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REPORT 1973/74

The Oriental Institute



of The University of Chicago

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To the Members and Friends of the Oriental Institute

In 1974, the Institute's longest continuing field project, the Epigraphic Survey in Luxor, Egypt, marks its fiftieth anniversary. Eleven folio volumes of the Survey's meticulous recordings of the inscriptions and reliefs of Ramesside temples have already been published; and this work has set a standard for accuracy that is almost without peer in Egyptological work. Below you will read an account of the highly successful techniques of copying developed by the Epigraphic Survey over the years as well as a report of the activities of the 1973/74 Survey.

The past year has also witnessed further Institute excavations in Iran and Iraq. Detailed illustrated reports on work at Chogha Mish and at Nippur by Helene Kantor and McGuire Gibson will acquaint you with the latest finds at these sites. Meanwhile, back home in the States, other archeologists were preparing reports on their earlier field work: Robert Braidwood on Çayönü, Carl DeVries on Nubia, and Louis Žabkar on Semna South.

Your membership support has made it possible for us to continue actively with other projects here in Chicago: the Assyrian Dictionary, Materials for the Sumerian Lexicon, and the Cushitic (Ethiopian) Language Project, to mention a few. These and other research projects of individual faculty and staff members are described below. The past year also saw the opening of the new Research Archives, a collection of books and reference materials that will form the nucleus of a badly needed research library in the Institute building.

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The Museum too has experienced considerable growth. The addition of a conservator, Miss Barbara Hall, and of a basic conservation laboratory (thanks to a generous gift of the Women's Board of the University) has already assisted considerably in arresting the deterioration of many of our fine archeological objects. The Museum has also been awarded two grants from the National Endowment for the Arts: to renovate its Babylonian Hall and to compile a catalogue for its collections.

The Volunteer Guides have continued to provide their excellent tour services to the public and to arrange evening classes on ancient Near Eastern history and archeology for our members. In addition, in May they sponsored a popular tour which visited the major collections of ancient Egyptian and Western Asiatic art in the museums of Europe and the Soviet Union.

This has likewise been the most successful year to date for our Membership Program. Thanks to an extensive campaign by letter, more than 350 new members from all parts of the world have been added to our membership rolls. The credit for this phenomenal growth is shared by many quarters: an active membership subcommittee of the Visiting Committee (Mr. Albert Haas, Mr. William Roberts, and Mr. and Mrs. Roderick Webster), an energetic membership secretary (Mr. Bernard Lalor), an able editor of our fledgling *News & Notes* (Mr. Peter Daniels), and our members themselves, who suggested the names of so many of their friends and colleagues to be invited to become members.

This year we have welcomed two new faculty members: Kent Weeks, assistant professor of Egyptology and director of the Epigraphic Survey, and Lawrence Stager, instructor in Syro-Palestinian archeology. The first two James Henry Breasted Research Associates were also appointed: William Murnane (Epigraphic Survey) and Marten Stol (Assyrian Dictionary).

Within the past months, our community has also suffered diminution. John A. Wilson, Breasted's successor as director of the Oriental Institute, who has continued his active career here even after his retirement in 1968, has left Chicago to settle in New Jersey. William Weinberg (1884–1974), one of our oldest and most devoted members, has passed away; he had worked in the Suq until a few weeks before his death. Finally, Carolyn Livingood, who founded and so ably directed our Volunteer Guide Program that it became a model followed

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by other museums, has stepped down from her position of responsibility, though she will continue to employ her energies in the Institute, assisting in archeological conservation work.

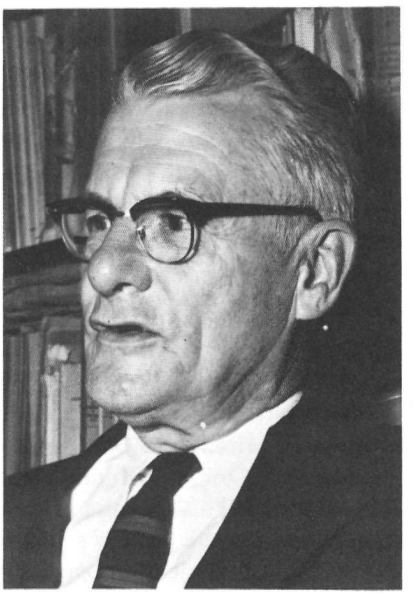
To our members and friends, we express gratitude once again for your continuing support. As you will see in the following pages, the Institute owes much to your interest and help.

John A. Brinkman
Director

July 8, 1974

Postscript. As this report goes to press, we are saddened to hear of the sudden death in Berkeley, California, on July 21 of A. Leo Oppenheim, who retired in 1973 as the John A. Wilson Distinguished Service Professor of Oriental Studies and as editor-in-chief of the Assyrian Dictionary. Mr. Oppenheim more than any other person was responsible for the superb scholarly achievement of the first twelve volumes of the Chicago *Assyrian Dictionary*; and he will be fondly remembered by students and colleagues who benefitted from his stimulating and insightful research and teaching. Recently, on his seventieth birthday (June 7), he had been honored by the University of Chicago Press, which issued a microfiche collection of many of his out-of-print articles written over the past forty years. We offer our heartfelt condolences to Mrs. Oppenheim.

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John Albert Wilson

Photo by Ursula Schneider

In June, 1974, John and Mary Wilson left Hyde Park, Chicago, for retirement in New Jersey. Thus ended an intimate association of a man and an institution that covered fifty-one years from the time in the autumn of 1923, when the Oriental Institute was just four years old, that John arrived to study ancient Egypt with Breasted. John had been a staff member of the Institute and the University of Chicago all the way from "Secretary of Haskell Oriental Museum" as a graduate student in the summer of 1925, epigraphist on the Epigraphic Survey at Luxor in 1926, and visiting assistant professor in 1931 to director of the Oriental Institute in 1936 and Andrew MacLeish Distinguished Service Professor in 1953. This association, or rather identification, was interrupted only briefly by leave for wartime service in Washington in 1942–44 and a Fulbright lectureship in Egypt in 1952/53. Even his official retirement in 1968 was largely only a formality.

Wilson was first, and continues to be, a thoroughgoing scholar who spared no effort in dealing in detail with the raw materials of the culture and history of ancient Egypt before he attempted his own synthesis and interpretation. His books and articles are relied upon implicitly worldwide as sourcebooks for basic facts and insights deriving from his own precise work.

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In addition, it was early discovered within the Oriental Institute, and later outside, that John Wilson always did his homework when he was appointed to a post or a committee; he informed himself and analyzed the problem in hand so that later discussion had form and direction. As a result, appointments, both national and international, in learned societies and on governmental commissions, flowed in upon him as the years passed, so much so that in the '50's, at the height of his involvement, he was to remark with some frustration that he was "only a stuffed shirt." Nevertheless, all these demands upon him, as well as the academic honors bestowed on him, were firmly based upon the solid accomplishments of his scholarship in his own field and the unfailing application of his analytical mind to organizational problems.

Wilson's contribution has been, then, not only to Egyptology but to all of ancient Near Eastern studies. Several generations of students can also testify that he has been as lucid a classroom teacher as he has been an analyst of Egyptian texts and of organizational problems. He has said that the charts, diagrams and paradigms that he prepared for his students, particularly in his first years of teaching, were made primarily for his own understanding of Egyptian grammar and history. Perhaps so, but he continued to produce them and revise them, and they were characteristic of his approach to any problem, a part of his instinct for setting down the fundamental data in orderly fashion before interpretation and application began.

Wilson became an epigraphist on the Epigraphic Survey at Luxor in 1926, just two years after it began work, and he was therefore one of the team that developed the method of recording Egyptian temple reliefs to realize Breasted's plan to make a definitive record such as would, perhaps for the first time in the history of epigraphy, consistently reduce to the vanishing point the possibility of human error. He has since ardently championed both the validity of the aim and the rigorous method of achieving it, first against the skeptics who doubted that the avowed result was being achieved and later against those who no longer doubted the result but questioned the rationale of achieving it, in lieu of an "acceptable accuracy," at so great a cost in time and money.

John Wilson has not only contributed to the stature of the Oriental Institute as a scholar of worldwide reputation, he was at a critical point responsible for its very survival and eventual revival. When he

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became director in 1936 upon Breasted's death, he was not immediately aware that an era had ended for the Institute and that if there was to be another he would have to initiate it. He was soon to learn what Breasted did not live to learn, that Rockefeller and the Rockefeller boards had determined that they would no longer provide for the Institute's budget after 1935/36. This decision coincided with the depth of the great economic depression that gripped the country. Wilson's duty almost immediately was to draft a budget about one-third the size of Breasted's last one, to close all but one of nine field expeditions, and to dismiss personnel all the way from secretaries to field directors. It was his judgment alone that must determine what could be continued and what must be terminated. The crisis was mercifully not to be Breasted's but it became the staggering burden of his successor. It is difficult to appreciate fully now the excruciating duty of reduction and retrenchment that devolved upon that successor. There was the very real question as to whether the Institute could survive at all as a research organization carrying on work in the Near East or would survive largely as an instructional unit of the University. It is a sufficient indication of Wilson's success in those critical eleven years of his directorship, which were also to see a majority of the staff including himself depart on leave for national war service of from two to four years, that the Institute, through his stubborn refusal to close up shop, not only survived but secured a new footing from which to face toward productive years in a different kind of world. And John Wilson survived the trauma to be a signal contributor to those productive years.

No person of the present staff has ever known the Oriental Institute without John Wilson as a key part of it. With his departure from the second floor our last intimate link with Breasted and the beginnings of the Institute has also gone. Edward H. Levi said in introducing him at the fiftieth anniversary celebration on May 7, 1969, "This remarkable man is a legend in his own time," for rare indeed in academia is the scholar who has had a professorship established and named for him on the eve of his becoming *emeritus*. The John A. Wilson Professorship of Oriental Studies is a fitting encomium to the scholar, but his colleagues and former students around the world also know him as both an exemplary scholar and a gracious and considerate gentleman.

George R. Hughes

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The Publications of the Epigraphic Survey*

Charles F. Nims

The vision of an epigraphic survey in Egypt came to James Henry Breasted in the years bridging the halfway mark between Champollion's decipherment of the Egyptian hieroglyphic and the sesquicentennial of this discovery. During Breasted's first experience in copying inscriptions in Egypt in 1894/95 and in the Louvre on his return trip to the United States, when he made his start at gathering the original sources of ancient Egyptian history, and again during his first commission from the Royal Academy in Berlin to copy inscriptions in Italian museums for the Egyptian Dictionary, the program began to take shape. In 1899 he wrote, "I am now laying plans to copy not merely the historical but *all* the inscriptions of Egypt and publish them. . . . The only thing which could interfere would be the lack of money."[1]

Though tempted through his acquaintance with Flinders Petrie and Theodore Davis to turn aside from this course and excavate, he was convinced that the publication of accurate copies of the inscriptions was "equally important, perhaps more so."[2] While he continued to collect material for the Dictionary he also made, for his own use, copies of inscriptions which were the basis of the translations in his

*Reprinted by permission from *Textes et Langages de l'Egypte Pharaonique* (Cairo, 1972).

The Survey's published volumes are *Medinet Habu* (*MH*) I: *Earlier Historical Records of Ramses III* (1930); II: *Later Historical Records of Ramses III* (1932); III: *The Calendar, the "Slaughterhouse," and Minor Records of Ramses III* (1934); IV: *Festival Scenes of Ramses III* (1940); V–VII: *The Temple Proper,* Parts I–III (1957–64); VIII: *The Eastern High Gate* (1970).

And *Reliefs and Inscriptions at Karnak,* I, II: *Ramses III's Temple within the Great Inclosure of Amon, and Ramses III's Temple in the Precinct of Mut* (1936); III: *The Bubastite Portal* (1954).

MH I, II, and IV and *Reliefs and Inscriptions at Karnak* I and II are elephant folios, 48 × 59 cm.; the others are folio, 38 × 48 cm. All are published by the University of Chicago Press.

1. Charles Breasted, *Pioneer to the Past* (New York, 1943), pp. 68–86, 108–10, 158 ff.
2. *Ibid.*, pp. 77, 163.

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historical corpus.[3] Some of these inscriptions are still unpublished. His efforts reinforced his conviction that "it was the supreme obligation of the present generation of orientalists to make a comprehensive effort to save for posterity the enormous body of ancient records still surviving in Egypt."[4]

The funds for such an effort were long in coming. In 1919, through the generosity of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and with the cooperation of the President and Trustees of the University of Chicago, the Oriental Institute was founded. In the first announcement Breasted emphasized that the recovery and publication of the artifacts and written records of the past was not to be an end in itself, but the material for the study of ancient civilization.[5] In 1923–24, while working on the Coffin Texts and with Howard Carter at the tomb of Tutankhamon, he made plans for the Epigraphic Survey as the start of the fulfillment of his dream of three decades before. The first task was copying of the scenes and inscriptions from the Mortuary Temple of Ramses III at Medinet Habu; this began in the autumn of 1924.[6] This structure was selected because of its fairly good state of preservation, because it had extensive scenes and inscriptions of historical importance, and because no other organization had plans to copy it. Later, after the Epigraphic Survey acquired new and larger headquarters on the east bank of the Nile, the temples of Ramses III at Karnak were included in the plan of work.

Writing in 1933, when the first two volumes of *Medinet Habu* had appeared, and when both the staff and facilities had been greatly enlarged, Breasted traced the history of the recording of inscriptions from Napoleon's commission and Champollion's work in Egypt through the end of the nineteenth century,[7] and again emphasized the necessity of making copies as accurate as humanly possible.[8] The first two seasons of the expedition's work had been spent in establishing the process.

3. James Henry Breasted, *Ancient Records of Egypt* (5 vols.; Chicago, 1906–7).

4. James Henry Breasted, *The Oriental Institute* ("The University of Chicago Survey," Vol. XII [Chicago, 1933]), p. 196.

5. James Henry Breasted, "The Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago," *American Journal of Semitic Languages and Literatures*, XXXV (1919) 196–204.

6. Breasted, *The Oriental Institute*, pp. 69 f.

7. *Ibid.*, pp. 187–97.

8. *Ibid.*, p. 198.

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Originally the staff consisted of Harold H. Nelson, field director and Egyptologist; Alfred Bollacher, artist; and John Hartman, photographer.[9] Experience soon showed the shortcomings of the methods as conceived. The quarto format first envisaged for publication proved to be inadequate; the drawings were on too small a scale; the photographic equipment was hardly suitable for the task; and collation by one Egyptologist alone was unable to assure the needed accuracy. These deficiencies were corrected, and standards of epigraphy were developed largely by Caroline Ransom Williams, assisted by William F. Edgerton and John A. Wilson.[10] The process of producing drawings, standardized by 1926, is essentially that still followed.[11]

The present method of recording begins with a photograph of the wall surface; a whole scene is covered where practical. A view camera with a plate size of 8 × 10 in. is normal, but in unusual circumstances a 5 × 7 in. plate camera is used. The normal lens has about 45° angle of coverage; in places where the space is limited, as in most interiors, use is made of a wide angle lens with a 90° coverage, and in a few extremely narrow passageways resort has been had to a lens with a coverage of 140°. Great care must be taken to have the negative parallel to the wall.[12] Curved surfaces are traced and the tracing photographed. A meter scale is included in each photograph.

From the negative an enlargement is made on smooth mat double weight paper, medium contrast, developed in a low contrast developer. The maximum sheet size is 50 × 60 cm.; where required several sheets are used for one scene. When more than one negative is used for continuing parts of a scene or scenes, care is taken to match exactly the scale of the enlargements.

The artist takes the enlargement to the wall and, with constant reference to the relief, pencils in its outlines, noting also the painted patterns and damaged areas. In the studio the lines are gone over with

9. The successive members of the staff are named in the volumes as published.

10. Breasted, *The Oriental Institute*, p. 72.

11. See the description in *ibid.*, pp. 198–212, and in *MH* I xi f. The following summary is drawn from the experience of the author, a staff member of the Epigraphic Survey for more than a quarter century.

12. In a few cases the lack of parallelism in the photograph was not discovered until the work on the drawing was too far along to correct the error; see *MH* V xi, Pl. 335.

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waterproof black ink; according to the choice of the artist either a pen or a brush is used. Solid lines are used to show the preserved carved pattern, dotted lines to show paint. Modeling of the figures, especially at the abdomen, knees, and ankles, is indicated. The damaged areas are shaded.[13] When the artist has finished his work, the photographic image is bleached away, leaving a line drawing on a white background.

From this preliminary drawing two positive blueprints are made and assigned to an Egyptologist. He cuts one copy into small pieces and pastes them on legal size sheets of paper. He then goes to the wall and checks every detail against the relief, indicating corrections and additions on the sheets. Full attention is given to both the inscriptions and the figures. Following the first collation a second Egyptologist takes the same sheets again to the wall, indicating agreement or disagreement with and additions to the comments of the first epigrapher. After both epigraphers consult to settle any problems, the sheets are given to the artist for the correction of his work. Because photographic paper has a thin gelatin coating, the ink, when properly applied, lies on top of this. With care it can be etched away, and new lines drawn. All corrections are checked for accuracy.

Certain editorial work is done on the drawings, commonly the addition of line numbers to the inscriptions and a meter scale below the lower right edge of the drawing. After study, restorations are made, using a broken line. Where the sign on the wall is damaged but certain, or where previous copies show the sign once was there, no other indication of restoration is used, but where the additions are basely entirely on research by the Egyptologists, they are inclosed in square brackets. After such additions the drawing is ready for publication, but prior to printing changes can be made if further research so indicates.

13. Areas of solid paint have been shown in some instances, while in others only the edge of the painted areas have been indicated. For the former, see, e.g., *MH* V, Pl. 331, and for the latter, *ibid.*, Pl. 330. The second method now prevails. In shading, care is taken to indicate all lines between blocks where the covering plaster is lost, all damaged areas where once there could have been relief, and even in clear areas all holes which were made anciently but subsequent to the original work. At one time it was thought that it would be simpler merely to outline a break and use no shading at all; see *MH* V, Pls. 339, 340. Most of the staff found this treatment unsatisfactory, and now it has been abandoned.

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In order to provide the necessary tools for research, the Epigraphic Survey began early to build up an Egyptological library.[14] It is now one of the finest on the subject of Pharaonic Egypt. The Survey also has the necessary physical equipment for its task.

Because of the great amount of color still preserved on reliefs within the mortuary temple of Ramses III, certain scenes or selected parts have been reproduced in color. The soil on the walls, the depth of the reliefs, and the problems of lighting preclude the use of color photography even today. The artist painted with gouache on a low contrast photographic enlargement on single weight paper. Collation was made on black and white photographic reproductions of the painting. Cost has limited the number of color plates in the publications.

While line drawings can show the outline and details of the design of a relief, they cannot convey the three dimensional feeling achieved through a good photograph. In the first four Medinet Habu volumes the drawings frequently were supplemented by photographs, and there was occasional use of photographs reinforced by the artist.[15] In the later volumes photographs were used as the sole means of publication where the relief was small in area and could be well lighted. Such photographs show neither the painted patterns nor traces of reliefs within an area of defacement which the Egyptologist at the wall could discern.

A line drawing should indicate, by the use of a heavier line, the shadow cast by light coming from the upper left, showing whether the relief is raised or incised. Unfortunately, the rationale of the shadow line was not worked out in the earlier drawings, so that in those published prior to 1965 the conventions were reversed as regards the main outline and confused as regards inner details. The staff long had been aware of the discrepancies but did not fully correct the placement of the shadow line until the preparation of drawings for volumes to appear subsequent to 1965.

At the start of the expedition it was planned that a translation of the texts, with full commentary and epigraphic notes, would appear soon after the publication of the plate volumes. This program was carried

14. For an account of the beginning of the Chicago House Library, see Breasted, *The Oriental Institute*, pp. 70–73.

15. Note especially *MH* II, Pl. 117, the wild bull hunt.

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out only in conjunction with the first two.[16] With *Medinet Habu* VIII the publication of translations was resumed and appear in the same volume with the plates.

In its over forty years of effort the Oriental Institute has carefully copied the reliefs from the Mortuary Temple of Ramses III, with more than 7,000 square meters of inscribed wall surface, and from other structures. Drawings for several more volumes are in press or in hand. The Epigraphic Survey is fully aware that there are other methods of publication of reliefs which are highly satisfactory for the study of the culture of ancient Egypt. It frequently has considered other processes of recording but has always returned to those which are traditional with it. It still believes, with Breasted, that copies must be accurate, and that in a copy the only acceptable accuracy is that as free as humanly possible from the errors of the copyist.

16. William F. Edgerton and John A. Wilson, *Historical Records of Ramses III* (Chicago, 1936).

The Epigraphic Survey 1973/74

Kent R. Weeks

Forty-nine years ago, the Epigraphic and Architectural Survey began its first season of work in Luxor, Egypt. Since then, it has achieved an enviable reputation for having produced among the most complete and accurate records of ancient reliefs and paintings yet published. In spite of many changes in equipment and personnel since 1924, the "Chicago House technique" and the Survey's committment to accurate copies of important reliefs has continued, and the 1973/74 season of work has produced another fifty drawings that will add considerably to our knowledge of ancient Egypt and will insure that another group of important reliefs will endure.

This past season has brought to a temporary close our work on parts of the Temple of Khonsu. To date, more than two hundred plates have been prepared, and we expect the two-volume study of the courtyard, portico, and hypostyle hall to appear in the next year or

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two. Work this season was largely a clean-up campaign to insure that these three parts of the temple were completely recorded, but several interesting features were found in these reliefs, among the most interesting being the recutting and restoration undertaken during Ptolemaic times. The scenes on each side of the doorway at the south end of the court have been subjected to both recutting and restoration. Beside the doorway are two long vertical inscriptions on the jambs that include the name of the High Priest of Amon, Pinudjem (or Painutem) I. These texts mention the work inspired by him on the pylon of the temple. Immediately to the right and left of each of these vertical inscriptions are five offering scenes, each depicting Pinudjem kneeling and making offering before various gods. The original version (two were discovered) shows Pinudjem in the dress and coiffure of an Egyptian king. Above his head is a sun disc outfitted with snakes or a vulture. In such cases, these emblems usually accompany and protect the royal personage as he makes an offering to a god. But here, in the second and final version of the scenes, Pinudjem wears the leopard skin of a priest instead of a royal kilt. The emblems above his head have been carved through with lines of hieroglyphs, and he has shed the king's headdress for that of priest. Thus, Pinudjem is represented first as king, then simply as high priest. A similar emendation is to be found in another scene recorded this year in the entrance to the courtyard where, again, the original carving of the royal costume was recarved to show the costume of high priest. The discovery, by our epigrapher James Allen, of a painted scene on a *hs*-vessel also confirms that there was a change from king to high priest.

One possible explanation of this change is that Pinudjem abandoned the royal office, but this idea is contradicted by other inscriptions in Khonsu temple: the vertical inscriptions, for example, give Pinudjem the title of King of Upper and Lower Egypt, but these titles were never altered as his costume was to that of high priest. That Pinudjem went from high priest to king and then back to high priest seems improbable, and the Epigraphic Survey will continue its research into this interesting problem next year.

We have also begun work on a newly acquired concession, the battle scenes of Seti I carved on the north outer wall of the Great Hypostyle Hall in the Temple of Amon at Karnak. These are superbly executed reliefs, filled with the kind of detail one might expect to see

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Chicago House artist Grace Huxtable pencilling drawing of the reliefs of Seti I at Karnak. Photo by John Ross

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on small-scale scenes, not on monumental façades such as this, and they are of great historical interest, both for students of the politics and battles of this Nineteenth Dynasty ruler and for those interested in the history of Egyptian art as well. The pencilling of drawings prior to inking and collation moved smoothly this season, and we have already completed over one-third of the Seti drawings.

Work at Seti I will be finished early in the 1975/76 season, and we therefore are already making application for permission to continue the work of the Survey at several other important sites. We have requested permission to record and clean the fascinating series of scenes in the Colonnade of Luxor Temple, which show, step-by-step, the activities of the Feast of Opet and which were begun by Amenhotep III and completed by later post-Amarna rulers. From an aesthetic standpoint these reliefs, like those of Seti, are of excellent quality, and their subject matter and chronology complement the work of the Survey in the Temple of Khonsu (where we have recorded another Opet scene)



General view of the north wall of the Hypostyle Hall at Karnak, where Chicago House staff members are now recording the important historical reliefs of Seti I. Photo by John Ross

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and in several west bank tombs, notably Kheruef, recorded by the Survey under Mr. Nims. Perhaps more important, however, is the fact that these reliefs are rapidly deteriorating because of heavy salt incrustations on their surface; and, if cleaning and recording are not undertaken promptly, there soon will be very little left to record.

In addition to Luxor Temple, we plan to begin work on a small but important tomb on the west bank, belonging to a certain Nefersekheru (tomb number 107), who began his career as overseer of the palace under Amenhotep III and continued under Amenhotep IV. The changes in art style, titulary, and even burial place (Nefersekheru apparently abandoned his Luxor tomb in favor of another nearer Akhetaton) make this a fascinating set of reliefs to study, and they are an excellent complement to our work in the tomb of Kheruef. Nefersekheru's Theban tomb has never been cleared, and we also shall undertake a partial clearing of its interior during our first season there to discover whether additional decoration is to be found inside.

Finally, as an appropriate tribute to the fiftieth anniversary of the Architectural and Epigraphic Survey, we hope to reinstate the "Architectural" part of our name by preparing a detailed series of maps of archeological sites on the west bank. No such plan has been made since 1921, and, needless to say, there is much that has been discovered since then that needs to be included. We have secured the services of an architect-surveyor for this project and hope that we can produce not only a detailed set of plans but also a smaller handbook-size version for use by scholars in the field. This project, of necessity, will be one in which the cooperation of all missions working in Luxor is vital, and we are pleased to report that full and enthusiastic support already has been given the project by missions holding concessions in the area. We hope this will be only one of many joint cooperative ventures between the Survey and other expeditions.

Mrs. Grace Huxtable who, for seven years, served as artist at Chicago House, retired this season and will be replaced next year by Miss Clare Sampson. Those members who have had the pleasure of having met Mrs. Huxtable will know how much her good humor will be missed by our staff. Mr. Mark Ciccarello, one of our two student epigraphers, also will not be returning next season, and Messrs. Allen and Murnane will be joined by another Chicago graduate student. Messrs. Coleman, Lack, and Romer will continue.

As in past years, the Survey has received financial support both

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from the University and from the foreign currency program of the Smithsonian Institution and the American Research Center in Egypt. Their support, and the talents of our staff, have made the fiftieth year of Chicago House a success and a good start for the future.

The Joint Istanbul-Chicago Prehistoric Project

Robert J. Braidwood

Prehistory deals with those times before written records were made. The sites a prehistoric archeologist chooses to dig seldom have names already familiar to us through biblical or classical sources. Prehistorians characteristically choose instead, a "problem focus" (as the jargon has it) and the names of the sites they dig are incidental to this overall problem.

Since it was formed in 1947, the Oriental Institute's Prehistoric Project has concerned itself with gaining understanding of the beginnings of food production in the Near East. Some nine or ten thousand years ago the peoples of the Near East domesticated certain plants and animals, thus laying the foundations upon which their subsequent civilized urban society might develop. Such a "problem focus" as the beginning of food production understandably demands that as much attention be given to certain ancient natural environments as to the artifacts and other more direct traces of the cultural activities of the humans who lived in those ancient environments.

Archeologists characteristically have the training and experience to deal with and interpret the traces of culture. Few archeologists, however, have professional competence for the identification and interpretation of the evidence of natural environments. We archeologists need help with the bones of animals and the remains of plants we recover, whether these had been domesticated or customarily utilized by, or simply part of the surrounding environments of, our ancient peoples. As archeologists, we are ill prepared to interpret evidence of ancient climates, land forms, soils and so on. Indeed, the goal we seek is a matter of understanding interrelationships (in the full

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sense of that fashionable word, *ecological* interrelationships). How did the cultural activities of our ancient peoples fit within their natural environments?

As the Prehistoric Project's excavation program developed—first in Iraq, then in Iran, and now in Turkey—our field staff has come to include a formidable team of naturalists. Thanks especially to support by the National Science Foundation, we have had colleagues in agronomy, botany, geography, geology, palynology (fossil pollen studies) and zoology in the field with us. Unfortunately, of course, the Prehistoric Project has not been able to command the full-time participation of these colleagues, most of whom come from other universities. The materials returned for interpretation have had to await their turn for laboratory analysis and such time as our naturalist colleagues could bootleg away from their normal university duties. Of course, we university-based archeologists are fragmented in the same fashion.

The Prehistoric Project has also gone out of its way to encourage graduate student participation, both as junior field staff and in allowing the analysis and interpretation of blocks of excavated materials to be used for theses and dissertations. Unfortunately, it has not always been easy to wring a final publishable report, on schedule, from some of these efforts. We often think with envy of the core of full-time professional field and laboratory assistants many of our European archeological colleagues have.

In sum, however, the Project's field campaigns since 1947 (eight campaigns, all told) have resulted in some very substantial contributions to knowledge, a new level of dialogue between naturalists and archeologists, and the opportunity for field training for students who have since begun fruitful careers of their own. I only wish we could point to more in the way of published final reports—for reasons I suggest above, a field director's lot is not always a happy one.

Within the last year, however, the editing of old Jarmo final reports has inched ahead. Linda and I are both deeply involved in the final editing of old manuscripts of reports, and Jane McRae has been working on the detailed analysis of one early block of Jarmo flint materials. The report on the animal bones from a 14,000 year old cave occupation at Palegawra, near Jarmo, is now in press. Written by Charles A. Reed and Priscilla Turnbull, it includes a momentary "first." (The business of "firsts" is a popular archeological game—the

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first this, the earliest that, the richest what's-its-name—but yields only ephemeral glory, because next week someone is sure to find something still earlier or richer!) For years Reed has known there was a fragmentary jaw of a domesticated dog from Palegawra, but it came from a transition zone which included some later materials. Last winter, however, tests were finally completed, in the British Museum of Natural History, which indicate that the dog jaw belongs with the upper paleolithic (14,000 years old) of the main Palegawra deposit. Thus, for the moment anyway, the oldest animal domesticate known is the Palegawra dog.

The only other news dealing with our early work in Iraq and Iran was a typical academic storm in a teapot in the form of a sharp exchange of letters in the journal *Science*. An American and a German colleague misused evidence based on animal bone samples and received a scolding from Reed, Sandor Bökönyi (our Hungarian zoological colleague), and me.

As for our joint program with Istanbul University at the early village site of Çayönü in southeastern Turkey, there was no excavation during 1973/74. Our prehistorian associate Bruce Howe and zoologist Barbara Lawrence were both in Istanbul, however. Bruce continued his analysis of the flint tools in the Istanbul University laboratory (no artifacts may leave Turkey, by law) and also continued his seminar with students of our co-director, Professor Dr. Halet Çambel. Barbara worked on the cataloguing and interpretation of the large bulk of Çayönü animal bones, again with the involvement of Turkish student trainees. She also consulted with a young Turkish zoologist concerning his collection of further skeletal samples for the reference collection of modern animals needed for our comparative studies. Some seventy soil samples which botanist Robert Stewart took in stratigraphic order at Çayönü in 1972 are now undergoing microscopic study in the palynology laboratory at Texas A. and M. University. We anticipate new and important evidence concerning the vegetation and climate of the region about Çayönü during the time of the site's occupation (*ca.* 7250 B.C.).

Prof. Dr. Halet Çambel herself is now in London, and we anticipate that she will visit Chicago for further editorial work with me before returning to Istanbul. The long introductory background paper which she and I prepared on the work of our Joint Prehistoric Project to date is already completed in both its Turkish and English versions and

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awaits publication in the Turkish Historical Society's bulletin. The preliminary report on the work of our autumn, 1972, field season at Çayönü, prepared jointly by Halet Çambel, Barbara Lawrence, Charles Redman (the field superintendent), Robert Stewart, and me appeared in the *Proceedings* of the National Academy of Sciences last February.

I myself have spent some time on a long overdue new (8th) edition of my book, *Prehistoric Men*. At least I'm fighting to have that old title kept while the publisher—under pressure from militant feminist teachers of anthropology—wants that "Men" de-sexed!

Excavations at Chogha Mish

Helene J.Kantor

This year our work was divided between the preparation of publications at home and field work in Iran. In addition to various shorter reports, the manuscript of "Oriental Institute Communications," No. 23, *Chogha Mish: An Interim Report on the First Five Seasons of Excavations, 1961–71*, was in all essential respects completed at the end of the autumn quarter, 1973. It will provide details concerning the stratification, architectural remains, and objects, including the extensive sequences of prehistoric Susiana pottery and Protoliterate pottery and glyptic.

During a brief visit to Tehran to participate in the Deuxième symposium de la recherche archéologique en Iran (October 29–November 5, 1973), the practical arrangements for the approaching season were made with Dr. Firouz Bagherzadeh, director of the National Centre for the History of Art and Archaeology. His interest in the Expedition's program and his efficient aid greatly facilitated our work. We owe warm thanks to him as well as to the other members of the Centre who have given us their friendly help, in particular to Mr. Jahangir Yassi, the archeologist representing the Centre who lived through all the vicissitudes of the season with us. In addition to Professor P. P. Delougaz, whose arrival was delayed until later in the season, and H. J. Kantor, the staff consisted of Mr. D. D. Bickford,

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artist, Mr. D. Shimabuku and Mrs. M. Sturz, archeologists, Miss J. Vindenas, archeological registrar, and Mr. M. M. Winn, archeologist. We were in the field from December 21, 1973, to April 9, 1974, with excavation in process from January 1 to March 30, 1974. The intervals before and after the actual digging, as well as those during it caused by unusually frequent rain, were spent in working on the numerous finds in the Expedition house.

The four sectors dug this season were all located in the eastern part of the terrace. We will summarize the results area by area.

The Trench XXI–XXXII Area.—This season in order to follow the Archaic Susiana walls running in the direction of Trench XXI previously found in Trench XXXII, we opened up the unexcavated space between the two areas. Here close to the surface were five burials attributable to the Archaic Susiana 3 period, one with a stone pendant at the throat. Below them appeared traces of walls, but the wet conditions during the season prevented us from reaching the level where we could check for the continuation of the substantial Archaic walls in Trench XXXII. On a higher level, in the Trench XXI area proper, we established the existence of a mud-brick platform of the Early Susiana period approximately 8 × 6 meters in size and preserved on its eastern side about six courses high. The platform is flanked on the north by the Early Susiana rooms excavated in the fifth season and on the southeast by newly excavated Early Susiana walls beginning immediately below the modern surface. These apparently belong to a well built house with several rooms. Although we can only speculate about the function of the denuded platform, we can begin to see in it and the surrounding buildings something of the layout of the Early Susiana town.

Trench XXXVII.—About 30 meters south of the Trench XXI area we laid out a stratigraphic test trench 20 m. long and 2 m. wide to check on the existence of Early Susiana architecture comparable to that in Trench XXI and of deeper, Archaic settlements. Even though the westernmost end of Trench XXXVII is at approximately the same level as the Early Susiana houses to the north, here no Early Susiana brickwork appeared immediately below the modern surface. Instead there was mixed debris with sherds of the Achaemenid, Protoliterate, and prehistoric Susiana periods continuing to a depth of some 3.5 m. A pit of the first millennium B.C. had here destroyed earlier remains and penetrated to virgin soil. In other parts of the trench, however,

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Middle and Early Susiana layers with some architectural features were in place. Probably the most important result obtained from this narrow trench was the information concerning the extent of the Archaic Susiana settlement in this direction. In the westernmost part of the trench, occupation debris with the painted Close-line ware of Archaic Susiana 3 begins about 2.5 m. below the surface. The beginning of sterile soil, about 3.5 m. below the surface, indicated that this part of the site had not been settled in the earlier two phases of the Archaic Susiana period.

The Enlarged Gully Cut.—The Gully Cut, located in the most deeply eroded area on the east terrace, has been yielding stratigraphic evidence for the three phases of the Archaic Susiana period since our 1969/70 season. In the same season Sounding G, somewhat to the northeast, provided a stratigraphic sequence from the Middle Susiana period down to the Archaic Susiana 3 period, but the area had not



Gully Cut extension showing Middle Susiana structures, foreground; Early Susiana walls to the left; avenues of the Gully Cut sherd yard, background. Photo by Milton Winn

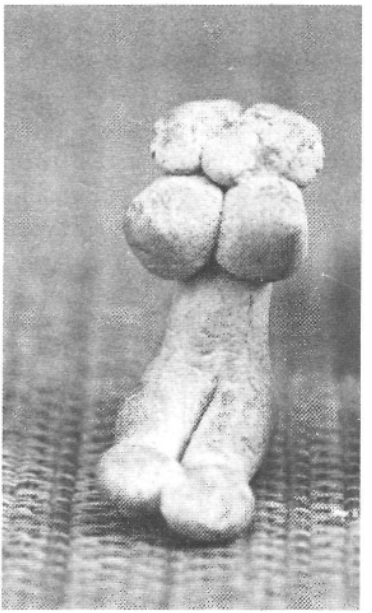
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been large enough to develop the traces of architecture found. Accordingly, this sector promised to yield important evidence for the Archaic period, so that this season we opened up the entire 16 m. space between the Gully Cut and Sounding G.

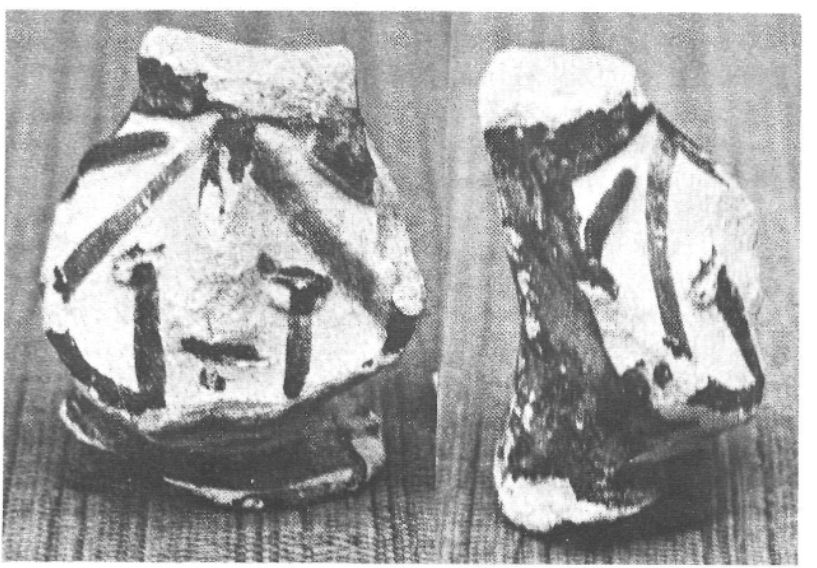
Only at the southwest edges of this season's extension were earlier remains disturbed by the Protoliterate pits, one large and one small. Elsewhere, undisturbed Middle Susiana layers, with rooms containing many kilns and hearths, covered structures of the preceding Early Susiana period. The Early Susiana walls belong to substantial buildings. The greater part of a room some 5 m. long lies within this year's excavation, but its southwestern corner disappears under undug earth. To the east of this large room appears a buttressed wall which turns a corner; both its ends remain unexcavated. These Early Susiana buildings in the Gully Cut extension were constructed on a lower level than the contemporary houses of the Trench XXI–XXXII area, allowing us to visualize the ancient town of the sixth millennium B.C. with houses rising one above another on different levels. The finds in both areas indicate that the density and importance of the Early Susiana settlement was much greater than we had anticipated when we began digging on the east slopes of the terrace.

The Gully Cut extension provided this season very good representatives of Protoliterate and Middle Susiana pottery. Yet the most impressive ceramic finds were the large groups of Early Susiana sherds recovered from the debris near the buttressed wall. Their analysis and reconstruction in drawing has only begun, but it is already certain that they will provide important information concerning the continuity between Early Susiana culture and its predecessors, as well as connections with Mesopotamia. In addition to the pottery this same debris yielded fragmentary terracotta figurines. One is a well modeled figure of a seated woman only 2 cm. high; details such as the large breasts and the three beads of a necklace are represented by separate pellets of clay. A slight groove at the neck may indicate where a head, now missing, was once attached. Fragments of the bodies of female figures have details of the sex and dress added in dark brown or black paint. A head, larger in scale than any of the other fragments, has both plastic and painted details. The same deposit also yielded a well carved stone pendant in the shape of a boar. This is the first example proving that craftsmen of the Early Susiana period were able to execute such advanced representational work in stone.

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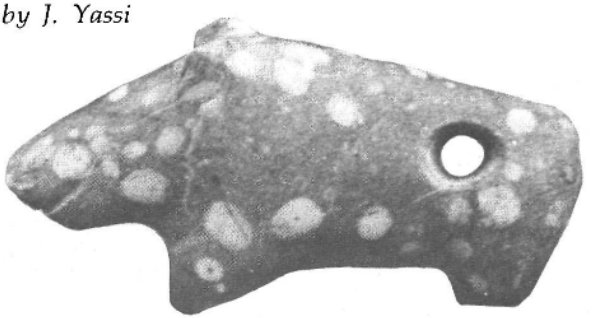
Terracotta figurine of a seated woman; the head is missing. Height 2 cm. (Ch. M. VIII-1). Photo by Jahangir Yassi



Head of a painted terracotta figurine. Height 5 cm. (Ch.M.VIII-85). Photo by J. Yassi

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Stone pendant in the shape of a boar. Height 2.8 cm. (Ch.M. VIII–60). Photo by J. Yassi

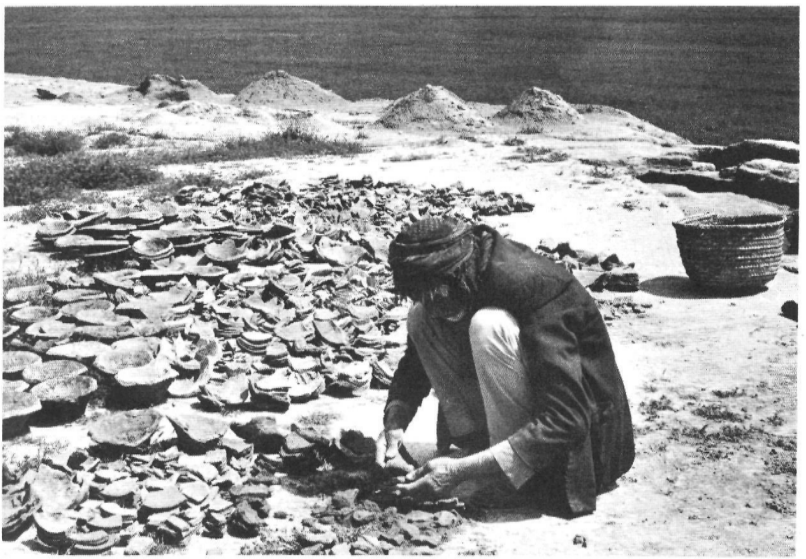


Considerable information on the economic modes of subsistence that supported this burgeoning Early Susiana culture will be given by the animal bones and carbonized seeds recovered this season from the Gully Cut extension. Many non-artifactual remains have also been recovered from other areas in this and previous seasons. It is already clear that by the Early Susiana period animal husbandry and agriculture were well developed.

The importance of both the architecture and small finds from the Gully Cut extension makes further enlargement of the area next season imperative. We have here the opportunity to reveal substantial Early Susiana buildings and to compare them with those of the Trench XXI area. Furthermore, we have reached at the southern end of this extension the beginning of the Archaic levels that underly the Early Susiana ones. Excavation of these low strata will, it is hoped, shed light on such outstanding questions concerning the Archaic period as the development of its architecture.

The East Area of Protoliterate Houses.—The fourth area dug this season is located considerably higher than those just described, on the northeast side of the terrace. Here, beginning in our second season (1963), we had found walls and pottery of the Early Protoliterate period (*ca.* 3400 B.C.) close to the surface. Despite the sector's importance we were unable to work there for two seasons while we were excavating large prehistoric areas. This year a long strip along the north side of the previously excavated area was dug from the surface down. Close to the surface were traces of a modest Achaemenid Persian settlement established after the terrace of Chogha Mish had

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Workman laying out beveled-rim bowls, complete and fragmentary, found in one small pit in the East Area of the Protoliterate city. Photo by P. P. Delougaz

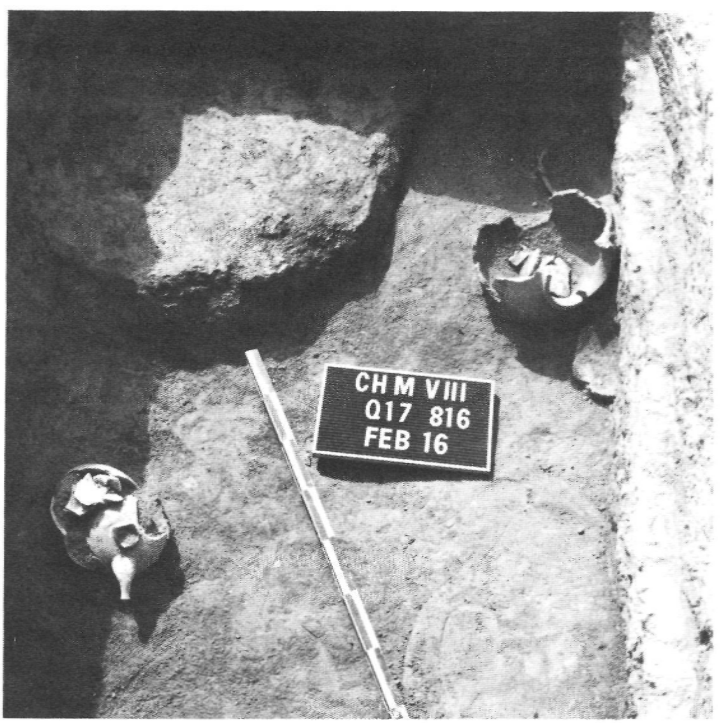
lain unoccupied for some three thousand years. Several patches of Achaemenid floors, one with a small hearth lined with tiny potsherds, were traced, as well as a kiln cut down into the Protoliterate deposits. The Achaemenid pottery will be important for comparison with finds from elsewhere. In fact, though so much monumental architecture and sculpture is known from the Achaemenid period, the evidence for the equipment of daily life is more meager. Thus, the Achaemenid village at Chogha Mish may well make a larger contribution to our knowledge of the period than might at first seem possible in view of the settlement's humble character.

As was to be expected, the remains of the Protoliterate period were both extensive and complex: pottery-crammed pits dug down from eroded levels into the rooms of private houses, which sometimes have pottery vessels *in situ* on their floors. An elaborate baked-brick installation associated with drain pipes was clearly built for a specialized purpose, which perhaps can be identified when the surrounding area is removed next season. Most of the Protoliterate walls are of the thick-

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nesses normal for private houses, ranging from 25 to 50 cm. But in the reclearing and deepening of an area near the Circular Building dug in previous seasons were two much more substantial walls, over 1.5 m. thick. A corner remains of the upper one; the lower wall disappears into unexcavated earth and remains to be investigated next season.

In addition to the masses of pottery normal in the Protoliterate levels at Chogha Mish, there were small finds. Although this season's seal impressions were sparse and incomplete, for the first time a cluster of terracotta cones representing a chunk of cone-mosaic decoration fallen from a presumably nearby building was found. Such mosaics were typical for Protoliterate temples, which must have existed at Chogha Mish, although so far no architectural traces of them have been found.



Two vessels in situ *on a floor of a room of a Protoliterate house. Photo by Daniel Shimabuku*

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This season's work has been concerned with remains varying widely in date: an early first millennium B.C. village of the final great empire of the ancient Near East; a late fourth millennium B.C. city of the vital Protoliterate period at the dawn of Mesopotamian civilization; and fifth and sixth millennium towns of the preceding prehistoric epochs. Among the latter the Early Susiana materials stand out this season. They provide excellent evidence for the contemporaneity of Early Susiana with both the Eridu or Ubaid I period, the earliest well known cultural phase in southern Mesopotamia, and the Samarra period of central and northern Mesopotamia. The close connections between the Susiana plain and Mesopotamia go back to the sixth millennium B.C. One of the major goals for the next season of the Joint Iranian Expedition is to expose wider areas of the preceding Archaic Susiana phases that parallel chronologically very early settlements of northern Mesopotamia and the Zagros mountain valleys of Iran.

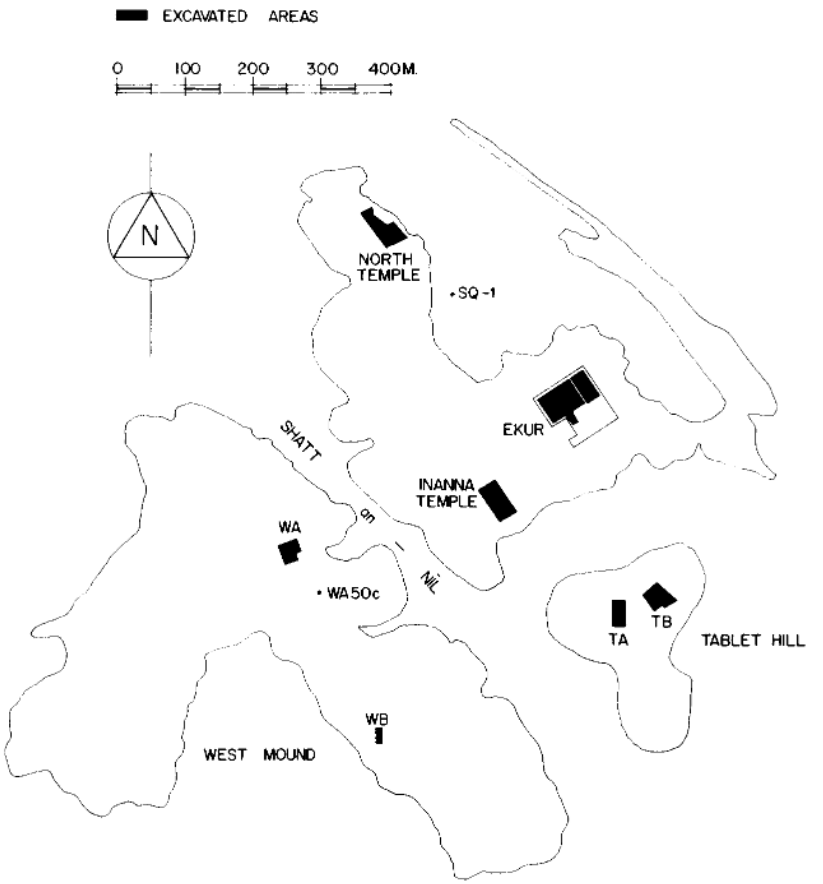


Stone bowl with trough spout found in a pit in the Protoliterate city. Height 3.5 cm., diameter 8.5 cm. (Ch.M.VIII-17). Photo by J. Yassi

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Excavations at Nippur

McGuire Gibson



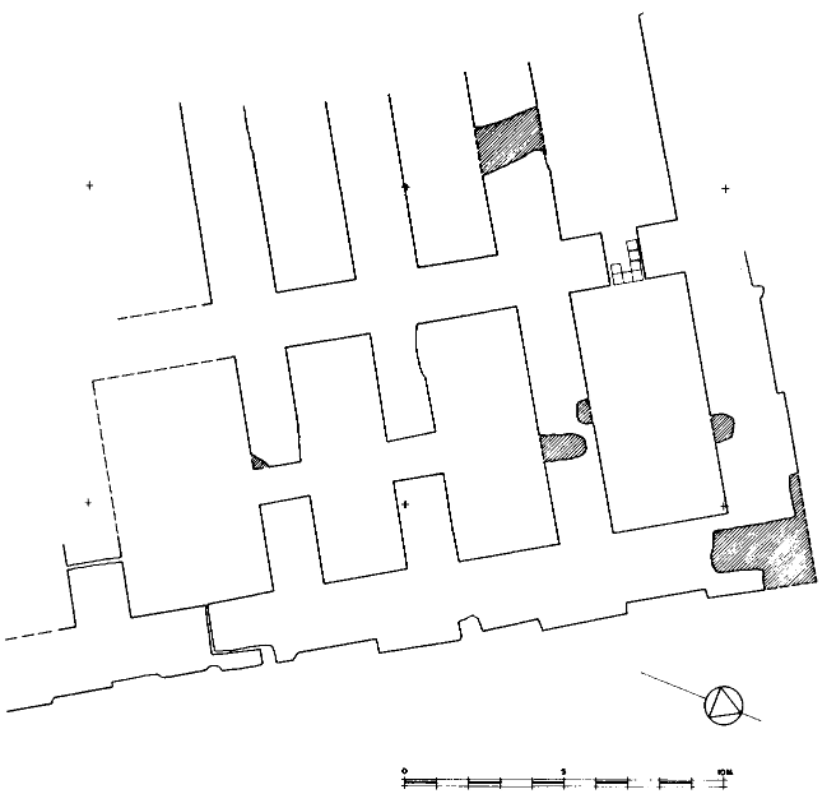
The Oriental Institute's twelfth season at Nippur, which lasted from September 20 to December 20, 1973, continued work begun in the previous year. In the current seasons, we are concentrating on the West Mound at Nippur, a part of the site not touched since the Pennsylvania excavations of 1889–1900. During the eleventh season, last year, an area, WA, was opened up beneath the remains of a Seleucid villa called the Court of Columns by Pennsylvania. Here, we

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found parts of the outer wall and some rooms of a Neo-Babylonian temple. Beneath the Neo-Babylonian level, there were indications of at least three earlier versions of the building.

We also sank a stratigraphic pit, WA 50c, which yielded material from the Akkadian through the Seleucid era (2300–300 B.C.). South of these operations we excavated a section of Old Babylonian houses, Area WB, dated by tablets to the reign of Hammurabi and Samsuiluna (eighteenth century B.C.).

This season, we expanded WA and WB and our findings were very gratifying. In WA after removing part of a large sand dune, we excavated seven rooms of the Neo-Babylonia temple (date *ca.* 600 B.C.). There was evidence of two major fires and subsequent repairs in the



Plan of temple in WA, Neo-Babylonian level. Drawing by John C. Sanders

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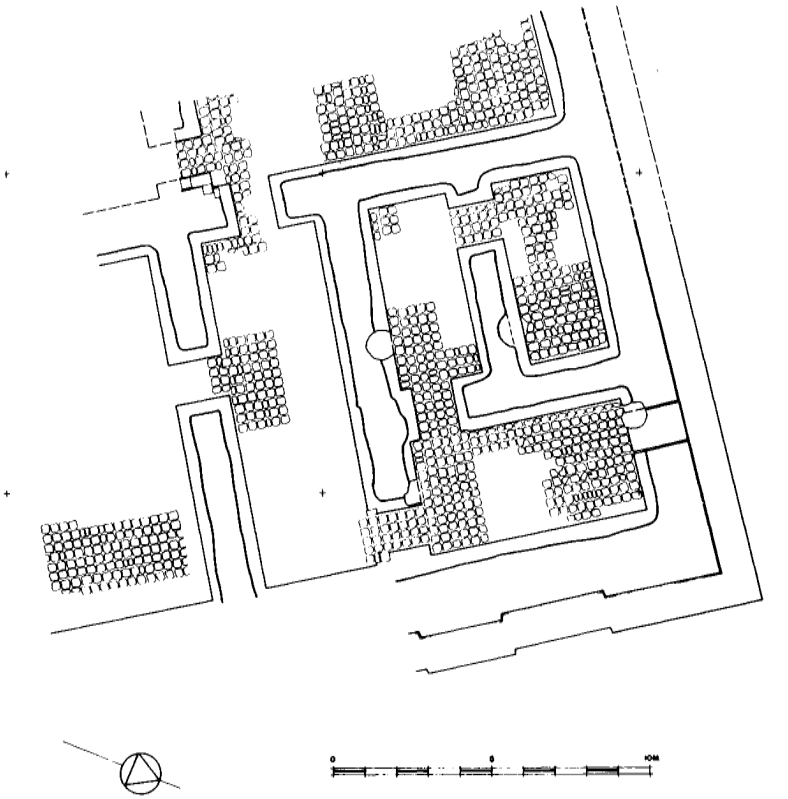


Area WA from the northeast with Neo-Babylonian temple below the sand dune. The high wall against the dune is Seleucid. Photo by M. Gibson

building but almost nothing in the way of objects or pottery to date the structure more precisely. In several of the rooms, we found remnants of painted black vertical stripes. We have not yet reached the sanctuary and the plan of the building seems to indicate that it is a very large structure with several units. We may have exposed only an eighth of the temple. Our next season's work will involve cutting to the south, where we expect to find the main entrance, and to the southwest, where the sanctuary should be.

A meter lower than the Neo-Babylonian temple, there is a Kassite temple with a very different plan. This temple, dating to about 1300 B.C. , has longer, larger rooms, laid out in a more complex fashion than the simple grid of the Neo-Babylonian version. We have not yet found the sanctuary in this building either, nor have we found many objects. We do have a very fine, unusual seal impression of Kassite type. The triangular indentations on the borders were made by the metal caps that were attached to the stone cylinder seal which was rolled over this ancient piece of clay. The animals may be foxes.

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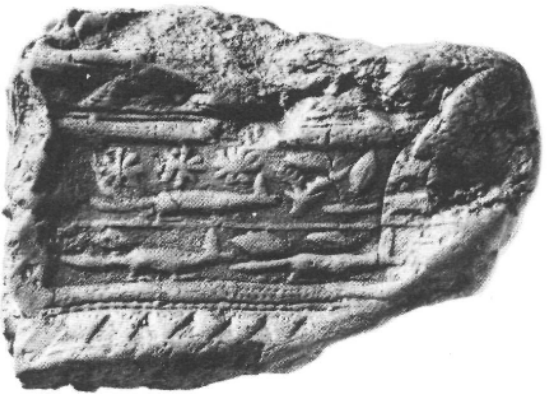


Plan of temple in WA, Kassite level. Drawing by John C. Sanders

Against the outside of the Kassite building, a new façade was built. This façade and a platform of mud bricks laid inside the rooms of the Kassite temple were part of a restoration that we call Post-Kassite because we are unable to date it more precisely. The restoration was never completed and the temple lay in ruins until Neo-Babylonian times.

Below the Kassite temple is another earlier level of irregular pits and ash layers containing Kassite pottery and Kassite school tablets. This trash level lies over a badly constructed building that seems to be Old Babylonian in date. Beneath this building is yet another version of a temple datable to the Isin-Larsa Period (*ca.* 2000-1800 B.C.). So far, we have been able to investigate only parts of four rooms and a

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Seal impression on a piece of unbaked clay found in a doorway of the Kassite temple in WA. The impression shows foxes and the head of a deer with stars above. The pattern at the top and bottom of the impression was caused by the metal cap at each end of the cylinder seal. Photo by John C. Sanders

baked-brick–paved courtyard of this phase, but we have evidence of as many as sixteen floors and two destruction levels. The destructions were marked by signs of burning with much charcoal and ash. In the debris, there were dozens of beads of gold, silver, semi-precious stone, and shell, almost a dozen cylinder seals, a fragment of a stone statue head, and bronze objects including several crescents and a dagger. Most importantly, from one of the upper floors within the building, we have a cuneiform tablet fragment, apparently of Larsa date, and from the lowest floor, a fragment of a stone bowl with an inscription



Akkadian seal found in buried debris, Isin-Larsa level of WA temple. Photo by John C. Sanders

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dedicating the object to the goddess Nin-Shubur for the life of Ibbi-Sin, the last king of the Ur III dynasty. These two inscribed objects bracket our level in time. The great number of whole bowls and other pottery objects also help to make the date precise. It is still not certain whose temple we are excavating because the inscribed bowl is dedicated to Nin-Shubur, whereas a stone axe found here in the previous season was dedicated to another deity whose name begins with Nin but cannot end with Shubur. The many crescents found in the various levels of the temple may indicate that we are in the temple of the Moon God, Nanna/Sin.

In the coming season, we will attempt to expose more of the Isin-Larsa temple while also clearing the late debris from other parts of the Neo-Babylonian temple above.

Area WB provided some surprises this season. In expanding our operations to the east and west, we found that trenches and tunnels from the past century had not destroyed the levels above the Old Babylonian buildings as completely as was thought. In the top strata of debris some bits of wall were found but could not be precisely dated. Under one of these was a burial in a large pottery jar. Around the jar, in the burial cut, were whole and fragmentary remains of 139 letters and a few school and literary texts. These tablets seem on initial inspection to be best dated to about 700 B.C. (or slightly earlier) and to be the archive of an official. The tablets deal with local administration as well as trade and other matters involving Elam, in Iran. The script is a type somewhat different from other cuneiform of the early first millennium B.C., and the language also has some peculiarities. The discovery of a group of tablets of this size would be a major find in any season. The fact that these come from a time not well represented by texts in southern Mesopotamia and add to the knowledge of social and economic life as well as language makes them even more valuable.

Below the level of the tablet hoard we were able to find the remains of a large public building of the Kassite Period. As so far exposed, the building seems to have had a plan somewhat like a palace found at the Kassite capital, Dur-Kurigalzu. The level is very badly cut up and eroded, but enough undisturbed bits of floor were found to determine the date of the structure. On the floors and in disturbed debris more than a hundred fragments of administrative tablets have been found. These deal with the taking in or distribution of large quantities of oil, grain, and other commodities. Some of these fragments give dates of

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Excavation of a cache of 139 cuneiform tablets dating to about 700 B.C. found in Area WB. Photo by J. Franke

the kings Kudur-Enlil and Shagarakti-Shuriash, who ruled in the middle of the thirteenth century B.C.

Below the Kassite building there is a level of fill upon the walls of Old Babylonian buildings. Last season, we called these private houses, but this year we are not so sure about that designation. The buildings are well planned, and one is set on an extraordinarily massive foundation of 2 meters' depth. Last season, we thought these foundations were the walls of Isin-Larsa houses on which the Old Babylonian houses had been set, but our expanded exposure has made it certain that there are no doors in the lower walls and no floors, only deliberate fill. Originally, the building had its main doorway to the north, and there were two courtyards around which were rooms. Some time later, the northern doorway was blocked and a baked-brick house was built against that end. In this rather grand house we found many whole pots and several tablets of Hammurabi and Samsuiluna last season. The older building to the south, now entered through a door in the southeast wall, continued in use during this time. Both buildings were abandoned and sand drifted in and over the utensils left in the courts and rooms. Outside the buildings, to the west, we found more

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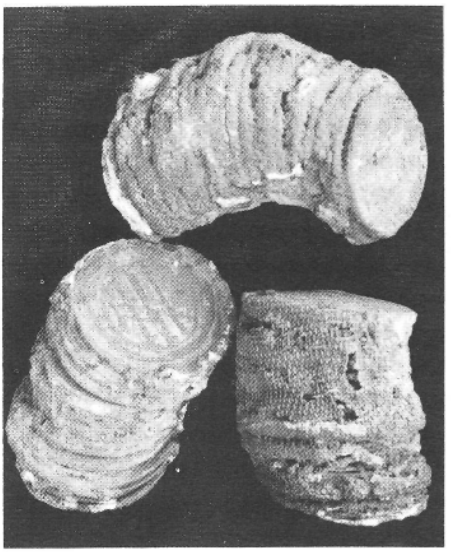


View of Area WB showing large house of the Old Babylonian period at the end of the twelfth season's excavation. Photo by J. Franke

than 4 meters of ash and several bread ovens. These ovens and the resulting ash should be connected with two texts found in the building's last years. These tablets record the distribution to various workmen of about 1800 pounds of bread in two weeks. These buildings may be merely the houses of rich people who are giving rations or wages in bread, but it is more likely that this is some sort of governmental or temple establishment, perhaps a bakery, perhaps a supply office that receives bread on contract and dispenses it for work done. In the coming season, we will expand this area to the south and east and expect to find more of the Kassite palace and some other Old Babylonian buildings. The areas on the other sides are eroded and will not give us more information of these levels but should allow us to find buildings of an even earlier time.

During the season we had one very fortunate surface find. This was a group of 76 silver coins dating to the Early Islamic and Abbasid periods. Our cook, Abbas Ali Dost, found them while walking on the tell near WA. The coins were in a stack, inside a cloth sheath. The latest date on any of the coins is about A.D. 790, the time when

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Hoard of early Islamic coins (seventh to ninth century A.D.) found on surface of mound. Note the cloth sheath still covering the coins. Photo by John C. Sanders

Nippur ceased to exist as a town. These coins will be published by Michael Bates of the American Numismatic Society in our preliminary report for the twelfth season.

In summary, the accomplishments of our latest season were many. We have reached a level in the temple area (WA) that should produce not only many well stratified objects but much information in the form of potsherds and whole vessels for establishing dating criteria for the entire second millennium B.C. We will compare our material here, in a sacred area, with the objects and sherds from WB, an administrative and/or residential section. We have found several superb cylinder seals and sealings that add to our knowledge of Mesopotamian art. The excellent state of preservation in WB, with many objects on floors as they were left in the eighteenth century B.C., allows us to suggest functions for rooms within the buildings. Our collecting of soil samples allows pollen and other botanical studies, plus analyses of snails and similar small animals found in them. Animal and human bone were collected and are in the process of study. Combining all these avenues of research, we hope to present a more complete picture of ancient Mesopotamian life than has hitherto been possible. A good portion of such research is being done by Judith A. Franke, who was responsible for WB this season. Other

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members of the staff were John Sanders, architect and photographer, Paul Zimansky, site supervisor in WA, Raymond Tindel, epigrapher and conservator, and Natalie Firnhaber, cataloguer and coordinator of records. Theresa A. McMahon served as a conservator for a month, and Miguel Civil spent two weeks with us working on texts and assisting with the tablet catalogue. Representatives of the Iraqi Directorate General of Antiquities were Riadh al-Qaissy and Abdul Kadir Shakhly. We received more than generous assistance from Dr. Isa Salman, director general of Antiquities. Quite literally we owe the continuation of our work to his interest and sponsorship. We are also grateful to Sayyid Fuad Safar, Dr. Fawzi Rashid, and all the other members of the Directorate staff for their help. We owe a debt of gratitude to a group of members who made special contributions for the season. These persons are Mr. and Mrs. Harvey W. Branigar, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Gaylord Donnelley, Mrs. G. Corson Ellis, Mr. Daggett Harvey, Mr. and Mrs. John Livingood, Mr. and Mrs. Glen A. Lloyd, Dr. and Mrs. C. Phillip Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Hermon Dunlap Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Byron Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore D. Tieken, and Mr. and Mrs. Chester D. Tripp.

It should be mentioned that excavating and analysis are pointless without the publication of results. We are trying to meet our responsibilities in this regard by publishing short accounts as well as more detailed reports. The journals *Iraq* (1973) and *Expedition* (1973) carried short summaries of the eleventh season. A more definitive, yet also preliminary, report on that season is now in press and is scheduled to appear as "Oriental Institute Communications," No. 22, late this year. A summary of both the eleventh and twelfth seasons has been submitted to *Sumer* (Baghdad), and an account of the twelfth season is being prepared for *Expedition*. The preliminary report on the latest season, yet another "Oriental Institute Communication," is in preparation and will go to the editor during the summer. We intend to keep to this publishing schedule, producing short accounts followed by more substantial reports within months after each season. Final monographs will be presented in the future as units of work are brought to a close.

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The Nubian Publication Project

Carl E. DeVries

The Nubian publication project has had its ups and downs during the past year; in spite of limitations imposed on its director by eyesight problems, the work has gone forward and there has been time to think about its progress. Even more than usual I am indebted to the helpful advice of colleagues and the capable assistance of several volunteers. Mrs. Keith C. Seele has continued to be an enthusiastic and encouraging participant in the project, helping with the registration of photographs and in various other ways. Two volunteers from among the docents have contributed much to the cataloging and sorting out of artifacts recorded in the field register. Mrs. Ida DePencier and Mrs. Calla Burhoe have shown an intense interest in Nubia and have served as human computers in extracting and listing information from the field records.

Consultation with Miss Helene J. Kantor concerning publication procedures has resulted in a whole new approach to our publication. Instead of producing two or three volumes which would cover the scope of Nubian history from A-Group (contemporary with late predynastic through Old Kingdom Egypt) to Christian times, we are proceeding with separate volumes on the various cultural periods, which probably means four or five somewhat smaller volumes. This will make the material more easily accessible to scholars who specialize by periods and will eliminate the necessity of their acquiring all of the books in order to obtain the sections treating their areas of concentration. This procedure will also make our publication correspond to the primary final excavation reports of other expeditions. With this emphasis in mind, increased vigor has been expended on the A-Group culture, with the expectation that the first volume will deal with that period.

Inevitable changes have taken place; we miss Mrs. Ursula Schneider in her role of photographer, but Miss Jean Grant has continued the photography on the same high level and this aspect of the work has moved along at a steady pace.

The washing of the Meroitic and X-Group textiles has gone slowly during the past year but the completion of that process is now in sight.

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The cleaning was delayed for a number of weeks while the fine new conservation laboratory was being set up; with the equipment of that lab now installed, the textile conservation can be resumed. Mrs. Christa Mayer-Thurman will then proceed with the work of mounting the specimens and preparing them for exhibit or storage; she will also be engaged with the publication of the textiles, which may comprise a separate volume of the final publication. During the summer she had opportunity to visit Europe and to confer with Miss Ingrid Bergman, who is publishing the textiles found by the Scandinavian Joint Expedition to Sudanese Nubia.

If I have correctly evaluated it, we have in our museum a most interesting and important piece from the standpoint of the history of ancient Egyptian art: this A-Group object believed to have been a censer, with nicely incised relief, may be the earliest known example of true incised relief from the Nile Valley. The evidence for this conclusion was presented in a paper given at the annual meeting of the



Part of the scene on the decorated censer from A-Group Nubia, on exhibit in the Museum, showing the best preserved boat and the Thoth-baboon. This representation is probably the oldest known incised relief from the Nile Valley. Photo by Ursula Schneider

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American Oriental Society at the University of California at Santa Barbara in April, 1974, and will probably appear in the form of an article in the journal of that society. After detailed study of this piece I am more than ever convinced of Mesopotamian influences in its representation, though the full import of this may not be immediately obvious. The object serves as a striking example of the importance of the Oriental Institute Nubian collection, which for its diversity and splendid examplars from all periods must be one of the finest in America. Several other artifacts or types of objects also point to the significance of our A-Group material; these may be discussed in papers as the A-Group volume takes form.

The Semna South Project

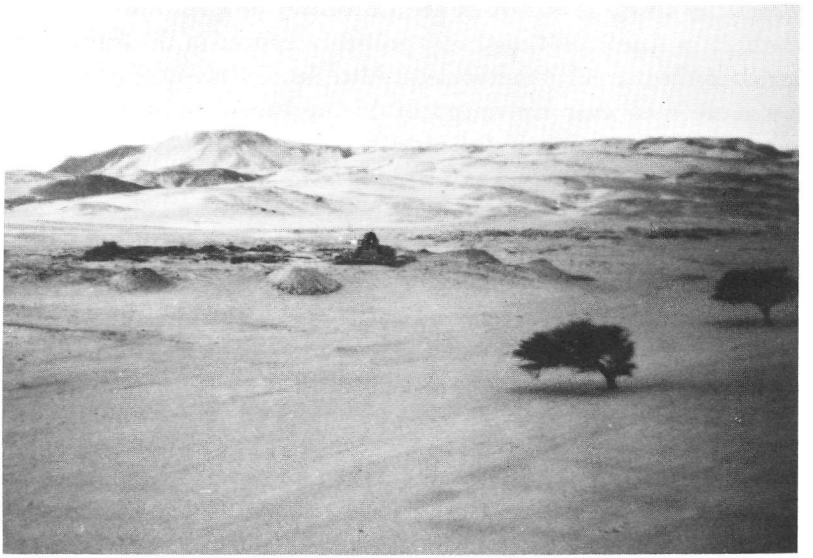
Louis V. Žabkar

For those who have never visited the area of southern Egypt and northern Sudan submerged by the waters of the new Assuan High Dam, and who perhaps find it difficult to visualize what the "lake" created by the new Dam looks like, we include in this report two photographs which show the drastic geographic change which occurred in a particular sector of the Nile Valley in the region of the Second Cataract.

Before the flooding one could see the Twelfth Dynasty fortress; and, next to it, at the right, an extensive predominantly Meroitic and X-Group cemetery; the characteristic landmark of Semna South, the "Kenissa," or "Church," with its domed roof, built later on within the walls of the pharaonic fortress; the massive mud-brick walls of the fortress; and four large dumps left by the excavators—all this can be seen in the photo taken at the end of our excavations in April, 1968.

On our visit there in April, 1971, the fortress was completely submerged, the mud-brick "Kenissa" with its dome having collapsed soon after the waters began pounding against its walls. One can see black spots in the midst of the waters off the center which are the stones on the top of the submerged outer wall of the fortress. The vast cemetery is completely under water. In the distance, to the north, one can clearly see the fortress of Semna West, the glacis of which is also sub-

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The area of Semna South included in our concession



The Semna South concession submerged by the waters of the "lake "

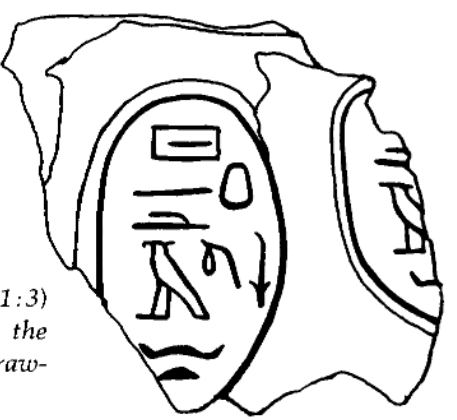
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merged, and the brick walls of which may soon collapse through the action of the risen waters. On the opposite side of the Nile, the Kumma fortress has also disappeared; soon after the waters covered the rocks on which the fortress stood, the mud-brick walls collapsed.

The finds brought home from this now fully vanished site are the object of our continued systematic study.

Thus far, the most representative seal impressions from the quarry-dump near the fortress have been drawn by Janice Yellin, doctoral candidate, with the help of the camera copier. Her work is now concentrated on copying the private seal impressions of various officials of the fortress.

The readers will recall that the study of the seal impressions revealed the hitherto unknown name of the Semna South fortress known to the ancient Egyptians as "The Subduer of the Setiu-Nubians." If there were any doubt about this identification of the most southern of the Second Cataract fortresses with which the damaged Ramesseum Onomasticon must have begun, that doubt has now been dispelled by the further study of the sealings: a considerable number of them, including some letter sealings, refer to the fortress at Semna South as "Southern fortress: The Subduer of the Setiu-Nubians."



Copy of a sealing (scale 1:3) which gives the name of the fortress at Semna South. Drawing by Janice Yellin

Once again it has been proved that such pieces of insignificant material value as these mud-sealings can be of a greater archeological and historical significance than the "treasures" of which some excavators dream, or used to dream.

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Susan Doll and Eugene Welch, doctoral candidates, are continuing their work on the field notes of the expedition, in preparation for the publication tentatively scheduled for 1976. The study of the graves of the first season is now being completed, and the work on the field notes of the second season is in an advanced stage. A more detailed typology of Meroitic graves has been established which will serve as a pattern for the description of the excavation of the entire cemetery.

Through the kind cooperation of Mr. Gustavus Swift the sherds which we brought from the Sudan and which represent all cultures at Semna South (Egyptian Middle Kingdom, Meroitic, X-Group, and Christian) have been brought to our archeological laboratory, where they are now being studied and drawn by Mr. Dennis Bryson, a young archeologist who recently joined the team of young scholars working on the Semna South project.

The analysis of the textiles (Meroitic and X-Group) is being completed in the archeological laboratory of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, and Ms. Joan Brandford of the Harvard Peabody Museum at the end of the summer will have finished her study of the weaving techniques of all the main types of the Meroitic and X-Group textiles represented in our excavation.

The large collection of Meroitic and X-Group human remains, which through the initiative and endeavor of Mrs. Joan J. Žabkar were brought to this country, are now at the Department of Anthropology of the State University of Arizona, where they are being studied by Mr. Charles Merbs and a small team of his graduate students.

Mr. E. Strouhal of the Museum of the Asian, African, and American cultures in Prague has had an opportunity during a brief visit to the U.S. to study some of the human remains from Semna South cemetery and has now completed a preliminary study on the racial aspects of these African populations. It is hoped that Mr. Strouhal will be able to return to this country and engage in further study of this problem, the results of which will be included in our publication.

As for the preliminary publications by the writer, a comprehensive article on the excavations at Semna South is to be found in Volume XVI of *Kush*, which, after a long delay, will soon be out. A longer article, a part of which discusses an important find from Semna South, will soon be published in *Aegypten und Kush*, Festschrift for

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Prof. Dr. Fritz Hintze of the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, one of the outstanding Meroitic scholars. A book *Apedemak, Lion-god of Meroe: A Study of the Egyptian-Meroitic Syncretism* is in press and will appear in early 1975. An article discussing a new Egyptian administrative title of the Second Cataract forts, as well as some geographic localities in ancient Nubia, which was read at the last meeting of the International Congress of Orientalists in Paris, July, 1973, will appear in the 1975 issue of the *Journal of Egyptian Archaeology*.

As so often happens, our project gradually expanded beyond the limits envisioned at the beginning. We had to enlist more scholars as collaborators, and provide new funds to finance their studies. The work on the project, however, is progressing systematically. We were able to engage the services of a group of young scholars, graduate students trained in Egyptology and Meroitic studies, whose experience can now be put to good use in this project as well as in future ones.

Again we wish to express our thanks to Sayed Nigm Ed Din Mohammed Sherif, commissioner for archeology, in Khartoum, who, with his well known kindness and scholarly competence has always been of great help to us on our yearly visits to various Sudanese sites and in our work in the new Sudanese National Museum.

With the collaboration of all these scholars we hope to produce an archeological memoir of the Semna South excavations which will adequately describe the importance of this vanished site and meet the expectations of the devoted friends of antiquity.

The Assyrian Dictionary Project

Erica Reiner

This is the first report I address to you since taking charge of the Assyrian Dictionary Project after the retirement of Professor A. Leo Oppenheim. I am happy to report, however, that Mr. Oppenheim has continued to be associated with the Project in spite of his retirement, on a consulting basis. For two months in the fall quarter, and for another two months in the spring quarter, he has rejoined us at the Oriental Institute and has continued to help with the preparation of

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dictionary articles; moreover, in his new home in California he has continued to read the final manuscript of the Dictionary. We hope that this association, which greatly benefits the Project, can be continued for many years to come.

During the academic year 1973/74, our staff was fortunate to be joined by Marten Stol of the University of Leiden, The Netherlands, as a James Henry Breasted Research Associate. Mr. Stol, who has specialized in Old Babylonian texts, has been a very valuable contributor to Volumes M and N. Besides Mr. Stol, this year has also marked the return of Professor Burkhart Kienast of the University of Freiburg, Germany, who has undertaken to prepare Volume Q during several brief visits to Chicago. He spent the three summer months of 1973 and another six weeks in February and March of 1974 on this project.

With regard to publication, Volume M, the tenth, has been finished and sent off to the publisher. Since this volume is larger than any single volume published so far, it will take a couple of years before it is off the press. Currently, the editors are working on N, the next volume to go to press. As you can see from the diagram published in last year's annual report, the gap between the goal and the achievements so far narrows, but the *CAD* Project will need the continued support of scholars in Chicago and abroad, and of the Oriental Institute.

Materials for the Sumerian Lexicon

Miguel Civil

This year will see the completion of the fourteenth of eighteen planned volumes of the *MSL* series. It will go to the printer at the end of the summer. The volume includes a revised edition of Proto-Ea as well as the complete group of Ea syllabaries and all related texts. It is the most important volume of the series, since it is thanks to this type of syllabary that modern scholars can read the Sumerian tablets. We have been able to discover new materials, the most interesting being several philological commentaries from the fifth to fourth centuries B.C. which show how these syllabaries were used and interpreted by the

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native scholars. The preparation of this manuscript has absorbed most of the energies and efforts of our Sumerologists during the year. The eleventh volume, delayed by many circumstances, is in the final stages of printing. It contains the end of the encyclopedic glossary ḪAR-ra = *ḫubullu*, with the sections devoted to toponyms and food and drink.

Social and Economic History of Early Mesopotamia

I. J. Gelb

For the next two years the efforts of the project will be centered on a study of land tenure and related subjects in early Mesopotamia. This concentration is made possible by the receipt of a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities in the amount of $80,000 to fund a research project titled Earliest Land Tenure Systems in the Near East. The grant will be administered by the University, and the project will be under my direction. The grant provides for two assistants, Robert Whiting and Peter Steinkeller, to aid me in the work.

The purpose of the project is the reconstruction of the earliest attested systems of land tenure and of the related social and economic institutions of Mesopotamia, specifically, and of the Near East, generally. In civilizations as firmly rooted in agriculture as the Mesopotamian and Near Eastern were, a thorough understanding of land tenure is of primary importance for the correct interpretation of a whole gamut of social and economic developments.

The project is based on an intensive study primarily of the early Mesopotamian sources pertaining to land tenure and related topics and, secondarily, of parallel developments outside the Mesopotamian area. The early Mesopotamian sources are dated to the third millennium B.C., extending in time from the beginnings of cuneiform writing shortly before 3000 B.C. to the end of the Third Dynasty of Ur around 2000 B.C.

The project is divided into two parts, the first dealing with primary sources, the second with general discussion and interpretation. The two parts will ultimately correspond to two published volumes.

The primary sources dealt with in the first part include the so-called

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"ancient *kudurru*'s," that is, stone inscriptions pertaining to the acquisition of land property by one individual from other individuals and their families. There are about 55 such inscriptions, now scattered in the museums of Europe, Asia, and America. Of this number, about one-third will be published for the first time. In size and state of preservation, these inscriptions vary from insignificant fragments to the beautifully preserved obelisk of the king Manishtushu, which is about five feet high and contains hundreds of lines of writing. The stone inscriptions will be fully published, with transliterations, translations, photographs, charts, and philological commentary. Also included in the primary sources are contracts on clay tablets. These will be presented in charts and fully treated in the commentary. There are about 290 tablet transactions, including about 70 that have not been previously published. The preparation of the primary sources will be carried out under my supervision by my two assistants.

The second part, dealing with secondary interpretation, will be devoted to the description of the early land tenure systems that can be reconstructed from the sources presented in the first part, as well as from pertinent information gathered from contemporary public administrative texts. Together with land tenure, related topics, such as the structure of the household (public and private), clan and family, social stratification (with special reference to the main labor classes), agriculture and animal husbandry, will be thoroughly studied and discussed. The writing of the manuscript will be done by me with editorial assistance from Messrs. Steinkeller and Whiting.

The project will take two years, commencing October 1, 1974, and ending Septmber 30, 1976. The results will be the publication of the original cuneiform documents dealing with the earliest forms of land tenure in Mesopotamia in a format that will make them available to scholars who are not cuneiformists and a thorough description of the earliest land tenure systems and related topics. This promises to be both a far-reaching advance over the current state of early socio-economic history and a sorely needed starting point for more detailed studies in this area in the future.

This year has seen the completion of another article entitled "*Homo Ludens* in Early Mesopotamia," devoted to a discussion of singers and musicians and their place in early Mesopotamian society. The article complements my previous nine articles on *Homo Faber*. It will be published in Finland.

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The Coffin Texts Project

Tjalling Bruinsma

For an extensive survey of the aims of the Coffin Texts project, please consult last year's annual report. I offer these notes on the progress of the several sections of the project: the translation of the texts of Volumes I–IV has been finalized, including comparisons with recent publication of some of the spells. The commentary has been completed through Volume III, while the source-critical and glossary sections have progressed as far as the translation. Finally, the arrangement of materials for a grammar of the Coffin Texts, though technically beyond the scope of this project, has continued.

The Cushitic Language Project

Gene B. Gragg

For the first time an Oriental Institute staff member is organizing a research project in sub-Saharan Africa. Political conditions permitting, I will be spending a year in Ethiopia gathering material for a small dictionary of the Galla language (or better, as its speakers call it, Oromo).

Actually this project is less tangential to traditional preoccupations of the Oriental Institute than might at first seem to be the case. In the first place Ethiopia, isolated on its high plateau, has always been a unique kind of crossroads between Africa and the Near East, a fabulous kingdom just on the periphery of the known world of the Mesopotamians, Egyptians, and Greeks. It was the first point of entry (return?) of Semitic-speaking peoples into Africa, from Southern Arabia across the narrow Bab al-Mandab, the mouth of the Red Sea; Amharic, the official language of the country, is a Semitic language. In the second place, and more important for my purposes, Ethiopia is the home of the Cushitic languages. With the exception of a couple of problematic outliers in Tanzania, all of the forty-odd Cushitic languages are spoken in Ethiopia, with spillover into Somalia and the border areas of Kenya and Sudan. Oromo is the most prominent representative of the Cushitic family.

For more than a century it has been thought that two central linguistic concerns of the Oriental Institute, Egyptian and Semitic, are

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related in a way which cannot be explained by chance resemblance, or in terms of the rather superficial contact between Egypt and Western Asia during and preceding the dawn of the historical period. The hypothesis most usually advanced is that they are descended from a parent language which existed (in Africa? in Asia?) long before the earliest attestations of Egyptian or Akkadian, the oldest representative of Semitic. In the course of the last century Berber, Cushitic, and Chadic (whose best known but in many ways least typical representative is Hausa) were added to the group. This super-family consisting of five coordinately related families was known first as Hamito-Semitic. More recently, in order to avoid the false implication that there is some special independent Hamitic group, the preferred term has been Afro-Asiatic.

As opposed to the comparatively well studied Egyptian and Semitic and the relatively homogeneous Berber, the Chadic and Cushitic languages are extremely diverse and very poorly studied. Each of them is approximately as diversified as Indo-European, and for all practical purposes documentation began only in the nineteenth century. Oromo is, in terms of number of speakers, one of the most important of the modern Afro-Asiatic languages, after Arabic and Hausa. While it is true that numbers do not guarantee intrinsic historical importance, it is clear that Oromo will inevitably be a major factor to be accounted for in any attempt to trace the development of Afro-Asiatic, as well as an important source of data. For this purpose it is essential that our information be as accurate and complete as possible.

A crucial step in historical reconstruction is the comparing of the shape of lexical items in related languages and seeing whether general rules can be formulated which will account for the way in which each cognate pair developed from a word in the parent language. It is only when an interlocking set of such correspondences have been established that the relationship of the languages can be considered demonstrated, and statements made about the parent language. (Thus the starting point for Indo-European reconstruction was the demonstration by Grimm in the beginning of the last century of the regularity of the recurring correspondences exemplified in Latin *decem* = English *ten* = German *zehn*, Latin *duo* = English *two* = German *zwei*, etc.) As a first step in such an undertaking for Cushitic I am going to gather information on the exact sound-shape and meaning of

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the core vocabulary of Oromo (some 5,000 words). At the same time I am going to try to establish the location of dialect boundaries within the language and the extent of dialect variation. All of this information is contained very vaguely and misleadingly, if at all, in the existing dictionaries drawn up by missionaries and explorers, who frequently knew the language quite well but did not control the techniques necessary to represent what they knew.

For basic lexical information, I will rely on speakers from the Wallagga Province, in Southwestern Ethiopia. I have been working for two years in Chicago with a native speaker of Oromo from this province, and have established a basic lexical file. For fixing dialect boundaries and variation, and determining the relation of Wallagga Oromo to other varieties, I will work with Oromo speakers of various origins who live in the capital, Addis Ababa, which is fortunately located at the intersection of the east-west (Harar to Wallagga) and north-south (Wallo to northern Kenya) axes of the approximately cruciform Oromo-speaking area. My main technique for gathering the latter kind of information will be a linguistic questionnaire which I hope to be able to submit to Oromo-speaking students at the university in Addis Ababa.

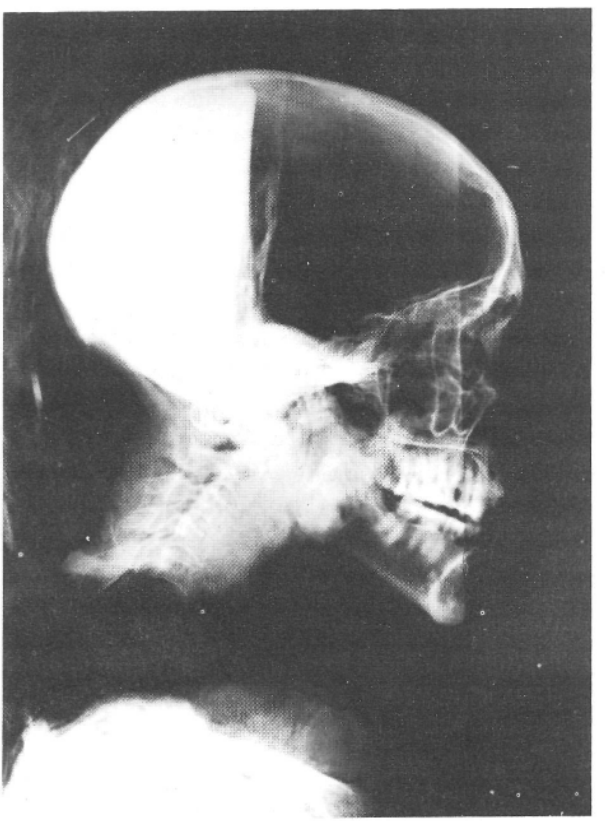
With this information, and additional phonological and grammatical information, I will collaborate with scholars from other universities who have done similar work on other branches of Cushitic in an attempt to determine what can be known about proto-Cushitic, the language ancestral to the modern Cushitic languages. The results of this collaboration will obviously be crucial to any theories about the nature and history of proto-Afro-Asiatic. There are already preliminary indications, based mainly on comparative percentages of shared basic vocabulary (body parts, basic human activities, etc.) that what has hitherto been known as "Western Cushitic," spoken south and west of Oromo, is indeed Afro-Asiatic, but it is not Cushitic at all. Rather, the hypothesis goes, it is a separate, coordinate branch of Afro-Asiatic, on a par with Semitic or Chadic. This is a risky hypothesis, in view of the fact that virtually nothing is known about proto-Cushitic, and consequently about what might and what might not be Cushitic. If it should turn out to be tenable, then Ethiopia, containing indigenous within its borders two major branches of Afro-Asiatic, becomes automatically a prime candidate for being the Afro-Asiatic homeland.

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Revising Chronology

Edward F. Wente

One of the advantages of being associated with the Oriental Institute is that as our fields become increasingly specialized, we can still maintain communication not only with colleagues in the same discipline but also with experts in areas of study not so closely related to our own. Sometimes it may be by accident that two scholars in conversa-



Amenhotep III, one in a series of X-ray photographs of pharaohs of the New Kingdom being investigated for their racial types and genealogical connections. Photo by Dr. James Harris, courtesy of the University of Michigan

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tion find that the topics of their individual research impinge on each other, and fruitful results can be obtained from such dialogue. Mr. Brinkman's research on the massive Nippur archives from the time of the Kassite Dynasty in Babylonia points to certain chronological corrections having a direct bearing on the history of the New Kingdom in Egypt, upon which I have been working in connection with a study of the royal mummies being conducted by Dr. James Harris of the University of Michigan.

Some time ago I prepared a background essay on the chronology and genealogies of the New Kingdom pharaohs for the Harris project, but it depended too heavily on previous estimates of the ages at death of the kings of the New Kingdom. The tentative results now coming back from pathologists examining the X-rays of these mummies have been disturbing, for most of the pharaohs now appear to have been considerably younger than earlier pathologists thought. As a result, I have had to consign my initial essay to the wastebasket—not an uncommon thing for a scholar to do. It is now apparent that any background discussion by an Egyptologist regarding the chronology and genealogy of the New Kingdom royal families should be as objective as possible and not make use of the data submitted by current pathologists or even their predecessors. Similarly Manetho's history is for the moment being disregarded in favor of total reliance on ancient Egyptian evidence.

During my service with the Epigraphic Survey I became interested in the topic of the king's jubilee, which figures prominently in the decoration of the tomb chapel of the steward of Amenhotep's famous queen Tiye. Much has been written about the royal jubilee, and it has often been stated that numerous kings celebrated this event early in their reigns. Yet none of the long-reigning kings of the New Kingdom celebrated the jubilee before the beginning of his thirtieth year of rule, thus substantiating the Greek rendition of the *heb-sed* as a thirty-year festival. This fact has suggested a reexamination of the evidence regarding supposed jubilees of kings who reigned less than thirty years, and the results would seem to indicate that the celebration of a jubilee by a king can be utilized as a valuable indicator for the length of reign.

Some rather significant adjustments in the chronology of the New Kingdom seem demanded, and the revised chronology fits in well with the recent results of Mr. Brinkman's research into Mesopotamian

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chronology. When these new dates are compared with those dates used in the recent edition of the *Cambridge Ancient History* (*CAH*) one can appreciate the magnitude of some of the changes. Thus, the new dates on the Egyptian side for Thutmose IV are 1419–1384 B.C. (*CAH*: 1425–1417), for Amenhotep III, 1384–1347 (*CAH*: 1417–1379), for Ramses II, 1279–1212 (*CAH*: 1304–1237); on the Babylonian side, the new dates for Burna-Buriash II are 1359–1333 (*CAH*: 1380–1350), for Kadashman-Enlil II, 1263–1255 (*CAH*: 1279–1265), and—with minor adjustments at the end of the dynasty—for Enlil-nadin-ahi, 1157–1155 (*CAH*: 1159–1157). I plan to publish my material on the new Egyptian dates as a chapter in Dr. Harris' projected atlas of the royal mummies and an article in *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* entitled "Thutmose III's Accession and the Beginning of the New Kingdom." Mr. Brinkman's work will appear in *Materials and Studies in Kassite History*, Vol. I (1975).

As the work proceeds in the revision of the Egyptian chronology of the second millenium B.C. , much credit must be given to Mr. Charles C. Van Siclen III and to the students in my seminar in New Kingdom history for their substantial contributions.

Publications

Jean Eckenfels

About ten years ago the Oriental Institute undertook two brief soundings at a site called Tell Abū Ṣalābīkh in southern Iraq, some twelve miles from Nippur. Among the finds were several hundred cuneiform tablets of the Early Dynastic III period (*ca.* 2600 B.C.), including wisdom compositions, proverbs, and a collection of hymns, as well as lexical texts arranged in categories such as gods, places, professions, metals, garments, and domestic animals, and, finally, a small number of administrative documents. The entire body of inscriptions except for a very few worthless fragments is being presented in line drawings or photographs, with critical editions based on Abū Ṣalābīkh sources for several compositions, by Robert Biggs in *Inscriptions from Tell Abū Ṣalābīkh* ("Oriental Institute Publications," Vol. XCIX). Approximately half of the scribal names listed in the texts are

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Semitic, a fact that indicates that at least some of the Semites previously assumed to be purely pastoral dwellers and tribesmen were living instead in an urban situation and had entered the highly technical pursuits of Sumerian scholarship and learning. The literary texts give definite proof that the written tradition of Sumerian poetry is many centuries older than had been generally supposed. The volume became available at the end of July.

Mr. Richard C. Haines, who has taken the responsibility for the publication of *Nippur* II: *The North Temple and Sounding E*, has returned the edited manuscript with long and detailed notes on the handling of various matters that came up in preparing it for the printer. It is likely that the manuscript will go to the printer sometime during the fall.

McGuire Gibson, field director of the Nippur Expedition, has almost completed the preparation of his report on the eleventh season, and with it he plans to renew publication of the "Oriental Institute Communications" series, which has not been added to since 1939, when Erich F. Schmidt published *The Treasury of Persepolis and Other Discoveries in the Homeland of the Achaemenians*. Others have also had it in mind to continue publication in this series and it should soon be fully active again. In his report Mr. Gibson plans to rely very much on illustrations and less on interpretation, since the volume will eventually be superseded by a final volume combining the work of several seasons.

In our constant efforts to reduce the cost of manufacturing books, we have decided to produce certain titles in cold type (forms of composition not involving hot metal casting) when it appears likely that their cost will far outrun any return we may expect from sales. The highly specialized needs of our authors require the greatest flexibility a typesetter can provide, but the cost of such work becomes prohibitive. The most recent publication undertaken in this manner will be Stephen A. Kaufman's *The Akkadian Influences on Aramaic* ("Assyriological Studies," No. 19). Since this work treats many languages and dialects, it requires a great deal of special setting. But since it has broad appeal and will cover many interests, it should be made available at a reasonable price. We fully expect this type of composition to become more and more important in our publishing program, and we hope that it will help get the materials into the hands of students everywhere.

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The Research Archives

Charles C. Van Siclen III

In September, 1973, the Research Archives was opened to faculty, staff, members, and students in the old library. This collection provides reference materials in the areas of ancient Near Eastern archeology, cuneiform studies, and Egyptology. During the three years which elapsed between the removal of the former Oriental Institute Library and the opening of the Research Archives, it became increasingly clear that such a collection of materials within the building of the Oriental Institute would be of immense benefit to its programs, inasmuch as the research pursued requires frequent if only very brief consultation of a large variety of published sources which are generally not in the private libraries of scholars.

Over the years, the Oriental Institute had acquired a number of collections of books which were duplicates of the holdings of the old library but which remained separate from it. These included a remnant of the library of the Megiddo Expedition (1925–39) and the personal library of James Henry Breasted, both of which had been for the past two decades in the Director's study. Following the death in 1970 of William F. Edgerton, for many years an Egyptologist at the Oriental Institute, his library was transferred here with the hope that work would continue on a projected Demotic dictionary. These three collections were available to only a limited number of people. After the death of Keith C. Seele, longtime editor of the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* and director of the Nubian Expedition, the Oriental Institute acquired his library through the most generous offices of his wife and co-worker Mrs. Diederika Seele. It was envisioned that this collection and the other collections belonging to the Oriental Institute would form the core of a new research unit, which has become the Research Archives.

Beginning in July, 1973, the disparate collections of books were transferred from their various locations into the old library. Explorations of closets and storerooms within the building often revealed useful additions. From one storeroom in the basement came several boxes of journals, seven crates of Breasted's scientific notes and manuscripts, and four wooden boxes containing his personal collection of

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some 3000 items. For nine years or so these boxes had helped support shelves holding pottery from the Nubian Expedition.

Once the books were physically present in the library, it was still necessary to process them for use. More than 1000 volumes, unbound or in poor condition, were sent to the bindery, and the slow process of cataloguing was begun. It had been hoped that all such work would be finished before the start of the school year. When it became apparent that this was not to be the case, the Research Archives opened anyway, with the feeling that limited use of the available facilities was preferable to none at all. The complete cataloguing of the original collections was finished only in April, 1974. On May 15, 1974, the collection of the Research Archives contained the following:

Monographs	2519 volumes
Series	1520 volumes
Journals	1927 volumes
Total Books	5966 volumes
Pamphlets (est.)	5250 items

A complete library in the fields of interest of the Research Archives would contain approximately 20,000 volumes.

When the Research Archives opened in late 1973, work had already been in progress from the previous year. A large number of subscriptions to relevant journals and several block purchases of books had been made. Work has since continued to keep current the extensive holdings in Egyptology and to strengthen the holdings in the other fields. At present more than 70 current periodicals require continual control. (Special thanks must be extended to the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* through whose courtesy a large number of items are received.) Wherever possible, small gaps in our holdings have also been filled. A single set of books might contain items from four or five separate sources. During this year a number of exchanges have been established with various other scholarly institutions at work in fields related to the ancient Near East.

One major source of books both new and old has been generous donations by various friends of the Oriental Institute. During the year the Research Archives was the fortunate recipient of all those books it did not already possess which were included in the library of John A.

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Wilson, who left Chicago in the summer. His gift is greatly appreciated. Warmest thanks are also extended to other major contributors: Messrs. Klaus Baer, John A. Brinkman, I. J. Gelb, and Charles F. Nims. In addition, sincerest thanks are extended to the very many others who have given of their valuable time and contributed needed items to the Research Archives.

A second but no less significant role of the Research Archives lies in the preservation of the scientific papers of various scholars which have come into the possession of the Oriental Institute. These presently include a wide variety of items belonging to six Egyptologists: W. Max Müller (1862–1919), Wilhelm Spiegelberg (1870–1930), James Henry Breasted (1865–1935), Georg Steindorff (1861–1951), Harold H. Nelson (1878–1954), and William F. Edgerton (1893–1970). Old photographs, notes and notebooks, manuscripts, and paper squeezes of inscriptions provide a valuable source of documentation which might otherwise be lost. At present, these papers are in disarray, but current plans call for their being organized, indexed, and made available to scholars.

The initial year of operation of the Research Archives has been a success, with the reading room in almost constant use. In an average week, some 190 man-hours of research and study are done by its users. As the collection expands and becomes more balanced, this figure too will grow. Between the opening in the fall and the end of April, patronage rose over 30 per cent. With the difficulties of organization behind, it is to be hoped that a more systematic approach can be taken toward the growth of the collection and the improvement in services. In large measure, the routine work of the last year has been accomplished through the diligent work of two student assistants, John Larson and Richard Zettler. Additional thanks are due Frank Yurco, who assisted in the binding of the collection. Even more, the success of the Research Archives is due to the cooperation of those people who have made use of it.

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Individual Research Projects

During a month's visit in Iraq last summer, Robert McC. Adams continued his long-standing reconnaissance of settlement and irrigation patterns in the central and southern parts of the country. He anticipates a major resumption of this project next year, subject to the approval of Iraqi authorities. Mr. Adams participated in several symposia and prepared articles on such subjects as "The Origins of Agriculture," "The Emerging Place of Trade in Civilizational Studies," "Soundings in Middle Islamic Levels in 'Aberta," and "Anthropological Perspectives on Ancient Trade." He has also continued to serve as Dean of the University's Division of Social Sciences and on various anthropological committees around the country.

Apart from his duties as Chairman of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, Klaus Baer's work has largely been concentrated on questions connected with the history of the Egyptian language—the evolution of the demonstratives, Coptic vowel phonology, and comparisons with Berber. (Mr. Baer suggests that the comparison of Egyptian and Berber may be more fruitful than the more usual comparisons between Semitic and Berber.) He is considering the relationship between the written and spoken languages of ancient Egypt, to the limited extent that anything about the latter can be determined. He suspects that the two systems developed largely independently during the time he is able to investigate.

Robert D. Biggs has continued to study cuneiform texts of the third millennium B.C. following publication of his *Inscriptions from Tell Abū Ṣalābīkh* ("Oriental Institute Publications," Vol. XCIX). He is preparing for publication a number of texts discovered at al-Hiba (ancient Lagash) by a joint expedition to Iraq of the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University. He continues as editor of *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, a journal founded by William Rainey Harper, the University's first president, now sponsored by the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations.

John Brinkman, thanks to a senior fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities, was able to spend several months studying unpublished Kassite (1600–1150 B.C.) tablets from the University Museum (Philadelphia), the British Museum (London), and

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the Istanbul Archeological Museums. He is now revising the first volume of his *Materials and Studies for Kassite History*, which should be ready to go to press during the coming year. Articles submitted for publication during this past year include an edition of the cuneiform texts from the St. Louis Public Library (to appear in the Samuel Noah Kramer Festschrift) and a joint edition (with Veysel Donbaz, Istanbul) of an eleventh-century (B.C.) Babylonian royal inscription (to appear in the *Journal of Cuneiform Studies*.)

Most of Carl DeVries' personal work has been associated with the major project of the Nubian publication, but he has published some short articles on Egyptology and more generally on Near Eastern geography and archeology. He has completed his responsibilities in connection with the *Pictorial Encyclopedia of the Bible*, but still must finish a few articles for the revision of the *International Standard Bible Encyclopedia*. In addition to the usual book reviews, one article appeared during the last year, on a Nubian clepsydra, in the Seele memorial number of *JNES* (and in popular form in the *Old Bottle Magazine*). Mr. DeVries wrote an article for the Merrill C. Tenney Festschrift, which will come out early next year, and participated in the Archeology Conference at Wheaton College.

Of necessity, McGuire Gibson's research has been tied to Nippur and the periods met with in the excavations. As a corollary to the Nippur excavations, a chemical and spectrographic analysis of glazed pottery is being performed. From these analyses it should be possible to determine whether glaze color variations are the result of leaching through reaction with chemicals in the soil, or of the introduction of new elements, such as lead, at specific times in antiquity. Glazed sherds are available from times as early as Kassite through as late as Islamic. Also as an offshoot of the Nippur investigations, a corpus of pottery for the second millennium B.C. is being built up, which should facilitate a much finer time-differentiation of the ceramics than has previously been possible. The sequence is based primarily on form, but also takes into account the substance of the pottery itself, variations in tempering material, and other analyses. Mr. Gibson's interest in the origin and development of civilizations continues. In his teaching he attempts to apply ideas of ecological relations, trade connections, and so on to whichever period is under consideration. This interest in broader theoretical problems is reflected in an article entitled "Violation of Fallow and Engineered Disaster in Mesopotamian

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Civilization," to appear in *Irrigation's Impact on Society*, edited by Mr. Gibson with T. Edmond Downing.

Hans G. Güterbock published an article in German on rare and difficult logograms in Hittite texts in the *Festschrift Heinrich Otten* and one on "Ivory in Hittite Texts" in the periodical *Anadolu* of Ankara University, Volume XV, a volume dedicated to the fiftieth anniversary of the Turkish Republic. During the summer of 1973 he copied fragments of Hittite mythological texts in the Ankara Museum. The printout of his Hittite Computer Project is presently being used as the basis of a grammar of Old Hittite by Messrs. Philo H. J. Houwink ten Cate, University of Amsterdam, and Howard Berman, a Chicago alumnus. Mr. Güterbock is also preparing a chapter on Hittite literature for the *Handbuch der Literaturwissenschaft*.

George R. Hughes has continued preparing a catalogue of the Demotic Egyptian texts in the Brooklyn Museum. The texts are principally on potsherds with a lesser number on papyrus, wood, and stone. The entries in the catalogue now number approximately two hundred. He has also continued to work on a publication of the early Demotic papyri belonging to the Oriental Institute and has begun the planning of a grammar of Demotic Egyptian as a future project.

During the 1973/74 academic year Janet Johnson completed an article dealing with the relationships between the rulers of the Thirtieth Egyptian Dynasty, this being the first step toward the retranslation and historical commentary on the Demotic Chronicle mentioned in last year's Annual Report. She prepared an appendix to the excavation report for the winter, 1973, season at Nippur, describing and dating a small Egyptian protective amulet found there and translating the spells on the amulet designed to ward off snakes, scorpions, and other denizens of the deep. Miss Johnson is now finishing the analysis of the verbal systems of two Ptolemaic-period literary texts, the story of Setne Khaemwast and Instructions of Onchsheshonqy. The information so obtained will be combined with that included in her dissertation, which was based on two late Roman period texts. From this she hopes to prepare for publication within the coming year a detailed study of the Demotic verbal system.

Helene Kantor spent the summer and fall of 1973 on the completion of the manuscript and plates of "Oriental Institute Communications," No. 23, *Chogha Mish: An Interim Report on the First Five Seasons of Excavations, 1961–71* (joint authors, P. P. Delougaz and H. J.

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Kantor). In view of the repeated requests of Dr. F. Bagherzadeh, director of the National Research Centre for the History of Art and Archaeology, she went briefly to Tehran to report on the Chogha Mish excavations at the second annual symposium on Iranian archeology. That report is ready for eventual publication in the *Proceedings* of the symposium. Also ready is a Columbia University lecture on the 1973 season. Articles which appeared this year included two reports on previous Chogha Mish seasons, and the chapter on ancient Egypt in the *Propyläen Kunstgeschichte*.

Last fall James Knudstad was staff architect on the Smithsonian's Helmand Sistan (Afghanistan) project, which this season discovered an apparently Parthian "fire temple" similar to architecture of the same period that the Institute has found at Nippur. Since then he has been preparing the publication of early Islamic findings at Harvard's Qasr al-Hair excavations, Syria (conducted in part jointly with the Institute), and readying for publication the Institute's salvage excavations in Sudanese Nubia (1963–64) and Korucutepe, Turkey (1968–70).

The faith of Islam split soon after its founding into Sunnism, or orthodoxy, and Shiism, which recognizes a succession of political rulers, imams, who will return near the end of time bringing peace to the earth. The latter sect is further divided into Imamism (or Twelver Shiism), whose adherents accept a line of twelve imams; Zaydism, an Iranian and, later, Yemenite group; and the Ismaili (Sevener) branch, which claims that the succession ended after seven imams. Mr. Wilferd Madelung has been investigating the history of Twelver Shiism for several years. A stay in Iran last year enabled him to collect materials for a general political, social, and doctrinal account. Three related projects involve editions of manuscripts. The Zaydi texts described in last year's Report are about to be published. Secondly, Mr. Madelung is completing a study of the sources of Ismaili law, based on a newly discovered fragment by Qadi al-Nu'man (d. A.D. 974), the first elaborator of Sevener law, which reveals his sources: Al-Nu'man in fact combined the traditions of the other two branches of Shiism. Mr. Madelung's third project, in cooperation with M. J. MacDermott, S.J., is an edition of other recently found manuscripts, two works of Mahmoud ibn al-Malahimi (eleventh century A.D.), the only known documents of later Mu'tazilite theology, a rationalistic movement within Shiism. The late phase

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seems to have had a strong influence on later Twelver Shiite thought and even some on Sunnite theology.

After working for four months in Chicago and reading many pages of the manuscript of Volume M of the *CAD*, A. Leo Oppenheim used what time was left to him during the first year of his "retirement" to take up again two long-postponed papers. One deals with the position of the intellectual in Mesopotamian society, presented on the basis of what we know of the status of scholars at court and their services to the community. It is scheduled to appear in *Daedalus*. The second paper deals with a much broader topic and Mr. Oppenheim could achieve only a first draft. In the paper he plans to show how Mesopotamian man relates to nature. There are two aspects to this topic. First, the observance of nature by scholars, scientists, and artists, and the conclusions drawn from such operations by those interested in their descriptions, be they lexicographers, physicians, diviners, or cosmographers; and second, the mastery of nature, that is, the aspirations and achievements of Mesopotamian technology. Since this evidence materializes on three distinct levels—texts, artifacts, and iconography—the topic has many ramifications. All of Mr. Oppenheim's published articles this year are found in volumes honoring his friends and colleagues—in Festschrifts for Theodore H. Gaster of Columbia University, I. J. Gelb, and Hans G. Güterbock, and in the memorial volume for F. W. Geers, who gave invaluable service to the Institute during the first half of this century.

During the year Erica Reiner was engaged in three projects beyond the Assyrian Dictionary. She continued work on Babylonian celestial omens, prepared a chapter on Assyro-Babylonian literature for the *Handbuch der Literaturwissenschaft*, and partly in collaboration with Mr. Matthew Stolper, deciphered some of the Elamite tablets from ancient Anshan (see last year's Report). Miss Reiner contributed six articles to as many publications (among them the Geers, Gelb, and Güterbock volumes), including "A Sumero-Akkadian Hymn of Nanâ" and "How We Read Cuneiform Texts."

As a part of his continuing work on the economic history of the Old Babylonian period (*ca.* 2000–1594 B.C.), Johannes Renger is reconstructing archives of letters and of administrative and legal texts written by, to, or on behalf of particular merchants, administrators, and land owners. These texts are located in various museums throughout the world. Such a reconstruction will help in the under-

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standing of the economic and administrative activities and interrelations of particular groups and segments of society during the Old Babylonian time. Two articles by Mr. Renger on problems of marriage customs in ancient Mesopotamia were published during the past year; a third article is in press. A bibliography of the late Benno Landsberger, which he prepared in collaboration with Anne D. Kilmer, will appear in the *Journal of Cuneiform Studies* in 1974. At the invitation of the Department of Near Eastern Studies of the University of California, Berkeley, and of the Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, Mr. Renger presented, in March, 1974, a lecture, "Sacred Marriage in Mesopotamia—Reinterpretation of a Ritual," as a part of their Inaugural Lecture Series for the Joint Doctoral Degree Program in Near Eastern Religions. In the fall of 1973 Mr. Renger lectured on the same topic and on "Annals and Reliefs in Sargon II's Palace at Khorsabad" at the universities of Berlin, Erlangen, Freiburg, Heidelberg, and Würzburg. Mr. Renger continues as associate editor of the *Journal of the American Oriental Society*.

Michael B. Rowton is studying what might be called the peripheral framework of civilization in Western Asia. Part of the population was more closely affected by the physical environment than the rest, for instance the nomads, the marginal farmers, and some among the refugees. There is reason to believe that in some parts of Western Asia this element in the population had at times greater bearing on the course of history than has been realized, notably in Mesopotamia, Syria, and Palestine. Involved are issues such as deforestation, erosion, natural refuge areas, and enclaves of pastoral grazing land deep within the sedentary zone; the interaction between nomad and sedentary, tribe and town; the nature of the tribe in Western Asia; overland commerce; and the role of the tribe in the military history of Western Asia. Also to be considered are the problems which confronted the state dealing with this peripheral element in the population of Western Asia. Mr. Rowton has published a total of nine articles on these subjects, and three more are in preparation. His intention is to bring all twelve articles together, considerably amplified, in the form of a monograph.

Lawrence Stager is currently working on two aspects of agriculture in Iron Age Palestine. The first involves the extensive transformation of the hill country through the construction of agricultural terraces on many of the rugged slopes of this area, construction that began with

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the increase of small hilltop settlements in the twelfth century B.C., a date that agrees with the Biblical account of the settlement of the Israelites. The second aspect is the transformation of the Judean Desert in the seventh century B.C. through the use of controlled floodwaters and runoff. By the construction of sluice gates and check dams the water yield was increased to the point that farming in this arid zone was possible. Results of this research should be published shortly. Now in press is the preliminary report of the 1971/72 season at Idalion, Cyprus, where a large interdisciplinary staff directed by Mr. Stager investigated settlement patterns. Soundings turned up settlements from fifth millennium to Roman. Among the most interesting is the city of Idalion itself, which was continuously occupied from the late second through the first millennium B.C. It includes the first Archaic and Classical dwellings (seventh to early fifth centuries) ever found on Cyprus, and a large copper-smelting area that may explain why Idalion passed from independence to Phoenician domination about that time, when Phoenicia was taking over the Mediterranean copper industry.

Marten Stol studied unpublished Old Babylonian texts in the tablet collection of the Oriental Institute. He could assign a number of them to previously published archives, and he excerpted the texts for the Assyrian dictionary files. He will edit a tablet containing all the year-names of Warad-Sin, and some of those of Rim-Sin I, both kings of Larsa at the end of the nineteenth century B.C. This valuable text enables us to lay a firm basis for the hitherto largely unknown chronology of Warad-Sin's reign.

Kent R. Weeks has completed several articles for publication this year, including an analysis of Egyptian dentistry for the *Roentgenographic Atlas of the Pharaohs*; a survey of the ecology of the Nile Valley and its influence on early occupation; and reports on his epigraphic work in four mastabas at Giza. Mr. Weeks is currently completing a book on the prehistory of Egypt and the origins of the First Dynasty, which will appear early next year, and is continuing preparation of an annotated bibliography of ancient Egyptian medicine that now includes over five thousand references. He is overseeing the publication of the second volume of the Khonsu series, and a two-volume study of an Old Kingdom family at Giza for the Boston Museum Giza series.

In addition to his studies of Egyptian chronology, Edward F. Wente

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has been interested in ancient Egyptian epistolography and is preparing an anthology of letters. One unpublished letter to the dead deserves a special article, which is being written for a volume in honor of J. Vergote of Belgium. The text of this First Intermediate Period letter to a deceased woman provides the earliest evidence for the incubation of dreams in Egypt. Hitherto clear references to this practice in Egypt has been confined to the Hellenistic period.

The Oriental Institute Museum

Gustavus F. Swift

According to the official records of attendance, the Museum received its two-millionth visitor on Tuesday, November 27, 1973, and this notable occasion was celebrated with photographs and with token gifts to all present. The records show further that the highly esteemed volunteer docents gave scheduled tours to groups from one public and one parochial elementary school in Chicago, and to others from Northbrook, Mt. Prospect, and Cicero, Illinois, on that day—a fairly typical sample of geographical distribution.

Progress has been made in the reinstallation of the exhibits of Egyptian art. Arrangements in the two large new cases have been completed: one now shows the sculpture of Dynasties IV–XII, and the other, the sculpture of Dynasty XVIII to the Ptolemaic Period. In order to give the best of our collection the space it needs, an additional alcove will be devoted to sculpture and painting, and a policy of rotation may prove necessary.

It is a special pleasure to report that, as a result of support and encouragement from many sides, there have been solid advances in the area of the preservation of the collection.

Through the efforts of Directors Hughes and Brinkman, the University was persuaded to establish the position of Museum Conservator, and the quest for a suitably qualified person has been active for a considerable time. It was Mr. Brinkman who, on a visit to London, eventually found the answer. Miss Barbara J. Hall visited us last spring and assumed the position in September. Miss Hall is a graduate of Bucknell University; she has pursued graduate studies in Near

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Visitors on November 27, 1973, the celebration of the Museum's achievement of 2,000,000 in recorded attendance. Photo by Jean Grant

Eastern art and archeology at Columbia; she received the Diploma with Distinction in the conservation and restoration of archeological materials from the Institute of Archaeology, University of London, and thereafter worked in this field at the British Museum for two years. In Chicago, she has undertaken programs in the treatment of Egyptian limestone reliefs and of the entire collection of metals and has treated many other objects as needed for exhibition or study purposes. In addition, she has begun an investigation of the difficult problems of the preservation treatment of leather, and has planned programs for the improved conservation and storage of textiles, cuneiform tablets, and metals.

Work of this kind requires adequate and well equipped laboratory space. Upon the designation of a suitable location in our preciously scarce basement work area, Miss Hall planned such a laboratory, which was made possible by a most generous and deeply appreciated gift of $10,000 from the Women's Board of the University of Chicago. By this means, the space was enclosed and provided with utilities, proper furniture, and the basic equipment necessary for the work. There remains a need for certain pieces of equipment, but the

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Statue of the confectioner Tjenenti, of the Fouth or Fifth Dynasty installed in the revised exhibit of Egyptian art. Photo by Ursula Schneider

laboratory was essentially complete and ready for a visit of the Steering Committee of the Women's Board, with exhibits of work in progress, on June 7, and for an Open House for faculty, staff, and students later the same day.

Other generous contributions to the conservation program have been made, in this year and preceding years, by Mr. and Mrs. Leigh B.

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Block, Mr. and Mrs. Isak V. Gerson, and Mr. and Mrs. John Livingood. These gifts are gratefully acknowledged.

The survey of the climate control, security, and storage needs of the Museum, mentioned last year, was completed in October, 1973. This project was supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts in Washington, D.C., a federal agency, and by an equal grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. A feasible plan for the climate control of the existing building was developed; the estimated cost, at 1974 prices, came to $2,429,800. The problem of storage was found to consist of overcrowding and lack of sufficient space for current and future needs, both in storage and exhibit areas, but short-term remedies to certain specific needs have been applied or are in progress. It appeared from the study of the problem of physical security that a thorough solution must await the time of more extensive work on the building; however, by the end of the year, work was under way on improvements made possible by additional University funds.

The consultants for the above survey were Alfred Jakstas, conservator of paintings, The Art Institute of Chicago, Edward J. Walsh, associate university architect, and Howell Engineers, Inc., of Chicago.

There have been several changes in the Museum staff during the year. Mrs. Ursula W. Schneider retired after many years of valuable and devoted service as the Oriental Institute's photographer. Because of her husband's appointment to the Institute's Luxor staff, Mrs. Susan J. Allen left her position as office secretary. For similar reasons, Mrs. Linda T. Kastan could not continue as reference secretary.

We are fortunate in having these places capably filled by Miss Jean Grant, photographer, Mrs. Cherrye Frink, office secretary, and Mrs. Ruth T. Marcanti, reference secretary.

The work of the Museum was ably advanced by the part-time assistance of three students through all or the greater part of the year. Mr. Edward J. Brovarski assisted in the office, specializing in Egyptological matters. Miss Wendy Keeney assisted Miss Franke in the care of the collection. Mr. Raymond Tindel continued with the conservation of cuneiform tablets and assisted Mr. Hanson in the preparation of exhibits.

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The Membership Program

Bernard A. Lalor

We close this year midst a deluge of membership applications, stacks of paper for *News & Notes*, and piles of left-over lecture invitations—cellulose reminders of a successful membership drive, revisions of our newsletters and mailing system, and the activities of the annual membership program. Many persons at the Institute and among our members have worked on the diverse projects of this office and their efforts have produced what I deem a successful year.

After months of designing brochures, typing letters, stuffing envelopes, and finally processing applications, all of us were most pleased by the 350 new memberships added to our rolls this year. We felt increasing excitement as the daily mail told us of new members around the world, across the nation and throughout the Chicago area. Our eight foreign members in six countries have become 53 members in seventeen countries, while the total number of memberships increased to an unprecedented 1,150. These figures are modest, but still a gratifying reward to the staff who typed and stuffed. We thank all those who made this success possible, in particular the members who suggested the names of prospective members and Mrs. John Livingood, who, with the help of Mrs. David Maher, brought additional new members through the Volunteer Guide Program.

Besides the membership drive, we worked to improve the whole membership program, especially for the increasing number of members outside the Chicago area. We changed the randomly issued "Archeological Newsletters" for a more regular news sheet called *News & Notes*. Mr. Peter T. Daniels, a graduate student of Semitic linguistics, ably steered our *News & Notes* through the difficulties of a first year. Combining all the separate mailings of the past—newsletters from the field expeditions, lecture notices, various news items, and short articles of interest—*News & Notes* hopefully retains the informality and spontaneity of the former archeological newsletters while maintaining continued contact with the members. Like the drive, *News & Notes* is a cooperative effort. This year, faculty, staff, and members contributed material. Hopefully, all of us will continue to provide the ingredients for a pleasant and rewarding means of communication.

The annual lecture series included three reports on field projects.

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Mr. Robert J. Braidwood surveyed the last several decades of the Prehistoric Project; Mr. McGuire Gibson described the 1973 season at Nippur (Iraq); and Miss Helene J. Kantor summarized the season at Chogha Mish (Iran). Two other lectures dealt with Israel and Egypt. Mr. Joe D. Seger, of the Hebrew Union College Archaeological School in Jerusalem gave an interesting account of his dig at Tell Gezer (Israel). Mr. Richard A. Parker, formerly of the Institute and now professor emeritus at Brown University, was to have talked about "Ancient Egyptian Astronomy" in this year of Kohoutek but was unable to come to Chicago. In his stead, Mr. John A. Wilson read the lecture. We were highly gratified when Messrs. Seger and Parker joined the Institute as members this spring.

On a Sunday afternoon with blustery April winds, the Institute hosted another event in the membership program, Members' Day. Our first open house was to acquaint new members of recent years, prospective members, and old friends with the research projects of the Institute, as well as its physical facilities of laboratories, workrooms, and offices. Seemingly, the two highlights of the day were the swift tours of the basement work areas and the presentation of the recording of "Hurrian Music" by Mr. Hans G. Güterbock on the third floor. Mrs. Anne D. Kilmer, who formerly worked with the late Benno Landsberger and is now at the University of California at Berkeley, through her research focused world attention on this ancient song, which Mr. Güterbock has amply discussed in *News & Notes*.

In assessing this year's program, we cannot overlook how contributions from members were used. Again the major portion of dues provided substantial support to the general expenses of the Institute. In addition, members generously contributed to expeditions abroad: Nippur, Chogha Mish, and the Prehistoric Project. At home, the Institute completed the Nuzi Tablet Project; membership funds paid several students who repaired and made casts of more than a thousand cuneiform tablets, which will soon be ready to be returned to Iraq. These funds also provided student aid for work in other areas of the Institute. Contributions from members, in addition to other gifts, helped establish the new conservation laboratory in the Institute. Lastly, as a long-needed and direct benefit to members, a new public address system was installed in Breasted Lecture Hall and paid for from members' dues.

With gratitude to all who helped with the membership drive and the membership program, we look forward to more years like this one.

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Volunteer Programs

Carolyn Z. Livingood

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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* Captains responsible for the organization of a given three-hour period.

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The Volunteer Training Course was held on sixteen successive Mondays from 10 A.M. to 12 noon, March 4 through June 17.

March 4:	History of Mesopotamia: Prehistoric to Kassite Periods, *Mr. McGuire Gibson*
March 11:	History of Mesopotamia: Kassite to Roman Periods, *Mr. John A. Brinkman*
March 18:	Religion and Literature of Mesopotamia, *Mr. Robert Biggs* Economic and Social History of Mesopotamia, *Mr. I. J. Gelb*
March 25:	History of Egypt: Prehistoric to Second Intermediate Periods, *Mr. Klaus Baer*
April 1:	History of Egypt: Second Intermediate to Roman Periods, *Mr. Edward Wente*
April 8:	Culture and Religion of Egypt, *Mr. George Hughes*
April 15:	History of Syria and Palestine, *Mr. Lawrence Stager*
April 22:	History of Iran, *Mr. Donald Whitcomb*
April 29:	Study Tour of the Egyptian Gallery, *Mr. Edward Brovarski*
May 6:	Study Tour of the Egyptian Gallery, *Mr. Bruce Williams*
May 13:	Study Tour of the Nubian Section of the Palestinian Gallery, *Mr. Charles Van Siclen*
May 20:	Study Tour of the Babylonian Gallery, *Mr. Robert Biggs*
May 27:	Study Tour of the Babylonian Gallery, *Miss Judith Franke*
June 3:	Study Tour of the Assyrian Gallery, *Mr. Raymond Tindel*

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Study Tour of the Anatolian Section of the Assyrian Gallery, *Mr. Paul Zimansky*

June 10: Study Tour of the Iranian Gallery, *Mr. Donald Whitcomb*

June 17: Study Tour of the Prehistoric Section of the Assyrian Gallery, *Mr. Robert Braidwood*

Study Tour of the Palestinian Gallery, *Mr. David Nasgowitz*

To those members of the academic and administrative staff and degree candidates who have given of their valuable time and knowledge to make the Volunteer Course and monthly seminars possible, we extend our grateful thanks and deep appreciation of their services.

GRADUATES OF THE VOLUNTEER TRAINING COURSE
March 4–June 17, 1974

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Mrs. James Ford, *Chicago*
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Mrs. Bruce Mackey, *Park Forest*
Ms. Doralee Miller, *Glen Ellyn*
Mrs. A. J. Olsen, *Chicago*
Ms. Marion Salmon, *Clarendon Hills*
Ms. Laurie Schwartz, *Chicago*
Mrs. Robert Trainer, *Chicago*

Five informal seminars were held for the continuing education of volunteer personnel. Slides on archeological sites in Iraq were shown by Mrs. Livingood. Mr. Gustavus Swift, Museum curator, talked on the Museum galleries and the plans for new exhibits. "Ancient Thebes" was discussed by Mr. Charles Nims, Egyptologist and former director of Chicago House at Luxor. Mr. I. J. Gelb gave an outline of "Social and Economic History of the Ancient Near East." The series was concluded with a talk on the Hittite and Neo-Hittite empires by Mr. Hans Güterbock.

A fall series of illustrated lectures on "The History of Mesopotamia from Prehistory to the Fall of Ur at the End of the Third Millennium B.C." was given by Mr. Robert Whiting and a winter series on "The History and Culture of Ancient Anatolia from *ca.* 1950 B.C. to the Beginning of the Persian Conquest, *ca.* 550 B.C." was given by Mr. Paul Zimansky. Starting in October, 1974, Mr. Charles Van Siclen, degree candidate in Egyptology, former member of the Epigraphic Survey at Chicago House in Luxor, and librarian of the Research Archives, will give an eight-week series of lectures on "Egyptian

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Civilization." This group of lectures will be $30 per person for members of the Oriental Insitute. A special series of lectures will be given in the spring of 1975, by Mr. McGuire Gibson, associate professor of archeology, on "Mesopotamian Civilization." This series will be $50 per person for members of the Oriental Institute, and all of the proceeds will go to the Nippur Expedition Fund.

Mrs. A. Imberman and Mrs. Onno Buss made the arrangements for the Oriental Institute's Museum Tour to Europe and the Soviet Union, May 2–23, 1974. The twenty-two participants were accompanied by Mr. Edward Brovarski, degree candidate in Egyptology, as lecturer-guide. Each member of the tour contributed $100.00 to the Oriental Institute.

Starting in June, 1974, the Suq has again a volunteer chairman, Mrs. Ezra Hurwich. Mrs. Hurwich has appointed an advisory committee, Mrs. Livingood, Mrs. Maher, and Mrs. Tieken.

All of these activities were made possible only by the kindness and cooperation of the academic and administrative staff and the devoted service of the volunteers. Mrs. Albert Loverde, as chairman of volunteers, has effectively arranged docent scheduling. As of July 1st, the chairmanship of Volunteer Programs will be in the hands of the very capable and dedicated Mrs. David Maher.

Needs of the Oriental Institute

Our major needs over the next few years were summarized in last year's annual report. For the coming year, some of our most pressing requirements include:

a precision analytical balance (for the conservation lab)	$1,000
a high-powered, polarizing microscope (for the same)	$2,000
a new slide- and movie-projection system for Breasted Hall	$3,800
fund for archeological books for the Research Archives	$2,700

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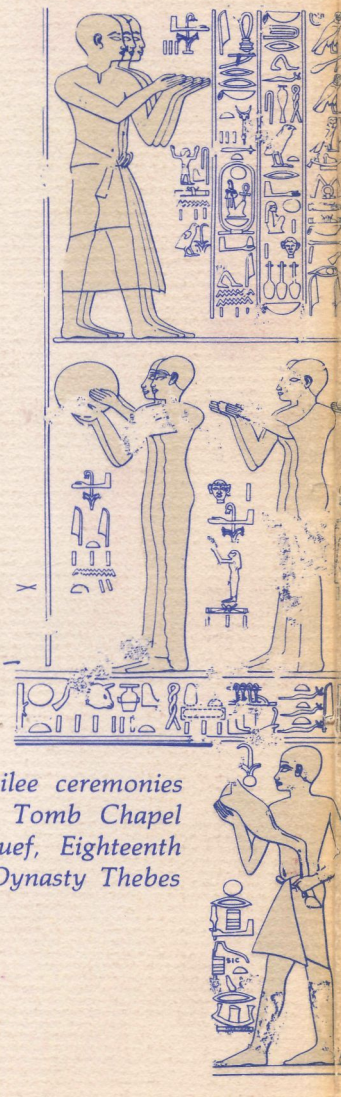
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Jubilee ceremonies in the Tomb Chapel of Kheruef, Eighteenth Dynasty Thebes