



*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).