

Female head from the Shara Temple at Tell Agrab, Iraq

The Iraq Expedition: Diyala River Basin

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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 eight have already appeared. A ninth volume, Stone Vessels from the Diyala Region, Plain and Decorated (the first part of "Miscellaneous Objects from the Diyala Region"), is in preparation.