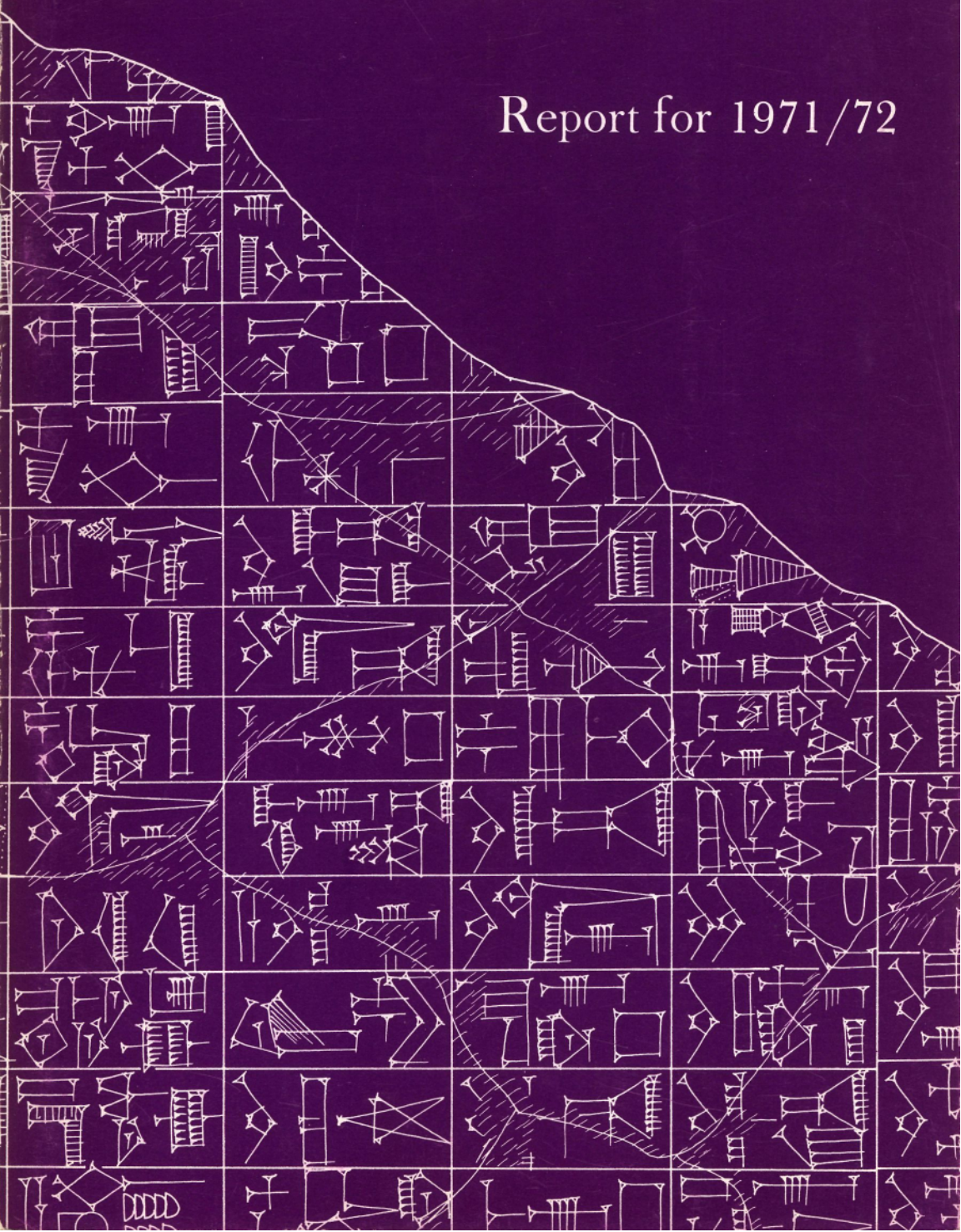
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The Oriental Institute
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Report for 1971/72



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To the Members and Friends of the Oriental Institute

To one who writes these introductory remarks for the annual report for the fifth and last time, two questions recur: Of what should they consist? and Does anyone read them? The answer to the first question will probably always lie with the director with only occasionally an intimation after the fact that he omitted something which he should not have. The answer to the second comes only once in a rare while from someone who was struck by something said. More frequently the annual report as a whole is assumed to be something that it is not intended to be. For example, recently the librarian of the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford wrote impatiently that he had been trying to "subscribe" to it because it had been called to his attention as containing scholarly information that should be available to the users of the Ashmolean library. That may be so, but the touchy job of the compiler and editor is to impress upon the contributors that their pieces should be readable by anyone, not just by a few in restricted disciplines. The navigable channel between esoteric minutiae and recondite vocabulary on the one side and the mere sounding of the personal horn by contributors on the other side is a somewhat narrow one, but it has been rather consistently found in the years past.

In any case, this valedictory will concern itself almost wholly with personnel, with the persons who have made and who will make the Oriental Institute what it has been and will be. One could not hope to assemble a staff which would be able to do research and teaching in every corner of all the disparate civilizations of the ancient Near East. One can strive for some degree of comprehensiveness in the main lines and most promising

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areas and for the last degree of quality in whatever is undertaken. In the final analysis, it is the quality and caliber of mind of the individuals making up a research institution that alone determine its value and success, not plans and projects, not research themes or thrusts. The organization can only incorporate persons of outstanding ability into itself, encourage, stimulate and support them.

The Oriental Institute has this year had, as it does almost every year, losses of persons who have served it and scholarship long and well; it has also made new acquisitions of persons on whom it has fastened its hopes for the years ahead.

On July 23, 1971, in the death of Keith C. Seele, Professor Emeritus of Egyptology, at the age of seventy-three, the Oriental Institute lost one of the senior and long-time members of its community of scholars. Mr. Seele was still vitally active even in retirement, working on the publications of the finds from the excavations which he had directed in Egyptian Nubia and editing the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*.

Mr. Seele had studied Egyptology in the University of Berlin in 1926–28. In 1928 he came to the Oriental Institute and in 1929 became a member of the staff of the Epigraphic Survey at Luxor, Egypt. After seven years in that post he returned to the campus in 1936 as an Instructor of Egyptology. Two years later he earned his doctorate. He passed through the ranks to the professorship of Egyptology from which he retired in 1964. He had become editor of the *Journal* in 1948 and by hard work built it up from a minimal circulation and a struggle to acquire articles for the next issue to a world-wide circulation and an embarrassment of voluntary contributors.

After years of epigraphy, teaching, writing and editing, Mr. Seele was cast suddenly into the unfamiliar role of director of the Institute's campaign to help rescue the monuments of Nubia from the waters of the new Assuan High Dam. He directed those excavations himself in 1960/61 and 1962–64.

Of the varied studies that Mr. Seele produced through the years, *When Egypt Ruled the East*, in the writing of which he collaborated with the late great George Steindorff, was and is the most widely read. It appeared in 1942, was revised by Mr. Seele alone in 1957, and eventually appeared in paperback form.

Richard C. Haines, who now retires, came to the Oriental Institute in 1930 to be a field architect for the Anatolian Expedition. In 1932 he was transferred to the Syrian Expedition

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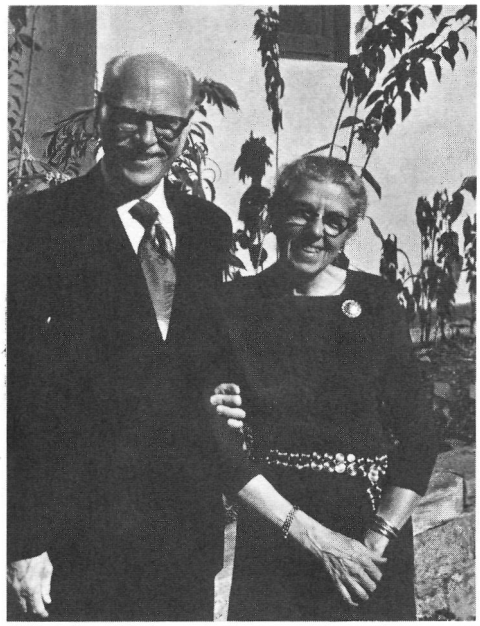
Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Haines attending a brunch in honor of Mr. Douglas Braidwood and his fiancée in a suburb of Detroit in the summer of 1971. Photo by Frank Manasek

and in 1937 to the Persepolis Expedition in Iran. From 1942 to 1948 he was on leave of absence for national service during the Second World War, but from 1946 to 1948 he did some drawing for the Persepolis Expedition while still on leave. In 1949 he returned to active duty on the Iraq Expedition at Nippur, eventually not only as field architect but as director of excavations. After 1965 Mr. Haines devoted himself to preparation of a backlog of excavation volumes and even delayed his retirement for two years for the purpose. Now Carl and Irene Haines have left, with eager anticipation on their part and a freight of gratitude and memories on our part, for a new life in their new house in their native New Jersey.

Charles F. Nims retires on June 30, 1972, from his professorship of Egyptology and the directorship of the Epigraphic Survey at Luxor.

After three years of graduate study in the University, Mr. Nims became an Oriental Institute Research Assistant in 1934. In 1935–37 he was the Egyptologist on the staff of the Saqqarah Expedition, and in 1937–39 he held the same post on the Epigraphic Survey at Luxor. From 1940 to 1946 he was pastor of a church in southern Illinois and a chaplain in the U.S. Army in World War II. In 1946, when the Luxor expedition was being

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Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Nims at Christmastime, Chicago House, Luxor. Photo by Robert Biggs

reconstituted following the war, he returned to the Institute and became epigrapher and photographer on the expedition. In 1964 he became director of the expedition.

The directorship of the Luxor expedition is a post for which the Institute hires one person and gets the full-time services of two. Mrs. Nims was bookbinder for the Luxor expedition library for years and thereafter carried the responsibility for the expedition household for more years still.

Mr. Nims has seen his *Thebes of the Pharaohs*, which appeared in 1965, achieve both scholarly acclaim and wide circulation. Now he and Mrs. Nims settle down in their home in the Hyde Park neighborhood, and he will continue working at the unfinished investigations and writing that he has harbored and not found time to accomplish.

Edward F. Wente, who was a member of the Epigraphic Survey staff from 1959 to 1967, went to Luxor in the winter of 1972 to take over the directorship of the expedition from Mr. Nims. During the last five years Mr. Wente has been resident on the faculty in Chicago as Professor of Egyptology. May the responsibilities at Luxor be balanced by enduring satisfactions for Edward and Leila Wente!

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The Luxor expedition lost at the end of the 1971/72 season one of its Egyptologists, David B. Larkin, after five years of very able service to the maintenance of the scholarly excellence of the recording. His first order of business is to complete the well advanced work for his doctorate at the University.

It is with regret that we see Peter J. Parr return to the Institute of Archaeology of the University of London from which he had come to us only a year ago to be Associate Professor of Near Eastern Archeology. Mr. Parr was not only the scholar and teacher that we expected when we invited him to join us, but he and his family had entered into and contributed greatly even in a short time to the life of the Institute.

While we are counting our losses of the year, there is one which is great but not complete. Mrs. Edna Manes found it necessary on doctor's orders to lay down the management of the *Suq*, the museum shop. It would be impossible to estimate the value of the devotion and long hours that she has given to the shop as a volunteer, but even more inestimable have been her merchandising experience, her taste and imagination in selecting and developing items for sale, and her common sense and buoyant good spirits. Fortunately, she will continue her interest in the *Suq* unabated and her presence on occasion.

Much as we regret the retirement of Mrs. Manes from the management of the *Suq*, we are certain that good fortune has been with us in the willingness of Mrs. Mary Fahrenwald to assume these by no means light responsibilities.

We have not lost valued associates without making any gains at all. New to the faculty the past academic year are Janet H. Johnson, who received her Ph.D. in June, 1972, as Instructor of Egyptology, and Stephen A. Kaufman as Assistant Professor of Aramaic and Hebrew. Miss Johnson took up part of the teaching program in Egyptology upon the departure of Mr. Wente for the Luxor expedition. Mr. Kaufman replaced Joseph A. Fitzmyer, who went to Fordham University in 1971. Charles C. Van Siclen became a replacement in the 1971/72 season for Carl E. DeVries as an Egyptologist on the staff of the Epigraphic Survey at Luxor and received his first experience of the Nile valley.

Klaus Baer was chosen by his colleagues during the year and appointed by the Provost to a three-year term as Chairman of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations to begin on July 1, 1972. Mr. Baer is not only an able and wide-

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ranging Egyptological scholar; his contributions to the life of the Institute and the Department have been unstinting. He has taught beyond the call of duty and has been a constant advisor, confidant and friend to students.

John A. Brinkman had so completely earned the confidence of his colleagues during his three-year term as Chairman of the Department, both as a scholar and a perceptive administrator, that they would very probably have wanted him to continue. Instead they settled upon him as their preference to become the next Director of the Oriental Institute. I commend him to the members; you will be hearing from him and about him.

Finally, inadequate as it may be as a summary of these four years, Mrs. Hughes and I owe a great and unpayable debt to a very large company of people, all members of the Institute in one sense or another, all friends of the Institute, many of whom have taken us to themselves and become our friends. For immensely enriching our lives through your widely varied lives and interests, your generous encouragement and support of us in a role which we took up with no little temerity in 1968, we thank you.

To make any director humble there have been, of course, administrators of the University and colleagues in the Institute who have been more than considerate and forbearing when perhaps they should not have been. There have been fellow faculty members and students from whom I have learned and shall continue to learn more than they have learned from me. There have been the volunteer museum guides and shop attendants who have added a new dimension to the life of the Institute and to the support of its purposes. There have been those outside members who have willingly given of their thought, effort and money, often very large gifts of money, for the benefit of the Institute.

There have been numerous staff members behind the scenes who have throughout kept the machinery of operation running smoothly for the benefit of the scholars. Above all to the director, there have been an incomparable Administrative Secretary, Ethel M. Schenk, and an untiring Membership Secretary, Marion B. Bailey, who have long and expertly borne the duties of the office of the director.

GEORGE R. HUGHES
Director

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Photo by Ethel Schenk

George R. Hughes

JOHN A. WILSON

On June 30, 1972, George Hughes retired as Director of the Oriental Institute after serving four years. He had reached the statutory age of sixty-five. Nevertheless, he will not leave active work at the Institute. The Trustees have awarded him deferred retirement as a Professor, so that he may continue his research and teaching, free from administrative responsibility.

Dr. Hughes came from Nebraska, received a B.D. from McCormick Theological Seminary, and came to the University of Chicago as the Old Testament Fellow of the seminary. His emphasis shifted from Hebrew to Egyptian, and he received his Ph.D. here in 1934, with a dissertation on Demotic business documents. After an apprenticeship as Research Assistant and war work in Washington, he joined the Epigraphic Expedition in Luxor, where he served from 1946 to 1964. For the last fifteen years of that stretch he was the Director of that Expedition. Those administrative years covered the revolution of 1952, with a new regime and new attitudes in the Egyptian Service of Antiquities, and there was also the Nubian salvage operation of the early 1960's. The Epigraphic Expedition had to adjust to new challenges. Maurine Hughes ran the household during years when supplies were running short. The Expedition came out of these crises with a higher esteem from the Egyptians and from western scholars.

Dr. Hughes returned to his professorship in 1964, but was not able to maintain an unbroken dedication to teaching and research. In 1968 his colleagues unanimously recommended him

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for the directorship of the Oriental Institute. Over the past twenty years administrative duties have multiplied seriously. Nevertheless, Dr. Hughes retained a heavy load of teaching and turned out original research. His four years fell into a time of difficult university financing, but he won such confidence with the University Administration that the Institute escaped some of the damaging cuts that crippled other parts of the University.

His academic specialty lies in the later phases of the Egyptian language, such as Demotic and Coptic. A colleague in another institution once remarked that for the first recognition of a Demotic text he would prefer the judgment of George Hughes to that of any other authority. When a British expedition found quantities of Demotic papyri at Sakkarah, one member of that staff expressed the wish that they might have just two months of Hughes's time for the initial study of the material.

Because of George Hughes's modesty about himself and his achievements, I have tried to keep this statement factual. But I should not be factual if I failed to record the admiration, gratitude, and affection of our colleagues for George and Maurine Hughes. That is a very clear and very warm presence.

The Epigraphic Survey

EDWARD F. WENTE, *Field Director*

During the past seven years the work of the Epigraphic Survey has been generously assisted by grants awarded by the Foreign Currency Program, Office of International Activities, of the Smithsonian Institution through the American Research Center in Egypt, Inc. These substantial grants, which cover practically all expenditures made in Egypt as well as international travel, have permitted the Epigraphic Survey to maintain the size of its staff and consequently a level of production which might otherwise have been curtailed during these years of tight budgets. At the time of writing this report the Field Director has just been gratified to learn that a new Smithsonian—American Research Center grant has been awarded to support the continued operation of Chicago House and its epigraphic work at the Temple of Khonsu in Karnak for the season 1972/73.

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If there is a focus underlying the past season's activity in the Temple of Khonsu, it might be said to be the major portals in the court and first hypostyle hall. While the recording of numerous scenes on the rear of the pylon represents a continuation of the expedition's preoccupation with documentation from the time of the high priest and king Herihor, the doorways themselves present problems of their own. All the portals on the main axis of the temple have been repaired in antiquity as is evident from the replacement of lintels and ceiling blocks and the frequent recarving of scenes framing the doorways.

The rear face of the gateway of the pylon has provided the expedition with some of the most tantalizing material to record and interpret that it has encountered in recent years. The scenes in question are the work of the high priest Painutem I of the Twenty-first Dynasty, who at a certain stage in his career seems to have relinquished the pontificate to his son and himself adopted the titulary and insignia of kingship. Material from the burial of Painutem I in the famous cache of royal mummies at Deir el-Bahri indicates that at the time of his death he was regarded as king and no longer as high priest of Amon. Thus his career appears to have differed from that of Herihor, who retained his high priestly title in his cartouche when he became king.

However, with the recording of scenes adjoining the gateway of the pylon, some very puzzling evidence has emerged. By carefully sorting out the often minute traces of two versions of scenes, members of the expedition have discovered that the earlier version of several of these scenes depicts Painutem I in the guise of king and that subsequently the high priestly garb was substituted for the royal dress. But the titles in both versions remained those of the high priest and not the king! It thus appears that Painutem I's claim to kingship was a rather complicated affair. At an early stage in his priestly career he assumed certain iconographic features of kingship (but not a royal titulary) which he subsequently abrogated, but then toward the end of his career he discarded the high priestly garb and titles and declared himself king in a more positive fashion, adopting a genuine royal titulary.

In order to elucidate the complexities of Painutem I's career, we have just recently initiated the recording of several scenes in the passageway of the pylon. Although it had not been planned to tackle this portion of the temple until a later date,

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the importance of one of these scenes in which Painutem I is shown with two leading ladies of the time, his wife Henuttawi and their daughter the God's Wife of Amon Makare, was long ago recognized by Maspero in his publication on the royal mummies from the Deir el-Bahri cache, and it is hoped that by careful scrutiny of the carving of these scenes and study of the iconography some light may be shed on the problems posed by the inner faces of the portal. Incidentally, the mummies of Henuttawi and Makare have proved to be especially interesting to Professor James Harris of the University of Michigan, with whom among other scholars the writer of this report has been collaborating in the preparation of a study of the royal mummies in the Cairo Museum.



Greco-Roman relief in the second hypostyle hall in the Temple of Khonsu. Photo by Charles Van Siclen

The second and third major doorways of the Khonsu temple were reworked at a considerably later date. Some of the scenes on the jambs of the third portal actually display King Herihor, whose figure, however, is carved in the bulbous raised relief characteristic of the last pharaonic dynasty. Other scenes and texts are entirely the work of the Ptolemaic period. Here the problems faced by the expedition are not so much the detection of traces of earlier scenes but the interpretation of often grotesquely carved hieroglyphs of the Ptolemaic period. Since the Ptolemaic system of hieroglyphic writing tended toward the enigmatic, it frequently requires considerable research in the

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Chicago House Library to determine how what may appear as a crudely carved blob on the wall is actually to be interpreted and rendered in a facsimile copy. In the recording of these Ptolemaic scenes and texts especial attention is given to locating possible parallels in other temples of the period. This has proved particularly valuable in enabling us to interpret the crudely carved lintel of the doorway leading into the ambulatory. On this lintel, decorated under Ptolemy IX, the theme is the moon, the symbol of Khonsu, and the lunar feast days. In addition, improved readings have been obtained for the expanded titulary of Ptolemy IX.

Aside from work on the rear of the pylon and on the three major portals, two important oracular inscriptions, one from the time of Herihor and the other from the Twenty-first Dynasty, have received the expedition's attention. The important dedicatory inscriptions of King Herihor on the lofty architraves spanning the columns of the court are in the process of being recorded and should provide significant information about Herihor's building activities. Since documentation concerning Herihor's kingship is almost exclusively limited to the court of the Khonsu temple, effort is being made to provide facsimile copies of even short minor inscriptions and iconographic devices, which often are located in spots difficult of access.

For the past six seasons the work of the Epigraphic Survey at the Khonsu temple has been supervised by Professor Charles Francis Nims, the expedition's Field Director for nine years. His enthusiasm for the monuments of Thebes and interest in understanding the historical and religious significance of the scenes and inscriptions that the expedition records have served to inspire those who have worked with him. Mrs. Myrtle Nims has managed the household at Chicago House, a task that has required considerable time and devotion on her part. Their retirement signifies a loss to Chicago House, but in the not too distant future we expect to see them back in Luxor for an extended visit.

We shall also miss Mr. David Larkin, who after five seasons of arduous work as an epigrapher will be returning to Chicago to complete his doctoral dissertation on the end of the Twentieth Dynasty, utilizing material from the Temple of Khonsu. Mr. Charles Van Siclen of the University of Chicago completed a very successful first year as an epigrapher while also taking

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charge of the Chicago House Library. Our veteran artists, Mr. Reginald Coleman, Mrs. Grace Huxtable, Mr. Martyn Lack, and Mr. Richard Turner, have admirably met the challenge of recording scenes such as we have described above. In addition, Mr. Turner, who also serves as photographer, spent many hours in tracing and photographing material that was very difficult to reach. As Chicago House ages with the passage of time, our engineer, Mr. Werner Fliege, has ably coped with the mechanical crises that inevitably occur. For his constant assistance and devotion to Chicago House our Rais Hagg Ibrahim Mohammed Abd-el-Rahman deserves commendation.

Excavations at Chogha Mish

HELENE J. KANTOR, *Co-Director*

The third season of excavations at Chogha Mish conducted by the Joint Iranian Expedition of the Oriental Institute and the University of California at Los Angeles took place during January, February, and March, 1972. It got off to a prompt start with the assembly of the staff at the beginning of January in Tehran. Professor P. P. Delougaz of U.C.L.A. and Helene J. Kantor were joined by Mr. D. D. Bickford, AIA, who had already before contributed valuable assistance to the Expedition in 1969/70, by Miss J. Vindenas, who for many years guided the fortunes of the Oriental Institute Library in Chicago, and by two students on Ford Foundation archeological grants, Mrs. B. Elder of U.C.L.A. and Mr. R. G. Hassert of the University of Chicago. With their usual courtesy Mr. A. A. Pourmand, Director-General of the Archaeological Service, Mr. S. M. Khorramabodi, Assistant Director, and Dr. H. T. Naimi, Director of Excavations, expedited the official arrangements in Tehran. Our collaborator from the Archaeological Service, Mr. R. M. Zahedani was throughout the season a most pleasant and helpful colleague. We were also happy to have as a collaborator for several weeks at the beginning of the season and again at the end Professor Y. Majidzadeh. He brought with him three of his students, Messrs. Hasan Gharekhani, Aghil Abedi Lohesar, and Said Mansur Said Sadjadi, who entered enthusiastically into

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the tasks of learning and applying our methods of work. Dr. M. C. McCutchan, of Damavand College, Tehran, again spent her Nowruz holiday working with us.

One of the main goals of the season was to continue where we had left off the previous year—by digging deeper in the various "prehistoric trenches" to expand our knowledge of the Middle and Early Susiana cultures of the fifth and sixth millennia B.C. and of the preceding Archaic phases representing the earliest known settlements of the central Susiana plain. In addition we hoped to reopen the important East Quarter of the Proto-literate city of the late fourth millennium B.C. These plans were considerably affected by the exceptionally heavy rainfall in Khuzestan both before our arrival and throughout our entire stay. Digging was frequently interrupted for some days and was impossible in certain spots on the mound. Trench XIII was waterlogged at the beginning of digging and remained so most of the season. Accordingly, it could not be reopened this year despite its great importance for the prehistoric development. The rains also prevented us from developing to any extent Trenches XXXI, XXXII, and the Gully Cut, all of which had yielded excellent results last year. We adapted to the weather conditions while at the same time advancing our goals by working from the surface down in a number of carefully selected areas.

Trenches XXXIII, XXXIV, and XXXV. Early in the season we opened a ten-meter square, Trench XXXIII, on the gently sloping flank of the large East Quarter of the Protoliterate city. The original intention was to conduct a quick test before using this area for dumping. The top meter of debris contained only washed-down Protoliterate sherds without architectural context, indicating that the Protoliterate private houses of the East Quarter had not reached this far. Approximately in the middle of the trench was the face of a great mass of compact clay, which filled the entire eastern half of the square and was founded on a dark ashy stratum. Against the face of this pisé massif a large heap of slag had been thrown downwards from the direction of the Protoliterate houses. We sought for the eastern face by opening two narrow trenches, XXXIV and XXXV, at an angle to Trench XXXIII. During March, in our only spell of relatively dry weather, we struck what promises to be the eastern face of the pisé massif, but it could not be cleared because the frequent heavy rains between then and the end of

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the season kept this part of the excavations soaked. The evidence obtained so far suggests that we have here a massive wall at least ten meters wide and preserved to about two meters in height, which may well be a portion either of a city wall or of a substantial fortification. At the moment its date remains uncertain. Some good evidence suggests the Protoliterate period. No Protoliterate city walls have yet been discovered, and it would be fitting to find one at Chogha Mish, only a relatively short distance from the spot where in 1966 the seal impression showing the surrender of a besieged city was discovered. However, a Middle Susiana date for the pisé massif cannot yet be altogether excluded. If it is actually a fortification of that period, it will give a surprising new dimension to the character of the large Middle Susiana town of Chogha Mish. In either case the results yielded by this part of the excavation have turned out to be far more important than anticipated, and the area demands further investigation.

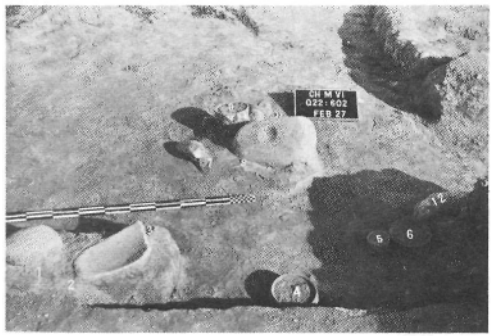


The northern part of the Trench XXI area with Trench XXV in the background. Photo by P. P. Delougaz

The Trench XXI Area. This area, already extended last season with excellent results, was enlarged on all sides except the east. The biggest addition was made on the north, where the entire space between Trench XXI and our old Trench XII of 1963 was opened up. The Trench XXI area is now about 800 square meters in size and has so far yielded structures datable

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to three major periods. In the higher, western, part of the sharply sloping area the walls and hearths of some medium-sized rectangular rooms of the beginning phase of the Middle Susiana period occur. The underlying architectural stage, well-dated to the Early Susiana period, is more substantial. A large number of walls, some of them preserved to a height of over a meter, form rooms, either approximately square or of more elongated rectangular shape. In some cases partition walls subdivide the main rooms. Undoubtedly several subphases of one major architectural period are represented.





Deposit of the Early Susiana period as found in Trench XXI and intact bowl of bituminous stone (No. 5) from the deposit. Photos by R. G. Hassert

There were many interesting architectural details in the Early Susiana levels. Thus, not all the walls were of unbaked mud bricks; some consist of pounded clay, as for example the curving apsidal walls of a small room. Numerous hearths occurred. Sometimes they were elaborate, consisting of low mud walls surrounding a rectangular or oval area and with piles of calcined river pebbles lying on a hard floor.

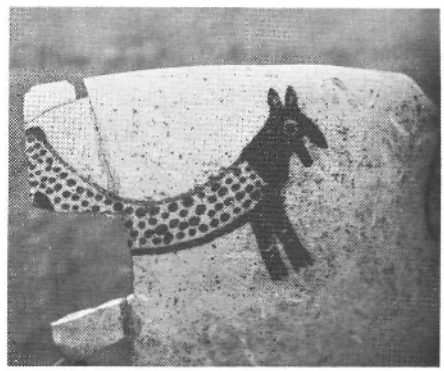
Immediately below the Early Susiana levels were the remains of walls constructed of the long finger-marked bricks which in previous seasons we have found to be typical for the Archaic period. They could be reached only in the lowest, most eroded parts of the Trench XXI area on the east, and adjacent to old Trench XII. The rest of the Archaic walls are still hidden under the Middle and Early Susiana remains, which could not be removed this season, shortened as the digging time was by the incessant rains. The excavation of the Archaic levels, which promise to yield coherent plans, is one of the most important

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aims of our next season, since the large scale and quality of this architecture seem extraordinary for such an early period.

Trench XXV. Our goal in extending Trench XXV by an additional one hundred square meters was to test whether certain substantial Archaic walls found in previous seasons continued under the debris to the east. This season's extension provided surprises. The Middle Susiana remains were more extensive than any hitherto found in the Trench XXV area and included a pavement of unbaked bricks and a kiln over two meters in diameter. The weather and the intricacy of the stratification of the Middle Susiana remains combined to prevent us from clearing the Archaic level in most of the Trench XXV extension, though deeper cuttings on the southern and eastern edges of the area did reach both Early Susiana and Archaic remains.





Middle Susiana sherd decorated with mask-like human heads (left) and sherd of egg-shell ware bowl decorated with a file of leopards. Photos by R. G. Hassert

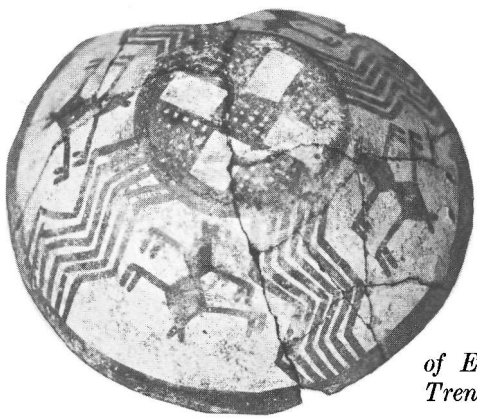
The Finds. This season brought the usual harvest of small objects such as spindle whorls, sling shots, stone querns and grinding implements, and flints, while pottery continued to appear in the profusion normal to Chogha Mish. Some of this year's outstanding categories of finds are as follows.

Major additions to the pottery repertory of the second phase of the Middle Susiana period came from Trenches XXV and

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XXXIII. They include two vessels of the thin, painted ware such as are rarely found entire. Their shapes provide models for reconstructing many of the elegantly painted sherds of thin ware. The painted decoration includes both geometric and representational designs. This year our menagerie of painted animals was greatly increased by a large tortoise, birds, bull heads, an entire bull figure, ibexes, and a leopard. Perhaps most surprising of all is the file of donkeys, with characteristic heads, ears, and manes added to the stylized bodies typical of Middle Susiana quadrupeds. Mask-like human heads and small human figures with linked arms also appear.

The finds of pottery of the initial stage of the Middle Susiana period, consisting of sherds and some complete or semicomplete vessels, mostly from the Trench XXI area, contribute much to our knowledge of the individuality of this phase of the Susiana sequence.



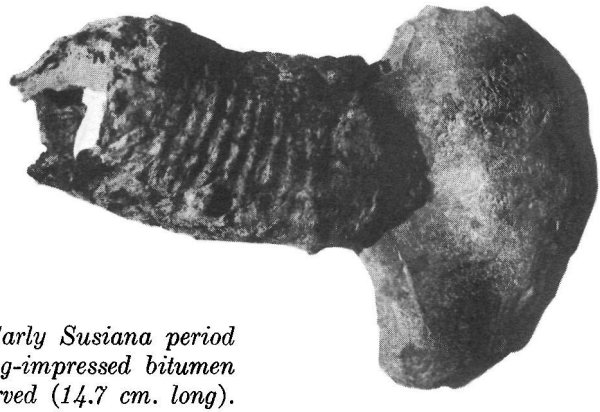
Lid from the large sherd deposit of Early Susiana date found in Trench XXI. Photo by R. G. Hassert

The Early Susiana period is represented by a massive deposit of sherds found outside one of the rooms of Trench XXI. Many hours of painstaking work by the sherd boys resulted in the recovery of large sections of huge storage vessels, of a "graduated set" of oval basins, and of many other unpainted vessels. There were also a number of painted ones, including lids with their most elaborate decoration on the outside and a rectangular bowl with an animal's head modeled in the round. In addition to the massive sherd deposit, Trench XXI also yielded a deposit of objects that had remained in position since the Early Susiana period—small pottery vessels, a bituminous stone bowl,

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a quern and grinding stone, all grouped around a large stone with a round depression on one side and a trough on the other.

Two complete stone objects from Early Susiana levels of the Trench XXI area are unique: a hoe, the only example of a well-known type to have been found with its bitumen hafting



Hoe of the Early Susiana period with its string-impressed bitumen hafting preserved (14.7 cm. long). Photo by P. P. Delougaz

completely preserved, and a tool with a short handle and axe-like cutting blade, all shaped from one piece of stone. A small, highly stylized terracotta human head modeled in the round represents another of the crafts of the Early Susiana period.

This season's work at Chogha Mish has considerably advanced our knowledge of several millennia of prehistoric development in Khuzestan. The remains of Archaic architecture, pottery, and small objects provide new evidence for the substantial extent and complexity of the first phases of the sequence, which may be as early as the seventh millennium B.C. Analyses of organic remains such as animal bones will add their contribution to the story. The continuity of the cultural development in the Susiana plain, at least from the final phase of the Archaic period on, has come into much clearer focus this season. Many more connections with prehistoric cultures in Mesopotamia have been added; they demonstrate the existence at some times of markedly close relations between the two regions. In prehistoric times Chogha Mish was a great focal center of the Susiana plain with a continuous occupation running parallel to the Mesopotamian sequences of early cultures.

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The Joint Istanbul-Chicago Prehistoric Project

ROBERT J. BRAIDWOOD, *Co-Director*

Since the Prehistoric Project's early post–World War II work at Jarmo, an ever increasing number of colleagues, foreign and domestic, have undertaken excavations focused on the problem of the appearance of effective village-farming communities in southwestern Asia. At the same time, the site of Çayönü, in southeastern Turkey remains our single source of evidence, so far, for the area of the uppermost Tigris-Euphrates drainage system. It also is essentially a unique example of inter-university cooperation with both students and senior staff in active participation on the excavation and in the analysis and interpretation of the excavated materials. Great credit is due to the Turkish co-director, Professor Doctor Halet Çambel of Istanbul University for her persisting enthusiasm and commitment of time and thought to the Joint Prehistoric Project's affairs.

A combination of circumstances prevented the resumption of excavations at Çayönü in the 1971/72 field season. It is anticipated that there will be an autumn campaign in 1972.

Happily, we received a grant from the National Science Foundation for the processing for publication of the materials from our earlier campaigns. Charles and Linda Redman (Department of Anthropology, New York University) were thus able to spend six weeks in the Prehistory Laboratory of Istanbul University in the late summer of 1971. Charles experimented with new microphotographic techniques for the study of different types of use wear on the edges of flint and obsidian tools—a step toward fuller understanding of the uses to which the Çayönü people put these artifacts. Barbara Lawrence (Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard) spent more than two months in the autumn in the Istanbul laboratory classifying the large yield of animal bones by species, domesticated or not, and by frequency. Although only an approximate 2.5 per cent of the total bulk of the Çayönü mound has yet been sampled, it does appear that the dog was the only fully domesticated species of animal when the occupation began. Sheep, goat and pig came into the record as domesticates as time went by.

Willem van Zeist (Biologisch-Archaeologisch Instituut, Groningen, The Netherlands) has completed his report on the yield

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of botanical material of the 1970 field season. Contrary to the situation with the animals, Willem found evidence of domesticated emmer and einkorn wheat even in the earliest levels of the site. Our immediate impression in the field had been that a transition to both plant and animal domestication came within the duration of the site's occupation, but the evidence now available to Willem changes this picture.

Charles Redman's detailed preliminary report on the work accomplished at Çayönü will be published in both English and Turkish in the *Bulletin of the Turkish Historical Society.*



Field superintendent Abdullah Said Osman al-Sudani with Patty Jo Watson in the Zagros Mountains in 1954. Photo by Robert J. Braidwood

We must end on a note of sadness. On June 3, 1972, at his home in Cairo our old excavation superintendent and well loved field companion of many happy campaigns, Abdullah Said Osman al-Sudani died at the age of seventy-two. Abdullah came, already experienced under French colleagues in Syria, to the Institute's ʿAmuq excavations in 1932. He was with us throughout our Syrian excavations. He served as chief local foreman on the construction of the Allied military airbase in Cairo during World War II. In 1947, he rejoined us for the newly formed Prehistoric Project and served throughout our Iraqi and Iranian campaigns. In the early 1960's, we relinquished his services to the archeological salvage efforts in Nubia. Abdullah was a prime example that it is not only those of high academic degree who have served this Institute and the increase of archeological knowledge both faithfully and very well.

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Tablets from Tell Abū Ṣalābīkh, Iraq

Robert D. Biggs

Readers of earlier issues of the Oriental Institute's annual report will recall that the Oriental Institute conducted brief soundings in Iraq in 1963 and 1965 at a site known as Tell Abū Ṣalābīkh ("Father of the Flints"), about twelve miles from Nippur. Like Nippur, the mound of Abū Ṣalābīkh lies on the presumed ancient course of the Euphrates. Only small areas of this early period (about 2600 B.C.) were reached at Nippur, since they lie very far below the present surface of the mound. Consequently, the site of Abū Ṣalābīkh is all the more important to the work being done in central Sumer.

Among the finds of the 1963 sounding were a number of clay tablet fragments, some of which I considered to be from Sumerian literary compositions. This judgment was vindicated in 1965, when we came upon a great heap of tablets, including many large and well preserved examples, in what appeared to be an ancient rubbish pile (the tablets were mixed with sherds, pieces of bitumen and quantities of fish bones). The tablets were in a very delicate condition because of the millennial growth of salt crystals in every crack. They were nevertheless safely removed and baked in the kilns at Nippur and reconstructed.

It will probably be many years before the literary texts can be translated with confidence, for there are serious impediments to understanding them: (1) the script is only partially deciphered, (2) the signs within each line are often not written in the sequence in which they are to be read, (3) there was still a great flexibility in the use of homophones (signs which sound the same but have different meanings), and (4) many of the parts of words, especially infixes and suffixes, upon which so much depends in our understanding of Sumerian, could presumably be supplied easily by the reader and were therefore omitted. Nevertheless, enough has been understood and identified to change radically the ideas we have held of the written tradition of Sumerian literature.

The material contained in these tablets is proving to be of extraordinary interest. One of the most startling findings is that approximately half the names of the scribes who wrote the

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texts are Semitic. It had previously been assumed that the Semitic people living in central Sumer at this time were unsophisticated tribesmen who lived in tents and tended herds. The new evidence indicates that at least some of these Semites were living in an urban situation and had entered the highly technical area of Sumerian scholarship and learning.

Because the archaic Sumerian texts are so difficult to understand, it was long thought that all the texts which were not business documents were all lists of words used by scribes in their training. A large number of such tablets were found at the site of Shuruppak, about forty miles from Abū Ṣalābīkh, excavated by Germans seventy years ago. But they had been published for forty years before anyone realized that there were any texts that were not lists of words. The first to be recognized were some incantations twenty years ago, and then about ten years ago several proverbs were identified.

The Abū Ṣalābīkh literary texts now give definite proof that Sumerian poetry was already being written down many centuries earlier than had been generally thought. The first Abū Ṣalābīkh text recognized to have a parallel from the classical period of Sumerian literature (about the eighteenth century B.C.) was a composition known as the "Instructions of Shuruppak." (Shuruppak was the Sumerian Noah who survived the Flood; the instructions are words of advice to his son about how to live and conduct his life.) Many sections of the classical Sumerian version and the archaic Sumerian version correspond, although the older version has spellings which it would be difficult to understand without the later version.

An even more striking example of the high antiquity of the written Sumerian tradition is a composition known as the "Kesh Temple Hymn," a hymn of praise to the famous temple of the goddess of birth at Kesh. Fragments of at least three copies of the text were found at Tell Abū Ṣalābīkh. In this instance, the older text agrees word for word with the examples from eight centuries later, showing that far from being a composition written down in the eighteenth century B.C., it was already a very old and traditional text.

The inscriptions from Tell Abū Ṣalābīkh, on which I have worked for many years, are now ready for publication. It can be expected that they will be a rich source for others to study the work of the first great flowering of the Sumerian literary and scholarly creativity.

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Structure of Ancient Society and Economy

IGNACE J. GELB

In a continuation of his long-range project on the structure of ancient society and economy, Professor Gelb has written three lengthy articles which have been published or will appear in the near future.

The first of these, published in Germany, is entitled "From Freedom to Slavery" and represents a programmatic projection of his planned monograph on the topic of the evolution of dependent labor from free peasantry to semi-free serfdom and fully unfree chattel slavery.

The second article was published in France under the title "The *Arua* Institution." The article deals with the temple labor personnel, consisting of women and children, much less of men, who were offered ex-voto (Sumerian *a-ru-a*, Akkadian *širkum*) to the temple. The rich gave whatever they could afford, animals, objects, as well as humans out of their service personnel, while the poor gave away other poor and unwanted people, mainly their women and children. The whole process of giving and taking involves a quid pro quo arrangement. The giving away of individuals by the rich may be an expression of piety on their part; but the giving away of women and children by the poor is the outcome of economic stress. The temple, by receiving these individuals, fulfills its pious duty of taking care of the weak and rejected; in return, the temple obtains cheap labor which helps to sustain its economic life.

The third article, entitled "Prisoners of War in early Mesopotamia," will be published in the planned issue of our *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* devoted to the memory of Keith C. Seele. The main conclusion of that article is that prisoners of war, mainly of foreign, not native, origin, did not become chattel slaves after their capture, but were resettled as serfs on crown and temple lands. Captives often were released to serve as the king's loyal bodyguard, mercenaries, and a movable soldier/worker force which could be rapidly transferred from one part of the country to another, for military as well as peaceful purposes.

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The Assyrian Dictionary Project

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

The staff of the Assyrian Dictionary has passed through another year of intense though routine activity. Volume K (the eighth) was published in late 1971. This volume of 617 pages is the largest in the series so far. Volume L, which will be one of the smaller books, is being proofread and will appear sometime in the coming academic year. The manuscript of Volume M is being prepared for the printer; this book will be somewhere near the size of Volume K. Preliminary drafts of Volumes N and P are being written.

For the past year we have had the help of two visiting scholars: Dr. Hermann Hunger of Vienna and Father Richard I. Caplice of Rome.

It seems appropriate and indeed necessary to mention the contribution of the clerical staff to the Dictionary Project. Under the supervision of Miss Marjorie Elswick, Assistant to the Editors, several secretaries and typists are occupied with such tasks as reading, proofreading, and correcting drafts and final manuscripts, assembling the final manuscript and preparing it for the printer, and later reading galley proofs and page proofs. Apart from this routine drudgery are numerous other activities: the correspondence with outside scholars and with the printer, not to speak of record keeping and the sales of the published volumes, which is now likewise in the hands of Miss Elswick. A good share of the smooth functioning of the Project organization is due to her quiet efficiency.

Robert D. Biggs became editor of the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, succeeding the late Keith C. Seele, editor from 1948 to 1971. Dr. Biggs's volume on the tablets from Tell Abū Ṣalābīkh, with a chapter on the architecture contributed by Donald P. Hansen, is scheduled to appear as an Oriental Institute Publication. He is spending the summer of 1972 in Turkey, on a fellowship from the American Research Institute in Turkey to work on his edition of Babylonian literary texts found at Boghazköy, the ancient Hittite capital.

Erica Reiner, during a five-week visit to the British Museum, finished collecting the some 3,000 fragments that survive from the Babylonian divination series on celestial omens. At the invitation of the Free University of Berlin, she gave a paper on

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the cuneiform writing systems, a full version of which is scheduled to appear during the coming academic year. She contributed the chapter on Akkadian in Volume VI of *Current Trends in Linguistics*. Apart from preparing the celestial omens for publication, as well as smaller philological articles, she is contributing the section on Babylonian Literature in the *Handbuch der Literaturwissenschaft* at the invitation of the Akademische Verlagsgesellschaft Athenaion.

A. Leo Oppenheim, Editor-in-Charge of the Dictionary, has been invited by Charles Scribner's Sons, Publisher, to write a monograph on the development of natural history in ancient Mesopotamia, to be titled *Man and Nature in Mesopotamian Civilization*. This monograph is to be one of several volumes supplementing the overall presentation of the history of science in the *Dictionary of Scientific Biography*, edited under the auspices of the American Council of Learned Societies.

A number of scholarly articles by Dr. Oppenheim are in press, and others are being prepared for publication.

Johannes Renger is finishing the manuscript of his edition of the inscriptions of Sargon II, king of Assyria (721–705 B.C.), which will be published in the series "Texts from Cuneiform Sources." Dr. Renger is also preparing the manuscript of a publication of seal inscriptions on Old Babylonian tablets in the collections of the British Museum in London, which he copied in previous years. He has agreed to write the section on Old Babylonian times in *The Economic History of the Ancient Near East*, edited by C. Cahen and W. F. Leemans, and has been asked by Professor Leemans to participate in the planning and editorial supervision of the anticipated volumes.

He has been elected Associate Editor of the *Journal of the American Oriental Society*.

Hermann Hunger will finish, during 1972, an edition of the tablets from Neo-Babylonian and Seleucid times found by the German excavations at Uruk in 1969. He will continue to work on economic texts from the same period, found in an earlier excavation at Uruk, and will also begin a study of cuneiform commentaries as a source for the scholarly activities and methods of the ancient scribes.

Volume XIII of "Materials for the Sumerian Lexicon," another series for which the editorial board of the CAD is responsible, appeared in December. It was compiled by Miguel Civil, assisted by H. G. Güterbock for the Boghazköy material.

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Erica Reiner is preparing Volume XII, which will include Tablets XX–XXIV of the series ḪAR-r a = *ḫubullu* and which will be published before the end of 1972. During the past year Dr. Civil visited the University Museum in Philadelphia and the Istanbul Archeological Museum for the purpose of collecting and collating the materials for Volume XIV, which is scheduled for publication in 1973 and which will include a re-edition of Proto-Ea and the text of E a = *nâqu* and related series.

In addition to several lexical notes and an article on "The Locative-terminative Verbal Infix," Dr. Civil is finishing his work on *Sumerian Debates and Dialogues*. The manuscript of the "Index for a Sumerian Literary Corpus" has been completed; it contains a list of all Sumerian literary texts and their sources.

At the Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale in Paris in the summer of 1971, Gene Gragg gave a report of his study of grammatical variants in the Sumerian literary texts. Two other grammatical studies will be completed in the summer of 1972. All these studies are preludes to a larger-scale project: a complete compilation of grammatical information from a representative corpus of Sumerian literary texts.

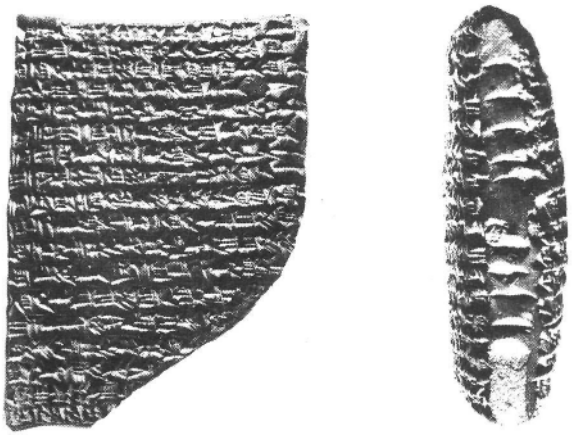
The Kassite Project and Related Studies

JOHN A. BRINKMAN

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

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



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

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

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The Nubian Project

Carl E. DeVries

The most significant happening in the course of the Nubian study during the past year has been the loss of its devoted and enthusiastic director, Dr. Keith C. Seele. Dr. Seele's dedication to the Nubian project was well-known to all who are acquainted with this work; one may hope that the project may continue to completion in a double portion of the spirit of its inceptor.

In the last project report it was stated that the extensive photographic program had not yet begun. Since then, Dr. Seele initiated this part of the project, with Mrs. Ursula W. Schneider efficiently handling the actual photographic work. This program has been enlarged and intensified, and it is expected that during the coming months a more selective process will be inaugurated, with publication its immediate and definite goal. This is a very important phase of the project, and we are confident of excellent results.

A specialized branch of the Nubian finds is the large number of textile pieces, mostly from Meroitic and X-Group times. The task of cleaning and mounting these specimens was begun by Miss Louisa Bellinger and later was taken up by Mrs. Christa C. Mayer-Thurman, Curator of Textiles at the Art Institute of Chicago. With the wholehearted cooperation of Dr. Gustavus F. Swift, a tentative schedule for treating the textiles was set up, so that during the past few months Mrs. Thurman has been able to spend more time at this arduous task. The growing pile of cleaned samples is offset by the large amount of material which remains to be treated, but the progress is good and the prognosis is excellent, for Mrs. Thurman has also happily agreed to write the section on textiles for the final publication. A financial encouragement to this fundless project came in the form of support for the conservation of the textiles, an award of a grant of $5,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts. Since this must be matched by the Oriental Institute, prospective underwriters of the textile project may contact the Director of the Oriental Institute.

A discussion of the physical remains excavated in the Nubian cemeteries is the province of Mr. Duane D. Burnor, of the University of Michigan, who served as physical anthropolo-

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gist on the expedition in 1963/64. We may need to secure the services of other specialists as the work advances.

The overall project has also benefited from the volunteer help of several graduate students. Mr. Bruce B. Williams has had a keen interest in the C-Group period, particularly in the pottery and its relations to chronology. Miss Doris E. Weil began work on computerizing the object cards; suffering a delay due to illness, she now hopes to resume work this summer.

With the responsibility for the publication currently resting on the writer, I have been attempting to swim with the flood of new literature, chart the course of the prospective volumes, and keep the project moving. A recent invitation to participate in an international conference on Nubian archeology at the Muzeum Narodowe in Warsaw should provide opportunity for sharing the most recent developments in the field and enable me to consult with European conservation specialists who may be able to advise us on the treatment of Nubian objects, such as items made of leather, which require individualized care.

Publications

JEAN ECKENFELS, *Editorial Secretary*

Two volumes from the Institute's series "Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization" were reprinted in the spring of 1972: Robert J. Braidwood and Bruce Howe, *Prehistoric Investigations in Iraqi Kurdistan*, published originally in 1960, now in its third printing; and Ann Louise Perkins, *The Comparative Archeology of Early Mesopotamia*, now in its sixth printing since 1949. The first of these two reissues, besides being one of our best-selling titles, provides a framework for the Iraq-Jarmo Project report which will be published next year. *The Comparative Archeology of Early Mesopotamia* has become a standard text in constant demand.

The final volume of Nabia Abbott's three-volume work, *Studies in Arabic Literary Papyri*, appeared late in the summer of 1972. The author presents seven documents which deal with language and literature, including two grammar documents, one speech, descriptive prose, anecdotes, literary criticism,

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and poetry. All of these documents bear a relation to each other; for example, writings from the major poets and prominent scholars of the day are included and form the basis for an analysis of the intellectual and social milieu in which they worked. Literary criticism appears here in its earliest form, as a ranking of leading poets and of their finest lines in various categories of poetic expression. In the brief elementary grammar texts, poetry citations are used as illustrative examples. Together these papyri, dated in the first to mid-third century of Islam, reflect the high degree of literary achievement during the Umayyad period.

But the first volume of *Studies in Arabic Literary Papyri,* published in 1957, is already out of print. In recent years the Institute has been faced with the problem of a rapidly growing list of out-of-print titles which cannot be reprinted because of the extremely high cost of the original format. We are aware of this handicap to students and scholars, and the University of Chicago Press has recently proposed a very promising solution. All out-of-print titles in the "Oriental Institute Publication" series except those originally published in folio will be made available in microfiche editions. This format will enable new libraries to expand their holdings in currently out-of-print books, and we hope that the low cost of these editions will make them attractive to individuals as well.

The Oriental Institute Museum

GUSTAVUS F. SWIFT, *Curator*

I. Progress

Last year's report stressed certain critical needs of the Museum in regard to the housing and preservation of the collection. It is now a pleasure to be able to write that some of these needs are on the way to being met.

Through the generosity of a friend, it has been possible to employ a capable student at part time to begin a reorganization of several parts of the storage area, showing a large and very evident gain in order and economy of space. This work will continue.

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At least a glimmer of hope has appeared on the horizon of the possibility of employing a well-trained conservator to begin a much-needed program in the collection.

The Museum has received this spring a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts in the amount of $9,350, which must be matched by a like amount. The purpose of the grant is to carry out a feasibility study in the areas of climate control, security and storage in the existing building. The stated aim is, once again, the preservation of the collection, but the side effects may well prove to modify exhibition and other aspects of museum management for the better. The NEA grant program contemplates putting the results of the study into effect at a later time; should this come to pass, a far larger sum would be required, toward which the NEA would contribute up to 25 per cent.

II. The Museum's Place in the University

It seems timely for a curator, after three years' tenure, to try to set down his thoughts relating the museum in his charge to the University to which it belongs and to the wider community of which it is a part. In this attempt, perhaps the first things to state and acknowledge are the curator's own qualifications and biases: They are not those of an expert museum administrator, but those of a Near Eastern archeologist (an occupation no longer as rare as it was but a few years ago), those of one who has had a long and enduring attachment to and admiration for the people and the collections of the Oriental Institute, and those of a lifelong Chicagoan.

The minimum definition of a museum requires a collection of some sort, a professional staff, and being available to the public on some regular schedule. These requirements give us no trouble at all, but then, there are by now some six or seven thousand such institutions in the United States. Being a university museum, of which there must be several dozen, at a guess, imposes the graver and subtler burdens of research and education. There is no end to what might be written on these topics, but there will be found in the following a few remarks that seem directly pertinent to the case in hand.

It may be to some extent a more personal conclusion that the justification of a museum at the University of Chicago presents no great difficulties either. One needs to seek, to my mind, no further than our motto: the rationale of the Oriental

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Institute Museum has much to do with *vita excolatur* as a consequent of *crescat scientia*, or, for those to whom the Latin may be bothersome, the enrichment of life following from the growth of knowledge.

A brief historical digression will suffice to show that the intention to establish and maintain a museum existed from early days. James Henry Breasted began to collect for the University in the 1890's. Our forerunner, the Haskell Oriental Museum, occupied crowded quarters within living memory. The present building bears a cornerstone date of 1930. Within it, still following the plans of Breasted, roughly half the space, though only roughly 10 per cent of the staff, was designated for museum use. One might add that the cycle of crowding is well on its way toward full repetition.



A part of the Haskell Oriental Museum of the University of Chicago in 1922

The resources of our museum are its various collections, and it is impossible to avoid superlatives in describing them. They arise from the most ambitious plan of excavations and other investigations in the field of ancient Near Eastern studies ever put into effect. They cover all the regions, all the available materials, and nearly all the periods from prehistory to classical

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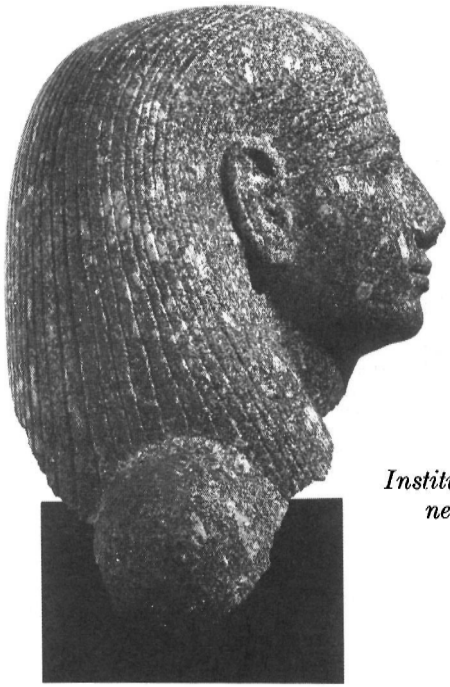
Dr. Breasted opening the gates of the Museum, December 5, 1931. Left to right: Dr. Raymond Fosdick (Chairman of the Rockefeller Foundation), John H. Finley (Editor of the New York Times), *President of the University Robert M. Hutchins, and Dr. Breasted*

times and beyond. They are unique in this country, and outstanding in the world. Their strength derives in great part also from the availability of information as to the exact origin of the vast majority of individual pieces and of groups. In this connection, the auxiliary collections of many thousands of photographs and excavation records are of the greatest significance.

The curator sees his responsibilities toward these resources as extending beyond custodianship to management in several different modes and directions, and he hopes that a comparison to the activities of many of his astute fellow citizens will be evident. The common factor governing the capacity to move forward in these fields is the availability of sufficient capable staff.

After the care and preservation of the collection, the first concern of a university museum is and should be the furtherance of research. Largely, in the recent past, this has meant the facilitating of the research of others, principally of those responsible for the publication of the Institute's field work. But by now, more than one museum staff member has in hand a research project based wholly or in part on the museum's collections. Other research opportunities spring forth even from

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Gray granite female head, from the Oriental Institute's excavation at Medinet Habu near Luxor. Photo by Luin Hough

the museum's problems: the very corrosion products that threaten irreplaceable materials are of interest as to their source and nature, and as to the application and investigation of new and developing techniques of preservation. Research interests now ramify out from our humanistic core into the social, physical and biological sciences, as examples cited below will show. About the usual considerable number of visiting scholars have been assisted in their research problems through contact with our collections in the past year.

It is time, however, for this discussion to confront the issue of the exhibits, in their large and handsome halls, and to examine the very appropriate questions of why, for whom, and how, for it is here, in the meeting of the displayed object with the visitor, that the essence of a museum is present, if we refer back to our original definition.

It could be said, with the fullest respect for my predecessors, that the original plan of the exhibits gives evidence of having been intended as a museum for scholars. There seems also to exist a feeling, in which I can partially share, that these professionals do not really need a museum, on the ground that

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those in Chicago are already familiar with the materials, while those in the rest of the world are few and have little opportunity to see them. The product of my own reflections is that both these propositions are only incomplete truths at best; that it would be as foolish to lock away the collections, with access upon application only, as it would be to lock away the publications and the initial works of interpretation; and that the answer to the implied challenge lies in having better exhibits, rather than in having none at all.

The content of the exhibits is in considerable part a collection of works of art which, in kind, quality and extent, cannot be matched in this country. The remainder of the exhibits is mainly concerned with the nuts and bolts—or the pots and pans—of the same culture or group of cultures, and covers them with equal distinction. I would maintain that each of these, visual art and daily life, is a mode of perceptible reality fully as valid as the pursuits of literature and science, and I would claim further, on the basis of comparison with the great museums of this city or elsewhere in the world, that the potentiality for concentration upon and presentation in depth of a chosen area is the peculiar opportunity of a museum situated in a distinguished branch of a major university. One has a choice in expressing the values which these exhibits are meant to convey. It may be said that they speak for one of numerous known systems of human development; that they are distinguished by the completeness of the written and material record within a defined geographical region; and that they happen to constitute one of the major roots of our western civilization.

The facts show that the existing exhibits are of much interest to others than scholars. An exhibit area of about 16,000 square feet is not to be compared with our great local museums; our location is relatively remote and not outstandingly well served by public transportation or parking facilities, and benefits from a minimum of publicity. Yet I feel, without having worked out the figures, that our mean annual attendance of over 50,000 will stand up, foot for foot, with the large museums having numbers in the millions and far greater resources. Another measure of effectiveness is the near doubling, in the past year, of the number of part-time volunteer guides who do so much to make a meaningful visit possible. As an asset to the University, the museum must rank at or near the top as the point where the greatest number of visitors enters voluntarily for educational

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purposes, and surely stands nearly alone as a focal area for visual communication.

The makeup of the museum's attendance is a matter worthy of further study. Far in the lead, however, must be the groups of elementary school children for whom the volunteer guides' services are essential, and the next most numerous are probably high school groups—all from the Chicago metropolitan area. After these, estimates are more difficult: there are undergraduates from our own campus and within a radius of over one hundred miles; there are family groups and organized groups from outside the city; there are lay and scholarly individuals for whom the Oriental Institute collections are among Chicago's strongest attractions. Plans for a systematic sampling of these populations are being considered.

There is an additional important educational function that risks being overlooked. An archeologist learns nearly as much of his trade through his tactile sense as through the visual. There are, in the parts of the museum invisible to the public, laboratories where experience of this kind is available to students, but they are limited by considerations of space and staff. Apart from these limitations, graduate students, undergraduates and even selected secondary school groups could be exposed to close contact with appropriate portions of the collection.

The "how" of the museum exhibits is more easily expressed than accomplished, given the forty-year age of the original displays, the advances in technique that have meanwhile occurred, and the amount of labor involved in effecting perceptible change. The policy for the foreseeable future must apparently be to renovate permanent exhibits rather than to increase temporary ones. The aims of the process are simple: the first is clarity, whether viewed as the rearrangement of materials, the updating of labels or the improvement of illumination. The second is to add some measure of depth to the comprehension of the visitor. The three-dimensional antiquity should always occupy the forefront, but it can be supported and interpreted by the written word, and, more than at present, by photograph, chart, map or other means.

III. The Sweet Uses of Adversity

A curator who becomes ill in November and convalesces through March, and who returns to find projects moving ahead

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of schedule, has a staff to be thankful for. I can only acknowledge my gratitude to all those who are mentioned below and who are listed on a following page.

Only a sampling of the more unusual activities of the year can be mentioned.

In early November, Dr. John D. Cooney, Curator of Ancient Art in the Cleveland Museum of Art, surveyed the major part of our Egyptian art collection and gave valuable advice on a proposed revision of its exhibition. Mr. David P. Silverman was of particular assistance in this project.



Rayy Minai type circular bowl. Iran, 13th century. Loan for special exhibit, courtesy of the Art Institute of Chicago (gift of Mrs. Andrew Dole). Photo by Ursula Schneider

As a contribution to the celebration of the twenty-five hundredth anniversary of the Persian Empire, a special exhibit of the art of Islamic Iran was opened in March. It was planned with the expertise and willing assistance of Professor Pramod Chandra of the Department of Art, the University of Chicago, and greatly enriched by loans of illuminated manuscripts, textiles and pottery by the Art Institute of Chicago. The exhibit was executed by Mr. Robert H. Hanson and Miss Judith A. Franke.

Dr. Radomir Pleiner of the Archaeological Institute of Czechoslovakia, The Academy of Sciences, Prague, made a study of the early specimens of iron in the collection. His special interest

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was in the quality of product which the ancient smelter and toolmaker could achieve.

Professor Daniel Zohary of the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, examined and confirmed or corrected the identification of many of the samples of ancient seeds in the collection.

Mr. James P. Allen, and then Mr. Raymond Tindel, continued work on the conservation of the cuneiform tablet collection. Mr. Albert Leonard, Jr., gave valuable assistance to Miss Franke in the reorganization of the storage areas. Mr. Honorio R. Torres has brought the exhibition halls up to their former standard of appearance.

Mr. David W. Nasgowitz has obtained in his own name a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. This will enable him, in the coming year, to collate and duplicate the collection of photographs at Chicago House, Luxor, for use here, and to travel in Egypt and other parts of the Near East.

Mrs. Linda T. Kastan, Reference Secretary, has become a valuable addition to the office staff, completed by Mr. Nasgowitz, Mrs. Allen, and Mr. Silverman. Mrs. Schneider has continued to contribute her experience as photographer.

Volunteer Programs

CAROLYN Z. LIVINGOOD, *Museum Secretary in charge of Volunteer Programs*

The Docents of the Oriental Institute contribute three hours a week, either in the morning or in the afternoon, Tuesday through Sunday, on a yearly basis, in conducting scheduled tours of groups from Chicago, suburban, and out-of-town schools and colleges, groups of adults, and individual visitors through the Oriental Institute Museum.

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Nineteen new volunteers completed the Volunteer Training Course held on successive Mondays from 10 A.M. to 3 P.M., April 3 through May 22, 1972.

GRADUATES OF THE APRIL 3–MAY 22, 1972, VOLUNTEER TRAINING COURSE

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For their gift of valuable time and knowledge in making the Volunteer Training Course possible we extend our grateful thanks to the following members of the academic staff and degree candidates: Robert McC. Adams, Klaus Baer, Robert D. Biggs, Raymond A. Bowman, Robert J. Braidwood, John A. Brinkman, Peter Calmeyer, Carl E. DeVries, Rudolph Dornemann, I. J. Gelb, Stanley Gevirtz, Hans G. Güterbock, George R. Hughes, Helene J. Kantor, A. Leo Oppenheim, Peter J. Parr, Johannes M. Renger, Gustavus F. Swift, Edward F. Wente, John A. Wilson, James P. Allen, Judith A. Franke, David Nasgowitz. David Silverman, and Charles Van Siclen.

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The Suq, the Museum shop, is serviced by volunteers who complete the Volunteer Training Course and by student help. In the spring of 1972, Mrs. Paul Manes resigned from the chairmanship of the Suq for reasons of health. Owing, in great part, to patronage by members, the academic and administrative staffs, and the students, management of the Suq requires more time on the part of the Chairman, and therefore Mrs. Mary Fahrenwald replaced Mrs. Manes on a salaried basis.

SUQ VOLUNTEERS OF THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE, 1971/72

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Mrs. David Maher has been appointed Vice Chairman for Volunteer Programs. Mrs. Bernard Siegan is the Chairman of the Luncheon Tour Program, which consists of a film, a guided tour of the galleries of the Museum, and a luncheon at the Quadrangle Club or at the Center for Continuing Education. Her committee members are Mrs. F. J. Corcoran and Mrs. Ronald Orner. The entire Volunteer Docent Program is run from the small proceeds of these tours. This year, this fund has made possible the publication of the third issue of *Serapis*, the journal of the student Archeology Club of the University of Chicago. Mrs. Siegan is the editor of *Guidelines*, the newsletter of the Volunteer Docents.

This year the Suq made a contribution of $1,000.00 to the furnishing of the Student Lounge, $500.00 for Museum lighting, $500.00 for Museum maps, and $500.00 was granted to Kheir Yassine for student aid. In the future, the $2500.00 allotted to the Docents from Suq profits will go to a scholarship for a student in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations.

The fall series of illustrated lectures on Iran given by Dr. Elizabeth Carter and the winter series on Syria-Palestine given by David Nasgowitz, doctoral candidate, were most successful. For the year 1972/73, an eight-week series of illustrated lectures on "Biblical History" will be given by David Nasgowitz in the fall of 1972, and an eight-week series of illustrated lectures on "The Art of Egypt" will be given by David Silverman, doctoral candidate, in the winter of 1973. Each series is $30.00 a person for members of the Oriental Institute.

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EXPENDITURES July 1, 1971–June 30, 1972		
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1970/71 Annual Report	2,227.63	
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Egypt Exploration Society Dues (Haas Contribution)	350.00	
Lectures, Newsletters, Postage and Miscellaneous Expense	475.74	
TOTAL	$24,414.69	24,414.69
BALANCE, June 30, 1972		$ 56,853.84
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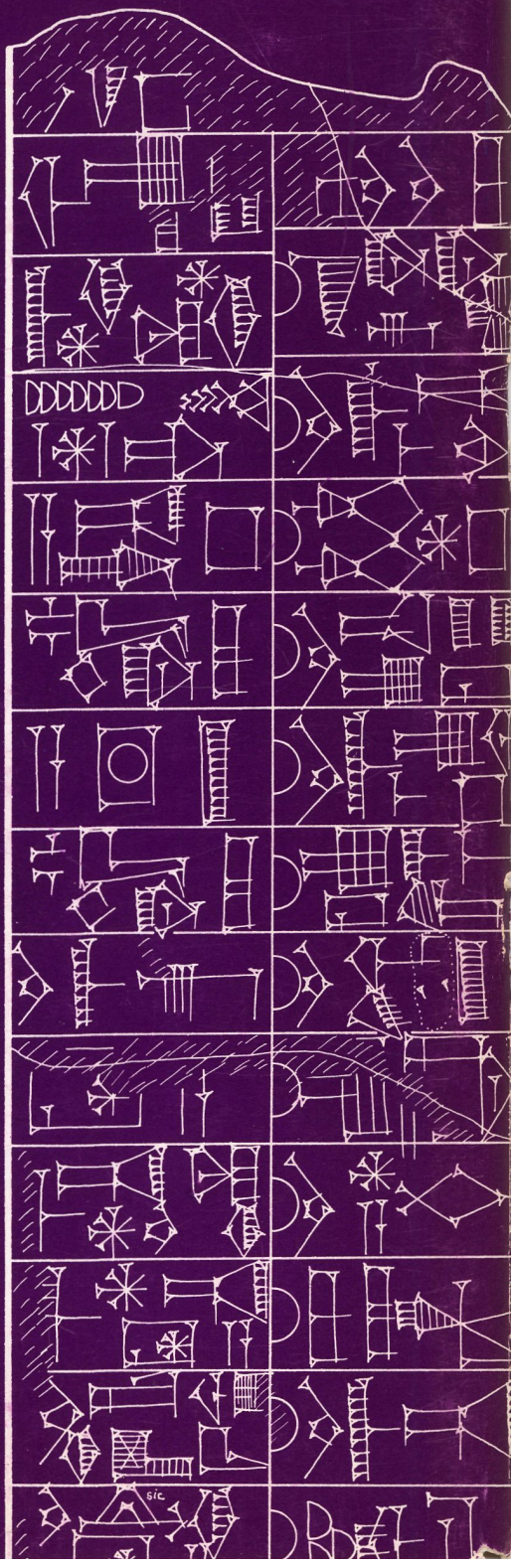
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