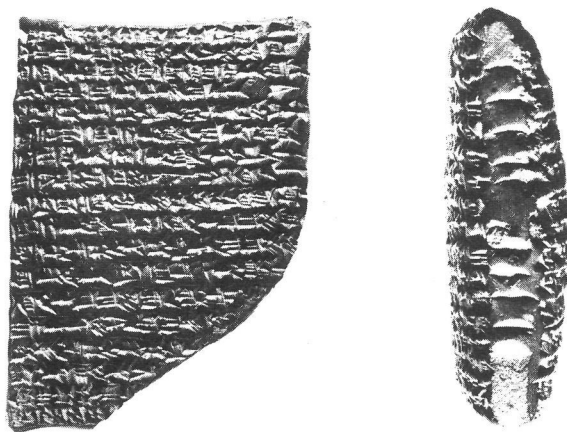


## The Kassite Project and Related Studies

JOHN A. BRINKMAN

In the past year, Mr. Brinkman has visited several museums in the United States and abroad to study cuneiform documents pertaining to the Kassite period and other periods of Babylonian and Assyrian history between 1600 and 600 B.C. In June 1971, in the British Museum, he copied tablets concerning tribal peoples in Babylonia between 1770 and 760 B.C. From July to September, he worked on the Nippur Kassite Archives in Istanbul, preparing a catalogue for the museum there and making a preliminary survey of some 4500 uncatalogued documents. In September, he went to East Berlin for four days to assist in editing the Kassite tablets in the Jena collection; he has written a catalogue and register of names for these texts which will appear in the official publication (*Texte und Materialien der Frau Professor Hilprecht-Sammlung*, Neue Folge, V). In April 1972, he spent a week at the University Museum,

Philadelphia, checking Kassite tablets, and he copied a fragmentary stone inscription of Shalmaneser III (858–824 B.C.) in the Walters Art Gallery, Baltimore.



*Legal document on clay tablet dated in the late Kassite period (ca. 1225 B.C.). It records the acquisition of a young girl by a merchant who wishes her to marry his second son. In the transaction, "two fine garments worth two shekels of gold" are paid to the girl's parents. Seen along the left edge of the tablet are the fingernail marks of the girl's father and mother (poor people used their fingernails in place of seals to show that they agreed to a transaction). Photo by Ursula Schneider*

Articles submitted during the past year include a study on the inscriptional evidence from the reign of Ashur-nadin-shumi (the eldest son of Sennacherib who ruled Babylonia from 699 to 694 B.C.) to appear in *Orientalia*, a summary of Babylonian foreign relations from 1600 to 625 B.C. to appear in the *American Journal of Archaeology*, and two studies on the Middle Babylonian and early Neo-Babylonian monarchy to appear in the *Proceedings of the XIXth Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale*. Articles in an advanced stage of preparation include an edition of three Neo-Assyrian royal inscriptions from the ninth century (for the issue of *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* devoted to the memory of Professor Keith C. Seele) and notes on the Nassouhi Kinglist for *Orientalia*. Mr. Brinkman has recently been invited to prepare the chapter on the Kassite period for the *Economic History of the Ancient Orient* (Leiden: Brill) and the articles on "Kassites" and "Chaldea" for the *Reallexikon der Assyriologie*.