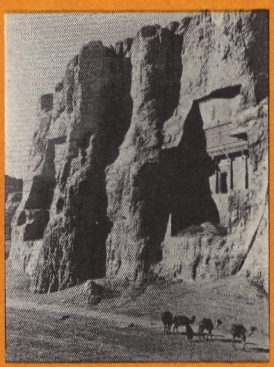
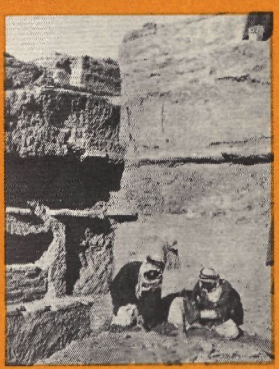
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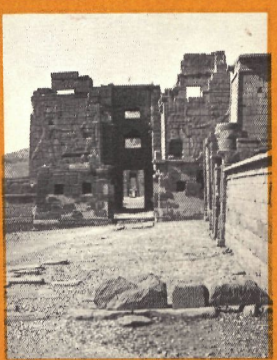


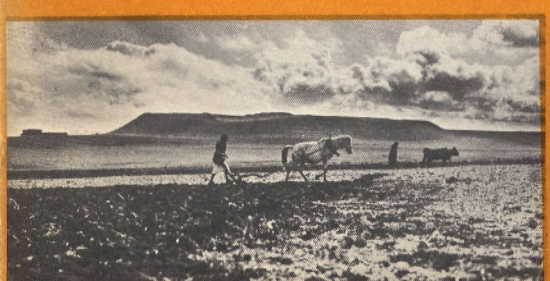
The Oriental Institute

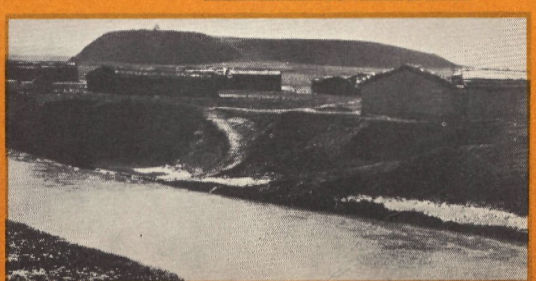
REPORT FOR 1968/69



Fiftieth Anniversary
1919–1969







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LEGEND FOR COVER

FRONT COVER: CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT

The ziggurat courtyard (Ekur) of Nippur from the Parthian citadel wall, Iraq.

Cliff tombs of the Achaemenid kings at Naqsh-i Rustam near Persepolis, Iran.

Northwest corner of a court showing successive floor levels at Tell Asmar, Iraq.

Façades of Porters' Lodges and the Eastern High Gate at Medinet Habu, Egypt.

The North Syrian mound of Chatal Hüyük which covers ancient Calneh of the Bible.

The Palestinian mound covering the fortress city of Megiddo (Armageddon). On the north terrace, at left of the mound, stands the expedition house.

BACK COVER: CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT

Excavation of the winged bull colossus discovered by Professor Chiera at Khorsabad, Iraq.

The Anatolian mound called Alishar Hüyük, covering an ancient Hittite city. Work is seen in progress on the citadel, and around it lies a broad town terrace.

The site of Jarmo, Iraq.

Outer and inner fortifications of Khafaje, Iraq.

Tell Jedeideh, one of the ancient cities of the North Syrian kingdom of Hattina. At left is the expedition house and in the background is Chatal Hüyük.

Headquarters building of the Sakkarah Expedition on the site of ancient Memphis, Egypt.

Corner of pottery tent at Qustul, Nubia.

Excavating a Hittite Empire (13th century B.C.) seal deposit at Korucu Tepe, Turkey.

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DIRECTORS OF THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE



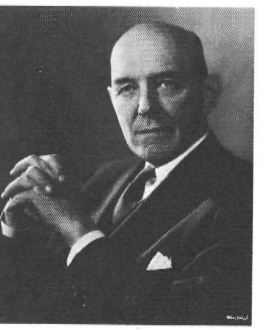
James Henry Breasted
1919–1935



John A. Wilson
1936–1946; 1960–1961



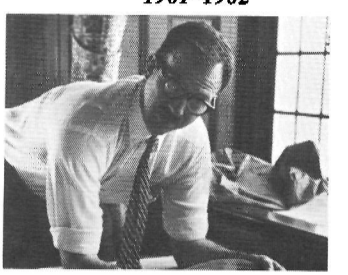
Thorkild P. R. Jacobsen
1946–1950



Carl H. Kraeling
1950–1960



Emery T. Filbey
1961–1962



Robert McCormick Adams
1962–1968



George R. Hughes
1968—

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To the Members and Friends of the Oriental Institute

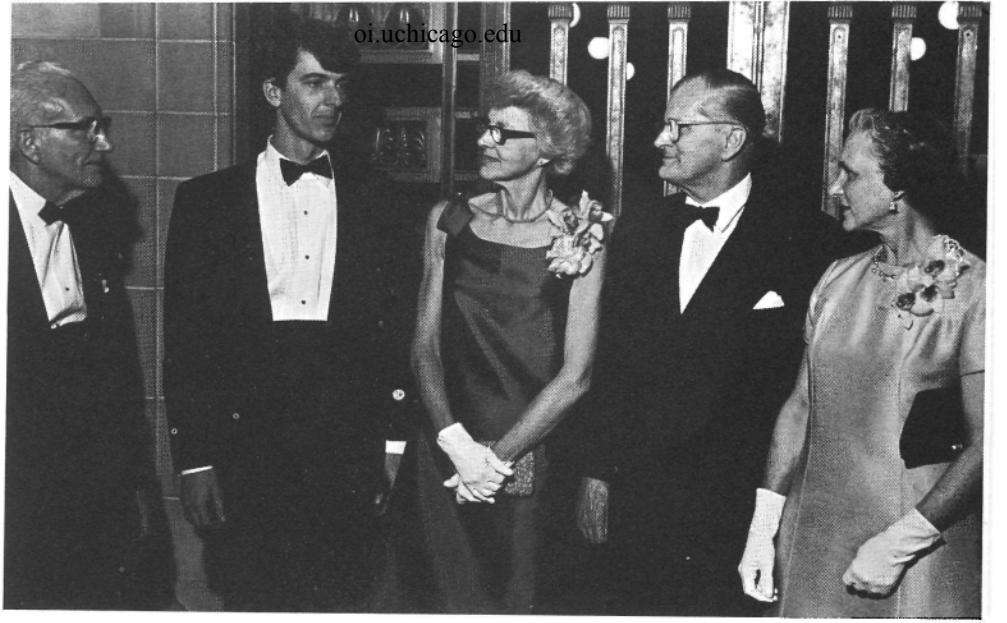
The annual report to the members was once brief and largely, if not exclusively, written by the director, giving the essentials of the Institute's work and a statement of the purpose and progress of the various projects, for the most part only the expeditions in the field. In recent years the accounts of field work have been written by the persons in charge in each case. In the last three years, at the instigation of Mrs. John Livingood, the report has come increasingly to include accounts of research work in progress at home, frequently carried on, not by a team, but by an individual faculty member. That is as it should be, and the accounts bear the marks of authority and more adequately reflect the diverse concerns of the staff. This report for 1968/69, as is evident from the photographs and some of the contents, is a special anniversary issue.

The Oriental Institute was established by action of the Board of Trustees of the University of Chicago on May 19, 1919, and on the evening of May 7, 1969, in the Egyptian gallery of the Museum a banquet was held to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the event. The dinner was sponsored by the Visiting Committee, was excellently planned and carried out by two of its members, Mrs. Theodore D. Tieken and Mrs. C. Phillip Miller, and was attended by some 250 members, friends, and staff of the Institute and the University.

The evening was a most satisfactory commemoration, for it blended the social and the scholarly. In many ways it took everyone present back firmly over the 50 years to the Institute's founder and architect, James Henry Breasted, but especially through the presence of the two sons and daughter of Professor Breasted: Charles, of Pasadena, California, James H., Jr., of Kent School, Kent, Connecticut, and Astrid (Mrs. Bernhard L. Hörmann), of Honolulu, Hawaii.

The celebration had a further tone of reunion in that a number of former staff members now at other institutions returned to bring their own memories and the greetings of their institutions.

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From left to right: Mr. Charles Breasted, Mr. Nicholas Hörmann, Mrs. Bernhard L. Hörmann, and Mr. and Mrs. James H. Breasted, Jr.

The climax of the evening which bound both nostalgia and history into one retrospect was the address by John A. Wilson, Breasted's student and successor as director. The address, which appears in this report, blended the vicissitudes and humor of fifty years with the new departures and achievements which marked the inception and development of the Institute.

President Edward H. Levy of the University conferred honor on the Institute on the evening of the celebration by conferring honor on two of its distinguished scholars. He announced the naming by the University of A. Leo Oppenheim as the first recipient of the new John A. Wilson Professorship of Oriental Studies. The Wilson professorship, honoring as it does by name one of the Institute's illustrious *emeriti*, will always belong to the Institute and be held by one of its faculty members.

President Levi also announced the well deserved though unexpected naming of Hans G. Güterbock to one of the University's coveted chairs, the Tiffany and Margaret Blake Distinguished Service Professorship. Hans Güterbock is the first to hold this chair also, for it was established by Mrs. Margaret Blake of Chicago only in the spring of 1969.

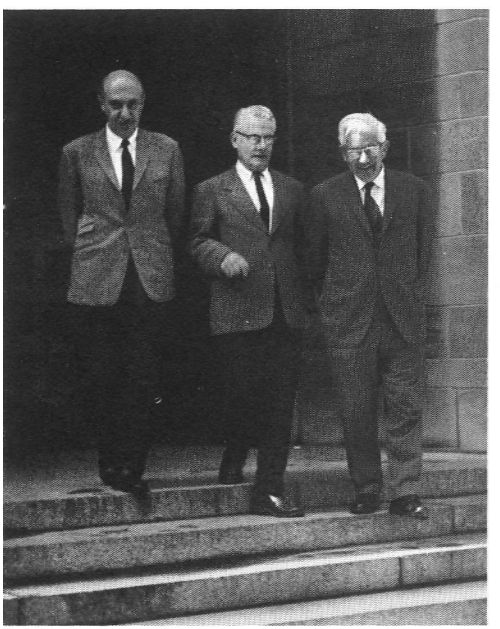
The Institute passed a milestone of another kind during the year when Dr. Gustavus F. Swift agreed to assume the curatorship of the

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Oriental Institute Museum, on July 1, 1969. As a member of the Institute faculty, Mr. Swift will be the Museum's first full-time curator in the more than 50 years of existence of the collections. He actually resumes membership on the staff, for he was a member for five years after receiving his doctorate in Near Eastern archeology from the University in 1958. In addition to his field work in Syria for the Institute, he also excavated for eight seasons at Sardis in Turkey with the Harvard-Cornell expedition.

The Museum had its origin in 1896 as the Haskell Oriental Museum in three small rooms in Haskell Hall with a nucleus of objects purchased by Breasted in 1894/95. In 1917 T. George Allen, then a graduate student, was appointed Secretary of Haskell Oriental Museum, and in 1929 Watson Boyes became Secretary of the Oriental Institute Museum, two years before the move was made to the present building. In 1944 P. P. Delougaz, Professor of Near Eastern Archeology, became Curator. In this capacity, after the death of Mr. Boyes in 1964, Mr. Delougaz served until his retirement in 1967 as sole custodian of the collections while continuing with his excavation, teaching, and research duties.

The scope of activity revolving about the Museum has increased



Dr. A. Leo Oppenheim, recipient of the John A. Wilson Professorship in Oriental Studies, Dr. John A. Wilson, and Dr. Hans G. Güterbock, recipient of the Tiffany and Margaret Blake Distinguished Service Professorship, in Hittitology.

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many times over during the last three years. The enthusiasm with which Mrs. John Livingood volunteered her full time as Secretary of the Museum program and then conceived of a new role for the post is only less remarkable than the success she has had in enlisting the assistance of scores of Chicagoans to help carry out her program. Some of these volunteers, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Charles Shields, have matched their initial interest in the Near East and its antiquity with hours of study to become mediators between the Institute and the public. Others of them, under the leadership of Mrs. Norman R. Cooperman, have not only learned the trade and the wares but have obligated themselves to managing and manning the Suq (the Museum shop) on a regular basis every day of the week. To say that we do not know what we did without each of our volunteers hardly measures the now indispensable role that they play daily, for in very large part they have been responsible for the increasing demand for their services by meeting it so well.

Another group that gives its time and thought to the Oriental Institute on a voluntary basis is the group of busy laymen known as the Visiting Committee. As of July 1, 1968, the Committee was reorganized, and, following the death on August 8, 1968, of Mr. John Nuveen, for many years chairman of the Committee, the Institute was fortunate in having Mr. Sydney Stein, Jr., a Trustee of the University and resident of Hyde Park, agree to assume the chairmanship.

For the second consecutive year Dr. and Mrs. Edmundo Lassalle of New York made a generous gift to Egyptological and Coptic studies at the Institute. Part of the gift provides two Patricia R. and Edmundo Lassalle Fellowships for graduate students. The remainder provides subvention for the study and publication of the results of excavations in Egyptian and Sudanese Nubia above the Assuan dam: the Coptic monastery at Qasr el-Wizz and the pharaonic fortress at Semna South.

On March 21, 1969, with the death of T. George Allen in Bradenton, Florida, the Institute lost the last of the group around Breasted in the years prior to and following the founding of the Institute. Dr. Allen had been a student of Breasted's and received his doctorate in Egyptology in 1919. In 1917 he had become Secretary of Haskell Oriental Museum, and in 1919, when the Institute was established, he became Secretary of the Oriental Institute. In 1927 he was made Editorial Secretary, and until his retirement in 1950 he lent his very

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considerable abilities to establishing the high standard of Oriental Institute publications. Dr. Allen was outstanding in ancient Egyptian grammar and lexicography, and he channeled his own scholarship into the study of Egyptian mortuary literature: the Pyramid Texts, Coffin Texts, and Book of the Dead.

On June 30, 1969, the University and the Institute lost a notable scholar and wise academic statesman in the departure of Professor Muhsin S. Mahdi to become the James Richard Jewett Professor of Arabic in Harvard University. Professor Mahdi received his doctorate from the University of Chicago in 1954. In 1957 he became an assistant professor and was at his departure Professor of Islamic Studies and Chairman of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations.

This year we have had occasion to remember Breasted and his concept of what this laboratory for the study of ancient man should be and should attempt to do. It was a large concept and, although in these fifty years the scope of investigation has widened, the amount of information and understanding of it have expanded vastly, the tools and techniques have been refined and have proliferated, and the defining of and approach to problems have altered markedly, there is virtually nothing in his "organized endeavor to recover the lost story of the rise of man" of which Breasted did not conceive, at least in an incipient way, as a desirable and legitimate part of the task of the Orientalist. Although he well knew that the real insights in the writing of history or depth of understanding of a culture could not come out of the work of committees—despite the modern preoccupation with colloquia, symposia, and "think tanks"—Breasted also knew that the gathering of vast quantities of data, the recording of great bodies of original material, the interpreting of the endlessly diverse and complex evidence for the human career demanded not individual scholars working alone but the collaboration of many minds and disciplines in one endeavor. This need has become even more insistent in the half-century of the Institute's existence.

It is now time for this chronicle, whatever may have been omitted, to give way to the staff members who will describe the year's progress in the investigations and activities for which they have been responsible.

George R. Hughes
Director

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"A Jubilee Shall That Fiftieth Year Be unto You" (Lev. 25:11)

For us Americans the year 1919 opened with bright faith and confidence. World War I had ended, and there was hope that the peace conference might establish justice and welfare among the nations. It was to be a new world. In the Near East the heavy incubus of the Ottoman Empire had been removed, so that there were brighter prospects for archeology in that region. Europe might be exhausted by the War, but the United States had only been exhilarated by its brief incursion into Europe, and our eyes were now looking outside of our own frontiers with a greater interest in other cultures.

This was the situation in May, 1919, when John D. Rockefeller, Jr., wrote to James H. Breasted, pledging $10,000 a year for five years, to start an Oriental Institute. Martin Ryerson, Chairman of the University's Board of Trustees, added to this, as did others, so that the Oriental Institute was founded in May, 1919, with a budget of about $20,000 a year.

Emerson has said that an institution is the lengthened shadow of a man, and, in order to understand the Institute, we should consider the founder, Professor Breasted. But wait a moment: Professor Breasted was the founder in one sense, and Mr. Rockefeller was the founder in another sense. We must resolve this problem.

Fortunately the religion of ancient Egypt comes to our aid at this point. You may read the answer on page 40 in *The Dawn of Conscience*, by James Henry Breasted. The creator god in Egypt had two essential qualities critically important for bringing life into being. These two qualities were the god Sia, "creative understanding," or the ability of the heart to think out new ideas and purposes, and

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This address was delivered by John A. Wilson at the celebration, May 7, 1969, of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Oriental Institute.

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the god Hu, "creative speech," or the ability of the tongue to make these thoughts concrete and viable.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." The heart and voice are one body. So the two founders were one founder, Breasted as the god Sia, "creative understanding," and Rockefeller as the god Hu, "creative command."

Because the Word was good, it prospered. To the generous interest of Mr. Rockefeller was added support from the International Education Board, the General Education Board, and the Rockefeller Foundation. There was a score of other individual benefactors, of whom I shall mention only Julius Rosenwald, Theodore W. Robinson, and Mrs. William H. Moore. Over the years the Institute sent at least thirty-five expeditions into the field, some of them for a single season, some of them continuing for forty years. Over the years the Institute published about two hundred books. It was big. We believe that it was also good.

Let me list three different kinds of triumphs. In Iraq there was the excavation of the complex of mounds around Tell Asmar, which sorted out the predynastic and early dynastic cultures of Babylonia in a firmer way than had been achieved before and set the model stratigraphy and typology for early Mesopotamia. In many ways Henri Frankfort ran a model dig.

In Egypt there was the copying of the temple of Medinet Habu, which has set a standard of accuracy and the control of detail never surpassed anywhere. This was particularly dear to the heart of Breasted, because he believed that the highest priority in Egypt was not to uncover new monuments, but to record those already uncovered.

At home there was the Assyrian Dictionary, a gigantic task of collecting cuneiform texts, parsing sentences, organizing the defining articles, and publishing. Elsewhere so colossal an enterprise could be achieved only by a national academy or by a team of several learned societies working together. It belonged to the gallant vision of James Henry Breasted.

Those first years were not an idyll of one success after another. There were hardships, frustrations, and quarrels. There was danger. The first expedition was Breasted's reconnaissance into the Near East in 1919/20. There the War was not yet over. The party made a dar-

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ing dash by horse carriage up the Euphrates from lower Iraq to Syria, a no-man's-land of warring tribes. For a week the group was passed from one unreconstructed sheikh to another and thus protected from the unorganized bands of roving brigands. That region was in such a state of flux and uncertainty that Breasted was invited by Field Marshal Lord Allenby to go to London to report his observations to Lord Curzon, the foreign minister.

The land was still raw and cruel. In the spring of 1927 I arrived at Megiddo in northern Palestine, hoping to learn field archeology at the dig there. Communications were so bad in those days that, although I had had a letter accepting me, I had had no further word for more than a month. The motor trip from Haifa to Megiddo, only fifteen miles, took four hours because of the miserable, muddy roads. When I reached Megiddo, there was not a man left there of the expedition. The area around the mound was infested with malaria, and two of the staff were in the hospital with virulent attacks. The other two men had departed abruptly. That left only the British woman who ran the household and kept the archeological records day by day. For about ten days she and I ran the expedition, she as the inside man, I as the outside man. Every day I supervised the dig, keeping carefully to the same level, labeling the baskets coming out of the various squares, and bringing them in to her to register. For the rest, Mrs. Wilson and I dosed ourselves with quinine until our ears rang, and registered 117° F. in our room under the iron roof. I never did learn field archeology, except by the experience of being pitched into it head first. By the time the expedition was reorganized with a new staff, I had to go on to other commitments.

The old-fashioned archeologists who lived in mud huts and ate out of tins and drank local water criticized Breasted for the so-called sumptuousness of his expedition houses: "Think of it! Screens on every window! Refrigerators to keep the food cool! No less than six bathrooms to one house! Incredible!" Well, the answer has been that the Oriental Institute expeditions have maintained an excellent record for health over nearly fifty years. Megiddo was briefly the one exception. Sanitary conditions and proper food have kept our staff members out of the hospitals and have paid off handsomely on the budget.

Archeologists are traditionally highly individual personalities, and there were displays of temperament and feuds. You cannot pen up a dozen people on one spot for six intense months without people

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rubbing each other the wrong way. One expedition suffered from too great a relaxation in the evening after the long hard-working day; the junior members of the staff could not match the drinking of the director. On another expedition, where the country was politically torn between two racial factions, there were feuds of partisanship among the staff. Another expedition was headed by a Byron-like character who seemed to be more interested in striking dramatic poses than in pushing the scientific works. Cases were referred to Breasted for solution. He had to build up a staff of 125 within a few years, and not all of the personalities were gentle knights, *sans peur et sans reproche*.

Then there was the disappointment of 1924/25, when Breasted, on behalf of Rockefeller, offered the Egyptian Government $10,000,000 for a new museum and an institute to train young Egyptians to be Egyptologists. Jealous personalities wrecked this admirable scheme, and the offer had finally to be withdrawn. The only mitigation of the bitterness was that Mr. Rockefeller then gave $2,000,000 for a beautiful little museum in Jerusalem. Breasted, when thwarted in one direction, would try a new direction.

What was the Oriental Institute? Breasted defined it as "a research laboratory for the investigation of the early human career." The investigation was to concern itself with "the rise of man" from savagery into complex civilized society, as that phenomenon was first visible in the ancient Near East. Breasted was a genius and a man of devout faith in his work. When his trumpet call reached the high note of "the rise of man," we sat eagerly on the edges of our chairs, waiting to be sent into action into Egypt or Turkey or the Fertile Crescent. (By the way, it was James Henry Breasted who invented that term, "Fertile Crescent.") He was a man of great magnetism. Mr. Rockefeller once told him that he was really supporting an institution only because he believed in a man.

What were the features of Breasted's Oriental Institute? First, it was to be a coordinated attack on the problems of the ancient Near East. Instead of the isolated scholar sitting in his study, rarely in contact with anyone who shared his interests, there would be a score and more of scholars, working to a common purpose, language men and excavators, Egyptologists and Assyriologists, prehistorians and Arabists, stimulating each other to greater productivity by the exchange of ideas. This certainly worked in part: we were thrown into juxtaposition and benefited by nearness. But it would be claiming

* ? Adam was an intelligent being. Cain organized the first town & his descendants were clever men! Ur's civilization reached its height between 3500-4000 B.C. Miss Kenyon found vestiges of culture on the 9000 B.C level at Jericho

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too much to insist that the old individualism was replaced by a team effort. There was still a lot of angular separatism.

Another way of expressing that same approach of a coordinated attack is to say that the Breasted approach was comprehensive. The geographic front ran from Egypt through Palestine, Syria, Turkey, and Iraq, into Iran. The range in time was from the earliest prehistoric into the recent Islamic. The techniques brought together geologists and prehistorians, excavators and architects, philologists and lexicographers. They were all interested in the career of man in the Near East. The unity of attack which Breasted planned fifty years ago was attempted by other institutions only twenty years ago.

Breasted sought out the best men available: American, Canadian, British, Dutch, German, and so on. Men like Edward Chiera, Adriaan de Buck, Henri Frankfort, Ernst Herzfeld, Uvo Hölscher, and Arno Poebel stood at the head of their various fields. Not all of our scholars were companionable. If they had elements of genius, that meant that they could also show flashes of choleric temperament. But they all recognized the creative force in Breasted.

He began two revolutionary moves within the Institute. The field personnel were put on annual salaries, just like the professors who taught at the University. The old system had been that a professor took a leave of absence from teaching, invited one or two graduate students to accompany him into the field, at their own expense, picked up an artist or an architect out in Cairo or Baghdad, dug for two months, and then let his expedition disintegrate and disappear. But by 1919 there were professional standards for archeology. Men knew how much damage untrained amateurs might do. It was Breasted who recognized that archeology was now a profession, by putting the field workers on an annual salary. Thus they could be held from one year to another, and thus they could spend the off-season in preparing the field results for publication. Fifty years later it is hard to remember that this was a tremendous forward stride for archeology.

The other revolutionary proposal was to budget money for publication. It is the normal fate of archeological researches in the field or at home that they get money for the actual work, but none for publication. Breasted put into his early budgets annual sums for the publication of specific projects. A scholar could carry on his work with some confidence that it would reach his readers just as soon as he could get it into print.

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Of the other reforms I shall mention only one. Breasted had carried on his own undergraduate and graduate work on the lowest possible financing. He had begun his teaching at the University of Chicago at a salary of $800 a year. He was determined that other young scholars should suffer no such privations. He set up ten research fellowships at $2000 a year. He was never so busy that he forgot the students.

Where do we stand today? What parts of the 1919 vision have we retained and what parts have we discarded?

Certainly the Oriental Institute is still hewing to the main line, "a research laboratory for the investigation of the early human career." If we are timid about talking about "the rise of man," it is because in these troubled days we are not so sure that man's course has been clearly and steadily upward. When we say "human progress," we often mean merely "human process."

We still have a staff which is brought together from different countries and different interests, but which still has incomplete coordination and incomplete exchange of ideas. There have been many successful collaborations in recent years: the seminar in comparative archeology which Frankfort conducted in the late 1930's; the lectures in the 1940's which were published as *The Intellectual Adventure of Ancient Man;* the Assyrian Dictionary being brought to publication; the symposium on early cities held in 1958; and the Institute's participation in the rescue of threatened areas in Nubia. However, generally speaking, the typical Institute scholar has been the creative individual, and not a member of a team working on a project.

The work is still comprehensive in space, time, and method. Professor Breasted would have revelled in some of the recent work, such as the prehistoric sequences on the flanks of the Fertile Crescent, the study of irrigation and early cities in southern Iraq and Iran, the rescue work in Nubia, where he had his own first expeditions, and the ancient crossword puzzle found by the Epigraphic Expedition on the walls of an Egyptian tomb 3300 years old. There is still a broad range of interest to the work, with constant new discoveries.

Are the scholars still the world's best? When I first came to the Institute forty-five years ago, I looked up to them with amazement and awe from the lowly viewpoint of a student. Now that I am a weary old man, it is not so easy for me to summon the same rever-

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ence. Yet I can testify from the judgment of outsiders about us. In 1960 there was a session of the International Congress of Orientalists in Moscow. A foundation provided funds to help Americans travel to Russia. More scholars were selected from the Oriental Institute than from any other institution. Our professional society is the American Oriental Society. In the past twenty-five years five presidents of the American Oriental Society have come from this building—at the extraordinary rate of one every five years. As I look at some of our younger men, I might venture the opinion that five future presidents of that Society will come from this building.

In that professionalism, which Breasted first recognized by putting research workers on annual salary, we have come a long way. We now take it for granted that artists and editorial secretaries and librarians and museum secretaries belong to the professional community, along with professors and excavators. The job benefits by community, and that community exists for the job.

We have fallen down badly on providing fellowships for students and on budgeting money for publication. When the depression years came along and forced refinancing, it was important to hang onto the scientific staff which we had, so that funds for new workers and funds for producing books went by the board. In the 1950's Mr. Rockefeller generously picked up some of the backlog on publication, but now we have to go around with hat in hand, begging for money to put out the books. Over the long run we see no solution for this. Yet we are never finished until the product is captured between the covers of a book.

Certainly we can never afford to become complacent. In these days of violent change and of violent protest, we need a long-range view of man: how did he come to be what he is? We can provide that long perspective. We of the Oriental Institute need to take new oaths of dedication to the vision of James Henry Breasted. May I paraphrase some words used many years ago by Abraham Lincoln?

"It is now for us, the living, to be dedicated to the great task remaining before us, that from those whom we honor today we take increased devotion to that cause to which they gave their full devotion; that this Institute, under God, may have a fresh burst of faith and vigor, so that the 'creative understanding' exemplified by James Henry Breasted and the 'creative speech' exemplified by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., shall not perish from these halls."

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The Epigraphic Survey

CHARLES FRANCIS NIMS, *Field Director*

From 1960 into the past season the Epigraphic Survey has been engaged in four projects and has been forced to divide its efforts among them. *The Beit el-Wali Temple of Ramses II*, in which it cooperated with the Oriental Institute Nubian Expedition, has now been published. *Medinet Habu* VIII, *The Eastern High Gate*, is in press; this volume includes translations of the inscriptions reproduced within it. The field work on the Tomb of Kheruef has been completed and the editing of the results is in progress.

The Temple of Khonsu, north end of first court



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For the first time in almost a decade the field staff is free to concentrate on a single monument. This is the nearly complete Karnak Temple of Khonsu, the local moon god who was the child in the Theban Triad, whose other members were Amon and Mut.

The construction and decoration of this temple was begun at the rear of the structure in the later years of Ramses III. It stood on the site of an earlier building of which little is known. The wall reliefs executed in the time of Ramses III and his successor Ramses IV show a syncretism of Khonsu with other gods indicating his increasing importance. The decoration of the temple and perhaps the construction came to a stop with the death of Ramses IV and was not resumed until well into the reign of Ramses XI, about two-thirds of a century later.

The continuing work was under the supervision of the High Priest of Amon Heri-hor. He departed from tradition in a number of scenes in the first hypostyle hall by showing himself rather than the king officiating before the god. By the time the decoration of the court was begun, only a few years later, Heri-hor had proclaimed himself

The Temple of Khonsu, first hypostyle hall (David Larkin in foreground, Carl DeVries on ladder).



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king (perhaps only in Thebes), though Ramses XI was still alive and, indeed, outlived Heri-hor.

In the 1930's and in the three seasons after the Second World War the Epigraphic Survey made records of a considerable area of the walls of the court and first hypostyle hall. With these drawings ready for publication it seemed best to complete the documentation of these two areas at the front of the temple. In the past three seasons, when we have been able to give only part of our time to this project, we have added extensively to our archive of drawings.

The walls of the court were obscured by mud, smoke, and the droppings of birds and bats. In February we were fortunate in being able to obtain the services of Abd-el-Karim Medhat who, until his recent retirement, was the expert in the Department of Antiquities in cleaning temple walls. His excellent work in Nubian temples such as Abu Simbel and Derr strongly recommended him to us. In a month and a half he cleaned the west wall and the west half of the north wall of the court, with unexpected results in revealing the great amount of color still preserved on the reliefs.

The great detail of the painted pattern warns us that the accurate recording of it will take care and time. But as a reward for our painstaking much new information will become available.

In our last report we mentioned that the evidence for the conclusion that the High Priest Piankh was the son of his predecessor Heri-hor is non-existent. We are now able to determine that at least six of the nineteen sons of Heri-hor had names of Libyan origin, a fact not apparent in existing publications. Other previously unnoticed records in the front part of the temple should give us a fuller picture of the last few years of the Twentieth Dynasty.

The staff of artists for the 1968/69 season was headed by the veteran Reginald Coleman, with Grace Huxtable joined by two new members, Martyn Lack and Richard Turner. Alexander Floroff, who retired several years ago, spent a number of weeks working on drawings left uncompleted when the expedition turned its full attention to Medinet Habu. Carl DeVries, David Larkin, and the Field Director were the Egyptologists. John Healey, who must retire at the end of the next season, continued his long and greatly appreciated service as Superintendent in charge of maintenance. Myrtle Nims was, as she has been for several years, in charge of household affairs. Labib Habachi served as part-time consultant. Our local staff members, with faithful Hagg Ibrahim Mohammed as foreman, were will-

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ing and cheerful in the performance of their multitudinous duties.

Again the expenses of operation and maintenance in the field and the greater part of the expense of travel of the staff were met by a grant from the Smithsonian Institution through the American Research Center in Egypt. The latter organization, with John Dorman as director of the office in Cairo, gave assistance in many other ways. Members of the Oriental Institute were most encouraging in their support.

While the work of the Epigraphic Survey is the documentation and publication of the ancient records, the facilities of Chicago House, the headquarters of the Oriental Institute in Egypt, serve international scholarship in many ways. Its unsurpassed library on Pharaonic Egypt is the center of study for both Egyptian and foreign scholars and was extensively used during the past season. A number of expeditions have borrowed equipment and left their own in our storerooms. Where our facilities have permitted, we have had as guests both members of the Oriental Institute and others with an interest in ancient Egypt.

We urge all members of the Oriental Institute to visit Egypt and, when in Luxor, stop at Chicago House to see our work and meet our staff.

The Euphrates Valley Expedition

HANS G. GÜTERBOCK, *Expedition Director*
MAURITS VAN LOON, *Field Director*

The expedition's new archeological salvage project at Korucu Tepe in the future reservoir of the Turkish Euphrates Dam was started in the fall of 1968 in conjunction with the University of California, Los Angeles, represented by Dr. Giorgio Buccellati. The National Science Foundation and the Ford Foundation provided generous support.

Because of the historical and linguistic interest attaching to the hieroglyphic Hittite inscriptions and on account of the importance

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of this salvage project in the framework of Turkish-American cultural relations, the expedition is fortunate to have Professor Güterbock as its director for the seasons which remain before the area is flooded in 1971.

Korucu Tepe is a flat-topped mound situated 20 miles east of Elâziğ, Turkey, in the wide Altinova valley; it measures 500 feet in diameter and 50 feet in height. At its northern foot there is now a well, but as we have evidence that the level of the surrounding plain has risen some six feet since about 1500 B.C., there is every reason to believe that this well was a spring when the settlement was founded sometime before or during the fourth millennium B.C.

By the end of the first season's work, it had become clear how and in which periods the mound acquired its present shape. In a cut made into the foot of the northern slope, about six feet of deposit dating to the fourth millennium B.C. are visible. These six feet yielded hand-turned, chaff-tempered, light-brown burnished ware and leaf-shaped obsidian arrowheads. The repeatedly rebuilt house remains of mud brick were capped by a heavily burned level, in which several two-room structures filled with charred debris were clearly recognizable. The charred debris also yielded six-rowed barley, emmer wheat, and flax seeds. Carbon samples taken from this level and analyzed at the University of Groningen, Netherlands, have yielded dates between 3442 and 3322 B.C. The houses in fourth-millennium levels found at other sites in the area already had elaborate household appointments including hearths, the rims of which were plastically treated in such a way as to resemble a simplified human figure.

Both the pottery and the hearths of the fourth millennium are significant for the question of the origin of the very distinctive Early Bronze Age culture which flourished in eastern Anatolia throughout the third millennium B.C. On the basis of surface finds alone, Dr. Robert Whallon, of the University of Michigan, estimates that the population of the area under investigation multiplied by seven and a half during the first half of the third millennium B.C. The East Anatolian Early Bronze Age culture is characterized by hand-turned, chaff-tempered, black burnished pottery, of which the beautiful shiny black finish, obtained by firing in a reducing atmosphere and, possibly, rubbing with grease, was obviously intentional. Another characteristic feature of the Early Bronze Age culture was the portable hearth rim, which was horseshoe-shaped in plan and rose at the two front ends and in the center of the back curve to form pot supports

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decorated with simplified human faces. Pottery and hearths characteristic of the East Anatolian Early Bronze Age culture have been found over a wide area, including parts of Palestine, Syria, Soviet Armenia, and Iran. In these areas an obviously intrusive population element settled by preference at valley and lake-side sites between 2600 and 2400 B.C. (the "Khirbat Karak" culture).

A trench 24 feet deep through the upper part of the north slope of Korucu Tepe revealed repeatedly destroyed habitation levels of the period between about 2600 and 2200 B.C. The three upper burned levels were excavated horizontally over an area of 27 x 27 feet. Of these, the second level was best preserved and yielded a small house with large rectangular hearth raised above the floor in one corner. The structure was built of mud brick; walls, floors, and hearth surfaces were lined with mud plaster. The raised doorway had been walled up with mud brick after the first fire. Subsequently, a second fire had destroyed the structure. An adjoining larger room or court contained a horseshoe-shaped hearth.

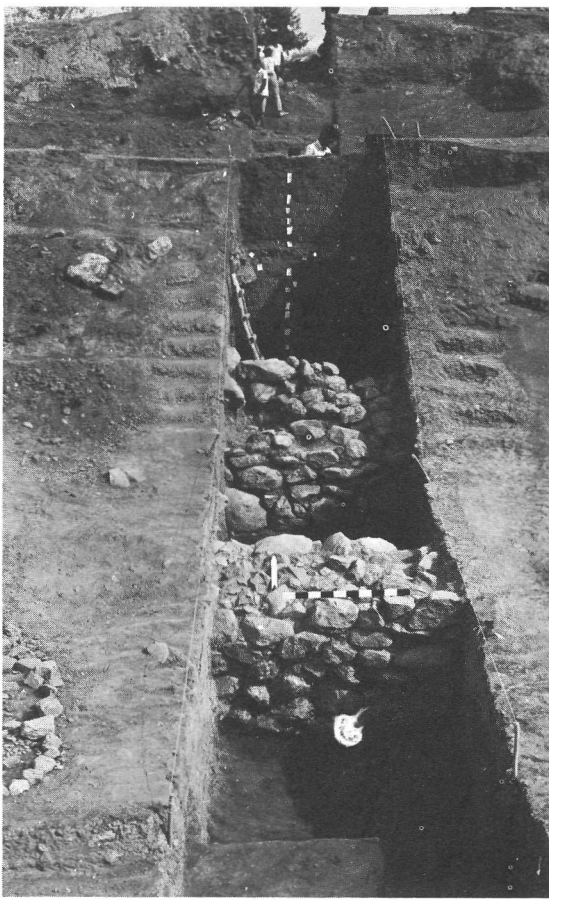
In all Early Bronze levels large quantities of black burnished pottery were found. The chaff temper in the black burnished ware was analyzed by paleobotanist Dr. Robert Stewart, who decided the local potters probably used animal dung, as they still do today. Occasionally the vessels were decorated in relief with very simplified horned animals' heads.

Alongside the hand-turned, black burnished pottery a completely different wheel-turned, very high-fired, gray to orange ware was found in the three upper burned levels in the form of jarlets and goblets, obviously imported from northern Mesopotamia or northeast Syria, where it was particularly common shortly before and during the Akkad period (about 2300–2150 B.C.). It shows that the local village culture was in contact with, although hardly influenced by, the technologically more advanced urban civilization south of the Taurus mountains.

The tool and weapon industry confirms this view. Copper was found only in the form of pin shafts. Chipped obsidian was the common material for tools and weapons, among which the beautifully retouched barbed and tanged arrowheads are the most remarkable. Ground and polished greenstone was used for axes and chisel bits.

Close to 100 charred seed groups recovered show that common bread wheat was grown locally by the third millennium B.C. The barley variety now preferred was two-rowed (not six-rowed as in

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Double stone foundation at the south foot of Korucu Tepe, Turkey. Presumably the substructure of a mud-brick fortification wall, about 1650–1400 B.C.

the fourth millennium), probably on account of its larger grain size.

A study of the faunal remains indicates heavy dependence on cattle grazing, and observation of geographical features now leads us to believe that mastery of the drainage problems in water-logged valleys and lake basins was a prime factor in the spread of this prehistoric population group to similar ecological niches in adjoining countries.

Almost no population spread in the prehistory of the Near East can be demonstrated so convincingly as that of the Bronze Age East Anatolians or "Khirbat Karak" people. Last year's work has cleared

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Hieroglyphic Hittite stamp seal impression on unbaked clay piece which once secured property or a document. From Korucu Tepe, Turkey, about 1400–1200 B.C.

away part of the later overburden so that a concerted attack can now be made on the area and levels most crucial to this central problem. Excavation of the Early Bronze Age settlement over several 27 x 27 foot squares is planned in the coming season. The level now exposed should date to about 2400 B.C., and one or two preceding levels should here be reached, contemporary with the greatest expansion of the "Khirbat Karak" culture.

At a lower level along the slope of the mound, another area has been cleared which, to judge by finds there, should yield material of the fourth millennium B.C. Excavation of two or more squares at this low level should give an insight into the cultural phase preceding the great Early Bronze Age expansion and will (so we hope) yield more clues to its origin.

The south side of Korucu proves to have built up to its present height over the second millennium B.C. In a layer just above ground water some black ware was found of the type still current around 2000 B.C. Subsequently, in a time when this ware had been ousted by strongly wheel-marked gray pottery, a fortification wall was built on a double dry stone foundation packed with mountain clay, 18 feet wide (see illustration). Above and inside the city wall there was a long succession of often rebuilt mud-brick houses incorporating wooden beams on dry stone foundations and containing Old Hittite vessel types (about 1650–1400 B.C.) along with local cooking ware. This relatively prosperous occupation ended in violent destruction of at least part of the settlement, perhaps to be equated with the historically documented conquest of Ishuwa. The latter had been an independent buffer state across the Euphrates and was incorporated into the Hittite Empire in the early fourteenth century B.C.

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The succeeding impoverished habitation levels contained coarse red ware including many "platters," well known from other Hittite Empire sites (about 1400–1200 B.C.). The appearance among hearth sweepings of twelve hieroglyphic Hittite seal impressions (see illustration) confirms the close relations existing with the Hittite capital in this period. Among other artifacts found, two pieces of iron, one an axe or chisel bit and the other an armor scale, are perhaps the most significant.

The vegetal remains uncovered from the second-millennium levels include grapes, peas, lentils, and borago (a condiment), as well as common bread wheat and two-rowed barley. Besides cattle and sheep and/or goats, pigs were now also kept. Relatively extensive use was made of deer antlers for various implements and/or ornaments.

Over the top of the abandoned Hittite Empire settlement a layer 3 feet thick, devoid of architecture but containing much red burnished and chaff-tempered buff burnished ware, all turned on the slow wheel, testifies to a hitherto unknown and remarkably regressive cultural stage. It can now be dated by an iron fibula and faience and greenstone seal beads and pendants to the time about 1000–800 B.C. This layer in turn is capped by Medieval architecture, dated by coins to the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries after Christ.

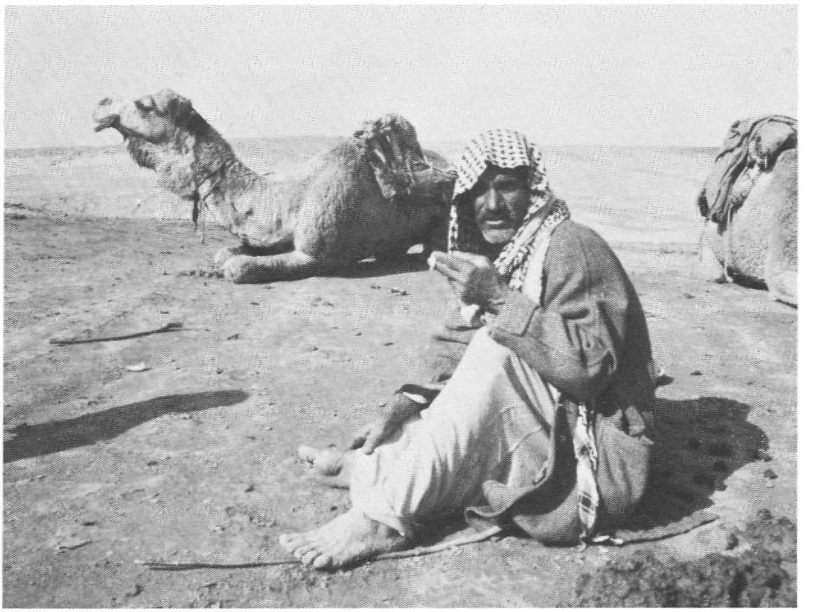
Areas along the east, south and west slopes, cleared in 1968, should now also permit further investigation into the cultural phases of the historic period:

1. the occupation characterized by very substantial buildings dating to the middle of the second millennium B.C. and possibly to be connected with the existence of an independent buffer state here at the time;

2. the less prosperous occupation which yielded the hieroglyphic seal impressions, indicating Hittite control in the later part of the second millennium B.C.;

3. the occupation whose architectural remains have eluded us so far, dating to the early first millennium B.C. No clue, either archeological or historical, has been found about such an occupation in eastern Anatolia until our excavation last year.

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Bedouin on Nippur mound

Reconnaissance and Soundings in the Nippur Area

ROBERT MCC. ADAMS, *Field Director*

Over a span of more than two decades, Oriental Institute expeditions have worked within the ruins of the ancient city of Nippur. During 1968/69 attention was shifted away from the great mound covering the urban center and toward the arid wastelands north and east of it. The objectives ceased to be the uncovering of palaces and temples, nor even the elucidation of the dynastic and religious history they often embodied. Instead, our concern this season was with the base in rural agriculture on which these and other, primarily urban, institutions were erected.

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As in a number of similar research projects we have undertaken in the past, one major focus of study was the traces of ancient rivers and irrigation canals that were initially detected in air photographs and then confirmed through ground reconnaissance. Systems of irrigation were always vital to Mesopotamian civilization but never were static for very long, and in a sense the successive phases of prosperity and decline to which the cities were subject can be read almost as dramatically and unambiguously in the changing totals of irrigated land as in the texts. At the same time, we were also concerned with tracing the changing patterns of ancient settlement—patterns in which cities were a variable and only rarely predominant component. By what steps did cities emerge from a prehistoric milieu of villages and lesser towns? How extensive was later rural settlement, and how was it linked to the waxing and waning urban centers? Was there an essentially stable hierarchy of cities, towns, and villages, and if so, how was this in turn linked to the irrigation system? Again, the main seam along which to seek answers to questions like these is archeological reconnaissance.

Survey during the past season was concentrated in a rectangular area about 1000 kilometers square, most of which lay outside the



Abd al-Sadeh, master pickman from Afak.

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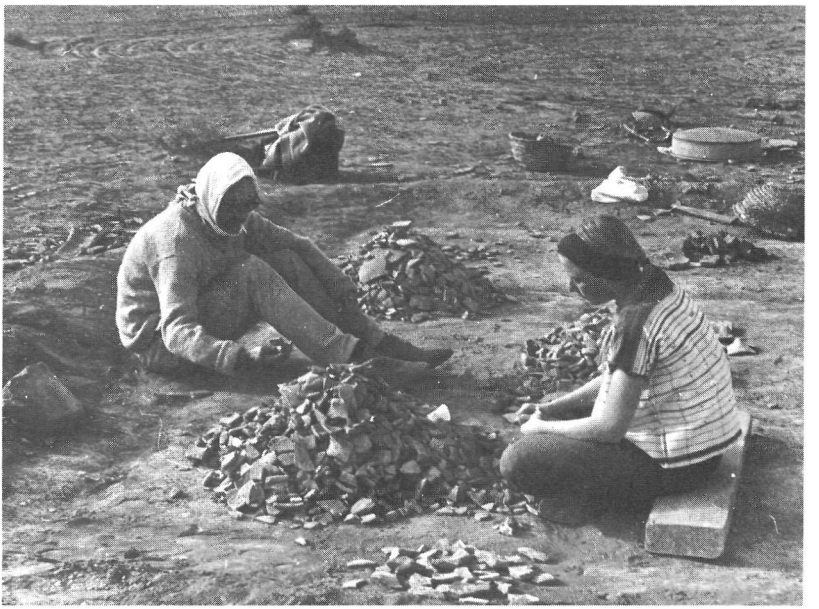
present frontier of cultivation that angles alongside Nippur from the northwest. Some 400 sites were located, described, and provisionally dated from their surface remains. Traces of ancient irrigation systems connecting them then were plotted on a series of maps showing the distribution of settlements at different periods. From this sequence of maps emerges a picture of radical shifts in the number and position of branches of the Euphrates River that crossed the area during the fourth millennium B.C., and of a rapid decline in the number of settlements during the latter part of that period—presumably as Nippur and nearby Abu Salabikh grew to urban size.

While much interest attaches to this and similar observations of developments in the area during early periods, the climax around Nippur—as in Mesopotamia as a whole—came much later. Nippur itself is known to have continued into Early Islamic times, and the Oriental Institute's own excavations have helped to disclose an unprecedented scale of monumental building there during the first and second centuries after Christ. The apogee of settlement in Nippur's hinterlands, including the greatest aggregation of population in cities, apparently was reached under Sassanian rule in the fourth century and later. Prosperous conditions continued into Early Islamic times, but the latter part of the ninth century seems to have witnessed a rapid decline into conditions of near abandonment.

The archeological record is especially unsatisfactory for the latter part of this long prehistoric and historic continuum. In spite of the richness of the settlement data for particularly the Sassanian and Early Islamic periods that has been produced by the survey, the present vagueness of our knowledge of the ordinary ceramics that were in use during these times tends to defeat any attempt to develop a fine-grained, truly dynamic picture of trends or fluctuations in settlement and irrigation agriculture. For this reason, an integral part of last season's work in the Nippur area was a series of stratigraphic soundings carried out during the winter. The site selected was a small, representative village mound that lay about 15 kilometers into the desert northwest of Nippur. Unnamed at first, it acquired the name Abu Sarifa in time from the crude huts of reed matting (*sarifa*'s) that were erected there by our labor force to serve as temporary shelters.

There are some six meters of cultural deposits at Tell Abu Sarifa, divided into six major phases and many more building levels. The earliest, apparently prior to a genuine settlement at the site, is of late

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Douglas Kennedy and Beth Skinner sorting potsherds at Tell Abu Sarifa

Parthian date. This is succeeded by two Sassanian phases, each marked by a number of large-roomed, thick-walled structures. The purpose and full plan of these buildings could not be ascertained within the framework of a program of small-scale soundings directed primarily toward ceramic chronology, but if they are merely residential, they suggest an impressive degree of prosperity and planning for so small a site. There was a progressive devolution in the scale and quality of architecture during the three Early Islamic, Samarran, and post-Samarran phases that followed until, at the time of abandonment in the late tenth or eleventh century, only a few straggling huts were left on the summit of the mound. Well before that time, incidentally virtually the entire surrounding region had ceased to be cultivated and settled. Any assumption of progressive impoverishment that might be drawn from this data must be balanced, however, against several-fold increases in the local use of glazed pottery and glass over the same interval. Studies of the ceramics and glass are now underway that hopefully will permit a fully

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quantitative publication of these two indicators of change and cultural contact that have always been recognized as vital to the archeologist.

In addition to the author, the staff of the reconnaissance consisted of Ruth S. Adams, photographer, and Sayyid Riath al-Qaissi, Iraqi Representative. With the onset of the sounding program at Abu Sarifa, the group was necessarily much enlarged. Douglas Kennedy, of the Centre National de Recherche Scientifique, came from Paris to serve as numismatist and epigraphist. Roberta Ellis brought with her many years of service in the Oriental Institute's basement workrooms and took over full responsibility for the laboratory treatment of our ancient coins and pottery. Charles L. Redman also joined us for a period at the conclusion of the Institute's Prehistoric Project in Turkey, and Beth Skinner served as archeological assistant. To all of these, to the American Schools of Oriental Research, which served as principal sponsor of the undertaking, and to the Iraqi authorities without whose continuing assistance we would have been unable to operate effectively, I am most grateful.

The Joint Istanbul-Chicago Prehistoric Project

ROBERT J. BRAIDWOOD, *Co-Director*

The Joint Prehistoric Project of Istanbul University and of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago returned to southeastern Turkey in the autumn of 1968 to resume research begun in 1963. The budgeting commitments of the two universities were supplemented by a grant from the National Science Foundation (GS-1986) and by a student training grant from the Ford Foundation. Prof. Dr. Halet Çambel, of Istanbul University's Department of Prehistory, acted as the other co-director.

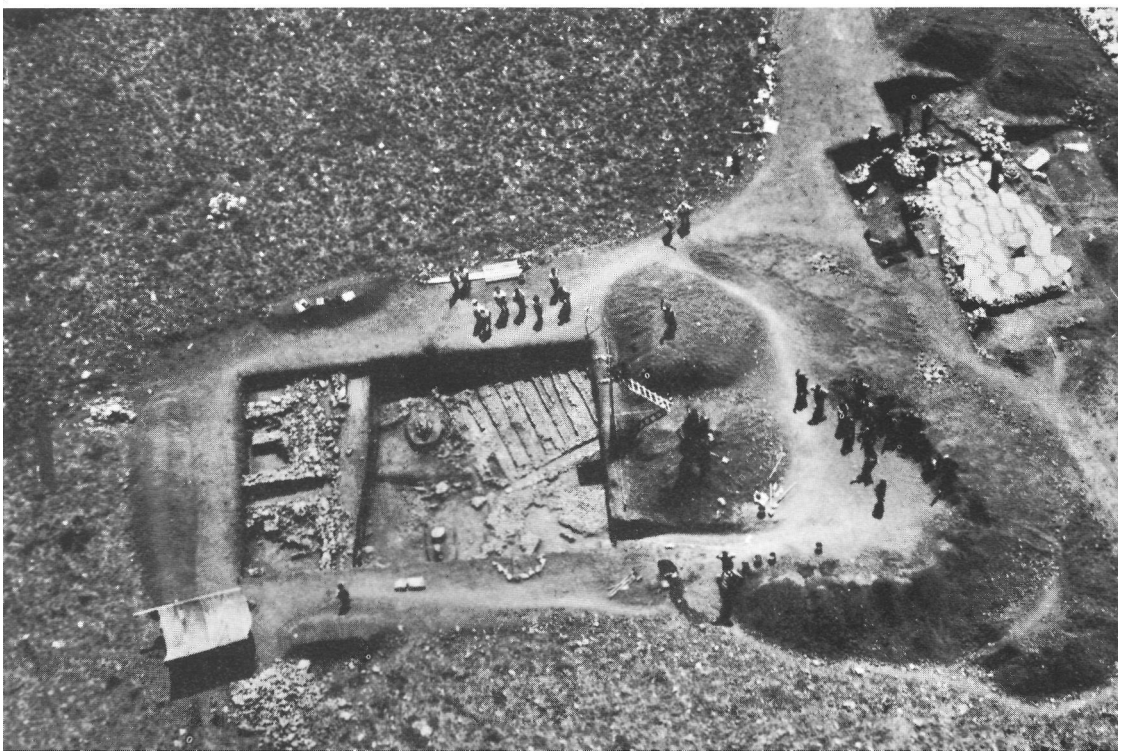
In the autumn of 1963 we had undertaken a surface survey for sites which might yield information about the beginnings of food-

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production in the archeologically unknown southeastern provinces of Turkey. In the spring of 1964, test excavations indicated that the mound called Çayönü (38°-16′ N, 39°-43′ E), near Ergani, northern Diyarbakir province, had been occupied by farmers as early as the latter part of the eighth millennium B.C. Çayönü is a low mound of about 200 meters in diameter, adjacent to a tributary of the upper Tigris. Our rather restricted exposures yielded a superficial surface occurrence of pottery and then an inventory of flint, obsidian, ground-stone and bone artifacts without pottery, all normal enough in an early village site in southwestern Asia. The unusual features of the inventory were the stone foundations for at least one rather substantial building and the use of hammered native copper in a pottery-less context.

During the season recently terminated, we re-opened Çayönü after an intensive collection of its surface yield on 83 randomly selected five-meter squares. Two of these squares, one with a rather heavy yield of surface potsherds and one with no sherds but with a heavy flint and obsidian yield, were selected for test excavation. In the former, a stone slab crypt, containing the flexed skeleton of a juvenile

Aerial view of the archeological expedition at Çayönü, Turkey, where scholars have found 9,000-year-old evidence of village life. The excavation at lower left is where three small copper oxide "pins" were unearthed. This is probably the earliest known instance of man fashioning tools from metal.



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and three pots of the late third millenium B.C. appeared. Occupation of this age appears not to have spread over the whole mound or to a very great depth. In the second test square, the inventory was essentially that of our deeper exposures in 1964, without pottery but with quantities of flint, obsidian, and ground-stone tools and a portion of a curious "grill" plan building (another example appeared in the 5th level in 1964).

As well as the above two test squares, a pair of larger exposures were made to enlarge architectural clearances begun in 1964. The natural sciences members of the staff (Barbara Lawrence, zoology, Harvard; Robert B. Stewart, botany, Sam Houston State; Richard A. Watson, Washington University and Gary A. Wright, Case-Western Reserve, natural obsidian sources survey) made, as usual, their own very considerable contributions to the understanding of the evidence. Indication of domesticated wheat is still not specific but impressions of barley continued to appear in fragments of mud brick. Sheep, pig, the dog and very probably the goat are evidenced by the animal bones as domesticates.

During the latter part of the season, a second small mound, Girik-i-Haciyan (38°-14′ N, 39°-58′ E), again in northern Diyarbakir province, near Ekinciyan village, was tested as a joint Istanbul–American Schools of Oriental Research venture (supported by the same National Science Foundation and Ford Foundation training grants) with Dr. Patty Jo Watson, of Washington University, in charge of the excavations. Intensive systematic surface survey of 105 five-meter squares both confirmed our gross 1963 impression of a Halafian phase occupation and indicated more homogeneity in surface artifact densities than had Çayönü. With time very limited, only 3 five-meter squares were opened, and these to no great depth. The Halafian painted pottery of Girik-i-Haciyan is very similar to that from such Iraqi sites as Arpachiyah and Banahilk, but is present only in low percentages in the tests (and in the systematic surface collection). The bulk of the Girik-i-Haciyan pottery is simple ware.

Even our modest exposures here add much to general knowledge of the total inventory of Halafian artifacts in chipped flint and obsidian, ground stone and bone. Five samples for radio-carbon age determination were collected at Girik-i-Haciyan; with luck, we may soon have a better understanding of the chronological place of the Halafian phase. Present guess-dates are somewhere in the late sixth, early fifth millenia.

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The late prehistory of the slopes and piedmont of the Zagros mountains in Iraq and Iran, and of the hill country and higher hinterland of the east Mediterranean littoral is now available in broad outline. Çayönü and Girik-i-Haciyan lie between these two regions on the piedmont of the southward slopes of the Tauros mountains. Present evidence would include the Tauros piedmont as one of the typical stretches of the natural habitat zone of the potential plant and animal domesticates of southwestern Asia. What gives the Tauros piedmont region special interest is its inclusion of or proximity to sources of obsidian (the basis of the earliest bulk carrying trade) and of copper. The hammered bits of native copper of Çayönü are hardly true metallurgy, in a pyrotechnical sense, but they presage mankind's general use of metals.

The Joint Iranian Expedition: Chogha Mish Excavations

Helene J. Kantor, *Field Director*

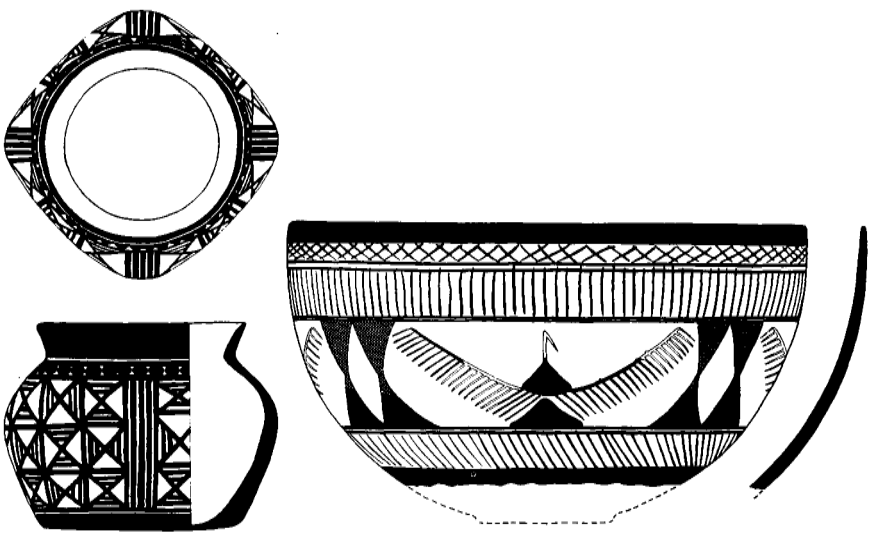
The resumption of the field work at Chogha Mish by the Joint Iranian Expedition of the Oriental Institute and the University of California, Los Angeles, which had been planned for January, 1969, had to be postponed until October, 1969, because unforeseeable circumstances made it impossible for the Oriental Institute to contribute its share to the Expedition during the 1968/69 fiscal year. Consequently the coming campaign in Khuzestan will be a double season, planned to last through the autumn of 1969 and the winter of 1970. Such a lengthened season is more economical from the point of view of overhead expenses, especially those of travel from and to the United States. The staff will be considerably larger than in previous campaigns as a result of grants from the Ford Foundation Archaeological Traineeship Program which are available to both the University of Chicago and the University of California, Los Angeles. In addition several students who have been awarded travelling fellowships by

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the University of Chicago have requested permission to join the Expedition.

During the interval between the field campaigns the abundant materials from the previous seasons have been the subject of intensive studies, the result of which will be a substantial preliminary report now nearing completion. The generous loan of materials of the second season which were allocated in the division to the National Museum of Iran in Teheran has greatly facilitated our work. Hundreds of specimens have been restored, drawn, and photographed as the basis for thorough study and the scholarly presentation of the results. The drawings illustrated here are but a minute sample of the variety of the Expedition's finds.

The directors of the Joint Iranian Expedition, Helene J. Kantor and P. P. Delougaz, went to Iran at the end of May in order to attend to all the varied arrangements which must be made ahead of time in order that the Expedition may begin its work promptly according to plan.



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Report on the Assyrian Dictionary Project

A. Leo Oppenheim, *Editor-in-Charge*

Work on a Dictionary volume, from the first draft to the finished book, takes, on the average, more than two years. For this reason, this year's report cannot present, on the surface, much change from last year's. Volume K is being made ready for the printer; the draft of Volume L is in its final stages, and the work on Volume M is progressing slowly.

But the drafting and writing of articles for the Dictionary, the checking of references, and the endless reading of proofs are not the only tasks of the staff of the Project. Every month new texts are published which have to be read and digested, and quite often it becomes necessary to prepare new editions of long-known texts on the basis of new material and new insights. Such work occasionally prompts the members of the staff to undertake research of their own in various directions often not directly related to their work on the Dictionary Project. In order to show the scale and the reach of some of this additional work, we are listing here the research undertakings now being planned, initiated, and executed by members of the Assyrian Dictionary Project.

Robert D. Biggs spent the autumn and early winter in Iraq as epigrapher for the joint Metropolitan Museum–New York University expedition to Al-Hiba, a Sumerian site. He also worked in the Iraq Museum in Baghdad on the Tell Abū Ṣalābīkh tablets. These tablets, which have been mentioned in previous Annual Reports in connection with the Oriental Institute's excavations at Tell Abū Ṣalābīkh, are thus a significant further step nearer publication.

In early 1969 the cuneiform inscriptions from the eighth and ninth seasons of the Oriental Institute's excavations at Nippur were published, in collaboration with Dr. Giorgio Buccellati, now of the University of California, Los Angeles. Mr. Biggs is preparing for publication a catalogue of the several thousand tablets found during the

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first three seasons, so that, in the tradition of the Oriental Institute, the material may be made accessible to scholars.

Mr. Biggs has also been preparing an edition of all the Akkadian literary material from Boghazköy.

Miguel Civil has edited the twelfth volume of *Materials for the Sumerian Lexicon*, which is scheduled to appear in late May. It is based on materials collected by the late Professor Benno Landsberger, with a considerable number of additional texts including archaic Uruk texts provided by H. J. Nissen, Abū Ṣalābīkh texts prepared by R. D. Biggs, and new sources from the Philadelphia and Yale collections identified by Mr. Civil. H. G. Güterbock and Erica Reiner have also collaborated on the preparation of the volume. Mr. Civil is presently working on Sumerian writing and phonology for a volume entitled "Sumerian Graphemics," scheduled to be published in the series "Analecta Orientalia," and he is continuing his researches on Sumerian lexicography. He spent some time last winter as visiting Directeur d'Études in the École Pratique des Hautes Études in Paris and gave a paper on Sumerian agriculture at the French Académie des Inscriptions.

A. Leo Oppenheim is engaged in a large-scale investigation of the internal organization and bookkeeping procedures of the temple of the sun-god Šamaš in Sippar in the 6th–3rd centuries B.C. This work is based on three thousand unpublished tablets, copies of which have been put at Mr. Oppenheim's disposal by the Department of Western Asiatic Antiquities of the British Museum, London, for cataloguing.

The Corning Museum of Glass will soon publish his *Glass and Glassmaking in Ancient Mesopotamia: An Edition of the Cuneiform Texts Which Contain Instructions for Glassmakers and a Catalogue of Surviving Objects.*

His detailed study of Babylonia during the Persian rule will be published by the Cambridge University Press in the series *The Cambridge History of Iran.*

Johannes Renger is giving his attention to social institutions, especially marriage and the family, including the very complex kinship system. His study on large landholdings and manorialism is in press. The second part of a 200-page investigation on the priests in the Old Babylonian period was published recently.

Mr. Renger has been collecting and copying all the seal inscriptions on Old Babylonian legal and economic texts in the British Mu-

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seum in London. The data thus provided will help clarify procedures of administrative as well as legal acts.

Another of Mr. Renger's projects is the preparation of a new critical edition of the inscription of Sargon, King of Assyria (721–705 B.C.). This edition will include all of this king's inscriptions, including those found in the Oriental Institute's excavations.

Erica Reiner spent a month at the British Museum in London for the purpose of identifying and checking texts belonging to the astrological series. The publication of this series, in which she is currently engaged, will consist of several volumes, and will be accompanied by an analysis of the relevant astronomical data, made in collaboration with Mr. David Pingree of the Oriental Institute.

Miss Reiner is also working on problems of Akkadian linguistics and is assisting Mr. Civil on the publication of lexical texts of the series *MSL*. She is the author of a survey of studies in Akkadian linguistics which is to appear in Volume VI of *Current Trends in Linguistics*, and of a grammar of Elamite which has just appeared in *Handbuch der Orientalistik*.

Aage Westenholz is working on the publication of the Old Sumerian and Old Akkadian tablets housed in the University Museum, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. This collection, which comprises about 900 tablets and fragments, consists mainly of economic documents, chiefly from Nippur, with some from Fara and Ur. The publication will be provided with comprehensive indexes which will appear as a result of extensive collaboration between Mr. Gelb and Mr. Westenholz.

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The Oriental Institute Expedition to Sudanese Nubia

LOUIS V. ŽABKAR, *Field Director*

Work on the records and finds of the two seasons, 1966/67 and 1967/68, from the Middle Kingdom fort and predominantly Meroitic cemetery at Semna South was begun this year in Chicago.

The most important feature of the fort was the remains of a rectangular Middle Kingdom building situated on the north side between the inner fortification walls and the outer walls. This Middle Kingdom house, with a kitchen (with storage jars and hearth place) and other, contiguously arranged rooms, was not, however, the earliest occupation level of that particular part of the fort. Beneath it a structure of quite a different nature was found: a mud-plastered pathway ran along the four walls enclosing an inner rectangle, the floor of which sloped from all sides toward a circular depression in the center

"Libation place" in the Middle Kingdom fort at Semna South



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of which there was a basin. From the mid-point of each of the four sides of this rectangular structure, trough-like shallow channels, some paved with stone slabs and some with kiln-baked bricks, led to the basin. Structures of this type have been found in other Nubian forts and are usually referred to as "libation places."

Another unusual feature revealed by the excavation of the fort was a small, square, brick structure located at each of the four corners of the inner fortification walls. Two of these structures had not been plundered and contained foundation deposits consisting of some rough pottery bowls, small dishes, and a few faience beads.

The work in and around the church (with its "Sheikh's tomb") revealed that it was of the usual type with square haikal, which was later transformed into the type with apse and a passage between the two sacristies. Of the building which is still standing, only a small section of the walls and part of the two southern piers are original. The two northern piers were erected later and appear to have no connection with the church. And so it may well be that we have to attribute to the Moslem period the erection of the dome which remains as the dominant landmark of the Semna South site.

In the cemetery 534 graves were excavated during the two seasons. Two types of Meroitic graves occurred: a relatively elaborate and a simpler type. The former consists of a rectangular pit with a ledge supporting a leaning barrel vault of mud brick sometimes faced with plaster. The simpler tombs are of a variety of shapes, but two types occur most frequently: one consists of a ramp leading to a burial chamber, the door of which was blocked with brickwork and rough stone slabs; the second type consists of an oblong pit with a lateral chamber for burial which is on the north or the south side.

Almost all of the graves excavated had been disturbed and pillaged, although some significant objects were recovered from them: (1) a disk-shaped metal mirror with a center handle, which, together with an identical mirror also found at Semna South, seems to be a unique occurrence in Meroitic cemeteries in Egyptian and Sudanese Nubia, (2) a number of bronze bowls which represent one of the largest collections of metal vessels found in a Meroitic cemetery in Sudanese Nubia, and (3) four intact, naturalistically decorated, long-necked bottles, some of the rarest specimens of this type of Meroitic pottery.

In addition to these, a large collection of various pottery vessels, beads, necklaces, smaller metal objects, and the like were found in the graves.

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From the 534 graves excavated at Semna South have come the remains of approximately 808 individuals: 753 Meroitic, 48 X-Group, and 7 Christian. Preliminary observations and measurements of these remains were made in the field. Almost all of the skulls (approximately 400) and vertebrae excavated as well as most of the adult long bones have been shipped to the Department of Anthropology of the University of Chicago, where they will be studied further with a particular emphasis on the investigation of any genetically distinctive features. Pathological bones and hair and tissue samples have also been sent to the Department of Anthropology for analysis.

But the most important finds came neither from the fort nor the cemetery, but from a dump outside the fort on its northwest side.

The dump was thickly covered with sherds of remarkably uniform types. A trench cut through one of its kom-like hillocks or piles of sherds revealed that it had been a dumping place for the fort during the Middle Kingdom. At a depth of 90 cm. of the trench a Twelfth Dynasty axe was found (see illustration) resting on a deposit of ashes.



Left: Metal mirror from a Meriotic grave of the 2nd or 3rd century after Christ at Semna South.
Right: Twelfth Dynasty axe from the dump near the fort at Semna South.

Of greatest interest among the discarded objects found in the dump was an unexpectedly large quantity of stamp seal impressions, official and private, decorated and inscribed. Among them were impressions of the hitherto only partially known name of the fort itself. In a well-known papyrus of the late Middle Kingdom found near the Ramesseum at Thebes there is a list of seventeen Egyptian fortresses,

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eight of which belong to the Second Cataract region. The papyrus breaks off after the beginning of the name of the southernmost of the eight, but the seal impressions of Semna South now complete the name, "Repressing the Sety-Nubians." A proportionately large number of the Semna South seal impressions comprise sack or package sealings as well as door sealings; there are also some letter sealings with the imprint of the fibered surface of the papyrus to which they were attached.

The pottery, seal impressions, and other objects found in the dump will be of great help to us in our studies of the history of the fort of Semna South and its administrative affairs.

The staff at Semna South for the second season, February 1 to May 1, 1968, consisted of the Field Director, Mr. Gerhard Haeny, Architect (Swiss Institute, Cairo), Dr. Patricia Smith, Physical Anthropologist, Miss Joan J. Karaganis, Anatomical Recorder, Mr. Stefano Bianca, Second Architect, Mr. Ibrahim Salama Hassan, mechanic and driver.

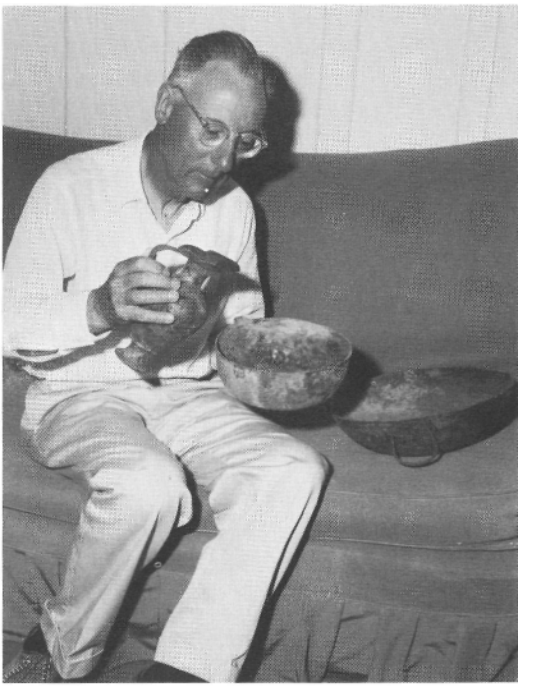
The Nubian Expedition

KEITH C. SEELE, *Director*

Perhaps the most arduous and certainly the most painful duty connected with any archeological expedition is the preparation of the publication of its results. This fact is daily being brought home to the writer of these lines as he studies his thousands of finds and attempts to fit them into the picture of Nubia which an adequate final report must sketch. But, if progress is painful and slow, progress is being made.

The chief accomplishment of the past year has been the virtual completion of the pottery drawings for the publication. In his second year of voluntary labor toward this end, Mr. Donald Bickford, of Honolulu, has completed more than 1,500 such drawings, in addition to the plans of the cemeteries and the areas excavated. During the many months which he has spent in our Nubian "laboratory" at the

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Dr. Seele plays with three bronze vessels from Eighteenth Dynasty Grave V–48. At the left is a unique pitcher with built-on stand (retained by Cairo Museum). A separate bronze stand of similar design from this tomb came to the Institute. At right is the basin with handle supported on riveted brackets in shape of human hands.

Oriental Institute he has worked *seven days a week.* This is pure devotion! Another major contribution to the drawing of our pottery has been made by Mr. Charles H. Joslin. Words are inadequate to express our appreciation to both of these good friends.

Ninety-nine per cent and more of the pottery already drawn consists of whole and complete pots. But, in addition, we have thousands of sherds, most of them of the beautiful, delicate A-Group ware. Now, five years after they were brought home from Nubian Adindan, they are still being studied and assembled by our faithful mending expert, Mrs. Theodore Tieken. Would that we had brought home to her all the missing pieces!

As study of the material proceeds we often pat ourselves on the back for our brilliant ideas and theories—only to find that a neglected report by one of our predecessors has beaten us to them by a quarter of a century. Nevertheless, we still make a few surprising discoveries among our treasures. For example, we recently found on four small

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A-Group sherds a painted motif astonishingly similar to the quadruple spiral designs often found 1500 years later in Crete, Greece, and Eighteenth Dynasty Egypt. It appears very much as if we must consider this design to be of Nubian A-Group origin and to have traveled northward to those centers of its later occurrence. Again, the Eighteenth Dynasty Grave No. V–48, which produced our exquisite bronze mirror, contained among the other bronze objects an interesting basin with a loop handle held in place by two riveted brackets shaped like outstretched human hands. We have just discovered in a new publication of Phoenician objects found in Spain (on the mainland and on one of the Balearic Islands) several similar basins with closely parallel riveted brackets, human hands and all—excepting that the Phoenician specimens in two cases have hands with *six fingers*. Here, likewise, it seems that our Egyptian basin represents the prototype of the 800-year younger Phoenician examples. And yet again, from our famous Grave V–48 we have two examples of a well-known type of spindle-flask of imported, lustrous red ware which we always considered to be especially fascinating. Now we learn from a recently published doctoral dissertation that these strange vessels were exported from Cyprus as containers of opium, and, to judge from their wide distribution in Egypt and Nubia, they testify to a vigorous trade in that commodity. We have not yet analyzed the residual contents of the flasks from V–48 and other graves in which we found them to detect the presence of the drug.

Perhaps our most important find in Nubia is the white stone "pallet of the boats." We found others similar to it in a number of the A-Group graves, and several of them are likewise adorned with much cruder representations of boats with high prow and stern. Much remains to be written and said about these objects, and it appears more and more difficult to us to consider the boats of foreign origin, as some scholars maintain. In working over the A-Group material, we are constantly entranced at the parallelism with well-known motifs from farther north. Curiously enough, we have some of these on scattered objects which are combined on one famous pre-dynastic pot in the British Museum, about which more will have to be said as our studies proceed.

Thus, here in a few paragraphs, we have to review some of the minutiae which enter into a scholar's thinking as he plans the publication of excavated material. If, as we have attempted to demonstrate, Nubia may have created artistic patterns which traveled as far to

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the north as Crete or Greece, if Nubia was affected or infected by imports of opium from Cyprus, then we are obliged to look in other directions also for influences or possible borrowings, that is, to the south, to see whether purely African cultural contributions are manifest in certain mysterious forms of A-Group pottery or in the very different C-Group incised wares, such as our wonderful red animal bowl, or in the virtually unique Meroitic artistry, so Egyptian and yet so wholly un-Egyptian in many of its aspects.

The year brought its disappointments as well as its little collection of minutiae. A hundred of our X-Group textiles had been shipped east to Miss Louise Bellinger for her expert craftsmanship in cleaning and mounting (and with the optimistic hope that she would eventually prepare a scientific report). Unhappily, Miss Bellinger did not live to complete the task, and we now have our textiles back in Chicago while we consider further plans to cope with them.

Our really huge program of photography has not yet begun. We do have the finds fairly well organized according to graves from which they came. Since we expect to present them more or less grave by grave, this represents a certain amount of progress for the year's work. Absolute mastery of the material is still a dream!

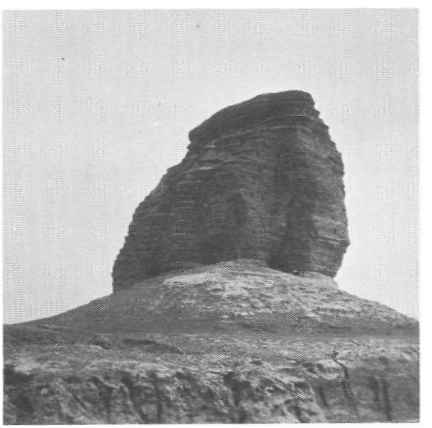
The History of Western Asia in the Second Millennium B.C.

MICHAEL B. ROWTON

The guiding principle in planning the work on the structure of state and society during the later phase of Mesopotamian civilization, after 2000 B.C., has been that, since no civilization exists in a vacuum, no civilization should be studied in a vacuum. In other words adjacent regions and related problems should receive due attention, bearing in mind that what happens on the periphery may be as important as developments at the center.

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This approach to the problem has entailed considerable preliminary work in marginal fields such as comparative chronology, the effect of the physical environment on history, relations between nomads and the settled population, between the tribe and the state, problems relating to siltation of the watercourses and dislocation of the farming population. Eight articles dealing with these preliminary studies have been published since work began in 1964; two further are in preparation.



Ziggurat at Aqar-Quf

The Kassite Project

JOHN A. BRINKMAN

This project is concerned with the history of the Kassites, a non-Semitic people who ruled Babylonia from 1600 to 1150 B.C.

During the past year Dr. Brinkman has traveled to various museums throughout the world in search of cuneiform documents relating to the Kassites. During the winter of 1968/69, he served as Annual Professor for the American Schools of Oriental Research, Baghdad, where he undertook extensive research on the largely unpublished archives unearthed by Iraqi archeologists in 1942–45 at Aqar-Quf, an ancient capital or royal residence of the Kassite dynasty. He also visited the Archeological Museum, Teheran, where he

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inspected Kassite boundary stones newly found in western Iran, and the Archeological Museum, Istanbul, which houses the largest known Kassite archive of some 6000 tablets. Short trips were also made to the Yale Babylonian Collection (spring, 1968), the Louvre (spring, 1969), and the British Museum (spring, 1969). Dr. Brinkman is now summarizing the results of this research in a monograph, "Studies in Kassite History, I," which will deal with the written sources of the Kassite period.

The Structure of Ancient Mesopotamian Society

Ignace J. Gelb

As part of the long-range project on the structure of the ancient Mesopotamian society Professor Gelb is now preparing a chrestomathy of texts relating to this broad subject. The Sumerian and Akkadian texts already collected deal with such topics as family and clan, social stratification, household, land tenure, rations, wages, agriculture, animal husbandry, law, services, taxation, and metrology.

It is planned to contain each topic within a single chapter, which will include a general socioeconomic introduction, the texts reproduced in both the native languages and the English translation, and philological annotations to the texts.

An outgrowth of a very successful seminar "Structure of the Mesopotamian Society and Economy," given for five quarters in 1964/65 at the University of Chicago, the planned chrestomathy has two aims: one, to put together in a preliminary fashion the results attained heretofore in the investigation of the ancient society and economy; and two, to provide materials for the young, uninitiated students in this long-neglected field, dubbed in recent years "onionology"—irreverently, but quite appropriately.

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A Winter in Egypt

JOHN A. WILSON

On July 1, 1968, I became professor emeritus at the University of Chicago. That might mean "out of merit," without further value to the University. I prefer the Spanish term *jubilato*, for the monk or priest who has reached the year of jubilee, of release, because it sounds like jubilation. At any rate, a winter season spent in Egypt showed that there was still a demand for the services of an Oriental Institute professor, even in retirement.

The specific role which took me to Egypt was as consultant to an excavation. That was a dig by the American Research Center in Egypt at Hierakonpolis, which is on the west bank of the Nile about sixty miles south of Luxor. Professor Klaus Baer and a student, Miss Janet Johnson, were other Chicago members of the expedition. My function as consultant gave me the pleasure of visiting the excavation for two brief stretches of time, without the wear and tear of fifty or sixty rugged fourteen-hour days. Field archeology is a young man's game. The dig provided new and exciting material on the first four dynasties of Egypt in a place which was very important in prehistoric times and which continued to be a religious center in later times. Some years ago I published an article arguing that the location of Hierakonpolis was such that it could never have been economically important or large in population. I am happy to say that the emphasis of the article was mistaken and that this must have been a significant early city. Future seasons should illustrate that focal importance.

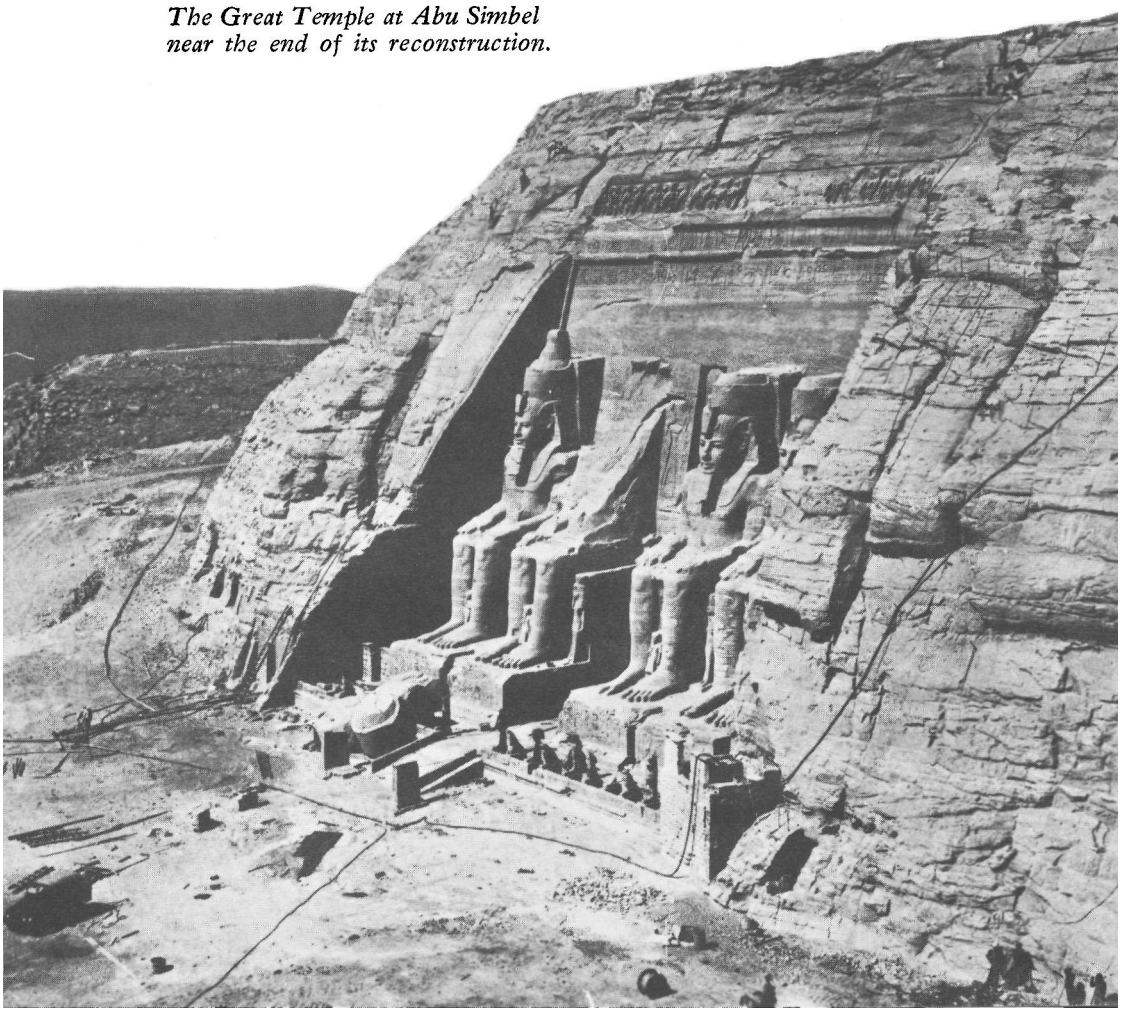
The international committee of archeologists and landscape architects which supervises the reconstruction of Abu Simbel met in February, 1969, and we visited the site of the newly rebuilt temples in Nubia. The work is stunningly successful. The amount of damage in moving tens of thousands of blocks to higher ground is almost invisible, and the monuments look nearly the same as they did ten

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years ago—one of the majestic sights of antiquity. The problem now is to reconstitute the site so that future visitors will see the glory with some measure of comfort and convenience. It is both an honor and a pleasure to have been instrumental in this brilliant operation for nearly ten years.

Another function in Egypt was to advise on a project of the University of Pennsylvania. Somewhere around 1365 B.C. the reforming pharaoh Akh-en-Aton built a temple (or two temples) at Karnak near Luxor. The reliefs were carved in that exciting new art which he unleashed upon the Egypt of his day. After his death his new religion became heresy, and his temples were taken down to serve as the stuffing blocks for the insides of later structures, such as the Second and Ninth Pylons at Karnak. Now more than 30,000 of these carved stone blocks have been extracted from those later locations.

The Great Temple at Abu Simbel near the end of its reconstruction.



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Can they be put together again into scenes and walls which will show what his temple(s) looked like in his day? A group of workers is coding the repetitive elements carved on these blocks, such as the figure of the king or queen, the rays of the sun, or the offering tables, then feeding these elements into a computer, and then matching up blocks on the basis of the computer's advice. This is a brilliant illustration of the possible use of modern machines directed toward ancient questions. The answers should be most interesting.

Back about A.D. 1800 Napoleon Bonaparte was in Egypt and founded a scholarly agency, the Institut d'Égypte, which serves as the national academy for the country. The Institut d'Égypte had had only four American members, among them my colleague, Professor Keith Seele. In February I lectured at the Institut in Cairo, on "Some Modern Trends in Archeology." Thereafter I was elected a corresponding member, another recognition for the Oriental Institute.

For the rest Mrs. Wilson and I enjoyed the warm cordiality of the Egyptian antiquities officials and the pleasures of living and working at Chicago House, Luxor.

Publications

JEAN ECKENFELS, *Editorial Secretary*

In the early fall of 1968, Louis V. Žabkar's *Study of the Ba Concept in Ancient Egyptian Texts* was added to the Oriental Institute series "Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization" as No. 34. The first thorough investigation of the concept of the *ba*, which Egyptologists have been accustomed to translate "soul," thereby introducing a dualistic opposition into the Egyptian concept of man, Dr. Žabkar's work traces the concept through the main categories of ancient Egyptian texts. The author's conclusion is that the Egyptian did not consider the *ba* as the "spiritual element" in man but rather as the man himself, or the totality of his physical and psychic capacities.

Two new volumes were added to the series "Assyriological Studies" early in 1969. The first of these, Robert D. Biggs's and Giorgio

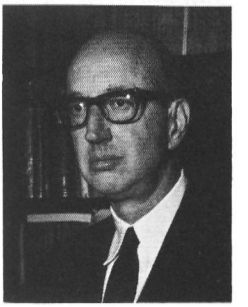
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Buccellati's *Cuneiform Texts from Nippur* (No. 17), is a catalogue of epigraphic material uncovered during the eighth and ninth seasons of excavation, 1962/63 and 1964/65. This small group of miscellaneous texts extending from Early Dynastic into Neo-Babylonian times includes administrative documents, royal inscriptions, votive inscriptions, and examples of the traditional scribal repertory, such as lexical lists and astrological and medical texts. The catalogue represents an effort on their part to make these finds available to scholars with a minimum of delay.

The latest addition in this series is I. J. Gelb's *Sequential Reconstruction of Proto-Akkadian* (No. 18), the first attempt to apply the procedures of sequential reconstruction to the oldest attainable stages of Proto-Akkadian, and with it, of Proto-Semitic. Akkadian, like all other Semitic languages, has speech units composed of stems and affixes occurring in a certain ordered sequence which is obligatory and immutable. In the analysis of a speech unit, each segment must be accounted for and its form and function determined. This method holds great promise for understanding the structure of other Semitic languages and of other families of languages.

In the summer of 1969, Richard T. Hallock's *Persepolis Fortification Tablets* ("Oriental Institute Publications," Vol. XCII) was published. This long-awaited, extensive volume of Elamite tablets from the wall of the Persepolis terrace presents transliterations and translations of more than 2,000 clay tablets dealing with the administrative transfer of food commodities during the reign of Darius I. Dr. Hallock's investigation of so large a body of material has enabled him to make use of comparisons between texts and between groups of texts and to arrive at conclusions which individual fortification texts do not as a rule convey. Included in this volume is a complete glossary of Achaemenid Elamite covering not only the fortification texts but the Treasury texts and the royal inscriptions as well.

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The Oriental Institute Museum

GUSTAVUS F. SWIFT, *Curator Designate*

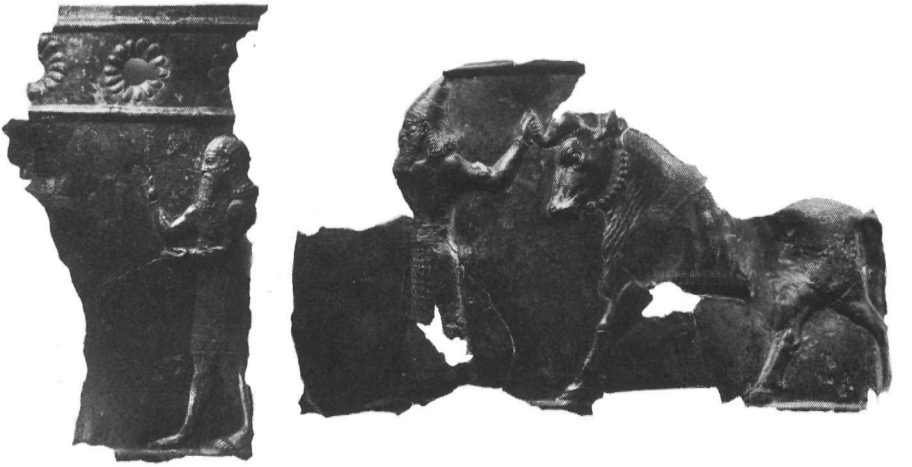
Important parts of the collection which has become the Museum of the Oriental Institute antedate the founding of the Institute itself, whose fiftieth anniversary we have celebrated within the past year. The additions of each decade describe and measure, to a considerable extent, the progress of ancient Near Eastern archeology as a whole, until, more and more, the collection is outstanding in the world.

Many responsibilities flow from this fact. The first is the proper care and treatment of objects in many materials, which run serious risks of survival in Chicago's climate. The Museum has profited from a recent inspection of all its collections, including the cuneiform tablets, by Miss Nan Shaw, Conservator, London, England. Her report will undoubtedly point to the need for a well-organized program of conservation. Also, the irreplaceable information in the records of the Institute's many excavations should be assembled, catalogued, and made conveniently available for continuing study.

During the past year, the Museum received from Joan Oates, because of the Oriental Institute's support of her excavations in east central Iraq, a collection of prehistoric materials from the early village site of Choga Mami. A share of the finds of the 1966/67 season at Nippur was also received.

This year an exhibit of scarabs was prepared and installed in the Egyptian Hall by Carl E. DeVries. The patient effort of preparator Robert Hanson has made it possible to exhibit substantial parts of the monumental and elaborately decorated bronze bands from the Institute's excavation at Khorsabad.

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Bronze band from Khorsabad

We continue to be fortunate in having the devoted services of volunteer museum guides under the direction of Mrs. Charles Shields. They have given tours and talks to many groups and individuals during all the hours when the exhibition halls are open. The results show clearly in the Museum attendance figures since the year before this program became effective. The contributors of this service, as well as those who volunteer their time to the Suq, our Museum shop, which is under the supervision of Mrs. Norman Cooperman, extend very significantly the Museum's effort to reach into the Chicago area.

For the past three years, elementary school teachers in the Field Experiences Institute of the Chicago Board of Education have visited the Museum in order to plan and prepare for tours by their classes in the coming year.

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Members' dues and gifts		65,754.85
Total		$114,365.20
Expenditures, July 1, 1968–June 30, 1969		
Support of Oriental Institute activities	$13,846.00	
1967/68 Annual Report	2,049.41	
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Prehistoric Project Expense	588.05	
Genizah Research Project	4,757.67	
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Classics Dept. share of Greek tour	2,000.00	
Middle East Center half-share Afghanistan tour	4,554.37	
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Museum Development Program	7,097.73	
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Contribution to Egypt Exploration Society (per restricted gift)	500.00	
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