

THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE 2004-2005 ANNUAL REPORT





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Cover and title page illustration: Pyramid field viewed from the summit of Barkal Mountain from the southeast. Gebel Barkal, Sudan. Photograph P 3049

The pages that divide the sections of this year's report feature photographs from *The 1905–1907 Breasted Expeditions to Egypt and the Sudan: A Photographic Study* (Chicago, 1975). Available online at: <http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/MUS/PA/EGYPT/BEES/BEES.html>

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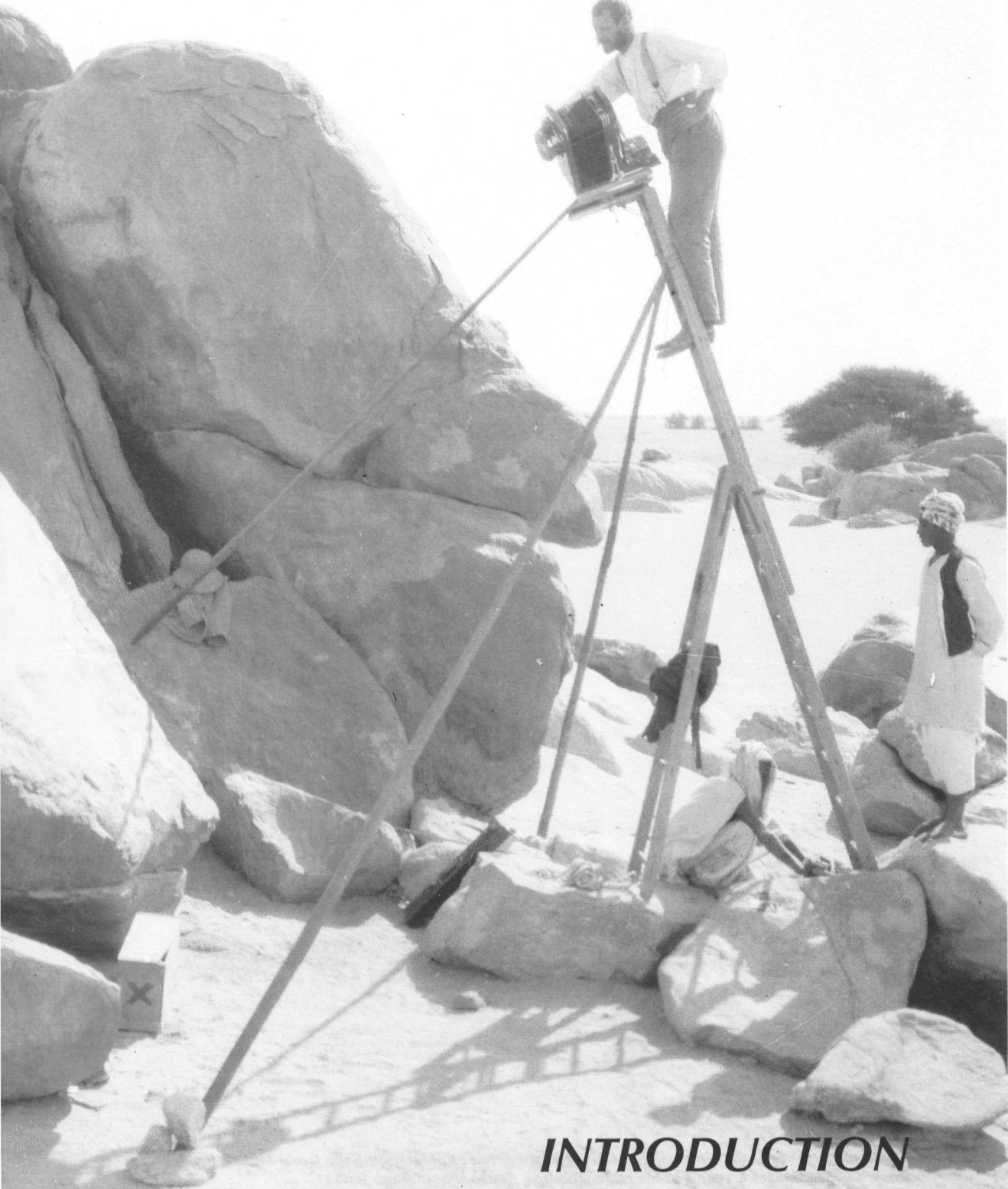
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INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

Gil J. Stein

As you see from the articles in this *2004–2005 Annual Report*, the past year has been one of remarkable achievement for the Oriental Institute.

In January 2005, we opened the three newly installed galleries in the museum's East Wing — the Dr. Norman Solhkhah Family Assyrian Empire Gallery, the Henrietta Herbolsheimer, M.D. Syro-Anatolian Gallery, and the Haas and Schwartz Megiddo Gallery. These exhibit spaces are designed to show how each region of the Near East gave rise to a highly distinctive and unique local culture. However, at the same time, we want our visitors to understand that the different cultures that made up this rich mosaic of civilizations did not exist in isolation. Instead, from Neolithic times (ca. 8000 B.C.) onward, they were always interacting with one another in many different ways — through trade, the spread of technology, the use of writing, the borrowing of symbols of kingship and religion, and lastly through the harsh medium of warfare and the incorporation of these cultures within the powerful empires of the Hittites, New Kingdom Egypt, and Assyria. The result of these different forms of interaction was the development of richly cosmopolitan cultures throughout the Near East.

Building on the earlier work of Dr. Karen Wilson, Museum Director Dr. Geoff Emberling and his colleagues have created a series of exhibits that are both beautiful to look at and a uniquely important educational resource for general visitors and scholars alike. I am proud to say that the opening weekend for the East Wing galleries set a new record for attendance at our museum.

We are now building on that success and are close to the completion of the Robert F. Picken Family Nubian Gallery, which will share the West Wing with the Doris and Marshall Holleb Family Special Exhibits Gallery. We are on schedule to open the Picken Family Nubia Gallery in February 2006.

With these achievements, the Oriental Institute now stands on the cusp of an important historical transition. The 2006 opening of the Picken Family Nubian Gallery will mark the long-awaited completion of the ten-year process of museum reinstallation. During the past decade, the Institute has worked mightily to fund the enormous (almost 15 million dollar) cost of constructing the new wing and installing the galleries while still supporting our research. We will now be able to shift the lion's share of our efforts back to the support and expansion of the Institute's core mission: *the rediscovery of ancient civilizations in the Fertile Crescent through archaeological and textual research, and the communication of that knowledge to both scholars and the public through publication, education, and outreach.*

As the contributions to this year's *Annual Report* so clearly show, Oriental Institute researchers are making extraordinarily important contributions to scholarship. One of the great strengths of the Oriental Institute is that it has a "critical mass" of textual and archaeological researchers. This allows Oriental Institute scholars to define and carry out large-scale, long-term projects aimed at addressing the major questions in ancient Near Eastern studies. Much of this work involves the development of fundamental research tools that make it possible for researchers throughout the world to conduct more productive research. The Chicago Assyrian Dictionary under the direction of Prof. Martha Roth, the Chicago Hittite Dictionary directed by Prof. Theo van den Hout, and the Chicago Demotic Dictionary under the direction of Prof. Janet Johnson

INTRODUCTION

are three classic examples of the massive effort needed to develop fundamental research tools that benefit the entire discipline.

But Institute researchers are creating other tools as well. Let me give two examples of this unique work.

Under the direction of Dr. Scott Branting, the Center for Ancient Middle Eastern Landscapes (CAMEL) is assembling the scholarly world's most comprehensive digital archive of remote sensing images and satellite photographs of the entire Near East. By systematically collecting, processing, and integrating these images (from LANDSAT, CORONA, ASTER, and other satellite sources), we are building a library that will allow us to map ancient archaeological sites and preserved landscapes from Egypt across to Iran. This work has already revolutionized the practice of archaeological survey. At the same time, the "Chicago Protocol" for processing satellite imagery has become the standard procedure for archaeologists using these images in the Near East.

Another important scholarly tool in development is the Diyala Project, directed by Dr. Clemens Reichel. With the crucial assistance of (technically) retired database specialist-volunteer George Sundell, Dr. Reichel is developing an integrated, relational database of more than 15,000 artifacts excavated by the Oriental Institute in the Diyala region of Iraq during the 1930s. This database links the artifacts with the stratigraphic contexts from which they were excavated and assembles the field notes, photographs, and text translations in a way that allows researchers to "re-assemble" the four sites from which they were excavated. Recognizing the innovative and important nature of this research tool, the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) recently awarded the Diyala Project a two-year, \$100,000 grant. We can reasonably expect that, when completed, the Diyala relational database will become the model or template for archaeologists looking for ways to analyze and publish the masses of data from their excavations.

In addition to these projects that organize knowledge and develop basic analytical tools, Oriental Institute researchers are actively expanding the scope of new field research. In Egypt, Dr. Stephen Harvey continues his important excavations at Abydos. The Epigraphic Survey under the direction of Dr. W. Raymond Johnson continues its vital work of recording and conserving the monuments at Luxor and Medinet Habu, in a race against the destructive forces of modern development and the changed ecology of Egypt after the construction of the Aswan Dam. Our archaeologists are making remarkable discoveries at sites such as Atchana, Çadır, and Kerkenes in Turkey, and in Khuzestan and the Marv Dasht (Persepolis) Plain in Iran. I am happy to report that this past year saw the reactivation of the Oriental Institute's permit to excavate at the early urban center of Hamoukar in northeast Syria as well.

A crucial part of the Oriental Institute's mission is the communication of our discoveries to both the scholarly and general public. Here too, I am happy to say that the talented people at the Institute are at the cutting edge of innovation. In the past year, our Publications Office started a policy of making all new publications available simultaneously in both digital (Web-based) format and in print. For the first time, the work of the Oriental Institute will be available to anyone, anywhere in the world with access to the Internet. In parallel, our Education Section, under Carole Krucoff and her colleague Wendy Ennes, is developing new Web-based tools to make the highlights of our museum accessible on-line, while also expanding the Web-based resources for public school teachers throughout the Chicago area and beyond.

This is an exciting time of transition. I am confident that we can look forward to an accelerated pace of discovery, communication, and outreach in the years ahead.

IN MEMORIAM

Elizabeth (“Betty”) Baum

This year, the Oriental Institute lost a longtime friend with the death of Elizabeth (“Betty”) Baum. I write this on behalf of Betty Baum’s many friends at the Oriental Institute, especially Volunteer Coordinators Terry Friedman and Catherine Dueñas and the many volunteers and docents with whom Betty worked over the years. They have been kind enough to share their memories with me.

As a member of the very first Docent Training Class in 1966, Betty’s thirst for knowledge and intellectual curiosity never waned. It is hard to imagine a Volunteer Day at the Institute without Betty in the front row listening attentively to the guest speaker. Betty came to these monthly programs to listen, learn, and spend time with old friends in a place she truly held dear in her heart. Despite her frail health in recent years, she continued to remain involved and dedicated to help the Volunteer Program through her eagerness to lend support wherever needed. She would frequently ask, “What do you need? Tell me what will help the program.”

Betty’s persistent questions were finally answered when after much discussion, the Volunteer Program asked for a carousel slide projector for use in the Outreach Program. She was so excited finally to have a tangible object she could purchase to help the program that she even decided to help select the make and model. “Always buy the best,” she insisted, “It will last a long time.” She was right. Ten years later, after countless outreach visits and a lot of hard use, the projector still runs like new. This was just one of several other purchases Betty would help make possible. Her generosity was greatly appreciated and helped the program operate with greater efficiency and productivity.

Betty was a private and reserved person who was diligent as well as dedicated to her beliefs and responsibilities. For nearly four decades, volunteering at the Oriental Institute gave Betty a real sense of community as almost a second home, while at the same time allowing her to pursue her deep interest in the richness of other cultures. She will be remembered with great fondness as our godmother, someone who knew intuitively how she could contribute to our work to further our mission of outreach and education. Her lifelong love of learning new things — especially new things about old things — invigorated her and kept her going.

Betty had a special affinity for ancient Mesopotamia, the heartland of civilization where the world’s first cities and writing began. In tribute to her deep love for and interest in the art and culture of this area, we have dedicated one of the most beautiful exhibit cases in our Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery to Betty’s memory. This case features several masterpieces of Sumerian art — alabaster votive sculptures of worshippers placed in the main sanctuary of the temples. My favorite of these sculptures has large inlaid eyes, and stands with hands clasped in a reverent pose. On the shoulder of the statue, the Sumerian inscription reads the man’s name and the phrase, “His eyes are always on the god.” It is fitting, because Betty Baum was someone who never lost sight of the important things in life — people, community, and the curiosity that



Elizabeth (“Betty”) Baum

IN MEMORIAM

makes us human. On behalf of all of us at the Oriental Institute, I want to extend my condolences to Betty's family and loved ones. We will truly miss her.

Gil J. Stein



RESEARCH

Overleaf. Unfinished colossal granite statue. Temple of Atlanersa and Senkamisken portico. Gebel Barkal, Sudan. Photograph P 3016

PROJECT REPORTS

ADVANCED PAPYROLOGICAL INFORMATION SYSTEM

Peter F. Dorman

The Oriental Institute has been participating as a minor but active consortium member of the Advanced Papyrological Information System (APIS) since 2001. Funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, APIS is a cooperative research project conceived in 1996 to unify information on texts written on papyrus into a single database so as to facilitate scholarly research on both published and unpublished documents. Inspired by a pilot project at Duke University, the original purpose of APIS was to focus on the roughly 16,000 Greek papyri located in museum collections at Columbia, Duke, Berkeley, Michigan, and Yale. Other institutions with less extensive collections have recently begun participating, among which is the University of Chicago, incorporating the relevant holdings at the Oriental Institute Museum and the Special Collections of the Regenstein Library. The standard database entries for APIS include physical descriptions of the papyri; transliterations and translations of the text; information on provenance, date, authorship, and parallel sources; lists of proper names to facilitate searching; and bibliographies for published papyri. Ideally, scans are also made of the papyri according to agreed standards, so that scholars as well as the general public may access not only the textual information but clear images of the documents as well. The conservation of the papyrus documents is also a priority for APIS, and information is routinely shared on how best to achieve this goal.

The Oriental Institute was invited to join the project in 2000 and since then has added 251 documents to the overall database. One of the challenges for this institution has been the adaptation of the central database to languages and chronological time frames that pertain to societies other than ancient Greece. The transliteration of ancient Egyptian, for example, has required the use of a temporarily expedient font since the keystroke system for APIS did not originally foresee the necessity for Egyptian diacritics. Similarly, the several hundred Arabic documents in the Oriental Institute Museum will eventually require a separate solution to the multifarious problems of transliteration in that language. Moreover, the ancient documents at the Oriental Institute Museum are written on materials other than papyrus; and while the project as a whole was instigated by papyrologists, it was decided from the start of the Chicago involvement to include hieroglyphic and cursive texts written on limestone ostraca and potsherds. Other scripts in our collection include hieroglyphic, Demotic, and Coptic as well. Greek papyri that do not bear unequivocal dates are usually categorized according to the century (or partial century) in which they were written, a method which cannot be easily adapted to ancient Egyptian chronology. Consequently, Chicago has devised a different system for periodization according to dynasty and/or reign that makes better sense for pharaonic Egypt. Doubtless such customizing of the greater APIS system will expand with the database itself.

The most recent data entries for APIS-Chicago have been two lengthy Book of the Dead compilations known as Papyrus Ryerson and Papyrus Milbank, as well as fragmentary excerpts from the Coffin Texts on Papyrus Gardiner III. The immediate task ahead is to enter the pertinent information on our database for the Greek papyri in the Regenstein Library, for which additional funds have been made available in order to rehouse them in new mounts this year.

RESEARCH

Another task that lies ahead is digital image capture for documents already uploaded into the central database.

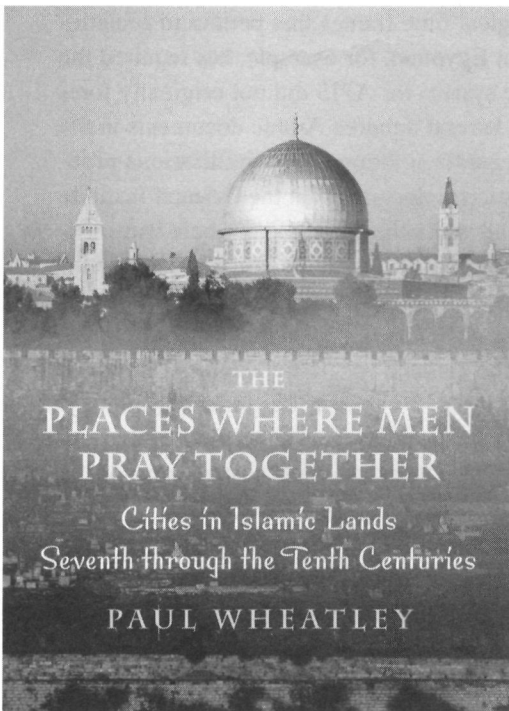
For the first three years of APIS-Chicago, Hratch Papazian served as an extraordinarily able research assistant, who not only had to face the daunting task of adapting the central APIS standards to our own collection, but was instrumental in devising workable solutions to the questions of Egyptian transliteration font and chronology. Vanessa Davies has taken his place this fourth year and has continued to make excellent progress on data entry. I also wish to acknowledge my co-investigators for APIS-Chicago, Robert K. Ritner and Alice Schreyer of the Regenstein Library, for their support and assistance, and to thank W. Raymond Johnson, director of the Epigraphic Survey, for allowing the project to usurp part of the Survey's office as our ad hoc work space.

ARCHAEOLOGY OF ISLAMIC CITIES

Donald Whitcomb

A new research project announced in last year's *Annual Report* on the subject of Sasanian and Islamic cities in Iran has been postponed as far as active fieldwork is concerned. In point of fact, that project is actually a subset of a larger and more constant research project — the archaeology of the early Islamic city, a broad field of research which has a long and important history.

Some years ago, Donald Whitcomb sponsored a student workshop on Middle East Urbanism intended to continue the University of Chicago's tradition of research into the process of urbanization and urban origins, areas in which the Oriental Institute and the University have a worldwide reputation. An early focus for study of traditional urbanism and city origins at the University of Chicago took advantage of the field research and academic interests of scholars in the Oriental Institute and the Department of Anthropology. The research of Robert McCormick Adams may be taken as indicative of synthetic contributions made in this field. At much the same time, scholars of the Islamic city such as G. von Grünebaum and L. Massignon were working mainly through the Committee on Social Thought and Department of Geography. This research was continued by the late professor Paul Wheatley whose monograph, *The Places where Men Pray Together: Cities in Islamic Lands, Seventh through the Tenth Centuries* (Chicago, 2001), explores the liter-



ary evidence of the early Islamic city and, it is fair to say, includes archaeological evidence mainly as a result of this workshop.

The workshop provided a combination of theory with archaeological and documentary data that proved useful for students, archaeologists (from as remote a period as the Early Bronze Age), and Islamic historians (not normally drawn to study material culture). The subject was not a narrow focus but a convenient framework toward which disparate interests have been drawn, with an emphasis placed on topography and regional hierarchy. From 1992 to 1997 there were papers on the Arabian city, Islamic towns of Yemen (Zabid), Syria (Aleppo), and Morocco (Sijilmasa), and subjects ranging from Bronze Age settlement in Palestine to Ottoman guild structures. All this provided the basis for a growing thesis on the structure and functional elements of the early Islamic urban foundations.

During these years (actually decades) Whitcomb has pursued the problem of the origins of the Islamic city in field excavations, first at 'Aqaba, a walled city (*miṣr*) imitating a late Roman legionary fort, and then at Qinnasrīn, where a pre-Islamic Arab camp (*ḥaḍīr*) was transformed into a city, literally the settlement of nomads in the seventh century. The proposed field research in Iran, described last year, represents a return to his 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 *madīna*." Both the sites of Istakhr near Persepolis and Jundi Shapur in Khuzestan were selected for their potential importance toward understanding this transition and foundation of early Islamic cities in the Iranian setting. With the unexpected delay of this fieldwork, there have been occasions (actually the opportunities presented by participating in conferences; see personal research) to pursue the archaeological evidence of early Islamic cities in other regions.

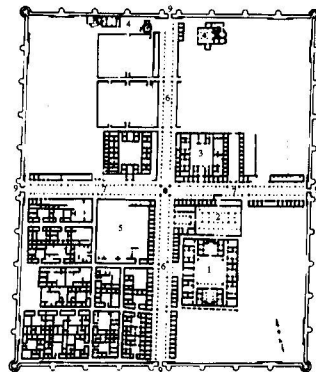
From Qayṣariya to Fuṣṭāṭ

The archaeological site of Qayṣariya, the classical Caesarea Maritima, has produced an abundance of evidence for the Islamic periods. This material comes from earlier excavations, when it was a mere annoyance to be recorded, and from more recent projects intended to recover the Islamic city. The excavations by Haifa University under Yael Arnon, for example, have yielded a new Abbasid city, orthogonally constructed, in the inner harbor. This and other work has revealed the prosperous city under the Abbasid and Fatimid dynasties (eighth–tenth centuries), a city described by the geographer al-Muqaddasī.

Ken Holm, one of the excavators most concerned with the transition from Caesarea to Qayṣariya, invited me to attempt a synthesis of this formidable amount of information. The pur-

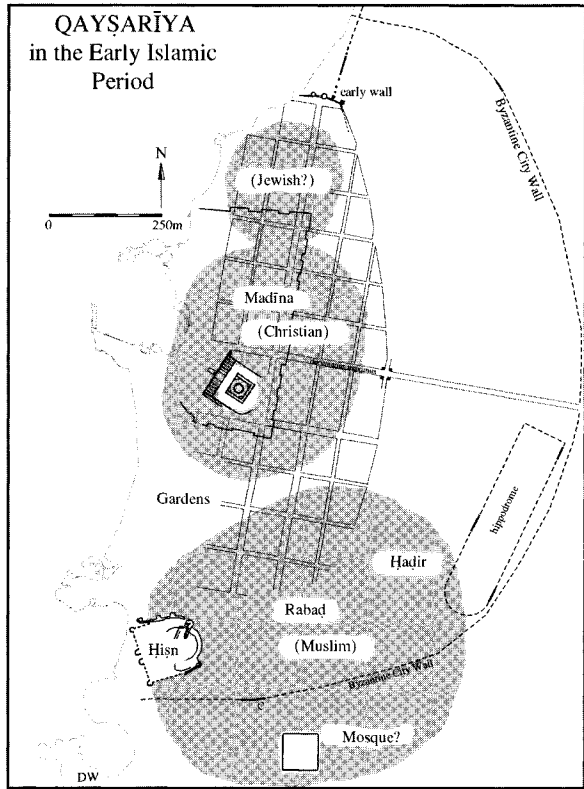


Photograph and plan of 'Anjar in Lebanon



RESEARCH

pose was to reconstruct the foundation of the Islamic city, enabled through the model of the early Islamic city mentioned above. Curiously, al-Muqaddasī brings another dimension to this reconstruction; he describes Qayṣariya as if its urban structure belonged to an older pattern, one often identified with the Iranian world. He identifies first the citadel, the *ḥiṣn* of Qayṣariya; second is the *madīna* (or *shahristān* in the East), which now can be recognized in the Inner Harbor and neighborhoods to the immediate north and east. The third element is the *rabaḍ* or suburbs, which are noted as populous and protected by the citadel. There are indeed reasons, such as the importation of Persian settlers by the Caliph Mu‘awīya, for seeing an Iranian urban template. In this pattern, the Islamic city was located eccentrically, toward the southern and eastern portions of the classical city. One may posit that the district had probably been

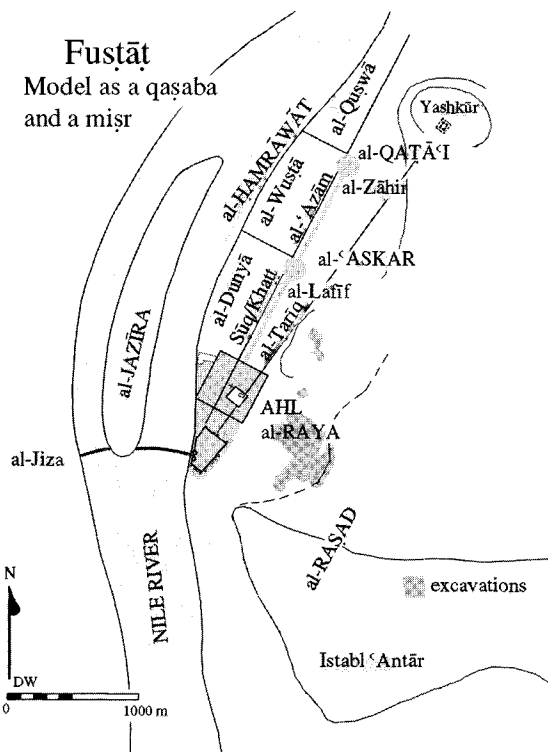


unpopulated, like the south and southwest of the Ḥaram al-Sharīf in Jerusalem.

This hypothetical reconstruction bears some similarity to that of early Fuṣṭāṭ, and an opportunity came three months later to explore the early Islamic foundation of Cairo. Fuṣṭāṭ was one of the first capital cities founded after the Muslim conquest and, like Basra, Kufa and other foundations, this settlement was a new location and not the modification of an older classical city (e.g., Alexandria). In order to examine the urban structure of Fuṣṭāṭ, one must look both backward and forward: on the one hand, toward archaeological origins in Arabia, and on the other, into the equally arcane later medieval literary topographies. While the extensive excavations present a “riddle,” as George Scanlon of the American University in Cairo has epitomized, the evidence suggests the key lies in the central district, the *khiṭṭa* known as the Ahl al-Raya. Within this area

Fuṣṭāṭ

Model as a qaṣaba and a miṣr



(ca. 400 × 400 m), bounded by the older fortification of Babylon and the monastery complex of Abū Ṣayfayn, one may postulate a town with elements not unlike those found in older Arabian cities.

This urban core expanded two times with the satellite towns of al-‘Askar in the eighth century and al-Qaṭā‘i in the ninth. One might consider this pattern as a possible Iranian urban form, as suggested for Qayṣarīya. The complexity of this urban history is amplified with the contextualization of the *khiṭṭāt* of Fustat. These were the tribal settlements, some thirty-five to forty in number, which spread over 5 km along the Nile. If the Ahl al-Raya might be considered as a *qaṣaba* or town, then what is the conglomeration of all the *khiṭṭāt* of Fustat, an expanse so large that it could contain two new *qaṣabāt*, al-‘Askar and al-Qaṭā‘i? One might suggest that al-Muqaddasī had found the most appropriate designation for this and other very large early Islamic foundations, the *miṣr* or metropolis. This term, which has been limited to the conception of a “garrison town” or cantonment, may be realized as an Umayyad solution, based on their South Arabian heritage, to the problem of structural organization of a very large Islamic city.

Arabian Origins

Evidence for an urban tradition in South Arabia was posited long ago and has found an increasing amount of archaeological support. This hypothesis was offered by Paul Wheatley as a challenge to archaeologists seeking the origins of the Islamic city:

“...new cities were founded, and it is among the earliest and largest of these, the so-called *amṣār*, that we might expect to discern, if anywhere, traces of Hijazi or more broadly Arabian urban traditions along with an incipient Islamic imprint.”¹

During a conference celebrating the work of Robert Braidwood some year ago, I constructed a sort of “dip-chart” which expresses the relationship of early Islamic urban foundations. The present research project has as its modest goal to augment the cities on this chart and, more importantly, delve into the structural and functional relationship implicit in this great urban tradition.

Early Islamic Urbanism

	Maghrib (N. Africa)	Miṣr (Egypt)	Shām (Syr.-Pal)	Arabia (Hijāz)	Jazīra (N. Mesop.)	‘Irāq (S. Mesop.)	‘Ajām (Iran)
740		‘Askar		Qurh	Raqqā	Baghdād	
				<i>Imperial Islamic Urbanism</i>			Rayy?
710			Ramla			Wāsiṭ	
680	Qayrawān		Qinnasrīn				Shirāz
			Jerusalem				Istakhr
650		Fuṣṭāt		Ayla	Moṣūl		
				Sanā‘a		Kūfā Basra	
				<i>Primary Islamic Urbanism</i>			
620				Madina			
				Southwest Arabia			

¹Wheatley, *The Places Where Men Pray Together*, pp. 263–69, including the “radical recent revisions” of Whitcomb, pp. 266–67.

RESEARCH

CAMEL

(CENTER FOR ANCIENT MIDDLE EASTERN LANDSCAPES)

Scott Branting

The Center for Ancient Middle Eastern Landscapes (CAMEL), or the Center for the Archaeology of the Middle Eastern Landscape as it was then known, was founded by Tony Wilkinson in 1998. In speaking of its origins Tony always described the small facility as his own little Bletchley Park. Both were places where a great deal of information and a collection of trained analysts could be brought together in one place to decipher the supposedly undecipherable. But instead of having hundreds of workers toiling away at cracking unbreakable military codes during the dark days of World War II, CAMEL was always a bit smaller and was focused on reconstructing and illuminating the long vanished landscapes of the ancient Near East.

Located down in the basement of the Oriental Institute, CAMEL is comprised of three to four graduate students working on three computers integrating within geographical information system (GIS) software a wealth of maps, survey data, aerial photographs and satellite data pertaining to the Near East. However, its impact, much like Bletchley Park, extends well beyond its four walls as can be seen detailed in previous *Annual Reports*. Among its numerous achievements was the development of the "Chicago Protocol" for integrating Cold War era declassified spy satellite photography into studies of the archaeology of the ancient Near East. It also served as the fertile seedbed from which the pioneering Modeling Ancient Settlement Systems (MASS) simulation project grew and continues to develop in conjunction with Argonne National Laboratory. The impact of CAMEL's existence has already been felt in a wide range of archaeological projects both here at the Oriental Institute and throughout the global research community.

In July of 2004 I was hired to oversee the continued development of CAMEL, and my first year in this position has seen a great deal of change. Among the more noticeable changes has been the transformation of the CAMEL facilities. Instead of a handful of computers the new CAMEL facility has grown to nine computers graciously housed in the lovely William M. Sumner Computer Laboratory on the second floor of the Oriental Institute (fig. 1). Each computer

is equipped with the latest GIS software from industry leaders ESRI and Leica/ERDAS as well as additional image processing and statistical software. Five scanners are available to users of the facility in order to scan in maps and other sources of data to be integrated within the GIS software. We have also begun negotiations with NSIT, the computer and information technology unit here on campus, to acquire an initial two terabytes of secure storage space to back up our existing holdings of digital data pertaining to the Near East as well as those that we will soon be acquiring.



Figure 1. New CAMEL facilities

The end result of these changes has been that CAMEL is much more publicly available to researchers in the Oriental Institute, and we have already seen these new facilities filled to capacity with those eager to use them in their own research projects.

Paralleling the expansion of the physical CAMEL facilities over this past year has been an expansion of CAMEL's vision. Yet our core dedication to applying innovative ways to explore Near Eastern landscapes and to making the variety of spatial data pertaining to these landscapes available to researchers remains the same. We are

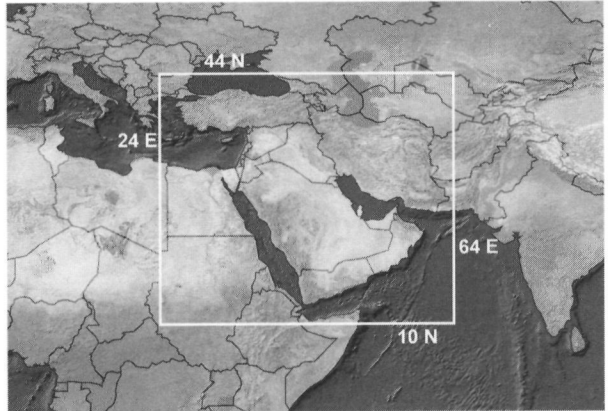


Figure 2. Area of CAMEL data collection

merely beginning to pursue these endeavors on an even larger scale, a scale that encompasses the entire Near East and all the Oriental Institute's projects (fig. 2). In doing this we will be better equipped to support the wide variety of research that the Oriental Institute undertakes and we will expand the global recognition that CAMEL enjoys while further enhancing the reputation of the Institute.

The collection and organization of various forms of spatial data are the backbone of CAMEL. We are well on our way to collecting and integrating within a single GIS framework a complete coverage of available spatial data from the Near East. This is not a little task by any means and will take a long-term focus and dedication to bring to fruition. But the Oriental Institute has always had a remarkable capacity to realize ambitious visions. The variety of data we are assembling and integrating includes: digital scans of maps and aerial photographs from the Institute's archives and collections, digital versions of additional maps and photographs available from other organizations and governments, spatial data collected over the years by Institute researchers during the course of their fieldwork, and data taken by satellites and manned space vehicles from the 1950s to the present.

One example of the sort of spatial data that we are acquiring is the CORONA images that have featured so prominently in prior work by CAMEL. These images, numbering in the hundreds of thousands, were taken from American spy satellites between 1959 and 1980 and were only declassified by President Clinton in 1996. In 1997 the Oriental Institute purchased its first of these declassified CORONA negatives, an image of Northern Syria taken in 1965, and Tony Wilkinson and I scanned it into a computer. As the digital version of the image appeared on the computer screen we were both amazed at the level of detail we could see as we zoomed in. There among the buildings, vehicles, and roadways in use on that day in 1965, were the mounded remains of ancient cities and villages as well as traces of ancient roadways and glimpses of the ancient landscape filling the areas between them (fig. 3). Many of these subtle traces of ancient features are no longer visible on the ground but have been destroyed by bulldozers and plows beneath sprawling cities, towns, and agricultural fields in the forty years since these images were taken. This ability to glimpse portions of the ancient landscape that no longer exist or which have been buried beneath modern sprawl make these CORONA images critical for reconstructing the full breadth of the ancient world.

Over the past eight years, since that day in 1997, the Oriental Institute and CAMEL have gone on to build up an impressive collection of some 290 CORONA images covering a large portion of the Nile Valley, Syria, Iraq and southeastern Turkey (fig. 4). This collection has al-

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Figure 3. *Portion of first CORONA image acquired by the Oriental Institute*

lowed numerous scholars and students to make use of these images in dozens of research projects and has encouraged researchers at other universities to use these images in their own research. The acquisition, processing, and use of these images has enhanced the reputation of the Oriental Institute in these fields and has placed it at the forefront of researchers working with this imagery for areas of the Middle East. Yet despite 290 images large portions of the Near East lie outside of our coverage including areas of the Levant, Arabia, Nubia, Iran, and Turkey. Each of these regions has seen past and present research by the Oriental Institute and each is critical to understanding the ancient Near East as a whole. Therefore we were very pleased this year, in the midst of the changes underway within CAMEL, that the Women's Board of the University of Chicago generously agreed to provide us with over \$20,000 to acquire and process an additional 300 CORONA images over the next two years. This acquisition will allow us to fill in significant portions of these so far excluded areas and will enable researchers to move virtually within the computer along a continuous landscape from the banks of the Nile to the peaks of the Taurus and Zagros Mountains and beyond (fig. 5). With smaller amounts of future funding CAMEL will also be well positioned to fill in the remaining gaps surrounding this significant core coverage of CORONA images in places such as the western desert of Egypt, the Persian Gulf, Turkey, and Iran.

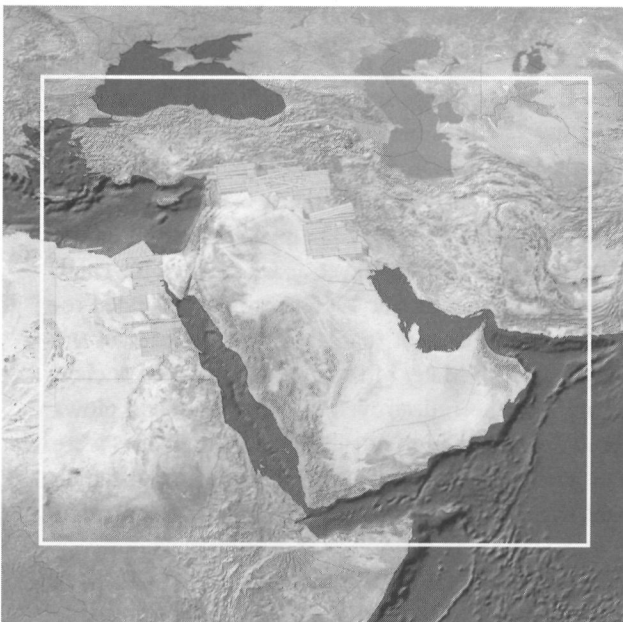


Figure 4. *Current coverage of CORONA images*

While the collection and storage of data such as this is an important function, CAMEL is more than just a data repository. CAMEL will continue to play an important role within the Oriental Institute in terms of both research and teaching. The broad scope of detailed data across the entire Near East, as well as the tools to analyze and visualize it, provide researchers and students the ability to grapple with numerous issues, particularly larger regional issues, in a manner that has never before been possible. To this end we have been active, even while expanding the physical facilities, in supporting the work of numerous projects and researchers located both here at the Oriental Institute and around the world. Some of these projects, such as McGuire Gibson's project mapping and monitor-

ing sites throughout Iraq, have provided funding to acquire new forms of contemporary high resolution data from the two major commercial satellite companies: Digital Globe and Space Imaging (fig. 6). We are very actively encouraging similar sorts of partnerships between CAMEL and its new and ongoing research projects.

At the same time CAMEL continues to be actively involved in teaching and training new generations of researchers. The CAMEL data and facilities play a major role two courses I teach each year, Ancient Landscapes I and II, and we hope to expand that support to other classes in the years ahead. This past year also saw the graduation of yet another doctoral student, Jason Ur, who was a part of CAMEL during his time here and whose dissertation incorporated the data and tools available through CAMEL. We wish Jason well as he is now off to Harvard in an Assistant Professor position that includes building a GIS laboratory and teaching a course focused on what he learned during his time at CAMEL.

As in years past, CAMEL could not have expanded or functioned without the assistance of several students and so far one volunteer. Carrie Hritz, who ran CAMEL between Tony's departure and my arrival, served most ably as Associate Director of CAMEL during this year. Robert Tate, a first year graduate student working with Donald Whitcomb, also played an instrumental role in the expansion of CAMEL alongside undergraduate work-study students Jessica Jarvinen and Alexandra Kelly. In addition we were most happy that Irv Diamond, a longtime Oriental Institute volunteer, provided us with numerous hours researching and developing ways to streamline the process of acquiring some new types of

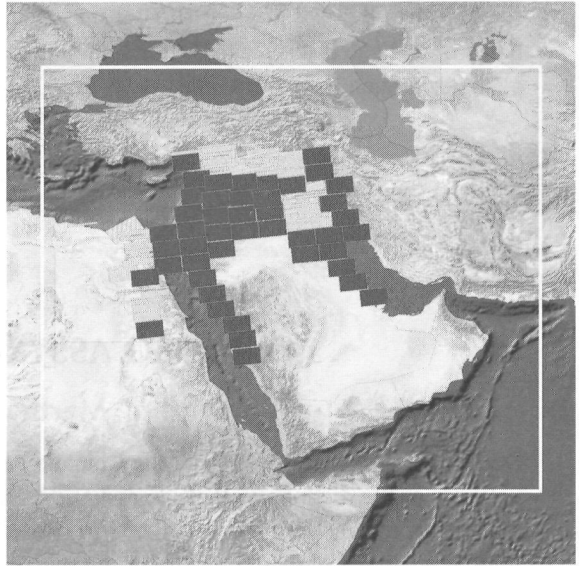


Figure 5. CORONA coverage with Women's Board grant

Nineveh Core Area



Compiled by the Global Heritage Fund Mapping Team 2005
0 0.250.5 1 1.5 Kilometers



Figure 6. Digital globe image of Nineveh

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satellite data that we hope to expand into in the year ahead. I wish to thank them all for their hours of dedicated service to CAMEL. Without their help it would be impossible to have accomplished so much in so little time.

CHICAGO ASSYRIAN DICTIONARY

Martha T. Roth

During the past year, the staff of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary worked on the four remaining volumes of the dictionary, P, T, 𐤔, and U/W. Editor-in-charge Martha T. Roth devoted much of the year to editing the final volume, U/W. Research Associate Jennie Myers and visiting scholar Joan Westenholz worked on solving the remaining problems and orphans in the volume. 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, and Matthew W. Stolper) and outside scholars Simo Parpola (University of Helsinki) and Klaas Veenhof (University of Leiden) completed their reading of the galleys for the 𐤔 volume. Roth and Myers incorporated their corrections and additions, and most of the galleys have been returned to the printer and set as pages.

The P volume was published in July 2005. Thomas Urban in the Publications Office oversaw the bids for printing and binding and we are grateful for his assistance throughout the final stages of publishing the volume. The other two volumes in press, T and 𐤔, will be published in late fall/early winter 2005/2006. During the year we were aided by graduate student Katie L. Johnson, whose exemplary editorial skills have made quick work of proofreading the P, T, and 𐤔 volumes.

Our able volunteers from the College Research Opportunities Program, Sara Cohen and Benjamin Gage, were of great assistance this year. Gage undertook to transfer notes from hundreds of books that were being returned to Regenstein, learning much about Assyriology in the process. Cohen did much of the inputting for the U/W volume, a time-consuming task as many of the drafts have lengthy handwritten corrections and additions that need to be incorporated. Gage began inputting when he finished his earlier project and we are deeply grateful to both of them for their help.

Much of the second half of the year was occupied by planning for the Fifty-first Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, the annual conference of Assyriologists and Near Eastern art historians and archaeologists hosted by the Oriental Institute July 18–22 in celebration of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary project. Chicago last hosted the Rencontre in 1967 when just over one hundred people attended. The 2005 Rencontre had over 300 registrants and involved massive amounts of planning. The organizing committee — Walter Farber, Jennie Myers, and Roth — planned for housing, feeding, and entertaining the international group of Assyriologists and their families, in addition to organizing the scholarly presentations. The conference was a building-wide event and everyone in the Oriental Institute graciously gave their time and expertise to help

make this an event we are all proud of. A complete report on the conference will be in next year's report.

CHICAGO DEMOTIC DICTIONARY

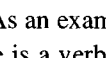


Janet H. Johnson and François Gaudard

The staff of the Chicago Demotic Dictionary Project spent the year doing the slow, painstaking work of proofreading and double-checking everything which goes to make up the Dictionary. François Gaudard and Jan Johnson worked extensively on the files for the letters Š (200 pages) and W (175), preparing and checking scans, references, and formatting, trying to resolve lingering problems of reading or translation and checking for consistency with citations already quoted in letter-files finished earlier. Both files, along with the expanded "Problematic Entries," which includes unresolved problems from these two files as well as from H (191 pages, currently awaiting publication on-line), are now ready to be submitted to the Publications Office for posting on the Oriental Institute Web site. Jacqueline Jay spent the year proofreading and double-checking the "Text Information" and bibliography files. The former is our listing (running 150 pages) of every text cited in the Dictionary, providing date and provenance as well as publication information. Both it and the bibliography file (a modest 100 pages) are crucial to the users' ability to track down our references, parallels, and citations. Megan Wells, an undergraduate in the College, volunteered her time to check every text citation in Š and W against the "Text Information" (TI) list to make sure we had included every text and that the date given for the text in the letter files agreed with the date given in "TI." She also checked every author citation in the letter files against the bibliography to make sure that we had the correct date and had used the agreed-upon abbreviation. This year for the first time in several years we also were able to hire three younger Egyptology students, Kayo Anthony, Kevin Johnson, and Elise McArthur, who prepared digital scans of published Demotic texts. Having the scans on hand should save us time as we move on to the next letter-file for checking and proofing and preparation of individual scans.

Sometimes the slowness of this process and the ease with which computer files can be updated work to our advantage. One of the first important long texts which we read, "carded," and included in the Dictionary is Papyrus Harkness, a six column mortuary text prepared for a young woman named Tanaweruaw, a member of a priestly family who was born, lived, and died in the Upper Egyptian town of Pernebut, near Qâw el-Kebir (Antaeopolis) in year 7 of the Roman Emperor Nero. Harkness was first published by Thomas J. Logan in the volume of studies presented to George R. Hughes. Logan included photographs of the text and made initial attempts at identifying the owner and her parents, but he did not publish a full transliteration and translation. Mark Smith, now Professor of Egyptology at Oxford, once Research Associate for the Dictionary, prepared such a transliteration and translation for the Dictionary and provided extensive notes on the reading and translation of vocabulary. These notes were all included on the cards for the individual words and were used in writing the hundreds of entries in the Dictionary that

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include words from P. Harkness. Smith has, over the past twenty years, published a number of important mortuary texts with extensive commentary. One of these, Papyrus British Museum 10507 (P. BM. 10507), contained almost an exact parallel for two of the columns of Harkness and Smith included the Harkness material in his publication of that text. When that publication appeared, we were able to add the examples from P. BM. 10507 and Smith's published commentary to the Dictionary files. Smith had planned to publish P. Harkness fully and properly and has done so this year. It was with great pleasure that we incorporated the references to his published discussions, replacing our earlier "in-house" discussions. Even the letter files which are "finished" and available on-line have been updated (the new files will eventually replace the old ones on-line).

Another source of new vocabulary for the Dictionary this year came from François, who finished his dissertation on a Demotic version of the story of Horus and Seth. There is much interesting vocabulary in this group of papyri, and François has very kindly included his discussions of many of the words in the Dictionary. As an example, consider the verb *prpr*  in Papyrus Berlin 8278a, lines 10 and 12. There is a verb *prpr*  attested in hieroglyphs from the Late Period, thus roughly contemporary with P. Berlin 8278a, which dates to the Ptolemaic period. That verb has been translated "to jump around" or "to run to and fro." Coptic has a verb **ΦΟΡΠΕΡ** which means "to open, to loosen" or "to be open." Various scholars (e.g., Takács in his recent *Etymological Dictionary of Egyptian* [volume 2, pp. 479–80], following Vycicyhl in his etymological dictionary of Coptic) have assumed that there must be an earlier Egyptian verb *prpr* with this meaning "to loosen, to open, to be open." But until now such a verb has not been attested before Coptic. In the story of Horus and Seth, the verb *prpr* occurs in a dialogue between the "men of Horus" and the "men of Seth" (since this story is a drama, perhaps these are two choruses). The god Seth has been captured and his men are asking the team of Horus to set him free. The meaning is confirmed in line 12 where the imperative *prpr* is glossed *hꜣꜥ pꜣy* "That means, 'Set free!'" This identification of the verb *prpr* with the meaning "to open, to loosen, to be open" in this Ptolemaic Demotic example is important in the analysis of the verb *prp*  attested in an early Demotic text (P. Rylands 9, 20/5). The original editor translated *prp* "to (be) despise(d)," rejecting any connection with Coptic **ΦΟΡΠΕΡ**. But the German scholar Vittmann, who recently re-edited this major text, has argued that it should be seen as an antecedent of the Coptic (the loss of the final consonant in a reduplicated biliteral is attested in other words as well). He suggested *prp* was being used figuratively and translated it "auflösen" (to loosen, to unravel, to resolve), a translation supported by the example from P. Berlin 8278a.

CHICAGO HITTITE DICTIONARY

Theo van den Hout

The best news of this past year for the Chicago Hittite Dictionary (CHD) was the renewed grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for the period 2005–2007. We are extremely grateful for the Endowment's ongoing show of confidence and support which is a major incentive for all of us to continue on the path towards our final goal.

Another high point was the submission of the material for the second fascicle of the Š-volume to the Publications Office after having incorporated all comments of our outside consultants Craig Melchert (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) and Gernot Wilhelm (Julius-Maximilians-Universität in Würzburg, Germany). Also, the entire team took part in reading the material before sending it off for publication. This fascicle will finish all words starting with *ša-* and give users the beginning of those starting in *še-/ši-* (we do not distinguish between *e* and *i*). Meanwhile, editors Harry Hoffner and Theo van den Hout are well under way with the rest of the *še-/ši-* words establishing final drafts for the next installment. There are always surprises in this process: words that apparently fell through the cracks of our file cabinets for which no draft had been written or, much more exciting, new words that have to be incorporated at the last moment. This happened to the numeral "1." Our Dutch colleague Petra Goedegebuure who visited the dictionary project in November 2002 (see the *2002/2003 Annual Report*) was able to identify with the help of our files the Hittite word for "1." She presented this find at a conference late in 2003 and kindly sent us her manuscript which will be published this year. Thus far Hittitologists had not recognized this word because Hittite texts almost always use the numerical symbol which, like our number 1, is a simple vertical wedge: Υ . This is the normal practice: Υ = 2, III = 3, Ψ = 4, etc. Rarely do Hittite scribes spell the numeral out letter for letter which is why we cannot count from one to ten in Hittite. Sometimes we can deduce what a numeral must have been in an indirect way. For example, there is a word *šaptamenzu* (see our first fascicle of the Š volume) which means "sevenfold" that clearly contains *šaptam* which must have been the word for "7," reminiscent of Latin *septem* and English *seven*. Goedegebuure was now able to show that the word *šia-*, which we had always thought was a demonstrative pronoun ("this one") actually means "one, single."

Meanwhile, our Research Associates Richard Beal and Oğuz Soysal continued writing words for the next volume, the letter T, bringing us close to the end of the many words starting with *ta-*. Unfortunately for us — although we are also proud — Oğuz spent March through June as Visiting Assistant Professor at Bilkent University in Ankara teaching Hittite in both his and the Hittites' homeland. Staff member Kathleen Mineck together with van den Hout worked on the upkeep of our files transliterating newly published texts and incorporating them into our files. She coordinated student work and also oversaw the expansion of our photo collection. Besides printed photos, the latter now also includes the first digital photos of Hittite (and Hurrian) fragments present in the Oriental Institute (with thanks to Geoff Emberling, Jean Grant, and Tom James). This was triggered by a request from our French colleague Marie-Claude Trémouille, working in Rome, who had found that one of the Oriental Institute fragments physically joined another small piece that was found in Boğazköy in 1967 and is presently in the Ankara Museum. Those pieces are not very likely to ever come together again, so photos are the only way to check whether the two fragments indeed match. Other photos now digitally included in our collection involve a series of cuneiform letters found in the 1970s at Maşat Höyük, a small Hittite border town dating between 1400–1200 B.C. and some fifty miles from Boğazköy. Harry

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Hoffner had taken photos of these several years ago in the museum in Ankara but they had never been added to our collection. Kathleen has scanned them and they are now accessible for the CHD staff on our server.

A lot of time was invested in refining the electronic version of our P volume, the pilot letter of the eCHD. Under the spirited guidance of programmer Sandy Schloen our students Dennis Campbell and Edward Stratford have become real computer specialists! Although the eCHD has been accessible for about a year now through the Oriental Institute's Web site, there was still ample room for improvement. The most significant enhancement has been the addition of data-entry features which provide a rich set of tools in the on-line environment for entering new dictionary entries or editing existing ones. This tool set was used extensively to edit the P volume, which had earlier been imported and tagged automatically. The automated import process could not achieve complete accuracy when attempting to tag so rich a set of semi-structured data as the Chicago Hittite Dictionary. Manual editing using these new on-line tools was, therefore, performed in conjunction with proofreading to correct the inconsistencies and errors derived from the automated import. This process of importing and tagging, followed by on-line editing and proofreading, will be repeated in the coming year with material from the volume containing the letters L–N. Last year's report told how we were in the course of getting this older material scanned and corrected, made possible through a generous gift from Mr. Howard Hallengren. This has now been completed and it is ready to be processed just as P was.

Along with data entry of the core dictionary content, we also have added the ability to enter, organize, and link to supplementary or supporting data such as bibliographic details or external resources such as images. This information can be displayed together with the core content, enriching the information available to the scholar or student reading or searching the dictionary on-line. Another major step towards improving the eCHD involved upgrading the query facility to



The Hittites Director Tolga Örnek (left) with Prof. Harry Hoffner (center) and volunteer Irv Diamond at the reception prior to the movie

use a new query “engine” based on the latest “XML Query” (XQuery) specification promulgated by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C). This will greatly enhance the possibilities, which we have already begun to explore, for performing powerful searches of the underlying eCHD data in the XML-structured database.

The guest of honor this year was Tolga Örnek (see photo) the Turkish director of the film *The Hittites* which had its Chicago premiere on November 11. With the Turkish consul Dr. Naci Koru and his wife and children present, Tolga introduced the film to a standing-room only audience in Breasted Hall, with people watching from the lobby and the projection booth. This wonderful documentary film, narrated by Jeremy Irons, was the perfect occasion to highlight Hittite culture and civilization — and to pitch the Hittite Dictionary project to a large audience.

Another guest was Dr. Ada Taggar-Cohen, an Israeli Hittitologist and assistant professor at Doshisha University in Kyoto, Japan. During her visit in early November she consulted our files and did further research on her specialty of priests and priesthood in the Hittite kingdom and empire.

Finally, with a look to the near future, the Oriental Institute this year agreed to host the annual conference of the Dictionary Society of North America (DSNA) in 2007. With our track record of dictionary projects one might say that having this gathering in Chicago was long overdue. On the other hand, given the average age of our projects we could afford to wait some time!

DIYALA PROJECT

Clemens D. Reichel

Over the years I have learned that every type of work is associated with its own set of sounds. As I walk through the Oriental Institute's basement, I have learned to tell them apart even with closed eyes. Over at the window, the humming of two scanners reports the ongoing scanning of field negatives. On the table to the other side the ruffling of paper — old notebook pages, which have turned yellow over time — reflects the indexing of field notes in progress. A faint clicking sound from the photography lab relates that yet another cuneiform tablet — unpublished and mostly unstudied — has been photographed. Perhaps the most indistinguishable sound is the faint scratching of a pen, revealing that objects, laid out carefully on a tray, are being examined and described. These noises occasionally intermingle into a somewhat dissonant symphony. To me, however, it rivals the sound of the sweetest music I can listen to. It is the sound of work in progress.

It is spring 2005 and work at the Diyala Project is indeed going well. Morale is high and both staff members and volunteers are highly motivated. There is good reason — last fall the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) announced that the Diyala Project had been awarded a \$100,000 grant for 2005–2007 from its “Recovering Iraq’s Past” Initiative. For the first time in years, money is not a constraining factor — we can buy the equipment that we need and hire extra staff.

It could not have happened at a better time because the project had been growing substantially over the past few years in its scope and objectives, but its budget had not. As I outlined in last year's report, storage space for the vast amount of digital data that we were producing had become a key issue that needed to be addressed. For quite a while I simply had to ignore demands for faster machines, more disk space, and new software and resort to temporary solutions that often felt like band-aids, a situation all too well-known in academia, especially in the humanities. The world of computers and databases, while substantially increasing efficiency in data management and data storage, is also unforgiving to mistakes. Improper backup procedures can result in substantial if not complete loss of data, which had been assembled so painstakingly over the past ten years. Over the past few years we had a few close calls and dramatic situations but thankfully our “band-aids” held and we never suffered any catastrophic loss of data. It was clear, though, that we were tempting our fortune — the time had come to introduce data storage

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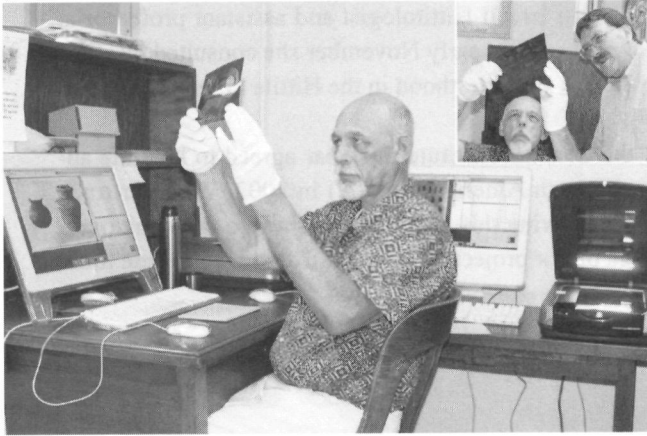


Figure 1. DIGITAL GROUND ZERO: Surrounded by two computers and two scanners at his work station in the museum basement, Robert Wagner examines a large format negative (object photograph taken during the Diyala expedition in the 1930s) for scratches and dust particles. Top right: Robert Wagner and Museum Archivist John Larson discussing a Diyala negative with multiple objects

standards in the Diyala Project that would withstand more much serious challenges. Data storage was only one of the challenges we were facing — virtually all of our equipment needed to be replaced and our software needed to be updated. The NEH grant allowed us to get serious about this.

Before talking about the excitement of the last year, let me briefly recapitulate what the Diyala Project is all about. Visitors to the Oriental Institute Museum who have seen the new Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery may well be aware that many of the votive statues, stone vessels, votive plaques, cylinder seals, jewelry items, metal vessels, or terra-cotta plaques on display are from the Diyala

excavations — unearthed by the Oriental Institute’s Diyala expedition between 1930 and 1938 from palaces, temples, and private houses at the sites of Tell Agrab, Tell Asmar, Ishchali, and Khafaje. The Diyala material not only produced many of the highlights in this gallery but also many objects that illustrate aspects of cult, religion, kingship, daily life, raw material procurement, and manufacturing.

Many visitors to the gallery would be surprised to hear that only a fraction of this material has been published almost seventy years after the end of the excavations. Between 1938 and 1990 five volumes appeared on the Diyala architecture and four volumes on key artifact classes (sculpture, cylinder seals, pottery), but the bulk of the finds — some 15,000 objects — remained unpublished. According to the excavators’ publication plan, most of these items were to be included in a future volume called *Miscellaneous Finds from the Diyala Region*. It is perhaps fortunate that this volume never appeared under that title, for a large number of these finds — which include stone vessels, metal vessels, jewelry, tools, weapons, toys, cosmetic sets, weights, figurines, inlays, cylinder and stamp seals, clay sealings, and some 1,200 cuneiform tablets — are now part of our exhibit in the Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery and hence truly deserve better than to be classified as “miscellaneous.”

A major obstacle to publishing these artifacts was presented by the enormous size of this corpus — how does one publish 15,000 objects in one book? How many illustrations could be included for each object? Certain objects (such as sculptured items) required multiple views and close-ups. A richly illustrated volume would have been prohibitively expensive, making compromises on the choice of illustrations inevitable. Such restrictions would have reduced the overall usability of such a volume and raised the question whether it could be considered a comprehensive, “final” publication.

It was the advent of the desktop computer and affordable database applications that finally put such an endeavor into the realm of possibilities. In 1992 McGuire Gibson launched the Diyala Miscellaneous Object Publication Project. Between 1992 and 1996 students entered object descriptions from field registers and catalog cards into a database. At first, data entry was done in “flat,” tabular form, but soon we started to appreciate the virtues of a relational database

layout, which allowed us to enter multiple value items, such as materials, systematically and in a searchable way, without footnotes or cross references that would have to be looked up manually. We were fortunate that in the year 2000, when the data layout was becoming too complex for our academically trained minds, George Sundell joined us a volunteer. Having recently retired from his job as data architect for a local phone company, George revamped and substantially revised our data structure, which had grown organically and hence somewhat unsystematically over the years, depending on our own knowledge and abilities. In 2002 he started to build a new database layout using Oracle as database backend; since 2003 we have been populating this database with the Diyala Project's data. As reported in previous *Annual Reports*, we often were forced to rethink the logic behind our data layout. As someone who enjoys games involving basic logic I was intrigued by many innovative and unconventional ideas that George came up with. While George had taken classes in archaeology and anthropology at Indiana University and in fact had participated in numerous excavations in the U.S. and England, his professional background involved the creation of industry standard databases. "Bending" archaeological provenance data, which often had been recorded in great detail but unsystematically by the excavators, into a hierarchical "master layout" — as had originally been our plan (and one that probably would have been shared and accepted by many other colleagues in the field of archaeology), was a no-no for George. As described in more details in our *Annual Reports* from 2002/2003 and 2003/2004, George managed to create a layout that allowed a highly systematic entry of this data. In such situations I frequently had to unlearn what I had learned about data structuring in the past ten years. I had to rid myself of views on the nature, structure, and logical layout of archaeological data, views I had never questioned before but now found impossible to explain in logical flow charts and therefore difficult to maintain.

In short, working with a professional data expert put the on-line publication of the Diyala materials on a solid, well-defined, and sustainable base. As we worked on this material over the years our perception of what we were going to achieve with this publication changed as well. At first we had planned to disseminate the Diyala data on CDs. With the development of the Internet and ever-increasing modem speeds it soon became clear that an on-line, Web-based publication was by far a better way to go. A Web-based publication would be free to the user and, in the absence of printing costs, objects could be illustrated as lavishly as needed. Most importantly, by publishing this data in a backend database we will be able to pass this data on to the user in a dynamic, searchable form, providing not only a publication but also a research tool to query it. Soon we realized the pointlessness of restricting an on-line Diyala publication to the "miscellaneous" objects. A user of the Diyala on-line database will be interested in an integrated view of all Diyala material, irrespective of its publication history. Major items of sculpture, cylinder seals, and pottery had been published previously in book format, but forcing a user to



Figure 2. EARLIER ATTEMPT AT DIGITIZING Diyala field photographs during the 1990s were limited to the scanning of photographic prints. This photograph, showing a modern impression of a seal with combat between lions, goats, and a bullman as seal scene (from Khafaje, date ca. 2500 B.C.; Iraq Museum, possibly stolen), was scanned from a contact print made of the negative. Though adequate as a 1:1 reproduction, the process of copying from negative to positive has resulted in a severe loss of detail, limiting the allowable scanning resolution and therefore impacting the quality of the digital image

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Figure 3. SCANS OF ORIGINAL NEGATIVES are able to capture the grain of the original negative, allowing a much higher scanning resolution and resulting sharper, balanced images. The seal impression shown here is a negative scan of the same image as figure 2, where it is shown as a scan from a print. The increase in quality of print-versus-negative scan is immediately apparent. Below: close-up (location indicated by a white box in the full view of the seal impression) shows the detail captured in negative scans

“reunite” the data from print and on-line publications seemed pointless and unhelpful. We therefore included all previously published objects in the database as well.

Our perception of what should be included in this database kept on growing, especially as we kept on working on the objects’ archaeological provenance. Following the looting of the Iraq Museum (which sadly also affected the Diyala materials housed in it) in April 2003 and the ongoing wholesale destruction of Iraq’s archaeological sites by plundering them for antiquities, the importance (and increased scarcity) of objects from Iraq whose archaeological provenance can be properly established, and which therefore can be meaningfully integrated into Mesopotamia’s material and cultural history, has become more than painfully clear. At present the Diyala material remains one of the largest archaeological collections from controlled excavations, justifying the extra attention we paid to its archaeological findspots. Once more, my own understanding of how to structure and enter this data was put to a test. While the physical description of an object can be checked and improved if the object itself is available for verification, the description of its archaeological context would be difficult if not impossible to evaluate or correct. These descriptions are based on an archaeologist’s observation in the field, which can never be repeated. Object provenances often were noted in multiple documents, including object catalog cards, field registers, narrative descriptions of an archaeological context in a field notebook, or as a mark in a sketch or plan. The notes could repeat, complement, but occasionally also contradict each other. While contradictions can often be cleared up by identifying a mistake among the available entries, one cannot always come to authoritative conclusions. With the last of the excavators having passed away several years ago we can make informed suggestions based on the material available to us but, needless to say, we can be wrong. The fact that our present day Diyala crew in Chicago may be unable to explain a contradiction in the field notes, however, does not necessarily mean that a user elsewhere in the world cannot. We therefore decided to make all entries for an object’s provenance available, especially those that we do not understand ourselves or are unable to reconcile with other entries.

This decision had a much further-reaching impact than we had anticipated. We had to dig much deeper into the Diyala archival material than we ever had planned. In the Diyala recording



Figure 4. DIGGING OLD DAYBOOKS: While scanning original field notes in the background (here a field diary from Tell Asmar), Karen Terras has also begun to transcribe the notebook entries into the text files and to compile an index of keywords for future database searches

system, archaeological findspots are mostly described on “locus cards” (“locus” being the basic unit of excavations in the Diyala recording system, mostly synonymous with a room or other architectural spaces). These cards are essentially forerunners to our modern-day locus or context sheets; the data they provide may include narrative locus descriptions (often in dated sequences), lists of features within loci, elevations taken, relative dates (stratigraphic or stylistic) or absolute dates (year formulae on tablets, ruler names on seals or in seal impressions), photograph numbers, object lists, and pottery types. But many detailed descriptions are also found in excavation diaries, letters, sketches, marked up on photographs and even on field plans, all of which are stored in the Oriental Institute’s Museum Archives. Some of us, including myself, have had the benefit of working with these original field notes during our dissertation research and therefore could come up with conclusions that often differed considerably from those published by the excavators in their final publication volumes. This situation exposed another crux of book publications — an excavation summary in a book usually represents a tiny fraction of the information originally gathered in the field. Moreover, these summaries represent one interpretation perceived to be the correct one at a certain time after the end of the excava-

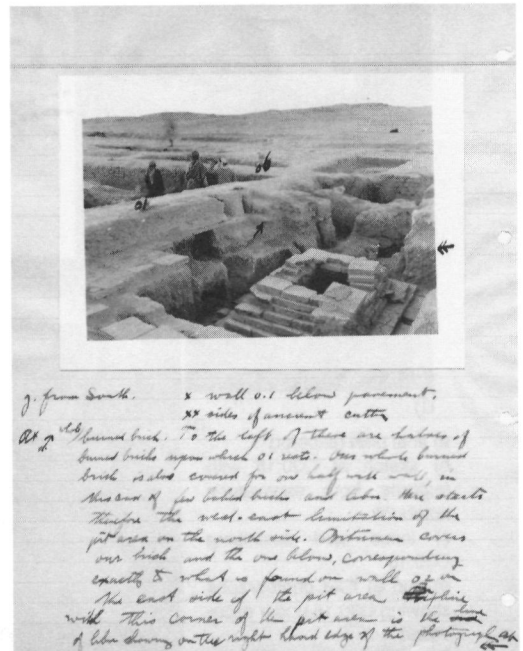


Figure 5. HANDWRITTEN FIELD NOTES provide multiple challenges as shown in this page, taken from Henri Frankfort’s field diary for the Palace of the Rulers at Tell Asmar (1930/1931). Handwritten notes often show crossed out or partially overwritten parts, making it difficult to decide what constitute the “authoritative” text. Photographs glued into these notebooks were often annotated to help with the visualization of the narrative; for the Virtual Archive these photographs need to be identified, described, and cross-referenced with field negatives

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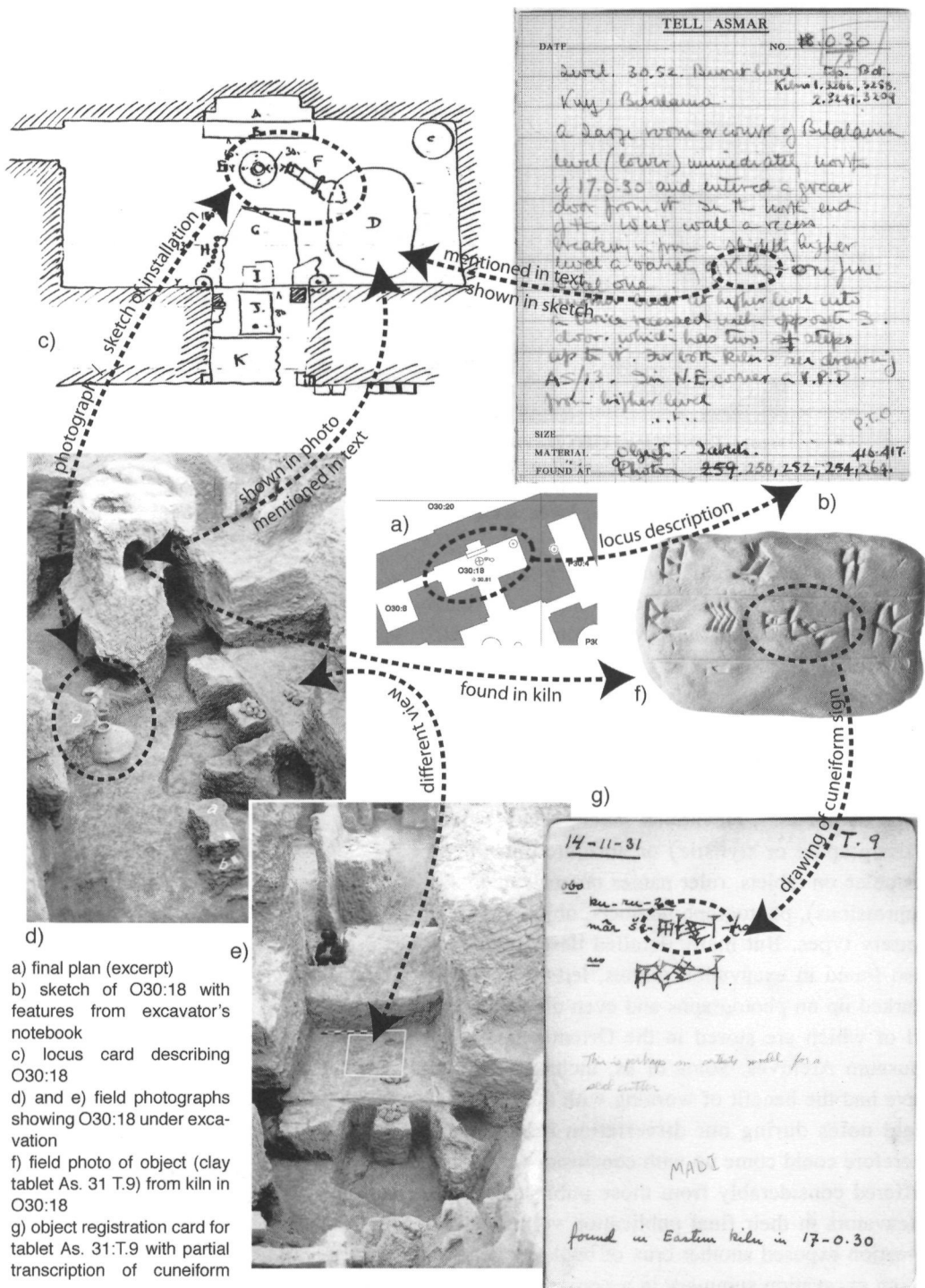


Figure 6. ORIGINAL FIELD RECORDS LINKED AND RELATED. This figure, showing information from notebooks, catalog cards, field and object photographs of O30:18 (the cella of a temple from Tell Asmar), provides an example of how information pertaining to one particular archaeological context can be searched in a relational database



Figure 7. DIGITAL TABLET PHOTOGRAPHY: *In the Oriental Institute's Photography Lab, Betsy Kremers examines one of 1,500 unpublished clay tablets from Tell Asmar to determine optimal lighting for the photographs. These tablets are among thousands of previously unpublished archaeological objects that will be made available with the Diyala on-line database*

tion — they do not reveal thought processes that led to the development of this interpretation and usually do not refer to dissenting viewpoints. As indicated before, a book publication requires tough compromises — every extra page, every extra plan or photo adds to the price of the publication. Items not considered to be relevant to the summary of an excavation will therefore most likely never be mentioned in print. In other words, only a tiny and sometimes unpredictable part of what constitutes an excavation archive will ever be published. In Chicago we have access to the Diyala Archive, but this is an advantage that no one else in the rest of the world shares. Without knowing what is in it an outside scholar would find it hard if not impossible to request access to a particular item even if he came to Chicago. The only way to provide full access to all this material is the creation of an on-line “Virtual Archive” that would be available to everyone.

But just what exactly was “access for everyone” supposed to mean? Initially we considered transcribing all field records for Web publication. But this was easier said than done — just like modern-day field diaries, records from the 1930s consisted of handwritten notes (parts of which may be difficult to read or illegible) that often were interjected with sketches and glued in photographs; both sketches and photos could also be annotated. Typing up such notes in a way that faithfully mirrored the originals proved difficult if not impossible. We realized that the only faithful and honest way of reproducing such data is to scan the originals. Such a procedure, however, is time-consuming, labor-intensive, and uses a lot of disk space.

Which brings me back to my walk through the basement mentioned at the beginning of this report. There is one thing I learned during my years at the Oriental Institute: if you cannot afford to pay someone to work for you, ask him (or her) to do it for free. In this respect I have been more than lucky with my volunteer force, which at this point consists of a four-person squad (including George Sundell). So here are the people behind the sounds of work mentioned at the beginning of this report:

Robert Wagner (fig. 1) joined the Diyala Project in spring of 2004. A retired translator (German-to-English) he initially transcribed and translated field registers and notebooks that Conrad Preusser, a German archaeologist who in 1930 headed the excavations at Khafaje, had kept in German (see Diyala Project in *Annual Report 2003/2004*). Once this job was completed, he

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started scanning cards, field records and, between May and December of 2004, worked himself through some 4,800 object catalog cards and 1,990 locus cards, many of them annotated on both sides. It was largely during this time that we defined what we now consider to be our “digital archival standard” for paper scans — a color scan had to be at a sufficiently high resolution (400–800 dpi) and to be saved in uncompressed format (TIFF). By December of 2004 Robert was ready to tackle the next big challenge: the scanning of all original Diyala field negatives. At an earlier time, before negative scanners were more commonly available, we had scanned whatever photographic prints we had of these negatives, but these scans were fairly mediocre in quality (fig. 2). Most of these prints were contact prints from negatives and had a much coarser grain than the negatives. Scanning them at any resolution higher than 300 dpi proved to be pointless — not a satisfying standard when trying to obtain digital facsimiles. Test scans of the negatives, by contrast, which vary in size but average around 5×7 inches, indicated that the film grain was not to going to be visible at resolutions below 2,000 dpi. This represented a gigantic increase in quality (fig. 3) but also in technological requirements and disk storage space. Thankfully, large-format transparency scanners have become much more affordable in the past few years. Registrar Raymond D. Tindel kindly provided a table in the museum’s basement area for a computer and a scanner. By early January, Robert had started to scan the first negatives of 1,800 object photographs and over 1,900 archaeological site photographs from the Diyala excavations. Scanning negatives at a high resolution (we settled for 2,400 dpi) takes time, sometimes up to fifteen minutes per scan. Robert found himself making more progress in reading the *Fall of the Roman Empire* than in producing actual scans. We soon decided to have him double-task — we bought another computer and another scanner, turning his basement space into a scanning mission control center. This certainly did speed things up. Robert has so far scanned all available negatives from Tell Agrab, Tell Asmar, and Ishchali and is now working on those from Khafaje. He estimates that he will be done with all of them by the end of this year, which would be a lot faster than I ever expected this to take.

Karen Terras (fig. 4) joined the Diyala Project in May 2004. A veteran of the Iraq Museum Database Project she already had considerable experience in data entry, editing, and scanning. Almost immediately Karen threw herself into scanning excavation diaries and notebooks. Once more, this required some planning, since we decided to scan at a resolution that could be considered as archival quality (at least 400–600 dpi). As in the case of locus and object cards, subsequent color pencil annotations on many pages required these notebooks to be scanned in color to ensure that each of these paper trails could be followed in the digital copy as well (fig. 5). In addition to scanning notebooks, Karen also started to read them for content. It was all well and good to have scans of all the pages, but how was anyone to find anything in them if there was no index for their data? Before creating indices, however, it was necessary to identify indexable items and to compile them in a list — a much trickier order than it may sound at first because how is one to know if in the twentieth notebook an item that was ignored in the first nineteen notebooks will be considered worth indexing? Over the past twelve months Karen not only scanned about 100 notebooks and collected key search items from them, but also successfully transcribed several of them word by word. This will be an added benefit for the user, who will not only have a digital facsimile of the original but also a fully searchable text-based version of these notebooks for which each word, whether indexed by Karen or not, can be found. An example for a possible search is illustrated in figure 6.

Mostly unaffected by Robert and Karen’s scanning Olympics, Betsy Kremers has been working steadily since 1998 in the basement as the project’s photographer (fig. 7), taking pictures of Diyala objects at the Oriental Institute which either had not been photographed at all or needed

better photographs. Originally we used a 35 mm camera with black-and-white film, which was subsequently scanned. In 2003, we switched to a digital SLR, which gives us instant control over the quality of images and also allows us to create color digital images. There is no single program step that could tell me right now how many times exactly in the past seven years Betsy pushed the camera's release button, however the database has logged over 6,000 new scanned black-and-white images between 1998 and 2003 and over 1,000 digital images since 2003.

The intense scanning work of Robert and Karen worsened the project's space crunch that I had lamented earlier on, but thanks to our NEH grant we are now able to face this challenge. Three new one terabyte drives (one terabyte = 1,000 gigabytes) have solved all of our storage problems for now. With prices for storage media coming down more and more there really is no reason any more to compromise on scanning quality. In this context, I am happy to report that I finally have a helping hand in the administration of the project. In late April, Alexandra ("Ali") Witsell joined the Diyala Project as a student assistant. Ali, who is a graduate student of Mesopotamian archaeology, has taken over all backup routines for scans but soon will also start analytical work on specific artifact classes towards her Ph.D. dissertation on Diyala material. I am hopeful that Ali's future work will continue to highlight the research potential found in the Diyala material.

By June next year, the Diyala Object database should finally go live on-line. But this will not be the end of our work. Over the next few years, we will continue to make additions and corrections, and we are presently seeking funding to finance the creation of the Virtual Diyala Archive on-line that I described earlier on in this report. The worst thing about creating an on-line database as a final publication is also its greatest asset — it will never be finished. This means that the Diyala material will probably haunt me for the rest of my life, but it also makes it possible to post updates and to include new results in the database almost immediately.

This year I wish to express particular thanks to Raymond D. Tindel, who has been and continues to be a more than gracious host to the Diyala volunteers working in the museum basement. Thanks also to John Larson, who kindly made the Diyala material available to us for scanning, and who on countless occasions lent his own expertise. As in previous years, the Diyala Project has received additional financial support from numerous individuals, whose generosity is gratefully acknowledged here. In particular I wish to thank an anonymous supporter for a generous donation that made a substantial refurbishment of my office possible. With new computer tables and bins on the wall, my office now comfortably accommodates three people (George Sundell, Ali Witsell, and myself). Finally, I want give a heartfelt thanks to George, Robert, Karen, and Betsy, the volunteers who have become the heart and soul of this project. Without their selfless input a project of this size would never be possible at the available budget, and their continued enthusiasm remains an inspiration to all of us.

EPIGRAPHIC SURVEY

W. Raymond Johnson

On April 15, 2005, the Oriental Institute's Epigraphic Survey completed its eighty-first, six-month field season in Luxor, Egypt. What follows is the report on our activities at Medinet Habu Temple and Luxor Temple from October 15, 2004 through April 15, 2005.

Medinet Habu Small Amun Temple: Epigraphic Documentation

With the completion of the epigraphic recording in the six inner chambers and sanctuary façade for the forthcoming publication *Medinet Habu IX, The Eighteenth Dynasty Temple, Part 1: The Inner Sanctuaries* (sixty-four facsimile drawings total), epigraphers J. Brett McClain, Harold Hays, and Jen Kimpton and artists Margaret De Jong and Susan Osgood devoted almost the entire season to work in the ambulatory and bark shrine and on the Eighteenth Dynasty temple façade. A review of the documentation of the inscribed wall, architrave, and pillar surfaces of that area made us realize that there is far too much material for a single volume, which was the original plan. The decision to divide the remaining portions of the core temple into two volumes determined the focus of this season, with an emphasis on completing the drawings for *Medinet Habu X, The Eighteenth Dynasty Temple, Part 2: The Bark Sanctuary Ambulatory* as soon as possible, although work on *Medinet Habu XI, The Eighteenth Dynasty Temple, Part 3: The Bark Sanctuary* continued at the same time.



Figure 1. Epigraphic Survey professional staff 2004/2005

Breakdown of the facsimile drawings in various stages of the Chicago House process worked on this season is as follows:

Penciling completed:	Eighteen drawing enlargements
Inking completed:	Ten drawing enlargements
Collation Completed:	Twenty-six drawings
Transfer Check Completed:	Eight drawings
Director Check Completed:	Ten drawings
Total drawings worked on during the season:	Seventy-two

Tina Di Cerbo assisted by Richard Jasnow continued the documentation, mapping, translation, and interpretation of the graffiti throughout the Medinet Habu complex, primarily in the mortuary temple of Ramesses III and the small Amun temple. Tina also continued working on a series of digital key plans recording the exact locations of all the graffiti in the precinct.

Conservation, Excavation, and Documentation

Medinet Habu conservators Lotfi Hassan, Adel Aziz, and Nahed Samir worked on site from October 18, 2005 until April 12, 2005. During this time they finished the cleaning of the painted reliefs of the sanctuary façade of the Eighteenth Dynasty temple and replaced old restoration infill where the stone surface is missing. This area was covered with a thin film of dirt and in some upper sections over the doorways with a greasy black residue from medieval burning. Cleaning methods included poulticing with Sepiolite to extract salts and moisture, and chemical cleaning with Butylamine to remove the greasy stains and encrustations. Old cement infilling was removed manually and replaced with hydraulic lime and sandstone powder mortar infill.

This season the conservators started a major consolidation program of the sanctuary's exterior ground level block courses which have been showing increasing signs of decay (loss of stone surface and fracturing) due to corrosive ground water salts. They consolidated deteriorating exterior wall blocks on the southwestern side of the sanctuary (to the corner of the platform) and on the northern interior Ptolemaic wall adjacent to the Kushite Pylon to the east. Debris against the southwestern wall area was removed 1 m out and 1 m down for several meters along the wall to better expose the decayed areas for treatment. (This part of the small Amun temple was excavated and reburied in the 1930s by the University of Chicago under the direction of Uvo Hölscher, and is published in *The Excavation of Medinet Habu Volume 2: The Temples of the Eighteenth Dynasty* (Oriental Institute Publications 41, Chicago, 1939). This season the walls were cleaned, and block sections which had become detached because of the decay were removed and consolidated with acrylic emulsion (primal AC33) diluted 1:1 in H₂O and were afterward re-affixed to the consolidated wall.



Figure 2. Atum holding life to the nose of Thutmose III; Medinet Habu small Amun temple ambulatory (MHB 109). Facsimile drawing by Susan Osgood. Photo by Yarko Kobylecky

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Figure 3. Epigraphic copying at the small Amun temple, Medinet Habu; artist Margaret De Jong and epigrapher J. Brett McClain. Photo by Ray Johnson

Surface consolidation treatment included injection with acrylic emulsion and infilling with hydraulic lime and sandstone powder. The two areas of treatment were roped off to protect them from further damage, and the consolidation will continue next season.

The Naos Room

In the back Naos Room artist Margaret De Jong, senior epigrapher Brett McClain, and I finished the collation of the red-painted inscription of Ptolemy IX on the red-granite naos, after which stone cutter Dany Roy erected heavy steel scaffolding, winched the five-ton naos across the room to the opposite (east) side, and secured it in place. This naos was not an original part of the Eighteenth Dynasty sanctuary, but had been inserted in the chamber by taking down the back wall since it was larger than the doorways. Once the naos was moved, photographer Yarko Kobylecky took large-format condition photographs of the back west wall of the sanctuary which had not been fully exposed for more than

2,000 years. Archaeologist Lisa Giddy assisted by Egyptologist Tina Di Cerbo carefully excavated and recorded the subsided foundations of the naos in preparation for a new foundation and restoration of the stone floor in that area. They found eight carefully laid courses of small, sometimes reused, sandstone slabs (two of them Coptic) and baked brick going down almost a meter.

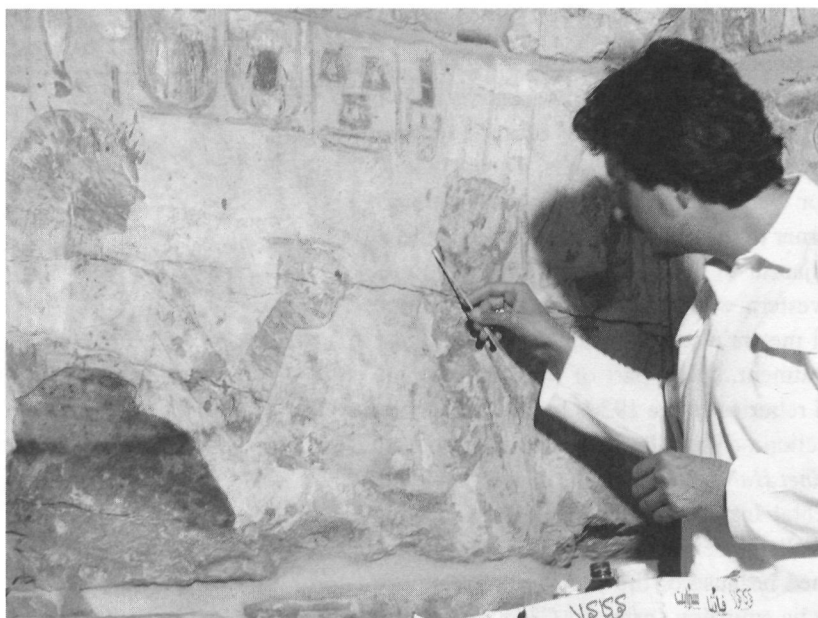


Figure 4. Conservator Lotfi Hassan cleaning painted reliefs in the Naos Room, small Amun temple, Medinet Habu. Photo by Ray Johnson

When the bottom of the emplacement was reached, a missing piece of the granite naos itself was revealed, that is, part of the naos floor. That, in addition to the reused Coptic material, identified the foundation emplacement as modern and not Ptolemaic, undoubtedly part of Georges Daressy's restoration of the naos in the nineteenth century. The original Ptolemaic emplacement was apparently dug out in the medieval period by

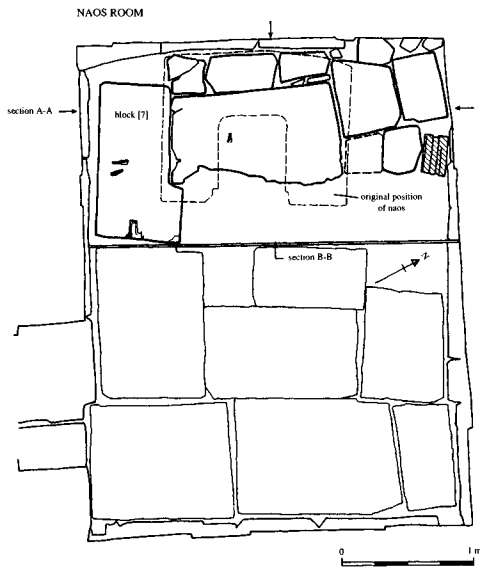


Figure 5. Naos Room excavations; plan of Naos Room naos foundation emplacement. Drawing by Lisa Giddy

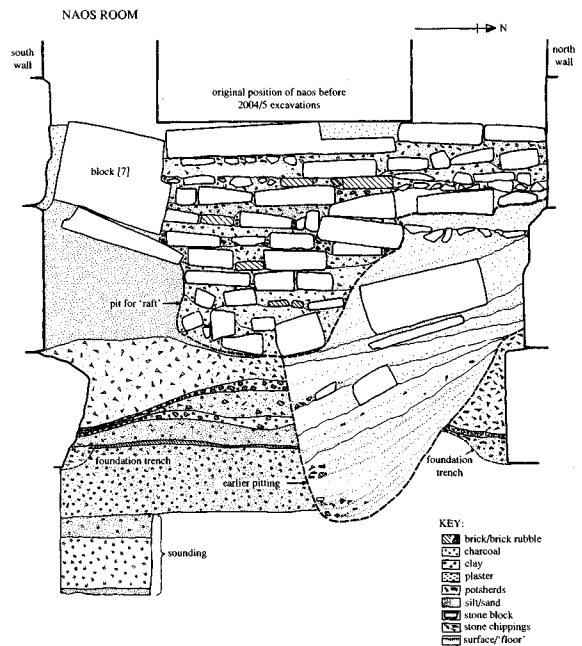


Figure 6. Naos Room excavations; Section AA. Drawing by Lisa Giddy

treasure hunters, who tipped the naos over and broke it up in the process. Daressy's workmen filled in the robber hole, neglecting to see a piece of the naos in it, laid a new foundation, and reassembled the naos (missing the floor piece) over it. Mystery solved!

When the excavation and recording were complete, the area was filled in with sand and gravel. The conservators supervised by Lotfi cleaned, desalinated, and infilled the back wall, and consolidated sections of the lower decaying surface with ethyl silicate (Wacker OH 100) applied with a brush. When that work was finished, Yarko, assisted by Ellie Smith did final photography (in large-format color and black-and-white negatives) of the two scenes on the back wall and the western scenes on both adjacent side walls for the final publication. The moving and restoration of the naos created a wonderful opportunity for complete documentation of this part of the sanctuary for the publication, which would not have been possible otherwise. When the naos is moved back next year these scenes will once again be hidden and impossible to photograph.

In March I supervised analysis of the 365 loose fragments belonging to the 3 m high granodiorite dyad of Thutmose III and Amun, the seven largest pieces of which we had reassembled in the front central chamber several seasons ago. This pair statue will also be published in the first volume of the small Amun temple series. Most of the sixty-two additional small joins to the statue, the majority of which were from this season, were made by everyone but me, including the conservation staff and *ra'is* of the Medinet Habu temple workmen, Badawy Mohamed Abdel Rahman, who actually found the upper part of the kings double crown in the Medinet Habu blockyard!

The conservation, restoration, and part of the epigraphic work for the Medinet Habu small Amun temple were funded by a grant from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through the Egyptian Antiquities Project (EAP) and the American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE), for which we are extremely grateful.

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Figure 7. Recording of excavated footing of the naos in the Naos Room, small Amun temple, Medinet Habu by Lisa Giddy and Tina Di Cerbo. Photo by Ray Johnson

Luxor Temple: Luxor Fragment Project

The Luxor Temple conservation project supported by a Robert W. Wilson Challenge for Conserving Our Heritage grant and the World Monuments Fund was supervised by stone conservator Hiroko Kariya from November 4 to December 18, 2004, and from January 31 to April 15, 2005. The project continued to focus on conservation treatment, preventive care, and data management. During the second half of the season, the project involved two additional tasks: stabilization of the temple wall and emergency treatment of excavated materials from

trenches in the southeastern area exposed during the new groundwater lowering initiative.

All of the inscribed sandstone fragments treated in previous seasons were condition surveyed and recorded by Hiroko, and she carried out three phases of treatment during this season on 161 fragments total. All the fragments were treated with Wacker BS OH 100 (ethyl silicate), and were examined and recorded before and after the treatment. Hiroko coordinated two phases of treatment of the large blocks of Amenhotep III in the southeastern blockyard; five during the first phase and ten during the second. These blocks were too large to move to the treatment area and were treated on their mastaba platforms *in situ*.

Hiroko also consolidated and moved forty-two fragments reused in medieval foundations recently excavated by the Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA) in the southern part of the Luxor

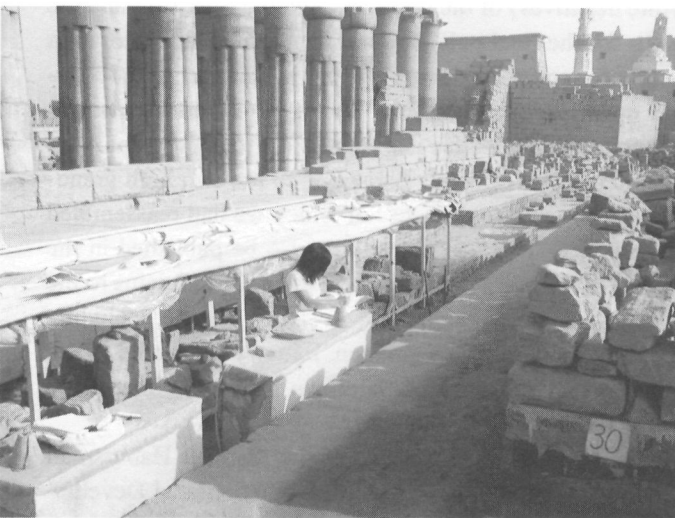


Figure 8. Hiroko Kariya condition-surveying deteriorating decorated sandstone wall fragments being consolidated. Southern blockyard treatment area, Luxor Temple. Photo by Ray Johnson

Temple precinct. The fragmentary wall reliefs, originally from the Colonnade Hall façade, west side, preserve parts of a colossal carved figure of Amun. This work was in cooperation with the SCA archaeological team doing advance work for the Luxor Temple groundwater lowering project supported by Sweden, USAID, and the SCA, in particular Mansour Radwan and Ted Brock. The Epigraphic Survey will contribute to the effort by storing and incorporating into its blockyard conservation and documentation program all reused stone architectural material encountered in the

trenching for the drains and wells around the Luxor Temple precinct.

Luxor Temple Colonnade Hall Eastern Wall Stabilization Project

When the Colonnade Hall was excavated in the late nineteenth century by Georges Daressy, he found that most of the original side walls of the hall were missing, quarried away in the Middle Ages for building material, down to the lowest wall courses which preserve the famous Opet procession reliefs. One exception is a small section of the southern end of the eastern wall, which sticks up about 7 m above the preserved wall area. This projection consists of the exterior courses of the eastern wall, while the inner block fill and inner wall courses are missing. While the interior walls of the hall are vertical, the exterior wall of the Colonnade Hall is battered, and while perfectly balanced, this exterior section appears to lean in at a precarious angle.

Because of the serious weakening of the stone walls of the Luxor Temple complex due to high groundwater, the Epigraphic Survey, supported by the World Monuments Fund (a Robert Wilson Challenge for Conserving Our Heritage matching grant), proposed to stabilize this eastern wall spur by constructing a brick buttress against its inner face. Since a group of forty-eight decorated wall fragments join the wall at that spot, completing a scene featuring the divine barge of the god Khonsu in the Opet water procession, it was decided to integrate that group into the stabilization program and build it into the brick matrix at the base of the buttress. Thus the project accomplishes two major goals: the entire wall is stabilized, and the restored fragment group (which will assist in supporting the wall) will complete the first register of the Opet Register reliefs in that spot.

This project was inaugurated in January under the supervision of stone cutter Dany Roy. Construction of the brick buttress began in February and was completed during the second week of March, seven courses high, a little over 6 m in height. Total volume of brick buttress: 20 cubic m; Building material: 7,600 bricks (380 bricks/cubic m) and 5,000 kg of mortar (250 kg/cubic m). An aluminum framed sign with diagrams of the stabilization work, drawings of the fragments to be restored, and text description was set up in front of the scaffolding to explain the project to the public.

In discussions with the SCA, and to make the buttress/wall support less intrusive, it was decided to cover the brick buttress with fresh-quarried sandstone veneer slabs cut to resemble the ancient blocks of the original wall. A covered stone cutting station was set up outside the enclosure wall east of the Colonnade Hall for cutting down the stone slabs before transferring them

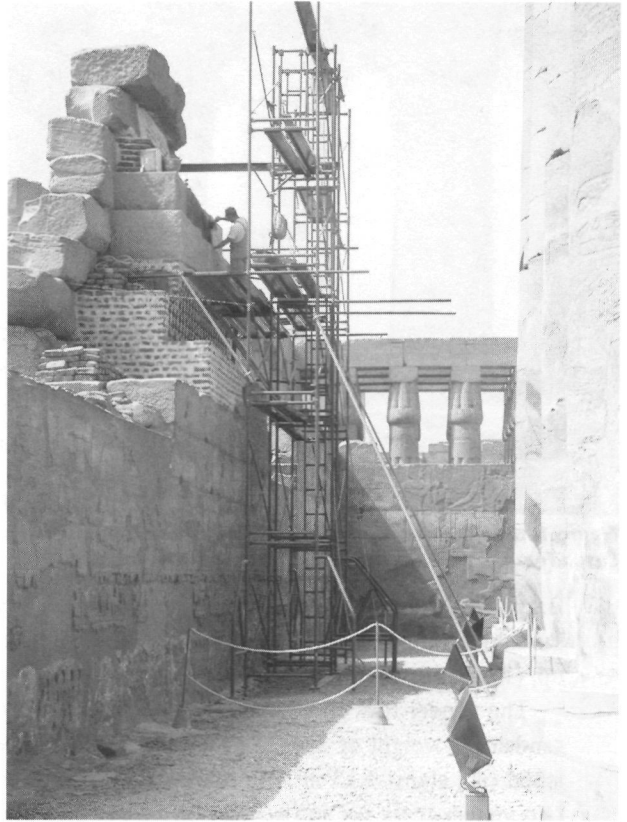


Figure 9. Brick buttress built against projecting eastern wall section of the Colonnade Hall, Luxor Temple, view from the north; Dany Roy. Photo by Ray Johnson

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Figure 10. Projecting eastern wall section of the Colonnade Hall, Luxor Temple, view from the east. Photo by Ray Johnson

Barge fragment group, which will complete the first register in that section. The plan calls for sandstone veneer covering and masking the brick buttress corresponding to the next four courses up, (from bottom to top) course numbers 4–7.

The veneer row on course level 4 was finished (six slabs, 4.5 m long total; 1.25 cubic m of sandstone, weight of 2,500 kg) as well as the veneer row on course level 5 (above 4) was finished (six slabs, 4.23 m long total; 0.95 cubic m of sandstone, weight of 1,900 kg). The upper two veneer rows six and seven will be put into place and finished next season 2005/2006, and the forty-eight fragments of the Khonsu Barge group will be restored and infilled below (courses 1, 2, and 3) with a hydraulic lime and sandstone powder mortar. Before we left Luxor this season, on April 10 and 11, Hiroko and I placed ten dry sandstone fragments from the Khonsu Barge group on the wall, which will give the public a preview of what is to come in the fall. Permission was received by the SCA to leave our scaffolding in place against the wall, which

will protect the wall until it is finished and also make it clear that the stabilization and restoration work is not complete yet.

over the wall, and another one just inside the wall for the stone shaping. Nineteen sandstone slabs quarried at Gebel Silsileh between $130 \times 74 \times 25$ cm and $100 \times 100 \times 30$ cm were delivered to the site in late March and early April. Twelve veneer stones were cut and shaped by Dany and assistant stone cutter Gamal, and the surfaces were chiseled to resemble the ancient stone blocks of the Colonnade Hall wall.

The lower part of the brick buttress corresponding to the first three original stone courses on the wall will be covered next season with the reassembled and restored Khonsu

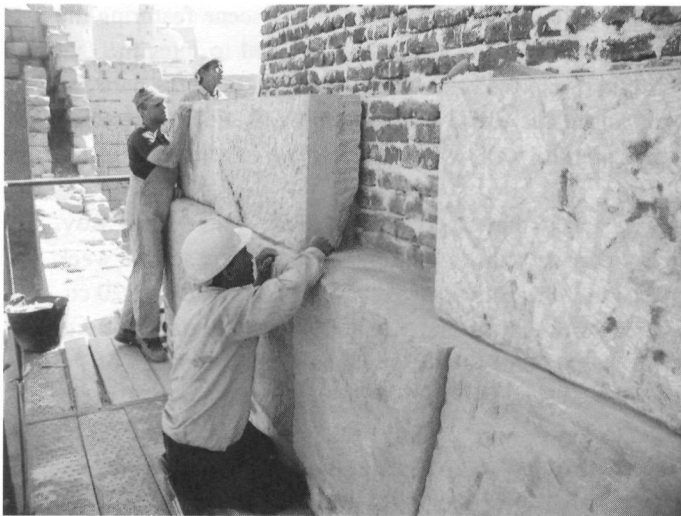


Figure 11. Laying sandstone veneer over brick buttress, Colonnade Hall, Luxor Temple, looking toward the north; Dany Roy, Ali Mahmoud, and Saber Ahmed Taya. Photo by Ray Johnson

Luxor Temple Photography

Between October 15 and April 15, Chicago House photographer Yarko Kobylecky assisted by Ellie Smith did 35 mm photography of decaying sphinxes (303 negatives) and deteriorating Colonnade Hall column bases and wall sections (104 negatives); large-format photography of Ptolemaic blocks (eleven negatives); large-format photography of the decaying Amenhotep III socle

inscription around the back of the temple sanctuary (fifty-four negatives); photographed fragment groups reused in the medieval foundations in the SCA excavations of the southeastern area which Hiroko moved and consolidated in 35 mm; and finished 35 mm reference photography of talatat of Akhenaten reused by Tutankhamun, Ay, Horemheb, Ramesses II, Ramesses III, and Sety II (647 blocks total).

Luxor Temple Structural Condition Study

This season Structural Engineer Conor Power returned at the end of January to continue his WMF-supported monitoring of the Luxor Temple structure, particularly the pylons and court of Ramesses II, the Colonnade Hall of Tutankhamun and Amenhotep III, and the solar court and temple proper of Amenhotep III. He checked the monitoring devices we had set up at the eastern pylon of Ramesses II (plumb bobs on the southern side, and crack monitors up above) for any signs of instability and reported that there was no sign of any movement. Good news.

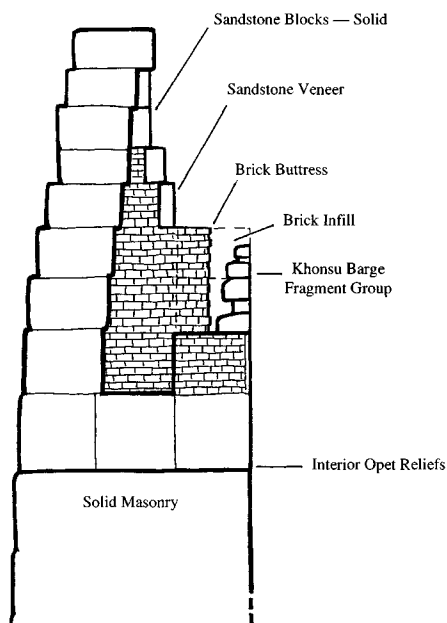
Chicago House

This season we were very pleased to welcome librarian Marie Bryan to the Chicago House professional staff. Marie took over the running and maintenance of the Chicago House library, which allowed epigrapher Jen Kimpton, who courageously and capably managed the library for the last two years, to work as epigrapher full time. Marie continued to utilize our FileMaker Pro library database, which Jen created specifically for accessioning and cataloging Chicago House library books and periodicals, and which will be very useful for the creation of a computerized card catalog. This season ninety-two monographs, seventy-seven journals, and thirty-three series



Figure 12. Brick buttress with sandstone veneer built against projecting eastern wall section of the Colonnade Hall, Luxor Temple, view from the north. Hassan Yousef Aly, Dany Roy, Saber Ahmed Taya, and Ali Mahmoud. Photo by Ray Johnson

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Cross-Section of Eastern Wall

Figure 13. Cross-section of eastern wall stabilization/buttressing. Schematic diagram by Ray Johnson

were accessioned, totaling 202. Thirty-two of these new books were gifts. Marie took over the ordering of new books in consultation with the Egyptologists and conservators, as well as the conservation and preservation of the library holdings (over 18,000 books), and is looking into granting agencies that will support future expanded work of this kind. Marie also supervised our library patrons this season, learning the ropes very quickly, and was influential in establishing some important improvements. She and Yarko designed an extremely successful copy stand for patrons who wish to take digital photos of books. She, Tina, and our carpenter Shayib also designed and built an extension to the card catalog which makes it much easier to use.

Photo Archivist Sue Lezon continued to coordinate the scanning of the Chicago House Photo Archives holdings of large and small format negatives. Her primary concerns this season centered on evaluating negatives before approving them for scanning. All images scanned to CD were assessed for image integrity upon their return from the Franco-Egyptian Center where they are scanned. Once approved, the CDs will be returned to the United States for optimization and inclusion into our ever-growing Photo Archive Database. This season Sue approved

images on twenty-two CDs for a total of approximately 750 images. As the bulk of our large format negatives have now been scanned, she was able to look for gaps in the image database. Many nitrate negatives have disintegrated or were destroyed prior to the development of scanning technology and have left gaps in the database. In many cases, however, we have beautiful prints (sometimes close to seventy-five years old!) from the original negatives. In these cases we can scan the prints in order to be able to include those images in the database.

In addition, all 35 mm and large format images shot at Medinet Habu during the 2003/2004 season and the first two months of the 2004/2005 seasons were categorized by Sue and Photo Archives Registrar Ellie Smith (i.e., pre- and post-conservation), numbered by Ellie, and filed in our photo archive binders. These binders are reserved for contemporary photos of the small chapel and are organized by year and by Nelson numbers. Negative numbers assigned to these images and entered in our database allow for easy cross-referencing, locating, and viewing of photographs — specifically those that document successive phases of the cleaning and conservation of the small chapel. Our thorough photographic documentation of this process has produced a comprehensive body of images, many of which will be published in the final report publication.

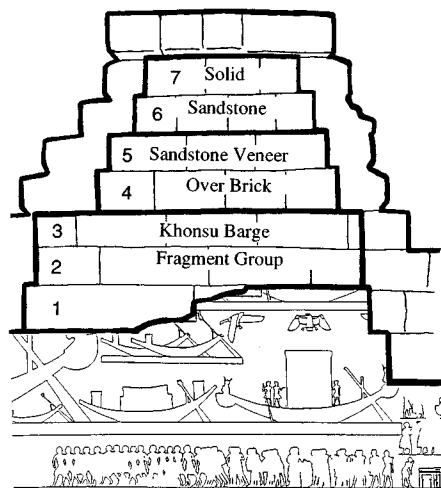
Finance manager Safi Ouri assisted by new accountant (and old friend) Samir El-Guindy continued to keep us within our (tight) budget this season. I am very pleased to report that largely thanks to Safi's diligence and hard work over the last year, Chicago House will be receiving a three-year grant from USAID that will cover much of our operating expenses in Luxor and allow us to build up our staff somewhat. We owe special thanks to the former US Ambassador to Egypt, David Welch, the current director of USAID Egypt Ken Ellis, USAID Egypt, and the University of Chicago Grants Administration, as well as to Safi, who made it all happen.

Helen and Jean Jacquet rejoined us in late November, and continued to work on publications and consult with us on our field projects. They are the best mentors one could ever have, and their expertise and insight are tapped often during our season. Carlotta Maher rejoined us in March to oversee our ongoing development work and to help us host the Oriental Institute tour led by Robert Ritner and Monica Witczak, a joyous time. Last, but not least, heartfelt thanks go to Tina Di Cerbo for coming early each season to open and clean the house, and for staying several weeks after the season to close the house for the summer. This is an enormous job, and Tina makes it go smoothly and flawlessly.

The professional staff this season, besides the field director, consisted of J. Brett McClain, Harold Hays, and Jen Kimpton as epigraphers; 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 registrar and photography assistant; Carlotta Maher as assistant to the director; Safinaz Ouri as finance manager; Samir El-Guindy as accountant; Marie Bryan as librarian; Dany Roy as stone cutter; Lotfi Hassan, Adel Aziz Andraws, and Nahed Samir as conservators at Medinet Habu; and Hiroko Kariya as field conservator at Luxor Temple. Lisa Giddy supervised the archaeological work at Medinet Habu. 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 once again owe a great debt of thanks for our fruitful 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; Mr. Taha, Director 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: Mr. Omar Yousef Mahmoud, Mr. Yahia Abdel Aleem Kassem, and Mr. Gamal Salem Ahmad Aly; and at Luxor Temple: Mr. Ahmed Dawi Hassan, Ms. Sanaa Yousef El Taher, and Ms. Asmaa Mahmoud Fesal.

It is always a pleasure to thank and acknowledge the many friends of the Oriental Institute whose loyal support allows us to continue our vital documentation 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 US Embassy; Ken Ellis of the United States Agency for International Development; 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; Tony and Lawrie Dean; Warren and Lois Siegel; Eric and Andrea Colombel; Piers Litherland; Dr. Fred Giles;



Interior Opet Reliefs

Figure 14. Elevation of eastern wall stabilization plan with courses numbered from bottom to top, 1-7. Schematic diagram by Ray Johnson

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Marjorie B. Kiewit; Nancy LaSalle; Tom and Linda Heagy; Andrew Nourse and Patty Hardy; Donald Oster; Ms. M. Kate Pitcairn; Dr. William Kelly Simpson; Kelly and Di Grodzins; Dr. Ben Harer; Dr. Roxie Walker; Louis Byron Jr.; Drs. Francis and Lorna Strauss; 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, and Janie Azziz of the Egyptian Antiquities Project; Dr. Michael Jones of the Egyptian Antiquities Conservation Project; and all of our friends and colleagues at the Oriental Institute mother ship. 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.

EXPEDITION TO ALALAKH (TELL ATCHANA)

K. Aslihan Yener, J. David Schloen, and Amir Sumaka'i Fink

Team members from the Oriental Institute as well as a combined student and specialist force from universities all over the United States, Europe, and Turkey continued work at the Late Bronze Age capital city of Mukish (the Amuq Valley), Alalakh. Excavations in 2004 concentrated on the craft quarters located in Area 2 which had initially been exposed in 2003. A total of 840 sq. m were exposed in 2003, and in 2004 another 200 sq. m were added in an attempt to get a broad horizontal exposure of Late Bronze Age neighborhoods at the site (fig. 1). Our dig headquarters, long on the drawing board, are now successfully located in the village of Tayfur Sökmen, three miles from the site.

One of the surprises during the 2003 season was a very impressive, multi-chambered kiln suggesting the use of this part of the mound as a craft sector rather than the habitation areas we had anticipated. In fact by the 2004

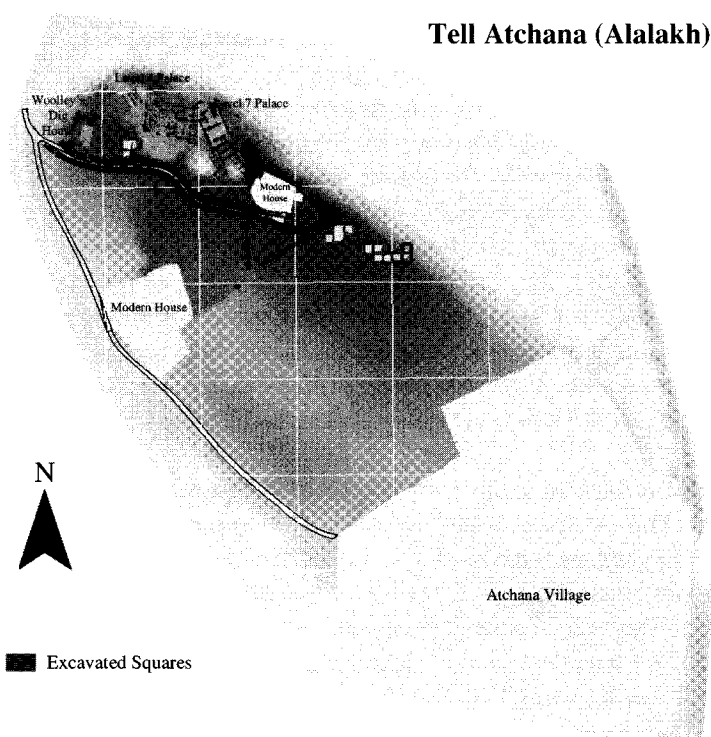


Figure 1. Tell Atchana (Alalakh) 2004 squares. Graphic by Eudora Struble

season, the complex, two-story kiln became a harbinger of several more pyrotechnological installations which lined the southeast slope of the mound (fig. 2). Representing a diversity of shapes, sizes, and materials, these structures all had differing “furniture,” that is, internal components perhaps indicating a variety of thermal functions. One impressive square kiln (fig. 3) had twelve hot air flues leading to the

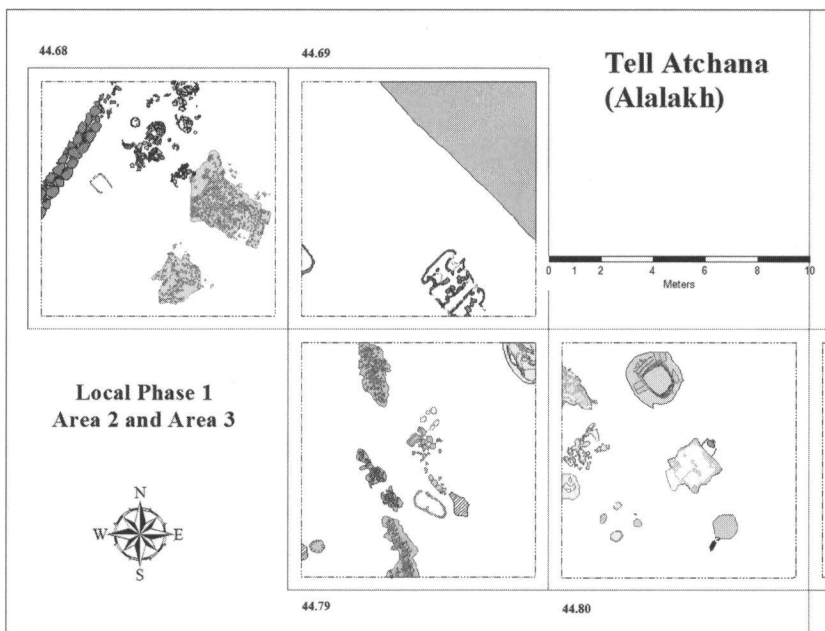


Figure 2. Squares in Area 2. Local Phase 1 installations. Graphic by Eudora Struble

lower chamber, while others were oval and contained only one chamber.

Stratigraphically the kilns were cut into thick mudbrick walls of multi-roomed buildings dating to the Late Bronze Age, and thus clearly postdated the large mudbrick walls of our Phase 2 (fig. 4). It became obvious that at one point in the Late Bronze Age, this area was abandoned to habitation and used for the specialized production of pottery or other crafts and burials. The exact date of the earlier large mudbrick buildings has as yet not been determined since radiocarbon dates are not finished, but one working hypothesis is that the site may have been diminished in size not at the end of the Late Bronze Age as previously thought, but immediately after the takeover by the Hittites, leaving only the “Fort” or Hittite governor’s palace (Levels III–I) in the royal precinct as a garrison. Red-burnished pitchers with parallels to Woolley’s Level IV and Tell Brak Mittanian levels and “Nuzi Ware” examples tentatively suggest a fourteenth or fifteenth century B.C. date for these floors. Our Aegean specialist Robert Koehl also informs us that none of the Aegean wares postdates Late Helladic IIIA:2.

Interestingly, excavations are rapidly changing our view of Alalakh from that of an important Late Bronze Age site within the Hittite Empire’s realm to one of an even more important Middle Bronze Age site of con-



Figure 3. Pyrotechnological installation in Square 44.80, Local Phase 1. Photo by Murat Akar

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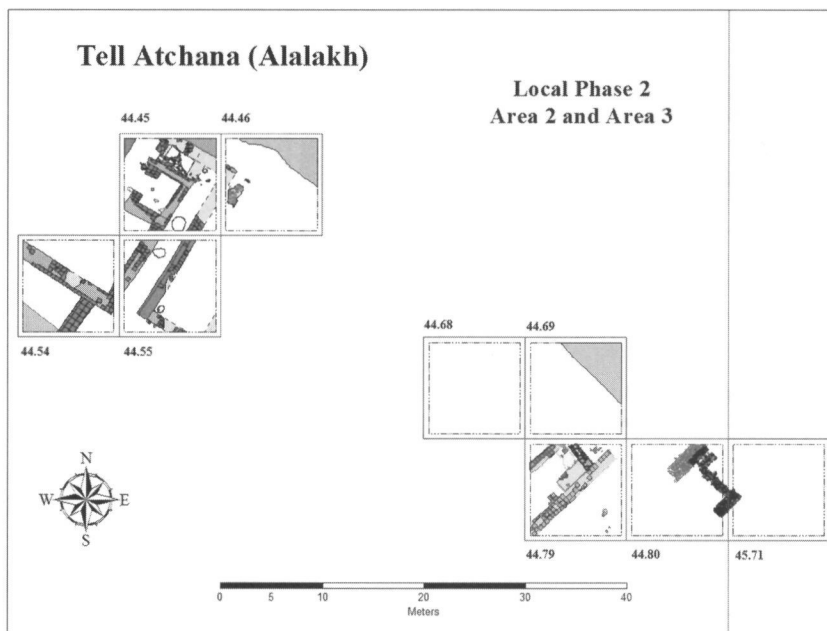


Figure 4. Squares in Areas 2 and 3. Local Phase 2 multi-roomed buildings. Graphic by Eudora Struble

siderable size and strategic placement. In the seventeenth century B.C., Alalakh was apparently a prosperous city along the Orontes River, straddling the trade routes between Mesopotamia, Anatolia, and the Mediterranean Sea. The artifacts found at Alalakh are examples of high culture, and as such, one might expect them to have been produced by specialists or craftspersons working to produce particular goods for restricted distribution, usually so-called high-prestige or valuable objects. Indeed, Woolley identified numerous workshops and servants' quarters in the palace. Our previous excavations have found a workshop with a Middle Bronze Age horseshoe-shaped hearth, and the possibility of an earlier pyrotechnological installation in Area 3 — a harbinger of the later mid-second millennium craft sector of multiple installations in the 2003 and 2004 seasons. Furthermore, this year glimpses of the Middle Bronze Age city include several examples of "Syro-Cilician Ware" specifically with painted designs, basket handles, and applique decorations (figs. 5–7). Parallels of this ware range from neighboring excavations at Kinet Höyük on the Mediterranean coast to Cilicia (Tarsus) and the well-known princess tomb at Ebla, all of which demonstrate the extent of these cultural ties.



Figure 5. Syro-Cilician ware Middle Bronze Age. Animal-shaped applique. P04-44.80 no. 237



Figure 6. Syro-Cilician ware Middle Bronze Age. P04-44.80 no. 227



Figure 7. Basket handle, Syro-Cilician ware Middle Bronze Age. P04-44.79 no. 13

We were pleased to host several groups of visitors to the excavations this year. Director Gil Stein led a large Oriental Institute Travel Program group through eastern Turkey and visited us during our season. We were also pleased to host Lawrie and Anthony Dean, the winners of the auction at the 2004 Oriental Institute Annual Gala, "Romancing the Past." Lending us a hand in laboratory post-excavation processing, as well as participating in the excavation trenches on top of the mound (fig. 8), Lawrie and Tony helped unearth a grave of a young woman. Lying in a northeast-southwest position, an imported painted Cypriot Base Ring Ware II juglet (fig. 9) was found as a grave gift, which is slightly later than the one excavated in the plastered tomb (03-3017) with multiple interments from 2003. Now that the human remains have been given a preliminary analyses by our mortuary data team leader Alexis Boutin, we can say that the special tomb contained the skeletal remains of a 24–29 year old female, a 13–17 year old female, a 35–50 year old male, and a 15–22 year old female.

The 2004 season was a resounding success and Alalakh lived up to its reputation in terms of compelling finds. In conclusion, the Oriental Institute Expedition to Alalakh will be addressing problems that were missing in the earlier excavations there. Some of these issues have implications for other regions of the eastern Mediterranean, including the important transition from regional states to empires (such as the Hittite) and the elusive connections between central Anatolia and the Amuq Valley in the Middle Bronze Age. In summer 2005 the construction of a new laboratory building generously funded by the Deans at the Tayfur Sökmen dig house compound was completed.

Acknowledgments

The 2004 Tell Atchana/Alalakh team members consist of the following participants: K. Aslihan Yener, director; J. David Schloen, associate director; Amir Sumaka'i-Fink, senior field supervisor; Sabrina Sholts, G. Bike Yazıcıoğlu, Virginia Rimmer (University of Chicago); James Phillips (University of Illinois at Chicago), Can Ercan, (Mustafa Kemal University, Antakya); Stine Rossel (Harvard University); Susan Helft, Alexis Boutin, (University of Pennsylvania); Murat Akar (Middle Eastern Technical University, Ankara), Tuğrul Çakar; Simone Riehl, Katrin Hieke, Özgür Çizer (Tübingen University); Brenda Craddock, Franca Cole (U.K.), Ayşe Bal, Yağmur Sarioğlu (Bilkent University, Ankara), Niels Lynnerup, Marie-Louise Jørkov (Copenhagen University), Irit Ziffer (Israel), Hanan Charaf, Robert Mullins (USA), Simone Arnhold (Marburg University), Ekin Kozal (Çanakkale Uni-



Figure 8. Tony and Lawrie Dean in front of Late Bronze Age burial, Square 44.80, Local Phase 1

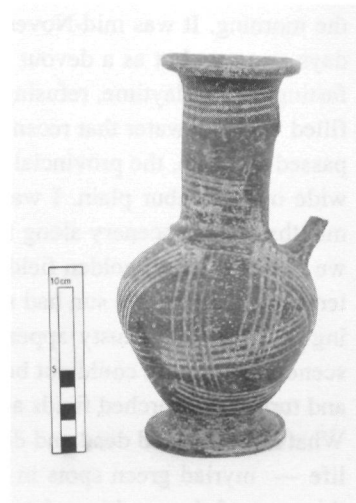


Figure 9. Base Ring II juglet from the burial ca. fourteenth century B.C., Local Phase 1

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versity), Robert Koehl, (New York Hunter College), and a labor force of thirteen from local villages. The ministry representative from the Antalya Archaeological Museum was Akan Atilla.

Research at Alalakh was generously funded by the Neubauer Family Foundation, INSTAP (The Institute for Aegean Prehistory), and the Oriental Institute. The excavation was conducted under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Turkey, and the General Director of Cultural and Museums. We thank the Antakya/Hatay Museum and Hüseyin Dinçer, Aslı Tuncer, Faruk Kılınç, Demet Kara and Ömer Çelik. We warmly acknowledge the help and guidance of the Mustafa Kemal University President, Metin Gürkanlar, the Hatay Cultural Director, Saadettin Kafadenk, Şükrü Çakır the Assistant Governor, and the Governor of Hatay, Abdulkadir Sarı.

HAMOUKAR

Clemens D. Reichel

The noise of the car brakes woke me up again. The car had slowed down significantly, turning off the road to the right. “Here, here it is — the turnoff,” Mahmoud said, as he descended from the relative safety of the paved road into the first of myriad rain-filled potholes that somehow marked the way to the site. Though the car had slowed down significantly, brown water splashed around the car to the left and to the right, occasionally gushing through the narrow slots in the windows where window glass and door frame no longer met. After ten minutes of slow, bone-shattering progress Mahmoud pulled the car to the side. “*Shuf, shufu* — can you see it?” pointing at a narrow straight line that had started to distinguish itself at the horizon against the gray sky. “The house — our house — look ... it’s safe,” he exclaimed with unmistakable pride in his face.

We were on the road to Hamoukar, having left Raqqa, Mahmoud’s home town, at 4 A.M. in the morning. It was mid-November — Eid, the feast that marks the end of Ramadan, was only days away — but as a devout Muslim, Mahmoud “Abu Turki” el-Kitab, our housekeeper, was fasting during daytime, refusing both food and drink. We drove up the valley of the Balikh, now filled with rainwater that recently had poured down in the Turkish mountains; by 8 A.M. we had passed Hassake, the provincial capital of Syria’s large northern province, and headed across the wide open Khabor plain. I was on my third trip from Chicago to Hamoukar in less than five months, yet the scenery along the road could not have changed more between each trip. In June we passed through golden fields that were ready to be or in process of being harvested. By September, the merciless sun had scorched the landscape, taking out any remnant of green and giving it the lifeless, dusty appearance of a desert planet. Now, less than two months later, the scenery once more could not be more different. The winter rain had started early in mid-October and turned the parched fields along the dam that carried the high road into waterlogged lagoons. What had appeared dead and desolate only a few weeks earlier now seemed to be sprouting new life — myriad green spots in the brown waters gave witness to the resilience of vegetation in this part of the world, and countless birds had started to populate these short-lived yet rich biotopes. The rain showers, which kept intercepting us on our trip in almost predictable inter-

vals, had also cleared the air. To the north the Tur Abdin, the foothills that precede the Taurus mountains in Turkey, were clearly visible; as we were getting closer to Hamoukar the Jebel Sinjar started amassing across the border in Iraq in the east.

Despite the rain and mud it was a trip that gave me great relief, for I knew that we had just taken the first big hurdle on our way to working at Hamoukar — saving our dig house. Just five months earlier in June 2005, I had visited the site for the first time since our highly successful 2001 season. While I was pleased to see that the site itself has not been looted I was shocked to see the deterioration that our house had suffered. A large mudbrick compound built by McGuire Gibson in 2000 and 2001 it was a spacious, comfortable building, well designed to accommodate large teams. By the end of the 2001 season we had put the finishing touches on the house, and we were looking forward to a swift return to the site in spring of 2002. Sadly, the complications of the post-9/11 world and a lawsuit that followed the removal of abandoned houses on the site delayed our return to Hamoukar. By late 2002 our focus had turned towards Iraq and the impending war; following the 2003 war Gibson found himself busy dealing with the consequences of the looting of the Iraq Museum and the scale of site destruction in Iraq. In the wake of the catastrophes that the archaeology of Iraq was facing, Hamoukar simply disappeared from our radar screen for a while.

But it wasn't forgotten. Already in 2003 Gibson had introduced the idea of transferring the directorship of Hamoukar to me. Although I was trained as a Mesopotamian archaeologist and always had hoped eventually to work in Iraq I realized that under the current condition such plans would not materialize very soon. I had also worked on sites in Syria since 1992, last as field director at Hamoukar, so Syria in many respects is my true archaeological "homeland." Though a large site like Hamoukar seemed like a tall order I happily accepted the challenge. For various reasons, however, I could not act on this new assignment before June 2004, when I took my first trip out to Syria to begin negotiations with Dr. Tammam Fakouche, then Director General of Antiquities and Museums, and to Dr. Michel al-Maqdissi, Director of Excavations, towards a reissue of the excavation permit. As I pointed out in last year's *Annual Report*, my request was generally well received and I inferred that a permit would be issued once all legal problems concerning the removal of abandoned houses on the site had been solved. My second trip to Syria, undertaken in September and October 2004, originally should have concentrated on the repair of the dig house which, as had become dramatically clear in June, had been damaged heavily by rain and during



Figure 1. CO-DIRECTORS' SHAKE-UP: New Hamoukar co-directors Clemens Reichel (Oriental Institute) and Salam al-Quntar (Department of Antiquities, Damascus / Cambridge University, U.K.) with Hamoukar landscape in background, following bone-shattering 300 km ride to Hamoukar in back of pick-up truck (April 2005)

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Figure 2. AT LAST, A ROOF TO LAST: Mahmoud "Abu Turki" el-Kitab, majordomo of Hamoukar expedition house, examines repairs of new roof over Hamoukar's dig house, following five months of winter rain (April 2005)

three years of neglect and clearly was not going to survive another season of winter rains. Unfortunately, once I arrived in Damascus, I learned that no repairs on the dig house could be undertaken before our outstanding legal issues had been resolved. Ultimately most of my time ended up being spent in Damascus solving these disputes and working out technicalities concerning the permit. I will readily admit that it was the least favorite of my Syria trips — spending time in government offices does not constitute fun anywhere in the world. To be fair, the Syrian antiquities administration had to address a number of legitimate concerns. Hamoukar is located only a few miles away from the border with Iraq — considering the events that happened in Iraq in the past two years, the idea of having an American archaeological mission so close to the border must have raised a few eyebrows. By October 12, 2004, finally all legal obstacles had been cleared away and permission was granted to repair the house. With Ramadan on the horizon and early winter rains the chances of saving the house before winter seemed dim. Within hours after getting the approval, however, Mahmoud packed his

pickup truck and headed out to Hamoukar to start the repairs. I myself had to head back to Chicago for two weeks to attend other urgent business, but following a conference on Archaeology and Computers in Vienna in the first week of November I headed back to Syria to check on the progress.

The car moved up the shallow slope of the mound. The long, narrow extend of the site, partially occupied by a village, had become a familiar view. In past visits the liveliness of the village had been in stark contrast to the abandoned, decrepit state of our house. With holes in its walls, emptied of all of our belongings, and with doors and windows missing, its appearance was ghostlike and shadowy — a painful view for everyone who had seen it during better times. This time, however, the scenery could not have been more different. Most villagers had sought refuge from the rain showers and the village at first seemed abandoned (though word of my arrival always seems to spread fairly quickly). Our house, by contrast, was engulfed in movement, and the noise of sawing and hammering became discernible as we drove up the last few yards up to its main entrance. Mahmoud had accomplished the impossible — in little more than three weeks he had fixed the walls (figs. 3–4) and replaced the whole roof, surrounded by rainstorms and fasting during Ramadan (the poor guy indeed looked hollow-cheeked, having lost quite a few pounds). The original roof consisted of roof beams that were covered with a thick mud plaster. Such a roof type is common and perfectly acceptable in this part of the world, but it needs to be maintained every year as soon as the winter rain is over. We originally had hoped that our annual excavation seasons would be preceded by regular maintenance of the house in spring, but the three year hiatus following the 2001 season had taught us that we could not rely on such a sched-

ule — the roof of the house had to be able to withstand the rain without our help. Originally we had planned on replacing the roof with a cement roof, but this would have been costly, heavy, and still would not have protected the walls against water damage from torrential rainfalls. Mahmoud came up with an alternative plan — he proposed to cover the whole refurbished roof with slanted metal sheeting that would lead the rainwater away from the walls. This is what we (or I should really say “he”) did in the end — it is actually a combined metal-mud roof with straw insulation (fig. 2). I am pleased to say that it seems to be working — the house survived the winter rain without any damage. Not without a certain amount of pride Mahmoud later on informed that this particular technique of roofing was invented in the U.S. — I later on learned that this is a preferred technique used to add roofs to stationary trailer homes. I admit that a metal roof looks less classy than a mud roof, but not being rained on while lying in bed also has its advantages. We will do other visual improvements over the next few years, but first we need to get the place up and running again.

Saving the house from collapse was a first important step in getting back to Hamoukar. Yet I still did not have an excavation permit and, to be frank, I was not sure what our chances were to do fieldwork in the foreseeable future. In April 2005 I undertook another trip to Syria — my fourth in less than a year — to continue work on the house but also to negotiate the terms of a new excavation permit. Once more I was well received — I had the chance to present my case to several government officials, who without exception welcomed the idea of resuming at Hamoukar. I am particularly indebted to Dr. Mahmoud al-Sayyed, Syria’s Minister of Culture, Dr. Abdel-Razaq Moaz, Vize Minister of Culture, and to Dr. Bassam Jamous, who had succeeded Dr. Fakouche as Director General of Antiquities and Museums in January 2005, for their help and support. I realized that, to some degree, I had mis-appreciated the situation — I had assumed that the political conflicts between the U.S. and Syria would work against me. I found quite the opposite to be true — the welcome I received was hearty and genuine. The fact the Oriental Institute was about to renew its commitment to working in Syria *despite* the current political misgivings was, in fact, appreciated. I had hoped that on this trip I would make some progress on getting a new permit some time in the future, but I certainly didn’t expect to return with it. I was very surprised, therefore, to find upon my return to Chicago that the permit had already been mailed there. I am very well aware that a number of people in Damascus, including Syria’s Supreme Council of Archaeologists, worked overtime to get this done in ultimately less than a week, and I am very grateful for their extra effort in this context particularly to His Excellency Dr. Imad Moustapha, Syria’s Ambassador to the U.S. for his advocacy on our behalf. The person to whom I am most indebted, however, is Salam al-Quntar (fig. 1). An employee of the Department of



Figure 3. A HOLE IN THE WALL OVERHAULED: Damage to the dig house following winter rain and vandalism: (above) collapsed doorway and window in northwest corner of inner courtyard, the residential quarter of the dig house (October 2004); (below) doorway following repair of walls and roof (April 2005)

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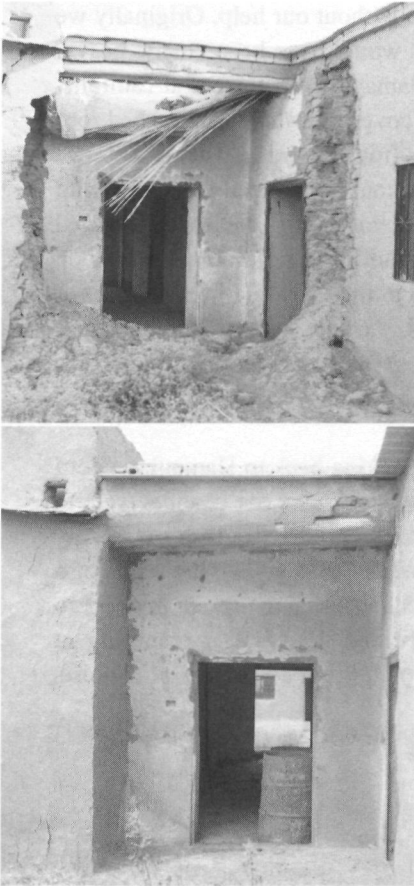


Figure 4. REFURBISH AND RESTORE: *Passageway between inner and outer courtyard of the dig house, bathrooms on the right side, entrance to dining room area visible in passage way; (above) water damage to roof and partial wall collapse (October 2004), (below) same area following basic repair to walls and roof, before replastering of alcove (April 2005)*

Antiquities, Salam is a veteran of the 2000 and 2001 seasons at Hamoukar. For the past few years Salam has worked on numerous field projects in Syria, including Tell Brak, and without doubt is one of Syria's most experienced and talented young archaeologists. Salam's enthusiasm, persistence and passion for the project was vital in obtaining the permit. As in the first three seasons, the project will be run as a joint Syrian-American project with the Department of Antiquities. I am more than pleased to have learned that the Department of Antiquities has appointed Salam to be my Syrian co-director — I could not have asked for a better person in that position!

Two and a half months later, as I am typing this report (late as always), I am once more half-packed — I will take off for Syria in less than two weeks, this time for the first field season at Hamoukar in four years. Ironically, in the end it almost happened too fast — but now the door to Hamoukar is wide open, and we are excited at the prospect of continuing our work there. A major part of the tripartite building, which some six thousand years ago had collapsed following a conflagration with all artifacts inside, which we found in 2001, remains to be excavated. The size, exact date, and extent of Hamoukar's massive fourth millennium B.C. city wall in Area A has to be established. A large third millennium B.C. public building with its niched façade in Area C remains to be fully excavated. And those are only the areas that are currently under investigation. We know that there is a large, well-built third millennium B.C. public building on the high mound, possibly the city palace. Several large well-built private houses in the Outer Town, dating to the late third millennium B.C. were investigated in 2001 in Area H, but a comprehensive view over the layout and organization of Hamoukar's residential quarter at the height of its greatest

expansion will be retrieved best with a large-scale magnetometric survey of the Outer Town in the next few years. One of the most amazing aspects of Hamoukar is easy surface access to almost every time period — whether one is interested in fourth millennium B.C. Uruk/Late Chalcolithic material, third millennium B.C. Bronze Age, first millennium Iron Age, Seleucid, and even early Islamic — it is all right under the surface somewhere on the site. The fact that "...stuff just keeps on pouring out of that site" (to use a very non-scientific metaphor) has been shown during the first three seasons. Readers may be reminded of the dozens of animal-shaped stamp seals (fig. 5), eye idols, pendants, and thousands of beads found in 1999; more stamp seals, together with the hundreds of Late Chalcolithic clay sealings were found in 2001 (fig. 6), and we expect to find more of both as we will continue to excavate in the same area this year.

I cannot close this report without thanking those individuals who have supported Hamoukar in the past and who have, on short notice, helped again. Putting a major excavation season together within very short time is a challenge, and working out the finances is clearly the toughest part. Here I would like to thank first and foremost Oriental Institute Director Gil Stein, who rec-

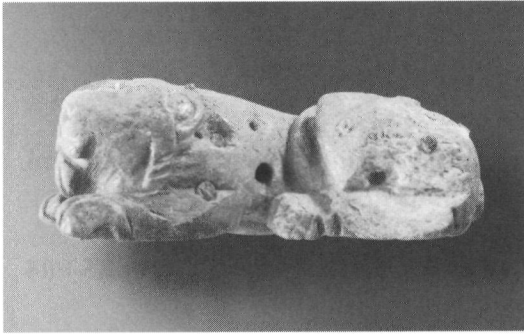


Figure 5. ANIMAL-SHAPED STAMP SEAL: Stamp seal, bone, in shape of reclining leopard (dots of leopard's fur indicated by dowels inserted into drill holes); found in Area B pit or grave during 1999 season; date ca. 3500 B.C.



Figure 6. ANIMAL-SHAPED STAMP SEAL: Stamp seal, bone, in shape of lioness killing and animal (probably gazelle); reverse (not shown) has seal design composed of horned animals and lions; found in Area B during 2001 season; date ca. 3500 B.C.

ognized the importance of Hamoukar and helped me “seize the day” by supporting the project above call. But I would not have been able to announce a field season so soon after getting the permit without the support of several private individuals. Among those I would like to single out Ms. Cynthia Bates, who in early July 2005 held a fundraiser for this year’s Hamoukar season at her home in Evanston, and Mr. Howard Hallengren for his most generous contribution. Thanks also to the “Friends of Hamoukar” who have helped us in the past and present and who will continue to receive “letters from the field” as instituted by McGuire Gibson in previous seasons. Next year’s *Annual Report* will finally contain a report on a field season — considering the importance of Hamoukar I am confident that it will be the first of many more to come.

IRANIAN PREHISTORIC PROJECT

Abbas Alizadeh and Ali Mahfrouzi

with

Abul Ahrar, Kobra Aqaii, Saeed Ebrahimi, Tobin Hartnell, Mohammad Karami,
Lili Niakan, Ali Zalaghi, and Mosa Zare

Preliminary Report on the Joint ICHTO-Oriental Institute Excavations at KS-004 and KS-108 in Lowland Susiana, Southwestern Iran

After three years of delay and loss of budget and crucial staff members (see *News & Notes* no. 187), the joint Iranian Cultural Heritage and Tourism Organization-Oriental Institute expedition eventually reached Khuzestan in mid-December 2004. Our 2004/2005 season was supported by a generous grant from the National Science Foundation as well as some financial support from the Oriental Institute. Here we would like to express our gratitude to Dr. John Yellen of National Science Foundation and Oriental Institute Director Gil Stein for their much needed support.

The co-director of the expedition was Mr. Ali Mahfrouzi, director of the Mazandaran archaeological project and Technical Deputy of the Mazandaran Iranian Cultural Heritage and Tourism Organization. We owe a debt of gratitude to him and the Iranian students who participated in the project. Most of the students had worked with me in Fars, but some were new and totally inexperienced. They eagerly joined us with a tremendous level of work ethic, seemingly unlimited enthusiasm to learn, and full of energy to do hard work. We thank them all for making the season possible and successful. We also thank Mrs. Sahar Beigi, who spent many long hours drawing potsherds and other objects at Haft Tappeh (fig. 14).

Thanks to Dr. Hasan Talebian, Director of the Haft Tappeh/Chogha Zanbil and Parse-Pasargadae Research Foundation, we were allowed to stay at the Haft Tappeh Research Center, only 25 km southwest of where the sites were located. The staff of the Haft Tappeh Archaeological Compound was very pleasant and helpful to us in many ways including solving our electronic problems. In addition, we would like to thank Mr. Beheshti, Deputy of Research, and Dr. M. Azarnoush, Director of Iranian Cultural Heritage and Tourism Organization Archaeological Research.

The joint expedition consisted of over fifty Iranian Cultural Heritage and Tourism Organization archaeologists and university students. Tobin Hartnell of the Oriental Institute was the only non-Iranian participant in the project. We were hoping to resume our work in Khuzestan in September, before the rainy season started, but for various reasons the project had to be postponed until the fall of 2004. However, the postponement of our project resulted in the loss of a number of our key specialists and forced us to make substantial changes to our original research design.

The absence of a number of key expedition members, namely Tony Wilkinson of the University of Edinburgh and Nick Kouchoukos and Andrew Bauer of the University of Chicago's Department of Anthropology made it impossible for us to address the major questions we had already formulated about geomorphology and ancient land use in Susiana. That part of the project will have to wait for another season. Faced with these adverse conditions and without our team of geoarchaeologists, the scope of our fieldwork had to be narrowed down and redesigned in such a way that some simple questions of stratigraphy and chronology could be addressed.

With these modest goals in mind, we set out to excavate two sites, KS-004, Chogha Do Sar (Two-headed mound) and KS-108, Tappeh Belladiéh (Town mound), some 10 km southwest of Chogha Mish (KS-001). In addition to the materials from the sixth millennium B.C., these sites

also have deposits that date to the crucial period (fifth and fourth millennia B.C.) prior to the formation of early states and the rise of urban centers in southwest Asia (fig. 1).

Because of the lengthy bureaucratic procedures, choosing other sites that would be more manageable than what we had originally selected was not an option. We therefore adopted some new strategies to answer some basic questions of stratigraphy and in determining the surface extent of all the periods represented by surface sherds at both sites.

We went back to Khuzestan as part of what we originally conceived as a long-term joint project between the Iranian Cultural Heritage and Tourism Organization, the Oriental Institute, and the Department of Anthropology of the University of Chicago. Initiated in 2001/2002, the major aim of this project was to gain a deeper understanding of the interaction between the environment and human cultural activities in lowland Susiana, located in the modern-day province of Khuzestan, southwestern Iran. Our first season produced important clues on the geomorphology of the region, especially east of the Karun River, as well as on the nature and formation processes of some fifth and fourth millennia sites. Our preliminary observations indicated that some of these sites may have been occupied only parts of the year and that they may, pending further research, turn out to have belonged to the ancient mobile pastoralists of the region. Eastern Khuzestan still is used annually by the mobile Bakhtiyari tribes as their winter pasture.

As an integral part of the project, Kouchoukos, Bauer, and Wilkinson were to conduct a series of landscape and geomorphological surveys in the central part of Khuzestan, concentrating especially on the remnants of the geological features that looked like irrigation canals. They sought to develop a method for recognizing the traces of human activities on the landscape and a framework for analyzing the effects of these activities both on the conditions for subsistence economy in the region and on the formation and preservation of the archaeological record. In ad-

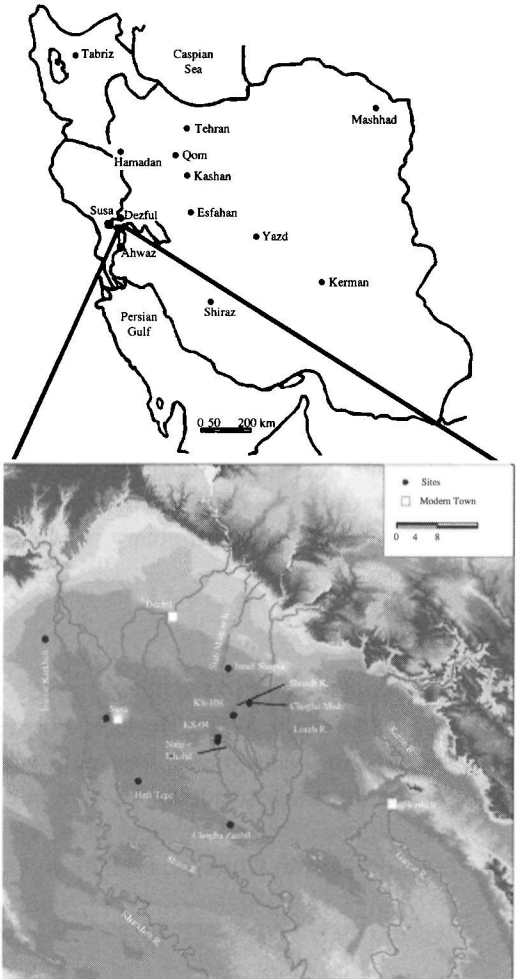


Figure 1. Map of upper Khuzestan showing the location of KS-004 and KS-108. Map generated by Tobin Hartnell



Figure 2. Panoramic view of KS-004, looking east

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Figure 3. Left: Ojirub Dam; right: Khalaf irrigation canal, west of KS-004

dition, Royal Ghazal of the University of Chicago's Department of Anthropology had designed a project to test the validity of Gregory Johnson's hypothesis concerning the spatial organization and distribution of the fourth millennium B.C. pottery. Our work at KS-108 had been designed to determine the temporal distribution of that pottery. Nevertheless, the derailment of our original plans was to some extent compensated by the serendipitous discoveries we made at both sites. Here we relate the preliminary results of our latest archaeological investigations in lowland Susiana.

KS-004

KS-004 (263493 E, 3561107 N; fig. 2) with a total area of about 7.00 ha is located near the Ojirub River, a branch of the Dez, where some thirty years ago archaeologist Henry Wright observed what seems to be an ancient (fourth millennium B.C.) irrigation canal. There are two canals on the western side of KS-004, one (the closer) is a 4 m wide, 2 m deep drainage canal (Fig. 3); the other, much wider (8 m) and deeper (5 m), is the irrigation canal that brings water from the Ojirub River, some 900 m west of the site, and is known locally as *Nahr Khalaf*

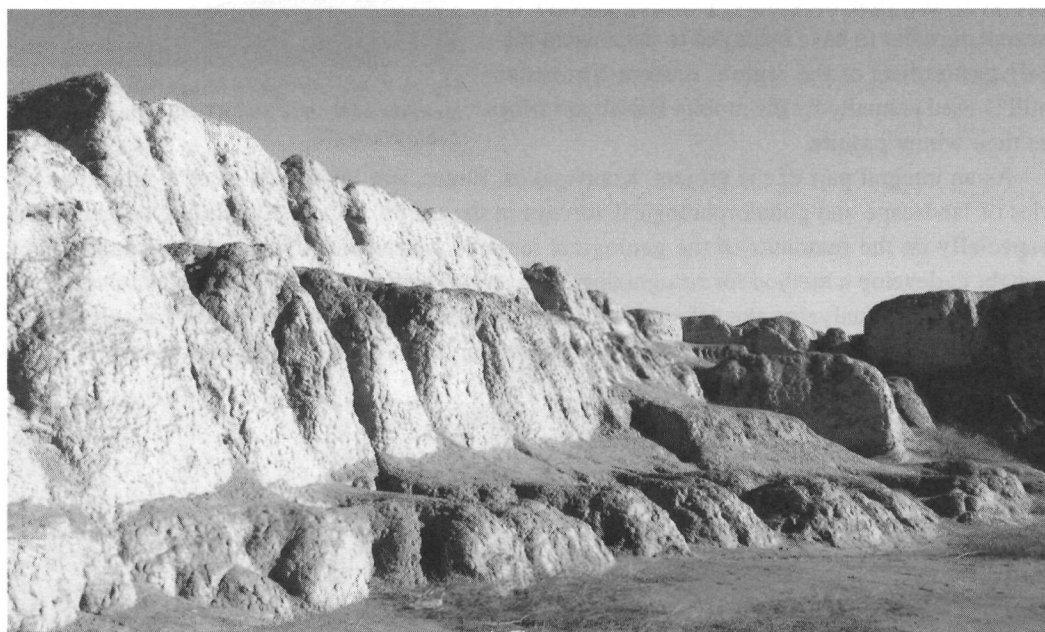


Figure 4. Remnants of the Susa platform; the cemetery was found in the foreground

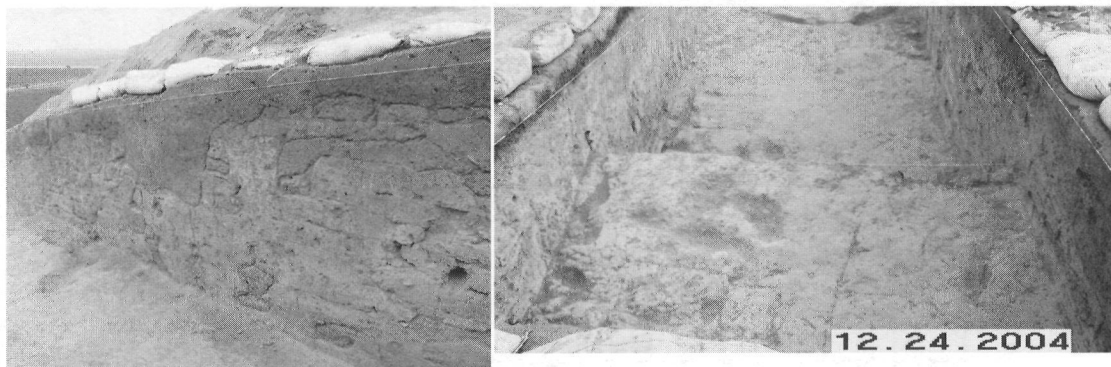


Figure 5. (left) South section of Square R15 N (KS-004) showing individual bricks. (right) Top view of the same square showing the mudbricks at lower level

(Khalaf Stream). The irrigation canal is fed by the waters behind a dam just next to the head of the canal (for a full description and history of this canal, see *News & Notes* no. 187).

The combined archaeological and geomorphological evidence from our last season established various lines of evidence for a shifting, intermittent occupation of the eastern Khuzestan plains in the Late Susiana period (ca. 4800–4000 B.C.). Our observations thus supported existing hypotheses about the development of specialized mobile pastoralism during this era and could contribute to the understanding of its chronology and spatial organization. Our observations suggest that specialized pastoralism was not a localized development but one that was integral to the development of hierarchical polities across western Iran through such mechanisms as the production of valuable textiles or the presence of a catalyzing military threat.

A number of systematic archaeological surface surveys in Khuzestan indicate that from the beginning of settled life, unlike in southern Mesopotamia, a single site dominated the landscape in the region. Prior to the fifth millennium B.C., Chogha Mish, with about 17 ha of occupation area, was the largest population center. Oriental Institute archaeological investigations at the site from 1969 to 1979 also showed increasing social and economic complexity until it was temporarily abandoned sometime in the early fifth millennium B.C., perhaps ca. 4800 B.C. Data obtained in several surface surveys had indicated that for several hundred years no single site seems to have been a particular regional center; however, our 2004/2005 investigations indicated that KS-004 was indeed the largest settlement (6 ha) during this “transitional” phase, which we have attributed to the increasing activities of the ancient highland mobile pastoralist groups in lowland Susiana.



Figure 6. Students huddling in Squares R–S 15 during a storm

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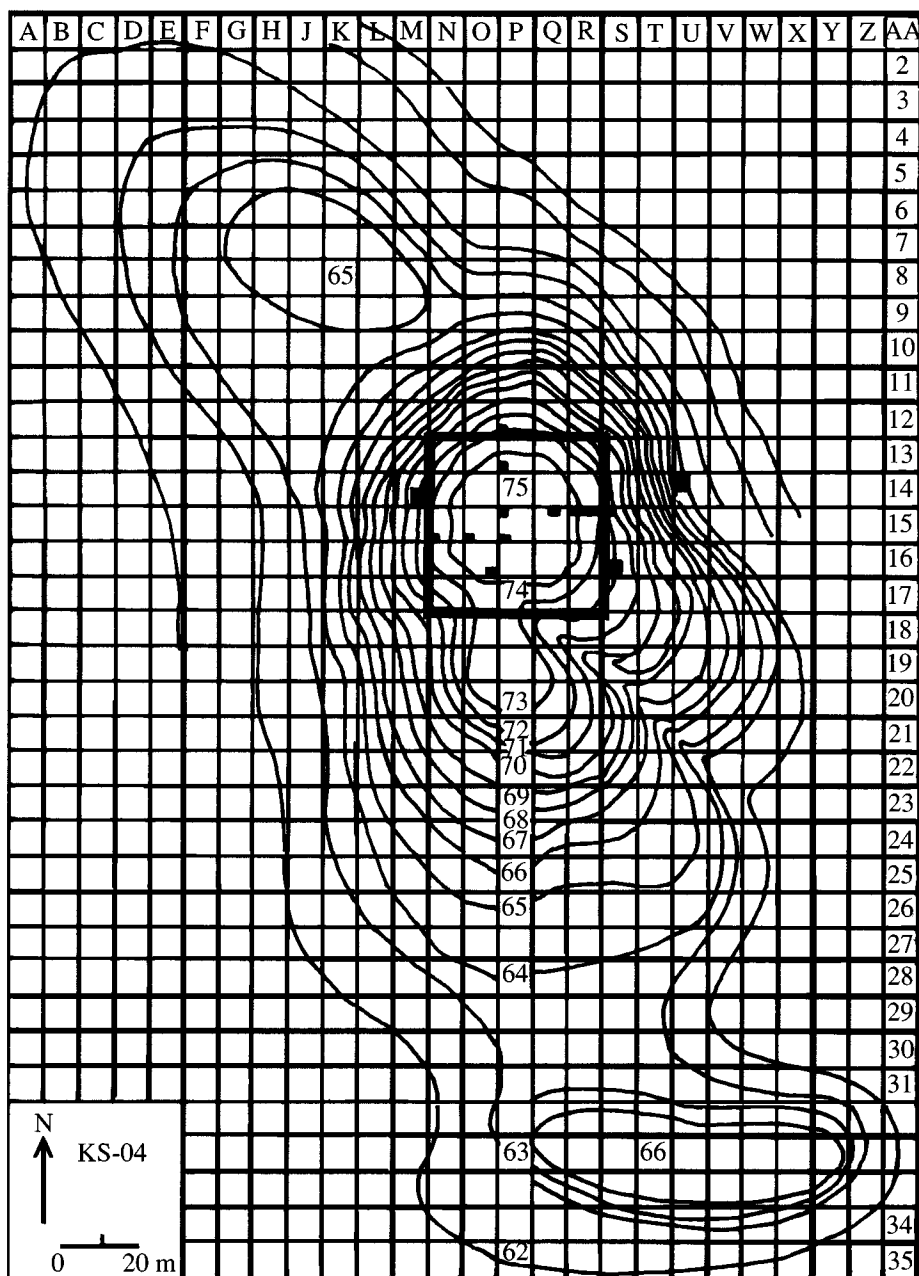
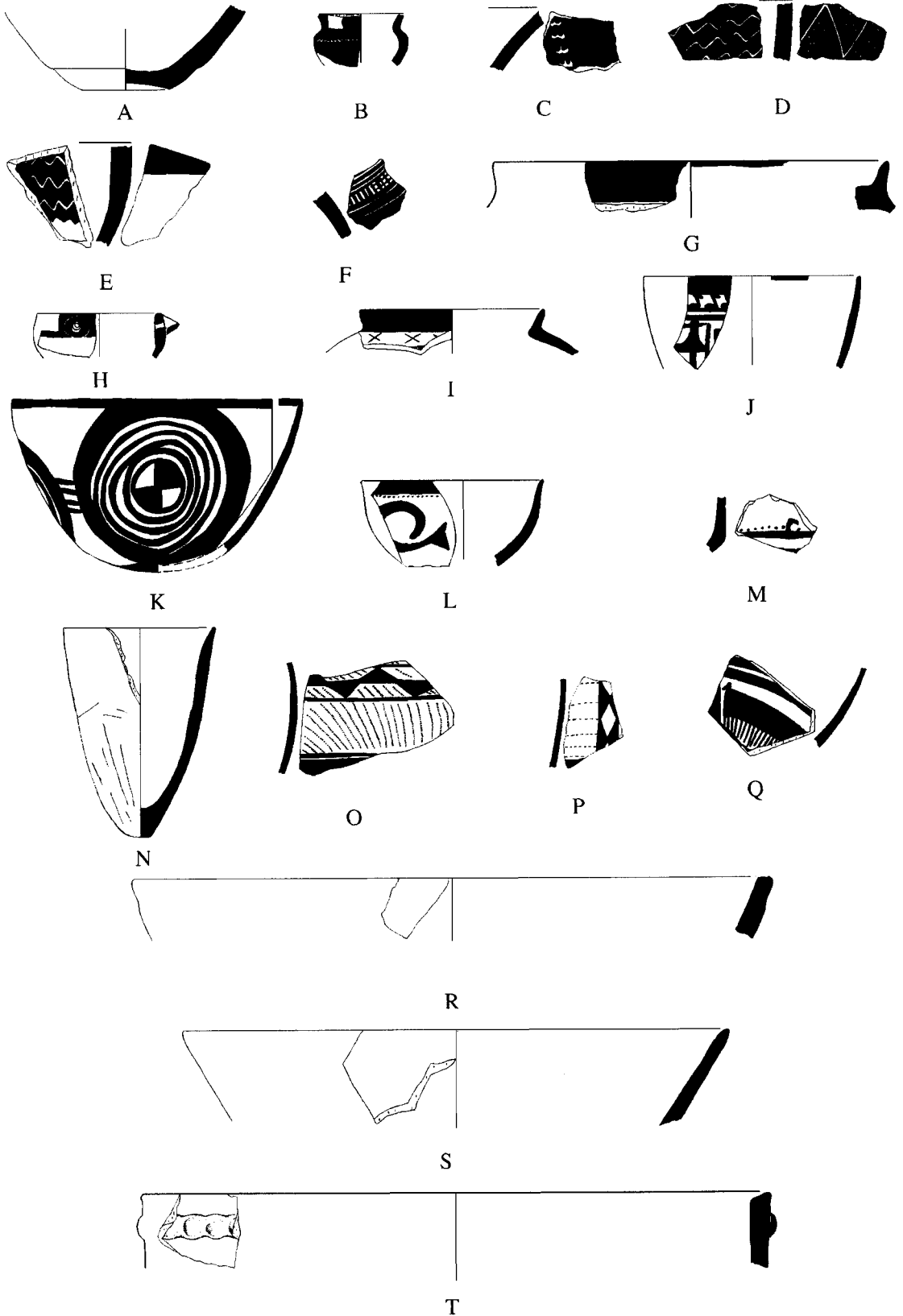


Figure 7. Contour map of KS-004 showing various areas of excavation

Around 4400 B.C., Susa, located next to the Shaur River on the opposite side of the plain, was probably established as several closely spaced hamlets that later joined to form a single population center (about 10 to 12 ha). Based on the same surveys, it is reported that during the Susa 1 or Late Susiana 2 phase (ca. 4400 B.C.) Susa was more than four times larger than some forty contemporary sites recorded in the region. Soon after Susa became a regional center, some violent event led to the construction of a massive cemetery at the foot of Susa's large mudbrick platform, containing approximately 2,000 burials (fig. 4).

Figure 8 (to right). Sample pottery from KS-004: (A-E) Early Susiana, (F-J) Middle Susiana, (K-M, P) Late Susiana 1, (O-Q) Late Susiana 2, and (R-T) Terminal Susa/Early Uruk. Scale 1:4



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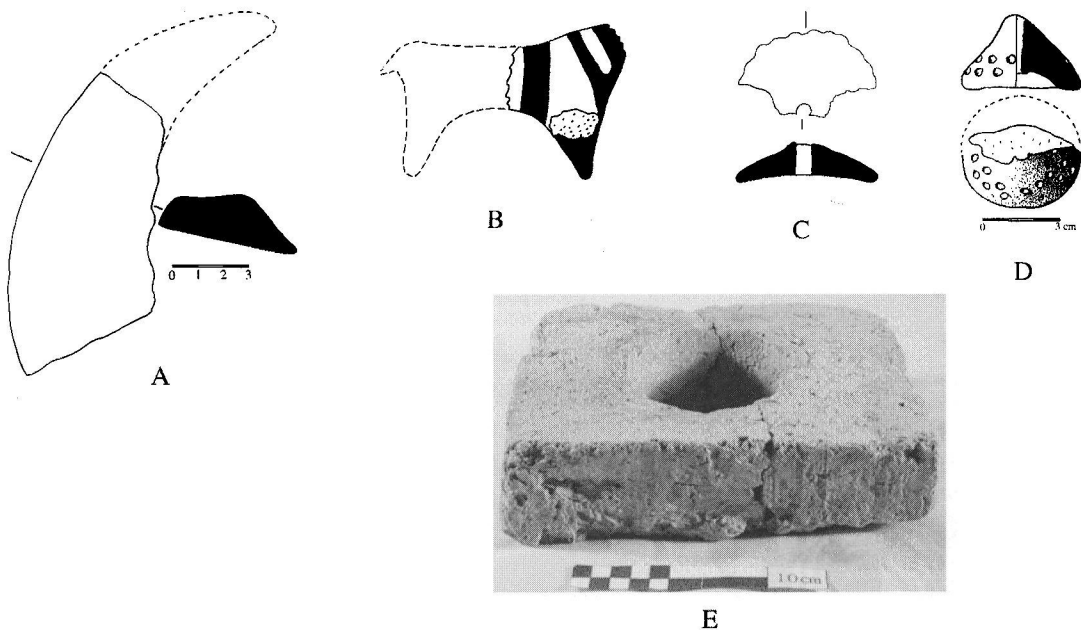


Figure 9. Objects from KS-004. (A) Clay sickle (Terminal Susa/Early Uruk), (B) animal figurine (Middle Susiana), (C) spindle whorl (Early Susiana), (D) spindle whorl (fourth millennium B.C.), and (E) baked decorative plaque (late fifth–early fourth millennium B.C.)

We know very little about this cemetery, as it was excavated in the days when archaeology had not yet become scientific in its procedures. As a result, interpretations of what caused this catastrophic event range from nomadic invasion from the highlands, communicable diseases caused by starvation, peasant revolts, and so on. Except for the idea of a peasant revolt, no other internal or intra-regional factor (such as a rival center) has been offered to explain this event because no site large enough to be considered a potential rival for Susa had been recorded in the archaeological surveys.

Our investigations at KS-004 provide clues that can be used to develop an alternative, though by no means exclusive, interpretation of the fate of Susa during the Late Susiana 2 phase. Needless to say much of our assertion here on the nature of KS-004 will have to be supported by extensive excavation the site. Until then, our conclusions will remain, of course, hypothetical. Our intensive systematic block survey indicated that during the Late Susiana 1 and Late Susiana 2 phases about 5.0–4.5 ha of the mound had been occupied. The site had never been excavated before and therefore we decided to excavate a number of small trenches to test the validity of surface distribution of pottery (figs. 8–9).

After laying down a 10 × 10 m grid on the entire site, we began collecting everything we saw in each grid. We then carefully dated each grid based on the presence/absence of diagnostic pottery and other objects found in that particular grid. The data were then transferred on the general contour maps, which became our basis for selecting our excavation areas. At both KS-108 and KS-004 we chose the steepest parts of the mounds for our stratigraphic cuts. Again, based on our distribution maps, we also selected several areas to expose the remains of the Late Susiana and Protoliterate (ca. 3400 B.C.) periods on both mounds.

From the beginning, our stratigraphic trench at KS-004 (Squares R–S 15) revealed a thick layer of a mudbrick structure (figs. 5–6); the bricks measured 44/42 × 22/20 × 10/8 cm. The bricks continued downward to the first step, 1.5 m below the summit of the mound. We encoun-

tered the same structure in our second step, at which point we realized the structure cannot be a wall but must have been a mudbrick platform. All the pottery found in the bricks and in the rubble filling the gaps between bricks dated to the Late Susiana 1–2 phases. It was clear to us then that this structure must date to the Late Susiana 2 phase, contemporary with Susa 1.

To ascertain our initial assumption, we opened a number of 1 × 2 m exploratory trenches on the summit, the western and eastern slopes of KS-004 (fig. 7). Most of these trenches contained mudbricks and mudbrick detritus into which Islamic graves had been dug down to a depth of 1.0–1.5 m. In most of our trenches we reached the remnant of the mudbrick platform we had encountered in our stratigraphic trench. Based on our observation, the preserved topmost platform had an area of at least some 50 × 50 m (shown with thick lines on the map). Our limited horizontal exposures did not reveal any buildings that once stood on this platform, however surface remnants of burnt building materials, especially on the western slope of the mound, indicated that this platform may have accommodated some solid architecture.

As we continued our stratigraphic trench downward, we realized that the topmost mudbrick platform was built directly over another one with a 5–10 cm interface that consisted of a wash of mudbrick detritus and some shallow refuse pits with small rocks and sherds of the Late Susiana 2 phase. This piece of evidence left no doubt as to the date of this platform. The second platform continued down to the Late Middle Susiana (ca. 5000 B.C.) deposit. The lack of time and weather conditions did not allow us to penetrate below these levels; nor could we continue the work in the small probe trenches below the first layer of the mudbricks of the first phase of the platform. No Late Susiana 2 sherds were found associated with the lower platform, only sherds of Late Middle Susiana and Late Susiana 1. Since archaeological contexts are dated by the latest materials, the second, lower platform must be dated to the Late Susiana 1 phase.

Our investigations at KS-004 indicated that the site with its monumental mudbrick platform would be a good candidate for the Chogha Mish diasporas after Chogha Mish was abandoned. KS-004 was initially occupied in the Early Susiana period (ca. 5800 B.C.). The site is only less than 9 km southwest of Chogha Mish and was probably one of its satellites during Chogha Mish's heyday. Small mudbrick platforms are not rare during the Late Susiana 1 phase. Some sites such as Qabr-e Sheykhein, southeast of Chogha Mish, are reported to have been furnished with this architectural element on which stood a large house, presumably of chiefly character and analogous to the residences of the highland tribal chiefs in southwestern Iran. Some scholars argue that from the beginning Susa was the preeminent site in Khuzestan. For this reason I had considered Susa as the site to which the Chogha Mish population retreated/fled after its demise. But this idea does not seem to be tenable because we have several centuries to account for between the time Susa was founded (ca. 4400 B.C.) and the time Chogha Mish was abandoned (ca. 4800 B.C.). With KS-004, the temporal problem may be addressed, although at present we have absolutely no concrete evidence to claim that the earlier monumental mudbrick platform at KS-004 was built by people from Chogha Mish. Nevertheless, KS-004 makes a much better alternative than Susa. The fact remains, however, that the processes of social and economic complexity that started at Chogha Mish did not stop when the site was abandoned.

The presence at KS-004 of a Late Susiana 1 monumental platform, which presumably supported some formal structures or elite residences, suggests that the center of power in the fifth millennium B.C.

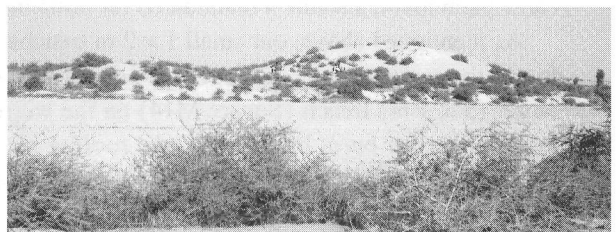


Figure 10. Panoramic view of KS-108, looking north

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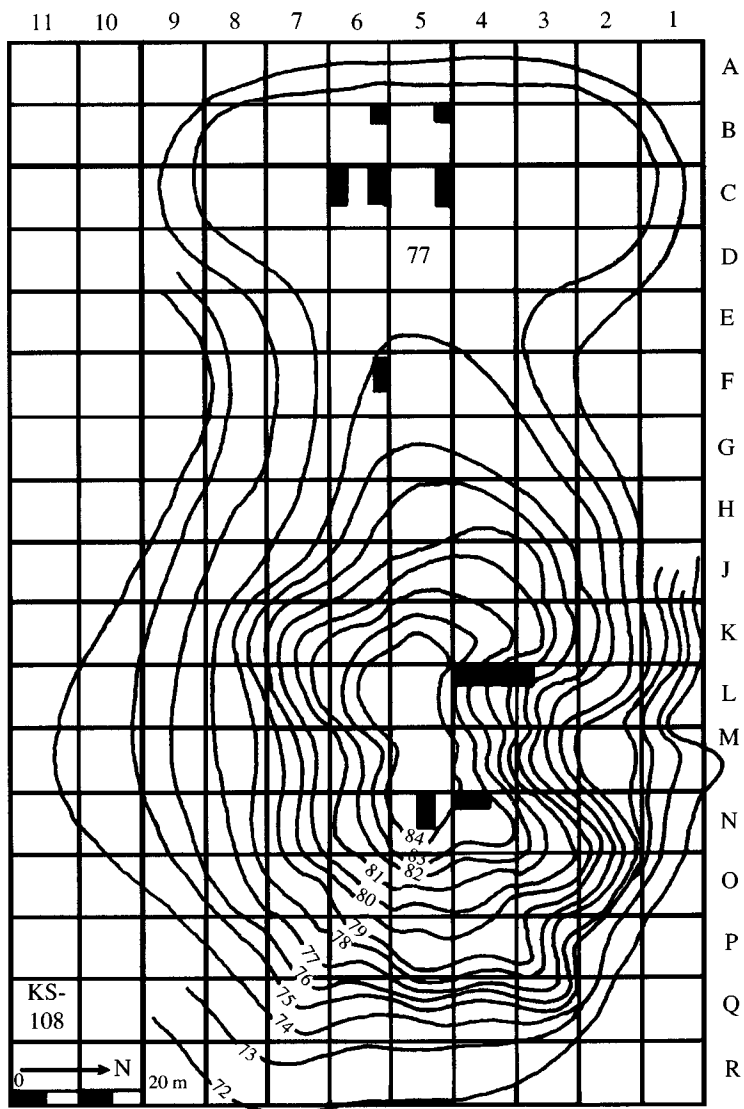


Figure 11. Contour map of KS-108 showing various areas of excavation

shifted to a site away from the volatile area of Chogha Mish and that KS-004 continued to prosper until Susa was founded some 30 km away on the opposite side of the plain. If this is the case, then in the second half of the fifth millennium B.C., we have two regional centers in central Susiana that vied for supremacy. Whatever the details of this struggle, the settlement at Susa became paramount, a status it maintained for millennia.

As mentioned above, our small 1×2 m trenches did not provide enough horizontal exposure to see the remnants of buildings that once stood on the first platform. We therefore opened a larger (5×5 m) trench (Square M14) on the western slope of the mound where we found surface remains of burnt bricks, ash, and roofing material that still bore reed and timber impressions. In this area nothing was found later than Late Susiana 2 phase. We opened this larger trench in the hope to link the surface burnt material to the later phase of the platform. Again, bad weather and lack of time did not allow us to penetrate the underlying layers deep enough to

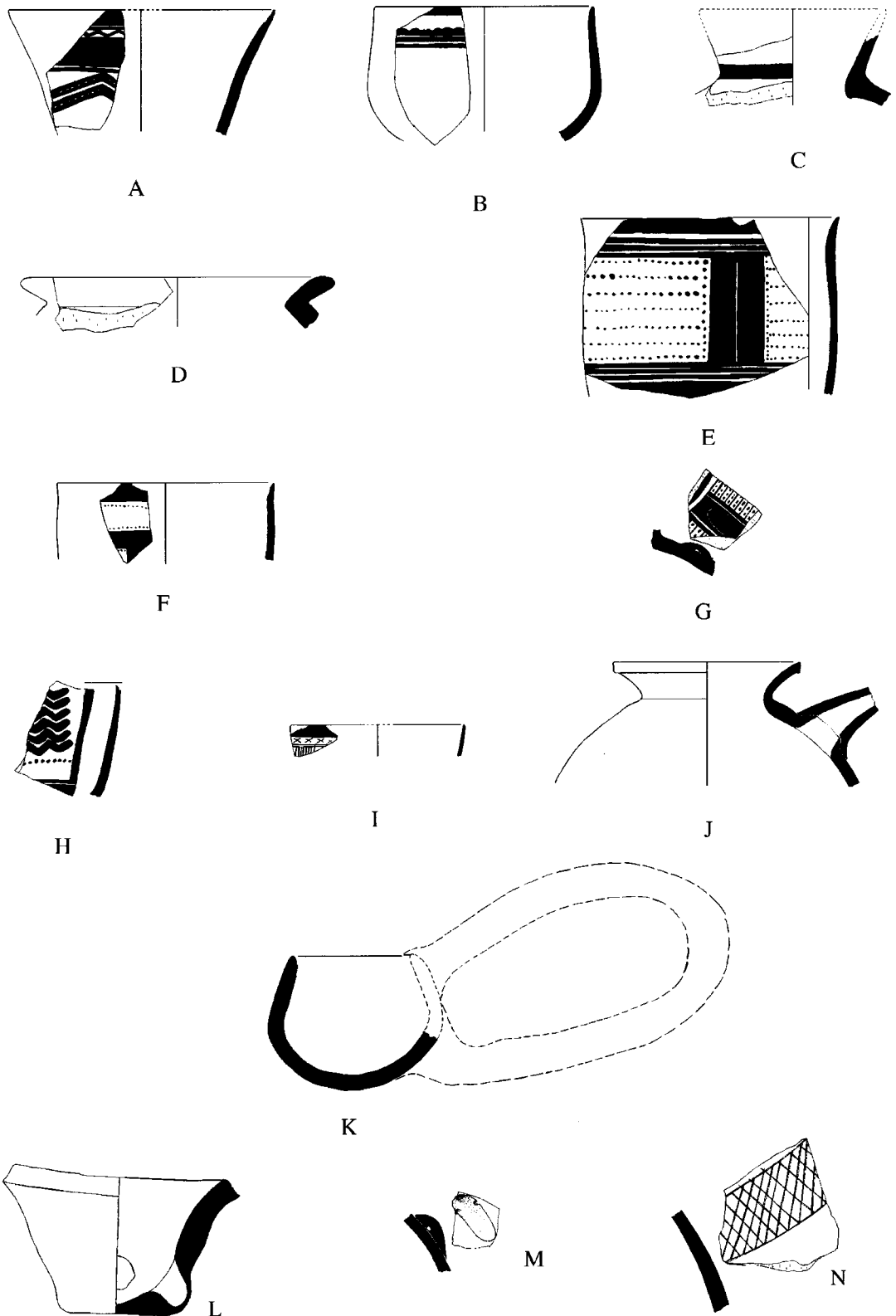


Figure 12. Sample pottery from KS-108: (A-D) Middle Susiana, (E-F) Late Susiana 1, (G-I) Late Susiana 2, (J-N) Protoliterate. Scale 1:4

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Figure 13. M. Karami laying out Square C6 N on the western edge of KS-108

physically link them to the platform. Here we found an extensive and deep (1 m) deposit of very soft grayish green ash mixed with potsherds, burnt bricks, and roofing materials.

It was this evidence together with the size of the site in this phase (about 4.0–4.5 ha) that allows us to offer an alternative to the regional structure of lowland Susiana in the period prior to the crystallization of state organizations and urban centers. We

need carefully and critically to analyze our data and conduct more excavations at the site with questions specifically formulated to shed light on the nature of the site. But based on the raw data we have at our disposal, KS-004 seems to be a good candidate as Susa's regional competitor. If this turns out to be the case, perhaps the violence attested by the burning and destruction at both Susa and KS-004 are related to this competition and rivalry that eventually frustrated the growth of KS-004 in the succeeding periods.

That was our serendipitous discovery at KS-004. In addition, we also discovered not only Early Susiana occupation on KS-004, but remnants of a small Early Susiana settlement (numbered temporarily KS-004a) 300 m northwest of KS-004, none of which had been reported before. This latter discovery was made when a few students and I were investigating the banks of Khalaf canal.

KS-108

In KS-108 (266502 E, 3565471 N) we planned to excavate several 3 × 6 m trenches on the rather flat lower mound which had abundant Protoliterate pot sherds (figs. 10–11). Our research had been designed to find stratified evidence for the very poorly understood early phases of the Protoliterate period, known as Early and Middle Uruk phases (ca. 3800–3500 B.C.). In addition, we planned to have enough horizontal exposure to reveal the functional nature of the site during the Protoliterate phase. From the pieces of pottery wasters, baked bricks, and small decorative clay cones, we expected to find a rural administrative center that might have been a satellite of the much larger Chogha Mish, only 3 km to the northwest.

The results of our surface survey indicated that the site was occupied sometime during the Middle Susiana period and continued to be occupied until the end of the Late Susiana 2 phase. We did not find any surface or excavated pottery datable to the first half of the fourth millennium. Sherds of the Middle Elamite, Parthian, Sasanian, and Islamic periods were also found scattered around the mound, indicating limited occupation or more probably use of the site during these much later periods — none of our trenches revealed any archaeological levels that contained these late sherds (fig. 12).

In addition to the trenches on the terrace, we opened a stratigraphic trench, Square L4, on the northern slope of the mound to document the interface between the various phases known from

the surface survey. We excavated this 3×12 m stratigraphic trench down to the Late Middle Susiana deposits. Again, lack of time and bad weather prevented us from penetrating deeper levels. Nevertheless, the evidence from this stratigraphic trench was inconclusive and except for an erosion layer of mudbrick detritus of the Late Susiana 2 phase that separated it from the later Protoliterate deposit, this part of the mound was so much disturbed by tree roots, animal holes, and pits that it was very difficult to find a clear line of demarcation between the various phases. We do know at this stage that the mound, at least where our stratigraphic trench was located, had very shallow deposits of Late Susiana 2 phase, indicating that the occupation in this phase was short and ephemeral. Our trench also indicated that after a hiatus of perhaps several hundred years, this sector of the settlement was reoccupied during the Protoliterate period.

Though the evidence from Square L4 suggested that the site may not contain materials from the first half of the fourth millennium B.C., we hoped that this would be a localized gap and that the terrace that was littered with Protoliterate pottery may still contain earlier phases of this period since Gregory Johnson had reported the presence of sherds of the Terminal Susa, "Early Uruk," and "Middle Uruk" phases at the site.

We opened three 3×6 m trenches in the center and western edge of the terrace (fig. 13). Strangely, two of the trenches (Squares C6 N and C6 S) contained only a compact layer of soil with some Protoliterate sherds and reached what we considered a sterile soil at a depth of 80 cm below the surface. To make sure, we excavated a 1×1 m area on the corner of these two trenches for another meter. The whole deposit consisted of sterile soil with absolutely no archaeological materials. This was a puzzling situation since the area of our trenches is about 4 m above the plain level. We opened another trench (Squares F6) on the very edge of the western sector of the mound so that we have both horizontal and vertical exposure. The same situation was encountered in this trench as well. Here, after a thin layer of disturbed top soil, we encountered a sterile compact clay deposit.



Figure 14. 2004/5 Joint Expedition members in front of the Haft Tappeh Research Center. *Sitting front row, from left: K. Borhani, J. Mohammadi, S. Alkasir, Y. Zalaqi, M. Karami, I. Habibi, N. Mirmontazeri, M. Avazeh, N. Rava, M. Fallah, M. Qaedan; second row: A. Zalaqi, T. Hartnell, S. Ebrahimi, A. Talebian, A. Jamshidi, S. Akhtar, M. Zare, M. Molaji, M. Zarinkuh, M. Khalili, K. Aqai, S. Beigi; standing: A. Ahrar, E. Karimi, M. Vahidi, S. Banna, M. Heidari, R. Valizadeh, S. Qorbani, L. Niakan, M. Lajmiri, H. Ashjai, M. Talebian, A. Alizadeh, S. Hamzavi, A. Mahfroofi, S. Ka'bi, M. Zare, B. Eshqi, O. Hootan, M. Omidfar, Y. Razmahang, M. R. Rokni, E. Bordbar, and K. Chenani*

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Square C6 N, however, contained archaeological materials just below the surface. Here we found wall fragments, living surfaces, and a mudbrick bin, but all were found in a very bad state of preservation. Square C6 N was just next to the one that did not produce any archaeological layers. Even in C6 N, below the level of the fragmentary surface, archaeological materials ceased to exist. To make sure, we also excavated a 1 × 1 m area for another meter but found no archaeological materials and the soil was completely sterile. All the pottery from these operations dated to the second half of the fourth millennium B.C. and we were much disappointed that we did not find any earlier fourth millennium material as reported by Johnson.

As we were discussing our puzzlement over this very odd situation, the workers from the nearby village of Beladieh told us that it was only recently that they stopped using the terrace as a farm and that this portion of the site, which is flat, was heavily plowed for some fifty years. While this explained the destruction of the upper part of the site, it did not account for the fact that virgin soil was reached 3–4 m above the surrounding plain.

Clearly we could have benefited from geomorphological investigations. Our own crude observations indicated that in the region of KS-108 the entire plain west of the Shureh River sharply drops 1 to 2 m below its eastern bank. Tectonic movement is a logical possibility to explain why this part of the plain is so obviously lower. It is also possible that this assumed tectonic movement had something to do with the genesis of the Shureh River. The Shureh is actually a spring river that originates some 10 km north of the site from the seepage of the Siah Mansur and Loreh Rivers on the eastern part of Khuzestan.

The unusually high level of the sterile soil at KS-108 may also be due to the presence of a natural rise on which people had settled. Such natural hills are excellent sites for settlements located near a river and thus in danger of seasonal floods. This hypothesis can be tested by digging a number of probes in various parts of the mound.

Having been disappointed by our trenches on the terrace, we decided to move to the summit of the mound where we had collected Protoliterate pottery on the surface, hoping that here archaeological layers associated with the pottery can be found. We opened two 3 × 6 m trenches here (Squares N5 and N5/N6). After removing about 20 cm of top soil we discovered a number of graves, some superimposed, that covered the whole area of the operation. Even though the skeleton in one grave had a necklace of semi-precious stones, all the skeletons were oriented east-west facing southwest (towards Mecca), a sure sign that they all belonged to the Islamic period. Our local workers told us that the graves belonged to the Bakhtiyari mobile pastoralist tribesmen. We could not simply remove the bones and reach lower levels. Graves are difficult and time-consuming to excavate. Therefore, after we completely excavated the ones we had encountered and collected the bones and reburied them, we quit this area. Bones jutting out of robber pits on the high mound also discouraged us to move to another spot since we realized that the entire high mound must have been used as a cemetery.

There is much to be done at both sites. In fact, we consider our 2004/2005 season as preparation for a larger operation, which we are just beginning to understand how to proceed. Nevertheless, the resumption of our work at these important sites requires the type of long-term plan and commitment that cannot be established at this time given all the problems I mentioned in the beginning of this report. Since 2003, Director Gil Stein has traveled twice to Iran to negotiate a long-term agreement and to keep in close cooperation with our Iranian colleagues through the Iranian Cultural Heritage and Tourism Organization, ensuring continuity of our work in this and other regions. We have submitted a proposal that in principle has been approved by the Iranian Cultural Heritage and Tourism Organization, but it will have to be formally approved by both the Iranian Foreign Ministry and the University of Chicago Administration. We hope to hear

from the Iranian Cultural Heritage and Tourism Organization soon and return to the region to resume our work.

KERKENES DAĞ PROJECT

Scott Branting

The ongoing archaeological project at the ancient Iron Age city at Kerkenes Dağ in central Turkey is both the newest and one of the oldest Oriental Institute projects. The site first caught the attention of the Oriental Institute when it was visited by one of our early faculty members, Hans Henning von der Osten, in 1926. He returned with several members of the Oriental Institute's Hittite Expedition staff in 1927 to survey in the ruined course of the city's massive wall and a few of the more prominent features within this enormous city. The results of this survey intrigued the Institute's founder James Henry Breasted enough that in 1928 he dispatched Erich Schmidt to undertake limited excavations within this mysterious metropolis in order to determine if the city was in fact a contemporary rival of the Hittites. Over eight days Schmidt was able to excavate eighteen trenches within the city and arrive at the conclusion that the city was not a contemporary of the Hittites but was rather a later city dating to somewhere within the 800 year span of the Iron Age.

Sixty-five years later, in 1993, archaeologists again returned to investigate this ancient city which some scholars had since identified with Herodotus' city of Pteria. A project under the direction of Dr. Geoffrey Summers of Middle Eastern Technical University in Ankara was started in that year and has continued every year since. In 1995, while a student at the Oriental Institute, I began working with this international project and I now serve as its co-director. With my return to the Institute this past year Kerkenes Dağ has also returned to the fold of Institute projects. Yet the emphasis of the current project has been slightly different from that of the 1920s, largely due to advancements in available technology. Rather than merely trying to determine the date of this ancient city by digging countless trenches, we started the project by first employing a wide range of innovative techniques to see exactly what lay beneath the surface of the ground before we excavated on a large scale (fig. 1). To do this a whole range of remote sensing techniques were used to map out the urban blocks and streets within the entire ancient city including: aerial photography, magnetometry survey, resistivity survey, electromagnetic-induction survey, satellite images, and GPS survey. This data was combined within geographic information system (GIS) software, specifically ArcGIS and ERDAS Imagine, to produce these remarkably detailed pictures of the urban fabric of the city, something lacking to this day at nearly all comparable ancient cities (fig. 2).

This strategy of investing the time and effort upfront to collect these illuminative datasets has already begun to yield impressive dividends. Rather than blindly digging small holes all over the city we now possess the necessary knowledge about where things are in the city to make optimal use of present and future investments of time and available funding. We can do this by first exploring the data through visualization, analytical techniques, analysis of parallels, or through simulation. We can then use this knowledge of the urban fabric to guide where to place precision

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Figure 1. Virtual reality reconstruction of Kerkenes Dağ based on GPS survey data

excavation trenches. These can be focused so as to excavate only what is necessary to answer particular questions about the political and social fabric of this city as well as to provide us with a better understanding of the daily lives of its numerous inhabitants.

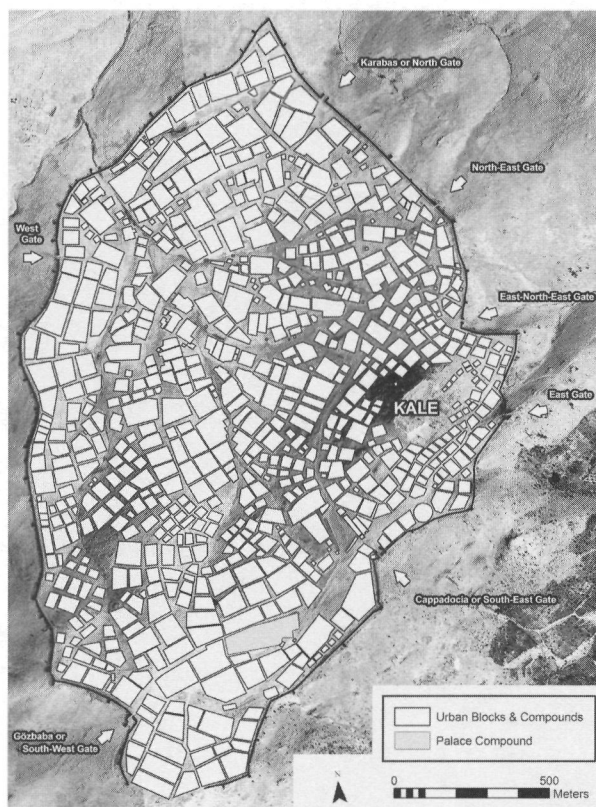


Figure 2. Map of urban blocks reconstructed from remote sensing at Kerkenes Dağ

Starting in 2003 we used this approach to guide our first large-scale excavations within this ancient city. Two areas in particular were selected for excavation given our desire to understand more about who the people were that built and controlled this ancient city as well as who the people were that inhabited it. The first area selected was in a potentially residential area of the city that the remote sensing showed had structures that looked like megarons, a building style with parallels to the west in Phrygian areas of Anatolia. We excavated precisely one half of one of these structures and were able to confirm that they were in fact megarons, providing important clues as to who some of the urban inhabitants were.

The second area we selected in 2003 was in the monumental entranceway to the Palace Compound, where remote sensing had shown a great deal of burning in the final destruction of the city. Our reasons for excavating here were twofold. Firstly, it was expected that in such a critical place, where everyone entering the Palace would have had to pass by, the leader(s) of the city

would most likely have placed symbols of their power and might. At comparable ancient cities such locations have often yielded monumental sculptures, reliefs, and even inscriptions. By excavating here clues were expected to be found that would shed light on the methods and motives of those who constructed and controlled the city during its brief life as well as perhaps of those who destroyed it. Secondly, this was an area that we suspected might yield charred hardwood timbers from which we might be able to get tree ring dates through dendrochronological analysis to pin down the precise date of the foundation and perhaps destruction of this short-lived city. Limited excavations in a third of the gateway in 2003 yielded all that we had hoped and more. In addition to a portion of the impressive gateway itself we found several burnt timbers, pieces of reliefs in stone and bronze, and fragments of an Old Phrygian inscription (fig. 3).



Figure 3. Small portion of Old Phrygian inscription from palace gateway with joining fragments recovered in 2003 and 2004

During the 2004 season work progressed on four different aspects of the project: the continuation of the resistivity remote sensing survey, continued excavations within the monumental entranceway to the Palace, new excavations along the streets of the city, and the further development of the Kerkenes Eco-center. Of these, the majority of effort was centered on excavating the second third of the Palace gateway in hopes of recovering more of the important sources of information found in 2003, especially the inscriptions (fig. 4). Our excavations here did yield more joins to the existing inscription as well as fragments of a unique meter high sculpture in the round of a human (fig. 5) and a single large fragment of a monumental sculpture of possibly a sphinx (fig. 6). Of the gateway itself we uncovered the extent of the doorway where two large double-leaved wooden doors would have stood at the top of the 10 m wide stone-paved walkway. On either side of these doors were two large plinths carved from single conglomerate stones, bases upon which perhaps statues of lions or sphinxes once stood. Rising up behind these plinths were stone walls of granite and limestone that supported the two flanking towers on either side and perhaps the superstructure of the gateway as well. With further excavation in 2005 we will finish clearing out this impressive gateway and hopefully recover the final fragments of the inscription and of these

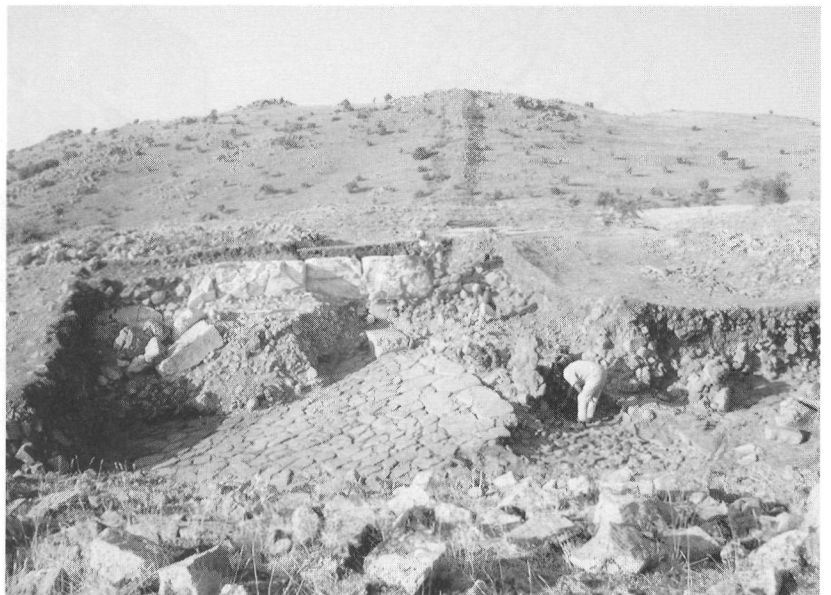


Figure 4. 2004 excavation area in the palace gateway

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Figure 5. Upper half of 1 m high statue of a human figure from palace gateway

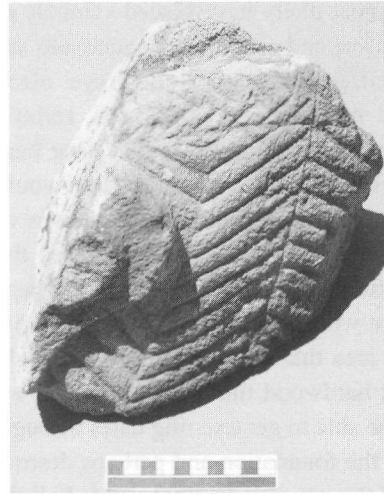


Figure 6. Fragment of a large statue of a sphinx

sculptures. But already our excavations here have yielded critical information that points towards Phrygian speaking peoples as those who controlled and at least partially inhabited this ancient city.



Figure 7. Results of simulations of pedestrians on the street network (left) and urban block maps (right) of Kerkenes Dağ

Beyond the Palace, excavations also took place along three of the streets of this ancient city. This new initiative is an outgrowth of my own research entailing simulations of ancient pedestrians moving around within the urban fabric of the city. Just as modern city planners use tools such as this with virtual automobiles to determine where to site new roads or new shopping malls or industries, I have been working with ways to use them in order to understand how an ancient city was used by

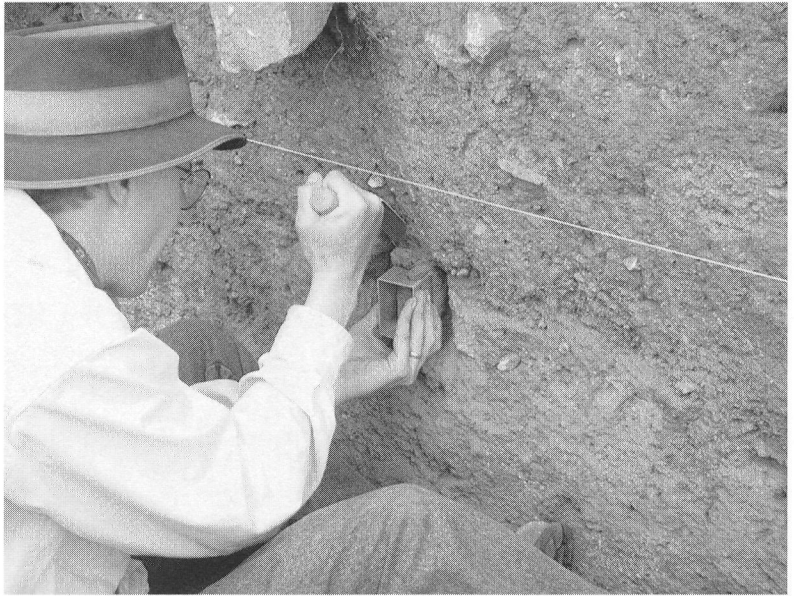


Figure 8. Taking a micromorphology sample from a buried street at Kerkenes Dağ

its inhabitants. Using only models of how different people walk and the form of the street network itself we have been able to predict which streets, and which urban blocks on them, were the main streets filled with the hustle and bustle of people moving around and which were the quiet back streets or even alleys (fig. 7). The excavations we undertook this year were designed to test these simulations of virtual pedestrians against traces of ancient walking over these streets in the past, especially looking at different amounts of compaction of the dirt street surfaces as more and more people once walked over them. Excavations cut through three different streets: the predicted main street of the city, a side street with predicted middle range amounts of traffic, and a back alley with very little predicted traffic. In each location the street surface was found and cut through, and geomorphology samples were taken of the street surface and core (fig. 8). These samples, analyzed over this year at the Charles McBurney Laboratory for Geoarchaeology at Cambridge University proved to yield significant correlations with the predicted simulations! With such promising results we hope to be able to attract funding to continue this work in the years ahead and eventually confirm the promise of this innovative new way in which to analyze transportation and the use of space within ancient cities, towns, and regions.

Alongside these excavations we also continued work on the resistivity remote sensing survey within the vicinity of the Büyük Göl and along a small portion of the western slopes. Of particular interest in the data from this year was a single large buried structure on the western slopes that had been heavily and intentionally burnt during the destruction of the city. In future seasons we hope to excavate within this structure to find out why it was so singled out by those who destroyed the city. Work also progressed on the parallel Eco-center project down around our excavation house. While more architectural and ecological rather than archaeological in its research goals, the Eco-center project does provide the archaeological project with additional living and working facilities produced using traditional and more environmentally friendly building techniques. It will also eventually provide greater self-sufficiency and lower costs to the Kerkenes Project in terms of our food and energy requirements during the year. On the latter front, over the next year we will be looking in particular at acquiring solar powered ultraviolet water filters and wind powered pumps for our newly drilled water wells. Additional information

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on all of our activities as well as the latest news and reports and lists of participants and sponsors can be found on our Web site at www.kerkenes.metu.edu.tr

LOST TREASURES FROM IRAQ (IRAQ MUSEUM DATABASE PROJECT/IRAQCRISIS)

Clemens D. Reichel

Over two years after the Iraq War, the fall of Baghdad, and the looting of the Iraq Museum, Iraq continued to dominate the news. While much is heard about political developments, military operations, and the ongoing insurgency, little if anything tends to be reported about the fate of Iraq's cultural heritage. This does not mean that its archaeological sites or even its museums are safe — quite the contrary. Unfortunately, to most elements of the press a continuing misery is about as newsworthy as an old hat.

It is for this reason that we will continue to host and develop “Lost Treasures of Iraq,” the Oriental Institute’s information page on threats to Iraq’s cultural heritage, which was launched shortly after the fall of Baghdad and the looting of the Iraq Museum in April 2003. Since most of our work in 2004/2005 was dedicated towards expanding the existing features, I will refrain from extensive repetition in describing the Web site and instead refer to my detailed description of its features in the *2003/2004 Annual Report*. The site consists of four main parts (see sidebar): (1) a database of archaeological objects from the Iraq Museum; (2) photos of archaeological sites in Iraq; (3) a bibliography documenting the contents of museums and libraries in Iraq, and (4) “IraqCrisis,” a moderated e-mail list that relates substantive information on the cultural property damaged, destroyed, or lost during and after the war in March/April 2003. Most of the work was divided between Charles (“Chuck”) E. Jones and me, with (1) and (2) being my responsibility and (3) and (4) being Jones’s achievements.

As of June 2005 some 15,000 items have been reported as stolen from the Iraq Museum during its looting in April 2003, of which about half are said to have been retrieved since then. Yet over two years after the looting we still lack final numbers and tallies of what is missing and what has been retrieved, though some lists of missing items have become available. For these reasons the number of items in our Oriental Institute Iraq Museum Database continued to grow — not as fast I had hoped for in the past but significant progress was made nonetheless. With more information available on the museum’s losses our additions have become more focused on objects that are either known to or feared to have been stolen. During summer and fall of 2004 we added to our database 172 items of stone sculpture and relief from the Diyala excavations that had been allocated to the Iraq Museum, including the famous votive figurines from the temples of Tell Asmar, Tell Agrab, and Khafaje. Though eyewitness accounts indicate that a good number of them survived the looting intact we simply do not know the fate of all of them, and it is quite possible that some of them were indeed stolen. In November 2004 we returned to work on an artifact group that required top priority — the cylinder seals from the Iraq Museum of which some 4,800, a sizable part of the museum’s collection, had been reported as stolen in

June 2003. This news had a tragic personal component for us, since these numbers included many seals excavated by the Oriental Institute, including over 500 cylinder seals from the Diyala excavations — one of the largest collections of excavated and therefore well-dated cylinder seals. Since November 2004 we have added the images and descriptions of 517 seals from the Diyala sites, of sixteen seals from Umm al-Hafriyat (fig. 1), and of thirty-seven from Nippur to the database. Work on the seals is ongoing and currently refined by adding information from a list of stolen Iraq Museum cylinder seals, which Lamia al-Gailani had compiled during her stay in Baghdad and which she forwarded to McGuire Gibson in 2004. Alexandra Witsell, student assistant at the Oriental Institute, had already translated this list from Arabic and compiled a spreadsheet with scans of archival and published copies, which we could use for our database entries on seals from Umm al-Hafriyat and Nippur. We are currently finishing the data entry for the Nippur seals — by the time this report will appear in print we should be done with it.

One of the key problems in compiling this database was the verification of an object's status: was it stolen (if so, was it retrieved later on), was it damaged, are parts of it missing? With relatively few items being unambiguously listed as missing and even fewer positively identified as either having remained in the museum or having been retrieved, we usually had to define the objects' status as "unknown" (at least unknown to us) — in case of doubt it seemed better to err on the side of safety and to include items that could potentially have been stolen. This uncertainty remains for many objects, but at least for the cylinder seals posted on our site al-Gailani's list now gives us the opportunity to identify firmly those who have been confirmed to be missing.

At present (July 2005), we have 1,320 objects from the Iraq Museum in the on-line version of our database. This is a small fraction of the total number of objects in the Iraq Museum, but to my knowledge it remains the by far most extensive on-line catalog of items from the Iraq Museum. In the near future we will continue our work, largely guided in our additions by object photographs and descriptions that are available to us. We will continue to add photographs and descriptions of the Nimrud ivories, whose fate has remained largely unknown. Georgina Herrmann (University College

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>

Site Photos from Iraq: An illustrated database of objects from Iraqi museum collections.

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

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/dbfiles/farchakh/farchmain.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, Suleimaniyah, 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>

On-line Resources on the Oriental Institute's Web site addressing the threat to Iraq's cultural heritage.

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 Website information & statistics | Copyrights & permissions | Contact us
 Website navigational aid

Oriental Institute
 Lost Treasures from Iraq--Objects

View Objects by: Materials, Personal Object Types, Alphabetical Index of Categories, Iraq Museum Numbers, Provenience, Excavation Numbers, Publication / Source

Detected Categories: stone - cylinder seal - god - chariot, stone - cylinder seal - god - chariot, stone - cylinder seal - god - chariot

modern impression

- museum number: IM83075
- excavation number: Um1140
- provenience: Umm al-Hafriyat
- dimensions (in cm): Height: 3.5 cm, Diam: 2.2 cm
- material: pink stone (feldite)
- date: Akkadian (ca. 2500 BC)
- description: Pink stone cylinder seal. Scene: two standing human figures with arms raised in greeting facing a god standing in a four-wheeled chariot pulled by a bull. The figure in front of the bull is pouring water from a small vessel onto the ground. The god holds a whip in one hand and the reins in the other. The surface is badly worn at the two standing figures. material: feldite.
- status: forced to be stolen

bibliography and image source: Gibson, McGuire (unpublished), Chicago: Umm al-Hafriyat Expedition.
 copyright for image: Oriental Institute

Figure 1. MISSING SEALS: Page from on-line version of *Iraq Museum Database*, showing description and photo of modern impression of a seal excavated by the *Oriental Institute's Nippur Expedition at Umm al-Hafriyat (1977/78)*; a hyperlink on the main page connects to other photographs available of this object, in this case a side view of the seal (bottom right)

London/British School of Archaeology in Iraq) kindly made scans of photographs available for those ivories that had been recovered during the British Excavations at Nimrud (1949–1963). Four hundred eighty-five of them have already been posted in the on-line version of our database, but literally thousands more remain to be added.

In addition to posting objects from the Iraq Museum we have added a new section to “Lost Treasures” called “Site Photos from Iraq,” which contains recent photos of archaeological sites in Iraq from be-

fore and after the war (<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/sites/sitesintro.htm>). This initiative was actually spurred by a member of the U.S. armed forces in Iraq: SPC William Peterson, who in 2003 and 2004 was stationed in Iraq and who had visited and photographed numerous sites in southern Iraq, very kindly sent us his photographs for evaluation; with his permission we posted 196 of his photographs from Girsu, Nippur, and Uruk on our site. In January Joanne Farchakh-Bajjaly, a Lebanese journalist who between 1998 and 2004 undertook several trips to Iraq, presented a lecture in Breasted Hall on the fate of Iraq’s archaeological sites from the aftermath of the 1991 Gulf War to the 2003 Iraq War. Her photographs show the apocalyptic scale of damage that had been done to sites in the Sumerian heartland such as Umma, Umm al-Aqarib, Isin, Larsa, and Bad-Tibira since the 2003 war and which continues at an undiminished pace (fig. 2). The impact that these photographs could have on public awareness of what is being irretrievably destroyed was not lost on us; we are very grateful, therefore, that Joanne allowed us to post 183 of her photographs on our Web site (<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/dbfiles/farchakh/farchmain.htm>). We have made no attempt at covering all aspects of the damage caused by site looting — time constrains and logistics simply do not permit us to do so, and other sites such as SAFE (<http://www.savingantiquities.org/h-feature.htm>) are already doing a great job in educating the public — but we hope that this large corpus of primary information from Iraq, which largely has not been made public elsewhere, will be found useful for purposes of education, documentation, and reference.

Chuck continues to moderate the “IraqCrisis” e-mail list (<http://listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/iraqcrisis>). By 2005 the number of subscribers had grown to 775. Subscribers not only include academics involved in the study of the history and culture of Iraq but also govern-

ment officials and reporters for major news outlets, making a list a highly useful and widely appreciated resource for exchanging and distributing information concerning Iraq's Cultural Heritage.

During spring we devoted much time to the preparation of "The Threat to Iraq's Cultural Heritage — Current Status and Future Prospects," a workshop held on July 23, 2005 in conjunction with the *Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale*. The *Rencontre* will be summarized in the Annual Report for 2005/2006, but since this workshop addressed current issues concerning Iraq's Cultural Heritage it should at least be mentioned here. The presentations read at the workshop (the full list of papers is posted at http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/iraq_ws_papers.html) addressed the Iraq Museum looting and its aftermath, the destruction of Iraq's archaeological sites, initiatives to build GIS-based databases of archaeological sites in Iraq, and legislative initiatives aimed at curbing the sale of illegally imported antiquities from Iraq in Europe and the U.S. Much of the discussion focused on a statement introduced by

Michael Müller-Karpe (Römisch-Germanisches Zentralmuseum Mainz, Germany), which called upon scholars to refrain from providing expertise to antiquities dealers and to private collectors on illegally excavated objects. The statement, which was signed by forty-six attendees of the workshop, has been posted on the "Lost Treasures of Iraq" Web site (http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/ws_statement.html; the statement is posted as an information item relating to the workshop, not as an officially adopted Oriental Institute policy). As of August 23, thirty-six additional scholars have requested for their names to be added to the list of signatures. Numerous thanks are due, but I particularly want to thank Oriental Institute Director Gil Stein for a generous financial contribution to the workshop and Development Director Monica Witczak for taking care of most of its organization.

Many readers will be aware of another development that impacted our Iraq Working Group: in May 2005 Chuck Jones left the Oriental Institute to become Head Librarian of the Blegen Library at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens. The fact that I have failed to mention his departure in this summary could be interpreted as a denial to myself and indeed, I continue to miss Chuck's collegiality and friendship every single day. Thankfully, in this age of the Internet spatial distances have become less relevant. Chuck will continue to moderate IraqCrisis from his new home base in Athens. Subscribers to IraqCrisis will notice little if any difference; naturally we are delighted that, despite Chuck's physical absence from Chicago, his

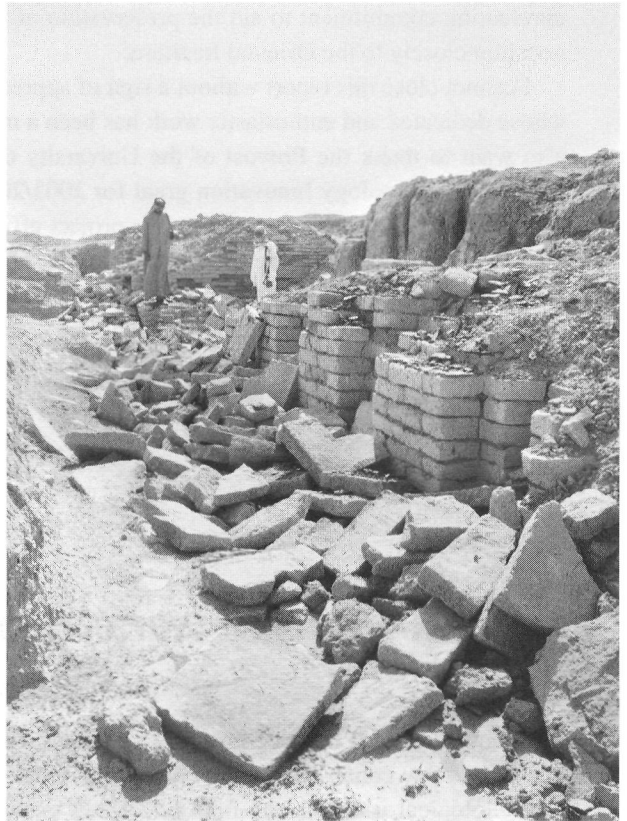


Figure 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES DESTROYED: Baked brick façade of an Ur III temple (ca. 2050 B.C.) at the site of Umma, destroyed by looters in search for inscribed bricks. Photo by Joanne Farchakh-Bajjal; posted on "Lost Treasures of Iraq" with permission

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unrelenting commitment to aid the preservation of Iraq's cultural heritage will continue to connect him closely to the Oriental Institute.

I cannot close this report without a sign of appreciation to our project volunteer Karen Terras, whose dedicated and enthusiastic work has been a model and source of inspiration for all of us. I also want to thank the Provost of the University of Chicago for supporting our work with an Academic Technology Innovation grant for 2003/2004 and 2004/2005, which has allowed us to buy the equipment necessary to run this project efficiently. Lastly, I want to thank those donors who have continued to support "Lost Treasures of Iraq" financially. In a project that has been (and in fact can be) successfully operated on a shoestring "a buck goes a long way." Thanks to those bucks we have come a long way, and we promise to continue to do so throughout the next year.

MARGINS OF WRITING, ORIGINS OF CULTURE

Seth L. Sanders

The annual Oriental Institute Post-Doctoral Fellowships are designed to "organize and conduct a one-to-two day conference at the Oriental Institute on key comparatively-oriented theoretical or methodological issues in the field of ancient studies." Organized by 2004/2005 Post-Doctoral Fellow Seth L. Sanders, *Margins of Writing, Origins of Cultures: New Approaches to Writing and Reading in the Ancient Near East* was the first in what will be a series of annual events. The conference was designed to evoke some possible answers to the question: what does ancient Near Eastern studies have to say to the rest of the academy in the twenty-first century? This year's *Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale* at Chicago justly celebrated the completion of perhaps the greatest monument of ancient Near Eastern philology, the *Chicago Assyrian Dictionary* — a watershed that makes it especially timely to ask where we go from here.

Writing and the state both first began in the Near East. The goal of this conference was to trace their relationships in a cluster of revealing settings. The vital relationships between language and ethnicity, the connections between languages of empire and local identity, and the way languages are born, live, and die in writing still remains the subject of more speculation than rigorous research. So *Margins of Writing, Origins of Cultures* brought anthropologists and philologists together to illuminate a significant blind spot in our perspective on the largest and oldest archive of the ancient world: the relationship between the vast body of official writing and the actual life of language as spoken and imagined by ancient Near Eastern people.

The conference was designed to encourage language specialists to talk to theorists about how their material matters: what assumptions have been blinkering us? What new patterns can we discern? Each panel was structured around a conversation that included both philologists and experts in social theory, with ample room for open-ended discussion. We met over two days, on February 25–26, 2005, at the University of Chicago Oriental Institute's James Breasted Hall. Fourteen participants attended, including University of Chicago scholars from the Oriental Institute, the Department of Anthropology, and the Department of South Asian Studies, as well as from institutions ranging from Harvard and University of California at Los Angeles to

Würzburg. Piotr Michalowski, our fifteenth, was called out of the country on an urgent research trip and his contribution appears as a supplement in the book. The conference was well attended and large amounts of time were given over to discussion in which the audience participated vigorously: the contributions of William Wimsatt, Matthew Stolper, Eugene Cruz-Uribe, Lawson Younger, and Richard Beal, among many others, stand out in memory.

Even considered from a strictly philological perspective, the results were significant. The contributions of the two official participants from the Oriental Institute are good examples. Theo van den Hout's comprehensive examination of the Luwian words in Hittite texts resulted in an argument that may overturn a half century of conventional wisdom about what the Hittite language had to do with its writers. By the time of the Late Hittite Empire, Luwian words appear widely in Hittite texts; their manner of use suggests that the daily language of most of the writers was Luwian, the same language in which the public monuments of the Empire was written. Eventually, not only the public but the intellectuals who created Hittite culture were actually Luwian speakers. Van den Hout uncovered issues we debated for two days: How was the Hittite Empire Hittite? What work goes into connecting languages to states and ethnicities? Can we actually explain Near Eastern history if we take these relationships for granted, or is history, in a significant way, actually the result of these relationships?

Christopher Woods reopened the question of when Sumerian died as a spoken language. Starting with the well-attested ethnographic fact that in pre-industrial societies it is hard to kill a language, he argued that a spectrum of evidence, ranging from idioms and loanwords to personal names and population movements implies Sumerian was spoken in some areas until the Old Babylonian period. He pointed to a wide range of common people, not erudite scholars, whose very names reflected the ability of people in southern Mesopotamia freely to produce grammatically correct sentences in Sumerian. In so doing he also drew our attention to a remarkable and little-noticed series of texts that violate our stereotypical notions of what scribes do with language. These texts come from the period when many scholars agree Sumerian was dead, yet the texts linked Sumerian to daily life and pragmatic action in the world. Linguistically, the texts were full of imperatives and demonstratives pointing to objects in the world and ordered people, including workers, to make and do things. Woods' challenge to common opinion had two provocative responses. Linguistic anthropologist Michael Silverstein asked whether it is enough to look at these texts as clues to what language people were speaking. He suggested that the texts we study may be even more significant when seen as tools that themselves affected language and history: how were communities held together, pushed apart, and represented by the inscribing of their languages? It is just this sort of project that Piotr Michalowski undertakes, arguing for study of the multiple lives of Sumerian as all equally significant, concluding with the striking point that "most if not all of the long, complex, and extremely rich life of the recorded Sumerian language and of its cultural traditions was posthumous."

Two scholars from outside of Near Eastern studies raised fundamental questions about the political role of writing that may prove useful to scholars wishing to strike out in new directions and surmount old impasses. A classic definition has it that the state is a "monopoly of legitimate physical force" within a given territory. But how do people know that violence is legitimate? Anthropologist John Kelly argued that any history of the state's monopoly of coercion is shadowed by the question of its monopoly of communication. He pointed to comparative evidence from India, where control of writing was never held by kings but by monasteries and Sanskrit spread far beyond the boundaries of any South Asian state, as well as China, where the state vigorously monopolized communication, setting standards for writing from an early time. We debated how the histories of cuneiform, a cosmopolitan and universal system used by multiple

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empires to write no less than seven totally unrelated language families, contrasted with those of Hebrew and Luwian, deliberately local writing systems that were unintelligible outside the boundaries of local communities. What kind of a message does an unintelligible inscription send? Or, as the Luwian scholar Annick Payne asked, what about a bilingual written in a subordinate local language and a dominant imperial language? How do these histories of communication dovetail with the histories of the Near Eastern state and its attempted monopolies on violence?

Sheldon Pollock provided a strong critique of our habitual reduction of ancient Near Eastern politics to “identity,” “ideology,” and “legitimation.” Pointing out that obligatory scare quotes often hide an unwillingness to confront the consequences of an idea (if you believe it is really an ideology, why do you need to call it an “ideology?”), he argued that we could learn more from our texts if we refused to hide behind borrowed theories of which we are not entirely convinced. He noted remarkable patterns in the division of linguistic labor, such as societies which used entirely different written languages for different social purposes (as in the Assyrian and Babylonian pattern, beautifully detailed by Paul-Alain Beaulieu, which used cuneiform for monuments, archives, and literature and Aramaic for mundane daily communication). Why are some languages only written down (literated) but never used for literary purposes, to imagine new worlds (literated)? These patterns in the use of language represent major ways writing is used to create historical memory, senses of belonging and place. If traced further, they may open new pathways, ways our evidence can yet astonish us and lead to insights we have only barely glimpsed.

The conference was also logistically successful. With the help of the eager participants and the energy and enthusiasm of Olivia Boyd, Steve Camp, and Eliza Riffe, everything came in on time and under budget. The conference is the first of a series designed to give recent Ph.D.’s the opportunity to bring scholars together around an interdisciplinary topic and publish the proceedings. In this regard this maiden voyage was also successful: the organizer was able to edit the proceedings (to be published by the Oriental Institute by the end of the year) as well as complete a book of his own (in press with the University of Illinois). This book, *Vernacular Revelation: The Language of the Hebrew Bible and the Politics of Ancient Israel*, draws extensively on the results of the conference. As an inexpensive and conveniently packaged paperback, it is hoped that the *Margins of Writing, Origins of Cultures* volume will also serve as a resource both within and beyond Near Eastern studies. The archive of paradise, as Herder called the oldest writings of civilization, can provide surprising perspectives on large-scale historical patterns of media and power, encouraging us to think “outside the box” of modernity.

METEOR

(MIDDLE EGYPTIAN TEXT EDITIONS FOR ON-LINE RESEARCH)

Janet H. Johnson, Michael Berger, Sandra Schloen

METEOR (Middle Egyptian Text Editions for On-line Research), funded as part of a Mellon Foundation grant for Less Commonly Taught Languages, is preparing an 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 in hieroglyphs, sentence by sentence, and practice reading, transliterating, and translating the text. A click of a button brings help with reading signs, understanding grammar, or finding vocabulary. In addition, there are extensive linked informational side-bars and graphics. The side-bars 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 the actual individuals mentioned in the texts (where possible), thereby helping the student to place the individual texts in their social, cultural, religious, political, historical, and geographical contexts.

A dozen texts have been entered into the database, including full hieroglyphic copies, transliterations, translations, grammatical analysis, and explanatory maps, images, and side-bars with background cultural information. A group of students (Afri Atiba, Brian Eichhorn, Kevin Johnson, and Beth Morrissey) who had just finished their first year of study of ancient Egyptian, and who had used METEOR to help in their class preparation during that year of study, was hired to proofread all text, grammar, and cultural data for all text entries. The program includes a sign list explaining all the hieroglyphs used in METEOR and showing how to draw the signs. Two undergraduate students (Amelia Karraker and Jenée Laackman) proofread the sign-list entries and checked the animations showing how to draw the signs. Graduate student Harold Hays, who has worked on the project for several years, entered their corrections into the database. Linguistics graduate student Rod Edwards, who has worked on the project for a couple of years, prepared a database recording all copyrighted materials used in METEOR, in order to send permission letters to copyright holders. Graduate student David Wheatcroft completed the bibliography files for each of the texts included in METEOR.

Sandy Schloen, our computer program designer, finished the conversion of the data into a (Tamino) XML database and developed a sophisticated query and analysis feature. METEOR is now fully integrated within the XSTAR (XML System for Textual and Archaeological Research; see *Research Support*) environment; that is, the Middle Egyptian texts and their corresponding grammatical analyses, plus all the supplementary cultural content (both images and descriptive notes), as well as pedagogically useful details of the hieroglyphic script are all organized and stored within a single XML database, supported by the Digital Library Development Center (DLDC) at Regenstein Library. Access to this database is provided by cross-platform Java software with tools for both managing the detailed data and viewing the texts and their associated information in a variety of ways. One of the major emphases of this past year was to organize more effectively the supplementary information which enhances the core texts. Built into XSTAR is a mechanism for organizing images, external documents, bibliographic data, and

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glossary details within flexible, hierarchical structures. These items can then be linked directly to relevant portions of the primary text data.

Another major enhancement to METEOR involved exposing the detailed grammatical structures which are used to describe the elements of the core texts. XSTAR provides the ability for the METEOR project manager to enter and define the properties which describe a word, phrase, or sentence. For example, a word might be described as: “part of speech = noun,” “number = plural,” etc. Whereas this was possible in the earlier Shockwave version of METEOR it is now completely under the control of the project manager. New properties which describe, for example, grammatical types or functions can be added to the master “taxonomy” that defines and outlines the allowable relationships. These grammatical properties then become available to the new query facility within XSTAR based on the W3C (World Wide Web Consortium) XML Query (XQuery) specification. For example, a student can look for “all plural nouns” within a specified context and retrieve query results that link back to their original source texts. This is a rich and powerful query mechanism that we have only just begun to explore.

Michael Berger, who has been in charge of identifying and incorporating cultural information since the beginning of this project, successfully incorporated notes for the “autobiography” of Khnumhotep (a Middle Kingdom nomarch, i.e., leader of a geographical district called a nome) directly into the new (Tamino) XML database. Berger also continued working on maps (one base map plus one map associated with each text highlighting all the places mentioned in that text as well as the findspot of the text), transferring them from bitmaps to SVG files. The use of the SVG format will allow end-users to re-scale the maps without loss of resolution. He also prepared, with the assistance of Amelia Karraker, a list of categories for cultural data, facilitating searches by students, researchers, and content developers. Berger and Schloen have also been in contact with the Unicode Consortium concerning the inclusion of Egyptian hieroglyphs and all signs needed for transliteration of Egyptian in Unicode.

Goals for 2005/2006 include creating a user interface for the XML version of METEOR, adding bibliographic data, checking all links, and proofreading and editing all data entries. Once these tasks are accomplished the outside review group will be invited to return and evaluate the new version of METEOR.

NIPPUR AND ARCHAEOLOGY IN IRAQ

McGuire Gibson

Iraq continues in a state of chaos, and the archaeological sites in the south of the country are still being looted. More than two years of constant digging have destroyed many of the most important Sumerian and Babylonian cities. Umma, Zabalam, Bad Tibira, Adab, Shuruppak, and Isin are only the most prominent cities that we know have been riddled with pits and tunnels. Hundreds of other, as yet unidentified or less-known sites, such as Umm al-Hafriyat, Umm al-Aqarib, Tell Shmid, Tell Jidr, and Tell al-Wilayah are equally damaged. I have just been told by a very brave German archaeologist, who is married to an Iraqi and has recently returned from

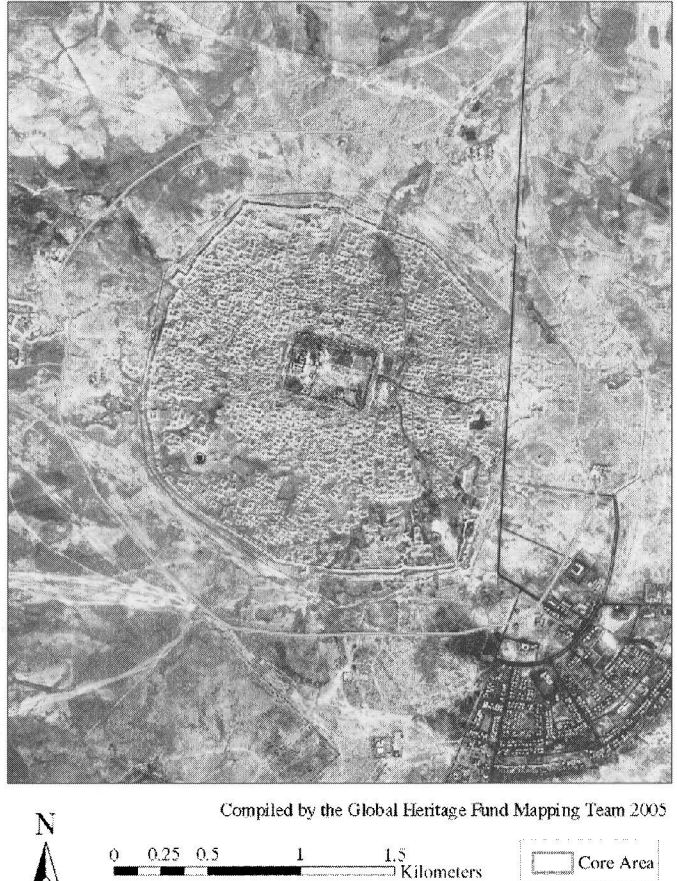
Iraq, that the diggers are moving north to the vicinity of Baghdad. One of the sites she mentioned is Tell Agrab, in the Diyala Region, which the Oriental Institute investigated in the 1930s.

There are other sites among the ones mentioned above that have a connection with Chicago. Adab (Tell Bismaya) was excavated by Edgar James Banks for the University in 1904/05, before the Institute existed. Umm al-Hafriyat was a remarkable site out in the desert 30 km east of Nippur, where I worked for a season in 1977. This site is located on an ancient river levee that has remarkably plastic clay, and it was because of this resource that the site existed. We mapped more than 400 pottery kilns in and around the town, and we also located at least one brick kiln. We wanted to put in one more season at the site, but circumstances and the decisions of the Antiquities authorities made that impossible. The last time I saw the site was from a helicopter in May 2003, when I

could see that it had been very badly damaged by illegal digging. No men were working there that day, but at the nearby Adab, I counted more than 250 men scattered over all parts of the site.

Nippur could have suffered the same kind of damage, and in fact there were twenty or so men digging illegally on the northern parts of the site for the months of June and July, 2005. I traveled there by car on May 17 and again by helicopter on May 21, and although there were four illegal holes, no real damage had yet been done. I paid our guards and visited the local shaykh and got assurances that the site would be safe. One week later, the looters came and, since they outgunned our guards, they were able to work unhindered for two months. On the road trip that I took with a National Geographic team, I went to Diwaniyah in order to see the American colonel in charge of the province, but he was out of his office. In later e-mail correspondence, he claimed that there was no looting of sites in the province, despite a report of a UNESCO team in early June and much newspaper and television coverage of the extensive damage at Isin, which is no more than 15 km from Diwaniyah. At about the same time, I was getting e-mails from a Marine saying that cylinder seals, cuneiform tablets, and other antiquities were being sold openly in the bazaar in Diwaniyah, and that U.S. service personnel were buying them. I removed all identifying information from the message and sent it with a note to the Pentagon official with whom I had met before the war, asking what had happened to the order that the Defense Department was supposed to have issued forbidding the collecting of "souvenirs" including antiquities. I got no reply from the Pentagon, but two weeks later, the Marine sent me an e-mail saying that

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his commander had ordered him to cease all correspondence with me. They had figured out who had sent the message. Is all military e-mail being read, or is it mine? The lieutenant said that he would get in touch when his tour was over and he was back home in New York. A few months later, I did receive another e-mail from him, and this time he said that just to show that it was easy and routine, he had bought some cylinder seals in Iraq and had brought them back to New York. He wanted to make the trade in antiquities public, and he wanted to turn the seals over and send them back to Iraq. But, at the same time, he did not want to end his career in the reserve. I advised him to take the seals to a colleague in New York to make sure they were real, and then to get in touch with Colonel Matthew Bogdanos, the man who had led the team of investigators in the looting of the Iraq Museum. Bogdanos, when he is not in uniform, is a prosecutor in New York. I heard nothing from the lieutenant, but in spring of 2005, there was a piece in *The New York Times* indicating that a unit of the FBI, recently set up to track antiquities and art theft, had met with an unnamed soldier in a parking lot in Philadelphia to retrieve the seals. The seals were then put on display at the University Museum and they will be returned to Iraq at some point. The story was a publicity piece for the FBI unit, giving a rather distorted account in which the lieutenant was presented as a repenting villain instead of a hero, even though he and the colleague in New York had given the reporter the real story.

Nippur was luckier than other sites. After two months, local police came out from Afak and drove off the looters, who, I suspect, included some of our own former workmen. But the site also benefited from the attention of a Spanish colonel named Carmona, who was in charge of Diwaniyah when Spain took over that province from the Americans. Colonel Carmona saw the Oriental Institute Web site, with its Iraq Crisis postings, and got in touch with me. He wanted to know what sites were really important in the province. I mentioned several, but urged him to try to stop the wholesale looting that was going on. He made a genuine effort, visiting many sites and taking along the local Antiquities director. He also produced a written report on each site, describing the damage and making an estimate of what should be done to protect it. He sent me e-mails of those reports. His idea was to hire local tribesmen as guards, and to hire as many as fifty men for the major sites. In many cases, he probably would have been hiring the looters themselves, but it may have worked. A steady income without much work would have beat the hours of labor it took to dig many cubic meters of earth to find a major object. Unfortunately, the general plan was not implemented.

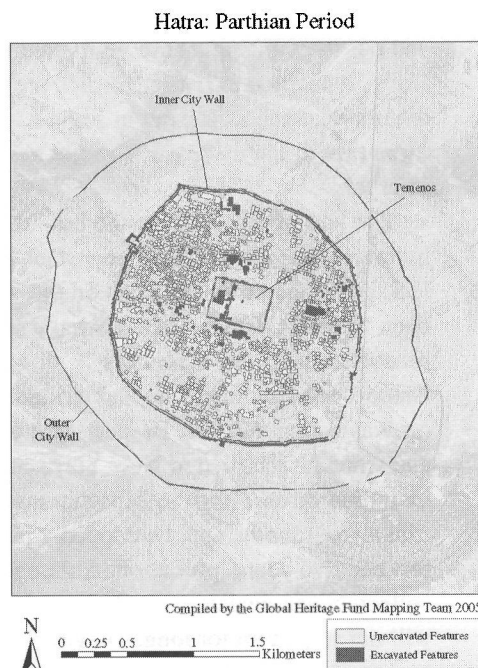
Carmona did, however, play a major role in urging the erection of the fence around Nippur and the posting of a number of the new antiquities guards, who occupy a new house on the site alongside the house of our own guards. I have no idea how the two sets of guards get along, or how they split their duties. I reported in last year's *Annual Report* about the near-demolition of our own dig house by an Iraqi contractor hired by a North Carolina company to build the new guardhouse. I still do not know if the damage has been fixed. I have asked several people to get photos of the new fence, the guardhouse, and our house, but so far I have had no luck. A U.S. Army colonel sent me an e-mail about six months ago saying that he was going to Nippur and he would report on the state of the site. I asked specifically for photos, and he said he would send a disk, but nothing has come. The man in Baghdad, who pays our guards when they go to Baghdad to get their pay, tells me that they report that everything is okay and the site is safe. They ask that we return and say that we would be safe digging there. Maybe, but I don't see it happening for some time to come.

The new antiquities guards at Nippur are supposed to protect nearby sites also, and maybe they are doing that. One or two mounds north of Nippur, which had been very badly damaged, may now be safe, but I have no way of knowing that.

The lack of information on conditions in Iraq is the most frustrating aspect of the situation now. We have only hazy ideas of what has happened in the repair of the Iraq Museum and the offices of the State Organization of Antiquities, on which millions of dollars are supposed to have been spent in the past two years. The museum has gotten all the media attention, but the complex of buildings is actually much more than a museum. Here are the 120 offices of the State Board of Antiquities and Heritage, charged with the oversight of all antiquities sites and objects as well as about twenty museums, and national heritage, that is, objects and buildings that are less than 200 years old. The State Organization part of the complex also houses an auditorium and a library. All excavations, surveys, and other research by Iraqis or foreigners are handled by the State Organization. In their offices are the photos and plans that every expedition is obliged to deposit after each season of work. Here also are the photographic labs, microfilm archive, and so on. In the museum are the objects and anything related to them, including the object register, storage of artifacts, display halls, exhibits and traveling exhibits, conservation, making of replicas, guards, and space for scholars to work on artifacts.

I know that in 2003, an Iraqi friend got the contract to repair doors, windows, electricity, and other physical aspects of the complex, and he also painted the offices. If he had been given the contract to furnish the offices also, that would have been done immediately, but a decision was made to buy desks and other equipment, including computers, from Jordan. It took a much longer time to deliver a fraction of the needed office furniture, and it cost a great deal more to do so. A generator, or even two, was to be bought for the complex, and I think that was finally done.

I hear incomplete and conflicting reports on the installation of climate control, new network connections for new computers, laboratory facilities, etc. I know that a gift of forty or more four wheel drive cars from the Japanese, which were supposed to make it possible for antiquities directors in the provinces to patrol the sites in their areas, have arrived finally in Baghdad, but the last I heard, they were still sitting in the museum grounds. Probably the officials are afraid to send them out because they would be stolen. The museum itself is locked down, with storerooms sealed up, sometimes by welding. The Library of the State Organization is open and functioning. Before the war began, the officials very wisely took the most important books, such as the older site reports and fundamental cuneiform studies, and put them in an air raid shelter more than 2 km away. The other books were arranged on the inner shelves of movable storage and the mechanism was closed up. The shelving was then welded so that it could not be opened, so even those books survived. All are now on their proper shelves and the staff can work on paper, even if objects are not available. Much of the work in the State Organization revolves around the restoration of order to the records that were scattered and damaged by looters. The museum staff is still working to assess the losses of artifacts, now known to have been more than 15,000. More than 5,000 have been recovered. Lists of museum numbers of stolen cylinder seals have been sent to scholars abroad, and I put Alexandra Witsell to the task of identifying those items that



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had been found by Oriental Institute expeditions. She has identified hundreds of Nippur seals and put them in a database with pictures from our own records. She has also done the Umm al-Hafriyat seals. It is harder for her to work on seals from expeditions that the Oriental Institute did not do, such as Ur, but in some cases she can find the publication photo and can add this information to the database. The file has been sent to the Iraqis, who will give the information to Interpol.

The loss of objects from the Iraq Museum and the disorder caused in the archives of the institutions makes it even more important that other countries act to halt the trade in antiquities. The U.S. government issued a ban on the import and trade in Iraqi antiquities, after the museum had been looted. Customs officials have seized major groups of objects at several airports, but the prosecution of the offenders is slow. There was one prominent case involving Dr. Joseph Braude, an economist who had written a book on what to do with Iraq's economy once the country was conquered. Dr. Braude went to Iraq to serve as an advisor to the occupation authority, and when he returned to New York, customs searched his bags and found several cylinder seals, including three with Iraq Museum numbers still on them. He was arrested and indicted. In the trial a few months ago, he copped a plea. As a result, he was sentenced to six months house arrest and two years' probation. Although a slap on the wrist, the sentence may have caused major collectors and dealers in the U.S. to think twice about buying Iraqi antiquities. I am afraid that it will not stop them for long. They will find a way around the ban.

In trying to find ways to help our Iraqi colleagues, we have become involved in a joint effort of the Global Heritage Fund (GHF) and the Iraqi State Board of Antiquities to prepare site management plans for up to twelve of the most important sites in Iraq, including Nineveh, Nimrud, Assur, Hatra, Samarra, Ctesiphon, Babylon, Ukhaidir, and Ur. With funding from the GHF, a group of students have been gathering written and published material on these sites and have scanned it and sent it to the Iraqi members of the team. They will use this material to write up the narrative. The students are taking satellite images of the sites, purchased by GHF, and analyzing them to create base maps that show the areas of excavated buildings as well as modern features that may intrude on the sites. They are also preparing regional maps to put the sites in perspective, showing road and airport access as well as any features that might be tied in as tourist destinations for the future. These maps and any plans of buildings, photos of important monuments, etc. will be sent to the Iraqis as well, and in the next phase of the project we will work together with the Iraqis to present the reports in Arabic and English. These documents, when finished, will be used by the Iraqis to make long-range plans for the sites as well as try to preserve them from encroachment by development. The documents will also be used in a presentation to UNESCO for World Monument status for the sites. We are planning a meeting for the Iraqi and American teams, possibly in Baalbek, Lebanon, next winter.

While we sit and wait for the situation in Iraq to improve, we are making progress on preparing publications. The book on the Sasanian-Islamic transition (Area WG), which I thought would be done two years ago, is still not finished because we have not completed the reworking of the pottery sequence. It was this sequence, after all, that had been the main purpose for doing the excavation at Area WG. The problem we are dealing with is one that faces any archaeologist who investigates transition from one historical period to another. The coming of Islam is normally pictured as a sudden, drastic change in which a new people from the desert of Arabia came into Iraq, the key province of the Sasanian empire, and conquered it in an amazingly short time. They were then able to rule it, apparently with little trouble. How were these nomads able to take over an empire and rule it so easily? The fact is that the Arabs were not new to the Sasanian Empire, or to earlier dynasties in Mesopotamia. Arabs had been part of the fabric of Mesopotamia

since the Neo-Assyrian period, at least as early as 800 B.C. They traded with Mesopotamia, and beyond it. They settled in what is now Iraq and had even created a small kingdom at Hatra, near present day Mosul during the Parthian period. In the Sasanian period, there were other Arab kingdoms in Iraq and Jordan that were vassals of the Sasanians and Byzantines. In other words, Arabs had been in Iraq for a thousand years before the conquest and the conquerors knew what they were taking. Unlike the current American occupation of Iraq, the Arabs kept the Sasanian bureaucrats in place and were able to keep the country running with little disruption.

We draw a mental line between the Sasanian and Islamic periods, and that line comes to be reality in our minds. Scholars have published sets of pottery that they call Sasanian and Early Islamic, and when they do surface surveys they pick up that pottery and note which site has either Sasanian or Islamic pottery, or both. But nothing is ever that simple. When life continued at a site despite the change in rulers, the material culture did not change markedly for some time, although all classes of objects went through a very gradual evolution. The potters did not change their style of pottery just because Arabs had taken control of the government. Thus, the pottery that we call "Sasanian" is really from late in the Sasanian period and also from early in the Islamic period. Likewise, the pottery we had been calling "Early Islamic" is really from some time well into that period and it goes on into the next chronological division that we call Abbasid. In any transition, there will be a stylistic lag like this in all classes of objects. What is important is not the continuity of the older style but the introduction of new items that may reflect the new rulers. For example, instruments of administration like official seals and artifacts celebrating the new dynasty can be found in excavated buildings long before we can see any great changes in pottery and other utilitarian objects. Therefore, in our excavation we needed to chart the slow development of pottery types found from the lower levels to the highest. Against this summation of slow time, we could insert the coins that had been found in various levels. The first occurrence of specific types of coins furnishes the key to the actual historical transition to Islam. We have coins in good context, and although we cannot pinpoint exactly which level of dirt marks the arrival of the Arab rulers, we can say for sure that by a particular level they were already there. And that gives us enough information to show that there was a continuity of Sasanian types well into the Islamic period, with new types of pottery being introduced only gradually.

A preliminary presentation of the pottery proved, on more thorough analysis, to be flawed by the assignment of some material to a wrong level and only a partial illustration of the potsherds. We are now drawing the entire set of pottery and are arranging it in a new typology. Except for the pottery discussion and a revision of the conclusions, the manuscript is done, and we really are very close to turning it over to the editorial office. I am eager to start in earnest on the report for Umm al-Hafriyat. That volume will be, essentially, all that exists of that site, since it has been so badly destroyed by looters.

To conclude on a slightly less pessimistic note, let me say that there are some signs of hope for archaeology in Iraq. The State Organization of Antiquities has been able to hire many new staff members, especially guards for sites. The staff in Baghdad, including the museum personnel, which had been reduced to a few hundred people during the sanctions of the 1990s, is now back to adequate levels. And the provincial offices around the country are once again fully staffed, often with very courageous and dedicated people who face verbal and physical threats in trying to protect sites. In addition, there are now more than 1,000 members of the new Antiquities Police. This guarding force is having some effect in the worst destroyed areas in the south. I hear, though, that as the looters are driven out of one area, they move to another. The problem will not be solved until order is restored to the country and people can make a living by means other than the looting of sites. That time may be some years away.

SYRIAC MANUSCRIPT INITIATIVE

Stuart Creason

During the past year, two important projects were undertaken by the Syriac Manuscript Initiative. The first was a trip by Dr. Abdul-Massih Saadi to the city of Qamishli, Syria, in August of 2004 in order to photograph several manuscripts from a private collection. This collection was previously unknown to western scholarship, though some of the contents of these manuscripts are found in other collections. A sampling of the contents of this collection includes translations of biblical texts (both canonical and apocryphal texts), a historical work dealing with the city of Dara, as well as works by major Syriac authors. One lengthy manuscript (498 pages) is entirely devoted to works that deal with the apocalypse, and two others contain exorcisms, charms, and horoscopes.

The total number of manuscripts photographed by Dr. Saadi during this trip was nine, totaling 1,202 digital images and comprising approximately 2,400 pages of text. With the addition of these 1,202 images, the total number of digital images taken by Dr. Saadi during the past two years stands at approximately 4,200, each image in two formats: TIFF and JPEG.

The second project was the successful completion of negotiations with the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC), which resulted in a contract signed between the two parties on June 30, 2005. This contract was the culmination of a five-year effort on the part of Stuart Creason and others (most notably, Gil Stein) that began with informal discussions in the spring of 2000 and continued with formal negotiations beginning in July 2002. The subject of this contract is the Arthur Vööbus Syriac Manuscript Collection on Film, a collection of rolls and strips of 35 mm film currently housed at LSTC. These pieces of film are the life's work of the late Dr. Arthur Vööbus, former professor of New Testament and Early Church History at LSTC, who took these images during regular trips to the countries of Syria, Turkey, and Iraq beginning in the 1930s and continuing until the 1970s. The total number of images contained in this archive is approximately 100,000 (though no exact count exists), representing nearly a quarter-million pages of Syriac manuscripts. This collection is one of the largest photographic collections of Syriac manuscripts in the United States, is almost entirely unpublished, and contains between 5,000 and 10,000 photographs of manuscripts that have since been destroyed. Its importance to the study of the culture and the literature of the Syriac-speaking communities of the Near East is considerable.

Under the terms of the contract, the Oriental Institute has acquired all rights to this archive, including rights of access, reproduction, and publication, but not actual ownership, which is retained by LSTC. In return for these rights, the Oriental Institute has agreed to take on two primary responsibilities: (1) scanning the archive, thereby reproducing the images in a digital format, which will make them easier to preserve over time, and (2) cataloging the archive, thereby making it accessible for the first time to scholars throughout the world. These two tasks, and the fundraising necessary to perform them, will be started in the coming year, and it is anticipated that it will take five to seven years to complete them.

INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH

Richard H. Beal

Richard H. Beal spent most of the past year reference checking and copy editing the later 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 past year has also seen the appearance in the *Journal of the American Oriental Society* of a review of *Life and Society in the Hittite World* (Oxford, 2002) by Trevor Bryce, Honorary Research Consultant, University of Queensland, and Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities, whose lecture many of you will have heard here at the Oriental Institute this winter. This book forms a mate to Bryce's *Kingdom of the Hittites* (Oxford, 1998) and is of the same high quality; both are highly recommended to anyone interested in Hittites. In the *Journal of Ancient Near Eastern Religions* was a review of the highly useful *Hittite Prayers* (Atlanta, 2002), a translation by Itamar Singer of all reasonably well-preserved Hittite prayers. A review of Klengel's, *Hattuschili und Ramesses: Hethitier und Ägypter, ihr langer Weg zum Frieden* (Mainz, 2002) for the *Journal of the American Oriental Society* also appeared this year. He has written an article entitled "Making, Preserving, and Breaking the Peace with the Hittite State" for the volume, *War, Peace, and Reconciliation in the Ancient World* edited by Kurt Raflaub. Beal has been working on reviews of *Akten des IV Internationalen Kongresses für Hethitologie: Würzburg, 4.–8. Oktober 1999* (Wiesbaden, 2001) and of Altman's *The Historical Prologue of the Hittite Vassal Treaties: An Inquiry into the Concepts of Hittite Interstate Law* (Ramat Gan, 2004).

Most evenings and weekends were dedicated to aiding in reference checking, proofreading, more proofreading, and index building for the book by his wife JoAnn Scurlock and medical professor Burton Andersen, *Diagnoses in Assyrian and Babylonian Medicine*, which the University of Illinois Press was kind enough to schedule for printing just in time for the Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale here at the Oriental Institute.

Robert D. Biggs

Robert D. Biggs spent the first year of his retirement in scholarly pursuits. He was invited to give the Thirteenth Sir Arthur Thompson lecture at the Centre for the History of Medicine at the University of Birmingham in England. His topic was "Medical Practice in Ancient Babylonia: A Twenty-first Century View." He has been asked to revise it as a chapter in a volume being edited by Professor Robert Arnott of Birmingham. Still in the realm of Babylonian medicine, he was active in his capacity as one of two members of the editorial board of the series *Die babylonisch-assyrische Medizin*, a new volume of which was published in summer 2005. On a different topic, he revised and updated his chapter on the inscriptions for Augusta McMahon's *Nippur 5, The Area WF Sounding: The Early Dynastic to Akkadian Transition* (Oriental Institute Publication 129; Chicago, forthcoming). Despite being retired, he has consented to continue as editor of the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* until a new editor is appointed. In June 2005 he was honored by the editors of the *Journal of Assyrian Academic Studies* with an issue of the journal dedicated to

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him, for which he was asked to contribute several articles, including one on his career in Assyriology and his Near Eastern archaeology experiences.

John A. Brinkman

For the calendar years 2005 and 2006, **John A. Brinkman** has been awarded a Mellon Emeritus Fellowship to study family structure and ethnic minorities in Babylonia (1400–750 B.C.). This was one of fourteen such fellowships awarded to retired university faculty in the United States. The grant will support his museum research in this country and abroad and pay for upgraded photographic and computer equipment. Brinkman wrote an article dealing with women who were heads of households in Babylonia in the fourteenth and thirteenth centuries B.C. This was such a rarity at the time that many of these women had their names written with confusing scribal conventions that marked them as both masculine and feminine (i.e., women in a traditionally male role within a basically patriarchal system). As part of the preparation for the opening of the museum's East Wing galleries, he edited the Neo-Assyrian annals fragments on the front of the Oriental Institute's Khorsabad reliefs. He also submitted for publication two brief notes on Neo-Babylonian legal texts. He delivered lectures on the Late Assyrian Empire (for Oriental Institute docents) and on the role of Arameans and Aramaic in the Assyrian Empire and Assyria after the collapse of its empire (Assyrian Academic Society). In December, he continued work on Middle Babylonian administrative and legal texts from Nippur in the University Museum, Philadelphia. In early spring, he spent two weeks at the British Museum, London, concentrating on a small unpublished archive of seventh century texts from Ur (three legal texts, one household inventory), excavated in 1919 by H. R. Hall. The household inventory is of particular interest because it gives a detailed list of furniture, tools, cooking utensils, crockery, and toilet articles, including objects made of iron (still a relative rarity at that time).

Fred M. Donner

Fred M. Donner spent the year engaged in his usual pursuits of teaching, lecturing, and research. The teaching responsibilities have mounted over the past decade for all faculty dealing with the Islamic world as the nation's interest in Islam has quickened — seminar courses, even courses like "Readings in Islamic Ritual Law," which he offered in the spring, are now on the verge of being oversubscribed.

Much of his research time was devoted to that most important Islamic text of all, the Qur'an, on which he prepared two papers for publication. One was an overview of recent trends in Qur'anic research (delivered as a paper at a conference on the Qur'an at Notre Dame in April), the other a study of a vexing word in the text that, he thinks, has a double etymology going back to two distinct, but orthographically similar, words in Syriac (hence much of the confusion about the word's meaning). He continues to work on the draft of a monograph on the first Islamic century to be entitled *Muhammad and the Believers: At the Origins of Islam*.

Donner also read papers at several conferences during the year. In November he attended the annual Middle East Studies Association conference, where he presented a paper on the treatment

of an episode in early Islamic history by the ninth-century Muslim historian al-Ya'qubi. In February, he presented a paper at a workshop sponsored by the French Institute in Damascus on efforts at legitimation by the Umayyad caliphs (ruled A.D. 660–750). In March, he made a presentation on the beginnings of the Islamic empire at a conference at Duke University. During the year he also gave a number of other talks for non-academic audiences on subjects as diverse as the “hybrid culture” of Islamic Spain, the historical background to modern Islam, the Israel-Palestine question, and the historical problem of Muhammad.

During the summer of 2005, Donner co-directed, with Prof. Kenneth Hall of Ball State University, a National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute for college teachers on “Culture and Communication in the Pre-Modern Islamic World.” This was held at the University of Chicago campus for six weeks and introduced participants broadly to the historical evolution of the Islamic world, including its manifestations in the Middle East, South Asia, Southeast Asia, Central Asia, the Balkans, and Africa.

Donner's essay on “The Background to Islam” appeared this year in *The Cambridge Companion to the Age of Justinian*, edited by Michael Maas (New York, 2005), pp. 510–33. Another essay, on “Expansion [of Islam]” appeared in the *Encyclopedia of Islam and the Muslim World*, edited by Richard C. Martin (New York, 2004), pp. 239–45.

Peter F. Dorman

Peter F. Dorman attended the Ninth International Congress of Egyptologists, held in Grenoble from September 6 to 12, 2004, where he moderated one of the sessions on Egyptian history and delivered an abbreviated paper on the question of a long coregency between Amenhotep III and his son, Akhenaton. The full version of this presentation, intended for a memorial volume of studies dedicated to William J. Murnane, is presently posted on the Oriental Institute's Web site at: <http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IS/DORMAN/COREGENCY/LongCoregency.html>.

In January he also traveled to Cairo and Luxor in connection with his research on a publication of the Metropolitan Museum's work in western Thebes in the 1930s, provisionally entitled *Excavations on the Hillside of Sheikh Abd el Qurna*, and with the preparation of the manuscript for the Epigraphic Survey's first volume on the Eighteenth-Dynasty temple of Amun at Medinet Habu.

Dorman received a grant award this year from the Egyptian Antiquities Fund of the American Research Center in Egypt for the preservation of the two funerary papyri of Hatnofer, written in hieratic and dating to the early Eighteenth Dynasty, presently in the Cairo Museum. Physical conservation of these papyri, as well as digital photography in preparation for their eventual publication, will begin this fall.

In December Dorman served as a reviewer on the national screening committee for the United States Graduate Student Fulbright Program (Egypt panel), and this spring edited the manuscript for the proceedings of the Chicago-Johns Hopkins Theban Workshop, held in London in September 2003, and submitted it for publication to the Oriental Institute.

Walter and Gertrud Farber

This academic year started with an unusual highlight: **Walter and Gertrud Farber** traveled to South Africa to attend the Fiftieth Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale in Skukuza (Kruger National Park). The theme of this meeting being “Flora and Fauna in the Ancient Near East,” Walter gave a paper on “Lamashtu and the Dogs.” Not unexpectedly, however, the flora and fauna of South Africa were altogether much more exciting than any scholarly meeting could be, and the Farbers explored as much of the dramatic natural features of that country as possible in the limited time available for their vacation.

Back home, more lecturing (for Chicago’s German Language Society, and in San Antonio, Texas, by invitation of the Society for Biblical Literature) followed. More festschrift articles for distinguished colleagues had to be written, and as usual, teaching took up much of Walter’s time and effort. In addition, the preparations for this year’s Fifty-first Rencontre, which was held in Chicago, started to take their toll. Walter’s most important professional task this past year, however, was to chair the search committee for a new faculty member in Comparative Semitics, and to organize a short but high-caliber “Semitics Fest” for the short-listed candidates. The committee’s first choice, Rebecca Hasselbach, will be joining the Oriental Institute faculty this coming academic year.

McGuire Gibson

McGuire Gibson continued to work preparing manuscripts on his previous work at Nippur and Hamoukar. He contributed an article on a mystery coin to the special volume dedicated to Robert D. Biggs on his retirement. He published a long letter to the editor of the *Atlantic Monthly* (April 2005) correcting and commenting on an article that gave a very distorted view of the looting of the Iraq Museum. He gave public lectures, usually on aspects of Iraq, to audiences in Chicago, Pittsburgh, Washington, and Bloomington, Indiana. For the tenth time, he presented a lecture in the Chicago Humanities Festival. As president of the American Academic Research Institute in Iraq, he co-sponsored an international conference in Amman, Jordan, on the Ottoman and later periods in Iraq. His summation of the talks has been posted on two Web sites and will be published in the proceedings of the conference. His other activities for this organization include the fostering of an Iraqi Oral History Project, which has already begun to record interviews with people now living in Amman. This initial pilot project in Amman will give the data necessary to apply for major funding to expand the project in Amman, Beirut, London, Chicago, Detroit, and other centers where Iraqis now live, and will eventually carry on its work in Baghdad, Mosul, and Basra.

Gibson still serves on the board of the American Institute for Yemeni Studies and on the Council of American Overseas Research Centers.

Harry A. Hoffner

Harry A. Hoffner's activities relating to the University of Chicago and the Oriental Institute continue to be what they have been since his retirement from faculty status in June 2000: working with Professor Theo van den Hout in the revising and editing of Chicago Hittite Dictionary (CHD) drafts and approving the final form. Together with him and other staff members, he participates in the discussions relating to the design and functionality of the on-line version of the CHD (the eCHD). Most of his editing duties can be fulfilled from home, but consultations with Theo require trips into the office.

For the past five years Hoffner and Professor Craig Melchert of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill have been preparing a large manuscript which will be a complete grammar of Hittite. It consists of two parts (probably to be produced as separate volumes): the first a systematically organized reference grammar; the second a set of graded lessons with assignments from the reference grammar, exercises, and vocabulary. Everything in this tutorial is keyed to paragraphs in the reference grammar. The work was vetted over a year ago by a select group of colleagues, and then thoroughly revised and augmented. It is now ready for the publisher and will appear in the new series "Languages of the Ancient Near East" (abbreviated LANE) published by Eisenbrauns.

He continues to contribute articles to journals and festschriften, the latest being an article on the degenitival adjectives in Hittite, including those based upon numerals, to appear in the festschrift for Johann de Roos. Another article in press is a brief commentary on the famous Illuyanka Myth, which will form a part of the festschrift for Robert D. Biggs.

Hoffner does not speak as frequently at conferences as he did as an active faculty member. His next such commitment is the VI International Congress of Hittitology to be held in Rome next September. He attended the Fifty-first Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale in Chicago, but did not give an address.

Thomas A. Holland

Thomas A. Holland continued to assist the graduate work-study students who worked towards the completion of the Tell es-Sweyhat, Syria archaeological report for final publication. He is happy to report that Tony Wilkinson's landscape volume on the site and its environs was completed at the end of the last fiscal year and that volume, *Excavations at 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 Tabqa Area, Syria* (Oriental Institute Publications 124; Chicago, 2005) went on sale at the beginning of this fiscal year. Two volumes (text and plates), *Excavations at Tell Es-Sweyhat, Syria, Volume 2, Archaeology of the Bronze Age, Hellenistic, and Roman Remains from an Ancient Town on the Euphrates River*. (2 volumes, text and plates), by T. A. Holland, with contributions by Martha Goodway and Michael Roaf (Oriental Institute Publications 125; Chicago, forthcoming) reached the final formatting stage at the end of the fiscal year and the plan is that this concluding report on the Sweyhat excavations in Syria will be published early in the forthcoming fiscal year.

Holland volunteered in November 2004 to organize the book exhibits for the Fifty-first Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, which was held at the Oriental Institute from July 18 to 22, 2005. After hundreds of telephone calls, e-mails, and faxes, the planning for the exhibition

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was completed in June. The exhibition was held in the Marshall and Doris Holleb Special Exhibits Gallery of the museum where eight-foot tall blue drapes hanging from horizontal and vertical metal poles created three twenty-foot dividers. The booths for the eleven exhibitors were set up around the drapes, using twenty-five tables covered with white vinyl and skirted in blue cloth. The participating book exhibitors are all prominent in the field of Near Eastern Archaeology and their display of volumes complemented the theme of the conference, "Classifications of Knowledge in the Ancient Near East: Lexicography, Iconography, Stratigraphy." The largest exhibitor is the present external distributor for all Oriental Institute publications, The David Brown Book Company/Oxbow Books, which displayed its volumes on five tables at the north end of the gallery, to the left of the main gallery entrance. The next largest exhibitor was Eisenbrauns, with four tables, which was appropriate for this conference as this company is now completing the typesetting of the four remaining *Chicago Assyrian Dictionary* volumes: Vol. 12, P; Vol. 18, T; Vol. 19, T; and Vol. 20, U/W. The other nine exhibitors displayed their volumes on from one to three tables. They were: Agade Bis Publishing House, Poland; Brill Academic Publishers, The Netherlands/Boston; Gorgias Press, New Jersey; Peeters Publishers, Belgium; Powell's Bookstore, Chicago; The Scholar's Choice, Rochester, New York (this company represented a considerable number of other book publishers, including The University of Chicago Press); Ugarit-Verlag, Münster, Germany; and Walter de Gruyter, Germany/Ossining, New York.

Janet H. Johnson

Janet H. Johnson served as a discussant for a panel entitled "(Con)Textual Encounters in Egypt: Bridging the Disciplinary Divide Between Archaeology and Papyrology" presented at the annual meetings of the American Institute of Archaeology and the American Papyrological Association held in Boston in January. She spent most of a week in Los Angeles in March, having been invited to give a workshop ("Women in Greco-Roman Egypt: Gender, Ethnicity, and Cultural Identity") and lecture ("Women's Rights in Ancient Egypt") for Scripps College. While she was in Los Angeles, she also gave a workshop on "Women's Legal Rights in Ancient Egypt" at University of California at Los Angeles. In October she gave a talk on "Sex, Marriage, and Property Rights (in Ancient Egypt)" for the University of Chicago Gender Studies Brown Bag Lecture Series. For the Demotic Dictionary Project and the on-line electronic readingbook of Middle Egyptian (METEOR), see separate reports.

W. Raymond Johnson

W. Raymond Johnson completed his twenty-sixth year working for the Epigraphic Survey in Luxor, and his eighth season as Field Director. On September 18, 2004, Ray gave a paper entitled "Piecing Together and Preserving Egypt's Magnificent Past" at the joint Smithsonian Institute/Oriental Institute Symposium, Ancient Egypt Unwrapped, which covered the work of the Oriental Institute in Egypt and was held at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C. The other speakers were Mark Lehner, Robert Ritner, and Steven Harvey. This symposium was re-

peated at the Oriental Institute on May 21, 2005, with the same cast of characters, and updated reports.

On July 1, 2005 Ray was appointed Research Associate (Associate Professor) in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations. In June he was invited to join the editorial/advisory board for the monograph series *Biblioteca del Próximo Oriente Antiguo* of the Publishing Department of the Spanish Supreme Council for Scientific Research in Madrid. Johnson continues to work on his epigraphy essay for the *Oxford Handbook of Egyptology*, an article for the *Bill Murnane Denkschrift*, various other festschrift articles and catalog entries, and a revised and expanded version of his dissertation for publication.

Charles E. Jones

At the very end of this year, **Charles E. Jones** moved to Athens Greece, where he has taken the position as Head of the Blegen Library (<http://www.ascsa.edu.gr/blegen>) at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. He took this position following more than twenty-two interesting and productive years as the Librarian of the Oriental Institute. He will retain his Research Associate position in the Oriental Institute and will continue working on the material from the Oriental Institute's Iranian expedition excavated at Persepolis and on a variety of other projects, such as the Iraq Working Group (<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/iraq.html>), and the Oriental Institute's continuing collaboration with ETANA (<http://www.etana.org/>).

In his role as editor of Abzu (<http://www.etana.org/abzu/>) for the Oriental Institute and ETANA, Jones cataloged nearly a thousand items in the database and distributed monthly updates on new material by means of the mailing list ETANA-Abzu-news (<http://www.etana.org/abzu/>). In October Abzu marked ten continuous years of service on-line — Abzu was a public resource a little more than a year after the World Wide Web entered the public domain. Also in collaboration with ETANA, another suite of digitized volumes — available publicly and free of charge — was added to the Core Texts. From the Oriental Institute's collections are the portfolios of imagery published by Austen Henry Layard and this year we also completed the processing of thirty-eight volumes of the series *Cuneiform Texts Babylonian Tablets in the British Museum (1896–1925)*. Of the 8,001 items currently accessible via Abzu, 594 are classified as digitized books.

Among many activities at the Oriental Institute Jones participated in a pair of committees which articulated and implemented Oriental Institute policy on on-line publication. Among the immediate tangible results of this new policy is the publication on-line of a number of recent Oriental Institute books, all of which are available via the Publications Office Home Page (http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/PUB/SRC/Elec_Publications.html) as well as via Abzu.

Jones continued to collaborate with Clemens Reichel on the development of resources for the Iraq Working Group (<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/iraq.html>). Jones' primary contributions are the management of the IraqCrisis Mailing list (<https://listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/iraqcrisis>), which remains a nexus for the distribution of substantive information on threatened cultural heritage in Iraq, and as a member of the Middle East Librarians Association (MELA) Committee on Iraqi Libraries (<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IRAQ/mela/melairaq.html>) convened to coordinate the organization's response to the damage and destruction suffered by libraries in

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Iraq during and after the war in March and April 2003. It is with some sadness and frustration that we see a continued need for these resources and organizations to exist.

If they should find themselves in Greece, members and friends of the Oriental Institute are encouraged to visit him there in his new role.

Walter E. Kaegi

Walter Kaegi held a Fulbright-Hays Fellowship (U.S. Department of Education) that started on September 10, 2004, and terminated September 10, 2005. The subject was the “Dynamics of Muslim Expansion and Byzantine Collapse in North Africa (Seventh Century).” This required him to be in Tunisia from September 10 to December 1, in Morocco from December 1 to January 31, in Algeria from January 31 to May 1, and then in Tunisia until September 10, 2005, with exception of a brief ten day return to Algeria from June 3 to 10 for a conference on the “L’Aures Antique” at the University of Khenchela.

Kaegi lectured at the University of Sfax, Tunisia (November 24, 2004) and the Center for Maghrib Study in Tunis (May 12, 2005) on “La Dynamique de la Conquête Musulam et l’Effondrement Byzantin dans l’Afrique du Nord.” He lectured on the same subject at University of Rabat Mohammed V-Agdal and University Hassan II at Casablanca, Morocco, respectively on January 25 and 27. Between late February and late April 2005 he gave five lectures at the University of Constantine-Mentouri and four at the Amir Abd al-Kader Islamic University in Constantine, Algeria, on aspects of Late Antique and Byzantine North Africa. On June 4 he gave a paper on “The Battle of Sbeitla and the Aures” in the international conference on the Ancient Aures sponsored by the University of Khenchela in Khenchela, Algeria. During his two stays in Algeria he was able to visit many Roman, Byzantine, and autochthonous archaeological sites and museums as well as make contact with many Algerian scholars. The Byzantine Studies Conference accepted his Abstract on “Byzantine Numidia” for inclusion in the program of its November 2005 program for its annual meeting, which will take place at the University of Georgia.

Regarding publications, Kaegi’s principal work this year on leave has been the writing of a book manuscript on *Dynamics of Muslim Expansion and Byzantine Collapse in North Africa*. He started investigating it in 1996 and now has a draft that totals 365 pages. He is still polishing and revising it for publication in book form. A modern Greek translation of his 2003 book *Heraclius Emperor of Byzantium* (New York, 2003) has been licensed by Cambridge University Press and is now in preparation in Athens, Greece. Two articles appeared in *Byzantinische Forschungen* 28 (2004): “The Present and Future State of Byzantine Studies in the United States,” and “The Interrelationship of Events in Anatolia and North Africa in the Seventh Century.” He completed a chapter entitled “Changing Intensities of Military and Political Relationships between Byzantium and Islam, 641–1000 C.E.,” in the *Cambridge History of the Byzantine Empire*, edited by Jonathan Shepard (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming). He completed the following book reviews: A. Beihammer’s “Nachrichten,” in *Jahrbuch der Oesterreichischen Byzantinistik* (2004), Paul Stephenson’s “Legend of Basil the Bulgar Slayer” in *International History Journal*, and Anthony Kaldellis’ “Procopius” in the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* (forthcoming). On March 23, Kaegi was interviewed at the Amir Abd al-Kader Islamic University in Constantine, Algeria, by a journalist from the local newspaper *Nasr*. This interview was published in the newspaper *Nasr* (Constantine, Algeria) on Tuesday April 5, p. 17.

He served as consultant to the American Council of Learned Societies for their e-book project on Byzantine History and to the Austrian Academy of Sciences on a research project proposal. He also served as external referee on academic appointments and promotions in History and Near Eastern Studies at several American universities and he contributed to the production of a new manual for Fulbright Fellowship holders in Tunisia, for the Cultural Affairs section of the United States Embassy, Tunis, Tunisia.

Kaegi also contributed a section of reminiscences to the Dumbarton Oaks (Harvard, Washington, D.C.) Colloquium on the late art historian and Director of the Center for Byzantine Studies Ernst Kitzinger (late winter 2005).

Before his departure on leave and before moving offices from Foster Hall to Social Sciences Kaegi donated some of his papers to the archives in the University of Chicago Special Collections Library and placed some other items on temporary loan there.

Carol Meyer

Carol Meyer continued work on the publication of the last four seasons of survey and excavation at Bir Umm Fawakhir in the Eastern Desert of Egypt, primarily on the maps. She also revised a long article on ancient gold mining and ore reduction techniques, which appeared in the *Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt* in January. In addition she reviewed a major manuscript on the Roman, Byzantine, and Islamic glass from recent salvage excavations in Beirut, reviewed *Reflections on Ancient Glass from the Borowski Collection*, edited by Robert Steven Bianchi (Mainz, 2002) for the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, and wrote a brief report on some medieval glass bracelets from Malka, Jordan, which will be incorporated in the preliminary report on the site in *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research*. Her article "Bir Umm Fawakhir in the Eastern Desert: A 5th–6th Century A.D. Gold-Mining Town" appeared in the *Annals of the Geological Survey*, published by the Egyptian Geological Survey and Mining Authority.

Clemens Reichel

The year 2004/2005 once more turned out to be a very busy one for **Clemens Reichel**. He undertook no less than three separate and lengthy trips to Syria (September–October, November, April–May) to negotiate the re-issue of the excavation permit for Hamoukar and to organize the restoration of the Hamoukar dig house. (He also learned to appreciate fully the change of seasons in the Middle East.) Reichel is pleased to announce that the repair of the house is nearing completion. More excitingly, a new excavation permit for Hamoukar was issued in June by the Department of Antiquities. A fall season at Hamoukar is in its final preparation as this report is going to press (see separate report).

On the home front Reichel is pleased to see the Diyala Project, now with four volunteers and recently hired student assistant Alexandra Witsell, moving forward and expanding thanks to a \$100,000 grant by the National Endowment for the Humanities given in its "Recovering Iraq's Past" Initiative (see separate report). In November 2004 he and George Sundell, the project's

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database designer, attended the workshop Archaeology and Computers in Vienna, at which they both presented reports on their work on the Diyala material.

During the year Reichel continued his work on Lost Treasures from Iraq, the Oriental Institute's Iraq Museum Database, which has been growing steadily and will continue to be maintained and updated in light of thousands of objects that are still missing from the Iraq Museum (see separate report). In November 2004 he presented an overview of this work, titled "Beyond Cataloguing Losses: The Oriental Institute's Iraq Museum Database Project" at the Annual Meeting of the American School of Oriental Studies in San Antonio, Texas. An article with the same title, submitted in 2004, has appeared in the spring issue of the journal *Visual Resources*.

As with every year, Reichel would like to thank his volunteers for doing the really hard work. They may rest assured that no day goes by without him realizing that without their enthusiastic help and support, it would be impossible for him to maintain any semblance of order or report any progress in his three projects.

Erica Reiner

Erica Reiner read proofs of and prepared the index to the *Babylonian Planetary Omens*, Part 4, that was published by Brill Academic Publishers in summer 2005. In June, Volume 2 of *Cuneiform Texts in the Metropolitan Museum of Art*, which includes her edition of several texts finally appeared after several years of slumber; a couple of articles of hers were also published while others that were submitted await publication.

A great deal of Reiner's time was spent preparing important additional material for Volume T of the *Chicago Assyrian Dictionary*. The volume is due to be published in the academic year 2005/2006.

Seth Richardson

Seth Richardson spent this year preparing a text-edition volume of Old Babylonian administrative and economic tablets, which will appear in the monographic series IMGULA, and traveling out of Chicago several times for both research and lecturing. He went twice to the British Museum, spending a total of four weeks in residence there collating and copying for the IMGULA volume. This work in turn provides the backbone for a volume of historical studies, also in preparation, on politics and economy in the Late Old Babylonian period (ca. seventeenth century B.C.), as well as other short works touching on Assyrian trade in Babylonia at this time, private archives, and chronological studies.

During his March trip to London, he presented a lecture to the British Association of Near Eastern Archaeology, entitled "Mass Labor, Scope-of-Economy, and a Babylonian Rhetoric of Work," on the economic evaluation of ancient labor projects. In November, he went to San Antonio, to present a paper to the American Schools of Oriental Research entitled "Forts on the River," on the role of seventeenth-century Babylonian state interest in trade on the middle-Euphrates. In March, he was in Philadelphia to present a paper at the American Oriental Society

meeting, entitled “Countryside(s): Modeling a Babylonian Exurbia.” Just recently, in May, he was invited to Dresden, Germany, to deliver a fourth paper and participate in a five-day conference on ancient labor, the proceedings of which will be published in 2006.

Richardson also concluded guest-curating the Dr. Norman Solhkhah Family Assyrian Empire Gallery in the newly-opened Empires in the Fertile Crescent: Ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel exhibition in the Oriental Institute Museum. He continues work on several other projects such as the study of nineteenth–eighteenth century B.C. land redistribution documents from Yale and the Ashmolean Museum, which document fields between the south-Babylonian cities of Larsa and Lagash, part of a larger geopolitical struggle taking place at the time; a study of the historical development of divinatory literature; editions of Old Babylonian cuneiform texts in small collections; studies on the legal and social history of the Mesopotamian countryside, which will be published by Routledge in an edited volume in 2006; and several book reviews of current literature.

His teaching this year included a two-quarter collaborative graduate seminar entitled “Problems in Greek and Ancient Near Eastern History” that was co-taught with Professor Jonathan Hall (Department of History) and “Using Ancient Middle Eastern Pasts,” a reading course on historiographic uses of antiquity (from antiquity all the way up to the modern period); a survey of ancient Near Eastern social history topics in “Nomads and Fellahin,” covering the underclass, runaways, outsiders, the mad, and the dead; and an intensive graduate seminar covering the political history of the four-century-long Old Babylonian period.

Robert K. Ritner

Robert K. Ritner became full professor in the Oriental Institute at the beginning of the academic year and an affiliated member of the Department of Classics in the Program on the Ancient Mediterranean World. He completed his monograph on *The Libyan Anarchy: Documents from Egypt's Third Intermediate Period*, which is now in press for the series *Writings from the Ancient World*. His article on “A Selection of Demotic Ostraca in the Detroit Institute of Arts” was published in *Res Severa Verum Gaudium: Festschrift für Karl-Theodor Zauzich zum 65. Geburtstag am 8. Juni 2004* (Leuven, 2004).

Ritner’s lecture schedule remained active, divided between Egyptological and cross-cultural programs. In conjunction with the exhibit “Ancient Egypt: The Quest for Immortality” at the Milwaukee Public Museum, he provided talks on “The Eldest Son of Creation: Magic in Ancient Egyptian Theology and Ritual” (July 21) and “The Magic of Egyptian Art” (July 22). For a joint program between the Oriental Institute and the Chicago Adler Planetarium, he delivered a lecture on “Stars of the Pharaohs” (August 14). For the Smithsonian Associates seminar “Ancient Egypt Unwrapped” in Washington, D.C., he spoke on “The Archaeology of Egyptian Magic” (September 18), repeating the program for the Oriental Institute at the end of the academic year (May 21).

Returning to the University of the Aegean in Rhodes, Greece, Ritner participated as senior panelist and speaker at the conference on “Foreign Relations and Diplomacy in the Ancient World: Egypt, Greece, Near East,” where he lectured on “Cultural Exchanges between Egyptian and Greek Medicine” (December 5). At Brown University, he offered the primary Egyptological perspective on “Household and Family Religion in Ancient Egypt” for the symposium “House-

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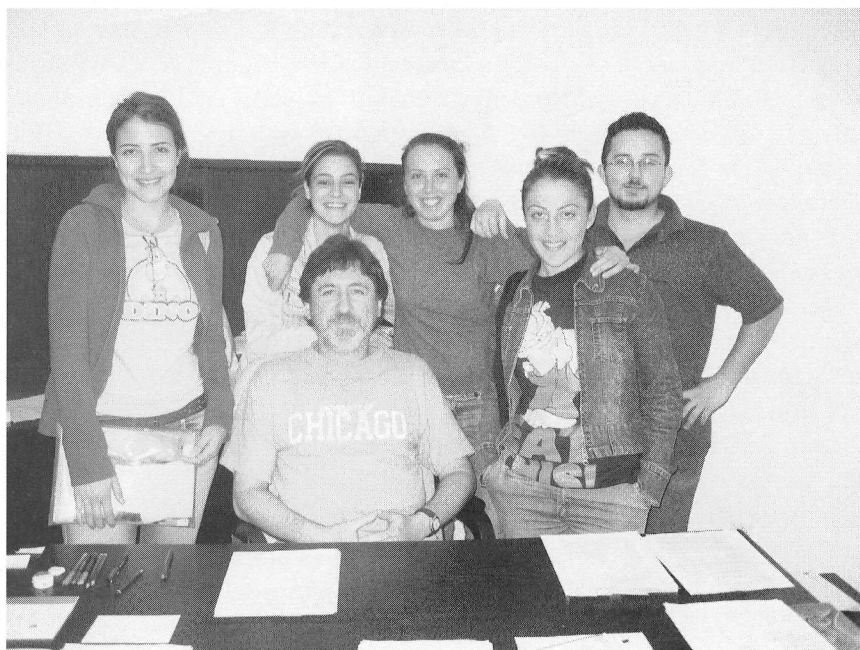
hold and Family Religion in Mediterranean and West Asian Antiquity: Comparative Perspectives” (February 28). Both these interdisciplinary lectures are now prepared for publication.

Five days later, he departed for Egypt as leader and persistent lecturer for the Oriental Institute Travel Program. The Wonders of Ancient Egypt (March 3–19) brought many returning, as well as new, members to the incomparable sights of the Nile valley. Following the tour, he remained in Egypt for personal research, collaboration with Chicago House (bearing a gift of science fiction tapes), and a chance to rest vocal chords. After returning from Egypt, he was recorded as a commentator for the television film series, “Tale of the Tomb,” a four part series for National Geographic Television, and he reprised his popular lecture on “Political Intrigue in Ptolemaic Egypt” for the Chicago Classical Society (May 7).

In addition to university, institute, and departmental committee duties, Ritner taught five courses on Egyptian language and religion and was privileged to oversee the graduation of two exceptional Ph.D. students in Egyptology.

Oğuz Soysal

In 2004/2005 **Oğuz Soysal** continued his job 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 and history and the Hattian language. The following articles were published in 2004: “Review of *Kulturgeschichten. Altorientalische Studien für Volkert Haas zum 65. Geburtstag*,” *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 123 (2003): 664–66; “On Hittite ‘Bull-leaping’ Again: With a Lexical Examination of the Verb *watku-* ‘to jump’/ Corrections to my Notes in N.A.B.U. 2003 N° 4 and in N.A.B.U. 2004 N° 1,”



Soysal with his Bilkent students in May 2005

Nouvelles Assyriologiques Brèves et Utilitaires, 2004 nr. 3 (2004): 64–65; “Review of *Hattisch-Hethitischen Bilinguen II. Textbearbeitungen 2, 3*, by H.-S. Schuster,” *Bibliotheca Orientalis* 61 (2004): 355–78; “The Angry Priests in a Hittian-Hittite Narrative,” *Journal of Ancient Near Eastern Religions* 4 (2004): 75–98; “On Hittite ^(LÚ)ānt- (the) equal (one) > rival Again,” *Journal of Ancient Near Eastern Religions* 4 (2004): 99–105.

Furthermore, two articles, one on necrology, and two reviews have been printed.

In September 2004 he participated at the International Conference of Hittites, Greeks and Their Neighbors in Ancient Anatolia at the Emory University and presented a paper with the title “On the Origin of the Royal Title *tabarna / labarna*.” The revised version of this paper is to appear in 2005 issue of the Dutch periodical *Anatolica*.

After the publication of his book *Hattischer Wortschatz in hethitischer Textüberlieferung* (Leiden, 2004), Soysal was interviewed by the Turkish newspapers *Dünya* (April 17–18, 2004) and *Hürriyet* (November 7, 2004) where he found the opportunity to express the importance of the studies on the ancient Anatolian civilization to a wider public.

Between February and June 2005 Soysal held the position of visiting assistant professor at Bilkent University in Ankara and taught three Hittite classes. Hopefully, this enterprise will help establish Hittite studies at Bilkent in the near future.

Gil J. Stein

Gil J. Stein's edited volume, *The Archaeology of Colonial Encounters: Comparative Perspectives* (Santa Fe, 2005), was published this year by the School of American Research Press. This book presents the results of a week-long seminar held at the School of American Research in Santa Fe, New Mexico, in which ten participants examined archaeological cases of colonial encounters. The seminar attempted to recognize that not all episodes of colonization operated in the same manner as the European colonization of Africa, the Americas, and large parts of Asia during the “Age of Discovery.” To avoid the automatic assumption that the colonizing groups always dominate the communities among whom they settle, the seminar focused its analyses on “colonial encounters” rather than the politically charged concept of “colonialism.” The seminar’s focus was explicitly comparative in seeking to understand cross-cultural similarities in the colonial encounters occurring in Mesopotamia, Phoenicia, Carthage, Greece, Rome, Wari, the land of the Inkas, Teotihuacán, Russia, and Spain in the Americas. The book is the first to include the colonies established by the pre-contact Native American states of Wari, Teotihuacán, and the Inka in comparative discussions of colonization. Stein wrote the introduction to the book and a separate chapter on “The Political Economy of Mesopotamian Colonial Encounters.”

In addition Stein completed a co-authored paper with Rana Özbal (Northwestern University Anthropology Department) entitled “A Tale of Two *Oikumenei*: Variation in the Expansionary Dynamics of ‘Ubaid and Uruk Mesopotamia.’” This paper will appear as a chapter in an edited volume by Elizabeth Stone on Mesopotamian ecology and society.

Finally, Stein has been continuing with the ongoing analysis of the stratigraphy and artifacts from the Hacinebi excavations. Aided by research assistant Dr. Belinda Monahan and volunteer Mari Terman, they have been scanning drawings of small finds from Hacinebi for inclusion in a FileMaker database. Stein continued with the statistical analysis of the ceramics from Hacinebi and presented a paper titled “The (Archaeological) Joy of Cooking: Food Preparation, Social

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Context, and Ethnicity in a Prehistoric Mesopotamian Colony” at the Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology (SAA), held in Salt Lake City.

Emily Teeter

In the last year **Emily Teeter** spoke on the history of the Oriental Institute for the University of Chicago Alumni Society, the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business Club, the Denver Museum of Natural History, and the Michael Carlos Museum in Atlanta. She delivered lectures on Egyptian religion, the role and status of women in ancient Egypt, antiquities legislation, and the recent identification of the “younger woman” in the tomb of Amenhotep II. She also taught a seven-part course on architecture in ancient Egypt, which, thanks to the slide-scanning efforts of volunteer Ira Hardman, she plans on converting into a distance learning course for the Oriental Institute Education Department. In the spring, she served as a lecturer for the Art Institute of Chicago’s travel program to Libya and Tunisia.

Teeter gave a paper on a votive footprint from Medinet Habu at the annual meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt in Cambridge, Massachusetts. She continues to serve on that organization’s Board of Governors and Executive Committee, as well as the annual meeting committee. She has also helped establish the Chicago Chapter of the American Research Center in Egypt, for which she currently serves as president.

Most of her work on publications involved final revisions to the text on baked clay figurines from Medinet Habu, and finalizing the second revised edition of *Egypt and the Egyptians* co-authored with Douglas Brewer. Book reviews appeared in the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, and she published several brief articles of Egyptian history and culture in popular magazines.

Theo van den Hout

Besides the regular classes, work on the Chicago Hittite Dictionary project (see *Project Reports*) and committee service, there were many exciting moments this year for **Theo van den Hout**, beginning with the Chicago premiere screening of *The Hittites* movie in November (see more on this event elsewhere in the *Project Reports*). It was the perfect complement to a members’ class on Hittite history he taught in the fall. This was followed by the opening of the permanent exhibition *Empires in the Fertile Crescent: Ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel* in the Oriental Institute Museum. Together with Aslihan Yener, van den Hout acted as faculty curator for the Henrietta Herbolsheimer, M.D. Syro-Anatolian Gallery and was immensely gratified to see it open after so many years of preparations by so many people. The opening was accompanied by a symposium for the general public on March 5, where as one of the speakers he spoke on “Writing in Anatolia.” Unrelated to all this but no less exciting was the seminar *Margins of Writing, Origins of Cultures* organized on February 25–26 by the Oriental Institute’s postdoctoral fellow Seth L. Sanders. It gave him the occasion to look in more detail at a question of long-held interest: the socio-linguistic relation of Hittite, the language of the Hittite empire, and Luwian, its sister language that was also used by the Hittite elite in well-defined circumstances. His contribution will appear in the proceedings of the conference. Finally, in October van den Hout

also spoke at the yearly University of Chicago Humanities Open House about the Hittite Dictionary under the title, “A Dictionary from L to Z and A to K.”

The following publications appeared in print: “Death, the Afterlife, and Other Last Things: Anatolia,” “Religion and Politics: Anatolia,” and “Controlling Religion: Anatolia” all in *Religions of the Ancient World. A Guide*, edited by Sarah I. Johnston (Cambridge, 2004), pp. 483–85, 553–54, 568–69; “Some Thoughts on the Composition Known as Muršili’s Aphasia (CTH 486)” in *Antiquus Oriens: Mélanges offerts au professeur René Lebrun*, Volume 1, edited by M. Mazoyer and O. Casabonne (Paris, 2004), pp. 359–80; and “Geweten in nood: rampen en onheil bij de Hettieten,” *Phoenix* 50 (2004): 83–92 (a more popular account in Dutch of Hittite attitudes in times of distress and disaster). Also published was a new issue of the *Journal of Ancient Near Eastern Religions* of which van den Hout is the managing editor. Several entries appeared in the *Reallexikon der Assyriologie*, Volume 10, as well as reviews of *Greater Anatolia and the Indo-Hittite Language Family: Papers Presented at a Colloquium Hosted by the University of Richmond, March 18–19, 2000*, edited by R. Drews (*Journal of Indo-European Studies*, Monograph Series, Number 38; Washington, D.C., 2001) in the *Journal Near Eastern Studies* 63 (2004): 228–30, and of S. Zeilfelder’s “Archaismus und Ausgliederung: Studien zur sprachlichen Stellung des Hethitischen,” *Kratylos* 49 (2004): 115–20.

Apart from his contribution to the Margins of Writing conference, he submitted to publishers his “The Written Legacy of the Hittite Empire” for *Ancient West & East*; “The Scholarly Career of Hans Gustav Güterbock” for Turkish Academy of Arts and Sciences; and two more entries for the *Reallexikon der Assyriologie* as well as two book reviews.

Donald Whitcomb

This year has proved somewhat frustrating in the pursuit of fieldwork projects, but has more than filled up with teaching and participating in a variety of conferences. These papers varied from detailed examinations of particular cities to more generalized considerations of a model for the archaeology of the early Islamic city (see projects).

During the summer, the contexts for Qinnasrīn were explored in a conference held at the beautiful Danish Institute in Damascus, where **Donald Whitcomb** spoke on archaeological discoveries and al-Muqaddasī’s account of northern Syria. This conference provided an occasion to visit Ḥaḍīr Qinnasrīn and pursue plans for another season of excavations at that site. This fieldwork was destined to be postponed until July 2005, when Marie-Odile Rousset could assume the direction of the French portion of the excavations.

Though mentioned last year, the development of an element of the early Islamic city was presented to a conference at Newnham College, Cambridge, on “The City and its Parts: Articulations of Ceremonial and Social Space in Islamic Urban Contexts” in July. The focus was on the “*balāṭ*” which might be considered an institution connected with the *diwān*, often ignored as a physical entity on the urban landscape. More broadly, the urban model was proffered to an interested and informed audience.

In the fall, there was a return to Iran, or rather to the region of his first research, the Persian Gulf. This took place in the unlikely island of Cyprus, at Limassol, where Larry Potter had organized a conference on “The Persian Gulf in History.” Whitcomb presented a paper on the ports and settlements of the early Islamic period; this proved an interesting balance of textual resources for the Iranian coast (with the important addition of the Siraf excavations) against the

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archaeological evidence resulting from intensive surveys and excavations during the last two decades on the Arabian side, from Kuwait and Bahrain to the United Arab Emirates and Oman. He also visited Paphos and a number of medieval sugar factories, which have direct parallels to sites of earlier sugar industry in Jordan and in Khuzestan.

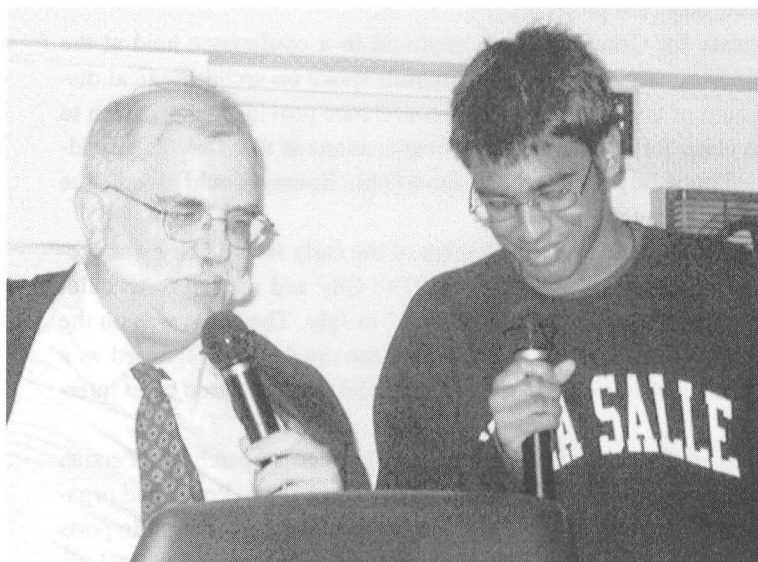
On the way to this venue, he stopped in Beirut where he lectured at the American University in Beirut and saw archaeological achievements during the amazing revival of downtown Beirut. There was a necessary pilgrimage to ʿAnjār, an archaeological site in the Baqaʿa valley. The ruins of an early Islamic city, carefully planned and well preserved, lie within towered walls. He wandered among the palaces and houses with John Meloy, who studied for many years at the Oriental Institute, and Noha Sadek, known to many here for her research in Yemen. After studying and teaching this site for many years, it was most revealing to feel the topography of the city and the surrounding landscape.

An opportunity retrospectively to assess the progress in the archaeology of the Islamic city was provided with an invitation to attend the annual conference of The Middle East Culture Center in Japan (MECCJ) in November. His host, Prof. Mutsua Kawatoko (in the presence of HIH Prince Mikasa), organized a seminar on “Residences in Islamic Cities.” In addition to the conference, he visited the National Museum and the planned city of Kamakura, a Samurai capital of the thirteenth century.

In the winter, Whitcomb returned to the evidence recovered from Qinnasrīn which inspired a consideration of the archaeology of nomads. More precisely, this was the archaeological evidence for sedentarization in Bilād al-Shām (greater Syria) in the early Islamic period. A paper on this subject was offered in Halle, Germany, where a research program entitled “Difference and Integration” devoted a session to the subject of the visibility of nomads in the archaeological record. The Qinnasrīn evidence was compared to that at Abū Ṣuwwāna, as reported by Jodi Magness and published as an essay in *Changing Social Identity with the Spread of Islam: Archaeological Perspectives*, edited by Donald Whitcomb (Oriental Institute Seminars 1; Chicago, 2004), and recent work near ʿAqaba.

The research of Jodi and Uzi Avner was the inspiration for a paper on Aqaba in light of its connections with the Wādī ʿAraba. The occasion for this was a special conference at the American Schools of Oriental Research on the archaeology of the Rift Valley, in which this geographical entity was considered as a single region. In the case of ʿAqaba, this meant reuniting the medieval city with its agricultural and economic hinterland, located behind the modern city of Eilat.

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



Don Whitcomb and his son, J. J., try karaoke while in Tokyo, Japan

Islamic Archaeology; in June, Tasha Vorderstrasse successfully defended her study of al-Minā, the port of Antioch. Though she can never be replaced, we are happy to see several new students in Islamic Archaeology will begin the program this fall. In addition to teaching a series of courses on Islamic Archaeology, there was an opportunity to use Jodi Magness' new book, *The Archaeology of the Early Islamic Settlement in Palestine* (Winona Lake, 2003). The students had ample time to dissect the data and thesis of this monograph, when Jodi paid a visit to the class and explained the genesis and intentions of the book.

The spring thaw produced a rapid succession of conferences. The first was an invitation by Ken Holum to discuss the "Shaping of the Middle East: Christians, Jews, and Muslims in an Age of Transition, ca. 550–750 C.E." Whitcomb took the challenge to attempt a synthesis of the formidable evidence for early Islamic Qayṣariya (see *Project Reports*). The result was a confirmation of the role of the Caliph Mu'awiya and a surprisingly coherent model of the formation of the Islamic city.

Two further conferences followed to the Qayṣariya paper in Maryland. The first was at the Spring Symposium at Dumbarton Oaks in which he presented "Amṣār Revisited." In this paper he examined the concept of the *miṣr* as an urban foundation. This paper built upon ideas published some ten years earlier in which he perhaps more methodically attempted to move beyond the common concept of "garrison cities" or cantonments and make the case for a consciously organized program of urban settlement based on Arabian experience and the need to create a settlement to house the early Islamic *umma* or community. This was a debate which Paul Wheatley and Donald Whitcomb pondered for many years. The last paper was in the Aga Khan symposium at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he attempted to pay homage to Wheatley's monograph by considering his, and Muqaddasi's, use of archaeological evidence. Perhaps their relative negligence may be summed up in the words of Muqaddasi, who was a tenth century geographer:

"The cities of Solomon — peace upon him — Ba'albakk and Tadmur,
are among the wonders [of al-Shām],
as are the Dome of the Rock, the mosque of Damascus,
and the harbors of Ṣūr (Tyre) and 'Akka (Acre)" (186).

His acknowledgment of the impressive ruins of Ba'albak and Palmyra are balanced with two Islamic achievements in Jerusalem and Damascus. Then, the third leg was placed in economic foci, the two main harbors of Syria (the latter of which was built by Muqaddasi's grandfather).

Finally, in March, a rare chance to indulge in Ottoman archaeology presented itself at Northwestern University at the Great Lakes Workshop. Once again he turned to the Persian Gulf for a period rarely visited archaeologically. He resurrected some old field notes on al-Ḥaṣā oasis in eastern Saudi Arabia and examined the evidence in light of this fringe of the Ottoman Empire. The results once more confirmed the contribution possible from archaeological evidence in historical circumstances where documentary evidence might be considered more than ample. Several students from the Oriental Institute attended and may be among the rare archaeologists realizing the future value of Ottoman archaeology.

Magnus Widell

Magnus Widell studied Assyriology in Uppsala, Vienna, and Changchun and his research focuses on socio-economic, environmental, and agricultural issues in Mesopotamia. For the past two and a half years he has been working as a Research Associate at the Oriental Institute within the project, Modeling Ancient Settlement Systems (MASS). This unique project funded by the National Science Foundation's (NSF) biocomplexity program, is working to create an interactive framework for modeling the social, agricultural, and economic systems of ancient city-states in the Near East. The results will be important for understanding the development of ancient societies, human-environment interactions, and early settlement geography. Hardly surprising, Widell devoted most of the past year on research and administrative/editorial commitments within the MASS project. Whenever he could find some spare time, he continued to work on an edition of the unpublished Ur III tablets kept nearby at the University of Notre Dame. Widell has just been appointed the new Head of the Research Archives of the Institute, and more or less all his energy is at present devoted to this new and exciting job (see separate report).

Widell wrote, or completed, four scholarly articles this year dealing with the administration, economy, agriculture, and animal management of the third and second millennium B.C. These articles will appear in *Ugarit-Forschungen*, *Studies on the Civilization and Culture of Nuzi and the Hurrians*, *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient*, and the *Proceedings on the Ur III Period* from the 2003 Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale held in London. In addition to these papers, Widell was a co-author of two collaborative MASS publications that currently are under peer review for *American Anthropologist* and the *Proceedings of the Santa Fe Institute Studies in the Sciences of Complexity*. These rather substantial papers deal with urbanization and land use in Upper Mesopotamia during the Bronze Age.

The past year has also seen the appearance of several articles on Ur III exchange and administration in journals such as *Orient*, *Cuneiform Digital Library Journal*, *Medelhavsmuseet*, and our own *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*. Widell also published a review of a book dealing with verbal forms in Akkadian, and a more popular introduction to the reprint of the moldy-oldie *Babylonian Life and History* by Wallis Budge.

Widell gave several conference presentations or invited talks this year. He started off in October with a talk at the Oriental Institute on the MASS project. In the same month, he also delivered an invited paper in the interdisciplinary workshop, Modeling Long-Term Culture Change at the Santa Fe Institute. This paper, which was entitled "Reconstructing a Third Millennium B.C. City State in Upper Mesopotamia: The Landscape Framework for the Simulation Model," was co-authored with T. J. Wilkinson. In November, he presented "Exchange(s) in the Ur III Period (2112–2004 B.C.," at the 2004 American Schools of Oriental Research Annual Meeting in San Antonio, and in March this year, he gave the talk "Modeling Mesopotamia: Preliminary Findings from the Upper Khabor" at the 215th Annual Meeting of the American Oriental Society in Philadelphia. He continued straight from Philadelphia to Washington, D.C., where he presented a poster entitled "Modeling Ancient Settlement Systems in a Dynamic Environment" at the Second Biocomplexity in the Environment Awardees Meeting hosted by the National Science Foundation.

Karen L. Wilson

Karen L. Wilson continued to make steady progress on her manuscript of the final publication of the University of Chicago's excavations at Bismaya (ancient Adab) thanks to the generous grant she received from The Shelby White-Leon Levy Program for Archaeological Publications. She would like to thank three volunteers without whose work this progress would not have been possible. Peggy Grant has scanned Banks' Day Book, weekly reports to Robert Francis Harper, and the book, *Bismaya: The Lost City of Adab* to produce searchable files for Karen's research. She also prepared an index, by tablet number, for Yang Zhi's work, *Sargonic Inscriptions from Adab*. Robert McGuinness and Roy Miller spent many Friday mornings scanning all of the Bismaya negatives, some of which provide fascinating documentation on early twentieth century Iraq and its inhabitants.

In September, Karen accepted a part-time position at The Field Museum as Kish Project Co-ordinator. She is working with Field Museum staff on a project, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, to document fully and catalog all of the objects and archival records from the joint excavations of The Field Museum and Oxford University at the site of Kish from 1923 to 1933. The goal of this project is to produce an interactive Web site where all of the Kish objects and records housed in Chicago, Oxford, and Baghdad will be available on-line, in both English and Arabic versions.

Christopher Woods

This year **Christopher Woods** completed three articles: "Bilingualism, Scribal Learning, and the Death of Sumerian," a paper presented in February at the Oriental Institute's Margins of Writing, Origins of Cultures seminar organized by Seth L. Sanders; "The Paleography and Values of the Sign KIB," in *From the Workshop of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary: Studies in Honor of Robert D. Biggs*, edited by Martha T. Roth, Matthew Stolper, and Walter Farber (Chicago, forthcoming); and "At the Edge of the World — Cosmological Conceptions of the Eastern Horizon in Mesopotamia," to appear in next year's volume of *Journal of Cuneiform Studies*. The final week of June also saw the long awaited publication of three articles: "Deixis, Person, and Case" (*Acta Sumerologica* 22 (2005) = Yoshikawa festschrift); "The Sun-god Tablet of Nabû-apla-iddina." *Journal of Cuneiform Studies* 56 (2005); and "On the Euphrates." *Zeitschrift für Assyriologie* 95 (2005): 7–45. As a supplement to this last article he has most recently submitted a note to *N.A.B.U.* discussing a unique writing for Sippar at Abū Šalābikh. Presently, his time is devoted to completing his book on the Sumerian "conjugation" prefixes, which will appear in the Cuneiform Monographs series published by Brill and will hopefully appear by the end of 2006. After finishing this project, he plans to complete the eighteenth and final volume of *Materials for the Sumerian Lexicon*.

In addition to the Margins of Writing conference, Woods also delivered papers at the Fiftieth Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale in South Africa last August ("Cosmographical Conceptions of the Horizon in Early Mesopotamian Sources"), at the plenary session of the American Oriental Society meeting in Philadelphia in March ("On the Typology of Pristine Writing Systems"), and here in Chicago at the Franke Institute for the Humanities in May ("On the Origin and Development of Writing in Mesopotamia").

K. Aslihan Yener

During 2004 **K. Aslihan Yener** directed the tenth season of the broadly based Amuq Valley Regional Projects (AVRP) in Antakya, Turkey. This included coordinating a series of field projects and directing the second excavation season at Tell Atchana (ancient Alalakh). The work at Alalakh is published in *The Amuq Valley Regional Projects, Volume 1: Surveys in the Plain of Antioch and Orontes Delta from the Years 1995–2002*. (Oriental Institute Publications 131; Chicago, 2005); “University of Chicago, Oriental Institute 2003 Yılı Hatay Aççana, Kazısı” in *26. Kazı Sonuçları Toplantısı* (Ankara: Ministry of Culture, 2005); K. A. Yener, J. David Schloen, A. Sumaka-i Fink, “Reliving the Legend: The Expedition to Alalakh, 2003,” *The Oriental Institute News & Notes* 181 (2004): 1–6; K. A. Yener, J. David Schloen, A. Sumaka-i Fink, “Amuq Valley Regional Projects. Oriental Institute Expedition to Tell Atchana/Alalakh,” *The Oriental Institute 2003/2004 Annual Report*, edited by Gil J. Stein (Chicago, 2004), pp. 25–34. The 2003 Alalakh Expedition was featured prominently on the WTTW (PBS) documentary on the Oriental Institute called “Breaking Ground: The Story of the Oriental Institute,” broadcast in May 2004.

Honors, grants, and awards during 2004 included the Institute of Aegean Prehistory Grant, “The Oriental Institute Alalakh Survey, Turkey,” and the Joseph Neubauer Family Foundation Grant, “The Oriental Institute Expedition to Alalakh.” She served on the University of Chicago Senate and on several committees of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations. Together with her students, faculty, and volunteers, she co-curated the Henrietta Herbolsheimer, M.D. Syro-Anatolian Gallery in the Oriental Institute Museum. Featuring collections from the 1930s Oriental Institute excavations at Kurdu, Chatal Höyük, Judaidah, Tayinat, and Dhahab in the Amuq Valley, the gallery had its grand opening this year as part of the Empires of the Fertile Crescent: Ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel exhibition.

Yener organized two scholarly sessions on the Amuq projects and the excavations at Alalakh in 2004 and in 2005. She delivered the following papers: “Excavations at Tell Atchana, Alalakh 2003–4” at the Amuq session at the American Schools of Oriental Research, San Antonio; and “Excavations at Tell Atchana, Alalakh 2003–4” at the Amuq session at the Archaeological Institute of America meetings in Boston. She was invited to deliver a paper at the Columbia University Seminars in Old World Archaeology entitled “Reliving the Legend: Excavations at Alalakh 2003–4.” Courses taught during the past year include NEARCH 305: “Method and Theory in Field Archaeology” in spring 2004, NEAA 20372: “Anatolian Archaeology 2” in fall 2004, and “Seminar on Alalakh” in winter 2005.

RESEARCH SUPPORT

COMPUTER LABORATORY

John C. Sanders

Can you say “This Old Computer Laboratory?” Although the boys from the public television program with a similar name did not make a visit to the Oriental Institute last winter, the changes evident as you enter the Laboratory today would seem to suggest they did help with our 2004/2005 make-over.

The Computer Laboratory and CAMEL Merge Spaces

For functional reasons, space savings, and operational considerations, the teaching, non-project specific portion of the Center for Archaeology of the Middle Eastern Landscape (CAMEL) Laboratory was brought up from the depths of the basement and merged into the Computer Laboratory in Room 202. As a part of this process, a facelift of sorts was given to both facilities. Thanks to efforts by CAMEL director Scott Branting, new countertop surfaces along all the walls have replaced the old assortment of tables, several Middle Eastern carpets now decorate the walls, and two work-study students employed by CAMEL maintain peace and order in the facility on a regular, daily basis. With the arrival of CAMEL, the number of Windows-based computers has grown from two to eight, and two of the Macintosh computers have been upgraded to iMac G5 computers.

The merging of the two facilities also caused us to deal finally with an ongoing problem in the Computer Laboratory. Our former open door policy meant that on numerous occasions over the past few years people with no connection to the Oriental Institute, the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations (NELC), or any of our research projects would simply walk in off the street and use our computer facilities for Web surfing, e-mail, and printing. To eliminate this problem, the upgraded facility now requires key access. Although admittedly an inconvenience, unauthorized use of Laboratory facilities has now been virtually eliminated.

The dual nature of the upgraded Laboratory has produced increased activity when compared with usage in the past (and I thought those days were busy), especially among those staff and students working with Geographic Information Systems (GIS) programs on the CAMEL computers. Although the eight Windows computers are primarily for use by CAMEL, others within the Oriental Institute community can access them with prior authority. The three Macintosh computers, however, remain publicly available to all Oriental Institute faculty, staff, and students on a walk-up or sign-up basis.

World-Wide Web site

Fifteen months into the hosting of the Oriental Institute’s Web site by the university’s Networking Services and Information Technologies (NSIT) office, I can report that no major problems have developed. The transition has been mostly uneventful. Although some benefits have been seen immediately, the best is yet to come. Some of the immediate improvements include faster access times for downloading pages from the Institute’s Web site, and, on a personal note, no longer having to maintain the computer hardware that runs our Web site or operates its nightly backup routines. I’ll take this opportunity to thank our liaison with NSIT’s Web Services divi-

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sion, Sandy Weisz, who has been very active and instrumental in negotiating our transition this past year. Good work, and many thanks to Sandy and his NSIT colleagues.

The future developments to the Oriental Institute's Web site that are in the works right now are where the largest and most meaningful benefits of our NSIT collaboration will be found. As I write this NSIT programmers are working on converting all the Web pages (over 32,000) and images (over 12,000) on the present Oriental Institute Web site into a new template, with an updated "look and feel." A large time consuming task, the first sample pages of the new Web site, which are located on a development server until all pages and images have been converted, will be ready for evaluation by Oriental Institute faculty and staff about the time this *Annual Report* is published. Additionally, the ability to use a "backend" database to produce future Web pages on the Institute's Web site in real time from queries entered by visitors is another future development our NSIT collaboration makes possible. Although admittedly a longer range goal than the new Web-site design already underway, the serving of data on our Web site from a database instead of from static Web pages, as we do today, holds much promise for a more efficient, tailored delivery of ancient Near Eastern research and scholarship than anything we could accomplish with our present Web-site configuration.

Laboratory Projects

Iraq Museum Database: The "Lost Treasures from Iraq" Web site

As a part of our efforts to disseminate information on artifacts stolen from the Iraq Museum and its regional branches during looting in 2003, the Oriental Institute's Iraq Working Group received permission to publish on our Web site the three fascicles of *Lost Heritage: Antiquities Stolen from Iraq's Regional Museums*. These publications date back to 1992 during the looting of antiquities from the regional museums following the first Gulf War. These three print publications predated the creation of the World-Wide Web (WWW), and were not available in electronic format until now.

Throughout this past year Oriental 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 Iraq Museum and other regional facilities. Additionally, Docent/Volunteer Karen Terras continued to spend three or more days a week in the Computer Laboratory and in our museum's basement storage area, 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 constitute the bulk of the Iraq Museum Database which Clemens has been constructing on the Oriental Institute's Web site since the looting occurred in 2003. Their dedicated service in this cause deserves our praise and thanks.

Several major content updates to the Iraq Museum Database occurred throughout the year. The Iraq Museum Database now contains over 1,150 objects, the latest additions including sixty seal and seal impressions from various sites in the Diyala region of Iraq.

Diyala Miscellaneous Objects Publication Project

Volunteer Robert Wagner, who started the year as a semi-permanent resident in the Computer Laboratory on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of each week, eventually migrated to our museum's Registration area in the basement so that he could continue his data entry efforts by scanning all of the original tablet, object, and locus cards from the Oriental Institute's excava-

tions at Tell Asmar during the 1930s (and he's still at it as I write this article, so I'll be reporting on his efforts yet again next year). To paraphrase John Cameron Swazey, Robert "takes a beating, and keeps on ticking." We greatly appreciate Robert's dedicated service to the Diyala Miscellaneous Objects Publications Project.

Electronic Publications

The Chicago Hittite Dictionary Project ventured into the realm of electronic publication in late 2004 with the initial release of its P volume. Without getting too technical, unlike our other electronic publications which are available in Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) format, the eCHD (as it is known) is served via the World-Wide Web (WWW) from an XML database program, XSTAR, developed by Oriental Institute faculty member David Schloen and his wife Sandra Schloen, and hosted on a server at the Digital Library Development Center in the University of Chicago's Regenstein Library. This database was specifically designed to provide scholars with a variety of query and presentation methods necessary for a thorough analysis of these critically important cuneiform texts from ancient Anatolia. Access to the P volume requires downloading to your computer an executable file for either the Windows 2000 & XP platforms or the Macintosh OS X platform (it will not run on Macintosh computers running System 9.x).

During the past year Professor Janet Johnson finished work on letter N for the Chicago Demotic Dictionary. This brings the total number of Demotic Dictionary letters published electronically to fifteen. Work continues on the remaining eleven letters. Additionally, an electronic version of her book, *The Demotic Verbal System*, published in 1976 as Volume 38 of the Institute's series titled *Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization*, was finished in November 2004. With the assistance of Tom Urban, Oriental Institute Publications Office, these documents are now available on the Oriental Institute's Web site as Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) files.

Two new books from our Publications Office, both published during 2004, are now available electronically on our Web site as Adobe Acrobat Portable Document Format (PDF) files: OIP 124. *Excavations at 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*, by Tony J. Wilkinson; OIS 1. *Changing Social Identity with the Spread of Islam: Archaeological Perspectives*, edited by Donald Whitcomb. In addition, a corrected version of Chapter 34, "Implicit Models of Cross-Cultural Interaction: A Question of Noses, Soap, and Prejudice," Robert K. Ritner's contribution to our 1992 publication, SAOC 51, *Life in a Multi-Cultural Society: Egypt from Cambyses to Constantine and Beyond*, is now available on the Institute's Web site in Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) format.

In early 2005, Professor Peter Dorman gave our Publications Office permission to preprint his contribution, "The Long Coregency Revisited: Architectural and Iconographic Conundra in the Tomb of Kheruef," to a volume of essays in memory of William Murnane. The projected title of the book is: *Causing his Name to Live: Studies in Egyptian History and Epigraphy in Memory of William J. Murnane*, edited by Peter Brand and Jacobus van Dijk. The book will be published by Brill Academic Publishers in 2006.

Professor John Brinkman's "Mesopotamian Directory" was updated for 2005, and is now available as an Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) file on the Institute's Web site. It lists the names and addresses of persons domiciled in North America who are engaged in research on the pre-Islamic archaeology, history, and languages of greater Mesopotamia (including Syria east of the Upper Euphrates, the Elamite plains, and regions using a standard cuneiform script).

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It includes academics, museum personnel, library staff, and senior graduate students with a formally approved dissertation topic.

Two recent University of Chicago dissertations from the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations (NELC) are now available in Adobe Acrobat Portable Document Format (PDF) on our Web site: *The Architecture of Defense: Fortified Settlements of the Levant During The Middle Bronze Age*, by Aaron Alexander Burke, June 2004; and *Urbanism and Society in the Third Millennium Upper Khabur Basin*, by Jason Alik Ur, December 2004.

Circumstances inside and outside the Computer Laboratory this past year conspired against our finishing the HTML coding and scanning of photographs for the electronic version of the 1980 Oriental Institute publication *Ptolemais Cyrenaica*, by David Nasgowitz (Chicago, 1980). Working with Oriental Institute Museum Archivist John Larson and his staff, we hope to complete this project in 2005/2006, so that we can add this publication to the Photographic Archives section of the Institute's Web site.

Laboratory Equipment/Institute Resources

As mentioned above, the Computer Laboratory replaced its two oldest Macintosh computers with 20 inch iMac G5 computers running OS 10.4, and six new Dell OptiPlex GX280 Windows computers, each with 17 inch flat panel displays, were added as part of the CAMEL merger. Additionally, two new scanners — an Epson Perfection 2450 and an Epson Perfection 4870, both able to scan transparencies as well as printed material — have joined the Laboratory's other five scanners.

With the retirement of our longtime Oriental Institute e-mail server, "babylon-orinst," in early July 2004 after eight years of practically error-free service (see explanation in the Computer Laboratory's entry in the *2003/2004 Annual Report*), a new computer was needed to function as the Oriental Institute's File Transfer Protocol (FTP) server. Although not an ideal choice, and admittedly only a temporary solution, a seldom used data entry machine, a 700 MHz iMac G3, with 80 gigabytes of disk space, currently running OS 10.3.9, was converted for use as our new FTP server.

For further information concerning several of the above mentioned research projects, the Oriental Institute's 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

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

ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

Charles E. Jones and John C. Sanders

Oriental Institute World-Wide Web Database: New and Developing Resources in 2004/2005

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

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

Chicago Demotic Dictionary

One new letter, N, has been added, giving the on-line dictionary entries for fifteen letters of the Demotic alphabet. For more information on the development of this tool, see the Demotic Dictionary/Publications Office/Computer Laboratory sections in this *Annual Report*.

http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/PUB/SRC/CDD/CDD_N.pdf

and the entire Dictionary at:

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

Chicago Hittite Dictionary

The Chicago Hittite Dictionary Project announces the Electronic Chicago Hittite Dictionary (eCHD), and its first electronic publication, the P Volume.

<http://humanities.uchicago.edu/orgs/xstar/eCHD>

Electronic Mesopotamian Directory

This directory lists the names and addresses of persons domiciled in North America who are engaged in research on the pre-Islamic archaeology, history, and languages of greater Mesopotamia.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IS/BRINKMAN/MesDir.pdf>

Electronic Publications, Individual Research

Peter Dorman authorized a preprint of his contribution, "The Long Coregency Revisited: Architectural and Iconographic Conundra in the Tomb of Kheruef," to a forthcoming volume of essays in memory of William Murnane.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IS/DORMAN/COREGENCY/LongCoregency.html>

Electronic Publications, Publications Office

SAOC 38: The Demotic Verbal System. Edited by Janet H. Johnson.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/PUB/SRC/SAOC/38/SAOC38.html>

OIP 124: Excavations at 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. Edited by Tony J. Wilkinson.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/PUB/SRC/OIP/124/OIP124.html>

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OIS 1: Changing Social Identity with the Spread of Islam: Archaeological Perspectives. Edited by Donald Whitcomb.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/PUB/SRC/OIS/1/OIS1.html>

SAOC 51, Chapter 34: Implicit Models of Cross-Cultural Interaction: A Question of Noses, Soap, and Prejudice. By Robert K. Ritner.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/PUB/SRC/SAOC/51/Chapter34.html>

Iraq Museum Database

Information and photographs regarding artifacts known to have been in the collections of the Iraq Museum at the time of the looting:

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

Note in particular the following updates:

Hundreds of objects have been added to the Oriental Institute's Iraq Museum Database:

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

Digital photographs (162 images) of archaeological sites, which were taken by Joanne Farchakh during visits between 2002 and 2004:

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

Iraq Working Group

With the kind permission of the original publishers, three fascicles of "Lost Heritage: Antiquities Stolen from Iraq's Regional Museums," dating back to the time of the first Gulf War, are now available.

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

The Middle East Librarians Association Committee on Iraqi Libraries

The Oriental Institute Research Archives has been hosting the web presence of The Middle East Librarians Association Committee on Iraqi Libraries since shortly after the outbreak of the war in spring 2003.

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

Note in particular the following documents: Reports on the damage done to the Central library of Baghdad University/Al-Waziriyya and the damage to the Central Awqaf Library in Baghdad.

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

Oriental Institute 2002-2003 Annual Report

Links to its respective entries have been added to homepages of numerous Oriental Institute archaeological and philological projects and departments.

http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/AR/02-03/02-03_AR_TOC.html

Oriental Institute Museum: The East Wing Galleries: The Dr. Norman Solhkhah Family Assyrian Empire Gallery; the Henrietta Herbolsheimer, M.D. Syro-Anatolian Gallery; and the Haas and Schwartz Megiddo Gallery

http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/MUS/GALLERY/EAST/New_East_Gallery.html

Research Archives: University of Chicago Dissertations

Two recent University of Chicago Dissertations in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations are now available:

Aaron Alexander Burke: *The Architecture of Defense: Fortified Settlements of the Levant During the Middle Bronze Age*

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

Jason Alik Ur: *Urbanism and Society in the Third Millennium Upper Khabur Basin*

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

Revised and Updated Documents

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

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

ETANA: Electronic Tools and ancient Near Eastern Archives – Core Texts

A substantial selection of digitized titles from the collections of the Research Archives has been added to the ETANA Core Texts this year.

<http://www.etana.org/coretexts.shtml>

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. A component of the Oriental Institute's response to the cultural heritage crisis in the aftermath of the war in Iraq, this list provides a moderated forum for the distribution of information.

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

Research Archives Catalog On-Line

Web version of the Research Archives Catalog.

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

PUBLICATIONS OFFICE

Thomas A. Holland

The staff of the Publications Office remained the same with Thomas Holland and Thomas Urban in the Editorial Office. The following graduate work-study students in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations ably assisted in the massive computer work that is now required to complete and send electronically completed manuscripts to press: Katherine Strange Burke, Lindsay DeCarlo, Katie L. Johnson, Leslie Schramer, and Alexandra Witsell.

The external vendors for Oriental Institute publications, The David Brown Book Company/Oxbow, have now represented our book distribution for two years and three months. A review of the three-year contract that ends in March 2006 with the distributors will be assessed in the near future and will be reported upon in the next fiscal year's *Annual Report*. Although a limited number of titles are available for in-house sales in the Suq, please note that all external orders for Oriental Institute publications should be addressed to one of the following: The David Brown Book Company, P.O. Box 511, Oakville, CT 06779; Telephone Toll Free: 1-800-791-9354 and 1-860-945-9329; Fax: (+1) 860-945-9468; E-mail: david.brown.bk.co@snet.net; Web site: www.oxbowbooks.com. Also, an updated catalog of Oriental Institute publications is available on-line in Portable Document Format (PDF):

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

Information related to Oriental Institute sales may be obtained via e-mail:

<http://oi.publications@uchicago.edu>

Sales

The tables of sales charts shown below represent the income received via sales from both The David Brown Book Company/Oxbow and the Oriental Institute Suq.

ORIENTAL INSTITUTE IN-HOUSE SUQ SALES

Date Series	7/04	8/04	9/04	10/04	11/04	12/04	1/05	2/05	3/05	4/05	5/05	6/05	Total
ES*	\$500			\$3,600		\$4,000					\$3,600	\$2,000	\$13,700
OIMP**	\$66	\$89	\$290	\$201	\$223	\$45	\$156	\$245	\$223	\$290	\$401	\$89	\$2,318
OIP***						\$20.00							\$20.00
Total	\$66	\$589	\$290	\$3,801	\$223	\$4,065	\$156	\$245	\$223	\$290	\$4,001	\$2,089	\$16,038

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

DBBC QUARTERLY SALES REPORT

<i>Vols./Date Series</i>	<i>Vols. 9/04 [Third Quarter]</i>	<i>Vols. 12/04 [Fourth Quarter]</i>	<i>Vols. 3/05 [First Quarter]</i>	<i>Vols. 6/05 [Second Quarter]</i>	<i>Total Vols.</i>	<i>Total Income</i>				
ES*	66	\$5,371.16	19	\$1,878.26	14	\$1,430.35	14	\$1,053.29	113	\$8,936.96
CAD	128	\$5,414.96	246	\$9,946.39	113	\$6,346.68	214	\$8,533.47	701	\$29,140.42
CHD	24	\$359.81	32	\$563.25	30	\$823.57	11	\$423.97	97	\$1,783.24
CH.MISH	1	\$27.99	—	—	—	—	1	\$63.70	2	\$91.69
OINE	9	\$106.19	10	\$571.30	3	\$136.14	1	\$19.48	23	\$833.11
OIMP**	56	\$420.84	52	\$446.43	34	\$299.30	287	\$2,826.43	429	\$3,993.00
OIP***	218	\$9,319.16	119	\$5,311.83	354	\$14,928.88	133	\$5,149.29	824	\$28,456.28
Total	502	\$21,020.11	478	\$18,717.46	548	\$1,427.60	661	\$18,069.53	2,189	\$73,234.70

Key: DBBC = The David Brown Book Company/Oxbow Books Ltd., OIP = Oriental Institute Publications, SAOC = Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization, AS = Assyriological Studies, MSKH = Materials for the Study of Kassite History, OIC = Oriental Institute Communications; ES = Epigraphic Survey volumes OIP 112, OIP 116, and Special Photographic Portfolios; CAD = Chicago Assyrian Dictionary; CHD = Chicago Hittite Dictionary; OIMP = Oriental Institute Museum Publications 23; OINE = Oriental Institute Nubian Expedition; OIS = Oriental Institute Seminars (new series).

* The Epigraphic Survey Suq sales of the *Lost Egypt* prints include one individual print and three complete sets of volumes I–III. The David Brown Book Company/Oxbow Books sales consisted of other Epigraphic Survey titles.

**The sales total (June 2005) for *Ancient Egypt: Treasures from the Collection of The Oriental Institute*, by Emily Teeter (Oriental Institute Museum Publications 23; Chicago, 2003) represents income received via the Suq sales from July 2004 to June 2005. The DBBC/Oxbow Books sales of OIMP 23 cover four quarters from July 2004 until June 2005.

***Includes sales of volumes in the AS, MSKH, OIC, OIP, OIS, SAOC series and miscellaneous volumes.

Volumes Distributed On-line

1. *Thus Wrote Onchsheshonqy: An Introductory Grammar of Demotic*. J. H. Johnson. Third edition. Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization 45.

<http://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, 𐎗, Q, K, G, T, D, and Problematic Readings). J. H. Johnson, editor.

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

3. *The Chicago Hittite Dictionary*, Volume P. Theo van den Hout, editor.

<http://humanities.uchicago.edu/orgs/xstar/eCHD/>

4. *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 Naomi F. Miller, Clemens D. Reichel, and Donald Whitcomb. Oriental Institute Publications 124.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/PUB/SRC/OIP/124/OIP124.html>

5. *Changing Social Identity with the Spread of Islam: Archaeological Perspectives*. Donald Whitcomb, editor, with Case Studies by Jodi Magness, Tracy Hoffman, Yury Karev, Mark C. Horton, and Timothy Insoll. Oriental Institute Seminars 1.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/PUB/SRC/OIS/1/OIS1.html>

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6. *Life in a Multi-Cultural Society: Egypt from Cambyses to Constantine and Beyond*. J. H. Johnson, editor. *Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization* 51. Erratum, Chapter 34: "Implicit Models of Cross-Cultural Interaction: A Question of Noses, Soap, and Prejudice." Robert K. Ritner.

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/PUB/SRC/SAOC/51/Chapter 34.html](http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/PUB/SRC/SAOC/51/Chapter%2034.html)

Volumes Printed

1. *Excavations at 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*. Tony J. Wilkinson, with contributions by Naomi F. Miller, Clemens D. Reichel, and Donald Whitcomb. Oriental Institute Publications 124.

2. *Megiddo 3: Final Report on the Stratum VI Excavations*. Timothy P. Harrison, with contributions by Douglas L. Esse, Andrew Graham, Ronald G. V. Hancock, and Patricia Paice. Oriental Institute Publications 127.

3. *Changing Social Identity with the Spread of Islam: Archaeological Perspectives*. Donald Whitcomb, editor, with Case Studies by Jodi Magness, Tracy Hoffman, Yury Karev, Mark C. Horton, and Timothy Insoll. Oriental Institute Seminars, Number 1.

4. *Catalog of Demotic Texts in the Brooklyn Museum*. G. R. Hughes, with contributions by B. P. Muhs and S. Vinson. Oriental Institute Communications 29.

New Manuscript Accepted for Publication

1. *Egyptian Coffin Texts, Volume VIII*. J. Allen

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 a contribution by R. K. Ritner.

2. *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.

3. *The Demotic Verbal System*. J. H. Johnson. *Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization* 38. Reprint.

4. *Excavations at Tall-e Bakun A, Seasons 1932 and 1937: The Origins of State Organizations in Prehistoric Fars, Southern Iran*. A. Alizadeh.

5. *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.

6. *Tax Receipts, Taxpayers, and Taxes in Early Ptolemaic Thebes*. B. P. Muhs. Oriental Institute Publications 126

7. *Excavations at Tell es-Sweyhat, Syria, Volume 2. Archaeology of the Bronze Age, Hellenistic, and Roman Remains from an Ancient Town on the Euphrates River*. (2 volumes, text and plates). T. A. Holland, with contributions by M. Goodway and M. Roaf. Oriental Institute Publications 125.

RESEARCH ARCHIVES

Magnus Widell

It was with a measure of disbelief that I, as well as many others, read the following post on the Ancient Near East listserv by Charles E. Jones from Sunday, April 17, 2005:

After twenty-two years as the Librarian at the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago, I have accepted the position of Head of the Blegen Library at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens (<http://www.ascsa.edu.gr/>). This choice did not come easily - I spent a great deal of time and effort weighing the options of this offer and the counteroffers made at the OI. In the end I decided that the position in Athens offers me extraordinary opportunities for personal and professional development at this stage in my career. It's going to be a real adventure leaping simultaneously eastward (physically) and westward (intellectually). I will begin in the new position in July 2005. ...

I have enjoyed the decades I have spent in Chicago, and I have enjoyed the interactions with those of you on these lists. I will continue to participate here and elsewhere, and I suspect I will see many of you in Athens.

Yours,

-Chuck Jones-

Chuck had a profound impact on the Research Archives. During his twenty-two years of dedicated service, he helped to guide the Archives into the world-renowned institution it is today. The on-line catalog of the Archives, which he initiated, continues to be at the core of the library's digital resources. Chuck envisioned and realized the enormous potential for on-line scholarly dissemination before most of us had e-mail accounts. Since 1993, thousands of students and scholars of the ancient Near East have exchanged ideas and debated sundry topics on the ANE list. In more recent years, his work on the IraqCrisis list has provided substantive information worldwide on cultural property damaged, destroyed, or lost from libraries and museums in Iraq during and after the war in April 2003. His contributions cannot be overestimated and his presence around the Oriental Institute will be sorely missed.

Goals for the Coming Year

As the new Head of Research Archives, I will build on many of the projects and programs that Chuck developed over his years (for a more thorough introduction of my work, see my *Individual Research* report). This includes, but is not limited to, updating and improving the on-line catalog of research material and continuing the involvement of the Archives in academic electronic communications.

We are currently in the process of upgrading the catalog software and porting it to Mac OS X. The on-line interface will also be upgraded in the next month and put on a new server running OS X. The new catalog framework will not only improve the display of records, but also ensure more intuitive search capabilities as well as faster and more stable on-line access to the collection.

In order to further improve the on-line catalog, we will significantly increase the efforts of retrospective cataloging of material from before 1990. We expect to be able to include a significant part of the pre-1990 monographs in the on-line catalog within the coming year. During the past year, we have acquired approximately 1,000 new volumes for the library (monographs, journals, and series) putting the total number of volumes at roughly 39,000. Additionally, we

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have added over 16,000 new records to the catalog. As of August 9, 2005, the total number of records stands at 146,598. The catalog is available on-line at <http://oilib.uchicago.edu/>.

Staff and Acknowledgments

Our team this past year included Foy Scalf and Benjamin Trofatter. Foy, a graduate student in Egyptology, has been responsible for developing cataloging procedures for the Archive's map collection. The database will be made available on-line together with digitized scans of the maps through the work of the CAMEL lab of the Institute. In addition, Foy has compiled a comprehensive list of abbreviations used in ancient Near Eastern studies. This list will be made available on-line in the coming year. Benjamin, who recently graduated from the College majoring in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, has been responsible for cataloging new acquisitions as well as retrospective cataloging of monographs. As of August 2005, all monographs from A to C have been entered into the on-line database. Benjamin has also been involved in reorganizing the journal stacks.

My transition into the Archives has been a lot easier than I expected largely because of the warm support and assistance by so many of the faculty, students, and staff of the Institute. I am grateful to my assistants who have helped me in many ways. The cheerful assistance of Steve Camp and Carla Hosein with various practical and economic matters has meant a lot to me. I am also very grateful to John Sanders, who has tirelessly guided me through the electronic world of the Archives.

THE TABLET COLLECTION

Walter Farber

The Tablet Room, under the daily care of Jonathan Tenney, accommodated a number of visitors for short or sometimes extended visits, to work on cuneiform texts in our collection. An initiative to put digital photos of all our Hittite tablets up on the internet in conjunction with a similar project of the Mainz (Germany) Academy of Sciences was successfully accomplished, and a similar but much larger project for our Ur III tablets is being discussed with the Cuneiform Digital Library Initiative based in Los Angeles. We hope to continue these and other kinds of services to all cuneiformists interested in studying our great and varied collection.



MUSEUM

***Overleaf. View of the temple showing the beginning of the avenue of sphinxes, looking toward the river.
Es-Sibu, Egypt. Photograph P 2648***

MUSEUM

Geoff Emberling

After a year as director of the Oriental Institute Museum, I can say that I continue to be amazed and delighted. The collection is incredibly rich, the staff dedicated and creative, and the museum has a vast potential, not yet fully realized, to teach and remind our visitors of the importance of the Near East to history and to our devastatingly conflicted modern world.

This past year has been both productive and exciting. The museum opened another major permanent gallery, developed plans for ambitious and wide-ranging special exhibits, presented innovative and intriguing educational programs, improved storage conditions and access to our collections, and increased attendance and financial figures in just about every possible category.

The work of the museum is inherently collaborative, and I am thankful to everyone on the museum staff, many of whom have written about their own activities and accomplishments below, as well as to our volunteers, without whom our work would be impossible.

We were fortunate to welcome a number of new staff members in 2004/2005. Tom James is now Curatorial Assistant and has taken on a wide variety of assignments, from exhibit carpentry and securing image rights and permissions, to constructing databases of Oriental Institute images and assisting on a variety of curatorial projects. Helen McDonald is our new Assistant Registrar, Jessica Caracci is the new Education Programs Assistant, and Alison Whyte is now Assistant Conservator; their contributions are discussed below.

Our focus for this past year was the opening of *Empires in the Fertile Crescent: Ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel in the East Wing* of the museum on January 29 (fig. 1). This permanent exhibition had the difficult task of displaying material from four archaeological projects (Khorsabad, Alishar, the Amuq Valley, and Megiddo) in a way that both presented local histories and established connections among them. It has been a great success on all fronts.

The reinstallation was guided by a large and dedicated committee that included Gil 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 (Alishar), Gabrielle Novacek (Megiddo), designers Markus Dohner and Dianne Hanau-Strain, and editor Joan Barghusen. Former Museum Director Karen Wilson laid the plans for the gallery, including the layout of the Assyrian reliefs. Once again, I thank them all.

The exhibition was generously supported by private donors who made possible the Dr. Norman Sohlkhah Family



Figure 1. East Wing galleries installation crew. Photo by Jean Grant

MUSEUM

Assyrian Empires Gallery, the Henrietta Herbolsheimer, M.D. Syro-Anatolian Gallery, and the Haas and Schwartz Megiddo Gallery. It is worth noting that the gallery opened within budget, thanks in large part to the skillful exhibit construction by Erik Lindahl, Brian Zimerle, and Ray Tindel, and the steady and patient painting hand of Gretel Braidwood.

The success of the exhibition could be noted in outstanding press coverage and reviews (including the *Chicago Tribune* and *Chicago Sun-Times*, the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, and *Archaeology Magazine* so far); thanks to Bill Harms of the University of Chicago News Office and to Emily Teeter for getting the attention of the media. This resulted in an Oriental Institute record-setting opening weekend attendance of 1,232 people. This record attendance certainly built up on the successes of the Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery and the overall increased visibility of the museum, and thanks are due to Exelon for their continued support of museum publicity.

Overall museum attendance for the year was 60,087, up 9% over last year. In part this figure is due to the museum's new, longer hours (since October 1, the museum has stayed open until 6:00 P.M. most nights, until 8:30 on Wednesday), which increased opening time 26% overall. Clearly we will make fuller use of these longer hours, but they have paid off already — with a negligible increase in guard salaries, we drew 14% of our visitors (and 14% of sales in the Suq) after the old closing time of 4:00 P.M. We moved the collection box in August from its position in the corner of the lobby to a more central location, and the result was an increase in contributions of 32% over last year.

We have begun work on a number of museum publications. Emily Teeter's *Ancient Egypt: Treasures from the Collection of the Oriental Institute* (Chicago, 2003) has generated \$9,419 in profit since its publication, and these funds are now available to support work on books that will highlight other parts of the collection. Karen Wilson (Mesopotamia), Abbas Alizadeh (Persia), and Gabrielle Novacek (Israel) have begun work, and we plan to have highlights books on Assyria, the Hittites, and Nubia as well as a new gallery guide. Finally, a volume of papers from the public symposium celebrating the East Wing galleries is also in preparation.

For the coming year, we are looking forward to the opening of the Robert F. Picken Family Nubian Gallery on February 2, 2006, which will mark the final permanent gallery to reopen after the closing of the museum in 1996, as well as the inauguration of a new series of special exhibits (see below).

Exciting ideas for the future of the museum's exhibit spaces came from a pro bono consultation with the design firm IDEO. Maura Shea and Christian Schmidt visited the museum spaces, talked with me, Carole Krucoff, and Markus Dohner, and presented recommendations about design — particularly of signage — throughout the museum. Our discussions were extremely provocative. We will be able to consider these suggestions in detail once the Picken Family Nubian Gallery is open.

SPECIAL EXHIBITS

Emily Teeter

As the reinstallation of the permanent galleries nears completion, we are busy developing a program of exhibits for the Marshall and Doris Holleb Family Special Exhibits Gallery. Special exhibits allow us to explore themes that fall outside the geographic organization of the permanent galleries and also to exhibit some of the many important objects in our collection that are not ordinarily on view. The shows will afford opportunities for graduate students, faculty, and visiting curators to work with the collections. Special exhibits provide other benefits for the museum because they generate greater public awareness of the Oriental Institute and they provide an incentive for visitors to return.

Whenever possible, exhibits will be accompanied by a catalog. Note that the following titles and exact dates are subject to change as we finalize our plans.

Lost Nubia: Photographs of Egypt and Sudan 1905–07

February 2–May 7, 2006. Lost Nubia features photographs of the first University of Chicago Epigraphic Expedition. These images, most taken from the original glass plate negatives, document Egyptian and Nubian temples, scenes of the scientific team at work, and ethnographic scenes of a now-vanished life-style.

The Ancient Near East in the Time of King Tutankhamun

May 31–December 31, 2006. Special labeling throughout the galleries highlights objects from the time of Tutankhamun, placing the king and the events of his time in the broader context of the ancient Near East in the fourteenth century B.C. A selection of Egyptian objects from the reserve collections will be installed in the Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery.

Wonderful Things: The Discovery of the Tomb of Tutankhamun, Photographs of the Tomb by Harry Burton

May 31–September 30, 2006. The tomb of Tutankhamun was among the earliest archaeological discoveries to be thoroughly documented with photography. A selection of Burton's spectacular images traces the clearance of the tomb and addresses how photography is used in archaeology and the role that the photos played in the fame of the tomb and its "curse."

Palestinian Traditional Dress

November 4, 2006–May 31, 2007. A joint project of the Oriental Institute and the Palestine Heritage Center in Bethlehem, this exhibit of beautifully detailed regional garments from Palestine explores how clothing helped forge identity in the era before globalization.

Maps of the Ottoman Empire from the Collection of O. J. Sopranos

Opening November 2007 in conjunction with map exhibits at other Chicago museums. This collection of printed maps and atlases from the fifteenth to the seventeenth centuries explores how the west viewed the Ottoman Empire at its height, and how the science and art of cartography developed in Europe.

In addition to these exhibits, we are also investigating the possibility of shows on ancient Syria, Urartu, Pre-dynastic Egypt, and Anatolia (featuring the Hittites).

DESIGN AND PREPARATION

Markus Dohner

The museum reinstallation reached a major milestone in the last twelve months with the opening of the exhibition *Empires in the Fertile Crescent: Ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel*. For the first time since the museum was closed for renovation in 1996, it is possible to walk unimpeded through all the gallery spaces in the museum. As the exhibit designer, I really appreciate how this new plan reflects a more cohesive experience of the museum's displays since the East Wing galleries now physically and thematically link the other galleries together.

An interesting aspect of the installation process is seeing how all the ingredients that go into creating a new exhibit come together. Months prior to the installation, the curators and educators were busy reviewing and conceptualizing the exhibit content. Following that, the exhibit preparation department began the process of designing and fabricating the exhibit and shaping the gallery spaces. Here is a list of ingredients for the *Empires in the Fertile Crescent* exhibition:

- Seventy-five sheets of formaldehyde-free plywood
- 130 yards of fabric for lining the cases and case furniture
- More than seventy didactic text panels
- 475 identifying labels
- 125 additional track light fixtures
- Three custom-built walnut museum cases having 6 × 7 ft hinged glass doors
- Twelve refurbished walnut cases from the old museum
- Six museum preparators and designers working for a period of six months prior to opening
- Over 700 ancient Near Eastern objects!

If you have any comments regarding the design of the East Wing galleries, or the other installations in the building, I would like to hear them. You can e-mail me at: mdohner@uchicago.edu. Please visit my Web site featuring my latest exhibit designs at <http://www.markusdohner.com>.

ARCHIVES

John A. Larson

Museum Archivist John A. Larson completed his twenty-fifth year on the Museum Staff in June 2005. 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-fifth anniversary as Museum Archivist takes place in early December.

Photographic Services

John Larson has been assisted by graduate-student assistants Justine Warren James, Brian Smith, and Laura Deneke, 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. Income from sales of Oriental Institute photographic images and permission fees for the fiscal year 2004/2005 totalled \$13,325, a 51% increase over the income for the previous year. The income from photo sales and reproduction fees enables us to purchase archival supplies and equipment for the Archives and for Photography. During the fiscal year, we acquired a new digital scanner and computer for scanning negatives and a new digital camera for photography.

Archives

The West Basement, a Museum work space in the Oriental Institute shared by the functions of Archives and Registry, is currently a host for the ongoing work of the Diyala Project, under the supervision of Clemens Reichel. Visiting scholars during fiscal year 2004/2005 included James Goode, Rafi Greenberg, Eleanor Guralnick, Pierre Leriche, and Juris Zarins. From within our own Oriental Institute community, Abbas Alizadeh, Vanessa Davies, Emily Teeter, Donald S. Whitcomb, and Karen L. Wilson have conducted research using Archives materials. We would like to acknowledge the contribution of Tom James to the successful operation of the Archives; Tom has undertaken countless tasks with thoroughness, grace, and good humor.

Recent Acquisitions

John Larson is pleased to report that we have received the gift of a small collection of original pencil drawings of monuments in Egypt by Lansing C. Holden Jr. donated by Dr. W. Benson Harer Jr. and Pamela K. Harer of Seattle, Washington, in honor of Emily Teeter.

Volunteers

The following people have contributed generously of their time during fiscal year 2004/2005 and have made it possible for us to begin, continue, and complete a number of projects in the Oriental Institute Archives that would not have been possible without their willing help and unfailing good humor: Hazel Cramer, Irene Glasner, Peggy Grant, Patricia Hume, Sandra Jacobsohn, Roberta Kovitz, Lillian Schwartz, and Carole Yoshida. We are extremely grateful for the services of these dedicated volunteers, and we are pleased to be able to recognize them here for their efforts on behalf of the Archives.

CONSERVATION

Laura D'Alessandro

This year saw a major milestone for conservation — the completion of the ten-year Assyrian relief reinstallation project. Over the course of those ten years, the museum's collection of Assyrian reliefs was de-installed from their 1930s installation in the former Assyrian Gallery, stabilized, and placed in a new arrangement in the Mesopotamian and East Wing galleries. The new arrangement successfully recreates the ambience of King Sargon's eighth century B.C.

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palace. The actual work — from the removal of the reliefs from the walls of the Assyrian Gallery, through their stabilization and framing, to their installation in the newly designed museum galleries — involved many people over the years. To all of them, we owe our heartfelt thanks.

On the subject of thanks, the museum was very fortunate to be the recipient of the talents of Jeanne Mandel, a Chicago-based conservator, who donated her time and expertise assisting the conservation staff with the final phase of the Assyrian relief project. Jeane assisted the conservation staff with the work on the corridor reliefs. Their wonderful work on the reliefs can be admired in the Sohlkhah Family Assyrian Empires Gallery.

The past year also saw some changes in the conservation staff. Sarah Barack, the Getty-Replogle Postgraduate Conservation intern, completed her twelve-month internship in September. Sarah left Chicago for New York, where she accepted a Mellon Fellowship in objects conservation at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Vanessa Muros, the Assistant Conservator, left the Institute at the end of January to take up a position at University of California, Los Angeles. We wish both Sarah and Vanessa well in their new positions.

Alison Whyte, a former Getty intern and the contract conservator for the East Wing installation, was appointed to the position of Assistant Conservator. The museum warmly welcomed Alison as the new Assistant Conservator and she has made a seamless transition into her new role. Since the completion of the East Wing galleries, Alison has been hard at work on objects for the new Nubian installation. As the *Annual Report* goes to press, Alison is busy in Turkey working as a field conservator at the Kerkenes Dağ excavation.

In February, I served once again on the Institute Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Conservation Project Support panel in Washington, D.C. We learned in late April that the museum was again fortunate to be the recipient of an IMLS Conservation Project Support grant. The 2005 IMLS grant award of \$81,142 will support an eighteen-month project to rehouse a portion of the Nubian collection, including ceramic and stone objects. The forty new cabinets will include three custom-sized cabinets for the Nubian textile collection. The cabinet that will hold the oversized textiles (some as large as 8 × 6 ft) is so large that it will have to be delivered in pieces and put together on-site. The Nubian textile collection — treated and temporarily housed at the Art Institute of Chicago for over twenty-five years — returned “home” to the Oriental Institute last year in crates, and has been temporarily stored in the museum’s oversized storage area. Both Registrar Ray Tindel and I are eagerly looking forward to the arrival of this particular batch of cabinets!

In March, the conservation laboratory hosted a meeting of the State Microscopical Society of Illinois. I gave a presentation on some of the recent research projects undertaken by the conservation laboratory in recent years. Alison and I then hosted a tour of the lab for the group, an interesting mix of microscopists, forensic scientists, and authors.

PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO

Jean Grant

It was a year of change for the Oriental Institute Photography Lab. As has been noticed by many, the image industry has been moving from the aging process of film and silver halide to digital. Whether you want to or not, often you have to accept change to be of better service. Even if you feel the new system has not proven itself advantageous for archival purposes, the old way is disappearing. Many services and supplies are no longer available, while those that are require a much longer time to fulfill orders.

This year the Audio Visual Department of the University of Chicago Hospitals closed their campus Laboratory. No more one-day service for E-6 processing. Printing photographs now requires much more time plus added delivery charges. We did acquire some of their equipment, however, the best of which was a refrigerator. Ours was on its last "compression," while theirs was functioning well, but a bit rusty. With some refurbishing, it now looks like new and is running well. Film and chemicals last longer under cool and dry conditions.

At about the same time I was researching which digital system offered us the most advantages and quality. A short time ago we got a Canon 20D camera, which I am in the process of learning how to use. Much is the same as the old photography, but there is a lot more to learn.

A major photography project was shooting in the East Wing galleries of the museum, where I photographed almost all of the large artifacts that were to be installed. I took the "old tech" system into the galleries and had the now-closed Audio Visual Department speed the development process. It is wonderful to have those nice high ceilings (which all good photographers appreciate). I then took photos of the installed galleries and people visiting them.

As the last major gallery, Nubia, is being readied, I am shooting objects digitally. These photos are to be used by our exhibit designer, Markus Dohner, to visually set up the cases before they are actually installed. These photos will be in our archives for some time to come, so I'm taking photos from many angles because Murphy's Law would dictate that the one side you don't photograph will be the next one requested!

REGISTRY

Ray Tindel

The most important development for registration and collections management in many years has been the hiring of an Assistant Registrar. After an extended selection process which brought an international selection of applicants, Helen McDonald, recently of Cambridge, England, and the Tell Brak excavations in Syria, was chosen. She is a most welcome addition to the staff.

Another major event for registration and collections management was the opening of the East Wing galleries. Of more than 2,500 objects considered for these exhibits, ultimately 705 were put on display, some for the first time ever.

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Following the opening of the Empires in the Fertile Crescent: Ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel exhibition, preparation for the Nubian exhibit commenced immediately. Over one thousand objects have been reviewed so far, which the winnowing process has reduced to 790 at this point. We also received twenty new storage cabinets thanks to the successful grant application written by Laura D'Alessandro and the generosity of the Institute for Museum and Library Services.

We completed the following accessions in 2004/2005: Hacinebi bitumen samples from Gil Stein and Mark Schwartz; an Old Babylonian clay plaque with a scene of fighting dogs, a gift of the Marilyn H. Quinn Trust; skeletal and related material from the tenth season of excavation at Nippur, totaling over 3,000 bones and fragments from McGuire Gibson; and two crates and eight cardboard boxes of survey sherds from Khuzestan donated by Robert Wenke. Thanks to all our donors.

Meanwhile, the collections continued to be used heavily for research and study.

- Katherine Birney from Harvard came to look through the Amuq material for Aegean imports.
- Anne Dehnish came from Austin, Texas, to study the Megiddo Iron Age collection.
- Lynn Dodd came to go through the Amuq Iron Age material from Judaidah.
- Royal Ghazal borrowed early Iranian sherds for neutron activation analysis.
- Steve Harvey used Egyptian material for teaching.
- Georgina Herrmann came to look for Aramaic graffiti on the backs of Khorsabad ivories.
- Kirsi Lorentz came to study Alishar organic material.
- Jaimie Lovell came to work on the Megiddo Chalcolithic material.
- Clemens Reichel has been working his way through photographing the Diyala tablets.
- Petra Sijpesteijn came to study early Arabic manuscripts.
- Elaine Sullivan came from Johns Hopkins University to study Egyptian New Kingdom material.
- Ahira Tsuneki of the University of Tsukuba in Japan came to study early Amuq seals.
- Don Whitcomb used material from Fustat in his Islamic pottery class.

It has also been a very productive year for object registration, with more than 24,000 pieces of our enormous backlog processed. These include substantial numbers of artifacts from the Institute's Prehistoric Project excavations at Jarmo and skeletal material from the Nippur excavations, as well as material from the Chogha Mish excavations and from the Robert McCormick Adams surveys.

In addition, we unpacked a great deal of Egyptian stone, revised object tracking procedures, and produced indices of the Oriental Institute Museum material published in Oriental Institute Nubian Expedition volumes 3, 4, 5, and 7.

These accomplishments have been made possible by the very capable and efficient efforts of Assistant to the Registrar Dennis Campbell and new Assistant Registrar Helen McDonald, and with the assistance of a wonderful group of volunteers, including Joan Barghusen, Gretel Braidwood, Hazel Cramer, Mary Grimshaw, Janet Helman, Pat Hume, Barbara Levin, Charles Myers, Toni Smith, and O. J. Sopranos. The volunteers have altogether contributed approximately a thousand hours of their time to Museum Registration.

SUQ

Denise Browning

This has been a very productive year for the Suq, with sales up 15% for the year and many new items developed for the store, most of which highlight our new exhibits.

Postcards

Median Groom with Horse Khorsabad, Neo-Assyrian

Bronze and gold statue of seated god from Megiddo, Late Bronze Age

Ivory winged griffin plaque from Megiddo, 1200 B.C.

Sculpture of Nen-Khefet-Ka and his wife Nefer — Shemes Old Kingdom Dynasty 5

Notecards

Median Groom with Horse, Khorsabad, Neo-Assyrian

Ivory winged griffin plaque from Megiddo, thirteenth century B.C.

Phrygian vessel fragment Alishar Höyük, Turkey, eighth century B.C.

Jar detail, Tell Tayinat, Turkey 1450–1200 B.C.

Sculpture of Nen-Khefet-KA and his wife Nefer-Shemes Old Kingdom Dynasty 5

Bookmark

Brass cut out of Ivory winged griffin plaque from Megiddo, thirteenth century B.C.

Jewelry

Vermeil Striding Lion Pin, Achaemenid fifth–fourth century B.C.

We are also in the process of developing four ties based on two designs, one with the Assyrian Genie and one with Mesopotamian Astral figures, and a mug featuring our winged bull.

All of this would be useless without our dedicated docents who have given years of faithful service to the Suq. Thanks to Muriel Brauer, Patty Dunkel, Peggy Grant, and Norma van der Meulen. Welcome to two new docents, Marda Gross and Mary Finn. Irene Glasner helped us in the office labeling all of those new postcards. Special thanks to Florence Ovadia who continues to make beautiful displays for us in the Suq — her sense of color is amazing — and to Norma van der Meulen who designs jewelry for the Suq that everyone loves. People now come in looking for “Norma’s designs.”

The Suq staff also helped with the planning and execution of the opening reception for faculty and staff of the new museum exhibition, Empires in the Fertile Crescent: Ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel.

In May we filled the Marshall and Doris Holleb Family Special Exhibits Gallery with piles and piles of lovely oriental carpets brought directly from Afghanistan as part of Passport to the Middle East, the annual dinner for members. The dinner was an exciting afternoon event

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featuring Peter Stone, who lectured on oriental rugs, as well as many activities from calligraphy to henna art available to the members.

SECURITY

Margaret M. Schröder

The Oriental Institute Museum Security staff, together with the rest of the Oriental Institute, is very pleased that the exhibition *Empires in the Fertile Crescent: Ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel* is now open to the public. We have made minor adjustments to the gallery guards' patrol routes so as to cover all four display galleries now open for public viewing.

With the opening of the East Wing galleries, visitors are able to walk a complete circuit through the museum; previously one had to go into the Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery, come back to the lobby, and then go through the Marshall and Doris Holleb Family Special Exhibits Gallery to the south to access the Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery and Aliber Persian Gallery. Now people can begin viewing the museum displays with Mesopotamia, and proceed through all the galleries before they come back to the lobby.

Further, visitors can now see the monumental statue of King Tutankhamun from the vantage for which his post-renovation installation was designed. The visitor can proceed through the impressive reconstruction of public space of the Yelda Khorsabad Court, through the displays of sculptures from the private portions of the palace, through the Anatolian and Megiddo displays, and then turn the corner and come face to face with the glory of a pharaoh of ancient Egypt.

In addition to a new gallery being open and so, in a very real sense, the "circle" of the Oriental Institute museum now being complete, Museum Director Geoff Emberling decided to extend the museum's public hours by two hours five of the six days each week that we are open to the public. The museum is now open until 6:00 P.M. (extended from the old 4:00 closing time) Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. (The galleries are still open until 8:30 P.M. on Wednesday evenings.) Word of these extended hours is spreading slowly, but so far this change has been popular with visitors and guard staff alike. Visitors who arrive late in the afternoon do not have to curtail their viewing; it is far easier to book early-evening lectures and other public events as well as allow for pre-event gallery viewing; and people, especially the under-served campus population, can now pop into the museum after work for a visit with one or more of their favorite objects. The gallery guards are generally pleased because they now have a further set of hours available for them to work. (Students, after all, have to fit work hours into their otherwise full schedules of classes, rehearsals, sports teams, study groups, etc.)

We have continued with the periodic meetings of the entire guard force to clarify procedures, introduce new practices, and elicit suggestions on how to improve such things as visitor relations, safety to patrons and staff, and protection of the collections. After many of the guards expressed great interest in seeing the entirety of the Oriental Institute operations (rather than just the museum galleries that they see every day), we also started offering a set of "behind-the-scenes" tours for the guards to see where the objects not on display "live," and where the rest of the museum staff does their work with the collections.

One major improvement to the physical safety of the collections, designed and installed by Gallery Preparator Erik Lindahl, is a protective railing around the prehistoric pit burial display in the center of the Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery. This rail system was designed to provide an alternate place for people to rest their hands, arms, bags, etc. while looking down into the display without their leaning directly on the burial case. Contact with the burial case, day after day, was contributing to the long-term deterioration of the display.

I served for the second year on the board of the Smithsonian Conference for Cultural Property Protection. The board planned and held the 2005 conference, Don't Gamble with Cultural Property Protection at the Flamingo Las Vegas Hotel February 19 through 23, 2005. During the conference, in addition to hosting and introduction duties, I chaired a session of talks, ran the round-table discussion on library security concerns, and was part of a panel on post-9/11 museum security measures. (Despite omnipresent gambling possibilities at the conference, I limited my Vegas experience to less monetarily-draining activities such as visiting the Luxor Hotel and Casino, taking a gondola ride at the Venetian, and having my picture taken with a lion cub at the MGM Grand Casino.)

The Smithsonian board's planning session for the 2006 conference was held in Washington, D.C. on April 18. At the February 2006 conference I will most likely be giving a talk on University Museum concerns, chairing another session on library security, and hosting an all-day session on planning, writing, and field-testing a museum or library disaster plan. The February 2006 conference will feature a viewing of the new National Museum of the American Indian at the Mall in Washington.

I am also part of the Chicago-area Cultural Properties Security Group. This group meets quarterly to discuss legal, procedural, and practical developments in the field and specifically in the Chicago area. Several group member institutions allow members from other institutions to attend instructional sessions they offer to their own staff. Taking advantage of this opportunity, this year I attended sessions on the latest antiterrorism measures, Homeland Security as it affects cultural institutions, and participated in another Chicago museum's test of their disaster plan, held during the building's open hours with the public. I also spoke at a Chicago-area session on cultural diversity in dealing with the general public.

MUSEUM EDUCATION

Carole Krucoff

The opening of *Empires the Fertile Crescent: Ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel in the East* Wing of the museum, the receipt of major grants to serve local and national audiences, and a whole host of joint projects with longtime and new collaborators led to a whirlwind of educational programming this year. All these activities brought us 16,713 participants, an increase of 34% over last year. This attendance, which breaks every record for Museum Education, reflects the ways our collections and programs are resonating with diverse audiences as they seek increased understanding of the Middle East.

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Figure 1. Visitors explore *Empires in the Fertile Crescent: Ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel* with a special “Treasure Hunt for Families” during the exhibition’s grand opening weekend for the public. Photograph by Wendy Ennes

Throughout the year, faculty, staff, students, and volunteers joined us in a true team effort to present a broad range of exhibit-related programs for adults and a variety of educational activities for youth and families. The Polk Bros. Foundation is helping us expand services for children and their parents with a new, two-year award to create self-guided family activities for the East Wing galleries and the upcoming Picken Family Nubian Gallery. Support from the Lloyd A. Fry Foundation, the Chicago Public Schools, and the Institute for Museum and Library Services, a federal agency, has continued to help us as we work to develop groundbreaking educational services for teachers and students in schools throughout the city, the state, and the nation.

Empires in the Fertile Crescent Events

The grand public opening of *Empires in the Fertile Crescent: Ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel* took place during a weekend celebration of ancient cultures for museum visitors of all ages (fig. 1). On January 29 and 30 Museum Education staff, graduate students, and guest presenters hosted more than 1,200 adults, children, and families, who enjoyed a rich array of activities. Stone carver Walter Arnold, metalsmith Pam Robinson, and ceramic artist Hardy Schlick involved visitors in art-making processes that have remained virtually unchanged for millennia (fig. 2). Geoff Emberling, Oriental Institute Museum Director, presented an introductory slide lecture on the new gallery. Susan Marcus and Amanda Freidman of the Spertus Museum showed how archaeologists have interpreted ancient artifacts found at sites in Israel. Graduate students Kathleen Mineck and Dennis Campbell wrote everyone’s names in the Luwian hieroglyphs of ancient Turkey.

For young visitors, master puppeteer Andrea Everman showed how to make and then perform with shadow puppets, a Turkish tradition. Volunteers helped children bedeck themselves in ancient Assyrian-style costumes, while docent Stephen Ritzel appeared garbed in Assyrian-style royal finery to fascinate one and all as King Sargon II.

Vocal, instrumental, and dance performances brought the history and heritage of ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel to life. Presenters included the a Capella group Shircago, the Assyrian Hakkery Dance Group, the Sanabel Palestinian Debka Dance Group (fig. 3), and Turkish musicians Hakan Berberoglu and Ozgur Sumer. Jutta and the Hi Dukes, a folk group specializing in performances for young people, had parents and children dancing to Middle Eastern music on the stage in Breasted Hall.

A corps of forty “Ask Me” docents staffed the new gallery the entire weekend. Dozens more engaged visitors in all the hands-on activities. The names of all these dedicated Museum Education and Family Programs volunteers can be found in the Volunteer Program pages immediately following this report.

In February, an open house for educators introduced the Assyrian, Syro-Anatolian, and Megiddo Galleries to area teachers. This event included a lecture by Geoff Emberling, docent-led gallery tours (fig. 4), an introduction to exhibit-related curriculum materials, and a wine-and-cheese reception. The new gallery was also the inspiration for a program highlighting the traditional and contemporary cuisine of Turkey. Called “Turkish Delights,” this event featured a dining experience at Cousin’s Turkish Restaurant, where Chef Ahmet Obali demonstrated the preparation of his signature main course and gave the guests recipes to take home. A good time was had by all the convivial gourmets at this unique adult education program.

Other adult education programs and courses related to Empires in the Fertile Crescent began well before the exhibition opened. In fall, the Education and Membership Offices joined together to spark interest in the new exhibition by hosting the Chicago premiere of *The Hittites*. This major new documentary filled Breasted Hall to overflowing for the screening and accompanying reception with director Tolga Ornek and Oriental Institute faculty who appeared in the film (fig. 5). Co-sponsors included the Consulate General of Turkey, Cousin’s Turkish Dining, Amuq Valley Excavation Projects Committee, International Women Associates’ Film Group, and the University of Chicago’s Center for Middle Eastern Studies.

Classes related to the new gallery began in summer 2004, when Gabrielle V. Novacek, guest curator for the Megiddo section of the exhibition, presented an eight-session course entitled “Armageddon Revealed: The Ancient Israelite City of Megiddo.” In fall she taught “Digging for God and Country: The Archaeological Excavation of the Holy Land.” Also in fall, Theo van den Hout, Professor of Hittite and Anatolian Languages and Executive Editor of the Chicago Hittite Dictionary, presented, “The Land Where the Sun Rises,” an eight-session course introducing the history, languages, cultures, and written legacy of ancient Anatolia.

Kingdoms of Ivory, Kingdoms of Iron: Opulence and Empire in the Ancient Near East, a day-long symposium held in March, was an educational highlight this year. Presented in collaboration with the Graham School of General Studies, this event enabled participants to experience the most recent academic research alongside the remarkable collection on view in the newly opened East Wing galleries. Lectures featured some of the Oriental Institute’s most eminent scholars, including Gil J. Stein, Director of the Oriental Institute and Professor of Near Eastern Archaeology, who spoke on “The Ties that Bind: Local Cultures and Regional Linkages in the Ancient Near East”; David Schloen, Associate Professor of Syro-Palestinian Archaeology, who spoke on “Canaanite and Israelite Religion: The View from Megiddo”; Theo van den Hout, who spoke on “Writing in Anatolia: Mirror and Political Instrument”; and K. Aslıhan Yener, Associate Professor of Anatolian Archaeology, who spoke on “Guardians of Secret Knowledge: Trade and



Figure 2. Ancient-style pottery making fascinated visitors of all ages during the opening of *Empires in the Fertile Crescent*. Photograph by Wendy Ennes

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*Figure 3. Performing in traditional costume, the Assyrian Hakkery Dance Group brought history and heritage to life in Breasted Hall during the opening of *Empires in the Fertile Crescent*. Photograph by Wendy Ennes*

Empire in Anatolia.” Renowned guest lecturers included Trevor Bryce, Fellow of the Australian Humanities Academy and leading scholar on Hittite history, who spoke on “The Hittites: Superpower of the Ancient Near East” (fig. 6); Marian Feldman, Assistant Professor, Department of Near Eastern Studies, University of California at Berkeley, who spoke on “Hoarded Treasures: The Megiddo Ivories and the End of the Bronze Age”; and J. David Hawkins, Professor of Anatolian Languages, School of African and Oriental Studies, University of London, who spoke on “Cilicia, the Amuq, and Aleppo: New Light on the Neo-Hittite Period.”

Trevor Bryce generously extended his visit to lecture on “Homer at the Meeting Place of East and West” for Oriental Institute faculty, staff, and students as well as the University of Chicago community.

Adult Education

Along with adult education programs related to ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel, Museum Education offered many other choices this past year — multi-session courses on campus, classes at the University of Chicago’s downtown Gleacher Center, and a selection of correspondence courses for all those who seek us out from locations worldwide.

Correspondence courses included “Hieroglyphs by Mail” taught by Andrew Baumann and Jacqueline Jay; “Intermediate Hieroglyphs” by Andrew Baumann; “Cuneiform by Mail” by Dennis Campbell; and “Warfare and Empire in the Ancient World,” by Aaron Burke, who continued to enhance his distance learning courses by posting visuals on the Oriental Institute Web site and hosting discussions with students via e-mail. Over the past several years, Aaron has been a special friend to the adult education program. His innovative ideas for correspondence and on-campus courses have made him one of our most sought-after instructors, and he has generously given his time to mentor other graduate students interested in teaching for adult education but uncertain about how to begin. We offer him thanks and appreciation as he departs to assume a faculty position at the University of California at Los Angeles.

All Oriental Institute courses taught on campus are presented in collaboration with the University’s Graham School of General Studies. In addition to those related to the opening of the East Wing galleries, this year’s courses included: “The Other Hieroglyphs: An Introduction to Hieroglyphic Luwian,” taught by Dennis Campbell and Kathleen Mineck; “The Ancient Arabs and Their Predecessors,” by Joey Corbett; “Religion and Magic in Ancient Egypt,” by Malayna Evans-Williams; “Going Forth by Day: The Ancient Egyptian Book of the Dead,” by

Harold Hays; “The Myths and Epics of Ancient Mesopotamia,” by Jacob Lauinger; “Trade and Tribute in the Ancient Near East,” by Jonathan Tenney; “Architecture in Ancient Egypt: Technique, Design, and Symbolism,” by Emily Teeter; and “Life and Legacy of Zoroaster,” by Ilya Yakubovich.

A wide variety of adult education opportunities ranging from special events to free drop-by programs were also available throughout the year, in collaboration with colleagues on campus, throughout the city, and even across the nation. During the summer, we joined the Adler Planetarium to offer “Stars of the Pharaohs,” a full-day program in conjunction with Adler’s new StarRider Theatre presentation on ancient Egypt. The event featured a

lecture on ancient Egyptian astronomy by Robert Ritner, Professor of Egyptology, followed by a visit to the Oriental Institute’s Egyptian Gallery. Then participants at this sold-out program traveled by bus to the Adler Planetarium for lunch and enjoyed a VIP showing of the StarRider presentation. In fall, the Education and Membership Offices joined with the Iran House of Chicago and the Iranian Cultural Society to present the Chicago premiere showing of *Persepolis: A New Perspective*, a fascinating new documentary from Iranian film maker Farzin Rezaeian. This event, which also included a lecture by Matthew W. Stolper, John W. Wilson Professor of Assyriology, a book signing with Mr. Rezaeian, and a sumptuous buffet, attracted close to 500 participants (fig. 7). The Seminary Co-op Bookstore was another new partner. We jointly sponsored a lecture and book signing by Stephen Mitchell, author of a new rendering of the epic of Gilgamesh. Along with Mitchell, this program offered commentary by Seth Richardson, Assistant Professor of Ancient Near Eastern History, and Christopher Woods, Assistant Professor of Sumerology.

The first Museum Education collaboration with Elderhostel, a Boston-based organization that provides educational programming for senior citizens nationwide, took place in September. “A Day of Discovery,” which focused on Mesopotamia as the cradle of civilization, brought us 240 registrants from throughout the metropolitan area. Featured speakers were Geoff Emberling, who lectured on Mesopotamian history and culture, and McGuire Gibson, Professor of Mesopotamian Archaeology, who spoke about the precarious situation facing antiquities and ancient sites in

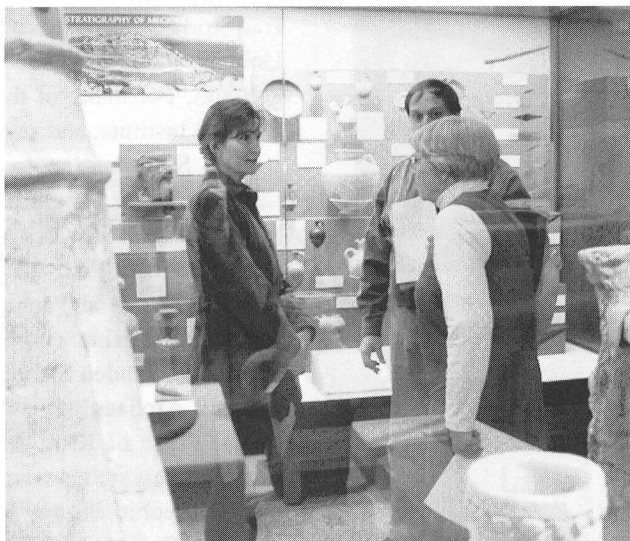


Figure 4. *Docent Daila Shefner (right) answers questions about the ancient Israelite site of Megiddo at our Educators’ Open House, which introduced Empires in the Fertile Crescent to teachers and administrators from throughout the metropolitan area. Photograph by Wendy Ennes*

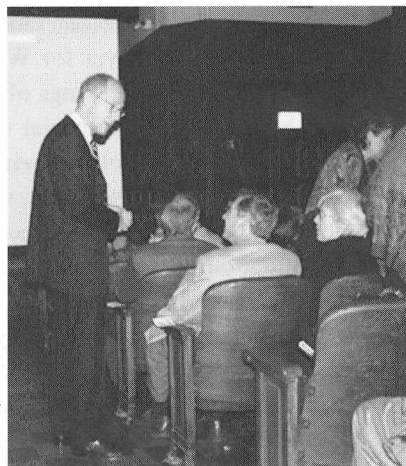


Figure 5. *Theo van den Hout, Professor of Hittite and Anatolian Languages and Executive Editor of the Chicago Hittite Dictionary, chats with the crowd that filled Breasted Hall to view the Chicago premiere of The Hittites, a major new documentary. Photograph by Wendy Ennes*



Figure 6. Trevor Bryce, Fellow of the Australian Humanities Academy and leading scholar on Hittite history, captivated all who attended the Kingdoms of Ivory, Kingdoms of Iron symposium with his lecture on “The Hittites: Superpower of the Ancient Near East.” Photograph by Jean Grant

Iraq today. All the participants enjoyed a luncheon at the University’s Quadrangle Club and docent-led tours of the museum galleries. For many of the seniors, this was a first-time visit to the Oriental Institute, and several became new members.

The Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., was the inspiration for Ancient Egypt Unwrapped, a one-day seminar highlighting the work of Oriental Institute Egyptologists and archaeologists. First offered in Washington, this special program was repeated — and enhanced — here at the Oriental Institute, with presentations that emphasized the latest findings and research. Lecturers included Stephen Harvey, Assistant Professor of Egyptian Art and Archaeology, who spoke on “A Lost Royal Tomb: The Burial Place of King Ahmose”; W. Raymond Johnson, Oriental Institute Research Associate (Assistant Professor) and Director of the Epigraphic Survey in Luxor, Egypt, who spoke on “Piecing Together Egypt’s Magnificent Past”; Mark Lehner, Oriental Institute Research Associate, who spoke on “The Giza Plateau Mapping Project”; and Robert Ritner, who spoke on “The Archaeology of Egyptian Magic” (fig. 8).

Drop-by programs presented free of charge were available year-round. During the summer, Friday Docent Captain Joe Diamond organized “Lunchtime in Another Time,” a series of noontime gallery talks that featured collection highlights. Museum Director Geoff Emberling inaugurated a new series of lunchtime tours during the school year, which brought University students, staff, and community members together to visit and discuss selected displays

in the Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery and Empires in the Fertile Crescent exhibition. Egyptologist Emily Teeter, Oriental Institute Research Associate, presented two lectures on women in ancient Egypt for Women’s History Month in March. Our Sunday afternoon film series continued its showings of the best in documentary and feature films on the ancient Near East, highlighted by a special screening in May of *Robbing the Cradle of Civilization: The Looting of Iraq’s Ancient Treasures*. This important new documentary was introduced and discussed by McGuire Gibson, whose expertise on the worldwide efforts to preserve Iraqi sites and antiquities gave the audience a dramatic picture of the tragic losses still occurring in Iraq.

Collaborations with partners on campus to serve the University and wider community remained important aspects of our programming. During Orientation Week in September, docents presented guided gallery tours that introduced new students to the Oriental Institute; these tours attracted close to 100 incoming freshmen. All our Saturday and Sunday docents led gallery tours for hundreds of visitors during Parents Weekend and the annual Humanities Day that the University offers for the community in October.

Two joint programs with the University’s Alumni Association focused on special activities for alumni with young children. In November, Membership Coordinator Maria Krasinski stepped back into her former educator’s role to lead a hands-on workshop for alumni parents and children. Docents Lucie Sandel and Carole Yoshida presented special gallery tours and museum treasure hunts for alumni families during Reunion Weekend in June.

The University’s Middle East Music Ensemble returned to the Oriental Institute in November for our second annual collaboration in celebration of Arab Heritage Month. This year’s concert

offered a unique and moving portrait of Arab culture that featured instrumental and choral presentations of traditional music accompanied by readings of classic poetry from the Arab world.

The Hyde Park/University of Chicago Arts Fest, a celebration of the arts during the weekend of the 57th Street Art Fair, was our last campus

collaboration of the school year. A special grant from the University's Office of Community and Government Affairs allowed us to purchase a whole new selection of documentary films on the ancient Near East, so that we could offer showings as a free film festival during the weekend. The grant also brought the Chicago Storytelling Guild back to the Oriental Institute for their third annual Arts Fest presentation of tales and stories from the ancient Near East and around the world.

Youth and Family Services

Along with family events developed for the East Wing galleries, the year was filled with familiar favorites and new programs for children and their parents. For the eighth straight summer we traveled to the Lill Street Art Center on the city's north side, where our outreach artist Mary Tepper presented two week-long sessions of



Figure 7. All the guests who attended the Chicago premiere showing of Persepolis: A New Perspective enjoyed a delicious buffet provided by Iran House of Chicago and the Iranian Cultural Society. Photograph by Wendy Ennes

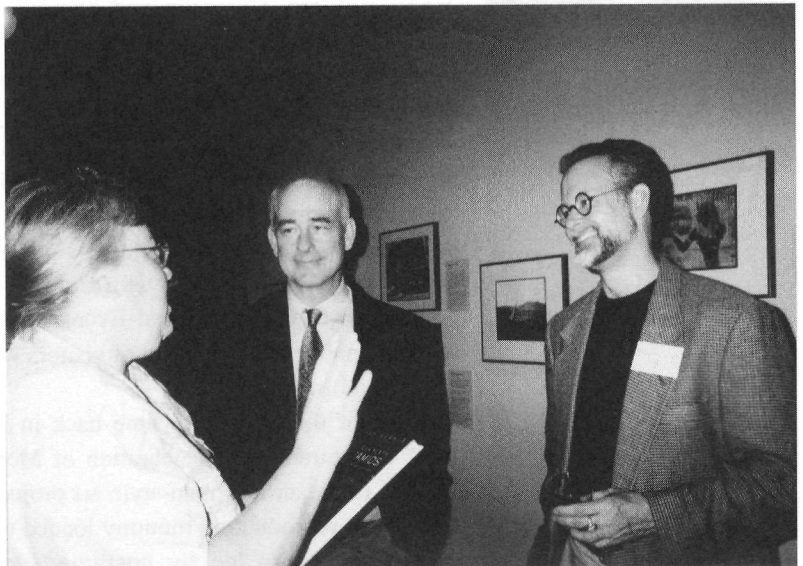


Figure 8. W. Raymond Johnson (right), Field Director of the Epigraphic Survey, and Mark Lehner (center), Oriental Institute Research Associate, join in conversation with a visitor eager to learn more about their work during the reception following our Ancient Egypt Unwrapped seminar. Photograph by Carole Krucoff

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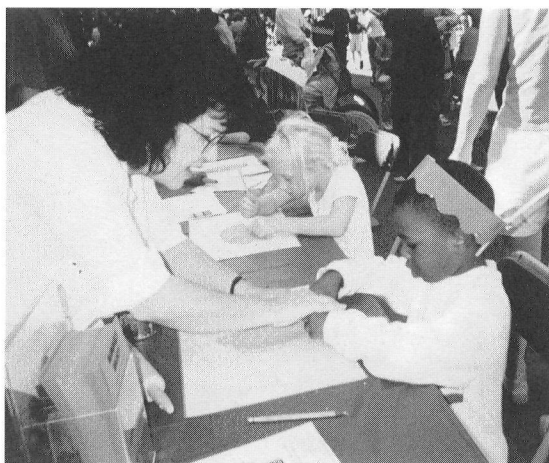


Figure 9. *The Oriental Institute booth at the 57th Street Children's Book Fair invited everyone to make their own version of ancient cylinder seal. Volunteer Kathleen Mineck shows an engrossed youngster how his name will appear as he rolls the seal over clay. Photograph by Carole Krucoff*

“Be an Ancient Egyptian Artist,” a children’s day-camp that fills to capacity each time it is offered. For the nineteenth season we returned to the 57th Street Children’s Book Fair, where volunteers Terry and Bill Gillespie, Kathleen and Carl Mineck, and John Whitcomb helped hundreds of children and parents create their own versions of ancient Mesopotamian cylinder seals (fig. 9). John also joined Museum Education staff to help hundreds more children create ancient Egyptian-style art at the Hyde Park Art Center’s first Family Day for the community.

Back at the museum, we connected with a new audience during a special presentation for members of the Teen Program from the Museum of Science and Industry. Carrie Hritz, Ph.D. candidate in Near Eastern Archaeology, generously offered to speak on archaeology and science for these young people who had never

visited the Oriental Institute. The group enjoyed being on the University campus and having the opportunity to experience a college-level lecture. We hope to develop more joint programming with this group in the near future.

Mummies were the stars of two special events for young children and their parents. “Mummies Night,” our annual Halloween celebration returned after a long hiatus to present a “tomb-full” of programming (fig. 10). Docents Rebecca Binkley, Kristina Cooper, Debby Halpern, Cameron and Dennis Kelley, Kathleen Mineck, Caryn, Charlotte and John Noble, Kitty and Rita Picken, and John Whitcomb held close to 500 visitors spellbound with activities that included making origami bats, donning Egyptian-style costumes, preparing a life-sized reproduction mummy for burial, and an introduction to the real mummies in the Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery. Storyteller Judith Heineman and musician Daniel Marcotte provided the evening’s thrills and chills with spine-tingling tales from ancient Egypt. Presented in tandem with Chicago Book Month sponsored by the Major’s Office of Special Events, “Mummies Night” brought us city-wide publicity and throng of visitors who had never before been to the Oriental Institute.

Many of these visitors came back in May for “Happy Mummies Day,” our third annual celebration of Mother’s Day. This free event featured films, an Egyptian-style art project, an up-close and personal visit with a reproduction mummy loaned to us by The Field Museum, and gallery tours led by costumed docents, including Melissa Ratkovich as a Middle Eastern dancer and Stephen Ritzel in pharaoh finery (fig. 11). We could not have managed without the volunteer support of Dennis Kelley and John Whitcomb.

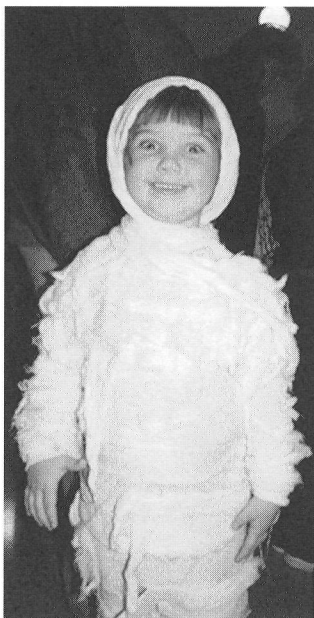


Figure 10. *This adorable little girl in her homemade costume stole the show at “Mummy’s Night,” our annual Halloween celebration. Photograph by Wendy Ennes*

From Anatolia to Africa: Museum Learning for Families

Over the past several years, major support from the Polk Bros. Foundation has enabled us to develop a comprehensive program of self-guided museum learning experiences designed to attract and serve families who do not generally visit the Oriental Institute. These include African-American families living in many of the neighborhoods surrounding the University, and the city's growing population of Latino families. Working together with an advisory panel of parents and children from local schools, we have produced an array of materials and activities that families can use together to explore our Egyptian and Mesopotamian Galleries. These include full-color Family Activity Cards in both English and Spanish, and brightly colored, family friendly labeling for the King Tut statue and the colossal Assyrian bull. There is also an interactive computer kiosk where parents and children can take part in an archaeological dig, see beneath the wrappings of an Egyptian mummy, interview an Oriental Institute scholar, and much more!

This fall, we received a generous two-year award from the Polk Bros. Foundation to develop Family Activity Cards and computer kiosks for the new Empires in the Fertile Crescent exhibition and the upcoming Nubia Gallery. Combined with the activities now in place for Egypt and Mesopotamia, "From Anatolia to Africa: Museum Learning for Families" will help us make the entire museum a major venue for family learning in the Chicago area.

Such a large project requires extensive research, evaluation, and assessment before the creative work of materials design and the making of computer interactives even begins. For the previous projects on ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia, we had the assistance of a group of families from the North Kenwood/Oakland Charter School (NK/O), who helped us shape and then test all the activities. This project now has the support of eight new NK/O families, as well as Dr. Marvin Hoffman, Founding Director of NK/O, who is serving as educational advisor. Seven families from Nightingale School on the city's west side have also joined us for the new project, with principal Maureen Savas, vice-principal Carmen Lehotan, and the school's bilingual education team serving as educational advisors.

The talented staff members responsible for the success of our previous family activities projects have all returned to take part in "From Anatolia to Africa." Wendy Ennes, Oriental Institute Teacher Services and e-Learning Coordinator, comes back as Art Director.



Figure 11. Dressed in pharaoh finery he designed himself, Docent Stephen Ritzel (right) greets visitors in the Egyptian Gallery during our third annual "Happy Mummy's Day" celebration for Mother's Day. Photograph by Carole Krucoff

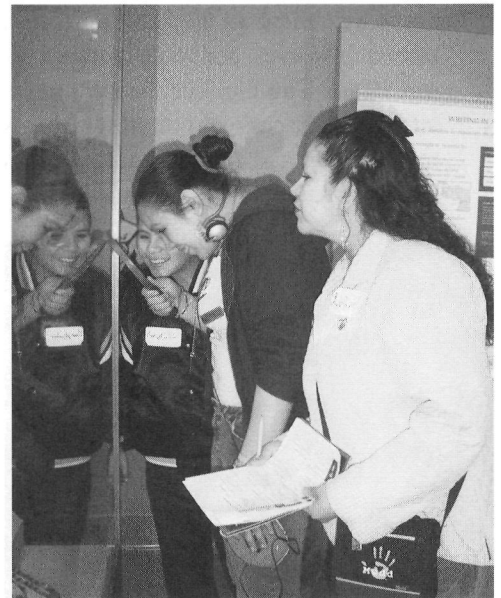


Figure 12. The Aparicio family uses a magnifying glass to take a close look at coins from ancient Anatolia. Several families from Nightingale School and the North Kenwood/Oakland Charter School are helping us create activity cards and computer learning experiences based on artifacts in the Empires in the Fertile Crescent exhibition. This project is supported by the Polk Bros. Foundation. Photograph by Wendy Ennes

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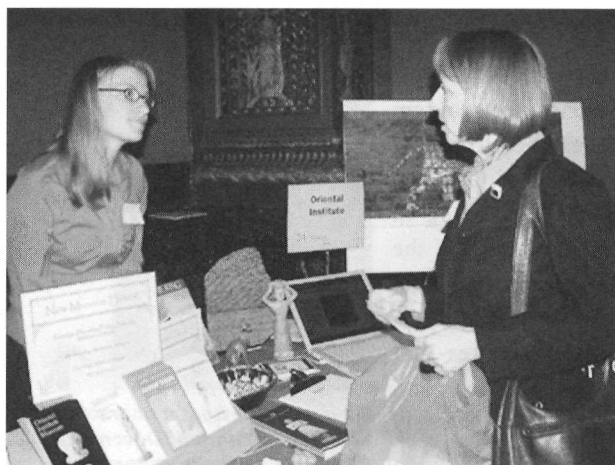


Figure 13. Constance Schuett listens as an educator asks for information on Oriental Institute programs for schools at *Spotlight on Chicago*, a city-wide event sponsored by Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs. Photograph by Wendy Ennes

and Erik Lindahl, Gallery Preparator, have begun to design the gallery installations that will house the all of the project's self-guided activities. Geoff Emberling is academic advisor to the project.

The first year of "From Anatolia to Africa" is focusing on the East Wing galleries. Research began by polling all the families to discover the role that museums play in their educational and recreational lives, and to determine what they found interesting about ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel. The families then explored the new exhibition to identify the objects they found intriguing, discuss why these objects were appealing, and suggest the kinds of activities they might enjoy and find meaningful as learning experiences (fig. 12). The results from these sessions are helping Wendy and Nitzan shape the next stage of the project — development of the



Figure 14. Docent Myllicent Buchanan introduces children's books on the ancient Near East to pre-school teachers during a professional development workshop sponsored by the Chicago Public Schools' Office of Pre-School Education. Photograph by Carole Krucoff

Nitzan Mekel-Bobrov, a University of Chicago graduate student in Syro-Palestinian Archaeology and Evolutionary Biology who created delightful and instructive computer interactives for Egypt and Mesopotamia, returns as Computer Programmer and Multi-media Architect. Teresa Vasquez, a professional museum programs evaluator for the previous projects, rejoins us to serve as evaluation consultant. Teresa's fluency in Spanish is complemented by the Spanish language skills of Catherine Dueñas, Oriental Institute Volunteer Coordinator, who is serving as project advisor, as well as museum gallery guide and translator for the Spanish-speaking families. Markus Dohner, Museum Installation Coordinator,

prototype printed materials and computer interactives that the families will test this fall. We envision all the new self-guided activities for the East Wing galleries will be in place by early 2006, when all of us will turn our attention to creating family activities for the newly installed exhibition on ancient Nubia.

Teacher Training Services

Empowering educators to enrich student learning on ancient civilizations is a major goal of Museum Education. This past year we provided teachers from throughout the metropolitan area with a wide variety of professional development programs based upon the unique academic, museum, and classroom curriculum resources of the Oriental Institute.

As in public programs, collaboration was the watchword for teacher services. On campus we

joined with the Smart Museum of Art to offer students in the University's new Urban Teacher Education Program a workshop on ways museum field trips and the internet can be integrated into the classroom curriculum. These teachers-in-training also gave us important updates on the latest approaches to standardized testing in the state of Illinois.

Outreach services for teachers included our participation at the Chicago Cultural Center's Spotlight on Chicago, an annual resource fair for teachers and administrators sponsored by the city's Department of Cultural Affairs. At this event, Wendy Ennes and Constance Schuett, Education Programs Assistant, highlighted our award-winning curriculum materials, as well as our museum visit and Web-based resources (fig. 13). The Chicago Public Schools (CPS) also invited Wendy and Constance to present a similar program for more than 100 teachers during a special educator's event at Lane Tech Prep High School. Wendy also offered outreach programs for an educator conference at King High School and for students at Morton High School in Berwyn.

Support from CPS enabled us to offer three special professional development programs at the Oriental Institute. Funded by the CPS Office of Pre-School Education, seventy-five teachers of three- and four-year-olds took docent-led guided tours to discover how our exhibits could engage pre-schoolers. The teachers also met with docent Myllicent Buchanan, who introduced them to the best in children's books on the ancient Near East (fig. 14), and with Museum Education intern Charlotte Noble, who showed them how they could create and use ancient-style costume reproductions as teaching tools. This was an eye-opening experience for these educators, most of whom had never visited the Oriental Institute.

A grant from the CPS Department of Mathematics and Science allowed us to join the highly regarded Museum Partners in Science program, which invites selected museums to create professional development seminars for elementary school teachers seeking to hone their science teaching skills. Twenty-one CPS teachers attended our one-day workshop, entitled "Archaeology and the Life Sciences." Gabrielle Novacek described how archeology uses the techniques and processes of many scientific disciplines to learn about the past and suggested ways teachers could integrate these approaches into the science curriculum. Nitzan Mekel-Bobrov introduced ways ancient DNA is being used to investigate the past. Teacher evaluations gave both these presentations the highest rating, and one expressed the feelings of many when she wrote that she "felt privileged to be part of such a special learning experience."

The CPS Department of Mathematics and Science also funded our participation in "Museum Connections: Outside the Classroom Walls," a pilot project designed to connect museum educators with teachers to create jointly planned classroom and museum lessons focused on science concepts. Robert Long, social studies and science teacher from Peck Math and Science Magnet School, was our partner. He worked with us to develop an ancient civilizations project on ways archaeologists learn about the past through study of animal bones, reconstruction of ancient pottery, and the scientific study of mummies. Planning for this program was a real team effort that involved Gil Stein, Director of the Oriental Institute, who shared a pottery-reconstruction activity he had developed for his daughter's classroom. He also encouraged us to introduce students to "Arnold the



Figure 15. The skeleton of "Arnold the Articulated Pig" was an important teaching tool during the Oriental Institute zooarchaeology workshop for sixth grade students from Peck School. This workshop was led by Belinda Monaghan (right), Oriental Institute Research Associate, and Katie Heupel (left), Museum Education intern. Photograph by Carole Krucoff

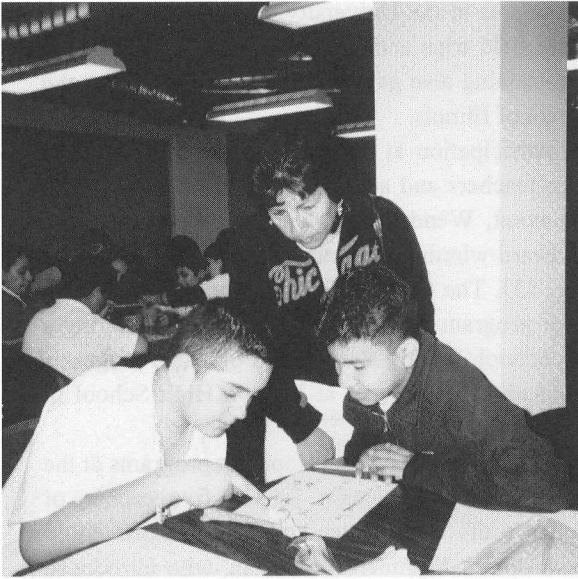


Figure 16. Sixth grade students and fascinated chaperone study animal bones during the Oriental Institute's zooarchaeology workshop. This program was supported by the Chicago Public Schools Department of Mathematics and Science. Photograph by Carole Krucoff

Articulated Pig” — a skeleton used by researchers in the Oriental Institute Zooarchaeology Laboratory (figs. 15–16). Other planners included Belinda Monaghan, Oriental Institute Research Associate in Zooarchaeology; Leslie Schramer, graduate student in Near Eastern Archaeology; Claire Thomas, former Education Programs Assistant; and docents Joe Diamond, Dario Giacomoni, Anita Greenberg, Katie Heubel, Bob McGuiness, Roy Miller, Charlotte Noble, and Joy Schochet. The entire program received rave reviews from students, parents, and from Mr. Long, who called it the best museum learning experience of his teaching career.

Ancient Mesopotamia: Meeting Chicago Public School Mandates

One of our most extensive professional development programs took place during the

summer, as the culmination of “Ancient Mesopotamia: Meeting Chicago Public School Mandates.” This project provided K-12 teachers with the unique opportunity to study on campus and on-line during a three-week summer seminar developed with the support of the Lloyd A. Fry Foundation. The seminar was designed to give participants the tools to enrich student learning on ancient Iraq, enhance student literacy skills, and integrate technology into instruction, as required by the federal No Child Left Behind Act.

The entire project was based upon the highly successful model for Oriental Institute on-campus seminars that the Fry Foundation has supported for the past several years. This model includes: lectures on academic content by Oriental Institute scholars; workshops on teaching methods using the Oriental Institute’s award-winning classroom curriculum materials; gallery sessions relating classroom curriculum to museum collections; and teacher-creation of classroom and museum lesson plans for their students.

Broadening this model to meet literacy and technology mandates while using approaches that would fit the schedules of busy teachers was the challenge of this project. Wendy Ennes, who served as Instructional Designer, chose to meet this challenge in ground-breaking ways by developing a seminar that combined on-campus training accompanied by on-line professional development units that teachers could complete at their own pace from home. To aid us in this unique venture never before attempted by a Chicago cultural institution, Wendy recruited a panel of five computer-savvy educator advisors. These included: Mary Cobb, Computer Teacher, Ray School; JoAnne Groshek, sixth grade teacher, Bell Elementary School; Inga Jackson, Principal, Crane Tech Prep Common School; Lisa Perez, Area Library Coordinator, CPS Department of Libraries and Information Services; and Brandon Taylor, Dean, Center for Distance Learning, City Colleges of Chicago. Dr. Iris Stovall, Director of the Illinois Virtual Campus based in Champaign, Illinois, joined us as on-line curriculum consultant. Geoff Emberling and Seth Richardson were our academic advisors. Working with Wendy, this team

designed a full day of teacher training in computer use and on-line navigation, and two on-line units on Mesopotamian topics that would complement and enhance the seminar's on-campus component.

Presented in July, the seminar attracted participants who ranged from fourth grade teachers to high school educators, and from special education instructors to curriculum coordinators. All were intrigued, stimulated, and inspired by the unique on-campus and on-line format and urged us to offer similar programs on other ancient Near Eastern cultures (fig. 17). Such a successful outcome was due to the months of intensive planning by the on-line education team, as well as the time and talents contributed by Oriental Institute faculty, staff, and graduate

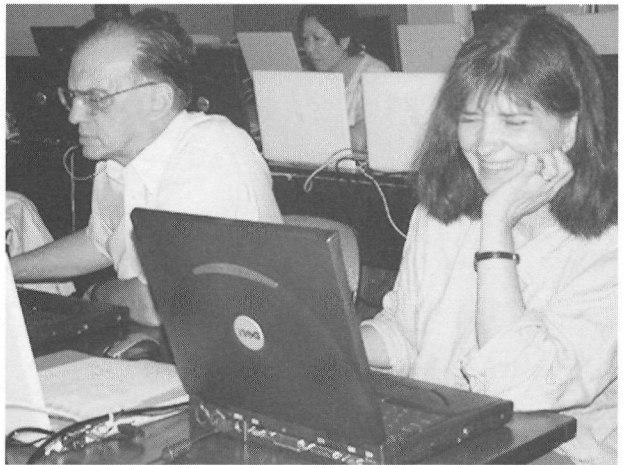


Figure 17. K–12 teachers hone their computer skills during a training workshop preparing them for the distance learning sessions we presented on-line during Ancient Mesopotamia: Meeting Chicago Public School Mandates, a professional development project supported by the Lloyd A. Fry Foundation. Photograph by Wendy Ennes

students. Seminar lecturers included Geoff Emberling, Gabrielle Novacek, and Jonathan Tenney, along with Martha Roth, Professor of Assyriology and Editor-in-Charge of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary Project, and Karen Wilson, Research Associate and Curator of the Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery. Carole Krucoff, Head of Public and Museum Education, led gallery workshops on building students literary skills through projects that ranged from analysis of primary sources to poetry-writing inspired by ancient art. Finally, Wendy Ennes brilliantly facilitated the on-line units of the course, enabling the project to combine best practices for both on-site and on-line learning. Due to the seminar's success, we now have a unique professional development model that has brought the Oriental Institute to the forefront as an e-learning innovator on the national stage.

Ancient Mesopotamia: This History, Our History

Our last *Annual Report* described how the Oriental Institute's leadership role in e-learning was recognized when we received a prestigious National Leadership Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (fig. 18). This federal award is enabling us to expand our local on-line professional development model into a complete on-line course on ancient Mesopotamia that will provide teacher training for educators nationwide. Wendy Ennes, Project Coordinator, is the driving force of this two-year initiative, working in tandem with Oriental Institute faculty, staff, and students. Graduate student Leslie Schramer is creating the on-line course content, with guidance and review by faculty and staff members, including Gil Stein, Geoff Emberling, McGuire Gibson, Martha Roth, and Christopher Woods, all of whom have been actively involved in our educational programming this past year. New academic advisors to this project are Robert Biggs, Professor Emeritus of Assyriology and Editor of the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*; Jenny Myers, Research Associate, Chicago Assyrian Dictionary Project; and Erica Reiner, John A. Wilson Distinguished Service Professor Emerita of Assyriology.

Wendy's dedication to educational excellence and expertise in on-line learning has been crucial to her skillful coordination of "Ancient Mesopotamia: This History, Our History." She is

ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA
THIS HISTORY
our history

Ancient Mesopotamia: This History, Our History will be an indispensable resource that K-12 teachers and students will be able to access nationwide. To learn more about this project and follow our progress, click on the link below to enter our project site.

mesopotamia.lib.uchicago.edu
LAUNCHING IN DECEMBER, 2005

LEARN MORE ►

This resource is made possible by funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and is being produced by the Oriental Institute in collaboration with Chicago Web Docent and eCUIP, The Digital Library.

Learn more ►

Figure 18. Web page introducing Ancient Mesopotamia: This History, Our History, a major on-line initiative supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, a federal agency. Visit <http://mesopotamia.lib.uchicago.edu> to learn more about the unique resources on Mesopotamia that we are preparing for K-12 teachers and their students nationwide.

Library, is working with Wendy on the creation of “The Learning Collection,” a searchable database of 140 artifacts from the Mesopotamian Gallery. The production of this database — designed for use by teachers and students of grades six to twelve — has been intricate and intense. Photographing all of the artifacts, gathering “metadata” on them from registration records, designing Web pages to house and provide access to the information, and then uploading all the data has taken many months and has involved the time, talents, and expertise of many University of Chicago and Oriental Institute personnel. In addition to Wendy, these include: Steven Lane and Christie Thomas of eCUIP; Elisabeth Long and Glen Biggus of Regenstein Library; John Larson, Oriental Institute Archivist; John Sanders, Head of the Oriental Institute Computer Laboratory; and Ray Tindel, Oriental Institute Museum Registrar. Volunteer support has also been invaluable. Kafi Moragne, a summer intern who came to us from Vassar, began the collection of metadata from museum records. As it was gathered, Irene Glasner edited information to make it more accessible to teachers and students. David Berry has spent countless hours completing the gathering of metadata, refining the database, and streamlining its usability. Thanks to everyone’s tireless efforts, we envision the Learning Collection will be fully operational by the end of the year, marking the first time that images and information on Oriental Institute artifacts will be available to the public in this highly accessible and state of the art format.

“Dig into History: Mesopotamia” is the third major component of this extraordinary on-line learning project. An interactive game that can be played at home or in school under a teacher’s guidance, this computer simulation will give students the choice of agreeing or disagreeing with a big idea or concept about ancient Mesopotamia. These ideas will drive the game play, challenging students with decision making scenarios, and building their critical and visual thinking skills as they embark on the virtual excavation of an archaeological site, research and catalog the artifacts they uncover, and use their finds to “curate” an on-line museum exhibit.

Sean York of Chicago WebDocent, a University of Chicago developer of on-line curriculum for K-12 teachers and students, is the extraordinarily talented multimedia architect and Flash

nearing completion of the University of Illinois Master On-line Teaching Certification Program, which concentrates on the methods and role of instructional technology, assessment, and facilitation in on-line education. The skills she has gained are invaluable for development and facilitation of the on-line course, and also for production of two additional project components — a searchable database and a simulated archaeological dig that will be available on the Oriental Institute Web site. These major components are being created in tandem with two University of Chicago partners.

The eCUIP Digital Library, a unit run by the University’s Regenstein

designer creating “Dig into History.” His work and all other aspects of Ancient Mesopotamia On-line have been guided by the ten teachers and administrators on our Teacher Advisory Board. The five advisors who helped develop our prototype model for on-line teacher training supported by the Fry Foundation have returned to assist with this major new project. They have been joined by Paula Andries, Educational Coordinator for Hephzibah Children’s Association; Carolyn Brewer and Bijo Vayalil, CPS Area Instructional Technology Coordinators; Pat Galinski, Visual Arts Coordinator for the CPS Office of Language and Cultural Education; and Peter Scheidler, social studies teacher at Kenwood Academy High School. Julia Brazas, Director of Chicago WebDocent, also serves on this board, and as educational advisor to the project.

Based on their knowledge of curricular needs across many grade levels, these educators have chosen the artifacts for the Learning Collection and formulated questions about them for students to consider. They have chosen the big ideas for the interactive game and offered guidance on the suitability of activities for varying student skills and abilities. They will also test, evaluate, and help refine the on-line professional development course before it is launched nationwide at the end of December 2005.

Behind the Scenes

Taking stock of all that has been accomplished this eventful year, I would like to say how much I appreciate the encouragement, support, and direction that Museum Education has received from Oriental Institute faculty, staff, and students, many of whom are mentioned often in this report. A special thank you goes to Geoff Emberling; during this first year as Museum Director he has guided us, cheered us on, and provided assistance at every turn. Grateful thanks also go to the Museum Education and Family Program volunteers. None of our gallery-based public programs could have taken place without the time and talents of all these men, women, and young people (fig. 19). A record of all their names appears in the Volunteer Program section of this report.

Nothing would be happening without the creativity, spirit, and dedication of the Museum Education and Volunteer Program staff. They are here early, stay late, and will work evenings and weekends to provide the public with meaningful, instructive, and rewarding educational programs.

The abilities and accomplishments of Wendy Ennes are mentioned throughout this report. Her vision, dedication, and drive make her an invaluable asset to the Oriental Institute, and her creative integration of instructional technology into the museum’s educational programming is placing us at the forefront of both the local and national museum communities.

The important work of Nitzan Mekel-Bobrov is also evident in this report. Additionally, we could not have managed without the support of public program interns Ann Avouris, Katharyn Hansen, Katie Heupel, and Charlotte Noble. Crucial to all we do is the work of our Education Programs Assistant, who administers the entire adult education program, handles registrations and confirmations for all guided tours, and serves as graphic designer, editor, and public relations specialist for Museum Education and the Volunteer Program. This past year Constance Schuett assumed the challenges of this demanding position, bringing us her administrative skills, keen sense of design, writing talents, and a calm demeanor

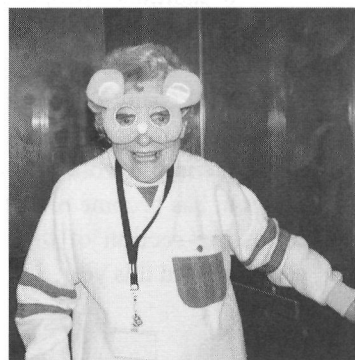


Figure 19. Dressed as Miss Mouse for “Mummy’s Night,” Docent Rita Picken was one of the many dedicated volunteers who contributed time and talents to all of our public programming this past year. Photograph by Wendy Ennes

MUSEUM



Figure 20. Claire Thomas prepares to register participants for the Ancient Egypt Unwrapped seminar. Photograph by Carole Krucoff

that kept all programs running smoothly and professionally. Constance also worked on museum advertising and marketing campaigns in close collaboration with Emily Teeter, whose role as Special Projects Manager makes her another important friend to Museum Education.

Due to family concerns, Constance had to leave us in the spring. However, Claire Thomas was available to step in as Education Programs Assistant. Formerly an Oriental Institute docent and intern during her four years as a University of Chicago undergraduate, Claire knew firsthand how our programs function and could make a seamless transition into the position. Although she was with us only temporarily, Claire brought new efficiency and vitality to our office. She even moved out from behind her desk to administer the Ancient Egypt Unwrapped seminar (fig. 20) and join in creating the zooarchaeology portion of our “Outside the Classroom Walls” collaboration with the Chicago Public Schools. In mid-June, Claire left us to pursue other academic and career goals. We wish her the best of everything in this new chapter of her life.

Claire’s successor is Jessica Caracci, who comes to us after completing a prestigious Monticello Internship at the Illinois State Museum and receiving a Master’s degree in history and museum administration from Eastern Illinois University. Welcome Jessica!

Two additional people deserve special mention here, honoring major milestones in their careers. Catherine Dueñas and Terry Friedman began their relationships with the Oriental Institute as volunteers and then became Volunteer Coordinators after years of volunteer service. As of 2004 Cathy Dueñas has been with the Oriental Institute for twenty years and this is Terry Friedman’s thirtieth year of service. Under the dedicated leadership of these extraordinary women, and the work of their remarkable corps of volunteers, the Oriental Institute Volunteer Program has become one of the most respected and admired in the city of Chicago. Turn to the following section of this *Annual Report* to discover all that the Volunteer Program has accomplished this year.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Catherine Dueñas and Terry Friedman

This year the Oriental Institute docents and volunteers have worked as a team to adopt a more proactive role in improving the Volunteer Program and in planning for the museum's future. They began a dialogue with Oriental Institute Museum Director Geoff Emberling and museum staff by creating a Docent Advisory Committee and by completing a volunteer survey. They took the initiative to collect funds for benches in the East Wing galleries, to create theme-based gallery tours, and to expand the Docent Library. With the opening of the Assyrian, Syro-Anatolian, and Megiddo Galleries, the docents have handled the ever-increasing constraints and demands for one-hour guided tours of the entire museum with ease and grace. Their thirst for knowledge and their determination to support the Oriental Institute's mission make the docents and volunteers an invaluable asset. As goodwill ambassadors, they have applied their knowledge and channeled their enthusiasm to provide the public with an understanding and appreciation for the historical and cultural legacy of the ancient Near East in today's troubled world.

Tour Program

Docent-led tours of the permanent galleries of the Oriental Institute Museum were in high demand and were enthusiastically supported by audiences of all ages. Whether for schools, religious groups, community organizations, or senior citizens, the Oriental Institute docents were eager to share their knowledge of the museum's collection with all visitors. With the opening of the East Wing galleries, museum docents could add artifacts from ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel into their touring repertoire. Faced with the challenge of incorporating the reinstalled collection into a one-hour tour of the entire museum, the docents needed to develop and modify their touring strategies in the galleries. They successfully worked together in teams to offer each other creative suggestions to help each other hone their interactive touring skills. We are proud to announce that nearly 12,000 museum visitors enjoyed the advantages of a docent-led tour!

The Docent Captain system serves as an important communication 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 schedule allows the Volunteer Program to function with efficiency and purpose, as their administrative skills and unwavering support are vital components to the program's excellence as an enriching educational experience for the public. Our thanks to Docent Captains: Myllicent Buchanan, Gabriele da Silva, Joe Diamond, Teresa Hintzke, Dennis Kelley, Roy Miller, Charlotte Noble, Donald Payne, Patrick Regnery, Stephen Ritzel, Lucie Sandel, Deloris Sanders, Anne Schumacher, Daila Shefner, Cynthia Warso, and Carole Yoshida.

This year a Docent Advisory Committee was developed to help give the volunteers a greater voice in the decision-making policies of the Volunteer Program and Museum Education Office. This Committee serves as an open forum for the docents and the volunteers and is designed to discuss concerns and to work on productive solutions for problem areas. Cynthia Warso has served as the chairperson of the committee, helping to facilitate meetings and activities while actively seeking input from all the docents and volunteers. The Committee's valuable work will assist with improving communications with museum staff as well as incorporating fresh perspectives and plans for the museum's future. Early in the fall, the volunteers were given the opportunity to have a dialogue with Geoff Emberling, and to participate in a volunteer survey to help the director assess the strengths and weaknesses of the museum exhibits and the Volunteer

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Figure 1. During December Volunteer Day, Debby Halpern (middle) and Mari Terman (right) present a check to Oriental Institute Museum Director, Geoff Emberling (left) for benches in the new East Wing galleries. Debby and Mari spearheaded a fundraising drive to collect funds to purchase two new benches designed to be replicas of the Oriental Institute benches from the 1930s. The money was donated in the collective names of the Oriental Institute Volunteers of 2004

Institute benches from the 1930s. We are pleased to report that they have been donated in the collective names of the Oriental Institute Volunteers of 2004 and have become welcome additions to the gallery space.

This year, we were also able to purchase thirty-six portable aluminum folding stools for use in the galleries. Whether for museum visitors or for gallery workshop sessions, everyone has been eager to take advantage of this new lightweight equipment. This purchase was made possible through the many generous donations from the volunteers in memory of Simon Garfinkle, Terry Friedman's father.



Figure 2. An annual tradition continues at James Hart Millennium School in Homewood, Illinois, where students enjoy an Oriental Institute Outreach visit and dress up like ancient kings and queens

Program. The survey was developed by Volunteer Shel Newman and was enthusiastically received by the docents and volunteers, who participated in this candid and constructive evaluation of their peers and of the program.

Bench Drive

As the opening of the East Wing galleries neared, many of the volunteers noted that there was a shortage of adequate gallery seating for museum visitors when they wished to rest for a few moments while enjoying a docent-led tour. Thanks to the fundraising efforts of Debby Halpern and Mari Terman, many generous volunteers rallied to the call for donations to purchase two new benches in the East Wing (fig. 1). The benches were designed to be replicas of the Oriental

Docent Library

As Head Docent Librarian, Margaret Foorman has continued to develop an outstanding resource of books, ephemera, and reference materials for the volunteers to access easily. Building on a strong foundation developed by Debbie Aliber, former Docent Librarian, Margaret has continued to expand the collection as well as to reorganize sections of its content. Her monthly updates in the *Volunteer Voice* have helped to highlight new additions to the library and offer suggested readings to enhance our knowledge and understanding of the ancient Near East. Through generous donations from faculty, staff, and volunteers, along with many new purchases, the Docent Library's collection continues to flourish both as an educational tool and a valuable

research resource. Sandra Jacobsohn and Deloris Sanders have been helpful in assisting Margaret with the library's orderly maintenance, content organization, and offering suggestions for new acquisitions.

Interns

We were delighted this year to have the opportunity to work with five exceptional interns: Katharyn Hanson, Katie Heupel, Charlotte Noble, Claire Thomas, and Cynthia Warso, who helped to support many vital areas of the Volunteer Program's ongoing operation. Their assistance is mentioned throughout this report. From administrative tasks to research opportunities, and theme-based gallery presentations, our interns approached their assignments with great dedication and resolve. Special thanks and appreciation go to Charlotte Noble for undertaking the monumental task of reorganizing all of our lists into one uniform database. Charlotte's hard work will make a significant difference in how we store, modify, and access important information concerning the volunteers.



Figure 3. During a workshop in the East Wing galleries, Gabrielle Novacek, guest curator of the Haas and Schwartz Megiddo Gallery, discusses the importance of stratigraphy with the docents and volunteers

Outreach

The Outreach Program developed nearly ten years ago in response to the museum's closure for renovation and climate control (fig. 2). Once the museum reopened, the Outreach Program continued to serve as an extension of the docent-led tour program. Its popularity quickly grew as a viable way to create a special in-school field trip experience. Throughout the years, it has been able to retain a loyal cadre of client support, as well as attract new audiences. It continues to receive accolades and praise from students, educators, parents, and adults throughout metropolitan Chicago. Even with the reopening of the Egyptian, Persian, Mesopotamian, and the new East Wing galleries, many groups continue to request an outreach visit to enhance their museum visit. This year more than 300 students and 100 adults enjoyed the benefits of an outreach visit.

Volunteer Training for the East Gallery

Volunteers were thrilled to participate in the volunteer training sessions offered in conjunction with the opening of the exhibition *Empires in the Fertile Crescent: Ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and*



Figure 4. After helping register participants for the East Wing training sessions, Sunday Museum Docent Co-captain Dennis Kelley relaxes by strolling through the new Henrietta Herbolsheimer, M.D. Syro-Anatolian Gallery

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Figure 5. January Volunteer Day highlighted the Oriental Institute Preparation and Conservation teams. Here Markus Dohner, Head of Preparation, explains to the Docents and Volunteers the layout and structure of one of the cases in the East Wing galleries

programs. John Aldrin, Jane Arkell, Christel Betz, Rebecca Binkley, Joan Curry, Gabriele da Silva, Mary Finn, Joan Friedmann, Debby Halpern, Mark Hirsch, Dennis Kelley, Charlotte Noble, Denise Paul, Donald Payne, Rita Picken, Stephen Ritzel, Lillian Schwartz, and Mari Terman were an integral part of each program's success.

Enrichment Workshops for Docents and Volunteers

In preparation for the opening of the East Wing galleries, docents and volunteers gathered to review materials and information presented during the fall 2004 training classes. Two gallery

workshops on the East Wing collections were offered to facilitate and encourage further background study of the artifacts. Our thanks to Joan Barghusen, former Head of Museum Education and guest curator for Empires of the Fertile Crescent, for her comprehensive presentation on the labels in the Syro-Anatolian Gallery and to Dennis Campbell, a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations (NELC), for his discussion and decipherment of the Luwian hieroglyphs. Each workshop shed new light and insights into the objects and how they relate to the rest of the collection. We would also like to thank Geoff Emberling for his enlightening "Highlights of the Collection" tour which gave the docents and volunteers an excellent overview of how they could develop a comprehensive tour of the entire museum in an hour.

Two other theme-based gallery workshops were researched and developed by docent interns Katharyn Hanson and Cynthia Warso. In April Katharyn

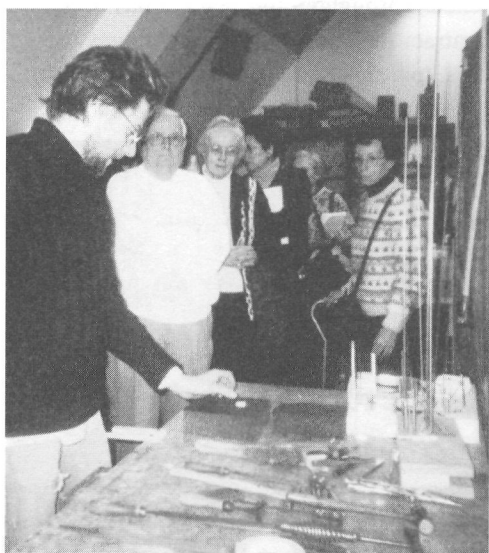


Figure 6. Erik Lindahl, Preparator, shows the docents and the volunteers how a mount is designed and developed to display an artifact in a case in the museum

Hanson, Tuesday morning Museum Docent, intern, and NELC graduate student presented a theme-based tour on ancient Near Eastern “Art and Architecture.” Her tour of the galleries consisted of a condensed overview of the collection with some visual aids. She carefully transitioned between the objects in each of the four galleries to help maintain the theme of her tour and to keep within the confines of a forty-five minute to one-hour time frame, which is very important for weekday tours. She presented her information in a clear, concise, and engaging manner targeted for sixth grade students.

In May Cynthia Warso, Thursday Morning Museum Docent Captain and intern, presented a Biblical emphasis tour of the galleries. Her theme-based one-hour tour helped us to make important connections between many of the museum artifacts and how they relate to specific sections in the Bible. Her abbreviated tour can serve as a model to help us prepare for an ever-growing audience of church and religious school groups as well as seminary students.

In June we were very fortunate to have a special full-day enrichment workshop with Clemens Reichel. Our thanks and appreciation go to Clemens for a truly outstanding Volunteer Day Seminar on “Khorsabad and the Assyrian Expansion into Syria.” This comprehensive and in-depth presentation put the objects into a meaningful context, helping us to interpret their importance both culturally and historically. Clemens’ insightful discussion shed a whole new light on the cultural narrative and ideological messages conveyed through Assyrian monumental art.

Special Workshops for Teachers

This year we were pleased to introduce many teachers throughout metropolitan Chicago to the museum’s galleries as well as to the rich resources available to bring the ancient Near East to life for students of all ages. The Friday Museum Docents, with Joe Diamond as their captain, were instrumental in the development of these innovative workshops (fig. 7). From preschool teachers, to art teachers from Du Page County, to science and math students learning what archaeologists learn from the past through scientific study, these docent-led tours were an eye-opening experience for the teachers and students alike, many of whom had never visited the Oriental Institute. This introduction to the museum’s collection was a priceless experience for both the educators and the students.



Figure 7. Friday Docent Co-captain Joe Diamond (left) helped develop a special teachers’ workshop for Susan Gall (right) the Art Institute Co-coordinator for DuPage County Teachers. Here Joe and Susan enjoy a coffee break with Volunteer Services Coordinator Terry Friedman (center)

Hosting Colleagues

In March we were pleased to host the volunteers from the Museum of Science and Industry for a field trip to the Oriental Institute. Saturday morning museum docents John Aldrin, Clare Lipinski, and Docent Co-Captain Lucie Sandel welcomed these volunteers to a delicious brunch in the LaSalle Banks Education Center, followed by a tour of the museum galleries. This was a

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Figure 8. In September, *Oriental Institute* docents hosted the Adler Planetarium volunteers. Here we see Thursday morning Docent Elisabeth Lassers guiding the Adler Volunteer Manager Alisun DeKock and another volunteer through the Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery. Elisabeth passed away tragically in April of this year

wonderful opportunity to showcase our collection while sharing ideas about touring techniques with colleagues from another cultural institution.

Volunteer Days

One of the major benefits of being a member of the Oriental Institute's volunteer corps is the monthly Volunteer Day programs which provide both continuing education and a stimulating learning environment for docents and volunteers to hear lectures and to explore topics for further research and study. These unique educational seminars serve as an interactive forum to broaden one's knowledge of the ancient Near East, while enjoying special

camaraderie with fellow docents, volunteers, faculty, and staff members at the Oriental Institute, as well as with colleagues from other cultural institutions (fig. 8).

This year's programming focused on a wide range of topics and interests that served as a springboard for gathering information and ideas to incorporate into the tours. Our thanks and appreciation go to: faculty and staff members Abbas Alizadeh, Joan Barghusen, Laura D'Alessandro, Markus Dohner, Geoff Emberling, Jan Johnson, Erik Lindahl, Vanessa Muros, Gabrielle Novacek, Clemens Reichel, Martha Roth, Emily Teeter, Theo van den Hout, graduate students Dennis Campbell and Katharyn Hanson, and faculty assistant Karen Terras.

Randel Tea

One of the yearly highlights of the volunteer program is the special July Volunteer Day Tea Reception at the home of President and Mrs. Randel (fig. 9). For the past four years, the Randels have hosted a lovely tea reception for Oriental Institute docents, volunteers, faculty, and staff. This year our guest speakers were Professors Janet Johnson, Martha Roth, and Theo van den Hout, who discussed "The Power of the Word." Each of the three presenters focused on their individual dictionary projects while sharing some of the highlights as well as the technological challenges facing a lexicographer in these rapidly changing times.



Figure 9. The July Tea Reception at the home of President and Mrs. Randel is a special annual event for the Oriental Institute docents, faculty, staff, and volunteers. Here Mrs. Randel and her guests listen to Professor Theo van den Hout explain his research on the Hittite Dictionary

Field Trips

Our volunteers enjoyed two special field trip experiences this past year (fig. 10). In September, we gathered at the Adler Planetarium to enjoy a lovely brunch followed by a tour of the galleries, and a front row seat to

the sky show *Stars of the Pharaohs*. This unique program explored the grandeur of ancient Egypt utilizing computer simulations to recreate this powerful and vibrant civilization. Our thanks go to Alisun DeKoch, manager of Volunteer Services at the Adler Planetarium, for providing this wonderful opportunity for the Oriental Institute docents and volunteers to relax and enjoy one of Chicago's major cultural institutions.

The second part of this program took place later in September, when we invited the Adler Planetarium Volunteers to visit the Oriental Institute. Our guests enjoyed a brunch in the LaSalle Banks Education Center followed by a tour of the museum galleries. Afterwards the Adler volunteers were treated to a tour of the University of Chicago campus. Our thanks go to John Aldrin, Joan Curry, Stephen Esposito, Terry and Bill Gillespie, Elisabeth Lassers, Lucie Sandel, and Larry Scheff for extending such a warm and gracious welcome to our visitors.

March Volunteer Day consisted of a trip to The Field Museum. The day began with a lovely continental breakfast where the volunteers heard a brief overview of the exhibit, *Jacqueline Kennedy, The White House Years* from May Simon, Field Museum Docent. Immediately following her introduction, the docents and volunteers were privately escorted into the exhibit to enjoy leisurely this memorable and nostalgic era in American cultural and political history. Our thanks and appreciation to Bob Cantu, May Simon, and The Field Museum staff for hosting an outstanding field trip for March Volunteer Day.

Volunteer Recognition and Annual Holiday Luncheon

December Volunteer Day has become an annual tradition when docents, faculty, staff, and volunteers gather to enjoy a festive holiday celebration together (figs. 11–12). This popular event 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 6 and our guest speaker was Geoff Emberling. His presentation on "Temples in Early Dynastic Mesopotamia — Why Would They Build a Temple Oval at Tell Brak?" was an insightful discussion of his research and discoveries at this Early Dynastic site.

Following Geoff's presentation, the program continued with the introduction of new volunteers and the Recognition Awards Ceremony. We were pleased to introduce twenty new volunteers to the Volunteer Corps. Welcome aboard to: Sophia Bender, Scott Berg, David Berry, Sophie Brennan, Courtney Carter, Jewell Dickson, Djanie Edwards, Dale Fisher, Katharyn Hanson, Katie Heupel, Mark Hirsch, Carole Kipp,



Figure 10. *Oriental Institute docents and volunteers pose in front of the magnificent Chicago skyline during their September field trip to see the Stars of the Pharaohs exhibit at the Adler Planetarium*



Figure 11. *The December Volunteer Recognition Ceremony always ends with a festive luncheon at the Quadrangle Club where docents, faculty, staff, and volunteers all enjoy a meal together*

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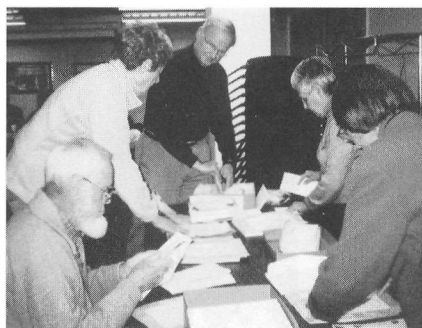


Figure 12. Docents and volunteers provide a multitude of services at the Oriental Institute. Here they are busy preparing the invitations and the greeting cards for the Annual Holiday luncheon and Volunteer Recognition event. Ira Hardman is in the front

Clare Lipinski, Austin O'Malley, Mary O'Shea, Kathy Pratt, Maricelle Robles, Tatyana Tsirlin, Cynthia Warso, and Inge Winer.

This year twenty-four individuals were recognized for their distinguished support and loyal commitment to the Oriental Institute and the museum. Their combined years of service represent 325 years in total! We would like to thank all of the award recipients for their loyal support to the volunteer program. We admire and respect all your contributions, past, present, and future.

5 Years

Bill Gillespie

Terry Gillespie

Gabriele da Silva

Shel Newman

Ila Patlogan

Agnes Zellner

10 Years

Barbara Storms Baird

Janet Calkins

Hazel Cramer

Mary Harter

Catherine Mardikes

Pamela Wickliffe

15 Years

Ruth Hyman

Sandy Jacobsohn

Samantha Johnson

Caryl Mikrut

Agnethe Rattenborg

Patrick Regnery

20 Years

Rebecca Binkley

Charlotte Collier

Alice James

25 Years

Jane Hildebrand

Mary Shea

35 Years

Muriel Nerad

The December Volunteer Day program would not have been possible without the support and co-operation of many people (figs. 13–14). We want to express our thanks and appreciation to Oriental Institute Director Gil Stein and the Office of the Director for their generosity with



Figure 13. *Norma van der Meulen has been a docent and volunteer for more than twenty-five years and continues to design beautiful jewelry and help in the Suq*

underwriting the annual holiday luncheon for the docents, volunteers, faculty, and staff; Membership Coordinator Maria Krasinski for awarding complimentary memberships to the Volunteer Recognition Award Recipients; Jean Grant for photographing

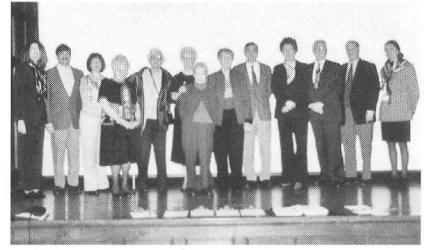


Figure 14. *The docents and volunteers who were being recognized this year proudly pose for Jean Grant, Oriental Institute Photographer*

this very special occasion; Denise Browning for her assistance with the recognition awards and gift selections; Bernadette Strnad and David Ray for assisting with the parking validation for the Volunteers; Olivia Boyd for her technical assistance with the audiovisual aspect of the program; and Joan Knoll and the Quadrangle Club staff for orchestrating another wonderful holiday luncheon.

In Memoriam

This past year the volunteer program lost two extraordinary women who were loyal friends and supporters of the Oriental Institute: Elizabeth (“Betty”) Baum (fig. 15) and Elisabeth Lassers (fig. 8). Both of these remarkable women devoted many years of their lives to help further the goals and mission of the Oriental Institute. Each took great pride in her involvement with the Oriental Institute and we are so grateful that they chose to spend a portion of their lives with us. They will be remembered for their intellectual curiosity, generosity, and commitment to excellence.



Figure 15. *Member of the first Docent Training Class and a loyal supporter of the Volunteer Program and the Oriental Institute, Elizabeth (Betty) Baum passed away in May of this year. Betty is shown here (center) with Volunteer Services Coordinators Catherine Dueñas (left) and Terry Friedman (right) during the groundbreaking ceremonies for the addition of the new wing in June 1997*

Reflections

We are grateful for the good humor and camaraderie of our colleagues and friends in room 221. In an atmosphere bustling with activity and distractions, they manage to inspire creativity while fostering a high level of efficiency and productivity. Our thanks go to Jessica Caracci, Wendy Ennes, Carole Krucoff, Constance Schuett, and Claire Thomas for their abiding patience and understanding throughout the year. They are the voice of reason, common sense, and encouragement.

Building on nearly forty years of expansion and growth, the Volunteer Program has been able to meet the many challenges and opportunities of these changing times. The collective vision and determination of our predecessors, Carolyn Livingood, Carlotta Maher, Peggy Grant, and Janet Helman has set a standard of excellence for us to follow. Today’s Volunteer Corps has grown to over 150 people who form a community of uniquely talented and dedicated individuals devoted to serving the Oriental Institute and enriching its mission. This year Oriental Institute Volunteers have demonstrated their commitment by contributing about 11,000 hours of

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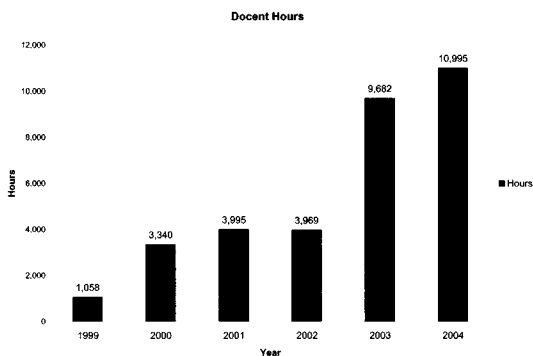


Figure 16. Graph of Volunteer Hours

volunteer service. As you can see from the graph (fig. 16), the hours of volunteer service have continued to increase every year since we have tracked this important data. The volunteers are a rare and treasured asset and we thank them for their numerous contributions past, present, and future.

Our apologies go to Nancy Baum and to Tom Hunter for inadvertently omitting their names from the *2003/2004 Annual Report*.

SPECIAL THANKS to Claire Thomas for helping us compile and edit this year's *Annual Report*. We would never have been able to do it without her.

Advisors to the Volunteer Program

Carlotta Maher

Peggy Grant

Janet Helman

Honorary Volunteers-At-Large

Carol Randel

Elizabeth Sonnenschein

Volunteer Program Consultant

Shel Newman

Museum Docents

John Aldrin

Sylwia Aldrin

Jane Arkell

Douglas Baldwin

Nancy Baum

Jane Belcher

Christel Betz

Rebecca Binkley

Dorothy Blindt

Myriam Borelli

Myllicent Buchanan

Andrew Buncis

Courtney Carter

David Covill

Joan Curry

Gabriele da Silva

Catherine Deans-Barrett

Joe Diamond

Sam Dreessen

Djanie Edwards

Mary Finn

Margaret Foorman

Karen Friedman

Joan Friedmann

Dario Giacomoni

Ruth Goldman

Anita Greenberg

Debby Halpern

Katharyn Hansen

Ira Hardman

Mary Harter

Janet Helman

Lee Herbst

Katie Heupel

Teresa Hintzke

Mark Hirsch

Tom Hunter

Dennis Kelly

Henriette Klawans

Elizabeth Lassers†

Lo Luong Lo

Nina Longley

Sherif Marcus

Robert McGinness

Sherian McLaughlin

Pat McLaughlin

Roy Miller

Kathy Mineck

Alice Mulberry

Charlotte Noble

Austin O'Malley

Museum Docents (cont.)

Mary O'Shea	Nancy Patterson	Denise Paul
Donald Payne	Kitty Picken	Rita Picken
Diane Posner	Semra Prescott	Kavita Rajagopal
Del Ramirez	Melissa Ratkovich	David Ray
Patrick Regnery	Liz Rietz-Clark	Stephen Ritzel
Maricelle Robles	Lucie Sandel	Deloris Sanders
Larry Scheff	Joy Schochet	Anne Schumacher
Mary Shea	Daila Shefner	Toni Smith
Bernadette Strnad	Pierangelo Taschini	Mari Terman
Karen Terras	Claire Thomas	Pramerudee Townsend
Tatyana Tsirlin	Monica Wood	Carole Yoshida

Outreach Docents and Volunteers

Rebecca Binkley	Myllicent Buchanan
Andrew Buncis	Janet Calkins
Joe Diamond	Bill Gillespie
Terry Gillespie	Ira Hardman
Robert McGinness	Caryl Mikrut
Roy Miller	Kathy Mineck
Mary O'Shea	Stephen Ritzel
Larry Scheff	Joy Schochet
Anne Schumacher	Carole Yoshida

Agnes Zellner

**Docent Library
Head Librarian**

Margaret Fooman

Committee

Irene Glasner
Deloris Sanders

Sandra Jacobsohn
Mary Shea

Daila Shefner

Emeritus Librarian

Debbie Aliber

Suq Docents

Muriel Brauer	Patty Dunkel
Irene Glasner	Peggy Grant
Marda Gross	Caryn Noble
Kavita Rajagopal	Norma van der Meulen

Substitute Suq Docents

Janet Helman	Jo Jackson
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Suq Jewelry Designer

Norma van der Meulen

Suq Office and Stock Room Volunteer

Irene Glasner

Membership and Development Volunteers

Sophie Bloom	Hazel Cramer
Andrea Dudek	Djanie Edwards
Margaret Foorman	Erin Harral
Janet Helman	Henriette Klawans
Jo Lucas	Carlotta Maher
Kavita Rajagopal	David Ray
Mary Shea	Mari Terman

Agnes Zellner

Museum Archives Volunteers

James Baughman	Hazel Cramer
Peggy Grant	Patricia Hume
Sandra Jacobsohn	Lillian Schwartz

Carole Yoshida

Registrar's Office Volunteers

Joan Barghusen	Gretel Braidwood
Hazel Cramer	Mary Grimshaw
Barbara Levin	Charles Myers
Toni Smith	O. J. Sopranos

IMLS Grant Project Volunteers

David Berry	Irene Glasner
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Conservation Lab

Jeanne Mandel

Diyala Project Volunteers

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

Amber Meriwether

Christopher C. Miller

Hacinebi Turkey Project Volunteer

Mari Terman

Hamoukar Project Volunteers

Betsy Kremers

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

John Aldrin

Sylwia Aldrin

Catherine Deans-Barrett

Jane Belcher

Christel Betz

Rebecca Binkley

Dorothy Blindt

Myllicent Buchanan

Joan Curry

Gabriele da Silva

Joe Diamond

Stephen Esposito

Mary Finn

Margaret Foorman

Dario Giacomoni

Bill Gillespie

Terry Gillespie

Ruth Goldman

Anita Greenberg

Debby Halpern

Katharyn Hansen

Ira Hardman

Katie Heupel

Teresa Hintzke

Museum Education and Family Programs Volunteers (cont.)

Tom Hunter	Dennis Kelley
Barbara Levin	Lo Luong Lo
Robert McGuiness	Roy Miller
Kathy Mineck	Charlotte Noble
John Noble	Donald Payne
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**MEMBERSHIP AND
DEVELOPMENT**

Overleaf. The Osiris pillars with figures of the king on the southwest side in the hall of the Temple of Ptah. Gerf Husein, Egypt. Photograph P 2691

MEMBERSHIP

Maria Krasinski

Statistics

At the close of the fiscal year, the Oriental Institute had 2,115 members. Between July 1, 2004 and June 30, 2005, we gained 209 new members and saw an increase of over 26% in total membership revenue. In June 2005, Membership launched a new member campaign that is thus far proving to be a success. We hope to continue expanding our membership base in the coming year and to provide even more engaging programs and events.

Publications

The Membership Office published four issues of the members' newsletter *News & Notes* in 2004/2005. The fall 2004 issue featured a lead article by Abbas Alizadeh titled "Recent Archaeological Investigations on the Persepolis Plain." The opening of the East Wing galleries was the focus of the winter 2005 issue, while the spring issue highlighted CAMEL Director Scott Branting's excavations at Kerkenes Dağ in his article entitled "Seeing within the Soil: Exploring an Ancient City at Kerkenes Dağ." The summer 2005 issue spotlighted the volunteers of the Oriental Institute and their many invaluable contributions to the Oriental Institute's mission.

Events

This year, the Membership Office partnered with the Archaeological Institute of America to present a rich variety of speakers and topics for the Members' Lecture Series. Each Members' Lecture was co-sponsored by both institutions, enabling us to offer more talks throughout the year.

Oriental Institute Museum Director Geoff Emberling kicked off the series for 2004/2005. His lecture, "On the Origins of Cities in Mesopotamia: Recent Excavations at Tell Brak, Northeastern Syria" brought over 130 people to the Oriental Institute on September 22.

On October 20, Membership, the Education Office, Iran House of Chicago, and the Iranian Cultural Society co-sponsored the premiere of *Persepolis: A New Perspective*, a new documentary from Iranian filmmaker Farzin Rezaeian. Over 500 people attended two sold-out screenings, with standing-room only in the lobby.

A James Henry Breasted Society dinner and lecture by Professor Gay Robins of Emory University took place on October 28. Professor Robins spoke on "Women, Sexuality, and the Construction of Gender in New Kingdom Egyptian Art" at the University Club in downtown Chicago.

In November, the Oriental Institute hosted the Chicago premiere of *The Hittites* and Membership once again co-sponsored the sold-out event with the Museum Education Office and the Consulate General of Turkey.

We also co-sponsored a lecture by Professor Jodi Magness of the University of North Carolina with the Archaeological Institute of America and the Lutheran School of Theology. Held at the Lutheran seminary, Professor Magness spoke about "The Archaeology of Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls."

MEMBERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT

After taking a break for the holidays in December, Membership events resumed in January marking the opening of the permanent exhibition *Empires in the Fertile Crescent: Ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel in the East Wing galleries*. Membership was very involved in the events celebrating the opening of the reinstated and redesigned galleries.

On January 13, Membership and Development hosted the Director's Dinner in the Marshall and Doris Holleb Family Special Exhibits Gallery. About 120 guests attended this event honoring the donors, faculty, and museum staff who were integral to making the new galleries a reality. Remarks by Professor Amihai Mazar from the Institute of Archaeology, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem capped off the evening.

The Members' Preview of the East Wing galleries took place on January 26. Over 150 members braved the winter weather to tour *Empires in the Fertile Crescent: Ancient Assyria, Anatolia, and Israel* before it opened to the public. A catered reception was held in the Holleb Family Special Exhibits Gallery, while films relating to the new exhibition played in Breasted Hall. Many thanks go to the volunteer greeters and "Ask Me" docents in the galleries: Catherine Deans-Barrett, Terry and Bill Gillespie, Ira Hardman, Donald Payne, Semra Prescott, Lucy Sandel, Anne Schumacher, Daila Shefner, and Toni Smith.

The public opening of the gallery was January 29–30, and Membership set up an information table on both days. Thanks to volunteers Gabriele da Silva and Barbara Levin for stepping in to give me a lunch break!

In February, the Members' Lecture Series returned with a talk by Edward Ochsenschlager of Brooklyn College entitled, "Seeking the Past in the Present: Ethnoarchaeology at al-Hiba in Iraq." Almost sixty members and guests attended this lecture about the history and current plight of the Marsh Arabs in Iraq.

In March, William Peck, Independent Scholar and former Curator of Ancient Art, Detroit Institute of Fine Arts, gave a lecture entitled "Excavation in the Precinct of the Goddess Mut, Karnak: The 2005 Season." Over 100 members and guests heard Mr. Peck speak about his recent research at Karnak, where he had just returned from excavations a few weeks earlier.

On March 31, Membership hosted a James Henry Breasted Society lecture and reception at the Oriental Institute. Georgina Herrmann of the Institute of Archaeology of London gave a talk entitled "Monuments of Merv: Rediscovering Cities of the Silk Road."

Membership hosted two Members' Lectures in April. On April 6, Holly Pittman of the University of Pennsylvania gave a lecture entitled "New Light on Ancient Iran: Unearthing a New Bronze Culture in the Region of Jiroft in the Province of Kerman." Approximately eighty people attended the lecture. Then for something new, we held a Members' Lecture on a Sunday afternoon. Mary Voigt of the College of William and Mary presented "Deities and Dolls: Public and Private Ritual in the Neolithic Near East" to an audience of about sixty.

From that point on, Membership focused its attention on preparing for Passport to the Middle East, the 2005 Annual Members' Event on May 14. The planning committee, composed of Suq Manager Denise Browning, volunteer Andrea Dudek, Research Associate Emily Teeter, Development Director Monica Witczak, and me (Membership Coordinator), worked to transform the Oriental Institute into a Middle Eastern Suq with a large rug bazaar as its center. About 130 members attended the event, which, in addition to the rug bazaar, featured performances by Arabesque dance troupe and Mosaic Middle Eastern music troupe; a lecture by noted rug scholar Peter Stone entitled "The Evolution and Variation of Tribal and Village Rug Motifs"; henna tattoo decoration by Bibya; an Islamic calligraphy demonstration by University

of Chicago graduate student Kaveh Hemmat; palm reading by astrologers/entertainers Victoria Martin and Demetria Nanos; and a Middle Eastern barbecue and buffet.

Thanks to the many volunteers who were so helpful in preparing for and running the event: Rozenn Bailleul-LeSeur, Joe Cain, Gabriele da Silva, Catherine Dueñas, Djanie Edwards, Toby Hartnell, Kate Grossman, Kirk Schmink, Leslie Schramer, Claire Thomas, and Ali Witsell. Special thanks are due to volunteer and committee member Andrea Dudek for her tireless dedication in making this event such a success.

Travel Program

This year saw two international departures and one stateside excursion to visit a museum exhibit. In September, Director Gil Stein led a three-week sold-out tour to see the Hidden Treasures of Eastern Turkey, with stops at Cappadocia, Mount Ararat, Yazilikaya, and Mount Nemrud among others. Kathleen Mineck, Ph.D. candidate in Hittitology at the University of Chicago and a former travel agent, accompanied the group. From January 15 to 16, a group from the Oriental Institute took a trip to Cincinnati, Ohio, to view the Petra: Lost City of Stone exhibition at the Cincinnati Art Museum. Research Associate Aaron Burke escorted the group, giving a supplementary lecture on the history and culture of the Nabataeans. We were also fortunate to have a private lecture with Glenn Markoe, Curator of Classical and Near Eastern Art at the Cincinnati Art Museum and co-curator of the Petra exhibit. March brought the departure of the Wonders of Ancient Egypt tour, escorted by Professor Robert Ritner. Development Director Monica Witczak also accompanied the group on this eighteen-day Egyptian highlights tour that featured sites such as Giza, Luxor (including a visit to Chicago House), Abu Simbel, and Karnak.

Behind-the-Scenes

There were a couple of staff changes in the Membership Office this year, beginning with my arrival in the position just at the turn of the fiscal year last June 2004. Membership Programs Assistant Christina Abraham left the Institute at the end of April 2005 to take up a position at the Council for American-Islamic Relations and to attend law school at DePaul University. Christina was indispensable to the Membership program during her year-and-a-half at the Institute, not only in maintaining membership renewals and office needs, but also by taking on additional responsibilities in times of transition and helping me learn the ropes. Assistant to the Director of Development Kirk Schmink stepped in and very capably assisted with the renewal process and other day-to-day tasks before Tanvi Solanki, an undergraduate in the College, took over the position in May.

In addition to our assistants in the office, Membership would not have functioned half as smoothly as it did this year without the cooperation, effort, and advice of many individuals around the Institute. Tom Urban and the Editorial Assistants in the Publications Office continued to devote their time and patience to the production of *News & Notes* and the *Annual Report*. Emily Teeter put up with my incessant knocking at her door to willingly share her expertise, especially in regards to the Travel Program. Emily, Denise Browning, and Monica Witczak were integral in the planning of the Annual Members' Event. Monica also offered much-appreciated guidance for all membership activities and often stayed late to help set up for members' events. Carole Krucoff and the Museum Education Office presented many helpful suggestions and promising collaborations for programming. Carla Hosein and Olivia Boyd were regular sources

MEMBERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT

of cheerful assistance for financial and logistical arrangements. Lastly, Gil Stein and Steve Camp provided sound structure and positive motivation for setting new Membership goals. I would like to thank them and the rest of the Institute faculty and staff for making my first year as Membership Coordinator so enjoyable.

HONOR ROLL OF MEMBERS

We are pleased to recognize the members of the Oriental Institute during the period from July 1, 2004, to June 30, 2005. Thank you for your support.

Non-membership gifts and donations of gift memberships are reflected in the Honor Roll of Donors (see page 196). 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.

James Henry Breasted Society

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. We thank each of our Breasted Society Members for their ongoing generosity.

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DEVELOPMENT

Monica Witczak

Overview

For fiscal year 2004/2005, the Oriental Institute raised \$2,094,090 in non-federal private gifts and grants. The annual fund appeal raised \$113,415, an increase of 307% over the fiscal year 2003/2004 total. Among the notable gifts received were \$200,000 for the Museum, \$300,000 for the Chicago Hittite Dictionary, and a bequest of \$465,000 from the Paul J. Ehrenfest Estate. Additionally, the following foundations and corporations continued to support our programs: LaSalle Bank, Exelon, the Polk Bros. Foundation, The Amsted Corporation, the John Nuveen Company, 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. On November 17, Oriental Institute Museum Director Geoff Emberling gave the Visiting Committee a presentation on the installation of the exhibits of *Empires on the Fertile Crescent: Ancient Assyria, Anatolia and Israel*, followed by a preview tour of the East Wing galleries. Two new Visiting Committee members, Joan Armstrong and Anna White, joined us for this first meeting of the academic year 2004/2005.

Many members of the Visiting Committee attended the Director's Dinner for the opening of the East Wing galleries on January 13. Over 110 people were on hand to celebrate the completion of the Dr. Norman Solhkhah Family Assyrian Empire Gallery, the Henrietta Herbolsheimer, M.D. Syro-Anatolian Gallery, and the Haas and Schwartz Megiddo Gallery. We were pleased to welcome Dr. Amihai Mazar of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem as our guest speaker. Prof. Mazar's presentation, "From Canaan to Israel: Continuity and Change at Megiddo and Its Reign," lent an added dimension to the artifacts on display in the Haas and Schwartz Megiddo Gallery.

The committee met again on April 20. Steve Camp, Associate Director of Administration and Finance, gave the members a presentation on the progress of the Robert F. Picken Family Nubian Gallery and Assistant Professor Steve Harvey spoke on recent developments at his excavation of Queen Tetisheri's pyramid at Abydos, Egypt.

Events

On June 9, the Institute was honored to host the inauguration of the Harris School of Public Policy's King Abdullah Lecture Series. The first speaker was King Abdullah II himself. His Majesty spoke on his hopes for the implementation of positive change in the Middle East. In addition to His Majesty, special guests included members of the Royal Hashemite Court, Mayor and Mrs. Daley, and President Don Michael Randel.

In the end, none of our work would be possible without the support of all our donors. We would like to thank all those who supported the Institute during fiscal year 2004/2005. 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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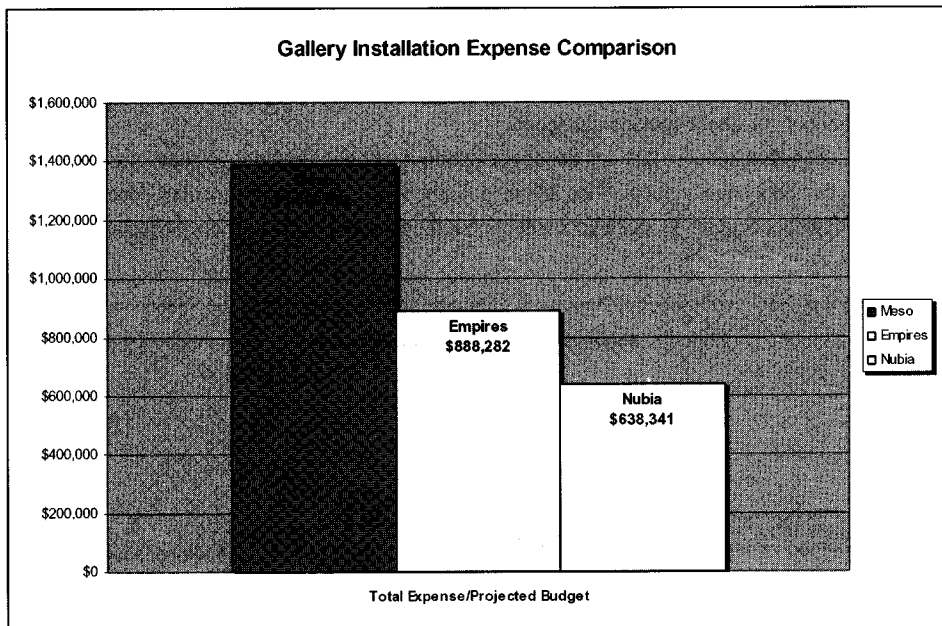


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Steven H. Camp

Few Oriental Institute members have the opportunity to get a detailed look at the administrative and financial structures that support the Oriental Institute. Within the Oriental Institute, financial support for institutional and individual projects, administrative operations, and infrastructure improvements are daily topics of discussion and consideration. What follows is a brief overview of the financial structure that has supported and continues to support the installation of the museum galleries. As many of you are well aware, these large-scale, permanent improvements have been a primary focus of the Oriental Institute over the past decade. Nonetheless, we are now approaching the end of this process and can soon shift resources to other areas of the Institute's core mission. A brief examination of where we have been will help us plan for changes in the future. The following table shows the relative installation costs of the Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery and Yelda Khorsabad Court (*Meso*), the Empires in the Fertile Crescent exhibition, comprised of the Dr. Norman Solhkahh Family Assyrian Empire Gallery, the Henrietta Herbolzheimer, M.D. Syro-Anatolian Gallery, the Haas and Schwartz Megiddo Gallery (*Empires*), and the Robert F. Picken Family Nubian Gallery (*Nubia*) installations (the following charts identify each gallery as *Meso*, *Empires* and *Nubia* respectively).



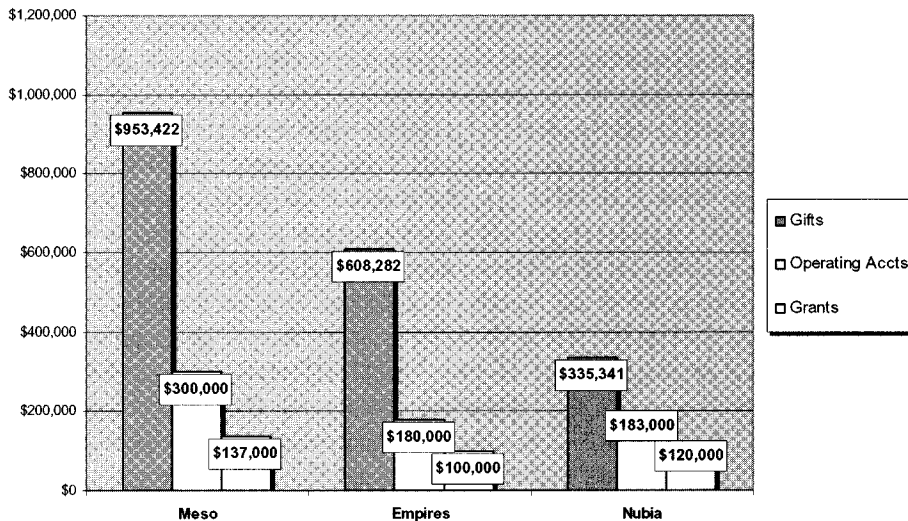
A key factor in the relative size of each of these budgets is the square footage of each of the galleries, with *Meso* being the largest and *Nubia* the smallest. Both *Meso* and *Empires* had significant relief conservation measures that required specialized contractors and equipment. However, certain expense categories were not affected by the size of the gallery. For example, both *Empires* and *Nubia* required close to \$200,000 in new hand-crafted museum display cases.

When we compare the sources of funding for these installations in the table below, you will notice a proportional shift from a reliance on gifts to a greater use of operating funds and grants to fund the gallery installations. For example, whereas new gifts made up close to 70% of the

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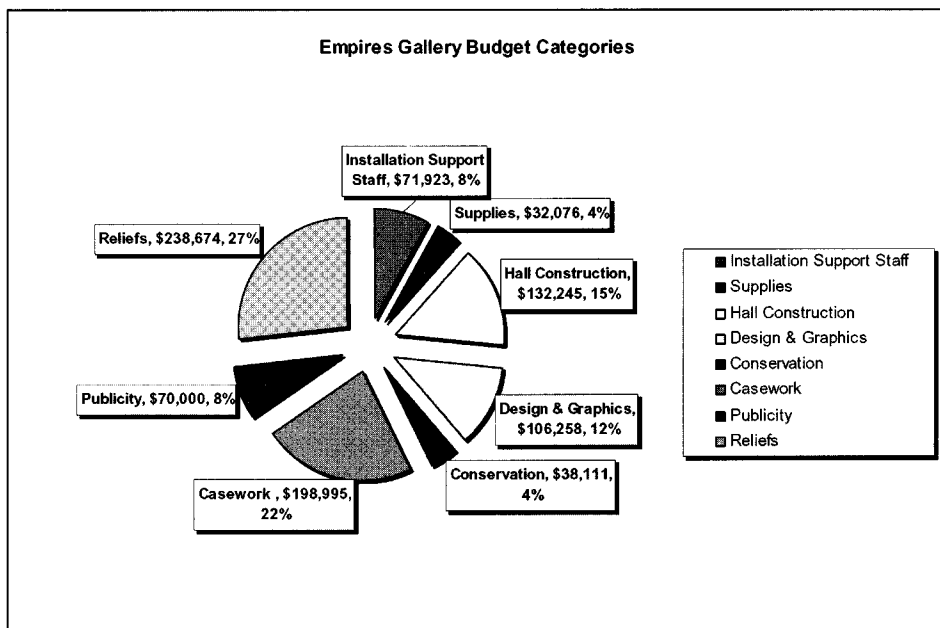
total budget for both *Meso* and *Empires*, \$953,422 and \$608,282 respectively, *Nubia* relies much more on grants and Oriental Institute operating accounts to fund the gallery, with gifts accounting for less than 53% of the total budget.

Funding Source Comparisons



How was the funding used for these galleries? The pie chart below breaks down the cost of the *Empires* gallery by key expense category.

You will notice that almost half of the installation budget went toward new casework and the installation of the Assyrian reliefs. The *Meso* gallery had a relatively similar distribution of expenses while *Nubia*'s budget is skewed more toward casework and hall construction.



Once the *Nubia* gallery opens in February of 2006, we will be left with only minor structural changes planned for the lobby area.

What can we learn from this information?

- There is a direct correlation between the overall size and complexity of the individual galleries to the expenditures on each.
- A significant percentage of gallery installation expenditures went to infrastructure improvements, such as casework and the relief installations.
- Over time, we shifted from a reliance on individual gifts to a balance of funding sources with a healthy mixture of funding from individual gifts, corporate sponsors, granting agencies, and operating funds.

While much of your support goes directly to individual faculty projects or programs, we hope you are also able to see the results of your support to the Oriental Institute as a whole and know that the benefits of these improvements will make an impact for the foreseeable future.

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