter, Oriental Institute

The Indianapolis Museum of Art will be the first venue to host this touring exhibition, which includes some of the greatest masterworks of the Egyptian artistic tradition from the Brooklyn Museum's extensive, world-renowned collection. The exhibition, which explores Egyptian strategies for defeating death and achieving eternal life, contains over 100 objects, telling the story of mummification, funeral procession and ritual, contents of tombs, the final judgment, and the idealized afterlife. We will be joined by Egyptologist Emily Teeter, Oriental Institute Research Associate and Special Exhibits Coordinator, who will present a lecture entitled "Deciphering Egyptian Art" before we view the exhibit as a group. Join Oriental Institute Members, the Chicago Archaeological Society, South Suburban Archaeological Society of Illinois, and the Chicago chapters of the Archaeological Institute of America and the American Research Center in Egypt for a visit to one of the most unique and beautiful collections of Egyptian artifacts in America.

7:00 AM departure from Chicago by tour bus: pickup locations in the Loop and at the Oriental Institute

11:30 AM arrival in Indianapolis for entry into the museum

Lunch on your own at the Museum Café or IMA Wolfgang Puck restaurant with time to explore other galleries

2:00 PM "Deciphering Egyptian Art," presented by Emily Teeter

3:00 PM entry into the special exhibit To Live Forever: Egyptian Treasures from the Brooklyn Museum

5:00 PM depart museum by bus to return to Chicago. Drop-offs at the Oriental Institute and Loop

Cost: \$65; Includes round-trip transportation between Chicago Loop/Oriental Institute and Indianapolis Art Museum, Museum/Special Exhibit admission, special lecture.

For more information or to register, contact Sarah Sapperstein, Oriental Institute Membership Coordinator, at (773-834-9777), or by e-mail: oi-membership@uchicago.edu

Please register early; due to the size of our bus, we can accommodate a limited number of participants. To inquire about registration without transportation, please contact the Membership Office.

INTERNATIONAL DEPARTURES

MARCH 2009

Egypt and the East: Egypt's Eastern Desert and the Sinai Peninsula

Optional extension to Aqaba and Petra, Jordan. Escorted by Robert Ritner, Oriental Institute

This journey through the wilderness of Egypt leads us through some of the rarely visited sites between the Nile Delta and the Red Sea. From early petroglyphs to major Middle Kingdom architecture to early Christian sites, we will examine the eastern edge of Egypt and the ancient kingdom's relationship with its eastern neighbors.

NOVEMBER 2009

Splendors of the Nile

Escorted by Nadine Moeller, Oriental Institute

Join us on a *dahabya*, or sailing river yacht, for a luxurious voyage to visit some of the most beautiful sites along the lush banks of Egypt's lifeline — the Nile. This trip is a great introduction to Egypt and a treat for anyone who wants to see Egypt through the eyes of a Nile traveler. We will experience many of the famous landmarks of Egyptian history as well as exclusive site visits and on-site learning.



For dates and itinerary information, contact the Membership Office at (773) 834-9777 or e-mail oi-membership@uchicago.edu

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REVIEW: SPECIAL EXHIBIT OPENING AND SYMPOSIUM CATASTROPHE!

THE LOOTING AND DESTRUCTION OF IRAQ'S PAST

Kaye Oberhausen, Special Events Coordinator, and Carole Krucoff, Head of Museum and Public Education

n Thursday, April 10, the Oriental Institute Museum opened its newest special exhibit: Catastrophe! The Looting and Destruction of Iraq's Past, co-curated by Professor McGuire Gibson and graduate student Katharyn Hanson. (See the Spring 2008 issue of *News & Notes*, for an overview of the exhibit.) The opening coincided with the five-year anniversary of the looting of the Iraq National Museum in Baghdad and was a poignant way to remember the destruction that has taken place, and is currently taking place, in Iraq.

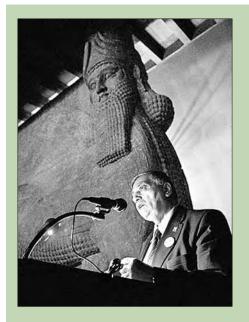
The evening began with a members' reception in the Research Archives where a record crowd came out for the chance to mingle with Near Eastern scholars and VIP guests. Thanks are due to Foy Scalf, Head of the Research Archives, for allowing us to host our members in this beautiful space. McGuire Gibson, Professor of Mesopotamian Archaeology,

continued the evening's events with a lecture in Breasted Hall entitled "The Destruction of Iraq's Cultural Heritage: The View from Five Years On." To an audience of over 170, Professor Gibson outlined the destruction of the Baghdad Museum on those fateful days in 2003 and gave an update on the current condition and future of the museum. He also spoke about the ongoing destruction of the archaeological sites located throughout the country and how the looting is causing significant damage to the contextual understanding of the past.

Professor Gibson closed his lecture with an invitation for guests to visit the special exhibit and outlined ways that individuals can get involved to help make a difference in this matter. The audience then had a chance to enjoy the first viewing of the special exhibit before the night's events ended with a ceremonial vigil in the Yelda Khorsabad Court.



Guests at the reception held in the Oriental Institute Research Archives. Photo by Anna Ressman



Donny George speaks about his experiences during the looting of the Iraq National Museum. Photo courtesy of Marc Monaghan Photography



Viewing the special exhibit Catastrophe! The Looting and Destruction of Iraq's Past. Photo by Anna Ressman

The vigil, organized in conjunction with SAFE (Saving Antiquities for Everyone), was a fitting way to end the evening: a candlelit moment of silence to pay respect to the destruction that has occurred and continues to occur in Iraq. Donny George, former Director of the Baghdad Museum, gave an emotional account of the days following the looting and thanked everyone for their ongoing support.

The events continued on Saturday, April 12, with an all-day symposium entitled Looting the Cradle of Civilization: The Loss of History in Iraq. The speakers included:

- Donny George, former Director of the Iraq National Museum in Baghdad
- Patty Gerstenblith, Professor, College of Law, DePaul University, Chicago, and Director of DePaul's program on Cultural Heritage Law
- McGuire Gibson, Professor of Mesopotamian Archaeology, University of Chicago
- Abdul-Amir Hamdani, Director of Antiquities, Nasiriya Province, Southern Iraq
- John Russell, Professor of Art, Massachusetts College, and former Deputy Advisor to the Iraqi Minister of Culture and the Coalition Provisional Authority
- Elizabeth Stone, Professor of Mesopotamian Archaeology, Stony Brook University, New York

With approximately 100 guests in attendance, the speakers' presentations enabled the audience to delve deeper into the issues surrounding archaeological work and the

security of antiquities in today's Iraq. The closing panel discussion, moderated by Geoff Emberling, Oriental Institute Museum Director, took a closer look at what the future might hold and how all concerned might be able to help.

Co-sponsored by the University of Chicago's Graham School of General Studies, the symposium was also supported in part by the Outreach Section of the University's Center for International Studies, which made it possible for more than twenty K–12 teachers from throughout the Chicago area to register for the event free of charge. The Center invited these educators to develop curriculum based on the Catastrophe exhibit and symposium and to share their work with other educators by posting their lessons on the Center for International Studies and Oriental Institute Web sites.

Catastrophe! The Looting and Destruction of Iraq's Past is on display until December 31, 2008, and we welcome the public to stop by to learn more about how they can become advocates for antiquities, world heritage, and archaeological ethics. A catalog for the exhibit is available for purchase from the *Suq* gift and book shop in the museum lobby. For online and phone ordering information, visit oi.uchicago.edu/order/suq

Special thanks to Jamie Bender and the Center for International Studies, Jessica Caracci, Geoff Emberling, Donny George, Patty Gerstenblith, McGuire Gibson, Abdul-Amir Hamdani, Katharyn Hanson, Cindy Ho and members of SAFE, Tom James, Carole Krucoff, Erik Lindahl, John Russell, Sarah Sapperstein, Foy Scalf, Leslie Schramer, Gil Stein, Elizabeth Stone, Emily Teeter, Tom Urban, Pamela Wickliffe of the Graham School, and countless others for helping to make all these special events and programs take place.

PAGE 24 **NEWS & NOTES**

SUMMER DAY CAMP

BE AN ANCIENT EGYPTIAN ARTIST

Monday, June 23-Friday, June 27

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Monday, August 4-Friday, August 8

9:00 AM-1:00 PM

Lill Street Art Center

4401 North Ravenswood

Chicago, Illinois 60640

Calling all Junior Egyptologists! Children ages 8–12 are invited to explore the spectacular arts of ancient Egypt at this summer day camp co-sponsored by the Oriental Institute and the Lill Street Art Center. Let the Egyptian gods inspire you as you create paintings and jewelry like those found in the palaces and tombs of ancient pharaohs. Try your hand at Egyptian metalworking, pottery making, and more. The camp, which takes place at the Lill Street Art Center, also includes a one-day visit to the Oriental Institute's Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery.

FEE: \$235. All materials, supplies, and round-trip bus transportation to the Oriental Institute included.

Pre-registration is required. For details or to register, call the Lill Street Art Center at (773) 769-4226.

ORIENTAL INSTITUTE/CENTER FOR AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY FAMILY EVENT "Dig It" Weekend

Mary Pirkl, Director of Education,

Center for American Archaeology

Katharyn Hanson, Exhibit Co-curator, Catastrophe! The Looting and Destruction of Iraq's Past

Friday, August 1, 1:00 PM—Sunday, August 3, 10:00 AM

Begins at the Oriental Institute;

continues at the Center for American Archaeology, Kampsville, Illinois

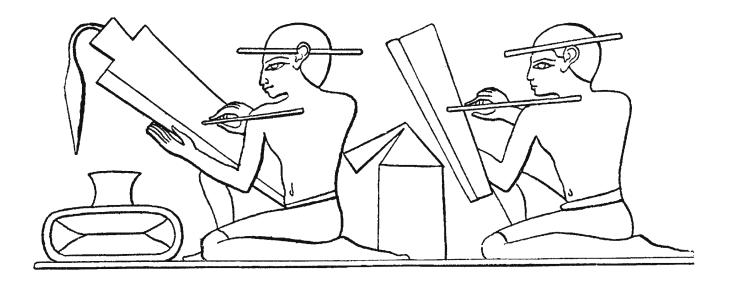
Is your child or grandchild fascinated by ancient civilizations? Are they intent on excavating the backyard for buried treasure? Why not give them — and yourselves the opportunity to learn about prehistoric peoples and archaeology right here in our own region during a "Dig It" weekend full of excitement and adventure! This special overnight program for children ages 7-12 and their parents, grandparents, or guardians combines an introduction to archaeological excavation at a 2,000 year old Native American village site with an exploration of stone toolmaking, ancient games, and much, much more.

THE PROGRAM AT THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE: Meet at the Oriental Institute Museum on Friday, August 1, at 1:00 pm, for a guided tour to discover ancient Near Eastern treasures excavated by Oriental Institute archaeologists and learn about the threats to archaeological heritage examined in the special exhibit Catastrophe! The Looting and Destruction of Iraq's Past. Led by Katharyn Hanson, Exhibit Co-curator, this tour emphasizes the importance of protecting archaeological sites and sets the stage for the hands-on "Dig It" experience.

THE PROGRAM AT THE CENTER FOR AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY (CAA): Travel on your own to the CAA in Kampsville, Illinois, a 5-hour drive. Plan to arrive between 7 and 8 PM on Friday, August 1, in order to be ready for the "Dig It" program that runs from 10 AM Saturday, August 2, to 10 AM Sunday, August 3.

TUITION FEE: \$75 per person (child or adult), \$69 for Oriental Institute Members. Fee includes overnight stay from Friday through Sunday; breakfast and lunch on Saturday; breakfast on Sunday; all supplies; and all activities and instruction. Saturday dinner on your own at a local restaurant (list provided on arrival). Each family will have its own room in the CAA dormitory facility. Pre-registration is required and space is limited.

To register, or for more information, call Oriental Institute Museum Education at (773) 702-9507.



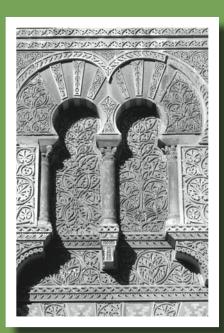
ORIENTAL INSTITUTE TRAVEL 2008 WRAP-UP



ON THE PATH OF THE UMAYYADS







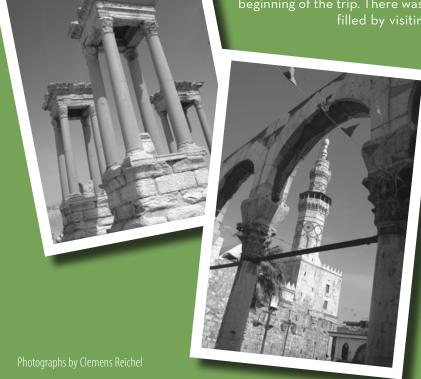
In April of this year, the Oriental Institute embarked on a new endeavor for our travel program: we launched an itinerary that had a thematic, multi-country, cross-cultural focus. During On the Path of the Umayyads: From Syria to Spain, we explored the eastern and western boundaries of the Umayyad empire in the era of early Islam, it's growth and adaptation of the remains of Rome, and its enduring effect on the modern Middle East and Mediterranean regions. The Umayyads were one of the four caliphates established after Mohammed's death in 632. They first consolidated power in Damascus in the seventh century, then moved across northern Africa and crossed from Morocco into Europe. We know them today as the Moors.

Our group of twenty was led by Clemens Reichel, Research Associate at the Oriental Institute and American Co-director of the Syrian-American Archaeological Expedition to Hamoukar. We began our journey with a drive through northern Jordan to visit two "desert castles" — the imposing fortified Qasr Kharaneh and the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Qusayr Amra filled with dazzling painted frescoes of hunting, dancing, musicians, and bathing scenes. After crossing the border, we explored many of the spectacular sites that Syria has to offer, including several architectural masterpieces created during the Umayyad period. We then flew to Spain and drove into Andalucia where we walked through the Mesquita, the Mosque turned into a Cathedral in Cordoba, and the glorious architecture of the Alhambra in Granada.

With the logistics of managing a multi-country trip came challenges and obstacles we faced head-on. While we had originally planned to visit only Syria and Spain, airline schedule changes forced us to add a stop in Jordan at the beginning of the trip. There was also an unplanned layover in Madrid, which we filled by visiting the nearby UNESCO World Heritage Site of

Alcalá de Henares, one of the earliest university cities in Europe and the birthplace of Cervantes. We walked the ancient Roman streets under a full moon in Bosra and explored the suqs of Aleppo and Damascus in search of treasures. In both Syria and Spain we dined on superb local cuisine in exceptional locations, including a garden overlooking the Alhambra and a desert tent where we were entertained by Bedouin dancers.

A special thank you to Michael Corbin, the U.S. Charge d'Affaires in Damascus, who hosted us in the Ambassador's Residence to discuss U.S. and Syrian communications in today's Middle East.



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ORIENTAL INSTITUTE TRAVEL 2008 WRAP-UP

UNSEEN EGYPT

On March 11, 2008, nineteen intrepid travelers landed in Cairo to begin a journey through Unseen Egypt led by Oriental Institute scholar Robert Ritner. For the next two weeks, the group visited some of the most rarely seen, exclusive sites through Middle Egypt, the Fayoum region, and along the shores of Lake Nasser. For fifteen days, the Oriental Institute travelers were frequently the only sightseers at the many tombs, temples, pyramid complexes, and architectural ruins on our itinerary. Because of our wonderful Egyptian tour team, we were able to see many unique additional sites and gained exclusive access to some "off-the-beaten-path" areas that revealed tombs, structures, and ancient cultural artifacts that were welcome surprises.

The sites visited included the tombs of the nomarchs at Meir with their well-preserved paintings of the Middle Kingdom; the First Intermediate Period folk-art style tomb of Ankhtifi at Moalla; the palimpsest of layers of theological imagery at the Red and White Coptic Monasteries of Sohag; the Fayoum site of Medinet Madi, dedicated to Sobek by Twelfth Dynasty pharaohs Amenemhat III and IV, with later Greco-Roman- and Egyptian-style sphinxes lining the processional way; and the city complex and retaining walls of Ptolemaic Soknopious Nesos, with a grand processional way that today leads deep into the desert wilderness. Dr. Ritner made sure we came away from the trip with a good understanding of temple and tomb architecture, its significance in Egyptian culture and cultural/religious thought, and an in-depth, albeit introductory, understanding of the relationship between ancient Egyptians and their land, religion, symbols, art, and writing.





This journey was truly a different experience from any other Oriental Institute trip to Egypt, being by far the most rigorous journey we've ever attempted; traveling through Egypt in a variety of forms and fashions, on any given day we took a multitude of transportation vehicles: offroad four-by-fours through the desert, local ferries across the Nile (donkeys and carts included), small powerboats between our Nasser cruise liner and the shore, small transport buses, and even a tomato truck! But everywhere we went, we experienced the utmost in hospitality from locals, tourist authorities, and antiquities officials. We even enjoyed a warm Luxor evening with the Chicago House Epigraphic Survey, and we would like to thank Dr. Ray Johnson, Carlotta Maher, and the entire Chicago House team for their kindness and hospitality, and for providing the group with a great introduction to the Epigraphic Survey's history and work across the sites of Luxor.

Throughout the program of site visits and on-site learning that was built into the itinerary, we were surprised with some unplanned discoveries and behind-the-scenes looks at excavations and projects in action across Egypt. We must extend a special thank you to Dr. Zahi Hawass, Director of the Supreme Council of Antiquities, for his support and communication with our tour managers along our route, making many of our exclusive visits possible.

We also extend our gratitude to Dr. Elizabeth Bolman, Project Director and Principal Art Historian of the Red Monastery Wall Painting Conservation Project, and Head Conservator Luigi De Cesaris for their in-depth SPRING 2008 PAGE 27

introduction and behind-the-scenes look at this one-of-a-kind project. The Red Monastery conservation project, along with a variety of others throughout Egypt, is one of many American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE)/Egyptian Antiquities Conservation projects that are supported by funding from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). For more information about the conservation of the Red Monastery and other projects, visit www.metmuseum. org/education/er_lecture_archive/sam_cia/bolman_page_1.asp

We also thank Michael Berger and the entire Universidad del Valle de México for their hospitality in showing us their work in progress at the tomb of Puyemre, giving us a chance to see various points in the excavation and conservation process.



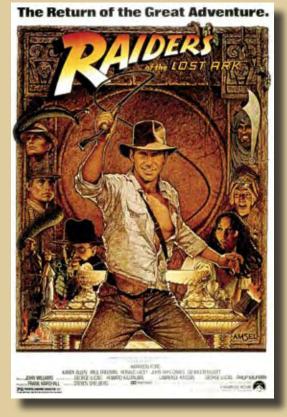
SPECIAL FILM SHOWING

Raiders of the Lost Ark Sunday, August 24 Breasted Hall 2:00 PM

FRFF

Have you seen the new film *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull?* See how Professor Jones' adventures all began with a special showing of *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, hailed by critics as the greatest adventure movie of all time. Experience the daring exploits and death-defying feats as they were meant to be seen — on the big screen. After watching archaeologist Indiana Jones battle snakes, villains, and supernatural forces to rescue the sacred Ark of the Covenant, visit the galleries of the Oriental Institute Museum to see treasures excavated by the institute's own archaeologists. Learn how you can help save ancient artifacts in the new special exhibit Catastrophe! The Looting and Destruction of Iraq's Past.

Museum admission and film showing are free with suggested donation.



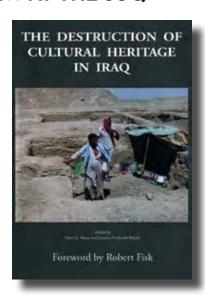
Movie poster from the 1981 Paramount film

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THE SUQ

CORNER

NEW AT THE SUQ



The Destruction of Cultural Heritage in Iraq

Edited by Peter Stone and Joanne Farchakh Bajjaly

A series of short chapters outlining the personal stories of a number of individuals who were — and in most cases continue to be — involved.

Members' Price: \$85.50

Antiquities Under Siege: Cultural Heritage Protection after the Iraq War

Edited by Lawrence Rothfield

A look at the looting of the Iraqi Museum and the archaeological sites in Iraq, giving a full account of the disasters and why the array of laws, military and international conventions, and advocacy groups failed. The book identifies new planning procedures by each of these groups to prevent future looting.

Members' Price: \$26.95

