

# THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE 1995-1996 ANNUAL REPORT









*THE* **ORIENTAL INSTITUTE**  
**1995–1996**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**

**Cover and Title Page Illustration:**

Registrar and Associate Curator Raymond Tindel recording the location of crated objects being stored temporarily in the Persian Gallery. The gallery displays have all been dismantled and packed, and the monumental sculptures are in the process of being wrapped with protective foam and crated in place.

The pages that divide the sections of this year's report feature illustrations of the dismantling of the Oriental Institute Museum in preparation for renovations.

Editor: William M. Sumner

Production Editor: Tim Cashion

*The Oriental Institute, Chicago*

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# CONTENTS

<b>INTRODUCTION</b> .....	1
INTRODUCTION. <i>William M. Sumner</i> .....	3
IN MEMORIAM: JOAN G. ROSENBERG .....	7
<b>ARCHAEOLOGY</b> .....	9
AMUQ VALLEY PROJECTS. <i>K. Aslihan Yener and Tony J. Wilkinson</i> .....	11
AQABA. <i>Donald Whitcomb</i> .....	21
THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL LANDSCAPE OF THE BALIKH VALLEY, SYRIA. <i>Tony J. Wilkinson</i> .....	27
THE BIR UMM FAWAKHIR SURVEY PROJECT. <i>Carol Meyer</i> .....	31
THE DIYALA PROJECT. <i>Claudia Suter and McGuire Gibson</i> .....	39
THE EPIGRAPHIC SURVEY. <i>Peter F. Dorman</i> .....	43
GIZA. <i>Mark Lehner</i> .....	54
THE JOINT PREHISTORIC PROJECT. <i>Robert J. Braidwood and Linda S. Braidwood</i> .....	61
THE THEBAN DESERT ROAD SURVEY (THE LUXOR–FARSHÛT DESERT ROAD SURVEY). <i>John Coleman Darnell and Deborah Darnell</i> .....	62
NIPPUR AND UMM AL-HAFRIYAT. <i>McGuire Gibson</i> .....	70
INVESTIGATIONS IN YEMEN: PROGRESS REPORT. <i>McGuire Gibson and         Tony J. Wilkinson</i> .....	73
TELL ES-SWEYHAT EXPEDITION TO SYRIA. <i>Thomas A. Holland</i> .....	80
YAQUSH PROJECT REPORT. <i>David Schloen</i> .....	80
<b>PHILOLOGY</b> .....	83
ACHAEMENID ROYAL INSCRIPTIONS. <i>Gene Gragg and Matthew W. Stolper</i> .....	85
THE CHICAGO ASSYRIAN DICTIONARY. <i>Martha Roth</i> .....	86
THE DEMOTIC DICTIONARY PROJECT. <i>Janet H. Johnson</i> .....	88
HISTORICAL HEBREW MANUSCRIPTS. <i>Norman Golb</i> .....	92
THE HITTITE DICTIONARY PROJECT. <i>Harry A. Hoffner, Jr.</i> .....	94
<b>RESEARCH</b> .....	95
INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH .....	97
COMPUTER LABORATORY. <i>John C. Sanders and Peggy M. Sanders</i> .....	117
ELECTRONIC RESOURCES. <i>Charles E. Jones and John C. Sanders</i> .....	121
PUBLICATIONS. <i>Thomas A. Holland</i> .....	125
RESEARCH ARCHIVES. <i>Charles E. Jones</i> .....	127
<b>MUSEUM</b> .....	135
THE MUSEUM. <i>Karen L. Wilson</i> .....	137
MUSEUM EDUCATION PROGRAM. <i>Carole Krucoff</i> .....	141
VOLUNTEER PROGRAM. <i>Catherine Dueñas and Terry Friedman</i> .....	147
<i>SUQ. Denise Browning</i> .....	157
<b>DEVELOPMENT AND MEMBERSHIP</b> .....	159
DEVELOPMENT OFFICE. <i>Cynthia Echols</i> .....	161
MEMBERSHIP OFFICE. <i>Tim Cashion</i> .....	163
<b>THE VISITING COMMITTEE TO THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE</b> .....	166
<b>THE LEGACY CAMPAIGN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</b> .....	166
<b>HONOR ROLL OF MEMBERS AND DONORS</b> .....	167
<b>STAFF OF THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE</b> .....	211
<b>INFORMATION</b> .....	216







INTRODUCTION

***Overleaf. Sparks fly as Mike Marciniak from Belding, Walbridge, Inc. cuts a metal L-bracket that had been used to tie a Khorsabad relief into the masonry wall behind it***



## INTRODUCTION

### William M. Sumner

That this *Annual Report* covers an unusually eventful year at the Oriental Institute is evident in the descriptions of research projects, individual scholarship, and activities in the Museum, the Research Archives, the Computer Laboratory, and the Publications Office. The retirement of three faculty members, the recruitment of one faculty replacement, and the final approval of our climate control project by the University of Chicago were among the landmark events of the past twelve months.

### Faculty

Erica Reiner, the John A. Wilson Distinguished Service Professor, retired at the end of January 1996. Erica Reiner came to the Oriental Institute as a Research Assistant on the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary (CAD) in 1952. After receiving her Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 1955 she was appointed Research Associate (Assistant Professor). In 1957 she became Associate Editor of the CAD and in 1959 she was appointed to the faculty of the Oriental Institute with the rank of Associate Professor. In 1962 she became Editor and in 1973 Editor-in-Charge of the CAD, a title she held until her retirement. She was promoted to Professor in 1965 and to the John A. Wilson professorship in 1973.

Professor Reiner's publications include important linguistic studies of Akkadian and Elamite, but she is perhaps best known for her publications on incantations, planetary omens, and other matters astrological and magical. She has written on historical subjects and also on Mesopotamian literature, particularly poetry—as is well known to those of you who are familiar with her book, *Your Thwarts in Pieces, Your Mooring Rope Cut*, or her wonderful Ryerson Lecture, “Thirty Pieces of Silver.”

However, it is as Editor-in-Charge of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary that Professor Reiner has firmly placed the stamp of her scholarship on the whole field of Assyriology. She has played a role in the production of every one of the 16 volumes published since the first volume appeared in 1956. As Editor-in-Charge since 1973 she has assured that the dictionary continued to be produced according to the principles and high standards set by the original editorial board. The CAD, which has been funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities since 1976, has always received high critical praise and is a fundamental reference work for all students of ancient Mesopotamian languages, history, and culture.

Professor Reiner has been awarded honorary degrees by the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Leiden; she is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a Guggenheim Fellow, and formerly a Member of the Institute of Advanced Studies.

## INTRODUCTION

We all wish Erica happiness and contentment in her retirement and hope to see her in the Institute often. May your thwarts remain solid, your mooring rope strong.

Edward F. Wente, Professor of Egyptology, retired at the end of December 1995. Professor Wente received his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 1959 after several years in Egypt as a Fulbright Exchange Student and Director of the American Research Center in Egypt. He returned to the Oriental Institute in 1959 as a Research Associate (Instructor) and joined the faculty as Assistant Professor in 1963. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1965 and Professor in 1970. He was a member of the staff of the Epigraphic Survey (1959–68) and Field Director in 1972–73. He worked on projects at Medinet Habu, the Khonsu Temple, the tomb of Kheruef in Luxor, and at Beit el-Wali in Nubia. He also served as Acting Chair of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations (1971, 1986) and as Chair (1975–79). He continues to serve on the Visiting Committee of the Egyptian Department, the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Professor Wente's publications have helped to reshape the way Egyptian history and culture are viewed. His early work, *Late Ramesside Letters*, is an essential tool for the study of the history of the late Twentieth Dynasty; the challenging texts from the tomb of Kheruef that he translated, with commentary, have increased our understanding of the history of rituals celebrating kingship. His article "Mysticism in Pharaonic Egypt?" raised basic questions about the nature of Egyptian religion and philosophy that have reinvigorated scholarly debate. Professor Wente's most recent book, *Letters from Ancient Egypt*, has become a standard reference for Egyptian culture. The broad topical scope of Professor Wente's scholarship is also reflected in the diversity of dissertation topics selected by students under his guidance. His students now hold positions on the faculty or staff of many of the leading centers of Egyptological study in the United States.

Our best wishes go with Ed in his retirement and we hope to see him in the Institute often.

Lanny D. Bell, Associate Professor of Egyptology, retired at the end of June 1996. Lanny Bell received his Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1976. For five seasons (1967–74) he was Field Director of the Theban Tomb Project sponsored by the University of Pennsylvania Museum. In 1977 he was appointed Field Director of the Epigraphic Survey with academic rank of Assistant Professor. He remained at Chicago House for twelve years supervising a major campaign of epigraphic recording and conservation work at both Medinet Habu and Luxor Temple. During his tenure as Field Director he did not hesitate to make hard decisions in order to maintain the highest quality for the Luxor Temple drawings despite unanticipated technical problems. He was successful in a vigorous campaign, in collaboration with Carlotta Maher, to raise funds from private, corporate, and government sources to support the work of the Epigraphic Survey. In 1984 he was promoted to Associate Professor and in 1989 he returned to Chicago as a member of the teaching and research faculty.

Professor Bell has published reports on the Theban Tomb Project, on epigraphic methodology, and on Luxor Temple, particularly his article "Luxor Temple and the Cult of the Royal Ka."

We wish Lanny much success in his new role as Egyptologist-at-Large and have no doubt that he will be in great demand as teacher and lecturer.

Other notable news of the faculty and staff included: Professor Emeritus Hans Güterbock was awarded the American Oriental Society Medal of Honor, Harry Hoffner was named the John A. Wilson Professor, Martha Roth was promoted to Professor and



became the Editor-in-Charge of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary, and Robert Ritner joined the faculty as Associate Professor of Egyptology. Karen Wilson's title was changed to Oriental Institute Museum Director in recognition of the actual range of duties and responsibilities of her position.

### **Climate Control Project**

The groundbreaking ceremony for our climate control, renovation and expansion project is scheduled for August 15, 1996, with construction to begin immediately. A complete history of the project will be published in the *Annual Report* for 1996/97. At this time I wish to acknowledge the effort expended by the staff, often above and beyond the call of duty, and the wonderful spirit of cooperation all year long as the museum was prepared for construction to begin. We all owe a huge debt of gratitude to Karen Wilson and every member of the museum staff. I also wish to thank Joe Auclair who has relentlessly bulldogged this project from the moment he arrived last autumn; without his knowledge, his determination, and his negotiating skills, I doubt if we would be breaking ground this summer. As presently scheduled, construction and renovation will require twelve months; after that we will reinstall and reopen the galleries one at a time at approximately six month intervals.

### **Legacy Campaign**

As of June 30th the Legacy Campaign had reached \$6.9 million. We are most grateful to all of the donors who made pledges and gifts—large and small—that have enabled us to begin construction this summer. I also wish to express my appreciation to the members of the Legacy Campaign Executive Committee, who have been unstinting in their dedication and have given generously of their time, energy, and talent to the campaign. My heartfelt thanks also to Cynthia Echols and the staff of the Membership and Development Office who have worked diligently, often with short notice, to maintain the pace of the campaign. It is through the tireless effort of the Executive Committee and the Development Office staff that we will succeed in fulfilling the goal of the Legacy Campaign.

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## **IN MEMORIAM**

**Joan G. Rosenberg**

**1917-1996**

All of us at the Oriental Institute are saddened by the death of Joan G. Rosenberg, on June 13th, who for so many years was an active member of the Visiting Committee, a devoted volunteer in the Museum Archives, a valued docent in the museum, and a generous patron of the Legacy Campaign. Joan will be remembered for her knowledge and far-ranging intellectual interests, her great generosity to many causes, her delightful wit, and her indomitable courage. We will miss Joan, and we extend our deep condolences to Homer and her family.

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KHORSAB

*ARCHAEOLOGY*

*Overleaf. The initial stages of deinstalling a Khorsabad relief. Workers from Belding, Walbridge, Inc. are removing several of the bricks from beneath the relief so that it can be picked up off its plinth and moved and have begun to take away the wall behind it*

## AMUQ VALLEY PROJECTS

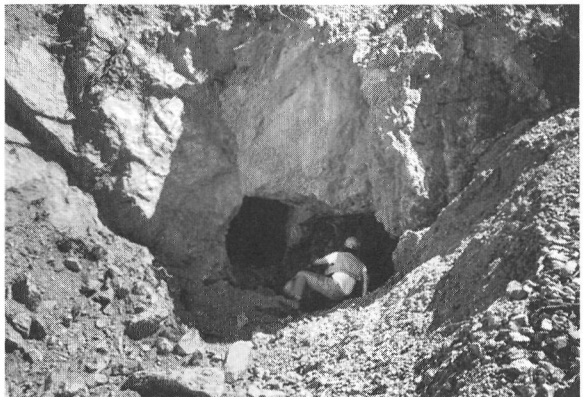
**K. Aslihan Yener and Tony J. Wilkinson**

### Introduction

Following a hiatus of fifty-seven years, a team from the Oriental Institute renewed archaeological investigations in the Amuq Valley. Although at the time the Amuq was located within Syria, boundary changes during World War II now place the plain within Turkish Hatay. During the five weeks of fieldwork in September/October 1995, our efforts were devoted to carrying out a regional survey and a salvage operation at the multi-period mound of Tell al-Judaïdah, at which we examined the nature of strata exposed by modern earth-moving operations. A number of days were also spent investigating the gold mining works at Kisecek in the Amanus Mountains (fig. 1), conducting a surface survey at Tell Kurdu, and drawing profiles at Tell Dhahab.

Between 1932 and 1938 the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago went to the Amuq Valley to find a site with monumental architecture of the late Hittite kingdom, Hattina, dated to the first millennium B.C. An additional aim—to provide a thorough reconnaissance of settlement in the valley—was undertaken by Robert J. Braidwood, Calvin W. McEwan, and the Chicago team. Of the 178 mounds discovered, 6 were sounded: Chatal Höyük, Tell al-Judaïdah, Tell Ta'ýinat, Tulail al-Sharqi, Tell Ta'ýinat al-Saghir, Tell Kurcoğlu, as well as a cave near Reyhanlı at Vadi-el Hamam. During the last year (1938), they sounded Tells Dhahab and Kurdu in order to complete a sequence to A.D. 600. Ten prehistoric phases were established, based on inter-mound stratigraphy and artifact typology, from the earliest (Phase A) to about 2000 B.C (Phase J). Each phase included a range of strata and floors from which particular assemblages were characteristic. The later Phases K–V, which are in the process of being assessed, make a total of 22 phases in all.

This first year of the new Oriental Institute Amuq Project was the time to get an overview of the region and the archaeological sites within it. Fortunately the original survey undertaken by Braidwood in the spring of 1936 provided an excellent yardstick against which to assess the region some sixty years later.



*Figure 1. Gold mine at Kisecek, Amanus Mountains, Antakya*

## ARCHAEOLOGY

Situated east of the Amanus range, the Amuq Valley (Amik Ovası), or the plain of Antioch, extends to the foothills of the Saman Mountains and Akra Mountains in the south and Kurt Mountain in the east. Four cultural zones—Anatolian (Hittite and Hurrian), the eastern Mediterranean (Aegean and Cypriot), the Levant and Palestine (Egyptian and Canaanite), and northern Syro-Mesopotamia (Hurrian/Mittani and Assyrian/Babylonian)—converge in this mountain-bounded valley.

The attractiveness of the Amuq Valley for archaeological investigation is based on four factors: agriculture, water, strategic location, and control of precious material sources. The plain, which is separated from the Mediterranean by the Amanus Mountains, gained access to the sea via the Orontes River (Asi Nehir) and its estuary. Routes through the valley are still used by transhumant pastoral nomads. The Amanus Mountains have a strong vertical zonation, passing from Alpine forests to hot, humid coastal regions. The oft-visited rich pasture lands of the Amanus highlands are thus systemically bound together with the location of vital raw materials sought by the ever hungry urban sites in lowland Syria, Anatolia, and Mesopotamia. Preliminary survey and excavation has shown that the Amuq Valley contains an unusual concentration of culturally related habitation sites ranging in date from the end of the sixth millennium B.C. to the Turkish Republican period.

### The Metallurgical Paradigm

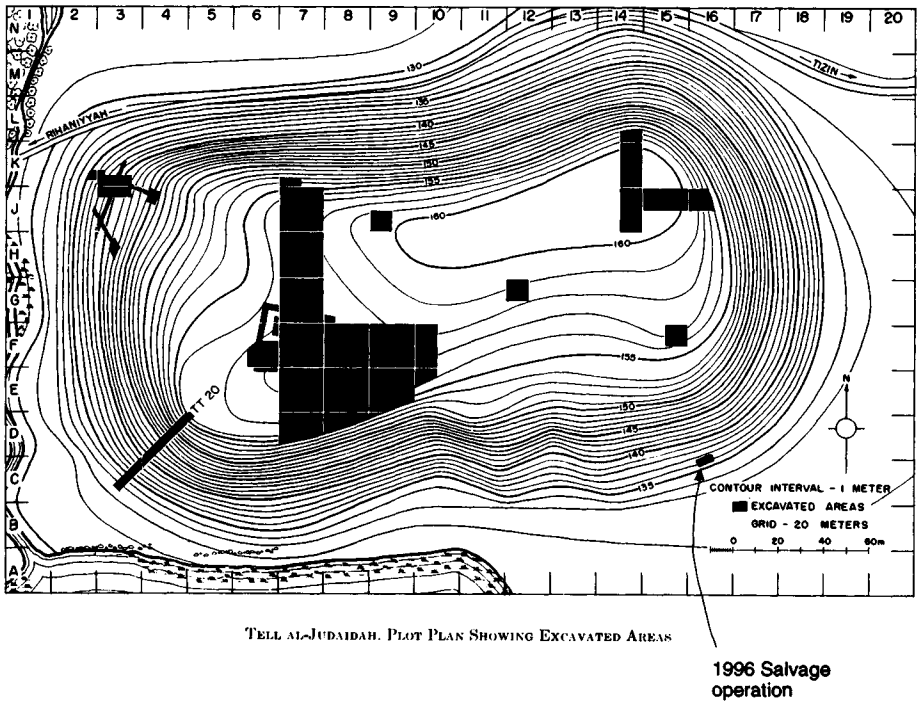
The Amuq Valley has also held great interest for early metals researchers ever since the discovery of the Amuq G polymetallic figurines and a crucible with tin-rich copper encrustation from Tell al-Judaïdah. Altogether, ten artifacts or fragments of copper from Phase G contain appreciable tin contents, and these are the oldest tin bronzes in the Near East (ca. 3000 B.C.) that have thus far been discovered. Indications that copper was utilized even come from the earliest period of incipient agriculture, the Neolithic (Amuq Phase A). Important hints as to the presence of an innovative metal technology also exist from the subsequent Chalcolithic period when copper was alloyed, first with arsenic (in Phase F) levels, and then nickel-rich alloys and tin (in Phase G). Metal artifacts from these levels resonate with polymetallic effects created by their being outfitted with accoutrements such as weapons, helmets, and hair ribbons made of silver/electrum.

Ongoing lead isotope analysis programs indicated a source of metal for several bronze and silver artifacts excavated previously from sites in the Amuq Valley. Several samples of copper and silver ore from mines in its northern border, the Taurus Range, matched Chalcolithic, Early Bronze, and Late Bronze Age metal artifacts, suggesting that they were made from these ores. The discovery of an Early Bronze Age tin mine at Kestel in the central Taurus Mountains made the early Amuq alloys all the more important technologically. Finding and determining the organizational strategies behind the metal workshops in the lowland Amuq



Figure 2. Cut site of Tell Kurdu





*Figure 3. Tell al-Judaidah with location of 1995 salvage operation (after OIP 95, pl. 53)*

Valley sites, where the actual crafting was done, lent immediacy and relevance to this project.

What sets the Amuq apart from other agriculturally endowed regions is its close location to mining zones such as the Kestel tin mine and the mines at Bolkardağ. Mountains containing silver, gold, copper, and iron mines encircle the valley in all four directions. Thus the Amuq offers the possibility of researching one of its as yet unrecognized advantages, namely the proximity of metal-bearing mountains. While metal technology and its characteristic site-specific industries are typical of most mounded sites all over metalliferous Anatolia, it is worth reiterating that not only does trade form the link between mining production (in the metal-rich highlands) and consumption of metal commodities (in lowland urban centers), but also such trade retains significance as a social force.

In addition to Tell al-Judaidah, two sites, Tells Dhahab and Kurdu, were also briefly investigated. Tell Dhahab is a small mound, measuring 60 m in diameter and 10 m high, located 200 m to the west of the pond at the base of Tell al-Judaidah. Situated on a natural rise, the site is probably functionally connected to Judaidah. We found the site severely damaged because of earth removal in 1996 and the construction of an asphalt plant adjacent to the slope; we drew detailed profiles and took charcoal samples for radiocarbon dating.

The badly damaged site of Tell Kurdu, which we expect to investigate during the 1996 season, is one of the large, low mounds lying in the central part of the plain. Recent bulldozer activities seeking to enlarge cotton fields had cut a triangular slice out of the mound (fig. 2), thereby exposing long sections of the site. Tell Kurdu covers an area of 450 × 380 m and is 9.5 m high. This makes it close to 12.0 hectares in area,

## ARCHAEOLOGY

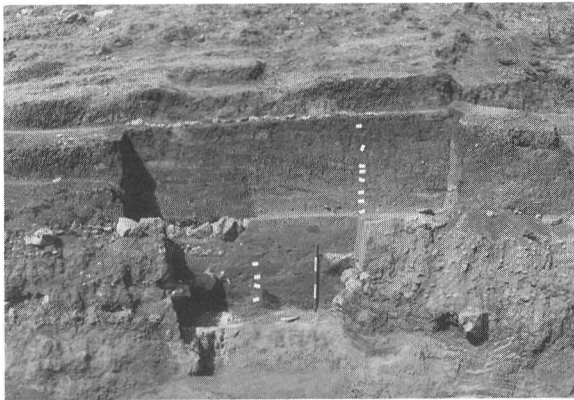
which is larger than Judaïdah during the Chalcolithic periods. In 1938 four soundings revealed architecture of *tauf* (*pisé*) and mudbrick walls with stone foundations. Ceramics of Phases C through F were found with recognizable Halaf and Ubaid related wares. The Ubaid-like Monochrome Painted Wares constitute 72–77% of the assemblage with 1–5% being the Ubaid-like Bichrome Painted Ware. Tell Kurdu was abandoned at some point before the beginning of Phase F and the inception of Uruk related materials.

### Excavations at Tell al-Judaïdah

When substantial mudbrick architecture on the northern and northeastern edges at Tell al-Judaïdah was exposed by a bulldozer, a rescue operation was initiated to examine the nature of strata (fig. 3). A fragment of a multifaceted mold for casting was also found close to the cut. Ceramics in the section and sherds collected from the debris indicated that these walls dated to roughly Phase F (earlier fourth millennium B.C.) and Phase G (later fourth millennium and early third millennium B.C.). This gave us the opportunity to enhance the stratigraphy of these phases that had been previously excavated in the 1930s. Of the three architectural levels apparent, the earliest mudbrick walls had been

burnt and were therefore well preserved. A modified step trench was laid out 5 m wide and 2 m deep on top of the bulldozer cut (fig. 4). The resulting stratigraphic column enabled a ceramic sequence to be established (fig. 5), which was then fixed chronologically by radiocarbon dates derived from the lowest strata (3033–2625 B.C. and 3115–2900 B.C. calibrated, 2 sigma).

Massive mudbrick walls of a structure built with stone foundations were preserved to a height of 1.8 m and 1.5 m in width, in



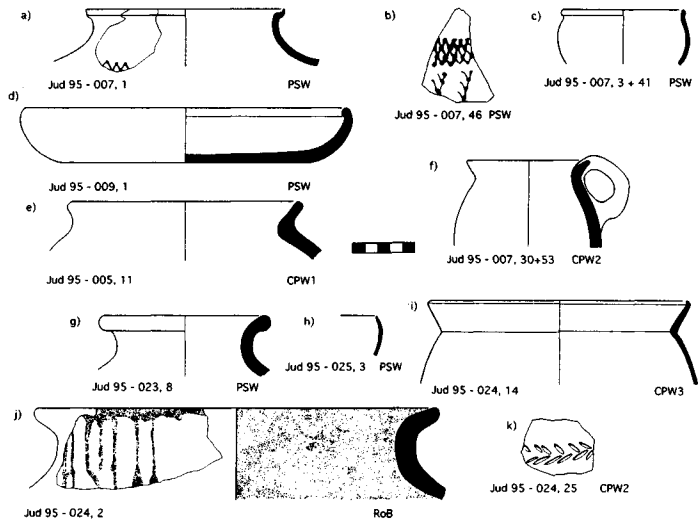
*Figure 4. Modified step trench at Tell al-Judaïdah*

the upper architectural level. The several occupation surfaces that emerged were associated with predominantly wheel-made Plain Simple Ware pottery, thereby dating this later structure to Amuq G. Three substantial walls, 1.6 m wide and 1.5 m high, bordered a room, which might have been used as a magazine or storage room, and was perhaps part of an administrative unit in Phase G in the lowest level. Large quantities of crushed pottery were recovered on the floor of the storage room. New types of storage jars and Cooking Pot Wares distinguished it from the phases above. Hitherto unknown Plain Simple Ware storage jars with a cream-buff paste were decorated with a red wash on the rim interior and with red paint drizzling down its outer surface (fig. 5j). Qa'lat er-Rûs, located on the northern coast of Syria 20 km south of Latakia, provided similar examples of this ware where they have been referred to as "Red Rim Pithoi." This gives a glimpse into some of the intriguing connections with the relatively less-known prehistoric periods of coastal Syria. A lead/copper pendant was also found in this room, assuring the presence of diverse metals in this early period.

## The Regional Project

The immediate aims of the new regional project are to update Braidwood's survey by providing more details on site size and periods of occupation, as well as to record any sites that might have been overlooked originally or which have suffered recent damage. Because such cuts provide windows into the superimposed occupation levels, the exposed sections provide an opportunity to record more detailed occupation sequences than is possible from surface pottery alone.

Ultimately the aims of the regional project are to assess long-term changes in the region's population, changes in the river system and the Lake of Antioch, interactions between the human population and the environment, and more generally, to place the Amuq in a broad regional context. Changes in the local environment, particularly marshes and the lake, would not only have altered available land resources for the local communities but would also have inhibited settlements from developing in certain areas. In addition, because the Amuq represents a crucial link between the Mediterranean to the west and upper Mesopotamia to the east, the changing physical geography might have influenced the path of such routes. As a result of these constraints, in a survey of this type it is crucial to analyze not only the geomorphological configuration of the region today but also to examine patterns of change over the last ten thousand years.



**Figure 5.** (a–d, g, h) Plain Simple Ware, (e) Cooking Pot Ware, (f, k) Cooking Pot Ware 2, (i) Cooking Pot Ware 3, and (j) Red-on-Buff Ware

## Geomorphology

Sites were located with remarkable accuracy by means of a Global Positioning System and were then plotted on to French Levant series maps originally made in 1936. Together the maps provided sufficient coverage and detail for the recognition of alluvial fans, river levees, recent alluvial terrain, intervening flood basins, as well as the lake itself (fig. 6).

The large alluvial plain of the Amuq receives water from three main rivers, the Kara Su, the Nahr al-Afrin, and the Orontes. Rainfall, at around 600–700 mm per annum, is sufficient for rain-fed cultivation, but irrigation is necessary to increase crop yields. The Lake of Antioch, which until the 1950s formed the most conspicuous feature of the Amuq, has now been drained, with the result that the only traces of its former extent are

## ARCHAEOLOGY

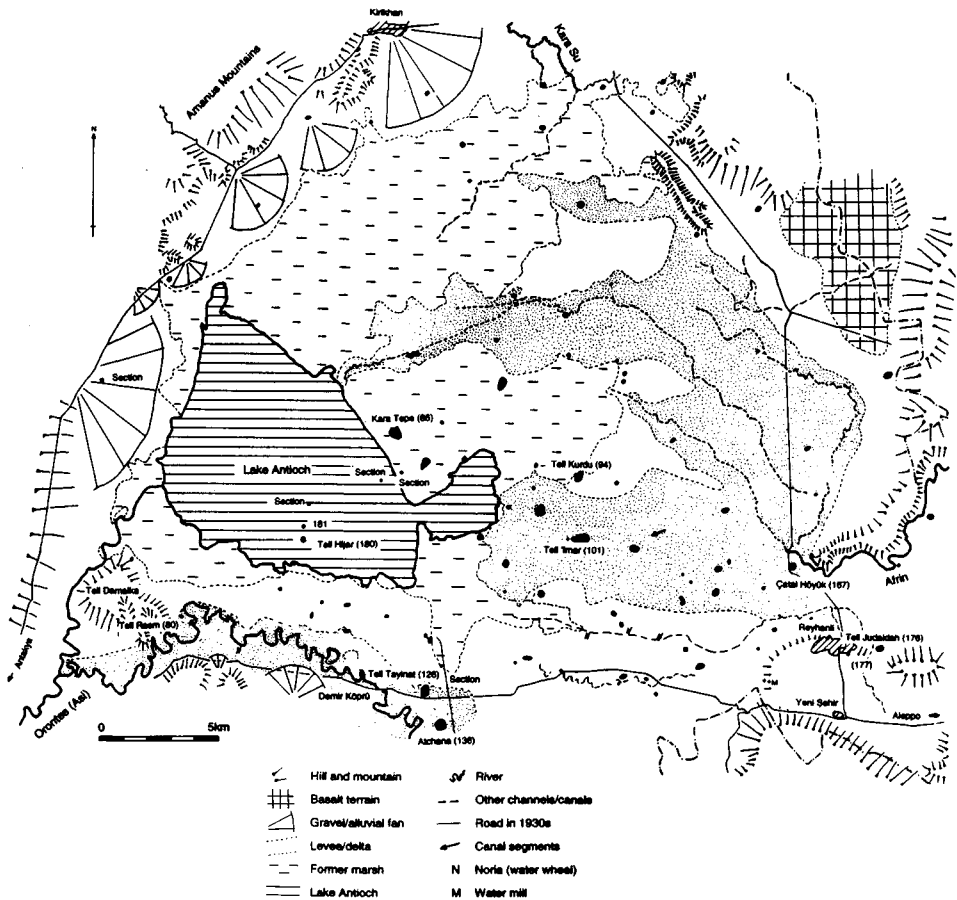


Figure 6. Preliminary geomorphological map of the Amuq based on French series 1:50,000 maps and limited field control

shelly lake clays, former beaches, and associated dunes that developed alongside the lake shore.

In the 1930s the presence of marsh and interspersed pools around the lake margin rendered many sites virtually inaccessible, so that Braidwood often had to wade through swamp and shallow water to reach them. As a result of the drainage operations, however, it is now possible to record some sites in greater detail than was hitherto possible. In places, the former marsh soils are framed by slightly raised silt/clay terrain (see stippling in fig. 6) that variously has been deposited by the Orontes, the Nahr al-Afrin, or by canals that apparently issued from them.

Sedimentary deposition has been pervasive along the western side of the plain where during the past ten thousand years incoming wadis have deposited at least 2–3 m of silt, sand, and gravel in the form of alluvial fans. On the other hand, the southern margins of the plain have built up as levees resulting from the overbank sedimentation of the Orontes River. This is best illustrated from a long cut exposed in a drain located immediately to the east of Tell Atchana (ancient Alalakh, AS 136), where alluvial silts (fig. 7) have buried pottery horizons dated to the fifth or fourth millennium B.C. some 3.5 to 4 m below the present ground surface. Although it is unclear whether this pottery

represents earlier phases of Atchana, or simply belongs to an outlying scatter of occupation, their presence indicates that at least 3.5 m of sedimentation has occurred over the past five to seven thousand years.

Farther north these riverine sediments merge laterally into complex deposits, some of which might have accumulated within the former lake. The accumulation of such levee deposits along the Orontes (see stippling in fig. 6) would have obscured smaller settlements, as well as any outer town of Alalakh or Tell Ta'yinat that might once have existed. This is especially important because recent visitors to Alalakh have noted the presence of a lower town; unfortunately this town was not visible because of the presence of cotton fields during the 1995 season.

## Archaeological Survey

Our survey strategy during 1995 was selective and emphasis was placed upon recording sites of the second millennium B.C., sites with potential for yielding evidence of early metalworking activities, and of course any that had been severely damaged by bulldozing. A noteworthy example of a damaged site was Tell Kurdu, where systematic surface collections were undertaken by Scott Branting with a view to future excavation. In addition, sites of the second millennium B.C. were examined by Jerry Lyon to determine which were contemporary with excavated levels IV and VII at Alalakh (Amuq Phase M). This work should enable the geography of settlement to be reconstructed and related to the record of cuneiform tablets from Tell Atchana that, according to the work of Donald Wiseman and Bonnie Magness-Gardiner, provide clues to the administration of settlement in the region.

Because the Lake of Antioch was drained during the 1950s, we were keen to determine whether any archaeological sites existed under the former lake, as Leonard Woolley had suggested. Initial reconnaissance showed that two sites (AS 180 and 181) were located within the lake bed, 1 km and 1.5 km respectively north-northeast of the former lake edge (fig. 6) and in an area that had originally been covered by 1.3–1.8 m of water. The main site, Khirbet (or Tell) al-Hijar, remains as a scatter of limestone blocks and sherds rising to some 1 m above the former lake floor and occupying a total area of approximately 3 hectares. The abundant pottery suggests a range of occupations from mid-late third millennium B.C. to Late Roman-early Islamic, with occupation being most significant in the third and early second millennium B.C.

Less conspicuous was site AS 181, some 0.5 km north of Khirbet al-Hajar, that appears to have been occupied during the late fourth and third millennium B.C., as well as perhaps Neolithic. The presence of these two sites implies that the lake levels which prevailed earlier this century were 1.3 to 2 m above the levels during the third and early second millennium B.C.



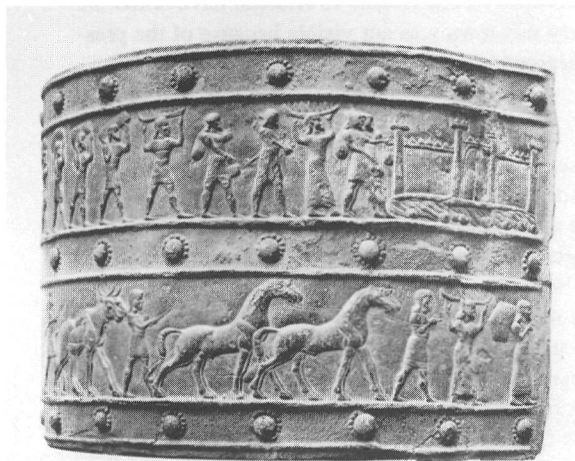
*Figure 7. Alluvial silts of the Orontes blanketing terrain near Atchana/Alalakh*

## ARCHAEOLOGY

## Early References to the Lake of Antioch

For historical periods the development of the lake can be inferred from textual sources and reliefs, a number of which relate to the land of Unki. Although no lake is referred to in pre-Seleucid sources, from the bronze gates at Balawat in present-day Iraq Olmstead has suggested that during the reign of Shalmaneser III (mid-ninth century B.C.) the inhabitants of Unki lived on island settlements within the swamp or lake. The evidence cited by Olmstead comprised illustrations of fortified settlements, apparently within areas of lake or marsh in the land of Unki and entitled "Tribute of the Unkians."

When scrutinized, however, we see that the settlements depicted, rather than being surrounded by a lake, appear to be within limited bodies of water, the wave pattern of which diminishes in scale as a result of the water receding as it turns away from the eye (fig. 8). This contrasts with other illustrations of extensive bodies of water from the same gates (for example the waves of the Mediterranean Sea at Tyre), which show no such foreshortening. The reliefs therefore suggest the presence of a moat around the Unkian settlements rather than a lake. Such a moated



Band V.3. Campaign in Northern Syria, 843 B.C. (continued).  
Upper Register: Unkians bearing tribute; a city of the Unkians.  
Lower Register: Tribute of a Syrian prince.

**Figure 8. Panel from the Balawat gates showing depictions of Unkians bearing tribute (from L. W. King 1915, plate XXVII)**

settlement is represented by the site of Yerköy (AS 99), which although dry today must once have contained water. We can conclude that by Shalmaneser III's campaign, the area of Unki probably had a water table that was at least sufficiently high to nourish moats, and which might in the lower areas have resulted in swampy or open water conditions.

By the time of Antioch's heyday in the Hellenistic-Roman period, the Amuq (Hellenistic Amykes or Amyke) was clearly occupied by an extensive lake that supplied the city with fish and shellfish. Medieval Islamic sources provide even more specific details. Thus Yakut (died A.D. 1229) and Abu-l Fida (born 1273, died 1331) both describe the lake as being of sweet water, measuring about 20 miles in length and 7 miles in width.

## Other Features

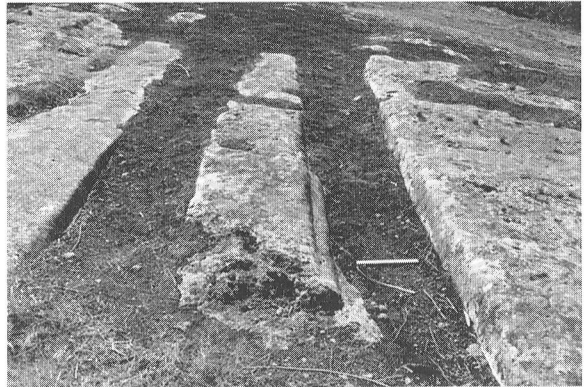
Among a number of off-site features noted during the season, probably the most intriguing were a series of wheel ruts worn into the limestone immediately adjacent to the modern Antakya-Yenişehir road (fig. 9). These multiple troughs appear to have been abraded over an extended period of time by the passage of wheeled chariots or wagons. The location of the ruts along the alignment of the Roman road from Beroia (Aleppo) to Antioch (Antakya) suggests the ruts are most likely Roman in date, but an earlier date is also possible given the large quantity of chariots in use at Alalakh during the second millennium B.C. and their persistent use in Neo-Assyrian times.



## Discussion

The initial season suggests that the Lake of Antioch was probably of modest size or even nonexistent in the third millennium B.C. References to a lake in classical sources do not support Woolley's suggestion that it was formed as a result of the damming of the Orontes by the sixth century A.D. Antioch earthquake, but rather that an earlier marshy flood basin became gradually transformed into a full lake sometime between the third and first millennium B.C.

The development of both marshes and a lake might have resulted from the blockage of drainage as a result of the growth of Orontes levees. Such growth might have progressively restricted the outlet of the plain, thereby decreasing the flow of the Orontes towards the sea. Furthermore, during major wet periods,



*Figure 9. Ancient wheel ruts in limestone to the west of Yenişehir. Scale measures 30 cm*

floods, perhaps exacerbated by increased runoff resulting from deforestation, must have periodically spilled over the banks of the Orontes to accumulate in the low-lying flood basin. In addition, canals leading from the Nahr Afrin would have discharged surplus water and eventually formed marshes at their termination points. Particularly problematic is the process whereby a river on a levee breaches its bank, thereby initiating a new flood course, usually through the adjacent lower flood basin. In the Amuq the location of the Orontes upon such a levee represents a potential instability, but whether or not the river ever shifted into the area subsequently occupied by the lake is not known.

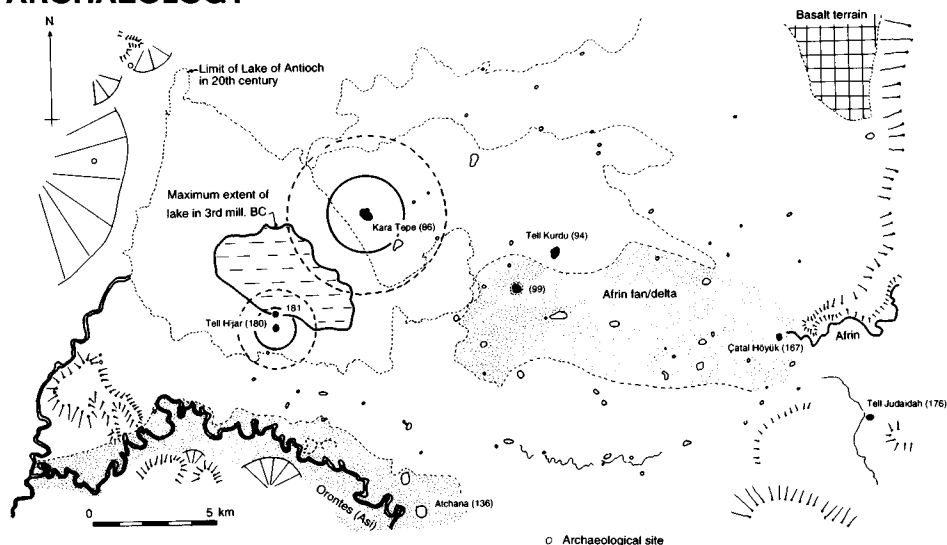
Preliminary analysis therefore suggests that sites adjacent to the lake might originally have included greater areas of dry land than during later millennia, which is illustrated by agricultural production areas calculated for sites adjacent to the Lake of Antioch (fig. 10). These areas indicate that during the third millennium B.C. all known sites were sufficiently far from the lake to comprise mainly dry land territories. On the other hand, during the earlier first millennium B.C. groundwater levels were probably higher, and at least some sites were surrounded by moats. Certainly by Hellenistic times a lake was present, a situation which continued until the mid-twentieth century A.D.

The renewed Amuq efforts of the Oriental Institute began in 1995 and are intended to be the first of a multi-phase regional investigation. In future years the archaeological heritage of the area will be examined within the context of important technological, subsistence, and cultural changes taking place in the ancient Near East. This will provide the basis for an understanding of the cultural history in this unique environment bounded by resource-rich mountain highlands.

## Acknowledgments

The 1995 Amuq season was conducted under the auspices of the Turkish Ministry of Culture, Directorate General of Monuments and Museums, and the Antakya Museum. The team was led by Aslihan Yener, the director. Bekir Altan was the representative from the Ministry of Culture, Directorate of Monuments and Museums. Tony J.

## ARCHAEOLOGY



**Figure 10. Reconstruction of maximum level of the Lake of Antioch assuming a level no high than that of site AS 181. Concentric circles indicate approximate sustaining areas calculated from the maximum size of key sites AS 86 and 180**

Wilkinson conducted the regional studies. Clemens Reichel and Elizabeth Friedman, graduate students in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, undertook the salvage sounding at Tell al-Judaidah. Fine tuning the ceramics was tackled by Elizabeth Friedman. Scott Branting and Jerry Lyon, also graduate students in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, investigated the settlements with Tony J. Wilkinson. Clemens Reichel, Scott Branting, Jerry Lyon, Eleanor Barbanes, and Işıl Ören helped with topographical mapping, section drawing, and illustrating the ceramic typology. A brief archaeometallurgical survey was undertaken with Bryan Earl of Cornwall and Hadi Özbal of Boğaziçi University. Analyses of the Tell al-Judaidah crucible slag were further advanced by Mieke Adriaens of Antwerp University, Belgium.

In Ankara we were greatly assisted by the General Directorate of Monuments and Museums, Dr. Engin Özgen and Kenan Yurttagül, as well as Ergun Kaptan at the Turkish Geological Survey and Research Directorate (MTA). In Antakya we were grateful for the help given by the present and former Antakya Museum staff members, Hüseyin Dinçer, Mehmet Erdem, Faruk Kılıç, Lale Saraç, and also to the newly established Mustafa Kemal University and rector, Professor Faruk Ipek. Thanks also go to members of the Hatay and Reyhanlı administration, Utku Acun (Vali), Erdoğan Özdemir (Assistant Vali), Ayhan Çiftaslan (Assistant Vali), Hasan Eliaçık (Culture), İbrahim Oflazoğlu (Tourism), Mehmet Hazırlar (Library), Ömer Doğanay (Kaymakam), Mahmut Ekmen (Mayor), Zekeriya Herdem (TIGEM). In Adana we were again helped by Şinasi Apaydın, director of the MTA in the ancient mining at the Amanus sources.

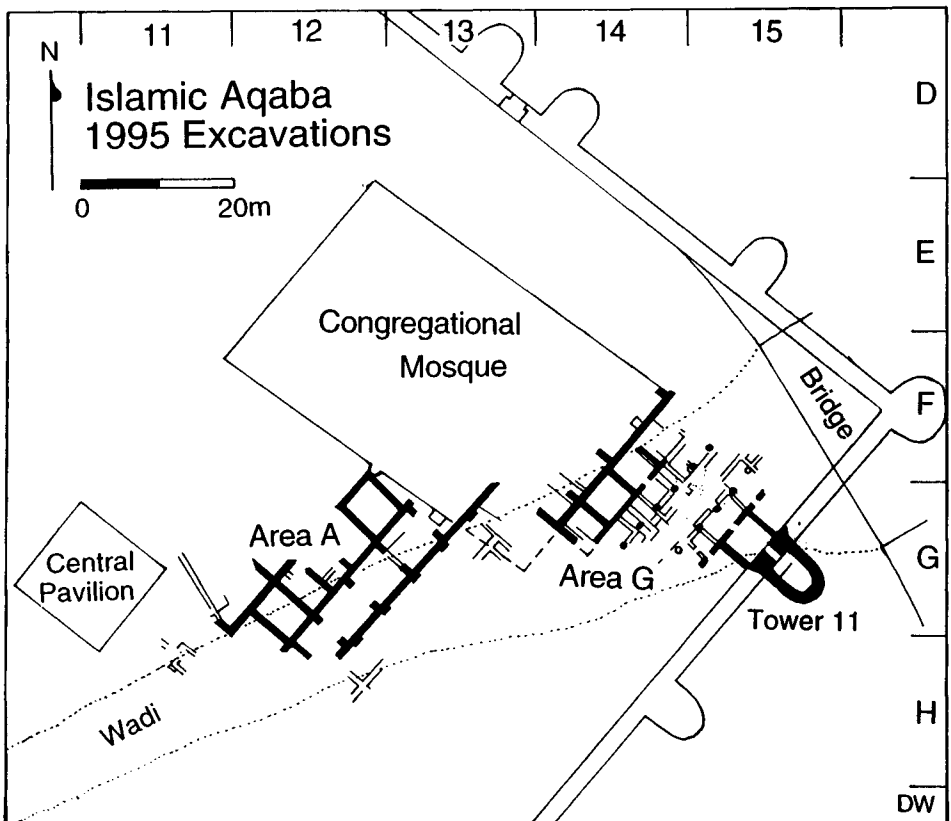
Instrumental to the reopening of the Amuq Valley Project were Malcolm H. Wiener and the Institute of Aegean Prehistory. The authors wish to express their gratitude to both the Oriental Institute and its members—especially Mr. and Mrs. Albert F. Haas, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice D. Schwartz, Mrs. Elizabeth B. Tieken, and Melanie Ann Weill—who contributed financially to the success of the project. We are grateful for the help and support given to the project by Professor Robert Braidwood, Linda Braidwood, and Professor William Sumner. Thanks also go to Karen Bradley, Dr.

Rudolph Dornemann, Professor Hans Güterbock, Dr. Alfred Hoerth, Dr. Raymond Tindel, and members of the original excavations and researchers preparing the earlier Amuq excavation materials for publication.

## **AQABA**

**Donald Whitcomb**

The city of Aqaba has received a vast increase in information on the history of its settlement. Most recently, a team under Dr. Thomas Parker of North Carolina State University followed the initial survey work of the Oriental Institute by John Meloy and successfully uncovered the Roman and early Byzantine cities. The Oriental Institute excavations concentrated on the occupation during the early Islamic period, when it was called Ayla. The early medieval city was of some regional importance, particularly as a



*Figure 1. General plan of the areas excavated as part of the 1995 season of research at early Islamic Ayla, in Aqaba, Jordan*

## ARCHAEOLOGY

southern port for Bilad al-Sham, the “port of Palestine on the China Sea” in the words of Muqaddasi, and as a major station on the Pilgrim route from Palestine, Egypt, and North Africa. Still, the city did not grow into a great metropolis and its fleeting prosperity and the fame of its notables was soon forgotten.

Archaeological research brought to light the early Islamic city, founded during the early caliphate of ‘Uthmān ibn ‘Affān. This town was occupied from about A.D. 650 to the arrival of the Crusaders after A.D. 1100. The site is now being developed into a tourist attraction, giving a historical depth to the modern port, Jordan’s window to the south



*Figure 2. A general view of the street and buildings excavated in the wadi bed, looking southwest toward the beach. John Meloy stands in the distance (middle)*

and its connection with trade of the Indian Ocean and beyond. Nothing was known of the physical remains of Ayla until the arrival of T. E. Lawrence in 1911, whose observations were not improved upon until the recent excavations. The city was engulfed in the sands until revealed by excavations from 1986 to 1995 under the sponsorship of the Oriental Institute and the Department of Antiquities of Jordan (see fig. 1). A grant from USAID, through the American Center of Oriental Research (ACOR), enabled large-scale operations in 1987, which resulted in the major discoveries

of the Egyptian Gate and northwest city wall, the Pavilion Building in the center of the city, several residential units, and the Large Enclosure. The seasons of 1988 and 1989 were devoted to investigation of the southern quadrant of the city in cooperation with the development of the Royal Yacht Club on this property. Each of these seasons of fieldwork served as salvage operations that identified the importance of the site and preserved this monument in the heart of the modern city.

The first phase, the circumference and stratification of the city, is now complete; as one might expect from the excavation of an entire city, many lacunae remain in the history of Ayla. The second phase of archaeological research is focused on functional aspects of this early Islamic city, the central institutions. A beginning was made in 1993, when the Congregational Mosque of Ayla was discovered.

### The Excavations

This season of excavations lasted from the end of October until the end of December 1995 and aimed at the investigation of the earliest remains on the site by concentrating on the periphery of the Congregational Mosque (see fig. 1). The mosque was explored in 1987, 1992, and especially in 1993 and the Central Pavilion was excavated as Area A in 1986 and 1987. The general hypothesis guiding this research was that beneath and to the east of the Congregational Mosque (which was built in Phase B, 750–850) lies the first mosque, part of the original town plan of ‘Uthmān ibn ‘Affān (ca. 650). Further, it was hypothesized that the early mosque was associated with an administrative complex or governor’s residence, the *dar al-imara*, which could lie between the mosque and

Central Pavilion. These two structures would represent the two crucial institutions defining this early Islamic city.

Soundings in previous seasons had indicated the existence of architectural remains within the wadi, which suggested an efficient chance to reveal part of the Umayyad town plan. Further excavations expanded onto the northern bank of the wadi, which provided a stratigraphic continuity with later periods and results from previous seasons. The stratigraphic evidence resulting from this season was over 2 m of Umayyad (and Rashidun) phases beneath later Abbasid and Fatimid levels. In the bed of the wadi was over 1 m of Umayyad occupation extending into the present water table.

## Area G

The first area investigated was located to the southeast of the Abbasid Congregational Mosque in the northeastern section of the city. Excavations in the wadi bed in 1993 showed the practicality of uncovering extensive areas of the earliest occupation phase on

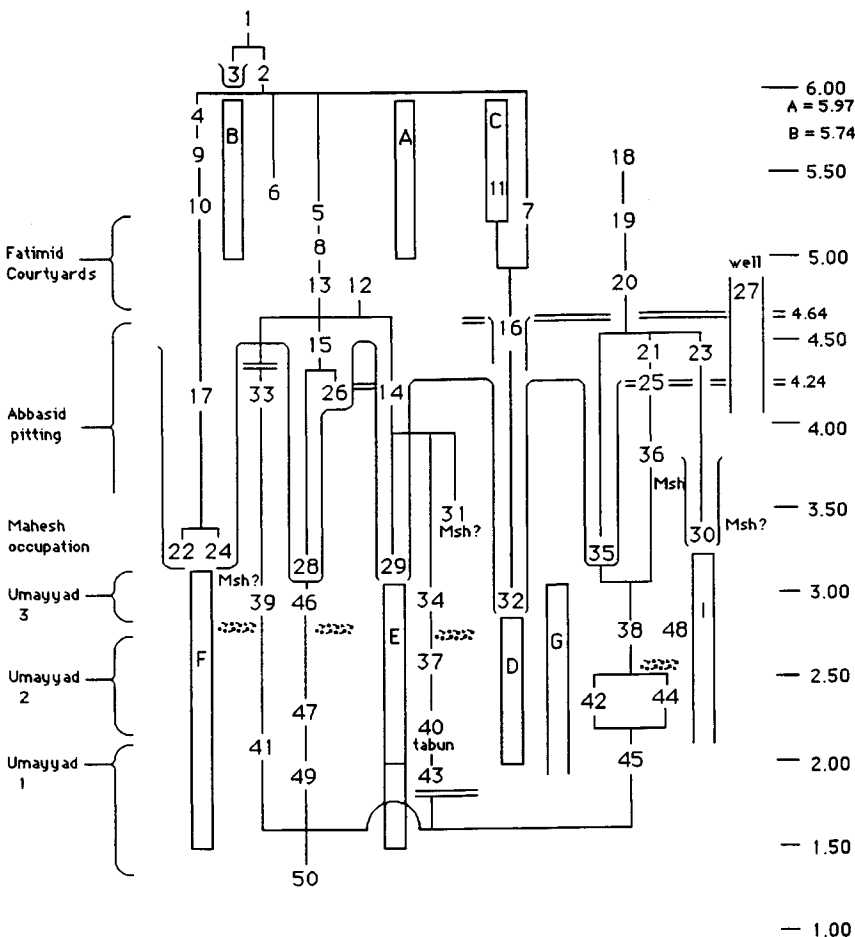


Figure 3. A matrix diagram of the loci excavated in Square G12b. The diagram illustrates the stratigraphic complexity of an area of robbed out walls, pitting, and extensive rebuilding over a four-hundred year period

## ARCHAEOLOGY

the site (Phase A, 650–750). This efficiency in reaching early occupation levels without extensive overburden is balanced by the liabilities of digging in a large drainage channel. A flash flood in 1993 effectively obliterated two weeks of work in the wadi and illustrated the temporary nature of these results, however dramatic and important.

One of the towers on the city wall was excavated (Tower 11, located next to the corner tower that is now situated under the Corniche bridge). Tower 11 belonged to the original city wall; it is filled with Mahesh debris (ca. 750–800), indicating that it went out of use at the end of the Umayyad period. This was the tenth tower to be excavated (out of some twenty-four around the circumference of the city); its excavation confirmed and provided new details and added more information on the phasing out of the tower's use. A series of rooms was built beside the city wall, probably storerooms judging from the numerous Ayla type amphorae discovered within them.

These rooms faced a street with a double colonnade, over 15 m wide; beyond the street was another series of rooms to the northwest. This formal, classical street was part of the original town plan; the plan was almost immediately changed with the addition of walls dividing the porticoes into irregular rooms (fig. 2). The architectural remains indicate three, and possibly four, phases of construction during the first century of occupation. This pattern of change suggests that the original classical plan did not prove satisfactory. It is likely that the first settlers, whether *mawali* of 'Uthmān ibn 'Affān from Madina or Egyptian converts, brought with them regional ideas and experiences of urban planning. One of the opportunities of the Ayla excavations is to observe these varied influences in the beginnings of Islamic urbanization and their development through this early Islamic period.

### Area A

The excavations in 1987 revealed a rectangular building that, in its latest phase, was a residence of the Fatimid period. Evidence from the external walls indicated arched openings 3.5 m wide on the southwestern, northwestern, and southeastern sides. These architectural fragments suggest that the earliest form of this building might have been an open pavilion. Further excavations in 1988 proved that this central structure marked the crossing of the axial streets and was analogous to the tetrapylon of classical cities, manifest in early Islamic foundations such as Anjar. From the time of its discovery, an association with a central administrative complex, perhaps an early Islamic governor's residence, was hypothesized.

The second area of excavations was the middle wadi to the south of the Abbasid mosque and near the Central Pavilion. The exterior of the *qibla* wall of the mosque was revealed in 1993; in the later phases (C–D, 950–1100), there were several walls attached to the mosque wall with *tabuns* (ovens) suggesting domestic activities. Expansion of this excavation disclosed a large courtyard of the Fatimid period behind the *mihrab* of the mosque. The courtyard was filled with ceramic vessels broken in situ (possibly due to the 1068 earthquake); all ceramics were recovered and are being restored in Chicago, in an effort to obtain a large assemblage of contemporary Fatimid period vessels.

The results of this season's stratigraphy were anticipated from a deep sounding that was located outside of one of the arched entries into the Central Pavilion, which was excavated in 1987 (labeled H11a-1...16). This sequence began with late Abbasid glazed ceramics; beneath these were very distinctive ceramics called Mahesh wares (Phase B, A.D. 750–850). This assemblage was deposited upon a thick plaster floor, very similar to the bedding used for mosaics. Under this floor were Umayyad and pre-Umayyad materials down to earlier paving stones and the threshold of the gate. This trench showed the

association of ceramic sequences with architectural phases and, more importantly, gave an indication of the formal structures to be found in the original town plan.

Evidence of Abbasid occupation occurred below this yard and was found with a series of thick plaster floors. These plaster floors were badly damaged by a series of Fatimid or Abbasid pits and extensive robbing of the earlier stone walls. One can associate this destruction with the building of the Congregational Mosque in the early Abbasid period. Beneath the plaster floors was a thick accumulation of Umayyad fill above earlier floors using the same walls. Another set of wall foundations indicates even earlier structures, over 2 m deeper, all of the Umayyad period. The diagram of G12b loci (fig. 3) might clarify this complex history: (A) three phases of Umayyad occupation associated with a massive stone building; (B) fill of Umayyad debris and Mahesh materials transitional to early Abbasid floors; (C) Abbasid pitting and wall removal associated with mosque construction; and (D) Fatimid courtyard and occupation behind the mosque. Needless to say, details of this history must be confirmed, though the general outline fits the evidence recovered from previous seasons in Aqaba.

## Conclusions

The Umayyad period architecture of the middle wadi (Area A) presents a sharp contrast to the street and residential elements near the city wall (Area G). As one moves closer to the center of the city, the walls become thicker and better built. A major wall with external buttresses and inner buttressed rooms suggests a large, impressive structure (fig. 4). The paving is often fine, with large flagstones and thick plaster. Several of the rooms had traces of painted plaster, unfortunately now destroyed. The buttressed wall seems to have enclosed one, or possibly two, large buildings. Description of this building is frustrated by the limited recovery under the Fatimid and Abbasid overburden and because of damage caused during those later periods.

The interpretation of the architecture to the south (and under) the Abbasid mosque is very uncertain. The first suggestion was that this building might be the *dar al-imara* of the early Islamic town. Architectural details, such as a doorway beneath the Abbasid *mihrab* and walls extending beneath the *qibla* wall, indicate that the earlier mosque (if beneath the Abbasid mosque) must have been much smaller than assumed. On the other hand, evidence has accumulated to suggest that the Umayyad mosque must be located elsewhere in the town. Thus the large and important buildings discovered this season might not be associated with the *dar al-imara*, though official or administrative functions are certainly possible. The complexities of urban architecture revealed in the Ayla excavations emphasize the general lack of archaeological evidence for the process of urbanization in early Islamic cities. The data recovered from Ayla is an important step toward the delineation of this history.



**Figure 4.** A general view of the large structure between the mosque and the Central Pavilion, looking north. Ghida el-Osman and Ansam Melkawi discuss the final recording of this area



## ARCHAEOLOGY

## An Inscription

One of the additional projects undertaken this season involved providing assistance to the Department of Antiquities in restoring the Egyptian gateway, which entailed finishing the excavations by “opening” the gate and restoring the original arches and vaulting. Fortunately, the Aqaba inspectorate has assembled a talented and experienced restoration team for such projects. Among the rubble filling the gate was a missing piece of the Ayat al-Kursi inscription (*Qurʿan* 2: 255). Other fragments of this monumental inscription, carved in limestone, were found tumbled in the debris in front of the Egyptian Gate (fig. 5). The block found this year includes the phrase which reads “*wa ma khalfahum wa la yuhituna bishay*” (and what is behind them, and they comprehend nothing ...). This block adds important evidence for the history of the city and for Arabic paleography. The original inscription would date to the Umayyad period, soon after foundation of Ayla. However, inconsistencies in letter formation indicate recarving of some of the stones, presumably in the Abbasid period. The new stone shows a surface fracture, probably resulting from wall movement during the 748 earthquake. The first word has been recarved using a slightly different monumental script and illustrates calligraphic changes in the early Abbasid period. Clearly, detailed study of this inscription is warranted in future seasons.

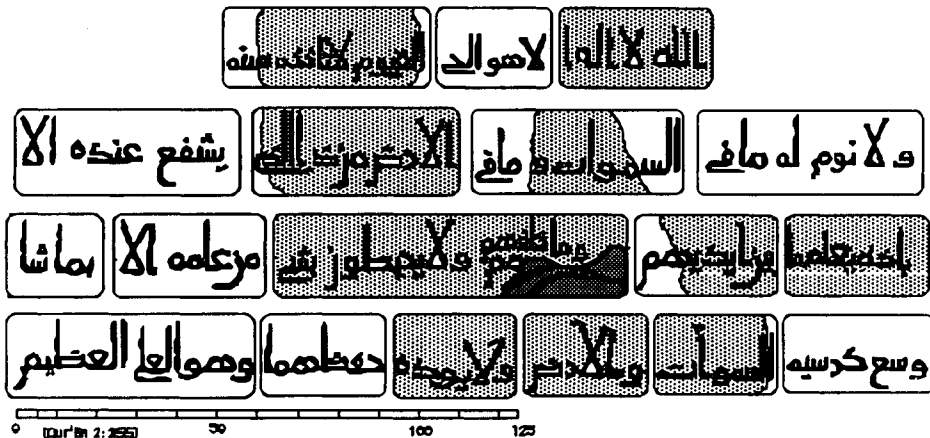


Figure 5. Reconstruction of the Ayat al-Kursi inscription from the Egyptian Gate area. The inscribed stone found this year is the large stone in the lower center

## Credits

The 1995 season of excavations were made possible through the support and sponsorship of the Department of Antiquities of Jordan, the Oriental Institute, and the Max Van Berchem Foundation. Generous assistance was provided by Dr. Ghazi Bisheh and Mrs. Sawsan al-Fakhry of the Department of Antiquities and by Dr. Fayiz al-Khasawnah and Mr. Muzahem al-Muheisen of the Aqaba Region Authority. The staff of the excavations was a talented group of specialists and students from universities in Jordan, Palestine, France, as well as Chicago; to this team belongs the credit for the success of this season at Ayla.

# THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL LANDSCAPE OF THE BALIKH VALLEY, SYRIA

Tony J. Wilkinson

## Introduction

By the close of the 1994 field season a large portion of the central Balikh Valley had been mapped and checked in the field. During 1995, still operating out of our shared facilities with the team from the National Museum of Antiquities, Leiden, we extended our studies to the northern extremity of the valley within Syria, as well as to the southern part virtually down to its confluence with the Euphrates River. Although work continued within the central part of the valley, we primarily endeavored to enhance details of settlement and irrigation systems not tackled in sufficient detail in previous field seasons.

The 1995 field team was comprised of Tony J. Wilkinson as team leader; Eleanor Barbanes (University of California, Berkeley), surveying, drawing and field assistant; and Jerry Lyon, as field assistant. This season provided an opportunity for Jerry to put in groundwork on his forthcoming Ph.D. dissertation devoted to a study of the Middle Assyrian frontier on the Balikh Valley. Tell Sabi Abyad provides an excellent center for study, with its Middle Assyrian fort that yielded numerous artifacts together with cuneiform texts detailing transactions and official communications conducted within this western part of the Middle Assyrian empire. As in previous seasons we received an immense amount of help from our colleagues of the Sabi Abyad field team from The Netherlands National Museum, Leiden under the directorship of Peter M. M. G. Akkermans. Thanks must also go to the various members of the Directorate General of Antiquities and Museums, Syrian Arab Re-

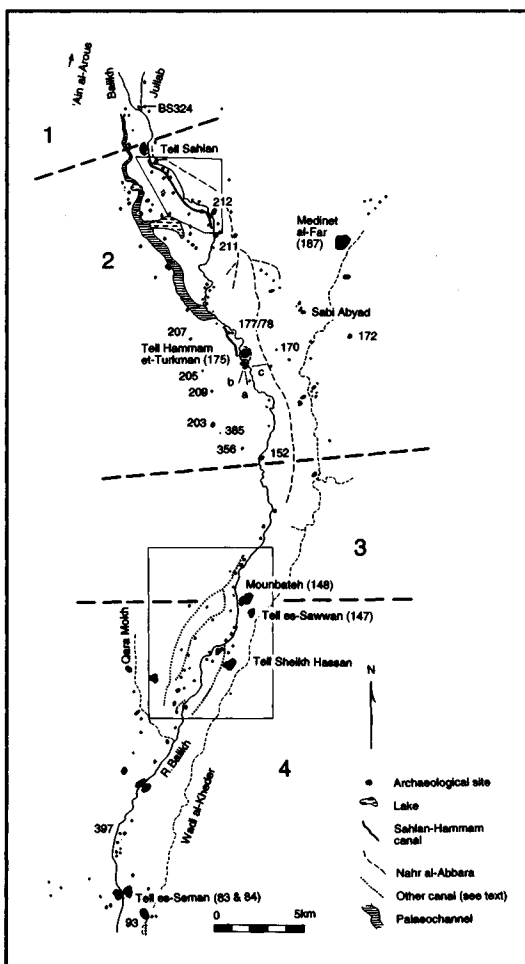


Figure 1. Northern part of Balikh Valley, Syria showing the main Sahlan-Hammam canal (solid line to the north), and the area of settlement receiving water from it (dotted line to the south)

## ARCHAEOLOGY

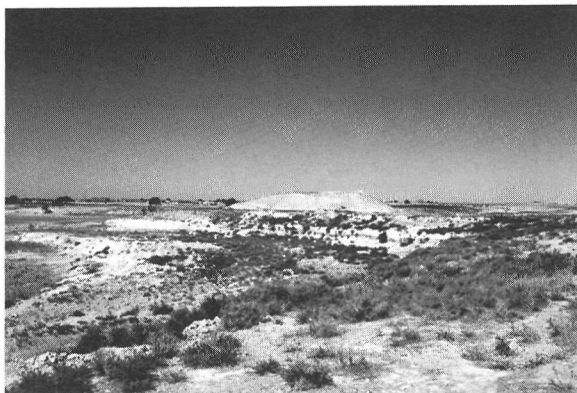
public, without whom the field season would have been impossible: Dr. Sultan Muhesen (Director General of Antiquities), Dr. Adnan Bounni (Director of Excavations), Mr. Mohammed Muslim (Aleppo Museum), Mr. Murhaf al-Khalaf (Director Raqqa Museum), and our representative Mr. Nauras al-Mohammed, also from Raqqa Museum. We are again extremely grateful to the National Geographical Society for providing major funding, and to the Oriental Institute for additional funding and support.

### The Upper Valley

Part of the 1995 field season was spent "in the footsteps of Mallowan," examining sites and geomorphology in the vicinity of former sources of the Balikh River at 'Ain al-'Arous and Tell Abyad (located a little to the north of the northern limit shown in fig. 1). Unlike 1938, when Sir Max Mallowan and his wife Agatha Christie breezed through the area to sound five sites in six weeks, today the river is entirely dry, and sites such as Tell Jidle (one of those investigated by Mallowan) stand stark and white above the now desiccated channel (fig. 2). Nevertheless, the natural terraces that fringe the upper valley include traces of earlier climates in the form of thin peaty beds with contained shells

of freshwater mollusks and hard lime/calcium carbonate crust layers that accumulated during intervening dry periods. This sequence of climatic change is undated, but its presence in levels below aceramic Neolithic sites suggests that they result from the Pleistocene ice age when climate in this region fluctuated between extended wet and dry phases.

The recent drying of the riverbed is not, however, a result of climatic aridification but rather has been caused by over-pumping of water for the irrigation of cash crops. Standing as stark testimony



*Figure 2. Upper Balikh Valley with Tell Jidle in background and the terraces of the now dry Balikh River in the foreground*

to higher flow in the area was a double water mill of Ottoman date located immediately to the south of Tell Jidle (fig. 3). Curiously, this year, for the first time that we have seen it, the eastern branch of the valley down from Turkey was carrying water, probably because the Turkish GAP project (i.e., the Attaturk Dam on the Euphrates to the north) was releasing some excess water. This resulted in water being diverted along the early Islamic-Ottoman Nahr Turkman (fig. 4).

### The Middle Valley

In the past, the well-watered upper valley was tapped by a number of canals that distributed flow to settlements downstream. As described in the *1994/95 Annual Report*, one of these, the Hammam-Sahlan canal, was excavated by Fokke Gerritsen, whose investigations demonstrated that the canal was in use during the Hellenistic-Roman and early Byzantine periods. Part of the 1995 campaign was therefore aimed at examining the central Balikh Valley downstream of the verified canal in order to trace its lower

reaches, together with sites that were apparently dependent upon it for irrigation water. The inferred route of the canal, based on short stretches of remaining channel, is indicated in figure 1 as a dark line to the southeast of Tell Sahlan, and again to the northwest of Tell Hammam et-Turkman. After this the canal can only be traced as intermittent segments of relict channel along the right (western) bank of the channel, until further fragments within the central valley enable it to be inferred running to the west of the river (dotted line in lower rectangle figs. 1 and 5 [detail]). Settlements that grew up in this formerly un-irrigated and uninhabited area comprised low mounds of small farmstead and village-size communities dated between the Hellenistic and early Byzantine periods (that is of the same date as the excavated canal). With the exception of a single Iron Age site straggling over several hectares, no earlier settlements were found along the canal's course and it seems reasonable to conclude that these were pioneering communities established with the construction of the Seleucid canal. Even more subtle in the landscape than these bumps of sites with intervening depressions of canals were sparse scatters of sherds that extended over much of the terrain between sites. These scatters appear to have been introduced as a result of the spreading of ash, organic refuse, manure, and composts on fields in antiquity. Inevitably such materials gathered from within the ancient villages or farms included pottery and other artifacts that then remain in the soil. When sampled and mapped such scatters can, however, give a hint as to which lands were most intensively fertilized and cultivated.

Now that those areas which were under long-term irrigation are known, it is possible to differentiate between lands that were irrigated and others in which settlement and cultivation were possible using rainfall alone. In figure 1 the northernmost zone 1 shows evidence for settlements away from canals; these sites clearly relied upon rain-fed cultivation. In zone 2, sites of all periods were closer to the river and canals, but from the presence of a few sites away from such channels, I conclude that settlement and cultivation were still feasible without irrigation. Zone 3 represents a transition zone, and zone 4 is that area where during all periods settlements were along either the river



*Figure 3. Eleanor Barbanes drawing architectural details of Ottoman period water mill near Tell Jidle*



*Figure 4. Water flowing along the Nahr Turkman canal for the first time in several years*

## ARCHAEOLOGY

or canals. It is in such areas that traces of former canals are most common, therefore within zone 4 and farther to the south agricultural communities could not survive without recourse to irrigation.

### The Lower Valley

To the south of Tell es-Seman (at the southern limit shown in fig. 1), smaller archaeological sites become less visible because sedimentation from the Balikh River has resulted in the accumulation of 0.5–1 m of alluvial silt and clay over the former flood plain. This burial was illustrated by the discovery of a number of archaeological horizons and, most dramatically, by a single late Ubaid site beneath thick layers of alluvium (fig. 6). Clearly in this area the survey archaeologist confronts two problems. First the landscape and smaller sites are partly buried, and second, any canals bringing water

from the upper valley would have distributed most of their water by this point. Consequently less water would have been available for cultivation and the sustenance of settled communities.

Farther south still, however, where the valley is considerably narrower, smaller sites again become more evident, and here on the fringing bluffs two newly discovered sites are of particular interest. The first was nothing more than a scatter of tiny sherds of southern Uruk type from the fourth millennium B.C. In contrast to the coarse local chaff-tempered wares of

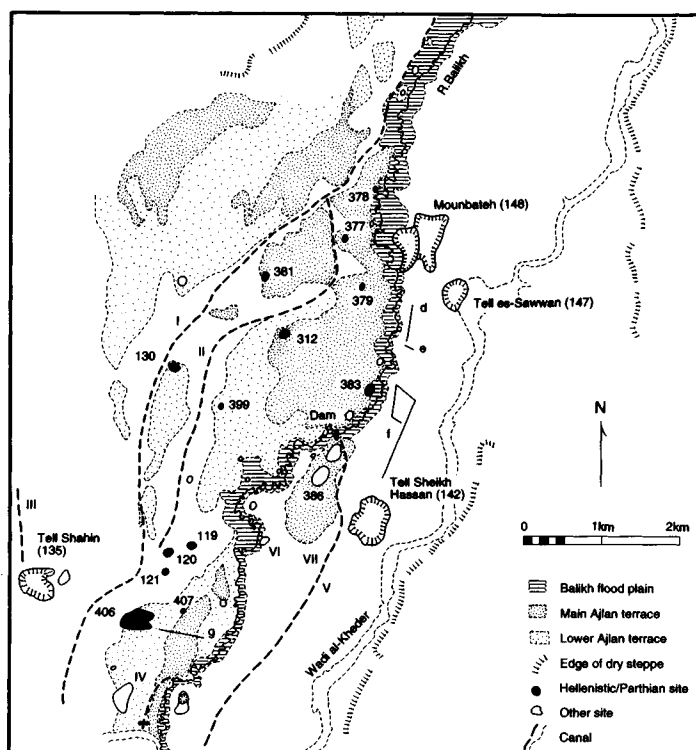
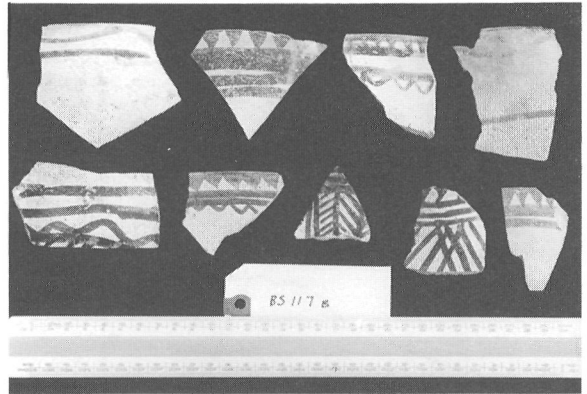


Figure 5. Detailed map of part of central Balikh Valley showing probable route of Hellenistic canal (broken line) and Hellenistic/Parthian sites that developed along it

this period that dominate the larger tells of the Balikh Valley, this distinctive wheel-thrown pottery is fine and well made (except for the unfortunate and artistically-challenged beveled-rim bowl). What is remarkable about such sites (and a similar one was discovered in the 1992 field season) is their size. This particular site, BS 414, was unmounded, spread over a few tens of meters, and after a scrupulous search of some forty-five minutes, yielded five beveled-rim bowls, five other distinctive southern Mesopotamian forms, and one possible figurine fragment. Virtually nothing else of any period was found except for a few scraps of Late Bronze or Iron Age sherds. Guillermo Algaze has suggested that such sites with southern Mesopotamian-type pottery were

stations aligned along trade routes linking larger “enclaves” developed as part of a process of economic colonization of the regions peripheral to southern Mesopotamia. Interestingly Algaze, in his book, *The Uruk World System* (1993), predicted that further discoveries of such sites would occur along the Balikh Valley. Therefore although small to the point of being almost archaeologically invisible, the two Uruk sites of BS 414 (in the southern valley) and BS 355 (ca. 1.5 km to the south of Tell Hammam et-Turkman) appear to form part of



*Figure 6. Painted pottery from Ubaid in the lower Balikh Valley (BS 117). Note this is not from the buried site mentioned in the text*

a pattern of developing southern influence in the fourth millennium B.C. In this case they must have developed along the extending communication systems of the Uruk system of settlement, but whether such vestiges were way stations along trade routes, hunting stations outside larger enclaves, markets, or had some other function is difficult to determine from their scrappy remains.

An additional discovery of some importance was that of a hilltop fort dated to roughly the mid-third millennium B.C. This site of Tell Hassan (BS 418) was found along the western edge of the narrow southern valley, immediately to the west of the important square fort Tell Mahlas (BS 21). Because Tell Mahlas had a defensive function, perhaps to guard the route from or the territorial boundary of Tell Bi'a (Old Babylonian Tuttul), it seems reasonable to conclude that Tell Hassan performed a similar function. Thus in the mid to late third millennium B.C. the southern Balikh Valley must have been guarded by either a pair of forts, or if they were not precisely contemporary, by two sites that operated to guard the up-valley route at slightly different times.

## THE BIR UMM FAWAKHIR SURVEY PROJECT

**Carol Meyer**

The Bir Umm Fawakhir Project of the Oriental Institute completed a third season of archaeological survey in January 1996. The site of Bir Umm Fawakhir, in the rugged Precambrian mountains of the central Eastern Desert of Egypt, can now be identified as a fifth/sixth-century Coptic/Byzantine gold-mining town (fig. 1). The team consisted of Dr. Carol Meyer, field director; Dr. Lisa Heidorn, archaeologist; Mohamed Badr el-Din

## ARCHAEOLOGY

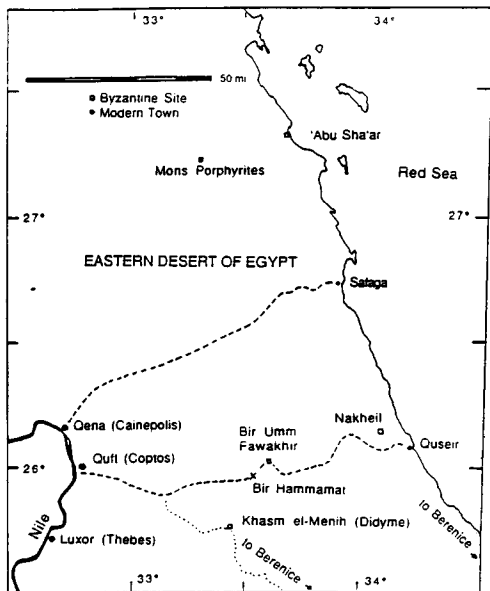


Figure 1. Map of Eastern Desert of Egypt

same date identified so far (fig. 2). The main settlement lies in a long, narrow, steep-sided wadi not visible from the modern road. The sandy wadi bottom serves as the main street and houses are laid out on both sides, up to the point where the cliffsides become too steep for construction (fig. 3). The houses are remarkably well preserved, in places standing over 1.5 m high, and many have internal features such as wall niches for storage and benches. We can thus map an entire Byzantine/Coptic town, house by house, detail by detail, without excavation.

The previous two seasons mapped 105 buildings, out of an estimated 216, plus some of the surrounding topography, and the 1996 project mapped 47 more houses (fig. 4). Work began in 1992 at the extreme southeastern end of the site, but as the survey moved northwest down the wadi

Omar, geologist; Dr. Steven Cole, Assyriologist and photographer; Alexandra O'Brien, Egyptologist; Mohammed Rayyan, inspector; and Abdu Hassan, driver. Due to delays in obtaining final security clearance in Cairo, the start of the season had to be postponed from December 30, 1995 to January 9, 1996 and then continued through January 18. Thanks and acknowledgments are always due to many people and patrons, but under the difficult circumstances of the 1996 season, special measure goes to Amira Khattab of American Research Center in Egypt in Cairo and to Professor Peter Dorman, Dr. W. Raymond Johnson, and Ahmed Harfoush of Chicago House in Luxor.

As in the 1992 and 1993 seasons, our efforts concentrated on mapping the main settlement, so termed to distinguish it from the eight clusters of outlying ruins of the

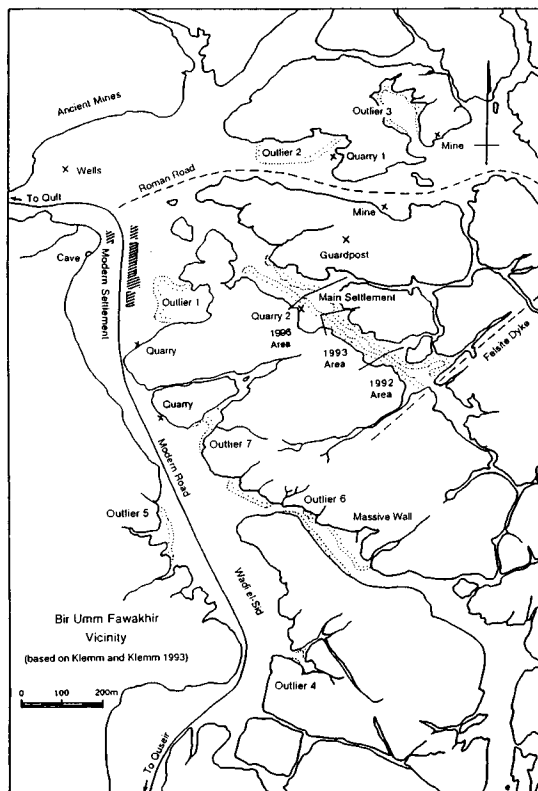
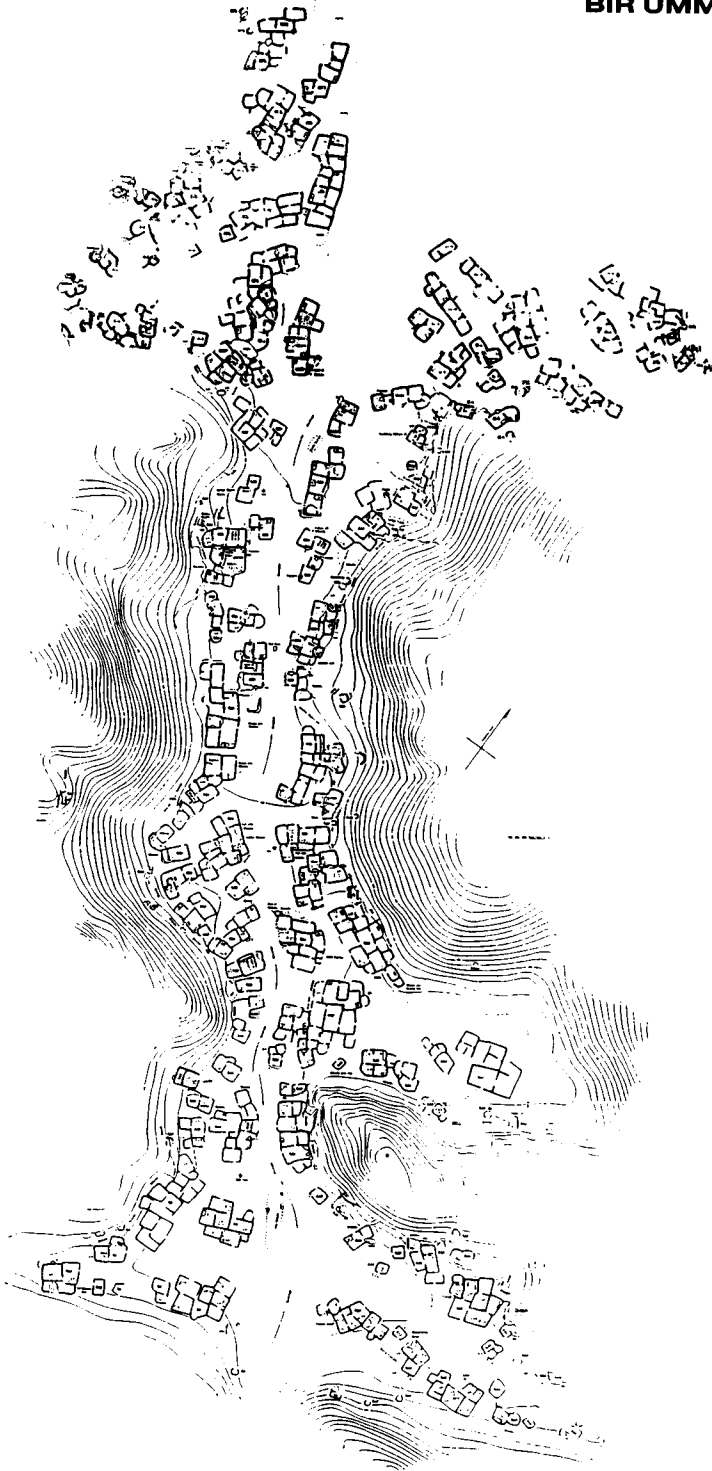


Figure 2. Bir Umm Fawakhir vicinity (based on Klemm and Klemm 1993)





**Figure 3. Map of Bir Umm Fawakhir Main Settlement, 1992, 1993, and 1996 seasons**

## ARCHAEOLOGY

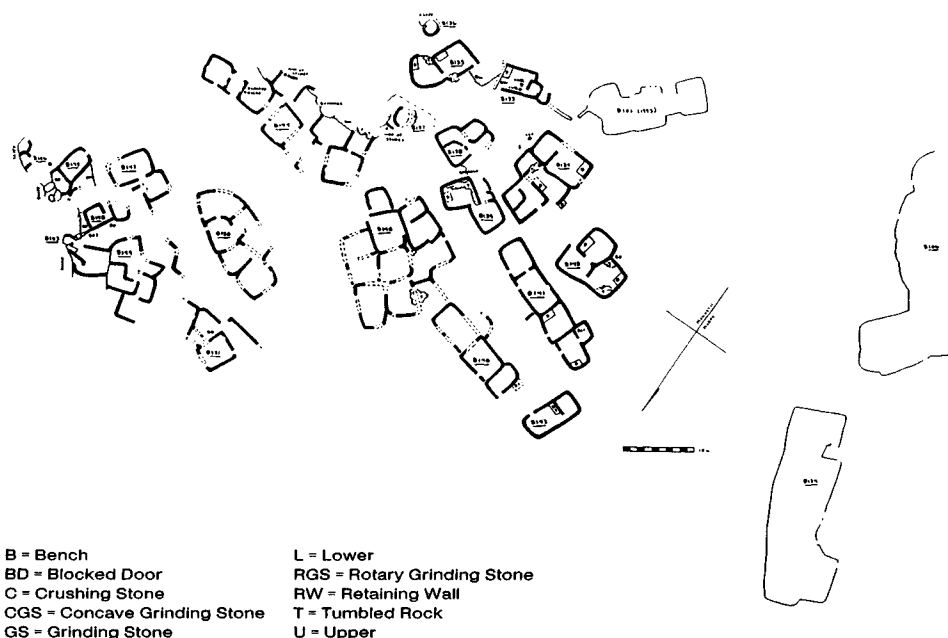


Figure 4. Bir Umm Fawakhir 1996 Season (larger scale; eastern area)

street, the buildings were more poorly preserved, more tumbled by wadi wash, and harder to interpret (fig. 5). Although the individual character of the buildings generally remained clear, in many cases doors could only be interpolated. As in the previous two seasons, all the buildings appeared to be domestic. They have a basic pattern of two or three rooms, e.g., Building 122, but in many cases two or more houses were stuck together in larger agglomerated units. The largest mapped in 1996, Building 106, had 22 rooms, outstripping Building 50 with 19 rooms. Scattered around the multi-room houses were a number of one-room outbuildings, both the larger squarish ones, e.g., Building 108, and small rounded ones, such as Building 136. Without excavation we cannot know whether these were used for storage, cooking, animals, workshops, latrines, or yet other purposes.

Several especially thick-walled houses (Buildings 112, 113, 116, and 117) were built against or under boulders on the cliffside behind Quarry 2. In this area rotary grinding stones and dimpled crushing stones were abundant, but apparently in secondary context. In particular, it seemed as if someone had collected a score or more of the crushing stones and set them up on the slope alongside the entrance to Building 117, perhaps as steps (fig. 6).

The corpus of dipinti, dockets painted in red on the shoulders of wine jars, increased by ten, but unfortunately they are fragmentary and illegible. Systematic sherd collection was, given the brevity of the season, limited to two samples, augmented by some special pieces such as imported North African red ware and a painted fish, a popular Coptic motif. Lisa Heidorn had charge of the collections, recording and drawing, and will prepare the final pottery analysis. Apart from sherds and crushing and grinding stones, other surface finds were rare.

Steven Cole located two more cemetery areas on the surrounding cliffside. One of them, on a natural path across the ridge to the Roman road, was quite extensive. All

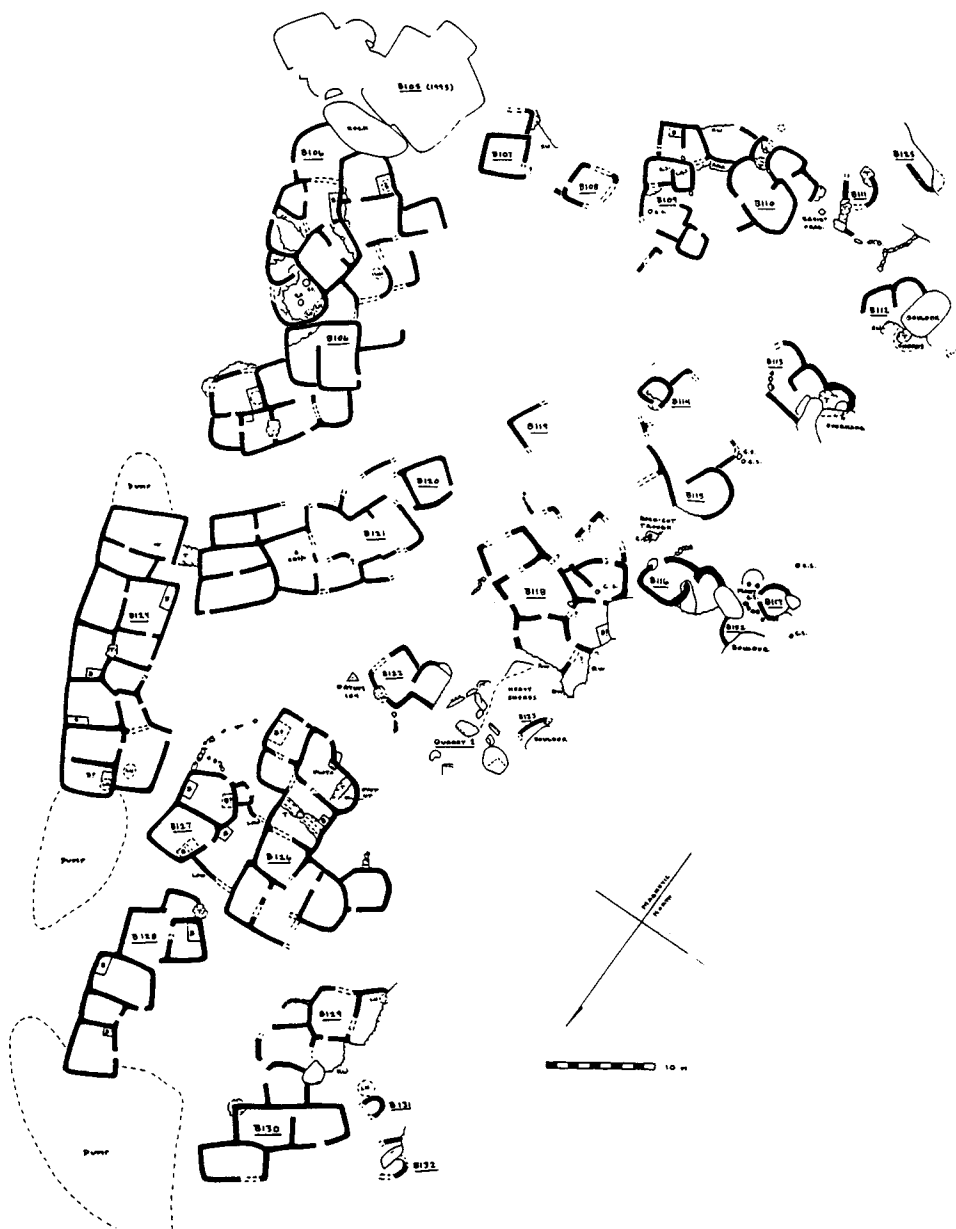


Figure 4 (cont.). Bir Umm Fawakhir 1996 Season (larger scale; western area)

graves located so far were simple clefts in the bedrock or cists built up of granite slabs, and all were thoroughly looted.

Quarry 2, inspected but not plotted in 1993, has now been incorporated in the site map. Judging from a handful of Roman amphorae sherds, the type of wedge slots in the

## ARCHAEOLOGY

granite, and the fact that at least one partly quarried block is built into a house, the quarry appears to be a minor Roman activity, smaller even than Quarry 1 on the old Roman road to the west.

In 1992 and 1993 the project identified seven outlying clusters of ruins, now numbered Outliers 1 through 7, ranging in size from a few huts in Outlier 4 to over sixty in Outlier 6. Just across the road from the modern mining camp in the Wadi el-Sid, the survey found an eighth outlier surviving just to one side of a huge modern deposit of crushed quartz tailings. There could be more outliers still, particularly around the modern mine and in the uninvestigated area to the west of the wells.

Outlier 2, lying between the wells and Quarry 1 on the Roman road, was remarkably intact, and Steven Cole began to document some of the best-preserved buildings. One house in particular could be preserved to its original height of about 2 m (fig. 7). Furthermore, two houses had grain silos outside. They were cylindrical, now roofless constructions of granite cobbles and thick mud plaster. Both silos had internal partitions

and a small hole at ground level for extracting grain (fig. 8). They were of particular interest because silos had not been detected at other parts of the site and because their association with individual houses did not suggest central management of grain stores.

One specific question the project addressed concerned the ancient gold mines and mining techniques. Although the site could be identified as a mining town, further research revealed that there were virtually no archaeological studies of mines and mining in this period in Egypt, or for that matter in the



*Figure 5. Overview of the eastern part of the Bir Umm Fawakhir 1996 Survey Area. Buildings 147, 150, and 144 in the foreground, Buildings 134–140 in the background*

entire Byzantine empire. The one literary source for ancient Egyptian gold mining, versus gold working, is Diodorus Siculus of the first century B.C., citing Agatharcides of the preceding century. One problem was that Diodorus was writing over half a millennium earlier than Bir Umm Fawakhir and it could not be assumed that nothing changed, especially in regard to the political and economic milieu. Another problem was that Agatharcides might have based his account wholly or in part on Spanish mines.

First of all, Diodorus says that “the kings of Egypt gather together and condemn to the mining of gold such as have been found guilty of some crime, and captives of war, as well as those who have been ... thrown into prison because of their anger, and ... occasionally all their relatives as well” (III.12). The Ptolemaic kings had long been supplanted by distant rulers in Rome or Constantinople. Diodorus dwells at length on the extreme misery of the workers, because “all without exception [are] compelled by blows to persevere in their labors, until through ill-treatment they die in the midst of their tortures” (III.13).

The civil status of the people at Bir Umm Fawakhir is by no means as clear as Diodorus’ account seems to make it. The town had no obvious planned layout but

rather sprawled from one end of its wadi to the other, and perhaps into the outlying clusters as well. The individual houses were idiosyncratic and while not sumptuous did have their small built-in comforts such as niches and benches. The grain silos did not suggest a centralized storehouse, and the dipinti came from wine amphorae, perhaps used for wine only once but still representing a fair quantity of an imported luxury. There were no formal defenses at the site, either to keep people in or out. None of the houses were noticeably more elaborate than any other, and a difference between the keepers and the kept would be expected in a penal establishment.

In describing the mining itself, Diodorus says “the gold-bearing earth which is hardest they first burn with a hot fire, and when they have crumbled it in this way they continue the working of it by hand ...” (III.12). Four mines were inspected during the 1996 season and in none of them was any sign of fire setting found, no charcoal, no ash, and in particular none of the rounded, spalled-out niches fire setting creates. The largest of the mines investigated was high enough to walk upright in, ran about 100 m into the mountainside, had two short side passages and one air shaft, and—at the working faces—hammered, rectangular slots for splintering out the rock. There could have been no need for fire setting. The gold-bearing quartz is tough, but the surrounding granite is naturally jointed and fissured and in places downright rotten. In the last two mines inspected this was particularly true; the granite sometimes crumbled underfoot.

Diodorus’ description of ore reduction, however, seemed closer to what could be documented at Bir Umm Fawakhir. “The boys who have not yet come to maturity ... laboriously gather up the rock as it is cast down piece by piece and carry it out into the open place outside the entrance. Then those who are above thirty years of age take this quarried stone ... and with iron pestles pound a specified amount of it in stone mortars, until they have worked it down to the size of a vetch. Thereupon the women and older men

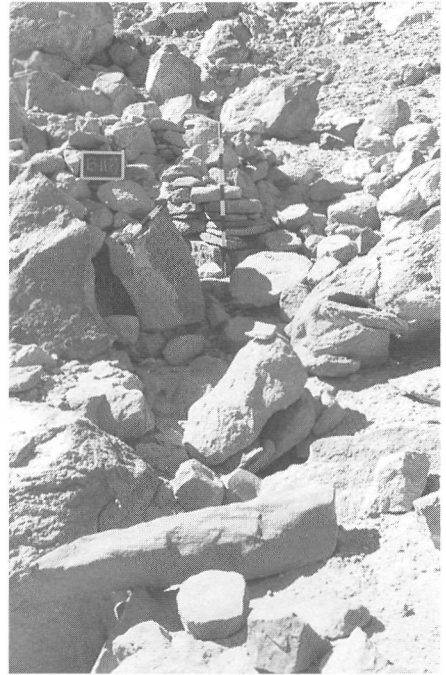


Figure 6. Building 117 with numerous crushing stones upslope

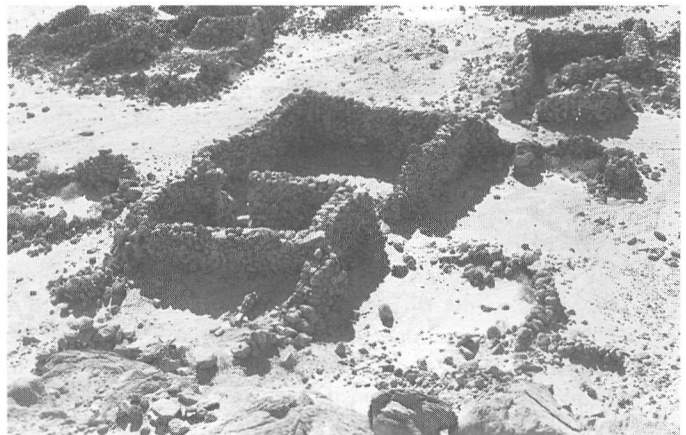


Figure 7. House in Outlier 2 at Bir Umm Fawakhir

## ARCHAEOLOGY

receive [it] from them and cast it into mills of which a number stand there in a row, and taking their places in groups of two or three at the spoke or handle of each mill they grind it ... to the consistency of the finest flour" (III.13). "Mortars" in the sense of deep pounding basins were few at Bir Umm Fawakhir, but there were hundreds of the dimpled crushing stones, including one in situ at the entrance to a mine, lumps of discarded quartz matrix still scattered around it. Similarly, there were scores of the rotary

querns or mills at Bir Umm Fawakhir, both upper and lower stones. What is still not accounted for, however, are the many concave grinding stones. Were they used at a different stage of the grinding or for something else altogether, such as flour, or are they more ancient?

The greatest surprise of the season was the discovery of New Kingdom material in an area not investigated previously because it was assumed to have been torn up by modern mining activity. The remains consisted of about half a dozen thoroughly looted graves with scattered potsherds, a guard post, and a large sherd dump. The guard post consisted of two rooms or shelters constructed of heavy, unworked stones, plus perhaps two more shelters built against boulders. The post commanded a fine view of the road through the Wadi el-Sid and the nearby modern mines. Although analysis of the drawings of the sherds from the dump is not complete, the blue-painted sherds, burnished jars, and a potstand point to a New Kingdom date.

The Twentieth Dynasty Turin Papyrus, which



*Figure 8. Silo in Outlier 2 at Bir Umm Fawakhir*

can reasonably be read as a map to the stone quarries in the Wadi Hammamat, shows a well, a temple, and a "Mountain of Gold" and a "Mountain of Silver" just beyond. This season, however, was the first time the project has been able to document pharaonic activity in the mining zone.

The Bir Umm Fawakhir Survey Project has now mapped three-quarters of an entire ancient town in detail, and we have a preliminary population estimate of a little over 1,000 people in the main settlement. The growing pottery corpus, coming from what is basically a one-period site, will be of particular value to researchers studying longer-lived and more complex sites. We have also documented aspects of the site that are often difficult to detect archaeologically: roads, paths, outlying clusters of buildings, silos, cemeteries, and working areas such as mines and quarries. We can now go beyond a straight descriptive account of the material remains of Bir Umm Fawakhir and begin to investigate questions about the miners themselves, including questions such as their civil status and who was responsible for the overall operations. For one thing, the emperors of the fifth and sixth centuries were desperate for gold, and Bir Umm Fawakhir is one of the first archaeologically studied gold sources within the Byzantine empire. It seems likely that the emperors' personal appointees, the dukes of Thebes (Luxor), and their administrative offices had some involvement in the mines or more exactly, in the product. Also, it is difficult to see who apart from the government could have organized the support and protection of such a remote mining town. It is a long

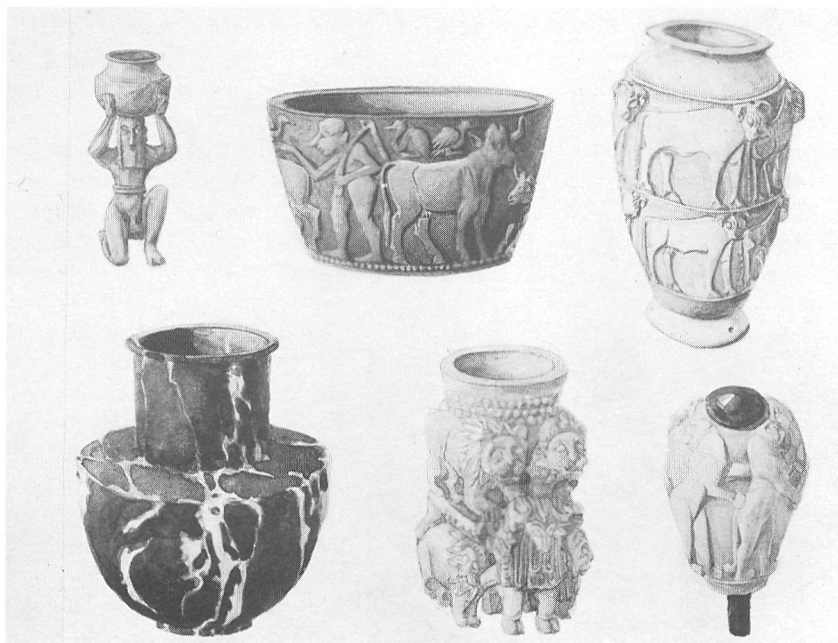
way from the glittering courts of Constantinople to the Precambrian granites of Bir Umm Fawakhir, but it is becoming clear that we have to think about the site not only in an Egyptian context but also in an imperial one.

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## THE DIYALA OBJECTS PROJECT

**Claudia Suter and McGuire Gibson**

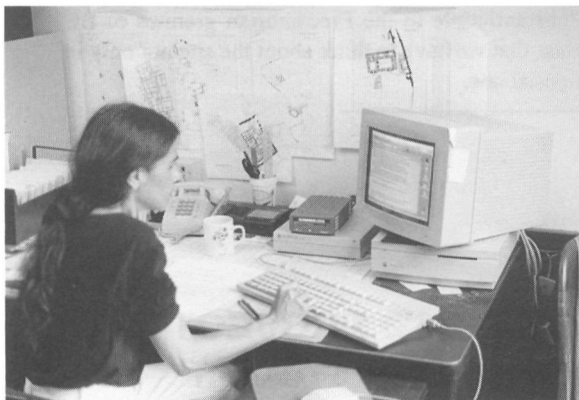
The goal of the Diyala Objects Project, as described in the last report, is to complete the publication of the Oriental Institute's Iraq Expedition in the Diyala River Valley, which lasted from 1929 to 1936. Still missing and long-awaited is the publication of the so-called miscellaneous objects, including everything but sculpture, cylinder seals, and pottery. Most of the miscellaneous objects are utilitarian in nature, including such items as axes, hoes, arrowheads, knives, and metallurgical equipment, but there are also dozens of items of high artistic quality. Stamp seals, shell inlay, and terra-cotta plaques often have representations on them that are unique in art history. Some of the items we think of as utilitarian, such as stone bowls, can be instances of striking design, or might have carved-in motifs of great importance. Having been found in temples, palaces, and houses of the rich as well as the poor, these objects carry with them information not only for themselves as representatives of a type but also as parts of an assemblage of



*Drawings of stone vessels from Tell Agrab, one of the sites excavated by the Oriental Institute in the Diyala region*



## ARCHAEOLOGY



*Diyala Objects Project Coordinator Claudia Suter edits data on the project's computer*

ful ways. Thus, in a pioneering effort, we plan to publish on the one hand a full catalog of not only the miscellaneous objects but also of all artifacts from the Diyala region, totaling approximately twelve thousand, in one or more compact discs (CD), which will include electronic images of them. On the other, we will provide analytical and concluding articles on the various groups of miscellaneous objects in traditional book form.

The staff of the project, under the general directorship of Professor McGuire Gibson, consists of Dr. Claudia Suter supervising, as coordinator, the practical execution of the project, and two student assistants: Clemens Reichel, who at the same time is writing a Ph.D. dissertation on political continuity and change in ancient Eshnunna, the main site of the Diyala River Valley; and Jason Ur, who has used his considerable skills with computers to customize and correct the database and make it more efficient, as well as to check the information against earlier Diyala publications. In addition, a number of scholars have agreed to participate as consultants.

The Iraq Expedition under Henri Frankfort's directorship is synonymous with the beginning of modern excavation techniques in the Near East. For the first time several sites were excavated with the primary goal of producing a stratigraphy that would provide a detailed chronological sequence into which the excavated objects as well as his-

torical facts known through written records could be tied. The recording system was innovative and well thought-out, and extensive documentation has survived. We have a great mass of records, including a large number of plans and sketches, field diaries, locus cards describing each findspot with its sequence and finds, field registers and object cards in which all objects were carefully recorded, numerous field negatives with their photographic prints of architectural remains as



*Student Assistant Jason Ur entering data on Diyala objects*

objects from a particular context. It is just such information that archaeologists use to help define the function of a room, a building, or an institution. Our project will, therefore, bring the material found in the Diyala in the 1930s once again into the mainstream of current Near Eastern research.

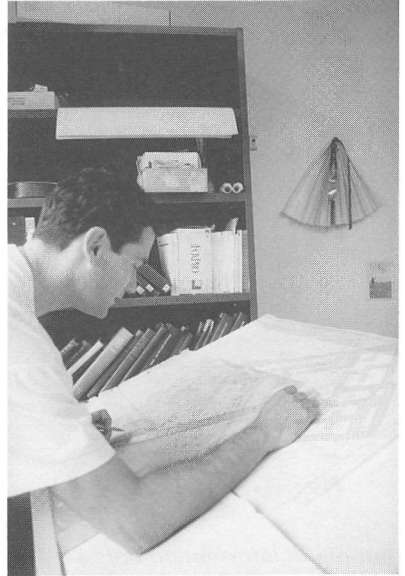
Our work involves computerization in all its phases. Progress in the compilation of electronic databases makes it possible to present a catalog of objects so that information about them can be retrieved quickly in meaningful ways. Thus, in a pioneering effort, we plan to publish on the one hand a full catalog of not only the miscellaneous objects but also of all artifacts from the Diyala region, totaling approximately twelve thousand, in one or more compact discs (CD), which will include electronic images of them. On the other, we will provide analytical and concluding articles on the various groups of miscellaneous objects in traditional book form.

well as objects, and lists that record the division of objects between the Oriental Institute and the Iraq Museum.

The organization of the excavation records in a usable form, started by others several times in the past fifty years but not completed, is now on a firm footing. A systematic inventory of all plans, many of which are unpublished, and the sorting and listing of all available prints of thousands of photographs and field negatives are in progress. In the spring of 1996, Dr. Suter visited the Warburg Institute in London, where the papers of Henri Frankfort are kept, and the University Museum in Philadelphia, which has the documentation and finds of two additional seasons in the Diyala region, dug under the auspices of the Joint Babylonian Expedition in 1937/38. It should be mentioned that the Iraq Museum in Baghdad has copies of some basic records and holds half of the objects found by the expedition. If conditions permit, one or more of the project staff will spend time in Baghdad in the future to check those actual objects against our records.

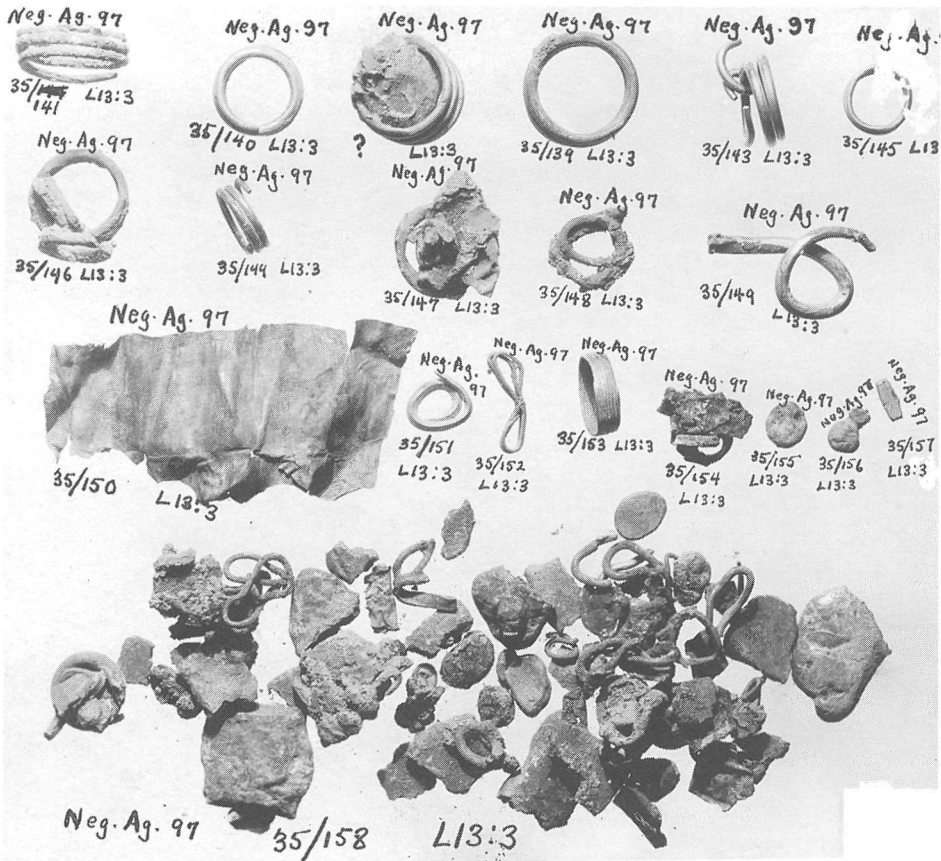
The student assistants have continued to enter data from the field registers and object cards on our computer database. We presently have a record for practically every object. Since the excavators, when describing objects in the field or giving names to findspots during the process of the excavation, did not anticipate the computer age, their terminology and designations are not always as precise and consistent as computerized databases require. A human, for example, will easily consider Northern Palace and N. Palace as the same entity, while the computer will require two different searches to find both terms. We have thus begun systematizing and making consistent the terminology in our database, which enables us at the same time to identify objects that were not clearly identified by the excavators from the very beginning, but the nature of which became clear retrospectively after several similar objects had been found. The importance of uniformity and consistency in labeling cannot be stressed enough.

The description of objects provided by the excavators in the field also needs some updating and additions. In order to allow the future user to search for general categories of objects, we have introduced the following categories: sculpture; seals and sealings; vessels; jewelry and cosmetic utensils; tools and weapons; figurines, models and plaques; inlays; architectural elements; texts; raw material; botanical and faunal remains; miscellaneous objects; and unidentified objects. The excavators' determination of the materials of which the objects are made also can be improved today. For the stone objects, we are fortunate to count among our consultants Dr. Carol Meyer, who analyzed the stone artifacts from the Diyala region in her Ph.D. dissertation of 1981. With her help and that of John Sanders and the University Computer Center we have been able to read her old mainframe tapes and have succeeded in making her data compatible with our computer program. Having Meyer's information in our database, we will be able not only to include her stone analyses but also to update our database with



*Student Assistant Clemens Reichel redrawing one of the major buildings in which objects were found*

## ARCHAEOLOGY



*Sample of information being used to compile the database by the Diyala Objects Project, unpublished metal objects from Tell Agrab with notes (negative and object numbers, provenience) added by the excavators*

additional information such as the Iraq Museum numbers, which she was able to add in Baghdad twenty-five years ago.

Dr. Suter has already moved beyond the database compilation and is involved in the analysis and interpretation of one of the categories, stone vessels. She compiled and organized all illustrations, photographs and drawings, which had been prepared by the late Pierre Delougaz and Helene Kantor. Basing her work on the profile drawings, she started to create a typology of shapes, comparing the Diyala vessels with stone vessels from other ancient Mesopotamia sites. As soon as Dr. Meyer's stone analyses are fully available on our database, she will investigate the relation of shape and material, and that of material and ultimate origin of the vessels or their raw material, respectively. Her work will help to elucidate the trade routes and connections that the people of the Diyala Valley had with foreign lands, since there are hardly any large, useful stones, except for limestone, available in southern Mesopotamia.

Once we are satisfied that we have a complete record of all objects from the Diyala on our database, we will start to verify and compare the information from various kinds of original sources. For example, we will compare the information in the field registers with the information given in the already-published volumes on architecture. At the

same time, we will begin scanning into the database the thousands of illustrations of objects. This process will require additional manpower and, above all, more powerful computer equipment than the project presently owns, including a scanner and much more memory. Electronic images consume enormous amounts of memory and disc space, and we are dealing with approximately 12,000 objects. For this purpose we must find further financial support from foundations or individuals. The project is worthy of support, even though the original fieldwork was brought to a close almost fifty years ago. Even after all that time, there is no group of Mesopotamian objects from well-excavated contexts that compares in quality and quantity with the Diyala finds. Their publication, especially in electronic form, will give scholars a remarkable new data source for the assessment of Mesopotamia's place in the history of art and technology.

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## THE EPIGRAPHIC SURVEY

**Peter F. Dorman**

"The mound of the fathers and mothers"—the Eighteenth Dynasty temple dedicated to the worship of Amun at Medinet Habu—was the primary venue of work during the seventy-second season of the Epigraphic Survey, which opened on October 2, 1995, and ended on April 1, 1996. This relatively small but most significant cult center on the western bank of the Nile, believed in antiquity to be the burial mound of the eight primeval gods of Egypt, continues to offer us surprises every year. In addition, progress continued on the preparation of our second volume on the Colonnade Hall of Luxor Temple, including occasional last-minute checks and photography at Luxor.

The collation of drawings this season concentrated almost exclusively on the areas of the Eighteenth Dynasty temple that are slated for publication in the first volume on that monument: the six interior chapels decorated by Hatshepsut and Thutmose III, as well as the exterior facade of those chapels. Epigraphers John and Deborah Darnell, and Student Epigraphers Edward Castle and Stephen Vinson, joined when possible by Artist/Epigrapher Andrew Baumann and myself, completed collations on thirty-seven drawings, and Artists Raymond Johnson, Christina Di Cerbo, Susan Osgood, Margaret De Jong, Andrew Baumann, and Linda Cohn-Kobylecky undertook the penciling and inking on thirty-four additional enlargements, in addition to five graffiti. Most of these new drawing enlargements pertain to the exterior portions of the Eighteenth Dynasty temple: the bark sanctuary and the peripteros around it, which are to appear in a second volume on the temple. Seventeen drawings were given final director's checks (fig. 1), and we seem in a good position to complete the documentation of the six chapels by the end of the 1996/97 season.

The court in front of the Eighteenth Dynasty temple at Medinet Habu, which was built over in the first major expansion of the original building during the Kushite Twenty-fifth Dynasty (ca. 715–664 B.C.), has recently posed a number of interesting architectural questions. In the fall of 1993 it was discovered that the present flanking walls of the court, built during the later Ptolemaic period, consisted very largely of re-used blocks containing Kushite decoration, and the suspicion remains that these stones

## ARCHAEOLOGY

were dismantled from that now-vanished Twenty-fifth Dynasty building. We were pleased to have Dr. Edna Russmann, an authority on the Late Period and Kushite iconography in particular, as a consultative art historian for portions of two seasons in 1993/94 and 1994/95. This past season Drs. Jean and Helen Jacquet were able to complete their preliminary investigation of the fleeting architectural traces of the Kushite building, and their report, which is appended directly after my own, will significantly alter our understanding of how the temple expanded during the later periods of Egyptian history.

Photographer Yarko Kobylecky was employed in reshooting a number of difficult scenes for enlargement purposes: the four columns in the peripteros, inserted at a late date by King Akoris of the Twenty-ninth Dynasty to prop up the sagging roof; the small Taharqa gateway located at the northwestern corner of the temple; the recarved Ptolemaic lintel of the temple facade; and the portions of the exterior walls that are now enclosed by the Ptolemaic annexes to the north and south. Yarko also made thirty-six drawing enlargements for the artists during the season and bleached forty-seven drawings for collation blueprints for the epigraphers. Other photographic projects included recording several new graffiti discovered by Egyptian conservators in the course of their work at the mortuary temple of Ramesses III and a number of documentary views of the Chicago House compound after the renovation (fig. 2).

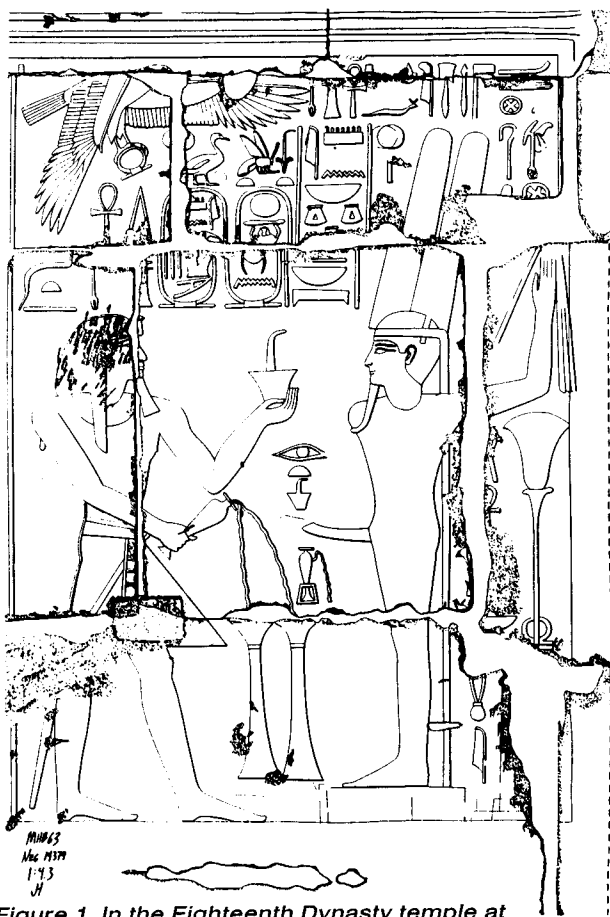


Figure 1. In the Eighteenth Dynasty temple at Medinet Habu, Tuthmosis II offers incense and a libation to an ithyphallic Amun-Ra. The cartouches once contained the names of Hatshepsut (replaced after her death), and the figure of the god is a Ramesside recarving of the original Amun-Ra, hacked out by the agents of the iconoclast pharaoh Akhenaton. Drawing by James Heidel and W. Raymond Johnson

maic lintel of the temple facade; and the portions of the exterior walls that are now enclosed by the Ptolemaic annexes to the north and south. Yarko also made thirty-six drawing enlargements for the artists during the season and bleached forty-seven drawings for collation blueprints for the epigraphers. Other photographic projects included recording several new graffiti discovered by Egyptian conservators in the course of their work at the mortuary temple of Ramesses III and a number of documentary views of the Chicago House compound after the renovation (fig. 2).

Assisting Yarko in the photographic archives, Ellie Smith returned for two months this season to contribute her invaluable organizational skills, completing the registration of new negatives, lending a hand with the field photography, and compiling a list of glass and nitrate negatives that will require duplication. She also organized a series of prints, taken by former field director Charles Nims, of loose

blocks from Hatshepsut's famous Chapelle Rouge at Karnak, which is to be reconstructed by the Centre franco-égyptien pour l'étude des temples de Karnak; the negatives were placed on CD-ROM by the CFEETK and a copy on disc was generously returned to the Survey by our French colleague, director François Larché.

At Luxor Temple a number of new discoveries came to light, thanks to Raymond Johnson's detective skills and interest in late Eighteenth Dynasty sculpture. At the invitation of our good friend Dr. Hourig Sourouzian and with the kind permission of Dr. Mohammed Saleh, director of

the Cairo Museum, Ray was able to examine photographs taken by Dr. Sourouzian of certain statue fragments in the museum basement. Several of these fragments turned out to be directly relevant to our concessions in Luxor and Karnak. One lovely facial fragment (fig. 3) can now be rejoined to the largest sculpture in the Colonnade Hall, a colossal dyad of Amun and Mut (fig. 4); in antiquity the goddess's face had sheared off but was carefully reattached by dowels, then finally lost again, eventually being taken to Cairo. A plaster cast made by Dr. Saleh allowed Ray to confirm the join of the fragment in situ (the dowel holes on the fragment match those of the statue), and we hope to reattach the face to the statue next season, restoring a large measure of Mut's beauty. Two other blocks were identified as belonging to the missing torso and head of Mut in a smaller dyad in the Colonnade; but the surprise in this case is that the blocks are of much later date—perhaps even Ptolemaic—than the statue itself. This situation again testifies to a late repair undertaken to restore a yet more ancient statue deemed useful for the purpose of worship. And still another torso in the Cairo Museum, we trust, will eventually rejoin its statue group in the Temple of Khonsu at Karnak.

At the beginning of the season we discovered that the dismantling of the eastern colonnade of Amenhotep III at Luxor Temple by the Supreme Council for Antiquities (SCA) had exposed the foundation blocks of the side walls, a number of which bore masons' graffiti in red ink; Yarko photographed nineteen of these for publication by Dr.



*Figure 2. The library at Chicago House, March 1996. Except for the new side lighting, the room has been restored to its original appearance. The overhead globe lights, accidentally broken during the recent construction, are replacements obtained from Salvage One in Chicago and shipped to Luxor*

## ARCHAEOLOGY

Abd el-Halim Nur ed-Din, Secretary General of the SCA. Also of great architectural interest was the exposed northeastern corner of the temple podium belonging to the first building phase of Luxor Temple, prior to the addition of the sun court to the north.

Once again this season, Deborah Darnell devoted a good portion of her time to the management of the Chicago House library, whose collection continues to grow. It is primarily due to her organization, meticulous checking, and hard work in ordering books, cataloging them, and arranging payment that the library has been able to maintain the completeness and currency of its holdings. New accessions received this year totaled 203 books and offprints, raising the collection to 17,180 items. Debbie's tasks were made easier by a project she began with Nan Ray two years ago and which was brought to fruition this year: a database file that holds the titles to all of our journals and monograph series. This database now totals 360 different series titles, several of which contain over one hundred volumes each. Nan joined us for six weeks during the winter to complete the last entries and to pursue a number of other tasks, including reorganizing the library's offprint file. Other regular helpers in the more routine library duties such as reshelving, ordering, cataloging, and proofreading included John, Ted, and Steve. At the end of the season our good friend May Trad visited the house to arrange

for a large shipment of new and damaged books to be sent to the binderies in Cairo over the summer, and her continuing supervision of this chore is an invaluable service for which we are truly grateful.

During the summer of 1995 and the spring of 1996, John Darnell and the author spent a good deal of time augmenting and editing the manuscript for the next projected volume on Luxor: *The Facade, Portals, Upper Registers, Columns, and Marginalia of the Colonnade Hall*, to appear in the subseries *Reliefs and Inscriptions at Luxor Temple*. While the first volume concentrated on the single unified theme of the Festival of Opet as it was celebrated under Tutankhamun and Sety I, the second is a remarkable potpourri of reliefs and graffiti of all periods and will document the many alterations suffered by the Colonnade Hall from the reign of Ramesses II to the ultimate destruction of the Hall at the hands of stone quarriers after the Roman period. A number of plates have already been prepared, showing the projected reconstruction of the facade with a number of fragments floated into place; the fragments were scanned and then printed in various reduced scales as an experiment funded by the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Foundation to assist in

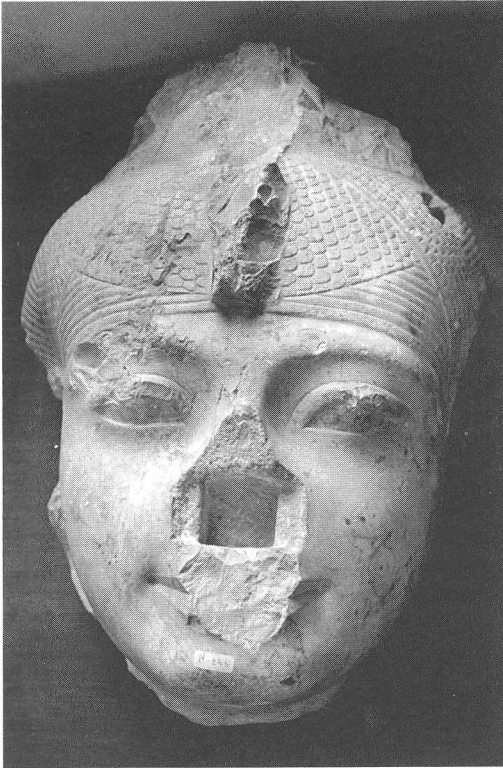


Figure 3. The fragment of Mut's face, identified in the basement of the Cairo Museum, that belongs to the colossal dyad in the Colonnade Hall. Photograph by W. Raymond Johnson, by kind permission of Dr. Mohammed Saleh



incorporating computer technology into our current epigraphic method.

Physical conservation of the monuments in our concessions is becoming an ever more urgent priority. As part of a grant from the Egyptian Antiquities Project (EAP) of the American Research Center in Egypt, we were very pleased to have conservator Dr. John Stewart of the National Trust of Great Britain at Chicago House for two weeks, in order to complete a condition survey on the block fragments he had worked on from 1985 to 1987. John carried out additional tests on the blocks (fig. 5) and set forth a series of proposals that will be used over the next four years as the basis of further consolidation and desalination, to begin on a larger scale next season.

In addition, the Survey was selected as the recipient of a five-year grant from the Egyptian Antiquities Project for major conservation efforts at the Eighteenth Dynasty temple at Medinet Habu. This new program will enable us to consolidate the subsiding walls of the Kushite court, to clean temple reliefs that were smeared with dirt by the torrential rains of 1994, to recover reused block fragments and prepare them for study and publication, to improve water drainage in the area, and to provide the temple with proper access and information for tourists when the task of epigraphic documentation is finished. For their very helpful advice and their efforts in helping to prepare and finalize the grant proposal, I wish to express my special gratitude to Dr. Chip Vincent, Dr. William Remsen, and Cynthia Schartzky of the EAP, as well as to the members of the Supreme Council for Antiquities who readily approved the project.

The daily operations of the household and the main office were in the hands of our administrator Ahmed Harfoush, who handled these very critical functions with skill, good humor, and imagination. Due to his fluent Arabic and outgoing nature, the Egyptian staff have rarely felt so integrated with the general activities of the expedition, and Ahmed also served the house extremely well in its logistics and personal relations aspects. The Survey lent assistance to several expeditions in the course of the season, among the most memorable of which was Dr. Carol Meyer's excavations at Bir Umm Fawakhir (see separate report). It was a pleasure having Carol, a former Survey artist, and her staff at Chicago House prior to, and after, their season at the Wadi Hammamat. An unusual opportunity for collaboration arose at the kind invitation of Dr. Vivian



*Figure 4. The colossal dyad of Amun and Mut, located on the western side of the main axis of the Colonnade Hall*

## ARCHAEOLOGY

Davies, Keeper of Egyptian Antiquities at the British Museum, who was working with the Belgian Mission to Elkab. Arrangements were made to send Yarko Kobylecky to Elkab for a day in order to make color transparencies of a monument first published over a century ago, the painted tomb of Ahmose son of Ibana, whose biographical text remains one of the chief historical witnesses to the military campaigns that hurled the Hyksos out of Egypt. Dr. Davies will be republishing the tomb as part of the Belgian epigraphic work at Elkab. As a cooperative effort with local inspectors in Luxor, Yarko also took a series of documentary photographs of the entire Medinet Habu complex for Dr. Mohammed Saghir, Supervisor of Pharaonic Antiquities for Upper Egypt, who has done much recently to consolidate the monuments at Medinet Habu and prepare sandstone pathways for tourists. In conjunction with this work, the Survey was also pleased to develop signage in English and Arabic for the entire Medinet Habu enclosure, providing both tour groups and individual visitors with the latest information on the temples, shrines, and domestic structures there.

Dr. Mohammed Saghir also cosponsored with the Epigraphic Survey a memorial lecture series in honor of the late Dr. Labib Habachi at the Cultural Palace in Luxor. Dr. Saghir himself led off the list of speakers, discussing his finds at the nearby site of Abu'l Goud, which yielded vital information on the vanished town quarters of ancient Thebes; John and Deborah Darnell gave a lively presentation on their epigraphic and

survey work on the desert roads west of Luxor (see *Theban Desert Road Survey* report); and Dr. Nigel Strudwick spoke on his excavation of the tomb of Sennefer (Theban tomb 99) on the western bank. The logistics for the series were indomitably managed by Christina and by Dr. Henri Riad as local liaison, and their joint efforts made the entire series a remarkably well-attended success.

Our continuing fundraising efforts were most successful, thanks to the manifold talents and energy of Jill Carlotta Maher, whose informative and gracious public presentations in our library are matched only by her devotion to maintaining her correspondence with a huge coterie of Chicago House friends. Her humor and vivacity enlivened much of our season and were equally lavished on great numbers of tea and dinner guests, who seem only to approach our gates in increasing numbers.

The Survey received two important gifts this season that will facilitate the logistics of supply and administration. Through the kind sponsorship of Thomas Heagy and Norman Bobins, the LaSalle National Corporation of Chi-



Figure 5. Standing in a makeshift shelter, conservator John Stewart applies Wacker OH by pipette to a deteriorating sandstone fragment at Luxor Temple

cago provided a generous grant to purchase a new fifteen-passenger Toyota minivan for Chicago House that will greatly alleviate the problem of importing spare parts for our two aging Land Rovers (now thirty-three and eighteen years old) and allow us to carry the entire staff in a single trip; the grant also included funds for vehicle registration and repair. The van arrived in Luxor in April, after the end of our season, but our delighted chauffeur, Abd el-Hay, has already purchased the booties for the rearview mirror. And in January Mr. Gilles Acogny, General Director of Xerox Egypt, approved the long-term lease of a new copying machine to replace a much older model (received in 1987), a gift that has already made a noticeable improvement in our office efficiency. We owe a great debt of gratitude to both LaSalle National Corporation and Xerox Egypt.

The long-range financial stability of the Survey received an enormous boost with the successful conclusion in June of negotiations with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) for an augmentation of our existing operating endowment funds. In accordance with legislation passed by the United States Congress last year, USAID in Cairo has authorized a separate trust fund for the preservation of Egyptian antiquities, a fund that the Survey will administer jointly with the American Research Center. I am especially pleased and gratified that Thomas Heagy has graciously agreed to serve as the Chicago House representative to the Endowment Committee that will oversee the trust funds.

We were very pleased this year to welcome the American Ambassador, H. E. Edward Walker, and Mrs. Wendy Walker to the Friends of Chicago House tour over Thanksgiving weekend, which featured a memorable day trip to the magical site of Gebel el-Silsila, where John and Andrew led the group through the quarries and private shrines scattered about the sandstone cliffs overlooking the Nile. The now-traditional black-tie dinner dance in the residence courtyard proved to be a huge hit, as did the spacious quarters of the Winter Palace Hotel, where the group stayed. Once again, I wish to acknowledge the unbounded assistance and good will of Ibrahim Sadek of the American Research Center, without whose kind persistence and relentless organization the weekend would not have happened.

With tourism markedly up this year over last, 747 visitors registered their names in our guest book during the six-month season. We gave thirty-one library lectures to organized groups, and at least twenty-five more to smaller groups and individuals. In the course of the season we welcomed twenty-one overnight guests, most of them professional colleagues who were able to utilize our research facilities to the fullest, and who spent a total of 160 guest nights under our roof.

One of the great highlights of the season was a delightful reception and dinner hosted by Ambassador and Mrs. Walker in March at their embassy residence in honor of Chicago House, providing us with a venue for meeting new business contacts and for speaking on the priorities of monument conservation and documentation. Special visitors to Chicago House this season included Barbara Breasted Whitesides, granddaughter of the founder of the Oriental Institute and the Survey; a tour from the Oriental Institute, which was observed with a special reception in our courtyard; and a visit to Medinet Habu from former President George Bush, whom I had the pleasure of showing the mortuary temple of Ramesses III.

It was a great pleasure for me to share the company and the efforts of a talented and dedicated staff this season, which in addition to the author as field director, consisted of: John Darnell, Deborah Darnell, Edward Castle, and Stephen Vinson, epigraphers; W. Raymond Johnson (Assistant Director), Christina Di Cerbo, Susan Osgood, Margaret De Jong, Andrew Baumann, and Linda Cohn-Kobylecky, artists; Yarko Kobylecky,

## ARCHAEOLOGY

photographer; John Stewart, conservator; Jean and Helen Jacquet, field architects (whose separate report follows); Ahmed Harfoush, house and office administrator; Jill Carlotta Maher, assistant to the director; and Elinor Smith, photographic archives assistant. I am deeply grateful to all of them. Saleh Suleiman Shehat, chief engineer, rendered invaluable services to the expedition that touched every aspect of our daily lives, and Dr. Henri Riad, our distinguished colleague and friend, continued to help us unfailingly with all matters dealing with the local constabulary, the Culture Palace, police security, and administering the Labib Habachi Archives on behalf of the Survey. I express deep gratitude in particular to Raymond Johnson, who cheerfully and capably shouldered the burdens of field director during my absence from Chicago House in January and part of February.

We are especially grateful to the many members of the Supreme Council for Antiquities who contributed directly to the success of the season: Dr. Abd el-Halim Nur ed-Din, Secretary General of the Supreme Council; Dr. Ali Hassan, Director of Pharaonic Antiquities; Dr. Mohammed el-Saghir, Supervisor of Pharaonic Antiquities for Upper Egypt; Dr. Sabry Abd el-Aziz, Chief Inspector of Qurna; Dr. Mohammed Nasr, Chief Inspector of Luxor; Dr. Abd el-Hamid Marouf, Chief Inspector of Karnak; and Dr. Madeleine el-Mallah, Director of the Luxor Museum.

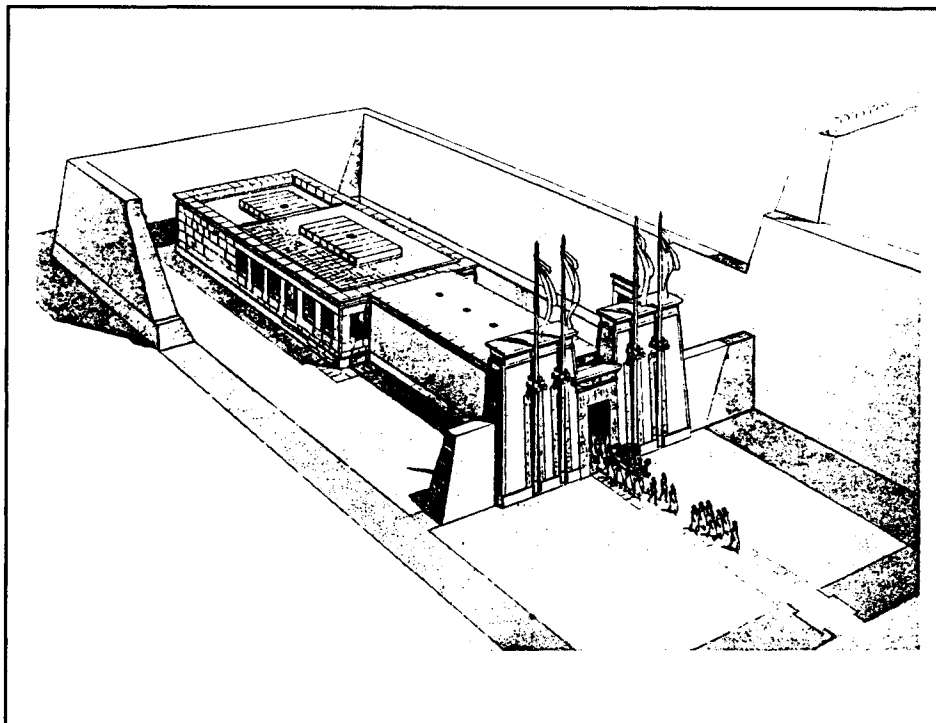
In addition to those mentioned for specific contributions, I gratefully express thanks to many other colleagues and friends: the United States Ambassador to Egypt, H. E. Edward Walker, and Mrs. Wendy Walker; Edmund Hull and William Cavness of the United States Embassy in Cairo; John Westley, Justin Doyle, and Randall Parks of the United States Agency for International Development; Gerald Vincent; Mohammed Ozalp of Misr International Bank; David Maher; David Ray; Mark Rudkin; Lucia Woods Lindley and Daniel Lindley, Jr.; Barbara Mertz; Louis Byron, Jr.; Terry Walz, Mark Easton, Ibrahim Sadek, and Amira Khattab of the American Research Center in Egypt; Fathi Salib of American Express in Luxor; and Cynthia Echols and Florence Bonnick of the Oriental Institute. I would like to single out three institutions in particular that have provided fundamental assistance and support for a number of years, and of whose association with Chicago House we are especially proud: the Amoco Foundation, Inc., The J. Paul Getty Trust, and The Xerox Foundation.

As always, we will be very pleased to welcome members of the Oriental Institute and other friends to Chicago House from October 1st to April 1st. Please write to us in advance to let us know the dates of your visit, and call us as soon as you arrive in Luxor, so that we can confirm a time for a library tour that is mutually convenient. Our address in Egypt: Chicago House, Corniche el-Nil, Luxor, Arab Republic of Egypt; the telephone number is 372525 (direct dial from the United States: 011-20-95-372525) and the fax number is 381620 (011-20-95-381620). Net surfers can find our Oriental Institute home page at <http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/EPI/Epigraphic.html>.

## **Architectural Report: The Later Constructions Added to the Facade of the Eighteenth Dynasty Temple**

**Jean Jacquet and Helen Jacquet**

The Eighteenth Dynasty temple at Medinet Habu constructed by Hatshepsut and Thutmosis III consisted, in its finished form, of six rooms preceded by a bark shrine surrounded by a peripteral gallery, both oriented on an east-west axis. This complex was enlarged at the time of the Kushite kings of the Twenty-fifth Dynasty by further



*Figure 6. Reconstruction of the Kushite addition to the Eighteenth Dynasty temple as conceived by Uvo Hölscher, characterized by a long, windowless gallery between the pylon and the earlier facade*

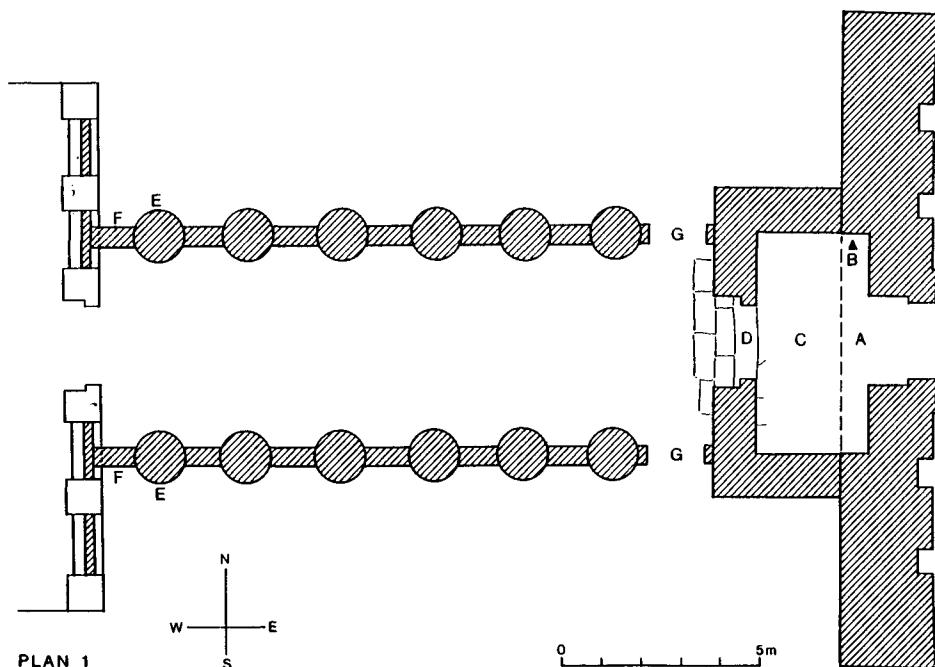
construction in front of the facade of the Eighteenth Dynasty temple, demarcated on the east by a small pylon. In its present state, this later addition forms an enclosed area limited on the north and south by walls that join the facade of the temple on the west with the Twenty-fifth Dynasty pylon on the east.

This ensemble had been examined and published as part of the extensive architectural study of the temples of Medinet Habu conducted by Uvo Hölscher and published by the Oriental Institute in 1939. Hölscher believed that the earliest addition to the Eighteenth Dynasty temple consisted of a small pylon to the east, connected to the facade of the temple by a long, windowless passage or gallery quite unlike other known architecture of the Twenty-fifth Dynasty (fig. 6). Despite the evident care with which the author and his assistants studied the development of this monument, their observations, remarkably complete for the period before World War II when they were at work, were not always sufficiently detailed to come up to present-day archaeological standards.

A new survey of the pavement in the area between the facade of the temple and the Twenty-fifth Dynasty pylon, the stones of which have been greatly eroded since their discovery, was begun in 1994. The survey was extended this season, bringing to light additional elements which enable us to present an alternative reconstruction of this area as it must have been in the time of the Twenty-fifth Dynasty, one that differs in essential details from that originally proposed by Hölscher.

Plan 1 (fig. 7) shows, in the western face of the pylon, a shallow recess (marked A in the plan, called a “niche” by Hölscher) symmetrical with the axis of the entrance door and having a width of 5.45 m, a depth of 0.65 m, and a height of 4.60 m. Two

## ARCHAEOLOGY

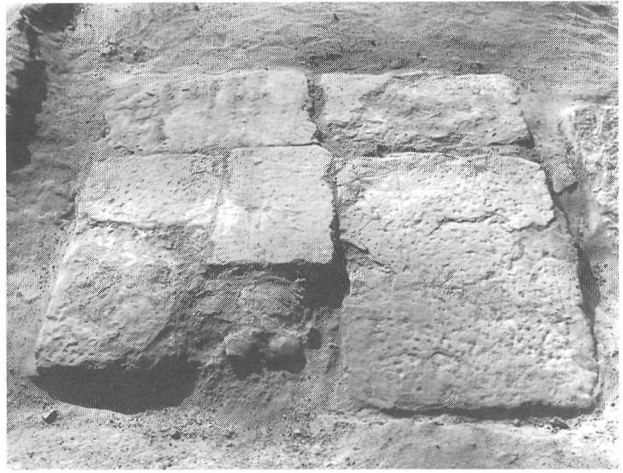


*Figure 7. Revised plan of the Kushite addition, showing an enclosed vestibule behind the pylon, linked to the facade by a colonnade with intercolumnar walls. Plan by Jean Jacquet*

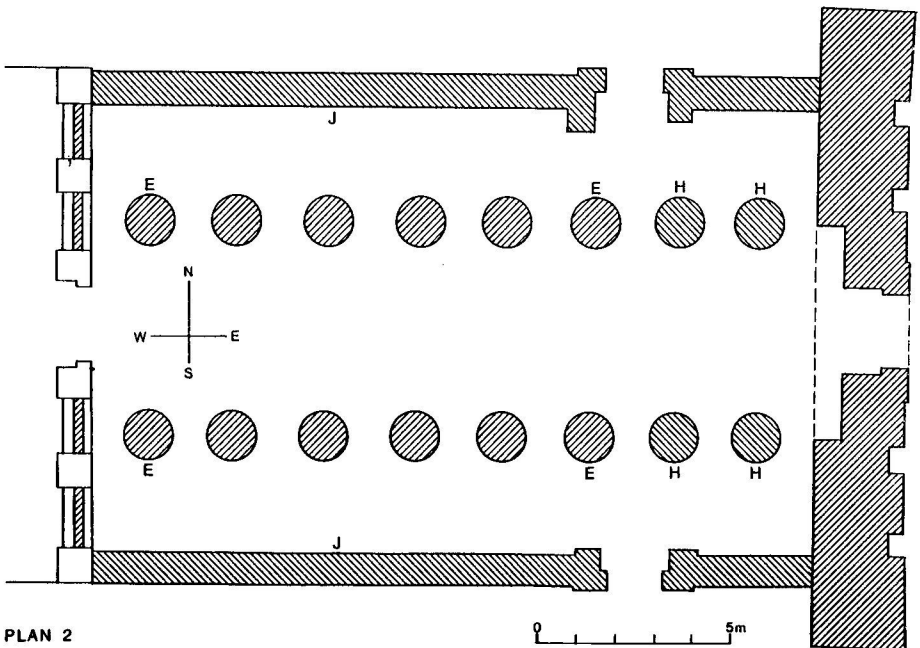
registers of scenes are engraved on the inner face of its north wall (B), scenes which are at the present time incomplete, but which must originally have continued westward on a wall that is now destroyed. On the western face of the pylon, adjacent to the recess on each side, are to be seen the profiles of two high walls surmounted by cavetto cornices. Hölscher interpreted these traces as evidence of two long walls that extended the whole length of the court as far as the facade of the Eighteenth Dynasty temple, where he thought to have distinguished a mark corresponding to the profile of the southern wall; but we were not able to identify this mark.

On the other hand, a reexamination of the existing pavement proved that there exists a considerable variation in the depth of its foundations in different places. Up to a distance of 3.25 m from the western face of the pylon the foundations measured a minimum of 64 cm in depth and were placed on a bed of sand, whereas further west they were reduced to only 45 cm without any sign of sand underneath. We deduced from these observations that the walls whose profiles are visible on the face of the pylon did not extend westward beyond the limits of the deeper foundations; at that point they turned at right angles to create an enclosed area corresponding in width to the recess mentioned above and forming a vestibule (C) behind the pylon. The doorway is indicated by the presence of a large rectangular block (D) inserted in the floor at the center of what would have been the western wall of the vestibule: this is doubtless the foundation block on which was placed the doorsill, which is no longer present but was probably made of granite. Two lintels of the Kushite period, reused in the foundations of the Ptolemaic walls added later on the northern side of the Eighteenth Dynasty temple, could possibly belong to this door.

We must now consider the question of the two colonnades, the existence of which is proved by the traces still visible on the stones of the pavement, marking the emplacement of the column bases. Hölscher proposed to date the columns to the Ptolemaic remodeling of the court and the construction of the flanking walls that still stand. Apparently he did not notice the traces that connect the different columns to one another, proving that they were not freestanding elements but were connected by intercolumnar walls (F; compare fig. 8). These walls were approximately 50 cm thick and must have been sufficiently high to conceal the interior from the outside. The colonnades extended from the facade of the temple eastward to join the side walls of the vestibule. According to the remaining indications, a north-south passage (G) was left free between the last column on each side



*Figure 8. View of several pavement blocks of the Kushite addition. The double parallel grooves in the center of the blocks show the placement of the intercolumnar walls, which touch the curved perimeter of the column base. The single groove at far right indicates the tangent to the column bases*



PLAN 2

*Figure 9. The Ptolemaic revision of the Kushite court, with the rear vestibule of the pylon dismantled and the colonnade augmented. Plan by Jean Jacquet*

## ARCHAEOLOGY

and the facade of the vestibule. Colonnades of this kind represent an architectural form much favored in the Kushite period, particularly by Taharqa, as evidenced by his great colonnades at Karnak.

With these new observations in mind, we can now suggest a revised plan for the Kushite additions. Instead of an enclosed passage leading from the pylon to the facade of the earlier temple, we can envisage an open space traversed by a double colonnade composed of six columns on each side (E) and connected by intercolumnar walls (F). On the east these colonnades joined the walls of the vestibule attached to the back of the pylon, with doorways (G) on both sides allowing for north-south circulation.

The erroneous date attributed to these colonnades by our predecessors was probably due to the fact that during their exploration of the strata under the pavement at the southeastern corner of the court just behind the pylon they found some reused Ptolemaic blocks, pointing to a late date for the colonnade. What was not taken into account was the fact that only the eastern side of the court, where these blocks were found, was restructured during the late Ptolemaic or early Roman period, as we shall see below, while the remainder of the court was left undisturbed.

Plan 2 (fig. 9) shows the same area as it appeared after the changes made in late Ptolemaic or Roman times. The vestibule (C) has disappeared, its walls being replaced on each side by two additional columns (H) prolonging the already existing colonnades; the grooves in the western face of the pylon, into which the architraves were inserted, are still visible on the northern tower. At the same time, the foundations of the lateral walls of the vestibule were repaired in order to support the new columns, repairs which account for the presence there of the Ptolemaic blocks mentioned above. The intercolumnar walls of the Kushite period were removed and their blocks were apparently reused in the foundations of two flanking walls (J) built outside the colonnades on the northern and southern sides, thereby forming a closed courtyard between the pylon and the temple facade. Two lateral doors, left uninscribed, were inserted in these walls at approximately the same level as those (G) which had existed previously in the colonnades. This disposition of the architectural elements is what we still see at the present time, although very much deteriorated.

## GIZA

### Mark Lehner

The 1995 season of the Koch-Ludwig Giza Plateau Project began on December 9, 1995 and concluded March 11, 1996. We carried out three separate programs: (1) sample collecting for the Pyramids Radiocarbon Dating Project; (2) a continuation of the excavations in our Area A to the south of the large stone wall called Heit el-Ghurob (which is about 300 m to the south of the Sphinx); and (3) mapping the area to the east of the Great Pyramid of Khufu for Dr. Zahi Hawass and the Supreme Council of Antiquities.

We are grateful for the cooperation of Ms. Sana'a Fouad and Mr. Gamal Salem who represented the Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA) at the excavation site, and Mr.



Ashraf es-Sanussi who served as our inspector in the storeroom. We are also grateful for the assistance of Dr. Zahi Hawass, Director General of Giza and Saqqara, and Mr. Mahmoud el-Afifi, Chief Inspector of Giza. We are also extremely grateful once again to Lietz-SOKKIA corporation of Overland Park, Kansas for the loan of an SET3C11 Electronic Total Station for our survey work.

The team consisted of Professor Mark Lehner, Oriental Institute (OI) and the Harvard Semitic Museum (HSM), director; Dr. Robert Wenke, University of Washington (UW), co-director of the Radiocarbon Dating Project; Dr. Wilma Wetterstrom, Harvard Botanical Museum, paleobotanist; Dr. Peter Lacovara, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, ceramist and registrar; John Nolan, University of Chicago, archaeologist; Carl Andrews, photographer; David Goodman, California Transportation Department (CALTRANS), surveyor; Susan Weeks, artist; and Dr. Herbert Haas, Desert Research Institute (DRI), geochronologist.

## Pyramids Radiocarbon Dating Project

This project was inspired by the results of the 1984/85 Pyramids Radiocarbon Dating Project, and by David Koch's keen personal interest. The project is a collaborative effort of Drs. Shawki Nakhla and Zahi Hawass (SCA), Herbert Haas (DRI), Robert Wenke (UW), Georg Bonani and Willi Wölfli, Institut für Mittelenergiephysik, Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule (ETH), and Mark Lehner (OI, HSM). Funding for the 1995/96 program is provided by the David Koch Foundation.

The massive Old and Middle Kingdom pyramids were habitation sites during the time they were being built. Hundreds of workers must have spent the better part of each day over the course of years on the rising building project. The stone blocks, bricks, and mortar comprising the cores of the pyramids hold evidence of the builders' presence: fragments of stone tools, green copper flecks from chisels, pottery sherds, and small bits of charcoal, perhaps left over from the wood fuel for heating the gypsum in order to prepare the mortar. The cores of the giant Giza Pyramids were built with great quantities of gypsum mortar slopped between the stones that the builders set with far less precision than the fine masonry of the outer casing. The cores of earlier pyramids appear to have been built with less prepared gypsum and more *tafla* mortar—calcareous desert clay. Nonetheless, bits of wood and reed can be found embedded in the corework. Middle Kingdom pyramids, following Senwosret I, were built with mudbricks tempered with large quantities of reed.

The development of radiocarbon dating by Accelerator Mass Spectrometry allows very small samples of organic material to be dated. We thought that samples freshly collected from the fabric of the pyramids would provide an interesting data set to evaluate the chronology of the Old Kingdom, prior to the first historical-astronomical "footholds" in Egyptian chronology, and to evaluate and compare the results of traditional historical chronologies for the third millennium B.C. and those derived by radiocarbon dating. The fact that the samples could be extracted from secure contexts within the fabric of the pyramids was coupled with an assumption (itself subject to testing) that the material had been deposited during the reigns of kings for whom the pyramids were built. At the same time, fieldwork made it clear that "secure context" in the fabric of colossal pyramids is not something we could take for granted. There is a living ecology in the ruins of pyramids, including vermin, snakes, fox, and insects.

In 1984 we dated 64 samples of organic material (charcoal, reed from mudbrick, some wood) extracted from the fabric of the pyramids and their associated structures. The dating was done with an Accelerator Mass Spectrometer facility at the

## ARCHAEOLOGY



Figure 1. The 1995 excavations in Area A7 with Squares G20 (foreground), F19, and E18. View to the southwest

Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule in Zurich. Larger samples were dated at the Institute for the Study of Earth and Man, Southern Methodist University, by benzene scintillation (the latter facility has since moved to the Desert Research Institute in Nevada). The results were published in *Chronologies in the Near East* (O. Aurenche, J. Evin, and F. Hours, eds.; BAR International Series 379; 1987; pp. 585–606). The dates, after dendrochronological calibration, averaged 374 years too early for the *Cambridge Ancient History* dates of the kings with whom the pyramids are identified.

These results raise a number of questions. Here it can only be stated briefly that the sample collecting procedures, following

guidelines of the geochronologists, as well as sample pretreatment in the laboratories, made it improbable that our methods were uniformly biasing the samples toward older dates. The dates were calibrated according to Robinson's (1986) program for deriving average (centroid) calibrated age estimates by statistically weighted increments from multiple intersections with the tree-ring calibration curve (calibration has changed over the last ten years). Substantive issues include the "old wood problem." Are we dating charcoal that derives from wood fuel that had been long used for other purposes? For example, wood beams in Twelfth Dynasty hauling tracks excavated near the Lisht Pyramids came from the hulls of boats that could have been built long after the felling of the tree that provided the wood. It is possible that the pyramid builders used wood for several purposes over a long period of time before it became fuel for preparing gypsum mortar. In the 1984/85 study we also had dates from material that we perceived was short-lived reed (without paleobotanical identification). While not as early as those derived from charcoal, the dates were still significantly earlier than the expected ranges.

During the 1995 season more than three hundred samples were collected, and their proveniences documented, mostly by Robert Wenke and John Nolan. Wilma Wetterstrom set up a provisional laboratory in our field house near the Giza Plateau for paleobotanical identification of selected samples. She worked hand-in-hand with geochronologist Herbert Haas who came later in the season to collect some of the samples. Concentrating on samples of short-lived reed when possible, we sampled monuments ranging from the First Dynasty tombs at Saqqara to the Djoser Pyramid, the Giza Pyramids, a selection of Fifth and Sixth Dynasty pyramids, and Middle Kingdom Pyramids (Amenemhet I at Lisht, Amenemhet III at Dahshur, Sesostri II at Illahun) to check in with periods closer to well-established historical/astronomical dates. The samples should yield well over a hundred new radiocarbon dates from well-defined contexts. The results could shed new light on the relationship between radiocarbon dating and Egyptian chronology.

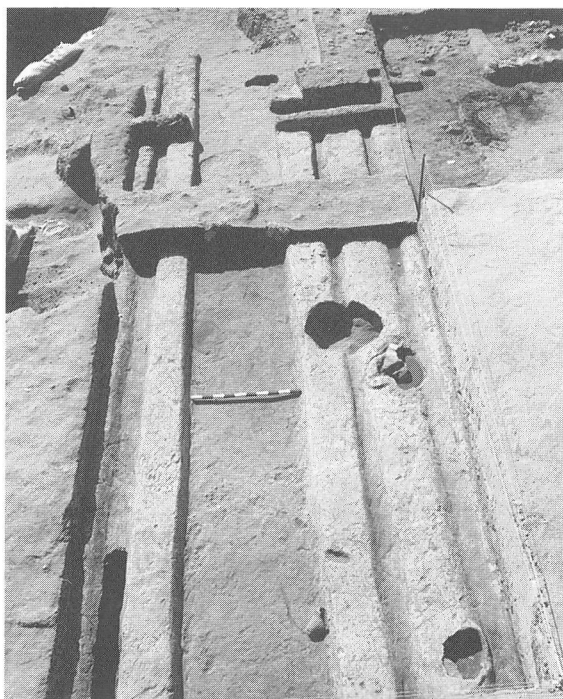
The Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule is dating the great majority of the samples in this study, and the Desert Research Institute is dating a selection of larger samples. We have planned for an inter-laboratory test with another leading Accelerator Mass Spectrometer radiocarbon facility. The Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule has helped to make the study possible by dating samples at a significant reduction over the usual cost of Accelerator Mass Spectrometer dating. Results will be announced through our colleagues at the Supreme Council of Antiquities.

## Excavations

Our 1995 excavation season began on January 15. We opened only one of our three excavation areas of previous seasons, A7, where we found two intact bakeries in 1991. Because they were so complete, these bakeries took a good deal of our time and attention. However, they might have been somewhat ancillary to the main purpose of the site, signified by the remains of a large mudbrick building, enclosed by 1.5 m thick walls, to which the two bakeries were attached on the southern side. Prior to our excavations, a backhoe had gouged a large trench through the southeastern corner of this building, just missing the two bakeries. Our goal, in a season of excavation limited by Ramadan work hours and by the other two principal projects, was to find out more about the purpose of the large structure.

Our first task was to clear from 1.5 to 2 m of sand that loaders and graders sent by the Giza Governorate had pushed over the site of A7 in the days just prior to the beginning of our season. We are grateful to the Giza Inspectorate for providing a loader to remove this sand so that we could continue excavating. Then we removed the sand that we had backfilled into the excavation at the end of the 1991 season, as is our usual procedure in order to preserve the sites for future investigation. We opened three 5 × 5 m excavation squares to the north, west, and southwest of our original 15 × 20 m area (fig. 1).

As before in A7, we found the mudbrick architecture directly under an ancient layer of dry and slightly gravelly sand. The sand lies directly over the tops of the larger walls, or directly over a layer of disintegrated mudbrick, about 20 cm thick, that fills the spaces between the low walls and benches. The total depth of our excavation in the area to the north and west, down to floor level of the mudbrick building, was 50 to 60 cm. The Old Kingdom remains just under this sand, however, are all at



*Figure 2. Excavation Square G20, view to the south, showing low benches and troughs. Main enclosure wall along left, two column bases in holes to the right. Larger round hole is an intrusive pit*



Figure 3. Fish remains from floor along low benches in excavation Square F19

about the same elevation as though the site had been carefully leveled when it was abandoned. There is very little debris or mounding such as would be produced by a gradual collapse of the walls. The stratified occupation deposits extend about another meter below the phase of the bakeries and mudbrick building.

In two of our 5 × 5 m excavation

squares (F19 and G20) we excavated the fill of the mudbrick building to floor level (fig. 1, foreground). Our third square (E18) to the southwest was only partially excavated at the end of the season (fig. 1, background).

Square G20 is directly to the north of the 15 × 20 m area excavated in 1991 (fig. 2). During that season we excavated a bit of the floor of the large building on the opposite side of the backhoe trench (Area A7b). Here we found low partition walls and two sets of low benches separated by troughs, about 10 to 15 cm high. They were formed of alluvial mud and paved with marl clay (*tafla*). We also found a small cache of complete Old Kingdom jar stands and small internally flanged bowls (possibly lids) on the set of benches that runs along the 1.5 m thick east wall of the building.

In Square G20 we found that the low benches and channels continue to the north (fig. 2). However, we did not find more complete ceramic bowls and jar stands on the benches as we did in the 1991 season. We found a great quantity of bread mold sherds lying on the floor that separates two groups of benches in this square and a number of flint blades and scrappers. The first two benches to the east (fig. 2, left) are built against the base of the 1.5 m thick eastern mudbrick wall of the building that continues beyond our square. Interrupting the middle of three benches to the west, we found two holes at the bottom of which were smooth round limestone pieces (fig. 2); the larger hole is an intrusive pit cut from a higher stratigraphic level. The limestone pieces must be bases for columns that were probably wood. The middle bench was built around each column after it was installed, judging from the way the side of the bench bulges out near the hole. The columns were probably removed when the building was abandoned.

On the southern side of Square F19 we found two small square rooms, defined by walls that are, similar to the benches, very low, from 20 to 30 cm high at most. These rooms contained ashy deposits, and many rounded clumps of concentrated mud, perhaps material for making mud sealings. Another group of three benches and channels projected from the northern side of the square toward the south to a corridor just in front of the small square rooms (fig. 1). Again we found nothing on these benches. The

floor was covered by a slightly ashy deposit a few millimeters thick. Embedded in the floor alongside the western bench we found very fragile remains of fish bone, including fins, gills, and cranial parts. These remains were easily destroyed. We retrieved the larger pieces by consolidating them and the floor around them and then lifting the whole as one block (fig. 3).

These finds prompted us to take soil samples from the troughs between the low benches in G20 for Wilma Wetterstrom to examine microscopically. She found small broken fish bone through the samples.

The articulated fish bone that we recovered could be *Tilapia*, although we do not yet have a specialist's identification. Achilles Gautier and Win Van Neer worked out the seasonality of catfish (*Clarias*) and *Tilapia* harvests for the Late Paleolithic site of Wadi Kubanniya. The annual rise of the Nile floodwaters, roughly from late June to July during dynastic times, triggers a lateral spawning migration out onto the alluvial plain where there is abundant food for fry and shelter provided by the submerged vegetation while the predatory fish, the Nile perch (*Lates Niloticus*) and tigerfish (*Hydrocyon*) remain in the deep river channel. Either during the spawning runs, or later, as the flood recession leaves fish in shallow catchment basins, the fish are a ready source of protein for human predators.

The systemic layout of the troughs and benches suggests formally organized, large-scale fish harvests and processing, perhaps in a seasonal regimen similar to the far earlier culture at Wadi Kubanniya. If so, the fish needed to be stored for some length of time before being consumed, and therefore they must have been smoked, which may account for the ashy character of the floor deposits, salted, and dried. This kind of preservation and short-term storage could explain the missing jars that were fitted with the jar stands and lids(?) that we found on the low benches in our 1991 season.

The Twelfth Dynasty tomb of Antefoker contains a scene on the northern wall of what appears to be gutted and splayed fish (or possibly meat) being hung on a cord tied between two slender columns that support a low roof. This scene might be compared to the two column bases in Square G20 that could have supported columns used for similar purposes. A low and light roof may have extended from the main eastern wall of the mudbrick building. However, our impression is that much of the interior of our large building was left unroofed, notwithstanding the 1.5 m thickness of the enclosing walls. Next to the columns in the Antefoker scene a man sits on a small square stool and works with a knife on some material laid on a platform supported by a small bench. Scenes of cleaning fish in Old Kingdom tombs show workers seated on the ground, sometimes with a back support, or on a low

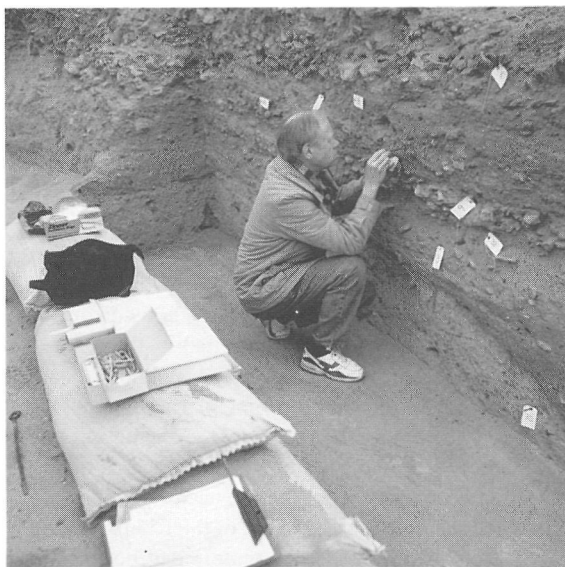


Figure 4. Herbert Haas sampling layers in Area A7, main section of backhoe trench for radio-carbon dating

## ARCHAEOLOGY

square seat or stylized reed mat, performing the work on a very low table set on short legs in front of them. The benches in our excavation may have functioned like these low tables, but the tomb scenes do not entirely clarify how the troughs and benches were used. The troughs come to dead ends at low perpendicular partition walls, and would not have functioned to drain off the fluids and dross from cleaning fish.

We only began to excavate the architecture in Square E18 after we removed ancient sand layers and large deposits of sandy mud and pottery that filled ancient pits dug into the architecture. The walls in E18 are more complex than the other squares, but include two north-south walls forming a corridor. A small probe across the corridor revealed large pieces of gypsum, *tafla*, granite, alabaster, and a complete crude red ware jar. The corridor could have been a storage place for caches of various materials.

It is certain that the interior of the large mudbrick building extends further beyond our excavation area to the west and to the north. We can only make preliminary hypotheses about its function until we analyze more of the material. Given the fact that we have bakeries, huge quantities of bread mold sherds, and remains of fish, we can legitimately infer that loaves and fishes were processed in systemic large-scale procedures. This lends support to our earlier hypothesis that the whole complex could belong to an administrative institution for processing food, of the sort that the Old Kingdom texts call, *pr šn* <sup>c</sup>.

The orthogonality and cardinality of direction of the entire arrangement suggests an institution of the royal house, i.e., "the state." The period is that of Menkaure, judging from numerous seal impressions that bear his name. The deep section left by the backhoe, which we trimmed back, suggests that similar kinds of production had been carried on at this spot in earlier times, albeit less formally organized. Herbert Haas's radiocarbon dates on samples extracted from this section (fig. 4) suggest that the site was used over several generations. The lowest levels include large fire pits or hearths and much ash and charcoal, which could relate to thick ash and charcoal deposits in the lowest levels dug into by the deepest trenches of the AMBRIC sewage project for the nearby modern town. In A7 we could have our finger on the transition from production for a labor camp into that for a formal ritual center.

### Eastern Field and Khufu Mortuary Temple Mapping

During the two years prior to our 1995 season, the Giza Inspectorate of the Supreme Council of Antiquities, under the direction of Dr. Zahi Hawass, had taken up the modern road that for many years had run along the eastern side of the Great Pyramid of Khufu (G1). The large northern boat pit was exposed and cleared out for the first time in decades. This is one of a pair with the boat pit to the south that has long been open. The surface along the entire eastern side of the pyramid was cleaned down to bedrock. Toward the south, this resulted in the discovery of the base, passage, chamber, and capstone of a small, heretofore unknown "satellite" pyramid (ca. 20 m to a side) belonging to the Khufu complex. The foundations of the three Queens' Pyramids (G1a, b, c) were exposed on all sides, revealing important new evidence about how these pyramids were built. A small boat pit, which had never been properly mapped, was cleared between the two southern Queens' Pyramids. The remains of the pavement, and foundation cuttings in bedrock, of the Khufu Mortuary Temple were also laid bare. From the 1940s to the 1960s the temple had been mapped, and reconstructed plans were published, but a detailed facsimile map of all the architectural evidence had never been produced.

On behalf of the Giza Inspectorate we mapped many of these features using the Giza Plateau Mapping Project survey network that we had projected over the Giza Plateau from 1984 through 1986. David Goodman and his assistant, Nubie Abd al-Basat, worked on this program full time for most of the field season, plotting major features at scale 1:200. The survey team provided 5 m grid points for Mark Lehner, John Nolan, and Carl Andrews to hand-measure and field-plot a 1:100 map of the satellite pyramid (GId). This data was shared with Nairi Hampigian of the German Archaeology Institute who produced a 1:50 map of the satellite pyramid. For most of the season, each late afternoon and evening was spent plotting a 1:100 map of the Khufu Mortuary Temple. The data are still in the process of being reduced and drafted.

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## JOINT PREHISTORIC PROJECT

**Robert J. Braidwood and Linda S. Braidwood**

We still must report that no miracle seems to have happened during the year to make digging possible at Çayönü in southeastern Turkey. However, Aslı Özdoğan, brave soul that she is, and one of the graduate students, did make the trip down to Diyarbakir in November 1995, primarily to assemble artifacts that needed to be brought back to Istanbul for study. This also gave her a chance to check on the general situation, on Mehmet the guard and his winter supplies, and the general condition of other personnel unemployed now for some years (Mehmet, fortunately, is on the payroll of the University of Istanbul). She reports that the inhabitants of Hilar village, right across from Çayönü, who were forced by the Turkish army to evacuate the village, were gradually moving back. This means that the local political situation could be gradually improving somewhat. Amazingly enough, the roof of the field house, though in perilous condition, is still holding up. To get back to the supplies needed by Mehmet during the winter, they all make sense—such as more wood for heating than that supplied by the University of Istanbul, liquid gas, electric bulbs, rat poison—except for one item: Each year he requests more bullets.

Work slowly progresses with the reporting on the Çayönü excavated materials in the University of Istanbul's Prehistory Laboratory, under Aslı's supervision. Bruce Howe was once again in Istanbul for the winter months, working on the publication of one of the Prehistoric Project sites, with two of the graduate students as helpers who, under Bruce, are also learning about flint tools. Two other graduate students are committed to working on the Çayönü animal bones and want to be zooarchaeologists; all four, with the Prehistoric Project's assistance, are studying English.

In our last report, we mentioned that Richard Meadow, Harvard zooarchaeologist, as the overall director of the study of the Çayönü animal bones had applied to the National Science Foundation for a three-year grant to cover the cost of the study. His graduate student and assistant, Hitomi Honga (who has just received her doctorate at Harvard), would supervise the work in Istanbul. It was a great disappointment when we learned that the grant would not be funded. Richard, however, was more sanguine and

## ARCHAEOLOGY

again submitted his grant—with some changes—early this spring. We had word a few weeks ago that the proposal had indeed been accepted this time, and that Hitomi is already in Istanbul taking charge. Gülçin and Banu, who have been waiting patiently for this moment when Hitomi will be there to supervise and train them in zooarchaeology in the University of Istanbul's Prehistory Department, must be most happy. Hitomi's work in Turkey has already been approved as her special project for her research position in Japan, which means that she can spend part of each year in Turkey.

In closing, we want to mention how enthusiastic we are about Aslıhan Yener's plans to return to the Oriental Institute's old sites in the Amuq—the plain of Antioch—where we worked from 1933 to 1938, and where Linda, in 1937, first cut her teeth in field archaeology. Aslıhan, the very best digging and good luck to all your field team!

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## THE THEBAN DESERT ROAD SURVEY (THE LUXOR-FARSHÛT DESERT ROAD SURVEY)

**John Coleman Darnell and Deborah Darnell**

During the fourth season of our desert exploration we continued to work at all of the sites and along all of the desert routes within our concession. The new name for the project reflects the growing body of evidence for the significance of this system of routes to the ascendancy of Thebes at the beginning of the Middle Kingdom and the New Kingdom. In light of the vandalism at the Wadi el-Hôl, and considering the importance of the material, the major thrust of our fourth season has been the recording of rock inscriptions and rock art in the Wadi el-Hôl and at Gebel Tjauti.

### Gebel Antef

During the fourth season of work on the Theban Desert Road Survey, we continued work in the area of the Seventeenth Dynasty chapel of Antef V, which we discovered in 1992/93. The overwhelming majority of the ceramic material examined through random sampling in the vicinity of the chapel is of Middle Kingdom through early New Kingdom date. Analysis of pottery from the series of dry stone huts mapped last season has shown that they were originally in use in the Middle Kingdom, as were a number of similar structures on the 'Alamat Tal Road.

### The Wadi el-Hôl

Continued recording of the wealth of graffiti in the Wadi el-Hôl was given top priority this season. The site had recently been vandalized, and a number of inscriptions destroyed, at the time of our first visit to the site. Last season we surprised thieves in the act of desecrating the site. Vandalism unfortunately continues. Several more inscriptions were lost during the summer of 1995 (including the only Demotic text we have thus far discovered in the Wadi el-Hôl—fortunately we photographed and copied this text during the 1993/94 season), and we have detected wanton scratching out of inscrip-

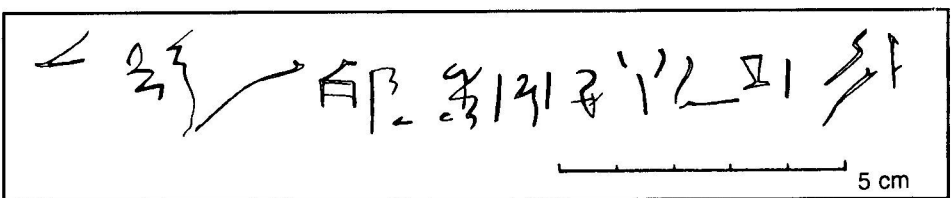




**Figure 1.** *Rock inscription in the Wadi el-Hôl, a late Middle Kingdom/Second Intermediate Period literary text, partially effaced in antiquity, describing the feats of a Theban military ruler; photograph by D. Darnell*

tions during the course of the 1995/96 season. Nevertheless, with the assistance of our colleagues of the Supreme Council for Antiquities and the police, we were able to accomplish more work in the Wadi el-Hôl during the past season than in the previous two seasons combined. Protective measures for the site are currently under consideration, to be implemented in the near future. A full investigation of the Qarn el-Gir caravan rest stop will begin as soon as all of the endangered graffiti have been recorded.

The Wadi el-Hôl inscriptions are proving to be even more important than we believed. Among those we recorded and collated during the fourth season, several stand out due to their great significance. Next to the graffito left by a man traveling from Abydos to Deir el-Bahri late in the reign of Amenemhat III (see the *1994/95 Annual Report*) we have recorded a letter, carved on the face of the gebel. The author of the letter addresses a priest in the praise of a number of deities and asks that the priest pray to several gods on his behalf. The existence of a rock-carved letter in the middle of the desert was most unexpected and is of extraordinary interest; of even greater significance is the fact that the combination of deities who appear in this letter finds its closest



**Figure 2.** *A small portion of the epigraphic copy of the literary graffito shown in figure 1*

## ARCHAEOLOGY

parallel in Sinuhe's letter to Sesostri I in the Story of Sinuhe. In fact, the deity Sopdu-Neferbauera-Semseru is—before the New Kingdom—otherwise attested only in Sinuhe's letter. The Wadi el-Hôl graffito even provides important information for evaluating the quality of the surviving copies of the Story of Sinuhe. At least two readings in our graffito support variant readings from the Ashmolean Ostrakon version of the Story of Sinuhe, a late copy with variant readings that are often considered corrupt.

Perhaps the most important of the inscriptions we have documented in the Wadi el-Hôl are five lines of hieratic recording the beginning of an unknown literary text (figs. 1–2). Patterned after the opening to Sinuhe's *encomium* on the pharaoh Sesostri I in the Story of Sinuhe, the text begins:

“Oh people great and small, and the army in its entirety—behold, a man is in the City (Thebes), whose like has not been known!”

The text, partially effaced in antiquity, relates how the “foreigners fall to his pronouncements” and how “his own tongue curbs the Asiatics—he does not like the people (Egyptians) who are loyal to that enemy of his.” The text concludes by describing how intelligent and brave is the ruler, and then—in the most stark description of the “good shepherd” motif common to royalist texts from ancient Egypt—says that:

“he spends the night hungry until day breaks, and he sees heaven like a flame—his joy is the completion of the watch.”

On the bases of paleography and content, we have here a lost paean to a Theban ruler of the Second Intermediate Period, living an ascetic and militaristic life in the

gebél, driving back the Asiatic hordes and opposing Egyptian collaborators. It truly is something marvelous and of real significance for Egyptian literature and history.

Nearby is a depiction of a statue of the king on a sledge (fig. 3), with the annotation:

“As for the one who will read these writings, he will arrive (home) in peace.”

The depiction of a statue of the king in the Wadi el-Hôl provides a concrete illustration of the statement of Ibia on the stela Cairo 20086 (late Middle Kingdom) that he “accompanied the monuments of the sovereign into the far desert lands.”

In the 1993/94 *Annual Report*, we quoted from one of a number of inscriptions in the Wadi el-Hôl referring to people “spending the day on holiday.” These inscriptions, with others, point to a veneration of Hathor in the Wadi el-Hôl.

An actual desert procession in honor of the goddess, traveling along a desert road which most likely led into the Wadi el-Hôl, is described in a Ptolemaic stela from Hou, one of the termini of the Farshût Road. In the lapidary letter and other nearby graffiti we have

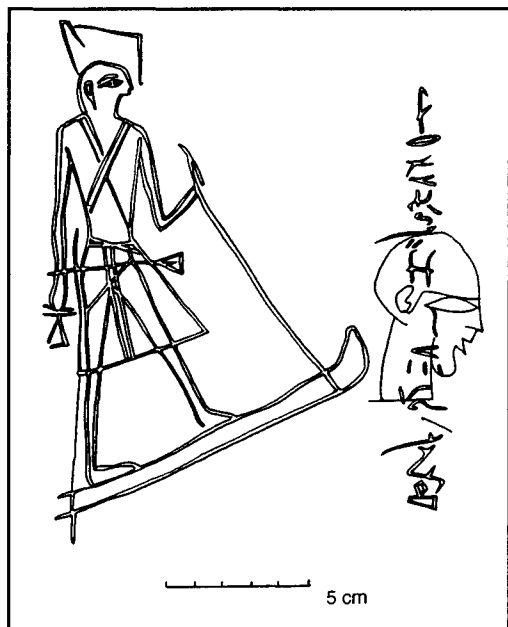


Figure 3. Image of the statue of the king with hieratic annotation, Wadi el-Hôl

several references to "Hathor mistress of Punt." Another inscription gives the name of a singer, and we have also copied the drawing of a man playing a lyre, his head thrown back and mouth open in song (fig. 4). These men appear to have been participants in the religious celebrations in the Wadi el-Hôl. The earliest representation of a lyre now known from ancient Egypt is an example played by an eastern desert-dwelling miner in a tomb at Beni Hasan dated to the reign of Amenemhat II. The first representations of Egyptians playing this instrument have thus far been known only from the Eighteenth Dynasty. The Wadi el-Hôl lyre-player, most likely of Middle Kingdom/Second Intermediate Period date, is probably the earliest known representation of a native Egyptian playing the lyre.

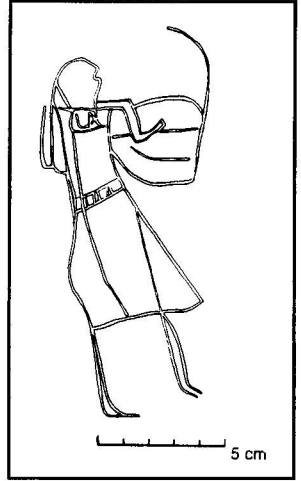


Figure 4. Drawing of a singing man playing the lyre, Wadi el-Hôl

### The 'Alamat Tal Road and Gebel Tjauti

We continued to map the 'Alamat Tal Road, following it beyond the rock inscription site we discovered during the 1994/95 season. We have now mapped and surveyed all of the Theban portion of the road, and we have followed the road across the high desert to where it descends the gebel behind Hou (fig. 5). Random sampling of pottery near Gebel Tjauti and investigation of the pottery on the road and at several dumps at the northern terminus of the high desert track reveal that the date of the ceramic material coincides remarkably well with that of the rock inscriptions (fig. 6). Both ceramics and rock inscriptions attest a pharaonic use from the protodynastic period through the end of the Ramesside period. The times of heaviest use were the First Intermediate Period, the Middle Kingdom, and the Second Intermediate Period. The proportion of sherds of Middle Kingdom or earlier date was as high as 93% in samples from the area of the Tjauti inscription.

On our first visit to the site this season, we were alarmed to discover that a recent desert reclamation project has put under cultivation an extensive area of land immediately to the east of the Second Intermediate Period towers. A large aqueduct has already begun bringing water to irrigate vast areas of desert, and during the last summer a portion of the ancient road leading to the towers was lost to this farming. Over the past three seasons, we have conducted surface surveys covering all of the area to the east of the towers between the gravel



Figure 5. Following the ancient footpath, Sue Osgood and John Darnell begin the descent at the northern end of the high desert road beyond Gebel Tjauti; photograph by D. Darnell

## ARCHAEOLOGY

hills bordering the 'Alamat Tal wadi. The concentrations of pottery along the northern rubble hills—now being plowed under—are less extensive than those at the southern edge of the wadi, but they include Nubian material and sherds of an Old Kingdom Meidum bowl. We hope the land reclamation will not result in the total destruction of the varied remains of this unique accumulation of sites.

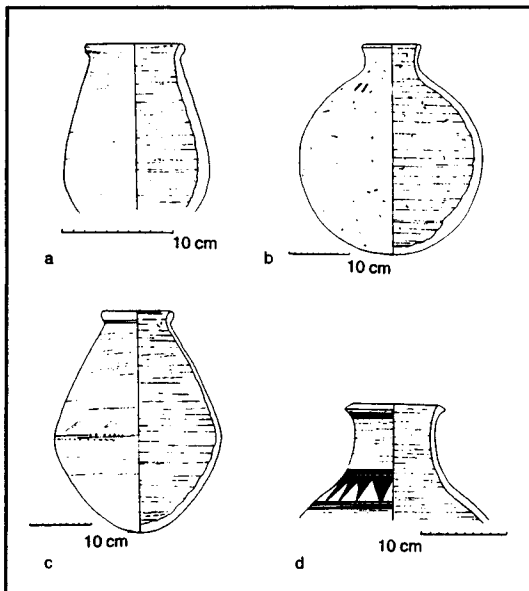
During the fourth season our work on the 'Alamat Tal Road centered on documenting the graffiti of Gebel Tjauti, which we have named for the last pro-Heracleopolitan Coptite nomarch whose road construction stela we discovered last season (fig. 7). After repeatedly collating the sadly decayed inscription, we now know that the key statement of the inscription is:

"I have made this for crossing this gebel, which the ruler of another nome had sealed off, [when he came] to fight with my nome ..."

In this inscription Tjauti has provided us with important information regarding the wars of unification at the end of the First Intermediate Period. Now we know that Tjauti improved the road as a response to Theban aggression (the euphemistically termed "ruler of another nome" is most likely the Theban ruler Antef I). Several years later, Antef II, after an initial, abortive attack on Thinis in the Eighth Upper Egyptian Nome, attacked farther down the Nile, capturing the Tenth Upper Egyptian Nome before returning to mop up resistance in the Thinite nome. The Gebel Tjauti inscription shows that this strategic use of the "indirect approach"—flanking maneuvers across desert tracks—was no accident, but was part of Theban military policy during the Eleventh Dynasty. The inscription also implies that the Coptite nome retained control of the

desert routes, the "narrow door of the desert of Upper Egypt," until the time of the early Eleventh Dynasty at Thebes. As was the case during the Old Kingdom, the Coptites administered the Upper Egyptian deserts, including routes leading from the Thebaid.

One of the highlights of this season was the identification and documentation of exciting evidence for use of the road at the very beginning of Egyptian history: a large Dynasty 0 tableau at Gebel Tjauti recording an event of a military nature, and dated by the name of Horus Sekhen (one of several potential readings proposed for the name), one of the immediate predecessors of the first king of unified Egypt (fig. 8). The predynastic tableau shows a royal interest in this track at the beginning of pharaonic civilization. The numerous early dynastic serekhs and falcons, the large falcon and cartouche of Pepy, a small but finely incised falcon of about the Elev-



**Figure 6.** Pottery from Gebel Tjauti and the 'Alamat Tal Road: a) First Intermediate Period drop-shaped pot, silt; b) Middle Kingdom globular jar, silt, red-slipped exterior; c) Second Intermediate Period biconical jar, silt; d) Early Eighteenth Dynasty vessel with brown painted decoration, marl

enth Dynasty (fig. 9), the official inscription of the nomarch Tjauti, and Middle Kingdom ink inscriptions referring to the king traveling on the 'Alamat Tal Road all demonstrate a continued royal interest in this road.

The pharaonic inscriptions at Gebel Tjauti

continue to astound us in their variety and importance. One scratchy, initially unpromising graffito from Gebel Tjauti records the astronomical "observation of the rising of Sothis" during regnal year 11 of an unnamed ruler. Our inscription appears to date to July 13, 1598 B.C.—a date during the Seventeenth Dynasty. This Sothic observation should provide fuel for the further refinement of Egypt's absolute chronology and help anchor the ordering of the rulers of the important but bewildering Seventeenth Dynasty. The Gebel Tjauti astronomical inscription is also, as far as we know, the only surviving dated Sothic observation from ancient Egypt for which one knows the precise geographic location of the observation.

Some graffiti that at first appeared unrecoverable have since yielded to our continued scrutiny and collation. From amongst some of these faint scratches we were able to identify a depiction of a Canaanite god, Resheph, carrying a spear and shield in one hand, a large and peculiar mace in the other, surrounded by speared desert game. Some of the Coptic inscriptions, as at our graffiti site on the Darb Rayayna, are written in cryptography, and others give the names of travelers from towns in the Coptite nome. Several of these toponyms are known but their geographic locations remain a mystery. Our rock inscriptions suggest a location near the 'Alamat Tal for these towns.

## Darb Rayayna, Darb Ba'irat, and Subsidiary Tracks

On the Darb Rayayna we made final checks and corrections to our plan of the solar altar, and we mapped the distribution of ceramics surrounding the altar. We have also undertaken examination of the heavily disturbed but extensive pottery deposit at the point where the ancient Darb Rayayna track reaches the top of the high desert (fig. 10).

The exciting result of this initial investigation has been the identification of a high proportion of pottery of the Old Kingdom, evidence that the Darb Rayayna was an important desert road heavily used during that period. The Darb Ba'irat and other subsidiary branches of the main Farshût and 'Alamat Tal Roads, such as the track on which is the



Figure 7. An excerpt from the epigraphic copy of the First Intermediate Period stela on Gebel Tjauti

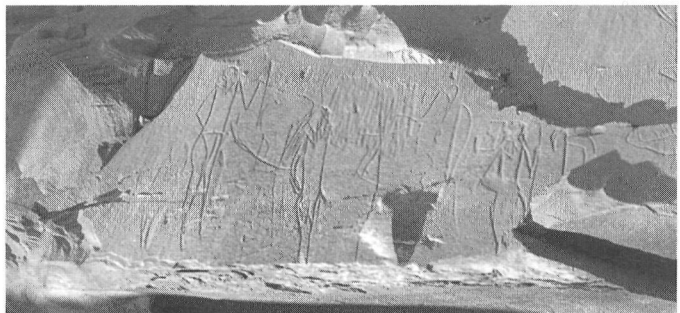


Figure 8. Portion of the Dynasty 0 tableau at Gebel Tjauti commemorating a military event during the reign of the protodynastic ruler Horus Sekhen; photograph by D. Darnell

## ARCHAEOLOGY

Thoth Mountain temple, continue to yield interesting ceramic remains. On a northern tributary of the 'Alamat Tal Road we have identified Early Dynastic pottery and Nubian A-Group sherds. The latter complement the later First and Second Intermediate Period Nubian remains on the main 'Alamat Tal Road and indicate a very long-lived Nubian presence on that road (fig. 11). As the Farshût and 'Alamat Tal Roads, via the Gebel Qarn el-Gir caravansary, lead westward to Kharga Oasis and the Darb el-Arba'in road into Nubia, these Nubian sherds appear to attest to the use of this Western Desert route connecting the Thebaid and Nubia.

Our investigations of the past four seasons encourage us to expect ultimately to discover that pharaonic caravans and patrols covered a much greater area of the Western

Desert than was ever before suspected. A glimpse of the abundant pharaonic remains along the routes to Kharga and Dakhla during a trip to the oases to study pottery confirmed that there is a wealth of evidence awaiting reconnaissance. As impressive as the distances covered by ancient Egyptian desert travelers is the extent of pharaonic activity in the desert between the Nile Valley and the oases. As a result of our work, we can now identify one or more major routes in use across the Qena bend during every period from predynastic times to the present. This information has implications for understanding not only the use of the desert (for trade, military endeavors, religious purposes, etc.) but also broader topics, such as patterns of population concentration and geographical determinants of political history.

We described our discoveries in lectures in the fall of 1995 at the American Research Center in Egypt, Cairo and in Luxor as part of the Labib Habachi memorial series, sponsored by the Luxor Inspectorate and the Epigraphic Survey. In April we presented an overview of our work and a description of the 1995/96 season's finds at the British Mu-



*Figure 9. Gebel Tjauti: graffito of a Horus falcon wearing the Double Crown; the artist used the natural coloring of the stone to accentuate the depiction; note the tilapia-fish carved below the falcon; photograph by D. Darnell*

seum. Reports on the ceramic materials examined during the first three seasons have appeared in the *Bulletin de liaison du groupe international d'étude de la céramique égyptienne* (Cairo: IFAO); a forthcoming *Bulletin* will contain the report for the fourth season. We have several manuscripts in progress and hope to begin seeing several of these through the press in the immediate future.

## Acknowledgments

We thank Dr. M. Abd el-Halim Nur El-Din, Secretary General of the Supreme Council for Antiquities, without whose support our work would not be possible. We thank Dr. Ali Hassan, Supervisor of Pharaonic Antiquities. We are also very grateful to Dr. Mohammed es-Saghir, Supervisor of Antiquities for Upper Egypt for his interest in our work. Many thanks go to Dr. Sabri Abd el-Aziz, Chief Inspector of Qurna, in particular

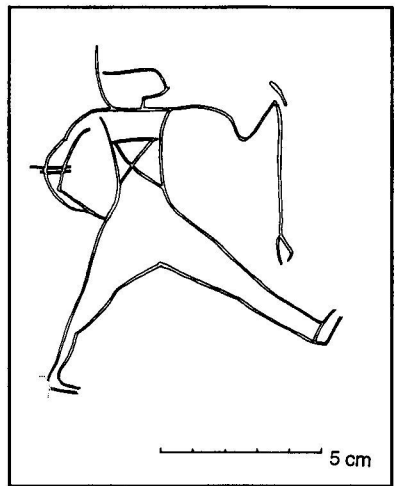
## THEBAN DESERT ROAD SURVEY

for the time he has spent in making arrangements for our trips to the Wadi el-Hôl. We thank Chief Inspector Mohammed el-Bialy, who has shown great interest in our work and has been of enormous help. Inspector Ramadan Ahmed Aly was again an indispensable member of our team, and we thank him again for all his help. Ramadan suffered a serious accident in November but has thankfully recovered and was working with us again at the end of the season. We greatly value his devotion to his work, and we look forward to working with him for many seasons to come. We thank Chief Inspector Hussein Afiuni, Inspectors Yahya Abd al-Alem and Madame Nadia of Qena for their very kind and accommodating assistance in allowing us to examine the Wadi el-Hôl fragments that were recovered from the thieves.

We are grateful to the American Research Center in Egypt for providing support for our epigraphic work on the desert roads through a grant from the United States Information Agency, and we would like to thank specifically Terry Walz, Executive Director, and Mark Easton, Cairo Director. As always, we also thank Amira Khattab and Ibrahim Sadek for their essential help and encouragement. We thank Professor William Sumner, Director of the Oriental Institute, for his interest in and support of our project, and Professor Peter Dorman, Field Director of the Epigraphic Survey, for his advice. Once again, Helen and Jean Jacquet of the Karnak-Nord expedition offered valuable guidance in many ways. Dr. Colin Hope has continued to be a wellspring of information concerning pottery fabrics from the oases, and Dr. Nessim Henein has contributed to our understanding of manufacturing techniques and later ceramic remains. Dr. René Friedman has provided welcome archaeological advice and contributed substantially toward our understanding of the predynastic and early dynastic graffiti both at Gebel Tjauti and in the Wadi el-Hôl. Dr. Vivian Davies has shared with us a number of helpful comments regarding the graffiti from the Wadi el-Hôl and Gebel Tjauti. Thanks go to Dr. Henri Riad, resident Egyptologist at Chicago House, for his never-failing encouragement and support, and we offer warm thanks to Sitt Madelein el-Mallah, Director of the Luxor Museum, for her continuing interest.



*Figure 10. Deborah Darnell records information on diagnostic sherds from a ceramic sample, Darb Rayayna; photograph by J. Darnell*



*Figure 11. Striding Nubian ranger, Gebel Tjauti*

## ARCHAEOLOGY

Our productivity was immeasurably increased through the generous help of Photographer Yarko Kobylecky, Epigrapher Andrew Baumann, and Artists Ahmed Harfoush and Susan Osgood, whose company we greatly enjoyed on several outings. We thank Kathy, Margaret, and Emily Dorman for discovering the “pot drop” which resulted in the reconstructed vessel shown in figure 6c. We are extremely grateful for the contributions of Diana Grodzins, Jill Carlotta Maher, and Nan and David Ray and the hospitality of Jud and Deborah Doyle, and John and Joan Westley.

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## NIPPUR AND UMM AL-HAFRIYAT

McGuire Gibson

Work at Nippur still remains impossible due to the embargo on Iraq, so there is nothing new to report from the field, but there is progress on the analysis and writing up of reports on the work already carried out. One major result of the excavations that we initiated on the West Mound in 1972 has even made it into print. *Nippur IV*, Steven Cole's study of the group of eighth century B.C. cuneiform tablets that had been used to fill in around a child's burial in Area WB, went to the printers in the spring of 1996. These tablets, the remnants of the official correspondence of the governor of Nippur, have furnished extraordinarily information on the end of a period of Babylonian history that has been characterized as a Dark Age. With its reports of the governor's dealings with the king in Babylon, with nomadic and settled Aramaeans around Nippur, with its evidence for irrigated farmland, marshes, and desert, the archive reflects the process through which southern Mesopotamia began to revive after several centuries of decline.

James A. Armstrong is taking time from his duties as Curator of the Harvard Semitic Museum this summer to finish the revision of his important manuscript based on excavations in Area WC-3 and TC, the latter of which was done to resolve problems raised by earlier Chicago work on Tablet Hill. In this book, Armstrong is dealing with the archaeological evidence for the same set of problems that has occupied Cole, but his scope is broader. He traces the collapse of Nippur in the end of the second millennium, through the centuries of abandonment and revival, leading to the reign of the Chaldean kings, such as Nebuchadnezzar.

Augusta McMahon, who now teaches at Cambridge University, England, sends me e-mail messages and hard-copy manuscript related to her publication on the transition from the Early Dynastic to the Akkadian period. This book is, essentially, a report of her excavations at Area WF. There is a very good chance that her full manuscript will be ready for the editors this year.

Meanwhile, I have been working toward publication of the report on Umm al-Hafriyat. This site, whose name means “Mother of Excavations,” was called that long before Saddam Hussayn's “Mother of Battles” gave the idiom to the world. The site is located about 28 km to the east of Nippur and was excavated in 1977 as an adjunct to the Nippur operations. The reason for the excavations was in a sense salvage, because the site was being excavated illegally by nomads. Robert McC. Adams was doing sur-



face survey in the mid-1970s, while our expedition was at Nippur. He came in one afternoon to report that he had seen a “huge Akkadian site” being badly damaged. I went out and took a look at it and decided that the site was an important one and might give us much needed information on the Akkadian period. It was clear from even that first inspection, however, that although the damaged area was Akkadian in date (ca. 2300 B.C.) there were remains of other periods there also.

I applied for permission to dig Umm al-Hafriyat in 1977 and we spent an unusually productive two and a half months there in the fall of that year. The Akkadian remains were right near the surface of one mound of the four or five that composed the site. We excavated two houses in that area, found remarkable evidence of the Akkadian period, and recovered among other things about fifteen cylinder seals from burials under the residences. On other mounds, we had evidence of occupation from the Uruk period (ca. 3500 B.C.), Ur III to Old Babylonian (2200–1800 B.C.), Kassite (ca. 1250 B.C.), and Seleucid (ca. 300 B.C.). Most remarkably, out in this desert area, we were able to see remains of a major river and a set of canals that surrounded the mounds. By carrying out a controlled surface collection on the entire site, we discovered two major facts: (1) the site was not a very large one in any period, although the entire site was huge; clearly, the site was a small one that shifted its location through time; and (2) much of the spread of pottery around the site was due to the fact that there are over 400 pottery kilns of different ages. The pottery kilns, and the great amounts of ash that they produced, accounted for the quick accumulation of debris in the houses, leading the inhabitants to relocate fairly often.

I wanted to return to Umm al-Hafriyat for a second season, but salvage work in the Hamrin Basin necessitated the postponement of that work. Later, during the Iran-Iraq War (1980–1988) it was obvious that it was more sensible to work at Nippur rather than in the more exposed and isolated desert location of Umm al-Hafriyat. In the late 1980s, we were able to do some mapping of the pottery kilns and date them individu-

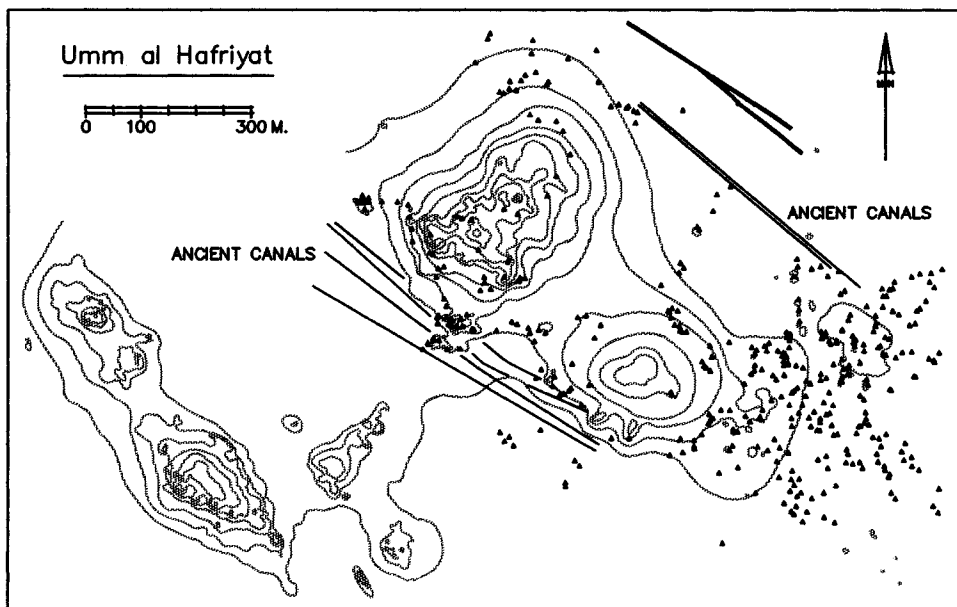


Figure. Site plan of Umm al-Hafriyat

## ARCHAEOLOGY

ally by the pottery around them, as well as have experts such as Pamela Vandiver (Smithsonian) and Abraham Van As and Lou Jacob (Leiden) take scientific samples from the site and the kilns. But the planned return to excavate Umm al-Hafriyat has not taken place. We will be able to carry out some research on the site and its area, however, through study of satellite images, when we have completed the establishment of a remote sensing laboratory in the Oriental Institute. If we are lucky, we should be able to map with such images all of the water courses that showed up so remarkably one day when we were visiting the site, right after a rain. Then, for part of a day, it was clear that groups of pottery kilns lay on the banks of a major line of the Euphrates that passed through the site, and that other kilns lined the banks of canals that fed from that river. Had we been able to raise a kite over the site that day for an aerial photograph, we would have had the information on film. As it was, when we returned the next day with the kite, nothing was apparent anymore and there was not enough wind to lift the kite.

This year, I finally decided that I should go ahead and write up the results of our first season at Umm al-Hafriyat. It is one of the few mainly industrial towns ever discovered in Mesopotamia. We have evidence not just for pottery-making, but for brick-making as well. We even have brick fragments with stamps indicating that they were destined for Nippur, but because the stamp used to make the inscription had been made wrong, the bricks were not sent off. The reason this site specialized in pottery-making was most probably the nature of the clay available. The site, resting on an ancient river levee, had remarkably plastic clay. We were made aware of its unusual quality when, after a rain, the mud would cling to our shoes, and the surface of the ground would dry out in a very short time.

I am trying to complete the Umm al-Hafriyat manuscript during the summer of 1996. Next in line for completion is a report on the Parthian, Sasanian, and Islamic (ca. A.D. 100–800) remains encountered in Area WG on the West Mound at Nippur. That manuscript is, in fact, three-quarters finished, including specialist reports on pottery and other groups of material.

In conclusion, let me say once again this year that although we are unable to return for fieldwork in Iraq, we continue to hope that there will be a change in the embargo that allows cultural contacts, including archaeological fieldwork. In the interim, we carry out that most necessary task of archaeology, the writing of reports on the findings. Although it is not as obviously exciting, nor as likely to gain the interest and backing of foundations and individuals, publication is the main aim of digging. Once we have excavated, the focus of our work has disappeared until it is put on paper, or increasingly these days, on computer. I want to thank those faithful Friends of Nippur who still support this vital work even though we cannot, each year, report the discovery of another temple, the location of "the golden boat," or even the world's earliest rent-a-bed contract.

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# ORIENTAL INSTITUTE INVESTIGATIONS IN YEMEN: PROGRESS REPORT

McGulre Gibson and Tony J. Wilkinson

## Introduction

As we write this account in late June 1996, there are reports of floods in Yemen. Marib and Shabwa are prominently mentioned, although there is no indication of damage to any archaeological sites. The reports remind us of the destructive potential that resides in the monsoon rains that are essential for cultivation in the mountains of Yemen. The still-visible remnant of the dam at Marib is only one of many examples of magnificent engineering that have been shattered by extraordinary natural events. But, when seen in context, more important than these dramatic failures are the hundreds of smaller dams (fig. 1), water-diversion structures, and the thousands of terraces that have remained intact for hundreds of years, allowing the mountain areas of Yemen to support a large population in villages throughout the millennia. It is the recording and analysis of man-made structures, both ancient and contemporary, in their natural setting that is the core of the Oriental Institute's Archaeological and Environmental Survey in the Dhamar area of Yemen.

Having decided to postpone our third season of work from the spring until the fall of 1996, we have had time to analyze and process data from earlier seasons. As a result it is now possible to provide a considerable amount of additional information on the development of the archaeology of this little-known area of highland Yemen. Building upon the pioneering work of Raymond Tindel, whose Oriental Institute dissertation tackled the chronology of the Himyarite period of the plateau (first centuries B.C. to sixth century A.D.; see fig. 2), as well as more recent work by an Italian team in the area of Wadi Yana'im some 60 km to the northeast, we can now offer an updated picture of the archaeology of highland Yemen for roughly the past seven-thousand years.

The primary aim of the Oriental Institute investigation in the Dhamar area has been to provide an archaeological context for the magnificent suites of terraced fields that the blanket valley sides in this moist part of highland Yemen. Therefore in addition to attempting to provide a date for the fields, we are locating the settlements of the people that farmed the fields, demonstrating how the fields related to the natural environment of the region, and how the local economy functioned. Here however we will simply show how analysis of the survey data can now provide a much more complete framework for the chronological development of archaeology in the Dhamar region than was hitherto possible.



*Figure 1. Long dam in Wadi Shalalah*

## ARCHAEOLOGY



Figure 2. Inscription at Site DS 77

Our last field season was conducted in the spring of 1995 with the aid of funding from the National Science Foundation (grant no. SBR-9408714), the Oriental Institute, and a private donor, to all of whom we are particularly grateful. We also wish to acknowledge the full and generous cooperation of the General Organization of Antiquities, Manuscripts and Museums, San'a, especially Drs. M. A. Bafiqeh, Yusuf Abdullah, and Ahmad

Bataya. Mr. Ali Sanabani (1994 and 1995), and Mr. Abd al-Basset Noman (1995), the GOAMM representatives, actively participated in every stage of fieldwork and without their help and good judgment, the survey and excavations would have been impossible. We also wish to thank the management of the Yemeni Seed Potato Project, Dhamar, for providing accommodation in 1994 and part of the 1995 field season. Fieldwork was conducted in 1995 by Gibson and Wilkinson with the assistance of Christopher Edens and Jerry D. Lyon.

## The Environmental Context

After two field seasons (1994 and 1995) we now have sufficient sections through the natural sediments of the region (i.e., some thirty recorded sections) to place both archaeological sites and terraced fields within their geological context. Deep sections through recent sediments, often in excess of 7 m in total depth (see figs. 3–4), demonstrate that in many valleys, silt, sand, and loam have washed from the hillslopes either to accumulate behind terrace walls or to be deposited in valley floors where they can

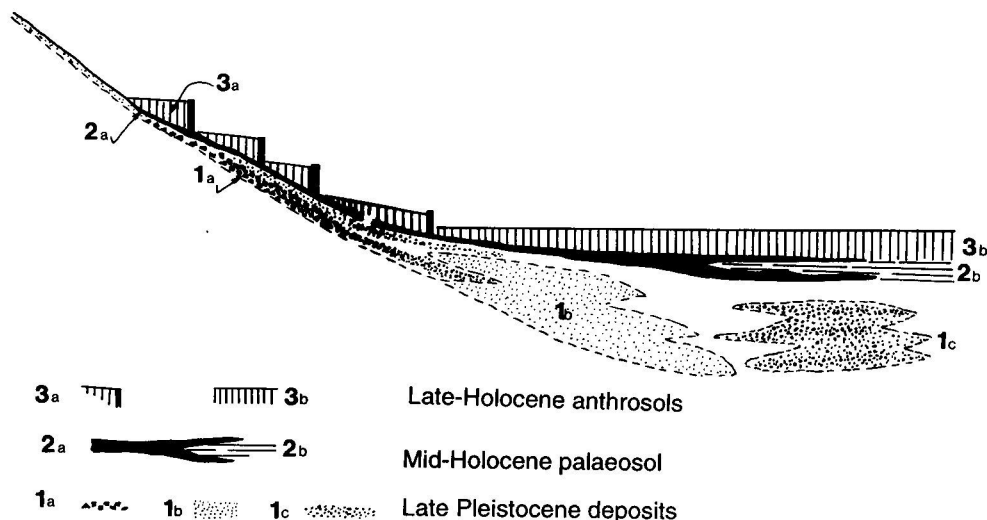


Figure 3. Diagrammatic view of the landscape elements

surround and obscure former fields and even wells (see 1994/95 *Annual Report*, p. 63, fig. 8). The full sedimentary sequence is shown in figure 3. At the bottom are layers deposited between about ten- to twenty-thousand years ago with the accumulation of glacial period sand dunes, gravel scree, and wadi gravels, relating to a cold, arid climate (Phases 1a, b, and c). These deposits became overlain by a conspicuous thick, dark brown organic soil that developed when the climate was significantly wetter between about five- and nine-



Figure 4. Massive section at Sedd Adh Dhra'a 2 dwarfs Jerry Lyon (at top) and Chris Edens (at base)

thousand years ago (layers 2a and b). Finally this distinctive horizon, which apparently represents the well-vegetated pristine environment that existed prior to major sedentary settlement, was covered by sands and silts of the landscape that was formed under the influence of humans ("anthrosols" in fig. 3). These deposits (layers 3a and b) were the result of sustained erosion of the preexisting soils on the slopes, caused by the stripping of vegetation through pastoral activities and intensive cultivation, and the construction of terrace walls. If we encounter man-made (archaeological) remains within any of the above distinct geological strata we can identify their specific stratigraphic context.

## Radiocarbon Chronology

A finer chronological subdivision than the above is however necessary if archaeological phases are to be recognized with any precision. Now, because of recent advances in the technique of radiocarbon dating, we have been able to make considerable progress in producing a cultural sequence for the region. As described in the 1994/95 *Annual Report*, during the 1995 field season three settlement sites were selected and within each a sounding was excavated to obtain pottery and charcoal in stratigraphic succession. And, even though the charcoal samples were relatively small, they yielded good results. Whereas in the past it was necessary to take rather large charcoal samples for radiocarbon dating (roughly sufficient to fill a 35 mm film container), now with the advent of so-called Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (AMS) dating, much smaller samples can be employed. AMS dating is a technique that enables minute fragments of charred material to be dated within plus or minus 50–150 years or so. Given the absence of an archaeological chronology for highland Yemen, this is a boon. The three sites excavated provided a total of four samples of usable charcoal for dating; which together with three samples from the pristine soil (2a in fig. 3), and a sample analyzed from Himyarite levels and dated in 1994, gives a total of eight dates for our preliminary chronological sequence (see table, fig. 5). Although this is clearly too few to furnish a definitive chronology, it is a move in the right direction and it means that now the Oriental Institute Project has one of the strongest and wide-ranging archaeological chronologies within southern Arabia.

## ARCHAEOLOGY

<i>Archaeological Period</i>	<i>Site</i>	<i>C<sup>14</sup> Date</i>	<i>True or Calibrated Date (B.C./A.D.)</i>
Himyarite	Site 55E	1980 ± 50	60 B.C.–A.D. 130
Iron Age	Site 82	2500 ± 70	400–805 B.C.
	Site 15	2640 ± 100	505–990 B.C.
Late Bronze Age	Site 66.1	3100 ± 120	1005–1620 B.C.
Middle Bronze Age	Site 66.2	3600 ± 80	1735–2145 B.C.
Early Bronze Age	Ceramic Dating Only		
Pre-Bronze Age	Moshak	4350 ± 60	2880–3095 B.C.
	Sedd adh-Dhra' II, #2	6290 ± 70	5060–5335 B.C.
	Sedd adh-Dhra' II, #1	7080 ± 140	5635–6175 B.C.

Figure 5. Table of radiocarbon dates from sites in the Dhamar area

The two samples, from Sites 15 (fig. 6) and 82, were dated within the earlier part of the first millennium B.C., thus confirming our suspicions that these sites were approximately contemporary with the Sabaeen kingdoms of the desert fringe. Perhaps even more satisfying were two dates from superimposed strata from Site 66, which fell within the early and later second millennium B.C. respectively. In addition, charcoal from an archaeological layer containing Himyarite pottery, dug by a local man at Site 55E, provided a date in the range of the first century B.C. to the second century A.D. This extended our chronology into the period when textual inscriptions became commonplace in the highlands. The above dates indicate that pottery excavated from the radiocarbon dated levels can be used to estimate ages at other sites which yield the same type of pottery. Furthermore, what had been a gaping void between the ceramically-dated third millennium B.C. occupations and those of the first millennium B.C. has now been partially filled. When the three dates provided by the early relict soil (2a in fig. 3) are added it can be seen that the project now has a skeleton chronology from around 6000 B.C. until the first/second centuries A.D.

### Ceramic Chronology

Working within the chronological framework outlined above we can now be more certain about the third millennium date of pottery collected from a number of sites in 1994 and 1995 and provisionally called Bronze Age by us. These sites, the pottery from which has been drawn and analyzed by Christopher Edens, is remarkably similar to ceramics from the Italian project in the Wadi Yana'im, some 50 to 60 km to the north of the Oriental Institute Project area. When the Dhamar region assemblage is also dated by

reference to radiocarbon-dated charred materials, we will then have a much clearer view of the earliest phases of sedentary settlement of the highlands.

For the Himyarite period, the recovery of two sherds inscribed with Old South Arabian script (alas not particularly meaningful) has reinforced our knowledge of the Himyarite cultural assemblage of the early centuries A.D. (fig. 7).

## Landscape Context at Talaba-Harwarwah

Finally, a key aspect of the project is the analysis of sites within their total landscape setting so that settlements are viewed not in isolation but as part of an evolving landscape, which is best illustrated by a map of the area between the village of Harwarwah and Talaba cisterns made in 1995

(fig. 8), where the complexity of the landscape of highland Yemen is clearly apparent. For example, a landscape of small patchwork fields (dashed lines in fig. 8) together with longer wall alignments (solid lines in fig. 8) can be traced across the terrain. Some of these are heavily weathered and coated with "desert varnish," a dark iron/manganese-rich coating that accumulates over thousands of years. Such wall-like alignments also flank ancient routes (see 1994/95 *Annual Report*, p. 61, fig. 6) and three of

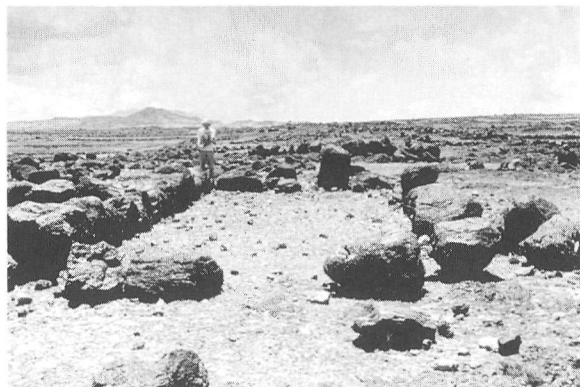


Figure 6. Iron Age building at DS 15 (Ashraf near Dafineh), one of which was excavated in 1995

these actually focus upon the two cisterns at Talaba (Site 5). The presence of Himyarite dedicatory inscriptions (first century B.C. to sixth century A.D.) carved on the cistern walls suggests that not only were the cisterns in use at this time (if not earlier) but that the tracks or roads which lead from these inscribed cisterns to the Himyarite site of Harwarwah (Site 4) must also have been in use at this time. Also, near one of the Talaba cisterns is a large square platform of stones of considerable antiquity, a threshing floor, probably dated to the Iron Age or, more likely, the Himyarite period. In addition to the above vestiges of Himyarite activity, the landscape can be seen to be peppered with ancient settlement sites which, according to the surface pottery, range in date from third millennium B.C. (Sites 150, 156, and 153) through Iron Age (151) and the Himyarite period (within the village of Harwarwah, site 4).

In terms of the development of a cultural chronology, further information on archaeological phases can be gleaned from so-called horizontal stratigraphy, as the following example from Site 153 should illustrate. This technique supplements our

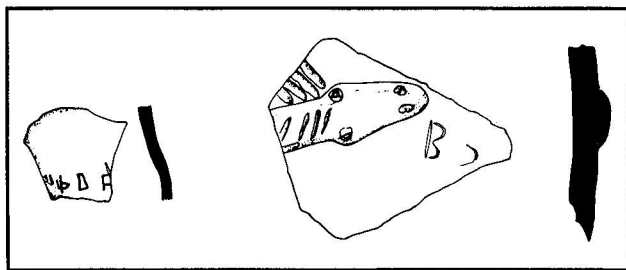
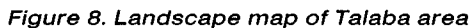


Figure 7. Inscribed Himyarite sherd from the site of Madhourah



*THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE*



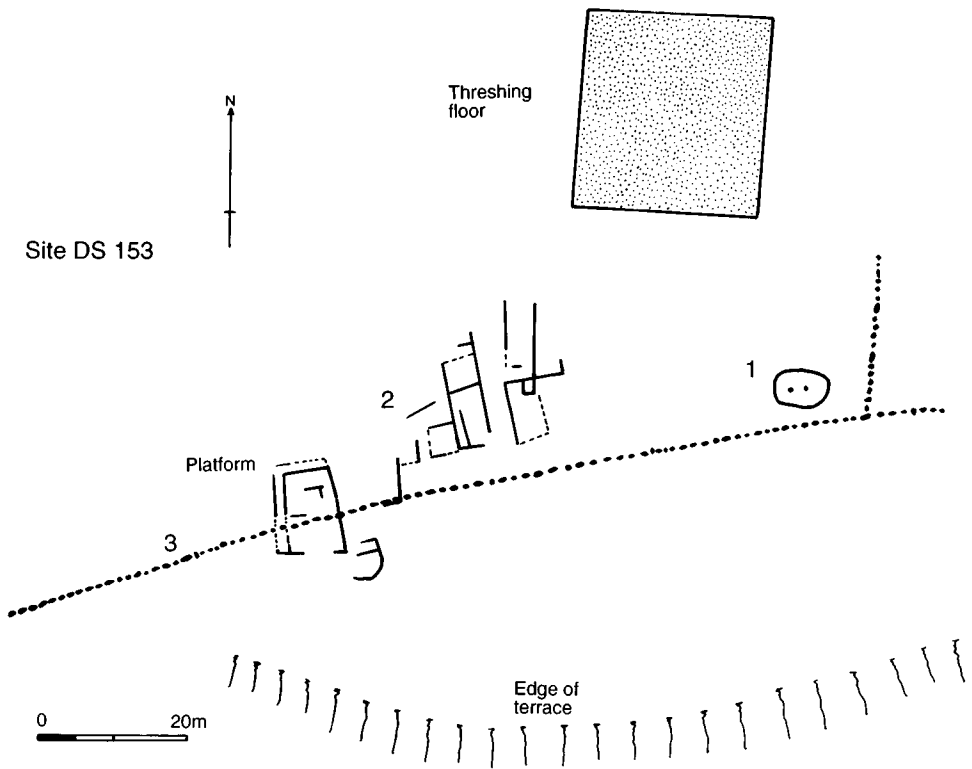


Figure 9. Detailed plan of DS 153

overall map (fig. 8) as part of a larger pattern of boundaries that possibly relate to a large scale field system. Such a relict field system might have been laid out during an earlier phase of landscape development, to then be encroached upon and partly destroyed by the present system of small, often terraced fields. If the Phase B buildings are indeed Iron Age, then this system of major walls is post-Iron Age and pre-modern, thus placing it roughly in the same time range as the tracks that focus on the Himyarite cistern at Talaba. In addition a large square platform of stones of considerable antiquity is a threshing floor, probably dated to the Iron Age or Himyarite period.

Clearly the Harwarwah-Talaba area does not provide a watertight chronology but rather sketches out an evolutionary sequence of varying probabilities. Our study here demonstrates that by harnessing pottery, architecture, and the elements enshrined within the overall landscape, one can develop a much more complete picture of a region than by simply excavating an individual site. Therefore among the objectives of our forthcoming season in the fall of 1996 will not only be an attempt to fill in the gap in the table (fig. 5) by supplying radiocarbon dates for the early Bronze Age but also an effort to extend the ceramic assemblage for the other dated phases. In addition further endeavors will be made to determine whether the earliest phase, confidently asserted here as pre-Bronze Age, is pre-Bronze Age, but also whether or not there is any association with in situ settlement that predates that of the early Bronze Age sites so far recognized.

## TELL ES-SWEYHAT EXPEDITION TO SYRIA

**Thomas A. Holland**

The final Oriental Institute archaeological field season at Tell es-Sweyhat, planned during 1996 (the 1994 season was not possible due to insufficient funding), again had to be put on hold, primarily due to a suspension of the National Endowment for the Humanities grant applications in October 1995 by the government for a one year time period. Future work at Sweyhat will be considered for 1997 if funding becomes available.

The Sweyhat model figurine discovered during the 1992 field season, depicting one of the earliest known examples of a domesticated horse in the Near East, continued to raise public notice during this year. A black and white illustration of the horse was requested by Byron Preiss Multimedia for inclusion in a CD-ROM entitled *The Timetables of Technology*, published by Simon and Schuster, due out in January 1997, with distribution in French, German, and English-speaking countries. The book is a reference for technological advances, beginning with the Stone Age up through the present day. Photographs of the horse were also requested for The Newseum, which is a new museum being designed to chronicle the history of journalism and will open during 1997 in Arlington, Virginia. A special exhibition of important discoveries from archaeological sites in Syria opened in The National Museum, Damascus, which included an enlarged, about 18 × 36 inches, color photograph of the Sweyhat horse.

Despite the enforced lull in fieldwork, much more progress was made during the year on the excavation report, "Excavations at Tell es-Sweyhat," by T. A. Holland, which is planned for publication during 1997.

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## YAQUSH PROJECT REPORT

**David Schloen**

A seven-member team from the Oriental Institute worked at Yaqush for four weeks in September 1995. This site, which is located in the northern Jordan Valley, on the western side of the Jordan River near a major ford, was an Early Bronze Age village that survived for an unusually long period, from about 3300 to 2300 B.C. Several hundred square meters of the site were excavated on behalf of the Oriental Institute in 1989 and 1991 under the direction of the late Douglas Esse, then professor of Syro-Palestinian archaeology in the Institute (see his report in the *1991/92 Annual Report*). Esse's successor, David Schloen, has undertaken to complete the project and to publish the results of the Oriental Institute's work at Yaqush. The 1995 excavations were purposely conducted on a small scale as a means of becoming acquainted with the site and developing a plan for further excavation. The team members consisted of David and Sandra Schloen, Timothy Harrison (formerly a student of Douglas Esse who completed his

University of Chicago Ph.D. dissertation on Early Bronze Age Palestine in the summer of 1995), and four students of Near Eastern archaeology from the University of Chicago: Catharine Clark, Judith Harris, Robert Harris, and Jason Ur. Accommodations and logistical support were provided by the members of Kibbutz Gesher, whose friendly cooperation is greatly appreciated. A new square, 10 × 10 m, was opened on the summit of the site, in an area where Esse had discovered well-preserved architectural remains from the earlier part of the Early Bronze Age, dating to the “pre-urban” phase at the end of the fourth millennium B.C. The 1995 team exposed the remainder of a domestic complex that had been partially uncovered in 1991, discovering evidence of a fiery destruction, including charred roof beams that had fallen in place and smashed pottery vessels lying on the floor of the house. The archaeological potential of this area of the site was confirmed, and it will be a focus of future excavations, providing evidence to complement the later material from the “urban” phase of the Early Bronze Age that Esse had unearthed elsewhere on the site. The work of analyzing and publishing the material from Yaqush has also begun and will continue over the next few years; in particular, a major goal of the Yaqush project is the detailed quantification of pottery, stone tools, bones, seeds, and other material found on the floors of destroyed houses, with the aim of determining patterns of human activity and changes in that activity over time. This will contribute to our understanding of the function of the site and could suggest explanations for the long-term survival of this village in a period when many neighboring villages were abandoned, their inhabitants having been absorbed into the larger urban centers that emerged in the area around 3000 B.C.

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PHILOLOGY

*Overleaf. Workers from Belding, Walbridge, Inc. beginning to take down the reconstruction of a Babylonian gate that stood in the Mesopotamian Gallery*

## ACHAEMENID ROYAL INSCRIPTIONS

**Gene Gragg and Matthew W. Stolper**

With the support of a grant from the Provost's Program for Academic Technology Innovation, Gene Gragg and Matthew W. Stolper are preparing an electronic study edition of the Achaemenid royal inscriptions to be published on the World-Wide Web. They are assisted by Richard Goerwitz (Ph.D., University of Chicago, 1993), whose electronic Bible Browser provided a model vehicle for examining groups of texts in many simultaneous versions of the Bible; and by Michael Kozuh, graduate student in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations. Most of the project tasks are done on Hewlett-Packard X-Terminals donated to the Oriental Institute by the LaSalle National Bank.

Transliterations of the inscriptions in Old Persian, Elamite, and Akkadian (and, where appropriate, in Aramaic or Egyptian) will be accompanied by text-critical apparatus, glossaries, grammatical indexes, bibliographic apparatus, and some graphic apparatus (for example, plans indicating the locations of architectural inscriptions or photographs of exemplars). The first stage of the project will present the royal inscriptions from Persepolis and nearby Naqsh-e Rostam, where the Oriental Institute carried out excavations between 1931 and 1939. There, rulers from Darius I (522–486 B.C.) to Artaxerxes III (358–338 B.C.) left some thirty inscriptions, most of them in two or more languages, hence altogether sixty-nine texts.

In its current state, the application gives access to editions and glossaries of all the versions of these inscriptions. Individual versions can be inspected in their entirety; two or more versions of an inscription can be compared section-by-section; the glossaries can be searched, and the results of the searches are linked to the corresponding sections of the texts; and the texts themselves can be searched for sequences of characters, with the results displayed as lists of glossary entries, lists of sections of texts, or both, again with links to full glossary entries and full displays of text. These components will soon be linked to a catalog, with basic text-critical apparatus and commentary, and to a master bibliography. Later additions are to include working translations of the several versions of the inscriptions; a running list of citations in scholarly and critical literature, linked to the cited passages; and site plans and pictures.

The inscriptions on Achaemenid monuments in Iran were the basis for the decipherment of the cuneiform scripts. The decipherment laid open vast, dimly known or unknown areas of the pre-Achaemenid history of the ancient Near East and most explorers of these areas left the Achaemenid texts themselves to subspecialists. Yet the corpus remains fundamental source material for classical and Biblical historians, Achaemenid historians, and scholars in Old Persian and Elamite among other languages of ancient Iran.

## PHILOLOGY

The most conspicuous characteristic of these texts is the very fact that they are in more than one language, so close study or accurate use of them calls for a synoptic presentation for easy comparison among the versions or the elements of versions. Yet no handy synoptic edition has replaced F. H. Weissbach's magisterial *Keilinschriften der Achämeniden* of 1911, because the divergence and development of scholarship on the several languages make replacing it with an equally compendious and authoritative printed edition a forbidding undertaking. On the other hand, the flexibility of the electronic media now makes it possible to present useful working synoptic editions in stages, to be progressively corrected, interconnected, and enlarged.

Since the Achaemenid royal inscriptions offer a limited corpus of texts in wholly unrelated languages, accompanied by a large scholarly literature, the project should help develop programs, editorial standards and procedures, and a body of experience that can be put to use in the electronic presentation and analysis of larger bodies of texts and linguistic data.

When a smoothly working, edited version is ready, the URL will be announced in the Oriental Institute's *News & Notes*, among other places.

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## THE CHICAGO ASSYRIAN DICTIONARY

**Martha T. Roth**

The 1995/96 academic year saw several major changes at the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary Project (CAD), the lexicographic project that began at the Oriental Institute in 1921 and had its first volume published in 1956.

The Editorial Board of the project was reorganized in 1995 to include Professors Robert D. Biggs, Walter Farber, Martha T. Roth, and Matthew W. Stolper in addition to Professors John A. Brinkman, Miguel Civil, and Erica Reiner. The Editorial Board continues to contribute to the high quality of the final product.

In January 1996, Professor Erica Reiner retired. She had been with the dictionary project since the first volumes were produced under the editorship of the late A. Leo Oppenheim, and had been the Editor-in-Charge since 1973. Professor Reiner continues her participation in all aspects of dictionary production but now will devote most of her attention to her own research and publications. Professor Martha T. Roth, who has been with the dictionary project since 1979 and Associate Editor since 1986, now takes on the day-to-day operation of the project as Director and Editor-in-Charge of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary.

We also reorganized and reconfigured some of our physical space in response to the Oriental Institute's space needs during this crucial period of building and renovation and with an eye to efficient production of the dictionary volumes. First, Roth exchanged offices with Professor Matthew Stolper, leaving Room 319 (which had been the office of the late A. Leo Oppenheim) for Room 325 (originally the "manifold" room for preparation of file cards). Second, Room 320, which had been the CAD Research Associates Room for decades, was turned over to archaeological laboratory use.



To accommodate personnel, therefore, there are now three desks for Research Associates in Room 324 (formerly the office of the late I. J. Gelb, and more recently the CAD Library Room), for which we made space when John Larson, the Oriental Institute Museum Archivist, completed archiving the Gelb papers that had remained in Room 324 since Gelb's death in 1985. We reorganized, cataloged, and repaired the materials formerly kept in Rooms 319 and 320, which included Oppenheim's private library, the CAD project's private library, the offprint collections of the late Abraham Sachs and A. Leo Oppenheim, and manuscripts and files crucial for production of the dictionary. All the CAD materials, files, manuscripts, and active staff are now consolidated into three adjoining interconnected rooms at the northeastern corner of the third floor: Roth's new office (325), the Dictionary Room (323), and the Staff and Library Room (324).

While reconfiguring our work space, we kept to our production schedule, simultaneously progressing on several volumes. Eisenbrauns, the printer of the R Volume, has sent us all the first galleys (829 pages), and we have returned about half to be set as second galleys; Eisenbrauns is already producing second galleys. The galleys for the R Volume are read by the members of the Editorial Board, as well as by outside consultants and in-house proofreaders.

Final editing of the P Volume occupied Professors Reiner and Roth, and they have finished editing most of the volume. The edited articles are prepared for final checking, which begins July 1996.

A third volume, T, is also in press. We have returned all first galleys (802 pages) to the printer, J. J. Augustin. Approximately half the first galleys have been returned to us as second galleys, and we have been returning second galleys to Augustin to be set as page proofs. The steady production of all these volumes is overseen by the Manuscript Editor, Ms. Linda McLarnan.

During this past year we have been ably assisted by three visiting scholars, Professor Hermann Hunger of the University of Vienna, Mr. Remigius Jas of the Free University of Amsterdam, and Ms. Raija Mattila of the University of Helsinki. Professor Hunger is a longtime collaborator on the project; he is an expert on astronomical and scientific texts and most recently author with the late Abraham Sachs of the three-volume *Astronomical Diaries and Related Texts from Babylonia*. Professor Hunger joined us again for the summer of 1995 and wrote draft articles for the U/W Volume, read the manuscript for the R Volume, and lent his expertise to the P Volume. Mr. Jas, whose *Neo-Assyrian Judicial Procedures* just appeared, was here until the end of 1995 when he left Chicago to join a three-year project in Leiden, The Netherlands, researching Nuzi real estate ownership and use. Mr. Jas helped with the proofs of the R Volume, helped update the P Volume, and wrote draft articles for the U/W Volume. Ms. Mattila arrived in January 1996 from the State Archives of Assyria Project in Helsinki and has sorted out problems in the R Volume galleys, proofread the R Volume second galleys, and has helped ready the P Volume for checking.

Mr. Tim Collins, a Ph.D. candidate in Assyriology, began working as a part-time research assistant for the project in January 1996. In addition to doing bibliographical research, he has verified references for the P and R Volumes and has helped proofread the P Volume. We have also been aided by undergraduate students participating in the College Research Opportunities Program, who perform various lexicographic and clerical tasks for the Dictionary. Ms. Rachel Dahl, a Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations major, Ms. Allison Carmody, a Linguistics major, and Mr. Jason Kemper, a Jewish Studies major, all worked for the project in 1995/96.

Our staff and space reconfigurations coincided with reorganizations at the National Endowment for the Humanities, and we spent the last weeks of the 1995/96 year preparing a new grant application. With continued funding and support, we expect to maintain our steady progress toward publication of the final volumes of the Assyrian Dictionary.

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## DEMOTIC DICTIONARY PROJECT

**Janet H. Johnson**

This year, as for the past several years, the Demotic Dictionary staff concentrated on checking drafts of entries for individual letters in the Egyptian "alphabet" and preparing and entering computer scan copies of the actual Demotic words. The only student working on the project this year was Thomas Dousa, whose command of Egyptian and Greek and the extensive literature in both has allowed him to make major contributions to the checking and rewriting of first draft entries. Thanks to a very generous bequest from Professor and Mrs. George R. Hughes, we anticipate being able next year to hire a recent Ph.D. graduate as Research Associate to work full time on checking of draft and preparation of scans and copies.

The checking and rewriting of first draft entries involves double checking of all information provided in the entry and the incorporation of several categories of information that we decided to include after the first drafts had been written. Many of these categories are being added to provide social or cultural information as part of the "meaning" of a word. For example, whenever the "word" is the name of a deity, a reference is provided to every geographic location (e.g., a specific city or cemetery) with which the deity is associated in the texts of the corpus from which the Chicago Demotic Dictionary is being drawn. Similarly, whenever the "word" being discussed is the name of a geographic location, reference is made to all deities mentioned in the texts of our corpus in conjunction with that geographic location. In both cases, where the "word" is the name of a deity or where it is the name of a geographic location, we are also providing references to titles associated with the name, which has led me to think about the range of titles and professions found in Demotic documents and the implications they could have for Egyptian society and its organization. I cannot go into great detail here, but a survey of the titles and professions that begin with one of the three letters that have recently been checked proves interesting and tantalizing. It must be stressed here that these titles are selected from only those words which begin with one of these three letters (out of twenty-four) of the Egyptian "alphabet." As a result, whole categories of jobs or professions are unrepresented or grossly under-represented. A prime example of what is not included here is the extensive range of what is probably the commonest title of all, *sh* "scribe," used repeatedly by itself and as an important component of what I call "title strings," lists of (all[?] of the) titles held (concurrently[?]) by an individual.

Some titles are quite general and seem to indicate unskilled or semiskilled positions: servant (lit., worker), laborer (lit., man of work), storehouse worker, provisioner, letter

carrier (lit., letter bringer), and seller of fragrant *qšwṯ* (an aromatic plant) (with variants seller of Egyptian *qšwṯ* and seller of Syrian *qšwṯ*). Others indicate skilled or semi-skilled jobs: builder, with its specializations house builder and potter (lit., builder of pots), leather-worker/sandalmaker, (metal)smith and specifically iron-smith. Sometimes the city or district in which the job was held was also specified: brewer(?) of the Sobek-town Sethrempai (in the Fayum), captain of the ferryboat of Dime (in the Fayum), collector of birds of ... of Themistos (in the Fayum), laundryman of Nilopolis (near Cairo), leather workers of the Pathyrite nome (south of Thebes), and provisioners of Thebes. Military titles are attested: chief of bowmen; man who receives rations *and*<sup>1</sup> who is assigned to the (military) camp of Pathyris; member of the bodyguard; member of the bodyguard of Pharaoh; and, perhaps, letter carrier of the fortress(?) of Pathyris. Very common are administrative titles, ranging from local officials in the provinces through the ranks up to senior officials in the capital: (tax-)collector (of a particular village); village scribe (with the name of the specific village); document-scribe *and* scribe of the tax lists of the Sobek-town of Dime; district scribe *and* agent of the man of Pharaoh; scribe of Pharaoh; scribe of Pharaoh in the temple of gold; scribe of Pharaoh in western Alexandria; scribe of the treasury, scribe of the house of documents; audit scribe of Pharaoh; agent of Pharaoh; and magistrate. One literary text refers to the people present at the daily audience of the king as the “guards, generals, and great men of the palace.” Also attested are staff directly serving the king: scribe *and* servant of the palace; majordomo; staff-bearer; and steward of the royal harem.

Some administrative titles are simply transcriptions into Demotic of a Greek title used by an official of the Greek-speaking administration. For example, Demotic *qwmwmsstts* is a transcription of the Greek title κομομισθωτής, “district lessor of royal land.” Similarly, *qmrqs* is a Demotic rendering of Greek κόμαρχης, “village leader” in the title “administrator of the town of Philae”; *ḫpysstts* transcribes ἐπιστάτης, “chief, commander” in the title “epistates of Pathyris” and *pšrktr* is Greek πράκτωρ, “bailiff, tax collector” in the titles “bailiff of the temples” and “bailiff of the house of ... .” In some cases, whole title strings seem to reflect Greek court titles: “chief of the army, leader of princes, great one of princes, exceedingly great one, ..., general, member of the bodyguard.” A few Latin titles from the Roman period are also transcribed into Demotic: *qrṯr* for *cūrātor* “guardian” in the title “curator of Philae,” in which “curator” has the sense of a special commander of cavalry in a garrison. There are even a few Meroitic titles written in Demotic, especially in graffiti left by Nubian worshippers at the temple of Isis at Philae. For example, *qrny* (Meroitic *qoreñ*, literally “regal man” or similar) occurs both alone, in compounds such as “*qrny* of the king” and “*qrny* of Isis,” and in title strings such as “*qrny* of Isis *and* agent of Isis *and* prophet of Isis.” Attested in ostraca from Nubia is the title *Pqyl* Meroitic *pqr* “royal crown prince,” the man who ruled semi-independently in lower Nubia.

Very common are religious titles. Some were specific to one particular deity, e.g., counselor (of) Isis of the Sobek-town Themistos in the district of Themistos or of the chapel of Isis of Pathyris. Other priestly titles were more general and were found in temples throughout the country: porter of the gods of Dime in the temple of Sobek, of the gods of Taoueris of the Sobek-town The-Settlement-of-Thoth (in the Fayum); servant of the divine falcon, of the ibises of the town of The-Elevated-Sandy-Land (location uncertain); water-pourer of the falcon; herald of Sobek in The-House-of-Khnum (in the Fayum); shrine-opener of the Serapeum, of the treasury of Amon, of Ptah; *w ʿb-*

1. Titles linked by an italic *and* are held by the same person.

## PHILOLOGY

priest of Dime, of the royal town, of Ḥathor the great goddess of Pitob southeast of Pathyris, of Ba-neb-Djet (lit., Ram of Mendes), of Soknopaios the great god *and* Isis Nepherses the great goddess *and* Isis beautiful of character; *w'ḥ*-priest who enters before Ptaḥ, before Thoth the doubly great the lord of Hermopolis, before Soknopaios the great god, before Soknopaios the great god *and* Isis Nepherses *and* the Brother-loving gods *and* the Beneficent gods *and* the Father-loving gods *and* the Gods who appear [the last four being references to deified Ptolemaic rulers]; *lesonis* of Ptaḥ who is south of his wall, of Soknopaios the great god *and* Isis Nepherses *and* the gods who dwell with him; prophet of Bastet, of Bastet *and* Sobek the great god, of Bastet who is in Dendera, of Ba-neb-Djet, of the statues of Nakht-Ḥoremḥeb the falcon in the temple of Tehne, of Khnum in Psai (i.e., in Ptolemais north of Thebes), of Ptaḥ, of Ptaḥ *and* Arsinoe Philadelphus, of Pharaoh, of Pharaoh Menkheperre Thutmose (the cult of the deified Eighteenth Dynasty ruler), of the House of Books, of the scriptorium of the Mistress of the Sycamore (an epithet of Ḥathor), of Smenmaat which is in House-of-the-Lady-of-the-Sycamore, of the temple of Menkheperre in the domain of Ptaḥ. The title prophet of Ptaḥ *and* chief artificer was the title of the high priest of Ptaḥ in Memphis, an official with a great deal of both religious and secular influence under the Ptolemies.

Sometimes people who had titles which identify them as skilled or semiskilled workers with no particular religious duties were nevertheless associated with a particular deity or temple: doorkeeper of the scriptorium who guards the council chamber; stonemason of Apis-Osiris the great god *and* servant of the living Apis the great god; scribe *and* man of the scriptorium; herdsman *and* man of the temple of Bastet; merchant *and* man of the Anubieion which is under the officials of Memphis; and chief baker of Ptaḥ. Especially common was the association of scribes with particular deities or temples: scribe of Ptaḥ, of Ptaḥ of Ptaḥotepptaḥ(?) in the estate of Ptaḥ, of Ba-neb-Djet foremost of the lake, of the excellent tomb of Apis-Osiris *and* Isis the mother of Apis, of the sistrum of Bastet lady of Ankhtawy, of the divine book of Bastet lady of Ankhtawy, of every first phyle of Buto (in the Delta), before Osiris, of the *w'ḥ*-priests of Soknopaios and Isis Nepherses the great goddess.

The mixing of what seem to us “secular” and “religious” titles was very common. Examples in this quick survey include: agent of Pharaoh who inspects the temple of Sobek *and* the temples of the district of Arsinoe; prophet *and* scribe of Pharaoh who keeps accounts; and god’s father *and* prophet of Amon in Karnak *and* scribe of the treasury of Djēme.

The hierarchy by which jobs were organized sometimes becomes visible. It is clear that a chief engraver/sculptor outranked an engraver/sculptor, that a chief baker outranked a baker, and that a chief stonemason outranked a stonemason, but the exact implications of the three titles stonemason of graywacke *and* galena, stonemason of graywacke *and* galena who inspects graywacke *and* galena, and royal stonemason of graywacke *and* galena are unclear. Within the temples, prophets outranked *w'ḥ*-priests (the title great *w'ḥ*-priest of Pharaoh Alexander might have had political implications) while the *lesonis* served as chief economic officer, appointed by the king and reporting directly to him. Heads of departments, such as the overseer of the house of doctoring, are attested as are what might be more independent, free-lance operators, such as the agents of the weavers of Dime or the agents of the *w'ḥ*-priests of the temple of Soknopaios the great god *and* Isis Nepherses.

Sometimes a title served more to indicate “status” than an actual “job,” as in the example of *b3k* “servant” used in legal documents in the compound “servant of DN” to indicate that the person so titled was “under the protection” of the temple of the named

## DEMOTIC DICTIONARY PROJECT

deity.<sup>2</sup> Although the title occasionally occurs alone, as an individual's sole title (examples occur with Amun, Amun lord of the thrones of the Two Lands [i.e., Egypt], Ḥathor, and Ḥorus of Edfu), it is much more frequently found in conjunction with another functional title. Usually this title is that of a skilled or semiskilled profession without religious duties.

butcher(?), servant of	Sobek Thoth the great the lord of Hermopolis the great god
farmer, servant of	Ḥathor mistress of Aphroditopolis <i>and</i> of Isis the great goddess Khnum lord of Smenḥor the great god Sobek
fisherman, servant of fisherman of the harbor, servant of	Wepwawet Sobek
gooseherd, servant of	Wepwawet
young gooseherd, servant of	Thoth the great the lord of Hermopolis the great god
herdsman, servant of	Min Montu lord of Armant Neferhotep Ḥathor mistress of Aphroditopolis the great goddess Ḥorus of Edfu Ḥorus uniter of the Two Lands Ḥorus Khentikhet the god of Djēme
herdsman, milk-jug porter, <i>and</i> servant of	Sobek
hunter <i>and</i> trapper, servant of	Wepwawet
leatherworker, servant of	Montu, lord of Armant
merchant, servant of	Ḥorus, lord of Harit(?) <i>and</i> Isis, the great goddess Min Ḥathor the great goddess Ḥorus uniter of the Two Lands Ḥorus Khentikhet the great god Khnum Sobek
overseer of the canal, servant of	Sobek
sealbearer of the god, embalmer, <i>and</i> servant of	Sobek
chief sealer <i>and</i> embalmer, servant of	Sobek
trustee, servant of <i>and</i> of Isis the great goddess	Ḥathor mistress of Aphroditopolis
weaver, servant of	Sobek

Confirmation of the analysis of the group "servant of DN" as a "status designator" rather than functional title is the parallel with the title "servant of Pharaoh" in the title

2. Much of this material was put together by Joe Manning when he was working on the dictionary; see his "Land and Status in Ptolemaic Egypt," in *Grund und Boden in Altägypten*, edited by Schafik Allam, pp. 147–75 (Tübingen, 1994).

## PHILOLOGY

strings “stonemason, servant of Pharaoh” and “farmer, servant of Pharaoh” where the latter parallels examples of “royal farmer of the village of Apias, of the Sobek-town Themistos in the district of Themistos” and the latter in turn appears to be a translation of the very common Greek “status designator” “royal farmer.”

As I noted above, this survey is compiled from words beginning with just three (of twenty-four) letters, leaving whole categories unrepresented or under-represented. But one category of individuals is unrepresented in the above lists for a different reason. In those three files there are only two titles that pertain to women, both religious: torch-bearer of Queen Cleopatra III and priestess of Ptah and singer. This demonstrates that Egyptian women, somewhat in earlier pharaonic history but increasingly so during the Ptolemaic and Roman periods, did not participate actively in public life. Aside from the occasional woman of fairly high social status who held a position in a temple, women did not hold formal, recognized jobs outside the home. Some women might have to work to earn money to survive and provide for their families (there is certainly evidence for female household servants) and some women were wealthy, owning (and buying and selling) valuable real estate or floating loans to relatives, friends, and neighbors. But society decreed that men had jobs, women stayed at home and took care of the house and the children. A woman might leave handling of her affairs to her husband (or father), who was more “worldly,” in which case she disappears from our records altogether. Even if a woman acted on her own behalf, the relevant legal or economic document, from which so much of our information derives, normally would describe her not by any functional titles but by the generic description “woman.”

As I have said before, writing a dictionary can be tedious, one can (and quite regularly does) get enmeshed in minute details of lexicography, and one runs the risk of forgetting the forest for the trees. However, one also has an absolutely unparalleled opportunity to observe patterns and trends and access to some of the data that can help to make sense of them. That is the challenge and the fun.

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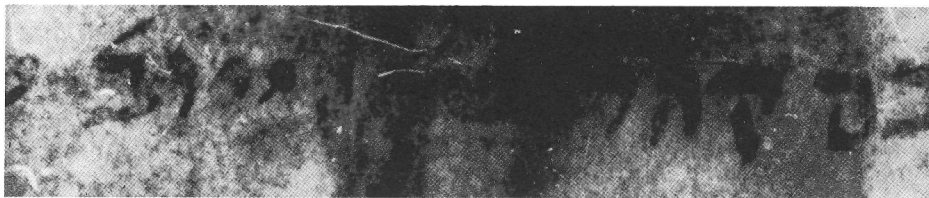
## HISTORICAL HEBREW MANUSCRIPTS

### Norman Golb

The Dead Sea Scrolls include relatively few documentary texts of historical character, notable exceptions being some ancient calendars as well as the Copper Scroll with its rich information on the hiding of the Temple treasures and of texts stemming from ancient Jerusalem libraries.<sup>1</sup> Virtually all of the other scrolls are hand copies of imaginative literary texts from which judgments and inferences of a historical character have to be laboriously squeezed out, sometimes as water from a rock. What is more, for all their

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1. See my observations in *Who Wrote the Dead Sea Scrolls?* (Scribner, 1995), chapter II and *passim*. The abiding public interest in the scrolls is indicated by the separate publication of the book in England and by its appearance in German and Dutch, as well as by publication of the work next year in Portuguese, Japanese, and French.



*Detail of manuscript Cambridge, Taylor-Schechter Genizah fragment 12.122, identifying the senders of the letter as the "Community of Kiev" (the oldest extant documentary reference to this city)*

vast importance, the scrolls constitute in their totality but a small proportion of the Hebrew manuscripts composed and/or copied before the age of printing. Leaving aside the thousands of literary texts composed and copied after the period of the scrolls until the fifteenth century, there are at least 25,000 autograph documentary leaves casting direct light on many aspects of the history of the Jews, as well as aspects of general history, now available to scholars. With the exception of the Bar Kokhbab texts (second century A.D.) and the Byzantine Hebrew papyri, almost all of these documents are from the Cairo Genizah and date mainly from the tenth through the thirteenth century. The vast majority of these documentary texts—now in Cambridge, Oxford, the British Museum, St. Petersburg, and elsewhere—all stem from the ancient "Synagogue of the Palestinians" of Fuṣṭāṭ-Miṣr (the so-called Old Cairo, just to the south of Cairo itself) and concern mostly events that transpired in Egypt and other Near and Middle Eastern countries, but some are from the far corners of medieval Europe.

These latter documents are among the most precious of the Genizah fragments, providing unusual glimpses into otherwise unrecorded aspects of history, often with implications for the Near Eastern history itself: witness for example the tenth-century document from Kiev, the only known autograph of the Khazarian Jews, which has, among other things, had the effect of authenticating the valuable correspondence of Hasdai ibn Shaprut (*major domo* in the court of the tenth-century Caliph 'Abd al-Rahman III of Cordova) with King Joseph of the Khazars (see *Khazarian Hebrew Documents of the Tenth Century*, by N. Golb and O. Pritsak [Cornell University Press, 1982], to appear next year in Russian translation). Genizah documents pertaining to the First and Second Crusades are also in the latter category.

Perhaps the most unusual Genizah text I have yet encountered is a long epistle on parchment describing the vicissitudes of a Jew of early eleventh-century Rouen. From Merovingian times until the late thirteenth century the Gallic city of Rothomagus was designated simply as Rothom or Rodom (before its permutation into Rouen), and it is this latter orthography (Hebrew רוֹדוֹם) that appears in the Genizah parchment. The importance of this reading led me, over many years, to search out this term in the oldest Hebrew manuscripts of French and Normannic origin, and in the wake of the discovery of more than twenty-five occurrences of the term in cultural, political and social contexts, to an investigation of the toponymy of Normandy and the consequent identification of more than eighty Streets of the Jews (Rues aux Juifs) in that region (for full particulars, see *The Jews of Medieval Normandy*, by N. Golb [Cambridge University Press, 1997]). On the basis of quite precise evidence, it is now clear that many if not most of these streets and bordering land-areas (in Latin: *Vicus Judaeorum*) originated in the period of Roman colonization of Gaul. The implications of this finding are explored in my forthcoming volume on the subject.

## THE HITTITE DICTIONARY PROJECT

Harry A. Hoffner, Jr.

In June of 1995 we received the good news that we have again been offered a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to fund the Hittite Dictionary (CHD) project through June 1997.

Progress on the P volume of the dictionary has been good. We published fascicle 1 (*pa-para*) during 1994/95 and fascicle 2 (*para-patta*) in September 1995. The revision and reference-checking of fascicle 3 (*patta-pu*) is going on as I write. We estimate that the third fascicle will be produced during 1996. But while our Research Associates Richard Beal and Hripsime Haroutunian finish that, co-editors Hoffner and Güterbock and Research Associate Oğuz Soysal continue to hack away at the first drafts of S-words. We are about 75% through the S-words now. Soysal has written first drafts of twenty-one articles in the alphabetical range of SI and SU, totaling fifty-five computer-generated pages.

Our P volume is being set up in-house by Thomas Urban of the Oriental Institute Publications Office. This both speeds up the production and keeps the costs down. It is hard to beat the convenience of just taking our queries down the hall instead of telephoning or faxing to Indiana, as we did with the previous volume.

Drs. Harry Hoffner, Hans Güterbock, Rich Beal, Oğuz Soysal, and Hripsime Haroutunian, volunteer Irv Diamond, and graduate students Steve Thurston, Simrit Dhesi, and Kathleen Mineck constituted the project staff during the last year. In June 1995, Dr. Billie Jean Collins left the staff of the Hittite Dictionary to assume the important post of Director of Publications for the American Schools of Oriental Research in Atlanta, Georgia. Her position was taken by Dr. Oğuz Soysal. Oğuz is of Turkish nationality and his early training was received there, but he finished his doctoral studies in Germany, specifically in Marburg and Würzburg. He brings a different training and background to our project, which we welcome. Twice a month he visits the Joseph Regenstein Library to systematically look through new periodicals and books of interest. In this way certain publications, which are not found in the Institute's Research Archives, are made known to members of the CHD staff. Soysal is compiling a bibliographical file that currently consists of 7,500 cards. This system is of great value to the project.

As in previous years, the National Endowment for the Humanities supplied us with the anonymous comments of the reviewers, and again these comments were extremely favorable. So, although it is sometimes frustrating that our work progresses relatively slowly, it is gratifying that the final product is of the highest quality.

Dr. Hoffner is preparing the application for a new grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The application must be submitted by July 1, 1996, exactly one year in advance of the expiration of our current two-year grant.





*RESEARCH*

*Overleaf. The former Egyptian Gallery is being used to store the museum collections during the initial phase of construction and renovation. This picture was taken as boxes of objects were being brought up to the gallery, weighed, and then placed on banks of metal shelving. Now-empty display cases from the gallery are visible on the left*

## INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH

### Richard H. Beal

In 1995/96, **Richard H. Beal** spent much of his time preparing for publication the third fascicle of the Hittite Dictionary's P Volume. This fascicle will probably be considerably larger than previous fascicles. It will begin with the word *pattar* and will run through the end of the letter P. In addition to this, Dr. Beal has been reading entries from the next volume, Š, to Professor Güterbock for his invaluable comments, gleaned from some seventy years of experience reading Hittite. His comments are then noted. Minor things are entered directly into the computer manuscript and a certain amount of copy editing is done in order to save time later. Substantial matters are taken to Professor Hoffner to be hammered out.

This year has also seen the appearance of a chapter on the Hittite military in one of the field's major scholarly achievements, the four volume set *Civilizations of the Ancient Near East*, edited by Jack Sasson. In addition, an article entitled "Hittite Military Rituals" has appeared in *Ancient Magic and Ritual Power*, edited by M. Meyer and P. Mirecki, which is a publication of the papers given at the First Ancient Magic Conference held in Lawrence, Kansas in 1992.

A review of J. Puhvel's *Hittite Etymological Dictionary*, Volume H, has been finished and submitted to the *Journal of the American Oriental Society*. A translation of several oracle texts for *Context of Scripture* to be edited by William Hallo of Yale has been completed and submitted to the editor. In addition, a translation of the Annals of Hittite king Muṣili II is in progress for the same volume.

In the summer of 1995, Dr. Beal and his wife Dr. JoAnn Scurlock drove some 11,000 km crisscrossing Turkey, visiting archaeological sites, and monuments of Hittite, Phrygian, Greek, Seljuk-Turkish, Ottoman-Turkish, Georgian and Armenian civilizations. These, along with traditional agricultural, industrial, and architectural techniques, have been carefully recorded for an ever growing slide archive. This was their fourth visit to Turkey so while many places were visited for the first time, many others were return visits to favorite monuments. Getting pictures of the Assyrian relief at Firhatlı (Uzunoğlantepe) nearly resulted in one less Hittitologist due to the density of the foliage on the mountain slope. In December 1995 and January 1996 the same attention was paid to the monuments of Oman, Bahrain, and Yemen. This was their first visit to the beauty, castles, ethnography, orderliness, and politeness of Oman. It was also their first visit to the splendid national museum of Bahrain, displaying recently found Kassite period cuneiform tablets, not to mention an excellent ethnographic section. They only found out later that they had missed riots and bombings on the island by one day. South Yemen, now united to North Yemen, is still recovering from thirty years of communist rule and several civil wars but can now be visited and like all the rest of

## RESEARCH

Yemen is fascinating. A sizable portion of Yemen's monuments and ethnography, often so reminiscent of what we read in our texts, has now been carefully recorded in slides.

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### Robert Biggs

This year **Robert Biggs** completed his twenty-fifth year as Editor of *The Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, only the seventh Editor since the journal was founded by William Rainey Harper (as *Hebraica*) in 1884. His personal research has continued to focus on Babylonian medicine. In this connection, he has been invited to present a lecture at a symposium at the Biblical Botanical Garden in Pittsburgh in September, the general theme of the symposium being Progress and Change in the Ancient Near Eastern Diet and Medicine. He continues his role as a Consulting Editor for the annual publication, *Society for Ancient Medicine Review*. Research in other areas of Assyriology included an article based on an unpublished letter from a woman in Old Assyrian times (ca. 2000 B.C.).

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### J. A. Brinkman

For the international conference on the Neo-Assyrian Empire held in Helsinki in September 1995 to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the State Archives of Assyria project, **J. A. Brinkman** gave the opening address "Unfolding the Drama of the Assyrian Empire," summarizing and analyzing the last fifteen years of archeological, historical, philological, and theoretical research on the Neo-Assyrian period, including the salvage digs on the Middle Euphrates and the Upper Tigris. Later the same month, he presented a paper on "The Dynamics of the Assyrian Empire" at a symposium opening the "Treasures from Assyria" exhibit in the Kimbell Art Museum, Fort Worth (an exhibit on loan from the British Museum), discussing the inner workings of the empire from demographics to economic imperatives. In the *Reallexikon der Assyriologie*, he published articles on two Chaldean kings who ruled over Babylonia: Mukīn-zēri (731–729 B.C.) and Mušēzib-Marduk (692–689 B.C.). He completed for publication an edition of the latest known text dated under King Ashurbanipal of Assyria (668–ca. 631 B.C.), a short note on Kassite-language designations for cattle, and an analysis of the reign of Nazi-Maruttaš (1307–1282 B.C.). Mr. Brinkman also conducted archival research at the University Museum, Philadelphia (May 1996) and at the British Museum, London (June 1996).

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### Miguel Civil

**Miguel Civil** spent much of this year completing the files of the Sumerian Hypertext Project. All the sources, textual and lexical, for the study of the Sumerian language and literature are articulated in a large hypertext system. Most of the textual material is now

coded (he has been fortunate in having the help of a student, Ms. Fumi Karahashi, who has entered quickly and competently large amounts of data). Much remains to be done in editorial proofing and compilation of secondary files, such as textual matrices and source lists, but the corpus is sufficiently complete to allow him to spend time on the grammar section.

Civil has several articles in press and he is preparing the publication of a group of miscellaneous historical fragments, and of an Old Babylonian vocabulary that throws unexpected light on the vexing problem of the two themes of the Sumerian verbal stems. It turns out that the oldest native terms for the tense/aspects *hamṭu* and *marû* (until now unattested in Old Babylonian) are simply “long” (*gíd*) for *marû* and “short” (*lugud*) for *hamṭu*. This discovery goes a long way toward the explanation of a grammatical problem on which a lot of ink has been spent without definitive results.

Civil was invited to give a lecture and a seminar in Johns Hopkins about the reconstruction of ancient, isolated languages. He also lectured in the Institut del proxim Orient Antic (IPOA) in Barcelona on similar subjects. He participated there on the planning of a conceptual, anthropological glossary of Akkadian. He took part in the annual American Oriental Society Meeting with a paper on a neglected stratum of very ancient Semitic loan-words in Sumerian. He presented the hypertext project in a special session devoted to electronic processing and organization of Near Eastern textual materials, during the Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale in Prague.

## John Coleman Darnell

During the 1995/96 season, his eighth year with the Epigraphic Survey, **John Coleman Darnell** served as Senior Epigrapher. In Luxor, he continued collating drawings at the Eighteenth Dynasty temple at Medinet Habu and is now working on the final draft of the translation and commentary volume for *Reliefs and Inscriptions at Luxor Temple*, Volume 2. He has also been working on the texts to be included in the Epigraphic Survey's publication of the Eighteenth Dynasty Temple at Medinet Habu, concentrating on the difficult and important Ptolemaic and Roman Period hymns in the portals of the temple.

The 1995/96 season was the fourth field season of the Theban Desert Road Survey (renamed from the Luxor-Farshût Desert Road Survey; see separate report). With his wife Deborah Darnell, John continues to work on several manuscripts, and he hopes to begin seeing these through publication in the near future. In the meantime, reports of the ceramic finds of the first three seasons have appeared in the *Bulletin de liaison du Groupe international d'étude de la céramique égyptienne*. John is also preparing initial publications of the important literary inscription from the Wadi el-Hôl, and the road inscription of Tjauti from Gebel Tjauti on the 'Alamat Tal Road, in order to make these significant rock inscriptions known to scholars. John and his wife Deborah have lectured on their desert discoveries on a number of occasions during the past year: “Ancient Egyptian Caravan Routes of the Theban Western Desert,” at the British Museum, London, April 16, 1996; “The Pharaonic Roads and Shrines of the Theban Western Desert,” at the American Research Center in Egypt, Cairo, September 27, 1995; and “The Theban Desert Road Survey,” in the series of lectures dedicated to the memory of Dr. Labib Habachi, sponsored by the Inspectorate of Antiquities for Upper Egypt and the Epigraphic Survey, Luxor, Egypt, November 16, 1995.

## RESEARCH

As a result of their growing interest and experience in dealing with difficult rock inscriptions, John and Deborah were asked by Dr. Renée Friedman, director of the Hierakonpolis Expedition, to come to Hierakonpolis over two separate weekends in order to examine the pharaonic inscriptions at a desert site designated Hk64. Working with Renée Friedman and artist Will Schenck, they have been able to collate and read many of the wind-blasted texts. Together with the accompanying petroglyphs and associated ceramic and faunal remains, the inscriptions of Hk64 have revealed much of interest regarding religious celebrations and police/military activity in the desert behind Hierakonpolis, between the late Old Kingdom and the early New Kingdom (one inscription and associated finds show that somewhat obscure religious rites described in a Berlin papyrus of the ritual of the goddess Mut were actually celebrated at Hk64). Dr. Friedman has asked the Darnells to prepare the pharaonic inscriptions for her publication of the rock art and inscriptions from the site.

In July 1995 John Darnell successfully defended his dissertation on *The Enigmatic Netherworld Books of the Solar-Osirian Unity: Cryptographic Compositions in the Tombs of Tutankhamun, Ramesses VI, and Ramesses IX*; he is currently preparing the work for publication. In the spring his article "Hathor Returns to Medamûd," dealing with a Ptolemaic hymn describing the celebration accompanying the return of the far-wandering goddess of the eye of the sun, appeared in *Studien zur altägyptischen Kultur* 22 (Hamburg, 1995): 47–94. His review of J. Assmann's *Egyptian Solar Religion in the New Kingdom: Re, Amun, and the Crisis of Polytheism* (trans. A. Alcock) is in press in *The Journal of Religion* and should appear in October 1996. In May he completed three articles that are now in press in *Enchoria*: "A Hieroglyphic Antecedent of Coptic Ⲭⲉⲗⲏⲱⲗ, 'Massacre,'" "Whom Did Nestasen Overhear at Isderes?," and "Ⲭⲱⲡⲙ, 'to Train,' and ⲓⲓⲙⲓⲧ, 'the Bit.'" He has submitted for publication "The Message of King Wahankh Antef II to Khety, Ruler of Heracleopolis," an offshoot of his work with the inscriptions from Gebel Tjauti, and he is in the process of completing another article, "The Apotropaic Goddess in the Eye," which he hopes to submit before the end of the summer.

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## Fred M. Donner

**Fred M. Donner** continued to serve as editor of *al-ʿUsur al-Wusta* ("the Middle Ages" in Arabic), which is the semiannual newsletter of Middle East Medievalists. He completed an article entitled "Piety and Eschatology in early Kharijite Poetry," which is scheduled to appear in the *Festschrift* of a distinguished Arab colleague. In December 1995, he presented a paper on "The Holy Man in Late Antique and Early Islamic Syria" at the annual conference of the Middle East Studies Association of North America in Washington, D.C. Donner enjoyed a leave of absence from teaching during the winter quarter, which enabled him to complete, after many years' intermittent labor, a book entitled *Narratives of Islamic Origins: The Beginnings of Islamic Historical Writing*. In it, he attempts to answer the question of why Muslims decided to write their own history, and to explain the circumstances in which the first historical works were produced. He anticipates that this work will appear sometime in 1997 in the Late Antiquity and Early Islam series published by Darwin Press.

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## Peter F. Dorman

Although a good portion of **Peter F. Dorman's** research time was spent on editorial duties involved with the second volume of the Epigraphic Survey's documentation of Luxor Temple (*The Facade, Portals, Upper Registers, Columns, and Marginalia of the Colonnade Hall*), he prepared an article, "Creation on the Potter's Wheel at the Eastern Horizon of Heaven," to appear in the forthcoming volume of studies in honor of Professor Edward F. Wente. The article discusses the potter's instrument as a potent means of daily self-rejuvenation by the creator sun god in the first hour before dawn, a concept illustrated in several Theban and Tanite royal tombs, as well as in the cosmological composition known as the Book of Nut. References to the spinning wheel recur later in several temples of the Ptolemaic period as symbolic of the creative powers of local deities, such as Khnum of Esna, Hathor of Dendera, and Horus of Edfu.

Dorman also submitted an article to be published in a volume dedicated to the memory of Abd el-Aziz Sadek, entitled "A Relief Fragment from the Tomb of Senenmut (Theban Tomb 71)," which reconstructs one the missing walls of the stone-lined niche in the tomb, the funeral focus for Senenmut's mortuary cult.

During the course of the year Dorman made visits to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Brooklyn Museum, the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, the Louvre, the British Museum, and the Cairo Museum to complete his initial cataloging of selected ceramic canopic jar lids. This research is now being incorporated in a projected monograph that will define a typology for these objects and will explore the links between potter's and sculptors' workshops, the existence of bona fide ceramic sculpture in ancient Egypt, and the textual and mythological references to the potter and his spinning wheel.

## Walter Farber

**Walter Farber** had been on sabbatical in 1994/95, supported by a National Endowment for the Humanities grant for work on his planned edition of the Lamaštu series of incantations. In 1995, after spending some time on final collations of pertinent texts in London, he used the remainder of the summer to finish the main draft of the commentary for the planned edition of the Lamaštu series. In November, he had a long-awaited opportunity to collate and copy the Lamaštu material from Ugarit, now housed in Damascus, Syria. Never before having been there, and with the museum work accomplished faster than expected, he was happy to find the time for some traveling, including visits to Aleppo, Ain Dara, Ebla, Palmyra, and many other ancient sites. On his way back to Chicago, he had a brief stopover in Munich, to attend a symposium honoring D. O. Edzard on the occasion of his sixty-fifth birthday.

Back to his teaching and administrative duties in Chicago, while trying hard to get ahead with the Lamaštu work, he still found time to finish articles for two *Festschriften* he had been asked to contribute, one article on an exceptionally beautiful Neo-Babylonian amulet, and the other on two Late Babylonian legal texts.

He also got interested in a new (at least for him) computer technique to enhance the reproducibility of his pencil hand copies of cuneiform texts by using a scanner and a graphics program to clean up any imperfections of the original drawings. After some initial problems, delays, and a trial-and-error period, he can now often be seen in the

## RESEARCH

computer laboratory, happily slaving along to edit all the approximately fifty plates for the Lamaštu book in this way.

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### McGuire Gibson

**McGuire Gibson**, besides his major interests in Nippur and the Diyala Objects Project (see separate reports), as well as the Yemen expedition, continues research in the field of ancient, medieval, and modern Near Eastern social systems. He is also involved in an international effort to halt the illegal trade in antiquities. He is serving his last year as the President of the American Institute for Yemeni Studies and has recently been elected to the Executive Committee of the Council of American Overseas Research Centers. During the year, he gave invited lectures in New York, Washington, Milwaukee, and Chicago.

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### Gene Gragg

As reported in *News & Notes* (Spring 1996), the Cushitic etymological database project (Cushlex) has evolved in two directions. In scope, it has become part of a larger project, the Afroasiatic Index, a comparative-historical database of languages of the Afroasiatic (AA) group, (current emphasis on Cushitic, Semitic, and Egyptian—collaboration being investigated for Berber and Chadic). We have shifted from stand-alone PC database to the medium of the Internet, with a World-Wide Web browser interface. The first move was motivated by the fact that, as a relatively loose cluster of Northeast African languages that began differentiating at an early stage in the Afroasiatic family history, cognates between the major branches of Cushitic tend to show general Afroasiatic reflexes. The move to the Internet was motivated in large part by the fact that it solved what was beginning to loom as a major bottleneck in PC diskette-based distribution—a huge variety of platforms and constantly evolving graphic interface software norms. By moving to the World-Wide Web, the interface and platform problems become the domain of the makers and distributors of web browser software. A prototype of the Semitic “module” of the Afroasiatic Index has been available since the fall of 1995 at the Oriental Institute’s home page, <http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/CUS/AAindex.html>. An initial view of the Cushitic data is scheduled to be uploaded to the web by September. Throughout much of this year, **Gene Gragg** has been developing programs for lexical textual and lexical information retrieval in the context of the Achaemenid Royal Inscriptions project. The programs, and lexical markup standards being developed here are directly applicable to the Afroasiatic Index program. Hopefully the two projects will make useful models available for scholarly editions of electronic texts and lexical reference works. Otherwise, Gragg gave a paper, “Root Fossils and Root Alternates,” at the meeting of the North American Conference on Afroasiatic Linguistics, held in conjunction with the American Oriental Society Meeting at the University of Pennsylvania in March; contributed a translation of “The Heron and the Turtle: Sumerian Fable” to a volume, *The Context of Scripture: Canonical Compositions, Monumental Inscriptions and Archival Documents from the Biblical*



*World*, being edited by W. Hallo; and a short study of a possible Old Ethiopic text, "Ostrakon from BE95-5," for Steven Sidebotham's *Berenice Excavation Report*.

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## Hripsime Haroutunian

**Hripsime Haroutunian** continued to work on the Chicago Hittite Dictionary Project. In 1995/96 she spent much of her time transliterating newly published cuneiform texts from volume KBo 39, identifying them, matching them to similar fragments from the project files, finding duplicates, parallel fragments or joining pieces, and finally keying them into the project's main computer, thereby furnishing the Hittite Dictionary staff with the latest textual material. She also coached first year graduate students (Simrit Dhesi and Kathleen Mineck) in parsing and filing cards of the texts from volume KBo 34, which she had transliterated during 1994/95. Moreover, Haroutunian was also in charge of adding new cards or making corrections to those cards already in the files, incorporating all the new joining pieces or duplicate fragments in them, as well as the newly edited texts that appear now and then in different Hittitological publications. Besides her involvement with the Hittite Dictionary project Haroutunian is engaged in compiling an extensive bibliography on the most recently published articles and books in the field, being the sole editor and publisher of the *Newsletter for Anatolian Studies*—a semiannual bibliographic publication for linguistic, historical, archaeological, and philological research into pre-Hellenistic Anatolia. During 1995/96 she produced her first issue of the *Newsletter* (vol. 11/2) and almost finished the next issue, due in July 1996. Aside from this, she participated in the 206th Annual Meeting of the American Oriental Society in Philadelphia (March 1996) with a presentation entitled, "On the Hittite Ritual of Maštigga Against Family Quarrels (KBo 39.8)," an expanded version of which she is intending to publish in the near future. She was also busy with revising and preparing for publication several other articles: "The Hittite Ritual Against a Curse (CTH 429)," "The Hittite View on the 'Home/House' as a Reduced Model of the Universe," "New Armeno-Hittite Parallels," and "Hittite Festivals for the Storm-god of Kuliwišna (CTH 329–330)." In addition, Haroutunian taught an Oriental Institute Adult Education Course entitled "The Hittites and Their Neighbors in Ancient Anatolia" in the spring of 1996.

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## Harry A. Hoffner, Jr.

Once again, in 1995/96 **Harry A. Hoffner, Jr.** used the majority of his research time for the directing and editing of the *Hittite Dictionary of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago*. In addition to teaching and committee work, he also traveled, lectured, and authored or edited several articles and books.

Publications from his hand that appeared in 1995/96 include *The Hittite Dictionary of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago, Volume P/2*, H. A. Hoffner, Jr. and H. G. Güterbock, eds. (Chicago: The Oriental Institute, 1995); "The Hittite Word for 'Oil' and its Derivatives," *Historische Sprachforschung* 107 (1994): 104–12; "About Questions," in *Studio Historiae Ardens. Ancient Near Eastern Studies Pre-*

## RESEARCH

sented to Philo H. J. Houwink ten Cate on the Occasion of his 65th Birthday, T. P. J. van den Hout et al., eds. (Istanbul, 1995), pp. 87–104; “Hittite *immakku*: ‘moreover’ or ‘just now’?,” in *Atti del II congresso internazionale de hittitologia*, O. Carruba et al., eds. (Pavia, 1995), pp. 191–94; “The Hittite Laws,” in *Law Collections from Mesopotamia and Asia Minor*, M. T. Roth, ed. (Atlanta, 1995), pp. 211–47; “Legal and Social Institutions of Hittite Anatolia,” in *Civilizations of the Ancient Near East*, J. M. Sasson et al., eds. (New York, 1995), pp. 555–70; “Oil in Hittite Texts,” *Biblical Archaeologist* 58 (1995): 108–14; “The Stem of the Hittite Word for ‘House’,” *Historische Sprachforschung* 108 (1995): 192–94; “From Head to Toe in Hittite,” in *Go To The Land I Will Show You: Studies in Honor of Dwight W. Young*, J. Coleson et al., eds. (Winona Lake, Indiana, 1996), pp. 247–59.

Work accepted and forthcoming includes “Hittite Equivalents of Old Assyrian *kumrum* and *epattum*,” *Wiener Zeitschrift für die Kunde des Morgenlandes* 86 (1996); “On Safari in Hittite Anatolia,” in *Studies in Ancient Languages and Philology in Honor of Jaan Puhvel*, D. Disterheft et al., eds. (Washington, D.C., 1996), pp. 5–21; “The Queen of Kanesh and the Tale of Zalpa,” “The Sun God and the Cow,” and “Appu and His Two Sons,” in *The Context of Scripture: Canonical Compositions, Monumental Inscriptions and Archival Documents from the Biblical World*, W. W. Hallo et al., eds. (Leiden, 1997); “Hittite Language,” in *Encyclopedia of Near Eastern Archaeology*, E. M. Meyers, ed. (New York, 1997); “Mühle, bei den Hethitern,” in *Reallexikon der Assyriologie*, D. O. Edzard, ed. (Berlin and New York, 1997); “Nachlass, bei den Hethitern,” in *Reallexikon der Assyriologie*, D. O. Edzard, ed. (Berlin and New York, 1997); “On Homicide in Hittite Law,” in (*Festschrift for Michael C. Astour*), M. Chavalas, ed. (Baltimore, 1997).

Research in progress, but not yet submitted, includes *The Hittite Laws* (Documenta et Monumenta Orientis Antiqui; Leiden: E. J. Brill), and the next volume of the *Hittite Dictionary*, containing the remainder of the P words.

During 1995/96 he delivered the following invited public lectures: “The Hurrians from a Hittite Perspective,” at the University of California-Los Angeles, December 2, 1995; “Homicide According to Hittite Law,” at the Midwest Branch of the American Oriental Society Meeting in LaGrange, Illinois, Special Session Honoring Michael C. Astour, February 11, 1996; “Syntactic Perspectives on the Hittite Laws,” at the Annual Meeting of the American Oriental Society in Philadelphia, Special Session Honoring Hans G. Güterbock, March 17, 1996.

During the academic year Hoffner also continued to function as a member of the editorial board of the Society of Biblical Literature’s *Writings from the Ancient World* series and as Hittitological consultant for the project *Scripture in Context*, edited by W. W. Hallo and Lawson Younger, to be published by E. J. Brill in Leiden, The Netherlands.

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## Thomas A. Holland

**Thomas A. Holland** had a busy year helping to prepare art work and editing manuscripts for both published and forthcoming Oriental Institute publications. Further research was conducted on the dating and parallel material for the pottery and small finds as well as the completion of all of the halftone plates and line illustrations for the first

of two final volumes on the excavations of the Early Bronze Age site of Tell es-Sweyhat on the left bank of the Euphrates River in northern Syria.

A book review of *An Introduction to Biblical Archaeology*, by Volkmar Fritz (Journal for the Study of the Old Testament, Supplement Series 172; Sheffield Academic Press, 1994), was submitted to the editors of *Bibliotheca Orientalis*. His article, "A Study of Palestinian Iron Age Baked Clay Figurines, with Special Reference to Jerusalem: Cave 1," originally published in *Levant* 9 (1977): 121–55, was reprinted in *Excavations by K. M. Kenyon in Jerusalem 1961–1967, Vol. IV: The Iron Age Cave Deposits on the South-east Hill and Isolated Burials and Cemeteries Elsewhere*, by I. Eshel and K. Prag (ed.) (Oxford: Oxford University Press for The British School of Archaeology in Jerusalem, 1995), pp. 159–89.

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## Janet H. Johnson

**Janet H. Johnson** attended the annual meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE) held in St. Louis in April, 1996, at which time she finished her three-year term as President. She very much enjoyed this chance to work closely with the ARCE staff during a time of great growth and challenge, both in New York and especially in Cairo. In March, she went to Copenhagen for the annual meeting of the International Committee for the Publication of the Carlsberg Papyri, the group coordinating the cataloging and publishing of this enormous collection of Demotic papyri, especially literary papyri. Her research during the past year, in addition to the Demotic Dictionary Project (see separate report), focused on questions of ethnicity in Persian-period Egypt (a short paper which will appear in the *Festschrift* for Professor Edward F. Wente) and on the legal status of women in ancient Egypt. Her study of the latter will appear as a chapter in the catalog for the forthcoming exhibit on "Women in Ancient Egypt" at the Cincinnati Art Museum. She very much enjoyed the chance to share with Oriental Institute Docents some of her more memorable reminiscences about life at the Oriental Institute at the "Faculty Round Table," which was held in conjunction with a reception at President and Mrs. Sonnenschein's home. But perhaps the most fun she had this year was taking their two grade-school age children to Jordan from Thanksgiving until New Years to join her husband, Donald Whitcomb, for part of his season of excavations at Aqaba, Jordan. Six weeks of sun, sand, digging and conservation, tea-breaks, new people, and new surroundings was exciting for all.

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## W. Raymond Johnson

This was a full year for Research Associate **W. Raymond Johnson**. In September he was promoted to Assistant Director of the Epigraphic Survey, and he also received additional funding from the Samuel H. Kress Foundation through the Oriental Institute for his personal field research and photographic documentation of fragmentary, unpublished monuments of Amenhotep III at sites in Egypt as well as museum collections in England, Belgium, California, New York, and Boston. In early November Ray took

## RESEARCH

some time off from his Chicago House duties to supervise the recording of limestone blocks of Amenhotep III reused by Ramesses II in his small temple to Ptah at Memphis for the Egypt Exploration Society of London. He was able to identify thirty-one reused blocks in the deteriorating structure, and their inscriptions and decoration suggest that Ramesses dismantled a bark sanctuary of Ptah Sokar built late in Amenhotep III's reign for reuse in his monument. Because there is much more material to be recorded than was originally estimated, Ray will continue the salvage documentation next season at the same time, when the water table is low and the monument is left fairly dry.

In September Ray spoke at the 'Friends of the British Museum' Lecture Series in London on the problem of Amenhotep III and Amarna, and again on the subject in Brussels, Belgium in April. In May he gave another lecture entitled, "Piecing Together Egypt's Past" at the San Diego Museum of Art. He wrote several articles this season, "The Year of the Goddess," for the *Chicago House Bulletin*; "The Nfrw Collar Reconsidered," for the Edward Wente *Festschrift*; "The University of Chicago in Luxor, Egypt," for *Aujourd'hui l'Égypte*; "The Memphis Amenhotep III Reused Block Project," for *Egyptian Archaeology: The Bulletin of the Egypt Exploration Society*; and collaborated with Peter Lacovara and Nicholas Reeves on an article entitled "A Composite-Statue Element in the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston," for *Revue d'Égyptologie*. He continued his study of naturalistic sculpture produced late in Amenhotep III's reign and identified a stylistically related portrait head of Akhenaten that could be the earliest known portrait of that king, which he will be publishing shortly.

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## Mark Lehner

**Mark Lehner**, during the summer and winter of 1995/96, completed the text for a book, *Complete Pyramids*, to be published by Thames and Hudson in the spring of 1997. He coauthored an article with David Goodman, "New Mapping of Ancient Egypt," for the surveyors magazine, *P.O.B.* (Point of Beginning) 21.3 (February 1996). Lehner wrote an account of the Koch-Ludwig Giza excavations, "Exploring the Giza Plateau," for *The Explorer's Journal* 73.4 (Winter 1995/96) in conjunction with the Explorer's Club Annual Dinner in New York on March 22, 1996. Lehner spoke at the event along with Kent Weeks of the American University in Cairo (recently of KV 5 fame), Neville Agnew of the Getty Conservation Institute, William Kimbel of the Institute for Human Origins, and Carol Beckwith and Angela Fisher, photographers of Africa. Lehner also wrote an article, "Z500 and the Zawiyet el-Aryan Layer Pyramid," for *Studies in Honor of William Kelly Simpson*, Peter der Manuelian, ed. (Boston: Museum of Fine Arts) to appear in the fall of 1996.

In January 1996 Lehner spent a week in Cairo assisting the Giza Inspectorate to map the area in front of the Khafre Valley Temple where Zahi Hawass had directed a project to remove the modern stone and cement stage and to clear the ancient entrance ramps to the Valley Temple, remains of mudbrick walls and platforms, and other ancient features.

On March 9 Lehner participated in a symposium at the Cleveland Museum of Art in conjunction with the exhibit "Pharaohs, Treasures of Egyptian Art from the Louvre," along with Lanny Bell, Lawrence Berman, Betsy Bryan, and James Harrell. Lehner's lecture was entitled "On the Face of the Sphinx."

At the end of March Lehner was in residence at the University of Chicago teaching a course in Egyptian Archaeology and a seminar in Old Kingdom ceramics. In conjunction with the seminar, the Koch-Ludwig Giza Project contributed funds to help make it possible for students to use the Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) facilities in the Geophysical Sciences Department of the University of Chicago. The SEM laboratory is under the direction of Dr. Andrew Davis who tutored Ms. Justine Way and Ms. Elizabeth Friedman in use of the facilities to examine thin sections and analyze other ceramic samples from Giza and Anatolia. On June 6 Lehner spoke to the members of the Breasted Society on his work at Giza. Janet and Robert Helman graciously hosted the event.

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### Dennis Pardee

Since last reporting in these pages, **Dennis Pardee** has shepherded his edition of the Ugaritic ritual texts through various stages of camera-ready copy proofing and has just completed what should be the last preliminary printout. The text is now in the hands of the copy editor (Éditions Recherche sur les Civilisations, Paris) and further corrections, it is hoped, will be minor. Closely linked with this project in subject matter was a series of seven articles on various Ugaritic deities with Biblical connections, real or imagined, that have appeared in the *Dictionary of Deities and Demons in the Bible* (Leiden: Brill, 1995).

Another project that came to completion is the *Encyclopedia of Near Eastern Archaeology*, to appear in late 1996 published by Oxford University Press, for which Pardee served as editor in matters of writing, languages, and inscriptions. His role was to ensure that such material received a fair share of attention in the encyclopedia and that the various linguistic artifacts were properly described for an audience whose expertise is not primarily linguistic or philological. The interested reader will find articles on writing and writing techniques, detailed but not overly technical descriptions of the various languages attested in the Near East from Sumerian to Arabic, a long overview of the inscriptional material, as well as brief descriptions of the primary corpora, and thumbnail sketches of some of the individual inscriptions to which reference is often made in the literature.

A Guggenheim Fellowship in 1995/96 provided additional research time to make a good start on the next major publication of Ugaritic texts according to literary genre, that of the epistolary documents. As of this writing there are 112 known letters in the Ugaritic language, all written in the Ugaritic alphabetic script on clay tablets in various stages of preservation, from complete to tiny fragments with only a few signs. In the later stages of preparing the volume on the ritual texts, Pardee was able to devote some of his time in Syria to copying the epistolary texts and he thus has a good head start in the epigraphic aspect of the study, with about half of the texts copied in detail. When working on a given corpus, the writing of the commentaries always gets off to a slow start while one gets one's bearings. In the case of the letters, it is particularly necessary to understand and describe properly the formulae so characteristic of this type of document, such as address, greetings, the writer's report on his own situation, all expressed in terms appropriate for a correspondent who could be socially superior to, inferior to, or the equal of the writer, or who could be a member of his family.

## RESEARCH

The most exciting development in Ugaritic studies in recent years has been the discovery of a new archive at Ras Shamra by the Mission Archéologique Française de Ras Shamra-Ougarit, for which Pardee serves as one of the epigraphers. In fact, the discoveries go back over two decades but it has only become apparent in recent years how important they are. In the late 1960s a reinforced concrete bunker was set into the mound of Ras Shamra by the Syrian military, and in 1973 the find of a tablet in the pile of dirt thrown aside when the installation was made led to that dirt being sifted and to the ensuing discovery of over a hundred tablets and fragments, in various states of preservation. This group of texts was finally published in 1991 by the members of the current epigraphic team as *Une archive au sud de la ville* (Ras Shamra-Ougarit VII; Paris: Éditions Recherche sur les Civilisations). Meanwhile the Mission received permission to remove the bunker and excavate the area. The first campaign was in 1986 and has continued in even-numbered years, with significant tablet finds in every campaign except 1990. The major discovery of texts occurred in 1994, when some 400 tablets and fragments were unearthed, many tumbling down from a niche in one of the ground-floor walls. About sixty of these texts are in Ugaritic, the rest in Akkadian.

In 1993 Pierre Bordreuil and Pardee announced at a conference in Paris that they believed they had identified the owner of the house in which the tablets had been discovered (see *Le pays d'Ougarit autour de 1200 av. J.-C.* [Ras Shamra-Ougarit XI; Paris: Éditions Recherche sur les Civilisations, 1995], pp. 31–32). The identification was based on the appearance of the name *Urtenu* on two Ugaritic texts of very different genres: one was a letter written by a certain *Azzi-iltu* to his father [*U*]rtenu and to his mother, with a second letter on the back of the tablet addressed to his sister; the second was an incantation against serpents, scorpions, and sorcerers prepared specifically for *Urtenu*. It appeared to Bordreuil and Pardee that the presence in a house of two such personal documents—in addition to several Akkadian texts containing the same name—constituted an indication that the man named *Urtenu* had lived in that house towards the end of its existence. Further evidence in favor of the hypothesis has come from the tablets discovered in 1994, because at least four other letters addressed to *Urtenu* are among these texts. As long ago as 1982, Daniel Arnaud, one of the Akkadian epigraphers of the Mission, proposed that a man named *Urtenu* who appeared in Akkadian texts from the bunker site was a high official in the queen's household (*Syria* 59, p. 106). That the *Urtenu* of the Akkadian and Ugaritic texts was the same person is indicated by the fact that they both had a son named *Azzi-iltu* (RS 34.134, RS 92.2005) and the identification of *Urtenu* as a major figure in the queen's entourage is now supported by the fact that two of the letters discovered in 1994 (and written in Ugaritic) are addressed by the queen to *Urtenu*.

Some of the most important texts from this archive are:

- the only known royal funerary ritual in the Ugaritic language (RS 34.126);
- a letter from the king (of Ugarit) to his mother regarding the daughter of the king of Amurru (RS 34.124);
- the first example from Ugarit of an abecedarium written in the order of the South Arabian alphabet (RS 88.2215); the only previously known example of such a text was discovered in 1933 at Beth Shemesh in Palestine and was only recently identified as an abecedarium;

— the first true bilingual in Ugaritic and Akkadian: an administrative text written on one side in Ugaritic, on the other in Akkadian (RS 94.2519);

— two letters from Merneptah, king of Egypt in the late thirteenth century, in Akkadian (the first was reported on by Sylvie Lackenbacher in *Le pays d'Ougarit autour de 1200*, pp. 77–83 [complete reference above], the second has appeared among the 1994 texts).

A few extra words on two of the new texts: in 1992 a fragment of a previously unknown mythological text was discovered (RS 92.2016), which bore the colophon of the most famous of Ugaritic scribes, Ilimilku, responsible for several of the best known Ugaritic myths, texts that were unearthed decades ago. Someone by the name of Ilimilku also added his own letter to the back of one of the queen's letters to Urtenu mentioned above (RS 94.2406). Though it is impossible to be certain whether the letter writer was the same person as the scribe (the letter writer only identified himself by name, so none of the scribe's usual titles is present), that is certainly a possibility, because to be allowed to add his own letter to a royal letter he must necessarily have been an important personage, perhaps the queen's scribe at the moment when this letter was written. On the basis of these and other data, Bordreuil, Anne-Sophie Dalix (one of Bordreuil's students), and Pardee have begun to think that the famous scribe might have lived at the end of the thirteenth century, shortly before the fall of Ugarit, rather than early in that century as has previously been thought. If such were to prove to be the case, it would make a major contribution to the argument that most of the Ugaritic texts that have been preserved date from the last decades of the life of the city (1225–1185 B.C. in round figures), rather than being evenly spread over the two centuries in which the script was in use. Attempts that have been made to identify a late form of the Ugaritic language, in use shortly before the fall of the city, would thus be invalidated, because most of the Ugaritic we know would be late Ugaritic.

By the time this report appears, the 1996 campaign will have been completed; past successes give hope for new discoveries of similar importance.

## Erica Reiner

**Erica Reiner** retired on January 31, 1996. In November of 1995 she was named Visiting Fellow at All Souls College, Oxford. She will be in residence there during Hilary Term (winter quarter) 1997.

Her book *Astral Magic in Babylonia* (Transactions of the American Philosophical Society, vol. 85/4) has appeared.

In February 1996 in Amsterdam, she attended—as an official “opponent”—the dissertation defense of Remigius Jas, who served as Research Assistant on the Assyrian Dictionary for two years. While in The Netherlands, she lectured at the Universities of Leiden and Groningen. In March 1996, she gave a paper at the Annual Meeting of the American Oriental Society, at the session honoring Hans Gustav Güterbock. At the same meeting she was one of the five panelists, representing the Mesopotamian field, at the plenary session on Humor. At the 1996 Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale

## RESEARCH

held in Prague she was one of three invited speakers to address the July 1, 1996 plenary session; her topic concerned the history of Assyriology, one of her current projects.

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### Martha T. Roth

**Martha T. Roth** devoted most of her energies in 1995/96 to the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary (see separate report). In March 1996, Roth was named Director and Editor-in-Charge of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary succeeding Professor Erica Reiner.

Roth's paper "Mesopotamian Legal Traditions and the Laws of Hammurabi," presented at the Robbins Collection and Chicago-Kent College of Law Symposium on Ancient Law, Economics, and Society, held at the University of California-Berkeley in March 1995, appeared in the *Chicago-Kent Law Review* 71/1 (1995): 13-39. A presentation for the University of Chicago Jewish Studies Committee on "Sacrifice and Substitution: Mesopotamian Perspectives on the Binding of Isaac," appeared in the student-produced journal *Sources* 2 (Spring 1996): 7-12. In November 1995, in Philadelphia, Roth participated in a panel sponsored by the Biblical Law Group of the Society of Biblical Literature on "Gender and Law."

As Ancient Near East Section Chair of the American Oriental Society (AOS), Roth was responsible for organizing the Ancient Near East program at the American Oriental Society Meeting held in Philadelphia in March 1996. In addition to the many individual papers and special panels of great interest, including panels on Ugarit and on Assyrian mysticism, a highlight of that meeting was the presentation of the AOS Medal of Merit to Professor Hans G. Güterbock. Back in Chicago, Roth co-chaired, with Professor Richard Saller, a colloquium on "Law Courts and the Mediation of Social Conflict in the Ancient Mediterranean World," bringing together philologists, legal historians, and legal anthropologists interested in Mesopotamia, Athens, Rome, and ancient Israel.

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### David Schloen

**David Schloen** continued his work with the Leon Levy Expedition to Ashkelon, Israel, for several weeks in June and July 1995. He is currently Associate Director of this long-term excavation project, which is directed by Lawrence Stager of Harvard University. The Ashkelon expedition has been in the field every summer since 1985, uncovering remains from diverse periods, from the beginning of the Canaanite era about 2000 B.C. to the Crusader period in the twelfth century A.D. Since 1994 the focus of Schloen's work at Ashkelon has been the analysis and publication of the large amount of material recovered from the late Philistine period at the end of the seventh century B.C., when the city was destroyed by the Babylonian army under Nebuchadnezzar. This material will be published in a forthcoming volume of the final report of the excavations at Ashkelon. Upon returning from Ashkelon, Schloen spent the month of August 1995 preparing for fieldwork at Yaqush, an exceptionally long-lived Early Bronze Age village site (ca. 3300-2300 B.C.) in the northern Jordan Valley that was excavated on behalf of the Oriental Institute in 1989 and 1991 by Douglas Esse, Schloen's predecessor as professor of Syro-Palestinian archaeology. In late August Schloen went back to Is-



rael with several University of Chicago archaeology students and conducted a four-week excavation at Yaqush (see separate report), enlarging the exposure earlier achieved by Esse and also processing and organizing the previously excavated material. Schloen plans to conduct further excavations at this important site and has started to work on the publication of the finds. From October 1995 until May 1996 Schloen's major research project has been a book, tentatively entitled "The House of the Father in Canaan and Israel," which is a revised and expanded version of his Harvard doctoral dissertation (defended with distinction in May 1995). The central concern of this book is the phenomenon of the ancient patriarchal household, which was both a basic socio-economic fact and a fundamental symbol of religious and political community in the ancient Near East, and in Bronze Age Canaan and Iron Age Israel in particular. Schloen is attempting to explicate the complex relationship between the "house of the father" as a fact and as a symbol, tracing the development and mutual interaction of these two aspects during the period when the Bronze Age social order was breaking down and new social forms and corresponding symbolizations of reality emerged in the course of the first millennium B.C. The book therefore deals with the archaeological evidence of domestic architecture, town planning, and economic life, relating this to the picture of the ancient Syro-Palestinian social world that could be constructed from both administrative and religious texts, including the Hebrew Bible. In addition to this project, Schloen has been occupied with preparing and teaching courses and participating in various workshops and committees. In June 1996 he returned to Ashkelon for another seven-week field season, resuming his study of the late Philistine finds.

## Oğuz Soysal

Oğuz Soysal started his job as Research Associate for the Chicago Hittite Dictionary Project in August 1995. He has spent most of his time writing articles on words beginning with "š" (mostly *šu-*, and a few *ši-* words).

Aside from this, his research activities continued to focus on Hittite history and historiography. A Turkish article on the designation and classification of the "Large Text of Hattušili III" was published in *Archivum Anatolicum* 1 (Turkey, 1995). Furthermore, through two recent articles in German he has continued his contributions to Old Hittite history, in which he has been interested since he was a student at the Universities of Marburg/Lahn and Würzburg. These articles are now in press for the journals *Hethitica* 14 (1997/98) and *Altorientalische Forschungen* 25/1 (1998). Other works in progress include "Some Remarks on KBo XVIII 151," dealing with an oracle report in Old Hittite, and "Ein althethitischer Exempla-Erlass KBo III 34," which intends to treat a difficult to understand historical-administrative document. The latter will be published as a monograph.

Besides his involvement with Hittite, he has worked on the Hattian (or Hattic) language as well and since January 1996 has been preparing a "Hattian word list" based on the texts in Hattian from Boğazköy (Hattic-Hittite bilinguals, Hattic recitations, Hittite rituals, and festivals with Hattic elements). Hattian is the oldest representative among the ancient Anatolian languages and has survived only in the religious textual tradition from Boğazköy. Because of the small number and poor preservation of documents containing Hattian elements, this language still remains a mystery. Despite some Hattian-

## RESEARCH

Hittite bilingual texts, the Hattian word complexes—the language itself is of agglutinative character and modified by prefixes, infixes, and suffixes—are still difficult to analyze, and the meaning of most Hattian words has not yet been determined. Consequently, a dictionary or glossary of Hattian is presently not available. Therefore, this list would be of help to future lexicographic studies. All known Hattian words in transliteration and in alphabetical order are included; this work seeks to offer a general view of the structure of Hattian words (and words complexes) and to point out the origin of those Hattian (loan) words that have survived in Hittite documents. Besides numerous Hattian elements in ancient Anatolian onomastic and toponymy, a large number of the cultic names/terms (titles of priests, names of sacral buildings, pottery, breads, etc.) were borrowed from Hattian language. These appear especially in the Old Hittite documents. However, some of them are incorrectly considered as Hittite and etymologized in the philological studies and even in the current etymological dictionaries as elements of Indo-European vocabulary. The word list in question currently consists of about 5,850 Macintosh computer-stored entries (words and word complexes; about 75% of published materials) and is still in progress. After its completion, the word list will be added to the lexical files of the Chicago Hittite Dictionary as a contribution of a “Nachbarsprache.”

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## Emily Teeter

**Emily Teeter's** personal research continues to concentrate on the publication of materials from the Oriental Institute's excavations at Medinet Habu. It is hoped that the first volume, on scarabs, seals, and seal impressions (with a section on the Coptic material prepared by Terry Wilfong of the Kelsey Museum) will be in press in 1997. She has also devoted much of her time to editing a *Festschrift* in honor of Edward F. Wente.

Teeter attended the International Congress of Egyptology at Cambridge, U.K., where she presented a paper on a relief of Amunirdis. She also attended the annual meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt (for which she served as the program coordinator) in St. Louis, and the XIth Annual Conference Informatique et Égyptologie held in New York, dedicated to computers and technology in Egyptology, where she presented the Oriental Institute Virtual Museum site.

Teeter discussed the history of the Oriental Institute in both Los Angeles and St. Louis in conjunction with the exhibit “The American Discovery of Ancient Egypt.” She was invited to speak on “Maat, Ethics and Social Responsibility in Ancient Egypt” at the Charles and Elizabeth Holman Symposium on Ancient Egypt at Fordham University, examining the question of the relationship of Maat and gnosis. She presented lectures at the World Affairs Council in Mt. Vernon, Illinois; the Archaeological Institute of America in Minneapolis; Beloit College; the Art Institute of Chicago; and she returned to Minneapolis for the University of Chicago Distinguished Faculty Series.

Emily assisted the Museum's Education Office with teacher and outreach training programs and with the help of Thomas Dousa and Alex O'Brien, Emily managed a record sixty-five students who subscribed to her Hieroglyphs by Mail course.

Publications for the year include a discussion of a fragmentary statue of Amunhotep Son of Hapu (*Journal of Egyptian Archaeology*) and another on a relief of the god's wife Amunirdis (*Varia Aegyptiaca*), as well as entries for Oriental Institute Museum

objects in the catalog for the exhibit "The American Discovery of Ancient Egypt," and the entry "Medinet Habu" in the *International Dictionary of Historic Places*. She submitted a manuscript on ancient Egyptian ritual that will appear in a multi-author volume next year. Book reviews appeared in the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, *The Classical Bulletin*, and *The Journal of the American Oriental Society*. Teeter was invited to St. Petersburg, Florida to review a major exhibit of Egyptian objects.

Other projects include serving as a reviewer for grants from the American Institute for Yemeni Studies, appearing on several segments of popular television programs, and working with Doug Irvine of the Spertus Museum on a radio program dealing with ancient music. Teeter continues to serve as a consultant to the Art Institute of Chicago for the Cleopatra multimedia gallery guide and for the preparation of educational materials about ancient Egypt. Teeter led a tour to Oman, Yemen and the Emirates and traveled independently in Turkey and Syria.

### Edward F. Wente

During the fall of 1995 **Edward F. Wente** was asked by Professor Donald Ryan of Pacific Lutheran University to examine a number of inscribed documents, chiefly pot fragments and ostraca, deriving from his recent excavations in the Valley of the Kings. One pot fragment is particularly important in that it has a bearing on the dating of the undecorated KV tomb 60, which contained two mummies of elderly women. When this tomb was discovered by Howard Carter in 1903, a fragment of a coffin inscription was found bearing the name of a royal wet nurse named In. Although in his brief report on this tomb Carter followed Newberry's suggestion that the two mummies were of nurses of Thutmose IV, an inscription in Vienna informs us that the chief wet nurse of Hatshepsut was a Sitre, nicknamed In. The hieratic docket on the jar fragment indicates that the pot once contained olive oil donated by the granary overseer Minmose. Since this individual is named and depicted as a participant in the transport of obelisks in Hatshepsut's mortuary temple at Deir el-Bahri, the docket confirms the dating of the tomb to the time of Hatshepsut rather than Thutmose IV. The identification of the two female mummies has been a matter of some speculation. One mummy could well be that of Sitre, Hatshepsut's nurse, and Elizabeth Thomas's suggestion in *The Royal Necropoleis of Thebes* that the other mummy could be that of Hatshepsut perhaps receives a bit of support from the hieratic docket if one assumes that the highly honored Minmose more likely contributed oil at the burial of Hatshepsut than at the interment of her nurse. Whether the second mummy, whose arms, I have been told, are positioned in the manner attested for queens, is that of Hatshepsut can only be resolved by further scientific examination and comparison with the royal mummies in Cairo. In November 1995, Mr. Wente presented an illustrated lecture, "Workers in the Valley of the Kings," to the Oriental Institute membership.

Mr. Wente's article, "Creation in Ancient Egypt," is to be published in a volume of essays entitled, *The Epic of Creation: Scientific and Religious Perspectives on Our Origins*, and two reviews relating to Ramesside historical inscriptions and the chronology of the New Kingdom have been accepted for publication in the *Journal of the American Oriental Society* and *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*. For a second printing of his *Letters from Ancient Egypt*, Mr. Wente has made some minor revisions. His article, "The

## RESEARCH

Scribes of Ancient Egypt," appeared in the fourth volume of *Civilizations of the Ancient Near East*, edited by Jack M. Sasson.

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## Donald Whitcomb

**Donald Whitcomb's** major activity this year was a large season of excavations at Aqaba (see separate report). This season was unusual in that the staff and students of the team were truly international. The backbone of the team was the Jordanian students and staff, many of whom returned as veterans of previous seasons. We welcomed the addition of two students from the Palestinian Institute of Archaeology at Bir Zeit University and another French student from the École Biblique in Jerusalem. The main excitement of the season, aside from the archaeological finds, was the earthquake of October 22nd, which measured 6.2 on the Richter scale. Happily no one was hurt and our residence was unharmed. Two days later, Janet and the kids (J. J. and Felicia) arrived in Aqaba and experienced a few of the aftershocks (which continued up to the last days of digging; the earthquake on December 26th measured 5.2 on Richter scale).

During the excavations, Don went to Amman and gave a lecture for a Tourist Guides training program. Back in Aqaba, the excavations welcomed Peter Piccione and a tour from the Oriental Institute Travel Program. We managed to squeeze a brief visit to the site and museum into their very full schedule. No sooner had Don returned to Chicago than the artifacts from this season arrived. Almost directly after being unpacked, these objects had to be moved to a new, temporary Islamic Archaeology Laboratory, Room 320 (generously loaned by the Assyrian Dictionary). During the summer, we were lucky to have Lammya Khalidi return to assist in drawing the artifacts, including the marble head of the Roman period, mentioned in "*Aqaba Work Defies Mother Nature*" (*News & Notes*, No. 149, Spring 1996, p. 4).

Back in Chicago, Don gave a lecture on Docents' Day in September on trade and the concept of the "Fertile Crescent." Other lectures were given to an Islamic Civilization class (on cities and settlers) and to a Near Eastern Archaeology class on Islamic settlement in southwest Arabia. He also lectured to the Mamluk Studies workshop on the "State of the Art of Mamluk Archaeology." The exhibit on "Ayla: Art and Industry in the Islamic Port of Aqaba" continued to be on display in the Oriental Institute museum and has the somewhat dubious honor of being the last exhibit before the closing of the museum. The exhibit will now be taken to Jordan and put on display in Aqaba, where a new, larger museum has been approved and will soon be built. Don has taken responsibility for editing archaeological articles for *al-'Usur al-Wusta*, the newsletter of Middle East Medievalists, edited by Fred Donner of the Oriental Institute. This group was formed to disseminate information and ideas on medieval history with an emphasis on primary evidence. Unlike many such organizations, the Middle East Medievalists group has recognized the value of Islamic archaeology and a tradition has developed of having a lead article on new archaeological discoveries of historical importance.

His interest in Arabia resulted in an invitation from King Saud University in Riyadh, where Don gave a series of lectures to the Department of Archaeology of the university with active participation of the history department in March. He also gave a lecture at the museum of the Department of Antiquities; this was an interesting return,

since he had done research in the museum almost twenty years ago. Finally, the university arranged for Don to visit the al-ʿUla archaeological sites, including the Petra-like tombs at Madaʿin Salih and the early Islamic city of Qurh (al-Mabiyat). His guide on this visit was Dr. Khalil al-Muaikel, who became known to many at the Oriental Institute during his time studying here. One of the most interesting observations in Saudi Arabia is the number of recently abandoned towns and the ready availability of traditional architecture. While the government is actively protecting some of these monuments, the sheer quantity of these threatens the permanent loss of valuable aspects of Saudi life and culture. In a curious connection, soon after returning, Don attended a symposium on Ottoman archaeology at Binghamton University. This meeting stressed the growing interest throughout the Middle East of archaeology of the very recent past, a field which could eventually even be incorporated into the ken of the Oriental Institute.

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### Tony J. Wilkinson

During late August and September **Tony J. Wilkinson** was occupied by fieldwork aimed at unraveling the archaeological landscape of the Balikh Valley, Syria (see separate report). This was followed, at the beginning of October, by the first stage of the new Amuq Valley Projects (see separate report), directed by Professor Aslihan Yener of the Oriental Institute.

Brief visits were also made to Syria, first in March 1996 as a lecturer on an Oriental Institute Travel Program tour. This was followed by a second trip to Syria in late April to attend a conference on the archaeology of the Syrian Jazira, at Deir ez-Zor on the Euphrates in southeastern Syria. A paper was delivered entitled "Reconstructing the Limit of Rain-fed Cultivation in the Jazira using Archaeological Data." The opportunity was taken after the conference to visit sites in the Khabur Valley, specifically Tells Mozan, Brak, and al-Beyda. The visit to the last named site, which also included a visit to the headquarters of the French survey of the Khabur Basin survey, provided a chance to assess the potential for future cooperative fieldwork around Tell al-Beyda.

Papers published or in press include: "Late Assyrian Settlement Geography in Upper Mesopotamia," in *Neo-Assyrian Geography*, edited by Mario Liverani; "Khanijdal: A Small Ubaid Site in Northern Iraq," to appear in *Iraq* 58 (1996); "Sabi Abyad, the Geomorphology of a Complex Landscape," to appear in 1996 in the second monograph on the archaeology of Sabi Abyad, Syria; and "Landscape Development," as part of the "Oriental Institute Amuq Valley Project, 1995" to appear in *Anatolica* 1996.

Outside lectures included: "Human Settlement and the Beginnings of Terraced Agriculture in Highland Yemen," in November 1995 at the Institute of Archaeology, London; "Demographic Trends from Archaeological Survey: Case Studies from the Levant and Near East," at the European Community Populous Conference, where he also participated as a discussant, at the University of Durham; "The History and Development of the Lake of Antioch," in February 1996 at the Midwest Branch of the American Oriental Society in the session to honor Michael Astour; "Crisis or Continuity: Population Trends, Food Production and Settlement in Bronze Age Upper Mesopotamia," on April 11, 1996 at Johns Hopkins University, on April 12, 1996 at the University of Pennsylvania, and on May 17, 1996 at the University of California-San Diego; "Landscape of

## RESEARCH

Empires: Settlement and Countryside in Greater Mesopotamia during the Late Assyrian Period" also at San Diego but for the Archaeological Institute of America; and finally "Landscape Development in the Amuq Plain, Turkey" and "Field Methodologies for the Reconstruction of Ancient Regional Economies" in May 1996 at the University of California-Los Angeles.

Activities at the Oriental Institute have included the preparation for publication of the Oriental Institute's Dhamar Project, the survey part of the Amuq project, and studies of ancient water use in the Balikh Valley, Syria. Fieldwork in Yemen also provided a sound background for a new course that was prepared and offered in the winter quarter under the auspices of Professor McGuire Gibson: "An Introduction to the Archaeology of Southern Arabia." During the winter quarter, Wilkinson also taught a new Museum Education evening course concerning the archaeology of the Near Eastern landscape entitled "Lifelines of the City."

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### K. Aslihan Yener

During 1995/96, **K. Aslihan Yener** began the Amuq Valley Projects in the Hatay, Turkey (see separate report). In its initial year, Yener and Tony J. Wilkinson launched archaeological and geomorphological surveys of the settlements in the Amuq plain to assess their condition since they were last excavated in 1938. New sites were discovered in the now-dry bed of the Lake of Antioch and silted and deeply buried Chalcolithic levels of Tell Atchana/Alalakh were found as well. Profiles were drawn of a number of badly damaged sites such as Tell Kurdu and Tell Dhahab. Tell al-Judaidah, the location of some of the very earliest tin bronzes in the world, was given close attention and a modified step trench was excavated in the southeastern corner. Impressively large mudbrick walls emerged in what appears to be a substantial building dating to the late fourth/early third millennium B.C. The discovery of hitherto unknown pottery and a lead pendant, and the opportunity to enhance the stratigraphy for these pivotal periods (Phases F and G), energized this successful operation. A brief survey of the gold mines in the neighboring Amanus Mountains were also part of this season's activities. The work in the Amuq is published in two articles, "The Oriental Institute Amuq Valley Projects, 1995," *The Oriental Institute News & Notes* 148 (1996): 1-6 and a multi-authored article with Tony J. Wilkinson, S. Branting, E. Friedman, J. Lyon, C. Reichel, "The 1995 Oriental Institute Amuq Regional Projects," to appear in the next issue of *Anatolica*. Yener delivered a paper on this first season at the June Meetings of the XVIII International Symposium of Excavations, Surveys, and Archaeometry in Ankara, Turkey and to the meeting of the Chowder and Marching Society, November 1995.

In addition she has devoted time to processing the data from excavations at the Early Bronze Age tin metal processing sites at Göltepe and Kestel mine. Several papers were delivered on the results of the analyses: "Göltepe and Kestel: An Early Bronze Age Tin Industry," sponsored by the Archaeological Institute of America in Milwaukee; "Managing Metals in Early Bronze Age Anatolia," at the Ancient Mining and Metallurgy Conference sponsored by the British Museum, London, in September 1995; "The Rise of Civilization in Anatolia," sponsored by the Women's Board Lectures, at The Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago; "The Birthplace of Metals: The Search for Ancient Technology," sponsored by the American Women for International Under-

standing, Chicago; and "The Rise of Complex Metal Industries in Anatolia," sponsored by the Anthropology Department, Northwestern University, Chicago.

The published results of Yener's lead isotope analyses research and Göltepe excavations can be found in "Göltepe and Kestel," in *Civilizations of the Ancient Near East, Vol. III*, J. Sasson, ed. (1995), pp. 1519–21. An article jointly authored with E. V. Sayre and E. C. Joel, "Comments on 'Oxhide Ingots, Recycling and the Mediterranean Metals Trade,'" was published in the *Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology* 8.1 (1995): 45–53; another article, jointly authored with E. Geçkinli and H. Özbal, "A Brief Survey of Anatolian Metallurgy Prior to 500 B.C.," appeared in *Archaeometry* 94. *The Proceedings of the 29th International Symposium on Archaeometry*, S. Demirci, A. M. Özer, G. D. Summers, eds. (Ankara 1996), pp. 375–91; and another article, jointly authored with P. Jett, M. Adriaens, "Silver and Copper Artifacts from Ancient Anatolia," appeared in the *Journal of Metals* 47/5 (1995): 70–72. Two articles appeared in Turkish in *XVI. Kazı Sonuçları Toplantısı* (1995) 177–88, and *XVII. Kazı Sonuçları Toplantısı* (1996). Yener is now working on the completion of her book entitled *The Domestication of Metals: The Rise of Complex Metal Industries in Anatolia (c. 4500–2000 b.c.)* to be published by the Smithsonian Institution Press.

The last season of excavations of Kestel mine and its mortuary chamber will take place during the summer of 1996. Another exploratory season in the Amuq will take place in September and October. Our task this year will be to enhance the environmental arm of the project by taking pollen cores from the bed of the dried out Lake of Antioch in collaboration with a team from Holland. Tell Kurdu, which we hope to excavate in 1997, will be intensively surveyed and a topographical map will be created in preparation for the next season.

## ORIENTAL INSTITUTE COMPUTER LABORATORY

John C. Sanders  
Peggy M. Sanders

### Introduction

The Computer Laboratory was humming with activity throughout the year, which just means that things continued as always: new computer equipment arrived and had to be installed, old equipment broke down and needed to be repaired or discarded, faculty and staff needed help solving computer-related problems or advice on computer applications, and, of course, it all needed to be done yesterday. So what else is new?

Although I will discuss several important projects below, the most significant project that the Computer Laboratory was involved with this past year, and definitely the most time consuming, was the development of the Oriental Institute Virtual Museum, a new component of the Oriental Institute's World-Wide Web (WWW) site. For

## RESEARCH

further information concerning the Virtual Museum and our WWW database in general, refer to the *Oriental Institute Electronic Resources* report (below).

### The Nippur Expedition and Remote Sensing

During the past year a working relationship has been established between the Oriental Institute and the Center for Geographic Information Systems, in the Geography Department of St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, Minnesota. Director Benjamin Richason and his staff have been working with the Oriental Institute's McGuire Gibson, Tony J. Wilkinson, and the Computer Laboratory to coordinate a joint research project investigating remote sensing techniques for archaeological site identification and analysis, as well as geomorphological analysis of a small region in southwestern Iran, near the ancient site of Susa, using satellite images and ground-penetrating radar data obtained by NASA from recent Space Shuttle flights over this region of the earth.

During this past year the Oriental Institute supplied bibliographic, map, and survey data to students at the Center for Geographic Information Systems, who then integrated this information with satellite image data of the area using the Center's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) computer software. Preliminary results of this first test were encouraging, and discussions concerning both the data analysis procedures and the computer software techniques employed will be held during the summer of 1996, in preparation for a more focused investigation on the region around the Mesopotamian site of Nippur scheduled for the 1996/97 school year.

### Giza Plateau Mapping Project

Prior commitments limited Mark Lehner's time to consult with the Computer Laboratory during the past year regarding the continuing development of the Giza Plateau computer model. Discussions in the spring of 1996, however, indicate that a major effort to finish the surface modeling of all the major structures (pyramids, temples, and causeways) on the plateau, as well as refining the original plateau surface generated by the Computer Laboratory in 1992, will be undertaken during 1996/97.

Peggy Sanders continued to work on the Nile Valley computer model, producing several illustrations that Mark will include in forthcoming publications.

### Tal-e Malyan Project

William Sumner, Oriental Institute Director, asked Peggy Sanders to redraw and/or touch-up a number of drawings and to arrange pottery and artifact plates that will illustrate a forthcoming publication on the University of Pennsylvania's excavations at Malyan during the 1970s.

### Oriental Institute Museum Education Maps

During the summer of 1995 Carole Krucoff, Head of Museum Education and Public Programming, and William Pattison, Associate Professor Emeritus, Department of Education and the College of the University of Chicago, and a consultant to the Oriental Institute/Chicago Public Schools Partnership Project for the World History Curriculum (sponsored by the Polk Bros. Foundation), asked the Computer Laboratory to develop a series of regionally-based maps of the ancient Near East to illustrate the Museum Education Office's "Teacher's Kit." Developed as overhead projector transparencies, these maps illustrate the geographical regions of Mesopotamia and Egypt/Nubia through time



in accord with the textual materials contained in the Teacher's Kit, indicating the location of important cities and shifts in cultural/political boundaries through time.

The Computer Laboratory purchased the underlying map data, a set of global relief maps in CD-ROM format, from Digital Wisdom, Inc. A generous donation by Mr. Pattison helped to make this purchase possible. With these relief maps as a background, additional information for each map was gathered by Mr. Pattison and the Computer Laboratory from published sources according to the Museum Education Office's guidelines.

The Mesopotamian maps were presented to teachers from the twenty schools participating in the program during the spring of 1996, and they were deemed a great success overall. Suggestions for improvements were noted, modifications were then made to the Mesopotamian series, and then the Egyptian map series was started. The latter will be completed during the summer of 1996, and the entire Ancient Near Eastern Map series will become part of the Teacher's Kit and be ready for use by teachers in their classrooms during the 1996/97 school year.

Let me take this opportunity to thank Mr. William Pattison for his tireless efforts to oversee this entire process, seek out the necessary information, and provide valuable comments and criticism regarding the design and presentation of these educational maps. Their success is due in large part to his efforts.

## **Isthmia Project**

The Computer Laboratory's collaboration with Professor Elizabeth Gebhard, Department of Classics, in developing the three-dimensional computer model of the archaeological site of Isthmia, Greece continued throughout this past year, with everyone concerned expressing satisfaction with the pace of the project and its results. Under the supervision of Peggy Sanders, and with the help of Deborah Darylak, a student in the Divinity School, survey data and architectural drawings from Professor Gebhard's recent excavations as well as previous publications are being used to construct a series of surface terrain models to illustrate the man-made changes to the landscape of the site from the eighth century B.C. to the second century A.D. At present, six of the ten discrete building phases of the site's development have been essentially completed, and work will continue next year on the remaining models.

## **Computer Model of the Djoser Complex**

Additional modifications to the Computer Laboratory's three-dimensional computer model of the Djoser pyramid complex at Saqqara, Egypt were made this year in order to produce slides for lectures by Florence Friedman, Curator of Ancient Art at the Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design. The primary focus of Dr. Friedman's work is on the corresponding images of the "running" kings on false door reliefs in chambers under both the pyramid and the southern tomb.

## **The Getty Museum**

Because of her artifact drawings for Oriental Institute publications, Peggy Sanders was contacted by the Getty Museum to provide hand-drawn pottery illustrations for their series entitled *Corpus Vasorum Antiquorum*, specifically for fascicles written by Mary Moore, Richard Near, and Richard De Puma. This work has required Peggy to travel to the Getty Museum in Malibu, California on several occasions during the year in order to have "hands-on" contact with the artifacts as she prepares each set of illustrations.

## RESEARCH

### The Art Institute of Chicago

A referral from Emily Teeter, Museum Assistant Curator, led Peggy Sanders to produce an illustration for a forthcoming exhibit in the Kraft Education Center of the Art Institute of Chicago. They wanted a life-size (about five feet tall) drawing of the Royal Benin Altar Tusk, a nineteenth century elephant tusk carved with images of the Oba, or king, and other figures and emblems from the history, folklore, and religious beliefs of the Benin (Nigerian) culture.

### Laboratory Equipment/Institute Resources

During the winter of 1995 six Oriental Institute IBM-compatible computers had their network connections switched from the AppleTalk network to direct connections to the building's ethernet network. Professors Civil, Gibson, Gragg, and Stolper, as well as Abbas Alizadeh and the Computer Laboratory's DOS/Windows computers now have much faster and more reliable access to the Internet as a result of this switch. The IBM-compatible computer in Museum Registration was not switched over at this time due to the renovation project in progress, but it will also be upgraded at some future date.

In July 1995, the Oriental Institute's WWW file server was moved from an Apple Macintosh Performa 636CD computer to the Computer Laboratory's Sun SPARCstation 1+ computer. This move was necessitated by increased user demands on the server during the later half of 1994/95 as the Oriental Institute's WWW database continued to be developed. Our WWW site has been very well received by the public, as documented in our weekly statistics of server use by both a steady increase in file accesses and the number of users connecting to our server.

This change in our WWW server hardware meant that the Apple Macintosh Performa 636CD computer could now be employed in the Computer Laboratory as an additional graphics computer available for use by faculty and research projects. Towards this end, its Random Access Memory (RAM) was increased to 20 Megabytes and additional software (Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator) was purchased.

I am proud to announce that the Oriental Institute's 1996/97 proposal to the Women's Board of the University of Chicago for computer equipment to upgrade our "electronic gateway" resources was approved for full funding in the spring of 1996. This gracious gift by the Women's Board will provide the Oriental Institute with a state-of-the-art World-Wide Web (WWW) file server, as well as additional computer resources to develop both our print publication efforts as well as the electronic dissemination of information regarding Oriental Institute research projects to both the scholarly community and the general public. I want to thank the Women's Board for their help in keeping the Oriental Institute in the forefront of ancient Near Eastern studies through the use of the latest computer technologies. Additionally, I want to thank William Sumner, Oriental Institute Director, Cynthia Echols, Assistant Director for Development, Emily Teeter, Museum Assistant Curator, and Charles Jones, Research Archivist, for their help in both preparing and presenting the Oriental Institute's proposal to the Women's Board. It was a team effort that succeeded because of teamwork.

The computer equipment that will be obtained as a result of the Women's Board gift will arrive and be assembled during the coming year, and I will report more fully on its impact in next year's *Annual Report*.

Again this year the LaSalle National Bank of Chicago has graciously donated computer equipment to the Oriental Institute. I would like to thank Mr. Thomas Heagy, Vice Chairman, LaSalle National Corporation of Chicago, for the bank's generous gift

of five Hewlett-Packard X-Terminals. Two of these computer display terminals are installed in the office of Professor Gene Gragg and Professor Matthew Stolper, in order to facilitate their work on the Royal Achaemenid Inscriptions Project (see separate report). One or two of the X-Terminals will be installed in the Research Archives as display terminals for accessing the Regenstein Library On-Line Catalog and our WWW site's ABZU index of ancient Near Eastern resources available on the Internet.

Mr. Robert Alexander, an Oriental Institute member, graciously donated two IBM-compatible computers to the Computer Laboratory this past year: a Toshiba T1100 Plus portable computer and a Leading Edge DC-2100 desktop computer system. Thanks to Mr. Alexander for this kind donation.

With the above two cases as examples, I want to encourage other members and/or friends to remember the Oriental Institute with similar types of equipment donations. With the wide variety of computer-assisted research being undertaken by Oriental Institute faculty and staff, our needs are great and equipment that could seem out-of-date or inadequate to your needs might be very beneficial to our research.

Lastly, I want to thank Lester Stermer, a docent volunteer who gave hours of his time every week to help the Computer Laboratory with data entry of published building plans into AutoCAD drawing files. Sitting in the basement Archaeology Laboratory, quite often all by himself, he has persevered in learning to use the AutoCAD program, no easy task in itself, and continues to "digitize" whatever building plans I place before him. Congratulations, Les, and many thanks for your help. Oh, by the way, there are only about two thousand more plans to go!

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## **ORIENTAL INSTITUTE ELECTRONIC RESOURCES**

**Charles E. Jones  
John C. Sanders**

### **Introduction**

This is the second year that the *Annual Report* has contained a section that focuses on the electronic resources which the Oriental Institute makes available via the Internet, and how these new technologies are helping to maintain the Oriental Institute in the forefront of ancient Near Eastern studies.

### **Oriental Institute World-Wide Web Database**

We refer readers to last year's *Annual Report* for a brief description of what the World-Wide Web (WWW) is, how it originated, and for a history of the Oriental Institute's WWW database and web site.

Public use of our WWW file server has grown steadily since its debut in 1994 to its current weekly average of more than thirty thousand "hits" (or requests for files). That

## RESEARCH

is more than a 100% increase in the number of hits on our server over this time last year. Visitors connect to our web site around the clock, from an average of forty countries per week, in order to read various text documents and look at the drawings and photographs available in our database that describe past and present research projects of the Oriental Institute.

Throughout this past year we have continued to add resources to our database, such as the 1994/95 *Annual Report* entries for the Oriental Institute's various archaeological and philological projects, as well as the Individual Scholarship, Oriental Institute Department, and Museum reports. Aside from the *Annual Report*, the following are the more significant documents made available during the past twelve months.

### The Oriental Institute

The "case sensitive" Universal Resource Locator (URL), or address, of the Oriental Institute's WWW site is:

<http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/default.html>

### Publications of the Oriental Institute Museum

#### The Oriental Institute Virtual Museum

On June 5, 1996 the Oriental Institute announced a new component of our web site entitled the Oriental Institute Virtual Museum. The initial impetus for developing the Virtual Museum was the imminent closing of the Oriental Institute Museum during its two year renovation and climate control project. Although the reinstallation plans are still being developed, the curatorial staff have said from the outset that the reinstalled galleries will not follow the Museum's previous exhibition arrangement. So recording the museum with panoramic movie coverage prior to the start of the renovation project and once again after the galleries are reinstalled will be of great historical value for the Oriental Institute. It will also provide future visitors a chance to see how the museum was originally conceived, and to evaluate our new gallery exhibitions in light of this previous design.

The Virtual Museum makes use of a new technology developed by Apple Computer, Inc., called QuickTime Virtual Reality (QTVR) panoramic movies, to take the visitor to the Virtual Museum on an alcove by alcove tour of each of the museum's galleries, accompanied by descriptions of each alcove and their artifacts. Where appropriate, links to related materials already in our WWW database, such as the "Museum's Highlights from the Collections," the "Photographic Archives," and relevant Oriental Institute archaeology and philology project reports elaborate on the more significant museum artifacts in greater detail. To view the Virtual Museum's panoramic movies, Apple Macintosh and Microsoft Windows 3.x users must have the Apple QuickTime VR Player software installed on their computers, but this software is free from Apple Computer, Inc., and links to download the required files are provided at our Virtual Museum site.

At the time this report is being written only the Egyptian and Assyrian Galleries are included in the Virtual Museum. The remaining galleries will be available later in 1996. When completed, the Virtual Museum will contain 51 separate QTVR panoramic movies of our six galleries and brief text entries from the museum's registration database describing the approximately 5,000 artifacts on exhibition.

Several methods of navigating through the Virtual Museum are available, each offering a different approach for the visitor:

— a text-based, regional and topical structure;

- a graphics-based, museum floor plan structure;
- a graphics-based, gallery/alcove “thumbnail” image structure.

Three Oriental Institute staff members, Museum Assistant Curator Emily Teeter, Museum Photographer Jean Grant, and Head of the Computer Laboratory John Sanders spent eight months, working part time (circa 20% each), planning, photographing, and preparing the text descriptions. Two other University of Chicago personnel from the Academic Computing Service's Visualization and MultiMedia Laboratory, Director Chad Kainz and staff member Peter Leonard, spent six months, working part time (Chad at circa 5% and Peter at circa 50%), processing the still photographs taken in our galleries prior to the museum's closing into the QTVR movies. A full description of the process of planning, processing, and constructing the computer files that compose the Virtual Museum, outlining the costs in time and money, is part of the documentation for our Virtual Museum site, and we encourage visitors to read this document if they are interested in a behind-the-scenes look at the development of the Virtual Museum.

The Universal Resource Locator (URL) or address of the Virtual Museum, which is case sensitive, is:

<http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/MUS/QTVR96/QTVR96.html>

Oriental Institute Photographic Archives. On-line Exhibition of Historic Photographs from Oriental Institute Collections:

[http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/MUS/PA/OI\\_PA.html](http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/MUS/PA/OI_PA.html)

Oriental Institute Photographic Archives. Persepolis and Ancient Iran:

<http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/MUS/PA/IRAN/PAAI/PAAI.html>

Oriental Institute Museum *Suq* Store. Book and Video List:

[http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/MUS/SUQ/Suq\\_Store\\_Book.html](http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/MUS/SUQ/Suq_Store_Book.html)

The Mummy and Coffin of Meresamun, by Emily Teeter:

[http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/MUS/HIGH/OIM\\_10797.html](http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/MUS/HIGH/OIM_10797.html)

Museum Education at the Oriental Institute Museum:

[http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/MUS/ED/Museum\\_Ed.html](http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/MUS/ED/Museum_Ed.html)

### **Publication of the Computer Laboratory**

Oriental Institute Computer Laboratory WWW Home Page. Updated resources, additions, and corrections:

[http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/COMP/Computer\\_Lab.html](http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/COMP/Computer_Lab.html)

### **Publications of the Research Archives**

Abzu: Guide to Resources for the Study of the Ancient Near East Available on the Internet:

<http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/ABZU/ABZU.HTML>

The Directory of North American Egyptologists:

[http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/ABZU/EGDIR\\_INTRO.HTML](http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/ABZU/EGDIR_INTRO.HTML)

### **Publications of the Membership Office**

“Excavations at Giza 1988–1991: The Location and Importance of the Pyramid Settlement,” by Mark Lehner (*News & Notes*, No. 135, Fall 1992):

[http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/GIZ/NN\\_Fall92/NN\\_Fall92.html](http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/GIZ/NN_Fall92/NN_Fall92.html)

## RESEARCH

"A Balikh Prospect," by Tony J. Wilkinson (*News & Notes*, No. 147, Fall 1995):

[http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/JAZ/NN\\_Fall95/NN\\_Fall95.html](http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/JAZ/NN_Fall95/NN_Fall95.html)

"The Amuq Valley Project, 1995," by K. Aslihan Yener and Tony J. Wilkinson (*News & Notes*, No. 148, Winter 1996):

[http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/AMU/NN\\_Win96/NN\\_Win96.html](http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/AMU/NN_Win96/NN_Win96.html)

Oriental Institute Membership Office Travel Programs:

<http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/MEM/Membership.html>

### Publication of the Development Office

Oriental Institute Legacy Campaign:

[http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/INFO/LEGACY/Leg\\_Current\\_Events.html](http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/INFO/LEGACY/Leg_Current_Events.html)

### Publications Office

Through the monumental effort of the Center for Computer Aided Egyptological Research in Utrecht, the entire corpus of Adriaan de Buck's *The Egyptian Coffin Texts*, originally published by the Oriental Institute, 1935–1961, is available on-line as a part of the Coffin Text Word Index:

<http://131.211.68.206/ct/ct.html>

### The Demotic Dictionary Project

Sample Page, Letter F:

[http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/DEM/F\\_Sample.html](http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/DEM/F_Sample.html)

Sample Document, P OI 10551:

[http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/DEM/DDP\\_Sample\\_Docs.html](http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/DEM/DDP_Sample_Docs.html)

"Computers, Graphics, and Papyrology," by Janet H. Johnson. This article originally appeared in *Proceedings of the 20th International Congress of Papyrologists*, Museum Tusculanum, Copenhagen, 1994, pp. 618–20, and was made available electronically with the permission of the editor:

<http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/DEM/PUB94/CGP/CGP.html>

### Epigraphic Survey

"The Year of the Goddess," by W. Raymond Johnson (*Chicago House Bulletin*, Volume VII, No. 1, December 15, 1995):

<http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/EPI/CHB/CHB7-1.html>

Expanded resources including information on publications, and a number of new images:

[oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/EPI/Epigraphic.html](http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/EPI/Epigraphic.html)

"Thebes Photographic Project," by Thomas Van Eynde:

[http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/TVE\\_TPP/TVE\\_TPP.html](http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/TVE_TPP/TVE_TPP.html)

### Afroasiatic Index Project

"The Afroasiatic Index Project," by Gene B. Gragg

<http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/CUS/AAindex.html>

### Newsletter for Anatolian Studies

*Newsletter for Anatolian Studies*, Volume 11.1 (1995):

[ftp://oi.uchicago.edu/pub/research/nas/NAS\\_11-1\\_1995.ascii.txt](ftp://oi.uchicago.edu/pub/research/nas/NAS_11-1_1995.ascii.txt)

We invite any computer-minded reader with Internet access and World-Wide Web browser software on their computer to log into the Oriental Institute's database. Comments from viewers are appreciated, either by electronic mail (email) or the more conventional snail mail (postal service), as it is called today.

### **Ancient Near East (ANE) Mailing List**

July 1996 marked the third anniversary of the ANE list. ANE is an electronic mailing list on the Internet focusing on topics and issues of interest in ancient Near Eastern studies. List communications are electronic mail messages sent to each subscriber in either the standard format or in digest form, which combines a series of separate contributions to ANE into a single electronic mail message to the user.

The ANE and ANE-Digest lists currently have more than 1,300 subscribers worldwide, with an daily average of 12 mailings to each subscriber and a peak output of 25–30 messages. A wide range of topics are discussed on the ANE list: new discoveries and publications in the field, public debate on controversial issues of policy and scholarship, job placement information, and other musings by subscribers.

To subscribe to the ANE mailing list, send an electronic mail (email) message to:  
majordomo@oi.uchicago.edu

In the body of your email message, include either one or both of the following lines:  
subscribe ane  
subscribe ane-digest

You will receive a return email immediately confirming your subscription. We welcome either active or passive participation.

The Computer Laboratory and the Research Archives collaborate in the running of the ANE discussion group. John Sanders oversees the Majordomo computer program which automates the routine administration of Internet mailing lists and Charles E. Jones administers the ANE list itself.

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## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Thomas A. Holland**

Work on the large—to be printed in two volumes—Chogha Mish manuscript consumed the major portion of the Publication Office's time. In addition to relying on the tireless efforts of Abbas Alizadeh, who edited the final version of the manuscript, the Editorial Office sought the assistance of Christopher Kahrl, Sales Manager, and Kamyar Abdi, graduate student in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations. It is hoped that the volumes will be in press before the end of summer (1996).

The staff of the Publications Office remained the same: Thomas A. Holland, Thomas G. Urban, and Christopher G. B. Kahrl. We were also fortunate to have Doccents Ruth Barnard, Irv Diamond, and Anne Schumacher help with the proofreading

## RESEARCH

and preparation of *Perspectives on Hittite Civilization: Selected Writings of Hans Gustav Güterbock*.

Aside from the Editorial Office's duties of seeing manuscripts through from their raw, submitted form to their final, published form, work continued on developing new fonts. The two fonts reported on last year, AssyrianDictionary and HittiteDictionary, were completed and are being used by their namesake projects and others, including this *Annual Report*. Work on the third font, a postscript version of Professor Janet Johnson's "Diacritics" bitmap-only font, to be used for the Demotic Dictionary, continued. As hoped, the new font was recognized in the Demotic Dictionary files and thus an enormous amount of work was saved because the Diacritics font, which was used to enter the bulk of the dictionary files, will not have to be replaced with a postscript font that is necessary for modern printers. By using all postscript fonts, it will be possible to send the Demotic Dictionary to press as postscript files, which we hope will produce the best possible images from the many scans of papyri.

The Sales Office had its best sales year ever, with gross sales totaling nearly one-hundred and sixty-thousand dollars. Sales of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary were especially strong, with increasing interest and the release of Š, Volume 17, Part 3, accounting for almost half of the sales. In its first year of release, 504 copies of this latest volume of the dictionary were distributed. Lorelei Corcoran's *Portrait Mummies from Roman Egypt* also enjoyed considerable success, with distribution in its initial year totaling 224 copies. Robert Ritner's *Mechanics of Ancient Egyptian Magical Practice* was so successful that a second printing was necessary only two years after its first release. The Chicago Hittite Dictionary has continued to enjoy growth and success commensurate with its increased pace of publication, with 350 copies of the latest fascicle already sold. In addition to a busy year of sales, work has begun on a new, redesigned catalog to replace the one released in 1991.

TABLE OF SALES

<i>Series</i>	<i>Number of Volumes Sold</i>
Assyriological Studies (AS)	53
Chicago Assyrian Dictionary (CAD)	1,103
Chicago Hittite Dictionary (CHD)	453
Materials and Studies for Kassite History (MSKH)	12
Oriental Institute Communications (OIC)	147
Oriental Institute Museum Publication (OIMP)	14
Oriental Institute Nubian Expedition (OINE)	85
Oriental Institute Publications (OIP)	204
Oriental Institute Special Publications (OISP)	54
Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization (SAOC)	741
Miscellaneous*	<u>11</u>
TOTAL	2,877

\*Volumes published jointly with other institutions:

*Uch Tepe I: Tell Razuk, Tell Ahmed al-Mughir, Tell Ajamat.* McG. Gibson, ed.

*Uch Tepe II: Technical Reports.* McG. Gibson, ed.



## Volumes Printed

1. *The Hittite Dictionary of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago. Volume P, fascicle 2 (parā to pattar)*. H. G. Güterbock and H. A. Hoffner, Jr., eds.
2. *The Mechanics of Ancient Egyptian Magical Practice*. R. K. Ritner. SAOC 54. Second Printing.
3. *Nippur IV: The Early Neo-Babylonian Governor's Archive from Nippur*. S. W. Cole. OIP 114.
4. *Portrait Mummies from Roman Egypt (I–IV Centuries A.D.) with a Catalog of Portrait Mummies in Egyptian Museums*. L. H. Corcoran. SAOC 56.

## Other Volumes

In addition to the above publications, four other volumes were in preparation, as follows:

1. *Chogha Mish I: The First Five Seasons of Excavations 1961–1971*. P. P. Delougaz and H. J. Kantor (A. Alizadeh, ed.). OIP 101.
2. *The Oriental Institute Hawara Papyri: Demotic and Greek Texts from an Egyptian Family Archive in the Fayum (Fourth to Third Centuries B.C.)*. G. R. Hughes and R. Jasnow. OIP 113.
3. *Perspectives on Hittite Civilization: Selected Writings of Hans Gustav Güterbock*. H. A. Hoffner, Jr. and I. L. Diamond, eds. AS 26.
4. *The Presentation of Maat: Ritual and Legitimacy in Ancient Egypt*. E. Teeter. SAOC 57.

The following two titles were accepted for publication:

1. *A Byzantine Gold-Mining Town: The Bir Umm Fawakhir Survey Project 1993*. C. Meyer, L. Heidorn, W. Kaegi, and T. Wilfong.
2. *Economic Texts of the Ur III Period in the Oriental Institute, Volume 1: Food for My Queen. Texts from Drēhim Dating to the Reign of Šulgi*. M. Hilgert.

## RESEARCH ARCHIVES\*

### Charles E. Jones

The Oriental Institute, in its essence, is a group of collections. Each of its components—the museum and its various departments; the publications program; the Research Archives; the faculty and staff; the students associated with the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations; and the members and friends—are collec-

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\*Much of this article is an edited version of the presentation given at the Oriental Institute Annual Dinner, May 13, 1996, at the University Club. I am grateful for the privilege of addressing those in attendance at that occasion and for the support of all of the membership for the Research Archives.

## RESEARCH

tions which constantly undergo a variety of forms of filtration and flux, but which maintain their identities because of their relationships to one another and because of the context that their collective existence provides to each component. None of these components makes much sense without the others.

The most visible of these components (even now at a time when it is closed) is, of course, the museum. One of the more often repeated, and to my mind most important, points of distinction of the Oriental Institute Museum is the fact that the largest part of the collection is excavated (rather than purchased), and excavated by Oriental Institute Expeditions for which field records exist in accessible archives. This simple fact adds so much cultural and intellectual value to each artifact as to make it inestimable. It allows the designers of exhibitions, for example, to present material in the museum with a degree of assuredness and confidence that simply does not exist in collections assembled through other means.

But objects, their physical makeup, and their distribution in time and space most properly also have a parallel existence in their published form. As a group, Oriental Institute archaeological projects have, comparatively speaking, an exemplary record of producing both preliminary and final excavation reports. The vast majority of such reports, indeed virtually all of them, have been published by the Oriental Institute itself. The catalog produced by our Publications Office at the beginning of this decade is a substantial volume in its own right, running over a hundred and twenty pages, describing, in brief form, about three hundred volumes. This is, I think, a quite unparalleled achievement for an institution such as this, and by its sheer number this collection of publications would represent a respectable library. But when one looks among these volumes one finds something else that is quite extraordinary. Among these treasures are volumes universally recognized as representing at one and the same time the summation of current thought on a given subject at the time of publication, and the source of entire bibliographic industries following their publication. Just to mention a few of these treasures, it is impossible to conceive of an Assyriologist being able to function without a copy of the *Assyrian Dictionary* within easy reach. Similarly, the excavation reports of the Megiddo, Amuq, and Diyala expeditions play an absolutely fundamental role in the modern development of the archaeologies of their regions.

In the paragraph above, I made the facile suggestion that this remarkable collection of books would be in itself a "respectable library." Except in a very vague sense, this is of course entirely untrue. It is true, however, that this developing collection is the primary intellectual legacy of the Oriental Institute, both locally, and in the "outside" world. Several sets of Oriental Institute publications exist as 'libraries' within the Oriental Institute. The Publications Department maintains one as a permanent working record of that department. The Museum has several partial sets, and hungrily integrates volumes missing from those sets when they turn up in the antiquarian book market from time to time. The museum's sets are heavily annotated, extremely heavily used, and have in fact been turned into recording devices that sit at the interface of its collections, its working records, and the academic communities' perception of this collections. Whenever I have the opportunity to consult these volumes in the Museum's offices, I am always fascinated—and frequently enlightened—by the elegance with which this public record of the museum collections has been turned back into an archival source.

Despite the intramural importance of these volumes as records of our collection, it is the extramural audience that remains the primary one. This audience, by which I mean primarily the academic community concerned with the study of the ancient Near East, but which also includes a far larger group of scholars and lay people engaged in a huge

variety of areas of interest, uses these publications essentially in two ways. The first is as a simple index to projects of the Oriental Institute and the results of such projects. Frequently such users are in pursuit of the context of a particular object displayed in a museum, or which was published in a textbook, or a volume of the history or culture of the ancient Near East. More often though, these volumes are used in their other, wider, and to me, their primary context, which is the full corpus of scholarship. This is the library.

As I have said in these pages before (*1991/92 Annual Report*, p. 131), it is my belief that the library is the most essential feature of scholarship in any humanistic discipline. At any given moment it encompasses the full corpus of primary sources, as well as the indexes and analyses that permit the continuing interpretation of those primary sources. It is thus both the foundation upon which the scholarly process stands, and the source from which that process draws sustenance. In the final analysis, it is the repository of future as well as past scholarship. It is fairly obvious that such a library is a conceptual reality which seldom, in fact, exists. It is, however, also obvious, from all his writing on the subject, that James Henry Breasted, in his characteristically grand way, took it as a basic assumption that such a library should and would exist at the Oriental Institute. Breasted summarized his intentions for the Oriental Institute library in his 1933 plan for the Oriental Institute. In uncharacteristically terse prose, Breasted expressed his intention to have "the entire specialized group of books representing the field of research with which the Institute is concerned ... conveniently accessible" within the walls of the Oriental Institute building (*The Oriental Institute*, by J. H. Breasted; *The University of Chicago Survey*, vol. 12; Chicago, 1933; p. 122). A decade before he wrote that, at the time of his first published conception of the Oriental Institute, Breasted had already proposed that the library be fundamentally associated with a series of indexes, or as he called them, archives (*The Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago: A Beginning and a Program*, by J. H. Breasted; *Oriental Institute Communications*, no. 1; Chicago, 1922; pp. 87–89). These archives were to constitute a thesaurus of ancient civilizations and were to include a vast array of visual and written material, providing a complete index of the corpus of the published record on the ancient world. Of central importance among these was to be the bibliographical catalog of the library collections themselves, the compilation of which was assigned to the Librarian of the Oriental Institute. Half a century later, when the University of Chicago consolidated its departmental collections upon the completion of the Regenstein Library, the 50,000 volumes in the collection had long outgrown their physical space in the Oriental Institute and the catalog had grown to more than 280,000 cards; the file cards for this collection were printed in a seventeen volume set that remains to this day an invaluable research tool (see *Catalog of the Oriental Institute, University of Chicago*; Boston, 1970; 16 volumes + 1 supplement).

The old Oriental Institute Library was, by all accounts, an extraordinary place. The librarians remain legendary in their fierce commitment to the collection and in their iron-willed enforcement of the rules. Far more importantly, though, was their clear and constant commitment to the development of a collection in which every single reference could be found. They worked with each member of the faculty and staff and with each of the projects of the Oriental Institute, to assure that the resources necessary for each were available (see "Johanne Vindenas Remembered," by Robert Wadsworth; *Access*, vol. XXXVI, no. 23; November 11, 1988; pp. 2–3). The old Oriental Institute Library was a place of academic pilgrimage for scholars from around the world.

## RESEARCH

It was only very shortly after the collection was moved to Regenstein that it was discovered how essential the local availability of a reference library was to work in the Institute. Individuals and teams with research strategies and styles of scholarship that had been in place for decades discovered they could not function comfortably without a library within the walls of the Oriental Institute. Very quickly, funds were allocated, personnel hired, and a number of small collections immediately gathered, organized, cataloged, and shelved in the reading room.

The rebuilding of a library at the Oriental Institute has offered some really extraordinary opportunities. The very first Research Archivists very wisely conceived of the idea of organizing the library on the model of a large private collection. That is, they organized the material on the shelves in the way that the books are actually used by scholars engaged in research on the ancient Near East, rather than by one of the other logical systems current in the library world. At the same time they conceived of the catalog as a far more detailed resource than would be found in a university library system. In a very real sense this freed the catalog and the books it described from one another, at the same time as it began to make the catalog into a powerful independent research tool in its own right. From the very beginning of the Research Archives, it was assumed that the initiated user of the collection would not have to consult the catalog simply in order to find a book. Because of the intuitive principles of organization, it was intended that the user be able to successfully “dead reckon” the location of the required books. The catalog was intended to provide a detailed index to the literature in the collection, by, for example, the names of archaeological sites, or by historical periods, or by museum collections.

Having established the organizational goals of simplicity of physical organization and complexity of cataloging and indexing, the first librarians in the Research Archives spent a huge portion of their time during the first decade of the library’s existence in assembling the material components of the collection. This was a really monumental and very expensive task. Runs of serials had to be located purchased, cataloged, bound, and shelved. Individual volumes, many—perhaps most—of which had originally had very small press runs, and which were then and remain today virtually never available on the antiquarian book market, had to be located and acquired. By the early 1980s, when the current Research Archivist was appointed, the task of building the basic collection was essentially complete.

At that time, I took it as my task to concentrate on acquiring the currently produced material relating to the ancient Near East, to stimulate, simplify, and promote the use of the collection by the individuals and projects at the Oriental Institute, and to develop the research tools that the Research Archives provided to its users. It was, I believe, extraordinarily fortunate that this change in emphasis coincided almost precisely with the introduction of the affordable personal computer. One hears it so often that it now generally seems trite to repeat, but it is nevertheless true that computers have revolutionized the way scholars work. The use of these machines spread throughout the Oriental Institute with amazing rapidity—in the Research Archives, the computer offered huge advantages over the previously available technology. It was no longer necessary to type multiple sets of cards and file them manually in the card catalog, it allowed the construction of records in which librarians, scholars, and casual users could search for any particular word or sets of words. Most importantly, from my point of view, the use of the computer offered the promise that publications, the fruit of scholarly labor, could be produced and delivered in forms not yet dreamed of.

The on-line catalog, as it now stands, covers materials acquired in the Research Archives over the past decade. We have been fortunate during this time to have been able to purchase virtually everything produced in the fields represented by the Oriental Institute. The catalog now holds some seventy thousand records, which, in terms of the traditional card catalog, stands in place of nearly half a million cards. There is no other library in ancient Near Eastern studies, indeed there is not even a standard bibliographical reference for these fields that provide such a detailed index to the literature, let alone one which provides not only the index, but also immediate access to the books, articles, essays, and reviews. We are currently adding records to the database at the rate of about twenty thousand records (the equivalent of one hundred and fifty thousand catalog cards) per year.

In the past couple of years another technological development has accelerated the change in the role of the library and the librarian. New ways to move information from one place to another, ways which we group together under the name the Internet, are beginning to challenge seriously and honestly the notion of the library as the owner or possessor of information and suggest that libraries take on an increasing roles as the broker and organizer of information. Our on-line catalog, which is currently available from terminals in the library, on each faculty staff and student desk, and from other terminals in the University of Chicago system, will shortly be accessible from any networked computer in the world. I am very pleased to report that the Women's Board of the University of Chicago has agreed to fund the equipment necessary for us to take this next essential step.

The increased availability of our resources to the academic community at large is matched by our newfound ability to make comparable use of resources provided by other institutions. Catalogs of collections are no longer used in isolation from one another. Many of our peers are beginning to provide the means to have access not only to the careful analyses of data and data-sets as has been the role of traditional publication, but increasingly also to provide complete sets of "raw" data, along with the tools to organize and analyze them. It is the task of the librarian, and the place of the library, to collect and to catalog such efforts and to integrate them within the context of other such projects and within the corpus of the scholarly literature. Here at the Oriental Institute we have taken this challenge seriously. We are not only recognized as holding the best collection of print material, but we are now universally recognized as the leader in the cataloging and organization of electronic resources (see our World-Wide Web site, *Abzu: Guide to Resources for the Study of the Ancient Near East Available on the Internet*, at <http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/ABZU/ABZU.HTML>).

The Research Archives is not yet twenty-five years old, young by almost any standard, and particularly the usual standards of the Oriental Institute. The resources that we have managed to collect and analyze during that period bear out the promise and expectation of Breasted's plans. I began by describing the Oriental Institute as a group of collections, and would like to end with two reflections. The Research Archives is the one collection, facility, and resource that is communal. It is used intensively and regularly by each and every member of the Oriental Institute community. The purpose of this collection, and the tools that make it useful, is to offer a place and a means for the scholarly community, the students at the University of Chicago, and the members and friends of the Oriental Institute to study the ancient Near East easily and effortlessly. It is not a simple task, but I believe we are accomplishing it with energy and imagination. With the help and support of all members of the community, we can continue to do this into the new century.

## RESEARCH

## Retrospective Cataloging Project

During the past year we have been able to add nearly twenty thousand records to the on-line catalog. The database now holds nearly seventy-one thousand records. We have concentrated much of our energy during this year in a number of parallel projects. We have finally managed to organize and begin the cataloging of our duplicate periodicals and a number of other uncataloged collections, which will put us in a position very shortly to be able to sell or trade some of these duplicate materials, and to fill in some of the gaps in our own holdings. In addition, we have devoted more than the usual time to stacks maintenance. The very heavy usage of the collection as a result of the expansion of the undergraduate program in ancient Near Eastern studies has required us to pay much closer attention to the care and repair of books than had previously been required. One of the consequences of stacks maintenance was to show me the necessity of expanding our retrospective cataloging efforts to materials other than periodicals. Our collections are really extraordinarily good, but as the on-line catalog grows, the dependence on it also grows to the point where users of the collections frequently do not look at the old card catalog at all. It is therefore necessary to expand our coverage in the on-line catalog. We do this in a number of ways. As a book passes through my hands, I generally recatalog it, or check the on-line catalog record for accuracy. When multiple records are required, as in the case of a volume of contributed essays, we also endeavor to create records for them. This form of "triage" allows us to create and maintain records for books that are in active use, active use being defined by the fact that a book passes across the bibliographer's desk. It is my intention during the next year to systematize this process a little more regularly and to process more of these older books, integrating the records into our database.

## Publications

The Research Archives published two items during the past year.

*Abzu: Guide to Resources for the Study of the Ancient Near East Available on the Internet*, by Charles E. Jones. Chicago: The Oriental Institute Research Archives; 1994, 1995. (Oriental Institute Research Archives Bibliographical and Informational Documents: Supplements to Oriental Institute Research Archives Acquisitions List; v. 3). This evolving publication continues to grow, and to command respect. *Abzu* and its editor have recently been solicited for inclusion in the Argos Project. Argos is a limited area search engine (LASE) of a portion of the Internet dedicated to the ancient world. *Abzu* is available exclusively on-line at:

<http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/ABZU/ABZU.HTML>

This summer we began, at the invitation of and in collaboration with Richard Wilkinson of the University of Arizona, the exclusive on-line publication of *The Directory of North American Egyptologists*, which replaces the annual paper-based publication and provides the ability to maintain the directory on a day to day basis, keeping the address list current at all times. It is available exclusively on-line at:

[http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/ABZU/EGDIR\\_INTRO.HTML](http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/ABZU/EGDIR_INTRO.HTML)

Later this summer we expect to begin the revision and recasting of *Women in the Ancient Near East: A Select Bibliography of Recent Sources in the Oriental Institute Research Archives*, by Terry G. Wilfong (Chicago: The Oriental Institute Research Archives, 1992), pp. v + 42. (Oriental Institute Research Archives Bibliographical and In-

formational Documents: Supplements to Oriental Institute Research Archives Acquisitions List; v. 2). The reprinted edition is available exclusively on-line at:

<http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/WOMEN.HTML>

Last year's *Oriental Institute Research Archives Acquisitions List with an Indexed List of Essays, Articles and Reviews* (RAAL), February 1994–July 1994, Numbers 11–12, was the final paper-based edition of the acquisitions list to appear. Budgetary restrictions prevent the continued production of this resource. We continue to investigate alternative, probably electronic, methods of disseminating the information we distributed in RAAL.

## CURRENT ACQUISITIONS

Following are the acquisitions statistics for the past year

	April 1995–March 1996	Total
Monographs and Series	298	21,194
Journals	180	<u>9,072</u>
Total Books	478	30,266
Pamphlets	4	

It will be obvious from a comparison of these figures with those of previous years that current budget constraints have cut into our ability to achieve comprehensive coverage of the current literature on the ancient Near East. We are nevertheless able to maintain our high standards and to fulfill the standing collections policy as outlined in the *1994/95 Annual Report*, pp. 102–03.

It has been, as always, my pleasure to have had the help of an excellent, and all new staff this year. Alexandra O'Brien, Ph.D. Candidate in Egyptology, has taken on the burden of the cataloging of analytics, and of general reference work in the office. Justine Way has worked diligently at stacks maintenance and a number of other special projects. Without the help and industry of these two excellent employees, the Research Archives simply could not have functioned.

The friends of the Research Archives are legion, far too many for me to single out but a few. First and foremost, to all of you who attended or contributed to the fundraising efforts focusing on the Annual Dinner in May 1996, I am exceedingly grateful. Your help is essential, and your comments and suggestions are valued. Robert D. Biggs, Pierre Briant, O. J. Sopranos, Martha T. Roth, and Karen Wilson all made substantial gifts of books and periodicals to the Research Archives. Many others gave of time, funds, and support of other kinds. On behalf of the Research Archives I offer you thanks.

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MUSEUM

*Overleaf. Preparator Joseph Searcy (left), Randolph Olive (lower middle), and Associate Conservator Barbara Hamann (right) wrapping the head of the Khorsabad bull in a layer of thin polyethylene foam. A plywood crate was then erected around the bull to further protect it during the construction and renovation process*

## THE MUSEUM

**Karen L. Wilson**

On April 1, 1996, the galleries of the Oriental Institute Museum officially closed to the public for an anticipated two years. Although the construction phase of the building renovation and expansion had not yet begun, we needed to protect and, in some cases move, monumental reliefs, tear down walls, and accomplish a variety of other tasks before groundbreaking in August 1996. The final shutting down of the museum in April was less dramatic than it might have been, however, because we actually had been closing the museum galleries gradually one-by-one in order to dismantle the exhibits and pack up their contents.

Our first good-bye was to the Egyptian Gallery, which closed in February. During the renovation and expansion we will store our collections in that gallery, away from the dangers of construction. The collections will remain there until the new wing is finished and its climate control system is up and running. Then they will be relocated to the new wing and renovated portions of the present building so that the construction work necessary to climate control the former Egyptian Gallery and the basement spaces below it can be done. Therefore, we needed to empty the gallery of artifacts and cases, tear down the alcove walls, and begin filling the space nearly solid with shelves and cabinets of boxed and crated artifacts.

As of this writing, most of the material both from the galleries and from general storage in the basement has been packed and stored on shelves in the former Egyptian Gallery under the supervision of registrar Raymond Tindel. Most of the cabinets in the basement and all of the display cases are now empty. Every box and crate that has been packed has been inventoried, weighed, and logged into the computer, where its storage location is recorded. Ray and his dedicated crew of assistants have, at this point, packed 3,555 boxes and crates weighing a total of 95,915 lb. (The boxes are being weighed so that we can distribute the weight on the shelves in a manner that does not exceed the load-bearing capabilities of the floor.) Particularly fragile or vulnerable material has been stored in the basement organics and metals rooms, which will continue to provide environments with stable temperatures and relative humidities for these items until they can be relocated to climate controlled spaces in the new wing.

All this has been accomplished by the combined efforts of many staff members and volunteers—chief among them Ray, without whose constant supervision, good humored cajoling, and endless hours of overtime none of this could even have been imagined, let alone accomplished. In addition, Assistant Curator Emily Teeter has packed great quantities of Egyptian and Nubian pottery and other artifacts for many long hours over the last two years. Conservators Laura D'Alessandro and Barbara Hamann have handled the storage of much of the delicate material—metals, organics, and fragile stone pieces—and Preparators Joseph Searcy and Randolph Olive have built numerous



*The first inscription discovered on the back of OIM A7365. The wall has been removed from the back of the relief, exposing the metal L-shaped ties that held the stone pieces to it. At periodic intervals, bricks of the plinth beneath the relief have been removed to allow the insertion of metal plates that will be used to lift the relief. Until the relief is lifted, wooden shingles inserted in the holes provide support for the stone above*

crates, assembled endless banks of shelving, and done a great deal of heavy lifting. Special thanks are due to Robin Kasson, Assistant to the Registrar, whom everyone on the museum staff will miss in the forthcoming year. Robin graduated with her BA from the College this spring and is going on to other things. She worked in the Registry for the past three years, during which time—in addition to her other duties—she packed 1,647 boxes weighing more than 38,000 lb!

Registration and collections management have always depended heavily on volunteers, and it is a tribute to Ray that he has always been able to attract and keep the very best—Joan Barghusen, Peggy Grant, Janet Helman, Georgie Maynard, Roy Miller, Lillian Schwartz, Kit Sumner, Dick Watson, and Peggy Wick. They have organized the files, registered objects, hauled boxes, dismantled cabinets, and carried on business as usual during a period of ever-increasing confusion.

The packing and relocation process also owes a great deal to the Museum Attendants, whose usual function it is to safeguard our exhibitions under the watchful eye of Head of Security Margaret Schröder. When the galleries closed, the attendants were drafted to haul and weigh boxes and put them on shelves, which they did with energy and good humor throughout. We are very grateful to Jacob Affolter, Victor Bayona, Heidi DuBien, Chisato Hara, Eutophia LaManna, Sinai Megibow, Peiying Peng, Geoff Sant, and Jenny Tsang.

As more and more of the collections became inaccessible, we could do less and less for visiting scholars; nevertheless, we still assisted more than thirty visitors, whose interests ranged from Amuq potsherds to Egyptian bronzes and Islamic textiles. And in the midst of all of this, we lent some casts for exhibit to the University's Gleacher Cen-

ter downtown and are currently in the process of lending objects for exhibitions at both the Nelson-Atkins Museum in Kansas City and the Cincinnati Art Museum.

As with Registration, most of Conservation's efforts have focused on aspects of the building project. Perhaps most of Laura and Barbara's time was taken up with researching the best methods for deinstalling, stabilizing, moving, and reinstalling our collection of fourteen monumental Khorsabad reliefs. During the summer of 1995 they continued photographing and sampling the extensive preserved pigments on the reliefs. In August, Laura joined representatives of the two firms that will be moving and constructing metal frames for the reliefs in New York. She, Richard Belding (of Belding, Walbridge, Inc.), and Roger Machin (of Methods and Materials) met at the Metropolitan Museum of Art with British Museum staff to examine the mounting devices for their reliefs and observe how they were handled. This led to final plans for modular frames for our reliefs. After the reliefs have been detached from the walls behind them, all original stone surfaces on the backs will be sealed with Acryloid B72 prior to the application of a new layer of cement. The reliefs will then be backed with aluminum honeycomb panels with fiberglass skins adhered to the cement with an epoxy resin. Then a metal frame will be constructed to hold each relief securely and to act as a permanent mount. This system of modular frames will allow each relief to be handled as a unit for movement and storage during construction, for final mounting after construction, and for any future reinstallations that might be desired.

During the spring, with the assistance of Eleanor Barbanes, Laura and Barbara washed the reliefs and covered their surfaces with 100% hemp tissue paper impregnated with methyl cellulose adhesive. The paper dries and forms a hard surface that will prevent the loss of any small pieces that might come loose on the surface of the stones while the reliefs are being moved.

In April crews from Belding, Walbridge, Inc. began working with museum staff to remove the walls behind six of the smaller Assyrian reliefs and partially detach these reliefs from their brick plinths. You can imagine our surprise when we discovered that nearly every one of these reliefs bore a long inscription on the back extolling the powers and accomplishments of King Sargon II, in whose palace they had stood! Although the inscriptions are a standard text that was already well-known, we were surprised that their existence had never been mentioned, and we are delighted to know about them now.

In addition to all this work on the Assyrian reliefs, Laura and Barbara also oversaw the conservation of the original registers of the Haskell Oriental Museum. Thanks to a generous gift from an anonymous donor, these eleven volumes of nineteenth and early twentieth century registers were deacidified and rebound. Laura also attended a (Polaroid) Photomicrography Workshop hosted by McCrone Laboratories, Barbara finished the repacking and transfer into new cabinets of the three-dimensional organic objects under a 1995 IMS Conservation Support Grant, and both finalized the design of the Conservation Laboratory in the new addition to the building.

Emily's goal for publicity of the museum over the last year—and for the future—is to try to maintain public awareness of the collections while the galleries are closed. In fact, the closing itself drew valuable media attention. A film crew from CNN spent the better part of a day in the museum and produced a spot that aired both nationally and internationally. A comprehensive press release about the renovation project resulted in in-depth coverage by the major Chicagoland print media, the campus publicity organs, and specialty academic and semi-academic publications.

## MUSEUM

In consultation and cooperation with William Harms of the University's News and Information Office, Emily was able to develop a new strategy to increase awareness of



*Assistant Curator Emily Teeter opens a bottle of champagne to celebrate the packing of Temporary Storage Box #3000 while Assistant to the Registrar Robin Kasson looks on*

the museum, its collections and mission through television coverage that focused upon features other than the museum galleries. Emily's effort resulted in a number of major production companies filming educational programs in the Oriental Institute storage areas and offices for television programs on Hatshepsut, Egyptian temples, and a four part series on mummies, all pro-

duced by Greystone Productions; a segment for National Geographic Explorer on animal mummies; and a program on ancient Nubia featuring Bruce B. Williams.

In addition, the *University of Chicago Magazine* continues to express special interest in the activities of the museum, with two issues in the last year carrying major coverage of the renovation project. And we are pleased to announce that the series of informational posters produced *pro bono* by Mitch Gordon and Barton Landsman (see 1994/95 Annual Report) earned the prestigious "Pencil Award" for excellence in international advertising arts.

With the closure of the galleries, Emily and Karen began working with Richard Born, curator of the David and Alfred Smart Museum of Art here on campus, to plan three exhibitions of Oriental Institute Museum masterpieces. The first of these, "Faces of Ancient Egypt" (a study of portraiture and idealizing art), will open on September 10, 1996. The other two exhibitions, one on Sumerian art and the other tentatively titled "Animals of the Ancient Near East," will take place in the spring of 1997 and the spring of 1998. These modest exhibits will give Karen and Emily the opportunity to experiment with different modes of presentation and, of course, to make sure that the highlights of the collection are accessible during the closure of our own facility.

In June 1995, Katherine Luchini moved up from the Preparation Shop in the basement to become the Museum Office manager. During the past year, she has ordered our supplies, paid our bills, summarized the university ledgers, and overseen the Photographic Services Program under the supervision of Museum Archivist John Larson. Kate has conscientiously and ably taken care of the necessary paperwork and processing for nearly 200 photographic image and permission requests that we have received during fiscal year 1995/96. Our new home page on the World-Wide Web has become an additional means of public contact for the Oriental Institute, especially important

during the renovation project, and in less than a year on-line, the web has become a major new source for photographic image and reproduction permission requests.

We would like to thank Dr. and Mrs. W. Benson Harer, Jr., for the generous gift of a vintage photograph album and some accompanying papers of Lansing C. Holden, Jr., donated in honor of Jill Carlotta Armagnac Maher. These record a 1925 trip to Egypt made by Mr. Holden when he was a Princeton student. Holden was a member of a travel party made up of Chicago McCormicks and their friends, who were guided in Egypt by Professor James Henry Breasted of the Oriental Institute. Breasted appears in a number of the photographs in the album.

For 1995/96, the roster of regular volunteers working in the Museum Archives included Hazel Cramer, Patricia Hume, Sandra Jacobsohn, Irving Mann, Helaine Staver, and Pamela Wickliffe. It is our happy obligation to acknowledge these dedicated volunteers and to thank them for their generous support of the Archives with their time and talents. Volunteer work enables us to undertake and complete many important long-term projects for which it would be difficult, if not impossible, to budget regular staff time. All these activities have been recorded on film by museum photographer Jean Grant. Jean hopes that long after the museum and environs have been renovated her photographs will give a clue to the hard work the museum staff and volunteers are doing now and will convey some of their frustrations and problems. Jean notes that it is hard sometimes to photograph their best sides because they are bending, but not bowing, to the tasks at hand. She would like to thank Irene Glasner for being a regular volunteer in the Photography Laboratory (that is when she's not in South America, Australia, or Europe) and to Maria Åhlstrom—our volunteer who's been with us the longest and still checks in with us when she can.

As the photographs on the cover and sectional pages of this *Annual Report* testify, the past year has been one of great activity in the museum. Much of this work has been made possible by a General Operating Support Grant from the Institute of Museum Services, and the Assyrian Relief project has benefited from generous grants from the Elizabeth Morse Genius Charitable Trust and the National Endowment for the Arts. We would like to express our gratitude to these agencies and to all our other supporters. The level of activity in the museum can only intensify with groundbreaking, construction, and the eventual reopening of the museum galleries, and we are looking forward with anticipation to this time of exciting changes.

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## MUSEUM EDUCATION PROGRAM

**Carole Krucoff**

As the Oriental Institute Museum's climate control and renovation project moved from planning stage to reality, the Museum Education Office turned its attention to new approaches and new locations for programming. Two ongoing grants continued to support educational services for families and the city's public schools, with many of these activities taking place at schools, parks, and neighborhood centers throughout the commu-



## MUSEUM

nity. Adult education services expanded to the North Shore, new partners joined us for collaborative programs, and a generous planning grant gave us the support to develop a full schedule of activities for all audiences during the time of renovation and beyond.

### School and Teacher Services

The Museum Education Office has just completed a comprehensive three-and-one-half-year program to make the Oriental Institute's world renowned resources for the study of ancient civilizations available to a wide-ranging cross section of underserved Chicago Public Schools. Supported by a major grant from the Polk Bros. Foundation, this project has provided seminars on the ancient Near East to teachers from twenty public schools throughout the city. It has also involved more than 5,000 sixth and seventh

grade students in museum and classroom programming that has enriched and expanded their understanding of the ancient world.

The project has produced a rich array of curriculum materials based on the Institute's artifact and archival collections from ancient Mesopotamia, Nubia, and Egypt. Archaeology Treasure chests filled with reproduction artifacts now allow teachers



*Teachers who participated in the Oriental Institute/Chicago Public Schools collaboration, along with program consultant William Pattison (far right)*

to bring material culture from the ancient Near East directly into the classroom. An Ancient Civilizations Poster Set provides full-color photographs of museum artifacts for classroom display. Teachers Guidebooks offer reference materials and suggestions for hands-on projects. All these resources will be especially useful during the museum's two-year closure for renovation.

Equally valuable is the classroom visitor program that is bringing graduate student archaeologists, historians, and linguists into the public schools to show children how the Oriental Institute learns about the ancient past. Tracy Alsberg, John Barstad, Scott Branting, Thomas Dousa, Jill Ashley Fine, Josh Holo, Nicole Hansen, and Alex O'Brien have all presented programs or have presentations in the planning stage. In addition, artists and epigraphers have been visiting schools to demonstrate the ancient processes that they use in their own work and to involve students in hands-on classroom activities. These visitors include Deborah and John Darnell, epigraphers with the Epigraphic Survey in Luxor, Egypt; Robert Godanski, artist and educator who demonstrates ancient Nubian leatherworking techniques; Yumi Roth, a metalsmith who shows students how to create ancient-style jewelry; Hardy Schlick, a potter who demonstrates



## MUSEUM EDUCATION PROGRAM

ancient techniques for hand-building pottery; and Jacquie Vaughn, a textile artist and educator who demonstrates ancient methods of spinning and weaving.

Carol Redmond, Education Outreach Coordinator, has been the Education Office's driving force behind the Oriental Institute/Chicago Public Schools project, assisted by the guidance, support, and expertise of two consultants from the University's Department of Education—William Pattison, Associate Professor Emeritus, and Sara Spurlark, Associate Director of the Center for School Improvement. Docent Coordinators Catherine Dueñas and Terry Friedman have also offered invaluable inspiration and support, as they do for every aspect of the museum's educational services.



*Treasure Chests containing reproduction artifacts, costumes, books, and background information for teachers were developed as part of the Oriental Institute/Chicago Public Schools program*

The Oriental Institute/Chicago Public Schools project has been recognized by the American Association of Museums (AAM) as a national model for museum/schools collaboration. The Museum Education Office was invited to offer a presentation on the collaboration to museum professionals from across the country at the 1996 AAM Annual Meeting, which took place in Minneapolis in May. In addition, an article on the project has been published in the *American Association of Museums Sourcebook*, a compendium of exemplary programs at the nation's museums.

Other special programs for students and teachers took place this past year. For the third year in a row, more than 300 children from District 181 of the Hinsdale Public Schools came to the Oriental Institute for a program on archaeology that was jointly developed by the Museum Education Office and the Artifact Center of the Spertus Museum of Judaica. Additionally, the Oriental Institute offered special gallery activities for the Alexandria Project, an in-depth program on the ancient world that is being offered by the Classics Department to 45 children at Fiske School in Woodlawn. Services for teachers included a workshop on ancient Mesopotamia offered to the faculty at Pershing Elementary School, which was awarded a grant to bring its teachers to the museum for a lecture, gallery tour, and discussion session with Curator Karen Wilson. The Education Office also collaborated with the Textile Arts Center of Chicago to offer a teachers' workshop on ancient processes of clothmaking. When the National Council for the Social Studies held its annual meeting in Chicago, Docent Kitty Picken arranged for a group of educators from across the nation to visit the Oriental Institute for a workshop and gallery tour.

### Public Programs

Familiar favorites and programs with new formats and locations were presented to the general public this past year, providing more than 4,000 adult, youth, and family participants with educational services.

## MUSEUM



*A student from Henry R. Clissold School working on a metalsmithing project in a hands-on workshop conducted by artist Yumi Roth*

Adult education activities drew more than 700 registrants to programs that took place both at the Oriental Institute and at locations throughout the metropolitan area. Courses offered at the Institute included: "The Israelite Exodus from Egypt in History and Tradition," by Anthony Tomasino; "Great Kings of Ancient Mesopotamia," by Jason Ur; "The Hyksos" and four sections of a course on the "History of Ancient Egypt," by Frank Yurco; "Lifelines of the City: Archaeology of the Ancient Near Eastern Landscape," by Tony J. Wilkinson; "The First Empires," by Clemens Reichel; and "The Hittites and Their Neighbors in Ancient Anatolia," by Hripsime Haroutunian. Correspondence courses included "Hieroglyphs by Mail," by Emily Teeter, with Thomas Dousa and Alexandra O'Brien as teaching assistants; and "Cuneiform by Mail," by Daniel Nevez.

A new approach for adult education began this year with the presentation of courses off-site. At the suggestion of Oriental Institute Docent Leila Foster, the Education Office and Trinity United Methodist Church in Wilmette joined forces to offer two very well-received courses at the church's North Shore location. These courses were: "An Introduction to the

Dead Sea Scrolls," by Anthony Tomasino; and "Archaeology and the Land of Bible," by Timothy Harrison.

Single-session adult education programs ranged from visits to the studios of local artists to hands-on workshops in ancient art processes. The Ancient Arts/Contemporary Artists Field Trip series, begun in early 1995, continued this year with visits to the Chicago studios of metalsmith William Frederick, ceramist Kelly Kessler, and painter James Mesplé. Oriental Institute staff and volunteers who led these field trips included Karen Wilson, Curator; Yumi Roth, Museum Educator; and Peggy Grant and Janet Helman, Iranian Pottery Project researchers.

Thanks to the Hyde Park Art Center (HPAC), all those who enjoy "learning by doing" can now take part in workshops that replicate the art processes of ancient times. Cosponsored by the Education Office the workshops this year were: "Threads Through Time," a session on spinning and weaving taught by Jacquie Vaughn of the Textile Arts Center; and "Shaping the Past," a hands-on pottery making session taught by Emily Teeter, Assistant Curator, and Noah Loesberg of the HPAC.

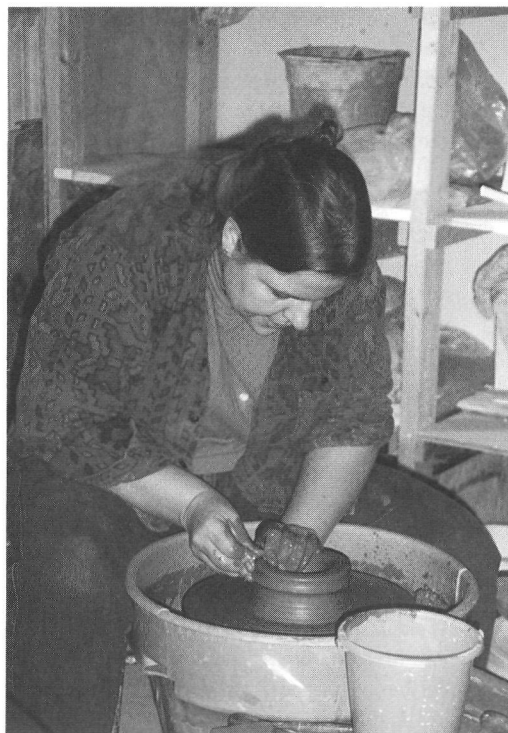
Once again delightful aromas and delicious taste treats filled the Home Economics Laboratory of the University's Laboratory Schools, as professional chef and Oriental Institute Docent Mary Jo Khuri presented "The Cuisine and Cookery of Morocco." This is the second in her series of cooking classes that provide hands-on opportunities to prepare and then enjoy a traditional Middle Eastern meal.

A variety of informal adult education programs were offered this past year. The Friday morning Docents, led by Captain Deborah Aliber, presented "Lunchtime in Another Time," a repeat of their well-received series of gallery talks on Fridays during the summer.

During the school year, lectures and gallery presentations drew many visitors. Emily Teeter presented "The Preservation of Ancient Egyptian Tombs" in conjunction with the statewide observance of Illinois Archaeology Awareness Week in September. Professor Walter Farber spoke on "Superstitions of the Ancient Near East" in October. Raymond Tindel, Museum Registrar, offered a talk on "Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh," during the holiday season; and in February, Professor Martha Roth presented "What's Love Got To Do With It?," a Valentine's Day lecture that highlighted marriage, reproduction, and romantic love in the ancient world. The month of February also saw the Oriental Institute's first Archaeology Film Festival, a series of special interest films and videos shown on Sunday afternoons, followed by coffee hours and discussion sessions led by John Larson, Museum Archivist, and graduate students Jill Ashley Fine, Clemens Reichel, and Anne Yanaway.

Another informal program resulted in an additional Museum Education "first." "Sketching in the Galleries," a drop-in opportunity offered to local artists beginning in 1994, led to "Through the Eyes of the Artist," an exhibit of selected sketches created in the Museum's galleries over the past two years. The work of artists Sheila H. Hori, David R. Howell, Peter Rosenbloom, and Charles Stevenson interpreted artifacts that ranged from massive reliefs to miniature vessels.

*Field trips to the studios of Chicago artists who use ancient arts processes and motifs were a highlight of the "Ancient Arts/Contemporary Artists" program series. Top right: Painter James Mesplé displays a work inspired by the Gilgamesh epic. Bottom right: Ceramic artist Kelly Kessler demonstrates the use of the potter's wheel*



## MUSEUM

Programs designed especially for the University community were successfully offered throughout the year. Student Orientation in September attracted more than 200 students and their parents. Humanities Day in October drew well over 350 people for thematic gallery tours led by Docents Dorothy Blindt, John Gay, Patrick Regnery, Masako Matsumoto, Georgie Maynard, Bernard Shelley, and Carole Yoshida. Emily



*Intern Anne Yanaway helped children create ancient-Egyptian-style rubbings at the Oriental Institute booth during the Parks Partners Mini-Festivals program*

Teeter was a featured speaker for the Uncommon Core program during June reunion, when close to 150 alumni came to see her slide presentation, "From Obelisks to Egypto-Trash: The Public's Ongoing Love Affair with Ancient Egypt."

Youth services and parent-child workshops presented with new collaborators attracted visitors from across the city. Summer programming for children featured special guided tours developed by the Thursday Morning Docents,

led by their Captain, Kitty Picken. Each of these free tours was followed by a related craft activity. "Tut's Tunes," a hands-on activity led by Douglas Irvine, an educator from the Spertus Museum, introduced children to the musical instruments of the ancient world and then turned them into an ancient style orchestra fit for a pharaoh! A royal sport was featured during "Pharaoh Goes Fishing," a joint parent-child program with the Shedd Aquarium. "Be an Ancient Egyptian Metalsmith," a jewelry-making workshop for parents and children led by Yumi Roth, was held in partnership with Chicago's Lill Street Studios.

Children and their families are a major museum audience that the Education Office has been able to serve with extensive programming since 1993, due to the support of a major grant from the Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust. While the galleries were still open, every Sunday was Family Day at the Oriental Institute, with programs that involved children and their parents in hands-on crafts and interactive activities. Two special family events—the fourth annual "Mummy's Night" just before Halloween, and "Awesome Ancient African Arts!" in February attracted close to 800 visitors. Programs like these inspired the Chicago volume of the national Kids Explore series to give the Oriental Institute four (out of five) balloons on the "fun scale," and to call the Oriental Institute Museum a great place for families!

The success of family programming is due to the creativity and dedication of Carol Redmond, who has supervised these services along with her work on the Oriental Institute/Chicago Public Schools collaboration. Interns Amanda Geppert, Shawn Reddy, and Anne Yanaway provided able assistance as did volunteers Jo Lucas, Kathleen Mineck, and Adrienne Runge. Everyone in the Education Office lent their support during the summer of 1995, when the Chicago Park District invited us to join their Parks Partners Mini-Festivals program for the second year in a row. By offering hands-on ac-

tivities at these festivals in parks throughout the city, we were able to introduce thousands of children and their families to the fascinating world of the ancient Near East.

None of the Education Office's services could have taken place without the support of every member of the Oriental Institute's faculty and staff, and the ongoing interest and assistance of all the museum's docents. My grateful thanks go to the Education Office staff, whose long working hours, selfless service, great good nature, and extraordinary creativity are what make everything happen! Two people deserve special mention here. Kaylin Goldstein, Museum Programs Associate, supervises school program reservations and telephone information services for the general public. She is also our public relations officer, graphics design expert, and editor, and none of us could function without her intelligence, creativity, and thoughtfulness. Yumi Roth, Museum Programs Assistant, shared school reservation and general information services, supervised the adult education program, and took the Education Office into cyberspace by creating a World-Wide Web page for Museum Education. Yumi also lent the Education Office her talents as artist and teacher, developing and presenting classes and workshops on metalsmithing for children and adults. In May, Yumi became an instructor for the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and we will all miss her!

## **Looking Back ... and Ahead**

Many of this year's new approaches are due to the support of the Elizabeth Morse Genuis Charitable Trust. In 1995 this foundation presented the Education Office with a generous grant to develop a strategic plan for the renovation period. Jerome D'Agostino and Rebecca Keller, professional museum program consultants, assisted us in gathering information on outreach activities at museums throughout the city and across the nation, and interviewed our current audiences—schools, churches, senior centers, and families—to see how we could best serve them during closure. Grant funding allowed us to pilot program ideas, ensuring they would work before offering them to the general public. As a result, we look forward to offering a full and varied schedule of on-site and outreach programs during the entire renovation period as we continue our efforts to offer Oriental Institute members, the University community, and the general public the very best in museum education services.

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## **VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**

### **Catherine Dueñas and Terry Friedman**

Nearly three decades ago, the Oriental Institute Volunteer Program was created. Since that time, the program has grown and flourished under the careful guidance of Carolyn Livingood, Jill Carlotta Maher, Peggy Grant, and Janet Helman. We have now reached a defining moment in our history. As we enter the fourth decade of service, we are in the process of inaugurating a whole new chapter in our development, "Volunteer Outreach."

## MUSEUM



*Carole Yoshida, Deloris Sanders, and Anne Schumacher enjoy talking with students during an outreach visit to Streeter School*

During the past year we focused our attention on how the Volunteer Program could best serve the Oriental Institute during the period of closure. Our goals for this time are twofold. First, we want to help keep the museum alive and involved in the community. Secondly, along with showcasing the museum to our existing audiences, we see outreach programming as an opportunity to expand our services to new institutions. Pilot outreach programming began in mid-1995. By the end of

June 1996, nearly 2,000 people had received outreach services, responding to these programs with great excitement and enthusiasm. None of this could have been effectively realized without the devoted commitment of the volunteers, many of whom have embraced this new challenge. The Outreach Volunteer Corps is growing in strength and vitality as we prepare to go full speed ahead for the fall of 1996.

## Outreach Training and Preparation

Several Docent Day sessions were devoted to familiarizing the volunteers with the hands-on materials and slide presentations that were developed for use in the Outreach Program. Volunteers had opportunities to ask questions and experiment with the projectors and other audiovisual

equipment that will become an integral part of the program's operation.

Some of the adventurous volunteers who presented pilot outreach programs to schools and community groups were: Albert Haas, Janet Helman, Georgie Maynard, Dawn Prena, Larry Scheff, and Carole Yoshida. They shared with us their practical experience and advice by helping to shape the content, direction, and execution of the program. We thank them for their skillful assistance and guidance.



*Docents Evelyn Ruskin-Gordon and Janet Helman "Have Taken the Show on the Road," doing presentations for schools and community groups*

Several volunteers expressed interest in working "behind the scenes," cataloging slides as well as editing and revising many of the pre-scripted talks. Their efforts were crucial elements in the organization of the program. Our appreciation to the following



volunteers for their dedicated work: Deborah Aliber, Joan Barghusen, Janet Calkins, Charlotte Collier, Hazel Cramer, Lilian Cropsey, Evelyn Ruskin Gordon, Mary Harter, Patricia Hume, George Junker, Nina Longley, Dawn Prena, Deloris Sanders, Daila Shefner, Helaine Staver, and Carole Yoshida.

## **Diversity Training**

In order to better prepare volunteers for outreach and the diverse audiences they would serve, we sought the assistance of Kathy Stell, Dean of Students in the University of Chicago and Chair of the Coordinating Council for Minority Issues. She has been actively leading Diversity Training sessions for student groups and administrators campus-wide. With her guidance, we were able to develop a two-part Diversity Training Program titled, "Dealing with Diversity; Crossing the Boundaries of Religious, Cultural, Racial, and Ethnic Differences." The series was initiated in response to the many concerns volunteers had expressed when working with diverse groups who might have differing interpretations of the museum's collection and mission.

Social worker Irma Patterson joined Kathy Stell to facilitate the first session, which focused on racial diversity. Volunteers had an opportunity to explore their own attitudes and thoughts about themselves as well as towards those whom they perceive as different. It was a learning experience that heightened our own sensitivities through an honest exchange of ideas and information.

The second session of the series focused on issues involving religious fundamentalism. Martin Marty, Fairfax M. Cone Distinguished Service Professor from the Divinity School, was the guest speaker. Professor Marty discussed religious fundamentalism, its definition, historical interpretations, and frame of reference. His presentation was a remarkable blend of intellect, humor, and insight into this provocative subject. We were honored to have Professor Marty share his wealth of knowledge with us. The volunteers can now better understand and appreciate differing religious viewpoints and how to respond to them when presenting the museum's collection.

We want to express our gratitude to facilitators Kathy Stell and Irma Patterson. Their knowledge, understanding, and sensitivity to the diversity issues helped formulate and develop two unique and enriching forums that gave volunteers an opportunity to explore some difficult issues as well as to learn and grow together.

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## **Docent Days**

Docent Days were intellectually stimulating and enthusiastically supported by the volunteers. Faculty, staff, and volunteers continued to provide excellent programs, high-



*Thursday Docent Anita Greenberg graciously hosted the June picnic. Here enjoying the party and the hostess are (from left) Daila Shefner with Anita Greenberg, Elizabeth Spiegel, Laurie Fish, and Sandy Jacobsohn*

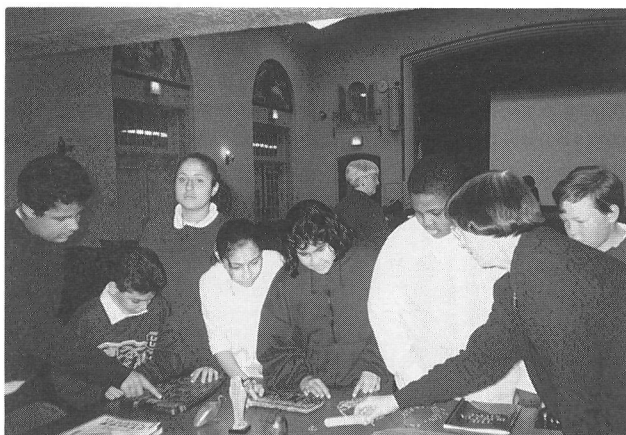
## MUSEUM

lighting areas of research, publication, and field projects, as well as personal and professional archaeological experiences. Our thanks and appreciation to the following individuals for their contributions to Docent Day programming: Lanny Bell, Robert Biggs, Erl Dordal, Peter Dorman, Evelyn Ruskin Gordon, Harry Hoffner, Janet Johnson, John Larson, Erica Reiner, Ingrid Rolland, Martha Roth, Larry Scheff, William Sumner, Emily Teeter, Edward Wentz, and Donald Whitcomb.

Docent Day programs began this year by following the customary format, utilizing both Breasted Hall and the museum galleries for lectures and gallery workshops. As the construction schedule began to escalate in the spring, however, it became apparent that alternate locations for our monthly meetings would be needed. Our appreciation to the following volunteers for helping us make arrangements to have Docent Days go "off-site:" Charlotte Collier and Georgie Maynard for arranging the use of the Board Room

in Vista Homes for the May Docent Day, and Anita Greenberg for inviting us to use her lovely rose garden for the annual June picnic.

Two field trips were incorporated into the Docent Day format this year. In July 1995, the volunteers enjoyed a summer outing in Oak Park, touring the Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio, the Forest and Kenilworth Avenue Districts, and the Unity Temple. It was a superb day, educationally enriching, and visually inspiring.



*At Christopher School Docent Mary Harter discusses replicas with the students*

In April 1996, the volunteers viewed the Corporate Art Collection of the Santa Fe Railroad. This collection, which began in 1903, is widely recognized for its outstanding

paintings of the American Southwest. The volunteers traveled by motor coach to the Santa Fe Railroad Corporate Offices in Schaumburg for this special event. Upon our arrival we were met by the curator, Paul Benisek, who escorted us to the corporate boardroom for an informative slide presentation to help acquaint us with the historical development and evolution of the Santa Fe art collection. We received complimentary refreshments and were encouraged to explore the corporate offices to view



*Students at Northshore Country Day School learn how to write their names in hieroglyphs with the help of Outreach Docents Teresa Hintzke and Laura Sanchez*



the art. By the end of the visit, we had a deeper understanding and appreciation of the diverse artistic expressions that are represented in this collection. A special note of thanks to Mary Jo and Raja Khuri for their generosity in underwriting the transportation costs of the program and for initiating the arrangements to make this wonderful Docent Day possible.

Docent Days will continue to take place every month throughout the entire renovation period. Starting this fall, the South Lounge on the second floor of the Reynolds Club will be the location for our future Docent Day programs. It is through the generosity of the University of Chicago and William Michel, Director of the Reynolds Club, that we will have this wonderful new facility available to the volunteers while the museum is closed.

## **Volunteer Recognition and Holiday Luncheon**

All of the Docent Days were well attended, but traditionally the December Docent Day, featuring Volunteer Recognition Awards and the Holiday Luncheon, always draws a large, enthusiastic audience. This year the morning program was presented by William Sumner, Oriental Institute Director, who gave a slide talk entitled "Living and Working at the Site of Anshan, Iran." He shared with us some of his personal and professional experiences while working as an archaeologist in Iran prior to the 1978 Revolution. Immediately following his talk, Bill assumed his Director's role to answer many of the questions the volunteers had concerning the building project and its projected timetable.

Due to the uncertain schedule for the museum's renovation and climate control project, an official Volunteer Training Class was not offered this year. Several very devoted and motivated individuals, however, managed to complete a course of independent study, using the Docent Training Manual, along with extensive reading and practical on-the-job experience supervised by Docent Captains. We were very pleased with their progress and they are all working in different capacities throughout the museum. We welcome the following individuals to our ranks: Ruth Barnard, Wanda Bolton, Patty Dunkel, Patricia Hume, Pat McLaughlin, and Joyce Weil.

Ten volunteers received special recognition awards and complimentary membership for their years of loyal commitment to the Oriental Institute and the museum. We admire and respect all of their contributions, past, present, and future. Our congratulations to the following award recipients:

### **Five Years of Service**

Nancy Baum, Judy Licata, and Jean Niblack

### **Ten Years of Service**

Christel Betz

### **Fifteen Years of Service**

Maria Åhlstrom and Deborah Aliber

### **Twenty Years of Service**

Teresa Hintzke, JoAnn Putz, and Barbara Watson

### **Thirty Years of Service**

Betty Baum

## MUSEUM

### In Memoriam

It is with great sorrow that we must inform you of the death of Joan G. Rosenberg. Joan passed away on June 13th at her home in Highland Park. For nearly twenty-five years



*Mary Jo and Raja Khuri underwrote the docent field trip to the Santa Fe Railway Corporate Art Collection in Schaumburg. Mary Jo is shown here with Paul Benisek, Curator of the Santa Fe Collection*

she had faithfully volunteered her talents, skills, and support to the Oriental Institute and its museum. Her sphere of interests encompassed many areas of the Institute. She served on the Visiting Committee and its Legacy Campaign, was a Tuesday afternoon Museum Docent, and assisted both John Larson and Emily Tee-ter with numerous research projects. Joan received her B.A. from the University of Chicago and her M.A. from Northwestern School of Journalism. She was a member of the University of Chi-

cago Women's Board and of Common Ground. All of her friends at the Oriental Institute will miss her greatly. We will treasure her years of devoted service to the Docent Program and her generosity to the Institute.

### Sonnenschein Tea

In January, Mrs. Elizabeth Sonnenschein again graciously offered to receive the volunteers, faculty, and staff of the Oriental Institute in her home. We were honored to have the opportunity for a return visit to the President's residence. This year's event featured a Faculty Roundtable Discussion and Tea.

The guests speakers for this program were: Professors Lanny Bell, Harry Hoffner, Janet Johnson, Erica Reiner, and Edward Wentz, who shared with us some memorable moments in their professional careers at the Oriental Institute. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to hear these faculty members reminisce about their work with great insight, wit, and charm.

### Docent Library

Faculty and volunteers have made many generous donations to the Docent Library. We appreciate these additions to the active, lending library in the Volunteer Office. Our vigilant librarian, Deborah Aliber, does a masterful job cataloging and maintaining our ever-expanding collection. Our thanks to her assistants, Patricia Hume and Sandra Jacobsohn, for their faithful help in organizing and maintaining this valuable resource.

### Research

Several volunteers used the closing of the galleries to explore other options for service by assisting the faculty and staff with research projects, proofreading, and cataloging

and photographing materials. Everyone who wanted to find a new niche did so. Faculty and staff who have found the services of volunteers extremely useful are: Abbas Alizadeh, Jean Grant, Hans Güterbock, Harry Hoffner, John Larson, John Sanders, Emily Teeter, Raymond Tindel and Aslihan Yener.

## **Museum Tours and Outreach Visits**

Museum Docents continued to invest their time, talents, and energies conducting guided tours for school groups and adults throughout the year. When the Egyptian Gallery closed, a new policy was instituted in order to better accommodate more museum visitors. A self-guided format was offered as an option for touring those galleries that remained open to the public. By the time the museum completely closed its doors to visitors, over 14,000 people had received a docent-led guided tour of the galleries and over 3,000 had taken advantage of the self-guided format.

Many Museum Docents have involved themselves in outreach programming. Since June 1995 nearly 1,500 school children and 500 adults have received outreach visits.

## **In Retrospect**

It has been a very challenging and exciting time for the Volunteer Program. We have arrived at an important turning point in our development. Throughout the past three decades, the program has matured and grown in stature. What began thirty years ago as a response to the need to help visitors place the museum's exhibits in a broader historical and cultural context has expanded far beyond its original scope and definition.

Our thanks to all our friends and colleagues at the Oriental Institute. Much of the success of the Volunteer Program is due to the patient cooperation and support of the faculty and staff. Whether sharing a wealth of knowledge or supplying important resource material, their encouragement and accessibility are deeply appreciated.

We thank Carole Krucoff, (Head of Museum Education), Carol Redmond (Outreach Coordinator), Kaylin Goldstein (Programs Associate), and Yumi Roth (Programs Assistant) for their support and goodwill. In an atmosphere that is frequently pulsating with activity, they are the voice of calm reassurance and wise counsel. Their partnership and cooperation are invaluable.

We also want to give special thanks and recognition to the Chicago Community Trust for their generous grant in support of the Volunteer Program, which will now

have the necessary funding to help produce and organize outreach services. The foresight and generosity of the Trust will enable us to enhance the cultural landscape of



*Mrs. Elizabeth Sonnenschein (third from right) with faculty members (from left) Lanny Bell, Erica Reiner, Edward Wente, Janet Johnson and Harry Hoffner during the January Docent Tea and Faculty Roundtable Discussion at the President's home*

**MUSEUM**

Chicago, helping history, art, and archaeology come alive for outreach audiences throughout the metropolitan area.

As we enter the fourth decade of service, we are encouraged and delighted by the many possibilities to explore and to expand new horizons. We celebrate this milestone event in our history with a sense of pride and accomplishment. We thank the many volunteers throughout the decades whose service has enriched so many areas of the Oriental Institute and its operation, and we are grateful to our past leaders whose vision and insight helped to lay a solid foundation on which a program could evolve and change. They were the inspired architects of the Volunteer Program. We are confident that as we commence our fourth decade, it will herald a time of renewed commitment and dedication.

The future is very promising. We are honored to be part of the historic evolution of the Volunteer Program as well as to turn the first page in this new chapter of its further development. We applaud all the volunteers who have given an extraordinary year of service to the Oriental Institute. Collectively and individually they are a treasured asset.

**Advisors to the Volunteer Program**

Jill Carlotta Maher   Peggy Grant   Janet Helman

**Honorary Volunteer-At-Large**

Elizabeth Sonnenschein

**Museum Docent Captains**

Deloris Sanders	Tuesday a.m.
Larry Scheff	Tuesday p.m.
Nina Longley and JoAnn Putz	Wednesday a.m.
Lilian Cropsey	Wednesday p.m.
Kitty Picken	Thursday a.m.
Elizabeth Spiegel	Thursday p.m.
Deborah Aliber	Friday a.m.
Georgie Maynard	Saturday a.m.
Melanie Petrosky and Carole Yoshida	Saturday p.m.
Teresa Hintzke and Steve Ritzel	Sunday

**Regularly Scheduled Museum Docents**

Nancy Baum	Mary Grimshaw	Robert Randolph
Bernadine Basile	Ira Hardman	Patrick Regnery
Jane Belcher	Mary Harter	Barbara Rollhaus
Christel Betz	Marsha Holden	Joan Rosenberg†
Dorothy Blindt	Patricia Hume	Alice Rubash
Wanda Bolton	Samantha Johnson	Norman Rubash
William Boone	George Junker	Janet Russell
Janet Calkins	Mary Jo Khuri	Laura Sanchez
Charlotte Collier	Barbara Klawans	Anne Schumacher
Hazel Cramer	Betsy Kremers	Lillian Schwartz
Erl Dordal	Judy Licata	Mary Shea
Catherine Dueñas	Johanna Lucas	Daila Shefner
Bettie Dwinell	Catherine Mardikes	Bernie Shelley
Anita Eller	Kay Matsumoto	Helaine Staver

**VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**

Gordon Evison	Caryl Mikrut	Lester Stermer
Marilyn Fellows	Roy Miller	Bernadette Strnad
Esther Fifield	Kathy Mineck	Annette Teaney
Shirley Freundlich	Dorothy Mozinski	Richard Watson
Terry Friedman	Jean Niblack	Eve Weinberg
Joan Friedmann	Carolyn Payer	Pamela Wickliffe
John Gay	Rita Picken	DeWitt Williams
Evelyn Ruskin Gordon	Diane Posner	
Anita Greenberg	Dawn Prena	

**Substitute Docents**

Betty Baum	Barbara Frey	Muriel Nerad
Albert and Cissy Haas	Peggy Grant	
Margaret Foorman	Alice Mulberry	

**Suq Docents**

Barbara Baird	Ruth Hyman	Mary Schulman
Muriel Brauer	Lorraine Kubiak	Anne Schumacher
Charlotte Collier	Georgie Maynard	Jane Thain
Patty Dunkel	Agnethe Rattenborg	Norma van der Meulen
Barbara Frey	Rochelle Rossin	Barbara Watson

**Substitute Suq Docents**

Peggy Grant	Jane Hildebrand	Mardi Trossman
Janet Helman	Jo Jackson	

**Museum Archives Volunteers**

Hazel Cramer	Sandra Jacobsohn	Helaine Staver
Peggy Grant	Irving Mann	Pamela Wickliffe
Patricia Hume	Mary Shea	

**Registrar's Office Volunteers**

Joan Barghusen	Georgie Maynard	Kit Sumner
Peggy Grant	Roy Miller	Dick Watson
Janet Helman	Lillian Schwartz	Peggy Wick

**Medinet Habu Project**

Mary Harter

**Göltepe/Kestel Project and Amuq Valley Project**

Joan Friedmann   Albert Haas   Betsy Kremers   Daila Shefner

**Photography Laboratory Volunteers**

Maria Åhlstrom   Irene Glasner

**Computer Laboratory Volunteers**

Robert Randolph   Lester Stermer

**MUSEUM****Education Office Librarians**

Deborah Aliber	Peggy Grant	Georgie Maynard
Lillian Cropsey	Patricia Hume	Kathy Mineck

**Ceramic Restoration**

Elizabeth Tieken

**Assistants to Epigraphic Survey**

Jill Carlotta Maher   Crennan Ray   Elinor Smith

**Assistants to the Prehistoric Project**

Diana Grodzins   Andrée Wood

**Suq Office and Stock Room Volunteers**

Georgie Maynard   Eleanor Swift

**Hittite Dictionary Project Volunteers**

Irv Diamond   Kathy Mineck

**Iranian Prehistoric Project Volunteers**

Peggy Grant   Janet Helman

**Volunteers Emeritus**

Elizabeth Baum	Carol Green	Eleanor Swift
Mary D'Ouville	Sally Grunsfeld	Vida Wentz
Ida DePencier	Peggy Kovacs	Sally Zimmerman
Laurie Fish	Joan Rosenberg†	

**Museum Education and Family Programs Volunteer**

Adrienne Runge

**Museum Education Outreach**

Deborah Aliber	Janet Helman	Diane Posner
Joan Barghusen	Teresa Hintzke	Dawn Prena
Dorothy Blindt	Patricia Hume	Patrick Regnery
Janet Calkins	Alice James	Laura Sanchez
Charlotte Collier	George Junker	Deloris Sanders
Lilian Cropsey	Nina Longley	Larry Scheff
Erl Dordal	Jo Lucas	Anne Schumacher
Shirley Freundlich	Kay Matsumoto	Daila Shefner
John Gay	Georgie Maynard	Helaine Staver
Evelyn Ruskin Gordon	Dorothy Mozinski	DeWitt Williams
Albert Haas	Denise Paul	Carole Yoshida
Mary Harter	Melanie Petrosky	

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## THE SUQ

### Denise Browning

This year has been a year of major changes and adjustments for the *Suq*. We began the year in July by moving of all of our storage in the basement during record heat of over 100° to make way for enlarging the public rest rooms. Needless to say it was a major undertaking.

In August we regretfully had to say good-bye to Kate Sarther and Siobhan Ritchie. In October with the beginning of the school year we instituted two new programs: (1) giving students registered in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations a 10% discount in the store; and (2) instituting a book special order fulfillment service to expand our sales of titles we normally do not carry. December brought a record amount of sales during our Holiday Sale, a full 6% ahead of last year but also brought the loss of Natalia Uribe who had worked diligently for us for four and a half years in almost every department of the *Suq*. She will be greatly missed.

With the new calendar year have come many changes and new challenges. January brought an end to scheduled tours to the museum. In February the Egyptian Gallery closed and the entire museum closed in April. The closing of the museum has affected the *Suq* in several significant ways. While many Chicago residents assumed we were closed six months before the actual closing, many out-of-town visitors have come and still do come expecting the galleries to be open. Though our May Inventory Sales were down for the very first time, the *Suq* still managed to finish the year with total sales down less than 14%. Given these circumstances, sales were significantly better than had been initially anticipated.

We participated in several off-site activities: The Newberry Very Merry Bazaar in November, The Printer's Row Book Fair, and an autographing of Norman Golb's new paperback edition of his book *Who Wrote the Dead Sea Scrolls?* We have also expanded and updated our presence on the Internet, with a complete list of our book titles available for downloading, as well as several of our own noteworthy reproductions available for viewing. With the necessity of adjusting to a closed museum, we have sought new outlets and new opportunities to augment our regular, loyal customers. Through these events and new media we have sought not only to increase our sales but also to disseminate the name of the Oriental Institute to a new and wider audience.

The docents have weathered all of these changes and difficulties with the best of grace. They are always able to help and inform our customers with the best options for them to learn about the Oriental Institute.

One of our docents, Barbara Watson, has moved to West Virginia, after twenty years of service to the *Suq*. She was a great source of information about the history of beads and we sold her designs in the store, but most of all we still miss her laugh floating up the lobby. Barbara Baird, who kept us neat and organized, also is leaving us to make a home for her new family in Plainfield. They both will be greatly missed.

Thanks should go to our office staff for all of their wonderful contributions. Paul Spruhan, our book buyer, found us many great new titles for the store, handled all of those special orders, and updated our World-Wide Web site. Aysha Haq continued to fulfill all of our mail orders. Florence Ovadia does all of our wonderful displays. We also had two new office assistants this year, Christine Chen and Tasha Vorderstrasse.

## MUSEUM

### **Docents-Loyal Regulars**

Barbara Baird	Lorraine Kubiak	Jane Thain
Muriel Brauer	Agnethe Rattenborg	Norma van der Meulen
Patty Dunkel	Rochelle Rossin	Barbara Watson
Barbara Frey	Mary Schulman	
Ruth Hyman	Anne Schumacher	

### **Docents-Loyal Extras**

Peggy Grant   Janet Helman   Jo Jackson   Mardi Trossman

### **Docents Behind-the-Scenes**

Barbara Baird   Georgie Maynard

### **Jewelry Designer**

Norma van der Meulen

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*DEVELOPMENT AND  
MEMBERSHIP*

*Overleaf. Sumerian votive statues of the Early Dynastic period (ca. 2800–2400 B.C.) that are about to be taken off display in the Mesopotamian Gallery and placed in storage*

## DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Cynthia Echols

### Overview

From July 1995 through the close of June 1996 the Oriental Institute raised \$1.5 million in nonfederal, private contributions and grants. This represents a 32% increase over the prior year. The membership program closed fiscal year 1995/96 with \$104,767 in income. This year of strong renewal numbers and modest new member recruitment, combined with some reduction in operating overhead, resulted in a balance of \$60,870 on June 30, 1996 for the membership program. Highlights of this very successful year include significant Legacy Campaign progress and a well-received year-end appeal. A complete *Honor Roll of Donors and Members* appears at the end of this *Annual Report*.

### Fundraising Highlights

Our members responded in record numbers—and with larger-than-ever gifts—to our 1995 year-end appeal. With gifts from some 180 members, contributions totaled \$142,631. Friends of Chicago House contributed \$70,708 (including generous gifts from Xerox, the John Mark Rudkin Charitable Foundation, and Daniel and Lucia Woods Lindley); the Legacy Campaign received \$58,386. Many thanks to all our members who supported the year-end appeal. We also wish to thank LaSalle National Bank for a very generous gift to Chicago House and the Epigraphic Survey for the purchase of a much-needed vehicle for transporting equipment, supplies, staff, and visitors.

The Chicago Community Trust awarded a substantial grant to our docent program to support the volunteer coordinators who are organizing a schedule of museum outreach presentations throughout the Chicago area beginning in fall 1996. The Chicago Community Trust has been a concerned partner with many outstanding Chicago-area nonprofits for over eighty years. As Chicago's community foundation the Trust is a union of numerous gifts and bequests which form permanent endowments. Income from these endowments is used to make grants to nonprofits that serve nearly every community in the metropolitan area. We thank the Chicago Community Trust for this generous support.

Other generous gifts and grants included awards from the Elizabeth Morse Genius Charitable Trust and the National Endowment for the Arts to support removal and conservation of our Assyrian reliefs during museum renovation; a bequest from the estate of Maurine Hughes to support Chicago House and the Demotic Dictionary; a grant from the University of Chicago Women's Board to purchase computer equipment to expand and improve the Oriental Institute's "electronic gateway"; and field and research project support from Mrs. Theodore D. Ticken.

The Legacy Campaign, our drive to finance climate control, expansion, and renovation at the Oriental Institute and museum, reached \$6.9 million during this year. The

## DEVELOPMENT AND MEMBERSHIP

generosity of Oriental Institute Visiting Committee members has provided leadership throughout the Campaign. Cumulatively the Committee has pledged more than \$2.4 million to the building project. We thank each of these individuals for their dedication and extraordinary support.

This past year we welcomed two new Legacy Campaign corporate supporters: First Chicago and Northern Trust. We thank these corporations for their generosity and support. Other Legacy Campaign leadership gifts this past year included a \$250,000 pledge from University of Chicago Trustee John Ong and pledges from Visiting Committee members Thomas Heagy and his wife Linda, Mary Gray and her husband Richard, and Tony and Lawrie Dean. We thank these individuals for so strongly supporting the Institute. And our congratulations to all who have contributed to our outstanding progress toward the goal of \$10,100,000.

Members of the Legacy Campaign Executive Committee, co-chaired by Jill Carlotta Maher, James Sopranos, and Raymond Tindel, have devoted much time and energy to identifying and soliciting prospective donors in the corporate, foundation, and private sectors. We thank these dedicated and talented members (an Executive Committee roster follows this section). Their efforts have greatly accelerated fundraising progress, and groundbreaking for the new wing now is scheduled for August 1996.

### Visiting Committee

We are pleased to announce three appointments to the Oriental Institute Visiting Committee: Margaret Foorman, a docent; Donald Hermann, professor of law at DePaul University; and Ira and Janina Marks, longtime members of the Oriental Institute. We thank each of these individuals for agreeing to serve on our Committee.

During fiscal year 1995/96 the Oriental Institute Visiting Committee met December 13, 1995 and May 13, 1996. Those meetings focused on the Institute's priority project: facilities improvements of climate control, expansion, and renovation. The December 13 meeting was a dinner at the University Club celebrating the Legacy Campaign halfway mark. In welcoming guests to the dinner William M. Sumner, Director of the Oriental Institute, reflected on the historic nature of this capital campaign. "As we celebrate the halfway mark in our Legacy Campaign, it gives me great pleasure to thank the Oriental Institute Visiting Committee for their dedication and generosity to our mission. Behind the bricks and mortar of our building project stand men and women such as you—individuals with the vision to lay the ground for future scholarship and discovery. I thank each of you. Together we shall indeed fulfill the legacy handed down to us by Breasted." The evening concluded with remarks by Visiting Committee Chairman, and University of Chicago Trustee, Robert Schloerb. The May 13 meeting preceded the Oriental Institute's Annual Dinner, which featured remarks by Charles E. Jones, Head of the Oriental Institute Research Archives.

Among social and educational events that included the Visiting Committee were an October 18 private showing of artifacts from the Oriental Institute's 1930s excavations at ancient Megiddo (in modern Israel) and buffet supper in the Director's Study; a February 7 reception marking the closure of the Egyptian Gallery to the public for renovation preparation; and, a June 6 dinner at the home of Janet and Robert Helman with Mark Lehner, Visiting Professor, speaking informally about his career and work on the Giza Plateau and Great Sphinx.

We also lost an invaluable member of the Visiting Committee this past year. Joan Rosenberg passed away in June. Joan's dedication—and generosity—to the Oriental In-

stitute and museum leave a very personal legacy. She brought keen intelligence, great vitality, and wit to all her endeavors on our behalf. We will miss her.

## Thanks

We are pleased to note that Dionne Herron, a four-year veteran of the Office of Membership and Development, was promoted to Development Associate. In her new role Dionne manages gift processing (including documentation of charitable contributions for IRS deductions) and event planning. Dionne also oversees the James Henry Breasted Society rolls and coordinates all special events for this generous group. And we owe much to Florence Bonnick, Fiscal Administrative Assistant, for grant and proposal preparation and oversight; to Bill Harms, University News and Information, for publicity; and to Assistant Curator Emily Teeter for event and travel planning.

While much of the past year has been devoted to raising funds for our building project, it is the people, rather than bricks and mortar, that truly define the Oriental Institute. We thank all of our members, and especially the docents, for their support and work on behalf of the Oriental Institute and museum. The Development Office has benefited directly this past year from its own informal volunteer corps that included, among others, James and Margaret Foorman, Albert Haas, Thomas Heagy, Janet Helman, Jill Carlotta Maher, Robert Schloerb, Mary Shea, and Sharukin Yelda.

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## MEMBERSHIP OFFICE

### Tim Cashlon

In 1995/96, the Membership Office offered a range of dinners, lectures, and tours to our many loyal members. The Annual Dinner was held for the first time outside of the Institute, and was a resounding success. Almost 200 members and friends joined us on May 13, 1996 at the University Club of Chicago. The evening benefited the Oriental Institute Research Archives, and Archivist Charles E. Jones gave a thoughtful after-dinner talk on both the history and future of the Research Archives, stressing all the while the central place that the archives (including their burgeoning electronic resources) have in the mission of the Oriental Institute (see the *Research Archives* article). The membership year closed with an Associates Dinner at the Union League Club of Chicago, featuring Dr. Gillian Vogelsang-Eastwood, a textile expert who worked with Professor Janet H. Johnson and Research Associate Donald Whitcomb at Quseir al-Qadim. Dr. Vogelsang-Eastwood offered both a lecture and a fashion show, featuring slides and replicas of materials from Tutankhamun's tomb, with adventurous dinner guests modeling.

The James Henry Breasted Society began the year with a buffet dinner welcoming the newest member of the Oriental Institute faculty, Assistant Professor of the Archaeology of Israel David Schloen. Thanks to Oriental Institute Museum Curator Karen L. Wilson, Registrar Raymond Tindel, and Conservators Laura D'Alessandro and Barbara Hamann, Breasted Society members were able to view the remarkable Megiddo ivories up close and to ask questions of both Professor Schloen and Dr. Tindel. In June, Mrs.

## DEVELOPMENT AND MEMBERSHIP

Janet Helman—a member of the Visiting Committee to the Oriental Institute, the Legacy Campaign Executive Committee, and a loyal supporter of Membership activities—and her husband Robert hosted a Breasted Society dinner in their home. Visiting Professor Mark Lehner spoke to those in attendance about his recent work on the Giza plateau.

The Membership Office sponsored a reception in January celebrating the retirement of Professor Edward F. Wentz from teaching. Many of Professor Wentz's friends and family were in attendance, and a number of members joined all of us at the Oriental Institute in wishing him well. The last event held in the museum galleries as they were formerly arranged took place on February 7, 1996. Oriental Institute Director William M. Sumner, Museum Curator Karen L. Wilson, and Assistant Curator Emily Teeter spoke to over a hundred members about the renovation and expansion project which is now in full swing. We look forward to returning to the galleries for special membership events in 1998, when the museum will reopen.

The Members Lectures series offered a range of Oriental Institute faculty and other scholars from the United States and abroad. Assistant Professor David Schloen spoke in October on "Canaanites and Israelites at Ancient Megiddo," and Professor Edward F. Wentz gave a farewell lecture on "Workers in the Valley of the Kings" the following month. In March, Professor Robert D. Biggs delivered a talk entitled "From Conception to Old Age in Babylonian Medicine." The Membership Office continued its fruitful collaboration with the Chicago Society of the Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) in presenting three visiting scholars. Dr. Jane Waldbaum of the Department of Art History at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee spoke in December on "Greeks in the East or Greeks and the East? Problems in the Definition and Recognition of Presence." The following month saw our membership welcome Dr. Dennis Groh from the Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. Dr. Groh detailed recent work in Israel in his lecture "Excavations in a Romano/Jewish City in the Galilee: Sepphoris." Alan H. Simmons, Professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, spoke in February about his own recent research on the Neolithic of Jordan. Finally, the Oriental Institute welcomed back T. G. H. (Harry) James, former Keeper of Western Asiatic Antiquities at the British Museum, in April. He detailed the life of a pioneer in archaeology in his talk "William John Bankes: An Early Egyptian Epigrapher." In the forthcoming year, the Membership Office will again offer lectures from Oriental Institute faculty, collaborative efforts with AIA, and other visiting scholars. We will be changing the format of our lecture series, in accordance with the wishes of our members and as a result of the closing of the galleries. Lectures will begin at 8:00 PM to allow members to dine at the Quadrangle Club beforehand, and receptions will precede the lectures. We continue to explore new topics and locations for our Members Lectures series; please check *News & Notes* for announcements.

The Oriental Institute Travel Program offered a range of departures to members in 1995/96. In November, eighteen members took part in the Swan Hellenic cruise "Prophets and Pilgrims," which visited major archaeological sites in Egypt, Jordan, and Israel. Our members departed from the general itinerary for a visit to Chicago House at Luxor and were welcomed by Oriental Institute Research Associate Donald Whitcomb at his dig in Aqaba, Jordan. In January, Oriental Institute Museum Curator Karen L. Wilson and Smart Museum of Art Director Kimerly Rorschach led a small group of members from both institutions to Dallas-Fort Worth, to take in both the touring exhibit of Assyrian Reliefs from the British Museum and to take in some of the fine modern art

collections in the area. February featured "Wonders of Egypt: Cruising Lake Nasser," a well-subscribed tour of Egypt that included not only a special reception at Chicago House but also a five-day cruise of the lake and its Nubian monuments. Finally, Oriental Institute Research Associate (Associate Professor) Tony J. Wilkinson led a group of travelers on "Syria: The Fertile Crescent" in March, a tour that marked the return of the Oriental Institute Travel Program to Syria after a lengthy absence. In 1996/97, Oriental Institute Museum Assistant Curator Emily Teeter will take a group of our members to Turkey in September and October, while in March, Research Associate (Associate Professor) Donald Whitcomb is to lead a tour to Lower Egypt, the Sinai Peninsula, and Jordan. Both of these tours will include visits to current Oriental Institute field projects and offer members an opportunity to expand their firsthand knowledge of ancient Near Eastern archaeology.

The Membership Office could not have functioned without the cooperation and extra effort of the staff and faculty. Thomas Urban and the Publications Office gave generously of precious time and invaluable expertise for the production of *News & Notes* and the *Annual Report*; Emily Teeter and John Larson freely shared their experiences in Middle Eastern travel; Denise Browning from the *Suq* and Carole Krucoff, Carol Redmond, Kaylin Goldstein, and Yumi Roth of Museum Education offered suggestions for improving Membership programs and publications; Jean Grant provided event photography; and Joe Searcy lent a welcome hand with event setup. Dionne Herron was a regular source of advice and assistance as I learned the requirements of the office, and Amanda Geppert quickly mastered the efficient processing of memberships. I would like to thank these people and the other members of the faculty and staff for making my first year as Membership Coordinator so enjoyable and gratifying.

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**HONOR ROLL OF MEMBERS AND DONORS**

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## HONOR ROLL OF MEMBERS AND DONORS

### 1995/96

We are pleased to recognize the friends of the Oriental Institute who have given so generously during the period from July 1, 1995 through June 30, 1996. We are most grateful for your support.

The Membership Honor Roll is arranged in alphabetical order within each membership level, and reflects active memberships as of June 30, 1996. The Donor Honor Roll, also alphabetical, is divided by total gift levels for fiscal year 1995/96. All names are those of the legal donors as listed in the Alumni/Development Database System. We have made every effort to verify correct gift levels and donor names. Please contact the Membership and Development Office if you wish to make changes in your honor roll listing.

## MEMBERSHIP HONOR ROLL

### The James Henry Breasted Society

*The James Henry Breasted Society includes Oriental Institute members who annually contribute \$1,000 or more (Patron) and \$2,500 or more (Director's Circle) to provide a direct, renewable source of unrestricted funds for Oriental Institute projects and for matching money to private and federal grants. We thank each of our Breasted Society members for their ongoing generosity.*

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## INFORMATION

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1155 East 58th Street  
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The museum galleries are now closed for renovation and expansion. Please continue to visit the *Suq* and the Research Archives, which remain open for your convenience.

### Telephone Numbers and Electronic Addresses

Administrative Office, 702-9514  
Archaeology Laboratory, 702-1407  
Assyrian Dictionary, 702-9543  
Computer Laboratory, 702-9538  
Conservation Laboratory, 702-9519  
Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, 702-9512  
Demotic Dictionary, 702-9528  
Development Office, 702-9513  
Director's Office, 702-9514  
Epigraphic Survey, 702-9524  
Facsimile, 702-9853  
Fiscal/Personnel Office, 702-1404  
Hittite Dictionary, 702-9527  
Journal of Near Eastern Studies, 702-9592  
Membership Office, t-cashion@uchicago.edu, 702-1677  
Museum Archives, 702-9520  
Museum Education and Public Programs, 702-9507  
Museum Information, 702-9521  
Museum Office, oi-museum@uchicago.edu, 702-9520  
Museum Registration, 702-9518  
Publications Editorial Office, 702-1240  
Publications Sales Office, oi-publications@uchicago.edu, 702-9508  
Research Archives, oi-library@uchicago.edu, 702-9537  
Security, 702-9522  
*Suq* Gift and Book Shop, 702-9510  
*Suq* Office, 702-9509  
Volunteer Guides, 702-9507

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#### World-Wide Web Address

<http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/default.html>

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