







**THE  
ORIENTAL INSTITUTE  
2003-2004 ANNUAL REPORT**

Cover and title page illustration: Griffin plaque. Ivory. Late Bronze Age II, thirteenth century B.C. Megiddo. Excavated by the Oriental Institute in 1936/37. OIM A22212. This plaque is one of a group of ivories discovered in a semi-subterranean chamber that archaeologists called “the treasury,” adjacent to a large building that might have been a palace. The plaque bears the figure of a reclining griffin, a composite creature with a lion’s body and a bird’s head and wings. This motif is borrowed from the art of the Mycenaeans, but it is uncertain whether the object itself was made in Greece, by a Mycenaean craftsman settled in Asia, or by a local ivory carver imitating Mycenaean prototypes.

The pages that divide the sections of this year’s report feature photographs of objects that will be displayed in the Civilizations in the Fertile Crescent Gallery.

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*The Oriental Institute, Chicago*

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***INTRODUCTION***

*Overleaf. Terra-cotta head. Amuq Phase J. Tell Ta'yinat. Excavated by the Oriental Institute in 1938. OIM A27841. This finger-molded face was once part of a terra-cotta pot or bottle. Carefully hand molded, the piece has pierced pellet eyes, a long thin nose, high cheekbones, and a cleft chin. A small portion of the bottle's sharp lip is still intact above the forehead.*



## INTRODUCTION

Gil J. Stein

One of the pleasures of writing the introduction to the Oriental Institute's *Annual Report* is seeing the truly impressive achievements of my colleagues during the past year. The people in the Oriental Institute community can justifiably take pride in the major strides we are making in our museum and research, and in our effectiveness as an organization.

The museum reinstallation is proceeding apace.

In October 2003, we formally opened the Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery and the Yelda Family Khorsabad Court. The openings were particularly appropriate since 2003 marked the centennial of the University of Chicago's first excavations in Mesopotamia — the expedition to Bismaya/Adab. At the Director's Dinner inaugurating the galleries, we were honored to have as our keynote speaker Dr. Donny George



Yekhanna, the Director of Research for the Iraq State Antiquities organization. Dr. Youkhanna has been one of the leading voices in arousing the conscience of the world in the wake of the looting of the Iraq Museum in Baghdad. His presence and his eloquent lecture reminded us all of the vital role of museums in preserving the physical heritage of world civilization. We feel a particular bond with the Iraq Museum because the 1930s practice of dividing the finds from each excavation between the foreign expeditions and the host country means that most of the artifacts in our Mesopotamian Gallery have near exact counterparts in the collections of the Iraq Museum. Their loss is our loss. It is heartening to see an increased public recognition and awareness of the importance of Mesopotamia and of our world-class collections. On the weekend of the formal opening of the Mesopotamian Gallery, we set a record for the largest attendance figures for any two day period.

*Gil J. Stein and Dr. Donny George Youkhanna at a reception in the Director's Office marking the opening of the Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery and the Yelda Family Khorsabad Court. Photograph courtesy Clemens Reichel*

His presence and his eloquent lecture reminded us all of the vital role of museums in preserving the physical heritage of world civilization. We feel a particular bond with the Iraq Museum because the 1930s practice of dividing the finds from each excavation between the foreign expeditions and the host country means that most of the artifacts in our Mesopotamian Gallery have near exact counterparts in the collections of the Iraq Museum. Their loss is our loss. It is heartening to see an increased public recognition and awareness of the importance of Mesopotamia and of our world-class collections. On the weekend of the formal opening of the Mesopotamian Gallery, we set a record for the largest attendance figures for any two day period.

We plan to build on the success of the Mesopotamian Gallery in the next phase of reinstallation. We are working on the museum's East Wing, consisting of three thematically linked galleries — the Assyrian Empire Gallery, the Henrietta Herbolsheimer Syro-Anatolian Gallery, and the Haas and Schwartz Megiddo Gallery. These galleries will be completed in November 2004 and open in January 2005. My only regret is that Albert "Bud" Haas, one of the dearest friends the Oriental Institute ever had, did not live to see the opening of the gallery named in his honor.

The reinstallation is being ably overseen by Museum Director Geoffrey Emberling, who started in this position in May 2004. I want to thank Geoff's predecessor, Karen Wilson for her years of loyal service to the Oriental Institute and for her tremendous efforts and successes in the earlier stages of the museum reinstallation. The fact that Geoff has been able to move ahead so effectively on the reinstallation of the East Wing galleries is largely due to the solid base that Karen and her staff had already provided. Thanks to the efforts of Karen, and now Geoff, the entire museum reinstallation is on track to be completed in 2006 — appropriately enough — on the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Oriental Institute building. The completion of this ten year effort will truly be an event to celebrate.

## INTRODUCTION

We should remember that while the museum highlights some of the great earlier discoveries of Oriental Institute researchers, this work continues unabated in the field and here at home in Hyde Park. Despite the current political difficulties affecting field research in many parts of the Near East, Oriental Institute archaeologists have been actively expanding the scope of our archaeological excavations in Turkey, Egypt, and Iran. Ashhan Yener, Associate Professor of Archaeology, has been leading the excavations at the Middle/Late Bronze Age urban center of Tell Atchana/Alalakh. This project has been generously supported by University trustee Joseph Neubauer and his wife Jeannette. The Atchana excavations hold great promise for developing our understanding of urban life in the Near East during the second millennium B.C. The Oriental Institute now has a key role in two additional excavations in Turkey. Research Associate Ronald Gorny has been excavating at the Hittite cult center of Çadır Höyük in central Anatolia. As a bonus, the excavations of the uppermost deposits at Çadır also yielded important — perhaps unique — discoveries about the last years of Byzantine rule in Anatolia, including a destruction level that may be associated with the actual Turkish conquest. Also in central Anatolia, Research Associate Scott Branting, the new director of our Center for the Archaeology of the Middle Eastern Landscape (CAMEL) laboratory is co-directing (with Geoffrey Summers of Middle East Technical University in Ankara) the excavations and remote sensing investigations at the first millennium B.C. urban site of Kerkenes Dağ.

In Egypt, Oriental Institute Research Associate Mark Lehner continues his path-breaking work on the Giza Plateau mapping project. At the same time, Stephen P. Harvey, Assistant Professor of Egyptian Archaeology, is expanding his excavations at Abydos. Steve's work promises to make major contributions to our understanding of the origins of the Egyptian New Kingdom. Research Associate (Associate Professor) W. Raymond Johnson and the talented staff of the Epigraphic Survey continue their vital and urgent work of conserving the monumental architecture of Luxor and of recording and conserving the reliefs at Medinet Habu.

In Iran, thanks to the extraordinary efforts of Senior Research Associate Abbas Alizadeh, the Oriental Institute has been able to continue its excavations in Khuzestan, and most recently at a series of prehistoric sites on the Marv Dasht plain near Persepolis. Our scholarly cooperation with Iranian researchers is slowly but steadily improving, and we look forward to developing new projects together.

Here at home, Oriental Institute text-based studies of philology, lexicography, and ancient history are flourishing. The Hittite Dictionary (CHD) under Theo van den Hout, Professor of Hittitology, and Harry A. Hoffner, John A. Wilson Professor Emeritus of Hittitology, has reached a major milestone with the launching of its first electronic (e-CHD) volume. The Demotic Dictionary (CDD), directed by Janet H. Johnson, Morton D. Hull Distinguished Service Professor of Egyptology, continues apace, and the Assyrian Dictionary (CAD), directed by Martha T. Roth, Professor of Assyriology, looks forward to completion of its final volume in two years time. The Oriental Institute continues to be a major center for innovative uses of digital technology in ancient studies through sophisticated database development for the Diyala Project and the Iraq Museum Database, both directed by Research Associate Clemens D. Reichel and McGuire Gibson, Professor of Mesopotamian Archaeology.

The diversity and quality of these Oriental Institute research projects and others are apparent from the summary discussions contained in this year's *Annual Report*. Taken together, the reports reveal an impressive scholarly effort that continues to evolve and grow.

## IN MEMORIAM

### Albert (“Bud”) Haas

This year the Oriental Institute lost a dear friend in the death of Albert (“Bud”) Haas. It is hard to convey the full extent of Bud’s enthusiasm for every aspect of the Institute and the community of people involved in its work. That affection was reciprocated. I am not exaggerating when I say that Bud was truly beloved by the faculty, staff, volunteers, docents, and members of the Oriental Institute.

Bud and his wife Cissy began as Oriental Institute volunteers in the very first training class for docents, back in 1966. From everything I have heard, Bud was considered one of the best docents the program ever had by virtue of his deep knowledge of the museum and his infectious enthusiasm for the ancient civilization of the Near East. He and Cissy were generous supporters of Oriental Institute projects. Together, they were great friends to the late Helene Kantor and her important work at the site of Chogha Mish in Iran. Bud and Cissy traveled to Egypt, and naturally, became close friends with Harry James, Keeper of Egyptian Antiquities at the British Museum. Bud participated as a volunteer in Larry Stager’s excavations at Ashkelon, in Israel, where he helped excavate a dog cemetery, of all things.

Bud was made a lifetime member of the Oriental Institute’s Visiting Committee, and he participated fully there — offering creative ideas and frank opinions that almost always resulted in positive changes within the Institute.

In recognition of all that Bud has done for the Oriental Institute, he was awarded the James Henry Breasted Medallion just over a year ago. The Medallion is the highest honor that the Oriental Institute can bestow on an individual in recognition of exemplary service. In addition, his name will be permanently linked to the Institute through the Bud and Cissy Haas Megiddo Gallery, named in their honor by one of their closest friends, Lois Schwartz. Reinstallation began on this gallery just a few weeks ago, and I deeply regret that Bud did not live to see its completion.

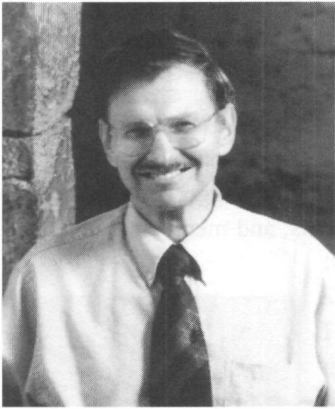
Bud leaves behind a legacy of friendship and love among the many people whose lives he enriched by helping them, working with them, and always being there for them. We are all the better for having known Bud. Speaking for my colleagues and myself, we extend our condolences and heartfelt sympathy to Cissy and the entire Haas family. We will miss Bud very much.

Gil J. Stein



*Bud Haas*

## IN MEMORIAM

**Frank Yurco***Frank Yurco*

Frank Yurco, a fine Egyptologist and superb educator, died in early 2004. Frank loved everything having to do with ancient Egypt, and he was extraordinarily gifted at sharing his knowledge and enthusiasm with people on all levels, from fellow professional Egyptologists to schoolchildren. He began while still a student at the University of Chicago, giving lectures in association with the 1977/1978 Tutankhamun exhibit jointly sponsored by the Oriental Institute and The Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago. From then on he taught adult education courses for both the Oriental Institute and Field Museum and soon began teaching for Oakton Community College and the University of Chicago Continuing Education Program and Elderhostel Program. He taught everything about ancient Egypt, from prehistory to hieroglyphs to religion to the role of women. Frank was also concerned with the presentation of Egyptian

history for schoolchildren, and for about a decade he served as Curriculum Evaluator for the Chicago Public Schools and for the schools in Washington, D.C., working with elementary and high school teachers to develop accurate, appropriate, and stimulating curricula showing the respect for people of all races and backgrounds with which he lived his whole life. In this capacity he also served as Lecturer for the Chicago Academic Alliance Teacher Enrichment Program "Extending the Great Conversation" funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Frank also served as Egyptology consultant and/or exhibit developer for several major collections and exhibits at important museums. He was also a gifted tour leader, worked for three years as an epigrapher for the Epigraphic Survey in Luxor, as assistant editor for Encyclopedia Britannica for many years, and most recently as reference librarian at the University of Chicago's Regenstein Library.

Frank Yurco was an extremely generous, good-hearted, and outgoing individual. It was this nature, combined with his extraordinary knowledge about ancient Egypt and his ability to make the complexities of this great civilization accessible to many audiences, that made him such an extraordinary teacher. Frank's knowledge, enthusiasm, and generosity will be much missed.

Janet H. Johnson

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**RESEARCH**

*Overleaf. Female head. Ivory. Late Bronze Age II, thirteenth century B.C. Megiddo. Excavated by the Oriental Institute in 1936/37. OIM A22264. This delicate head belongs to a group of ivories discovered at Megiddo in Palestine. The ivories had been stored in a semi-subterranean chamber that archaeologists dubbed "the treasury," adjacent to a large building that might have been a palace. Three dowel holes and a vertical groove on the back of the head were used to attach it to another object, possibly a box or a piece of furniture. The head shows Egyptian influence in its heavily curling locks of hair, characteristic of the Egyptian goddess Hathor.*

# PROJECT REPORTS

## ALIŞAR REGIONAL PROJECT

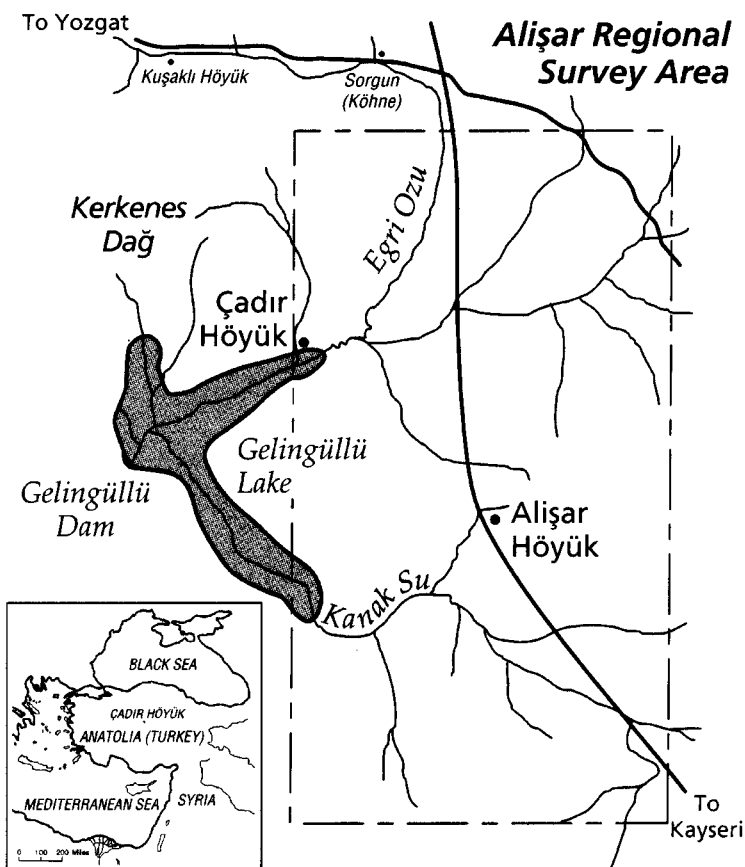
Ronald L. Gorny

### Excavations at Çadır Höyük

#### Project Overview

Çadır Höyük continues to be the focus of a broad interdisciplinary study of central Anatolia's cultural development. The large multi-period mound is located near the village of Peyniryemez in central Turkey (fig. 1). Work is carried out from a newly constructed excavation house, complete with our own recently drilled well, that sits on the eastern edge of the village (figs. 2–3). Excavations have been funded through a variety of grants and donations from the National Geographic Society, National Science Foundation, The Foundation for Exploration and Research on Cultural Origins (FERCO), and many private donors. The project has been sustained by excellent workers from Peyniryemez and an ambitious field team composed of students, staff, and instructors from a number of

universities. Preliminary reports are published in Ronald L. Gorny, "The Alişar Regional Project (1993–1994)," *Biblical Archaeologist* 58 (1995) 52–54; Ronald L. Gorny, Gregory McMahon, S. Paley, and L. Kealhofer, "The Alişar Regional Project," *Anatolica* 21 (1995): 65–100; Scott Branting, "The Alişar Regional Project 1993–1994," *Anatolica* 22 (1996): 145–58; Ronald L. Gorny, Gregory McMahon, S. Paley, S. Steadman, and Bruce Verhaaren, "The 1998 Alişar Regional Project Season," *Anatolica* 25 (1999): 149–83; Ronald L. Gorny, Gregory McMahon, S. Paley, et al., "The 1999 Alişar Regional Project Season," *Anatolica* 26 (2000): 153–71; Ronald L. Gorny, Gregory McMahon, S.



Map of survey area in central Anatolia, showing location of Çadır Höyük. After Gorny, "Alişar Regional Project (1993–1994)," p. 53

## RESEARCH

Paley, S. Steadman, and Bruce Verhaaren, "The 2000 and 2001 Seasons at Çadır Höyük in Central Turkey," *Anatolica* 28 (2002): 109–36.

The excavations at Çadır Höyük are part of the Alişar Regional Project, an initiative planned with the Turkish Department of Monuments and Museums to be a long-term investigation into the cultural and historical development of central Anatolia. The project is an offshoot of the pioneering work done in the region by the Oriental Institute's Hans Henning von der Osten from 1926 to 1932. Our work at Çadır began in 1993, inspired by von der Osten's explorations at Alişar, and has continued up to the present time. The latest seasons have aimed at resolving outstanding chronological problems, examining significant historical trends, and illuminating the relationship of environment to the various periods under investigation, all in hopes of filling the historical canvas with a more detailed picture of how and why central Anatolia developed the way it did.

## Excavation Areas

### Area 1. The Eastern Trench

Primary excavations continued in the eastern step trench during the 2003 season. Since its inception in 1994, the trench has expanded into a 40 m long step trench that reaches from the top of the mound to the bottom (fig. 4). At the top of the trench is the Byzantine phase of settlement

that has at least three subphases (Phases IXa–c). Subphase IXa represents a final attempt to rebuild the site that was never completed. Subphase IXb is dominated by a large structure dated to the eleventh century that may be part of a *kastron*. The *kastron* was a symbolic representation of power in late Byzantine Anatolia and was at the center of every sphere of life during the period. In essence, it served as the administrative, economic, and social hub of the community, offering security for both humans and animals in time of threat, as well as provision for armies on the march. The *kastron* was typically a fortified citadel that protected a walled lower city but could also be a smaller fortification, lookout, or tower that was manned by local guards. *Kastrons* could also be associated with monastic buildings or religious centers.

The eleventh century structure was heavily damaged, though it remains unclear what brought an end to the town's existence. The final attempt at rebuilding the site sealed a thick layer of animal bones within the eastern portion of the eleventh century building. The animals were apparently brought into the fortification to safeguard them. Unfortunately, this precaution did not succeed.



Figure 1. Aerial view of Çadır Höyük in 1994, courtesy of Geoff and Françoise Summers





**Figure 2. Excavation house dorm**

The excavation house dorm is a long, single-story building with a tiled roof and a covered porch. The porch has white railings and columns. A man is sitting on the porch, and a woman is standing near a set of stairs leading up to the porch. The building is surrounded by a courtyard with a large tree on the left and some small plants in the center. The ground is dirt and concrete paths.



**Figure 3. Excavation house complex from the southeast**

## RESEARCH



*Figure 4. Çadır Höyük showing the southern trench (left) and the eastern step trench (right)*

Subphase IXc is a 2 m wide mortared fortification wall that predates the eleventh century citadel fortifications. This subphase rings the mound and is just coming to light. Monastic ware sherds suggest a date no later than the ninth century, but perhaps as early as the seventh century. The reason for this structure's demise remains unknown.

The two phases of occupation below the Byzantine levels appear to be Hellenistic and Late Iron Age (Phases VII and VI). While Roman settlement (Phase VIII) is present in the region, and even on the terrace itself, a Roman period level does not seem to exist on the mound. The Iron Age level produced typical Middle Iron Age wares (Phase V) including the so-called stag or silhouette ware, but it also yielded a very high percentage of Hittite sherds suggesting that the Hittite empire period settlement was located much higher on the mound than we suspected. Among these sherds were several pieces of red burnished ware spindle bottle sherds typical of empire period cultic deposits at Boğazkale-Ḫattuša. Judging from the collection of empire period materials, I believe that we are close to the high point of the Hittite citadel and that it was adorned with a Hittite temple from which the numerous cultic sherds are derived.

Below the Hittite empire remains is a series of Old Hittite levels followed by Old Assyrian remains. These remains, first uncovered in 1994, represent the beginning of the second millennium. The earliest element in this series of constructions is the eastern pier of a gate system that was built over the Early Bronze Age III circuit wall. This gate is from the Karum II period and has a  $^{14}\text{C}$  date of ca. 2000 B.C. Built over the gate and utilizing the remains of the destroyed Karum II structure is a 6 m wide Karum Ib casemate wall. The wall still stands intact to a height of 1.6 m but was leveled at that point to allow for the erection of a transitional Karum Ia wall, which has a  $^{14}\text{C}$  date of approximately 1750 B.C. This wall can be traced around much of the mound and displays evidence of burning and destruction everywhere. Several bronze blades



*Figure 5. Çadır Höyük showing the lower and upper south trench*

have been found in the wall's destruction, an event that must have occurred during the turmoil and infighting that resulted in the incorporation of the region into the Hittite Old Kingdom.

## **Area 2. The Terrace**

The intention of our work on the terrace has been to test the occupation of the terrace and to see whether settlement existed there earlier than the classical periods. Byzantine remains have been excavated in two areas of the terrace and the analyses of Byzantine pottery from those excavations indicate that there is not only a tenth and eleventh century level, as we expected, but an earlier seventh–eighth century level. In one trench (1050.1000), we dug through the classical remains, and after excavating a 1 m layer of sterile soil, came down on a second-millennium level 3.5 m below the surface. One of our priorities is to provide a wider exposure of the second-millennium materials on the terrace in order to see if we can determine whether Çadır was an active participant in the activities of the Old Assyrian trade colonies and what role, if any, the terrace played in the activities of the Hittite city.



*Figure 5b. South trench excavation area*

## RESEARCH

## Area 3. The Lower South Trench

The southern trench was begun where a sounding had been made in 1994 (figs. 4–5). Our surface survey had indicated a great deal of early pottery, but we were surprised at the outset of excavation just how early that settlement was. Our first shovelfuls of earth yielded Chalcolithic period pottery, which to our amazement continued down for 8 m! What we had encountered was

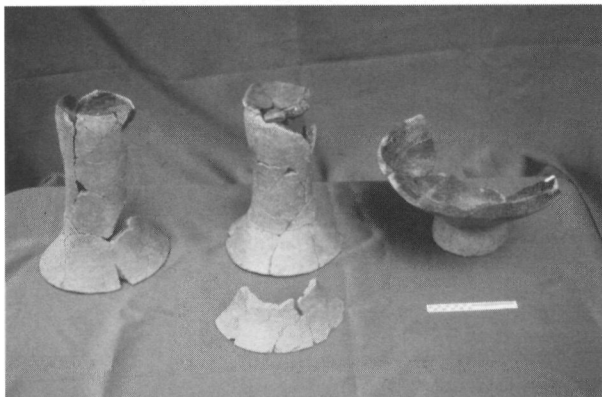


Figure 6. Some of the "fruit stands" from the Chalcolithic shrine room, ca. 3200 B.C.

evidence of a massive expansion of settlement in the late Chalcolithic period that mirrored what had been found at nearby Alişar Höyük. As we were to realize later, the reason for finding the Chalcolithic materials so close to the surface was that the edge of the mound hung on what was then a natural limestone ridge overlooking the Egri Su valley below. Rather than encircling the original point of settlement, as it happens at most sites, the direction of settlement continued to move back away from the ridge towards the northeast, leaving a nice line of Chalcolithic remains along the edge of the

ridge. This pattern continued to develop through each succeeding period with the largest settlements apparently encompassing both the mound and the entire terrace during the Hittite and Byzantine periods. Materials from the southern trench fall into two main periods, the Chalcolithic and the second millennium, though elements of other periods have appeared in various contexts. The earliest Chalcolithic levels come from a pit at the bottom of the deep sounding that has a  $^{14}\text{C}$  date of ca. 5200 B.C. An interesting sidelight is that the pit contained beads and bead-making materials, an indication of early industry at the site. The element of greatest interest, however, may be the settlement's large stone enclosure wall that prominently displays a 4.2 m wide central gate with guardhouses on either side. The wall is approximately 1 m wide and stands intact to a height of 1.5 m. Upon entering the 9.5 m long gate, one must take a right angle (easterly) turn directly behind the eastern guard house in order to enter the settlement.

The gate and wall are associated with what appears to be a shrine room just east of the gate and a "burned room" or courtyard still farther east.  $^{14}\text{C}$  dates for the first subphase of this complex are ca. 3600 B.C. The second subphase of the gate is set by  $^{14}\text{C}$  tests at 3200 B.C. Noteworthy is the fact that during this subphase, the entire area was littered with an assortment of the fruit stands known so well from Alişar, along with numerous omphalos bowls. The shrine room had several collections of these vessels on the floor and on a nearby bench (fig. 6). One of the fruit stands from this area was covered with yellow ochre. Several bull figurines were also found in this area that has a decidedly cultic feel to it. All the buildings are ori-

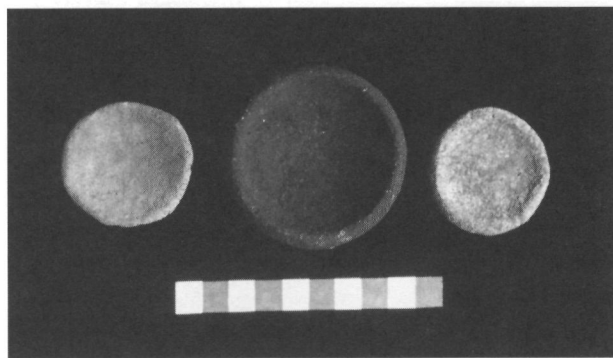


Figure 7. Hittite votive bowls from the lower south slope, ca. 1300 B.C.

ented towards Çaltepe, which seems to be a sacred mountain in the later Hittite period. A great deal of burning characterized the last phase of settlement, an indication that the final Chalcolithic destruction was not localized but fairly extensive.

Above the last phase of the Chalcolithic period were found nine child burials that had been dug into the Chalcolithic remains. These burials and pieces of a unique ceramic andiron date to the Early Bronze Age. The andiron was of the Early Transcaucasian style and displayed the face of a bull on each end of the andiron. <sup>14</sup>C dates associated with these finds are from ca. 2800 B.C.

While Hittite remains were largely removed from this area by the construction of a Byzantine terrace wall and Phrygian period construction, we did find the remnants of a Hittite grain silo that had been dug, in turn, into the Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Age levels. Trench 780.890 also revealed several pits that were filled with pottery from the period of the Hittite empire, including miniature votive bowls (fig. 7), and dug into a large mudbrick structure we presume to be the Hittite citadel wall. The pits, along with two cross-walls, are dated by pottery and <sup>14</sup>C tests to the later Hittite empire period (ca. 1300 B.C.) while the mudbricks into which these walls were dug date to the period between 1500 and 1400 B.C. Farther to the west is another large mudbrick structure in which a cylinder seal was found that dates to ca. 1400 B.C. (fig. 8).



**Figure 8.** Cylinder seal from the lower south slope, ca. 1400 B.C.



**Figure 9.** Byzantine storerooms on the citadel

## RESEARCH

**Area 4. The Citadel**

We continue to make excellent progress exposing the Byzantine settlement that sat atop the mound (fig. 9). In 2003 we uncovered portions of two large rooms (rooms A and B), along with a third room (room C) that was filled with a thick layer of animal bones. Room C contained a mix of animals that included pig, sheep, horse, and cow. Current thinking is that this room represents a holding pen of some sort. It seems that the animals perished there after having been left in the room and perhaps tethered there during a time of danger. Numerous coins were also found under the animals (fig. 10), probably from a purse dropped by an inhabitant as he fled in haste once the animals had been secured. Apparently, the local inhabitants left the animals there in hopes of returning for them once the danger passed.

Despite the precautions taken by the local inhabitants to protect their animals, the creatures did not survive. Evidence of heavy burning in the western part of the room has led to speculation that the animals may have died from smoke inhalation.

It appears that the animals were tied to a line along the wall and then locked in the room. If this were the case, one would easily understand how the beasts could have panicked and choked to death, either through smoke inhalation or by choking on their bonds. No evidence exists to say for certain whether the fire was accidental or set deliberately. The coins tell us that the end of this settlement was probably around 1070 B.C. The final settlement at Çadır was an ephemeral rebuilding that was never completed.

**Area 5. The North Slope**

Excavations were opened on the north slope due, in part, to robber trenches that had exposed two areas of massive stones apparently used as the foundations of a structure located three-quarters of the way up the north face of the mound. This rock construction in trench 950.900 appeared to be restricted to one area of the slope and did not continue around the mound. In order to investigate this structure, we opened a small east-west trench in 2003 that connected the two robber trenches and found what appear to be the foundations of a large monumental structure



*Figure 10. Byzantine coins from the citadel, ca. eleventh century A.D.*



*Figure 11. Foundations of the monumental gateway, ca. 1200 B.C.*

(fig. 11). It is now possible to see that the wall had a narrow entry. Pottery from above the entry was a combination of Phrygian and Hellenistic wares, including several pieces of what we take to be white painted Achaemenid ware with some Hittite pottery thrown in. A clear narrowing of the entryway indicated, however, that this entry was a reuse in later times of a much wider gate.

Time precluded a major effort in this area, but an abbreviated sounding was undertaken in order to test the date of the structure. Two rooms were identified directly below the massive rocks that had tumbled from the larger structure. Inside the higher of the two rooms were found materials from the late Hittite empire period. Small stones just west of it may be part of a glacis or a cobbled path leading into the gate itself. At this point, the dating of the gate complex is still in doubt. The excavated rooms are clearly Hittite in date, but it remains unclear whether those rooms are connected to the monumental construction, which rests just above them, or are earlier. The Hittite pottery found at the base of the stones suggests that the Hittites were involved with its construction, but more of the structure needs to be cleared before we can provide a firm date for this massive construction project.

### **Area 6. The Upper South Slope**

Area 6 lies beneath the citadel and above the Hittite remains on the Lower South Slope. The most significant settlement remains from that area belong to a gate that was excavated in 2003. So far, only a single pier of the gate has been exposed. Pottery indicates a middle Iron Age date for the gate and it has not gone unnoticed that the western pier of the gate resembles the piers on the Alişar Iron Age gate. An examination of the balk below this area indicates that we are approaching the so-called “Dark Age” level that bracketed the end of the Hittite empire. Since Çadır is one of the few sites known to have such a level, it has become clear that this area will be

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significant in helping to explain the enigmatic fall of the Hittites and the transition to the Iron Age. Perhaps, the most interesting sherds of this area, however, are those belonging to the late Iron Age period (Phase VI). They were found in a pit dug into the middle Iron Age entryway, just east of the pier. While most of the pots were plain ware vessels, one was a beautifully painted vessel whose origin remains unknown (fig. 12). All the vessels, whether painted or plain, had flat bottoms. These vessels provide further evidence of a settlement that was contemporary with the massive settlement that von der Osten also documented at nearby Kerkenes Dağ.

### Conclusion

Çadır Höyük, as we have always maintained, is a very complex and exciting site that has a great deal to tell us about every period of Anatolia's historical development, not to mention the overall dynamics of state formation. We continue to be surprised by the extent and sophistication of the remains. The excavations at Çadır have already documented a rich history of settlement that runs



*Figure 12. Late Iron Age vessel*

from the early Chalcolithic through the Roman-Byzantine period (see table 1, below), but much more remains to be done. While the overarching goal of this project is to examine the ways in which environment impacts the rise and fall of states on the Anatolian plateau, it also addresses smaller self-contained issues that are of special concern to our specialists and researchers. The past decade of work at Çadır Höyük has opened the door of opportunity and we now find ourselves poised on the threshold of making a unique contribution to the study of ancient Anatolia's history and culture. The success of this project will ultimately help us to fulfill the vision that von der Osten and the Oriental Institute had back in 1926 when they undertook the Anatolian Expedition.

The answers we provide for some of the region's most vexing questions should also bring some degree of closure to the Oriental Institute's unfinished work at Alişar Höyük. This would provide a worthy tribute and a lasting legacy for von der Osten, the man who initiated so much of the important research now going on in central Anatolia.



**Table 1. Preliminary Çadır Höyük Chronology**

<i>Period</i>	<i>Phase</i>	<i>Dates/sublevels</i>	<i>Primary Areas</i>	<i>Comments/Highlights</i>
Islamic	X	ca. A.D. 1100 and after	Area around mound	Miscellaneous pottery and a coin in the Egri Su valley
Byzantine	IXa	ca. A.D. 1075, latest rebuild	Area 4 (800.890)	Poorly rebuilt walls (never finished)
Byzantine	IXb	ca. A.D. 1000, Rebuilding of main fort	Area 2 (910.920 1050.1000), Area 4 (800.890)	Ceramics, walls, and numerous coins; ash and burning over a thick layer of animal bones; Imperial seal; Constantine X (A.D. 1059–1067) coin on terrace
Byzantine	IXc	Main sublevel of fort; ca. A.D. 900	Area 4 (Citadel) citadel wall	Large mortared with storerooms
Byzantine	IXd	Early Byzantine	Area 4 (Citadel), 2 (Terrace)	Terra sigillata and Area wavy line, with third–seventh centuries A.D. (?) spiral and vertical burnished; Monastic ware and African red-slipped ware
Roman	VIII	100 B.C.–300 A.D.	Area 2 (910.920)	Pottery and architecture on the terrace
Hellenistic	VII	300–100 B.C.	Area 2 (910.920), Area 3 (770.890 and 770.900)	Pottery from terrace and robber trench Pottery from west slope of the mound
Late Iron (Achaemenid)	VI	500–300 B.C.	Area 6 (790.890), Area 5 (upper south slope)	Painted sherds across site, especially in area of monumental north gate and in pit near south Phrygian Gate area
Middle Iron Age	Va	ca. 1000–500 B.C.	Area 3 (770.890)	“Phrygian” sherds, pots, gate, citadel wall, and installations
Early Iron/Late Bronze Transition	Vb	ca. 1200–1000 B.C.	Area 6 (780.890)	Early Iron and “Dark Age Bronze Age sherds” with wall foundations on upper south slope, <sup>14</sup> C dated
Late Bronze II	IVa	ca. 1400–1200 B.C.	Area 1 (800.930), Area 3 (770.880), Area 6 (790.890)	Hittite empire period: sherds, architecture, citadel wall, and north slope gate
Late Bronze I	IVb	ca. 1600–1400 B.C.	Area 1 (800.930, 800.920, and 800.910)	Old Hittite Kingdom: sherds, pots, and walls throughout whole east trench
Middle Bronze	IIIa	Old Assyrian Colony Age ca. 1700 B.C. (Karum Ia)	Area 1 (800.930)	City Wall with burned bricks, OACP pottery; <sup>14</sup> C dated

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<i>Period</i>	<i>Phase</i>	<i>Dates/sublevels</i>	<i>Primary Areas</i>	<i>Comments/Highlights</i>
Middle Bronze	IIIb	Old Assyrian Colony Age ca. 1800 B.C. (Karum Ib)	Area 1 (800.930), Area 3 (760.880)	Large casemate wall with OACP pottery
Middle Bronze II	IIIc	Old Assyrian Colony Age ca. 2000 B.C. (Karum II)	Area 1 (800.930)	City wall and gate; other architecture; <sup>14</sup> C dated
Early Bronze	IIa	ca. 2300–2000 B.C. (EB III)	Area 1 (800.930), Area 3 (789.890)	Intermediate and Cappadocian wares
Early Bronze	IIb	ca. 2800–2300 B.C. (EB II)	Area 3 (760.880)	Red chaff-tempered pottery sherds
Early Bronze/ Late Chalcolithic Transition	IIc	ca. 3000–2800 B.C. (EB I)	Area 3 (770.890)	Graves cut into 1b; EB I house above “burned room”; heavy black polished pottery and black incised wares; <sup>14</sup> C dated
Late Chalcolithic	Ia1	ca. 3300–3400 B.C.	Area 3 (770.890)	Small, weak wall foundations (1998)
Late Chalcolithic	Ia2	ca. 3300–3400 B.C.	Area 3 (770.890 and 770.900)	Stronger foundations under Ia1 Pithos room above Chalcolithic gate
Late Chalcolithic	Ib1	ca. 3500–3700 B.C.	Area 3 (770.890 and 770.900)	Levels under Ia2 wall foundation, separated from gate by plaster floor and destruction debris; <sup>14</sup> C dated
Late Chalcolithic	Ib2	ca. 3500–3700 B.C.	Area 3 (770.890 and 770.900)	Gate and enclosure wall (latest phase); <sup>14</sup> C dated
Late Chalcolithic	Ib3	ca. 3500–3700 B.C.	Area 3 (770.890 and 770.900)	Gate and enclosure wall (earliest phase); <sup>14</sup> C dated
Early Chalcolithic	Ic	ca. 4500 B.C. ( <sup>14</sup> C)	Deep sounding	Fill layer with F 42; <sup>14</sup> C dated
Early Chalcolithic	Id	ca. 5200 B.C. ( <sup>14</sup> C)	Deep sounding	F 43 wall foundation; <sup>14</sup> C dated
Early Chalcolithic	Ie	ca. 5300 B.C.	Deep sounding	F 44 wall foundation
Neolithic	If	ca. 5500 B.C.	Unexcavated	No evidence

Table 1 provides a chronological outline of the work that has been accomplished at Çadır from 1993 until 2003. Please note that the phases of occupation are numbered in ascending order, on the assumption that we have exposed all the major phases we will find (with the possible exception of the Neolithic) from earliest to latest (I–X). The subphases, on the other hand, are lettered in descending order on the assumption that additional subphases may be uncovered below those already accounted for. I emphasize that while this is a preliminary chart and is susceptible to change and reorganization, it does reflect our current understanding of Çadır’s historical development.

## AMUQ VALLEY REGIONAL PROJECTS

K. Aslihan Yener, Expedition Director

J. David Schloen, Associate Director

Amir Sumaka'i Fink, Senior Field Supervisor

### Oriental Institute Expedition to Tell Atchana/Alalakh

Alalakh (modern Tell Atchana) in the Amuq Valley of southern Turkey was the capital of the kingdom of Mukish that encompassed the valley during the Middle and Late Bronze Ages (ca. 2000–1200 B.C.). Mukish was a minor power, a vassal state within larger empires. Yet Alalakh and the Amuq region as a whole have proved to be uniquely informative about a number of important cultural developments over the long span of history from the Neolithic to the medieval period. This site and its hinterland have yielded a host of clues concerning innovations in agriculture, trade, metallurgy, and political organization in what was for millennia a prime zone of settlement and a crucial corridor of communication between the Euphrates River and the Mediterranean Sea.

The first archaeological survey of the Amuq Valley — the plain of Antioch in classical times — was conducted by Robert Braidwood in the 1930s on behalf of the Oriental Institute. Braidwood's site no. 136 was Tell Atchana, which was subsequently excavated by the noted

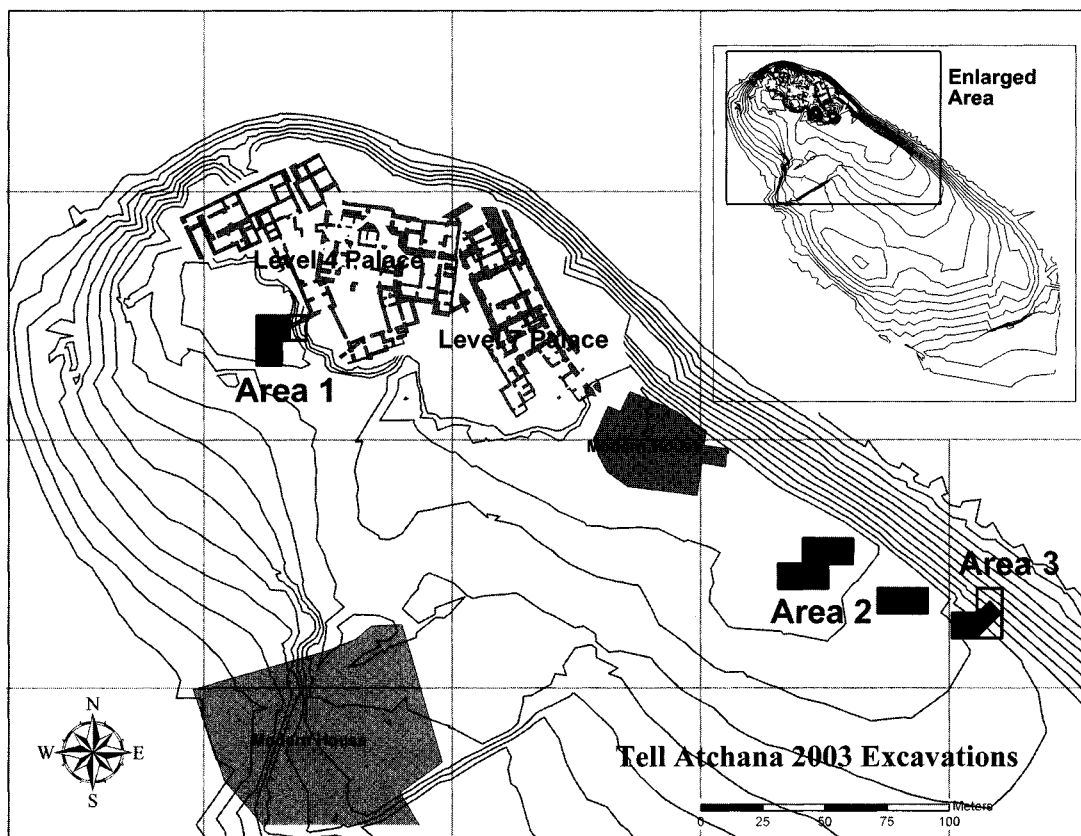


Figure 1. The northwestern part of Tell Atchana (Alalakh). The map shows the three areas excavated during the 2003 season. Maps by Eudora Struble and Aaron Burke

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British archaeologist C. Leonard Woolley, who identified it as ancient Alalakh. Woolley dug large areas of the site between 1936 and 1949, with a five-year hiatus during the Second World War. On the north end of the mound he found a stunning sequence of temples and palaces complete with Akkadian cuneiform archives, Minoan-style frescoes, Egyptian artifacts, Hittite reliefs, and Syro-Mesopotamian sculptures. The eclectic nature of these cultural remains and their intrinsic historical and artistic value have marked Alalakh as a place of special interest. But Woolley failed to record or publish many details of interest to archaeologists and historians, and archaeological methods have improved enormously in the past fifty years. For this reason a team led by Aslihan Yener returned to Braidwood's site no. 136 in the summer of 2000 to investigate Alalakh as part of the Amuq Valley Regional Projects.

In the first three field seasons at Alalakh from 2000 to 2002, extensive preparations were made for the renewed excavation of the site. This involved an intensive surface survey and the production of detailed topographic maps, and an inventory of previously excavated finds stored in the Hatay Archaeological Museum in Antakya. In 2003, we conducted our first full season of excavation, digging from September 1st to October 17th with an international staff of thirty-nine archaeologists and students and seventy-two hired workers from the local villages (see the list of acknowledgments below). Our dig headquarters, long on the drawing board, are now successfully established in the village of Tayfur Sökmen, two miles from the site. Three large, colorful (red-and-yellow) prefabricated buildings — a dormitory, dining hall/laboratory, and office — were erected over the summer thanks to the extraordinary efforts of senior field supervisor Amir Sumaka'i Fink and his coworkers. Remarkably, the dig-house compound, begun in mid-July, was completed by the end of August with running water, electricity, and all necessary furnishings, ready for the arriving team. We rented two additional houses in the village of Tayfur Sökmen and another in the nearby city of Antakya (ancient Antioch) to serve as extra dormitories and storage depots. Three other projects — the University of Toronto's Tell Ta'yinat project, directed by Timothy Harrison (University of Chicago, Ph.D. 1995), the Tell Kurdu project, and the Amuq Valley survey — are partners with us in this new "archaeological village." We are now open for serious archaeological business!

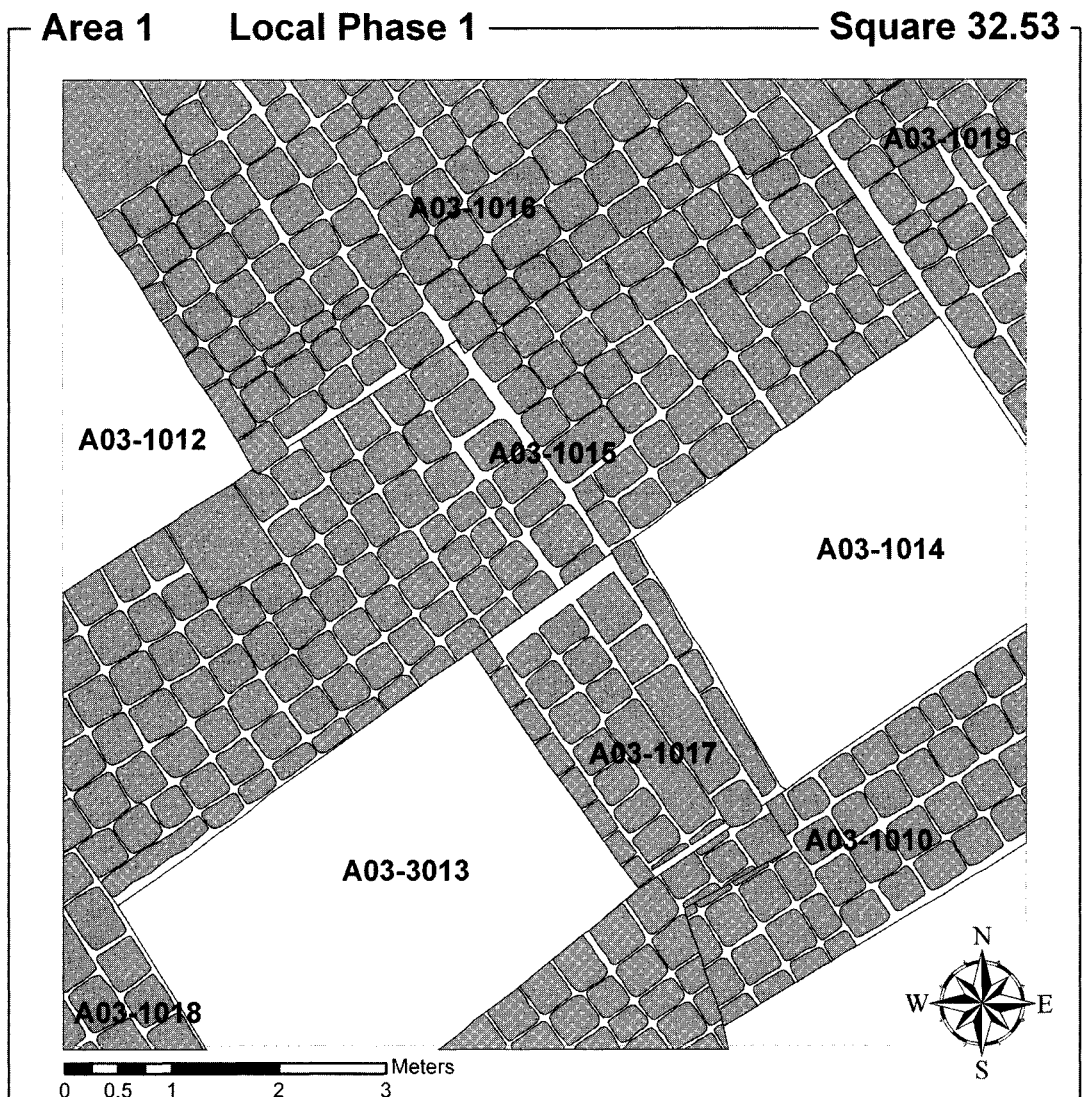
Alalakh is located near the bend of the Orontes (Asi) River. The site measures  $750 \times 325$  m, with a total area of about 22 hectares (54 acres). After clearing the weeds and brush, we laid out eleven  $10 \times 10$  m excavation squares (1,100 square meters) in three areas unexcavated by Woolley (fig. 1). In our excavations we are not depending on Woolley's analysis but are developing our own fine-grained stratigraphy, which we can later compare to Woolley's strata. In our first season we have already identified several phases of architecture (named Local Phase 1, 2, etc.). These are tentatively dated to the end of the Late Bronze Age. The latest phase may even belong to the early Iron Age, although we need to do further analyses of the pottery and stratigraphy and obtain dates for our radiocarbon samples before we can be sure.

The supervisor of Area 1, Gabrielle Novacek, oversaw three of the  $10 \times 10$  m squares. Eudora Struble and Adam Miglio served as square supervisors in this area. (All three are graduates students of Near Eastern archaeology in the University of Chicago.) Area 1 is in the palace-temple zone on the north end of the site, in a spot where Woolley had left several hundred square meters of earth unexcavated in front of his dig house. We suspected that we might find here the southwest wing of the "Hittite fortress" that Woolley assigned to his Level II/III period (fourteenth and thirteenth centuries B.C.), and we were not disappointed. After several weeks of digging we finally exposed the eroded tops of thick mudbrick walls encasing three rectangular chambers that we will excavate in the future (fig. 2). These walls and chambers are reminiscent

of Hittite monumental architecture, reflecting Hittite suzerainty over Alalakh during the last two centuries of its existence.

As expected, many of our initial finds in this area came from thick deposits of highly disturbed topsoil that covered the monumental building, and thus have no contextual provenance. Of particular interest are the abundant copper-based metallurgical residues and indications of ironworking. After some initial puzzlement we deduced that Woolley had used this area as a sherd yard where his pottery was sorted. A sherd yard explains the striking concentrations of diagnostic potsherds we unearthed in the topsoil of Area 1, having in effect sifted through Woolley's trash. Unfortunately this pottery had long since been removed from its original context and so is of little value archaeologically.

Excavations in Area 2, in the east-central part of the site, were supervised by Amir Sumaka'i Fink. Six 10 × 10 m squares were laid out in this area just south of a cluster of "private houses"



**Figure 2. Area 1. Mudbrick walls, possibly part of Woolley's Level III/II Hittite fort**

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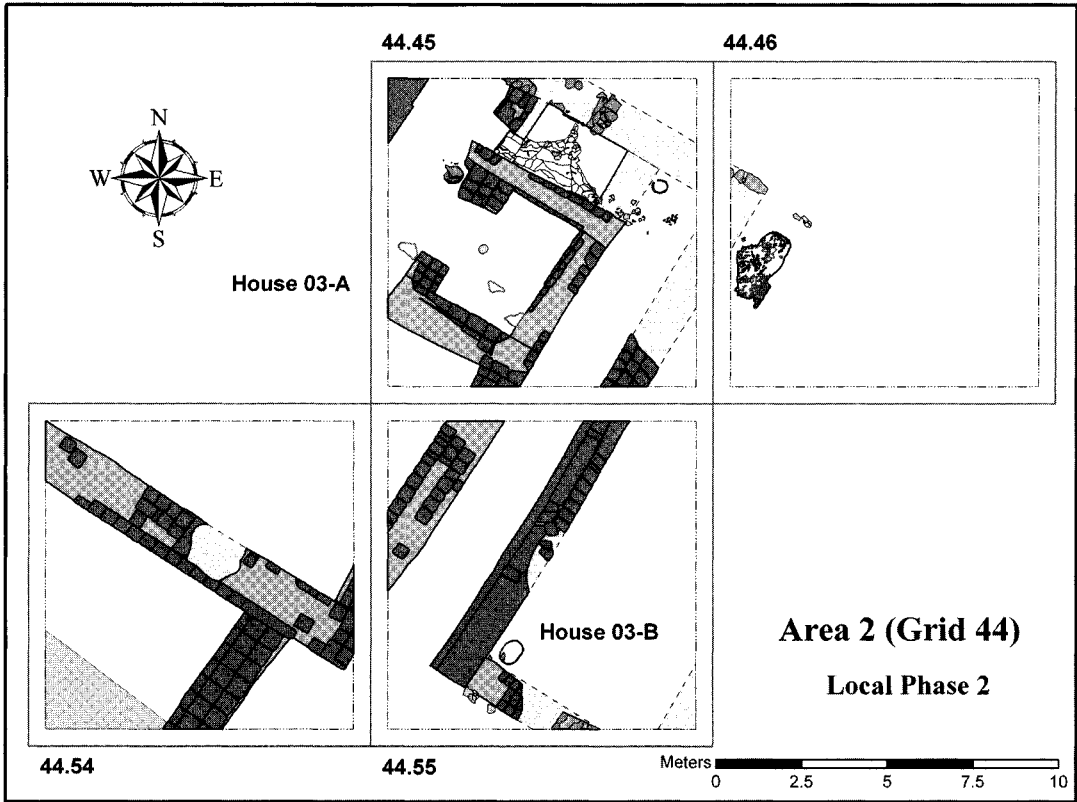


Figure 3. Area 2. The two buildings of local phase 2

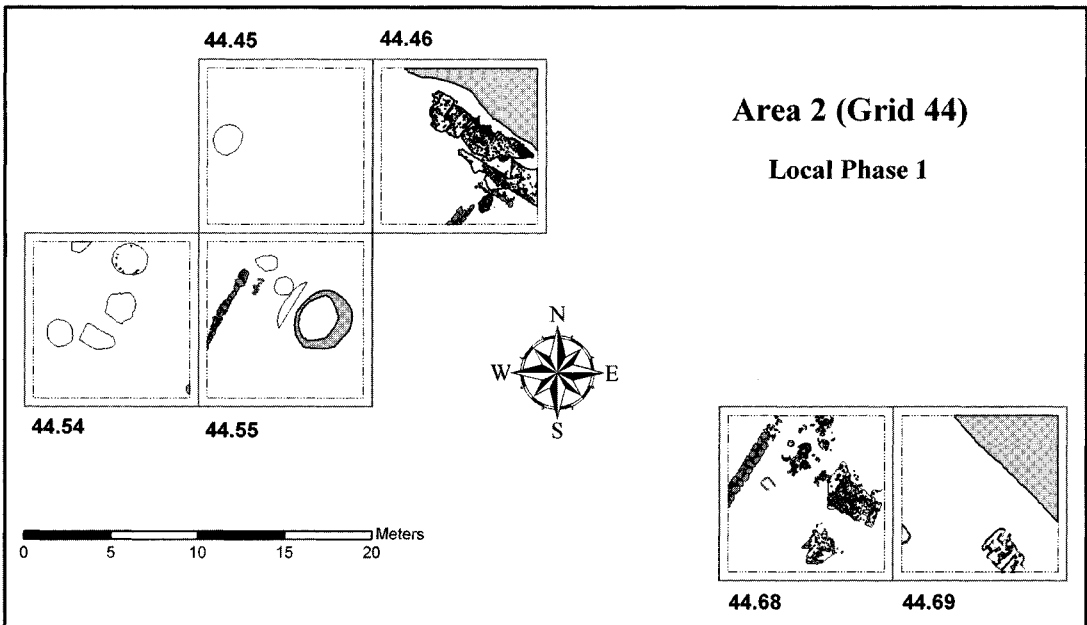


Figure 4. Area 2. The latest phase of occupation at Tell Atchana



**Figure 5. Area 2. Pottery kiln. Photograph by Nita Lee Roberts**

exposed by Woolley in the 1930s and 1940s, not far from the northeastern slope of the mound. The square supervisors in Area 2 were Katherine Strange Burke, Glenn (Joey) Corbett, Leann Pace, and Bike Yazıcıoğlu (all graduate students of Near Eastern archaeology in the University of Chicago), as well as Murat Akar (a graduate student at Middle East Technical University in Ankara) and Sarah Miglio (a graduate student at Wheaton College).

We detected two phases of settlement in Area 2 very close to the modern surface. The lower, earlier phase was probably inhabited at the close of the Late Bronze Age (Woolley's Level 1), just before the great political and economic collapse that put an end to both the Hittite empire and the city of Alalakh. In this phase we exposed two large, multi-roomed mudbrick houses separated by a street (fig. 3). In one of the houses we came across a plastered bathroom, a luxury that was enjoyed by many households in Late Bronze Age Alalakh, as Woolley's excavations showed.

Cautiously comparing our architectural phases to Woolley's, we can say that our finds in the upper, later phase in Area 2 shed light on Woolley's topmost and ephemeral "Level 0." This was understood by him to represent a brief period of occupation during the twelfth century B.C., after the collapse of the ruling dynasty. But he found no architecture in this part of the site to go with this phase. Using a slower and more controlled excavation method than he employed we were able to detect a badly preserved but nonetheless coherent architectural phase just below the modern surface (fig. 4). The buildings in this phase are quite different from the phase before it and may well belong to the post-collapse period, that is, the early Iron Age. One of the most interest-

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**Figure 6. A clay goddess figurine unearthed in Area 2.**  
*Photograph by Nita Lee Roberts*

ing discoveries in this final phase is a multi-chambered pottery kiln (fig. 5). We are now in the process of analyzing the ceramic assemblage and other materials in Area 2 in order to elucidate this last, post-Hittite settlement of Alalakh, of which very little was known before (fig. 6).

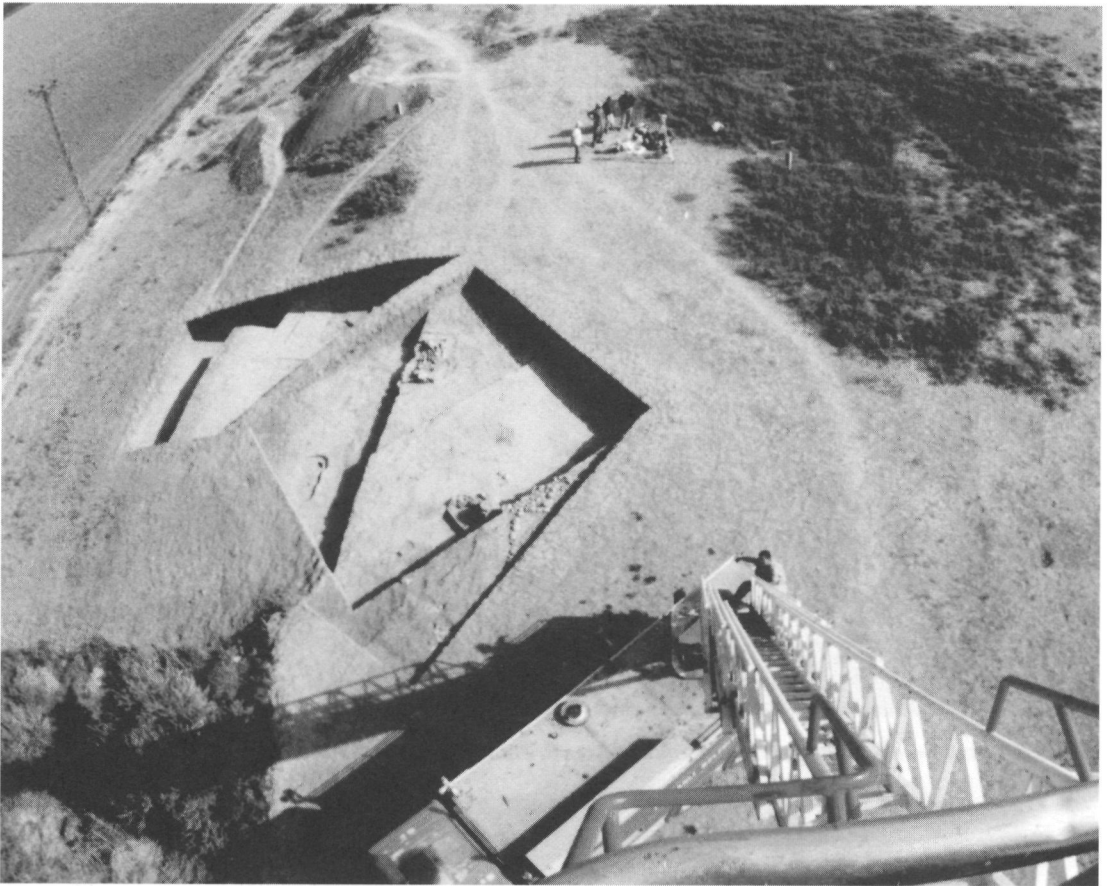
Area 3 (fig. 7), straddling the top of the slope along the eastern edge of the site, was supervised by Aaron Burke, assisted by square supervisors Jacob Lauinger and Edward Stratford (all three are University of Chicago graduate students). Our excavations in this area were designed to expose the sequence of fortifications of the city. A 10 × 10 m square was laid out on the crest of the slope, but to our surprise we found here not a city wall but a large kitchen or workshop with vessels for preparing and serving food lying next to a horseshoe-shaped ceramic hearth. This hearth or oven was extremely well preserved and sat intact upon the floor. Other fragmentary hearths were found in the area, indicating a large scale of production. Preserved on the floor were several clay andirons, four basalt grinding bowls, flint debitage, and twenty-four intact or restorable ceramic vessels. The repeated relining of the

intact hearth with successive layers of clay indicates that this workshop continued in use for a substantial length of time.

In excavation squares farther down slope in Area 3, we did find evidence of fortifications in the form of a large mudbrick wall, but this is much lower and more deeply buried than we expected and is probably to be dated to the Middle Bronze Age. In Area 3 we did not find Late Bronze Age fortifications from the latest period of occupation at Alalakh, contrary to our expectations. But we did find several dozen burials and evidence of many more eroded or disturbed burials on the slope. A cemetery may well have been on this part of the site during the last centuries of the city, which would have important implications for the size of Alalakh in the Hittite period.

Of the burials in Area 3 one stood out as special: a tomb with multiple individuals and special grave goods (fig. 8). This tomb has a plastered superstructure on a cobblestone foundation. On the top of the tomb were two columns of baked clay tile headstones stacked four high and a row of cobblestones. Within the plastered superstructure, which may once have encased a wooden coffin, four individuals were laid tête-bêche, each separated from the other by fragments of broken plaster. Individual no. 2 was buried with many gold, carnelian, ivory, and amber beads. A number of gold appliquéés, decorated with raised rosettes or radial lines, were found around individual no. 3, probably from a now-disintegrated cloth or headdress placed over the head (fig. 9). Some beads and appliquéés came from around the torso, which suggests an elaborately beaded and gold garment or headdress. A gold ring was still on no. 3's finger and gold sheet earrings or





*Figure 7. Bird's-eye view of Area 3. Photograph by Murat Akar*

hair rings by the skull (fig. 10). A number of copper-based toggle pins were found as well as a silver one, all used to fasten the burial garments. Some of the pottery came in pairs: two Cypriot base ring jugs, two red lustrous ware spindle flasks (fig. 11), and two trefoil-mouth buff jars. In addition, a bovine leg bone and numerous bird bones were found in the tomb. The spindle flasks would have contained beer or wine and the jars would have held other liquids. It seems that these individuals were buried with all the sustenance they needed in the afterlife.

When one thinks of Alalakh one thinks about cuneiform tablets. We found two fragments of the same tablet in Area 2. The first fragment was found in topsoil on the first day of excavation and was registered as object number 1 in our catalog of small finds. The second fragment was found two weeks later. Our epigraphist Jacob Lauinger immediately identified this tablet as a lexical text containing a Sumerian bird list. Another tablet found in Area 1 is an economic text. Rounding out our corpus of inscriptions from the first excavation season are two clay envelope fragments and a Hittite hieroglyphic stamp seal.

The renewed excavation of Alalakh has generated considerable interest among those aware of the importance of this site and the potential for fascinating new discoveries. In our 2003 season, we hosted busloads of visitors from academic institutions in Israel and Germany. We were also visited by Turkish friends and colleagues from Istanbul, Ankara, and Antakya, including a group of faculty members from Mustafa Kemal University, the local university of the state of Hatay. The state governor also paid us a visit, together with members of the local press. During the last

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*Figure 8. Detail from a unique plastered tomb in Area 3. Photograph by Nita Lee Roberts*



*Figure 9. Gold appliqué found in Area 3 plastered tomb. Photograph by Nita Lee Roberts*

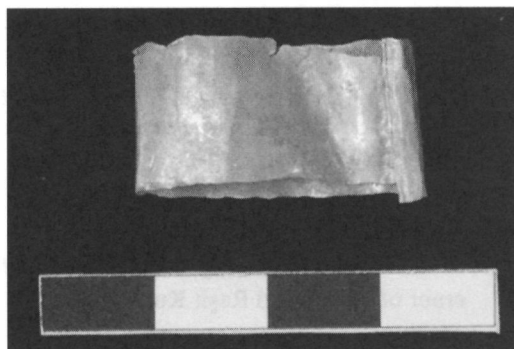
week of excavations we hosted the documentary film crew from public television station WTTW in Chicago that was producing a film about the Oriental Institute and chose to visit Alalakh and the Epigraphic Survey at Chicago House in Luxor, Egypt. The film crew was guided by Sel Yackley, chairwoman of the Chicago Amuq Committee and a longtime supporter of the Amuq Valley Regional Projects.

Our exploration of Alalakh will continue in a second field season from August to October, 2004. We eagerly anticipate a visit by the Oriental Institute tour group to be led by Director Gil J. Stein, as well as several other visitors who have told us of their interest in coming to Alalakh. In the coming season, we will complete the analysis of the large quantity of excavated material collected in 2003 and undertake additional excavations to connect Area 2 with Area 3, in order to solve some pressing stratigraphic problems. A project is also in the works to renovate the famous Woolley dig house, which still stands on the site and was recently declared a historical heritage site. It will make an ideal visitor's center once it is renovated to include rest room facilities, a watchman's residence, an exhibit area, and an on-site depot.

All in all, our first season was a resounding success. Alalakh lived up to its reputation in terms of compelling finds, and we were delighted that we were able to operate on a large scale with a diverse team who lived and worked together very efficiently and with good cheer. Congratulations to all who participated and made this a special excavation!

### Acknowledgments

In addition to the authors, the 2003 Tell Atchana/Alalakh staff consisted of the following people: Aaron Burke, Katherine Strange Burke, Glenn (Joey) Corbett, Jacob Lauinger, Adam Miglio, Gabrielle Novacek, Leann Pace, Samantha Stewart, Edward Stratford, Eudora Struble, and Bike Yazıcıoğlu (University of Chicago); Hatice Pamir, Tülin Arslanoğlu, Mustafa Baltalı, Sedat Biçer, Can Ercan, Bilge Gürkan, Murat İvecan, Adem Öncü, and Ahmet Ünal (Mustafa Kemal University, Antakya); Amy Gansell and Stine Rossel (Harvard University); Susan Helft (University of Pennsylvania); Fazıl Açıkgöz (Niğde Museum); Nita Lee Roberts (New York University, Institute of Fine Arts); Murat Akar (Bilkent University, Ankara); Katrin Hieke (Tübingen University); Joseph Keller; Sarah Miglio (Wheaton College); Dominique Collon (British Museum); and Brenda Craddock, Franca Cole, and Phil Andrews (U.K.).



*Figure 10. Gold sheet, possibly a hair ring, found in Area 3 plastered tomb. Photograph by Nita Lee Roberts*



*Figure 11. Area 3. Red lustrous ware spindle bottle found in the plastered tomb. Photograph by Nita Lee Roberts*

**RESEARCH**

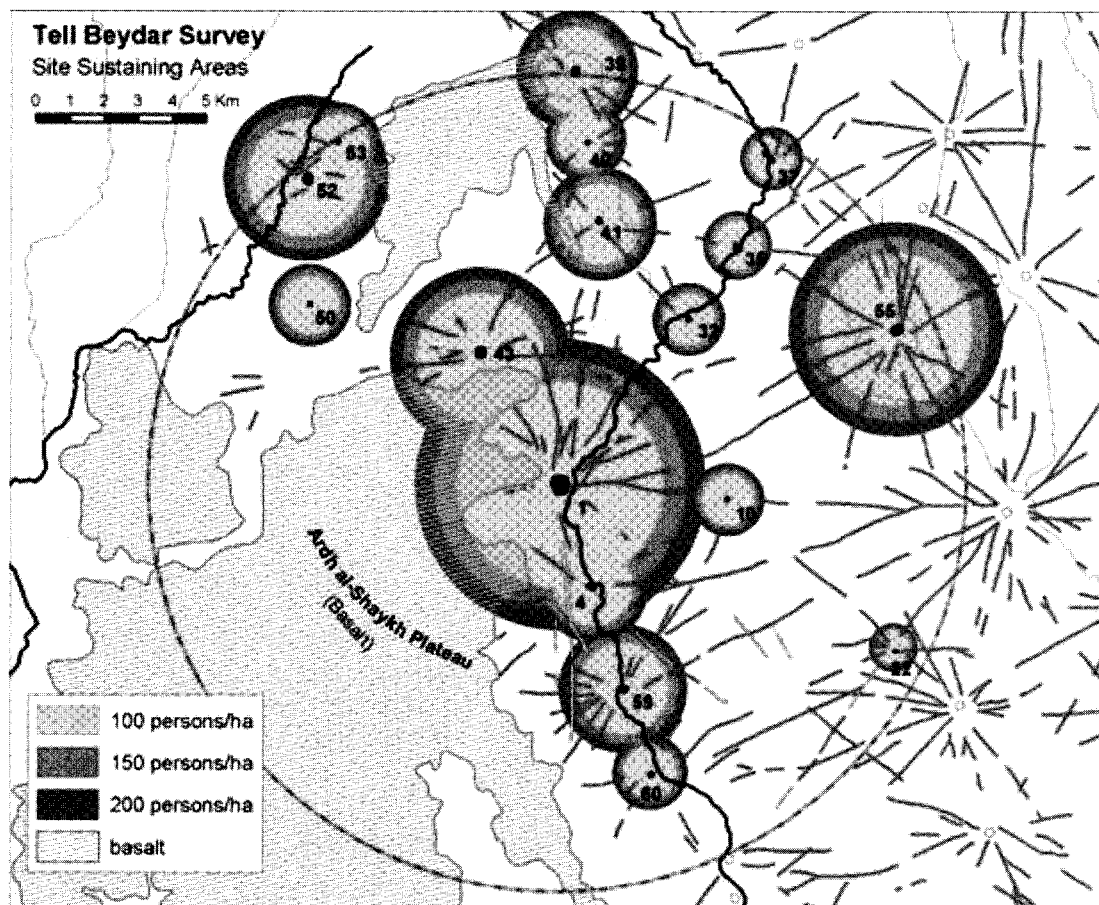
The research was generously supported by grants from the Neubauer Family Foundation, The Institute for Aegean Prehistory, members of the Oriental Institute, and numerous private donors. The research was conducted under the auspices of the Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Directorate General of Cultural Monuments and Museums. Special acknowledgment and thanks go to the Hatay Archaeological Museum, its director Hüseyin Dinçer and archaeologists Aslı Tuncer, Faruk Kılınç, Demet Kara, and Ömer Çelik. Special thanks are also due to Metin Gürkanlar, rector of the Mustafa Kemal University; Saadettin Kafadenk, the Hatay Kültür Müdürlüğü; Şükrü Çakğır, the governor of the Reyhanlı district; Abdurrahman Sarı, State-Governor of Hatay, and Reşit Kuseyrioğlu, for their help and guidance.

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**CAMEL****Carrie Hritz**

The Center for the Archaeology of the Middle Eastern Landscape (CAMEL) at the Oriental Institute was begun in 1998 under the direction of Tony Wilkinson. The academic year of 2003/2004 has been one of transition at CAMEL with the departure of Wilkinson to the University of Edinburgh in Scotland. However, despite an ocean between us, a close collaboration with Wilkinson and the University of Edinburgh continues. As a result of Wilkinson's departure the year has also seen the hiring of a new director for CAMEL, Scott Branting, who assumes the duties of director on July 1, 2004. Branting is no stranger to the Institute as he holds a Master's degree from here in Hittitology. He is an expert in both Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and archaeology, with a specialization in ancient transportation analysis and urban system development. He also serves as Associate Director of the Kerkenes Dağ Archaeological Project in central Turkey.

The mission statement of CAMEL has been outlined in detail in the 2003 *Annual Report*, but some of its major goals can be briefly summarized. CAMEL aims to analyze and understand the ancient Near Eastern landscape by combining both traditional on the ground archaeological surveys with remote sensing methods such as satellite imagery and aerial photograph analysis. Our research methods include geoarchaeological studies of buried landscapes and environmental change as well as incorporating the use of texts to provide information on human use of the landscape. Much of the work of CAMEL includes reconstruction of demography and economic landscapes as well as seeking to understand the ways in which people related to their landscapes.



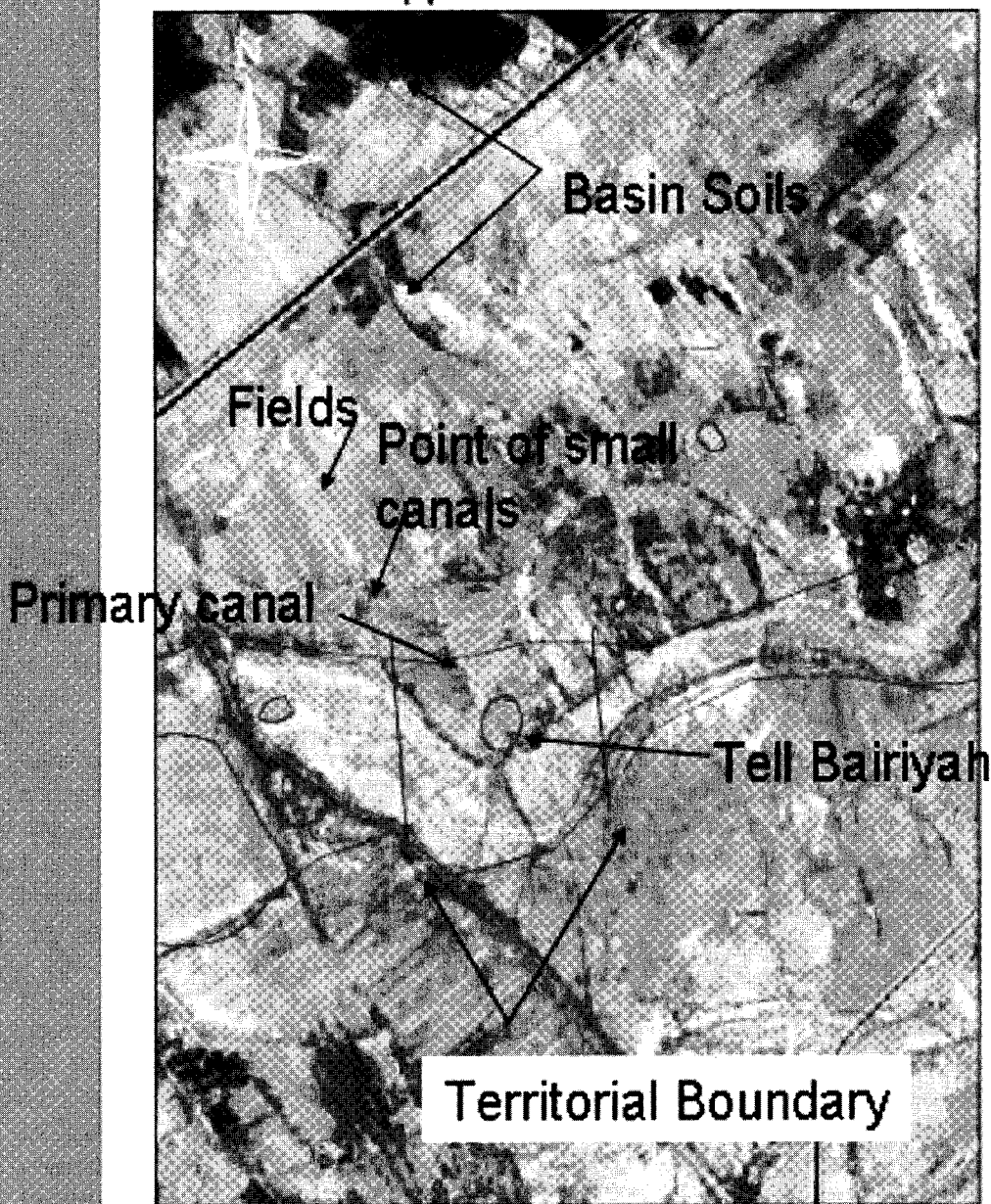
*Estimated sustaining areas around Tell Beydar. Processed by Jason Ur*

Addressing these historical questions through landscape archaeological research has a long tradition at the Oriental Institute and CAMEL provides a venue for the introduction of new technologies to expand this research. Satellite remote sensing and GIS provide a way to incorporate many different types of archaeological data, such as maps, excavated data, soil information, and survey data, into a single format for analysis. For example, GIS allows for the superimposing of distributions of archaeological sites on soils maps to determine suitable locations for ancient settlement or to investigate the relationship between settlements and the cultivable land surrounding them to address questions of land use, economics, and demography.

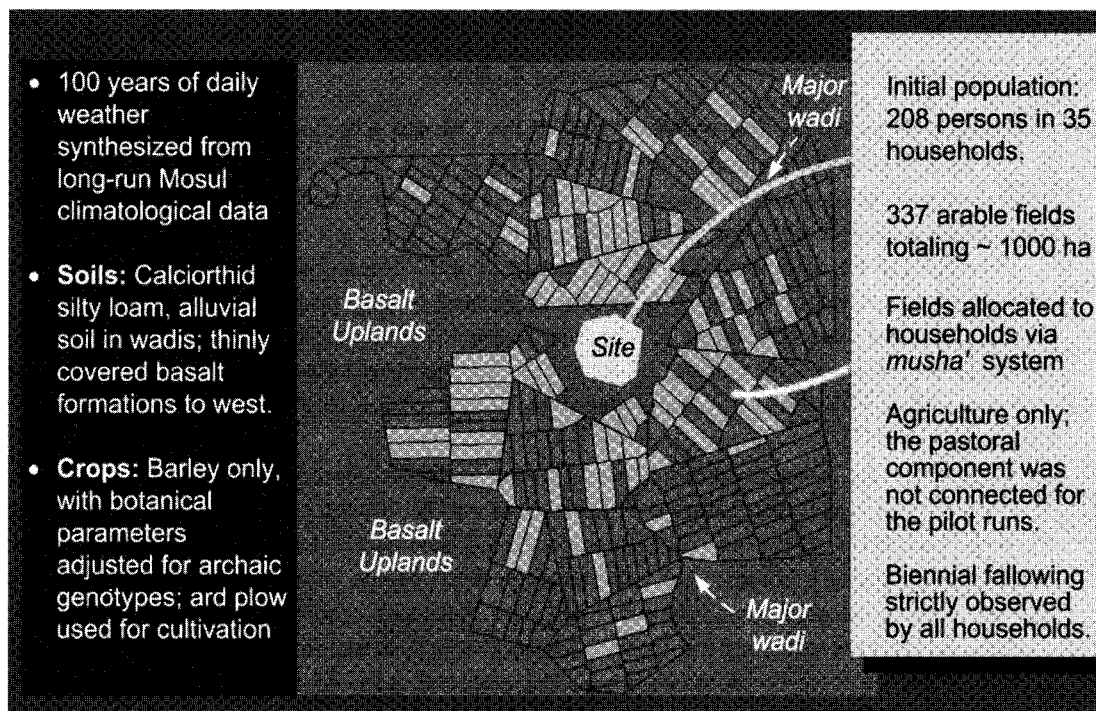
During 2003/2004 we continued to purchase satellite imagery from the declassified CORONA satellite missions of the 1960s through the generous support of donors to the Oriental Institute. This data is extremely important in that it shows facets of the ancient landscape that have been destroyed, by among other things the processes of cultivation and development, in the intervening years. The CAMEL staff (Carrie Hritz, Mark Altaweel, and Jason Ur) has obtained imagery from large areas of the Near East such as Turkey, Iran, Syria, and Iraq to meet the needs of both new and existing projects of Oriental Institute faculty and students. We have continued to scan and georeference older maps that also contain very useful topographic information such as those from 1918 Iraq. While this digitization of maps is useful for landscape archaeological studies, it also provides a means of preservation of these fragile primary sources.

# Tell Bairiyah No.236

Borsippa: Corona 1968



*Modeled village and surrounding fields. Compiled by John Christiansen and Mark Altaweel*



*Landscape reconstruction near Borsippa. Processed by Carrie Hritz*

Work has also progressed on the integration of different sets of archaeological landscape data for southern Mesopotamia. In March 2004, CAMEL acquired and scanned eighteen maps with topographic information from the collection of Robert McC. Adams. We wish to thank Adams for allowing us to do this. This 1:50,000 map series was used as a basis for the surveys conducted by Adams in Mesopotamia over the past thirty years. By incorporating these maps and the data marked upon them by Adams into our GIS we will be able to preserve this information for future archaeological surveys and projects. This includes a newly starting CAMEL project aimed at documenting the destruction of archaeological sites in the region with a view towards eventually assisting in the preservation of what has not yet been destroyed.

Finally, CAMEL has also continued to provide data and analysis for the Modeling Ancient Settlement Systems (MASS) Project run jointly between the Oriental Institute and the Division of Information Sciences at Argonne National Laboratory. The landscape data provided by CAMEL represents a crucial component to the overall project's goal of modeling how a Bronze Age Near Eastern society interacted with its landscape.

During the 2004/2005 academic year it is our hope that CAMEL will continue to expand its resources in order to continue to assist Oriental Institute projects and to develop additional projects of its own. In particular we plan, as finances allow, to continue to acquire satellite and cartographic data for larger areas of the Near East in support of our mission. We are confident that, under the leadership of Scott Branting, CAMEL will continue to evolve and play an important role retaining the Oriental Institute's status as a world-class institution supporting archaeology from within the unique perspective of the surrounding landscape.

## CHICAGO ASSYRIAN DICTIONARY

**Martha T. Roth**

The 2003/2004 academic year found the staff of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary (CAD) working on the four remaining volumes of the dictionary, P, T, T, and U/W. The P, T, and T Volumes are in press, in either galleys or page proofs, and we expect to see all three published and available during the 2004/2005 year.

Almost all of the final volume, U/W, is written in draft. Editor-in-charge Martha T. Roth and visiting scholar Hermann Hunger (University of Vienna) worked on editing the drafts, and Hunger and research associate Jennie Myers endeavored to solve the remaining problems and orphans in the volume. After editing, Linda McLarnan, the manuscript editor, read the words for stylistic consistency and incorporated the changes in a revised draft that will be available for checking.

Meanwhile, the in-house editorial board (Robert D. Biggs, John A. Brinkman, Miguel Civil, Walter Farber, Erica Reiner, Martha T. Roth, Matthew W. Stolper) and outside scholars Simo Parpola (University of Helsinki) and Klaas Veenhof (University of Leiden) were given the complete galleys for the T volume, and Roth and Myers have been incorporating their corrections and additions as the galleys are returned. Myers and McLarnan proofread the T galleys as well.

Oriental Institute volunteer Denise Paul has been ably assisting in the proofreading of T, and in May 2004 we were fortunate to secure the editorial skills of graduate student Katie L. Johnson, who has been proofreading T and P.

Matthew Saba, a second-year student in the College, again generously volunteered his time to the CAD during the academic year through the College Research Opportunities Program.

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## CHICAGO DEMOTIC DICTIONARY

**Janet H. Johnson**

The staff of the Chicago Demotic Dictionary Project, François Gaudard and myself, have continued the time-consuming job of checking and double-checking every entry, every scan, and every reference included in the dictionary. We have been joined this year by Jackie Jay, a graduate student in Egyptology who will write a dissertation on Egyptian literature and who is completing and checking all references in the bibliography and in the list of texts we cite. We have been ably assisted this year by several college student volunteers. Anne Nelson and Amelia Karraker verified and corrected bibliographic entries for us; David Berger began checking to ensure that every text cited in the dictionary is included in our list of texts. Michael Beetley, a graduate student in Northwest Semitics, has generously agreed to serve as our resource on interconnections between Demotic and various Northwest Semitic languages.

As noted in previous *Annual Reports*, discussions with Gene Gragg, then Director of the Oriental Institute, and with Thomas Urban, of the Oriental Institute Publications Office, led us to decide to post completed files on the Internet, to make them available around the world without waiting for the completion of the rest of the dictionary. At present fourteen letter-files are posted



on the Web, each containing the full entry for one letter of the Demotic “alphabet.” Three such files were published electronically this year, ‘ayin (164 pages) in September, Q (105 pages) in February, and G (82 pages) in May. This brings the online dictionary to a total of 1,041 pages. N (over 150 pages) will have been published electronically by the time this report is published. In addition, an introduction to the dictionary (64 pages) explains its layout and the conventions used in preparing individual entries, plus supplementary lists of abbreviations, including bibliographic abbreviations and abbreviations used in referring to individual texts. A file called “Problematic Entries” (56 pages) calls on colleagues around the world to help us resolve problems of reading and meaning. We continue to receive suggested rereadings or re-translations of some of these words from these colleagues, each of which is evaluated by the dictionary staff and most of which are incorporated in the dictionary. All additions and corrections are entered into the “master” file kept on the Macintosh computer in the Demotic Dictionary office. Eventually, updated Portable Document Format (.pdf) files of letters that have been posted will be prepared and the old files archived electronically (so that they can be accessed on request, to check the original version).

The “Problematic Entries” file continues to grow as we add problems from the letter-files on which we are currently working, and an updated version of that file will be posted within the next year. We are pleased to acknowledge the superb assistance we receive from the Publications Office, especially Tom Urban. He proofreads every file, looking for typos and inconsistencies in punctuation; in addition, although he doesn’t know Demotic, he has been an invaluable spotter of problems in citations in Greek and Northwest Semitic languages. He is also the person who prepares the actual pdf-formatted files that John Sanders posts on the Oriental Institute Web site.

Since it has been several years since I discussed the actual content and intent of the Dictionary, it may be appropriate to return briefly to those topics here. The Chicago Demotic Dictionary is intended as a supplement to the *Demotisches Glossar* published by Wolja Erichsen in 1954. Erichsen’s invaluable volume spurred the publication of many Demotic texts, and the Chicago Demotic Dictionary (CDD) was established to try to incorporate the vocabulary from those texts. In many cases, Erichsen’s entry remains definitive, and all that the CDD does is to register it, and perhaps some uses of the word in compounds or in phrases cited elsewhere in the CDD. A good example of this, from the files which were posted online this year, is the word ḥt “goat.” Erichsen’s entry is as follows:

ḥt ḥt<sup>r</sup> die Ziege. f.  
 f<sup>r</sup> 1908 Wb. 1, 205.  
 n<sup>3</sup> ḥn (n) ḥt „ das Ziegen-  
 gesicht“ als Tierkreis-  
 zeichen für den Steinbock.  
 Vgl. Ä. 7. 48 (1911), Taf 4.  
 \*G148.11 ,  
 \*G148.11 ,  
 \*G148.11  
 auch ε , φ

## RESEARCH

In other words, he has given the transliteration in the left-hand column, and in the middle of the page he has given a hand-copy which is identified with a superscript “r” as coming from the Roman period and his suggested translation *die Ziege* (“the goat”), and he has noted that this noun is feminine. On the next line, he has cited the corresponding word in hieroglyphs and the reference to the hieroglyphic dictionary. Next, he has cited the word in a compound or phrase. In this case, *pꜣ hr (n) ḥḥ.t* “the face of the goat” is identified as the Egyptian name for the zodiacal sign “Capricorn.” A reference to a discussion in secondary literature follows. In the right-hand column are given sample writings of this term. Note that for none of the Demotic examples is the text from which the example is taken identified.

Because we have nothing new to add to this entry, the CDD simply refers to Erichsen and gives an extra example of the word used in a compound or phrase. Here is the CDD entry:

**ḥḥ.t** n.f. “goat”  
 = EG 64  
 = Wb 1, 205/11–12  
 in compounds  
*Pꜣ-ḥr-ḥḥ(.t)* “(the zodiacal sign) Capricorn”; see under *ḥr* “face,” below  
*ḥs n ḥḥ.t* “goat dung” (P O Stras 768, 3)

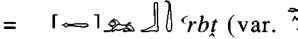

Note that the citation word, in the left-hand column, is given in bold and in larger type, in order to draw attention to it. In the citation of compounds, the citation word is again given in bold, to make it easy to identify. The reference EG 64 in the second line is the reference to Erichsen’s *Glossar*, p. 64.

For other words, the fifty years of study of Demotic and Egyptian texts, and publication of new Demotic texts, has enabled us to provide much more information about a word than Erichsen was able to do. A good example of this, also from the *ayin* file, is the word *rḥt*, which is used in legal documents to indicate the person who holds onto a legal contract during the time the contract is in force. At the end of that time period, if the person who made the contract has fulfilled his legal obligation under the contract, the *rḥt* would return the contract to him (and he was free to destroy it because the obligation was ended). But if the person who made the contract had not fulfilled it, the *rḥt* would give the contract to the other party, who could use it to enforce the ongoing obligation. For this reason, scholars who have studied this term and the contracts in which it appears have suggested the translation “trustee, document holder.” Because of this study, some of it by scholars here at the Oriental Institute, we are able to add extensively to Erichsen’s brief entry:

**ḥḥ.t**      *ḥḥ.t*      ein Titel (Vgl. J.E.A. 24, 78).

Here, the transliteration in the left-hand column is accompanied by a hand-copy marked by a superscript p for “Ptolemaic” in date; the word is simply identified as a “title” and a reference to a secondary discussion is given.

The CDD entry, by contrast, includes extensive references to secondary literature as well as suggestions for hieroglyphic antecedents, (later) Coptic descendants, and the corresponding term in Greek:

- ʿrbt<sup>∞</sup> n.m. “trustee, document holder”  
 = a title EG 66  
 =  ʿrbt (var.  lbt) in Late Period PNs in hieroglyphs & Demotic; see Darnell, *Enchoria* 17 (1990) 84  
 <? ʿnb “to close, shut, enclose” *Wb* 1, 192/3–4  
 =? ωλμ CD 522b, *KHWb* 291, *DELCD* 249a  
 so Darnell, *Enchoria* 17 (1990) 86  
 >? ΔΡΒΙΘΙ PN & title (?)  
 so Zauzich, *Fs. Berl. Mus.* (1974) p. 338, n. e, but denied by Darnell, *Enchoria* 17 (1990) 87, n. 29, since the Coptic term would designate a profession  
 =? συγγραφοφύλαξ “keeper of bonds or contracts” *LSJ* 1661a  
 for discussion, see Nims, *JEA* 24 (1938) 78–82; Seidl, *Ptol. Recht.* (1962) p. 58 (on legal rôle of ʿrbt in document-keeping); Pierce, *3 Dem. Pap.* (1972) pp. 116–19; Martin, *JEA* 72 (1986) 172–73 (on provenance of papyri in which the term appears); Darnell, *Enchoria* 17 (1990) 83–87; Cruz-Uribe & Nims, *JNES* 49 (1990) 284–85  
 in compound  
 ʿrbt b3k Ḥ.t-Ḥr nb Tp-n3-ih 3s.t t3 nṯr.t 3.t “trustee, servant of Ḥathor, mistress of Aphroditopolis, & Isis, the great goddess” (*PP* Loeb 62, 7)

The <sup>∞</sup> sign after the transliteration in the left-hand column indicates we have cited all the examples of this word that we have in our corpus. In the actual dictionary, these citations are lined up in a far right-hand column, opposite the references to other stages of Egyptian, to other languages, and to secondary literature. The trim size of the *Annual Report* does not allow for this layout, so those scans and hand-copies are here grouped below this paragraph. If the text was published in a photograph, a scan of the word taken from the photograph is used. If the editor of the text provided a hand-copy, that is cited below the scanned photograph and marked with <sup>e</sup>☞ (e for editor, ☞ for hand-copy). If the editor did not provide a hand-copy, or if the editor’s hand-copy was not sufficiently accurate, the dictionary staff made a black-and-white line drawing from the scanned photograph, which line drawing is cited below the scanned photograph. A ☞ in front of a scan or hand-copy indicates that the example is broken and incomplete. Both the scan and the hand-copy are given to serve different parts of our audience: The scan allows a scholar to note for himself the actual ductus of the writing (where did the scribe start writing, what direction did he go, when did he lift the pen, etc.) and problems with the preservation of the papyrus (holes, smudges, places where ink has flaked away, etc.). When the scans are viewed electronically, they can be enlarged several times, making it much easier for the Demotist to distinguish between “background noise” and intentional ink. But many people who will use the dictionary are not specialists in Demotic (students, Egyptologists working on other stages of the language, papyrologists, Aramaicists, archaeologists, etc.) and they want to be able to read the words as easily as possible; for that reason, we provide a hand-copy of every entry. Note also that, for every example cited, the particular text, column, and line from which the example was taken are provided, so that users of the dictionary are able to check the original if they so desire.

## RESEARCH

P P BM 10789, 6 (&amp; 8, 18)



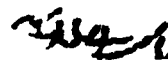
P P Loeb 62, 7



P P Berlin 15558, 15 (&amp; 13, 17)



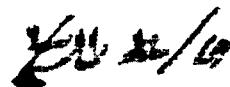
P P Mich 4200, 7

P P Mich 4256 BI, x+4 (& *passim*)P P Mich 4256 BI, x+10 (& *passim*)

The formatting of the actual dictionary makes it possible to add comments about individual examples by putting the comments in the central column and the scan and hand-copy in the right-hand column:

mentioned by Nims, *AcOr* 25 (1960) 274

P P BM 10849, x+7



Within the main entry in the central column, the corresponding term is given in actual hieroglyphs because the main hieroglyphic dictionary has no entry for this term. Suggested etymological connections are given, as well as references to discussions of them. Following the suggested correspondences are provided references to discussions of the term in secondary literature, in chronological order. At the end of the entry is given an example of the term used in a string of titles. The association of specific titles with other titles, with deities, and with geographic locales can provide important clues about the actual importance and functioning of such titles and can be very important for understanding the social, cultural, or religious implications of the title. For this reason, we include at least one example of each such grouping of titles, deities, or geographic names under each of the elements of the grouping (in this case, this same title string is cited not only under *rbt* but under *b3k* "servant," *H.t-Hr* "Hathor," *Tp-n3-ih* "Aphroditopolis," and *3s.t* "Isis").

Most of the entries in the CDD fall somewhere between these two examples. The examples Erichsen presents in his *Glossar* can be supplemented with more recently published examples and the meaning of the term can be understood more precisely through study of these additional examples and through ongoing study and restudy of texts by new generations of scholars. Nu-

ances of meaning, changes in meaning when used in a compound, changes in meaning of a verb when construed with different prepositions, all these are included whenever possible to aid researchers in the decipherment and understanding of this fascinating, and greatly variable, corpus of material from the latter part of ancient Egypt's history. The script is difficult, and the more examples of a word we can provide our colleagues the better. But the texts definitely repay the effort as they help us unravel the everyday life, religion, concerns, and hopes of the Egyptians.

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## CHICAGO HITTITE DICTIONARY

### Theo van den Hout

Work on the second part, or fascicle as we call it, of the letter Š of the Chicago Hittite Dictionary (CHD) continued and it is well under way. Harry Hoffner, emeritus and coeditor, and Theo van den Hout, executive editor, met regularly to establish the definitive text of pre-final drafts. The drafts led us from nouns for wild members of the goat family, lamps, and a disreputable category of women to booty, beds, and shoes. Verbs ranged from sleeping, pushing, and sipping to putting on one's shoes and trussing up animals to be roasted. Our outside consultants Gary Beckman, Craig Melchert, and Gernot Wilhelm are in the process of reading those drafts and once we have their comments, all words starting with *ša-* are ready to go to press. Currently we are working on the first part of words beginning with *še-/ši-* and by the time you read this we should be ready to send all material for Š/2 off to our Publications Office.

Meanwhile our staff, Drs. Richard Beal and Oğuz Soysal, continued writing drafts for what will be the next volume, the letter T. Beal also implemented all the changes Hoffner and van den Hout made to the drafts of the Š material. We were particularly fortunate that for the first part of the academic year we still enjoyed the services of Dr. Alice Mouton from Paris. She had joined the dictionary project in January of 2003 with a prestigious scholarship of the Programme Lavoisier of the French Foreign Ministry. During her stay she worked very hard and wrote many first drafts of words starting in *ta-*, assisted in filing and parsing new texts, and in general helped out wherever needed. We miss her enthusiastic presence and hope she will return for regular visits!

Thanks to our staff member Kathleen Mineck, our files keep growing. She and van den Hout together transliterate newly published texts; Mineck then puts them on our server, and ensures they are ready for parsing and filing. The latter work was mostly done by our trusty students Natasha Bershadsky, Dennis Campbell, and Ed Stratford. Mineck also answers smaller and larger queries for van den Hout on the basis of our lexical files for his work on final drafts.

During the summer of 2003, Julia van den Hout put all our photographs of Hittite clay tablets and fragments of tablets in a database accessible through our server so that, for the first time, we have a clear overview of what we actually have. We have exchanged this database with our colleagues of the Hethitisches Wörterbuch in Munich, Germany, led by Prof. Inge Hoffmann. Earlier she had sent us a list of photographs in their possession. We hope this is the beginning of a more extensive cooperation between the two Hittite dictionary projects!

## RESEARCH

Significant progress has been made on the electronic version of the dictionary. All of Volume P has been digitized in XML-format and is stored in a searchable database. Sandy Schloen, our programmer, created project management tools for organizing the project content online and for establishing and controlling users with different levels of access. She also developed tools for assigning characteristic properties to specific components of the dictionary. For example, words can be identified as geographical or divine names. The user decides which properties to include and creates them directly in the database. A basic query facility for searching and retrieving the data based on these characteristics is also available. A completely new feature is the creation of a Turkish-Hittite form of the e-CHD. The Turkish translations were provided by Oğuz Soysal and will ultimately create a shorter Hittite/English/Turkish dictionary. Other views of the dictionary are also possible; for example, a “quick-reference” view provides a high-level summary by suppressing the lower-level details. Finally, a mechanism for managing supplementary digital resources, that is, images, notes, bibliographic references, etc., has also been added. The user can enter information about these resources and link them to appropriate dictionary entries.

The e-CHD P volume can now be accessed through the Oriental Institute’s Web site. It is the first in what will be a two-track dictionary: an electronic and fully searchable version and a classic paper one. In the near future we hope to offer all these same features for our older material covering the letters L, M, and N. These letters were not yet available in an electronic form that can be subjected to the transformations needed to make them into what P is now. Thanks to a generous gift of Mr. Howard Hallengren, however, we were able to have this material scanned and corrected by a group from Moscow University supervised by Dr. Alexei Kassian. The first results are in and look very promising. As soon as this work has been done, Sandy Schloen will start the transformation process.

Several scholars visited us in the past year and consulted our files for their research: Profs. Ian Rutherford (Florida State University) and Gary Beckman (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor), Dr. Jeanette Fincke (University of Heidelberg), and Yiğit Erbil (Hanfmann-fellow from Ankara).

This past year we were supported by a generous grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities as we have been since the project started in 1976. In the coming year, however, we will be on our own. It is therefore with immense gratitude that we can report that we received a gift of \$100,000 from the Salus Mundi Foundation of Prof. A. Richard Diebold Jr. in Tucson, Arizona. This gift is the beginning of what we hope will expand into an endowment to see the CHD project through to the very end! In the course of fund-raising activities van den Hout and Mineck also traveled to Washington, D.C., for a screening of the movie “The Hittites” by Tolga Örnek. They manned a table with a computer display of the e-CHD, a hard copy of the dictionary and brochures, as well as general information material on our Oriental Institute. During that visit van den Hout and our then Director of Development had the privilege of meeting with the honorable Dr. O. Faruk Loğoğlu, Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey.

Finally, we received a letter from Carl Thunem who as a student worked for the CHD in the year 2001/2002. After Carl graduated with a BA honors paper on a Hittite topic he joined the National Reserve and just last fall he successfully completed Basic Combat Training in Fort Knox, Kentucky before going to Law School: “You’ll be pleased to know that I remembered enough Hittite to scrawl out a curious drill sergeant’s name for him at BCT in cuneiform.” Who says Hittite is useless?

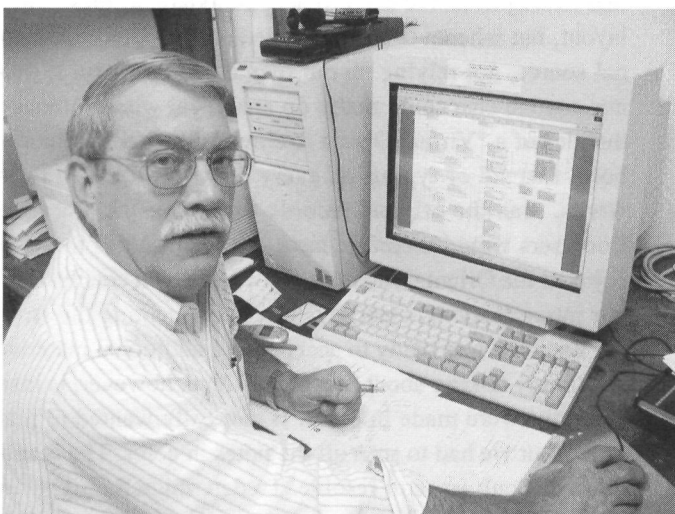
## DIYALA PROJECT

**Clemens D. Reichel**

At some stage, every successful project develops the momentum that will carry its idea towards success beyond the point of no return. I believe the Diyala Project successfully passed this point during this year.

Is it surprising to hear that occasionally one doubts whether a project can be successfully completed? Perhaps the Diyala excavators themselves had doubts about the feasibility of publishing the ambitious final volume of their work, the *Miscellaneous Objects from the Diyala Region*. Once they had completed their excavations at Tell Agrab, Tell Asmar, Ishchali, and Khafaje, the excavators started a large-scale publication project, in which most of the architecture and some of the key finds, such as the sculpture, seals, and pottery, were published in Oriental Institute Publication volumes. Despite numerous attempts, the publication of over 15,000 items found during the Diyala expedition never went past a planning stage until 1994, when the Diyala Project was launched by McGuire Gibson. Even this project encountered a major crisis last year, when news reached the Oriental Institute that the Iraq Museum had been looted, leading us to believe that most of the priceless objects that we had hoped to study in person in Baghdad had been irretrievably lost. Could our project still be brought to a meaningful conclusion? One-and-a-half years later we know that almost all the 600 seals from the Diyala excavations assigned to the Iraq Museum were stolen, and the presence of most of the other 8,000 Diyala objects in the Iraq Museum largely remains to be confirmed. In the end, however, this tragedy only hardened our resolve to get all of the Diyala materials published online as soon as possible.

Another more positive lesson we learn again and again is that, in a project of this size, it often takes a new person with a new idea to get things going again. By 1994, when McGuire Gibson took on the responsibility of publishing the Diyala objects, the idea of publishing them in a book had essentially been declared dead — the large number of objects (15,000) would have required an immense number of drawings and photographs for adequate illustration, making a paper publication prohibitively expensive. Gibson therefore decided to launch the project as a computer-based relational database. Initially we intended to put the data out on CDs, but with the rapid development of the World-Wide Web we later on opted for a Web-based dissemination of the data. The Web-based database remained more of a vague idea than a concrete plan until 2000, when George Sundell joined our project as a volunteer and data architect (fig. 1). Four years later we are well into executing this plan, but George's input has also started to modify the principal layout of the project. A data architect in his professional life, data management was George's bread and butter, and over the next two years he examined the relation-



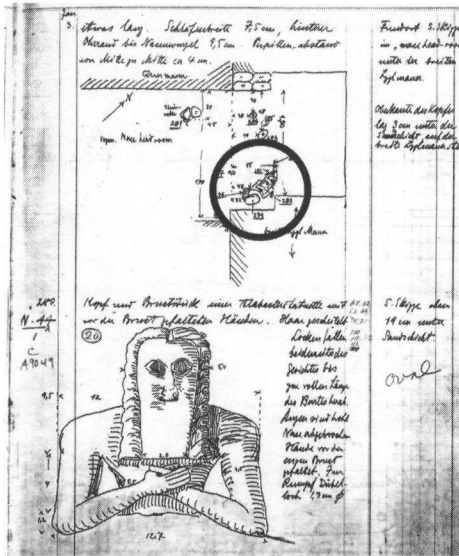
**Figure 1.** Another table done! George Sandell, data architect for the Diyala Project, checking another item on the database load plan

## RESEARCH

ship of information elements defined by us and drastically refined the layout of our data structure. One of the weak points in our database was the absence of systematic source indicators. In other words, while we provide a full list of both published and unpublished sources for each object, it was not clear from which source a certain descriptive element had been taken and whether or not it had been verified for accuracy. In George's new design we distinguish between *primary* and *interpretive information*. By *primary information* we refer to sources such as field diaries, object registers, and catalog cards with descriptions given by the excavators, an example of which is shown in figure 3. Whether the information in them is correct can be verified in some cases, for example, when we have a chance of physically reanalyzing an object described in such a source. Other cases, however, such as a description of the archaeological context in which an object was excavated, cannot be verified independently. *Interpretive information*, by contrast, reflects our own work. This information can be updated and improved upon as needed. These two information sources therefore require very different treatments in a database. Our own *interpretive* descriptions are stored as computer-based entries; should any ambiguity or typo be found, it can be fixed with the approval of the project director and the responsible collaborator. The *primary* data from the excavators, however, is a very different matter. This data is on paper, most of it in handwritten notes. Frequent use of abbreviations and incorrect use of words and phrases (the native tongues of the Diyala excavators included Danish, Dutch, English, German, and Ukrainian among others) make a data transfer by typing highly interpretive and subject to mistake. Some notes were kept in languages other than English. Conrad Preusser, the site director during the initial 1930/31 season at Khafaje, for example, kept all his notes, including the object register, in German; subsequently, he translated many of his notes into English, but frequent idiomatic mistakes can be found in his translations. A direct transfer of excavators' notes into text files is complicated further by the fact that notes were often revised and annotated using colored pencils; in many cases different handwritings can be discerned, making it clear that more than one mind was at work. Throughout the years we found a number of these changes to be unsustainable or wrong (some of them even made it into print), so we deemed it vital to record both the original entry and how it was subsequently changed. To complicate matters even further, many notes were enhanced with sketch drawings that were impossible to render in a textual description. We tried to accommodate all these idiosyncrasies in a more and more refined layout, but whenever I encountered an ambiguity I eventually found myself checking the original source, not relying on our own database entry. It finally became clear to us that neither we nor anyone else could really do analytical work without seeing the original notes. This is when the idea of a "Virtual Diyala Archive," described in more detail in previous *Annual Reports*, was born. Instead of typing up every word we decided to index these sources by searchable key words, scan the original records, and make them accessible through the Web-based database. End users would therefore have the same access to published and unpublished records that we enjoy at the Oriental Institute, draw their own conclusions, and be in a better position to question our interpretations. George began implementing the structural changes in 2002. By early 2004, our database was ready to accept these additional materials.

Simply talking about "scanning" data, however, is insufficient. As indicated above, many annotations were made in color. If we really wanted to make consultations of the paper originals redundant we had to scan all the notes in color. The scanning resolution turned out to be an even more difficult issue to resolve. To determine the right resolution we first had to decide the ultimate purpose of the scan. A screen display image (that is, 72–96 dots per inch [dpi]) is at a fairly low resolution, which would require very little time to capture. Since online dissemination of this data was the primary objective, we could have settled for a low resolution, but these scans





a)

| Inv. Nr. | Dat.   | [Description]   | Phot. Nr.            | Findort   |
|----------|--------|---|----------------------|---|
| 280.     | Jan 3. | Etwas lang. Schlafenbreite 7,5 cm, hinterer Ohrand bis Nasenwurzel 9,5 cm. Papillen-Abstand von Mitte zu Mitte ca 4 cm.   | 61.62<br>63.64<br>70 | Findort s. Skizze: im "maice-head room" unter der breiten Leitmauer.<br><br>Oberkante des Kopfes lag 3 cm unter der Sandeichte auf der (west-ost) breiten Leitmauer steil (west-ost in copy: possibly "stehend"). |
| 280.     | Jan 3. | Kopf und Bruststück einer Alabasterstatuette mit vor der Brust gefalteten Händen. Haar geschlechtlich, Locken fallen beiderseits des Gesichtes bis zur vollen Länge des Halses herab. | 61.62<br>63.64<br>70 | S. Skizze oben 19 cm unter Sandeichte oval (ca 27 x 22 mm)  |

b)

| Inv. Nr. | Dat.   | [Description]   | Phot. No.            | Find Spot   |
|----------|--------|---|----------------------|---|
| 280.     | Jan 3. | rather long. Width of the temples 7.5 cm, back edge of ear to root of nose 9.5 cm. Center-to-center pupil spacing about 4 cm.   | 61.62<br>63.64<br>70 | Find Spot s. Sketch. in "maice-head room" under the broad mudbrick wall.<br><br>Upper edge of the head lay 3 cm under the sand layer slant (west-ost) on the (west-ost) broad mudbrick wall |
| 280.     | Jan 3. | Head and torso of an alabaster statue with hands folded across the chest. Hair parted, locks descend on both sides of the face to the full length of the beard. Eyes are hollow, nose broken off, hands folded across the narrow chest. | 61.62<br>63.64<br>70 | S. Sketch above 19cm under sand layer oval (ca 27 x 22 mm)  |

c)

**Figure 2. Digital clean-up: Example of an entry from the Khafaje field register: (a) the original by Conrad Preusser, (b) cleaned and retyped by Robert Wagner in German, and (c) translation into English. The upper sketch renders the find context in which the piece of sculpture, sketched below, was found**

would have had severe limits. What if, for example, someone requested a printable version of this scan? Printable images require a much higher resolution than screen displays — at least 300 dpi with present-day printers. Some records also required enlargements to be readable or in any way usable, which again required a higher a scanning resolution. With screen and possibly printer resolutions likely to increase in the next years, we wondered how permanent a record we would create if we scanned these records at the lower end of possible resolutions. To create a virtual facsimile of the original record we had to think past today’s requirements — there seemed no point in doing this now if someone had to do it all over again in ten years! The need to define *archival standards* became all too clear. I will not draw out the technical discussion

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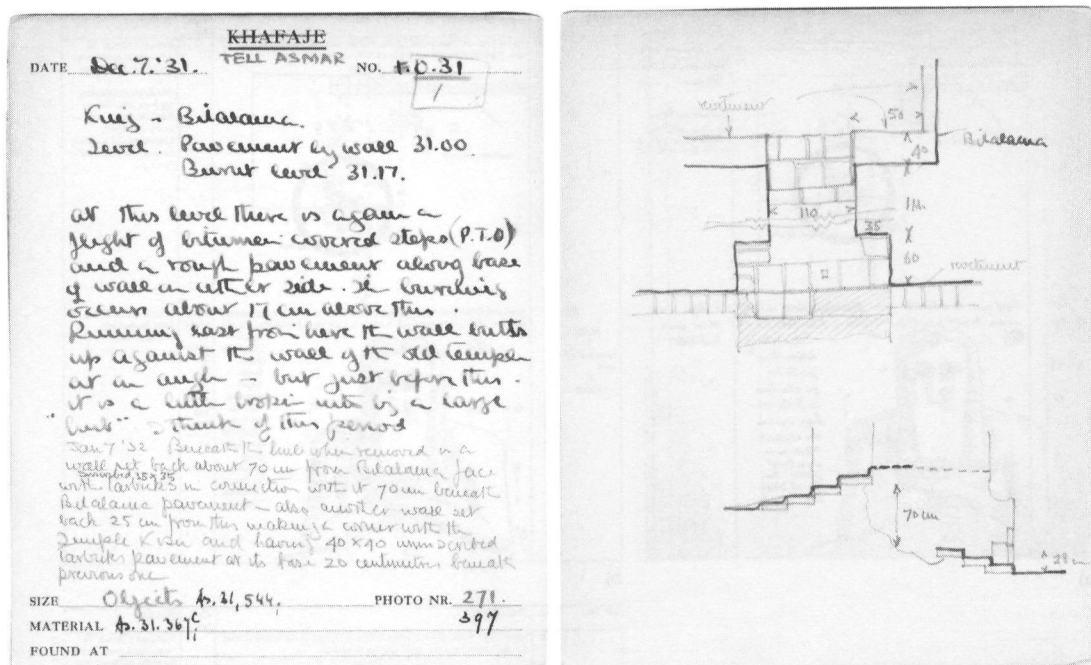


Figure 3. Example of a locus card for the Palace of the Rulers at Tell Asmar, showing sketches and successive additions and annotations

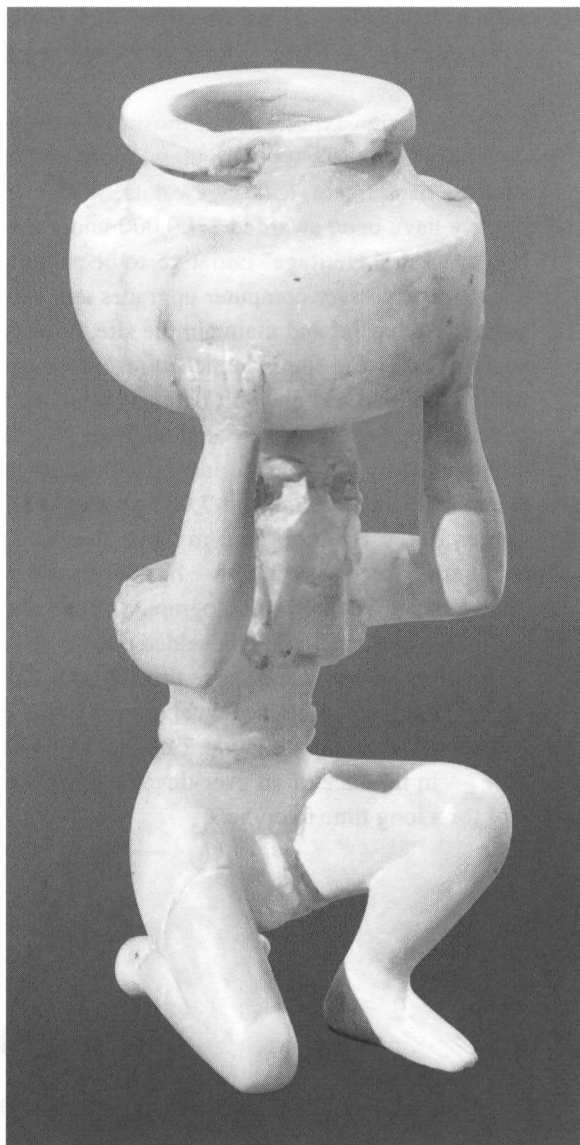
any further, but in a nutshell, we decided to scan all records at a standard resolution of 400–600 dpi in color. Files would be saved in a lossless, uncompressed format, Tag Image File Format (TIFF). Smaller versions would be created for display on screen in the database, while retaining the larger files for archival purposes.

We had solved the theoretical issues. Now we had to face the practical ones. Scanning all the field notes, object cards, and plans is an enormous undertaking. With records still turning up every now and then in unsuspected places, it remains difficult for me to put down a final figure for the total number of scans necessary to accomplish our task, but I estimate that it may well exceed 100,000! This creates enormous logistical problems — a 400 dpi color scan of an average Diyala catalog card is about 15 megabytes in size. Many of them have annotations on both front and back. Mathematically, if every scan were the size of a catalog card (and many of them are much larger) we would have to store 3,000 gigabytes (3,000,000,000,000 bytes) worth of data. To back up all this data on CDs, we would have to burn 4,615 CDs, or 9,230 to have an essential second copy! It was clear that we faced a data storage crisis. But leaving issues of required hardware, software, and data storage aside, who was going to do all of this work, and where?

Once more, the right person showed up at the right time. One day in spring I received a phone call that put things in motion. Robert Wagner had worked as a translator of German to English, mostly dealing with industrial patents and, following his retirement, was looking for new things to do. Having someone else on board aside from myself who reads German was an exciting prospect, especially since it offered the possibility for me to avoid dealing with the dreaded German Khafaje object registers mentioned above. I decided to put Robert's skills to the test and asked him to enter Conrad Preusser's notes, kept in beautiful but sometimes almost indecipherable handwriting. In short, Robert mastered the job — in addition to the original field registers, we now have versions of these registers typed up in German as well as in English (fig. 2b–c).

Robert faithfully recreates the original layout of the registers, adding their sketches by scanning and annotating them. His entries have been added to our database in a searchable form, but we will also add his translations as Portable Document Format (PDF) files to our site. Having finished this work, I told him about our scanning plans, and he readily agreed to take it on. Calling someone “compulsive” seems to have developed a negative undertone, but I would be hard-pressed to find a better term to describe Robert’s attention to detail. After a period of experimentation on which devices to use to hold documents in place on the scanner and what backgrounds or which color profiles to use, he got started and has been working on it since spring. By last count he has already created some 16,000 scans so far, equivalent to about 10,000 catalog cards! Since May, Robert has been joined by Karen Terras in the scanning efforts. A veteran of the Iraq Museum Project, she joined the Diyala Project and has worked through field diaries and pottery sheets. By July, both volunteers had created about 250 gigabytes of data to be stored. The storage crunch was alleviated with the purchase of a DVD burner. DVDs can hold up to 4.7 gigabytes of data each, which reduces our storage problem significantly, even if the number of DVDs to be burned remains sizable. Having seen the evolution of data storage devices from 800 kilobyte double-density disks, to 100 megabyte zip disks, 650 megabyte CDs, and now 4.7 gigabyte DVDs, I am confident that our storage crunch is a temporary one, soon to be made irrelevant by technological innovation.

Eventually Robert (and maybe others as well) will tackle another challenge — the scanning of the original Diyala large-format negatives. We already have scans of contact prints from many of these negatives, made by our volunteer Joyce Weil between 1996 and 1998 on a flatbed scanner. A few test scans of the negatives, however, have shown us how much better the quality and resolution of scans would be from the negatives. These negatives are large (5 × 7 inches), but many of them contain more than one object. Modern scanners would allow us to scan them at a very high resolution (for example, 2,000 dpi), which would produce printable high-quality close-ups of even small objects. Many of these objects had been allocated to the Iraq Museum and might have disappeared or been damaged during the museum looting of 2003. Getting as good an image of them as possible seems of vital importance. Once more, data storage is going



*Figure 4. Vessel bearer from Tell Agrab, of limestone, dated 2600 B.C.*

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to be a challenge — a scan of a 5 × 7 inch black-and-white negative at 2,000 dpi creates about a 135 megabyte TIFF file. With about 8,000 negatives to scan, data storage is once again going to be a challenge.

Quite obviously, one of our most essential needs for the next few years boils down to money — money to buy faster computers, more external hard drives and DVDs, and to hire graduate students to add, edit, and review data. While writing this report I have received the joyful news that we have been awarded \$100,000 under the National Endowment of Humanities “Preserve Iraq’s Cultural Heritage” initiative, to be paid out over the next two years. This grant will help us to get the necessary computer upgrades and storage devices and to hire at least one student as a helper. To expand and maintain the site, however, we will have to find other long-term funding sources. After the site is launched (we hope by summer 2006), work will go on for years. We will continue to add and edit data and mark up building plans with object findspots to allow interactive data queries for spatial analyses. And finally, we will add new photographs of objects accessioned by the Oriental Institute Museum that have been taken over the past few years. Between 1997 and 2002, about 7,000 photographs were taken on black-and-white film by our volunteer Betsy Kremers and myself; these negatives have already been scanned at a high resolution. Since May 2003 we have been working with a Nikon digital SLR camera, which has allowed us to add color photographs, obtain close-up shots and details of many objects with its 1:1 macro lens, and enjoy the added benefit of instant quality control (fig. 4).

Finally, I want thank those donors who have supported us so loyally in the past. The bad news about a computerized database project is that it is never done, but the good news is that it can always be improved upon. I hope that the standards chosen by us will keep the Diyala database — in the face of an ever-developing computer world — a viable research and publication tool for a long time to come.

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## EPIGRAPHIC SURVEY

### W. Raymond Johnson

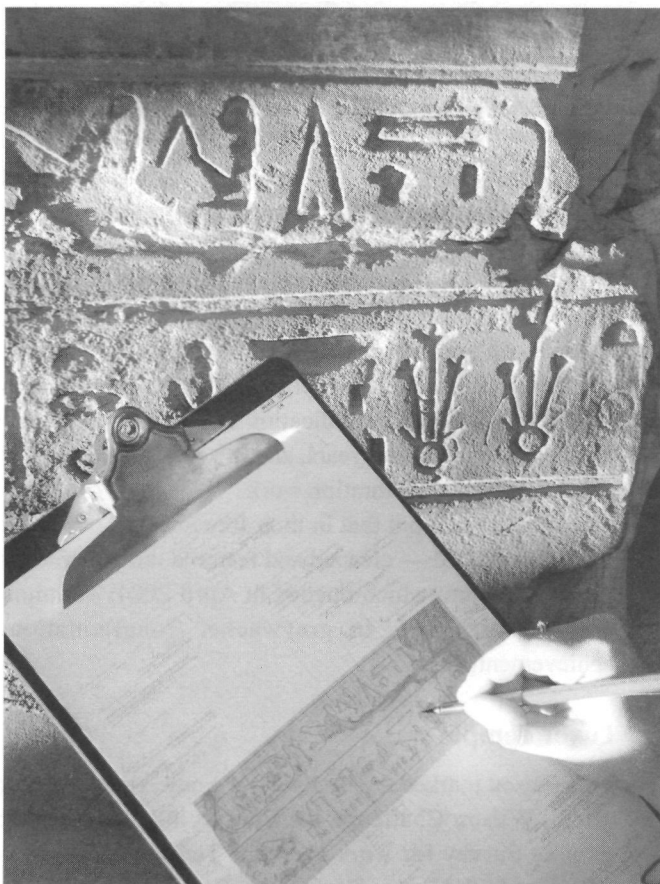
On April 15, 2004, the Epigraphic Survey completed its eightieth six-month field season in Luxor. At Medinet Habu the conservators finished cleaning the walls of the last two inner sanctuaries and started cleaning the sanctuary façade. Painted details of the newly cleaned wall surfaces were added to the facsimile drawings by the epigraphic team, thus completing the documentation for the first volume in the Medinet Habu small Amun temple series. Over the central sanctuary roof the installation of the new skylight was completed. At Luxor Temple more storage mastaba platforms were constructed around the precinct onto which large blocks and column drums were raised, as well as hundreds more small wall fragments. Treatment and monitoring of deteriorating fragments was resumed and expanded by the Luxor Temple conservation team, and protective canvas siding was added to the “hospital” mastabas where decaying fragments are stored. Finally, the third volume in our Khonsu Temple series was printed, *Temple of Khonsu, Volume 3: The Graffiti on the Khonsu Temple Roof at Karnak: A Manifestation of Personal Piety* (Oriental Institute Publication 123; Chicago: The Oriental Institute, 2004), by Helen Jacquet-Gordon.

### Small Amun Temple of Hatshepsut and Thutmose III at Medinet Habu

This season the Epigraphic Survey conservators at Medinet Habu — Lotfi Hassan, Adel Aziz, and Nahed Samir — finished the cleaning of the last two rooms of the sanctuary of the Eighteenth Dynasty temple: the “naos room” and the “king’s chamber,” after which artists Margaret De Jong, Susan Osgood, and senior epigrapher Brett McClain completed the final paint collation of those rooms and the back central Amun sanctuary. In March, Brett McClain and I reviewed on site the sixty-four facsimile drawing enlargements of all six sanctuary rooms and their façade, all of which are now cleared for publication. Egyptologist/artist Tina Di Cerbo finished the drawings of the graffiti in the sanctuaries, including several new graffiti found in this year’s cleaning process. Collation was completed by the epigraphers with the kind assistance of former Chicago House epigrapher Richard Jasnow, who with Tina produced translations and commentary for the publication of the Demotic graffiti. The graffiti include hieratic, black-ink restoration guidelines used by the post-Akhenaten restorers in the late Eighteenth Dynasty; miscellaneous figurative graffiti; and painted or incised Demotic. The drawings were produced and corrected by Tina digitally, an exciting new phase of our documentation process. At the end of the season Tina and I reviewed all forty-seven graffiti at the wall (twenty-six in the “naos room” alone).

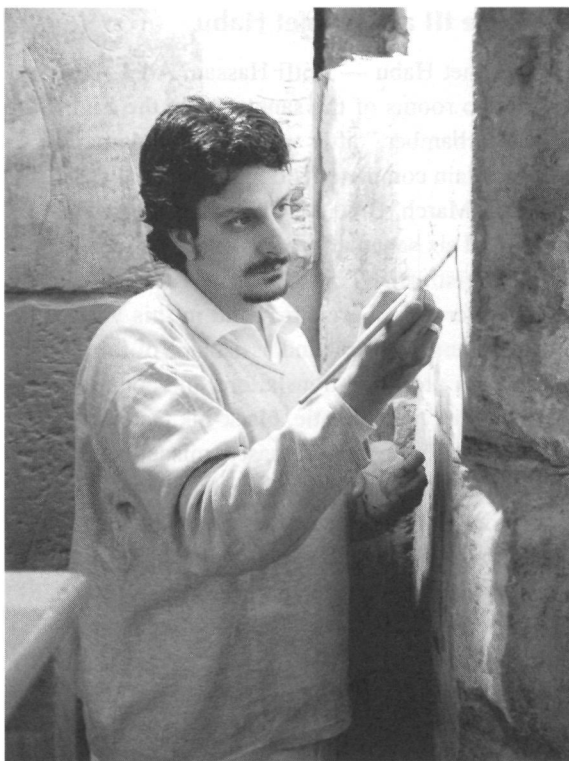
Once all of the sanctuary drawings were cleared for publication, photographer Yarko Kobylecky, assisted by Ellie Smith, did the final, large-format, color and black & white photography for the season in both sanctuaries, and photographed all of the drawings in 8 × 10 inch format negatives for backup and publication production. Production of *Medinet Habu 9: The Eighteenth Dynasty Temple, Part 1: The Sanctuary*, the inaugural epigraphic volume in our Medinet Habu small Amun temple series (the first of four), will begin this summer in Chicago and will feature almost 200 plates, about a dozen in color.

Epigraphic work for volume 2, *Medinet Habu 10: The Eighteenth Dynasty Temple, Part 2: The Bark Sanctuary and Ambulatory*, continued as well during the season by epigraphers Brett McClain, Harold Hays, Jen Kimpton, and Randy Shonkwiler, and artists Margaret De Jong, Tina Di Cerbo, and Sue Osgood. The drawings of the Thutmoside pillars in the ambulatory are now mostly complete, with only a few requiring the addition of final corrections. The collation of the bark sanctuary exterior scenes of Thutmose III (including the famous



*Epigraphic copying at the small Amun temple, Medinet Habu; epigrapher Jen Kimpton. Photograph by Ray Johnson*

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*Conservator Lotfi Hassan cleaning painted reliefs in the "king's chamber," small Amun temple, Medinet Habu*  
 Photograph by Ray Johnson

foundation ritual scenes) is also in the final stages, and collation has begun on the interior bark sanctuary scenes. Documentation of these wall scenes is particularly challenging because of the subsequent modifications to the Thutmose III reliefs: the original deities were hacked by Akhenaten, were restored in the late Eighteenth and early Nineteenth Dynasties, were totally re-carved by Ptolemy VIII (who kept the original decorative program but updated the figures in the Ptolemaic style), and were mutilated again in the medieval period. Numerous traces of the earlier versions are present throughout the walls and are carefully added in trace-weight lines to the facsimile drawings.

In addition to the successful completion of the wall cleaning and documentation of volume 1 at Medinet Habu, stonecutter Dany Roy finished the installation of a new, waterproof, aluminum and frosted glass skylight over the central "dyad chamber" roof, which replaces a wooden one installed twenty years ago. Screened openings on the north and south long ends allow for ventilation. Next season Dany

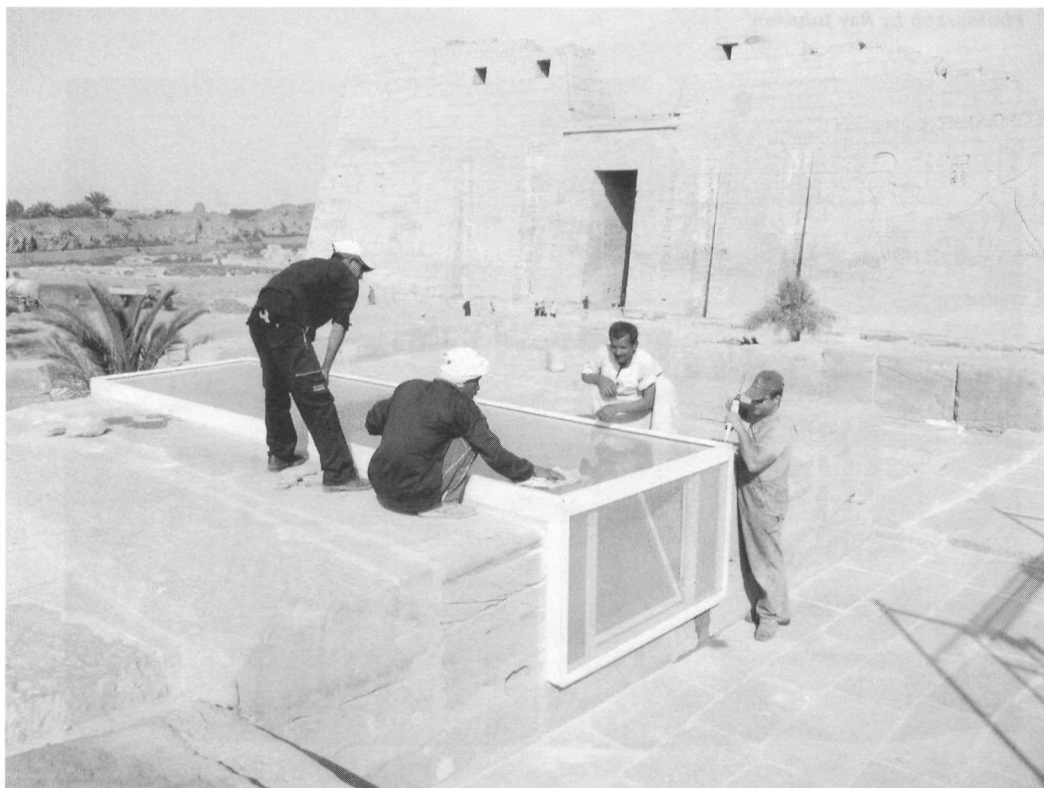
will continue the wall and floor patching around the Eighteenth Dynasty temple where needed. Lotfi and his conservation team will continue to clean the star-painted ceilings in the sanctuary chambers and will extend the cleaning and infilling into the bark sanctuary and ambulatory. The epigraphy, conservation, and restoration work at the Medinet Habu small Amun temple has been funded by a grant from USAID through the Egyptian Antiquities Project (EAP) and the American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE); the conservation and restoration work will eventually be published in the EAP publication series. I have just received word that this grant has been extended for another two years, and the extension will cover the epigraphic recording as well as the conservation and restoration work.

I should point out that in their free time the whole Medinet Habu conservation team — Lotfi, Adel, and Nahed — cleaned and restored three extraordinary statues for the new extension of the Luxor Museum, which opened in April 2004: Thutmose III, in granodiorite; Sety I, in calcite; and Ramesses III, in greywacke. Congratulations to them all for their remarkable achievement(s).

## Luxor Temple

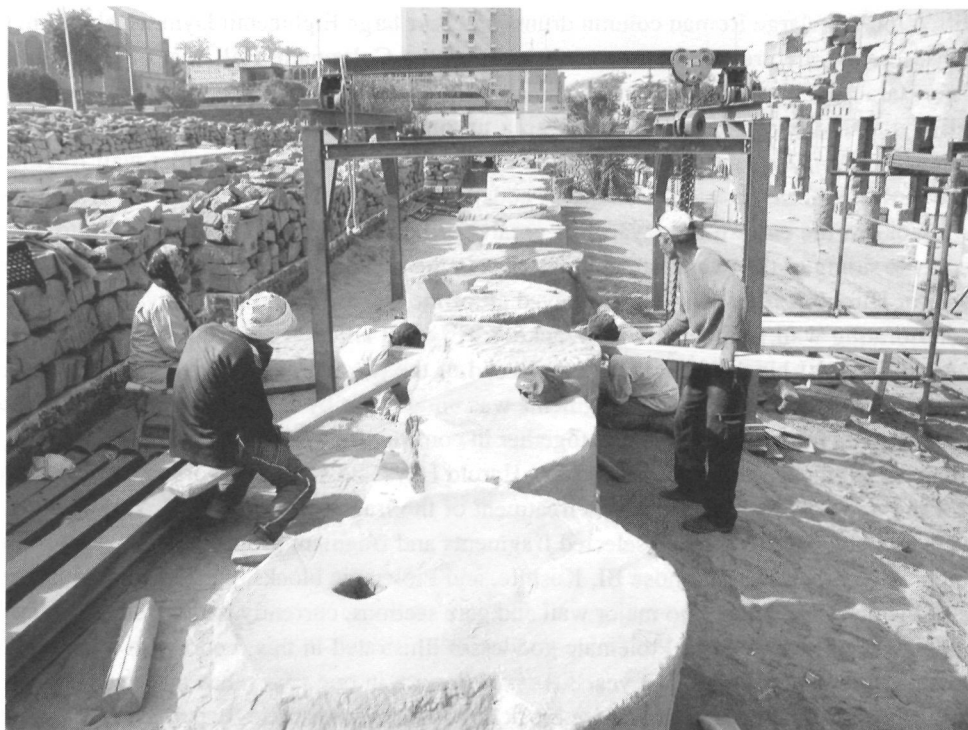
This season marked the first year of a new, two year World Monuments Fund (WMF) and "Robert W. Wilson Challenge for Conserving Our Heritage" matching grant awarded to the Epigraphic Survey for work at Luxor Temple. With this assistance we continued our protective measures in the Luxor Temple blockyard and constructed 265 m of new, damp-coursed mastaba platforms in the northern, western, and southern blockyard storage areas. Dany and our work-

men lifted fourteen large Roman column drums and four large Eighteenth Dynasty blocks in the western, Roman gate area; three large blocks from the Colonnade Hall east of the hall; and thirty-five large Kushite column drum sections, thirty-one large Amenhotep III blocks, and three miscellaneous blocks from the southern area up onto the new protected platforms. Emily Napolitano, Jamie Riley and I supervised the moving of the last of the smaller wall fragments onto the new mastabas. Sailcloth siding was added to the aluminum framing of the five “hospital” mastabas in the eastern blockyard for greater protection, and sailcloth flaps secured with velcro to the siding of the two treatment mastabas in the main blockyard for easier access. Stone conservator Hiroko Kariya condition-surveyed all of the fragments in the blockyard, and treated 117 deteriorating wall fragments with Wacker-OH (ethyl silicate), as well as sections of two large Amenhotep III blocks from the southern end of the precinct. Digital recording and monitoring of 347 severely deteriorating fragments was undertaken by Hiroko, assisted by Nan Ray, and a priority list for treatment was put together in consultation with me, based on iconographic importance. Epigrapher and computer wizard Harold Hays and Nan Ray worked on a new database for the tracking, identification, and treatment of the fragmentary material. Yarko and Ellie conducted on-site photography of selected fragments and fragment groups for analysis (343 total), including corpora of Thutmose III, Kushite, and Ptolemaic blocks, partly recorded last season, all of which reassemble into major wall and gate sections, currently under study. You might compare the fragment group of Ptolemaic goddesses illustrated in this report with a photograph of the same group published in last year’s *Annual Report*; in one year it has grown considerably taller! Emily Napolitano helped supervise block moving: she painstakingly painted identification

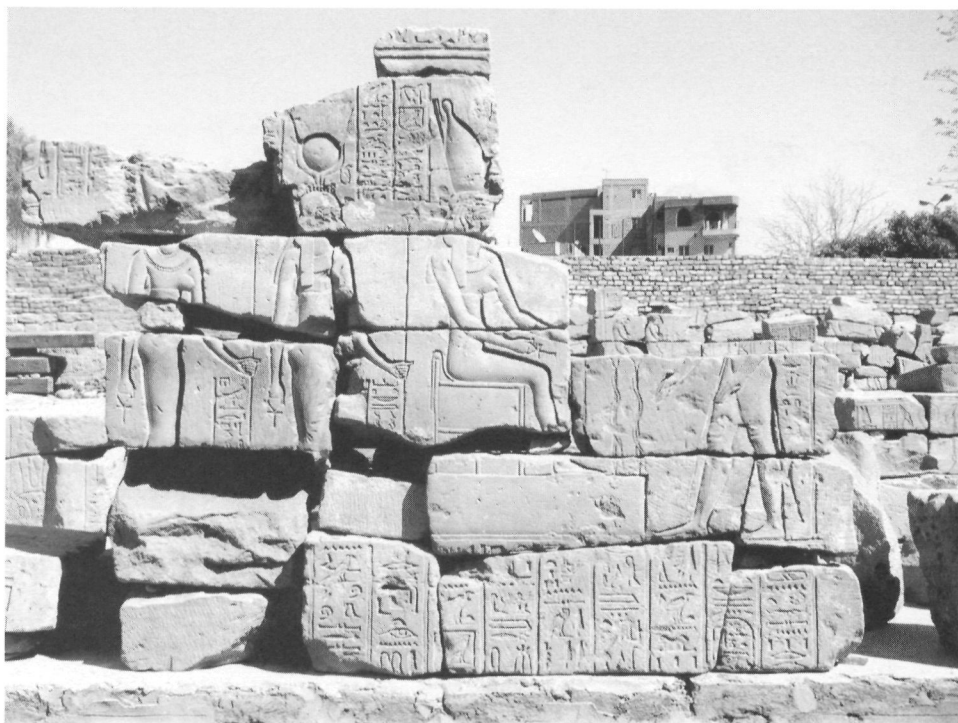


**Installation of aluminum and frosted glass skylight over “dyad room,” small Amun temple, Medinet Habu. Photograph by Ray Johnson**

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*Moving of Kushite column drums onto protected mastaba platforms, east area, Luxor Temple. Photograph by Ray Johnson*



*Reconstructed fragment group of goddesses from the Luxor Temple blockyard, with addition of new text at the bottom. Late Ptolemaic period. Photograph by Ray Johnson*





*Conservator Hiroko Kariya and assistant Nan Ray condition-surveying consolidated sandstone fragments in the treatment tents. Photograph by Ray Johnson*

numbers on each fragment as it was photographed, and created maps of all of the numbered fragment mastaba platforms in each blockyard area for tracking and monitoring purposes.

In February conservator John Stewart, who has worked on the fragment project since the 1980s, spent a week consulting with us on future program strategy. In mid-February Structural Engineer Conor Power returned to continue his structural condition study of Luxor Temple, part of our WMF supported program. Three plumb bobs set up along the southern flank of the eastern pylon and several crack monitors up above showed no discernible signs of movement, which indicates that the monument is stable. Thanks to WMF support we made extraordinary progress this season, and it is my great pleasure to report that the majority of the fragmentary inscribed and architectural material around the Luxor Temple precinct is now finally off the ground and protected. We have much still to do, but we have made great progress in our short-and long-term preservation goals.

### **Khonsu Temple Volume 3**

In early April we were delighted to receive the first copies of Helen Jacquet-Gordon's *Temple of Khonsu, Volume 3: The Graffiti on the Khonsu Temple Roof at Karnak: A Manifestation of Personal Piety* (Oriental Institute Publication 123). This volume documents over 350 graffiti found on the rooftop of Khonsu Temple at Karnak, painstakingly recorded and analyzed by Helen over many decades. Now a whole category of Egyptian priests, who had few or no other monuments, take their place in immortality among their more illustrious peers. They would be very, very pleased. Our warmest congratulations are extended to Helen and the Oriental Institute Publica-

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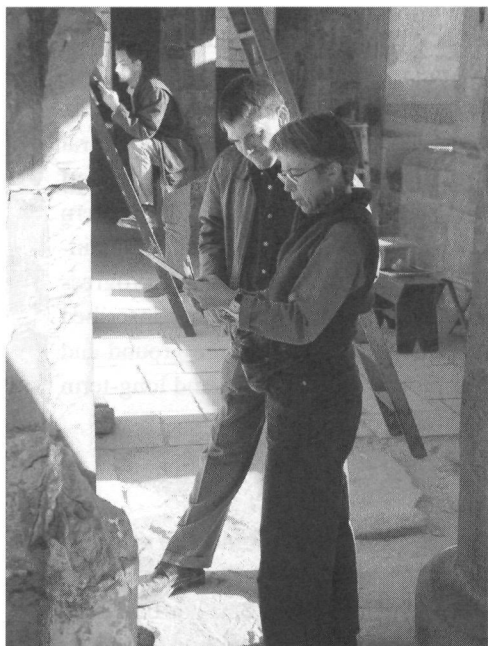
tions Office. This publication was generously underwritten by the Getty Grant Program of the J. Paul Getty Trust.

When not reading over proofs of Khonsu III this winter, Helen continued preparing her next publication, that of the pottery remains she and husband Jean excavated in the Thutmose I Treasury at Karnak North, which she will publish in three fascicles. Jean Jacquet continued to prepare the publication of three sites excavated by the late Serge Sauneron in the 1960s, the first a fortified C-Group village near Wadi es-Sebua, now covered by the waters of Lake Nasser; the second an unpublished church associated with the hermitages of Esna West; and the third three additional hermitages at Adaima, 10 km south of Esna. This work will be published by the French Archaeological Institute in Cairo this fall.

## Chicago House

It is my great pleasure to report that the first version of the Chicago House Photo Archives large-format negative database (FileMaker Pro 6) with thumbnail images of all 17,099 negatives has been finished and a copy turned over to the Oriental Institute Museum Archives. The completion of the database is a major milestone in our Photo Archives preservation program, and follows the transfer to the Oriental Institute last autumn of 242 CD-ROMs containing high resolution scans of the 17,099 large-format negatives housed in the Chicago House Photo Archives. It is a great relief to have this priceless data here at our home base! From now on, all large and some small format negatives produced by Chicago House in Luxor will be physically duped and scanned for transfer home (we have been bringing back to the Oriental Institute duplicate large-format negatives for more than twenty years now). Our ultimate goal is to have hard-copy duplicates of all negatives presently stored at Chicago House back at the Oriental Institute. As time goes by and the monuments continue to deteriorate, the value of these images, frozen in time, is becoming inestimable.

All credit for this accomplishment must go to Chicago House Photo Archivist Sue Lezon, who has painstakingly supervised all aspects of the project since its inception during our 1998/1999 season. Since 1999, she has coordinated the high resolution scanning of our entire large-format negative holdings at the Karnak Franco-Egyptian Center scanning facility (thanks to the kindness of its director, Dr. François Larché), and she personally examined each image after scanning for quality control (negative reversal, etc.) and optimizing. She produced all 242 CDs of the 17,099 high-resolution scanned images, and coordinated the transfer of one set of them to the Oriental Institute Museum Archives last fall, a major goal in our backup program. For the last year, she and Ellie Smith have been tweaking the database (originally produced by Jason Ur and John Sanders) with Harold Hays and producing low-resolution thumbnails of all the scanned images for inclusion in the database. Most of the data entering has been done by our tireless Photo Archives



*Epigraphers Brett McClain and Harold Hays and artist Sue Osgood conferring at the wall, small Amun temple, Medinet Habu. Photograph by Ray Johnson*

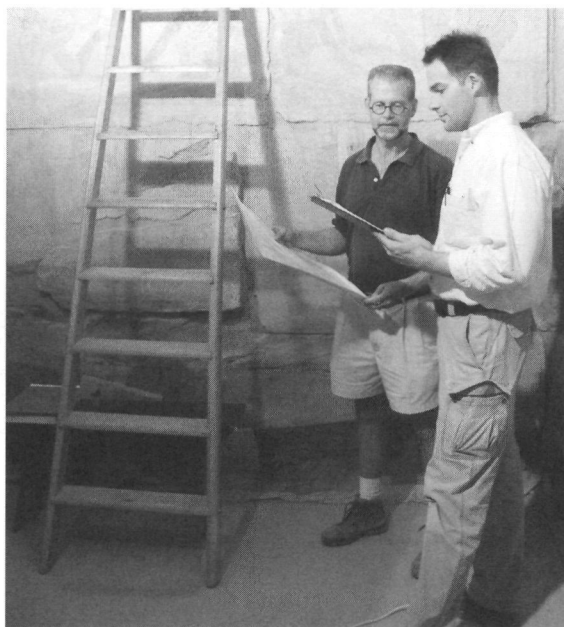
assistant Ellie Smith. Sincerest congratulations to all involved, past and present, for this far-reaching achievement.

This season staff photographer Yarko Kobylecky assisted by Ellie produced and processed 471 large-format photographs at Medinet Habu and Luxor Temple; thirty-one rolls of 35 mm film (color and black & white); fifteen rolls of slide film; and forty-five color transparencies of the cleaned wall surfaces of the Medinet Habu small Amun temple. Harold Hays helped Sue and Ellie create several new databases for some of the smaller collections housed in the Chicago House Photo Archives, including the Labib Habachi photographic archives (for which Ellie made 7,050 small-format entries, and 470 large-format entries this season), and the Special Collection of glass plate negatives Chicago House purchased in 1989 (796 entries).

In addition to supervising the smooth running and maintenance of the Chicago House library and patiently assisting library patrons, epigrapher/librarian Jen Kimpton designed a new database for the library, also using FileMakerPro. This database now allows her to record and track book orders, donations, and acquisitions and is also a big help in the accessioning process. During the course of the season, Jen accessioned 290 new additions to the library, with forty-six of those items representing gifts. When she was not working in the blockyard, assistant to the director Emily Napolitano gave eleven library talks for interested patrons and groups, managed the front office and house, coordinated food and supply purchases throughout the season, worked with the kitchen staff daily planning menus, and helped coordinate special events (holidays, visits of the United States Ambassador and family, etc.). Finance manager Safi Ouri, assisted by accountant Marlin Sarwat Nassim, kept us to budget in these hard financial times and really made our dollar go far! Safi and Marlin may be behind the scenes, but they are the very backbone of our operation; particular thanks must go to Safi for her budgeting skills at this critical time. Special thanks must also go to Tina Di Cerbo, who comes several weeks early each season to open and clean the house, and who stays several weeks after the season's end to close and pack up the facility for the summer.

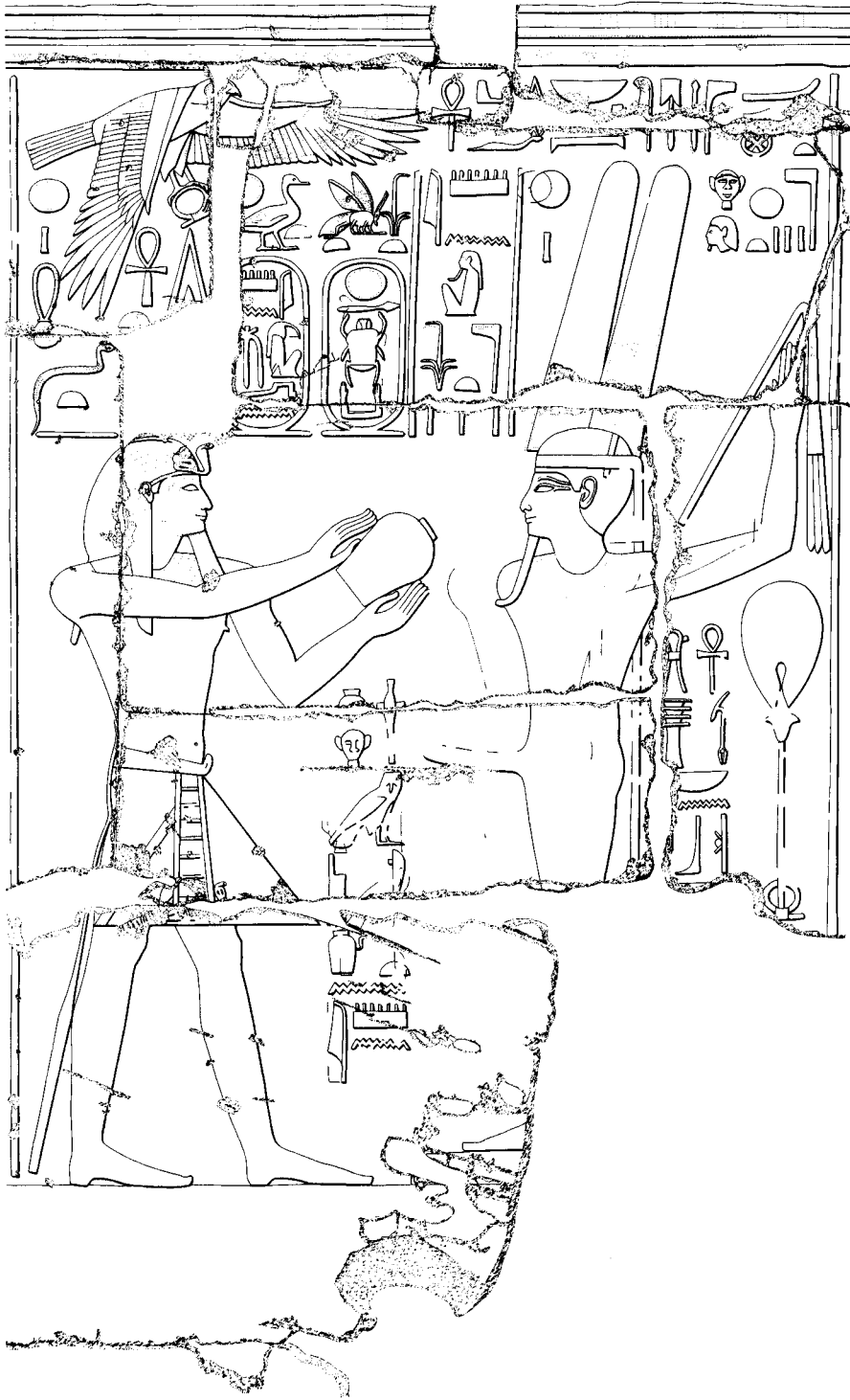
In January we had the pleasure of the company of Oriental Institute Director Gil J. Stein, wife Elise, and daughters Abbie and Hannah, who spent a pleasant week with us on a review tour of the Institute's work in Egypt. While they were with us, Chicago House hosted a dinner in their honor to which we invited our SCA friends, colleagues, and foreign archaeological missions in Luxor.

The professional staff this season, besides the field director, consisted of J. Brett McClain, Harold Hays, Randy Shonkwiler, and Jen Kimpton as epigraphers; Richard Jasnow as epigraphy consultant; Christina Di Cerbo, Margaret De Jong, and Susan Osgood as artists; Yarko Kobylecky as staff photographer; Susan Lezon as photo archivist and photographer; Elinor Smith as photo archives and photography assistant; Emily Napolitano as assistant to the director, office manager, and blockyard as-



*Ray and Brett reviewing a drawing in the King's Chamber, small Amun temple, Medinet Habu. Photograph by Margaret De Jong*

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*Facsimile drawing of Thutmose I (originally Hatshepsut) offering a nemset jar to the ithyphallic Amun, southern "vestibule," small Amun temple, Medinet Habu. This will be published in the first volume of the small Amun Temple series. Photograph by Yarko Kobylecky, drawing by Jay Heidel, Ray Johnson, and Sue Osgood*



*Chicago House professional staff, 2003/2004 season. Our faithful guard dog Nikon, at far left, passed away this spring after fourteen years with us. We will miss him. Photograph by Yarko Kobylecky*

sistant; Carlotta Maher as assistant to the director; Jamie Riley as blockyard supervisor; Safinaz Ouri as finance manager; Marlin Sarwat Nassim as accountant; Jen Kimpton as librarian; Dany Roy as stonecutter; Lotfi Hassan, Adel Aziz Andraws, and Nahed Samir as conservators at Medinet Habu; and Hiroko Kariya and John Stewart as conservators at Luxor Temple. Nan Ray worked as assistant to Hiroko Kariya on tracking and database management; Conor Power worked as structural engineer; Helen Jacquet-Gordon and Jean Jacquet continued to work and consult with us in the library and photo archives; and Girgis Samwell worked with us as chief engineer.

To the Supreme Council of Antiquities we owe a special debt of thanks for a particularly productive collaboration this season: especially to Dr. Zahi Hawass, Secretary General of the SCA; Dr. Magdy El-Ghandour, General Director of Foreign Missions; Dr. Sabry Abdel Aziz, General Director of Antiquities for Upper and Lower Egypt; Dr. Mohamed Abdel Fattah Abdel Ghani, Director General of Upper Egypt; Dr. Holeil Ghaly, General Director of Luxor and Southern Upper Egypt; Dr. Ali Asfar, General Director for the West Bank of Luxor; Dr. Mohamed Assem, Director of Karnak/Luxor Temples; Mr. Ibrahim Suleiman, Director of Karnak Temple; Mme. Nawal, Chief Inspector of Luxor Temple; and Mme. Sanaa, Director of the Luxor Museum. Sincerest thanks must go to our inspectors over the course of our six-month field season; at Medinet Habu: Abdel Naser Mohamed Ahmad Saad, Imad Abdullah Abdul Ghany, and Mohamed Khalil Mohamed; and at Luxor Temple: Mme. Sanaa Yousef El Taher, Mme. Manal Mohamed El-Sayed, and Mme. Wafaa Guma Amin. It has been a great pleasure working with them all.

At this time I would like to express my sincerest thanks once again to the many friends of the Oriental Institute whose support has allowed the Epigraphic Survey to continue its vital docu-

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mentation and conservation work in Luxor. Special thanks must go to the American Ambassador to Egypt, the Honorable David Welch, and Gretchen Welch; the former Ambassador to Egypt, the Honorable Daniel Charles Kurtzer, and Sheila Kurtzer; Elizabeth Thornhill, Cultural Affairs Officer of the United States Embassy; Ken Ellis, Director of the United States Agency for International Development in Egypt; Exa Snow; Ahmed Ezz, EZZ Group, Cairo; David and Carlotta Maher; David and Nan Ray; Mark Rudkin; Dr. Barbara Mertz; Daniel Lindley and Lucia Woods Lindley; Dr. Marjorie M. Fisher; Eric and Andrea Colombel; Piers Litherland; Dr. Fred Giles; Marjorie B. Kiewit; Nancy LaSalle; Tom and Linda Heagy; Donald Oster; Dr. William Kelly Simpson; Kelly and Di Grodzins; Dr. Ben Harer; Dr. Roxie Walker; Louis Byron Jr.; Dr. Gerry Scott, Kathleen Scott, Mary Sadek, Amir Abdel Hamid, and Amira Khattab of the American Research Center in Egypt; Dr. Chip Vincent, Dr. Jarek Dobrolowski, Cynthia Scharzter, and Janie Abdul-Aziz of the Egyptian Antiquities Project; Dr. Michael Jones of the Antiquities Development Project; and all of our friends back home at the Oriental Institute. I must also express special gratitude to British Petroleum, the Getty Grant Program of the J. Paul Getty Trust, LaSalle National Bank, Mobil Oil, and the World Monuments Fund for their invaluable support. Sincerest thanks to all.

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## **GIZA PLATEAU MAPPING PROJECT**

**Mark Lehner**

From January 8 to May 31, 2004, we carried out two kinds of excavation at the site of a large Old Kingdom settlement 400 m southeast of the Sphinx and south the colossal stone Wall of the Crow. We cleared large volumes of overburden consisting of sand and material dumped in modern times. Underneath we exposed and mapped more of the compact surface of the ancient settlement ruins. We also carried out detailed excavations and intensive sampling of material culture in selected small areas (fig. 1).

We focused our large-scale clearing north of the Wall of the Crow and east, west, north, and south of the Abu Hol Sports Club in the southeastern part of the site (fig. 2). The most remarkable discovery of this season was a vast, unknown section of the ancient city, the Western Town, which covers more than a hectare.

In this report I review the work of our 2004 season, beginning north of the Wall of the Crow. I summarize our detailed excavations, moving south across parts of the site that we had cleared in earlier seasons. I then describe areas of the settlement newly exposed this season, from east, north, and finally west of the sports club.

### **North of the Wall of the Crow**

This season we worked north of the Wall of the Crow in salvage mode with some urgency because of imminent plans for the construction of a cement and steel corridor from the modern town to the modern Muslim and Coptic cemeteries that have spread north and south at the west end of the Wall of the Crow. The corridor was to be part of the new high security walls around

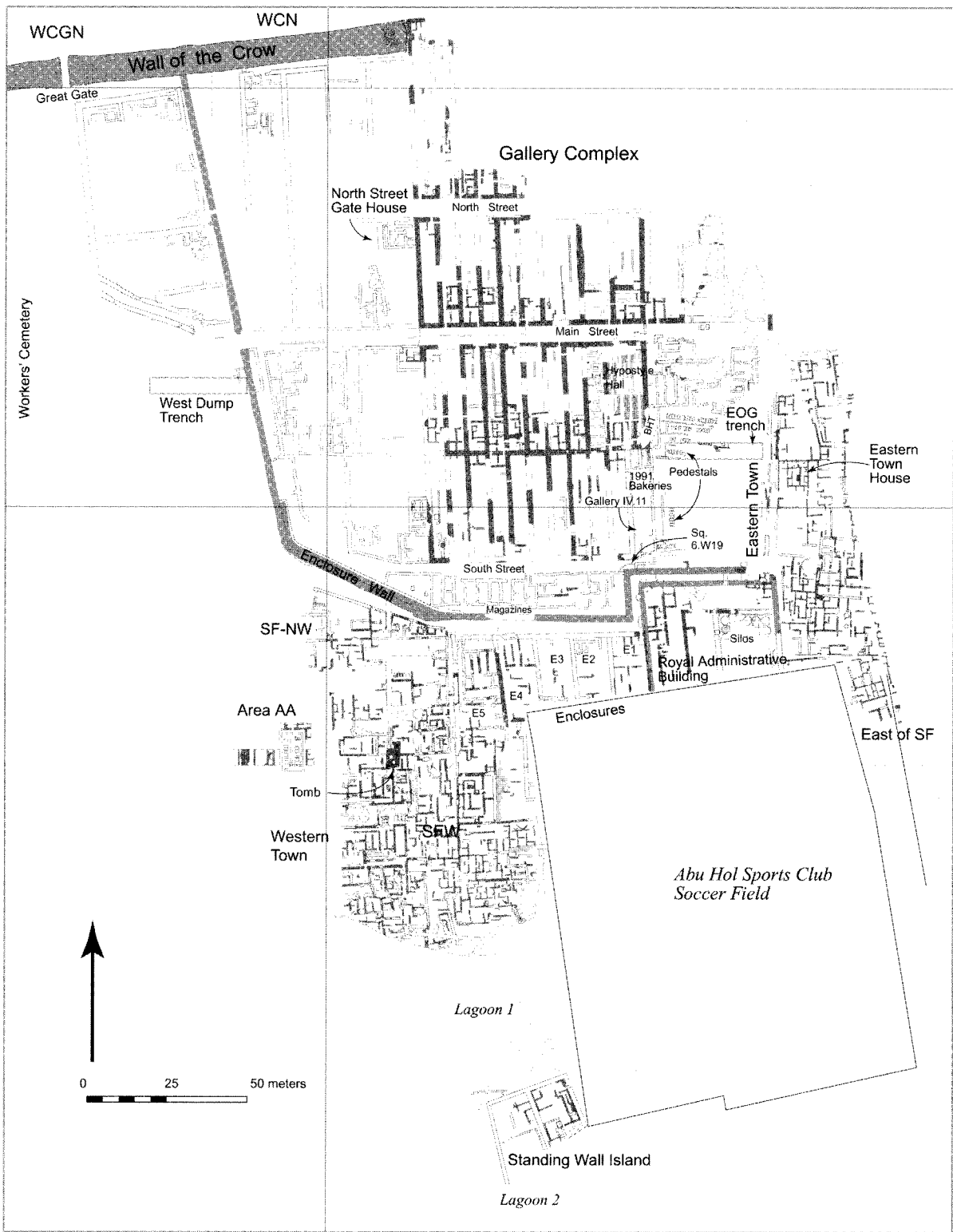


Figure 1. Map of the site after 2004 fieldwork

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Giza and around the modern cemeteries. We worked in part to help the authorities determine where to place the corridor.

When we began the whole area between the Wall of the Crow and a cement wall on the south side of the visitor bus parking lot was filled with modern trash and sandy material dumped from excavations of the early twentieth century in the Sphinx area. We removed the parking lot wall and cleared a 40 m wide strip to a depth of around 5–6 m, down to a clean sand layer. Our clearing extended over a length of 105 m from the east end of the Wall of the Crow west to the Great Gate in the wall and encompassed a total of more than 22,000 cubic m of material.

To reach the Old Kingdom level below the clean windblown sand layer, we first excavated an 11 m wide trench, 50 m west of the east end of the wall (or 45 m east of the wall's gate) running from the base of the Wall of the Crow for 24 m north (WCN). We exposed a very compact surface that slopes down gently to the north. The material is similar to the marly limestone debris banked against the south side of the Wall of the Crow (WCS) that we cleared and partially excavated in 2001. The builders apparently left the bank against the south side of the wall to reinforce its already stout 1:1 ratio of base width to height (10 m wide and 10 m high).

The compact surface is 1.8 m lower against the north side of the wall than on the south. However, the surface slopes up dramatically to a mound near the east end of the north side of the Wall of the Crow. The slope and mound may be the remains of a construction ramp, possibly with internal retaining walls to hold the debris. We exposed the east face of "Masons Mound" in 2002 during our work in front of the east end of the wall. We thought we might see cross walls of broken stone within the sloped surface of the debris. This season we exposed a band of material, 11 m long and 2 m wide embedded in the compact masons' debris at the top of the wall. The material might fill a narrow corridor between the Wall of the Crow and a parallel retaining wall. Down the slope we found the top of a fieldstone retaining wall, 1.5 m wide, running parallel to and 1.8 m north of the Wall of the Crow in the WCN trench. This wall might run all the way to the top of the mound and be part of the ramp.

We eventually cleared the clean sand layer off the compact surface from the mound down to the WCN trench. We left the clean sand layer over most of the area north of the wall. However, given our results in the excavation north of the Great Gate (see below) we can say that the compact surface of a stony debris layer continues all the way to this opening in the wall.

### North of the Great Gate in the Wall of the Crow

We cleared an irregularly shaped area starting 10 m north of the great gate (fig. 3). We were told at this point in our work that the new corridor was to turn north toward the Muslim cemetery and south to allow passage to the Coptic cemetery south of the gate. We cleared through 6 to 7 m of trash dumped in recent years, old excavation dumps, and then a thick layer of clean windblown sand (with occasional New Kingdom pottery sherds) such as we found over much of the area north of the Wall of the Crow. A team under Adel Kelany exposed a thumb-shaped patch of ancient surface 17.50 m north–south on the west side, 15 m north–south on the east side, and about 13.20 m east–west across the base of the "thumb" (fig. 2).

The Old Kingdom surface is relatively flat, compact, and practically cemented, apparently from wetting and drying. No evidence of a roadway, as we saw in a 5 × 5 m square just north of the gate during our 2001 season, was observed. The only structural feature was a double line of thin, worn bricks northeast of the gate and oriented roughly northeast–southwest in the direction of the gate. These appear to be the meager residue of a structure that may have been washed away. The whole surrounding surface was very wet at one time, if not repeatedly so. About





**Figure 2.** Looking east-southeast over the site. Work on the north and west sides of the Abu Hol Sports Club (behind fence on the right) can be seen in the fore- and mid-ground. On the left are the double walls of the Royal Administrative Building (RAB) and on the right, the Western Town. In the background, behind the security wall, urban sprawl extends from Khafre Gebel to the high rises of Maadi on the east bank of the Nile

twenty-eight prints of large and small hoofs — possibly cattle, donkeys, and goats — located randomly in the Old Kingdom surface testified that it had been wet at one time.

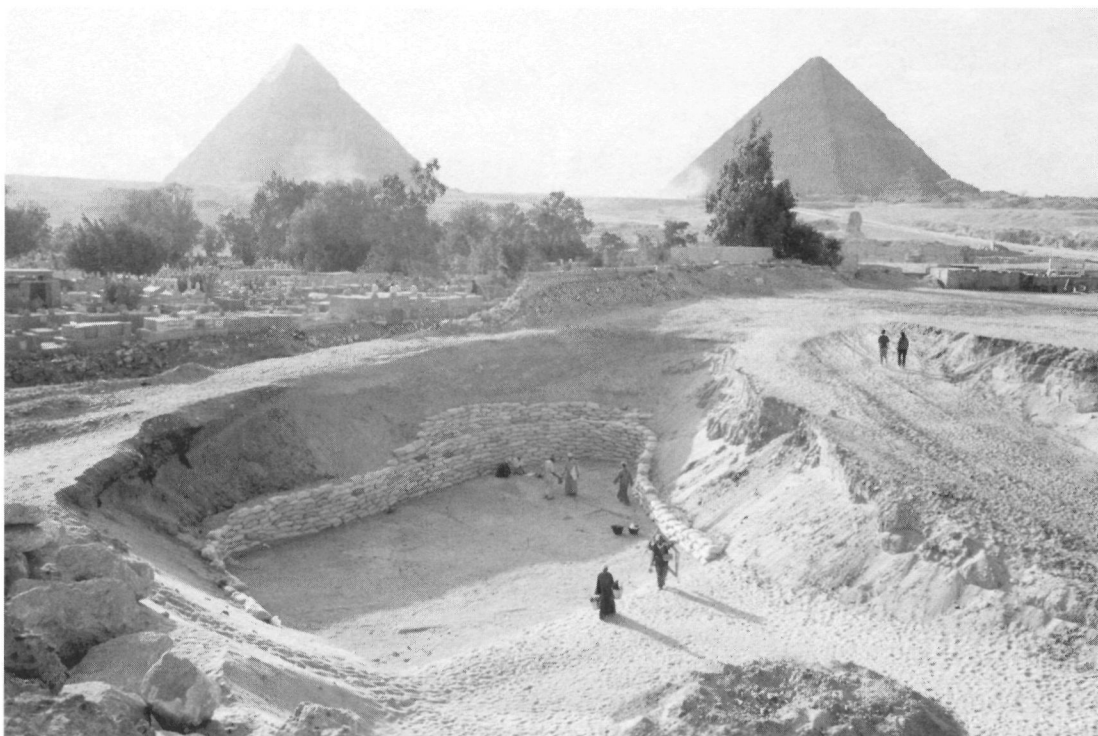
We tested below the Old Kingdom surface with four test trenches and found few cultural remains. Kelany’s team excavated Trench A down to the water table at 14.56 m above sea level through layers of fine to coarse gravelly sands and marl clay interspersed with lenses of coarser gravelly sand. A series of large limestone fragments lay in the lowest layer of coarse sand.

Water and wind appear to have distributed and sorted the material in the strata under the compact stony debris north of the Wall of the Crow, as opposed to the thick cultural layers extending far and wide south of the wall. The stony “masons’ debris,” such as we saw in Trench WCN and Masons Mound to the east, is the only cultural layer. The surface of this layer also appears to have been washed by water, possibly floods washing out of the central wadi between the Mokkatam and Maadi limestone formations. The Wall of the Crow extends from the southern side of the mouth of the wadi, which one enters passing through the Great Gate from south to north.

The scarcity of cultural material north of the Wall of the Crow indicates that either the inhabitants avoided the area because of flash floods or that floodwater and wind eroded away settlement remains that had once been there. We suggested several years ago that the inhabitants built the Wall of the Crow to protect the site from wadi floods. Perhaps this is why we find extensive, dense, and thick settlement remains, including intact architecture, on the wall’s southern side.

After our work this season, it was agreed that the cement corridor to the modern cemeteries would be placed below the level of the bus parking lot at the very far edge of our clearing. About 35 m north of the Wall of the Crow, this location would help keep present-day activities as far

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*Figure 3. The clearing operation north of the Wall of the Crow Gate (WCGN), looking from the top of the wall to the northwest*

away as possible from the huge megalithic structure, an important architectural element of the Giza Necropolis.

### North Street Gate House

Ann Foster continued excavations that Mohsen Kamal began in 2001/2002 in the North Street Gate House (NSGH), so called because it is adjacent to the western opening of North Street into the Gallery Complex.

In this area of the site, people cut many burials during the Late Period, which had to be cleared before we could excavate the Old Kingdom layers. Osteo-archaeologists Jessica Kaiser, Johnny Karlsson, and Tove Björk excavated forty-six Late Period burials that stood in our path. Forty-three had human remains which included both sexes and ranged in age from children to adults. Apart from occasional coffin fragments, few burial objects were found with the skeletons. The exceptions were amulets with some of the children and pottery with two of the adult burials. One child burial also included a cache of cowry shells and a large sacred eye amulet. In addition, the remains of a faience bead net dress accompanied the skeletal remains of a young woman 12 to 16 years old. Orientation of the burials was primarily east–west with some minor variation from the true axis.

After the osteo-team removed the burials, Foster’s excavations clarified the layout of NSGH (fig. 4). The gate house is bounded by three thick walls: the south wall of North Street, the west wall of Gallery Set II, and a wall that separates the house from a corridor on the west running from North Street to the south beyond the limits of this season’s excavations. The entrance to the house is a narrow doorway in the northeast corner opening from North Street. The overall plan

appears to be a core domestic unit of a vestibule, two large rooms, and possibly a small chamber for sleeping. During one period of occupation one of the large rooms was an open-air bakery, evidenced by trenches with traces of sockets for bread pots and a crude stony platform where the bakers probably stack-heated pots. Two large shallow pits in the southwest corner were most likely vat emplacements. Two magazines occupy the north and west sides of the house. The inhabitants appear to have also used an access corridor on the north for storage.

Some time ago we proposed that this was a high status residence, based on the floral and faunal remains that included more “costly” foods than found elsewhere on the site. Now we must reassess this hypothesis in light of the fact that a hot, smoky bakery stood right in the middle of the compound.

In the North Street Gate House we found many ceramic vessels and parts of vessels in the magazines and corridor. A deep deposit of superimposed layers of pottery in the long, narrow western magazine may have been crushed when shelves collapsed. Foster noted that the deposit was “primarily composed of large fragments of nearly intact storage jars and associated contents, most commonly fish bones.” We also found fine red “Medium ware” bowls, a jar stand, bread molds, and a beer jar *in situ* on the floor. Storage jars and bread molds rested in place against the north wall of the northern corridor.

### West Dump and Enclosure Wall

Since the beginning of our excavations in 1988/89, we have seen indications that the ancient inhabitants of the site might have dumped waste on the slopes west of the Enclosure Wall near the West Gate where Main Street exits the complex. The lower sections of the Workers’ Cemetery,



**Figure 4.** North Street Gate House (NSGH) after 2004 excavations. View to the northeast with the southwest corner in the foreground

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currently being excavated by a team under Dr. Zahi Hawass, appear to sit upon part of this dump. While excavating a tomb, Hawass's archaeologists broke through the dump layers in one spot and immediately turned up copper bits, flint blades, and quantities of pottery.

Excavations in these dumps could give us information about everyday life within the galleries and ascertain the stratigraphic relationships between the Workers' Cemetery and the Workers' City on the low desert below. For these reasons, Lauren Bruning and Adel Kelany excavated a 37 m long trench (WD) in the dumps from the wall westward up the slope leading to the cemetery.

As it turned out, the dump was shallower than we expected. Modern digging and Late Period burials severely pitted and turned over the Old Kingdom deposits at the top of the slope, leaving interspersed sandy layers. The Old Kingdom material included a copper crucible and pottery with copper adhering. The trash layers rest upon a deposit of concentrated limestone chips. Within this mass we could discern one of the crude pedestals of the kind so ubiquitous in the area east of the Gallery Complex, EOG (see below), and in the building we excavated in area AA in 1988/89. It is odd that pedestals should occur here at the break of the western slope and their presence calls for further research. But to expose more of this layer we would have had to excavate at least nine more Late Period burials sunk into the dump and underlying stony layer. Given our limitations of time and personnel we decided not to excavate the pedestals in favor of other priorities.

The lower east end of the trench gave us stratigraphic information about the Enclosure Wall. In a deep probe in the trench near the wall, we found part of an older fieldstone wall 1.45 m wide with a gate or doorway. The older wall is 2.15 m west of, and just a little lower than, the bottom of the Enclosure Wall. Clean sand separated this wall from higher layers, with limestone fragments, marl brick debris, frequent pottery sherds, animal bones, charcoal, and some chipped flint that ran under the Enclosure Wall. The builders founded this wall at elevation 16.64 m above sea level upon successive layers of limestone rubble and crushed limestone. The layer on which the wall stands stretches 7 m to the west, but no obvious street or roadbed was observed. The inhabitants next left a sequence of layers rich in pottery sherds and other material that abutted against the Enclosure Wall. The material between the wall and the slope appear to have been washed or soaked by water.

Kelany excavated the deep probe to the water table at elevation 14.66 m above sea level, 10 cm deeper than the groundwater in Lagoon 1, a great depression alongside the soccer field (see below), and 10 cm higher than the water table in Trench A in the operation north of the Wall of the Crow Gate.

### East of the Galleries

The inhabitants of our site used a large rectangular area east of the Gallery Complex (EOG) for industry and dumping waste. The rectangle lies between Main Street and the Royal Building (about 75 m north-south) and between the Gallery Complex and the Eastern Town (35 m east-west). Across this zone the inhabitants constructed a series of fieldstone pedestals for a variety of purposes. The pedestals, about 50 or 60 cm wide and more than 1 m long, are laid out in sets of two rows with a thin wall or line of fieldstones running down the center aisle.

We first encountered pedestals in area AA during 1988/89. Remarkably well preserved, they still retained marl clay plaster on the sides. One even had a marl-plastered top. Gray alluvial clay marked where single brick partitions divided the top of the pedestal in quadrants. It appears that small bins or compartments stood upon the pedestals, not directly, but straddling the spaces be-



**Figure 5.** View of the site looking to the northwest from the Eastern Town. The excavation squares in the operation East of the Galleries (EOG) trench can be seen just beyond the Eastern Town House in the foreground. The Wall of the Crow and the Khafre and Khufu pyramids can be seen in the background

tween the pedestals. As with storage platforms from elsewhere in the ancient world, the aim apparently was to have air circulate below the compartments, while keeping the stored material high and dry. Small stones and sherds filled the little trenches running continuously at floor level along the bases of the pedestals in AA. This may have been to facilitate drainage.

As far as we have cleared in the southern EOG we have found four rows of the peculiar pedestals, the longest run being twelve pedestals in squares. But a large part of EOG remains untouched where, until this season, we had located our camp and access road. Since we have yet to scrape and map this area, there are likely more pedestals in southern EOG.

This season we carried out two operations in EOG. The first was near the remnants of Egypt's oldest known faience workplace, which happened to escape the teeth of the modern backhoe that gouged a trench (BHT). We first cleared the faience-working spot during 2001 at the bottom of the trench. The older architectural phase that includes the faience-working material extends under the Hypostyle Hall on the west and under the bread mold dumps of EOG on the east. This season Angela Milward-Jones and Brian Hunt supervised excavations at the eastern edge of the backhoe trench to expose more of the older phase of settlement. They exposed a slightly mounded deposit of pinkish slag-like material similar to material that University of Pennsylvania excavators found in faience-working hearths at Abydos. Is it related to the patches of a faience-working area that we salvaged from the backhoe trench lower down? A bit of the same kind of material occurs in the floor where we found the faience material at the bottom of the backhoe trench. As it turned out, the team did not excavate into the pinkish material of the lower phase. So the question of whether this material relates to faience working nearby must remain to be answered in a subsequent season.

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*Figure 6. Excavations in the Eastern Town House, looking toward the north*

Ashraf Abd al-Aziz supervised the second operation in EOG, excavations along a transect from Gallery Set IV and the 1991 bakeries to the Eastern Town (fig. 5). The goal was to understand the stratigraphic connections between these two areas. We excavated alternating squares to the east, linking up in square 4.D28 with the Eastern Town House excavations of Dan Hounsel and Emma Hancox (see below).

Abd al-Aziz's excavators first removed very compact silty sand from the surface, the result of Nile inundation waters reaching this part of the site, possibly as recently as the early twentieth century A.D. Repeated saturation with Nile floodwaters compressed, compacted, and homogenized this gray mud with concentrations of fragmented pottery. This cemented "settlement sludge" increases to the northeast across our site.

Under this layer the team found more fieldstone pedestals and evidence that the curious structures must have served additional functions. A patch of concentrated pigment near one pedestal suggested that it might have been ground on the top of the pedestal surface. Near another there was a cache of animal bone, possibly the remains of livestock butchered on the pedestals. The cache included numerous teeth and other non-meat-bearing bone, which butchers would discard. The pedestals may have been platforms for working as well as storage.

### **The Eastern Town House**

In 2002 we barely ascertained the existence of the Eastern Town before the trench for a new high security wall was dug along the modern road on the eastern edge of our site. This season our goal was to excavate and sample material culture intensively to understand the nature of the habitations, and how life in the Eastern Town differed from that in the galleries. We also hoped to find evidence of the town's life-span. Did people live on here after the royal house had moved away from Giza at the end of Menkaure's reign?

To tackle these questions, we excavated one of the house compounds. Dan Hounsel and Emma Hancox supervised excavations in a 10 × 10 m area (squares 4.BC-29–30) that took in one discrete house complex, which we called it the Eastern Town House (ETH) (figs. 6–7). But

first, the osteo-archaeology team excavated nine burial pits in the eastern side of ETH. Several features suggested that these burials are probably later than the Late Period, possibly from the Roman or Christian periods.

Honsel and Hancox found that the ETH has a core domestic unit measuring  $3.6 \times 5.3$  m. An entrance on the west side opens unto a small vestibule. The main north–south room (B3) has a marl-plastered low bench, remodeled from a small bin. At the far southern end of the main room is a niche with a raised platform. About  $2.1 \times 1.1$  m, it may have been used for sleeping, like the bed platforms found in Old, Middle, and New Kingdom houses. The same pattern of foyer, main room, and sleeping niche is seen in the houses at the south ends of several of the galleries. It is a simple form of the divided-court plan, or “snail house.”

Small courts and chambers for storage and industry surround the core domestic unit. Three courts along the north and two along the east side had small installations. One was filled with dark ash; another had a limestone basin and a small ceramic vat buried to its rim in a floor. A third court held the remains of a mud-lined circle, about 1.10 m in diameter — most likely the bottom of a grain storage silo like the silos we found in other parts of the Eastern Town. In a fourth court a rectangular bin, used perhaps for storage or as a grinding platform, was built into the northeast corner. Another L-shaped series of courts and chambers, some with ashy fill, flanked the west and south sides of the core domestic unit.

### **North and East of the Soccer Field**

This season, we took up the modern asphalt road along the northern end of the eastern side of the Abu Hol Sports Club. This allowed us to clear a corridor 11 m wide and 25 m long between the club and the new high security wall along the eastern side of our site (SFE).

As we found in 2002, the ancient surface slopes down toward the south. Here we uncovered the walls of a house embedded in the surface, measuring  $7 \times 15$  m, with the same features we have seen in other small houses at our site: a foyer, main room, and sleeping niche, with court-yards around. Indeed, the layout was very similar to the house (ETH) we excavated this season in the Eastern Town (see above), but rotated 180 degrees (fig. 8). The house belongs to the southerly continuation of the Eastern Town that we found in 2002.

Just north of the house compound, in the area immediately beyond the northeastern corner of the sports club, we exposed the outlines of more of the Eastern Town, including two round silos, 1.4 and 1.6 m in diameter, with a grinding stone or quern nearby, a corridor or pathway bounded on the north and south by mudbrick walls, and parts of other domestic structures.

### **Royal Administrative Building**

We also removed the modern asphalt road along the entire north side of the sports club. This allowed us to clear to the ancient “mud mass” in a swath 10.0 to 18.5 m wide north to south over a length of 150 m east west.

We gained an additional 15 m north to south of the Royal Administrative Building (RAB) (fig. 9). We found that the east and west walls of the building continue south under the soccer field and saw traces of two more silos, as yet unexcavated, belonging to the series of sunken silos that we excavated in 2002. In the silo court we exposed more of the fieldstone from the surrounding (parapet?) wall that collapsed upon the remains of the silos. Nearly all the fieldstone of

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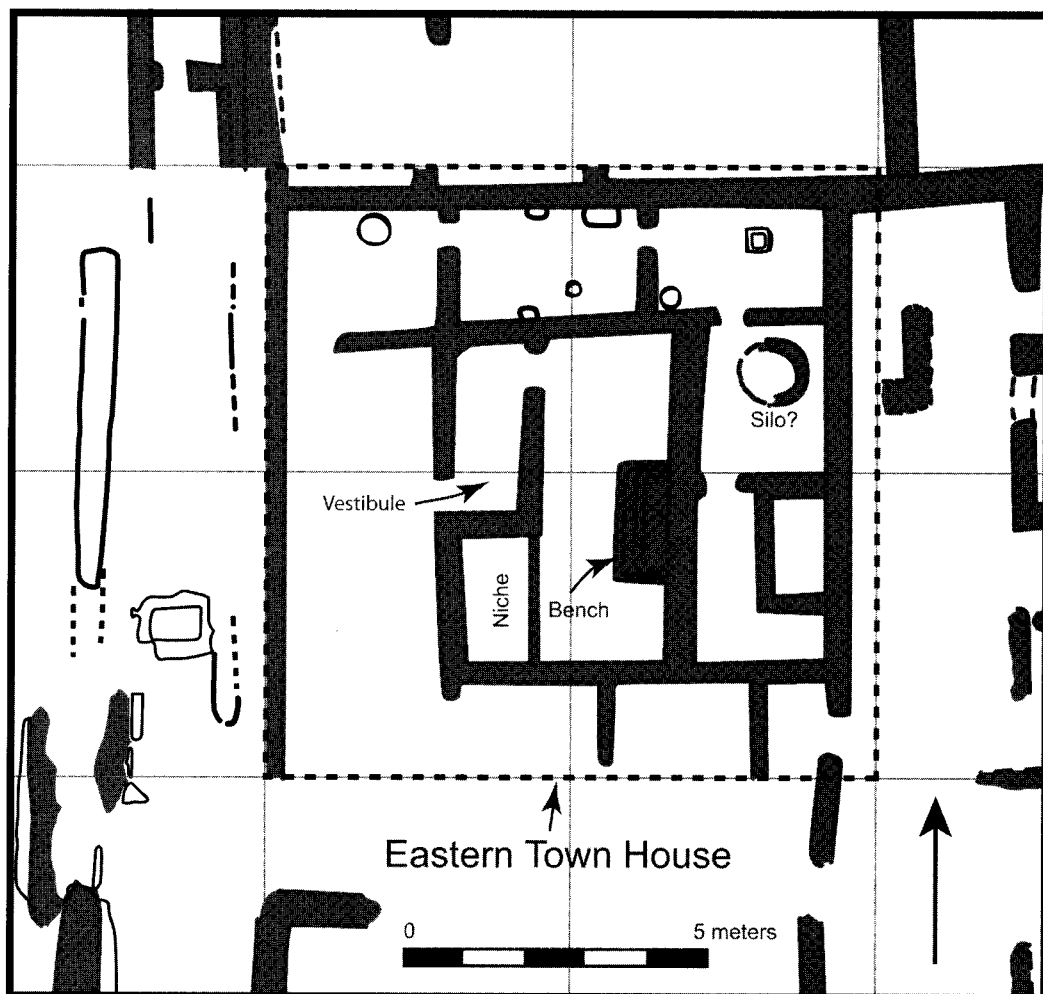


Figure 7. Plan of the Eastern Town House. Stone walls are white, mudbricks are gray

the west wall was gone, leaving only the robbers' trench. Most likely the stone was recycled in the tombs of the Workers' Cemetery (see below).

West of the granary, and just inside the outer west wall of the Royal Building, we could see embedded in the mud-mass walls a southerly continuation of the complex that we excavated in 2002 where we found clay sealings and other evidence of administrative activities.

### Royal Administrative Building, Inside Northwest Corner

Inside the northwest corner of the Royal Administrative Building, Freya Sadarangani, James Taylor, and Hala Said resumed intensive excavations. They found more evidence of royal administration, including the better part of an actual cylinder seal in dark hard ceramic material, incised with a design. More clay sealings came from the excavations in all the rooms and courts, including one that may read, "Great Estate" and "King's Son," and one with Khafre's Horus name.

It is possible that in the later phases in the northwestern corner of the RAB, there were three discrete roofed units, which we provisionally designated as Room 2, 5–6, and 8–9. These units, divided into north and south parts, may have functioned as domiciles. In the southern half of

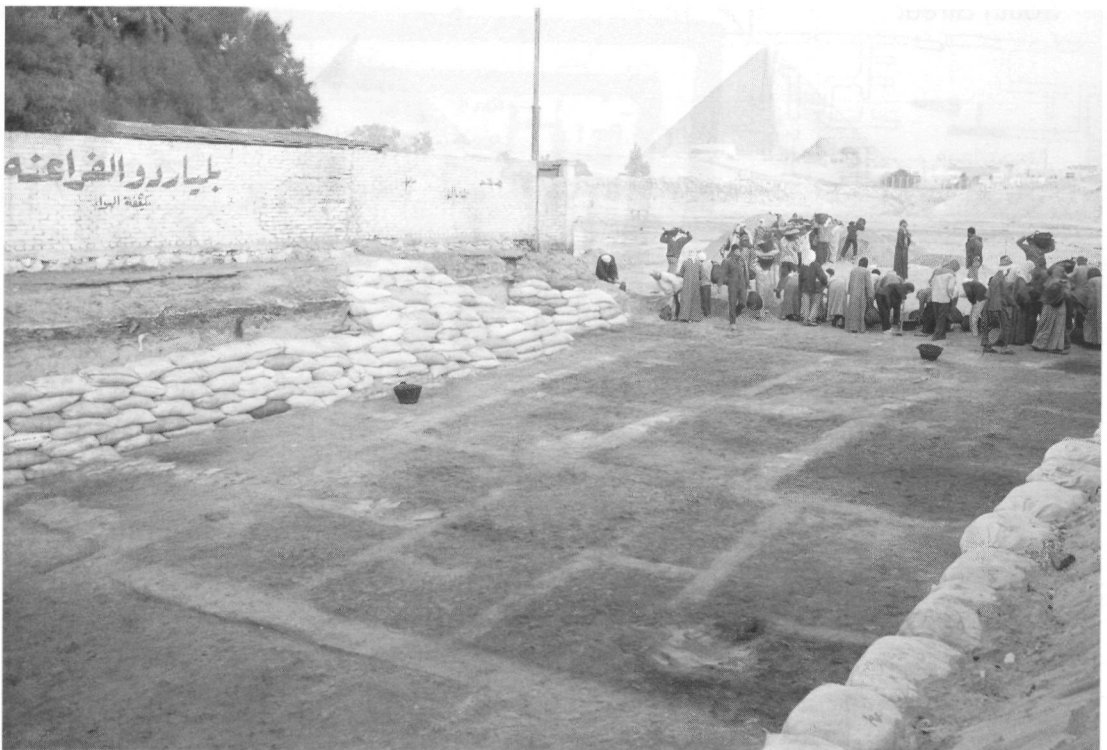


Room 2, located along the western wall of the RAB, we found a small red ware ceramic vat, 42 cm in diameter, sunk into the floor, nearly identical to one in Eastern Town House. In Room 5 two rectangular installations, possibly hearths or fireplaces, occupied the corners just inside the doorway that opens into Room 5 from Room 1, an unroofed court during this phase. These two features may belong to a class of low rectangular, brick installations, used as hearths or bins, that we have found in houses all across the site. A mud-lined circular hole, 43 cm in diameter, in the middle of Room 5 may have been an emplacement for a small vat like that in Room 2 and in the Eastern Town House. In Room 6 a vat, about 42 cm diameter, is set in the lower floor on the west side and in the northwest corner is a rectangular hearth. In a later period the inhabitants constructed a doglegged, two-course mudbrick wall, running east to west, turning the southern end of the room into a kind of platform. On the east side of this platform they made a circular depression, 42 cm in diameter, which might have been for another small vat. On this side they also built another hearth.

The combination of Rooms 8 and 9 may yet be a third roofed unit. A small vat is embedded in the southeastern corner of Room 9.

Doorways open from both Rooms 2 and 5 into the court (Room 1) in the northwestern corner of the RAB. The unit comprised of Rooms 8–9 opens to the court east and north of the sunken court of silos. The courts provided open space and light for various kinds of work.

In an earlier phase a series of three small magazines occupied what became the court (Room 1) in the northwest corner of the RAB. The magazines line up with Room 2 leaving an open space or court (Room F) on the east. Doorways on the east with limestone pivot sockets allowed the inhabitants to open and close the magazines. Various artifacts turned up scattered across the



**Figure 8. A house plan revealing itself in the mud mass of the Soccer Field East (SFE) operation. Looking north-northwest. On the left is the soccer field wall**

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floors of these small magazines, including a spouted vessel, red pigment, fallen plaster, painted red sandstone pieces (perhaps abraders), a saddle quern fragment, yellow ochre, parts of bread baking trays, three cylindrical jar stands, a stone hammer, and a lump of basalt, flint, and a “pillow stone.” The small rectangular pillow stones with rounded corners form a class of artifact with examples from across the site. However, we do not know their function. Excavations elsewhere in the RAB northwest corner revealed that the magazines were part of a broader complex that comprised as many as eleven rooms.

The magazines predate the double fieldstone enclosure walls of the RAB and are probably contemporary with an earlier mudbrick wall capped by the inner fieldstone wall that we found in excavation probes outside the RAB. The thick, double, fieldstone enclosure walls of the Royal Building are later, thrown up around a mudbrick complex that already existed.

### Royal Building, Outside Northwest Corner-Square 6.W19

Square 6.W19 has played a critical role in understanding the relationships between various areas across our site. Here we can connect the stratigraphy of our areas east of the Wall of the Crow

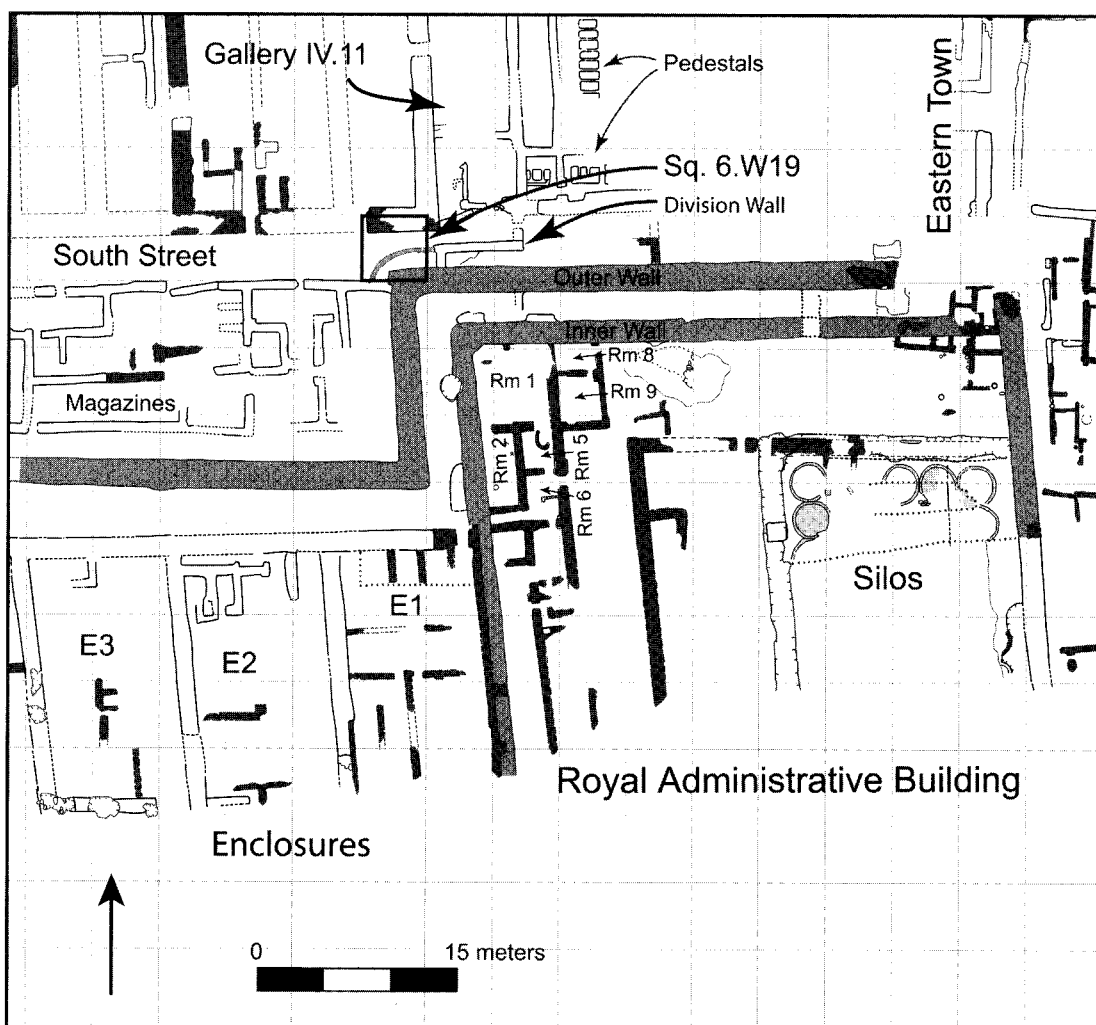


Figure 9. Plan of the Royal Administrative Building (RAB)

(WCE) and south of the Wall of Crow (WCS) with the RAB, the Hypostyle Hall in the Gallery Complex, and beyond. The Enclosure Wall is the connecting link because it runs from the Wall of the Crow around the west and south of the Gallery Complex to join to the RAB.

This season, by exploring the junctures of walls and floors in Square 6.W19 and adjacent areas, Ana Tavares and Astrid Huser unraveled the following stratigraphic history of the RAB and adjacent areas: The inhabitants built the two outer fieldstone walls around an older complex bounded by a mudbrick wall. Some of the early phase structures, like the magazines inside the RAB's northwestern corner, belong to this older layout. Postholes in the courtyard to the west suggest lightweight wood and reed structures. This older complex was built and functioned about the same time as Gallery IV.11. The bakeries that we excavated in 1991 are located in the northern end of this gallery.

Sometime later the inhabitants built both of the RAB outer walls simultaneously. They constructed the inner fieldstone wall as a capping over the earlier mudbrick enclosure wall that bounded the west side of the courtyard with postholes. Subsequently they divided the already narrowed east end of South Street with a thin fieldstone wall, the Division Wall, running east-west, parallel to the north outer wall of the RAB. About the same time, the builders put up the first fieldstone wall of the South Street Magazines to the west. Later, they added the curved mudbrick wall connecting the magazines and the Division Wall. The resulting bottleneck passage constricted the eastern end of South Street to less than 1 m, perhaps to limit movement through the complex.

In the final building stage the inhabitants erected a fieldstone structure just north of the RAB that includes small fieldstone pedestals similar to those east of the galleries (see above).

### **The Enclosures**

A series of five enclosures (E1–E5), 10.2 to 10.7 m wide, extend 80 m west of the Royal Administrative Building. Fieldstone walls over 1 m thick frame the enclosures and separate one from the next. All five appear to share a common northern wall running parallel to the Enclosure Wall, leaving a 3 m wide corridor or roadway. Two of the enclosures continue under the soccer field. Enclosure E3, bounded by a fieldstone wall across the south end, is 18.1 m long. We do not know the length of Enclosure E4, but we have traced its western wall 24.7 m to the south. Within Enclosures E1–4, we see traces of mudbrick walls that subdivide the spaces into courts and chambers.

Enclosure E5, the last enclosure on the west, shows the most internal structure (fig. 11). Four large magazines on the north measure about 1.50 m wide × 7.2 m long. The magazines open south onto a court and two small side chambers. Corridors flank the magazines and court on the west and south. The rooms and courts on the southern end of Enclosure E5 do not show in the unexcavated mud mass as well as those on the north. However, a wall across the south end gives a total length of about 25 m for Enclosure E5. Here as elsewhere in areas west of the soccer field (SFW and SF-NW), someone looted the substance of the walls, trenching out the very foundations. The main western wall is traceable only by the robber's trench.

The enclosures appear to have been extensions of the Royal Building. They are each about the same width as the zone that includes the small chambers and courts that we excavated in the northwestern corner of the Royal Building. The magazines fronted by courts in Enclosure E5 suggest gathering and accounting material for storage and distribution. The enclosures may have each contained a complex of courts, chambers, and magazines for working, living, and administration, like those in the RAB's northwest corner. So far we have only mapped what shows of

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**Figure 10. Soccer Field West (SFW) operation, looking toward the north. Workers scrape the mud-mass surface revealing walls of the Western Town. The sand-bagged soccer field is on the right**

these enclosures in the surface of settlement mass. Excavation will reveal more about their purpose.

### West of the Soccer Field

We were aware that there was ancient settlement in the area west of the soccer field (SFW) of the Abu Hol Sports Club from two test trenches we dug in 2003, but we knew little of its nature or extent. In order to examine this *terra incognita*, we cleared a vast swath nearly 200 m long and 60 m wide. The overburden of trash and recently dumped waste was piled high along the soccer field, but it diminished to the west. Stable boys had removed much of the original clean sand cover here to the point that ancient walls were within centimeters of the surface.

In this area we found that the walls of the settlement, made of mudbrick and fieldstone, belong to a dense network of domestic structures that appear to be of a larger scale than houses elsewhere on the site. We called this part of the SFW settlement, stretching south of the Enclosure Wall around the Gallery Complex and west of the Royal Building, the Western Town.

### West of the Soccer Field-The Western Town

The Western Town covers an area of 105 to 120 m north–south (figs. 10–11). On the east it is bounded by the enclosures (see above) and farther south it runs east under the soccer field. On the west it continues beyond the new access road that leads to the Workers' Cemetery. It probably extends under the cemetery as well.

Mohsen Kamal, Justine Gesell, Yukinori Kawae, Mark Kincey, and Tim Evans investigated the central part of SFW (Soccer Field West). They distinguished three large rectangular units up to 22 m long with outer walls up to 1 m thick aligned approximately to the cardinal directions. (The walls are oriented slightly west of north like the Gallery Complex.)

Unit 1, a possible workshop and storeroom on the northwest of SFW, is 11.5 m wide and more than 16.0 m long, possibly extending another 10.0 to 11.0 m farther west. The eastern end of the complex is taken up with a series of rooms that might have been a bakery. In the center of Unit 1, one of the rooms produced evidence of roofing materials: clumps of mud with impressions of reed and ropes. A small magazine in the room was full of crude red ware pottery jars (fig. 12). In the “main” area of the chamber mudbrick benches lined up against the south and west walls of a central large room. Black paint still adheres to plaster on the base of the walls.

Unit 2 is more than 22 m long and extends beyond the western limits of our clearing. Four magazines occupied its northern side. Large rectangular chambers, just under 9 m long and 3 m wide, flank the magazines on the south and east. A wall may have subdivided the southern chamber to add a small vestibule on the east. A robbers’ trench marks where another (older?) east–west wall was removed running down the center of this chamber.

Unit 3, a 16.0 × 12.3 m structure located in the northeast portion of SFW may be a single large house. Unit 3 includes two large rooms, two small chambers, magazines, vestibules, and a small chamber with a set of three pedestals, probably foundations for storage compartments. The most striking feature of the unit is its very robust eastern wall, more than 1 m thick and entirely fieldstone. South of Unit 3 are many small chambers or courts within larger enclosures. Ash fills some chambers, and hints of semi-circular or circular features could be grain storage silos. These structures might have been used for storage and industry that supported life in the large house.

A maze of walls and fragments of walls in the central area between Units 1–2 and Unit 3 belong to courts and chambers that could have been more support structures for the large compounds or contiguous smaller domestic units.

### **Northwest of the Soccer Field (SF-NW)**

Large compounds, like Units 1–3, appear to have extended almost to the big bend in the Enclosure Wall. Area AA, our first excavation area in 1988/89 belongs to another large unit in the SF-NW zone. The walls in SF-NW stop short of a corridor, just under 2 m wide, running parallel to the Enclosure Wall. We were not able to map all the walls in SF-NW because large patches of playa-like deposits covered the settlement remains (fig. 13). Covering much of area, these patches consist of intercalated sand and marl desert clay, suggesting that large pools of water once stood here. Out of an interest in post-abandonment conditions, we left many of these deposits intact. Tobias Tonner and Josh Trompier mapped the locations and stratigraphy and sampled the material from these layers.

### **South SFW**

Small courtyards and chambers occupy the southern part of the Western Town north of a large natural depression (see below). As in the Eastern Town, these structures are not as aligned to the cardinal directions as the larger compounds. Walls veer farther west of north than in the large units. These may be smaller residential units, like the Eastern Town, although this area is even denser. At the southernmost end, the settlement layer slides down into a deep depression we call Lagoon 1 (see below).

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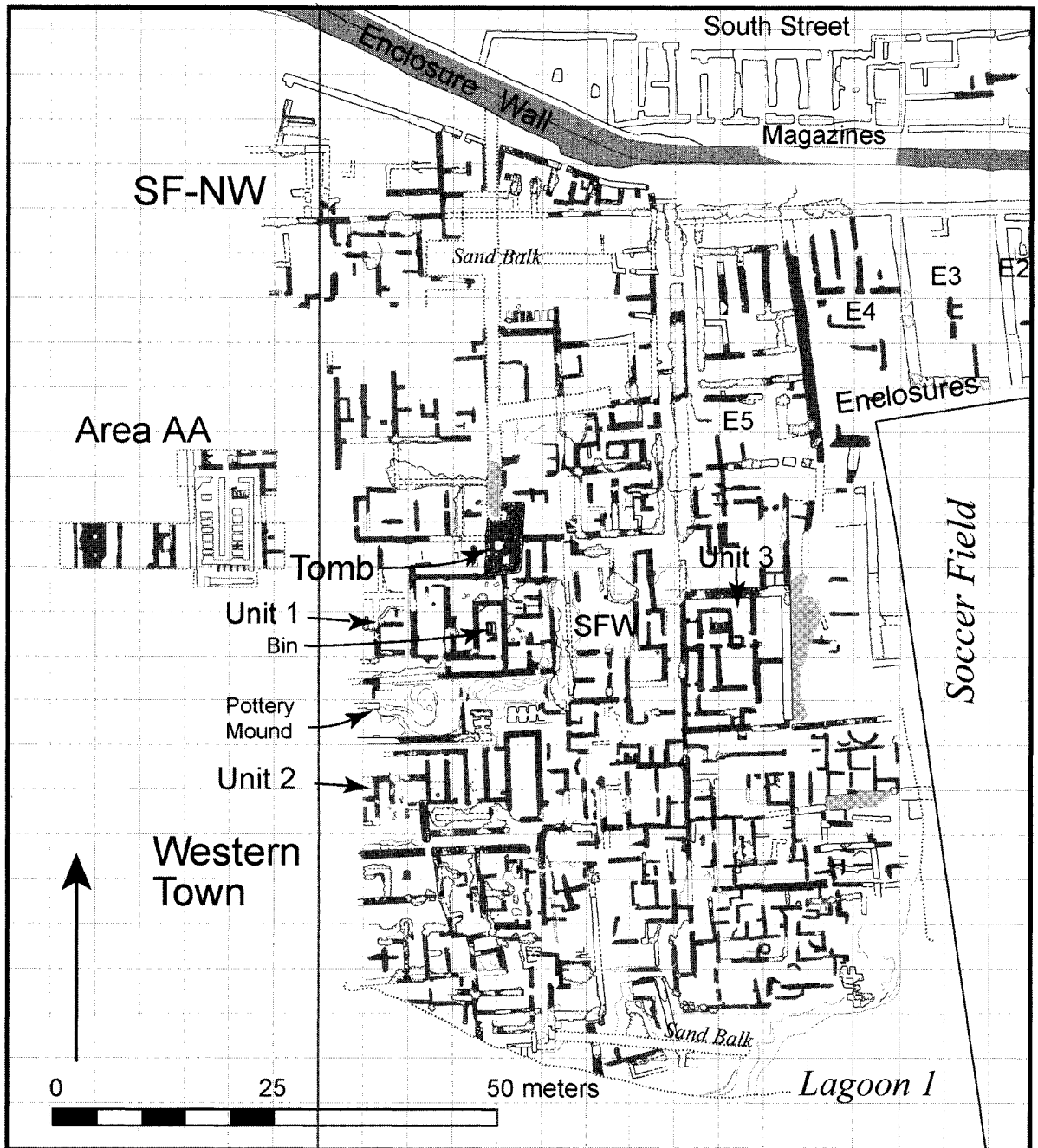


Figure 11. Plan of the Soccer Field West (SFW) including the Western Town and northwestern area

### Wall Robbing

A remarkable feature of the Western Town is the degree to which people robbed the walls of bricks and fieldstone. The trenching out of walls begins with the west wall of E5 and, even farther east, the wall around the silo court in the Royal Administrative Building. Wall trenching increases to the southwest, and accounts for many pits in this area. In many places part of the wall remains in mudbrick, while a ragged trench follows the line of the rest of the wall. In some cases

the robbers took out the bricks so neatly they left the marl plaster intact along the sides of the trench.

In the early 1980s sand diggers from the nearby riding stables exposed a mudbrick wall in our grid squares 6.KL4–5 and a mound of crushed pottery to the southwest (between Units 1 and 2). These two features first suggested settlement remains of the Pyramid Age lay below this track of low desert. After clearing the sandy overburden down to the surface of the settlement layer, we saw that the wall is actually the core of a small mastaba, an extreme eastern outlier of the mudbrick and fieldstone tombs of the lower Workers' Cemetery. The tomb (fig. 11) rests directly upon the north wall of Unit 1 and the remains of marl-lined walls of what is probably another large (house) structure farther north.

It is important to note that *the settlement remains were already in the condition we found them when the tomb was built*, presumably in the later Old Kingdom. If the tomb was built in the Old Kingdom, people and powerful forces of erosion had already cleaved a horizontal section — sometimes only a few centimeters above floor level — through our workers' city before the end of the Old Kingdom. If the tomb is from the Fifth Dynasty, perhaps contemporary with some of those in the cemetery up the slope, then the top of our city was blown away soon after the demise of the Fourth Dynasty Giza pyramid builders, that is, soon after the royal house moved away from Giza to Saqqara and Abu Sir.

These facts make it a very compelling hypothesis that the mudbrick and fieldstone robbers who stripped the walls of the Western Town were the tomb builders of the later Old Kingdom, and that many of the bricks in the tombs up the slope, as well as some of the broken stone — mostly limestone but also granite — derive from walls of the town below.

## Lagoons 1 and 2

Two depressions on the west side of the soccer field may have flooded in post-occupational times during the annual Nile inundation. Lagoon 1, at the southern limit of the Western Town, extends about 50 m south to the “Standing Wall Island” settlement (see below), just west of the southern end of the soccer field. The depression extends westward beyond our clearing. Lagoon 2, on the southern side of “Standing Wall Island,” is more than 28 m wide, east to west, and continues past our clearing 15 m south of the “island” settlement. Both depressions dive more than 1 m below the surface of the Old Kingdom ruins, but we do not know the total depth. Before reaching the bottom of the depressions, while removing the sand fill, we hit the water table at 14.66 m above sea level.

Are these depressions ancient features or a product of severe post-occupation erosion? They appear to have been part of the natural landscape during Old Kingdom times but may not have filled with water until later when the floodplain level rose and the inundation reached farther west. One clue lies in the bakery and the extensive dumps of ashy pottery near the northern and western “shore” of Lagoon 1. The inhabitants might have built the bakery and other chambers with ash-producing industry where it would be easy to discard the refuse into natural depressions.

Another clue is found on the “island” where the settlement appears to respect the edges of the depressions. The compound north wall of the compound (see below) roughly parallels the southern shore of the northern lagoon. The southern walls drop sheer down into the southern lagoon.

It is also possible that the Fourth Dynasty inhabitants constructed settlement all over the natural contours of the landscape, in the low as well as high areas. If we could excavate below the water table in the depressions we might find the continuation of the settlement.

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*Figure 12. A double bin filled with crude red ware pottery in Unit 1 of the Western Town, Soccer Field West*

### **Southern Settlement: Standing Wall Island**

An “island” of settlement rises from the southern edge of Lagoon 1 (fig. 14). A fieldstone wall, 1.2 to 1.5 m thick, stands 1.5 m above the “mud mass,” the layer of mudbrick walls, eroded brick tumble, and fill (fig. 15). “Standing Wall,” as we called it, is the north side of a complex that extends east–west from 27 to 30 m and north–south 17.5 to 26 m. Aligned 21 degrees west of north, the complex is much farther off the cardinal directions than Units 1–3.

Yukinori Kawae and Josh Trompier mapped this part of the site. Walls divide the compound into two enclosures (ES1 and ES2) that face south and open unto a second depression, Lagoon 2. The main north–south walls of the compounds are extra thick, from 1.0 to 1.6 m, and because they are not perfectly parallel, the two enclosures are trapezoids. We had difficulty ascertaining the internal structure along the eastern and northern sides of the eastern enclosure (ES2) because of damage wrought by pits, stone robbers, modern trash dumping and burning, and a rising water table. The pit diggers took away features while the moisture distorted them. When the area was wet, mudbrick “melted” and “flowed,” mixing with modern debris. When we exposed it, the surface dried in wavy and even swirled patterns, obliterating the linear outlines of walls in one critical patch along the northern edge of ES2.

We could see traces of mudbrick walls in the ruin surface along the west side of ES1. A thin fieldstone wall runs parallel to the south end, then turns 90 degrees to run west, closing off ES1 about 11.5 m from the north wall (Standing Wall). A thicker fieldstone wall runs north–south, dividing the enclosure in half. In ES2 many walls show in the ruin surface, which we have yet to excavate. A square enclosure, 5.3 m (10 cubits) east–west, by 5.9 m north–south occupies the southwestern corner. This could be a house or domestic structure. There is a small chamber in the southeast corner of the “house,” possibly with a low platform to the north. Traces of mudbrick walls suggest another structure in the northwestern corner of ES2. Along the eastern side



of ES2 mudbrick walls form a square court on the north, from which a corridor extends more than 9 m south. A long narrow magazine flanks the northern end of the corridor. Two doorways opened to the east into areas now as yet under the soccer field. The thick eastern fieldstone wall of ES2 closed off the southern of these two doorways.

It is apparent in ES2 that thick fieldstone walls enclose and fortify an earlier mudbrick complex. Ana Tavares, Astrid Huser, Freya Sadarangani, and James Taylor found a similar sequence of fieldstone rebuilding of an earlier mudbrick layout in their excavations of the northwest corner of the Royal Administrative Building.

## Conclusions

Our 2004 season added another hectare to our knowledge of the ancient settlement with the discovery of the Western Town. Its maze-like ground plan appears to include large house-like structures aligned roughly to the cardinal directions, as well as smaller structures, courts, and chambers that filled spaces between larger units over time, forming a densely packed network.

The Western Town certainly extends west beyond our clearing, but we do not know if there is settlement south of "Standing Wall Island." We established, however, that little or no settlement extends immediately north beyond the Wall of the Crow. Here the Fourth Dynasty builders left a construction ramp and a layer of mason's debris extending at least 35 m north of the wall. Forces of erosion smoothed and compacted the surface of this debris into a broad terrace.

We added to our knowledge of previously cleared areas and refined our understanding of the complex history and stratigraphy of this extensive site. We mapped more of the Eastern Town after clearing south of our 2002 boundary. In the center of the town we intensively excavated one house compound, a core domestic unit surrounded by courtyards with a variety of installations. On the opposite side of the site we intensively excavated the North Street Gate House, which had a more complex internal configuration, including an open-air bakery. We excavated dumps near the Western Gate in the Enclosure Wall, revealing an earlier wall and older phases of occupation. The cultural remains grow progressively sparser with depth but continue all the way down to the level of the water table.

We mapped and intensively excavated more of the Royal Administrative Building (RAB). Around the northwest corner of the RAB we established that there was an earlier occupation



*Figure 13. Playa deposits in the northwestern area of the Soccer Field West operation, looking southeast. A sand balk can be seen in the background*

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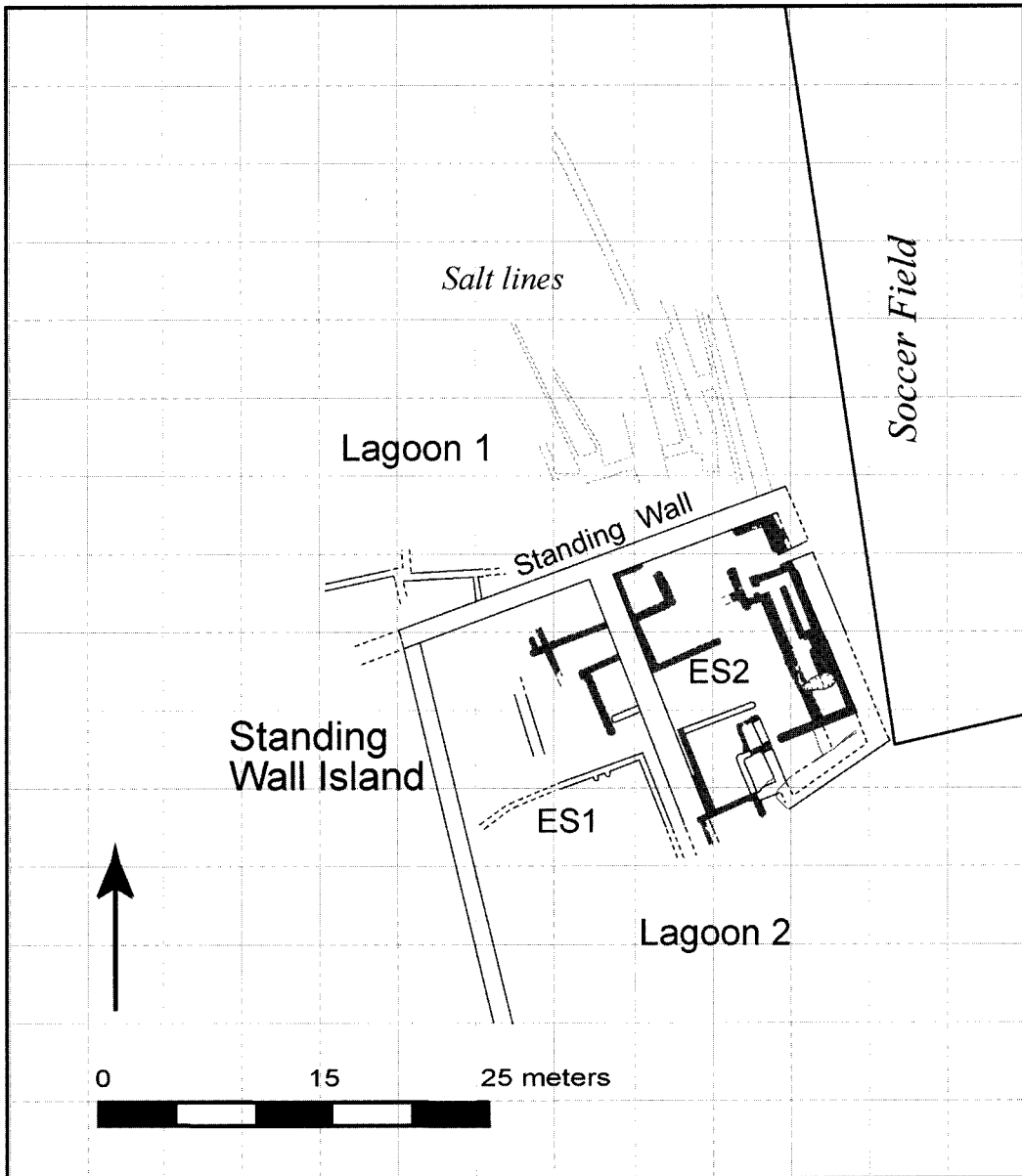


Figure 14. Plan of Standing Wall Island

built of mudbrick as well as reed and poles that functioned about the same time as Gallery IV.11, just to the north. During a later period the inhabitants built the double outer walls of the RAB, and later still, the South Street Magazines to the west. Lastly they added the thin walls creating a bottleneck at the end of South Street.

With each field season's work this urban layout of the Fourth Dynasty becomes larger and more complex and we glimpse more of the everyday life of the pyramid builders.



*Figure 15. Workmen cleaning sand off Standing Wall, view to the southwest*

## Acknowledgments

For a very successful season, and for collaboration based in deep friendship, I am grateful to Dr. Zahi Hawass, Undersecretary of State and Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA). We thank Sabry Abd al-Aziz, General, Director of Pharaonic Monuments; Atef Abu Dahab, Director of Giza and Saqqara; and Adel Hussein, Director of Giza. We enjoyed working in close collaboration with Mansour Bureik, Chief Inspector of Giza, and Inspector Mohammed Shiha, who represented the SCA during our 2004 season. We thank Mohammed Hamed who also represented the SCA with our team, and the following inspectors: Shiamma Mohammed, Fatma Hussein, Heba Hosni, Amira Hassan, who represented the SCA and who worked with us at the excavation site. We would like to thank Ahmed Eiz who served as our inspector in the storeroom. We are especially grateful to Engineer Abd al-Hamid Kotb for assistance with mechanized equipment used to clear modern overburden from our site clearing the way for our work. Once again this season we are grateful for the services of loader operator, Mohammed Musilhi, who carried out this task with skill and determination. Without this help we could not have carried out the work summarized above. Reis Ahmed Abd al-Basat did a remarkable job supervising our specialist workers and skilled excavators from Luxor.

Ann Lurie, on behalf of the Ann and Robert H. Lurie Foundation, once again insured that our goals for a long, ambitious, and rewarding season 2004 were fully met, and for this we offer special thanks. We offer special thanks to David H. Koch, Peter Norton, and Nathan Myrhvold for major support. I am grateful to Bruce Ludwig who has helped to develop financial support for our work at Giza since 1986. Our 2004 season would not have been possible without the support of Jon Jerde, Robert Lowdermilk, Glen Dash, Matthew McCauley, George Link, Glen Dash, James Allen, Douglas Rawles, Ann Thompson, Fred and Suzanne Rheinstein, Sandford and Betty Sigoloff, Victor and Nancy Moss, David Goodman, Marjorie M. Fisher, Alice Hyman, Don Kunz, Bonnie Sampsell, Lora Lehner, and Craig Smith. And we welcome the support of

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Michael Fourticq, George Sherman, Michael K. MacDonald, Donna L. Dinardo, Robin Young, and Barbara Russo.

Our crew this season was a large international team that included the following individuals: Director: Mark Lehner; Assistant Director: John Nolan; Field Director: Mohsen Kamal; Assistant Field Director: Ana Tavares; Archaeobotanists: Mary Anne Murray, Rainier Gerisch, Menatallah al-Dorri; Archaeologists: Adel Kelany, Ali el Selhdar, Amira Hassan Abdallah, Angela Milward-Jones, Ann Foster, Ashraf Abd al-Aziz, Astrid Huser, Brian V. Hunt, Dan D. U. Honsel, Emma Hancox, Fatma Hussein Mohammed Ali, Freya Sadarangani, Hala Said, Hanan Mahmoud Soliman, Hasan Mohamed Abd el-Razeq, Heba Hosni Attia, James Taylor, Justine Gesell, Lauren Bruning, Marie-Astrid Calmettes, Mark E. Kinsey, Mohammed Abd al-Aziz, Shiamaa Abd el-Rahman, Tim Evans, Tobias Tonner, Yukinori Kawae: Artists: Johnny Karlsson, Marcia Gaylord; Ceramicist, Storeroom Director: Anna Wodzinska, Conservator: Edward Johnson; Database Designer and Manager: Tobias Tonner; Faunal Analyst: Richard Redding; Objects Analyst: Meredith Brand, Marie-Astrid Calmettes; Osteo-archaeologists: Jessica Holst Kaiser, Johnny Karlsson, Tove Björk; Sealings Analysts: Alexandra Witsell, Hratch Papazian, John Nolan (Director), Joshua R. Trampier. Database Assistant: Nicole Hansen.

Wilma Wetterstrom substantially revised and adapted the text from a longer report and prepared the figures.

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## HAMOUKAR

**Clemens D. Reichel**

[In 2004 McGuire Gibson turned over direction over the Hamoukar excavations to Clemens Reichel. The summary below is Reichel's account of an investigative trip to Hamoukar three years after the last season.]

The plane descended steeply on its way towards Damascus. From my window seat I watched the change in the landscape from desert sands to agricultural land. Villages and field boundaries were passing by quickly. From afar, the lights of Damascus were blinking. It all looked very familiar — nothing seemed to have changed. Yet anticipation about my return to Syria was mixed with a feeling of unease. It had been three years since our last season at Hamoukar. What was I going to find?

I flashed back to 2001 — our third, and inarguably most successful, season at Hamoukar. The 1999 and 2000 seasons had shown us how to approach the site. In 1999 a step trench in Area A cut across a city wall, indicating the presence of a city dating to the early fourth millennium B.C. Conventional wisdom argues for the earliest cities to have risen in the Mesopotamian floodplain, seeing them as an inevitable outcome of large-scale labor organization for irrigation projects and specialized production of goods. In Syro-Mesopotamia, an area dominated by rain-fed agriculture with little need for large-scale labor organization, the foundation of cities is usually seen as the result of contact with the Uruk culture. Famed for its construction of elaborate temples and administrative buildings and the invention of writing, this culture expanded into Syria, Anatolia,

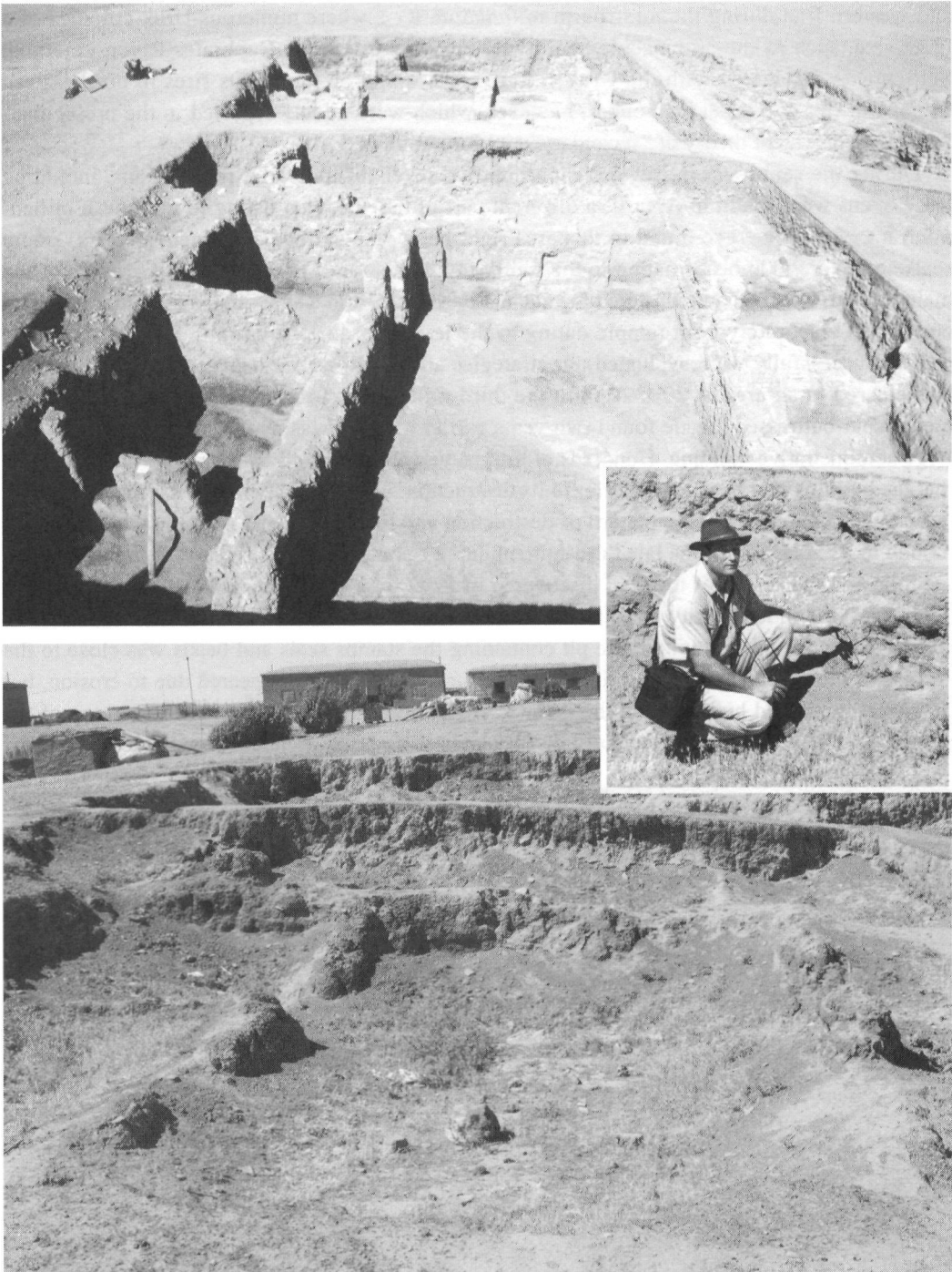
and western Iran during the mid-fourth millennium B.C., where numerous Uruk colonies of a large size, such as the 30 ha settlement of Habuba Kabira on the Euphrates River, emerged. Settlements associated with the Uruk culture were found on numerous sites in northeastern Syria. Our discoveries at Hamoukar, however, which were widely reported in the press, challenged the prevalent theory of “secondary” city formation in Syria.

During the same season, several superimposed levels of industrial installations, including large ovens were found in Area B, a different part of the site, also dating to the fourth millennium B.C. A pit or grave found in this area right below the surface contained over 100 stamp seals and over 7,000 beads dating to the fourth millennium B.C. In a third area (Area C) of the main mound, a niched and plastered façade had been located in a sounding, suggesting the presence of an elaborately-built temple dating to the late third millennium B.C. Having tested the ground successfully we reevaluated our strategies and modified our approach in 2001. Area C was cleared in an area of 20 × 20 m to the third-millennium B.C. level. It turned out that the niched-and-buttressed façade found two years earlier actually was part of what appears to be a large administrative building. Hundreds of broken vessels strewn all over its open areas indicate that the building had been looted prior to its destruction. Large private houses dating to the same period and showing the same pattern of destruction and looting were excavated far off the main mound in Area H, part of the late third-millennium B.C. outer town. In the area of the step trench we followed the course of the wall discovered in 1999 for another 20 m, establishing beyond a doubt that it is indeed a city wall. Our focus then turned to Area B. The trenches dug in 1999 were at the slope of the mound; the pit containing the stamps seals and beads was close to the surface of the mound and its associated architectural layers had disappeared due to erosion, but they were preserved higher up on the mound. We started a series of new trenches on top of the mound, and our expectations were not disappointed. One of the trenches contained an adminis-



*Figure 1. Tradition meets modernity – Umm Nasr, mother of the site guard at Hamoukar, talking on her cell phone*

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**Figure 2.** *The tripartite building in Area B in 2001 (top) and 2004 (center and bottom). Though the walls have deteriorated, erosion has revealed previously invisible details such as the bricklaying pattern (inset)*

trative building that had burned down. During the destruction, the building's roof collapsed, burying its artifact assemblage below it. Typologically the building was a tripartite building with a central rectangular room or court, flanked by a symmetrical arrangement of small rooms. This

building type was a hallmark of the Uruk period, an association highlighted in our building by other Uruk traits such as symmetrically arranged multiply-recessed doorways and niched wall decoration. In addition to hundreds of completely restorable pots, the artifacts recovered from the ashes of this building included about 270 clay sealings with seal impressions, which allowed us to investigate the administrative and bureaucratic layout of this building. But these sealings also raised new questions. Surprisingly, almost all of the seals on these sealings were stamp seals with local, northern Mesopotamian designs, not the cylinder seals commonly used in Uruk administrative systems. It became clear to us that Hamoukar's interaction with the Uruk world was more complex than we had thought. Hamoukar had proved to be a most exciting site, and we anticipated many more exciting seasons to come.

In all this excitement, however, world politics overran us. The attacks in New York and Washington on September 11, 2001, occurred less than a week after our season at Hamoukar began. It had no direct impact on our work — in fact, we completed our season as scheduled — but our thoughts had to be with friends and families at home and the realization that the world at home had changed forever. Soon after our return to Chicago the impending war on Iraq took most of our attention, inevitably shifting our focus away from our work at Hamoukar. Throughout 2002 and 2003, most of our efforts concentrated on Iraq and the preservation of its cultural heritage. Realizing that his commitment in Iraq was going to take too much time to run a field season in Syria in the foreseeable future, McGuire Gibson turned over the directorship of Hamoukar to me in early 2004. I decided to take a trip to Syria in June 2004, inspect the site, and also meet with the authorities in the Department of Antiquities to discuss future seasons and a renewal of the permit in my name.

The timing of my trip seemed most unfortunate. Since 2001, Syro-American political relationships had taken a turn for the worse. Syria had strongly opposed the war against Iraq. Relationships between Washington and Damascus remained icy in the aftermath of the war, and a set of economic embargoes, enforced with the Syria Accountability Act on May 4, 2004 — two weeks before my departure for Syria — by a presidential order promised to bring relationships to a new low point.

As it turned out, to my great relief, not much seemed to have changed. Having passed immigration and customs at Damascus International Airport without any problems, the familiar “Welcome to Syria” sounded as genuine as ever before. Like most people in the Near East, Syrians seem to be eminently capable of keeping politics apart from personalities. For the next three weeks, any reference to my being from Chicago was mostly met with the all-too-familiar 1920s gangster associations of our hometown (it has always amazed me how many Syrian children are familiar with the name of Al Capone) but never with any anti-American hostility. About the “worst” thing that I heard was puzzlement about a provision in the Syria Accountability Act that banned all direct commercial flights between Syria and the United States and all landings of Syrian-owned commercial aircraft in the United States. To the best of my knowledge, neither one ever happened or existed.

In Damascus I met with up with Salam Quntar, a two season veteran of Hamoukar (2000 and 2001). An employee of the Department of Antiquities, Salam has worked extensively on numerous other sites in Syria; when I met her she had just finished a season at the site of Tell Brak with Geoff Emberling, the new museum director at the Oriental Institute. Salam recently obtained her M.A. degree in archaeology at the University of Liverpool and is about to start her Ph.D. program at Cambridge University. With her fluency in English and excellent relationships with the administrators of the Department of Antiquities in Damascus, Salam turns out to be one

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*Figure 3. Living quarters and main work room of the Hamoukar dig house, built in 2000 and 2001 by MacGuire Gibson. Photo shows damage to a doorway and the roof*

of the most useful people to know in Syria, but I admit that her kindness and friendship with the villagers at Hamoukar on this trip left the deepest impression upon me. Just like our own students, Syria's urban dwellers occasionally have a hard time adjusting to life in a remote village, but Salam clearly knows no such problems.

But I am getting ahead of myself. In Damascus I first met with Dr. Tammam Fakouche, Director of Museums and Antiquities, and Dr. Michel al-Maqdissi, Director of Excavations. All conversations were friendly and constructive, and I have to thank them for their help and support throughout my trip. Considering Hamoukar's proximity to the border with Iraq, some legitimate security concerns for a future excavation season had to be addressed, but all major issues could be resolved. When I asked for permission to take a trip out to Hamoukar, it was granted without hesitation. I was more than pleased that Salam was allowed to accompany me on this trip.

In past years we used to fly from Damascus to Qamishli at the Syro-Turkish border, the big town next to Hamoukar, a convenient arrangement that cut the daylong trip through all of Syria down to little more than an hour. In June, however, the airport in Qamishli was closed for repairs and upgrades, so Salam and I decided to fly to Deir ez-Zor and take a car from there to Hamoukar.

Our trip on Saturday, June 12, almost ended prematurely in disaster during the departure at Damascus Airport. Normally the plane to Deir ez-Zor leaves at 8:00 A.M. On Saturdays, however, the planes leave an hour earlier because they fly on to Kuwait from there, a fact that we had overlooked. When we arrived at the airport at 6:30 A.M. the baggage check-in was already closed so we ran to the gate with our bags, deciding to take them on board as carry-ons. I had already put my bag on the belt of the X-ray machine when a terrible thought struck me, but it was



already too late. My bag was singled out and I found myself surrounded by security guards who made me open my bag. The trowels and scrapers in it passed inspection without suspicion, but a multipurpose tool with screwdrivers, saws, and, yes, blades definitely drew attention. It was confiscated, my passport was taken (as it turned out simply to help security spell my name), but then I was ushered on board. Upon disembarking in Deir ez-Zor I was once again stopped by security, where my tool was returned to me with a smile.

We had hoped to meet Mahmoud al-Khattab at Deir ez-Zor to travel with us to Hamoukar. Mahmoud, who works at the museum in Raqqa, was our driver in 1999, but his responsibilities expanded greatly over the next two years (in fact, finding one title that will describe all of Mahmoud's functions adequately almost seems impossible; majordomo may come closest). In 2000 and 2001 he also oversaw most of the building of our dig house at Hamoukar.

In the end, unfortunately, his tight schedule during harvest time made it impossible for him to meet us, but he organized a comfortable air-conditioned van with a driver. The trip took us along the Khabur Valley, past Hassake, through the sun-parched agricultural lands of northeastern Syria, which were in the process of being harvested, and finally toward the Iraqi border. A few miles before Yaroubiyah, the Syrian border town, we left the main road and went onto the badly potholed road towards Hamoukar. Finally, there it was! From a distance, through the dusty air of the mid-afternoon sun, we could see the long shallow rise that characterizes its high mound. Even from afar the step trench along the north side of the high mound, which I had dug in 1999, was clearly visible. I *had* to get out of the car to take a picture. As I opened the door I was overwhelmed with a sensation of unbearable heat that seemed to burn my skin and made it almost impossible to breath. I have been at Hamoukar as early as late August, but I had not realized how hot it gets there in June at the height of the sun! I made a mental note to *never* have a June/July field season, took my picture, and plunged back into the comfort of the air-conditioned car.

About half of the high mound is occupied by the village of Hamoukar. We drove past the houses and finally arrived at the house of Muhammad Nasr, our site guard. Umm Nasr, his mother (fig. 1), recognized and welcomed us. Having lost her husband early in life, she was undoubtedly in charge of this large household which encompasses several sons, daughters, and daughters-in-law. Despite her advanced age, her great physical and mental strength give her an impressive appearance, a woman who readily defies any Western stereotype of an oppressed Arab woman. With her facial tattoos and traditional Bedouin garments she epitomizes traditional life in this corner of Syria (a picture that got somewhat disturbed when she pulled a cell phone out of her sleeve to call her son). We were ushered into the re-

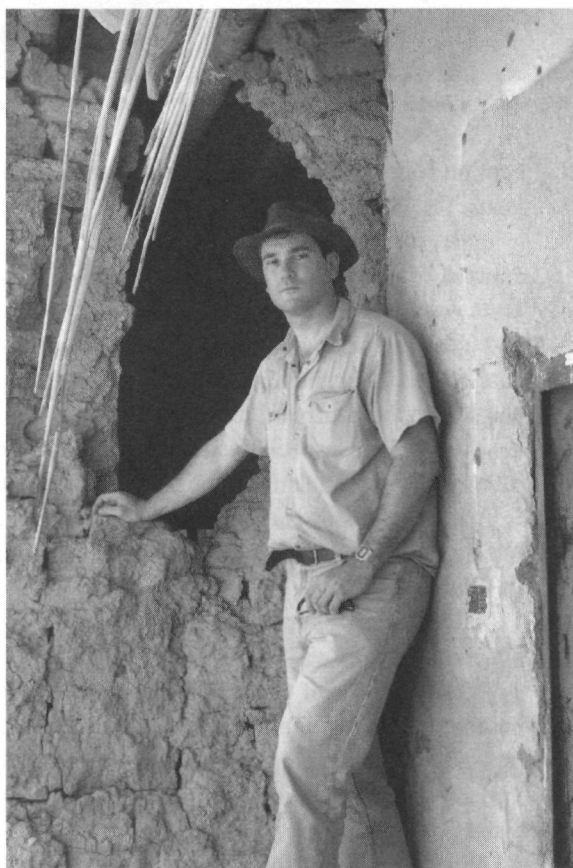


Figure 4. Assessing damage to the dig house

## RESEARCH

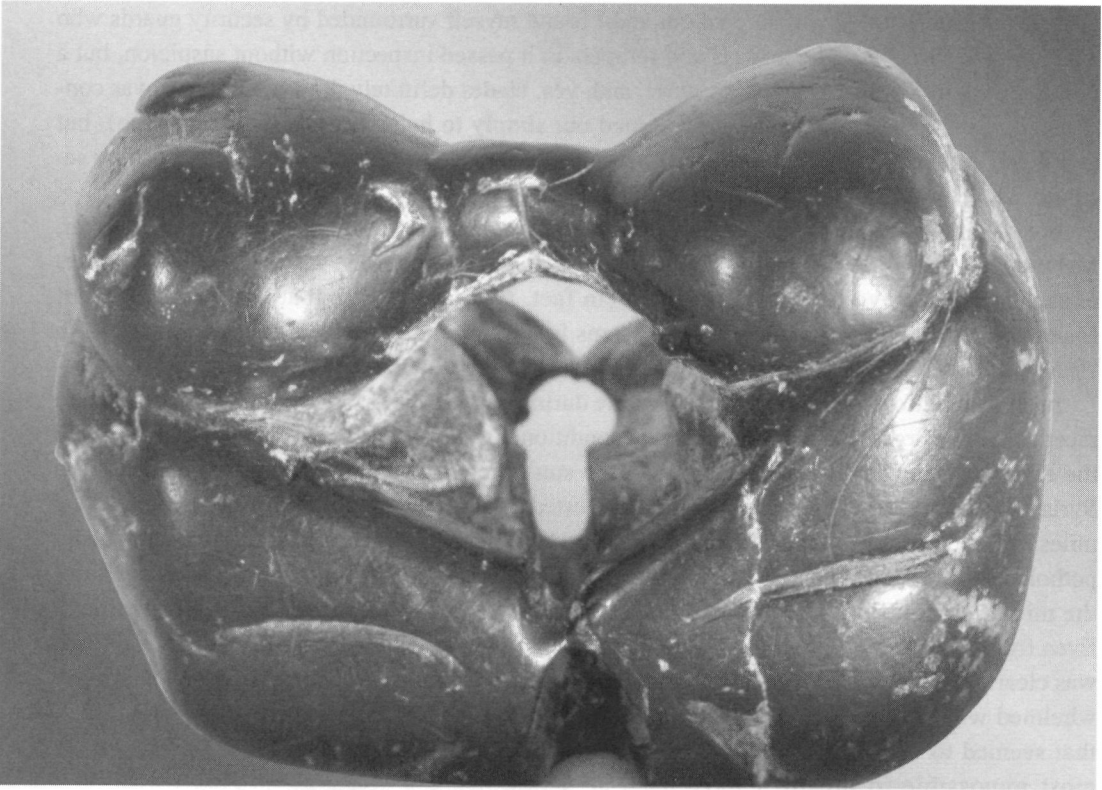


Figure 5. An intimate view of the kissing bears, a stamp seal found at Hamoukar in 2001, dated ca. 3500 B.C.

ception room where we were served tea and caught up on the developments of the last three years.

Even someone who has spent a considerable amount of time in the Near East continues to be amazed by the hospitality found in the Arab world. We showed up totally unannounced, but there was no question so ever that we were to be their guests. For dinner a sheep was slaughtered and a festive meal was prepared consisting of *manzaf*, a delicious traditional Bedouin dish of cooked meat. For the night, Salam was accommodated with the other women, and I was given a bed within the courtyard of the compound. As the sun sets, the temperature becomes very pleasant even in June, especially at night. With its crystal-clear air devoid of any pollution, Hamoukar offers great potentials for hobby astronomers. During 2001 we surveyed the nightly sky looking for planets and star constellations with our optical theodolite. After several hot nights in Damascus, resting outside at Hamoukar in a gentle, cool breeze while gazing at the stars felt like Paradise.

After the terrible pictures from Iraq showing countless sites pitted with robber holes, seeing Hamoukar again was a great relief. Though I walked the site extensively I could not find the slightest evidence of clandestine digging. About the worse damage to the site I observed were a number of shallow pits far off the high mound where clay had been dug to make bricks, but the pits did not damage any visible archaeological layers and clearly were not associated with looting activities. I noticed a few new buildings on the site, but that was about it. Our guard was clearly doing his job.

After a period of three years, our trenches had naturally deteriorated. Mudbrick walls had started to melt down, and vegetation had started to overgrow the excavation areas. To anyone

unfamiliar with Near Eastern archaeology such changes may come as a shock, especially when looking at photographs taken during excavation, but such decay is a familiar phenomenon in mudbrick architecture. In a way, these deteriorations even have their good sides. All architecture had been mapped and photographed, but we can only document what is visible on its exterior. While the walls of tripartite building in Area B have deteriorated, for example, three years of winter rain had exposed and articulated a brick pattern that was not visible when we excavated them three years ago (fig. 2). Most importantly, the area where we expected to find the unexcavated remainder of this building has not been damaged at all, which should allow us to reconstruct the appearance and artifact assemblage of this building once we resume excavations in this area. A trench dug in 1999 just to the east of this building already cut the corner of what looks like a monumental forerunner of the latter construction. If this building had a similar function as the tripartite building it may tell us much more about the development of complex administration on this site during the fourth millennium B.C., possibly even before the Uruk period. In short, we seem to have lost little if any information in this area. The same observation holds true for the other areas. The walls in both Areas A and C have eroded due to winter rains, but no other trace of illegal digging was visible in either location. Once we start digging again we should pretty much be able to continue from where we left off.

I saved the bitter pill in this trip for the end of my account. Before the trip we had already received word of damage to our dig house. It had remained uninhabited for two years, and two successive seasons of winter rains had damaged the roof and walls, so I was prepared for the worst. While damage was indeed serious it was not quite as bad as I had feared (figs. 3, 4). I saw widespread water damage and partial collapse of the roof, but everything can be fixed, provided the repairs are started immediately. Fortunately, all our furniture and equipment had been shipped to the museum in Deir ez-Zor and was safe.

After visiting Hamoukar I spent a week at the museum in Deir ez-Zor, which is now the home for all of our Hamoukar artifacts. The heat and the high levels of humidity due to its proximity to the Euphrates River do not make this city a preferred vacation spot in June. The museum officials, however, notably Dr. Khalil, Director of the Museum, and its Deputy Director Moain Ali, went out of their way to make it possible for me to study and rephotograph the Hamoukar objects. Naturally, we had photographed all objects throughout the seasons, but the great amount of material found often put us under great time pressure, so some images turned out to be unsatisfactory after the films were developed in Chicago. A new digital SLR camera, which I had recently bought for the Diyala Project (see separate report), came in handy — being the head of several projects does have its advantages. Time did not permit me to rephotograph all objects, but I managed to take about 2,000 high-resolution color photographs of several hundred items (fig. 5). Having taken on the publication of the sealings from Hamoukar, I was particularly interested in obtaining close-up shots of seal impressions, which will be of significant help in a detailed analysis of the bureaucratic mechanisms during the fourth millennium B.C. at Hamoukar.

So where does my trip leave us with respect to future seasons? As I indicated above, the most important immediate action to be taken is the repair of our dig house, and steps are already being taken as I type this report (notoriously late as always). Less than two months after my return to Chicago, my suitcase is packed again. In a few days I will once again take off for Syria, this time to stabilize and repair the house before this year's winter rains start in October/November. Once the furniture is brought back from Deir ez-Zor, the house should be inhabitable again by spring 2005, when I hope to have a small field season. At present I am looking for financial sources to fund a big season in fall of 2005.

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Our work continues here in Chicago. We are currently talking about a comprehensive publication of the first three seasons. I also plan to develop a comprehensive Web site for Hamoukar that will become a vital tool for data publication. Paper publications are good for narrative accounts, but extensive illustrations are expensive especially when used for color photographs. This is where Web-publications come in handy. In addition, archaeological data contains many spatial components that are better shown in interactive presentations than on paper. Archaeological plans, for example, can be marked up with hyperlinks: arrows inserted into plans can open photographs taken from that particular angle; object findspots can be indicated in a plan and linked to object descriptions and photographs; queries can highlight the findspots of sealings with the same seal impressed on it. With such tools available, a comprehensive functional approach to architectural units, whether of administrative, cultic, industrial, or domestic nature, becomes much easier. An online dissemination would also reach a much wider audience, including scholars in related fields such as Anthropology or Behavioral Studies.

In conclusion, I would like to express a heartfelt word of thanks to all of those who have supported Hamoukar financially in the past, in particular to the "Friends of Hamoukar." Considering that we had only three field seasons, thus far the results have been astounding. Yet we have barely scratched the surface of this astonishing site, and I anticipate decades of fruitful work to come. Following McGuire Gibson as director of a project is a challenge, but I will do my best to be a worthy successor. By next year our dig house will have been restored to its former glory, so that once more we can receive visitors in style who want to examine our results firsthand, and at night join us in watching the magnificent display of stars, which I hope will continue to shine benevolently on our work at Hamoukar.

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## IRANIAN CITIES OF THE SASANIAN AND EARLY ISLAMIC PERIODS

**Donald Whitcomb**

This year marks the beginning of a new research project focusing on urbanism in Iran. This has become possible due to the initiative of Gil J. Stein in the return of the Persepolis tablets and the fruition of patience by Abbas Alizadeh in successful fieldwork in Khuzestan and now in the Marvdasht. Together, these factors open the study of Iran to a new era of contacts, access to scholarly production, and organization of genuinely joint archaeological fieldwork. In recent

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years (actually decades), I have pursued the problem of the origins of the Islamic city, first at Aqaba where the problem was a walled city (*misr*) imitating a late Roman legionary fort, and then at Qinnasrin, where a pre-Islamic Arab camp (*hadir*) transformed into a city, literally by the settlement of nomads, in the seventh century. It is not without some excitement that I return to my original field of research and dual problems of the nature of the Sasanian city and origins of the Islamic city, what one might label “from *shahr* to *medina*.”

### The Pools of Persepolis

One of the principal examples of urban change in my dissertation, “Trade and Tradition in Medieval Southern Iran,” was the city of Istakhr near Persepolis. I might claim to know Istakhr as well as anyone due to my access to the unpublished excavations of the Oriental Institute by Herzfeld



*Column in the mosque at Istakhr*

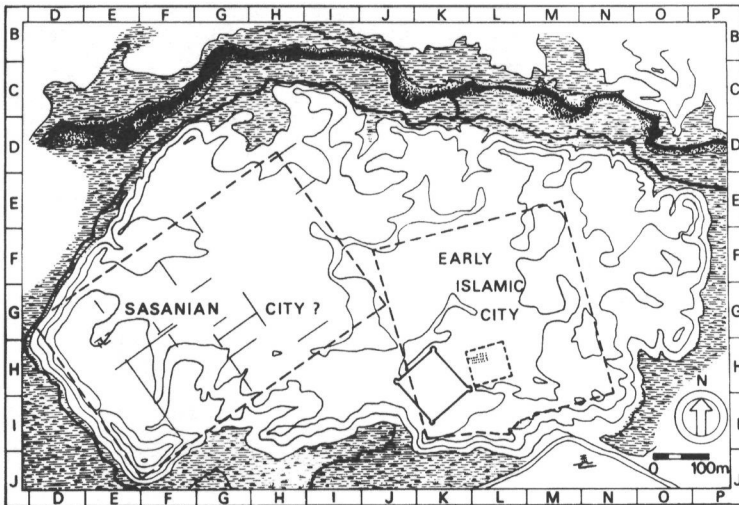
and Schmidt in the 1930s. This arrogance was recently tempered in discussions with Mr. Farhad Jafari, a young professor of archaeology in Iran; he was able to point out features, such as bridges outside the gates and details of the mosque, unnoticed by earlier archaeologists. He also produced a hypothesis on the location and nature of the Sasanian city which ought to be investigated.

The name would seem to come from the Pahlavi *stakhr* “the strong,” though a more common meaning is a pond or pool (Jafari pointed out several depressions that might have inspired the name). We discussed the one remaining column of the mosque, which has been beautifully restored; this column had a double bull-protome, or as Muqaddasi described it, “each column of the mosque had a cow on it.” This mosque, which may be one of the earliest extant in the Islamic world, has its complexities and would repay some archaeological study. This mosque was the first clue for my hypothesis on the early Islamic city: following the description of Muqaddasi, the mosque is in the center of the city, in a depression, with the bazaar on three sides. This conforms to the results of Schmidt’s trenches and clear evidence of his aerial photographs, which show a square of 400 m on each side divided into residential blocks. But all this remains hypothetical without new investigations through geophysical prospection and excavations.



*Right to left: Farhat Jafar, Ahmad Assadi, and Don Whitcomb at Istakhr*

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Plan of Istakhr showing hypothesized Sasanian and early Islamic cities

### Two Cities of Jundi Shapur

In 1963 Robert McC. Adams surveyed this site and made some limited test excavations. Though he decided not to continue on this site, his report is a valued testimony to the remains of this great city. Well that he did so, since modern farming has leveled and obscured traces visible on the ground. This was the city and capital of Shapur in Khuzestan, a place of history and legends. The city was also Beth Lapet, seat of a Nestorian Christian Metropolitan for almost one thousand years. Its first western Christian came with Roman captives, brought from Antioch by Shapur to build his new city *bih az Andaw-i Shapur* "the better than Antioch of Shapur" in the middle of the fourth century. Medieval geographers noted its orthogonal form, "like a chess-board," covering  $3.0 \times 1.5$  km ( $5.0 \times 2.5$  miles) which Adams' survey recorded. Apparently no one has compared the plans of Antioch and Jundi Shapur, which are so similar as to strongly support this legend.



The siphon-bridge at Jundi-Shapur

The Sasanian city eluded Schmidt (much to the disappointment of Breasted); it should be similar to Bishapur rather than Firuzabad, but, such is our understanding of Sasanian cities, we have little basis upon which to hypothesize its structure. Again, remote sensing will enable an innovative approach to solving aspects of urbanism in Late Antiquity.

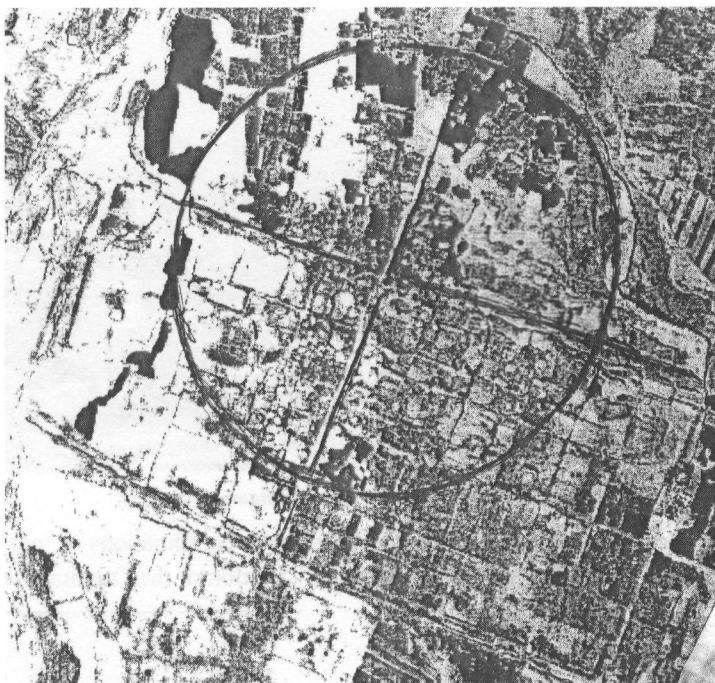
In preparation for participation in the second season of the Oriental Institute Khuzestan project, under the direction of Abbas Alizadeh and Nick Kouchoukos, I studied aerial photographs and new CORONA images of the site. These resources yielded an important discovery: the images showed a completely unknown city. This was a perfectly circular city with a diameter of about 2 km (over 3 miles), the same size as the city of Firuzabad in southern Fars province built by the

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Sasanian king Ardashir, the father of Shapur. Indeed, an early historical source notes that Shapur found his father's cities in decline and reconstructed many of them.

Massoud Azarnoush, director of the Archaeological Research Center, and I walked around examining remaining mounds, picking up Islamic and even Chinese ceramics. The history of the city continued in Islamic times, when its school of medicine expanded and provided the early Caliphs with several famous physicians. The geographer al-Muqaddasi reports that in the tenth century, Jundi Shapur produced "most of the sugar of Khurasan and al-Jibal," that is north and northeastern Iran. Several sherds in the Oriental Institute collections have indeed come from Nishapur in northeastern Iran and may testify to such commercial connections.

The city became a capital once again in the late ninth century, the seat of Yaqub ibn Layth the Saffarid, whose tomb lies on the edge of the city, a beautiful domed shrine.



*Aerial photograph of Jundi Shapur, showing orthogonal and circular cities*

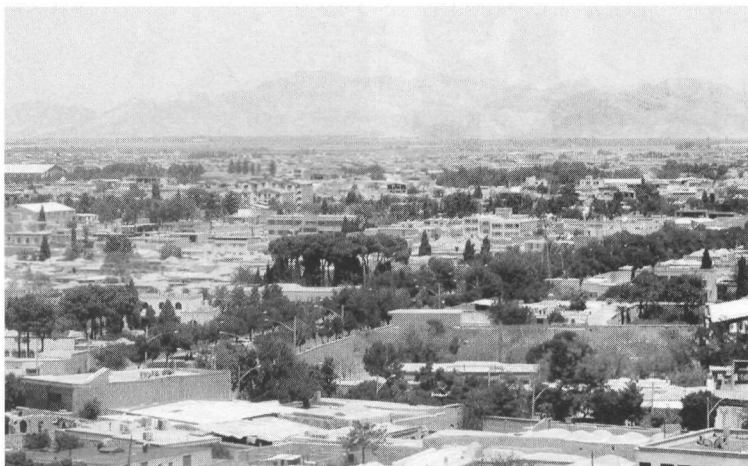
### And Kerman to the East

Dr. Azarnoush was particularly interested for me to examine the site of Qal'eh Dukhtar, the citadel of Kerman in southeastern Iran. The city of Kerman, known in ancient times as Bardasir, is a modern city but not known for its archaeological remains. A natural rocky hillock lies within the city, covered with the dissolving brick walls of a medieval palace, its graceful arches and domes still visible. From the summit, we looked down on the city and I produced some aerial photographs of the town that reveal the palimpsest of an original circular city. We determined the center of that circle



*Qal'eh Dukhtar, citadel of Kerman*

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*The center of the old city of Kerman, the Aramgah in center*

must be near a grove of tall cypress trees, the Aramgah of Mushtaq; we then visited this cemetery, but it was difficult to find potsherds within the carpet of flowers. Again one has a complex urban history enticing archaeological research, and, as I found throughout this recent visit, Iranian scholars and officials eager to cooperate in joint revelation of this urban past of Iran. Kerman, as well as Jundi Shapur and Istakhr are

cities of ancient and medieval Iran, the continuations of more remote historic periods, the study of which has been the established tradition of the Oriental Institute.

## IRANIAN PREHISTORIC PROJECT

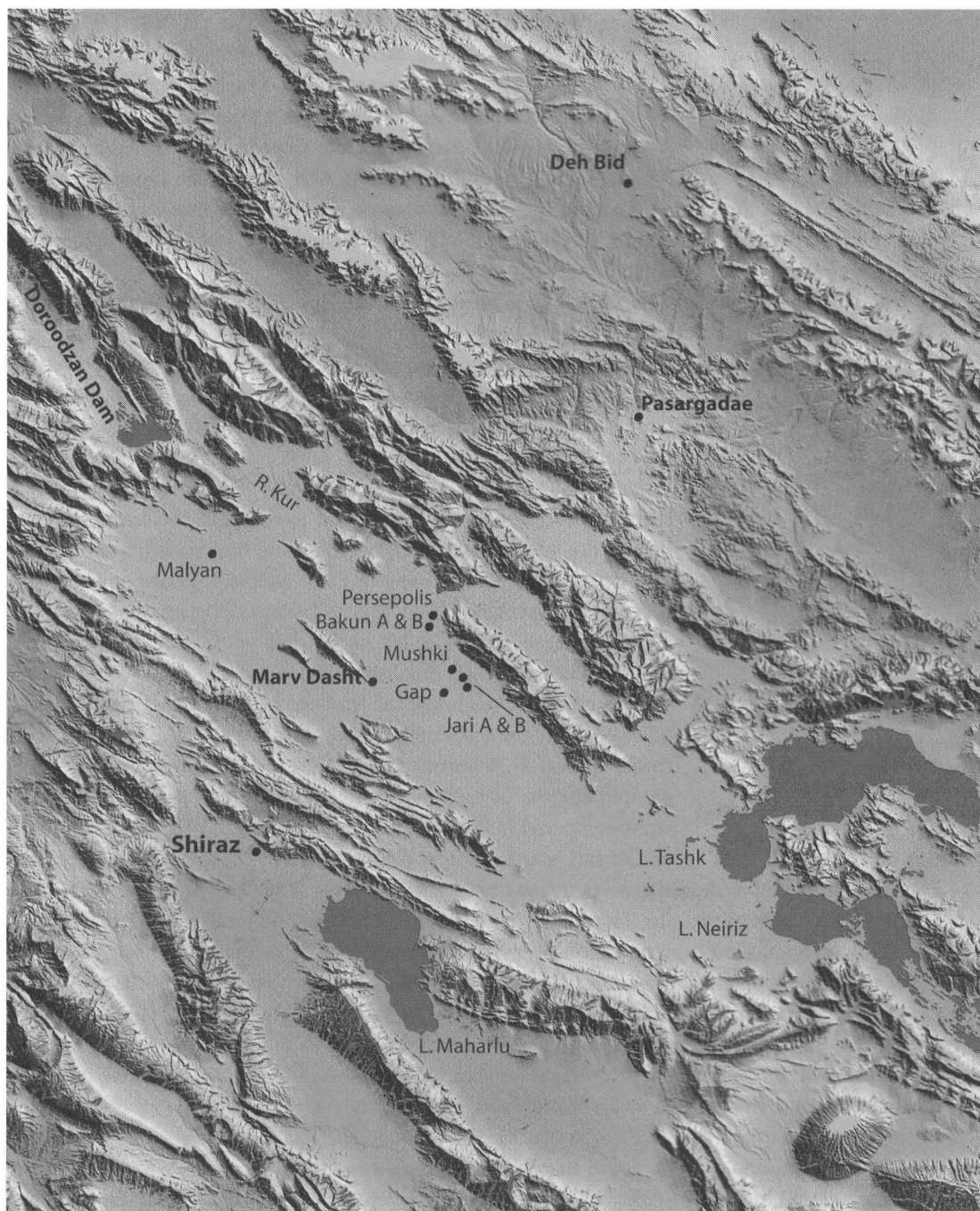
**Abbas Alizadeh, Mohsen Zeidi, Alireza Askari, Lili Niakan, and Ali Atabaki**

**Excavations at Tall-e Bakun A and B, Jari A and B, and Mushki: Reconstruction of the Prehistoric Environment in Marvdasht**

With an average elevation of 1,650 m above sea level, Marvdasht, the locus of Persepolis in Fars, is one of the most fertile regions in southwestern Iran. This small alluvial plain is bounded by the Sivand (or Pulvar) and Kur Rivers from the northwest and southeast, the Rahmat Mountain from the east, and the badlands just northwest of Lake Neiriz, a brackish lake about 60 km northeast of Shiraz (fig. 1). Today, Marvdasht is devoid of any river and the numerous springs and *qanats* (subterranean aqueducts) that irrigated the plain for centuries before the introduction of deep well drilling and mechanical pumps are all dried up. Today, almost all the farmsteads have their individual deepwater wells, with perhaps dire environmental consequences for the future. Most of the land is under wheat cultivation with occasional plots of barley and hay, primarily for local domestic use. While all the farmers believe that dry agriculture is a viable option, though risky, they invariably rely on artificial irrigation, if not over-irrigation.

The quality of the soil in Marvdasht is clearly reflected in the spatial distribution patterns of both modern-day villages and ancient mounds, especially the prehistoric mounds, as they are all concentrated in the north and southwestern parts of the plain. Outside this area the soil is grayish brown and is encrusted with salt crystals. Towards the southwest of the plain, the number of modern-day villages drops sharply and a few kilometers past Char Taq and Esmailabad, almost





**Figure 1. Map of the region**

no villages or cultivated land are found. Also, no pre-fourth-millennium B.C. occupation has been found in the southeastern part of Marvdasht.

Marvdasht was settled by small groups of farmers and hunter-gatherers from early Neolithic times. The first systematic efforts to provide a chronological framework for Fars were undertaken by Louise Vanden Berghe in the early 1950s. Based on a series of trenches in a number of

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sites in the Marvdasht area, Vanden Berghe considered the occupation at Tall-e Jari B, characterized by a soft, straw-tempered decorated buff ware, as representing the earliest Neolithic cultural phase in Fars, followed by that of the neighboring site of Mushki, characterized by red-burnished decorated pottery. A decade later, based on large-scale excavations at Jari A, Jari B, and Mushki, the Tokyo University Iraq-Iran Archaeological Expedition, directed by Namio Egami, argued that Mushki is the earliest Neolithic phase in Marvdasht. The Japanese reports also proposed that the primitive coarse, heavily straw-tempered plain ware that was first discovered at Tall-e Bakun B by Donald McCown of the Oriental Institute, followed the Jari phase and thus was considered the third Neolithic cultural phase in Fars.

The archaeological material from Tall-e Mushki was fully published, but the results of the Japanese excavations at Jari A and B were treated in only two very brief articles without presenting any convincing stratigraphic evidence for the proposed chronological framework. Neverthe-



**Figure 2. Marvdasht 2004 expedition staff. Standing from left: Mohsen Zeidi, Alireza Askari, and Reza Norouzi; sitting from left: Ali Atabaki, Abbas Alizadeh, Lili Niakan**

less, because the Japanese chronological argument was based on large-scale excavations with the results published in much more detail than those by Vanden Berghe, most archaeologists accepted the Japanese chronological order for early Neolithic Fars. William Sumner, who conducted a series of systematic surface surveys in Fars in the late 1960s and early 1970s and has made important contributions to an understanding of Fars' archaeological sequence, also accepted the Japanese chronological framework primarily because he found it in agreement with his survey data on the frequency and spatial distribution of early Neolithic sites in the region.

The current chronological framework for Fars is problematic, however. First, not a single example of Mushki red ware has been found at Jari B, whereas Mushki contained a number of Jari B painted sherds, as well as pieces that are clearly transitional, i.e., straw-tempered buff ware with typical Mushki painted motifs. Second, if Jari painted pottery followed that of Mushki, or developed out

of that, as it is believed, one expects to see the transitional style at the end of the Mushki phase in the upper levels of the site. Third, while the specific decorated potteries of Jari and Mushki are easily distinguished from one another and therefore sites can be assigned to either phase with certainty, attributing sites to the third Neolithic phase that is represented by the soft, straw-tempered plain ware of Bakun B1 is difficult and not as certain. This plain and primitive pottery is found associated with all these cultural phases, much the same as the straw-tempered smoothed ware that continued alongside the various painted styles of the entire Archaic Susiana period in lowland Susiana. In addition, some of the sherds of the early stages of the Jari phase are painted with simple and often fugitive designs that can readily fade, especially when exposed on the surface of mounds, and as such could be taken as belonging to the presumed third phase of the Neolithic period in Fars. And finally, unlike all other Neolithic regions in the Near East where a clear long-term progression of crafts, especially pottery, trends towards artistically more sophisticated and technologically more advanced stages, the standard chronological order in Marvdasht points to a regression of pottery manufacturing techniques. This regression is also evident in the assemblage of material culture as a whole.

The apparent ambiguous beginning of the development of Neolithic village life in the region notwithstanding, prehistoric cultural processes in the region culminated in the appearance in the late fifth millennium B.C. of the earliest administrative center in the ancient Near East at Tall-e Bakun A. Nevertheless, important data on the climate, fauna, and flora during the various prehis-

toric phases have not been available. This lack of certain fundamental data on the early Neolithic subsistence economy and environmental features has weakened any analysis aimed to formulate prehistoric cultural developments in Fars. Also important was the lack of sufficient and reliable calibrated radiocarbon dates for the region's prehistoric sequence.

In the spring of 2004, I was offered the opportunity to collect data on all the phases of Fars' prehistoric sequence. In late February of 2004, Mr. Hasan Talebian suggested that I conduct some archaeological work in Marvdasht. Mr. Talebian is Director of Parse-Pasargadae National Research Foundation and the Bam Citadel Reconstruction Project. I would like to thank Mr. Talebian for giving me this golden opportunity to address some fundamental questions in Marvdasht. I am also grateful to Mr. M. Beheshti, Director of the Iranian Cultural Heritage Organization (ICHO), Mr. J. Golshan, Research Deputy, and Dr. M. Azarnoush, Director of ICHO Archaeological Research Center, for their encouragement and assistance.

I feel fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with some reliable field supervisors and some forty bright and talented students of archaeology from four Iranian universities. Mr. Mohsen Zeidi (Tehran University), Mr. Alireza Askari (the Persepolis Project), Mr. Reza Norouzi (Fars ICHO), Miss Lili Niakan (ICHO Archaeological Research Center), and Mr. Ali Atabaki (Chair of Department of Archaeology at Kazeroon University), supervised the various trenches at the five sites of Bakun A & B, Jari A & B, and Mushki (fig. 2). The logistics of excavating five sites simultaneously are daunting, but the close proximity of the sites made our plan very feasible. Tall-e Bakun A and B are only two hundred meters apart and both were within walking distance from our camp, near Persepolis. Jari A, Jari B, and Mushki are about 10 km southwest of Persepolis and all the three sites are located within 200–300 m from one another. With this ideal situation, we started our work on March 28 and continued work until May 8, when I went back to Khuzestan with three expedition members to draw the contour maps of the two sites (KS-108 and KS-04) we hope to excavate in August and September 2004.

Our research was primarily designed to collect the much needed stratified faunal, floral, charcoal, and phytolith (fossilized pollen preserved in soil) samples from the five major prehistoric sites in Marvdasht, i.e., Bakun A, Bakun B, Jari A, Jari B, and Mushki. These sites are the primary basis for prehistoric cultural interpretations of highland Fars; they were excavated by the Oriental Institute and Japanese expeditions in the 1930s and 1960s when archaeologists paid little attention to collecting such data. The few available radiocarbon dates were uncalibrated and thus unreliable. Moreover, the results of the Oriental Institute excavations at Bakun B had been lost at sea and the Japanese had published only two very brief reports on their works at Jari A and Jari B.

### **Tall-e Bakun A**

At Bakun A (UTM 0682034/3310805), we excavated three stratigraphic trenches in the central and west-central parts of the mound. Because of Mr. Talebian's request that we re-excavate and reveal the administrative quarters at the site so this very important early administrative center could be reconstructed and made available to the public as a tourist attraction, we also opened large 10 × 10 m areas in the northern sector of the mound. The administrative center at Bakun A had already been excavated and exposed by the Oriental Institute in 1932. At that time the walls of the various buildings had been preserved up to 1.5 m with bases about 1 m above virgin soil. When excavations were resumed in 1937, D. E. McCown chose the center and southern sectors of the mound, leaving the northern part the lowest and most extensively excavated part of the site. We quickly discovered that the remains of the administrative center here had been com-

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pletely destroyed. After a few days of fieldwork together with the information gathered from the local farmers, we came to the conclusion that since this part of Bakun A had already been excavated and thus was the lowest part of the mound, it had been leveled, plowed, and planted between the turbulent revolutionary years of 1978–1981.

In the meantime, we were making progress in our stratigraphic trenches at the site (fig. 3:B). We initially had hoped to be able to document the stratigraphic interface between the Lapui phase that is characterized by a plain red pottery and the Bakun A phase with the famous beautifully decorated buff pottery, a stratigraphic marker not reported in the original publication by A. Langsdorff and D. E. McCown (OIP 59). But we realized that down to about 1.0–1.5 m from the surface of the mound, the entire site had been pierced by late Sasanian–Early Islamic graves, most of which were furnished with a column of grayish mudbricks at the foot. Thus it became apparent to us that here at Bakun A we would not be able to address the transition of the late pre-historic phase to a later one.

We excavated all our trenches to virgin soil that was almost at the level of the present plain. Beside the sophisticated, beautiful Bakun A pottery and a number of lithics and other artifacts, our three stratigraphic trenches yielded large samples of bones, seeds, charcoal, and phytoliths. These previously unavailable samples will be of utmost importance for the reconstruction of the physical environment, its biota, the subsistence economy, and the absolute calendrical dates for the various levels of occupation at Bakun A.

### Lapui Pottery from Tall-e Bakun A

Since the Bakun A pottery has been superbly presented and described by McCown, here we only offer a detailed description of the Lapui plain red ware that marks the end of occupation at Bakun A and many other sites in Fars.

At Bakun A we found two types of Lapui red ware: fine and common wares. Lapui fine red ware is a well-fired, hard, and sand-tempered pottery with occasional pieces of straw and chaff mixed in. The fine sand is often invisible to the naked eye, but small to medium calcite particles appear on both surfaces. The pottery has a wide color spectrum; the color ranges from yellowish red (5YR-5/6) to red (2.5YR-5/8–5/6), and reddish yellow (7.5YR-6/8). Some pieces that are mottled exhibit two to three colors. The surface is usually polished and very smooth. Some pieces have a brownish (7.5YR-5/4–6/4) or grayish (5YR-5/8 yellowish red) slip on the exterior surface. In open vessels with pedestal or ring base, sometimes both sides have a reddish buff slip (7.5YR-6/4 light brown), in which case the core is red. All pieces have a clinky ring to them and break with straight edge.

Interior irregular striations indicate the pottery is handmade or at least turned on a slow wheel. In jars with an overhanging or an everted rim, the rim is separately made and attached to the body, where seams are clearly visible. No intentional burnishing is evident except in cases where scoring was strong. The exterior surface is almost always scored with stripes 3–4 mm wide and applied horizontally or diagonally, but does not usually show any sheen. In such cases it is impossible to say if the pottery has a slip, although in a few cases a slight difference in the tone of the surface and its immediate background is observed. The core is usually the same color as the surface, but some pieces, whether thick or not, have a layer of reddish gray sandwiched between two layers of red. Rarely some pieces have a dark red slip, or even wash. Examples of rare burnished and painted with simple geometric motifs are also reported from other Lapui sites but not found at Bakun A.

### Lapui Common Ware

Dark grits are the primary inclusion in this ware, but occasionally calcite particles and chaff are mixed in. Both on the surface and in the core air pockets are visible. It breaks with an uneven edge; pieces with cracked surface also occur. The core is usually dark or light gray and changes abruptly to about 2 mm of reddish, brown, etc. surfaces. The surface color ranges from brick red (10R-5/8) to reddish brown (2.5YR-4/4) to light red (2.5YR-6/6) and even mottled buff. Some pieces have dark color on the interior and red, brown, or even reddish yellow on the exterior. Some thinner pieces do not have a gray core at all. Some have a deep red or pink color as wash/slip.

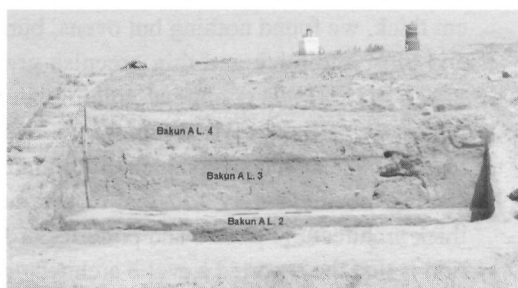
### Tall-e Jari A

About 10 km southwest of Persepolis, we excavated four trenches at Jari A (UTM 0689017/3304410) and four at the nearby Mushki (UTM 06886587/3304381), just 200 m to the northwest of Jari A (see map). We chose Jari A first because the Japanese reported the site contained three phases of occupation with associated architecture, that is, Jari A painted (Level 3), Bakun B1 (Level 2), and Gap (Level 1). The latter is an intermediate phase between Bakun B2 and Bakun A and dates probably to the first half of the fifth millennium B.C. Thus, we thought, we can easily sample all three phases at one site and study their stratigraphic relationships.

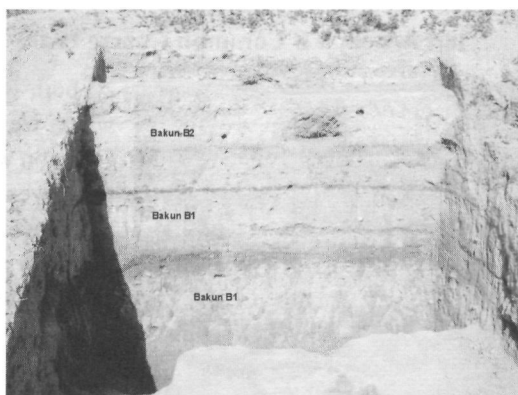
We chose the highest point on the mound, but away from the previous trenches and excavated dirt. Here, immediately below the surface we reached occupational layers with only the coarse Bakun B1 pottery, even though the surface of this trench was only 0.5 m lower than that of the central Japanese trenches, where they had reported about 2 m of architectural deposit from the Gap phase. We continued this main 3 × 6 m trench to virgin soil, which was reached at almost the same level as the present plain, even though the Japanese had reported that the base of Jari A was about 2 m below the plain level. Moreover, no occupation of any type, let alone architecture, had Jari painted ware below the Bakun B1 level, as reported in the very short Japanese reports. In fact, an intensive surface survey of the site also failed to reveal any Jari painted ware, and the few potsherds of buff painted ware we found on the surface and in some disturbed upper levels of the mound belonged to the Bakun B2 painted tradition (fig. 6) and not to that of the following Gap phase.



A



B



C

*Figure 3. (A) North, south, and west sections of the main trench at Jari A; (B) North section of Square BB 27-28 at Bakun A; (C) North, south, and west sections of the main trench at Bakun B*

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The findings of our main trench were difficult to reconcile with the Japanese report. We began to assume that perhaps our main trench was opened in a part of the site that did not have the two other cultural phases the Japanese had reported from the site, so we opened three more trenches. We placed one at the eastern edge of the mound, another on northwest of the mound, and for the third we chose the unexcavated balks of the Japanese trenches, right in the center and therefore at the highest part of the mound. We assumed that if the Japanese reached the levels they had reported, a trench right in the center of their excavation area would have to produce similar results.

In two of these trenches, close to the surface of the mound, we found sporadic pieces of Bakun B2 painted buff ware, but no architecture. Below this uppermost, disturbed level about 50 cm thick, we found nothing but ovens, burnt surfaces, stone pavements, pisé and mudbrick walls and bins, and thick and thin greenish gray clay deposits in between occupational levels (fig. 3:A). These levels contained nothing but the coarse, heavily straw-tempered and plain buff to pink ware of Bakun B1. While we were fortunate to be able to collect large samples from these levels, it seems inconceivable that the Japanese report was almost completely erroneous in presenting the site; surely a logical reason must explain why our four trenches failed to reveal the thick architectural phases and potteries of Jari painted and Bakun B2/Gap. One possible explanation is that the reported Level 3 architectural phase at the site was limited to the area of the Japanese excavations and that Jari A had a very limited occupation during this phase.

### Jari A/Bakun B Common Coarse Ware

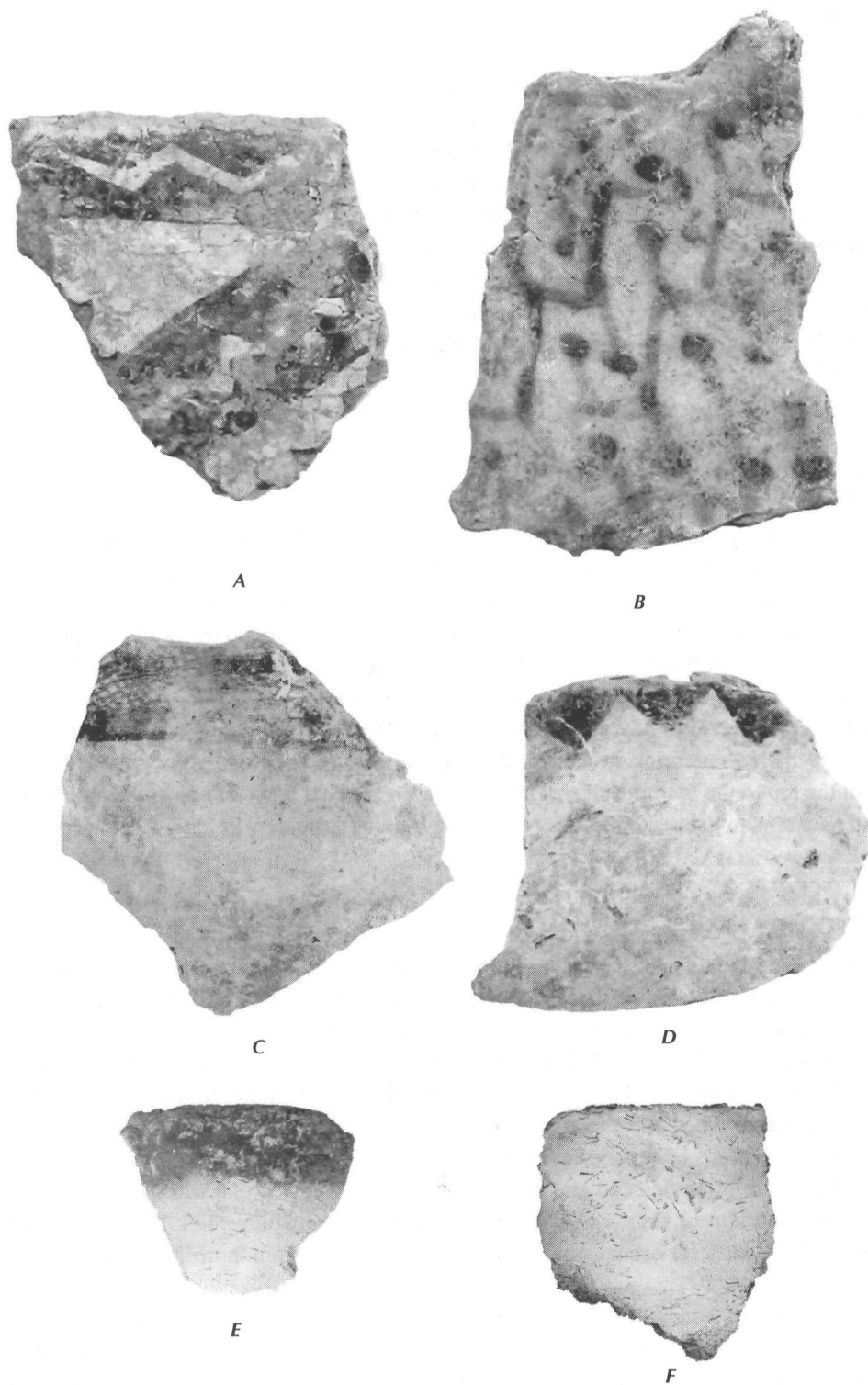


Figure 4. A basket-molded bowl from Jari A

At both Bakun B and Jari A we found two classes of pottery, which we have designated as common and medium wares. The common ware is soft, porous, and light in weight. It breaks with an uneven edge. Fragments made of this ware are heavily straw-tempered and straw-faced on both sides, and most show in the break an obvious layering technique in manufacture (fig. 4). The pieces of straw on the surface seem to be of at least five types of vegetation, based on the size and absence or presence of certain numbers of stem grooves that are clearly visible on the surface (fig. 5:F). In a large number of fragments where the thin inner layer is damaged, clear impressions of basket are visible. This indicates that vessels were first shaped using a basket and both the interior and exterior surfaces were then coated by

thinner, usually 2–3 mm, layers and wet smoothed. Nevertheless, in some cases no attempt was made to cover the basket impression as seen in figure 4.

The core varies in color from completely oxidized buff, a layer of buff and gray, to a layer of gray sandwiched between two layers of buff; sometimes the gray core grades into buff or vice versa. The surfaces are predominantly buff with varying shades, but brick red and pink also occur. On larger sherds, the surface appears mottled either dark or reddish. The surface color ranges from pinkish gray (5YR-7/2–6/2) to very pale brown (10YR-7/3), pale brown (10YR-6/3), and reddish brown (5YR-6/4–5/4). Most pieces from the upper levels at Jari A are covered with an off-white or whitish buff slip or wash and carefully smoothed. The lips are invariably very simple; beaded lips occasionally occur. While an attempt was made to smooth the surfaces, they are usually uneven. Bases are usually dimpled or concave; hole-mouth and straight-sided bowls are common.



**Figure 5. (A–B, D) Painted buff potsherds from Jari B; (C, E–F) plain and simple painted sherds from Jari A. Pottery not shown to scale**

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**Medium Ware**

This ware is found primarily on the upper levels at Jari A. This is a chaff-tempered, often chaff-face, warm buff ware. The walls are much thinner than those of the common ware; the surfaces are wet smoothed but uneven. Examples of this ware are often covered with a very pale brown, light yellowish brown (10YR-7/3–8/3) slip on both sides. The manufacturing technique is the same as the common ware, though fewer examples show a basket impression. Sometimes the slip is almost cream white. While the common ware primarily has a dark core, the medium ware is almost always completely oxidized. In the upper levels at Jari A, the color of the slip is almost exactly that of the typical white slip/wash (10YR-8/2) and becomes increasingly more frequent by the end of the sequence. Rare examples of this ware are decorated with a simple solid band or a simple geometric register just below the lip (fig. 5:C, E). The medium ware also occurs at Jari B and Mushki.

**Tall-e Jari B**

With the findings at Jari A, our decision to excavate Jari B (UTM 0689162/3304262), about 200 m to the south of Jari A, now had to include steps to address the discrepancies between the Japanese report of Jari A and the actual material and stratigraphy of the site. An intensive surface survey at Jari B revealed only Jari painted and plain wares, with no traces of Bakun B2 or Bakun B2/Gap painted buff ware. We excavated three trenches at this site and continued all of them to virgin soil and below. The earliest occupational levels are, as at Jari A, on the same level as that of the present level of Marvdasht. Moreover, while in our trenches we encountered pisé and straw-tempered mudbrick structures, the material culture, including pottery, was homogeneous from the top to the bottom and we found no traces of occupation datable to either the Bakun B2/Gap phases with painted buff pottery or to the Bakun B1 phase with only a coarse plain buff and pink ware.

**Pottery from Jari B**

Two types of plain wares and one prominent painted buff ware were found at this site. The plain wares are much the same as those discovered at Jari A and Bakun B1. The painted fragments are very similar in color and surface treatment to the medium ware of Jari A. It is a chaff-tempered pottery with occasional small dark grits. The surface color ranges from light yellowish brown (10YR-6/4) to pink (7.5YR-7/4) and white (10YR-8/2). The paste usually consists of a layer of light gray sandwiched between two thinner layers of light brown or even pinkish buff. Often the thinner, upper walls of vessels have no gray core but change into gray towards the base. The surface layers are often cracked and in the lower levels at Jari A and Mushki the simple paint is very thin and almost fugitive. A variety of painted style with a thick brown horizontal band (figs. 5:A–B, D; 6:H) occurs rarely with the white wash common of the standard painted ware (fig. 6:G).

Wide shallow and bell-shaped bowls with a flat or slightly concave base are common; as are tall, cylindrical beakers with straight or slanting walls. Bowls with a square, triangular, or even oval base also occur but are rare. Also extremely rare are bowls with carination, similar to those typical of the Mushki painted red ware.



## Tall-e Bakun B

Our excavations at Tall-e Bakun B (UTM 0682302/3310685) revealed cultural deposits and stratification similar to those of Jari A, that is, a shallow Bakun B2 deposit and a much thicker cultural deposit of Bakun B1. In our two trenches here, Bakun B2 deposits were completely disturbed by late Sasanian-early Islamic graves. Below Bakun B2 deposits, we excavated layers consisting of ovens, fire pits, ashy layers, pisé walls, postholes, stone pavements, and intermediate very hard green gray clay deposits (fig. 3:C). The only pottery we found in these lower levels was the coarse, heavily straw-tempered Bakun B1 pottery. As at Jari A, this is a primitive pottery that is mold-made using baskets, the impression of which is clearly visible on many pieces discovered at Bakun B and Jari A. We also learned that this technique was often, but not always, combined with a layering technique where finer clay layers were applied to both surfaces after the core became solid.

Excavations at both Jari A and Bakun B, however, revealed stratified evidence that is of utmost importance in the chronological order of early Neolithic Fars. While we still do not know how to reconcile our archaeological data with those reported by the Japanese, our evidence suggests that the coarse, primitive Bakun B1 pottery may represent the earliest phase of the Neolithic occupation in the region and that it was followed first by Jari B (with buff painted) and then by Mushki. We suggest this because at Jari A we noticed a progression towards a finer buff ware that sometimes has the white slip/wash signature of the typical Jari painted pottery. Almost all these finer pieces are plain, but towards the end of the sequence, simple dark painted vertical or horizontal bands appear on some simple bowl fragments. At Bakun B, the end of this sequence is marked by a thick greenish gray clay deposit. Above this, the buff painted pottery of Bakun B2 appears, just as at Jari A. Since Bakun B2 pottery has many similarities with that of the Middle Susiana phase (fifth millennium B.C.), a large temporal gap must exist between the two occupations at Jari A/Bakun B1 and Bakun B2.

## Tall-e Mushki

We were hoping that excavations at Mushki (UTM 0688658/3304381) will not only provide faunal and floral evidence, but also stratigraphic evidence that could be used to address the chronological problems involved in the order of Mushki and Jari cultures. As mentioned before, Vanden Berghe, who first proposed the chronology, argues that Jari B is older than Mushki. The Japanese, however, argue the reverse. Neither had any convincing stratified evidence for their interpretations, but since the Japanese published the results of their excavations at Mushki and presented a number of section drawings and associated data, most archaeologists, including me, accepted their argument, although with some reservations.

Vanden Berghe and the Japanese expedition had already published some specimens of the typical Jari B ware with typical Mushki designs from Jari B itself. But neither of the reports contained stratigraphic information on the vertical and horizontal distribution of what we came to conclude was a transitional phase between Jari B and Mushki. At Mushki, we opened a large 3 × 6 m stratigraphic trench close to the center of the mound but away from the previous excavation areas. We also opened three smaller 1.0 × 1.5 m trenches on the western and southern parts of the mound. All the excavated areas produced pisé and mudbrick walls and domestic structures, such as ovens, fire pits, and storage bins. The most important finding, however, was the presence of a class of pottery in the lowest levels of the site that combined the typical Jari ware with typi-

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Figure 6. (A-F) various styles of painted pottery from Mushki; (G-H) painted buff sherds from Jari B. Pottery not shown to scale.

cal Mushki designs, mixed with some genuine Jari B potsherds. This and Jari B types are completely absent from the upper layers at the site.

We have taken  $^{14}\text{C}$  samples from all these levels, but the stratified materials indicate that Mushki red-burnished painted ware developed out of Jari B painted buff ware and that the material culture assemblage of Mushki was much richer than that found at either Jari A or Jari B. Based on our excavations at Jari A, we also concluded that the Bakun B1 phase with a coarse, mottled buff and pink plain ware represented the earliest Neolithic occupation in Marvdasht and

that Jari B painted ware developed out of the Bakun B1 phase. We hope that radiocarbon analysis of the samples we collected will corroborate our stratigraphic observations.

### **Mushki Pottery**

Three distinct wares are found at Mushki: a plain coarse ware, a painted red wash ware (fig. 6:A–B, E), and a painted buff ware (fig. 6:D). While the red surface of the standard painted Mushki red ware is referred to in the literature as “slip,” it is actually a thick red wash because of its smeared appearance and varying thickness of the pigment. The plain coarse ware appeared in all the levels in association with the painted wares; but in our main 3 × 6 m trench the painted buff ware appeared in the basal levels and continued up to Layer 15, where it disappeared.

The coarse plain pottery consists of common and medium wares very similar to those found at Bakun B1 and Jari A. The painted red wash ware has a paste that is usually dark gray to light gray with chaff and occasional small grit inclusions. Completely oxidized cores exist, but depending on the thickness, a single sherd can have both gray and buff cores.

The surfaces consist of a 1–2 mm layer of pale to light orange buff that abruptly changes to gray. This layer is usually covered with a burnished red wash that ranges from yellowish red (5YR-5/8), reddish yellow (5YR-7/8), yellowish red (5YR-5/6) to red (2.5YR-4/8), and even purple. Unlike the painted red ware, examples with a purple wash usually, but not always, have simple decoration unlike the standard Mushki painted red ware. In cases where the wash is worn off, the surfaces are pitted with air pockets and appear crackled. Some varieties have a red wash or slip inside and a buff wash or slip outside. In these cases the painted patterns are most un-Mushki, such as zigzags, crosshatches, and triangles. In some cases, wide vertical areas with red wash separate simple geometric vertical panels painted on a buff to light orange buff surface (fig. 6:C). In yet another variety, both the reserved buff and red wash areas have simple painted decoration (fig. 6:F). The painted buff ware is very similar in ware, surface treatment, and decoration to the painted buff ware of Jari B. While the Japanese final report considers this type as a late development, we found this ware primarily associated with the lower levels at Mushki. The upper ten layers (about 1 m below the surface) in our main square yielded only painted red ware.

Sharply single or double-carinated vessels (fig. 6:A) with simple or everted lip and flat and concave bases are common. In such cases, the painted panel is applied to the upper part of the vessel. In a few examples, one or two pronounced ridges are molded below the lip. It is reported in the original publication that coiling was used to manufacture Mushki pottery. While this technique is evident on the examples of the coarse ware, we found no evidence of coiling in either the red painted or buff painted varieties at the site. Most probably the carinated red-painted vessels were made in two parts and joined together at the carination.

### **Marvdasht Geomorphology**

In all our trenches in the five sites, we reached virgin soil almost at or 10–15 cm below the level of the present plain. Just to be on the safe side, we excavated virgin soil another 60–70 cm. This fact requires some geoarchaeological explanations. I am hoping that in the future we will have the opportunity to address this problem, but for now our archaeological observations indicate that, oddly enough, the Marvdasht plain has not received any alluvial deposit for at least 9,000 years, if not much longer ago.

The alluvial intermontane plain of Marvdasht is one the most fertile regions in Iran. The two major Kur and Sivand (or Pulvar) Rivers empty into the brackish Lake Neiriz after passing Marvdasht from the north and southern margins of the plain. No river flows through Marvdasht. Be-

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fore the introduction of mechanical pumps, the region was primarily irrigated by *qanats* (subterranean aqueducts) and several springs that issued from the foot of Rahmat Mountain. The natural meandering dry courses of the streams could still be seen in Schmidt's aerial photographs of the plain and the meandering course of one that passed Mushki and Jari can still be seen today, although according to the locals the spring has been dry for more than a generation.

Since *qanats* and springs cannot be the agent of sedimentary deposits in Marvdasht and no flash flood wadis are in the region, nor does a river run through it now — both the main agents of vast alluvial deposits — the question arises as to what natural processes were responsible for the fertile sedimentary deposit in Marvdasht and why this process stopped in the early Neolithic period. A strong possibility is that the Sivand used to run through Marvdasht and emptied directly into Lake Neiriz about 30 km south of Persepolis, where the land is now infertile and salt crusted. The river then changed course sometime during the early Holocene period (10,000 years ago) and joined the Kur. Needless to say these are all speculations based on archaeological observations. This question can only be addressed by geoarchaeological investigations and we hope to be able to conduct a geoarchaeological survey in the region soon.

In summary, while our findings at the Neolithic sites in Marvdasht are difficult to reconcile with those reported by the Japanese expedition, much detailed analysis will have to be done before we are prepared to offer our final conclusions.

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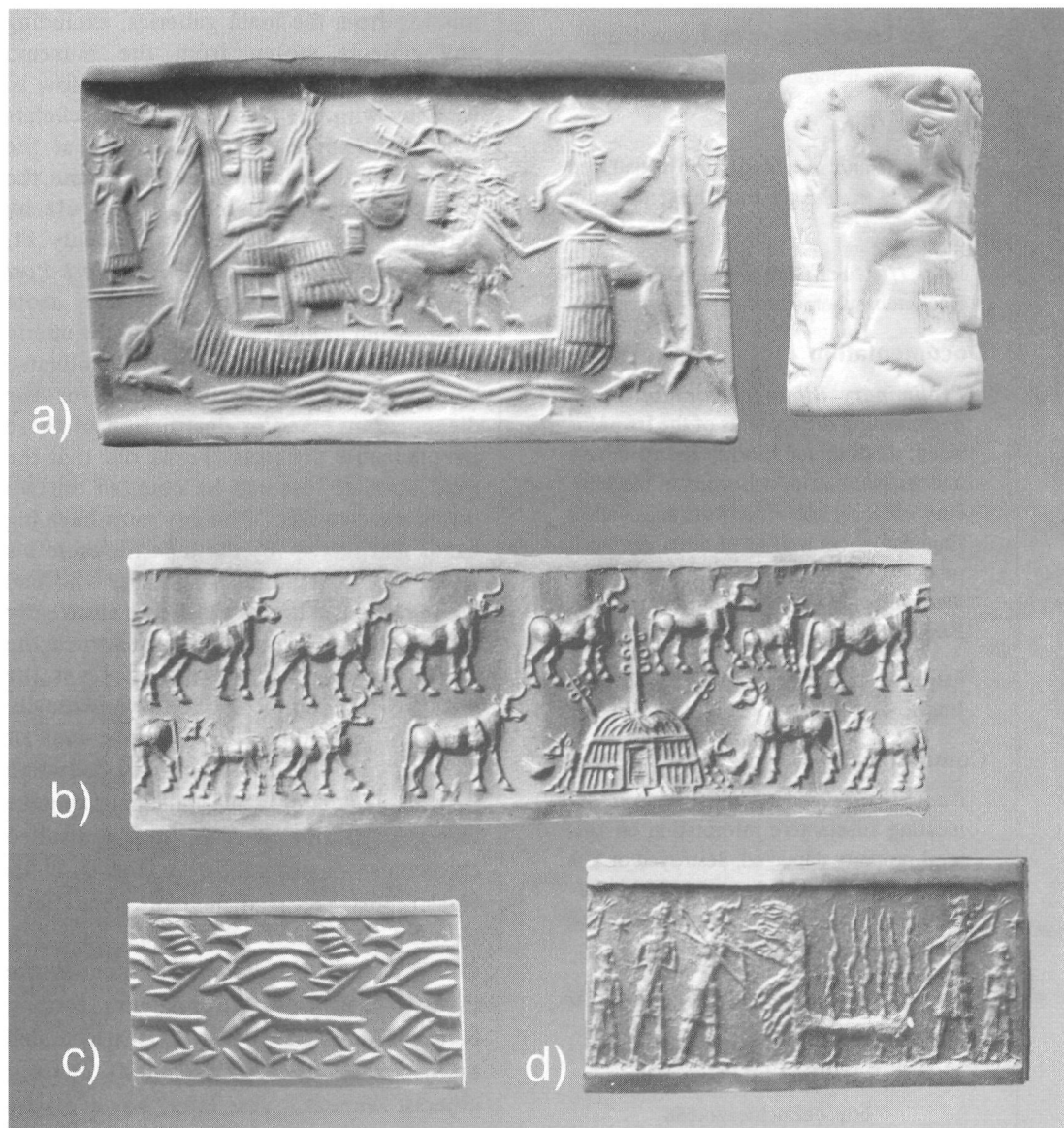
## IRAQ MUSEUM DATABASE

**Clemens D. Reichel**

More than one year has passed since the war on Iraq, the fall of Baghdad, and the looting of the Iraq Museum, but the dramatic events in Iraq continue. Even though the human tragedy rightly gets the most attention, numerous journalists recognize the terrible loss that the ongoing destruction of Iraq's cultural heritage means to humanity.

For us at the Oriental Institute, the question remained as to what to do and how to help. In April 2003 we formed the Iraq Working Group and launched "Lost Treasures from Iraq," a subsidiary of the Oriental Institute Web site that was intended to be a clearinghouse of information related to the loss of Iraq's archaeological heritage. The working group was founded in response to the first reports and pictures from the looted interior of the Iraq Museum in Baghdad and the destroyed National Library. The site hosts three projects: an Iraq Museum database, a bibliography of Iraq Museum numbers, and IraqCrisis, a moderated news list. The latter two are coordinated by Charles E. Jones (see Charles E. Jones and John C. Sanders, *Electronic Resources*). In this summary I concentrate on the progress made with our Iraq Museum Database.

To put the purpose of this database in context, I begin my discussion with a quick review of the news coverage that followed the museum looting. During the months following this incident, accounts of the infamous events that took place between April 9 and 11 changed repeatedly. Many may remember initial press reports that decried the total loss of the museum's collection,



**Figure 1. CYLINDER SEALS.** (a) Cylinder seal from Tell Asmar (ca. 2200 B.C.) with modern impression of its design (Oriental Institute Museum); (b–d) modern impressions of cylinder seals feared to have been stolen from the Iraq Museum: (b) from Khafaje, ca. 3000 B.C.; (c) from Tell Asmar; ca. 2800 B.C.; (d) from Tell Asmar, ca. 2200 B.C.

for which a figure of 170,000 registered objects was frequently quoted. Throughout April 2003 the worldwide press retained a high level of interest in the Iraq Museum, not only in the story about its looting but also in the significance that its priceless collection meant to humanity. Object names such as “Warka Head,” “Warka Vase,” or “Meskalamdug Helmet” suddenly became household terms and photographs of them almost as familiar as the gold mask of Tutankhamun. By early May, however, different reports began emerging that quoted much lower figures. Not 170,000 but only thirty-nine objects were supposed to be missing. The mistake perpetuated in these reports was an obvious one — thirty-nine was the number of objects

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**"Lost Treasures from Iraq"**

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/iraq.html>

**Visualization**

*Iraq Museum Database:* An illustrated database of objects from Iraqi museum collections:

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/Iraqdatabasehome.htm>

**Documentation**

*Preliminary Bibliographies of books* documenting the contents of the Iraq Museum, the National Library and Archives, and the manuscript collection of the Ministry of Religious Endowments — all in Baghdad — as well as of other damaged or destroyed collections in Baghdad or elsewhere in Iraq including Mosul, Basrah, Suleimaniyeh, etc.:

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/IraqBibs.html>

**Communication**

*IraqCrisis:* A moderated list for communicating substantive information on cultural property damaged, destroyed or lost from Libraries and Museums in Iraq during and after the war in April 2003, and on the worldwide response to the crisis:

<https://listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/iraqcrisis>

**Oriental Institute homepage**

<http://oi.uchicago.edu>

***Web-based resources on the Oriental Institute's homepage in response to the cultural crisis in Iraq following the 2003 war***

possible to tell from the number of missing check marks how many objects are really missing. It was therefore not surprising when in March 2004 Dr. Donny George Youkhanna, Director of the Iraq Museum, had to raise the figure of objects still missing to 15,000, despite the fact that numerous objects had been retrieved.

In short, with very few exceptions, we still do not know for certain which objects are missing and which have been accounted for. By the time a final list is available, however, it will be pointless to publish the objects in a database — many items will have disappeared for good in illicit collections. For these reasons we decided that it was worth continuing our work on the database.

missing from the main galleries, excluding any objects stolen from the museum storerooms — but the press was slow to catch up with this fact. For a while scholars who had expressed their outrage at the looting of the museum even became the object of scorn and outright ridicule by certain elements of the press. On July 11, 2003, a commentator for the *New York Post* went so far as to call the whole story about the museum looting "... a result of the utterly hysterical and entirely politically motivated campaign to blame [the U.S.] for the disappearance and/or destruction of these irreplaceable artifacts. Turns out that the total number lost can be counted on two hands and two feet." The guy must have big hands and feet — by the time he wrote his story U.S. Marine investigators, who had been working at the Iraq Museum since early May, had already publicly confirmed the theft of over 10,000 artifacts. Over the summer of 2003, the picture was gradually rectified. By June 12, 2003, the loss of almost all the Iraq Museum's seal collection — with about 4,900 seals and comprising the largest collection of seals from controlled excavations — was confirmed (fig. 1). In his final report, released in September 2003, Colonel Matthew Bogdanos, a U.S. investigator who had conducted an on-site investigation into the museum looting between May and August 2003, had tallied up a figure of 12,000–14,000 missing objects. Almost a year later, however, the museum inventory is still ongoing, and only after every object that remained in the museum after the looting has been checked against a list of all museum objects will it be

**THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE**  
**Lost Treasures From Iraq**  
**Objects From The Iraq Museum Database**

selected categories: [Sumerian](#) [Sumerian](#) [Sumerian](#) [Sumerian](#) [Sumerian](#)

- **museum number:** IM45434
- **excavation number:** W17878
- **provenance:** Unknown
- **dimensions (cm):** height: 21, width: 16
- **material:** marble (white)
- **date:** ca. 3600 BC
- **description:** stone head, eyes originally inlaid; fittings on top and reverse to attach hair piece
- **status:** stolen in April 2003; recovered in September 2003

**front-to-side view**

**more images:** [front view](#)

• **bibliography and image source:** Stoeninger, Eva: *Früh-Ladinsessende Mesopotamien*, München: Hirmer Verlag, fig. 30.  
 • **copyright for image:** Hirmer Verlag

[return to categories:](#) [Sumerian](#) [Sumerian](#) [Sumerian](#) [Sumerian](#) [Sumerian](#)

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revised: July 9, 2004 17:22:02  
 created: March, 2003  
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<http://oi.uchicago.edu/IRMO/objects/objects20.htm>

**[Iraq Crisis] Flash: Iraqi museum recovers 'Sumerian Mona Lisa'**  
 Francis Deblaine | [francis.deblaine@oi.uchicago.edu](#)  
 Wed, 27 Sep 2003 09:06:27 EDT

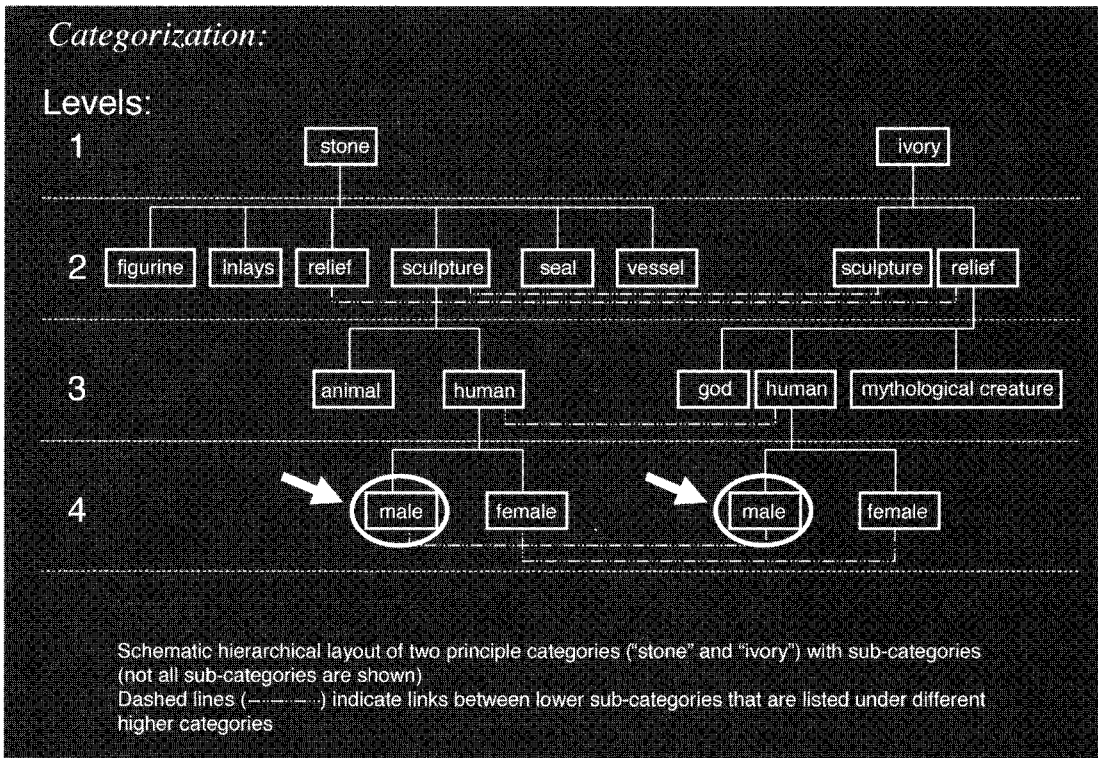
- **Previous message:** [\[Iraq Crisis\] Flash: Iraq's 'Sumerian Mona Lisa' Found](#)
- **Next message:** [\[Iraq Crisis\] Flash: On the recovery of the Warka Head](#)
- **Messages sorted by:** [date](#) | [thread](#) | [author](#) | [list](#)

On Wed, 27 Sep 2003, Francis Deblaine wrote:  
 A Sumerian head sculpture, known as the Warka Head, was recovered from the Iraq Museum in Baghdad on September 27, 2003. The head is a marble sculpture of a woman's head, known as the Warka Head, which is a masterpiece of Sumerian art. The head is a marble sculpture of a woman's head, known as the Warka Head, which is a masterpiece of Sumerian art. The head is a marble sculpture of a woman's head, known as the Warka Head, which is a masterpiece of Sumerian art.

**Figure 2. OBJECT PAGE in the online version of the Iraq Museum Database, exemplified by the “Warka Head.” A hyperlink in the “status” field connects to information concerning the retrieval of this artifact posted on IraqCrisis, displayed in a separate window**

Most of the key characteristics of our database were outlined in last year’s report in great detail; since little has changed in our principal ideas, I refrain from excessive repetition. As stated last year, the primary purpose of creating an online Iraq Museum Database was to aid the recovery of stolen objects, hoping to create a useful reference tool for customs officials and law enforcement agencies. At the same time, however, we recognized the great interest and concern for Iraq’s cultural heritage that had emerged in the general public after the looting of the Iraq Museum. By building educational components into our database we hoped to cater to this interest; our Web site could be used as an educational tool by schools, universities, and the interested public. We hoped that by stimulating public interest in the archaeology of Iraq we

## RESEARCH



**Figure 3. CATEGORIZATION OF OBJECTS in the Iraq Museum Database: hierarchical relationship of category and sub-category entries, exemplified by entry "human"**

could help create the public pressure needed to push legislative measures through Congress that would ban the illicit trade of Iraq antiquities in the U.S. In other words, with our database we wanted both to *gather* and *disseminate* information from users, a point that had to be considered in the database structure and in the layout of its menus and browser screens. The multiple audiences targeted with our database impacted the descriptive elements we had to add, exemplified here by the entry for the Warka Head, for example, probably the most famous object from the Iraq Museum (fig. 2). To identify an object only its physical characteristics, such as size, material(s), and a rough description are necessary. Find or museum numbers that were written on the objects are also unambiguous identifiers. Since the numbers could easily have been erased, however, their absence cannot be taken as proof that a suspicious object does not come from the Iraq Museum. Some controversy arose about the inclusion of external data such as the date and provenance of an object. Neither element helps with visual identification, and some even feared that giving the date of an object might in fact help to increase its value on the market. Sophisticated dealers willing to handle stolen antiquities, however, tend to have good reference libraries themselves and would hardly need our Web site to obtain such information. If, on the other hand, we were serious about reaching the public by integrating educational components into the layout of our site, then date and provenance *had* to be part of an object's description. Every one of us who has given a tour of an archaeological site or exhibit knows about the public's fascination with how "old" things are. Archaeological provenance may not exude the same fascination to some members of the public, but it is the scholar's most basic and valuable tool in establishing an object's date, its function within a systemic context, and ultimately in proving its authenticity. Adding this information also allowed us to highlight why



objects recovered in controlled excavations have a much higher scientific value to us than those that appear unprovenanced on the antiquities market, giving us a chance to rationalize our vehement opposition to clandestine excavations and illegal antiquities trade before the public. The final element of information in our database is the object's current "status," that is, its whereabouts. This is trickier than it may sound at first because we have to keep in mind that at present no one knows which objects from the Iraq Museum are actually missing. We therefore decided to define the content of our database as "objects known to be property of any of Iraq's Museums." In other words, the presence of an object in our database does not necessarily imply that it was stolen, but law enforcement agencies should be contacted immediately if any of these objects are encountered outside of Iraq. The "status" entry in the database indicates whether an object is known by us to be missing, damaged, or has been recovered, the default entry for all others being "unknown." Should an object be retrieved, it is not be removed from the database but its new status is annotated, so that the fate of an object can be tracked later on. In cases where information on the recovery of an object has been posted on the Web the "status" field provides a hyperlink to this source. The entry for the Warka Head in figure 2, for example, relates that it was stolen in April 2003 but retrieved in October 2003; a hyperlink opens up a message from the IraqCrisis archive that describes the circumstances of the recovery of the sculpture. Below the image, the source of the image and the copyright information are provided — no image is posted without explicit permission from its copyright holder. The reason for providing full bibliographic citations for the images goes beyond the proper acknowledgment of copyright and intellectual ownership. Should an object from the antiquities market with no museum number actually be identified with an object from our database, it would not suffice in court to point to a Web-address on our site to prove that this is a "stolen" object. To prove the ownership of this object in a contested case, a prosecutor will have to provide more substantial evidence, such as a book or catalog that lists this object as part of the Iraq Museum's collection or to produce an eyewitness who can to swear that he saw, studied, or photographed the object in the Iraq Museum; unless the object has been excavated by an Oriental Institute expedition, however, we may be unable to provide such information. To facilitate the work of law enforcement agencies and to avoid time-consuming delays that would come from answering queries for source information, we decided to post the necessary bibliographic data along with each object. For objects with more than one photograph we added subsidiary pages that are hyperlinked from the object's primary page. The more photographs we can provide, the better the chances of positive, unambiguous identifications.

Eventually our list of objects will be far longer than the actual list of stolen items, but we felt that our resources are better used by adding more objects and information than by reevaluating every day whether an item in our database should still be listed in it.

A few words about the organization of the data: in order to keep the large number of entries manageable, the objects need to be broken down into manageable groups or categories, which themselves are broken down in subcategories (fig. 3). On the Web site, these categories are displayed in "category" pages that contain small previews of the actual object photographs, linking to the objects' description pages. A logical primary category is the objects' material, marked "Level 1" in figure 3; so far the categories comprise "clay," "bronze/copper," "gold," "ivory," "shell," and "stone." Within each one of these groups, objects are broken down into what could be termed "principal object types," such as "figurines," "inlays," "jewelry," "metal vessels," "pottery," "sculpture," "reliefs," and "seals," marked "Level 2" in figure 3. Within these secondary categories, other subdivisions are possible. "Sculpture," for example, is

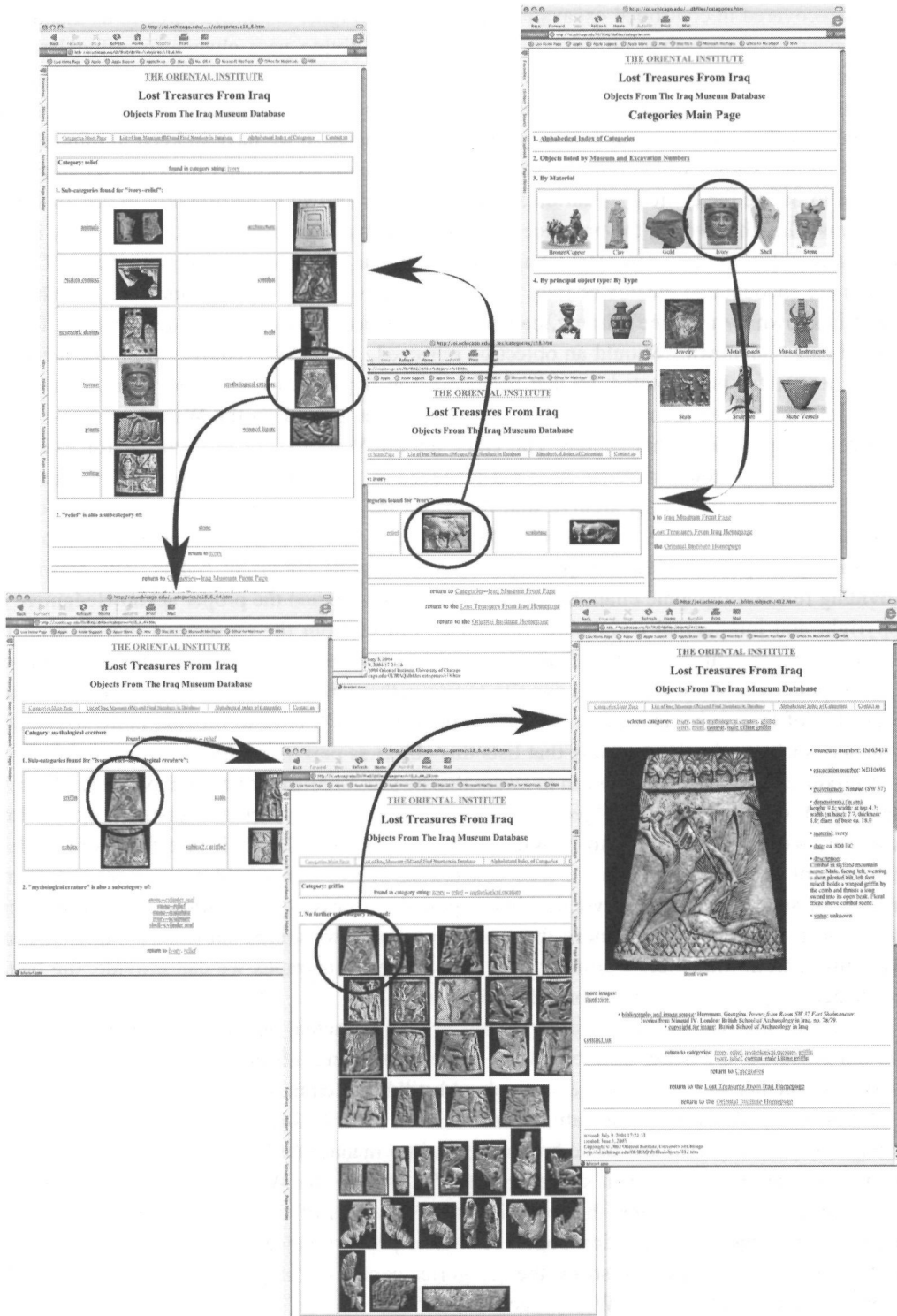


Figure 4. CATEGORY PAGES ONLINE. Example of navigation from category overview page (top right corner) to an object page through category and sub-category overview pages in the online version of the database (category string “ivory – relief – mythological creature – griffin”)

subdivided into topical subcategories such as “animals” and “human”; “human,” in turn, breaks down into “male” and “female.” This, however, is where things get tricky: many of these subcategories are not unique to their category strings. “Sculpture,” for example, is not only a subcategory of “stone” but also of “ivory”; “human” is a subcategory of both “stone-sculpture” and “ivory-relief” while “male,” among others, is a subcategory of “stone-sculpture-human” and “ivory-relief-human.” Since a user might start a search with a search item “male,” which we classified as a Level 4 category, we cannot automatically bounce him only to those that, for example, are part of the “stone-sculpture-human” category chain. A relational database can handle same-name subcategories of different name higher categories with no problem. In our display screens on the Web, however, we would have created a terrible mess if we had put all entries for “human,” irrespective of their higher categories, onto one screen. The solution was to create separate display screens for each category string and to add links to display screens of subcategories with the same name but different higher categories. The display screen for “stone-sculpture-human-male” will have a link to “ivory-relief-human-male” and vice versa.

Sound complicated? Well it is, but more for us in writing the programs to create these screens than for the end user to utilize. Figure 4 shows how a user can browse the data on the Web through successive category overview pages, exemplified here by the category string “ivory-relief-mythological creature-griffin.” Every page also contains a link to an alphabetical listing of all categories, irrespective of their placement in the category hierarchy, and a list of all known museum and find numbers.

So far we are still using a local relational database, from which the data is exported on a regular basis to HTML pages for display on the Web. Critics may rightly point out that by putting our dynamic data into static pages we are taking away the possibility of dynamic searches in the front of our database. While this is true, the advantage of HTML pages lies in the fact that every Web-browser in the world, irrespective of the version used, can read them. This is an important factor when trying to reach an audience in countries with a lower level of computerization than the U.S. or those countries that have been stuck with technology embargoes.

At present we have 2,300 objects in our local database and 914 objects in our online database — we are certainly far from being done. In the past year we have mostly added data for cylinder seals, ivories, and sculpture. This is the time to thank my volunteer force: Almost all the data entry and much of the scanning was done by Karen Terras, whose unrelenting enthusiasm and commitment to her work no money could buy. Calling her the “backbone” of the operation would not be an overstatement.

In the past year, many stories about the large-scale looting of archeological sites in Iraq for artifacts have been published (see McGuire Gibson, *Nippur*). This catastrophic loss of provenanced archaeological data in the cities of Sumer and Babylonia has reached apocalyptic dimensions to a point where a vital part of human history will soon be irretrievably lost, sacrificed to the appetite of an ever-hungry market for antiquities. Compared to this ongoing tragedy, the museum looting last April has started to feel like a “minor” incident, and some people may question why we spend so much time on an event in which the damage at least has been “contained,” as opposed to trying to stop the looting of archaeological sites in Iraq. Considering the current political and military situation in Iraq, however, archaeologists can do little aside from continuing to draw attention to the problem and lobbying hard to convince political and military leaders to do more to protect archaeological sites. The main incentive for us to continue work on our Iraq Museum Database is that for these objects Iraq’s legal

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ownership can be ascertained since we have documentation to prove it — a case that unfortunately is much more difficult to make for objects removed during a clandestine excavation that were never documented in the field.

During the past year we received feedback from numerous institutions worldwide, our Web site continues to be frequently visited, and we have been contacted by law enforcement agencies on numerous occasions regarding specific objects. To what degree we have contributed to the recovery of stolen objects from the museum we will probably never know, but our site clearly gets used by the people for whom we primarily intended it.

I do not want to close this discussion without thanking our numerous donors who have supported our work financially during 2003/2004. Their help and the public recognition of our work are greatly appreciated, have greatly helped us, and will encourage us to go on.

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## **MIDDLE EGYPTIAN TEXT EDITIONS FOR ONLINE RESEARCH**

**Janet H. Johnson**

Middle Egyptian Text Editions for Online Research (METEOR), funded as part of a Mellon Foundation grant for Less Commonly Taught Languages, made good progress this year on its annotated, interactive, electronic Readingbook for Middle Egyptian, the classic stage of the ancient Egyptian language. This Readingbook includes a corpus of texts representing the numerous genres represented in Middle Egyptian and appropriate for students beginning their study of that language and the hieroglyphic script. Students may access any section of each text, sentence by sentence, in hieroglyphs, and practice reading the hieroglyphs and transliterating and translating the text. A click of a button brings help with reading signs, understanding grammar, or finding vocabulary. In addition, the Readingbook has extensive linked informational sidebars and graphics. The sidebars include brief explanations or descriptions of topics mentioned in the texts and supplementary chronological, geographical, historical, and cultural information. The graphics include digital maps and images illustrating Egypt, the areas where individual texts were discovered, items mentioned in the texts, and to the extent possible, the actual individuals mentioned in the texts, thereby helping the student to place the individual texts in their social, cultural, religious, political, historical, and geographical contexts.

During the academic year 2002/2003, graduate students Foy Scalf and Ginger Emery proofread and copy edited hieroglyphs, transliterations, and translations of several of the texts that

## MIDDLE EGYPTIAN TEXT EDITIONS FOR ONLINE RESEARCH

have been entered in the database as well as the accompanying textual notes. Harold Hays worked to sort out “ghost hieroglyphs,” out-of-order words or signs, improperly entered grammatical links or explanations, and any other data entry problems identified by the students doing the proofreading and copy editing. Malayna Williams set up a feature within the program that shows students how to draw the individual hieroglyphs, and did data entry for the sign-list (a list ordered by type of object depicted, of all signs used in the inscriptions, with information about the identity of the object and the phonetic and ideographic usage of the sign). She also met with Katherine Strange Burke (who prepared the maps that are currently being used in METEOR) and Michael Berger (manager of the University’s Language Faculty Resource Center and the administrator of our Mellon grant) to discuss the maps which will accompany each text intended to help the student locate the place from which the text comes and other places mentioned in the text. Michael, assisted by Malayna, Vanessa Davies, and Jackie Jay, worked extensively on cultural notes and images for several of the texts in METEOR. He tested the entry feature for cultural information as he input notes for the inscription of Khnumhotep, a nomarch (“governor”) of a nome (“state/province”) in Middle Egypt during the Middle Kingdom. Michael made initial contacts with the University of Chicago legal office and “UCTech” (the University’s office of technology and intellectual property, which helps University faculty and staff with distribution of their “inventions”) to discuss publication, distribution, and copyright issues. Vanessa, assisted by Rod Edwards, began identifying the people and institutions from which we need to request permission to use copyrighted images. David Wheatcroft began putting together a reference and resource bibliography, including references to discussions of individual texts, and especially, supporting documentation.

Sandy Schloen, our programmer, spent much of the year working on the conversion of the Readingbook and its data entry tools to a (Tamino) XML database with sophisticated data and user management and powerful searching capabilities. This conversion will, when completed, produce a fuller-featured application for use by students, teachers, and scholars. The new XSTAR (XML System for Textual and Archaeological Research; see separate report) version of METEOR has imported the older Shockwave-based prototype of the dozen texts with their full grammatical analysis and links to related cultural information. The data is now stored in a new, cross-platform (i.e., not limited to PC, Mac, or Unix operating systems but available equally to all), Java interface that provides much greater flexibility for managing users and their access to the data, allowing annotation and commentary by authorized editors, tagging and linking of textual data and related resources based on customized criteria, and providing multiple views of the texts’ content. The conversion to the (Tamino) XML database will allow completion of additional editing tools, a mechanism for building and maintaining a corpus-wide glossary, and an enhanced query and analysis feature.

Classroom testing of METEOR continued this year. Johnson taught the beginning Middle Egyptian class during this academic year, demonstrated the METEOR program to the class, and encouraged all students in the class to use the program on a regular basis as a tool while preparing for class. The frequent references to what the program said about a given passage, and the very useful identification of typos and incorrect links, indicate that most students did indeed take advantage of this resource. In addition, the summer course for high school students that is offered each summer by François Gaudard through the Graham School also included an introduction to METEOR; students who have taken François’s course in previous years and are now enrolled in the college have indicated that METEOR helped them continue their study of Egyptian in the months following their summer course.

## RESEARCH

## NIPPUR AND UMM AL-HAFRIYAT

McGuire Gibson

Hopes for an early return to work in Iraq remain dim. The lack of security in Iraq makes any kind of fieldwork appear months or even years away.

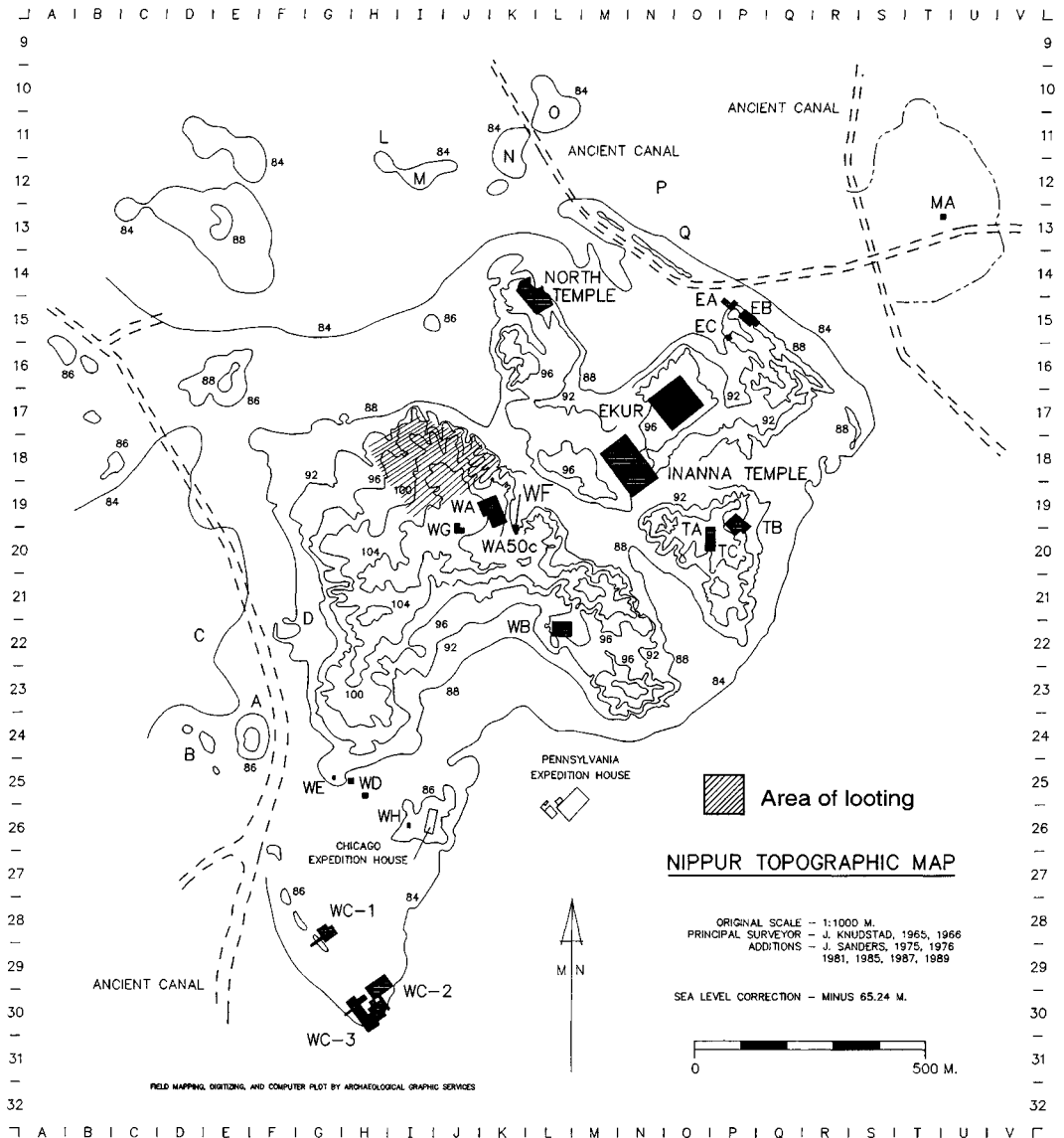
**Umm al-Hafriyat**

As recounted in last year's *Annual Report*, Umm al-Hafriyat has been very badly destroyed by looters working mostly in the past year, although some were already digging on the site in the late 1990s. When I viewed the site from a helicopter on May 21, 2003, I was able to see the enormous damage from hundreds of ragged holes throughout the site and I could confirm something that I had seen on satellite images taken in the past few years, namely that new irrigated farms have come into existence not only around but on the site. It is probable that we will not be able to complete the study of the 400 pottery kilns and related working facilities that we were able to recognize and map in 1977. We wanted to return to Umm al-Hafriyat for another season in 1978, but we were obliged to take part in salvage excavations at Uch Tepe, which was to be flooded by the new Hamrin Dam. In the 1980s, while the Iran-Iraq War was going on, the State Board of Antiquities considered it to be too dangerous for a foreign expedition to be in as isolated a situation as Umm al-Hafriyat, even though it is only 30 kilometers from Nippur. If any emergency occurred while we were at Nippur, we could pack and be on the superhighway to Baghdad within half an hour, and in Baghdad a hour later. Getting out of Umm al-Hafriyat



*Site of Zabalam, southern Iraq, showing buildings excavated by the State Board of Antiquities with looters' holes all around. This photograph was taken in September 2003, but looting continues today. Photograph by John Russell*

## NIPPUR AND UMM AL-HAFRIYAT



**Topographical map of Nippur showing approximate area of illegal digging (hatched area)**

would take more than a day. So, nothing was done on the site in the 1980s, when it was still safe from irrigation and from looters. It is a pity we missed the opportunity because the site is one of the few Mesopotamian towns known to be devoted to industry — the manufacture of pottery and baked bricks. The site lies on the levee of an ancient Euphrates channel, and the clay at the site is extraordinarily plastic. Maybe something can still be done there. It would take an extended visit to make a careful assessment of the damage from looters' holes and from new fields. For now, Umm al-Hafriyat seems to be just another of the hundreds of sites of ancient Sumer to be destroyed in the past year. It is, as yet, an unidentified town, and even when it is identified, it will not have the historical importance of Adab, Shuruppak, Umma, Zabalam, Isin, and Bad Tibira,

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*Nippur Ziggurat showing damage to Ashurbanipal baked brick façade. Looters remove bricks to look for those inscribed and discard those without inscriptions*

all of which are virtually destroyed or very badly damaged. But the loss of the technological information that the site might have yielded is still major.

## Nippur

Nippur was spared looting until early June 2003, when dozens of men drove off our guards and worked unhindered through July. At that time, Iraqi police, who had finally been established in the nearby town of Afak, came out to the site and stopped the digging. Reports by the local antiquities official indicate that the damage was limited to the northern part of the West Mound. It is not certain that these reports can be trusted. Unless one is familiar with the site and is willing to walk over all of it, the damage cannot be ascertained. A United States Marine unit visited and took photographs, and from those pictures, which were forwarded to me, you would hardly know that the site was looted. Of course, they only went to the ziggurat area and did not turn their cameras to the West Mound at all. At the ziggurat, looters tore off baked bricks from the Assurbanipal facing. They were looking for inscribed bricks, which are popular items on the illegal antiquities market.

In e-mails from a Spanish colonel who was in charge of the Diwaniya area (which includes Nippur), I learned that Nippur was going to be designated for special treatment by the occupying authority. I heard mention of an estimate for the building of a guardhouse and a fence around the



site. I urged him to check with the antiquities authority to get the cadastral survey of the site to make sure that everything that was archaeological would be included within the fence. The guardhouse was for the use of a new body called the Antiquities Police, which the occupying authority had decided to create. It is not clear how this new force will relate to the 1,500 or so guards on sites around the country, who are already paid for by the Antiquities Authority, nor to the guards paid for by foreign expeditions. I sent off several e-mails to the colonel, to the Coalition Provisional Authority, to the State Board, and to the man who acts as my agent in Baghdad and is supposed to keep track of the site, trying to get details on when and where the house would be built, what would be inside the fence, and what would be the relationship between the new guards and Nippur's own guards, whom the Oriental Institute continues to pay. I even sent a plan of the site, indicating what was and was not designated as antiquities land. I got no information. Finally, at a recent meeting at Petra in Jordan, I was able to speak personally with the State Board representative overseeing all sites, and more important, with the local Antiquities representative in the area around Nippur. It became clear that the central offices in Baghdad, up through June of 2004, had little or no information on or control over antiquities matters in the provinces because they had too few vehicles and no means of communication. Individuals in the Occupation Authority were making decisions about sites without consulting with the State Board, and it appears that they even ignored the American advisors in the Ministry of Culture who were installed to give advice on antiquities. That is why American and Polish troops were able to carve up parts of Babylon for helicopter pads and other installations without anyone questioning the advisability of making an antiquities site into an army base.

At Petra, the local Antiquities Authority representative for the Nippur area told me that a contract had in fact been given to a United States company to build the house and fence at Nippur. That company subcontracted with an Iraqi firm in Hilla, which showed up on the site in March with a bulldozer and began to demolish our expedition house. Our guard was able to stop the bulldozer but only after it had demolished our main gate and the entire wall on the right side of the gate, damaging and exposing the bathroom of the house staff. Our guard went to Baghdad to report to the Antiquities Board, which got the destruction stopped. The damage has not been repaired and our house lies open for thieves to take the steel railroad that is the only thing of value still in the house. I am trying to find out from my agent how this all happened, and why he did not tell me about it when it happened. I am also trying to get the repairs done and I need to find out which company got the contract so that we can make a claim for compensation.

The new guardhouse, of baked brick, has been built next to our guards' house, but it is unfinished because the contractor ran out of money. The fence was also put in, but I do not know yet where it runs, what it protects, and even if it has any wire on it. I suspect that in putting in the fence, they have probably left out part of the site, and they have merely supplied a new source of wire for the local farmers.

## Publications

On a more positive note, we have made more progress on publishing our backlog of reports. Alexandra Witsell, a graduate student, is formatting the existing manuscript on the Sasanian-Islamic transition so that it will go more easily into the Oriental Institute editorial system. I still have to write a major chapter and rework the conclusions. I hope to get this finished in the coming summer. We are also looking over the Umm al-Hafriyat notes and plans, starting to lay out the plates. Our report may well be the only evidence of the existence of this site, given the damage done to it. I try to retain some optimism. Maybe the destruction is not as bad as it looks.

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It has become even more important to publish our backlog in light of the loss of objects in the looting of the Iraq Museum last year. The inventory of the museum storerooms is still not finished, and the number of definitely lost items has reached 15,000. About 4,000 objects have been recovered. Among the greatest losses were more than 5,000 cylinder seals, which have not been recovered. The latest detailed information from the museum gives some details on the places where the stolen seals had been excavated: Two hundred and fourteen are from Nippur and all of the nineteen seals we found at Umm al-Hafriyat are also missing. Also affecting the Oriental Institute is the loss of 424 seals from the Diyala sites that were excavated in the 1930s. These losses include some very famous seals, such as one in Indus-Valley style and another with gods battling against a hydra, both from Tell Asmar.

It should be emphasized that the losses from the Iraq Museum, which seem so huge, are small compared to the number of artifacts being ripped out of hundreds of sites in the south of Iraq each day. For more than a year, the great sites of Sumer and many smaller sites have been systematically plundered to feed the international market in stolen antiquities. The Iraqi farmers and laborers who are doing the actual digging are only trying to find some way to make a living in a country with no jobs. The fault is not theirs, but lies with the dealers and collectors who drive the illegal market. The loss of objects is bad enough, but the destruction of the ancient sites, with their precious information on the context of the artifacts, is far more damaging. By destroying their past, the Iraqi diggers unknowingly destroy their futures, because if left intact these sites would be the source of employment in excavation and tourism for centuries to come. The loss for Iraq is thus enormous, but it is a loss to world heritage as well. In a narrower sense, we academics are losing the basis for our entire field. Even the most beautiful object or the most informative text is worth only a small fraction of what could be learned if the item had been left in the place where it was used or at least discarded in antiquity.

The occupying forces have proven incapable or unwilling to stop the looting, although millions of dollars have been given in contracts which create schemes that do not seem to materialize. The tragedy for Mesopotamian archaeology continues unabated, and the situation will not get better until a real Iraqi government is in place, including a strong Antiquities organization, with power to enforce the law. The Iraqis have had an outstanding record of protecting their archaeological heritage in the past, and I hope they will be allowed to do so again.

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## PERSEPOLIS FORTIFICATION TABLETS

Gil J. Stein

### Return of the Persepolis Fortification Tablets to Iran – A Promise Kept

In late April–early May 2004, I had the privilege of helping to work toward the fulfillment of a seventy-year-old promise made by the Oriental Institute to the people of Iran by returning 300 clay tablets from the larger body of Persepolis Fortification Tablets that had been on long-term loan to the Oriental Institute for study and publication. The texts on these tablets have extraordinary importance for our understanding of the Persian empire and ancient Iran.

## The Persepolis Fortification Tablets: A Brief Overview

One of the greatest accomplishments of the Oriental Institute is surely its excavations during the 1930s at Persepolis, the 2,500 year old monumental capital of the Achaemenid Persian empire. In the first season of excavations, Ernst Herzfeld and his team from the Oriental Institute discovered a deposit containing tens of thousands of tablets and tablet fragments impressed with writing in the cuneiform script; the trove was found in one of the rooms of the northern fortification wall surrounding the palaces, treasuries, and temples of Persepolis.

In 1937, the Iranian government allowed the tablets to be brought to the Oriental Institute on a long-term loan for purposes of translation, analysis, and publication. The tablets were recovered from the ground in an extremely fragile and often fragmentary state, greatly adding to the difficulty of their preservation and translation. The massive quantity, fragile physical condition, and the challenges of reading the texts have made their analysis and publication a difficult, long-term project.

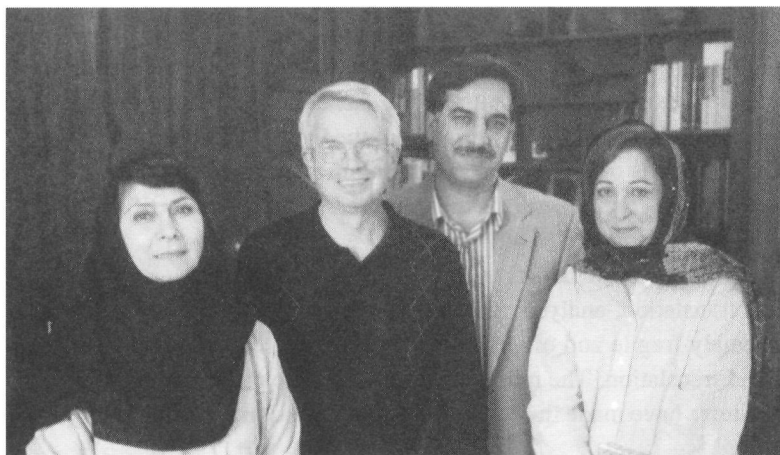
The Persepolis Fortification Archive quickly came to be recognized as a uniquely important find from the philological, historical, and art historical points of view. As scholars such as George Cameron and Richard Hallock began the arduous task of translation, they discovered that the texts were actually written in an extremely difficult dialect of the Elamite language, with numerous Old Persian loanwords also incorporated into the documents. In fact, the texts are one of our most important single sources for understanding Old Persian. A significant number of the tablets also bore Aramaic texts, incised and written in ink alongside the Elamite cuneiform impressed script. The mix of languages, scripts, and writing media used on the Persepolis Fortification Tablets mirrored the multi-cultural character of the Persian empire itself. At the same time, the complexity of the Elamite dialect is so great that no more than a handful of scholars in the world can actually read the texts.

The actual content of the texts is no less remarkable than their language. The Persepolis tablets derived from an imperial administrative archive — providing a unique first look at how the Achaemenids actually ruled their empire. Although the texts were written in an extremely abbreviated format, they nevertheless provided a wealth of information. We can date the texts with great precision to a very narrow time frame — a short period from ca. 509 to 494 B.C., the thirteenth to twenty-eighth years of the reign of Darius I. The texts record the disbursement of food rations for officials and other individuals who were traveling on official business within the boundaries of the empire. The range of names and nationalities of the people who were receiving these rations show clearly the impressive scale and diversity of the Persian empire, which ruled vast territories in the Near East from Egypt to India, including parts of Greece, Anatolia, and central Asia. In some cases, the names of government officials, such as governors of the Persian Satrapies



*Sharokh Razmjou and Madame Zahra Jaffar-Mohammadi, of the Iranian National Museum, and the Oriental Institute's Laura D'Alessandro examine the Persepolis Fortification Tablets after their return to Tehran. Photograph by William Harms*

## RESEARCH



*Madame Zahra Jaffar-Mohammadi, William Harms, Director of the Iranian National Museum Mohammed Reza Kargar, and Laura D'Alessandro. Photograph by Gil J. Stein*

(provinces) actually match the names listed by the contemporary Greek historian Herodotus. Nothing like this had ever been found before. In 1969, Richard Hallock published the landmark book *Persepolis Fortification Tablets* (Oriental Institute Publications 92), which made available to the scholarly community the first set of systematic analyses and translations of more than 2,000 of these texts. The

continuing analysis and publication of the (many) remaining texts are proceeding under the direction of Matthew Stolper, John A. Wilson Professor of Assyriology at the Oriental Institute, working closely with colleagues such as Oriental Institute Research Associate Charles E. Jones and Iranian scholar Majid Arfaee. Most recently, the Chicago Persepolis team has embarked on a long-term project in collaboration with XML System for Textual and Archaeological Research (XSTAR) to develop a comprehensive digital publication program integrating high quality digital images of the Persepolis Fortification Tablets and seal impressions with reliable transliterations and editions of the texts. We believe this is an important first step in making the entire corpus available to the scholarly community.

The Persepolis Fortification Tablets emerged as a uniquely valuable resource for art historians as well. Scholars studying Achaemenid art, iconography, and symbolism had always been limited in their studies to a relatively small group of monumental reliefs such as the Bisitun Inscription or the magnificent reliefs on the walls of Persepolis itself. However, the Persepolis tablets provided a new corpus of art — cylinder seal impressions. These miniature masterpieces impressed into the clay of the Persepolis Tablets have dramatically expanded the range of examples of Achaemenid art, often depicting motifs and scenes unknown on the larger-scale carved stone reliefs. Most importantly, the fact that each seal impression is on a well-dated tablet from a secure archaeological context enabled art historians Mark Garrison and Margaret Cool Root to develop a more solidly based understanding of the nature of Achaemenid art than ever before, its relationship to its Near Eastern antecedents, and its connections with contemporaneous glyptic in Mesopotamia and other lands conquered by the Persians. Mark Garrison, Margaret Cool Root, and Charles E. Jones have published the first two volumes of their path-breaking research as *Seals on the Persepolis Fortification Tablets, Volume 1: Images of Heroic Encounter* (Text and Plates; Oriental Institute Publications 117; 2001).

### Return of the Tablets

From the time the tablets first arrived in Chicago, researchers at the Oriental Institute were keenly aware of their importance as the cultural patrimony of the Iranian people, and of their scholarly responsibility not only to publish the texts but also to ensure their return to Iran once their analysis, recording, and publication were complete. George Cameron returned the first set

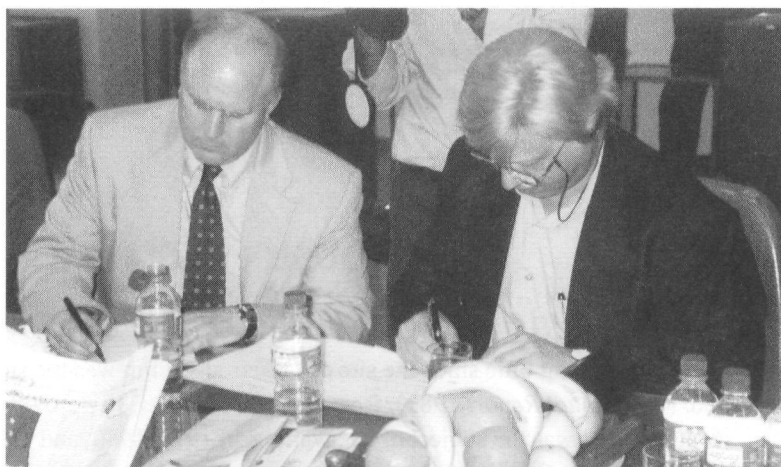
of 179 tablets in 1948. A second shipment of more than 37,000 tablet fragments followed in 1951. As described above, the analysis and publication of the texts proceeded apace through the 1960s and 1970s, although international scholarly contacts with Iran became more sporadic and difficult during the first two decades after the Iranian revolution of 1979.

However, within the last four years, relations between the Oriental Institute and our Iranian colleagues have slowly been reestablished, thanks in no small part to the patient diplomatic efforts of Oriental Institute Research Associate Abbas Alizadeh, who developed the first joint Iranian-American archaeological fieldwork (the Khuzestan Prehistoric Project) to take place in Iran since the Iranian revolution. At the same time, Alizadeh rebuilt our working relationship with the Iranian National Museum and with the Iranian Cultural Heritage Organization (ICHO).

This rapprochement culminated in 2003 with the Iranian sponsorship of the First International Congress on the Relations between Iran and Ancient Western Asia in Tehran, at which the Oriental Institute was well represented by Abbas Alizadeh, Charles E. Jones, Matthew Stolper, and myself. While in Tehran for the conference, we met with Mr. Mohammad Beheshti, Director of ICHO, and his staff to brief them on the progress of the analysis and publication of the texts. We presented our colleagues with copies of our most recent publications and CDs containing digital editions of 300 Persepolis texts. Most importantly, ICHO reaffirmed its desire that the Oriental Institute continue with its program of analysis and publication. On behalf of the Oriental Institute, I gave my word that within a year we would return the first batch of 300 analyzed and published Persepolis Fortification Tablets. Over the next year, Matthew Stolper made digital images of the tablets to be returned, while Laura D'Alessandro, Head of Conservation at the Oriental Institute, and her colleagues Alison Whyte and Vanessa Muros packed the delicate tablets in secure, acid-free archival boxes in preparation for their journey home.

On April 29, 2004, a team consisting of Laura D'Alessandro, William Harms from the University of Chicago News Office, and myself left for Iran, each of us carrying by hand a small suitcase containing 100 Persepolis tablets. On our arrival in Tehran at 1:30 in the morning, we were met and whisked through customs by Mr. Shahrokh Razmjou and Madame Zahra Jafar-Mohammadi, our colleagues from the Iranian National Museum. We drove directly to the museum and turned over the tablets, which were then placed in a locked and sealed underground storeroom until the formal ceremony of their return the next day. We finally fell into bed at 3:30 AM, exhausted but relieved that the tablets had been safely delivered.

The next day, May 1, at the Iranian National Museum, along with our Oriental Institute colleague Abbas Alizadeh, we held a formal ceremony at which Mr. Mohammad Beheshti and Mr. Mohammad Reza Kargar, Director of the National Museum, signed a formal document acknowl-



*Gil J. Stein and Mohammad Beheshti, Director of the Iranian Cultural Heritage Organization (ICHO), signing the document acknowledging receipt of the 300 Persepolis Fortification Tablets by the Iranian National Museum. Photograph by William Harms*

## RESEARCH



*Gil J. Stein and Mohammad Beheshti after signing the document accepting the return of the tablets. Photograph by William Harms*

edging the receipt of the 300 Persepolis tablets. A large number of reporters from Iranian newspapers, radio, and television were on hand to record the occasion.

In addition to returning the tablets, we were committed to building new bridges of scholarly cooperation with the Iranian National Museum and ICHO. In keeping with this effort, Laura D'Alessandro gave a formal workshop presentation on May 2 to the archaeological conservators of ICHO and the museum, in which she focused on the ways that the Oriental Institute deals with the same types of conservation problems as those faced by conservators in Tehran. The

workshop was lively, and we were all impressed by the resources, commitment, and skills of D'Alessandro's Iranian conservation colleagues. Over the next four years, we plan to return to Tehran to conduct further annual workshops focused on important topics in conservation and ancient studies.

The analysis and publication of the texts on the Persepolis Fortification Tablets is a difficult, long-term endeavor. By entrusting us with these tablets on a long-term loan, the Iranian people and their antiquities service have shown their commitment to have this collection properly recorded and to make it accessible to scholars worldwide. As the work of analysis of the Persepolis Fortification Tablets continues, we hope to return additional published tablets to Iran. I am happy that we at the Oriental Institute have been meeting our professional and ethical commitments to our colleagues. By building trust in this way, I think we can look forward to many years of growing cooperation in exploring together the ancient history of Iran.

## QUSEIR AL-QADIM

**Katherine Strange Burke**

It has been a long time since the site of Quseir al-Qadim was the subject of an *Annual Report* article (see *Annual Report* 1983). Recent work, however, has provided an excuse to revisit the ancient port that was the subject of excavations in 1978, 1980, and 1982, by Donald Whitcomb and Janet Johnson. Quseir al-Qadim lies on the Red Sea coast of Egypt, about 80 km south of Hurghada, and 8 km north of the modern port town of Quseir. The site mound is about 10 hectares, or 25 acres, in area and sits at the head of a coral bay that once served as the harbor. Behind it extensive *sebakh* or mud flats become badlands comprised of terraces and raised beaches. The



**Figure 1. View of the Sheikh's House from the north. Photograph by D. Whitcomb**

coastal plain here is only about 2 km wide before the low hills of the Red Sea mountains begin as one moves westward toward the Nile Valley. Behind Quseir the Wadi Hammamat stretches west to the towns of Qena and Qus, connecting this Red Sea coastal region with the Luxor region of the Nile Valley. The area is extremely arid, having a mean annual rainfall of 3.4 mm, and no source of freshwater less than a day's journey away. Vegetation is sparse and consists mainly of small shrubs.

According to Whitcomb and Johnson's excavations,<sup>1</sup> the two main periods of occupation and use of the port are the Roman (when it was known as Myos Hormos) and the late Ayyubid to Mamluk.<sup>2</sup> Other periods are in scant evidence: a few traces of the Ptolemaic period are seen in

<sup>1</sup> Two interim reports have been published on the excavations by Whitcomb and Johnson, along with numerous short articles: Whitcomb and Johnson, *Quseir al-Qadim 1978*; Donald Whitcomb and Janet H. Johnson, "Quseir el-Qadim und der Rote Meer-Handel," *Das Altertum* 26/2 (1980): 103–12; Donald Whitcomb and Janet H. Johnson, "Quseir al-Qadim," *The Oriental Institute Annual Report 1979–1980* (Chicago, 1981), pp. 30–35; Donald Whitcomb and Janet H. Johnson, "Egypt and the Spice Trade," *Archaeology* 34/6 (1981): 16–23; Donald Whitcomb and Janet H. Johnson, "Quseir al-Qadim," *The Oriental Institute Annual Report 1980–1981* (Chicago, 1981), pp. 32–35; Donald Whitcomb and Janet H. Johnson, "1982 Season of Excavations at Quseir al-Qadim," *The American Research Center in Egypt Newsletter* 120 (1982): 24–30; Donald Whitcomb and Janet H. Johnson, "1982 Season of Excavations at Quseir al-

Qadim," *The Oriental Institute Annual Report 1981–1982* (Chicago, 1982), pp. 30–40; Donald Whitcomb and Janet H. Johnson, *Quseir al-Qadim 1980: Preliminary Report* (American Research Center in Egypt, Reports 7; Malibu, 1982); Donald Whitcomb and Janet H. Johnson, "Quseir al-Qadim," *The Oriental Institute Annual Report 1983–1984* (Chicago, 1984), pp. 17–18.

<sup>2</sup> This was reaffirmed by recent excavations of the University of Southampton. Although they have been publishing preliminary reports for all periods of occupation, the investigation of Myos Hormos is the primary goal of Southampton's excavations: D. P. S. Peacock et al., *Myos Hormos - Quseir al-Qadim: A Roman and Islamic Port Site, Interim Report 1999* (University of Southampton - Department of Archaeology, 2000); D. P. S. Peacock et al., *Myos Hormos - Quseir al-Qadim: A Roman and Islamic Port Site, Interim Report 2000* (University of

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Quseir al-Qadim, 1982  
The Sheikh's house

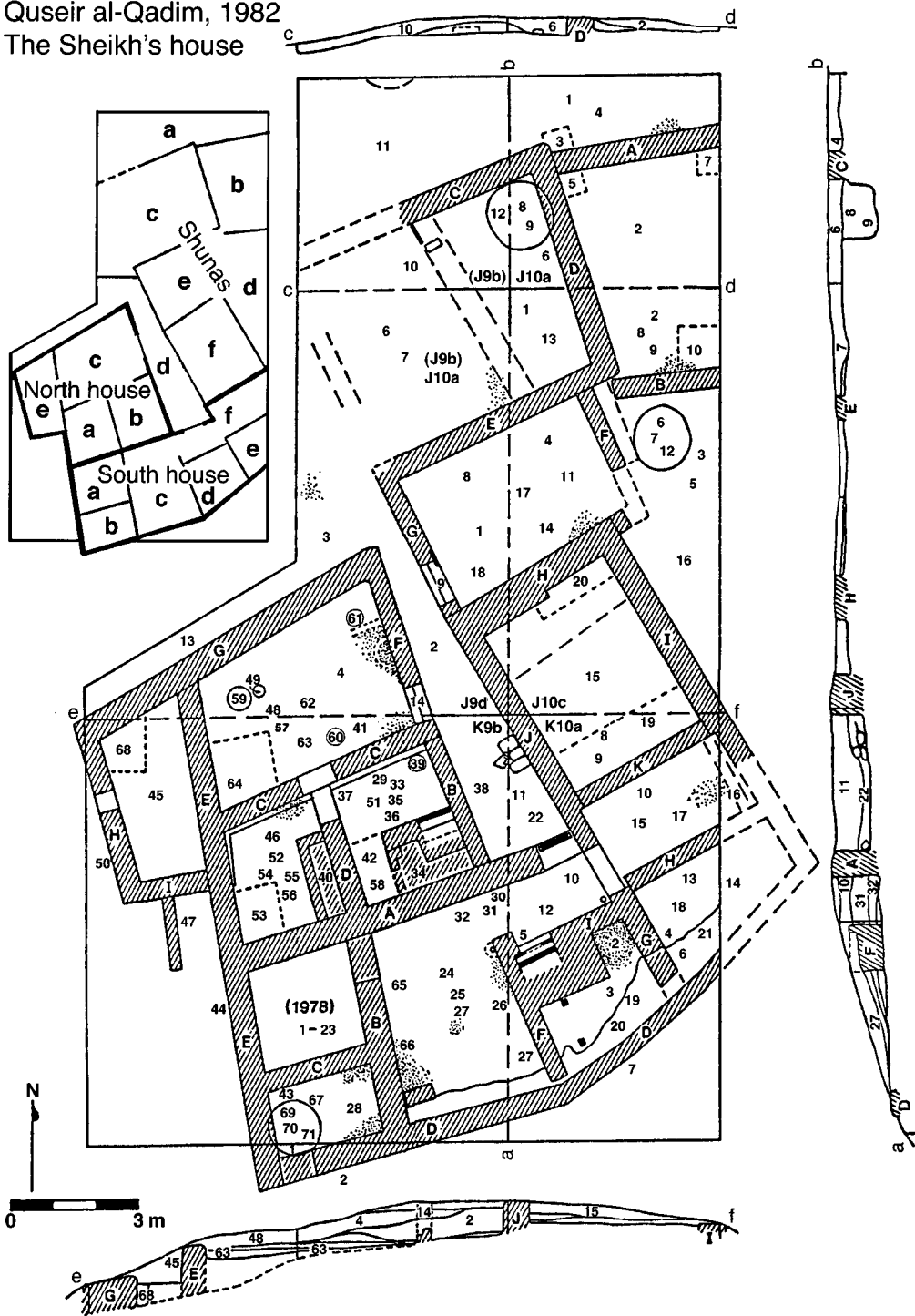


Figure 2. Plan of the Sheikh's House. Drawing by D. Whitcomb



carved blocks scattered throughout the modern town, and the Ottoman fortress, in modern downtown Quseir, has been recently cleared. Although the Roman period was well investigated, the Islamic periods have been at the center of the Oriental Institute's work since the excavations.

"The Sheikh's house," revealed during the 1982 season, has been the focus of recent work on Quseir al-Qadim. This area was a hill or knoll on the southern edge of the site, sitting above the silted-in Roman bay (fig. 1). This complex of stone and mudbrick-walled structures is interpreted as two adjoining houses, associated storerooms, and a passageway between them. The two houses are on the west and south sides of the knoll, and the storerooms line up northwest to southeast along the east side (fig. 2). Each house consists primarily of one large room (approximately  $5.5 \times 4.0$  m each) and two smaller rooms alongside the large room, usually  $3.0 \times 2.5$  m. Each preserved a stairway to the second floor or roof, with some wooden treads extant. The storerooms were larger (ca.  $4.0 \times 2.0$ – $5.0$  m) and each was entered off the corridor. Two large wooden keys were hidden beneath the threshold of one of the storerooms. One key is inscribed with the name of its owner, which is possibly read as Hajj Baraka (fig. 3).<sup>3</sup>

The excavation of these houses provided a rich assemblage of artifacts, all well preserved due to the region's aridity. Artifacts of wood, leather, fiber, basketry, floor matting, bundles of reeds (probably for roofing), cloth, paper, and plant matter were found in and around the house, in addition to the expected artifacts of ceramic, glass, and stone (figs. 4–10).

The textiles were among the more spectacular finds, as in addition to many undyed pieces of linen and cotton, a few brightly colored resist-dyed pieces were found. These blue or red on natural designs are made when a resist, such as wax, is applied to the cloth in a pattern before it is dipped in dye. The resist prevents the dye from penetrating the fabric, leaving a colored pattern on a natural or white ground. They are likely of Indian origin, although some may have been locally made. Some of these textiles have been published by Gillian Vogelsang-Eastwood,<sup>4</sup> but recently Whitcomb had the opportunity to present those found at the Sheikh's House at a University of Michigan conference, "Communities and Commodities: Western India and the Indian Ocean (eleventh–fifteenth centuries)." Whitcomb and I subsequently coauthored a paper for *Ars Orientalis* on these richly decorated textiles and their archaeological contexts (figs. 11–12),<sup>5</sup> showing that the imported fabrics were found alongside ceramics imported from Yemen, China, and possibly Nubia (fig. 13) and seem to have been considered valuable.

The paper artifacts were also a breathtaking find, as thousands of fragments of letters, documents, and even the occasional ink drawings (fig. 14) were discovered all over the site, including at least 871 from the Sheikh's House alone. These documents were found scattered among the rest of the debris that remains from the occupation and abandonment of the houses and store-

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Southampton - Department of Archaeology, 2001); D. P. S. Peacock et al., *Myos Hormos - Quseir al-Qadim: A Roman and Islamic Port Site, Interim Report 2001* (University of Southampton - Department of Archaeology, 2002); D. P. S. Peacock et al., *Myos Hormos - Quseir al-Qadim: A Roman and Islamic Port Site, Interim Report 2002* (University of Southampton - Department of Archaeology, 2003); D. P. S. Peacock et al., *Myos Hormos - Quseir al-Qadim: A Roman and Islamic Port Site, Interim Report 2003* (University of Southampton - Department of Archaeology, 2004). Also see <http://www.arch.soton.ac.uk/Research/QuseirDev/>.

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<sup>3</sup> Fredrik T. Hiebert reads the inscription *miftah al-haji baraka* "Key of Haji Baraka" in "Commercial Organization of the Egyptian Port of Quseir al-Qadim: Evident from the Analysis of the Wooden Objects," *Archéologie Islamique* 2 (1991): 127–59. For alternate readings, see Li Guo, *Commerce, Culture, and Community in a Red Sea Port in the Thirteenth Century: The Arabic Documents of Quseir* (Islamic History and Civilization, Studies and Texts 52; Leiden, 2004).

<sup>4</sup> Vogelsang-Eastwood, Gillian, *Resist-Dyed Textiles from Quseir al-Qadim, Egypt*. (Paris, 1989).

<sup>5</sup> Burke and Whitcomb, "Quseir al-Qadim: A Community and Its Textiles," *Ars Orientalis* 34 (forthcoming).

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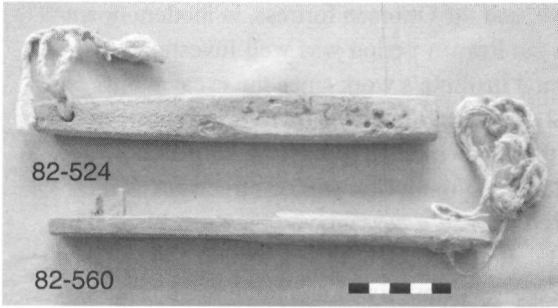


Figure 3. Wooden keys to the storerooms, one inscribed

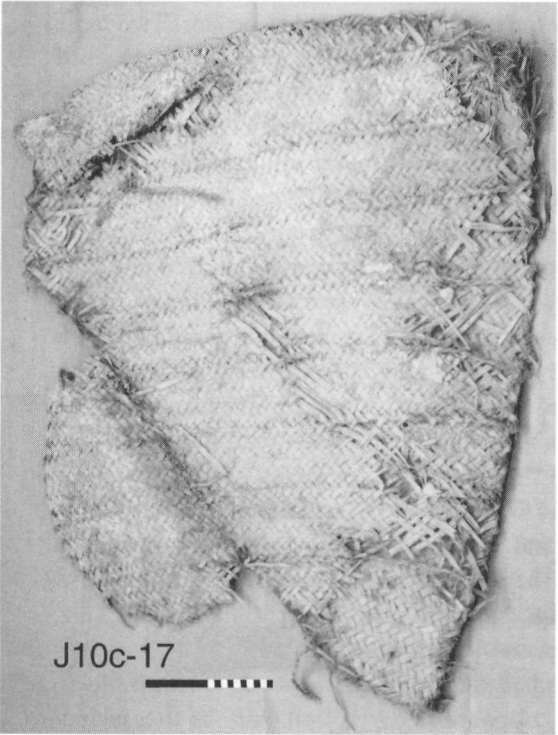


Figure 4. Basketry

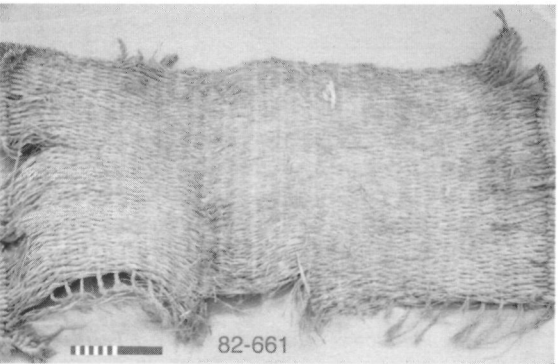


Figure 5. Matting

Photographs by D. Whitcomb



Figure 6. Rope coils

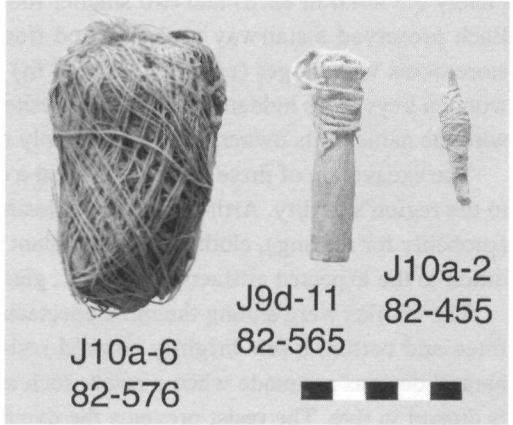


Figure 7. String

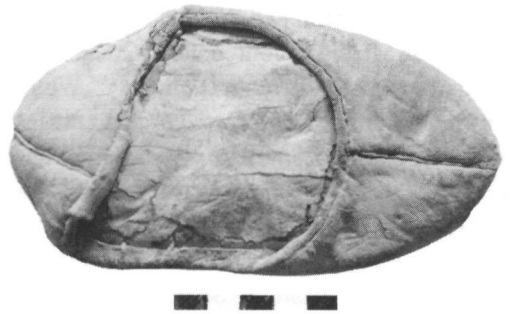


Figure 8. Leather shoe

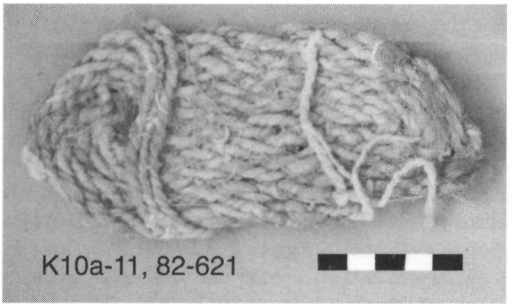


Figure 9. Rope sandal

rooms, for the most part having been crumpled up and thrown away after they had served their purpose. However, at least one letter was found still rolled and carefully tied with string. According to research by Li Guo of the University of Notre Dame and formerly of the University of Chicago, four of the letters bear dates that cluster within the first four decades of the thirteenth century (A.D. 1200–1240); likewise, the coins found in this area were minted in these same years of the Ayyubid period,<sup>6</sup> with only a few coins of the previous (Fatimid) period and no Mamluk issues of the subsequent period (fig. 15). Thus the occupation of this house or house and storeroom complex seems to have lasted less than half a century.

Guo is publishing the documents and letters from excavations at the Sheikh's House,<sup>7</sup> mostly business letters, shipping notes, and account records written in Arabic that detail the business transactions which were undertaken by a certain Sheikh Abu Mufarrij<sup>8</sup> and his son Sheikh Abu Ishaq Ibrahim b. Abu Mufarrij as they participated in the Indian Ocean-Red Sea to Nile Valley trade during the late Ayyubid period (ca. A.D. 1200–1250). Through painstaking reading and reconstruction of the letters and business receipts (fig. 16), Guo is able to describe the family and the family business, identifying not just the two sheikhs, but three other of Abu Mufarrij's sons, their mother, their uncle (Abu Mufarrij's brother), and numerous named business associates and employees of the two principal partners. The main commodity traded seems to have been grain, presumably intended to feed the *Haramain*, the two holy cities of Mecca and Medina, across the Red Sea. Numerous other articles are identified in



Figure 10. Beads. Photograph by D. Whitcomb

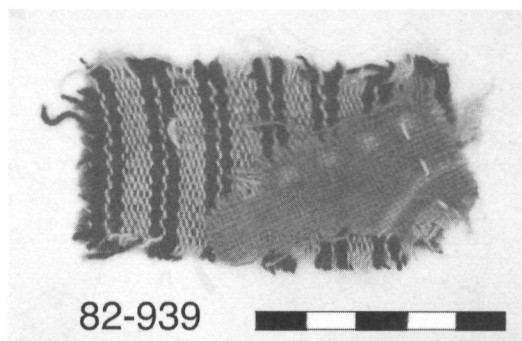


Figure 11. Two pieces of cloth sewn together, one of woven blue and natural stripes, the other red resist-dyed. RN82-939 from locus K10-a20. Photograph by D. Whitcomb

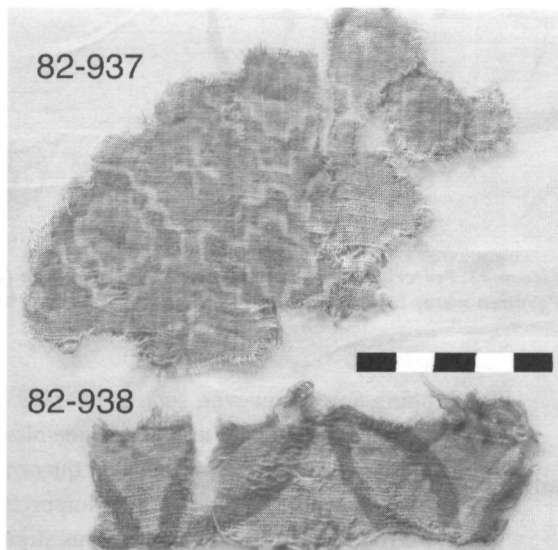


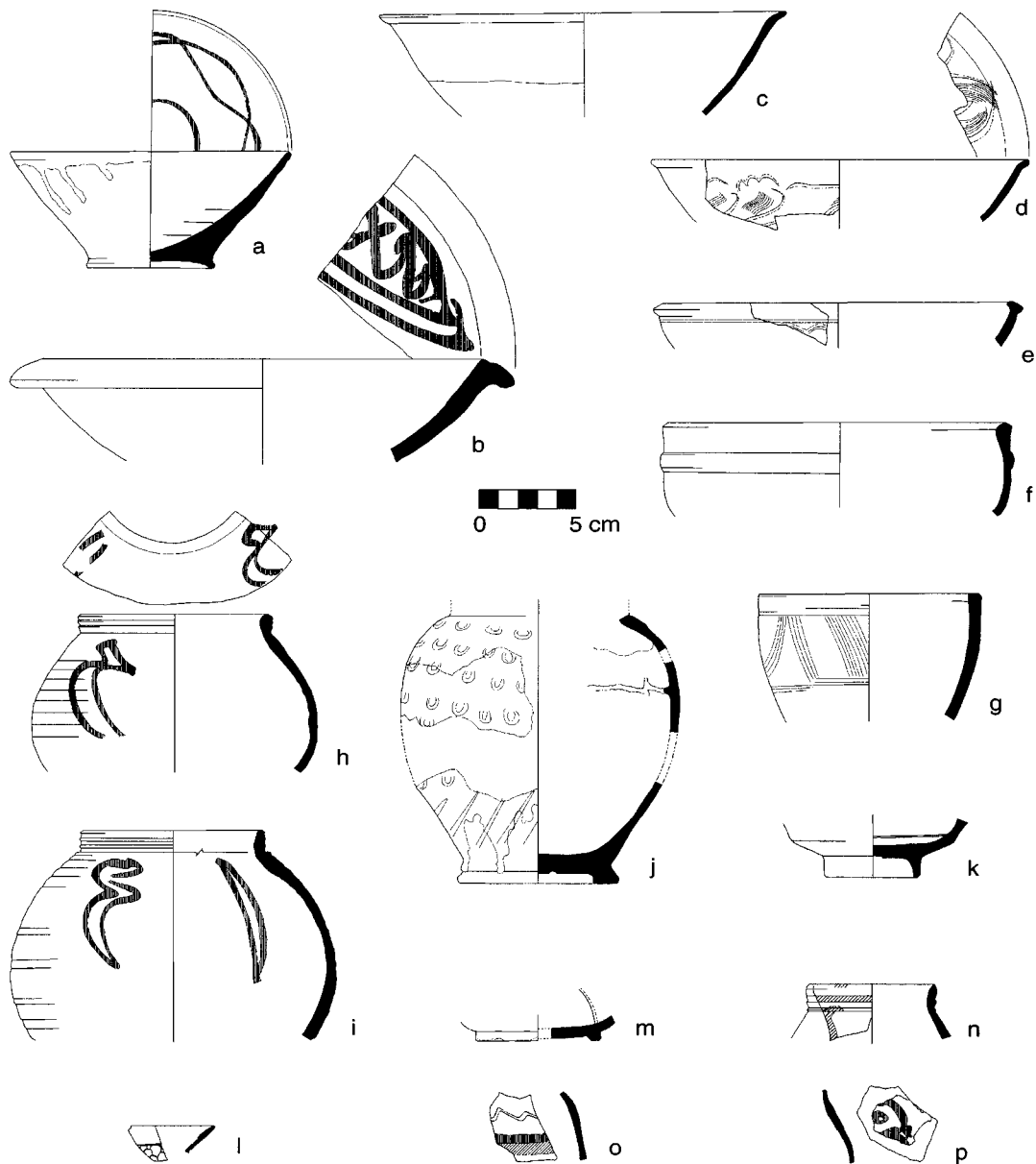
Figure 12. Resist-dyed textiles. Photograph by D. Whitcomb

<sup>6</sup> This comprises the reigns of Ayyubid sultans al-Malik al-'Adil and his son al-Malik al-Kamil. Precise dates on the letters read range from 1215 to 1235, though this is only a small fraction of the total inventory (Li Guo, "Arabic Documents from the Red Sea Port of Quseir in the Seventh/Thirteenth Century, Part 1: Business Letters," *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 58 (1999): 161–90; Guo, *Commerce, Culture, and Community*).

<sup>7</sup> Guo, "Arabic Documents, Part 1"; Li Guo, "Arabic Documents from the Red Sea Port of Quseir in the Seventh/Thirteenth Century, Part 2: Shipping Notes and Account Records," *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 60 (2001): 81–116; Guo, *Commerce, Culture, and Community*.

<sup>8</sup> It was originally thought that the inscription on the above-mentioned key read *miftah Sheikh Abu Mufarrij* "key of Sheikh Abu Mufarrij," which would have tied in nicely with the content of the letters.

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**Figure 13.** Pottery plate showing ceramics from Yemen (a–b), China (c–d), and possibly Nubia (h–i) alongside Egyptian wares found at the Sheikh’s House. Drawings by K. S. Burke

the shipping notes, however, such as cooking oil, baked goods, and nuts, in large enough quantities to suggest commercial use, and vegetables and other perishables that were probably for local consumption. Textiles, found in great quantities in the excavations, also figure prominently in the shipping documents and were an important commodity. Luxury goods such as henna, rosewater, perfume, pearls, and semiprecious stones appear more rarely and may have been intended for local use.

Using Guo's reading of the contents of the letters, and Whitcomb and Johnson's registration book and locus sheets, the letters can be re-inserted into their archaeological contexts creating a more detailed view of the Abu Mufarrij family and its business. For instance, Guo points out that occasionally the same letter will mention both Sheikh Abu Mufarrij and Sheikh Abu Ishaq Ibrahim b. Abu Mufarrij, probably indicating that the son, Sheikh Ibrahim, took over the family business while his father was still alive.<sup>9</sup> Because the earliest occupational strata of the house contain business letters addressed to Ibrahim, the son, it would seem that he was already running the business, or helping to run the business, when the family moved to Quseir, or in any case to this two-family house; that most of the letters are addressed to his father is probably indicative that Abu Mufarrij still owned the business that his son managed. According to Guo, most of the extant letters are missing the names of the sender and recipient, but of those that retain this information over thirty are directly addressed to Abu Mufarrij, an almost equal number are addressed to his warehouse, and nearly thirty letters are addressed to Ibrahim.<sup>10</sup> Concentrations of letters addressed to Ibrahim are found in the main living rooms of both houses, which are the largest rooms of each house, although a few more are scattered throughout almost all areas of both houses and the storerooms. Almost all the letters addressed to Abu Mufarrij were found in the large living room (Room c) of the North House, with only one in a storeroom and two in the South House. On the contrary, the South House contains letters almost exclusively addressed to Ibrahim; thus one may suspect that at least in the latest use of these buildings, the elder man and his wife were living in the North House, and his son was living with his own family in the adjoin-

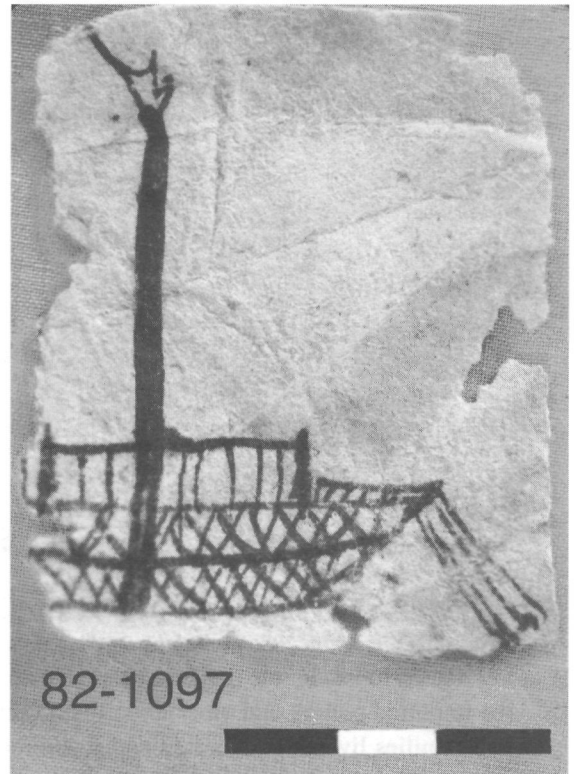


Figure 14. Drawing of a ship. Black ink on paper. Photograph by D. Whitcomb



Figure 15. Gold coins of the late Ayyubid period found at the Sheikh's House. Photograph by D. Whitcomb

<sup>9</sup> Guo has determined this relationship and the position from letters to Sheikh Najjib, of which at least ten are known; see Guo, "Arabic Documents, Part 1"; Guo, *Commerce, Culture, and Community*.

<sup>10</sup> Guo, "Arabic Documents, Part 1"; Guo, *Commerce, Culture, and Community*, pp. 2–3.

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Figure 16. Letters in Arabic. Photograph by D. Whitcomb

ing South House. In this light, an examination of the other artifacts in the two houses, especially the imported pottery and other imported objects, may produce further insights into the way the two families lived and operated under one roof and invite further examination of the kinds of commodities with each man dealt.

## SYRIAC MANUSCRIPT INITIATIVE

### Stuart Creason

The Syriac Manuscript Initiative is a new project at the Oriental Institute being undertaken by Stuart Creason, Ph.D. and Abdul-Masih Saadi, Ph.D. The goal of the Initiative is to create a large digital photographic archive of manuscripts that are currently located in churches and monasteries in eastern Syria and southeastern Turkey. The amount of material found in this region is astonishingly large, numbering in excess of 10,000,000 pages in more than 100,000 manuscripts. These manuscripts range in date from the seventh to the twentieth century and include works of history, theology, biblical interpretation, law, philosophy, medicine, etc. Many of these manuscripts have never been studied by any Western scholar and some of them contain texts found in no other manuscript in the world. Since the number of manuscripts found in this region is far too large to be photographed by a single project, the Initiative intends to focus on those materials that are unique, especially valuable to scholarship, or especially at risk. If successful, the Syriac

Manuscript Initiative would produce several important outcomes: it would make these materials more easily accessible to Western scholars, it would provide a record of these materials in the event of their future loss or destruction, and it would establish the Oriental Institute as an important center for Syriac studies in the United States.

The preliminary planning and fund raising for the Initiative was completed in late spring and early summer of 2003. During that time, initial funding was secured from the Women's Board of the University of Chicago, the necessary equipment was purchased, and plans were made for Saadi to travel to southeastern Turkey in August 2003. The focus of this trip was the monastery of Mar Gabriel, located near the modern city of Mardin, Turkey. This sight was chosen because Saadi is well acquainted with the members of that monastery, having trained there prior to coming to the United States in 1990 to pursue doctoral studies. The goals of the trip were to photograph several of the manuscripts found in the monastery's library, to field test the equipment, and to obtain permission to publish the manuscripts.

The trip was successful in every way. The equipment worked as expected, eliminating any question as to the technical feasibility of the project, and the officials at the monastery gladly gave Saadi permission to photograph and to publish several manuscripts. In only two days of work, Saadi was able to photograph three complete manuscripts consisting of approximately 600 pages of text. These three manuscripts are Mardin 102, an eleventh century manuscript that contains the Commentary on the Book of Luke by Moshe Bar Kepha, a ninth century Syrian author and bishop of Mosul, Iraq; Mardin 384, a manuscript that contains the history of a religious group called the Azidi and compares Azidi religious beliefs to those of Jews, Christians, and Muslims; and Mardin 404, a manuscript that contains a collection of philosophical tracts and theological debates, authored by, among others, Aristotle (translated into Syriac), Moshe bar Kepha, and Bar Hebraeus, a prolific thirteenth century Syriac writer.

Because of the knowledge gained on the first trip, Saadi was able to make a second trip to the region during May and June of 2004. This trip was successful beyond imagining. Saadi was able to go to four locations in addition to the monastery of Mar Gabriel: the city of Qamishli, Syria; the city of Diyarbakir, Turkey; the Church of the Forty Martyrs in Mardin, Turkey; and the monastery of Mar Hannanya (az-Zafaran), near Mardin, Turkey. In each location, he spoke to members of the Syriac-speaking community and was allowed to see manuscripts found in their libraries. Through his efforts, he was able to locate a previously unknown collection of twenty manuscripts in Qamishli, and took sixty-five photographs sampling this material. In Diyarbakir, he was able to see manuscripts that no one outside that small community had been allowed to see for over fifty years. He was not permitted to photograph them, but hopes to return at some future time to record this valuable material.

The main focus of Saadi's trip was the Church of the Forty Martyrs. Over the course of two weeks, he photographed thirteen manuscripts, a total of 2,700 photographs comprising 5,400 pages of text. These manuscripts include: Mardin 101, a thirteenth century manuscript that contains the Commentary of Moshe Bar Kepha on the Book of Matthew, as well as a collection of writings by Bar Hebraeus; Mardin 107, which contains a commentary by the twelfth century writer Jacob Bar Salibi on the Books of Revelation, the Acts of the Apostles, the Letter of James, the First and Second Letters of Peter in accordance with the Harklean version, the three Letters of John, the Letter of Jude, and the Letters of Paul; Mardin 253, an eleventh century manuscript that contains stories of forty-four early Syrian holy fathers and mothers, as well as stories of biblical figures; and Mardin 257, a fourteenth century manuscript that contains, among other writings, a Syriac translation of the writings of the Greek church father Clement of Alexandria.

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As of the end of June 2004, approximately 3,000 photographs of Syriac manuscripts are stored in two different formats (TIFF and JPEG) on a 200 GB external hard drive dedicated solely to the Initiative. In accordance with the wishes of the monasteries and churches, these photographs will only be made available to scholars by request. A catalog of the manuscripts contained in the photographs will, however, be made available without restriction on the Oriental Institute Web site. This catalog is still in development. As for the publication of these materials, decisions are still being made as to the best format in which publication should occur, print or electronic.

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## INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH

## Richard H. Beal

**Richard H. Beal** spent most of the past year reference checking and copy editing the early entries for the second fascicle of the Š volume of the Chicago Hittite Dictionary. He also found some time to write first drafts of articles.

The last year has seen the appearance of his article, “The Predecessors of Ḫattušili I,” in *Hittite Studies in Honor of Harry A. Hoffner Jr. on the Occasion of His 65th Birthday*, edited by G. Beckman, R. Beal, and J. G. McMahon (Winona Lake, 2003). He argues that if one takes literally the odd genealogy given by Ḫattušili I, trusts the order given in the offering list of dead royalty, and properly places the history of Hittite relations with the kingdom of Zalpa in the reign of Ḫattušili and pays proper attention to the genealogy given to the Hittite royalty mentioned therein, one can come to a clearer understanding of the period of the Hittite kingdom preceding the reign of Ḫattušili I. For this volume, Beal was second editor, along with Professor Hoffner’s fellow students of Hittite: Gary Beckman, University of Michigan, and J. Gregory McMahon, University of New Hampshire.

The past year has also seen the appearance in the *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient* of a review *Geschichte des hethitischen Reiches*, a fine political history by Horst Klengel with social history chapters by Fiorella Imparati. During the course of the year, he wrote “Review of *Life and Society in the Hittite World*, by Trevor Bryce,” for the *Journal of the American Oriental Society*. This book forms a mate to Bryce’s *Kingdom of the Hittites* and is of the same high quality; both are highly recommended to anyone interested in the ancient Hittites. For the *Journal of Ancient Near Eastern Religions* he wrote “Review of *Hittite Prayers*, by Itamar Singer”; the volume is a very useful translation of all reasonably well-preserved Hittite prayers. Finally he wrote “Review of *Hattuschili und Ramesses: Hethitier und Ägypter, ihr langer Weg zum Frieden*, by H. Klengel,” for the *Journal of the American Oriental Society*.

Most evenings and weekends were dedicated to aiding in proofreading and reference checking his wife JoAnn Scurlock’s book *Diagnoses in Assyrian and Babylonian Medicine*, written with medical professor Burton Andersen. Beal and Scurlock also gave an illustrated lecture on Mali and Mauritania at the Montgomery Place retirement home.

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### Robert D. Biggs

After forty-one years at the Oriental Institute, **Robert D. Biggs** formally retired in June 2004. He has continued his research in Babylonian medicine and Babylonian omens. In connection with medicine, he has been invited to give a lecture at the University of Birmingham in England in autumn 2004.

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### John A. Brinkman

**John A. Brinkman** continued research in the University Museum, Philadelphia, working on economic texts from Nippur dating from the fourteenth and thirteenth centuries B.C. He also began to edit a small group of texts from Ur in the same museum dating from the sparsely attested Second Dynasty of Isin (1157–1026 B.C.). For the reinstallation of the East Gallery in our museum, he read and made preliminary identifications of several fragmentary Neo-Assyrian inscriptions on stone excavated in the 1930s at Tell Ta<sup>ʿ</sup>yinat in Syria. He wrote an article evaluating present research on administrative structures and social institutions in Babylonia under the Kassite dynasty (1595–1155 B.C.) and a short treatment of the career of Tiglath-pileser III (744–727 B.C.), a crucial Neo-Assyrian empire builder.

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### Peter F. Dorman

**Peter F. Dorman** organized the fifth-annual Chicago-Johns Hopkins Theban Workshop, which for the first time was a two-day event, held in London on September 15–16, 2003. Coordinated with colleagues at the British Museum, the workshop announced as its theme “Sacred Space and Sacred Function,” which drew contributions from twelve invited scholars from Australia, Belgium, Egypt, Germany, and the United Kingdom, as well as the United States.

In March, Dorman also traveled to the Egyptian Museum in Cairo to complete final documentation on the coffins of Ramose and Hatnofer, the parents of Senenmut, whose joint burial forms the centerpiece of an expedition publication for the Metropolitan Museum, provisionally entitled *Excavations on the Hillside of Sheikh Abd el Qurna*. Borrowing the Oriental Institute’s digital camera, he was able to record images of the curved text bands on the coffin surfaces to be used as the basis for facsimile drawings in the final publication. In reference to the same burial, a contribution entitled “Family Burial and Commemoration in the Theban Necropolis,” was published this year as part of the proceedings of the London symposium held in 2000 on *The Theban Necropolis: Past, Present, and Future*, edited by Nigel Strudwick and John Taylor (British Museum Press, 2003).

Other publishing projects include a book review, “Review of *Egypt: The Amarna Age*, by Frederick Giles,” completed for the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, as well as a series of entries to be included in a catalog organized by the Metropolitan Museum in preparation for a traveling exhibition of objects from the reign of Hatshepsut to tour the United States in 2006/2007. Together with colleague Terry Wilfong of the University of Michigan, Dorman also signed a contract with Cambridge University Press for the production of a two-volume work on the his-

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tory of Egyptian civilization (projected completion in 2006), intended as a textbook for students at both the undergraduate and early graduate level.

Dorman served as a reviewer on the national screening committee for the United States Graduate Student Fulbright Program (Egypt panel) and in the spring, delivered a lecture entitled "The Tomb of Kheruef and the Coregency Question: Chronological Considerations" at the Annual Meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt held in Tucson from April 16 to 18, 2004.

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### McGuire Gibson

**McGuire Gibson** devoted a great deal of this last year to the cultural crisis brought on by the war in Iraq. He attended international meetings in Tokyo, Paris, London, Berlin, Brussels, New York, and Berkeley, California, where he delivered lectures on the continuing destruction of hundreds of sites by well-organized looting. He wrote an op ed piece for *Newsday*, as well as several articles for journals dealing with cultural heritage (*IFAR Journal*, *Museum International*). He gave more than two hundred interviews to newspapers, television, and radio outlets and was filmed for three different documentaries. He also gave lectures on the Iraqi situation and on archaeological topics (Hamoukar, Nippur) to several audiences in Chicago (e.g., Chicago Humanities Festival), New York, and Washington, as well as Beloit College in Wisconsin and at Illinois Wesleyan University.

During the year, he was instrumental in making concrete steps to establish an American academic research institute that will be located in Baghdad when conditions improve. Although in existence since 1989 as the American Association for Research in Baghdad (AARB), this institution was not established in Baghdad because of the Gulf War and the sanctions. Now, however, the organization, renamed The American Academic Research Institute in Iraq (TAARII), has hired an Executive Director for an office set up in Chicago, and it has just hired Dr. Hala Fattah to be the Resident Director in Baghdad. Dr. Fattah will operate out of Amman, Jordan, until conditions allow her to set up in Baghdad. Fellowships and exchange programs will be announced in the summer of 2004.

Gibson serves as the President of TAARII. He also continues as the University of Chicago representative for the American Institute for Yemeni Studies. He remains on the board of the Council of American Overseas Research Centers.

Even while engaged in the activity related to the Iraq crisis, Gibson was able to do some academic research. With a student assistant, he brought closer to publication a report on the excavations at Nippur in the Sasanian-Islamic levels, and he has made substantial progress on one section of the Umm al-Hafriyat report.

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### Thomas A. Holland

**Thomas A. Holland** continued to assist the Oriental Institute's Publications Office with the preparation of the final volumes of the Tell es-Sweyhat, Syria archaeological and landscape project for publication. He is happy to report that the work on Tony Wilkinson's introductory

landscape volume, OIP 124: *On the Margin of the Euphrates: Settlement and Land Use at Tell es-Sweyhat and in the Upper Lake Tabqa Area, Syria*, was completed in June 2004 and should be available for purchase when this *Annual Report* appears in the near future. Holland also concluded his research on the Hellenistic and Roman periods at Sweyhat, which were previously presented in preliminary formats in *The Oriental Institute Annual Reports*, 1998–1999, 1999–2000, and 2000–2001. This material was incorporated into the final archaeological report, OIP 125: *Tell es-Sweyhat, Syria, Volume 2: A Bronze Age Town on the Left Bank of the Upper Euphrates River: Archaeology of the Bronze Age, Hellenistic, and Roman Remains*. The Oriental Institute Publications Office completed the final work on the 340 photographic and line illustrations in the plate volume of this report, which is ready for press when the remainder of the text volume is computerized into page proofs. At present, the 335 textual figures and 106 tables have been scanned and checked for inclusion in the text volume. Again, many thanks must go to the staff of the Publications Office for bringing to fruition and near completion another of the Oriental Institute's fieldwork projects during this academic year.

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### Janet H. Johnson

**Janet H. Johnson** enjoyed a short trip to Tucson in spring 2004 to participate in the Annual Meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt, where she serves as the Oriental Institute representative to the Board of Governors. Her article "Sex and Marriage in Ancient Egypt" appeared in the festschrift in honor of Egyptian scholar Fayza Haikal. The article she coauthored with Thomas Dousa and François Gaudard, senior students on the Demotic Dictionary Project staff, "P. Berlin 6848, a Roman Period Temple Inventory," appeared in the festschrift honoring the German scholar Karl-Theodor Zauzich. She also continued her work on the Demotic Dictionary Project and the online electronic readingbook of Middle Egyptian (METEOR; see separate reports). She served as outside reader for a dissertation submitted to the University of Leiden and regretted not being able to accept the invitation of the university to go to Leiden to participate in the dissertation defense.

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### W. Raymond Johnson

**W. Raymond Johnson** completed his twenty-fifth year working for the Epigraphic Survey in Luxor, and his seventh season as Field Director. This past autumn Ray was awarded an honorary membership in the Spanish Association of Egyptology in Madrid after lecturing for the Association in October. In February he gave a talk at the Egyptian Museum, Cairo, on the history and recent activities of the Epigraphic Survey in Luxor for the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities Cairo lecture series, and another at the Mummification Museum, Luxor, Supreme Council of Antiquities lecture series. Ray continues to work on the revision of his dissertation for publication, an essay on epigraphy for the *Oxford Handbook of Egyptology*, and various festschrift and denkschrift articles.

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## Charles E. Jones

In August 2003, **Charles E. Jones** traveled to Tehran as a part of the Scientific Committee of The First International Conference on the Ancient Cultural Relations Between Iran and Western Asia. He acted as respondent in one session, and a joint paper written with Matthew W. Stolper, was ultimately submitted and accepted for inclusion in the proceedings, *A Survey of Scattered Achaemenid Elamite Administrative Tablets*. The conference was a resounding success. Following the papers the delegates traveled as a group to Shiraz, Persepolis, Naqsh-e Rostam, Pasargadae, and Isfahan. The hospitality of Iranian colleagues was extraordinary. A delegation from the Oriental Institute (Abbas Alizadeh, Charles Jones, Gil J. Stein, Matthew Stolper) took the opportunity to have a series of conversations with officers of both the National Museum of Iran and the Iranian Cultural Heritage Organization. As a consequence, the Oriental Institute has developed a continuing dialogue with our counterparts in Iran, and a bright future of collaborative research seems inevitable.

Jones remains focused on the evolving crisis in Iraq. The focus of his activity in response to the events has solidified in two places: The Iraq Working Group of the Oriental Institute and the Middle East Librarians Association Committee on Iraqi Libraries. He remains the moderator of IraqCrisis, a moderated list for communicating substantive information on cultural property damaged, destroyed, or lost from libraries and museums in Iraq during and after the war in April 2003, and on the worldwide response to the crisis: <https://listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/iraqcrisis>. Traffic on the list is steady and relentlessly reports bad news. At the present the list has 675 subscribers.

As a part of this effort, Jones also authored the following: "Iraq Bibliographies," *Oriental Institute Research Archives Online* (Chicago, 2004): <http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/IraqBibs.html>; "Iraqi Library Stamps" (Chicago, 2004): <http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/LibraryStamps/LibraryStamps.htm>; "Online Presence of the Middle East Librarians Association Committee on Iraqi Libraries" (Chicago, 2004): <http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/melairaq>; "Pictures of Damaged Libraries in Iraq" (Chicago, 2004): <http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/LibraryPix/LibraryPix.htm>; "Preliminary Bibliography of Publications Documenting the Cylinder and Stamp Seals and Seal Impressions in the Collections of the Iraq Museum Baghdad, and an Index by Museum Number of Objects Published in the Preliminary Bibliography," *Oriental Institute Research Archives Online* (Chicago, 2004), in Association with Middle East Librarians Association Committee on Iraqi Libraries: <http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/SealBib1.htm> and <http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/SealBibInx1.htm>.

For other contributions to this effort, edited online by Jones and others, follow the links at the Web-presence of the MELA Committee cited above.

In November, Jones chaired a third-annual session at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, with solicited papers on The Comprehensive Aramaic Lexicon, The Pennsylvania Sumerian Dictionary, APIS: The Advanced Papyrological Information System, and TopicMaps.

Early in 2004, he established a new mailing list as a part of the suite of resources under the aegis of ETANA, called ETANA-Abzu-news, which provides occasional reports on developments at ETANA and Abzu: <https://listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/etana-abzu-news>.

Some contributions posted on this new list are also available online in fully hyper-text formats: <http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/ABZU/AbzuNewFeb04.html>, and <http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/ABZU/AbzuNewMar04.htm>.

As the year came to a close, the article coauthored with Wouter F. M. Henkelman and Matthew W. Stolper, "Clay Tags with Achaemenid Seal Impressions in the Dutch Institute of the Near East (NINO) and Elsewhere," *ARTA: Achaemenid Research on Texts and Archaeology*, 2004: 001, finally appeared online at: <http://www.achemenet.com/ressources/enligne/arta/pdf/2004.001/2004.001.pdf>.

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### Walter E. Kaegi

**Walter E. Kaegi** continued to investigate, expand, and polish the embryo of his book manuscript *The Dynamics of Muslim Invasions and Byzantine Resistance in North Africa*. His book *Heraclius Emperor of Byzantium*, which Cambridge University Press published in 2003, continues to sell well, his editor informs him. He published the following papers: "The Earliest Muslim Penetrations of Anatolia," in *Byzantine State and Society in Memory of Nikos Oikonomides*, edited by A. Avramea, A. Laiou, E. Chrysos (Athens, 2003), pp. 269–82; and "Les défaites de Byzance en Orient" and "Expansion musulmane. La conquête de l'Ouest" [French translations of "Religious Elements in Muslim Conquests" and "North Africa"] in *Le Monde de la Bible* (No. 154, November 2003): 14–19, 36–41. Kaegi also published some book reviews: "Review of *Byzantium and the Arabs in the Sixth Century*, Volume 2, Part 1," by Irfan Shahid, in *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 123 (2003): 461–62; "Review of *A Cumulative Bibliography of Medieval and Early Modern Military History and Technology*, by K. DeVries," for *De Re Militari* (2004): [http://www.deremilitari.org/RESOURCES/REVIEWS/devries\\_cb.htm](http://www.deremilitari.org/RESOURCES/REVIEWS/devries_cb.htm); and "Review of *Armies of the Caliphs*, by H. Kennedy, in *International History Review* 16 (2004): 105–07.

Regarding publications now at press, Kaegi completed two articles that will appear in *Byzantinische Forschungen* 28 (2004): "The Interrelationship of Seventh-Century Muslim Raids into Anatolia with the Struggle for North Africa" and "Byzantine Studies Present and Future." He also completed the following paper, "The Early Muslim Raids into Anatolia and Byzantine Reactions under Emperor Constans II," which was accepted and will appear in the proceedings of the University of Erfurt (Germany) International Workshop on "The Encounter of Oriental Christianity with Islam in the 7th and 8th Centuries," under the editorship of Emmanouela Grypeou. He completed the following book reviews: "Review of *The Chronography of George Synkellos*, translated by Wm. Adler, and Paul Tuffin, for the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*;" and "Review of *The Empress Theodora: Partner of Justinian*, by J. A. S. Evans," for the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*. He corrected page proofs for his "Review of *Nachrichten zum byzantinischen Urkundenwesen in arabischen Quellen (565–811)*, by D. Beihammer," for *Jahrbuch der Osterreichischen Byzantinistik*.

Kaegi was awarded a Fulbright-Hays Fellowship for research on the dynamics of Muslim invasion and Byzantine Resistance in North Africa (7th–8th centuries CE) in Tunisia, Morocco, and Algeria, for twelve months, starting in September 2004 and terminating in September 2005. He declined the offer of an ACLS Fellowship for the same project.

Marquis *Who's Who in America* has informed him that it will list him in its 2005 volume.

Kaegi gave the following papers and public lectures: 17 October 2003 at 29th Annual Byzantine Studies Conference, Bates College, Lewiston, Maine, "Reinterpreting Constans II (641–668)"; and 27 March 2004 at "North Africa, Aspects of the Transition from Late Antiquity to

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Islam: The Problem of Africa for Theodosius, Marcian, and Heraclius,” University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign Symposium “Late Antiquity in Illinois,” held at Illini Union.

Kaegi’s principal focus has been on his book manuscript on the Muslim conquest of Byzantine North Africa, and researches on the reign of Emperor Constans II (641–668). In support of his broader research on North Africa, he visited early Byzantine sites in Corsica during March 2004. He is likewise preparing a chapter on Byzantine relations with the Muslim world for the *Cambridge History of the Byzantine Empire*, edited by Jonathan Shepard. Kaegi continues to serve as editor for the journal *Byzantinische Forschungen*.

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### Carol Meyer

**Carol Meyer** spent November through February in Cairo on an American Research Center in Egypt/National Endowment for the Humanities (ARCE/NEH) grant in order to write as much as possible of the final reports on the last four field seasons at Bir Umm Fawakhir in the central Eastern Desert of Egypt. The 1996 and 1997 seasons were survey only, but the team succeeded in completing the map of the main settlement at Bir Umm Fawakhir and mapping in detail two-thirds of Outlier 2. The 1999 season was the sole opportunity to excavate, and 2001 was a study season. Two volumes are now planned, one on the survey and mapping and one on the excavations. All data from all the 1996 and 1997 field notebooks were extracted and written up as two chapters, one on the main settlement at Bir Umm Fawakhir and another on the outlying clusters of ruins, particularly Outlier 2. The lists of registered objects and photographs were completed and concatenated and will appear as appendices in the first volume. Research at the Egyptian Geological Survey library in Cairo turned up some valuable references, chiefly mining and engineering reports on the nearby Wadi el-Sid mines, which have evidence of hard rock mining activity as far back as the late New Kingdom. Meyer also succeeded in returning to Bir Umm Fawakhir in order to field check the final maps and plans. The saddest finding was that the site is being looted; more positively, a large number of small corrections should improve the accuracy of the final site map. The main settlement is strung out for more than half a kilometer in a long narrow wadi, and since the site was plotted at 1:200 the basic map is about three meters long and hard to handle. All the segments were therefore scanned to make more manageable digital images for additional work in Cairo, primarily cleanup, labeling, and corrections from the site visit. While in Cairo, Meyer also presented formal lectures on Bir Umm Fawakhir at the Egyptian Geological Survey and ARCE and met informally with the Geology Department at Cairo University for some valuable conversations about ongoing research, desert sites, and an interesting proposal to start a program in geological archaeology. Finally, Meyer and colleagues completed a major article for the *Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt* on mining and ore reduction techniques at fifth–sixth century A.D. Bir Umm Fawakhir and late New Kingdom Wadi el-Sid. The paper is a joint effort between an archaeologist, a mining engineer (Bryan Earl), a geologist (Mohamed Omar), and a physicist (Robert Smither).

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## Clemens D. Reichel

During 2003/2004, **Clemens D. Reichel** did his best to juggle numerous projects. Much of this time was still devoted to the aftermath of the Iraq War and the museum looting, not only with his work on the Iraq Museum Database (see separate report), but also with lectures on topics concerning Iraq. Last August he faced a packed audience at the Smithsonian Institution's Dillon Ripley Center for a lecture on the looting of the Iraq Museum and the destruction of archaeological sites in Iraq. He revisited this topic during lectures before the Chicago Archaeological Society (February 2004), the American Institute of Archaeology Chapter in Rockford, Illinois (March 2004), at the annual meeting of the Illinois Chapter of the Arab American Medical Association in Oak Brook (April 2004), and at Sigma XI at the University of Chicago (May 2004). Lectures addressing the potentials and challenges for online databases were given at two scholarly venues: "Digitizing the Losses: The Oriental Institute Iraq Museum Database Project" at the Annual Symposium of the Canadian Society for Mesopotamian Studies (a meeting dedicated to the Iraq Museum) in September 2003. A revised and expanded version of this paper was read at the Annual Meeting of the College Art Association in Seattle in February 2004. An article called "Beyond Cataloguing Losses: The Iraq Museum Database Project at the Oriental Institute (University of Chicago)" has just been submitted to *Visual Resources*, a journal specializing in the use of digital technology in the publication of artwork, for a special issue on the damage to cultural heritage by the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

In early 2004 McGuire Gibson turned over the directorship over the Hamoukar Project (see separate report) to Reichel; in May–June 2004 Reichel undertook a trip to Syria to investigate the situation at Hamoukar, continue the documentation and analysis of objects found in the first three seasons (with an emphasis on seals and sealings), and to negotiate the resumption of excavations with the Syrian Department of Antiquities in Damascus.

Work on the Diyala Project continued quietly and smoothly; as this report is going to press Reichel has learned that he received a grant of \$100,000 from the National Endowment of Humanity's Iraq Cultural Heritage Initiative for 2004–2006, to complete the online publication of the Diyala material.

Reichel is very grateful and somewhat embarrassed to have been nominated one of seven "Chicagoans of the Year 2003" by *Chicago Magazine* for his work on the Iraq Museum Database; he would like to thank his colleagues and volunteers in the background for doing the really hard work on this project.

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## Seth Richardson

**Seth Richardson** arrived this past fall to take up a post teaching Ancient Near Eastern History, having most recently presented a conference paper at the London Rencontre in July on the origins of Babylonian liver omenology, and problems in its history as an observational science. He finished a study of an overlooked cuneiform tablet (listing tools used by Hammurabi's armies for the siege of the city of Eshnunna in the Fall of 1762 B.C.), and three book reviews: of a history of nineteenth–eighteenth century northern Babylonia, of the new *Helsinki Atlas of the Near East in the Neo-Assyrian Period*, and of a volume of cuneiform text-copies from collections in Berlin. A major portion of research effort has been advance preparation for two volumes of around 800 Babylonian texts in the holdings of the British Museum dating to the seventeenth

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century B.C.; this work has required the reanalysis of texts based on past collations, and reviews of other tablets. Also under way is a companion volume that provides an historical account of the factors leading to the collapse of the Babylonian dynasty in 1595 B.C., considering long-published texts together with these new tablets, in an effort to understand the event that ushered in Mesopotamia's longest Dark Age. Two papers delivered in different venues expanded on major features of this study. A January talk in the Franke Institute for the Humanities took a look at major social and political features of the age that existed below or alongside the dynastic state such as tribes, institutions, and fortresses. In March, Richardson gave a paper at the annual meeting of the American Oriental Society which investigated the strange phenomenon of south-Babylonian people living in northern Babylonia in this time, an era when the south is already presumed to have been long-collapsed. Richardson was fortunate enough to arrive at the Oriental Institute in time to assist with the latter stages of the East Gallery's reinstallation, and undertook a revision of the narrative program for the continuing section of Khorsabad objects and reliefs. This project has resulted in some new understandings of familiar and important objects, some of which are discussed in *News & Notes* 183 (2004): 8–9. He has in the meantime continued the Oriental Institute's long-standing commitment to teaching history, offering courses in Ancient Near Eastern collapse, historiography, war and society, and historical survey. Richardson looks forward to several invited lectures, conference papers, and research trips in the coming year.

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### Robert K. Ritner

Following a keynote lecture in Greece in June of 2003, **Robert K. Ritner** began the academic year by returning to Europe to analyze ancient ethnic competition in a lecture "Libyan vs. Nubian as the Ideal Egyptian" during the symposium "Cultural Borrowings and Ethnic Appropriations in Antiquity," held at Schloss Elmau in Bavaria (July 14). In August, he relocated to Philadelphia to serve as visiting professor in Egyptology in the Department of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, the University of Pennsylvania, and as Egyptologist in Residence in the University of Pennsylvania Museum. Before taking up these duties, Ritner made a third European visit to deliver the keynote address for the inaugural Egyptology conference of the University of Swansea, held at Baskerville Hall in Wales. There he gave the first presentation of two bronze serpent wands recently acquired by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Entitled "'And each staff transformed into a snake': The Serpent Wand in Ancient Egypt," the lecture traced the Egyptian antecedents of the famous episode of Exodus 7:8–12 and was repeated for the Boston Museum's Friends of the Ancient World on May 14.

While in Philadelphia, Ritner taught courses on Egyptian language and religion and lectured for the museum on "The Eldest Son of Creation: Magic in Ancient Egyptian Theology and Ritual" (November 19). Concurrently, he began the study of fifteen unpublished Demotic documents pertaining to the monthly activities of Egyptian "cult guilds" in the Ptolemaic Period (second century B.C.). A partner in this research is Jennifer Houser-Wegner, Research Scientist at the University of Pennsylvania Museum and Ritner's former Yale doctoral student. In 1991, Ritner had to decline a Mellon grant to study these papyri because of his new appointment at Yale, so it is a particular pleasure to be able to return to them with a Demoticist trained during the Yale years. With itemized rosters of officers, novices and meeting expenditures, these papyri more than double the known documents of Egyptian religious associations, which — like an-



cient “Knights of Columbus” — provided ancillary service to the religious community and had defined ranks and regulations. As one papyrus alone (31.5 by 117 cm) contains 30 columns with information on more than one year, the Philadelphia archive will provide a unique witness to the basic activities of religious communities in the Egyptian Faiyum.

Ritner resumed duties in Chicago in the winter, teaching a full complement of courses and leading the first Oriental Institute tour of “The Oases of the Western Desert” (March 12–28). The highly successful tour included private visits to some forty sites in Alexandria and the oases in addition to major monuments in Luxor. Particular highlights included a day’s off-road trek across the desert from Siwa to Bahriya in four-wheeled drive vehicles and a spectacular, new cliff top hotel at Dakhla, where the group held a starlight cocktail party against the panoramic backdrop of the oasis. Following the tour Ritner stayed a week at Chicago House for personal research.

In October, Ritner’s translation of thirteen literary texts appeared in William K. Simpson, Robert K. Ritner, Vincent A. Tobin and Edward F. Wente, *The Literature of Ancient Egypt*, Third edition, published by Yale University Press. As the culmination of an active year, Ritner received word of his promotion to full professor, effective July 1, 2004.

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### Martha T. Roth

**Martha T. Roth** continues to devote most of her scholarly energies to the Assyrian Dictionary project (see separate report). During the 2003/04 academic year she chaired sessions at the “Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale” in London in July, and the American Oriental Society Meetings in San Diego in March. In February, 2004, she lectured at University of California at Berkeley on “Prostitution in Babylonia,” and at Stanford University on “Rules and Standards: Approaches to Near Eastern Law.” In the spring, she was co-organizer with Cynthia Miller of the University of Wisconsin, of a symposium on comparative Semitics in honor of our colleague Gene B. Gragg, which will be published by the Oriental Institute. With Walter Farber and Matthew Stolper, and with the editorial expertise of Paula von Bechtolsheim and Linda McLarnan, she will be coediting a volume of papers from Chicago Assyrian Dictionary (CAD) colleagues to honor Robert Biggs, who has been an invaluable member of the CAD team for over forty years; the editors presented Bob with the table of contents at a lovely reception in May. Several articles remain in press, and Roth continues working on a volume of *Law Cases in Mesopotamia* for the Society of Biblical Literature series Writings from the Ancient World (WAW).

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### Oğuz Soysal

In 2003/2004 **Oğuz Soysal** continued his work on the Chicago Hittite Dictionary Project. He has spent most of his time writing articles on words beginning with *ta-*.

Aside from this, his research activities have continued to focus on Hittite culture/history and the Hattian language. The following articles were published between 2003 and 2004: “A Practical Vocabulary from Ortaköy,” with Aygül Süel, in *Hittite Studies in Honor of Harry A. Hoffner Jr. on the Occasion of His 65th Birthday* (Winona Lake, 2003), pp. 349–65; “Did a Hittite Acro-

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bat Perform a Bull-leaping?," *Nouvelles Assyriologiques Brèves et Utilitaires* (2003 nr. 4): 105–07; "A New Fragment to Hittite Gilgameš Epic," *Nouvelles Assyriologiques Brèves et Utilitaires* (2004 nr. 1): 9–10; "Notizen zu altanatolischen Beiträgen," *Nouvelles Assyriologiques Brèves et Utilitaires* (2004 nr. 1): 18–20; "Beiträge von Emil O. Forrer zu hattischen Studien: Eine Bilanz seiner wissenschaftlichen Verdienste," in *Šarnikzel. Hethitologische Studien zum Gedenken an Emil Orgetorix Forrer. (19.02.1894–10.01.1986)*, (Dresden, 2004), pp. 609–26. Four additional articles, one on necrology, and four reviews are in press.

After intensive work that has consumed many years, his *Hattischer Wortschatz in hethitischer Textüberlieferung* (Handbuch der Orientalistik; Leiden, 2004) was published.

Soysal's international cooperation with his Turkish, German, and French colleagues in the field of Hittitology continued in 2003/2004. The most essential enterprise among them was his work with Turkish Hittitologist Aygül Süel, focussing on specific Ortaköy text genres (vocabularies and Hattian-Hittite bilinguals). Hittitology has waited a long time for access to these texts, and Soysal and Süel now have gladly released the first results of their studies on the Ortaköy texts in a joint article as their contribution to the Hoffner festschrift (see above), a very important vocabulary text containing names of useful plants in Hittite. Another important result of this cooperation was the utilizing of textual information in the Hattian documents from Ortaköy in his *Hattischer Wortschatz* as lexical entries that extended and enriched the contents of his work greatly.

With the permission of Heinrich Otten and Gernot Wilhelm, who are the former and current German philologists of the Boğazköy excavations, Soysal has been able to study and utilize the field transliterations of the unpublished Boğazköy tablets (courtesy of the late Hans G. Güterbock). As a result of his studies he identified several duplicates of some important historical documents from the Old Hittite kingdom. The texts are mostly tiny fragments; however, they make a remarkable contribution to collating a larger corpus of Old Hittite historical documents. Soysal's edition of these documents was submitted in a German manuscript to the editorial board of *Zeitschrift für Assyriologie* for release in an upcoming issue. Furthermore, a recently discovered Hittite fragment of the Gilgameš Epic, from the above mentioned Boğazköy material, was published in *Nouvelles Assyriologiques Brèves et Utilitaires* (see above).

Soysal's newest international collaboration is a bibliographical work listing all scholarly articles on Hittite, and this was undertaken with his French colleague Alice Mouton, a visiting scholar at the Oriental Institute between January 2003 and January 2004. The material used here is based on Soysal's personal bibliographical files of more than 8,000 cards compiled since early 1983. Alice Mouton transferred these files into a computer generated word-document format. This huge body of raw material needs to be reworked and refined, however, in order to be made accessible for broad public use in its electronic format.

In April 2004, Soysal was appointed a visiting assistant professor at Bilkent University in Ankara for spring semester 2005 in order to help establish Hittite studies at Bilkent.

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## Gil J. Stein

**Gil J. Stein** published two articles this year, focused on the origins of north Mesopotamian urbanism and its comparison with the cities of southern Mesopotamia: "Structural Parameters and Socio-Cultural Factors in the Economic Organization of North Mesopotamian Urbanism in the

Third Millennium BC,” in *Archaeological Perspectives on Political Economies*, edited by James Skibo, Gary Feinman, and Linda Nicholas, pp. 61–78 (Salt Lake City, 2004); and “Settlement Trends and the Emergence of Social Complexity in the Leilan Region of the Habur Plains (Syria) from the Fourth to the Third Millennium BC,” with Patricia Wattenmaker, in *The Origins of North Mesopotamian Civilization: Ninevite 5 Chronology, Economy, Society*, edited by Elena Rova and Harvey Weiss, pp. 361–86 (Subartu 9; Brepols, 2003). He also finished final revisions on his edited volume *The Archaeology of Colonial Encounters: Comparative Perspectives*, to be published by the SAR Press (Santa Fe).

In addition, Stein supervised the completion of a zooarchaeology laboratory in the basement of the Institute. This laboratory, which has comparative collections of skeletons of the main animal species found at Near Eastern archaeological sites, serves as both a research facility and a teaching resource. In spring 2004, Stein taught an introductory course in zooarchaeology, using the laboratory to provide students with hands-on experience conducting original research. In this class, the students identified and analyzed several thousand animal bones from the Hellenistic occupation of the site of Hacinebi, in the Euphrates River Valley of southeast Turkey.

Finally, Stein has been continuing with the ongoing analysis of the stratigraphy and artifacts from the Hacinebi excavations.

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### Emily Teeter

Most of **Emily Teeter’s** research time was devoted to the finalization of the manuscript dealing with baked clay figurines from Medinet Habu, and the preparation of a second, expanded, edition of *Egypt and the Egyptians* (with her coauthor Douglas Brewer). She attended the annual meeting of the International Committee for Egyptology (CIPEG) in Baltimore and of the American Research Center in Egypt in Atlanta. Teeter was reelected to the Board of Governors of the American Research Center in Egypt.

Publications for the year include *Ancient Egypt: Treasures from the Collection of the Oriental Institute*, produced with the generous support of the University of Chicago Women’s Board; an article in *Mnemosyne*, “Egyptian Maat and Hesiodic Metis” (coauthored with Christopher Faraone of the Classics Department); brief articles on the 1905–1907 James Henry Breasted expedition in *KMT* and *Dig*; and two additional pieces on ancient Egyptian language in *Calliope*. Several book reviews appeared in the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*.

Teeter gave lectures to many groups over the last year, including McCormick Seminary, The Museum of the Red River in Idabel, Oklahoma, and the Egyptian Studies Society in Toronto. Teeter spoke on the archaeology of children in dynastic Egypt in conjunction with the opening of an exhibit on the same topic at the Kelsey Museum, University of Michigan, and she gave a series of lectures in Milwaukee in association with the exhibit “Quest for Immortality” at the Milwaukee Public Museum. In March, Teeter lectured on the Breasted 1905–1907 expedition to Nubia at the Egyptian Embassy in Washington, D.C., and then gave a day-long seminar on aspects of Egyptian religion and philosophy for the Washington, D.C. chapter of the American Research Center in Egypt.

Teeter accompanied a group of Oriental Institute members on a fun weekend in Milwaukee to see the Egyptian exhibit, and also served as a lecturer for a members’ tour to Egypt, Turkey, and Greece.

## RESEARCH

## Theo van den Hout

This was a busy teaching year for **Theo van den Hout**, with Elementary Hittite taught over three quarters, an undergraduate course on Hittite Literature in translation, a class centered on the re-installation of the Anatolian part of the East Gallery of the Oriental Institute Museum with Aslihan Yener, and the Anatolian history class. Beside the usual work on the Chicago Hittite Dictionary (see separate report), much time was spent on the Anatolian section of the Oriental Institute Museum for which van den Hout acts as faculty curator together with Aslihan Yener. He lectured in Chicago at the yearly Humanities Open House “West of Babel” on the languages and scripts of ancient Anatolia and in Los Angeles at the California Museum of Ancient Art on “How to Become a God: the Hittites and their Thousand Gods.” In December, he read a paper on “Administration in the Reign of Tuthaliya IV and the Later Years of the Hittite Empire” at the Leiden symposium “The Life and Times of Hattušili III and Tuthaliya IV” in honor of Prof. Johan de Roos.

Volume 3 of the *Journal of Ancient Near Eastern Religions* (JANER 3), of which van den Hout is managing editor, appeared. Of his research, the following works were published in the past year: “Maeonien und Maddunnašša: Zur Frühgeschichte des Lydischen,” in *Licia e Lidia prima dell’ellenizzazione* (Atti del Convegno internazionale Roma, 11–12 ottobre 1999), edited by M. Giorgieri, M. Salvini, and M.-C. Trémouille, pp. 301–10 (Rome, 2003); “Studies in the Hittite Phraseological Construction I: Its Syntactic and Semantic Properties,” in *Hittite Studies in Honor of Harry A. Hoffner Jr.*, edited by G. Beckman, R. Beal, and G. McMahon, pp. 177–203 (Winona Lake, 2003); and the Hittite entries of “Omina,” “Orakel,” and “Ordal” in the *Reallexikon der Assyriologie* 10: 88–90, 118–24, and 129–30. For the children’s journal *Callope: Exploring World History* 14.9, he wrote on “Luwians and Their Script.” His “Review of Hittite Etymological Dictionary, Volumes 4 and 5 [covering letters K and L], by J. Puhvel,” appeared in *Bibliotheca Orientalis* 60 (2003): 174–77. “Miles of Clay: Information Management in the Ancient Near Eastern Hittite Empire” was electronically published at [http://www.fathom.com/story/story.jhtml?story\\_id=190247](http://www.fathom.com/story/story.jhtml?story_id=190247).

Finally, he submitted the entry “Pirwa” for the *Reallexikon der Assyriologie*, the text of his paper at the Leiden Symposium just mentioned; a contribution entitled “Some Thoughts on the Composition Known as Muršili’s Aphasia (CTH 486)” to the festschrift of a colleague, as well as a review of *Archaismus und Ausgliederung: Studien zur sprachlichen Stellung des Hethitischen*, by Susanne Zeilfelder, to the journal *Kratylos*.

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## Donald Whitcomb

In large measure this has been the year of Iran. With the assistance of Abbas Alizadeh, **Donald Whitcomb** wrote a proposal to the Iranian Cultural Heritage Organization for archaeological investigation of the site of Jundi Shapur. This site was originally part of Robert Adams’ Khuzestan survey and in the course of studying sherds in the Oriental Institute collections a rather nice figurine was found (*News & Notes* 179 [2003]: 6–7). A more important discovery was found during the study of aerial photographs and CORONA images, that these urban ruins mask an older circular city (see *Oriental Institute 2002–2003 Annual Report* [Chicago, 2003], p. 84). Although the original hopes for a joint project in the spring were disappointed because of visa problems,

two months later Whitcomb received an invitation to visit Iran to see Jundi Shapur and several other sites, again with the good offices of Alizadeh.

An additional aspect of Iran was the study of the citadel of Kerman, Qal'eh Dukhtar; preparation for this visit was enhanced through the generosity of Lisa Golombek of the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, who has intensively studied the history and monuments of Kerman. This trip led to visits to Bam and the exciting discoveries of Yusuf Majidzadeh (an old colleague from the Oriental Institute) at Konar Sandal, and not the least a visit to the excavations of Shahr-i Daqianus, old Jiroft in the Middle Islamic period. Finally, Whitcomb visited Persepolis and Shiraz, his home of some thirty years ago, well before his growing interest in Islamic archaeology would lead to using Istakhr, the early Islamic city next to Persepolis, in his dissertation.

Whitcomb participated in a conference in Aleppo on Islamic military architecture in September. This form of architecture is not his favorite subject but offered an opportunity to explore the design of early Islamic cities and their ambivalent relationship to walls and fortifications. This conference provided an occasion to visit Hadir Qinnasrin and pursue plans for another season of excavations at that site. The contexts for Qinnasrin were explored in another conference nine months later, held in the beautiful Danish Institute in Damascus, where Whitcomb spoke on al-Muqaddasi's account of northern Syria and archaeological discoveries.

The walls of Ayla led to another conference, the Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research in Atlanta, where Whitcomb presented a paper on the results from Aqaba in relation to those of Eilat and other archaeological discoveries in the Wadi Arabah. This was followed in December with a trip to Leiden for the seventh symposium on Late Antiquity and Early Islam, which focused on identity and material culture. Whitcomb presented his discovery of Sinnabra, the early Islamic identity of Khirbet al-Karak, which he announced in the bulletin, *al-Usur al-Wusta*. And most recently, these various strands of Islamic sites and their contexts found an expression in a conference in the University of Cambridge on "The Islamic City and its Parts."

Teaching was somewhat interrupted with the Iranian adventure, though several students took a seminar on Iran and Iraq offered in the fall. One point of pride is the second Ph.D. dissertation in Islamic Archaeology; in June, Tasha Vorderstrasse successfully defended her study of al-Mina, the port of Antioch. Though she can never be replaced, we are happy to see several new students in Islamic archaeology beginning the program this fall.

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### Karen L. Wilson

**Karen L. Wilson** resigned her position as Oriental Institute Museum Director as of December 1, 2003, in order to pursue other interests. As the dust from the incredibly successful Mesopotamian Gallery opening began to settle, she realized that she had been at the Institute for fifteen and one-half years and had accomplished those things that were important to her, both personally and professionally: obtaining climate control for the collection via the renovation and expansion project and designing and installing the three main museum galleries. She realized that it was time to turn her attentions toward something that would challenge her in new ways. In November, she delivered a paper on the history of the Oriental Institute Museum at a meeting of the Association for Museum History in Chicago. This spring, she was awarded a generous grant from the Shelby White-Leon Levy Program for Archaeological Publications for two years begin-

## RESEARCH

ning in June 2004. This grant will enable her to prepare a final report on the University of Chicago's 1903–1905 excavations at Bismaya (ancient Adab), Iraq.

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### Christopher Woods

**Christopher Woods** devoted much of the last year to completing three papers concerned with the sun-god, Utu-Shamash, and his cult center Sippar. These studies, which focus on the early history of the god and the city, provide a counterpart to the author's work on the Shamash cult in the first millennium ("The Sun-god Tablet of Nabû-apla-iddina," *Journal of Cuneiform Studies*, in press). "On the Euphrates" (*Zeitschrift der Assyriologie*, in press) seeks to recover the semantic relationships that led the Euphrates and Sippar to share the writing UD.KIB.NUN. It is found that the essential elements of this DIRI compound first designated the divine Euphrates; only as a secondary development did the city borrow the spelling from the river. The motivation for this orthographic borrowing lies, on one hand, in the functional overlap of the sun- and river-gods and, on the other, in the unique topography of the Sippar region. "The Paleography and Values of the Sign KIB" (Robert Biggs festschrift, in press) disentangles the various third-millennium cuneiform graphs that, by the Old Babylonian period, fused into the sign KIB, the orthographic root of the writing of the Euphrates and Sippar. "At the Edge of the World: Cosmographical Conceptions of the Horizon in Early Mesopotamian Sources" explores the role of the horizon in Mesopotamian cosmological thought as portrayed in text and art. Given the regularity with which Utu-Shamash traverses his cosmic path, the horizon falls under the aegis of the sun-god and a number of his primary functions — the dispensing of justice, the deciding of fates, and the predicting of the future — are closely bound up with the cosmic perimeter. In addition, Woods continued work on his book, *The Sumerian Conjugation Prefixes*.

Woods also gave three conference talks and invited lectures this year. In November Woods presented the paper "The Origin and Development of the Sumerian Writing System" at the Oriental Institute's symposium, "The Cradle of Civilization: The Legacy of Mesopotamia," commemorating the opening of the Mesopotamian Gallery. In March, he presented a summary of his findings in "On the Euphrates" at the 214th Meeting of the American Oriental Society in San Diego and he lectured on the sun-god in the "Religion in the Ancient World" series organized by the California Museum of Ancient Art.

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### K. Aslihan Yener

During 2003, **K. Aslihan Yener** directed the ninth season of the Amuq Valley Regional Projects in Antakya, Turkey. This included coordinating a series of field projects and directing the first excavation season at Tell Atchana (ancient Alalakh). The work at Alalakh was published in "The Amuq Valley Regional Projects: Tell Atchana (Alalakh) 2002," *The Oriental Institute 2002/2003 Annual Report* (Chicago, 2003), pp. 26–32; and "Reliving the Legend: The Expedition to Alalakh, 2003," with J. David Schloen and Amir Sumaka' i Fink, *The Oriental Institute News & Notes* 181 (2004): 1–6. The Alalakh Expedition was featured prominently in the WTTW (PBS) documentary *Breaking Ground: The Story of the Oriental Institute*.

The surveys in the Amuq Valley and site-specific intensive surveys are now in press, in *The Amuq Valley Regional Projects*, Volume 1: *Surveys in the Plain of Antioch and Orontes Delta, 1999–2002*, edited by K. A. Yener with chapters by S. Batiuk, A. A. Burke, J. J. Casana, A. R. Gansell, T. P. Harrison, H. Pamir, T. J. Wilkinson, and K. A. Yener with a contribution by R. K. Ritner (Chicago, in press).

Honors, grants, and awards during 2003 included the Institute of Aegean Prehistory Grant for the The Oriental Institute Alalakh Survey, Turkey and the Joseph Neubauer Family Foundation Grant for The Oriental Institute Expedition to Alalakh. Yener served on the University of Chicago Senate and on several committees for the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations. She was one of the Acting Curators of the Syro-Anatolian collections for the Oriental Institute Museum on the Committee to Reinstall the East Wing Gallery at the Oriental Institute Museum. A large number of display cases will feature the collections from the 1930s Oriental Institute excavations at Kurdu, Chatal Höyük, Judaidah, Ta‘yinat, and Dhahab in the Amuq Valley.

Yener was invited to give the following lectures: “The Oriental Institute Amuq Valley Regional Projects, the 2002 Survey at Atchana,” at the meetings of the “International Symposium of Excavations, Surveys, and Archaeometry” in May at Ankara, Turkey, and “The Oriental Institute Expedition to Alalakh, 2003,” at the “Heritage of Turkey” series at the Smithsonian Institution.

Courses taught were “Museum Collection and Installation,” “The Archaeology of Technology,” and “Instrumental Analysis in Archaeology.” Samples of glass, slag, metal, and faience from the 2003 Alalakh Expedition were analyzed in the Metallurgy Center Room 036 in the basement of the Oriental Institute. Other metallurgical research is published in “Introduction: The Analyses of Metalliferous Residues, Crucible Fragments, Experimental Smelts, and Ores from Kestel Tin Mine and the Tin Processing Site of Göltepe, Turkey,” in *Mining and Metal Production through the Ages*, edited by P. Craddock (London, 2003), pp. 123–35.

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## RESEARCH SUPPORT

### COMPUTER LABORATORY

**John C. Sanders**

After a year of preparation, and almost three years after discussions began, the actual switchover took only an instant. I was not involved, however — not even present, in fact, when the change took place. With a single keystroke on a computer located in the university’s Networking Services and Information Technologies (NSIT) offices, ten years of hosting the Oriental Institute’s Web site from a server located in the Institute came to an end.

## RESEARCH

**World-Wide Web Site**

On March 30, 2004, the single keystroke described above caused all Internet traffic destined for the Oriental Institute's Web site to be rerouted to our new, NSIT-supported server located across the Midway in NSIT's office complex. On that day, nothing about the "look and feel" or the content of the Institute's Web site was altered, only the server that hosts our Web site changed. The future ramifications of this change, however, will be many, varied, and all beneficial to both the operations and the stature of the Oriental Institute as a purveyor of ancient Near Eastern archaeology, philology, history, art, and architecture to the public and scholars alike. Many of the benefits of having our Web site hosted and maintained by NSIT are not yet manifest and will only be realized as we develop our site during the next year or so to take advantage of the programming capabilities NSIT can provide us. Accordingly, detailed articulation of these benefits must be postponed until next year's *Annual Report*. I can, however, mention in broad terms the most critical benefits we expect, those which were sufficient enough to cause us to make this change:

1. Faster Web site access and performance, optimized expressly for Web site hosting.
2. Access to professional Web site designers and programmers.
3. Access to a wide array of e-commerce capabilities.
4. The potential for database back-end serving of much of our Web site's content over time.

Actually, one additional change not mentioned above also occurred on March 30, 2004: the official name, or Web-address, of our Web site was changed. Formerly known as [www.oi.uchicago.edu](http://www.oi.uchicago.edu), which, I hasten to add, still works to direct users to our new Web site, we decided a simpler, shorter name ([oi.uchicago.edu](http://oi.uchicago.edu)) was more appropriate.

Working with our NSIT contact, Sandy Weisz, and a cadre of NSIT programmers, during the next year we will produce a new design, a new "look and feel," for the Oriental Institute Web site. This new design will evolve as we cooperate with our new partnerships at NSIT and start to implement the features outlined above. Stay tuned, continue to visit our Web site periodically, and watch the changes as they happen.

**Laboratory Projects****USAID Grant Proposal**

Along with several Oriental Institute faculty and staff, I participated in the formulation of a USAID grant, submitted in July 2003, proposing a collaborative effort by the Oriental Institute, the Iraq Department of Antiquities, and Baghdad University to resurrect a program of archaeological education and instruction for Iraqi university students. Unfortunately, our proposal was not funded by USAID.

**Iraq Museum Database: The "Lost Treasures from Iraq" Web Site**

It has been over a year since the looting of the Iraq Museum, libraries, and document repositories in Iraq. Throughout the year, several Institute staff, principally Clemens Reichel and Charles Jones, have maintained contact with Iraqi authorities and Near Eastern scholars worldwide, assessing the damage, documenting the losses, and staying on top of various efforts to rebuild and



reopen the museum and other facilities. Throughout this year dedicated Docent/Volunteer Karen Terras has spent many long hours in the Computer Laboratory, three or more days a week, either scanning published Iraq Museum object photographs (mostly ivories and cylinder seals) or creating, editing, and updating textual descriptions of these artifacts. The photographs and text entries she has processed form the bulk of the Iraq Museum Database that Clemens has been constructing on the Institute's Web site since the looting occurred. Thank you, Karen, Clemens, and Charles for your dedicated service to this cause. It is greatly appreciated.

Several major content updates to the Iraq Museum Database occurred throughout the year, and a major redesign of the project's file structure was performed in mid-March 2004. The Iraq Museum Database now contains over 850 objects, the latest additions including 250 ivories from Nimrud and forty-nine seals from Abu Salabikh. Looking ahead, over 1,000 ivories still remain to be added to our database during the next year.

In May 2003, less than two weeks after major combat had been declared over, Professor McGuire Gibson undertook a trip to Iraq, during which he visited several archaeological sites, including Isin, Ur, Nippur, and Umm al-Hafriyat. Upon his return, photographs he took of the looting and damage to these archaeological sites were posted on the Oriental Institute's Web site. During late 2003/early 2004, while on visits to various archaeological sites by United States soldiers, Army SPC William Peterson visited Girsu, Nippur, and Uruk, taking more recent photographs of looting and damage similar to those shot by Professor Gibson. Mr. Peterson graciously offered his photographs to the Oriental Institute for publication on our Web site, which we posted in April 2004. We thank Mr. Peterson for his willingness to share his important documentary photographs of this ongoing tragedy with the public worldwide.

### **Diyala Miscellaneous Objects Publication Project**

Starting in fall 2003, Volunteer Robert Wagner became a semipermanent presence in the Computer Laboratory, at least on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of each week. Clemens Reichel gave Robert the seemingly unending tasks of creating an electronic copy of the field registry from the Oriental Institute's excavations at Khafaje during the 1930s, followed by the scanning of all of the original tablet, object, and locus cards from the Institute's excavations at Tell Asmar, again during the 1930s. This latter task will require many months of work by Mr. Wagner. Thank you, Robert. We greatly appreciate your dedicated service to the Diyala Miscellaneous Objects Publications Project.

### **Scanning an Egyptian Slide Collection**

Professor Janet Johnson, in early 2004, asked Docent/Volunteer Ruth Goldman to use the Computer Laboratory slide scanner to digitize her private collection of 35 mm slides of Egypt in order to make these photographs available for use in PowerPoint presentations for her classes. Because of her almost weekly presence in the Lab, Ruth is close to becoming one of the "usual suspects" in the Computer Lab, joining Karen and Robert in that select group. Welcome aboard!

### **Language Instruction via the Computer**

In December 2003, Professor Gene Gragg started using the Institute's Web site to access an XML-coded database he created for presenting certain philological topics for his ancient language courses, including Hurrian and Urtian. This teaching resource, however, is presently accessible only to those students registered in Professor Gragg's courses during 2003/2004.

**RESEARCH****Electronic Publications**

During the past year, Professor Janet Johnson finished work on three additional letters for the Chicago Demotic Dictionary: the letter Ayin, in July 2003; the letter Q, in February 2004; and the letter G, in May 2004. With the assistance of Tom Urban, Oriental Institute Publications Office, these documents are now available on the Institute's Web site as Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) files. This brings the total number of Demotic Dictionary letters published in PDF format to fourteen. Work continues on the remaining twelve letters.

Peter Friedman, the son of Docent/Volunteer Coordinator Terry Friedman, gave up part of his 2003 summer vacation volunteering to undertake the HTML markup of the 2001–2002 *Annual Report*. Thank you, Peter, for your time and skill in preparing these documents for the Oriental Institute's Web site.

Unfortunately, work on the electronic version of the 1980 Oriental Institute publication *Ptolemais Cyrenaica*, by David Nascowitz, which will become part of the Photographic Archives section of the Institute's Web site, was not able to be completed during 2003/2004. John Larson, the Institute's Museum Archivist, and his staff have completed the cross-checking of references, photograph numbers, and negative numbers, and we expect to finish the HTML markup, scan the photographs, and add this component to our Web site in 2004/2005.

**The Institute's E-mail Server**

Much of my time from March through July 2004, was spent moving all faculty, staff, and student e-mail accounts on the Oriental Institute's e-mail server ([babylon-orinst.uchicago.edu](mailto:babylon-orinst.uchicago.edu)) to either the university's e-mail server or another e-mail account of their choice. We are retiring "babylon" in early July 2004, after eight years of practically error free service. Several recent developments make this change a necessity at this time: the ever-increasing amount of e-mail spam and security concerns, the convenience of worldwide Web-based access to the university's e-mail accounts, and a regime of 24/7/365 maintenance and backup at no additional cost to the Oriental Institute.

**Laboratory Equipment/Institute Resources**

Once again, thanks to the generous assistance of the University's Networking Services and Information Technologies department, all of the remaining public rooms in the Oriental Institute are now capable of wireless Internet connections. Between November 2003 and January 2004, the LaSalle Banks Education Center, the Archaeology Laboratory, the Director's Office, the Museum Registration area in the basement, and both classrooms (Rooms 208 and 210) were equipped with wireless base stations for Internet access.

In July 2003, a new Windows-based computer system was purchased to improve the high-end capabilities of the Computer Laboratory: a 3.0 MHz Dell Optiplex with 2 GB RAM, dual 120 GB hard disks, a DVD-R/CD-RW drive, and a 19" monitor, running the Windows 2000 operating system.

The Oriental Institute's e-mail server since the mid-1990s, [babylon-orinst.uchicago.edu](mailto:babylon-orinst.uchicago.edu), has also functioned as the Institute's File Transfer Protocol (FTP) server. In simple terms, an FTP server acts as an intermediary storage location whenever person A wants to either give or get a computer file from person B; person A connects to the FTP server via the Internet and "puts" the file in question on the server, then person B connects to the server and "gets" the file. Because of the pending "babylon" shutdown a new FTP server was established in November 2003. It is an

older Macintosh G3 computer, currently running System 10.2.8, with 16 gigabytes of disk space for file transfer.

For further information concerning several of the above-mentioned research projects, the World-Wide Web (WWW) database, and other Electronic Resources in general, refer to the What's New page on the Oriental Institute's Web site, at (Note: this URL is case-sensitive):

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/INFO/OI\\_WWW\\_New.html](http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/INFO/OI_WWW_New.html)

See the "Electronic Resources" section of this *Annual Report* for the complete URL to each of the Web site resources mentioned in this article.

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## ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

Charles E. Jones and John C. Sanders

### **Oriental Institute World-Wide Web-Database: New and Developing Resources in 2003/2004**

(NOTE: all Web-addresses below are case-sensitive)

#### **General News**

At the beginning of the year, the Oriental Institute went into partnership with the Web development group of the University of Chicago's Department of Networking Services and Information Technologies. Since the middle of the year the Oriental Institute Web site is hosted on secure servers centrally maintained by the University. We are now well into the development of an entirely new design concept intended to improve both the organization and the aesthetics of the Web site. As a part of this reorganization, on March 30, 2004, the official name, or Web-address, of the Oriental Institute Web site was changed. Known for a decade as [www-oi.uchicago.edu](http://www-oi.uchicago.edu), we have now adopted the simpler, shorter name [oi.uchicago.edu](http://oi.uchicago.edu). Links using the old name remain active, and the change is seamless to the world at large.

Several Oriental Institute units and projects either updated existing pages or became a new presence on the Institute's Web site during the past year.

#### **New Documents**

##### **Oriental Institute 2001–2002 Annual Report**

The full text of the *2001–2002 Annual Report* is now available online, and links to its respective chapters and entries have been added to homepages of the appropriate projects and departments.

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/AR/01-02/01-02\\_AR\\_TOC.html](http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/AR/01-02/01-02_AR_TOC.html)

We now have eleven *Annual Reports* online. All together these eleven reports cover 2,260 printed pages.

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/AR/Annual\\_Reports.html](http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/AR/Annual_Reports.html)

## RESEARCH

**The Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery**

An illustrated description of the Oriental Institute Museum's Mesopotamian Gallery that opened to the public on October 18, 2003.

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/MUS/GALLERY/MESO/New\\_Meso\\_Gallery.html](http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/MUS/GALLERY/MESO/New_Meso_Gallery.html)

**Museum Education, Kid's Corner: Prepare a Mummy for Burial**

An activity in the Kids Corner of the Museum Education's Teacher Resource Center on the Oriental Institute Web site.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/MUS/ED/mummy.html>

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/MUS/ED/kids.html>

**Research Archives: A Bibliography of Ugaritic Grammar and Biblical Hebrew Grammar in the Twentieth Century, by Mark S. Smith**

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/bibs/BH-Ugaritic.html>

**Research Archives: Iraq Bibliographies**

A collection of bibliographies compiled in response to the cultural heritage crisis in Iraq since war broke out in spring 2003.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/IraqBibs.html>

**Research Archives: ETANA-Abzu-news**

Inaugurated in January 2003, this list will provide occasional (i.e., monthly) reports on developments at ETANA and Abzu (see below).

<https://listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/etana-abzu-news>

**The Middle East Librarians Association Committee on Iraqi Libraries**

Library of Congress Mission To Baghdad. Report on the National Library and the House of Manuscripts, October 27–November 3, 2003.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/LCIraqReport.html>

**The Iraqi Jewish Archive Preservation Report**

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/IraqiJewishArchiveReport.htm>

“Bosnian Libraries: Their Fate in the War and Responses to It, with Lessons for Iraq,” by Jeffrey B. Spurr.

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/CAA\\_Spurr.htm](http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/CAA_Spurr.htm)

Names and Contact Information for Senior Administrators and Librarians at Institutions in Iraq.

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/University\\_contacts.htm](http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/University_contacts.htm)

**Lost Treasures from Iraq: Digital Photographs of Archaeological Sites**

These photographs were taken by U. S. Army SPC William Peterson during visits in late 2003/early 2004 and generously forwarded to the Iraq Working Group at the Oriental Institute.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/sites/sitesintro.htm>

### **Modeling Ancient Settlement Systems (MASS)**

Announcing research papers and progress reports for this joint Oriental Institute/Argonne National Laboratory project. It is engaged in modeling and attempts to explain trajectories of development and demise of Bronze Age settlement systems for both the rain-fed and irrigated zones of Syria and Iraq.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/MASS/Mass.htm>

### **Chicago Demotic Dictionary**

Three new letters, ‘ayin, Q, and G, giving the full dictionary entries for fourteen letters of the Demotic alphabet. For more information on the development of this tool, see the Demotic Dictionary, Computer Laboratory, and Publications Office sections in this *Annual Report*.

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/PUB/SRC/CDD/CDD\\_c.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/PUB/SRC/CDD/CDD_c.pdf)

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/PUB/SRC/CDD/CDD\\_Q.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/PUB/SRC/CDD/CDD_Q.pdf)

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/PUB/SRC/CDD/CDD\\_G.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/PUB/SRC/CDD/CDD_G.pdf)

and the entire Dictionary at:

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/PUB/SRC/CDD/CDD.html>

### **Revised and Updated Documents**

#### **Abzu: Guide to Resources for the Study of the Ancient Near East Available on the Internet**

Published by the Oriental Institute Research Archives in cooperation with ETANA: Electronic Tools and Ancient Near Eastern Archives. More than a thousand entries have been added in the past year.

<http://www.etana.org/abzu/>

See also Research Archives: ETANA-Abzu-news (above)

#### **Lost Treasures from Iraq: Objects from the Iraq Museum**

Since April 2003, scholars at the Oriental Institute have been compiling a comprehensive database of objects from the Iraq Museum. While the primary objective of this project is to help in the recovery of the missing objects, we also hope that this site will be found useful as an educational resource for schools and the general public. At the moment nearly a thousand objects are in the database.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/dbfiles/Iraqdatabasehome.htm>

#### **Research Archives Catalog Online**

Web-version of the Research Archives Catalog. About ten thousand new records have been added this year. The total number of records is more than 130,000.

<http://oilib.uchicago.edu/oilibcat.html>

#### **ANE: Discussion List for the Study of the Ancient Near East**

A joint project of the Computer Laboratory and the Research Archives. During the past year 4,192 messages were distributed to 1,336 subscribers.

<https://listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/ane>

## RESEARCH

### **ANENews**

A moderated sub-set of ANE: Discussion List for the Study of the Ancient Near East. During the past year 1,178 messages were distributed to 596 subscribers.

<https://listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/anenews>

### **IraqCrisis**

A moderated list for communicating substantive information on cultural property damaged, destroyed, or lost from Libraries and Museums in Iraq during and after the war in April 2003, and on the worldwide response to the crisis. During the past year 469 messages were distributed to 697 subscribers.

<https://listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/iraqcrisis>

### **ETANA-Abzu-news**

Providing occasional reports on developments at ETANA and Abzu. During the past year twelve messages were distributed to 387 subscribers.

<https://listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/ETANA-Abzu-news>

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## **PUBLICATIONS OFFICE**

### **Thomas A. Holland**

The Publications Office staff for this fiscal year remained the same with Thomas Holland and Thomas Urban in the Editorial Office. The work was ably assisted with the help of the same five graduate work-study students as last year: Katherine Strange Burke, Lindsay DeCarlo, Katie L. Johnson, Leslie Schramer, and Alexandra Witsell.

With regard to the closing of the Oriental Institute Publications Sales Office last year and the outsourcing of sales to the David Brown Book Company/Oxbow, please note that a complete catalog of Oriental Institute publications is still available from the Oriental Institute online at

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/PUB/CATALOG/Catalog.html>

Also, information related to Oriental Institute sales may be obtained via e-mail:

[oi-publications@uchicago.edu](mailto:oi-publications@uchicago.edu)

## Sales

The table of sales chart shown below represents the income received via sales from both The David Brown Book Company/Oxbow and the Oriental Institute Suq.

TABLE OF SALES  
ORIENTAL INSTITUTE IN-HOUSE SALES

| Date            | 7/03         | 8/03         | 9/03           | 10/03    | 11/03        | 12/03    | 1/04        | 2/04     | 3/04     | 4/04     | 5/04         | 6/04           | Total          |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|----------|--------------|----------|-------------|----------|----------|----------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| Series          |              |              |                |          |              |          |             |          |          |          |              |                |                |
| OIP*            | \$60         | \$525        | —              | —        | \$260        | —        | \$50        | —        | —        | —        | \$207        | —              | \$1,102        |
| ES              | \$260        | —            | —              | —        | —            | —        | —           | —        | —        | —        | —            | —              | \$260          |
| CAD             | —            | —            | \$4,271        | —        | —            | —        | —           | —        | —        | —        | \$25         | —              | \$4,296        |
| CHD             | —            | —            | —              | —        | —            | —        | —           | —        | —        | —        | —            | —              | —              |
| OINE            | —            | —            | —              | —        | —            | —        | —           | —        | —        | —        | —            | —              | —              |
| OIMP (OI Suq**) | —            | —            | —              | —        | —            | —        | —           | —        | —        | —        | —            | \$2,592        | \$2,592        |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>\$320</b> | <b>\$525</b> | <b>\$4,271</b> | <b>—</b> | <b>\$260</b> | <b>—</b> | <b>\$50</b> | <b>—</b> | <b>—</b> | <b>—</b> | <b>\$232</b> | <b>\$2,592</b> | <b>\$8,250</b> |

THE DAVID BROWN BOOK COMPANY, USA / OXBOW BOOKS LTD., U.K.  
QUARTERLY SALES REPORT

| Date         | 7/03     | 8/03     | 9/03           | 10/03    | 11/03    | 12/03           | 1/04     | 2/04     | 3/04            | 4/04     | 5/04     | 6/04***         | Total           |
|--------------|----------|----------|----------------|----------|----------|-----------------|----------|----------|-----------------|----------|----------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Series       |          |          |                |          |          |                 |          |          |                 |          |          |                 |                 |
| OIP*         | —        | —        | \$3,034        | —        | —        | \$12,565        | —        | —        | \$8,063         | —        | —        | \$11,274        | \$34,936        |
| ES           | —        | —        | \$811          | —        | —        | —               | —        | —        | \$236           | —        | —        | \$5,994         | \$7,041         |
| CAD          | —        | —        | \$1,912        | —        | —        | \$1,240         | —        | —        | \$1,033         | —        | —        | \$1,420         | \$5,605         |
| CHD          | —        | —        | \$411          | —        | —        | \$70            | —        | —        | \$269           | —        | —        | \$604           | \$1,354         |
| OINE         | —        | —        | \$165          | —        | —        | \$49            | —        | —        | \$200           | —        | —        | —               | \$414           |
| OIMP         | —        | —        | —              | —        | —        | —               | —        | —        | \$1,400         | —        | —        | \$2,656         | \$4,056         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>—</b> | <b>—</b> | <b>\$6,333</b> | <b>—</b> | <b>—</b> | <b>\$13,925</b> | <b>—</b> | <b>—</b> | <b>\$11,201</b> | <b>—</b> | <b>—</b> | <b>\$21,948</b> | <b>\$53,407</b> |

Grand Total: \$320 \$525 \$10,604 — \$260 \$13,925 \$50 —\$11,201 —\$232 \$24,540 \$61,657

Key: DBBC = The David Brown Book Company/Oxbow, OIP = Oriental Institute Publications (OIP), Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization (SAOC), Assyriological Studies (AS), Materials for the Study of Kassite History (MSKH), Oriental Institute Communications (OIC); ES = Epigraphic Survey volumes OIP 112 and OIP 116; CAD = Chicago Assyrian Dictionary; CHD = Chicago Hittite Dictionary; OIMP = Oriental Institute Museum Publications; OINE = Oriental Institute Nubian Expedition (OINE).

\*Includes sales of volumes in the Oriental Institute AS, MSKH, OIC, and SAOC series.

\*\*The sales total (June 2004) for OIMP 23, *Ancient Egypt: Treasures from the Collection of the Oriental Institute* represents income received via the Suq sales from October 2003 to June 2004.

\*\*\*The quarterly sales figures recorded for June 2004 may require slight adjustments due to possible miscellaneous charges that will not be reported upon until the receipt of the next quarterly report in October 2004.

## Manuscript Accepted for Publication

*The Amuq Valley Regional Projects, Volume 1. Surveys in the Plain of Antioch and Orontes Delta, Turkey, 1999–2002.* K. A. Yener, editor, with chapters by S. Batiuk, A. A. Burke, J. J. Casana, A. R. Gansell, T. P. Harrison, H. Pamir, T. J. Wilkinson, and K. A. Yener and contribution by R. K. Ritner.

## RESEARCH

**Volumes Distributed Online**

1. *Thus Wrote 'Onchsheshonqy: An Introductory Grammar of Demotic*. J. H. Johnson. Third edition. Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization 45.  
[www.oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/PUB/SRC/SAOC/45/SAOC45.html](http://www.oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/PUB/SRC/SAOC/45/SAOC45.html)
2. *Demotic Dictionary of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago (Introduction, 3, 4, Y, B, F, L, R, H, H, Q, K, G, T, D, and Problematic Readings)*. J. H. Johnson, editor.  
<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/PUB/SRC/CDD/CDD.html>

**Volumes Printed**

1. *Ancient Egypt: Treasures from the Collection of the Oriental Institute*. E. Teeter. Oriental Institute Museum Publications 23.
2. *Excavations at the Prehistoric Mound of Chogha Bonut, Khuzestan, Iran, Seasons 1976/77, 1977/78, and 1996*. A. Alizadeh, with contributions by N. F. Miller, A. M. Rosen, and R. W. Redding. Oriental Institute Publications 120.
3. *Neo-Babylonian Texts in the Oriental Institute Collection*. D. B. Weisberg. Oriental Institute Publications 122.
4. *Temple of Khonsu, Volume 3. The Graffiti on the Khonsu Temple Roof at Karnak: A Manifestation of Personal Piety*. H. Jacquet-Gordon. Oriental Institute Publications 123.

**Volumes Reprinted**

*The Assyrian Dictionary of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago, Volumes 1/2 (A/2), 3 (D), 4 (E), 7 (I/J), 10 (M/1–2), 16 (S), 17/1 (Š/1), and 17/2 (Š/2)*. A. Leo Oppenheim et al., editors.

**Volumes in Preparation**

1. *The Amuq Valley Regional Projects, Volume 1. Surveys in the Plain of Antioch and Orontes Delta, Turkey, 1999–2002*. K. A. Yener, editor, with chapters by S. Batiuk, A. A. Burke, J. J. Casana, A. R. Gansell, T. P. Harrison, H. Pamir, T. J. Wilkinson, and K. A. Yener and contribution by R. K. Ritner.
2. *Catalog of Demotic Texts in the Brooklyn Museum*. G. R. Hughes, with contributions by B. P. Muhs and S. Vinson.
3. *Chogha Mish, Volume 2. Final Report on the Last Six Seasons of Excavations, 1972–1978: A Prehistoric Regional Center in Lowland Susiana, Southwestern Iran*. A. Alizadeh.
4. *The Demotic Verbal System*. J. H. Johnson. Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization 38. Reprint.
5. *Excavations at Tall-e Bakun A, Seasons 1932 and 1937: The Origins of State Organizations in Prehistoric Fars, Southern Iran*. A. Alizadeh.
6. *Megiddo, Volume 3. Final Report on the Stratum VI Excavations*. T. P. Harrison, with contributions by D. L. Esse, A. Graham, D. G. V. Hancock, and P. Paice.
7. *Nippur, Volume 5. The Area WF Sounding: The Early Dynastic to Akkadian Transition*. A. McMahon, with contributions by McG. Gibson, D. Reese, and P. Vandiver.



8. *Tax Receipts, Taxpayers, and Taxes in Early Ptolemaic Thebes*. B. P. Muhs.
9. *Tell es-Sweyhat, Syria, Volume 1. On the Margin of the Euphrates: Settlement and Land Use at Tell es-Sweyhat and in the Upper Lake Assad Area, Syria*. T. J. Wilkinson, with contributions by N. F. Miller, C. D. Reichel, and D. Whitcomb.
10. *Tell es-Sweyhat, Syria, Volume 2. A Bronze Age Town on the Left Bank of the Upper Euphrates River: Archaeology of the Bronze Age, Hellenistic, and Roman Remains*. T. A. Holland, with contributions by M. Goodway and M. Roaf.

### Editorial Office. *Thomas G. Urban*

This year our two senior student editorial assistants, Leslie Schramer and Katherine Strange Burke, tested their publication skills to prepare and send a manuscript to press from beginning to end. Leslie worked on spring *News & Notes* and Katherine on summer and fall *News & Notes* and this *Annual Report*. I train the students to prepare the various parts of a manuscript (plates, figures, tables, bibliography), merge the completed parts with the text (check that the parts jibe with one another and format the text), and copy edit. By sending a publication to press the students acquire the final skills needed to complete a work and learn why some of the technical steps taken early on were necessary for the final stage — the actual printing.

When a student editorial assistant can move efficiently between scanning, checking bibliography, plate and figure design, cleaning up artwork, copy editing, formatting tables, and assembling all the parts of a manuscript into book form, the student is ready to apply these skills towards the production of single book; until then, the students work on various parts of several manuscripts. During the year, our three junior student editorial assistants gained these skills and took on the following manuscripts: Katie L. Johnson worked on Brian Muhs' *Demotic and Greek Texts in the Oriental Institute Museum* and Janet Johnson's *The Demotic Verbal System*, Lindsay DeCarlo on Abbas Alizadeh's *Tall-e Bakun A and Chogha Mish, Volume 2*, and Alexandra Witsell on Augusta McMahon's *Nippur, Volume 5*.

The work of the student editorial assistants has caused the Editorial Office to catch up with the backlog. All manuscripts accepted for publication are in preparation, and most are in an advanced stage with final corrected page proofs for three of them returned by the authors. I thank all the student assistants for their excellent work.

An added benefit of catching up is that we can take a more active role in the preparation of new manuscripts. We have been able to assist the following: Walter Farber, Martha T. Roth, and Matthew W. Stolper, editors of *Studies Presented to Robert D. Biggs, June 4, 2004, from the Workshop of the Assyrian Dictionary*, a volume being prepared in honor of Prof. Biggs' retirement; Cynthia L. Miller, editor of *Papers in Comparative Semitics and Afroasiatics*, a volume being prepared in honor of Prof. Gragg's retirement; and Donald Whitcomb, editor of *Changing Social Identity with the Spread of Islam: Archaeological Perspectives*, the first volume in a new series — Oriental Institute Seminars.

For the past twelve years the Editorial Office has prepared *News & Notes* and the *Annual Report* for the Membership Office. During this same time the technology of book production has undergone dramatic changes. Ten years ago we sent only paper and film to a printer, today we send only electronic files, often by e-mail or server. At each significant change in the technology, we have used a Membership publication to test how a new font or method of preparing a piece of artwork worked on press. In this *Annual Report*, this tradition continues.

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In the late 1980s, Prof. Janet Johnson began pasting scans of Demotic texts into MicroSoft Word files of her Demotic Dictionary. When viewed on a computer screen or printed by a laser printer, the scans look great. As the dictionary moves closer to completion, we questioned how the scans would print on an offset printer. We estimate that the completed dictionary could have as many as 20,000 scans. We would like to avoid replacing the scans but will probably need to adjust the black and white values of many of them because halftones darken about 12% on the press due to dot gain (ink spreads when absorbed in paper). Halftones are images formed by breaking up continuous-tone images into dots of various sizes that when printed merge to give an illusion of continuous tone to the naked eye.

In this year's report on the Demotic Dictionary Project, Prof. Johnson submitted a portion of text from the dictionary with seven scans that range from light to dark and present an ideal opportunity for testing which of them will need to have their black and white values adjusted. On page 42, the seven scans of papyrus were extracted from a MicroSoft Word file by printing them to an encapsulated postscript (.eps) file, which was opened in Adobe Photoshop and adjusted to the values required by our offset printer. Below, six of those scans are printed side by side in two columns: on the left of each column are in-line graphics placed in PageMaker from a MicroSoft Word file and on the right are the same .eps files shown on page 42. This page has been printed from a portable document format (.pdf) file, while all other pages of this report are printed from a PageMaker file. This test compares the quality of the two types of images printed from a .pdf file, establishing the feasibility of printing the Demotic Dictionary from .pdf files.



## RESEARCH ARCHIVES

Charles E. Jones

### Introduction

Among the more interesting trends in scholarship in the past few years is the movement towards "open access." A useful summary of the basic principles is articulated in the opening paragraph of the manifesto of the Budapest Open Access Initiative published in early 2002:

An old tradition and a new technology have converged to make possible an unprecedented public good. The old tradition is the willingness of scientists and scholars to publish the fruits of their research in scholarly journals without payment, for the sake of inquiry and knowledge. The new technology is the Internet. The public good they make possible is the worldwide electronic distribution of the peer-reviewed journal lit-

erature and completely free and unrestricted access to it by all scientists, scholars, teachers, students, and other curious minds. Removing access barriers to this literature will accelerate research, enrich education, share the learning of the rich with the poor and the poor with the rich, make this literature as useful as it can be, and lay the foundation for uniting humanity in a common intellectual conversation and quest for knowledge. ([www.soros.org/openaccess/read.shtml](http://www.soros.org/openaccess/read.shtml))

Noble goals indeed! For many years it has been my contention that libraries and librarians are — and should be — essential partners in removing access barriers and in developing the structures that allow the sharing of the results of scholarship for the sake of inquiry and knowledge. Traditionally situated at the nexus of the exchange of information among scientists and scholars, libraries and librarians must now also advocate for the transformation of the systems of scientific and scholarly communication and champion the role of research libraries as partners in this change.

The Oriental Institute Research Archives and its librarian have long sought to develop partnerships with like-minded organizations in the development of tools, strategies, and materials dedicated to these principles.

Within the Institute, the Research Archives is a senior participant in the development and maintenance of the Oriental Institute's Web site (now a full decade old and undergoing a major restructuring). Other internal projects working towards these goals are the Iraq Working Group ([oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/iraq.html](http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/iraq.html)) and XSTAR ([oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/XSTAR/XSTAR.html](http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/XSTAR/XSTAR.html)). Similarly, the library staff is actively engaged in committees to develop and establish policies governing the organization, control, and access to a wide variety of "intellectual properties" in the custody of the Oriental Institute.

In the world at large, the Research Archives is a partner in such things as the development of ETANA: Electronic Tools and Ancient Near Eastern Archives ([www.etana.org](http://www.etana.org)); the development of achemenet ([www.achemenet.com](http://www.achemenet.com)), the central place online for the study of the Achaemenid Empire; and most recently The Alexandria Archive Institute ([www.alexandriaarchive.org](http://www.alexandriaarchive.org)).

We collectively believe that we are witnessing the emergence of a new set of paradigms governing, structuring, and providing access to the "common intellectual conversation and quest for knowledge."

Towards the end of the year, we articulated our mission in the following paragraph:

The Research Archives' mission is to make its resources available and useful to the faculty, staff, and projects of the Oriental Institute and to sustain and preserve for future generations a universe of knowledge and creativity relating to the languages and cultures of the ancient Near East and to the ancient and modern scholarly traditions associated with the ancient Near East.

The development of our print collection, with the goal of providing a comprehensive record of the ancient Near East as it is manifest in the published record, is the task which takes the bulk of our "blood and treasure." The primary point of access to this is by way of the online catalog.

## **The Online Catalog**

During the past year we have added about ten thousand records to the online catalog. The total number of records stands at 130,235. The Catalog is available online at [www.oilib.uchicago.edu/oilibcat.html](http://www.oilib.uchicago.edu/oilibcat.html). The online catalog includes items acquired in the Research Archives since 1990. It also includes important classes of analytical records — bibliographical records of essays, articles, and reviews included in the books and serials we acquire. In the past year we have begun

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the process of retrospective cataloguing of the monograph collection. In its basic form, this process requires the examination of every book in the collection, the comparison of the book to its online and card-catalog record, and the development of an online record if needed, along with analytical records for essays included in each volume. After a year's work, my dedicated staff has made it thorough about eight percent of the collection.

**Current Acquisitions**

Following are the acquisitions statistics for the past year:

|                       | <u>May 2003–April 2004</u> | <u>Total</u>  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Monographs and Series | 690                        | 27,062        |
| Journals              | <u>255</u>                 | <u>10,972</u> |
| Total Books           | 945                        | 38,034        |

Despite a shrinking budget and strong inflation in the cost of books and journals, the Research Archives remains committed to acquiring all the basic published resources for the study of the ancient Near East.

**Global Resources Hosted at the Research Archives**

The globally accessible resources of the Oriental Institute fall into two categories: Communication and Documentation. I list here programs that are new or newly developed in the past year.

**Communication: Mailing lists****ANE**

[listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/ane](mailto:listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/ane)

Provides a medium for discussion among scholars and students actively engaged in research and study of the ancient Near East.

**ANENews**

[listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/aneneews](mailto:listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/aneneews)

Provides a moderated forum for the distribution of information among scholars and students actively engaged in research and study of the ancient Near East.

**IraqCrisis**

[listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/iraqcrisis](mailto:listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/iraqcrisis)

Provides a means of communicating substantive information on cultural property damaged, destroyed, or lost from libraries and museums in Iraq during and after the war in April 2003, and on the worldwide response to the crisis.

**ETANA-Abzu-News**

[listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/etana-abzu-news](mailto:listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/etana-abzu-news)

Provides occasional reports on developments at ETANA and Abzu.

## Documentation

### Abzu

[www.etana.org/abzu/](http://www.etana.org/abzu/)

A guide to the rapidly increasing, and widely distributed data relevant to the study and public presentation of the ancient Near East via the Internet.

### A Bibliography of Ugaritic Grammar and Biblical Hebrew Grammar in the Twentieth Century, Mark S. Smith

[oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/bibs/BH-Ugaritic.html](http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/bibs/BH-Ugaritic.html)

### ETANA - Core Texts

[www.etana.org/coretexts.shtml](http://www.etana.org/coretexts.shtml)

A new set of titles, digitized under a grant from the American Theological Librarians Association, is nearly complete at the time of writing.

### Iraq Bibliographies

[oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/IraqBibs.html](http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/IraqBibs.html)

Compiled in response to the cultural heritage crisis in Iraq during and after the war in spring 2003.

### Middle East Librarians Association Committee on Iraqi Libraries

[oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/melairaq.html](http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/melairaq.html)

### Bosnian Libraries: Their Fate in the War and Responses to it, with Lessons for Iraq, Jeffrey B. Spurr

[oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/CAA\\_Spurr.htm](http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/CAA_Spurr.htm)

### The Iraqi Jewish Archive Preservation Report

[oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/IraqiJewishArchiveReport.htm](http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/IraqiJewishArchiveReport.htm)

### The Library of Congress and the Cultural Property Office of the United States Department of State Mission to Baghdad: Report on the National Library and the House of Manuscripts, October 27–November 3, 2003

[oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/LCIraqReport.html](http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/LCIraqReport.html)

### Names and Contact Information for Senior Administrators and Librarians at Institutions in Iraq

[oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/University\\_contacts.htm](http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/University_contacts.htm)

### Serials held by the Oriental Institute Research Archives

[oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/ResArchSerials.html](http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/ResArchSerials.html)

## Staff

I am indebted to the excellent staff of the Research Archives. Our team this past year included Foy Scalf and Michael Beetley. Foy, a graduate student in Egyptology, has devoted his time to a number of projects, most recently to the analysis and cataloging of our map collection. He will continue to work for me, having begun his third year as Assistant Archivist. Michael Beetley, a

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dissertating graduate student in Northwest Semitics, was with us for almost a whole year. His efforts were largely devoted to building the analytical catalog records for material newly acquired in the collection. He also began and systematized the retrospective cataloging of monographic materials. This slow and laborious process enriches our catalog as a research tool each day. Michael has moved on this summer to a teaching position — we congratulate him and thank him for his careful work with our team. Our most recent employee is Benjamin Trofatter. Ben, a student in the College majoring in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, is shouldering the duties Michael shed. I am grateful, as always, to have the opportunity to work with an extraordinary team.

**Acknowledgments**

It is impossible to give sufficient acknowledgment to the close and productive relationships that I have both personally and professionally with the staff and faculty of the Oriental Institute. It is the personal dedication of this large team to mutually shared goals that makes each day interesting and worthwhile. Likewise, the continuous interaction I have with members and friends of the Oriental Institute who pass through the physical or virtual spaces of the Research Archives is a constant source of stimulation and intellectual challenge. Thanks to you all.

The exchange programs we have with the Journal of Near Eastern Studies and with the Publications Department, remain, as they always have been, a mainstay of the Research Archives acquisitions efforts. As our acquisitions budgets shrink, and the costs of books and serials rise outpacing the rate of inflation, the steadfastness of these partnerships takes on an increasingly crucial role. We are grateful.

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**MUSEUM**

*Overleaf. Female sphinx. Basalt with white and green stone inlay. Iron Age, ca. 800 B.C. (Amuq Phase O). Tell Ta'yinat. Excavated by the Oriental Institute in 1936. OIM A27853. This sphinx shows features of the internationalism of Anatolian art. Although its coiffure is Egyptian influenced, its hairpin is not. The form of the sphinx and its pose, with face turned sharply toward the viewer, reflects a combination of regional styles.*

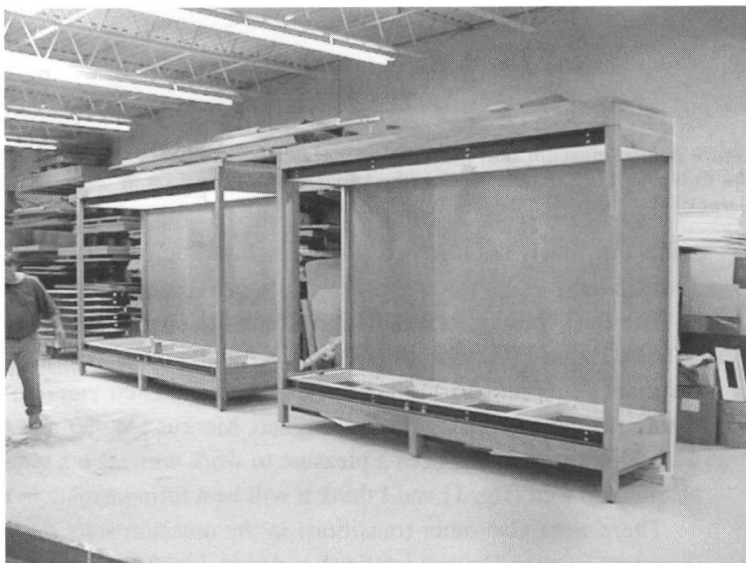


## MUSEUM

### Geoff Emberling

Although I was here for just over a month of 2003–04, it is a pleasure both to look back at a productive year past and an extremely exciting few years to come. The last year was a time of change for the museum on many fronts.

After more than two years of intensive work, the Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery and the Yelda Khorsabad Court opened to the public on October 18, 2003. It is the keystone of the new museum installation — the largest gallery, and the third of five to be installed — and has been an enormous public success. Containing nearly 1,400 objects, most from Oriental Institute excavations, it ranges from the Braidwood Prehistoric Project to the Khorsabad Court. I am perhaps the only person now in the Oriental Institute who did not take part in



*Figure 1. Display case for the East Gallery being constructed at Helmut Guenschel Company in Baltimore*

work on the gallery. Certainly thanks are due to Mesopotamian Gallery Installation Committee members former Museum Director Karen Wilson, Professor McGuire Gibson, Graphic Designer Dianne Hanau-Strain, Exhibit Designer Joe Scott and his successor, Installation Coordinator Markus Dohner, as well as to the entire museum staff.

Karen Wilson, who was appointed curator of the museum in 1988 and museum director in 1997, stepped down at the end of October 2003 to pursue research on the Oriental Institute's collection of material from Bismaya, ancient Adab, excavated in 1903–05. During her fifteen years leading the museum, she supervised the installation of climate control and the construction of the new wing and began the current series of gallery installations. Less immediately obvious, a great deal of work towards computerizing collections of objects and photographs was done under Karen's watch. The many opportunities that the museum currently has are due in large part to her organizational skills, hard work, and long-range vision. I would like to thank her for her many and long-lasting contributions to the Oriental Institute.

Ray Tindel served as Interim Museum Director from November to May 2004, as he has done several times in the past. During that time, Ray worked closely with Gil J. Stein to develop plans for the East Gallery reinstatement and to keep that project in line and on schedule.

Soon after the opening of the Mesopotamian Gallery, Oriental Institute faculty and museum staff turned their attention to work on the East Gallery, due to open in January 2005. The gallery will present a geographic arc connecting the Mesopotamian Gallery to the Joseph and Mary

## MUSEUM



**Figure 2.** First museum staff meeting, on a Hawaiian theme, in the Conservation Lab. Decorations by Vanessa Muros and Sarah Barack

Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery, while displaying the diverse ancient cultures of ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel. These regions were culturally distinctive but interconnected through trade, technological exchange, and cultural borrowings in political practice, power, and religion. Much of this region was also briefly joined within the Assyrian empire.

Faculty members Aslihan Yener and Theo van den Hout taught a course during the winter of 2004 to examine objects from the Amuq and Alishar projects. As a result of this course,

many previously unpublished and undisplayed objects were examined and will be on view in the East Gallery.

The East Gallery Reinstallation Committee has at various times included Gil J. Stein, Ray Tindel, Laura D'Alessandro, Carole Krucoff, guest curators Seth Richardson (Khorsabad), Aslihan Yener and Virginia Rimmer (Amuq), Theo van den Hout and Ron Gorny (Alişar), Gabrielle Novacek (Megiddo), designers Markus Dohner and Dianne Hanau-Strain, and editor Joan Barghusen. It has been a pleasure to work with such a wonderful group; the East Gallery is shaping up well (fig. 1) and I think it will be a fitting tribute to the efforts of the committee.

There were also other transitions in the museum staff during the past year. Administrative Assistant Evelien Dewulf left for London in June. Tom James replaced her almost immediately and has quickly become an invaluable member of the staff. And finally, I started as director May 26, having just returned from a final field season at Tell Brak in northeastern Syria. June was a whirlwind for me, getting acquainted with people, places, and projects. Most importantly, I began to get a hands-on sense of the reinstallation of the East Gallery, looking at objects case by case, and reading drafts of labels of all sizes.

I have also begun to think about a strategic plan for the museum, helped by Volunteer Shel Newman, an organizational development consultant. Since this process is in its preliminary stages, I will just say that there are opportunities for growth in many parts of the museum — attendance, public impact, revenue, conducting and facilitating research — and we will be evaluating these possibilities in the year to come.

We will, of course, also continue with the reinstallation of the museum's permanent galleries. The Nubian Gallery will open in spring 2006 and at that time we will also have our first special exhibit in the Holleb Special Exhibits Gallery.

We have instituted monthly staff meetings. The museum staff is spread out all over the building, and a meeting just to find out what we are all doing is an important way to stay connected. They have been fun, too. The first meeting, on June 18, was held in the Conservation Lab with model beaches, umbrellas, pineapple, and fresh coconuts (fig. 2).

## REGISTRY

### Raymond D. Tindel

During 2003/2004, faculty, students, staff, and outside scholars continued to use the collections for research and teaching. Instructors using the collections for teaching included Abbas Alizadeh, Gertrud and Walter Farber, McGuire Gibson, Steve Harvey, Wadad Kadi, John Perry, Robert Ritner, Katherine Strange Burke, Theo Van Den Hout, and Don Whitcomb, including also Margaret Mitchell of the Divinity School. McGuire Gibson leads the group with 1,116 pieces used. Other researchers who have made extensive use of the collections during the past year include Gabrielle Novacek, who has gone through over 200 boxes of many thousands of sherds from the Oriental Institute's excavations at Khirbet Kerak in preparation for her dissertation and ultimate publication of this site; Karen Wilson, who is preparing for publication the Bismaya material; Clemens Reichel, who is working on the Diyala Project; Royal Ghazal, in his study of ceramics from the Khuzestan Plain; Erin Unverferth; Malayna Evans Williams; Catherine Chou; Amy Gansell of New York; and Anne Dehnisch of Austin.

Thanks to a successful grant application written by Laura D'Alessandro to the Institute of Museum and Library Services we have received shipment of storage cabinets into which we are organizing the manageable Egyptian stone objects (i.e., the sculpture, reliefs, and other pieces that we can handle without heavy lifting equipment). In addition, we have registered nearly 2,000 objects, thereby making some small but significant progress in recording the museum's great backlog of undocumented material. In all, more than 17,000 different artifacts were handled by registration last year.

Work for the East Gallery reinstallation began in earnest in January 2004. More than 2,500 objects were evaluated for display, with 1,000 ultimately chosen.

These accomplishments were made possible only by the assistance of volunteers Mary Grimshaw, Toni Smith, and Jim Sopranos, and by the help of student assistants Dennis Campbell and Andrew Rich. Altogether they numbered objects, typed data entry, unloaded packing boxes, regularly and continually removed objects from and returned them to storage, updated inventories, and did the endless daily chores which makes it possible for us to support the research and collections management of the Oriental Institute — many, many thanks.

## ARCHIVES

### John A. Larson

Museum Archivist John A. Larson completed his twenty-fourth year on the museum staff in June 2004. John began working in the Museum Office in June 1980 as a Project Assistant supported by a conservation grant from the National Science Foundation. His twenty-fourth anniversary as Museum Archivist takes place in early December.

Visiting scholars during 2003/2004 included Jeffrey Abt (Wayne State University, in July 2003, who continues to write on the career of James Henry Breasted and Sara Gardner, in May

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2004, who is studying the incised paving stones of the Chalcolithic period found during the Oriental Institute's excavations at Megiddo. During the last week of January 2004, Robert Oberheid visited from Germany to examine material relating to the life and work of Hittitologist Emil Forrer. Since her "retirement" in October 2003, Karen L. Wilson has been working steadily on several research projects intended for publication, and we continue to see her in the West Basement for at least three days a week, on average.

Producer Leonard Aronson and his assistant Shawna Hanson spent more than fourteen months on the background research and photographic research for the WTTW Chicago television programs *Breaking Ground: The Story of the Oriental Institute* and *Pioneer to the Past: The Life and Times of James Henry Breasted*, which were broadcast in May 2004; numerous photographs from the Oriental Institute Archives illustrated the two programs.

On August 14, 2003, we had a visit from Erika Schmidt, daughter of Erich F. Schmidt, who is best known for his fieldwork in Iran.

Senior graduate students and Ph.D. candidates in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations (NELC) make occasional use of materials in the Archives. In late September 2003, John Larson supervised the digital scanning of selected original collation sheets from the Coffin Texts Project by NELC Ph.D. candidate Harold Hays, so that Harold could take the scans with him to Chicago House for study purposes during the field season of the Epigraphic Survey. On November 26, 2003, NELC graduate student Asa Eger came to look at photographs from Schmidt's Aerial Survey of Iran; his colleague Toby Hartnell came on a similar errand on January 20, 2004. From January through April 2004, the graduate students in Prof. Aslihan Yener's Museum Installation Class — Natasha Bershinsky, Yigit Erbil, Stephanie Reed, Virginia Rimmer, and Bike Yazicioglu — made a series of appointments to collect field data for class projects relating to museum objects from the Oriental Institute excavations in the Amuq, in preparation for the installation of the East Gallery. In March and April 2004, NELC graduate student Eudora Struble made a series of appointments to see field records from the Oriental Institute excavations at Nahal Tabor in Israel for a Master's thesis. From late April through early June 2004, the NELC graduate students in Prof. Robert Ritner's Ramesside Seminar — Vanessa Davies, Jacqueline Jay, and Malayna Williams — met with John Larson to further their research on Egyptian antiquities dating to the Ramesside period in the museum collections.

And last (but certainly not least), Tom James assisted John Larson by photocopying hundreds of items from the Amuq field records in order to facilitate the research of Timothy Harrison (Tell Ta'yinat) and Prof. Aslihan Yener.

### Photographic Services

John Larson has been assisted by graduate-student assistant Justine Warren James (January 2003 to present) and by former Museum Assistant Evelien Dewulf (June 2003 to April 2004), who have had the responsibility for preparing the necessary paperwork and handling all the other details that are involved in processing the requests that we receive for photographic image materials and reproduction permissions — a total of 197 transactions during fiscal year 2003/2004.

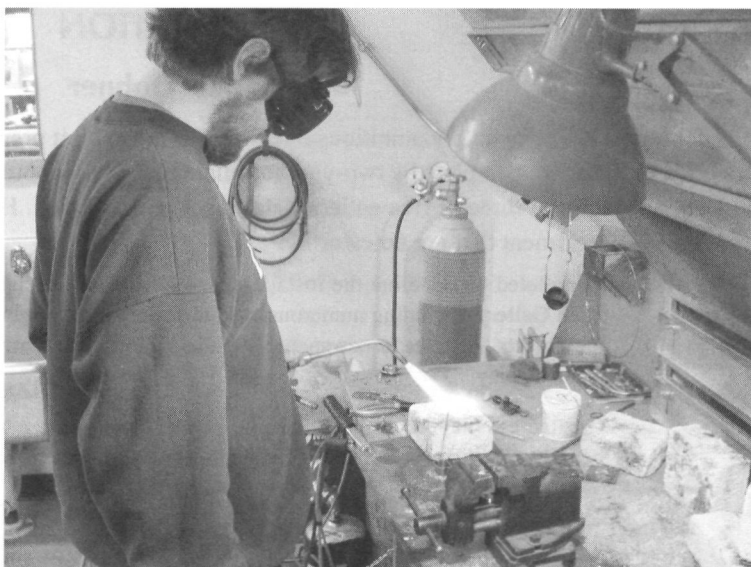
### Recent Acquisitions

We have received the following new acquisitions for the Oriental Institute Archives:

On July 15, 2003, Oriental Institute Photographer Jean Grant donated her personal collection of 35 mm color transparencies taken at the site of Korucutepe during the field season of 1970/

1971, when she served as field photographer for the Euphrates Valley Expedition, under the direction of Hans G. Güterbock and Maurits van Loon.

On September 19, 2003, Mr. and Mrs. Robert I. Logan presented a study collection of twenty CD-ROMs containing digital scans of Mr. Logan's 35 mm color transparencies taken during their travels in Iran and Afghanistan in the late 1960s. Mrs. Logan is a cousin of longtime Oriental Institute volunteer Elizabeth Spiegel.



*Figure 3. Exhibit Preparator Erik Lindahl brazing a mount for use in the East Gallery*

## Volunteers

Generous contributions of volunteer time by a number of dedicated individuals make it possible for us to begin, continue, and complete projects in the Archives that we might not otherwise be able to undertake by committing staff time alone. James P. Baughman, Hazel Cramer, Peggy Grant, Patricia Hume, Sandra Jacobsohn, Lillian Schwartz, and Carole Yoshida continued working with John Larson as Oriental Institute Archives Volunteers throughout fiscal year 2003/2004. It is our happy obligation to recognize and thank these volunteers for their efforts.

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## PHOTO LAB

### Jean Grant

Our last major "colorful" work was on Emily Teeter's Egyptian Gallery book, and we are looking forward to doing photography of the East Gallery objects.

Volunteer Irene Glasner is still putting up with us after all these years, for which we are grateful. Maybe we will see more of her now that her husband has retired from teaching Economics!

I would also like to mention Volunteer Pam Ames, who has been available as driver, using her car to help the Photo Lab get equipment repaired and to get film to the processor expeditiously.

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## PREPARATION

### Markus Dohner

The year has been a very ambitious one for us in the exhibit preparation department. In the early fall last year we completed a two-year installation of the Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery, finishing the work on three of five galleries slated for reinstallation. Here is a list of accomplishments for the department that are noteworthy:

- Completed on deadline the installation of over 1,000 ancient objects in the Mesopotamian Gallery, including numerous custom-made mounts or brackets that hold and protect the objects. Articles in newspapers on the exhibit have featured photographs of our finished display.
- Created case layout designs using software for construction design, which gave us the benefit of being able to rapidly edit and test new designs for display cases.
- Worked closely with graphic designer on wall texts and object-label integration. Employed Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines or best practices in label and space design.
- Coordinated object conservation with in-house conservation unit. This often involved making last-minute aesthetic decisions regarding the condition of many objects. Observed conservation practices for case construction using approved materials, particularly finishes and fabrics. Lighting of artifacts followed conservation illumination standards.
- The exhibit's quality of design, fabrication, and conservation supports the Oriental Institute's mission to make the new exhibits more accessible and attractive for all types of visitors.
- The reinstallation of the Syro-Anatolia and Megiddo galleries in the East Wing is under way. At the time of this writing we have planned the whole exhibit and installed approximately 40%. The exhibit preparators are fabricating the interiors of the display cases and mounting all the objects that go inside cases. The pace of work will increase after the arrival of our museum-quality display units, which are custom-built to engineering standards by a firm in Baltimore.

Presently, we have three full-time staffers working on the reinstallation of the Syro-Anatolia and Megiddo Halls. Erik Lindahl, Exhibit Preparator, continues fabrication of the mounts (fig. 3), or oversees their fabrication, as well as the carpentry and finishes for the display cases and final installation of the artifacts. With his unyielding efforts we were able to meet the milestone of cleaning out all the overstock pedestals and unused display furniture that had accumulated in the new gallery space. Our second preparator Brian Zimerle started at the Oriental Institute this May after working as a preparator at a Chicago art gallery. An expert brazier, he is producing many of the mounts for the Megiddo and Syro-Anatolian galleries. Markus Dohner, Museum Installation Manager, has been working closely with the museum director and faculty curators to develop exhibit ideas into working plans for gallery construction. Not only is he working with the staff on the East Wing installation, he is also involved in the installation planning and design for the future Nubia Gallery.

## CONSERVATION

Laura D'Alessandro

The past year has been a particularly busy year for the conservation staff. As the summer drew to a close, the lab worked hard to complete conservation on the last few objects needing treatment before installation in the new Mesopotamian Gallery. And as with the other museum staff, no sooner did we put the last object in the last display case in the new Mesopotamian Gallery than we began work on the East Gallery reinstallation. For the conservation staff, that involved gearing up the Assyrian relief project for its final phase. The riggers and framers were contacted, supplies and materials were inventoried, equipment rentals were set in train, and in October the crews gathered to install the four Corridor 10 reliefs and the three reliefs from Room 7. The Room 7 reliefs are among everyone's favorites, with their charming representation of a banqueting scene in the upper register and the wonderful depiction of King Sargon hunting in the royal forests on the lower register. It was in November that the two parts of the chariot wheel in Room 7, separated in the 1930s, were rejoined for the first time in seventy years. The East Gallery reliefs have their own particular complications; their final restoration is under way as of this writing.

Over 250 objects from Khorsabad, Syria-Anatolia, and Megiddo came through the conservation laboratory during the year in preparation for the East Gallery reinstallation. Analytical work continues on the collection as the conservation staff continues to have access to the Department of Geophysical Sciences JEOL scanning electron microscope. The ability to analyze inorganic materials, such as core metal or corrosion products, is a critical component in the conservation of ancient materials. The additional information is also of use to researchers and students and adds immeasurably to the body of data on the collection. The work of the conservators has been greatly facilitated by this welcome feature.

In September, Sarah Barack, our fifth and final Getty-Replogle Postgraduate Conservation intern, began her twelve-month internship. Sarah came to the Institute upon her graduation from the Conservation Center, Institute of Fine Arts Masters of Art History/Conservation Program at New York University. She has been working on objects in the lab, assisting with the restoration



*Figure 4. Oriental Institute conservators help prepare tablets for shipment to Iran. From left: Vanessa Muros, Sarah Barack, and Alison Whyte*

of the Assyrian reliefs, and working hard on her research project: the analysis of the original pigments on the reliefs.

Vanessa Muros, Assistant Conservator, and Alison Whyte, Contract Conservator, together have been responsible for the bulk of the object treatments for the gallery reinstallations and have been heavily involved in the work on the reliefs. Additionally, Vanessa and Alison, with the assistance

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of Sarah, taught a workshop on analytical processes for Aslihan Yener's class on ancient technologies and provided technical assistance to students in the class.

In February, the conservation laboratory hosted the University of Chicago Laboratory School's innovative high school forensic science class, taught by Dr. Mark Dreesen, whose son Sam just happens to volunteer as a docent guide for the museum. The visit provided the conservators with the opportunity to show how many of our investigative techniques are borrowed from forensic procedures.

In March, Laura D'Alessandro again served on the Institute Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Conservation Project Support panel in Washington, D.C. We learned in late April that our most recent IMLS Conservation Project Support grant application was successful. The \$50,000 award will be used to purchase twenty-one Delta Designs museum storage cabinets and archival packing materials that will be used to rehouse the Oriental Institute's collection of Nubian ceramics from Qustul.

Later in the spring, an additional 300 cuneiform tablets from Persepolis came into the lab as the conservation staff began the time-consuming job of preparing the Persepolis Foundation tablets for their return to Iran (fig. 4). At the end of April, Laura D'Alessandro accompanied Gil J. Stein and Bill Harms to Tehran to return this group of tablets to the Iranian Cultural Heritage Organization. This trip provided Laura with an opportunity to confer with her Iranian colleagues. Although too short, it was an exciting and memorable journey and we hope it will pave the way for future collaborations.

In May, the Conservation Laboratory hosted a meeting of the local association of conservators (Chicago Area Conservation Group) where Vanessa and Alison presented a lecture on the history, analysis, and conservation of the glazed bricks from the Sin Temple at Khorsabad (fig. 5) and Sarah gave a synopsis of her Getty research project. In June, Vanessa, Alison, and Sarah attended the annual American Institute for Conservation (AIC) conference in Portland, Oregon, and presented a poster on the conservation treatment of the glazed bricks entitled, "Brick by Brick: Piecing together an Eighth Century B.C. Façade from Iraq." Their poster has been accepted for publication in the AIC Objects Specialty Group Postprints due out in the fall.

**SECURITY****Margaret Schroeder**

Oriental Institute Museum Security was very busy with the special events leading up to the opening of the Mesopotamian Gallery in September and October, its opening weekend October 18 and 19, 2003, and the gratifying increase of visitors we have seen ever since the opening.

We have begun to implement new periodic "refresher sessions" for guard training, and quarterly meetings both to discuss procedural problems and to get guard feedback on problems and suggestions for improving visitors' experiences, traffic flow, and tour organization.

Margaret Schroeder has been participating in meetings of security personnel from cultural institutions throughout the Chicago area. These meetings seek to find solutions to problems com-





**Figure 5. Khorsabad glazed bricks showing head of bull from Sin Temple stacked together again for the first time since their removal from the site in the 1930s**

mon to tourist venues, and to pool resources and manpower in special events, manpower shortages, or emergency situations. Also, the Chicago museums are forming a Midwestern chapter of an organization that accredits museum and cultural institution security officers and seeks the adoption of an “acceptable practices” code for North American cultural institutions.

As a new member of the Smithsonian Institution’s Cultural Property Protection board, Margaret helped plan the February 2004 conference in Washington, D.C.: “Security Is a People Business.” At the conference itself, Margaret co-chaired a session on university and library security, helped introduce speakers (and tried futilely to repair PowerPoint computer hookups), and presented a paper on “Theft in Libraries and Museum Special Collections.” An expanded version of the paper presented in February was published in the June 2004 issue of the ASIS (The American Society for Industrial Security) magazine *Security Management*.

Margaret attended the Smithsonian board meeting June 21, 2004. The board is busily planning the February 2005 conference, which will be held at the Flamingo Hotel in Las Vegas. The hope is that the change of venue from Washington, D.C. to other locales every three years can enable people from small cultural institutions or those with low budgets, who might not be able to afford to travel all the way to Washington, to attend a conference closer to them. This year’s conference in Las Vegas should draw many people from the West Coast or Southwest whom we have never met before, or whose last conference might have been the one held in 1999 in Los Angeles in conjunction with the Getty Museum in Malibu.

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## MUSEUM EDUCATION PROGRAM

## Carole Krucoff

Educational services for adults, youth, and families attracted 12,484 participants this past year, coming close to doubling the number from the previous year. This dramatic increase, the largest in any year over the past decade, is due in much good measure to the opening of the Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery, allowing us to share the treasures of our collection at a time when the public is seeking increased understanding of the Near East. In addition, partnerships with sister institutions on campus, in the local community, and with cultural organizations throughout the metropolitan area expanded our audience, enhanced our services, and broadened our horizons. Collaborations ranging from public programs to media campaigns to grant-funded services are visible throughout this report.

Support from the Lloyd A. Fry Foundation, the Polk Bros. Foundation, and the Regents Park/University of Chicago Fine Arts Partnership continues to help us provide professional development for elementary and high school teachers and to expand our program of in-depth museum learning for Chicago-area schoolchildren and their families. This year we received support from the Norman Wait Harris Memorial Fund, administered by the University of Chicago's Center for International Studies, to present a special symposium on Mesopotamia. Museum Education was also honored to receive its first federal grant, a prestigious National Leadership in Museums Award from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. This award is providing major support to develop a wide range of online educational programming on ancient Mesopotamia for teachers and students nationwide.

## Mesopotamian Gallery Events

The collection on view in the magnificent new Mesopotamian Gallery inspired us to create a series of programs designed to attract and serve a broad and diverse audience of museum visitors.



*Volunteer Docent Anne Schumacher answers a visitor's questions during the grand opening of the Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery. More than fifty docents staffed the gallery from opening to closing during both days of the opening weekend. Photograph by Wendy Ennes*

Exhibit-related events began with the grand opening of the gallery to the public, a full weekend of activities that took place on October 18 and 19. On both days, Museum Education staff, volunteers, and guest presenters were hosts to crowds of enthusiastic visitors, who took part in a wide variety of activities. Artists Naomi Strom-Avila, Pam Robinson, and Hardy Schlick demonstrated tile-making, metalwork, and pottery building, illustrating processes that have remained virtually unchanged for millennia. Graduate students Dennis Campbell and Kathleen Mineck and Research Associate Alice Mouton wrote visitors names in cuneiform on bookmarks that became souvenirs for everyone. Education staff, aided by Volunteers Rebecca Binkley, Charlotte, and John Noble, and junior docents Caryn

Noble and Carl Mineck, invited everyone to play an ancient Sumerian board game, create their own version of a cylinder seal, or see themselves bedecked in ancient Mesopotamian-style finery. A lecture by Karen L. Wilson, then our Museum Director, introduced the gallery and its collection, and the latest documentary films on Mesopotamia played continuously in Breasted Hall. As a special treat for families, master storyteller Judith Heineman and musician Daniel Marcotte beguiled parents and children with tales from ancient Iraq and melodies played on ancient-style instruments. A corps of more than fifty docents staffed the gallery from opening to closing on each day to answer the countless questions posed by visitors. Special thanks to all of these volunteers, whose names will be listed in the closing section of this report.

Later in the month, a special Open House introduced the new gallery to teachers and school administrators in Hyde Park-Kenwood. Generously supported by the Regents Park/University of Chicago Fine Arts Partnership, this event featured a lecture by Karen Wilson, exhibit-related curriculum materials, demonstrations of gallery activities available for students, and a wine-and-cheese reception. Another Open House welcomed University of Chicago students to the museum with a light supper and special tours of the Mesopotamian Gallery led by graduate students Mark Altaweel, Stephanie Reed, and Jonathan Tenney. This program also featured a screening of "Murder in Mesopotamia," a Hercule Poirot adventure highlighting a 1930s excavation in Iraq which, while fictional, had some basis in fact, as the students learned from an introductory lecture by Research Associate Clemens Reichel.

Adult education courses and programs in conjunction with the Mesopotamian Gallery actually began before the exhibit opened to the public. Stephanie Reed, a graduate student in Mesopotamian Archaeology, presented "Mesopotamian Art and Archaeology," an eight-session summer course on the excavations that revealed the great artistic and technological achievements of ancient Mesopotamian civilization. In October, during a three-session course on "Brewing Ancient Beer," Ph.D. candidate Kathleen Mineck traced the history of beer-making back to ancient Sumer. Then she and her husband, Steve, who is an amateur brewer interested in ancient brewing methods, involved the class in creating — and sampling — their own version of a Sumerian libation using a recipe translated from an ancient text. A good time was had by all!

"Cradle of Civilization: The Legacy of Ancient Mesopotamia," was an educational programming highlight in November. This daylong symposium was supported in part by a grant from the Norman Wait Harris Memo-



*Children learn how to play the ancient Royal Game of Ur during the weekend celebration that opened the new Mesopotamian Gallery. Photograph by Maria Krasinski*



*Teachers are fascinated to see their names written in cuneiform script during an Educators' Open House for the new Mesopotamian Gallery. Photograph by Wendy Ennes*

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*Crushing grain was a key step in the process for "Brewing Ancient Beer," a course where students created — and then sampled! — their own versions of an ancient Sumerian libation. Photograph by Carole Krucoff*

rial Foundation Fund. This award is presented annually to one on-campus organization that presents a program designed to increase understanding of international issues and concerns. Also cosponsored by the University of Chicago's Graham School of General Studies, the symposium gave participants the rare opportunity to experience preeminent scholarship alongside the museum's awe-inspiring Mesopotamian collection. Lecturers from the Oriental Institute included Gil J. Stein, Institute Director and Professor of Near Eastern Archaeology, who offered an introduction to ancient Mesopotamia; McGuire Gibson, Professor of Mesopotamian Archaeology, who spoke on the situation for antiquities in Iraq today; Martha T. Roth, Professor of Assyriology and Editor-in-Charge of the Assyrian Dictionary Project, who spoke on law in Mesopotamia; Karen L. Wilson, Director of the Oriental Institute Museum and Curator of the Mesopotamian Gallery, who introduced the collection on view; and Christopher Woods, Assistant Professor of Sumerology, who spoke on the invention and development of writing in Mesopotamia. Guest lecturers included Elizabeth C. Stone, Professor, Department of Anthropology, State University of New York at Stony Brook, who spoke on

Mesopotamian cities; and Irene Winter, William Dorr Boardman Professor of Fine Arts, Harvard University, who spoke on Sargon II's Khorsabad, giving participants the opportunity to experience an ancient Assyrian palace.

### Adult Education

Along with programs related to the new Mesopotamian Gallery, Museum Education offered many other adult education opportunities this past year. These included multi-session adult education courses on campus and at the University's Gleacher Center in the Loop, as well as correspondence courses that meet the needs and interests of people who seek us out from across the nation and around the world.

All our on-campus and Gleacher Center courses are presented in collaboration with the Graham School of General Studies, which works with us on course development, advertising, and registration of students. This year, our collaborative courses included: "An Introduction to Archaeology," "Life in Ancient Israel," and "Warfare and Empire in the Ancient World," all taught by Aaron A. Burke; "The Amarna Letters: Diplomatic Correspondence and Foreign Intrigue in the Ancient Near East," taught by Dennis Campbell; "Spying on the Ancients," taught by Jesse Casana and Jason Ur; "From the Dome of the Rock to the Cairo Citadel: Great Monuments in Islamic Art and Archaeology," taught by A. Asa Eger; "Jerusalem: City of Ages," taught by

Gabrielle V. Novacek; “Goddesses and Queens, Warriors and Wives: Women in Ancient Times,” taught by Malayna Evans Williams; “Cultures of the Silk Road,” taught by Ilya Yakubovich; “Religion of Ancient Egypt,” taught by Frank Yurco; and “Pyramids of Egypt and Nubia,” developed by Frank Yurco and taught by Yurco and John Nolan.

The Oriental Institute and its adult education program lost a fine scholar, superb teacher, and caring friend with the death of Frank Yurco on February 6, 2004. Frank’s contributions to the adult education program were wide-ranging and invaluable. Along with a whole host of lecture courses on campus — including his in-depth sequence of classes on the history of ancient Egypt — he also created our program of correspondence courses, beginning with Hieroglyphs by Mail and expanding to include audiotape courses accompanied by images from his vast collection of slides on ancient Egypt.

Frank Yurco was a born teacher. His depth of knowledge on all aspects of ancient Egyptian life and culture was extraordinary but equally important was his warmth and enthusiasm as he shared his knowledge. He was able to make history come alive as he helped us understand the people who created the great art and monuments of ancient Egypt. For the countless students who were inspired by him over the years, his legacy will be enduring.

The correspondence course formats that Frank Yurco initiated so successfully continued to flourish this past year. “Hieroglyphs by Mail,” instructed by Research Associate Emily Teeter with the assistance of Hratch Papazian, was offered in introductory, intermediate, and advanced versions. Aaron A. Burke presented “Archaeology and the Bible” as a distance-learning opportunity on audiotape, and he followed Frank Yurco’s lead by posting visual enhancements on the Oriental Institute Web site, as well as involving participants in discussion via e-mail.

Beyond formal courses, a broad spectrum of special events and free drop-by programs were presented throughout the year. These ranged from lectures and concerts to films and theater, all designed to explore themes and issues related to ancient and contemporary Near Eastern culture. Summer saw the return of the popular “Lunchtime in Another Time” program, a series of free gallery tours for the campus community and Hyde Park neighborhood. This year, Docents Joe Diamond, Roy Miller, and Robert McGuinness worked together to develop special tour themes related to the Egyptian and Persian collections. Each tour was followed by a coffee-and-conversation session for further discussion. Nicole Lopez, a summer intern who came to us from Cornell University, assisted the docents with this project. This remarkably capable and talented young woman developed publicity materials for the tour series, handled program logistics, and provided each visitor with handouts, discussion guides, and bibliographies she prepared for each topic. All of these materials are now available for use in future programming.

More drop-by tours took place in conjunction with the University of



*Nearly 200 people attended “Mesopotamia: Cradle of Civilization,” a day-long symposium featuring a prestigious panel of Oriental Institute faculty and guest lecturers. Held in Breasted Hall, this program was supported in part by the Norman Wait Harris Memorial Foundation Fund. Photograph by Wendy Ennes*

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Chicago's annual Parents' Weekend in the fall, and during the special fall programming the University offers for the community on Humanities Day in October. Docents and Volunteers Joe Diamond, Shabat Adil, John and Sylwia Aldrin, Jane Belcher, Dorothy Blindt, Joe Diamond, Ana Dias, Stephen Esposito, Dennis Kelly, Mitch Michalik, Donald Payne, Diane Posner, Rita Picken, Melissa Ratkovich, Lucie Sandel, and Carole Yoshida gave tours and answered questions for close to 1,300 visitors during these combined events!

Our free Sunday afternoon film series continued, each followed by docent-led tours of the galleries. During Women's History Month in March, we presented the Chicago premiere of "Women Pharaohs," a new documentary from Providence Pictures and the Discovery Channel that highlights the influence and authority of royal women in ancient Egypt. Emily Teeter, who appears in the documentary, introduced the screening and discussed the research results explored in the film. Laura D'Alessandro, Head of the Conservation Laboratory, presented a special Sunday lecture in the spring, previewing the next major installation of Khorsabad palace reliefs, which will be on view in the new East Wing scheduled to open in January 2005.

On-campus collaborations brought two extraordinary musical events to the Oriental Institute this past year. During Arab-American Heritage Month in November, we joined with the University's Center for Middle Eastern Studies to present "Mosaic," a concert celebrating the diversity of Middle Eastern traditions with performances of Arabic, Turkish, Armenian, and Sephardic music. This program was presented by Xauen Music, which is led by qanun player Hicham Chami, voted by Chicago magazine as the city's best exotic instrumentalist.



*The University of Chicago's Middle East Music Ensemble filled every seat in Breasted Hall during a dazzling performance of instrumental and choral music co-sponsored by the Oriental Institute. Photograph by Nathan Pearson*



*Qanun player Hicham Chami (right) talks with an interested visitor during the reception following "Mosaic," a special concert of Middle Eastern music hosted by the Membership and Education Offices for Arab Heritage Month in November. Photograph by Carole Krucoff*

In the spring we partnered with the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, the University's Music Department, WHPK 88.5 FM, and the Arab Classical Music Society to present a concert by the celebrated Middle East Music Ensemble, a group featuring premier musicians from the University community and throughout the metropolitan area. Their dazzling instrumental and choral program filled every seat in Breasted Hall and had people standing ten lines deep in our lobby!

As in the past, our most extensive collaboration with the University and the local community took place in June, as we joined in the third-annual Hyde Park/University of Chicago Arts Fest, a celebration of the arts during the weekend of the 57<sup>th</sup> Street Art Fair. Sponsored by the University of Chicago, the Fest featured programming by more than twenty campus and community cultural organizations, all connected by a free trolley linking each location. Nearly 700 visitors joined us for a full weekend of docent-led tours, documentary film showings, and a visit from the Chicago Storytelling Guild, whose tale-tellers delighted both children and adults with an afternoon of stories and songs. In addition, this year we collaborated with Rockefeller Memorial Chapel; the Center for Gender Studies; the Lesbian and Gay Studies Project; the Center for Middle Eastern Studies; the Center for Race, Politics, and Culture; the Franke Institute for the Humanities; and the Human Rights Program to present "Precious Stones," a production by the Silk Road Theater Project. Staged in Breasted Hall, this play by Jamal Khoury sensitively explored social, cultural, gender, and political issues related to the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians, and the impact of this conflict on America's Arab and Jewish communities. The performance was followed by a stimulating discussion session with the playwright, cast, and director.



*Making shadow puppets based on traditions from Turkey was the highlight at an Oriental Institute workshop for families. Photograph by Carole Krucoff*

### **Youth and Family Services**

Longtime favorites as well as special new programs provided a full schedule of activities for children and families this past year. “Be an Ancient Egyptian Artist,” our annual day camp with the Lill Street Art Center on the city’s north side, was offered twice last summer, and each session filled to capacity almost as soon as it was announced. In the fall we returned to the 57<sup>th</sup> Street Children’s Bookfair, where volunteers Bill and Terry Gillespie, Rebecca Binkley and her daughter, Kristina, and Kathleen Mineck, her daughter Kristen, and her son Carl spent five non-stop hours involving hundreds of children and their families in making Mesopotamian-style cylinder seals and informing all fairgoers about the opening of our Mesopotamian Gallery.

In January we partnered with Winter Delights, the city of Chicago’s major publicity campaign to attract the tourist audience during the winter season. “Mystery, Magic, and Mummies,” our Winter Delights program for families, took place in the midst of a blizzard but still attracted close to 150 visitors, most of whom had never been to the Oriental Institute and learned of the program through the city-wide promotion. Many of these visitors, and more, returned for a February showing of the animated film “The Prince of Egypt,” a special screening and gallery activities program for families, which was supported by the Regents’ Park/University of Chicago Fine Arts Partnership. Also in February we joined with the Smart Museum of Art and the Hyde Park Art Center for a family event in conjunction with the Smart Museum exhibit “Illumina-



tions: Sculpture With Light.” Our portion of the program featured shadow puppetry with Andrea Everman, a puppeteer from Chicago’s celebrated Redmoon Theater, who taught children and their parents how to make Turkish-style shadow puppets and then present performances with their creations.

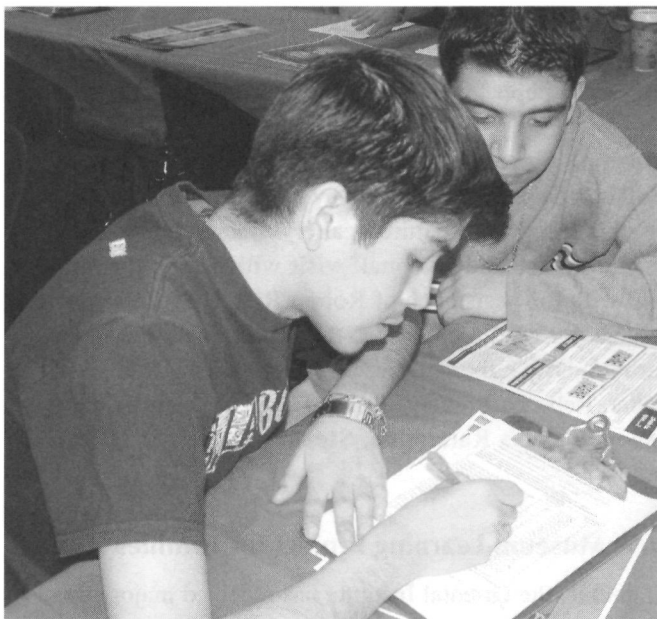
Our final family program for the year took place in the spring with our second-annual “Happy Mummies Day” celebration on Mother’s Day. Also supported by the Regents’ Park/University of Chicago Fine Arts Partnership, this free event featured gallery tours, ancient-style games and Egyptian arts projects, and an “up-close and personal” visit with a reproduction mummy developed by The Field Museum with the assistance of Robert Ritner, Professor of Egyptology. Like all of our family programs during the past year, this event could not have taken place without the assistance of Education Office Interns Ann Avouris, Andrew Rich, and Claire Thomas, and Volunteers Jane Belcher, Rebecca Binkley, Teresa Hintzke, Dennis Kelly, Caryn and Charlotte Noble, Diane Posner, Melissa Ratkovich, Stephen Ritzel, and John Whitcomb.

### **Exploring the Cradle of Civilization: A Museum Learning Project for Families**

Along with special events for youth and families, the Oriental Institute has received major support from the Polk Bros. Foundation over the past several years to create a comprehensive pro-



*Education intern Claire Thomas invites visitors to have an up-close and personal experience with mummification during our second-annual “Happy Mummies Day” event on Mother’s Day. The reproduction mummy was loaned to us by The Field Museum. Photograph by Carole Krucoff*



**Spanish-speaking students from Field Elementary School evaluate the new bilingual Family Activity Cards that were created for the Mesopotamian Gallery as part of a major project supported by the Polk Bros. Foundation. Photograph by Wendy Ennes**

gram of self-guided museum learning experiences for families who seldom visit museums. The success of the program developed for the Egyptian Gallery in 2001/2002 inspired the foundation to award the Institute another major grant to create similar educational services for the new Mesopotamian Gallery. Called *Exploring the Cradle of Civilization: A Museum Learning Project for Families*, this initiative was designed to follow the model of printed materials and computer activities created for the Egyptian Gallery but with an additional feature — all printed materials would be produced in a bilingual English-Spanish format to meet the needs of the city's growing community of Hispanic families, who rarely visit the Oriental Institute. The new initiative was undertaken in partnership with a

group of parents, teachers, and educators from the North Kenwood/Oakland Charter School, a public school on the city's south side, and Eugene Field Elementary School, a public school on the north side where the student population is largely Hispanic.

Focusing on artifacts and displays in the Mesopotamian Gallery, we developed, tested, and have now produced *Exploring the Cradle of Civilization*, a rich array of self-guided museum learning activities that parents and children can use to explore the ancient past together. These activities, which have been in constant use since they were installed in late winter, include:

- A series of full-color bilingual, Family Activity Cards that direct parents and children to search for and make discoveries about specific artifacts
- Brightly colored, family-friendly bilingual labeling for the colossal human-headed winged bull in the Khorsabad Court
- Interactive, “hands-on” experiences for the Mesopotamian Gallery's computer kiosk, where parents and children can take part in an archaeological excavation, “meet” Oriental Institute scholars, “roll” cylinder seals over clay to see exquisite art from ancient times and much more! It's fascinating to see how many adult visitors also spend time with these activities.

The success of *Exploring the Cradle of Civilization* is due to the work of a team that had all the expertise needed to reach its goals. Wendy Ennes, our Teachers Services and e-Learning Coordinator, was the driving force behind *Exploring the Cradle of Civilization*. A gifted educator and artist, Wendy worked closely with Teresa Vasquez, a professional museum programs evaluator from the highly regarded Wellington Consulting Group. Together they developed the testing methodologies, design prototypes, and assessment tools needed to produce effective, engaging, and handsomely designed educational materials. Wendy also worked closely with Nitzan Mekel-

Bobrov, a University of Chicago graduate student in Syro-Palestinian Archeology and Evolutionary Biology, whose expertise in computer programming and interest in public education made him the ideal multimedia architect and designer for the project's computer activities.

The second key element of the team was its group of advisors. Ten North Kenwood/Oakland Charter School families, whose participating children ranged in age from five to thirteen, worked with us for an entire year. This dedicated group included the Brookins-Crockett, Cowart, Foster, Harris, King, LaVigne, Madhi-Smith, Palmer, Sow, and Thompson families. Dr. Marvin Hoffman, Founding Director and current Director of Curriculum at NK/O served as educational advisor.

Maria Theresa Chagnon, a Spanish language instructor at the University of Chicago, translated materials from English to Spanish. Field School bilingual education students ranging in age from five to fourteen came to the museum to see and advise us on the effectiveness of the Spanish language materials. Richard Diaz, Bilingual Education and Social Studies teacher at Field and long time teacher-advisor to the Oriental Institute, selected these students and joined Wendy Ennes in supervising their work at the Institute. Volunteer Coordinator Catherine Dueñas, who is fluent in Spanish, shared her expertise for the final editing of the Spanish materials.

Many others lent their support to *Exploring the Cradle of Civilization*. Karen Wilson gave us help at every turn, providing access to the collection before the Mesopotamian Gallery opened to the public, introducing the exhibits to the children and their parents, and reviewing prototype materials for accuracy. After Karen's departure from the museum, Seth Richardson, Assistant



**The Thompson family displays a full-color guide to the lamassu in the Khorsabad Court. The Thompsons joined nine other families from North Kenwood/Oakland Charter School to advise us on the creation of activity cards and computer-learning experiences for the Mesopotamian Gallery. Photograph by Carole Krucoff**

## MUSEUM



**Martha T. Roth, Professor of Assyriology, leads a discussion on law and government in Mesopotamia during an Oriental Institute seminar for K-12 teachers funded by the Lloyd A. Fry Foundation**

Professor of Ancient Near Eastern History, became our editor, ensuring that the project's final outcomes would reflect the latest research on the ancient Near East. John Sanders, Head of the Oriental Institute Computer Laboratory, provided guidance on technological concerns. Markus Dohner, Museum Installation Manager, and Erik Lindahl, Exhibit Preparator, created handsome displays to house the project's activities.

Finally, the vision and support of the Polk Bros. Foundation enabled us all to undertake this exciting Mesopotamian Gallery initiative. Building upon the success of our previous project for the Egyptian Gallery, we now know we have a model for rich and rewarding family learning throughout our museum. The success of this project also validates our belief that true partnerships with intended audiences are the most productive ways to create educational experiences that are effective, meaningful, and enduring.

### Teacher Training Services

Empowering teachers to enrich student learning through meaningful classroom and museum study of ancient civilizations is a major mandate for Museum Education. A vital way for us to accomplish this is to offer Chicago Public School teachers and other educators professional development programs that draw upon the renowned collections, scholarly expertise, and award-winning classroom curriculum resources of the Oriental Institute.

In 2002, Museum Education was invited to join the Chicago Public Schools highly regarded *Museum Partners in Science Program*, which funds daylong professional development workshops at selected museums for teachers who wish to hone their science teaching skills. Invited back again in 2003, our *Museum Partners* workshop this year was led by Aaron A. Burke, Ph.D. in Syro-Palestinian Archeology, and by Nitzan Mekel-Bobrov, graduate student in Syro-Palestinian Archeology and Evolutionary Biology. Both focused on the various ways archaeology draws upon the life and physical sciences to obtain information about the ancient past. Additionally, this program introduced participants to the Oriental Institute's curriculum materials on science and inventions in ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia.

This year we also joined forces with The Art Institute of Chicago and The Field Museum to present *Eternal Egypt*, a three-part professional development series that offered daylong programs at each institution. Presented in conjunction with *Eternal Egypt: Masterworks from the British Museum*, a major traveling exhibition at The Field Museum, the series focused on ways

teachers could integrate Egyptian art and culture into multi-disciplinary studies. At the Oriental Institute, Research Associate Emily Teeter concentrated on language arts with a lecture and gallery presentation on ancient Egyptian language and scripts. Wendy Ennes focused on integration of technology into the curriculum with an online “tour” of Egyptian resources available on the Internet.

Our most intensive professional development program took place last summer when we presented “Teaching Ancient Mesopotamia across the Curriculum,” a two-week seminar on ancient Iraq supported by the Lloyd A. Fry Foundation. This program was the most recent in a six-year series generously supported by the Lloyd A. Fry Foundation, which has enabled us to provide in-depth professional development seminars for nearly 200 teachers who have reached close to 16,000 students.

Until last year, our seminars largely concentrated on ancient Egypt, with special emphasis on the collection on view in the Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery. In 2003, the upcoming opening of our new gallery allowed us to turn our attention to Mesopotamia, a required area of study in city and state curricula and a subject of ever-growing interest as events propelled contemporary Iraq to the forefront locally, nationally, and around the world.

The summer seminar was structured around lecture/discussion sessions led by Oriental Institute faculty and advanced graduate students with special expertise and interest in ancient Mesopotamian history and culture. Faculty lecturers included Gil J. Stein, Director of the Oriental Institute, Martha Roth, Professor of Assyriology and Editor in Charge of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary Project, and Karen L. Wilson, then Director of the Oriental Institute Museum. Graduate students who spoke included Ph.D. candidates Kathleen Mineck and Jonathan Tenney. Participants were also involved in workshops on curriculum development for the classroom and the museum, using the Institute’s award-winning curriculum guide *Life in Ancient Mesopotamia* as the springboard for creation of lesson plans and units of study. In addition the seminar addressed issues related to local and national emphases on use of computer technology in the classroom under the mandates of the federal No Child Left Behind Act.

Wendy Ennes, who coordinated the summer seminar, has a special interest in ways the Oriental Institute can use technology to make its collection and educational services more accessible to teachers and students. Along with her talents as an educator and artist she is a skilled Web-page designer who is committed to seeking out and employing best practices for instructional design on the Internet. Over the past three years Wendy has been working with teams of Chicago Public School educators to refine and enhance the Oriental Institute’s online Teacher Resource Center (TRC), a Web-based service begun in 2001 with support from the Lloyd A. Fry Foundation. Thanks to Wendy’s efforts, and the technological assistance of Nitzan Mekel-Bobrov, the TRC now provides educators with background information on various themes and topics related to the ancient Near East, images of selected artifacts from our collection, teacher-developed lesson plans on ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia, and interactive learning experiences for student use in the classroom.

At the urging of her teacher advisors, Wendy also began exploring the role of the Internet in providing professional development for teachers, both near and far, who are unable to attend teacher-training seminars at the Oriental Institute. This past summer Wendy developed and then presented a prototype online course session to summer seminar participants. The result was so positive that she proposed the creation of a restructured seminar that would combine both on-campus and online learning. The Lloyd A. Fry Foundation accepted this proposal and in 2003 the foundation awarded the Oriental Institute a grant for *Ancient Mesopotamia: Meeting Chicago Public School Mandates*.

## MUSEUM



***Sixth grade teacher Michelle Nowak displays a reproduction of an ancient make-up container as she shares her research on daily life in Mesopotamia during an Oriental Institute seminar for educators. Photograph by Wendy Ennes***

The mandates this new project addresses include local and state requirements to teach ancient Mesopotamia as part of the elementary and high school curriculum, integration of the Chicago Reading Initiative into all areas of study so that the city's public schools can reach specific levels on testing for literacy standards, and the integration of technology into classroom instruction, as required by the Enhancing Education through Technology Act, a section of the larger federal umbrella of No Child Left Behind.

Over the past several months, Wendy has been preparing for a new and expanded summer seminar that combines the highly successful approaches of faculty lectures, museum workshops and hands-on application of curriculum resources with training in computer use, integration of technology within curriculum content on Mesopotamia, and the development of several online course sessions for teachers to pilot on computers at their home or school. Dr. Iris K. Stovall, Director of the Illinois Virtual Campus based in Champaign, Illinois, has been assisting Wendy with this unique and exciting project, which will be tested and evaluated by the educators who enroll in the seminar that is set to take place during the summer of 2004.

Often called e-Learning, the use of various forms of technology to enhance and enrich instruction for students is a topic of local and nationwide interest and concern. This spring, the Oriental Institute was invited to help plan and become a major presenter at the city's first e-Learning conference, a daylong event that invited local and regional educators and administrators to a showcase of the various e-Learning projects that have been developed by the area's cultural institutions. Held at the Chicago Historical Society, the event attracted a large audience and many of the participants ranked Wendy Ennes' presentations among the highest of those provided. Wendy is already involved in plans for the second-annual conference, to be held in 2005.

## **This History, Our History: Ancient Mesopotamia Online**

Museum Education's leadership role in e-Learning was recognized this past fall when the Oriental Institute received a National Leadership in Museums grant of \$239,443 from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. This prestigious award, designed to support uniquely innovative projects that will serve as national models, is allowing us to build upon all our research on best practices for integrating technology into teaching and learning about the great civilization of ancient Mesopotamia.

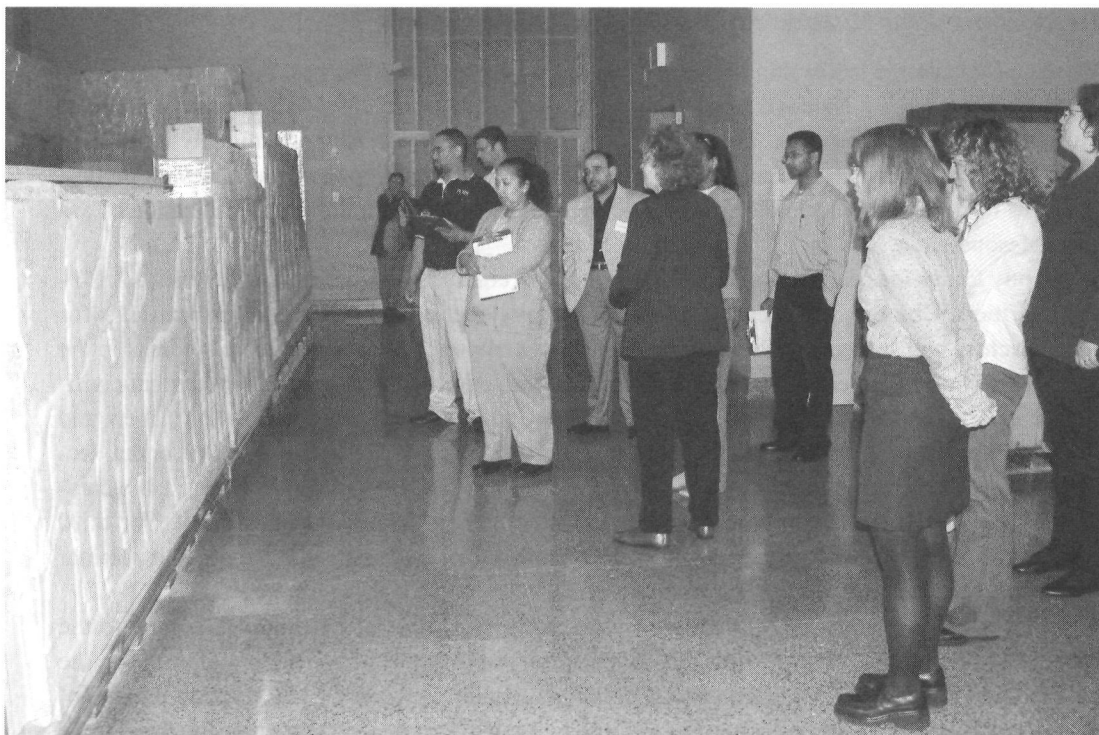
Wendy Ennes is spearheading this major project in collaboration with two University of Chicago partners. Chicago WebDocent, a University developer of online curriculum materials for K-12 teachers and students, is creating an interactive component that will involve students in the concepts behind the science of archaeology as well the legacies of ancient Mesopotamian civilization, its artifacts, and its history over time. The e-CUIP Digital Library for K-12 teachers and students, a project run by Regenstein Library's Digital Library Development Center, is our second partner. Their staff is helping us create the project's Learning Collection, a searchable database of 140 key artifacts from the collection on view in the Mesopotamian Gallery. The third component of the project will be an Oriental Institute online professional development seminar on ancient Mesopotamia for teachers nationwide.

Along with our project partners, the support and expertise of many others is crucial to the success of this project. In line with our desire to meet the needs of intended audiences in the most effective ways, Wendy Ennes has selected and is already working closely with a panel of ten teachers, e-Learning administrators, and instructional technologists from the Chicago Public Schools. This is the group that will be advising us on the products and outcomes for *This History, Our History*, the effectiveness of these products as teaching and learning tools, and their eventual dissemination to K-12 students across the country. Panel members include: Carolyn Brewer, Area 22 Instructional Technology Coordinator (AITC) for seventeen high schools, Chicago Public Schools (CPS) Office of e-Learning; Mary Cobb, Ray School computer teacher; Pat Galinski, Visual Arts Coordinator, CPS Office of Language and Cultural Education; JoAnne Groshek, Social Studies, Science, and Math Teacher, Bell Elementary School; Inga Jackson, Vice-Principal, Nettlehorst School; Lisa Perez, Distance Learning Coordinator, CPS Office of e-Learning; Idelma Quintana, Social Sciences Coordinator, CPS Office of e-Learning; Peter Scheidler, History and Social Studies teacher, Kenwood Academy High School; Brandon Taylor, Distance Learning Coordinator, CPS Office of e-Learning; and Bijo Vayalil, AITC for twenty-two elementary schools, CPS.

Much has already been accomplished since the project's December 2003 start date. Biweekly meetings with Chicago WebDocent and the e-Cuip Digital Library staff have become a regular part of the development process. Led by Wendy Ennes, these meetings have yielded productive design discussions, creative ideas for online interactive development, and a publicly accessible Web site that describes the project. This site can be viewed at <http://mesopotamia.lib.uchicago.edu>. Wendy is also working with Leslie Schramer and Alexandra Witsell, University of Chicago graduate students in Mesopotamian Art and Archaeology, to begin development of the online professional development course.

Work on the project's Learning Collection is well under way. In winter Karen Wilson graciously volunteered to assist us by compiling an extensive list of over 200 key artifacts from the Mesopotamian collection for our panel of teacher advisors to review. The panel convened in the spring to narrow the number down to 130, basing their choices on those most closely related to school curricula. They also produced student-focused content and questions for each of the arti-

## MUSEUM



*Teachers and administrators from the Chicago Public Schools (CPS) join docents and Education staff to preview the Assyrian reliefs being installed in the Oriental Institute's East Wing. These CPS educators are our advisory panel for "Ancient Mesopotamia Online," a two-year educational initiative supported by a National Leadership in Museums award from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Photograph by Wendy Ennes*

facts. All of these artifacts, and the teacher-developed content, will, in time, become the curriculum-related core of the Learning Collection.

After establishing which artifacts were to be included in the Learning Collection, gathering detailed information about each of them began, with the guidance and support of Raymond Tindel, Museum Registrar, and John Larson, Museum Archivist. Along with Wendy Ennes, they are supervising the work of Kafi Moragne, a Vassar student working with us as an intern who has begun collecting and recording "metadata" for each artifact. Drawn from museum records, this wealth of information will eventually be uploaded into the Learning Collection's searchable database, marking the first time that images and information on artifacts from the museum's collection will be shared with the public in this highly accessible, state-of-the-art format.

### Behind the Scenes

Looking back on all that has taken place during this eventful year, I would like to express my appreciation for the ongoing interest, expertise, and encouragement that Museum Education has received from Oriental Institute faculty, staff, and students, many of whom are mentioned often in this report. Heartfelt thanks also go to all the volunteers who worked with Museum Education this past year. The development and presentation of special gallery-based public programs for teachers, families, and the University community depended upon the time and talents of Sabahat Adil, John and Sylwia Aldrin, Ana Dias, Catherine Deans-Barrett, Jane Belcher, Christel Betz, Rebecca Binkley, Dorothy Blindt, Myriam Borelli, Myllicent Buchanan, Hazel Cramer, Joan

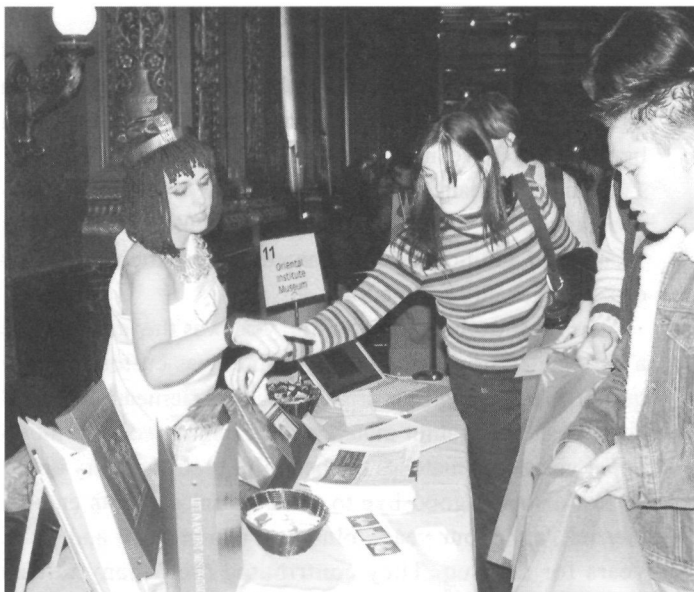


Curry, Gabriele DaSilva, Joe Diamond, Stephen Esposito, Mary Finn, Terry and Bill Gillespie, Anita Greenberg, Ruth Goldman, Debby Halpern, Teresa Hintzke, Dennis Kelly, Janet Kessler, Henriette Klawans, Barbara Levin, Lo Luong Lo, Kavita Machhar, Sherian McLaughlin, Robert McGuinness, Mitch Michalik, Kathleen Mineck, Roy Miller, Charlotte and John Noble, Nancy Patterson, Donald Payne, Rita Picken, Semra Prescott, Diane Posner, Melissa Ratkovich, David Ray, Patrick Regnery, Stephen Ritzel, Lucie Sandel, Deloris Sanders, Anne Schumacher, Toni Smith, Bernadette Strnad, George Sundell, Mari Terman, Carole Yoshida, and junior Volunteers Kristina Cooper, Sam Dreessen, Carl and Kristen Mineck, Caryn Noble, and John Whitcomb.

The energy, creativity, and dedication of Museum Education staff are what make everything happen. All would come to a standstill without them! The contributions of Wendy Ennes are visible throughout this report. Her talents and commitment to excellence in educational programming, as well as her vision in the special realm of e-Learning, make her an invaluable asset to the Oriental Institute. The important work of Nitzan Mekel-Bobrov, and the services provided by interns Ann Avouris, Nicole Lopez, Andrew Rich, and Claire Thomas, were crucial to the success of all our programs for adult, families, and educators.

Maria Krasinski, Education Programs Assistant, has been command central in the Education Office since 2001. Her reorganization of our registration, confirmation, and financial depositing systems for guided tours and adult education programming has made the office run more smoothly and efficiently. Her writing talents and artistic skills have made her an outstanding public relations officer, editor, and graphic design expert for Museum Education. Her programming talents have expanded our audiences. The innovative educational activities she developed for the on-campus student community have increased student attendance, interest — and membership! — in the Oriental Institute. Her hands-on workshops for children and their parents have all been sold-out successes. This June, Maria received a well-deserved promotion when she became the Oriental Institute's new Membership Coordinator. We wish her the best of success in her new position and look forward to many joint Membership/Education programs planned and presented in partnership with this creative and talented cultural institution professional.

In a following section you can read about the achievements of the Oriental Institute Volunteer Program, which is supervised by Catherine Dueñas and Terry Friedman. These gifted and dedicated women are continually inspired by the creativity and commitment of their remarkable corps of volunteers. Read on to see how the Institute and the community have benefited from the work of our volunteers, and all that Cathy and Terry have helped them accomplish in conjunction with the new



*Maria Krasinski becomes "Cleopatra" to share information on the Oriental Institute and its public programs at "Spotlight on Chicago," a city-wide event sponsored by Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs. Photograph by Wendy Ennes*

**MUSEUM**

Mesopotamian Gallery. This renowned collection housed in its magnificent new setting will be springboard for both the Volunteer Program and Museum Education to create and present unique and diverse educational services for many years to come.

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**SUQ****Denise Browning**

What an exciting year for the Suq! With the opening of the new Mesopotamian Gallery, it felt like things were finally back to normal for the first time since the renovation started. It was like seeing old friends to see our Mesopotamian objects back on display. The opening stimulated interest, which meant higher sales in the Suq, continuing almost a year later.

Unfortunately, the year also brought us the death of Rochelle Rossin one of the most dedicated volunteers the Suq has known. She hardly ever missed a Tuesday morning, and volunteered for over twenty-five years! She loved helping a customer find that perfect piece of jewelry. Rochelle has been missed.

On the bright side we had two new volunteers who pitched in when we needed extra help during the holidays. Special thanks to Kavita Rajogopal and Caryn Noble. We have also added Irene Glasner who has turned into a weekly regular that has been helping in the office. She has been great to have around.

I can't say thanks often enough to our loyal regular Suq volunteers who make the Suq such a special place: Muriel Brauer, Patty Dunkel, Peggy Grant, Jane Thain, and Norma van der Meulen. In addition, Norma donates her artistic talents many a Monday to design beautiful one-of-a-kind jewelry for the Suq.

The most exciting event of the year was the arrival of our new jewelry case, made possible by a very generous donation. The cabinet was custom designed to meet our very limited space requirements, adding new storage space underneath the jewelry displays. Plus the cabinet is truly gorgeous! The walnut matches the existing wood in the lobby, and the antiqued bronze on the upper glass case matches the beautiful bronze gallery doors.

We also say good-bye to three of our students employees who graduated this year: Laura Herrick, after four years, plus Eric Christensen and Kristin Halvorson who each worked two years for the Suq. They contributed their many talents and computer knowledge to help reconfigure our new inventory system and update our Web site.

The future is very exciting for the Suq: new customers, new reproductions, increased Web presence, and higher sales!

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## VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

### Catherine Dueñas and Terry Friedman

This was a truly energizing year for the Volunteer Program, marked by the much anticipated grand opening of the Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery. The enormous success of the newly opened gallery would not have been possible without the dedication and involvement of the Oriental Institute volunteers. With the increased awareness of this area of the world and its cultural significance, museum attendance surged to over 1,200 visitors during the opening weekend festivities. The Oriental Institute volunteers have worked hard to forge a deeper understanding of the cultural, historical, and artistic richness of this exceptional collection and have approached this challenge with steadfast determination and good humor.

#### Tour Program

With the reopening of the Mesopotamian Gallery, docent-led tours of the permanent galleries (the Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery, the Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery, and the Persian Gallery) were a high priority with audiences of all ages. We are pleased to announce that 10,721 people enjoyed a docent-led tour of the Oriental Institute this year. This number represents a nearly 50% increase over last year.

Whether school students, religious groups, community organizations, or senior citizens, the Oriental Institute Museum Docents were in demand and ready to share their knowledge and enthusiasm for the museum's collection.

We were delighted this year to have the opportunity to customize a special museum visit for pre-schoolers from the University of Chicago Lab School. The youngsters enjoyed storytelling, dress-up, hands-on activities, and a tour of the galleries. The children were so impressed with their experience that they converted their own classroom into a miniature museum.

As the date for the opening of the Mesopotamian Gallery drew near, the docents were eager to review the materials presented to them during the Spring 2003 Training Class. Four workshops on the Mesopotamian Gallery Collection were offered to reinforce and to consolidate background information about the artifacts. Our thanks to Clemens Reichel for teaching these informative workshops and for providing an informal opportunity for the volunteers to ask questions and to focus their attention on specific sections of the gallery.

Faced with the daunting task of incorporating the Mesopotamian Gallery into the confines of an hour tour, the docents needed to develop new strategies to meet this demanding time frame. They worked together as a team to offer suggestions and to demonstrate creative solutions. Our thanks to Semra Prescott and Mari Terman for presenting sample tours of the Mesopotamian and Egyptian Galleries. Their individual approaches to the material were unique and introduced us to new possibilities for presenting the collection to the public.

The Docent Captain System continues to be a vital link between the museum docents and the administrative staff. The captains' diligence and supervision over the organization and maintenance of docent staffing for the morning and afternoon tour schedules allow the program to



*All eyes are on Museum Docent Toni Smith as she guides a group of youngsters through the Egyptian Gallery*

## MUSEUM



*Joe Diamond and many museum docents participated in numerous gallery workshops given throughout the year. Here we see Ph.D. candidate Jonathan Tenney fielding questions from a group of docents in the Mesopotamian Gallery. Photograph by Terry Friedman*

function with efficiency and purpose. The administrative skills and unwavering support of the Docent Captains is essential to maintaining the tour program's excellence as an enriching educational experience. Our thanks go out to Gabriele DaSilva, Joe Diamond, Teresa Hintzke, Dennis Kelly, Roy Miller, Charlotte Noble, Donald Payne, Melissa Ratkovich, Patrick Regnery, Andrew Rich, Stephen Ritzel, Lucie Sandel, Deloris Sanders, Anne Schumacher, Daila Shefner, and Carole Yoshida.

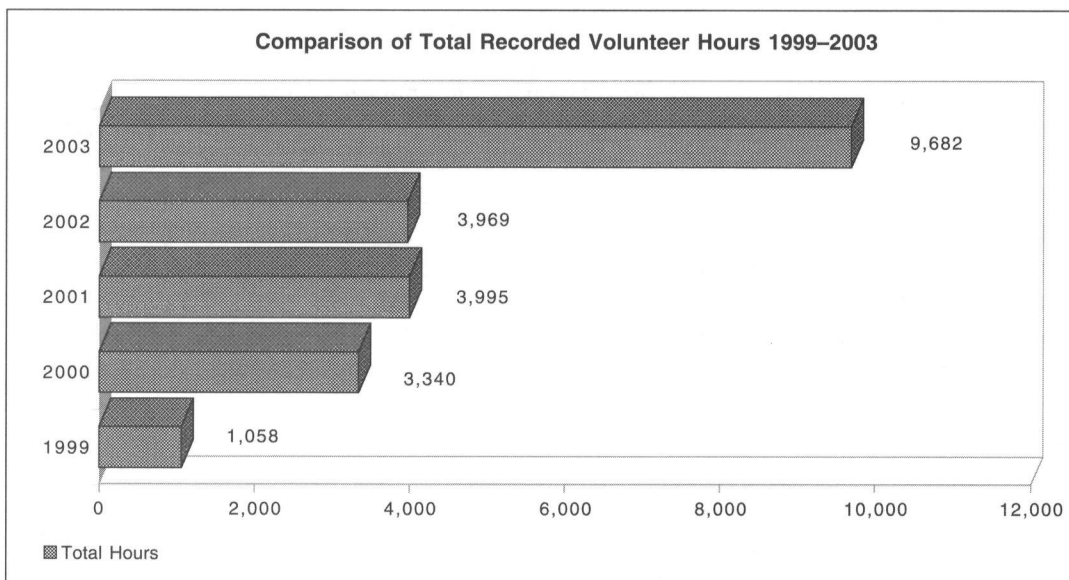
Maria Krasinski, Museum Education Assistant, was an important part of the Tour Program's efficient operation. Maria redesigned and updated our handsome tour brochure. Her keen sense of design coupled with her efficient administrative skills helped to keep the program running smoothly. We are pleased to announce that Maria has re-

ceived a well-deserved promotion. In June, she assumed the responsibilities of Membership Coordinator for the Oriental Institute. Although Maria will no longer be our Program Assistant, she remains our colleague and friend. We wish her well with her new staff position in the Membership Office.

## Volunteer Honors

Over the past several years, the maintenance of a Volunteer Time Log has revealed valuable information about volunteer involvement throughout the Oriental Institute. This daily record allows us to tabulate important statistical information for writing valuable grant proposals to support the museum as well as the Education and Volunteer Programs.

Since its creation, the Volunteer Time Log has consistently demonstrated extraordinary time commitment and support from the Volunteer Corps. This year, with the help of our intern, An-



*Graph by Andrew Rich*

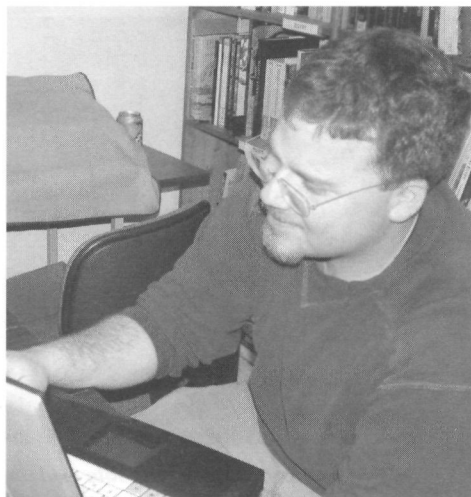
drew Rich, we were able to translate this data into an impressive graph that charts the increase of volunteer participation over the past five years. We were impressed to see that volunteer hours have increased 144% from the previous year!

## Volunteer Training

Through the tutelage of the Oriental Institute's faculty, staff, and research assistants, the volunteers have acquired the knowledge and confidence to educate the public about the ancient Near East. Their encouragement and recommendations helped the volunteers to develop efficient strategies for adjusting their tour content to meet the challenges of a demanding and tighter time schedule.

For the past year, volunteers have diligently attended Mesopotamian Gallery workshops to gain access to the latest developments in current research as well as to broaden their appreciation for the archaeological, cultural, and historical backgrounds of the Mesopotamian collection.

Although a formal Volunteer Training Class was not offered this year, many dedicated and enthusiastic people eagerly joined the ranks of the Volunteer Corps. Through independent study and personal mentoring with Docent Captains, these new recruits are serving the Oriental Institute in a variety of capacities. We welcome aboard Myriam Borelli, Ana Dias, Djanie Edwards, Mary Finn, Erin Hardacker-Morr, Erin Harral, Dennis Kelly, Carol Kipp, Sherian McLaughlin, Dennis Pizarro, Kavita Rajagopal, Del Ramirez, Andrew Rich, Marcelle Robles, Tatyana Tsirlin, Robert Wagner, and Inge Winer.



*Our intern and volunteer, Andrew Rich, produced some impressive graphs comparing volunteers hours over the past four years. Photo by Wendy Ennes*

## Mesopotamian Gallery Opening

The Oriental Institute celebrated the successful opening of the Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery in October with numerous events. During the opening weekend festivities, October 18–19, volunteers welcomed and educated over 1,200 visitors to the Oriental Institute. “Ask Me” Docents were also on hand to help with the Member's Opening Events, the Women's Board Evening Preview, the Educator's Opening Events, as well as numerous special programs and events for the university community.

A special note of thanks to Sargon II, who made a cameo appearance in the Mesopotamian Gallery on both Saturday and Sunday, October 18th and 19th. It was actually our own Sunday Docent Stephen Ritzel dressed in a very clever disguise. Stephen brought to life this very fa-



*The Assyrian King Sargon II casts a long shadow. In reality, it is Sunday Co-captain Stephen Ritzel who designed and created this amazing costume himself. Stephen entertained museum visitors in the Mesopotamian Gallery during the weekend opening festivities. Photograph by Terry Friedman*

## MUSEUM

mous Assyrian King by wearing an elaborate costume which he designed and created. Needless to say, Stephen and Sargon were a great hit with everyone. Thanks to Stephen, Sargon II literally came alive.

### Outreach



*Museum Docent Charlotte Noble explains daily life in ancient Egypt to a group of pre-schoolers*

during the noon-hour lunch break, incorporated ancient history with current events in the Middle East. Our thanks to Joe Diamond whose creative efforts made this pilot program a huge success.

The Outreach Program, which began over eight years ago, continues to engage audiences from all over metropolitan Chicago. From pre-schoolers to corporate board rooms, outreach has been on the move, continuously expanding its repertoire of activities and venues while cultivating groups of all ages. This year we were extremely pleased to have our annual outreach program to James Hart Millennium School in Homewood, Illinois, included in a documentary film produced by Leonard Aronson from WTTW. Outreach also made a visit to corporate America. We were invited to do a presentation for the staff of Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Illinois. This special program, which took place

### Docent Library

This year Margaret Foorman assumed the responsibilities of Head Docent Librarian. Building on a strong foundation developed by Debbie Aliber, her predecessor, Margaret continued to expand our collection as well as reorganize sections of its content. Her monthly updates in the Volunteer Voice helped to highlight new additions to the library and offered suggested readings to enhance our knowledge and understanding of the ancient Near East. Through the generous donations from faculty, staff, and volunteers, along with many outstanding new purchases, the Docent Library's collection continues to flourish as a valuable resource and educational tool. The library committee, which includes: Irene Glasner, Sandra Jacobsohn, Deloris Sanders, Mary Shea, and Daila Shefner, has been instrumental in assisting Margaret with the library's ongoing maintenance and organization, as well as ideas for new purchases.

### Interns

We were delighted this year to have the opportunity to work with three exceptional interns: Charlotte Noble, Andrew Rich, and Claire Thomas. Throughout the year their numerous contributions have helped to support many vital areas of the Volunteer Program's ongoing operation.

Charlotte Noble has been an active member of the Volunteer Corps for the past three years. She has served as a Museum Docent and Captain, an Outreach Docent, a Faculty Assistant, has developed several independent research projects, and most recently has written and edited sections of the *Annual Report*. We are pleased that she will be assisting us with many projects during the next year.

Andrew Rich became an intern in October and immediately assumed an active role in many aspects of the program. From Thursday morning Docent Captain, to compiling and graphing important statistical data, to working with the Museum Registrar, and troubleshooting computer glitches, Andrew was a valuable addition to the program. We wish him well and much success as he continues his graduate studies in Classic Archaeology at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland.

Claire Thomas has been an intern for the Volunteer Program throughout her college career. During the past four years, as a student at the University of Chicago, Claire has nurtured and expanded her involvement in the Volunteer Program despite a rigorous academic schedule. She was always ready to take on a new challenge with enthusiasm and resolve. Whether serving as a Museum Docent, Volunteer Day presenter, or administrative assistant, Claire approached each task as a chance to grow intellectually and to explore new avenues of opportunity. Claire graduated in June and will be attending Graduate School this fall at the University of New Mexico to study Biological Anthropology.

We wish Andrew and Claire much success in their future professional careers. They have enriched the Volunteer Program with their intelligence, enthusiasm, and hard work.

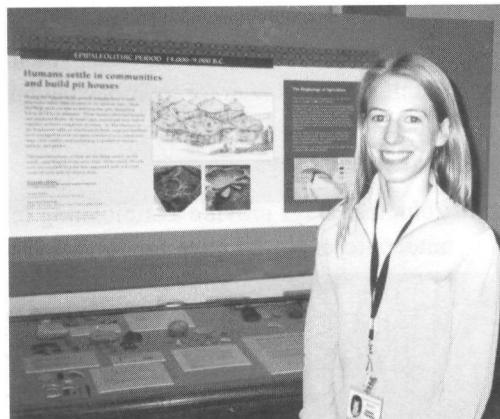
## In Memoriam

The Volunteer Program lost three loyal friends and supporters of the Oriental Institute: Albert "Bud" Haas, Rochelle Rossin, and Frank Yurco. Bud and Rochelle devoted decades of time, sharing their unique talents and skills to help further the goals and mission of the Oriental Institute. These two remarkable individuals will be greatly missed, and we are thankful that they chose to spend a portion of their lives with us.

We were also deeply saddened with the death of longtime teacher and mentor to the Volunteer Program Frank Yurco, who died on February 6 after a long struggle with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). Frank was an outstanding scholar who dedicated his life to teaching and sharing his love of the ancient world, especially Egypt, with his students.

## Randel Tea

President and Mrs. Randel graciously hosted a special July Volunteer Day Tea Reception at their home for Oriental Institute faculty, staff, and volunteers. Three Oriental Institute graduate students, Jesse Casana, Kathleen Mineck, and Nitzan Mekel-Bobrov, presented a talk entitled "How do we know what we know?" This



*Our intern and volunteer, Claire Thomas, returned from her Junior year abroad in Paris to complete her undergraduate studies at the University of Chicago. Here, Claire is ready to introduce visitors to the new Mesopotamian Gallery. Photography by Terry Friedman*



*During story-telling time, Volunteer Services Coordinator Catherine Dueñas captures the imagination of her pre-school audience from the University of Chicago Lab School. Photograph by Jean Grant*

## MUSEUM

informative presentation reflected the latest techniques and the most current information on the ancient Near East. A special thank you to the Randels for their generous hospitality and to Jesse, Kathleen, and Nitzan for their outstanding presentations.

### Volunteer Days

Volunteer Days provide a stimulating learning exchange for Oriental Institute docents and volunteers to explore topics for further research and study. These monthly educational seminars



*Muriel Brauer has been volunteering in the Suq on Thursday morning for over twenty-five years and still enjoys it. Photograph by Catherine Dueñas*

serve as an interactive forum to broaden one's knowledge of the ancient Near East while enjoying special camaraderie with fellow volunteers, faculty, and staff members at the Institute, as well as with colleagues from other cultural institutions.

This year's programs explored a broad range of topics and interests that served as a springboard for gathering new ideas to incorporate into tours. Our thanks and appreciation to faculty and staff members of the Oriental Institute: Robert Biggs, Stephen Harvey, John Larson, Clemens Reichel, Martha Roth, Margaret Schroeder, Gil J. Stein, Emily Teeter; to graduate students: Jesse

Casana, Nitzan Mekel-Bobrov, Kathleen Mineck, and Jonathan Tenney; and to volunteers: Janet Helman, Shel Newman, Semra Prescott, Stephen Ritzel, and Mari Terman.

### Volunteer Recognition and Annual Holiday Luncheon

December Volunteer Day has become an annual tradition when faculty, staff, and volunteers gather to enjoy a festive holiday celebration together. This popular program includes a guest speaker, the introduction of new volunteers, and the volunteer recognition ceremony. The program concludes with a lovely holiday luncheon at the Quadrangle Club. This year's special event took place on Monday, December 8.

Our guest speaker was Oriental Institute Professor Martha Roth. Her presentation, "Crime and Punishment in Ancient Mesopotamia," was an informative discussion of laws, crimes, and punishments in ancient Mesopotamia.

Immediately following Martha's talk, the program continued with the introduction of the new volunteers and the Recognition Awards Ceremony. We are pleased to welcome the following individuals to the program: Myriam Borelli, Ana Dias, Djanie Edwards, Mary Finn, Erin Hardacker-Morr, Erin Harral, Dennis Kelly, Carol Kipp, Sherian McLaughlin, Kavita Rajagopal, Del Ramirez, Andrew Rich, Marcelle Robles, Tatyana Tsirlin, Robert Wagner, and Inge Winer.



*This year's Volunteer Recognition recipients enjoyed posing for their picture on the stage of Breasted Hall. Photograph by Jean Grant*

In addition to new volunteers, thirty-four individuals were recognized for their years of distinguished and loyal commitment to the Oriental Institute. Bravo and congratulations to all!



## 2003 Recognition Award Recipients

### Five Years

Myllicent Buchanan  
Bob Cantu  
David Covill  
Debby Halpern

Lee Herbst  
Henriette Klawans  
Elizabeth Lassers  
Robert McGinness

Donald Payne  
Lucie Sandel  
Mari Terman  
Karen Terras

### Ten Years

Bernadine Basile  
Jane Belcher  
Erl Dordal  
Bettie Dwinell  
Irene Glasner

Ira Hardman  
Johanna Lucas  
Roy Miller  
Kathleen Mineck  
Denise Paul

Diane Posner  
Deloris Sanders  
Bernadette Strnad  
Jane Thain

### Fifteen Years

John Gay

Mary Grimshaw

Daila Shefner

### Twenty Years

Carole Yoshida

### Twenty-five Years

Muriel Brauer

Anita Greenberg

Janet Helman

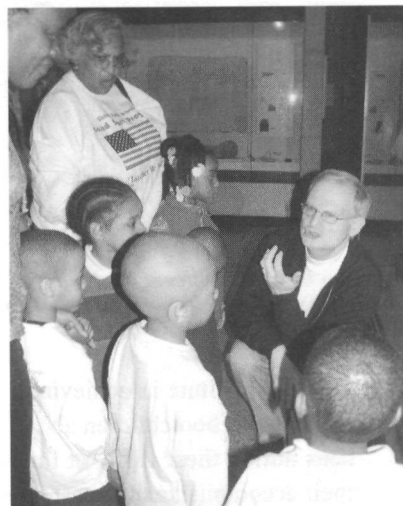
Norma van der Meulen

## Field Trips

April Volunteer Day was a special field trip to The Field Museum to see the “Splendors of China’s Forbidden City, The Glorious Reign of Emperor Qianlong.” The program began with a lovely coffee reception for the volunteers and an excellent presentation from our own Tuesday morning Museum Docent Gabriele DaSilva, who is also a Field Museum Docent Captain. Gabriele gave us a comprehensive overview of the exhibit to help us focus on some key areas of this magnificent collection. The volunteers were then escorted into the exhibit to view firsthand these treasured antiquities. Our thanks and appreciation to Bob Cantu and the staff of The Field Museum for an outstanding visit.

## Hosting Colleagues

This year we had the pleasure of hosting two programs for colleagues from other cultural institutions in Chicago. In December, the volunteers from The Field Museum enjoyed a morning coffee reception and guided tour of the Mesopotamian Gallery. It was a wonderful opportunity to showcase our collection and to share ideas about touring techniques.



*Museum Docent Tom Hunter engages this group of youngsters with a face to face encounter with the mummy Petosiris. Photograph by Wendy Ennes*

## MUSEUM



**Thursday Museum docents Rita Picken and Pierangelo Taschini introduce these children to the Persian Gallery**

der Meulen for sharing their individual perspectives about volunteering with our colleagues from the VCCI.

## Reflections

The faculty and staff of the Oriental Institute are an integral part of the program's vitality and stature. As our mentors and teachers, they continue to inspire and motivate the volunteers, sharing their wealth of knowledge, sparking our curiosity, and supplying countless resources to enrich our education. Their accessibility and involvement continues to foster the high level of

volunteer commitment throughout many areas of the Oriental Institute and the Museum.

We would also like to thank our colleagues in Museum Education for their trusted support, prudent advice and good humor throughout this past year: Maria Krasinski, Education Programs Assistant; Carole Krucoff, Head of Education and Public Programs; and Wendy Ennes, Teacher Services and e-Learning Coordinator. In an office environment filled with activity and interruptions, their calm demeanor fosters a congenial and productive atmosphere.

Faced with lingering hardships from the war in Iraq, the opening of the Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery in October 2003 has reinforced the value of education about the Near East. The determination and enthusiastic spirit of the Oriental Institute volunteers has been instrumental in assisting the

Oriental Institute in achieving its mission. From reaching out to Assyrian groups in Chicago to educating schoolchildren about Iraq, our volunteers have established their position as global citizens during these difficult times. They are truly a rare and treasured asset. We take pride in all their accomplishments, past, present, and future.

A note of special thanks and appreciation to Charlotte Noble and to Claire Thomas for their assistance with the editing and production of this year's *Annual Report* contribution.



**Museum Docent Myllicent Buchanan tells these youngsters about Nefermaat and his family. Photo by Wendy Ennes**

**Advisors to the Volunteer Program**

Carlotta Maher

Peggy Grant

Janet Helman

**Honorary Volunteers-At-Large**

Carol Randel

Elizabeth Sonnenschein

**Museum Docents**

|                         |                   |                    |                     |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Debbie Aliber           | Joan Friedmann    | Sherian McLaughlin | Lucie Sandel        |
| Jane Arkell             | Dario Giacomoni   | Roy Miller         | Deloris Sanders     |
| Bernadine Basile        | Anita Greenberg   | Kathleen Mineck    | Larry Scheff        |
| Jane Belcher            | Debby Halpern     | Charlotte Noble    | Joy Schocket        |
| Christel Betz           | Ira Hardman       | Nancy Patterson    | Anne Schumacher     |
| Rebecca Binkley         | Erin Harral       | Denise Paul        | Mary Shea           |
| Dorothy Blindt          | Mary Harter       | Carolyn Payer      | Daila Shefner       |
| Myriam Borelli          | Janet Helman      | Donald Payne       | Toni Smith          |
| Myllicent Buchanan      | Lee Herbst        | Kitty Picken       | Bernadette Strnad   |
| Andrew Buncis           | Teresa Hintzke    | Rita Picken        | Pierangelo Taschini |
| David Covill            | Dennis Kelly      | Dennis Pizarro     | Mari Terman         |
| Joan Curry              | Carol Kipp        | Semra Prescott     | Karen Terras        |
| Gabriele Da Silva       | Henriette Klawans | Kavita Rajagopal   | Claire Thomas       |
| Catherine Deans-Barrett | Elizabeth Lassers | Melissa Ratkovich  | Pramerudee Townsend |
| Joe Diamond             | Nina Longley      | Del Ramirez        | Tatyana Tsirlin     |
| Ana Dias                | Lo Luong Lo       | Patrick Regnery    | Robert Wagner       |
| Sam Dreessen            | Kavita Machhar    | Andrew Rich        | Inge Winer          |
| Djanie Edwards          | Sherif Marcus     | Stephen Ritzel     | Monica Wood         |
| Mary Finn               | Masako Matsumoto  | Maricelle Robles   | Carole Yoshida      |
| Margaret Foorman        | Robert McGuiness  |                    |                     |

**Outreach Docents and Volunteers**

|                          |                   |                 |                 |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Myllicent Buchanan       | Janet Helman      | Caryl Mikrut    | Larry Scheff    |
| Janet Calkins            | Lee Herbst        | Roy Miller      | Anne Schumacher |
| Hazel Cramer             | Henriette Klawans | Kathleen Mineck | Karen Terras    |
| Joe Diamond              | Betsy Kremers     | Nancy Patterson | Claire Thomas   |
| Bill and Terry Gillespie | Nina Longley      | Stephen Ritzel  | Carole Yoshida  |
| Debby Halpern            | Masako Matsumoto  | Deloris Sanders | Agnes Zellner   |
| Ira Hardman              | Robert McGuiness  |                 |                 |

**Docent Library – Head Librarian**

Margaret Foorman

**Committee**

Irene Glassner

Sandra Jacobsohn

Deloris Sanders

Mary Shea

Daila Shefner

**MUSEUM**

**Emeritus Librarian**

Debbie Aliber

**Suq Docents**

Muriel Brauer   Irene Glasner   Caryn Noble   Rochelle Rossin   Norma van der Meulen  
Patty Dunkel   Peggy Grant   Kavita Rajagopal   Jane Thain   Felicia Whitcomb

**Substitute Suq Docents**

Janet Helman                      Jo Jackson

**Suq Jewelry Designer**

Norma van der Meulen

**Suq Office and Stock Room Volunteer**

Irene Glasner

**Membership and Development Volunteers**

Sophie Bloom   Djanie Edwards   Janet Helman   Carlotta Maher   Mary Shea  
Joe Burgess   Margaret Foorman   Henriette Klawans   Kavita Rajagopal   Mari Terman  
Hazel Cramer   Erin Harral   Jo Lucas   David Ray   Agnes Zellner

**Museum Archives Volunteers**

James Baughman                      Patricia Hume                      Lillian Schwartz  
Hazel Cramer                              Sandra Jacobsohn                      Carole Yoshida  
Peggy Grant

**Registrar's Office Volunteers**

Mary Grimshaw                              O. J. Sopranos                              Toni Smith

**Diyala Project Volunteers**

Richard Harter   Betsy Kremers   George Sundell   Karen Terras   Robert Wagner

**Iraq Museum Database Project Volunteer**

Karen Terras

**Amuq Project Volunteers**

Irene Glasner                              Mari Terman                              Tatyana Tsirlin

**Abydos Project Volunteers**

Chad Bouffard                              Christopher C. Miller

**Hamoukar Project Volunteers**

Betsy Kremers                      Richard Harter                      George Sundell

**Photography Lab Volunteers**

Pam Ames                              Irene Glasner                      Carole Yoshida

**Courtyard Volunteers**

Terry Gillespie                      Bill Gillespie                      Robert Herbst

**Museum Education and Family Programs Volunteers**

|                         |                          |                          |                   |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Sabahat Adil            | Joe Diamond              | Kavita Machhar           | David Ray         |
| John and Sylwia Aldrin  | Stephen Esposito         | Sherian McLaughlin       | Patrick Regnery   |
| Ana Dias                | Mary Finn                | Robert McGuinness        | Andrew Rich       |
| Catherine Deans-Barrett | Terry and Bill Gillespie | Mitch Michalik           | Stephen Ritzel    |
| Jane Belcher            | Ruth Goldman             | Roy Miller               | Lucie Sandel      |
| Christel Betz           | Anita Greenberg          | Kathleen Mineck          | Deloris Sanders   |
| Rebecca Binkley         | Debbie Halpern           | Charlotte and John Noble | Anne Schumacher   |
| Dorothy Blindt          | Teresa Hintzke           | Nancy Patterson          | Toni Smith        |
| Muriel Borelli          | Dennis Kelly             | Donald Payne             | Bernadette Strnad |
| Myllicent Buchanan      | Janet Kessler            | Rita Picken              | George Sundell    |
| Hazel Cramer            | Henriette Klawans        | Semra Prescott           | Mari Terman       |
| Joan Curry              | Barbara Levin            | Diane Posner             | Claire Thomas     |
| Gabriele da Silva       | Lo Luong Lo              | Melissa Ratkovich        | Carole Yoshida    |

**Junior Volunteers**

|                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Kristina Cooper | Kristen Mineck |
| Sam Dreessen    | Caryn Noble    |
| Carl Mineck     | John Whitcomb  |

**Assistants to the Epigraphic Survey and Chicago House**

Debbie Doyle      Mary Grimshaw      Carlotta Maher      Crennan Ray      David Ray

**Assistants to the Prehistoric Project**

Diana Grodzins                      Andree Wood

**Hittite Dictionary Project Volunteers**

Irv Diamond                      Irene Glasner                      Anne Schumacher

**Demotic Dictionary Project Volunteers**

David Berger                      Amelia Karraker                      Anne Nelson

**Iranian Prehistoric Project Volunteer**

Janet Helman

**MUSEUM**

**Faculty Assistant to Professors Jan Johnson and Don Whitcomb**

Ruth Goldman

**Faculty Assistants to Professor Matt Stolper**

Irene Glasner

Charlotte Noble

**Volunteers Emeritus**

Debbie Aliber  
Elizabeth Baum  
Charlotte Collier  
Erl Dordal  
Mary D'Ouille  
Bettie Dwinell

Carol Green  
Bud Haas †  
Cissy Haas  
Alice James  
MaryJo Khuri  
Masako Matsumoto

Dorothy Mozinski  
Rochelle Rossin †  
Janet Russell  
Eleanor Swift †  
Peggy Wick

† Denotes deceased

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***DEVELOPMENT***

*Overleaf. Canaanite statue. Gilded bronze. Late Bronze Age II, ca. 1350–1200 B.C. Megiddo. Excavated by the Oriental Institute in 1935/36. OIM A18316. This small statue of a god may have been the cult figure for the Canaanite temple in the ruins of which it was found. Cast in bronze and covered in gold, it is an idol of the type forbidden by the much later Hebrew prophets. The identity of this bearded and throned deity is uncertain, but it is most likely El, the chief god of the pantheon and the father of the other gods.*



## DEVELOPMENT

### Monica Witczak

#### Overview

In a year of transition in our Development Office, friends of the Oriental Institute continued their generous support of our programs. For fiscal year 2004, the Oriental Institute raised \$1,398,667 in non-federal private gifts and grants. The annual fund appeal raised \$34,830. Among the notable gifts received were \$100,000 from the Salus Mundi Foundation for the Chicago Hittite Dictionary endowment, and \$75,000 of a \$200,000 pledge from University of Chicago Trustee Joseph Neubauer and his wife Jeanette to support Aslihan Yener's 2005–2006 excavation and study seasons at Tell Atchana/Alalakh, Turkey. Additionally, the following foundations and corporations continued to support our programs: LaSalle Bank, Exelon, the Polk Bros. Foundation, the Coleman Foundation, the Getty Foundation, the Luther I. Replogle Foundation, and the University of Chicago's Women's Board. We thank all our generous supporters who made this financial success possible.

#### Visiting Committee

The Visiting Committee met twice this year. Aslihan Yener, Associate Professor of Archeology, spoke about her excavations in the Amuq Valley of Turkey at the May 11 meeting. Theo van den Hout, Executive Director of the Chicago Hittite Dictionary, gave the Visiting Committee an update on the launch of the electronic version of the Chicago Hittite Dictionary during the November meeting.

A significant change in leadership of the Visiting Committee took place this year. Tom Heagy stepped down at the conclusion of his term as Chair of the Oriental Institute Visiting Committee. Tom provided exemplary leadership and fund-raising support and will continue to play a key role on the executive committee. Janet Helman has graciously agreed to be the new Chair of the Visiting Committee. Janet has long-standing involvement with the Oriental Institute in many capacities, including as a volunteer, docent, and active Visiting Committee member. As you may know, Janet is recipient of the James Henry Breasted Medallion, the highest honor that the Oriental Institute can bestow in recognition of the efforts of a volunteer. We thank Janet for her willingness to take on this important leadership role.

#### Romancing the Past

On May 21, 2004, Peggy Grant was honored with the James Henry Breasted Medallion at the Oriental Institute's biennial gala, *Romancing the Past*. Held in the Gold Coast Room of the Drake Hotel, guests were treated to a preview of WTTW's documentary of the Oriental Institute, *Breaking Ground: The Story of the Oriental Institute*, and both silent and live auctions. This gala evening raised \$67,194 to support the East Wing reinstallation project.

#### Development Director

I would like to introduce myself. My name is Monica Witczak and I am the new Development Director for the Oriental Institute. I have eight years of fund-raising experience at both academic and non-profit institutions, most recently with the Alzheimer's Association. I am very happy to

## **DEVELOPMENT AND MEMBERSHIP**

be part of the fund-raising efforts at the Oriental Institute and I look forward to building strong relationships with our Visiting Committee, members, and volunteers.

In the end, none of the Oriental Institute's work would be possible without the support of all our donors. I would like to thank all those who supported the Oriental Institute during fiscal year 2003/2004. It is only with your help that the Oriental Institute is able to continue to maintain its reputation for excellence in the study of the ancient Near East.

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## HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

We are pleased to recognize the friends of the Oriental Institute who have given so generously during the period from July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004. We are most grateful for your support. The Donor Honor Roll is alphabetical by gift level. Gifts received after June 30, 2004 will appear in next year's Annual Report. For memberships, please see the next report. We have made every effort to verify gift levels and donor names.

Please contact the Development Office at (773) 834-9775 if you wish to make changes in your honor roll listing.

### \$50,000 and Above

ABN AMRO North America, Inc., Chicago, Illinois  
 Trust Estate of Robert E. Brooker, Sr., Orlando, Florida  
 Commonwealth Edison Company, Chicago, Illinois  
 Exelon Corporation, Chicago, Illinois  
 Mr. Thomas C. Heagy and Mrs. Linda Hutton Heagy, Chicago, Illinois  
 Mr. Joseph Neubauer and Ms. Jeanette Lerman-Neubauer, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
 Salus Mundi Foundation, Chicago, Illinois  
 World Monuments Fund, New York, New York

### \$10,000-\$49,999

Professor and Mrs. Robert Z. Aliber, Hanover, New Hampshire  
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 Mr. Eric Colombel and Ms. Andrea Colombel, New York, New York  
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 Mr. and Mrs. John W. Rowe, Chicago, Illinois  
 Mr. O. J. Sopranos, Winnetka, Illinois  
 St. Lucas Charitable Foundation, Burr Ridge, Illinois  
 Mrs. Roderick Webster, Winnetka, Illinois

### \$5,000-\$9,999

Ms. Karlyn Bowman, Alexandria, Virginia  
 Mr. Alan R. Brodie, Chicago, Illinois  
 Ms. Marion Cowan, Evanston, Illinois

DEVELOPMENT AND MEMBERSHIP

**\$5,000–\$9,999 (cont.)**

Fidelity Investments Charitable Gift Fund, Boston, Massachusetts  
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Mr. Howard G. Haas and Mrs. Carolyn Werbner Haas, Glencoe, Illinois  
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Mr. Raymond Tindel and Ms. Gretel Braidwood, Chicago, Illinois  
The Ninth Foundation, Lake Forest, Illinois  
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The New York Community Trust, New York, New York  
Seven Wonders Travel, La Salle, Illinois  
Dr. David Terman and Mrs. Mari Terman, Wilmette, Illinois  
Vanguard Charitable Endowment Program, Southeastern, Pennsylvania  
Mr. James Quick Whitman and Mrs. Gillian Stern Whitman, New Haven, Connecticut

**\$1,000–\$2,499**

Mr. James W. Aldrich, Chicago, Illinois  
Altria Group, Inc., New York, New York  
Archaeological Tours, New York, New York  
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald R. Baade, Winnetka, Illinois  
Dr. Miriam Reitz Baer, Chicago, Illinois  
Mrs. Elizabeth Baum, Chicago, Illinois  
The Chicago Community Foundation, Chicago, Illinois  
Ms. Aimee Leigh Drolet, Los Angeles, California

**\$1,000–\$2,499 (cont.)**

Ms. Andrea M. Dudek, Orland Park, Illinois  
 Mr. Dennis Forbes, Weaverville, North Carolina  
 Gerald Norton Memorial Corporation, Northfield, Illinois  
 Mr. Thomas D. Granger and Mrs. Ellen Granger, Westport, Connecticut  
 Mr. Robert Grant and Mrs. Margaret Grant, Chicago, Illinois  
 Mrs. Joseph N. Grimshaw, Wilmette, Illinois  
 Mr. and Mrs. I. A. Grodzins, Chicago, Illinois  
 Mr. Dietrich Gross and Mrs. Erika Gross, Wilmette, Illinois  
 Ms. Louise Grunwald, New York, New York  
 Mr. Collier Hands, Lovell, Maine  
 Dr. Arthur L. Herbst and Mrs. Lee Herbst, Chicago, Illinois  
 Mr. Roger H. Hildebrand and Mrs. Jane B. Hildebrand, Chicago, Illinois  
 Mr. Jack Josephson and Ms. Magda Saleh, New York, New York  
 Mr. Neil J. King and Mrs. Diana Hunt, Chicago, Illinois  
 Mr. James Lichtenstein, Chicago, Illinois  
 Dr. John M. Livingood and Mrs. Amy Livingood, Bethesda, Maryland  
 Mr. Michael D. Lockhart and Mrs. Kristina Lockhart, Rembert, South Carolina  
 Mrs. Ann Lurie, Chicago, Illinois  
 MacLean-Fogg Company, Inc., Mundelein, Illinois  
 Mr. David W. Maher and Mrs. Jill Carlotta Maher, Chicago, Illinois  
 Mesopotamia Museum, Chicago, Illinois  
 National Philanthropic Trust DAF, Jenkintown, Pennsylvania  
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 Ms. Bobbi Newman, Chicago, Illinois  
 Mr. John P. Nielsen, Lombard, Illinois  
 Mr. Andrew Nourse and Ms. Patty A. Hardy, Woodside, California  
 Mr. Robert Keith Parsons and Ms. Victoria J. Herget, Chicago, Illinois  
 Miss M. Kate Pitcairn, Kempton, Pennsylvania  
 Mr. David K. Ray and Mrs. Crennan M. Ray, Santa Fe, New Mexico  
 Mr. and Mrs. John F. Richards, Wilmette, Illinois  
 Ms. Juliet Roberts, Morton Grove, Illinois  
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 Mrs. Maurice Schwartz, Los Angeles, California  
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 Mr. Joseph Daniel Cain and Ms. Emily Teeter, Chicago, Illinois  
 Ms. Karen Terras, Chicago, Illinois  
 Turkish Cultural Foundation, Boston, Massachusetts  
 Brigitte Warning Watkins, Ph.D., Chicago, Illinois  
 Mr. Rodney B. Wagner and Mrs. Susan Wagner, Norfolk, Connecticut  
 Mr. Marcus Wedner and Mrs. Anne Louise Wedner, Winnetka, Illinois  
 Dr. Donald Whitcomb and Dr. Janet H. Johnson, Chicago, Illinois  
 Bahjat Z. Yousif, Illinois

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## MEMBERSHIP

### Maria Krasinski

The Membership Office had a busy year in 2003/2004. Membership renewals are steadily on the rise, setting us up to begin a dedicated new members campaign in Spring 2005. *News & Notes* continues to deliver reports on the latest research in the field and in Chicago, and we are scheduling a consistent calendar of engaging Members' lectures and events.

The opening of the reinstalled Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery and the Yelda Khorsabad Court occupied much of the summer and fall. Rebecca Laharia shared responsibility with a small team, including Emily Teeter and Carole Krucoff and headed by then Development Director Debora Donato, for the planning of public relations and special events surrounding the opening. The gallery opening attracted a very wide audience of people interested in learning about ancient Iraq.

Membership played a key role in supporting the Director's Dinner on September 30, 2003 — a dinner and preview of the Jannotta Gallery attended by more than 140 guests. Donny George Youkhanna, Director of the Iraq Museum, gave the keynote speech. Membership also partnered with the Director's Office to facilitate Mr. Youkhanna's visit during the opening, assisting in the organizing of a public address by Mr. Youkhanna regarding the protection of Iraq's cultural property in the aftermath of the looting of the Iraq Museum.

On October 1, 2003, we hosted a preview of the Jannotta Gallery for the Oriental Institute Membership. The preview, along with an elegant catered reception, brought over 500 members to Hyde Park. Finally, a membership table was set up at the public opening of the gallery to answer questions about the Oriental Institute and pass out literature.

To celebrate the ongoing museum reinstallation, members of the James Henry Breasted Society were treated to a special viewing of stone reliefs from the interior of the Khorsabad Palace, which will form the first gallery in the East Wing (opening in January 2005). Laura D'Alessandro, Head of Conservation, spoke on the challenges of conserving and reinstalling the massive and fragile reliefs, while then Museum Director Karen Wilson explained the imagery and placed the reliefs in historical context.

The Members' Lecture Series continued this year with four lectures. On October 22, 2003, Nicolas Wyatt presented "Did it Begin in Ugarit? A Comparative Study of Royal Ideology." In February 2004, Gideon Avni, Director of the Excavations and Surveys Department of the Israel Antiquities Authority, presented, "From Christianity to Islam in the Holy Land: An Archeological Perspective." We co-sponsored the Chicago Society of the Archaeological Society of America's first annual Robert J. Braidwood Memorial Lecture on March 17, 2004. The talk "To Euphrates and Beyond: Searching for the First Farmers in the Near East" was given by Andrew Moore, Director of the Jericho Project. Most recently, David P. Silverman, Professor of Egyptology at the University of Pennsylvania, gave a lecture entitled



*Donny George Youkhanna, Director of the Iraq Museum, gives the keynote speech at the Director's Dinner celebrating the opening of the Mesopotamian Gallery*

## DEVELOPMENT AND MEMBERSHIP

“Working in the Shadow of the Step Pyramid: Insights into Burial Practices in Middle Kingdom Saqqara” on April 14, 2004.

The Membership Office published four issues of *News & Notes* and the 2002/2003 *Annual Report*. On November 19, Membership and Education presented “Mosaic: A Concert of Traditional Middle Eastern Music,” featuring acclaimed Chicago musicians performing a rich medley of Arabic, Turkish, Shephardic, and Armenian music. In addition, Membership supported the Development Office with its Visiting Committee meetings.

This was a bustling year for the travel program, as tours set off across the country and around the world. In August 2003, Research Associates Emily Teeter and Clemens Reichel presented *New York Double Feature: The Best of Ancient Near East and Egyptian Exhibits*. Reichel led a tour of Metropolitan Museum of Art’s special exhibition “Art of the First Cities: The Third Millennium BC from the Mediterranean to the Indus,” while Teeter guided travelers through the Brooklyn Museum’s newly reinstalled collection of Egyptian artifacts. Rescheduled by popular demand, *The Oasis of the Western Desert* tour of Egypt returned in March 2004. Escorted by Professor Robert Ritner, this trip was a resounding success. Another trip abroad, *Crossroads of Empires: From Cairo to Crete*, set sail in April 2004 aboard a sailing ship accompanied by Emily Teeter. Emily also escorted members to *The Quest for Immortality: Treasures from the Egyptian Museum, Cairo* at the Milwaukee Public Museum in May 2004. Stay tuned for more exciting and adventurous tours in the upcoming year.

The year 2004 also marked the return of the Oriental Institute’s gala *Romancing the Past*, held on May 20 at the Drake Hotel. Over 200 people attended this event, honoring Peggy Grant as the third recipient of the James Henry Breasted Medallion, an award recognizing volunteerism and dedication to the Oriental Institute. Membership was heavily involved in planning the event and, in addition, took on the task of sending invitations, coordinating RSVPs, and designing and writing the content of the programs.

Many people helped bring the events and programs of the Membership Office to fruition. Special thanks go to Christina Abraham, Membership Assistant, whose dedication and attention to detail saw all our members through the renewal cycle. Congratulations to Christina on her recent graduation from the University of Chicago with a Masters degree. Emily Teeter, in her role as Special Projects Manager, gave invaluable guidance and assistance to the Travel Program. In addition, Emily and former Assistant to the Director Nicole Torres kept things running while Rebecca took maternity leave in January. Along with Nicole, Thomas Urban, Editor, and student assistant Leslie Schramer, both of the Publications Office, took on extra responsibility for the completion of the Spring *News & Notes* during that time. Kirk Schmink, Assistant to the Director of Development, often lent a hand, especially with tasks related to the gala. And Toby Hartnell typed and sorted innumerable addresses for the gala invitations. Many thanks to all of you.

We were also very fortunate to have the assistance of a number of excellent and skilled volunteers. David Ray and Henriette Klawans staffed the Membership booth at the public opening of the Jannotta Gallery. Henriette also lent her beautiful handwriting to the gala invitations, as did Sophie Bloom, Joe Burgess, Hazel Cramer, and Agnes Zellner. Gala chairs Janet Helman, Carlotta Maher, and Mari Terman, as well as Mary Shea and Margaret Foorman, reviewed and personalized the invitations. Djanie Edwards lent invaluable assistance in setting up the silent auction at the gala. Jo Lucas worked on updating the Oriental Institute scrapbook kept in the Director’s Office. Kavita Rajagopal helped with numerous projects including address manage-

ment for the gala and Erin Harral designed the brochure for the Travel Program, *Splendors of Western Turkey*, and developed the prototype for a new Travel Program web page.

Membership Director Rebecca Laharia left the Oriental Institute in July to move to New York City. Her remarkable efforts in revitalizing the Membership Program have positioned us to move forward to accomplish even more in the coming year. Maria Krasinski, former Education Programs Assistant in the Museum Education Office, became the new Membership Coordinator in late June.

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*Production Editor's note:* Maria brings her background in graphic design, her familiarity with the Oriental Institute, and a fresh perspective to the Membership Office. I am confident that you will see the mark of her creative energy throughout the Membership Program.

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## DEVELOPMENT AND MEMBERSHIP

## HONOR ROLL OF MEMBERS

We are pleased to recognize the members of the Oriental Institute during the period from July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004. Thank you for your support.

Non-Membership gifts and donations of gift memberships are reflected in the Donor Honor Roll. We have made every effort to verify membership levels and member names. Please contact the Membership Office at (773) 702-9513 if you wish to make changes in your honor roll listing.

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The James Henry Breasted Society is a special category of membership created to provide a direct, renewable source of unrestricted funds for Oriental Institute projects and for matching money to private and federal grants. Members annually contribute \$1,000 or more (Patron) and \$2,500 or more (Director's Circle). We thank each of our Breasted Society Members for their ongoing generosity.

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