During 1981–82, McGuire GIBSON spent much time reworking and expanding a paper on the stratigraphy of the Divala region of Iraq in the late Early Dynastic and Akkadian periods. This paper, given initially as a presentation for the Columbia seminars in December 1980, was a direct outgrowth of his findings at Uch Tepe. The paper calls for a major revision in the Diyala levels and has implications for the comparative stratigraphy of Iraq and Iran, Iraq and Syria, in a critical span of time. The article will be published in the American Journal of Archaeology during the coming year.

He is also still involved in the American Institute for Yemeni Studies as the University's trustee, and as an adjunct to this, has spent some time in committees for the Council of American Overseas Research Centers. On June 17–18 he served as conference chairman of "Changing Alignments in the Middle East," a two-day symposium on political and economic relations, cosponsored by the Universities of Chicago and Illinois, Chicago Circle.