

THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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Research institutes, properly understood, are means for the concentration of effort in special fields, particularly on the frontiers of knowledge. In the natural sciences, in medicine, and in the social sciences they are today playing a momentous role, exploring and defining ever more clearly the structure and process of animate and inanimate existence. Through the agencies of industry and government they are in effect remaking the circumstances of national and individual life.

In the field of humane letters, where they began, institutes are anything but numerous and, lacking national and industrial affiliation, relatively less powerful. They respond, however, to the basic conviction that the exploration of the nature and course of human civilization in all its elements will be continuously relevant to the enrichment of human experience and to the enlightenment of human effort. The existence of an Oriental Institute at the University of Chicago implies further that the ancient cultures of the Near East are worthy of special attention as the record of man's earliest attempts to organize human life on a comprehensive scale, to unfold its higher potential, and to give it a cosmic frame of reference.

All research institutes require the services of many different specialists working together in close co-operation. This is particularly true of an institute devoted to Near Eastern civilization, where the time ranges covered extend over so many thousands of years and where the materials for the knowledge of the successive cultures have themselves first to be dug from the ground and made intelligible in the light of their own premises. In the



Expedition camp at Jarmo in Iraqi Kurdistan

more than forty years of its own history, the Oriental Institute has, in spite of war and depression, become one of the outstanding agencies in the field of Near Eastern studies, largely because of the eminent scholars who constitute its moving force. Their competence ranges from remote prehistory to modern Islam, covers all the many languages, literatures, and cultures that existed in the Near East over a period of several thousand years, and includes also the technical skills necessary for field work in the geographic and ethnic areas in question.

On horseback and camel-back, in car, jeep, and airplane, Institute staff members have explored the Near East, locating sources of strategic information or monuments most immediately in need of salvage. In teams of field workers, with hundreds of laborers locally recruited, they have excavated in Libya, Egypt, Palestine, Syria, Turkey, Iraq, and Iran, bringing home full accounts of their findings and some share of the precious objects and written records brought to light by their efforts. Meanwhile, other staff members, working continuously at the home base, have made available and interpreted the materials collected and have provided the tools for the understanding of the written records. All the work proceeds in closest co-operation with schol-

ars of other institutions and other lands for the enrichment of the learning of all.

The record of the Institute's achievement is well known. Many phases in the history of man's rise from savagery to civilization in the Nile Valley and in the Tigris-Euphrates Basin have been illumined. Important historical and cultural monuments—palaces, temples, military installations, literary and historical records—have been brought to light, studied, drawn, photographed, and made accessible in published form. Over one hundred and fifty volumes already attest the painstaking work of a generation of scholars, and more are continually being prepared. Indeed, so fast was the tempo of the Institute's work, particularly during the first twenty years of its history, that the printer is still catching up with the spade.

Although the Institute's purpose as originally set forth by its founder, James Henry Breasted, has been well served, the work is still only in its earlier stages, and the full range of the program as originally conceived has not yet been developed. But opportunity remains almost limitless. In spite of all that has been done by several generations of scholars the world over, most of the ancient cultures of the Near East are still only imperfectly known. Others have only recently come within the scholarly purview, and still others, quite unknown today, will certainly come to light in the years ahead. The work on the written records of the ancient Near East has only begun, for the task of reading and publishing the material is so difficult in itself that the interpretation of its relevance for the social, economic, political, and religious history of the region has not yet reached a systematic level. Problems of the intermingling of cultures in the Orient and the whole question of the transmission of Near Eastern civilization to the West can today be posed only in the most general terms and must be treated with the greatest discretion because so many aspects of the problems and steps in the developments cannot yet be documented properly.

In the meantime new perspectives have opened up on the distant past, and new methods for its appraisal have been developed. The historical questions we seek to answer require the judgment of humanist, social historian, and cultural anthropologist as a matter of course. The time limits within which the range of interest must move have become so comprehensive as to include everything from the paleolithic to at least the period of the Mongol invasions. The sites to which we must apply ourselves are no longer merely the capitals of empire but also the market towns and agricultural villages that register the pulse beat of economic life. The record of human achievement needs to be measured not only in terms of individual literary, political, and artistic accomplishment but also in the successful use of natural resources. Here the soil experts, the geologists, the paleozoölogists, the paleobotanists, and the climatologists take their places alongside the physicists—who check the carbon 14 samples—the chemists, and the metallurgists as persons whose technical competence is needed to elucidate the findings and to establish the frame of reference for both question and answer.

In the past decades the Oriental Institute has sought to keep pace with such changes and has, indeed, been able to serve as pioneer in some of them. It is therefore continually re-examining its procedures and seeking to clarify its long- and short-term objectives. Fundamentally, its purpose—to help describe the rise and growth of human civilization in the Near East—remains constant. But the effort at home and in the field will vary as opportunities develop and as men and means are available to make proper use of them.

In the pages that follow, the Oriental Institute is described as it is today, in terms of its official enterprises—both those inherited from the past and those recently inaugurated—its staff, its Museum, its publications, and its outreach to the general public.

RESEARCH ENTERPRISES

The formal program of Oriental Institute research embraces studies spanning the ancient Near East both geographically and chronologically. No description of the work of a growing organism can really be complete or remain up to date for long, but at least the greater part of the Institute's research activities can be subsumed under the following major headings.

CURRENT OPERATIONS

BACKGROUND FOR CIVILIZATION

That the Near East was the "cradle of civilization" as we know it has long been an axiom of scholarly and popular thought. But the process by which civilization came into being is still a matter of dispute. To provide evidence that will clarify the picture is one of the purposes of the Institute's research program.

The research undertaken by the Institute to date indicates that the background for civilization is to be found in the transition from food-gathering to food production in man's ear-

ly history. While primitive man still lived in caves, he spent most of his time hunting animals and scratching for roots to supply his daily needs. Eventually, however, he learned that certain grains could be sown and reaped and that certain animals could be domesticated and maintained in the rolling hill country below his mountain re-



Imprint in clay of Jarmo barley

treats. Hence he ventured in small bands to settle in these open spaces to till the soil and to pasture flocks. Here, through the mastery of the techniques of planned agriculture and animal husbandry, he obtained the leisure necessary to fashion tools, utensils, and shelters and to develop the social, religious, political, and artistic aspects of life. Thus he laid the foundations for civilization. The transition that marked his entrance into a new type of existence took place for the first time in history in the hill country adjacent to the upper Tigris-Euphrates Valley in the period between 8000 and 6000 B.C.

IRAQ-JARMO PROJECT

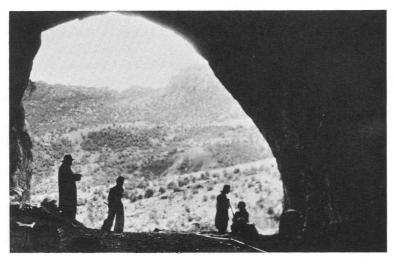
IN CHARGE: Robert J. Braidwood, Professor of Old World Prehistory (on joint appointment with the Department of Anthropology), Field Director

Since the end of World War II the Institute has sent out four expeditions to explore the later cave and earliest village sites of the Near East and thus literally to "dig up" the evidence

Mound of Jarmo, seen from south



of this transition. The first, in 1948, concentrated on an early agricultural site, Matarrah, in the plains of northern Iraq, and explored the region for traces of still earlier occupation. The second, in 1950-51, excavated parts of two earlier village sites, Jarmo and Karim Shahir, and cleared a series of cave shelters. The third expedition, in 1954-55, broadened the scope of the inquiry to its fullest extent. It explored an entire watershed tributary to the upper Tigris. It located more caves and the earliest village sites ever



Within the cave of Hajiyah, above Bekhme village, in Iraqi Kurdistan

found in the region and continued the excavation of the village of Jarmo. It aimed to determine the ecology of the transition by studying the geological history, the climate, and the native plant and animal resources of the region. Thus it sought to determine the nature and the circumstances of a revolution paralleled only by the industrial revolution of recent centuries and, like it, technological in character. Commencing in the fall of 1959, a fourth expedition undertook to apply the same variety of disciplinary approaches to the study of the transition to food production in a neighboring region, the hill country of southwestern Iran.

The second, third, and fourth of the Institute expeditions were supported and staffed in part by the American Schools of Oriental Research, while the third and fourth had the benefit also of grants from foundations and individuals. For the fourth expedition the Institute secured the services of scientists in many fields, including the natural sciences, with the assistance of a grant from the National Science Foundation. Besides our own people, its operating staff included:

Jack R. Harlan, Botanist, Professor of Agronomy, Oklahoma State University Bruce Howe, Prehistoric Archeologist, Peabody Museum, Harvard University Charles Reed, Associate Professor of Zoölogy, University of Illinois Herbert Wright, Professor of Geology, University of Minnesota

In the fall of 1961, Dr. Frank Hole returned to Iran to undertake further survey work and several trial excavations, being jointly sponsored by Rice University and the Oriental Institute.

The reporting of work so far accomplished is available in interim form in *Prehistoric Investigations in Iraqi Kurdistan*, with a further supplementary note on the 1959–60 season in *Science* (June 23, 1961). Definitive publications will follow as the work reaches completion.

URBAN COMMUNITY AND ANCIENT CIVILIZATION

The appearance of the great cities marked the beginning of a new phase in the cultural life of the ancient Near East. Indeed, Near Eastern civilization can be described as the sum total of the life of its urban centers, whether they are seen collectively or singly and in the case of some of them successively as agencies of empire in the hands of powerful rulers. Three problems pose themselves here. The first is to understand what particular combination of circumstances brought the first large urban communities into existence. The second is to understand the effect that the intimate association of great masses of people in the urban

centers had upon the character and development of ancient civilization. The third is to distinguish from one another the different patterns of urban life that developed in different geographical and political contexts and to describe the facets of the social, political, economic, religious, and cultural life of the ancient cities. These several factors in the development of urbanism received general consideration in a symposium on the "Expansion of Society and Cultural Development in the Ancient Near East," held at the Institute, December 4–7, 1958. A report on the symposium entitled *City Invincible* has been published. In the field a number of fact-finding operations are currently in progress.

IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE IN ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA

IN CHARGE: Thorkild Jacobsen, Professor of Social Institutions, Field Director

Modern irrigation planners have been increasingly concerned with agricultural problems like salinization, which also confronted the civilizations of antiquity. Under Iraq Government sponsorship, a comprehensive study was undertaken jointly by the Oriental Institute and the Directorate General of Antiquities in 1957, aimed at analyzing the nature and productivity of ancient agricultural methods and at tracing the rise and decline of former irrigation systems. Intensive field studies included clearance of major irrigation works, stratigraphic excavations in the ruins of towns and cities adjoining ancient canals, and an archeological surface reconnaissance of the changing over-all patterns of former watercourses and settlements. This part of the program has been focused primarily on the basin of the Diyala River, a region for which an ambitious program of new irrigation and drainage is under consideration and in which members of the Institute staff have had many years of previous experience (see p. 22). Accompanying the field work has been a program of textual studies which draws its material from southern Mesopotamia as a whole. Scholars from many countries have collaborated in the analysis of both published and unpublished sources dealing with ancient

agriculture throughout the span of its recorded history. Robert M. Adams, Research Associate of the Oriental Institute, and Sayid Fuad Safar, Director General of Excavations, Directorate General of Antiquities, Iraq Republic, acted as Associate Field Directors of the enterprise. A comprehensive publication of the results is in preparation.

A SURVEY OF THE URBAN DEVELOPMENT OF SOUTHERN MESOPOTAMIA

IN CHARGE: Robert M. Adams, Associate Professor, Field Director

Using methods similar to those employed in the study of the Diyala region, this survey is concerned with tracing ancient canal and settlement patterns in a number of other areas on the Mesopotamian plain. The first season of reconnaissance was carried out in 1956–57 in cooperation with the American Schools of Oriental Research. Since then two briefer campaigns have virtually completed coverage of the region between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers from north of Baghdad to the ancient city of Nippur. In 1960 the focus of operations was shifted to the district of Khuzestan in southwestern Iran, where studies were conducted with the cooperation and sponsorship of the Khuzestan Development Service.

ANALYSIS OF THE EGYPTIAN STATE

IN CHARGE: John A. Wilson, Andrew MacLeish Distinguished Service Professor of Egyptology

Professor Wilson is engaged on a long-term study of the basic motivation of the ancient Egyptian state. The mechanics of government are moderately well known, and records of the dogma which the state issued to justify its power have come down to us in some quantity. There still remain problems of the well-springs of authority, the reasons for popular acceptance of authority, the interplay of religion and politics, and the extent to which state dogma diverged from the practical exercise of rule. As work proceeds on these questions, Professor Wilson hopes to provide a more satisfactory definition of an ancient state.

EARLY AKKADIAN ECONOMY AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATION

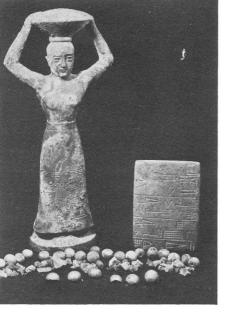
IN CHARGE: Ignace J. Gelb, Professor of Assyriology

Having begun with a primarily linguistic interest in our earliest business and legal documents written in the Akkadian language (ca. 2300 B.C.), this study has expanded into an attempt to interpret their economic and social content and antecedents as well. With the aid of a grant from the American Council of Learned Societies, Professor Gelb is investigating in particular the organization of the rural economy into private estates or manors that were owned by the king, nobles, or temples. In contrast to later conditions introduced by the gradual growth of urbanization, he has defined an essentially private economy based on family ownership in which serfs, rather than slaves or craftsmen working for wages, constituted the bulk of the labor force. Early publication of the results of this study is anticipated.



Statue of male figure, probably a priest, from the Temple of Abu at Tell Asmar in Iraq





Foundation deposit of King Urnammu (about 2100 B.C.) from Nippur in Iraq

THE NIPPUR EXPEDITION

IN CHARGE: Richard C. Haines, Field Director and Field Architect

Since 1945 seven campaigns have been conducted at Nippur, one of the largest cities of ancient Mesopotamia and its outstanding religious center. The three first campaigns were staffed and financed jointly with the University Museum of Philadelphia, the next four with the American Schools of Oriental Research. Work has been focused on the religious aspect of the city. A large shrine flanking the temple tower, the quarters of the temple scribes, and a small temple on the outskirts of the city have been excavated. At present the successive phases in the development of a great Inanna Temple are being traced back through their several levels, beginning with the Parthian at the top. Final reports on the work of the first three seasons were prepared by Dr. Donald E. McCown. The reports on the subsequent campaigns are being readied by the present Field Director. The publication of the large yield of Sumerian literary texts will take many years to complete. Participating in the seventh campaign were Donald Hansen, Research Associate, and James Knudstad, Junior Field Architect, both of the Oriental Institute, Dr. Vaughn Crawford

(Metropolitan Museum), and Dr. George Dales (Fellow, American Schools of Oriental Research).

RECORDS AND TOOLS FOR THE STUDY OF ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS

A well-developed research program should not only be unified but also flexible enough to meet special and immediate needs. Two such needs are currently being met at the Institute. They inhere in the condition of certain monuments and in the requirements of a particular group of scholars respectively.

THE EPIGRAPHIC SURVEY

IN CHARGE: George R. Hughes, Associate Professor of Egyptology, Field Director

Begun in 1924, the Epigraphic Survey expedition to Egypt is the oldest of the Institute's field enterprises. It was initiated to help relieve a situation distressing in two particulars. The first was that so many of the great monuments of pharaonic Egypt had never been accurately drawn, rendered, and reproduced in print for scholarly study. The second was that the vast body of reliefs and inscriptions with which the walls of the structures are covered was deteriorating visibly from year to year, after so many centuries of exposure, a great part without having ever been copied systematically and with full attention to accuracy of detail.

Sculptured hieroglyphs from the tomb of Kheruef in Egypt

The work of copying and recording the reliefs and hieroglyphic inscriptions on the ancient Egyptian buildings is prosecuted from the Institute's Egyptian headquarters at Luxor, Chicago House. Here are provided facilities for the maintenance of the staff, an excellent library, photographic laboratories, and drafting rooms for the technical aspects of the copying procedure. To insure the accuracy of the published result, the copies made by artists on the basis of enlarged photographs are checked and corrected in succession by two scholars thoroughly familiar not only with the ancient Egyptian language but also with the subject matter of the reliefs on the walls. Only after such checking and correction are the artists' copies regarded as adequate for incorporation in the plates prepared for publication.

The Institute holds concessions to copy the reliefs and inscriptions on two of the great Theban temples in the area of modern Luxor. In the great Karnak complex, on other parts of which three volumes have already been issued, the Institute has still to finish its work on the Khonsu Temple. Currently, attention is focused on the Mortuary Temple of Ramses III across the Nile at Medinet Habu. Six large volumes of its scenes and inscrip-



An artist at work in the Mortuary Temple of Ramses III at Medinet Habu in Egypt

tions have been published, while the seventh and last is nearing completion. The staff of the expedition was enlarged in 1957 in the expectation of finishing in five years the first and only complete architectural and epigraphic record ever made of a major Egyptian temple. It currently consists, besides the Field Director, of Charles F. Nims and Edward F. Wente, Research Associates, epigraphers, and Alexander Floroff, Reginald Coleman, Leslie Greener, and Michael J. Barnwell, artists.

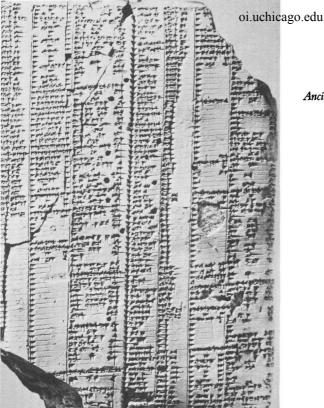
In the two seasons 1957-58 and 1958-59 the Institute also financed the complete clearance of an XVIIIth Dynasty tomb in the Theban Necropolis. The undertaking was carried out jointly with the Department of Antiquities of Egypt. The tomb is that of the Steward of Queen Tiy, wife of Amenophis III and mother of Akkenaton, named Kheruef. It contains some finely executed reliefs which will now be recorded and published.

THE ASSYRIAN DICTIONARY

BOARD OF A. Leo Oppenheim, Professor of Assyriology, Editor in Charge and Director of the Project

Ignace J. Gelb, Professor of Assyriology, Editor Benno Landsberger, Professor Emeritus of Assyriology, Editor Erica Reiner, Associate Professor of Assyriology, Associate Editor

Within two years of the time of its foundation, the Oriental Institute began work on what it knew would be a long and difficult undertaking, the writing of the first comprehensive Assyrian Dictionary ever undertaken by and for scholars. Ever since the last half of the nineteenth century, clay tablets inscribed with cuneiform texts had been brought to light in Mesopotamia and adjacent parts of the Near East in huge quantities. But the only tools available for their interpretation were small dictionaries compiled by individual scholars from a limited body of material. "It was evident," wrote Dr. Breasted himself, "that the work of a single scholar, such as had produced the Assyrian dictionaries of the past, must be expanded and carried on by a permanent central



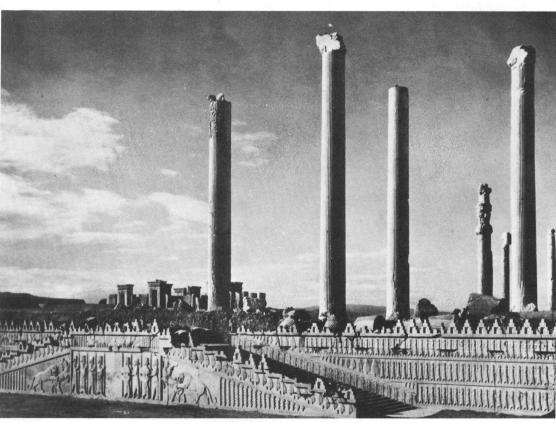
Ancient dictionary on clay tablet

staff." Hence, what the Oriental Institute undertook to do was to produce a dictionary that would provide access to the vocabulary of the great body of the material and to the several dialects of the Akkadian language, so that the designation "Assyrian Dictionary" is maintained only for tradition's sake. The range of cuneiform studies expanded greatly while the Dictionary was in progress; it ranges now from the Old Akkadian texts of the late third millennium to those of the Late Babylonian period dating from the first century of our era and comprises dialects spoken in areas outside Babylonia and Assyria proper, such as Susa, the region to the east of the Tigris, Mari, Syria, and Asia Minor. Due consideration is being given to the Sumerian background, to the information contained in Hittite and Old Persian cuneiform texts, to the use of foreign words within the Akkadian vocabulary, as well as to the spread of Akkadian and Sumerian words into other languages.

Since the project began, the staff has compiled a word catalogue of over two million cards. More are being added as new texts are published, but the major work of assembling the material has been brought to an end, and the staff is now engaged in writing the articles that deal with the meanings of the individual words. The volumes D, G, E, H, I–J, and Z have been published; four more volumes are in preparation, and eleven others are planned at not more than yearly intervals. Each will be welcomed as a milestone along the path of Assyriological studies wherever they are cultivated. Currently, the staff of workers includes, besides the members of the Editorial Board, Michael B. Rowton, Rivkah Harris, and Erle Leichty, Research Associates.

Two Assyrians on relief from palace of Sargon at Khorsabad in Iraq





Grand stairway and columns of the Apadana at Persepolis, with the Palace of Darius in the background

ENTERPRISES NEARING COMPLETION

On a series of enterprises at home and abroad the preparatory and field work has been concluded, and only the publication of the results is incomplete. In the case of several larger undertakings begun in the 1930's, the task of publishing has been rendered particularly difficult because of the death of so many of the participants, because of the interruption caused by World War II, and because of the scope of the undertakings. Individual Institute staff members, often working single-handed, have devoted themselves faithfully to the preparation of the publications and will within a few years have brought the enterprises to completion.

THE IRANIAN EXPEDITIONS

IN CHARGE: Erich F. Schmidt, Associate Professor of Archaeology, Field Director

The major operation of the Oriental Institute in Iran, covering the years 1931–39, was the excavation of Persepolis, the dynastic capital of the Achaemenids. In 1934 the University Museum of Philadelphia and the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston became joint sponsors with the Oriental Institute of this project, which included also excavations in the environs of Persepolis, namely, at Naqsh-i-Rustam, Istakhr, and Tall-i-Bakun, covering periods from prehistoric to Islamic times. Available publications include A. Langsdorff's and D. E. McCown's Tall-i-Bakun A, G. G. Cameron's Treasury Tablets, Dr. Schmidt's Treasury of Persepolis, and the first and second volumes of his definitive report Persepolis. The third and final volume is nearing completion. The Persepolis Fortification Tablets are being prepared for publication by R. T. Hallock, while R. A. Bowman is completing preparation of the Persepolis Aramaic inscriptions.

Guardian bull from Throne Hall at Persepolis, as restored in the Oriental Institute Museum



Pottery from Tell Agrab in Iraq

In 1938 the Oriental Institute sponsored jointly with the Iranian Institute and the University Museum an exploratory expedition into the mountains of Luristan. The results of this highly successful enterprise, which culminated in the discovery of the sanctuary of Surkh Dum, are to be prepared for publication by Dr. Schmidt.

THE IRAQ EXPEDITION: DIYALA RIVER BASIN

IN CHARGE: Pinhas Delougaz, Associate Professor of Archeology, Field Director

In order to trace the beginnings of Sumerian civilization in the central portion of the Mesopotamian basin, the Institute during the years 1930–37 conducted a series of excavations in the valley of the Diyala River, an eastern tributary of the Tigris. Here four important sites were excavated, namely, Khafajah, Tell Asmar, Tell Agrab, and Ishchali. For the presentation of the results of this important undertaking a series of eleven volumes was planned, of which seven have already appeared. Two others are in preparation.

THE SYRIAN EXPEDITION

IN CHARGE: Robert J. Braidwood, Professor of Old World Prehistory

To establish the relations between the Hittite Empire in Asia Minor and the indigenous cultures of Syria-Palestine, the Institute excavated six ancient mounds near Antioch (now in Turkey) during the years 1932–38. Evidence of prehistoric life at three of these sites—Chatal Hüyük, Tell al-Judaidah, and Tell Tacyinat—led Braidwood to survey all the mounds in the Plain of Antioch and to excavate Tell Dhahab and Tell Kurdu. The survey has been published. The first volume of excavation reports, covering the earlier assemblages and prepared by Dr. Braidwood and Linda Braidwood (Oriental Institute Associate), is published. A volume on the Iron Age pottery is in preparation by Gustavus F. Swift, Jr. (Research Associate). Other volumes are planned.

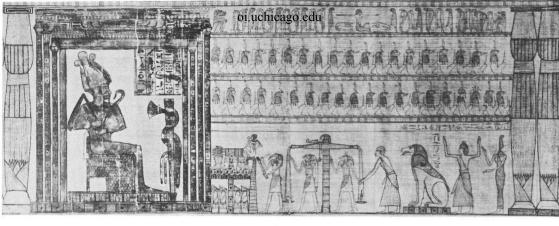
THE COFFIN TEXTS PROJECT

IN CHARGE: Tjalling Bruinsma, Leiden, Holland

The name "Coffin Texts" is given by Egyptologists to a body of mortuary literature commonly written in ink on the inner surfaces of Egyptian coffins dating from the centuries immediately before and after 2000 B.C. After many years spent in the collection of the material, publication began in 1935. The texts themselves have been published in seven volumes, all from the hand of Professor Adriaan de Buck. Since the untimely death of Dr. de Buck, work on the translations, indexes, and glossary is being continued by his assistant, Dr. Tjalling Bruinsma.

Middle Kingdom coffin from Saqqarah in Egypt





Section of Oriental Institute papyrus of the Book of the Dead

BOOK OF THE DEAD PROJECT

IN CHARGE: T. George Allen, Editorial Secretary Emeritus

Known from many manuscripts and in different recensions, the Book of the Dead is one of the important sources for the understanding of the Egyptian ideas about the afterlife. A volume entitled *The Book of the Dead Documents in the Oriental Institute* presents two papyri and other texts in translation, with critical notes. Dr. Allen is now preparing a translation of an eclectic text of the Book of the Dead.

EXCAVATIONS AT KHIRBAT AL-KARAK

IN CHARGE: Pinhas Delougaz, Associate Professor of Archeology

Clearances were made on the northern lobe of a mound on the Sea of Galilee in 1952-53, seeking evidence of Hellenistic influence in Palestine. The most important discovery, however, was a Christian church, which was completely excavated. Participating in the work were Richard Haines (Field Architect of the Institute) and members of the Department of Antiquities of Israel. One report, A Byzantine Church at Khirbat al-Karak, has been published.

Mosaic inscription from Byzantine church at Khirbat al-Karak in Israel





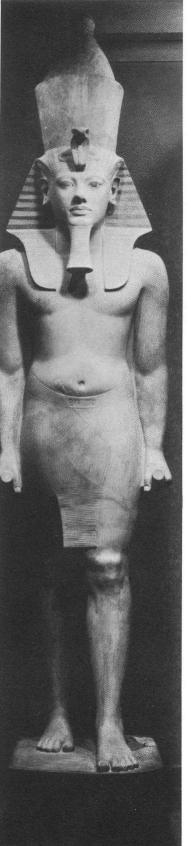


Excavating at Ptolemais in Libya

EXCAVATIONS AT LIBYAN PTOLEMAIS

IN CHARGE: Carl H. Kraeling, Professor of Archeology

During the spring and winter months of 1956, 1957, and 1958 excavations were undertaken at the site of the Hellenistic city of Ptolemais in modern Libya. The city plan and the fortifications were studied, and a Roman villa, a public building, and the City Bath were excavated. Participating in the undertaking were Charles F. Nims (Research Associate of the Institute) as photographer, G. R. H. Wright and James Knudstad (Junior Field Architect of the Institute) as architects, and Professor Lucetta Mowry (Wellesley College) and Joan Farwell as field assistants. The final report on the excavations, *Ptolemais: City of the Libyan Pentapolis*, has been published.



ENTERPRISES TERMINATED OR COMPLETED

ARCHEOLOGY

Soundings at Tell Fakhariyah, by C. W. McEwan

Excavation of the mound of Alishar Hüyük in Turkey, by E. Schmidt and H. H. von der Osten

Excavation of the mound of Megiddo in Palestine, by C. S. Fisher, P. L. O. Guy, and G. Loud

Excavation of the palace of Sargon II at Khorsabad in Iraq, by E. Chiera and G. Loud

Excavation of the aqueduct of Sennacherib near Khorsabad in Iraq, by T. Jacobsen and S. Lloyd

Excavation of the temples at Medinet Habu in Egypt, by U. Hölscher

Prehistoric survey of the Nile Valley and the Red Sea littoral, by K. S. Sandford and W. J. Arkell

Flights over archeological sites of Iran, a survey by E. Schmidt

First soundings at Dura-Europos in Syria, reported by J. H. Breasted

EPIGRAPHY

The painted relief sculptures in the mastaba of Mereruka at Saqqarah in Egypt, by P. Duell

Survey of Hittite hieroglyphic monuments in Turkey, by I. J. Gelb

Ancient records of Assyria and Babylonia, edited by D. D. Luckenbill

Sumerian texts found at Nippur in 1900, edited by E. Chiera and D. D. Luckenbill

Biblical texts and scholia, edited by W. W. Worrell, M. Sprengling, and W. C. Graham

Publication of three collections of cylinder seals, by H. H. von der Osten and G. A. Eisen

An Egyptian surgical papyrus, edited by J. H. Breasted

Colossal statue of King Tutankhamon from Medinet Habu, as restored in the Oriental Institute Museum



THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE MUSEUM

IN CHARGE: Pinhas Delougaz, Associate Professor of Archeology, Curator Watson Boyes, Secretary of the Museum and Keeper of Records

To achieve its purposes, the Oriental Institute needs to communicate the results of its work to others. One of the ways it does this is to exhibit in its Museum objects and works of art representing the successive civilizations of the ancient Near East. The exhibits include a nucleus presented to the University of Chicago in 1896 by Mrs. Caroline F. Haskell in memory of her husband and originally housed in Haskell Hall. The field expeditions of the Institute eventually provided so much important new material that the new Institute building, constructed in 1930 as the gift of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., provided five halls for museum exhibits, as well as a lecture hall and extensive laboratories. By that time some of the spectacular finds of the Khorsabad expedition had been shipped to Chicago, so that the great Assyrian winged manbull could be set on its own foundation, and the other relief sculptures could be mounted on the walls. A colossal statue of King Tutankamon, unearthed during the excavation of the temples at Medinet Habu, was restored and installed in the Egyptian Hall. The Persian expedition claimed a separate gallery for its objects, even though its work had only started. The Persepolis bull's head was not mounted until ten years later.

Other important items in the Museum are the decorative ivories found in the treasury of a ruler of Megiddo in Palestine; the votive statues and figurines, of gypsum and of copper, found in the ruins of Sumerian temples at Tell Asmar and Khafajah; the models from Egyptian tombs, which symbolize the extent of the services needed to provide adequately for the dead in





Restored statue of Assyrian guardian deity from Khorsahad

the afterlife; the cylinder seals that demonstrate so well the development of the glyptic art of Mesopotamia; figurines from Syria, the oldest cast copper known from that region; the articles of daily life from ancient Egypt; gold treasures of Syro-Hittite, Achaemenian, and Hellenistic times; Dead Sea Scroll fragments, cloth scroll wrappings, and a scroll jar. New items are constantly being added to the collections by field excavation and by purchase or gift.

Since the Museum acquires most of its objects from the Institute's excavations, its cavernous receiving rooms, laboratories, and storage vaults play an important part in its operation. Here the finds of the expeditions are organized for study, treated, classified, prepared for publication, and eventually stored for future reference. Certain classes of objects lending themselves to exhibition are mounted for Museum display. Other objects are assembled for purposes of instruction. Students and visiting scholars may obtain permission to use the study material.

To handle the many-sided work of the Museum, a large staff is needed. In addition to the Curator, who has general supervision over the exhibits, loans, and exchanges, the Museum has a Secretary with a staff of clerical and secretarial assistants, two preparators, and a photographer. Volunteer helpers from the Chicago community assist in the processing and repair of individual objects, and student research assistants work under the direction of professors upon classification and interpretation of materials from the field.

The collections of the Institute also provide an instrument without parallel in the Midwest for service to education at the precollege level. It is a part of the Institute's long-range planning to extend its services to the schools of Chicago, its suburbs, and the outlying communities by making its holdings available in connection with social studies and student course work in history, art, religion, and civics. To this end the Institute has added to its staff a docent, who is its special representative in its outreach to the high-school teachers and their students. Guided tours of the Museum are provided for groups of students from outside institutions.

The Museum is open to the public daily, except Monday, free of charge, from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., and has an average annual visitor attendance of over forty thousand. A printed plan of the Museum, showing the organization of its halls and exhibits, is printed on the back cover of this booklet. Photographs of important objects on display, postcards, copies of Museum objects, and literature bearing upon the Institute and the Museum are available in the Museum offices.

INSTRUCTION AND INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH

Staff members of the Oriental Institute serve the University of Chicago also as teachers in the education of the scholars of the future. The educational work of the Institute staff is administered chiefly through the Department of Oriental Languages and Civilizations, under its own chairman, as a part of the Division of the Humanities. A full list of the instructors and of the courses offered appears in the *Announcements* published by the University at regular intervals. Copies of these can be obtained by writing to the Director of Admissions, Box X, The University of Chicago, Administration Building, Room 203, Chicago 37, Illinois.

Instruction and research alike require adequate library and reading-room facilities. These are maintained as an integral part of the University's library system in the Institute building and are under the supervision of Miss Johanne Vindenas, Institute Librarian. The Institute library, comprising some thirty thousand volumes, contains the largest part of the University's holdings in the Near Eastern field and is among the best in the country in Assyriology, Egyptology, and oriental archeology.

From the beginning the Oriental Institute has encouraged the members of its staff to undertake also research of their own choosing, to enrich the variety of its contribution to knowledge. This reflects itself in a steady stream of monographs, articles in learned periodicals, and book reviews published by them at home and abroad.



Impression of Old Babylonian cylinder seal from Tell Asmar, showing adoration of deities

PUBLICATIONS

Any institute concerned with research will owe much of the value of its efforts to an effective publication program. The Oriental Institute has a remarkable publication record, in spite of the problems created by the technical character of so much of its material and by the unusual demands which the presentation of the material makes upon the printer.

Printing and publishing are normally handled for the Institute by the University of Chicago Press. A comprehensive catalogue of the Institute's publications is available upon request. It lists the publications in the following series:

Oriental Institute Publications (85 volumes to date)
Oriental Institute Communications (21 volumes to date)
Assyriological Studies (15 volumes to date)
Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization (30 volumes to date)
Oriental Institute Essays (4 volumes to date)
Materials for the Assyrian Dictionary (6 volumes to date)

In addition to these, a number of *Special Publications* have been issued, several of them jointly with the Egypt Exploration Society. The University of Chicago Press also publishes works of a general nature written by members of the Institute staff. To take advantage of lower manufacturing costs and to provide more direct access to overseas markets, the Institute is currently having its *Assyrian Dictionary* printed in Europe.

Wall painting in tomb of Khnumhotep in Egypt. About 1900 B.C.



MEMBERSHIP

The Oriental Institute seeks through its membership program to give the public the opportunity of closer contact with its field enterprises, its scholars, and its Museum. The member group has grown steadily during recent years, particularly in the Greater Chicago area. To members the Institute offers a series of advantages:

- Newsletters coming in from the field at frequent intervals describing the work, the life, and the adventures of staff members in remote and interesting parts of the Near East.
- Illustrated lectures by staff members and visiting scholars reporting on the newest archeological discoveries in the Near East.
- Incidental publications of a semipopular nature mailed free of charge as they appear, or provided at discount rate.

Many members, while traveling abroad, enjoy the opportunity of visiting or staying as guests at Institute field headquarters, of seeing the work of the expeditions in process, and of having the monuments of ancient civilization explained to them by experts.

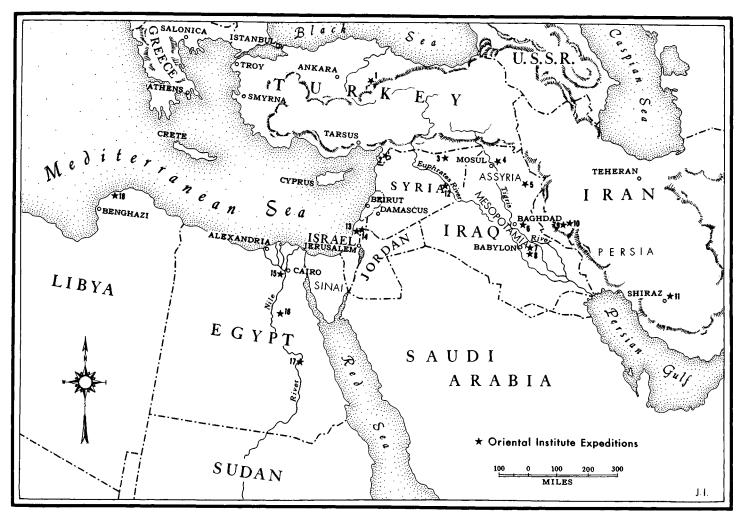
Memberships are administered on a year-by-year basis, coinciding with the fiscal year of the University (which begins on July 1), and may be registered in the name of husband and wife without extra charge. Membership contributions are arranged as follows:

Annual Member \$ 10.00 a year Sustaining Member \$ 50.00 a year Associate Member \$100.00 a year oi.uchicago edu

Achaemenid gold medallion with winged lion, from Iran

Funds made available to the Institute through members, whether in payment of dues or as gifts, are held in a special Membership Income Account by the University and are used at the discretion of the Director and with the advice of the Institute's Visiting Committee for the benefit of the Institute, its enterprises, and its Museum. Members and membership funds have during recent years added substantially to the holdings of the Museum by the purchase of rare and important works of art and have helped to finance field expeditions and other enterprises abroad.

As a part of the University of Chicago, and one that is supported in part by general University income, the Oriental Institute stands to benefit from all contributions made to the welfare of the University as a whole. Those having a special interest in the work of the Institute, however, are invited to discuss with the University's representatives gift opportunities within the Institute that will strengthen its specific work as well as help the University as a whole.



KEY TO MAP OF NEAR EAST

- 1. The Alishar Expedition, 1926-32
- 2. The Syrian Expedition, 1932-38
- 3. Soundings at Tell Fakhariyah, 1940
- 4. The Iraq (originally Assyrian) Expedition: Khorsabad, 1928-35
- 5. Iraq-Jarmo Project, 1948——
- 6. The Iraq Expedition: Four sites in the Diyala region, 1930-37 Diyala Basin Archeological Project, 1957-58
- 7. Survey of Urban Development in Southern Mesopotamia, 1956——
- 8. The Nippur Expedition, 1945——
- 9. Prehistoric Survey in Southwestern Iran, 1959-
- 10. The Luristan Expedition, 1938
- 11. The Persepolis Expedition, 1931-39
- 12. Soundings at Dura-Europos, 1920
- 13. The Megiddo Expedition, 1925-39
- 14. Excavations at Khirbat al-Karak, 1952–53
- 15. The Saqqarah Expedition, 1930-36
- 16. Prehistoric Survey of Egypt, 1926–30
- 17. The Epigraphic Survey, 1924—— The Architectural Survey of Medinet Habu, 1927–33
- 18. The Libyan Expedition, 1956–58

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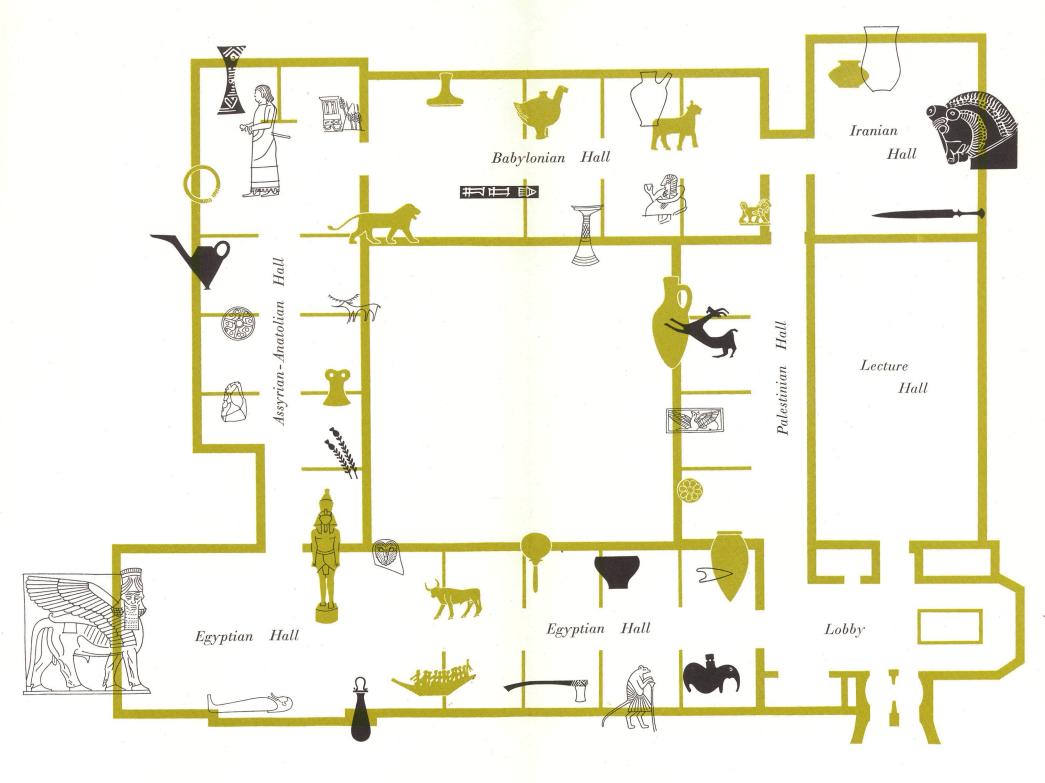
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