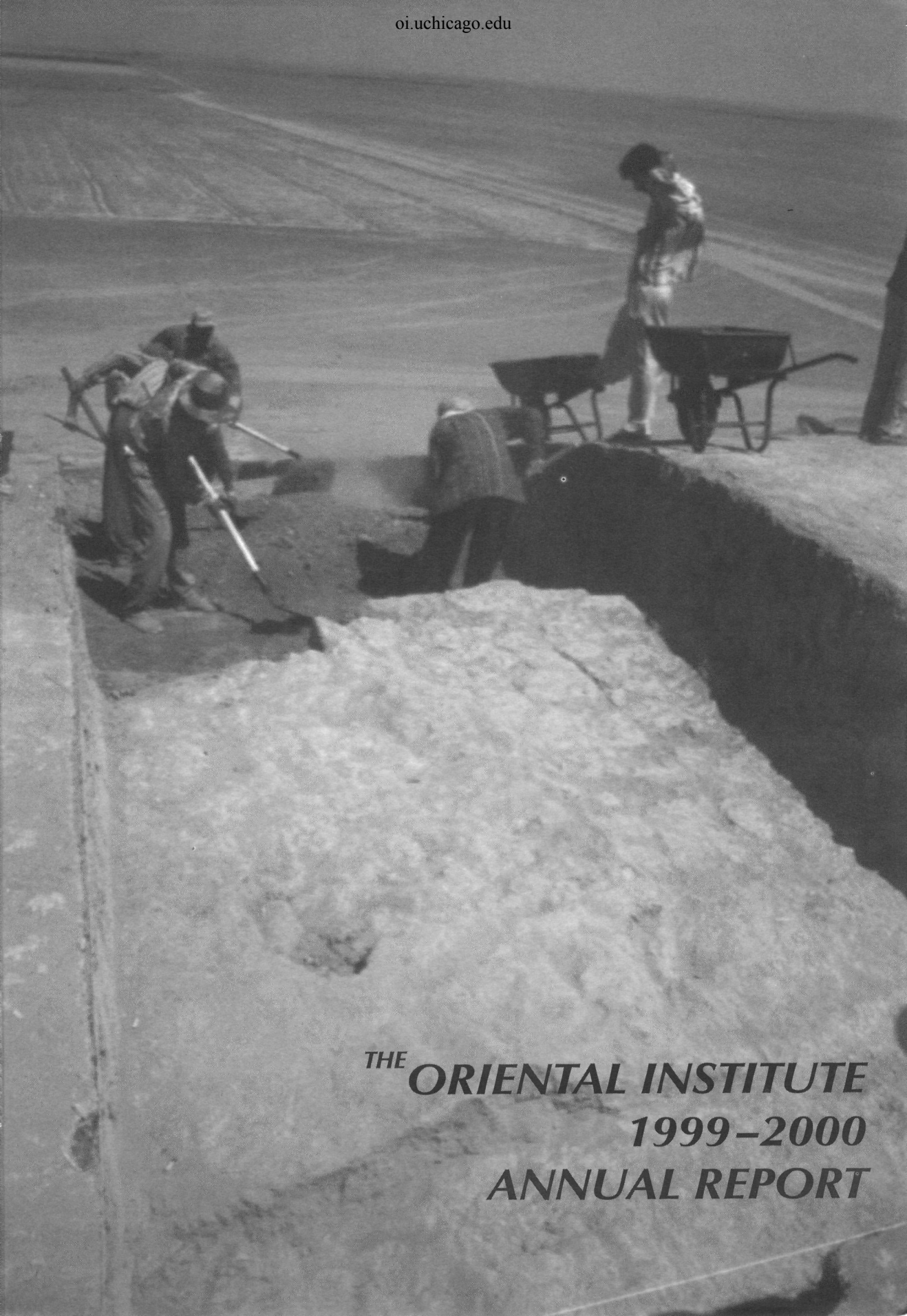
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Cover illustration: Workmen cleaning step trench. Skilled pickmen Abdullah Hashim in left foreground and Majid Asli on wall at right. Hamoukar, 1999. Photograph by Clemens Reichel

Overleaf. Exposing monumental wall, possibly city wall of mid-fourth millennium BC. Hamoukar, 1999. Photograph by Clemens Reichel

The pages that divide the sections of this year's report feature photographs from the Hamoukar Expedition to Syria

Editor: Gene Gragg

Production Editor: Emily Napolitano

Printed by United Graphics Incorporated, Mattoon, Illinois

The Oriental Institute, Chicago

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Published 2000. Printed in the United States of America.

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INTRODUCTION

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Overleaf. John Sanders and McGuire Gibson washing potsherds at the dig house in the afternoon. Hamoukar, 1999. Photograph by Clemens Reichel

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INTRODUCTION

Gene Gragg

An *Annual Report* of a research institute like the Oriental Institute is a chronicle of comings and goings, of corners turned, of new paths taken and unexpected transformations as old paths lead into new and unexplored territory, of milestones ticked off and goals attained and set, of pivotal events that in the long perspective might one day be used to help delineate and define significant stages in the development of the Institute over time.

One of these pivotal events is commemorated in the first item in this report, the passing from our midst of Hans Gustav Güterbock, one of the generation of giants who helped define what the Oriental Institute was in the post-World-War-II decades — and ancient Near Eastern studies along with it. Hans Gustav participated actively in ongoing research at the Oriental Institute literally up to his last day. The research goes on, but it will inevitably, I am sure, begin to "look and feel" different from this point on to future generations who look back over this period. Indeed this period of transition is underlined by the retirement of Harry Hoffner as Professor of Hittitology, while remaining co-editor of the Chicago Hittite Dictionary, and the arrival of Theo van den Hout from Amsterdam as new co-editor of the Dictionary, and successor as Professor of Hittitology. And together Theo and Harry will face a new set of challenges in a brave new world of electronic and electronically-assisted lexicography — a challenge you will see more about in coming years, perhaps as soon as next year's *Annual Report.*

Other new paths are opening up in every domain covered by the Oriental Institute. In the sections on archaeology, philology, and museum, you find mention of new instruments, approaches, and techniques. Among the new terms and acronyms occurring almost matter-of-factly in these sections nowadays you find: SEM (scanning electron microscope), remote sensing, satellite imagery, GIS (geographic information systems), advanced photon source, relational database, and XML (extensible markup language). A story of new opportunities and new goals lie behind each of them. A number of them are certain to coalesce into overarching bodies of methods and approaches that will reset the bar on what it means to reconstruct an ancient society or the lexicon or grammar of an ancient language. Again, more on this later, but see for now the articles of Tony Wilkinson on GIS and remote sensing and David Schloen on electronic publication of ancient Near Eastern texts.

However, in a changing methodological world there are constants. There are fundamental tasks that need to be done by the eye and hand and mind of researchers and assistants. Grasping the subtle shades of difference in the range of meaning in a Demotic or Akkadian word or the significance of a religious symbol still rest on the skill and experience and persistence of a set of individual human investigators — or patiently making emerge from the dust and rubble of millennia the actual artifacts and architecture of long-vanished builders and artisans.

The cover and section divider pages of this year's *Annual Report* celebrate visually this latter kind of constancy and continuity in ancient Near Eastern archaeology. Some of the techniques and tools may be new, but the task of uncovering an ancient Near Eastern mound comes down to a series of sub-tasks whose scope and difficulty would have been immediately recognized and appreciated by James Henry Breasted and a long splendid line of archaeologists who he set

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working, directly or indirectly, on these repositories of the common cultural heritage of humankind. Captured in action by photographs made by expedition member Clemens Reichel, you find a sampling both of the more robust, large-scale and of the fine-grained, minute activity of the Chicago team that revealed this year at Tell Hamoukar a hitherto unsuspected flourishing of early urban society in the northeast corner of Syria. Equally important in these photographs and their captions, and new on the cover of an Oriental Institute *Annual Report,* is that they reveal some of the names and faces of some key members of the "Chicago team" — the skilled Syrian excavators and workmen without whose expertise and experience this work could not be done. And this of course is another constant that has been true of any major archaeological undertaking the Oriental Institute has ever fielded in the Near East during the long history of its presence there.

I invite you then to examine this year's record of innovation and continuity — and to stay tuned for what I can assure you will be an exciting future.

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IN MEMORIAM

Hans Gustav Güterbock

27 May 1908 – 29 March 2000

"My god, since my mother gave birth to me you have raised me ... It was you who associated me with good men. It was you who directed my deeds in a position of power ... Even as I matured, I gave proof of all the grace and wisdom of you, my god" (from the Hittite prayer of Kantuzzili)

Hans G. Güterbock was born in Berlin in 1908. His father was secretary of the Deutsche Orientgesellschaft, and the ancient Near East was a living presence in the household as he was growing up (see the autobiographical remarks in his retrospective article in Volume 4 of *Civilizations of the Ancient Near East*, edited by Jack Sasson). It does not therefore seem far-fetched to suppose in the spirit of the Hittite prayer that Hans Güterbock was destined from birth to achieve singular accomplishments in this realm of scholarship.

Having completed his secondary education, he studied Hittite for one year in Berlin with Hans Ehelolf, then went on to complete his university studies in Assyriology and Hittitology in Leipzig with Benno Landsberger and Johannes Friedrich. He defended his doctoral dissertation in 1933, soon after Hitler's take-over of the government in Germany. Nazi policy barred him from any chance at serving as Ehelolf's assistant in the Berlin Museum (there was Jewish heritage on his father's side). He was able to obtain (for three years) the position of epigrapher on the German expedition in Boğazköy, conditional on private funding. Soon even this arrangement became impossible, and in 1936 he joined a number of expatriate German scholars on the faculty of the newly established Faculty of Languages, History, and Geography at Ankara (from 1946 part of Ankara University), where he served until 1948. Following a one-year guest lectureship at the University of Uppsala, Hans Güterbock came to the University of Chicago in 1949, rising to Professor in 1956. In 1969 he was named Tiffany and Margaret Blake Distinguished Service Professor of Hittitology, a position he held until his formal retirement in 1976. He remained a vitally active scholar in his retirement and indeed, as many colleagues at the Oriental Institute and elsewhere can attest, to the very last days of his life.

Hans Güterbock was trained by the very first generation of scholars who occupied themselves with the newly discovered Hittite language. Anyone who doubts that he deserves to be called a "pioneer" may read his account of life at Boğazköy when he first lived and worked there in the early thirties (see the retrospective alluded to above). Hittite was then relatively untrodden territory – what the Hittites would have called *dammili pēdan* "virgin ground." Hans Güterbock made full use of the opportunity to take part in developing and shaping a new academic discipline, something he continued to do for the rest of the twentieth century.

Beginning in 1930 and continuing for four decades, he played a leading role in the vital task of publishing autograph copies of the Hittite cuneiform texts, the medium that makes accessible to most of us the primary data for the Hittite language and all the information that the texts contain about Hittite civilization. His dissertation, published in two parts in the *Zeitschrift für Assyriologie* in 1934 and 1938, served as the foundation for what may fairly be termed a subdiscipline of its own: historiography in the Hittite and Babylonian traditions and more widely in the

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ancient world. As a look at current bibliographies will easily confirm, this topic — the rise of the very notion of "history" — remains a hotly debated issue at the start of a new century, and not just among scholars of the ancient Near East. His critical edition of the "Deeds of Suppiluliuma as Told by His Son, Mursili II," which appeared in the *Journal of Cuneiform Studies* in 1956, remains definitive after forty years (despite the inevitable need for supplements to deal with newly discovered manuscripts).

The arrival in Boğazköy in 1936 of two other epigraphers who could deal with the Hittite cuneiform texts, and the discovery of large numbers of clay bullae in the Hittite capital, led Hans Güterbock to pursue a quite different avenue of research: the personal seals inscribed with "Hittite" hieroglyphs. His two-volume work on this topic, published in 1940 and 1942 (through the offices of Ernst Weidner), may again be characterized as seminal. He continued to make important contributions to the elucidation of the hieroglyphs, a script of native Anatolian invention, throughout his career. In fact, his penultimate article in 1998 dealt with the proper readings of certain hieroglyphic signs and their consequences.

In 1946 he published both Turkish and German editions of the Hittite version of the Hurrian myths of Kumarbi, followed in 1951–52 by his critical edition of the Song of Ullikummi, the Hittite rendering of a related Hurrian myth. Since until very recently our understanding of the Hurrian language itself was severely limited, these efforts were crucial in bringing to light for the modern world Near Eastern analogues to mythological themes appearing in classical Greek sources. The question of the timing, degree, and direction of cultural contacts between Bronze Age Greece and the ancient Near East has not since gone away, and in recent years the topic has regained prominence. Hans Güterbock played a lively role in the debate, including the much-vexed "Aḫḫiyawa question."

I quoted at the beginning of this memorial the words of the Hittite Prayer of Kantuzzili. This prayer is part of a series of Hittite prayers whose complex compositional history was elucidated by Hans Güterbock himself in a famous 1958 article. We also have from his pen many articles on various aspects of Hittite deities and religious practices.

As should by now be clear, there is no aspect of our understanding of Hittite civilization to which he did not materially contribute. I cannot refrain, however, from closing this survey with some remarks on his last monograph, a critical edition of *The Hittite Instruction for the Royal Bodyguard (IBoT 1.36)*, published in collaboration with Theo van den Hout, who would one day succeed to his position at the Oriental Institute, in 1991. This work beautifully illustrates many of his outstanding strengths as a scholar. As one learns from the preface, the published version represents the results of a lifetime of study (beginning with his own autograph of the text in 1934!). The analyses incorporate insights not only of Hans Güterbock himself, but also of a veritable "who's who" of Hittitology, gleaned from seminars and discussions held over a half-century. My highest praise is reserved for the sovereign translation (N.B. not into the author's Muttersprache!). As I noted in my published review of the book, this is decidedly not the usual evasively literal "translationese" of scholarly editions. One may (rarely) disagree with the translation, but there is no doubt about what the author is claiming the text means, and more importantly this is clear to the general reader who does not know Hittite. This trait is characteristic of Hans Güterbock's translations in general, but the unusual difficulties presented by this text increase one's admiration for the accomplishment.

With the arrival of Harry A. Hoffner, Jr. at the University of Chicago in 1974, Hans Güterbock entered into a long and fruitful collaboration on his most ambitious scholarly undertaking: a comprehensive dictionary of the Hittite language, modeled after the nonpareil *Chicago Assyrian Dictionary*. It is neither necessary nor proper for me to expound to readers of this report on the details of the *Chicago Hittite Dictionary* project. Those readers outside the Oriental

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Institute may learn the essentials from the preface to *Volume L–N* (1980), pp. xiii–xviii. As someone who has undertaken lexical projects on a decidedly more modest scale, I can fully appreciate the incredible effort needed to master the overwhelming amount of detail while making the important facts accessible to readers in a succinct and accurate form. I will not repeat here the praise from my published reviews (*JAOS* 116 and 117). It is sufficient to say that *The Hittite Dictionary of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago* is the crowning achievement to the career of Hans Güterbock, and it was good to learn from Harry Hoffner that he was able to assure Hans on the very day of his death that the dictionary's future is solid in terms of both financial support and editorial expertise.

Since I did not have the privilege to work closely with Hans Güterbock as an immediate colleague, I have focused my remarks on the significance of his published work. However, I will close by briefly repeating here the incident I recalled for the congratulatory volume for his ninetieth birthday celebration. When I completed my dissertation on Hittite in 1977, I sent, with youthful audacity, unsolicited copies to four leading senior Hittitologists. From the other three I received very cordial and positive — but understandably brief — replies. Hans sent me a letter of *seven* single-spaced pages — a very positive general evaluation followed by detailed page-by-page comments. He concluded by apologizing that he really could not spend more time at the moment and must break off. Needless to say, nothing could have been more encouraging to a beginner than such close respectful scrutiny from one of the leading Hittitologists in the world! The lasting legacy of Hans Güterbock lies not only in his trail blazing scholarship, but also in his personal influence on his students and all those whose careers he nurtured.

H. Craig Melchert
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Helen Culver Ewing Breasted
1909–2000

As the *Annual Report* was in the final stages of preparation, the Institute received word of the death of Helen Breasted, the daughter-in-law of Institute founder James Henry Breasted. Mrs. Breasted's daughter, Barbara Breasted Whitesides, remains a regular visitor to the Institute Archives, and we extend her and the entire Breasted family our sympathies.

Margaret Bell Cameron
1916–2000

Few friends of the Institute have had as long, as varied, or as enriching a relationship with the Institute as Margaret Bell Cameron. Mrs. Cameron was for two decades Chair of the Oriental Institute Visiting Committee and was a Life Trustee of the University of Chicago. Her passing is mourned by the Institute as a whole and by the many faculty and staff members who knew her.

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Ira G. Marks
1921–2000

Ira was a perfect representative of the generation that saw Hyde Park through the changes of the last half-century, changes that have made the neighborhood such a unique and invigorating place. With his wife Janina, Ira long took an active interest in the Institute's work and development.

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ARCHAEOLOGY

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Overleaf. Well where Hamoukar Expedition found houses with large ovens and stamp seals. Area B, Hamoukar, 1999. Photograph by Judith Franke

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AMUQ VALLEY REGIONAL PROJECT

K. Aslıhan Yener

The Oriental Institute's Amuq Valley Regional Project season took place from 1 August to 22 September 1999 and consisted of a continuation of the Amuq Valley Survey, the first season of the Orontes Delta Survey, and the second full season of excavations at Tell Kurdu, one of the major prehistoric settlements in the Amuq Valley near Antakya (ancient Antioch), located in southernmost Turkey. The initial work in the Amuq Valley was undertaken in the 1930s by the Oriental Institute's "Syro-Hittite" Project, and included excavations at Kurdu (Braidwood and Braidwood, OIP 61) which exposed phases C–E, the Halaf-Ubaid portion of the sequence, in four trenches and completed the missing segments of the prehistoric sequence. Braidwood completed a regional survey, recording 178 sites, and made soundings at half a dozen sites to secure a ceramic chronology. The resulting Amuq sequence has remained the standard chronological framework for Near Eastern prehistory.

Amuq Valley Survey and Orontes Delta Survey

In 1995 the Oriental Institute returned to the Amuq Valley after a long hiatus with a survey that focused on the regional developments in the valley throughout its long history of occupation. Directed by Tony Wilkinson, this survey included both a geoarchaeological and a settlement component. Between 1995 and 1998 the settlement survey added 54 sites to the original list of 178. The geoarchaeological work during these same years greatly clarified the environmental and geomorphological history of the valley by documenting sedimentation across the valley, indicating shifts in the course of the Afrin and Orontes Rivers, and recording several episodes of lake formation. In addition to this regional work, the project team undertook salvage work at Tell Judaidah (1995), mapped Tells Dhahab (1995) and Imar (1998), and excavated at Tell Kurdu (1996, 1998, 1999).

The results of the previous years' Amuq Valley surveys show that between Amuq A (Neolithic) and the end of Phase E (Late Chalcolithic), the dominant settlement was located near the center of the valley. An east-west distribution of sites is apparent along an earlier course of the Afrin River, and another alignment along the Kizil Irk. The settlement patterns suggest a two-level hierarchy, the second level being represented by small 1 ha sites. Tell Kurdu was probably the main site, with a size of 11–14 ha during phases C to E, although it may not have been fully occupied in all phases. By phases H–I the main settlement had shifted towards the southern edge of the valley dominated by Tell Tayinat in the third millennium and by Tell Atchana in the second millennium. This shift in settlement to the junction of the east-west and north-south routes reflects the importance of commercial and political traffic for the economies of the Middle Bronze Age and later periods.

In 1999 the project consisted of three separate surveys, which both continued the survey within the valley proper and expanded westward into the Orontes River delta and the adjacent uplands of the Amanus Mountains. Timothy Harrison, University of Toronto, conducted a survey of third-millennium sites in the valley, looking specifically at the red-black burnished ware

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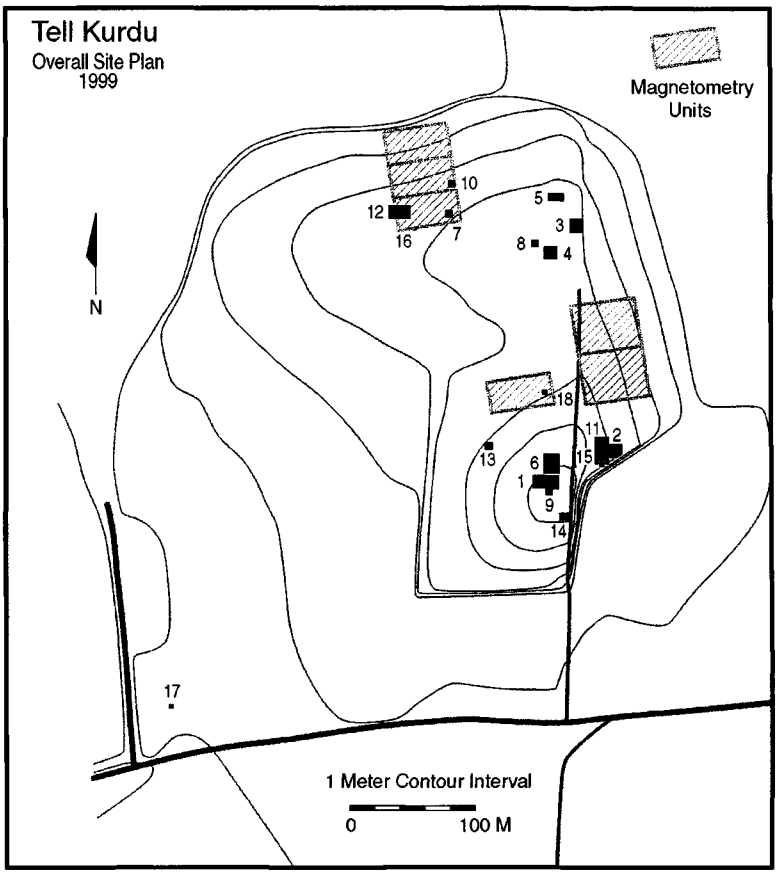


Figure 1. Site plan. Tell Kurdu, 1999

tradition in the Amuq. During the course of his investigations, a basalt fragment containing an Iron Age hieroglyphic Luwian inscription was discovered in the garden of a farm house on Tayinat al-Sughir. Earlier excavations at Tayinat had yielded several similar fragments.

The Orontes Delta Survey team expanded the Amuq survey further westward along the Orontes (Asi) River, providing new information about settlement in the coastal delta and along the Mediterranean shore. Co-directed by Hatice Pamir of the Mustafa Kemal University in Antakya, the team unearthed over thirty new sites in the delta near the coastal town of Samandağ. Although the majority of the sites were classical, Byzantine, and Islamic, the Late Bronze Age site of Sabuniye, first excavated by Sir Leonard Woolley, was rediscovered, measured, and intensively surveyed. In future seasons cores taken from the delta will allow us to reconstruct the ancient shoreline, which will provide a greater understanding of the settlement patterns in the delta area and eastward into the Amuq Valley. This should in turn help to clarify the movement of commodities from the Mediterranean, including the Aegean-related materials that appear at Tells Atchana/Alalakh, Chatal Hoyuk, Tayinat, and Judaidah.

Our reconnaissance of the mining regions in the Amanus Mountains continued in partnership with the Turkish MTA (Mineral and Research Institute General Directorate) and Boğaziçi University. Veins of arsenopyrites in conjunction with chalcopyrite were clearly evident in one of the many gallery entrances, presenting intriguing implications for the appearance and production of the very early arsenical bronzes (Amuq F) found at previous excavations at Amuq sites.

In addition to continuation of the projects discussed above, in future seasons we hope to initiate surveys in the Amanus foothills and mountains, begin full analyses of surface collections, and conduct an intensive second phase of survey work on specific sites such as Tayinat and Atchana, in order to examine a number of issues. The apparent lack of integration of the Amuq Valley within the Old Assyrian system of trading colonies is intriguing; it may be that another network operated to link Anatolia with Syro-Palestine. Another is how the kingdom of Mukish, with its capital at Alalakh/Tell Atchana, fits into the administrative and economic framework of

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the Hittite Empire, a matter that has so far proven archaeologically elusive. Future excavations at the pivotal sites of Tells Tayinat and Atchana will elucidate the nature of these dynamics.

Excavations at Tell Kurdu (Trenches 11–16)

The excavations at Tell Kurdu are the first part of a long-term project of excavations at several different mounds that seeks to examine chronological shifts in both intra- and interregional dynamics in the Amuq Valley. Another important target is to attain a fine-grained ceramic sequence for the region, both as a tool for analyzing surface collections for the regional survey and as a contribution to the chronological framework of southeastern Anatolia and western Syria. We chose Tell Kurdu because the mound was occupied during a period in which an important transformation was taking place, from the early domestication concerns of the Neolithic to the incipient urbanism of the Chalcolithic period. As a regional center, Kurdu undoubtedly played an important role in interregional interactions, and pottery styles point to connections with the Halaf and Ubaid of northern Mesopotamia. Raw materials from the neighboring Amanus Mountains (e.g., serpentine, various other stones, timber, and possibly copper and other metals) would have been the local commodities of value, and craft production probably supplied goods for both intraregional consumption and extraregional export.

Tell Kurdu consists of two mounds connected by a saddle (fig. 1). Under the field direction of Chris Edens, ten trenches of various sizes were placed on the northern and southern sectors of Tell Kurdu in 1998. Three large trenches and three smaller trenches were exposed in 1999 and revealed levels dating to Amuq E (Ubaid-related, ca. 4800–4400/4300 BC), Amuq D (ca. 5200–4800 BC), and a late phase of Amuq C (Halaf-related, ca. 5700–5200 BC). Based on the excavation results, the extent of the Amuq E settlement on the south mound can now be estimated at 2–3 ha. The Amuq E deposits formed a small but comparatively high mound.

Trench 11 and trench 15 were placed to the west of and adjacent to a building exposed in 1998. Three phases of pottery kilns, both square and round, formed three sides of a central open space (fig. 2). Fragments of other kilns could also be discerned. Numerous wasters and considerable ceramic slag suggest that pottery was produced at a level above a cottage industry and that it was a specialized craft product. Adjacent to and within the kilns were both dark-faced burnished wares and Ubaid-like monochrome painted wares dating to Amuq phase E, which are parallel with examples found at Hammam et-Turkman in the Balikh Valley (level IVA) and Ras Shamra on the Syrian coast (level IIIB). Benjamin Diebold, the ceramics specialist for the excavation, re-

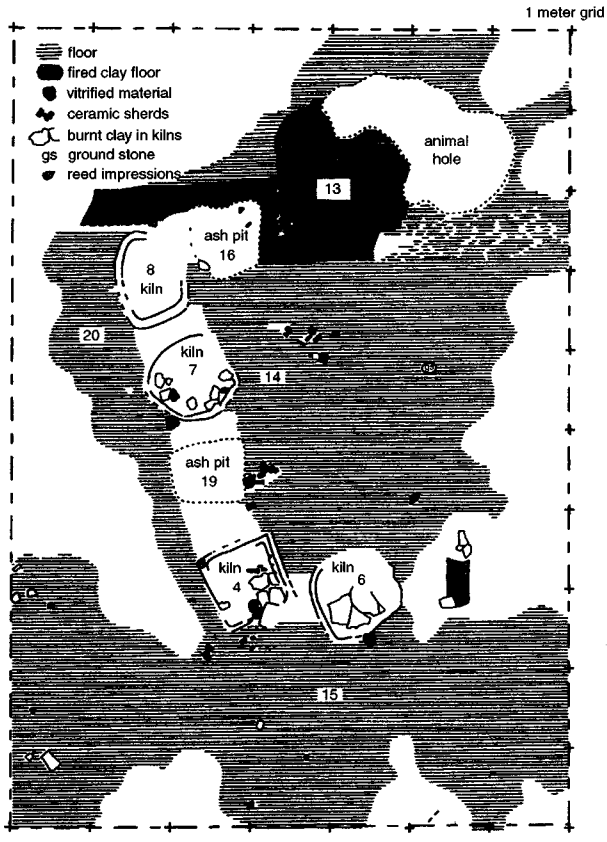


Figure 2. Kilns, trench 11. Tell Kurdu, Ubaid period

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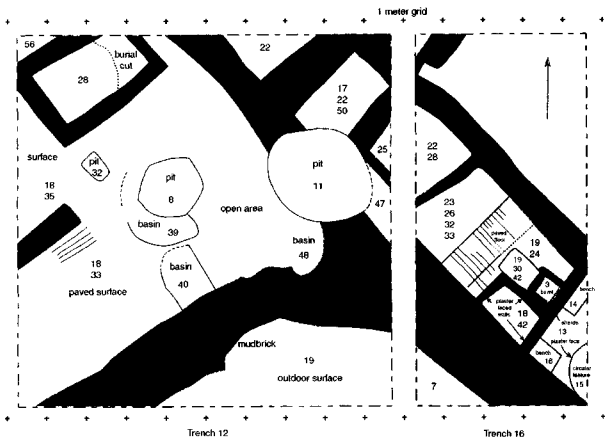


Figure 3. Multi-room house, trenches 12 and 16. Tell Kurdu, Halaf period

ported that the ceramics included many straight-necked jars characteristically decorated with bands and swags, sinuous-sided bowls and cups in both plain and bichrome wares; bowls with multiple-brush wavy line designs were by far the dominant motif. Quantitatively, 7% of the total assemblage from trenches 11 and 15 was dark-faced burnished ware, agreeing with the earlier results from the Braidwood excavations. However, only 28% of the total sherd assemblage (by count, not weight) was painted, in contrast to the approximately 75% frequency indicated in the Braidwood report.

Trench 14 contained a step trench over the east slope of the south mound and was intended to cover the modern mound surface to virgin soil below the present level of the surrounding plain. What appeared to be a terrace platform was partially visible in a bulldozer cut, and the step trench was placed to investigate its connection to the large multi-room building made of pisé slabs excavated on the summit in 1998. Part of a building as well as bedded trash deposits were found in association with two ovens in a corner of the room. The trash deposits contained numerous fragments of clay sealings (fig. 5), tokens, figurines, and beads. The dominant component of the ceramic assemblage was a very finely made, Ubaid-like monochrome painted ware, much like that found in the large building on the summit. Many designs are congruent with those from Hammam et-Turkman (level IVA) and Tepe Gawra in northern Mesopotamia (levels XV–XVII, ca. 4700–4350 BC). Multiple-brush wavy line patterns are striking and common during phase E at Tell Kurdu as indicated by the burials discovered in 1998. Stratigraphic considerations suggest that these ceramics are earlier than those from trenches 11 and 15. The assemblages from these trenches, then, may serve as a basis for a preliminary subdivision of the Amuq E phase at Tell Kurdu, to be explored in future work.

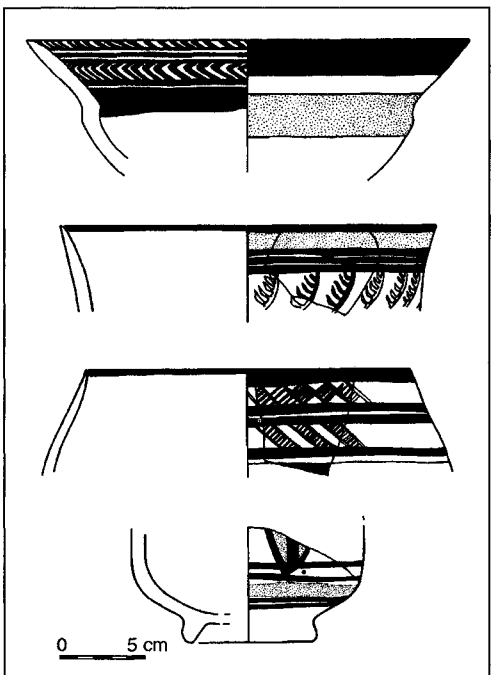


Figure 4. Ceramics. Tell Kurdu

Trench 12 and trench 16 were placed at the west end of a building partly revealed by a magnetometer reading in 1998 on the northern part of the site. A courtyard and a second open space framed by a multi-room rectilinear structure with surprisingly thick walls of puddled mud were unearthed (fig. 3). This trench produced the earliest assemblage, corresponding with Amuq phases C and D, and probably contained a late Halaf-related culture with a very strong local component. As suggested in the Braidwood report, the characteristic Amuq dark-faced burnished ware was common in this phase, although not as common as its unburnished counterpart. Although the Braidwoods

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suggest that 35–40% of the phase C assemblage was dark-faced burnished ware, our findings indicate that only 27% of rims and 14% of the total sherd bulk (including body sherds) were burnished.

Of special note are generic Halaf-related elements including carinated bowls with bucrania and a body sherd in Halaf style (fig. 4), made of a finely levigated, well-fired creamy paste with lustrous red paint decorated with dotted circles. Excellent parallels can also be found at Umm Qseir, in the middle Khabur River area of northeastern Syria. This assemblage is dominated by dark-faced unburnished cooking wares, dark-faced burnished wares including very fine, thin-walled jars with a nearly lacquer-like finish in black, and larger forms, including basins and a large, heavy, highly polished storage jar. Good parallels can be found at Ras Shamra (level IVC) and in the Rouj Basin.

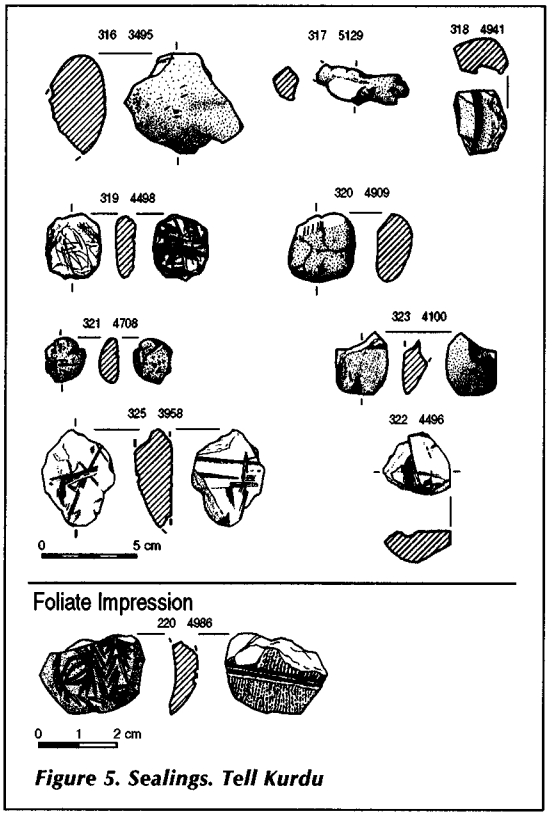


Figure 5. Sealings. Tell Kurdu

Small finds include a number of important administrative devices. The corpus consists of geometrically shaped tokens that bear considerable resemblance to those at Tepe Gawra (level XVIII, ca. 4900–4800 BC) and decorated stamp seals as well as stamp seals in very unusual shapes. Seals in the form of small, stylized dogs, miniature fingers or hoofs, similar impressions on ceramics (cf. Gawra XI, ca. 3700–3600 BC = first mixed range in the Amuq), and double conical seals were the most amusing (fig. 6). Beads with incised figurative designs again with close resemblance to those at Tepe Gawra (level XIII, ca. 4250–4000 BC), occurred in a whole variety of shapes, although in less secure contexts. One in particular, a cylindrical bead, may represent an early stage of the use of beads as seals, something that appears at other sites during the subsequent Uruk period. A sealing (fig. 5 bottom) with a foliate impression from a secure context in the step trench resembles examples found at Tepe Gawra (level XIII) and the late-Ubaid site of Değirmentepe in eastern Turkey and may be indicative of long distance communication. Bailing tags, basket sealings, and other lumps of mud, some impressed with fingerprints, tokens, or string, indicate a complex management of commodities at the site.

The considerable numbers of polished stone objects (axes, adzes, bowls, maces, pendants, and beads) were made of a variety of stones, including serpentine, obsidian, nephrite, basalt, marble, gabbro, and soapstone. Clay objects included painted figurines similar to examples found at Tepe Gawra (level XVII), miniature human figurines with conical headgear and cylindrical skirts (Amuq E), and other animal figurines. Tiny fragments of copper suggest that metal was also a part of the assemblage at this site.

In conclusion, the recently initiated excavation project has begun to address the nature of Tell Kurdu's interregional interactions, the relation between local consumption and importation, and the nature of the important transition from the Halaf to Ubaid and Ubaid to Uruk periods, issues that have compelling implications for other regions, as well.

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Acknowledgments

The illustrations for this article were prepared by Brenda Craddock and Peggy Sanders. The excavation staff included the following people: Aslıhan Yener (University of Chicago), project director; Christopher Edens (University of Pennsylvania), excavation director; Steven Batiuk (University of Toronto), Jesse Casana (University of Chicago), Rana Özbal (Northwestern University), Amir Sumakai-Fink (University of Chicago), Bakiye Yükmen (Mustafa Kemal University), trench supervisors; Bülent Demir, Özlem Dogan, Lale Dögüscü, Serap Güzel, Dilem Karaköse, Halim Kes (Mustafa Kemal University), Heather Snow (University of Toronto), Nadine Chenier (Laval University), trench assistants; Benjamin Diebold (Yale University), pottery analysis; Heidi Ekstrom (Saint Mary's University), flotation and botanical analysis; Michelle Loyet (University of Illinois), faunal analysis; Brenda Craddock (independent scholar), illustration; Holly Lundberg (Field Museum of Natural History) and Marcela Rossello (Queen's University, Kingston), conservators; Çiğdem Lüle (Ankara University), mineralogy of small finds; and Bryan Earl (independent scholar), Ergun Kaptan (MTA Mineral and Research General Directorate), and Hadi Özbal (Boğaziçi University), archaeometallurgical survey. Cemil Gürbüz and his geophysics team from Kandilli Observatory at Boğaziçi University applied the magnetometer at Kurdu. Ahmet Beyazlar served as the General Directorate representative. The research was conducted under the auspices of the Turkish Ministry of Culture, Directorate General of Monuments and Museums. In Ankara we have been greatly assisted by the Acting General Director of Monuments and Museums, Kenan Yurttagül. We thank the Antakya Archaeological Museum director and staff members Hüseyin Dinçer, Faruk Kılınç, Murat Süslü, and Aslı Tütüncüoğlu. Special acknowledgment and thanks go to the Mustafa Kemal University and its rector, Haluk Ipek, Provost Miktat Doğanlar, and Dean Berna Alpagut for their continued help and guidance.

The research was supported by grants from the Oriental Institute, the Institute of Aegean Prehistory, the Kress Foundation, the Fulbright Program, Boğaziçi University, and numerous private donors. We are particularly grateful to both the Oriental Institute and its members who contributed financially to the success of the project. Special thanks go to the Friends of the Amuq Valley Regional Project: Sel Yackley, Matt Argon, Muammer Akgun, Ercan Alp, Tuncer Kuzay, Ayhan Lash, Katherine Miller, Yüksel Selçukoğlu, Emel Singer, and James Stoynoff, as well as to Malcolm H. Wiener for their continued support of the Amuq Valley Regional Project.

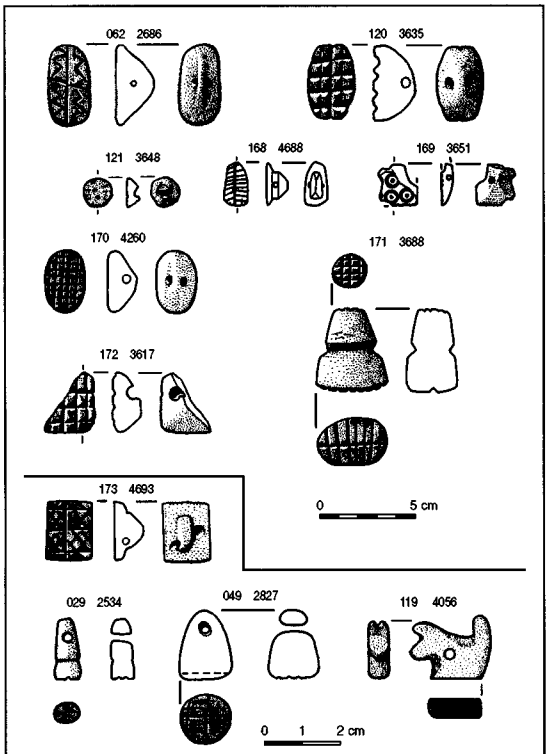


Figure 6. Stamp seals. Tell Kurdu

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DIYALA OBJECTS PUBLICATION PROJECT

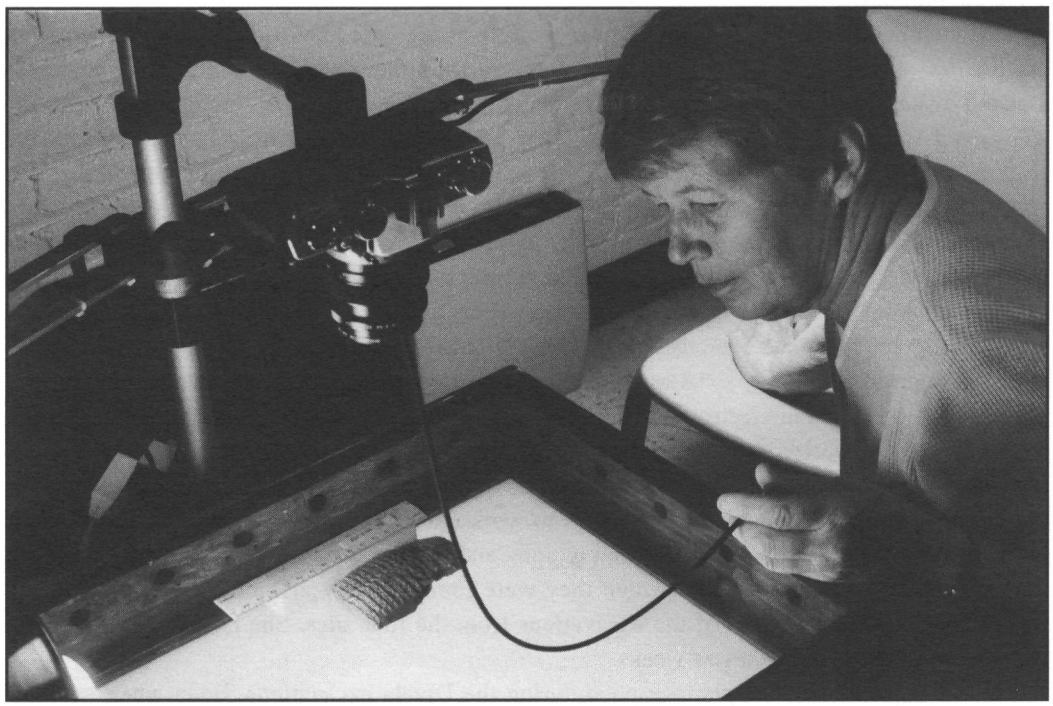
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The past year has been a very productive one for the Diyala Objects Publication Project. A grant from the Provost's Academic Technology Innovation Program allowed us not only to continue the work begun on a three year National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) grant, but also to expand our activities considerably.

The purpose of this project is to make available to the scholarly world the 12,000 "miscellaneous" objects that were found during the Oriental Institute's excavations at four sites — Agrab, Asmar, Ishchali, and Khafaje — in the Diyala region of central Iraq between 1930 and 1937. The Diyala excavations were, for their day, a model of excavation, recording, and publishing, and the nine volumes that were produced have remained basic for Mesopotamian archaeology and art. But the very important body of material termed "Miscellaneous Objects" was never finished.

The term "miscellaneous" does not do credit to some categories of objects, such as baked clay plaques, jewelry, and metal objects, which show excellence in artistry or craft. But it is not just the "beautiful" objects that are of interest, since the most mundane kinds of items can give important information on daily life or sacred ritual.

From the beginning of this project, in the mid-1990s, we have been incorporating computer technology, and as that technology changes, we are altering our ideas of what "publishing" means. Increasingly, we are seeing the advantages of electronic presentation. All the data have been entered into a set of relational databases that can be sorted and queried many ways. Thus, for example, we can ask for specific lists of all stone objects, or all metal bowls but not plates, or all metal bowls from Tell Asmar but not from the other three sites in the Diyala. In the future,



Volunteer Betsy Kremers takes picture of one of the cuneiform tablets from Tell Asmar stored in basement of Oriental Institute. Photograph by Clemens Reichel



One of the tablets, a legal text (ca. 1930 BC) with impressions of two seals, found at Tell Asmar. Photograph by Betsy Kremers

the database users will be able to ask questions that we have not thought of. Along with descriptions, measurements, and other textual data, we have also entered all existing photographs and drawings of these objects by scanning, and we have linked these illustrations to the databases so that one can see what is being described. Putting a corpus of materials of this size on the Internet would be a milestone in web publication for the ancient Near East and it would further the use of the Internet as a primary research tool. We are still thinking of keeping an option open for those who want to hold a book rather than click a mouse and will probably produce paper versions of some parts of the data on demand.

The size of the database, especially with the photographs, was beyond the capacity of the computers we began with in 1995. Thanks to the grant from the Provost's office we were able to buy a new PowerMac G3 and two external hard drives that have now increased our storage capacities to ca. 40 gigabytes. That's a lot of memory and we can now access all the data quickly. But that capability will not last indefinitely. A rapidly increasing number of images will eventually present us once again with problems of manipulating data. We are aware of great advances in memory just over the horizon and we assume that a new set of computers will be available to solve the problems.

Last summer Clemens Reichel took over the role as the coordinator of the project, supervising the data entry, the work of volunteers, computer programming, and digital imaging. He is assisted by another graduate student, Colleen Coyle, who works part time on data entry and the analysis of archaeological objects. The project would be much farther from its goal without the work of some remarkable volunteers, who have devoted much of their free time, special skills, and enthusiasm to this project. Joyce Weil has been scanning object photographs for us since 1996, initially working with a flatbed scanner and later with the large-scale negative scanner at the Digital Media Laboratory. She completed this task in August 1999, having scanned 2,150 images showing 7,500 objects. Joyce then moved on to a new challenge, the scanning of all other photographs that had been taken during the Diyala excavations. Most of these photographs were never printed and only exist as negatives in the Oriental Institute Archives. We are, thus, preserving the images in electronic form for future generations as well as for immediate use in our own project. This work is essential since it is often impossible to understand and evaluate plans and field notes without seeing an actual photograph of the excavation. The plans and photographs of the excavations make it possible to work out findspots for the objects, and it is our intention to present on-line not just photographs and drawings of the objects but also photographs and plans of the places in which they were found. In the past nine months, Joyce has scanned over 1,100 negatives of the excavations from the four sites. She hopes to complete all the negatives within the next few weeks.

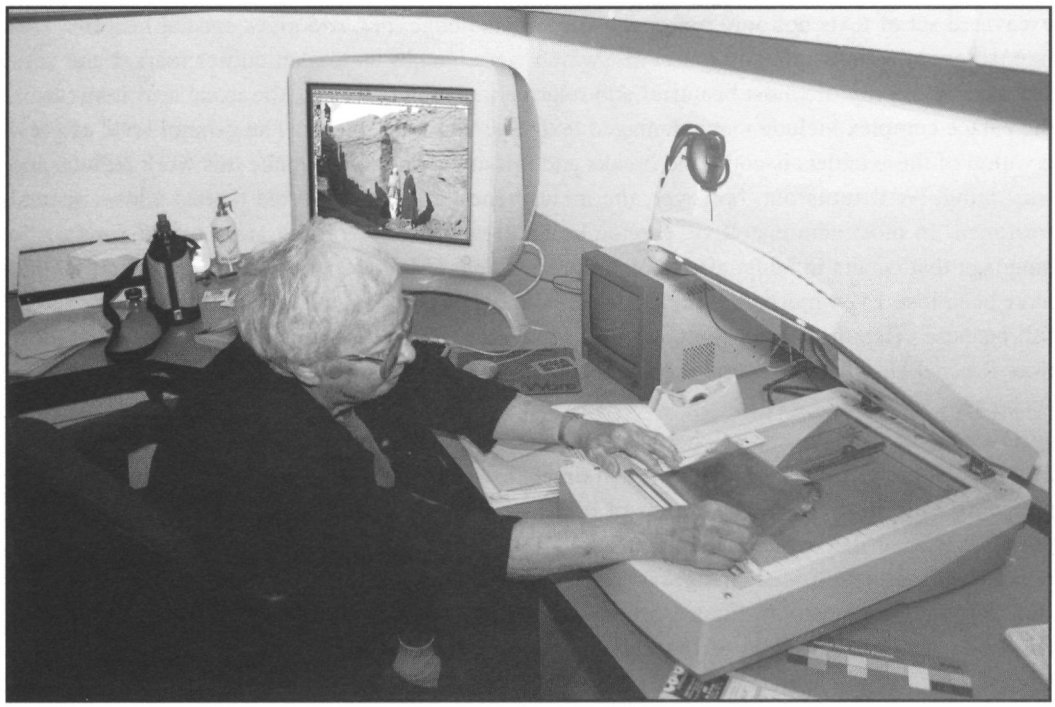
Not all objects had been photographed during the Diyala excavations. Even when we have the old photographs, some are too poor in quality to be of use. It was clear that we needed additional photographs of several thousand objects stored here at the Oriental Institute, leaving aside

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for now the thousands of others that are in the Iraq Museum. We were more than fortunate when Betsy Kremers joined our project in 1998 as our object photographer. Between 1998 and 1999 she took some 1,230 new pictures of weights, inlays, beads, jewelry, metal pins, stamp seals, and cylinder seals, before moving on to photograph the 1,500 unpublished tablets from the excavations at Tell Asmar. Tablet photography posed a new challenge for Betsy since tablets need to be photographed with a raking light source. The angle at which the light falls onto the tablet is crucial in assuring the readability of the tablet's inscription. In addition, details such as shallow seal impressions on the tablets are very important but are also easily overlooked. The seal impressions often need a separate close-up shot with different illumination. In the last nine months, Betsy has taken almost 1,500 photographs of about 300 tablets, which subsequently have been scanned and are now available on the computer for further research. With increased ease in the routine and with improved equipment, she hopes to finish this monumental task within the next two years.

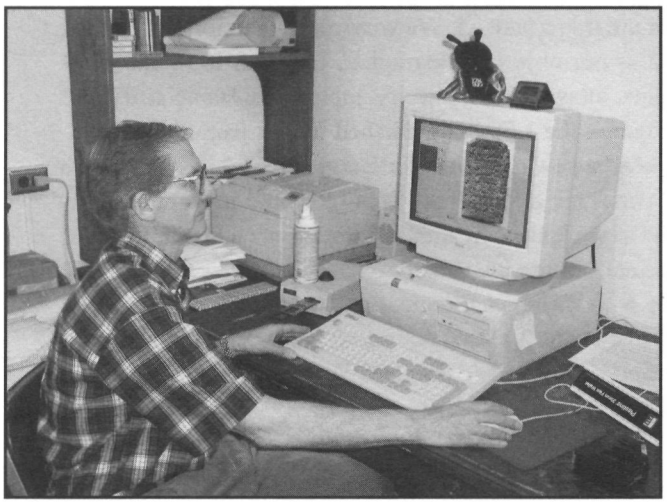
Initially about a thousand of the new photographs were scanned by Richard Harter on the 35 mm negative scanner housed in the Oriental Institute's Computer Laboratory. Richard's patience and perfectionism in carefully focusing, adjusting, and scanning these images is admirable, and none of us want to hazard a guess at how many hours he spent working for us. Although we began sending out the negatives to a professional laboratory to be scanned and burned onto CDs, we still rely heavily on Richard for detailed work on images.

Having these skilled and almost independently-working volunteers has greatly reduced the work load of the staff members. Thus, apart from digital enhancements and regular updates of computer programs, Clemens Reichel was able to devote most of his time to the analysis of sealings and tablets from Tell Asmar (Eshnunna), which are not only a critical part of the overall project, but also form the basis of his doctoral dissertation. Reichel's dissertation work has



Volunteer Joyce Weil scans large-scale negative of photograph taken during excavations at Tell Asmar in Digital Media Laboratory of the University of Chicago. Photograph by Clemens Reichel

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Volunteer Richard Harter scans negative of cuneiform tablet at 35 mm negative scanner in Oriental Institute's Computer Laboratory. Photograph by John Sanders

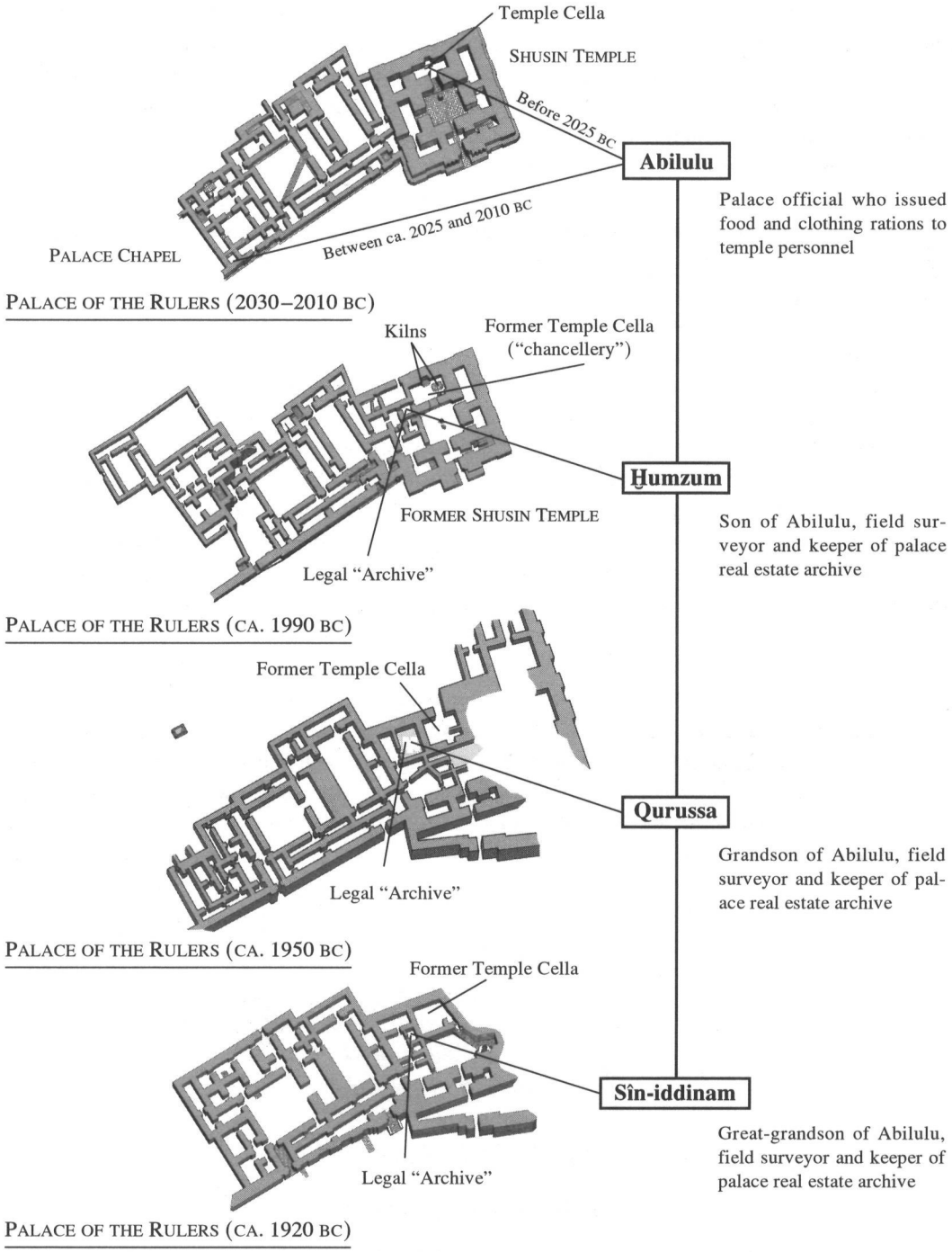
served as a pilot project to test first the completeness of the database and then the programs that manipulate it.

Reichel is addressing one of the most important building complexes exposed in the Diyala, the Shusin temple and the Palace of the Rulers at Eshnunna (Tell Asmar), an administrative complex that was built around 2070 BC when the area was ruled by a provincial governor under the kings of the Ur III dynasty. This palace became the seat of government after Eshnunna gained its independence from Ur around 2025 BC and stayed in use, with several major rebuildings, for more than two centuries thereafter. These years were politically turbulent, evidence for which can be correlated with several architectural phases of this building complex. A temple built for the divine King Shusin of Ur around 2030 BC at the northeast side of the palace, for example, was desecrated after Eshnunna became an independent kingdom, and the former sanctuary was soon turned into a workshop.

Reichel's work attempts to link the archaeological and architectural evidence with information gained from the 1,200 cuneiform texts found in this building, thereby gaining new insights into the function of the various parts of the palace as it changed through time. Dealing with an excavated set of texts not only presents a special challenge, but also gives special benefits. Unlike tablet collections in many museums, which were bought on the antiquities market and consist usually of only the most beautiful and relatively complete tablets, the excavated items from the palace complex include many damaged texts and tablet fragments. The general level of preservation of these tablets is poor, and breaks and missing pieces often make this work tedious and frustrating. As it turns out, however, the inclusiveness of the excavated tablets allows special treatment. In most administrative, economic, and legal texts there is a great use of formalistic language that occurs in tablet after tablet, making it possible to reconstruct the bits of a text that have been lost. Even more important, preserved parts of personal names can be reconstructed in full because often the same people are listed on other tablets that were found in the same location. Reichel has written several computer search programs that make it easy to find matches in such cases.

Over the last two years, Reichel has been able to build a much more comprehensive picture of this palace and its development through time. One of Reichel's most significant discoveries is the continuation in service of families of officials for several generations (see figure on facing page). It is clear that they retained their powerful positions in the administration despite severe political turmoil and forced changes of government. An example of such a family of officials is shown in the accompanying figure, where four generations remained in the palace from the Ur III period well into the time of the Eshnunna kingdom, a span of more than a hundred years. Conclusions like this would not have been possible without the initial steps of computerizing all of the architectural, archaeological, and textual data, and analyzing them from a number of angles.

FOUR GENERATIONS OF ONE FAMILY IN THE PALACE OF THE RULERS



Example of a family line of officials that can be followed through four phases in the architecture of the Palace of the Rulers at Tell Asmar (Eshnunna). Until ca. 2025 BC, the official Abilulu worked as an administrator in the temple cella of Shusin temple. Following the end of the Ur III dynasty's control over Eshnunna and the desecration of the Shusin temple, Abilulu was transferred to work in the Palace Chapel. Abilulu's son, grandson, and great-grandson later formed a three-generation family line of highly specialized land surveyors. Their names are attested in a legal "archive" found next to the former cella of Shusin temple, which subsequently served as a "chancellery" and contained two kilns used for baking tablets. Scale ca. 1:1600

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Another body of material in which we can also show significant results is the collection of stone weights that Colleen Coyle has analyzed. A set of weights consists of a large weight and fractions of that unit (e.g., a mina, a half mina, a quarter mina, etc.), with the fractions often indicated by incised marks. In her analysis of the weights, she has found evidence of several systems operating in the Diyala. This conclusion is important in viewing ancient economy as well as assessing the attempts of central administrations to regulate commerce. Some of the weights seem to be foreign to Mesopotamia, but they were needed because goods were coming from abroad and the merchants or administrators in the Diyala had to be able to make equivalents from the foreign to the local weight systems. That situation is not so unusual. Today, we have a similar mixing of weights and measures. Despite the fact that grams, kilograms, liters, meters, and kilometers are more rational, we do not abandon ounces, pounds, pints, quarts, feet, yards, or miles. And we have measuring devices and different sets of wrenches that reflect the mixture of systems.

In her work, Colleen has gained expertise in identifying stones and is now putting that skill to very good use on items such as beads, mace heads, and other stone objects. The petrographic work and related analyses using a scanning electron microscope and X-ray diffraction techniques can give crucial information that links specific items to one another by chemical markers. A set of stone objects with the same composition, especially if there is a rare mineral or element, can be assumed to have come from the same source, and most of the stones in Mesopotamia are from outside the area. Thus, if a set of objects that has been judged by style to have come from the Indus were to have a similar composition, we can say more surely that they were from that region.

We have accomplished a great deal in the past five years and are now beginning to move toward the "publication" stage, even while still finishing categories of objects. As a first step in our commitment to making this material available as soon as possible, we plan to put some of it (most likely the weights and the seal impressions) on the web with a link at the Oriental Institute home page or another University web page during the year. Some of the tablets may follow. We have just received word that the Provost's grant has been renewed for one more year. This grant will allow us to keep the staff on salary and buy a new computer to be used for web publication and digital imaging. Crucial in this work, as in our previous efforts, will be the interest and diligence of our volunteers. They have been magnificent and we hope they do not tire of us.

EPIGRAPHIC SURVEY

W. Raymond Johnson

On 15 April 2000, the Epigraphic Survey completed its seventy-sixth six-month field season. The primary documentation efforts of the survey this year continued to be focused on the small Amun temple of Hatshepsut and Thutmose III at Medinet Habu where the penciling and collating of facsimile drawings continued in the bark sanctuary and ambulatory of Thutmose III. Conservation on the rooftop was resumed, as was the cleaning of the painted reliefs inside the sanctuary. Backfill debris in the two middle chambers of the sanctuary was carefully examined

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prior to repaving next season, and fragments of a colossal granodiorite dyad of Thutmose III and Amun were recovered for eventual restoration in the central chamber. The inscribed, deteriorating northern well of Ramesses III was completely photographed. At Luxor temple twenty damp-coursed storage and treatment platforms were constructed in the expanded southeast blockyard, conservation was resumed on deteriorating block fragments, a block registry was started by the epigraphers in the southern area, and over two hundred block fragments from that area were moved up off the ground onto the new mastabas.

Hatshepsut and Thutmose III Amun Temple at Medinet Habu

From 15 October 1999 to 15 April 2000 the Epigraphic Survey artists and epigraphers, supervised by senior epigrapher Edward (Ted) Castle, continued to painstakingly pencil, ink, and correct drawings of the bark sanctuary reliefs in the small temple of Amun and on the pillars of the bark sanctuary ambulatory (fig. 1).

These scenes present great challenges because of the extensive revisions that occurred after the original carving. In the inner sanctuary, sometime after the death of Hatshepsut, her figures were suppressed, appropriated, or recarved into something else, often elaborate piles of offerings, by Thutmose III. All over the Eighteenth Dynasty temple figures of the gods (with the exception of Re-Horakhty and Atum) were chiseled away by Akhenaten's iconoclasts and restored later by his successors, sometimes more than once. Further restorations and renewals occurred later under the Ptolemies. The different phases make this monument one of the most complex the Epigraphic Survey has ever tackled, and our challenge is to differentiate and communicate all of the different carved revisions in our drawings.

One new epigrapher, Briant Bohleke, who also serves as Chicago House librarian, was trained on-site this season. Marjorie Fisher also continued her epigraphic training in the studio in January, and at the wall as well. Eight new drawings were penciled at the wall by the artists for inking over the summer, and twenty-eight additional drawings were collated and checked at the wall by the epigraphers and artists (fig. 2). They will be published in the second volume projected for the small temple of Amun at Medinet Habu, devoted primarily to the Thutmoside bark sanctuary area.

The 1999/2000 season saw the fourth year of a five-year grant, generously approved by the Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA) and the Egyptian Antiquities Project (EAP) of the American Research Center, for conservation and documentation of the Thutmoside Amun temple at Medinet Habu and its later additions. This season's pri-

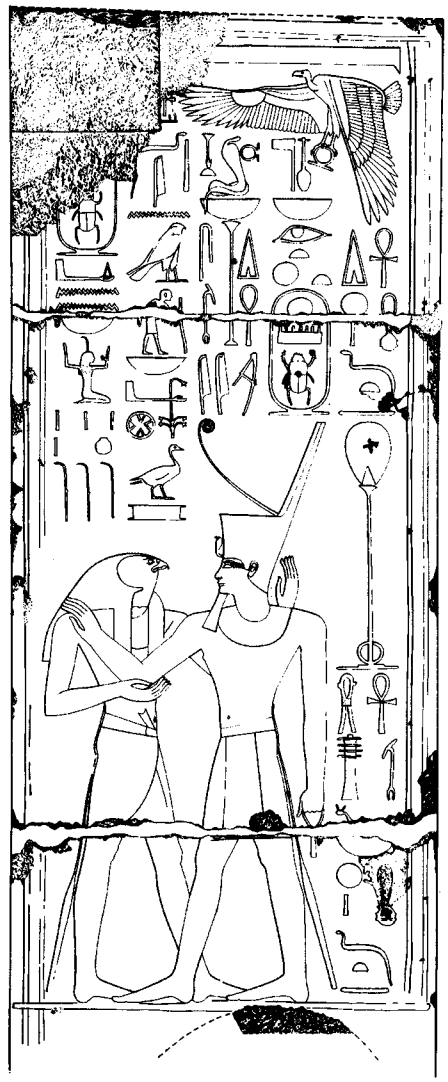


Figure 1. Inscribed pillar face MHB 130, bark sanctuary ambulatory, small temple of Amun at Medinet Habu. Facsimile drawing by Andrew Baumann and Margaret De Jong. Photograph by Yarko Kobylecky

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mary conservation work continued on the rooftop of the Thutmoside temple and inside the painted chapels.

In the sanctuary, conservator Lotfi Hassan, assisted by conservators Adel Aziz and Veronica Paglione, initiated the cleaning of the painted reliefs in the southeast chamber, with wonderful results. They completed the cleaning of about 75% of the total wall surface (fig. 3) and 80% of the ceiling, which revealed yellow stars painted against a dark background. The phases of the conservation process this season were as follows:

1. Examination and documentation
2. Cleaning process, mechanical and chemical
3. Extraction of salts
4. Consolidation of the color layers and stone degradation surface
5. Repointing of the missing parts and micro- and macrocracks

Lotfi, Adel, and Veronica also replaced some of the mortar infilling at the bases of the south and east walls in the same room, which had decayed due to rising damp. They did the same in the two central chambers of the sanctuary where needed.

Stonecutter Dany Roy resumed the roofwork begun two seasons ago. On the north side of the sanctuary area, thirteen roof block slabs over the king's chamber on the north, replaced last season, were grouted with liquid mortar, which effectively sealed the area and re-activated an ancient Ptolemaic drainspout. He also cleaned, filled with mortar and crushed brick, and plugged with new patch stones several areas over the front, central chamber of the sanctuary and the bark sanctuary ambulatory. Where one small block over the ambulatory on the southwest side had decayed, Dany fashioned a new one complete with a beautifully carved drainspout (fig. 4). This now directs water from the upper roof area onto the lower roof and through another spout on the south off the roof altogether. In roof debris over the northeast corner of the bark sanctuary ambulatory, Dany found a small limestone stela (fig. 5) from the late Eighteenth Dynasty re-used as a chinking stone in the Ptolemaic period when the roof was first restored. It is inscribed for a "servant in the Place of [Truth]" (preserved height: 35 cm; width: 25 cm; depth: 5 cm), and was drawn by Artist Margaret De Jong.

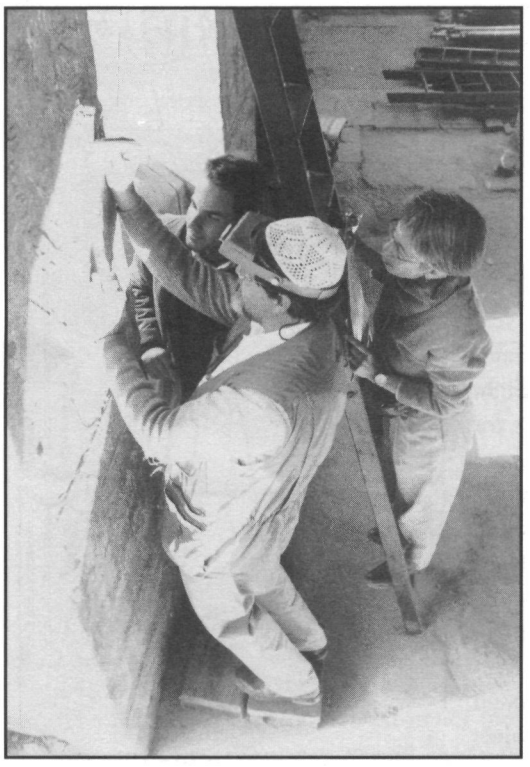


Figure 2. Epigraphers Brett McClain and Ted Castle and artist Sue Osgood discussing a point at the wall of small temple of Amun, Medinet Habu. Photograph by Yarko Kobylecky

Dany also supervised the removal of a half dozen large fragments (one weighing several tons) of a colossal granodiorite pair statue of Thutmose III and the god Amun that were found in the backfill debris in the two central chambers of the sanctuary. When Uvo Hölscher excavated the small Amun temple for the University of Chicago in the 1930s he was able to excavate down to the foundations in these two rooms because most of the flooring was

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missing (for Hölscher's excavations, see OIP 41). At that time Hölscher found the colossal statue group broken into pieces, but he removed only the broken upper section from the floor debris; he left the larger, lower section buried in the front chamber and refilled both rooms, mostly with the dirt and debris he took out of them.

Because the Epigraphic Survey plans to replace those floors with new sandstone paving slabs next season (cut and brought to the site this March), we decided to clean Hölscher's backfill and recover any artifacts he might have missed. Dany removed the lower statue fragment in the front room (with the generous assistance of Luxor SCA Chief Engineer Salaam and his workmen) and several other large pieces of the base (fig. 6). Egyptologist Christina Di Cerbo supervised the careful removal of the debris and the recovery of many more smaller granodiorite fragments in both rooms, along with miscellaneous pottery sherds, mostly medieval, including a few Coptic ostraca; Ellie Smith carefully washed and sorted much of the material. Cleaning also revealed a half dozen original, large paving blocks not recorded by Hölscher along the north and east sides of the first chamber, which angled down toward a medieval pit that his men had followed when they cleared the chamber. These blocks provide important information about the style and dimensions of the original paving stones that we can now incorporate into our restoration of the floor next season.

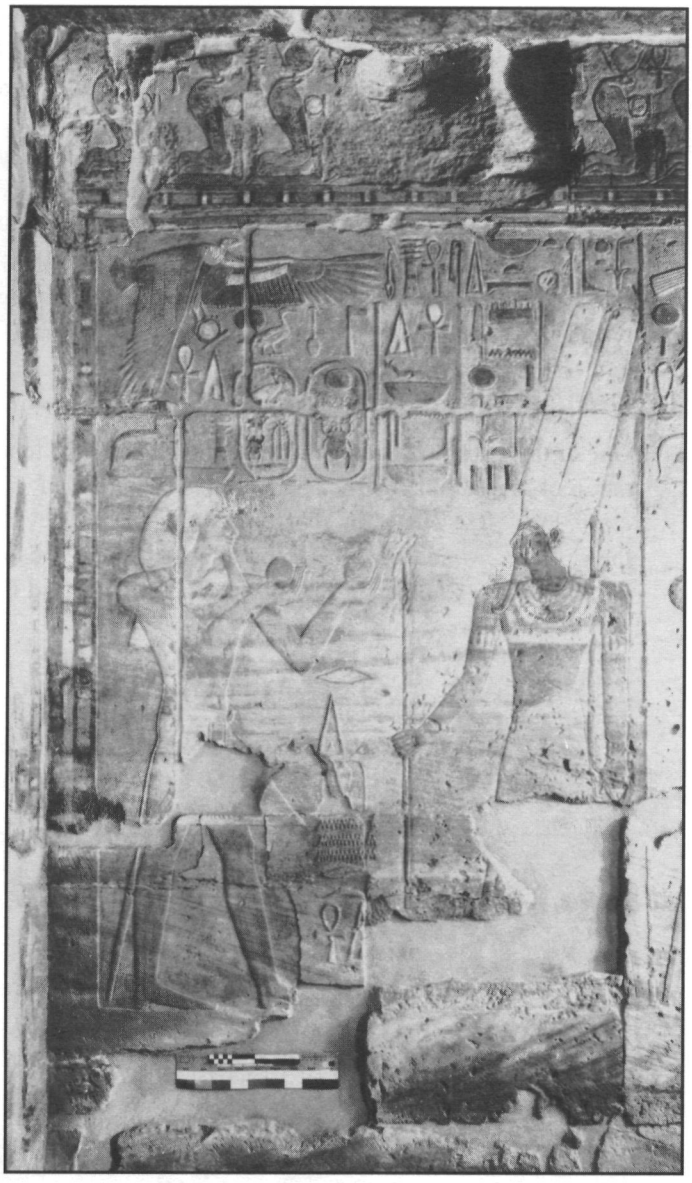


Figure 3. Detail of cleaned east wall of southeast sanctuary chamber, small temple of Amun, Medinet Habu. Photograph by Sue Lezon and Yarko Kobylecky

When we reached the foundation level of Hatshepsut's sanctuary in the front chamber, we found a pit in the center of the room that Hölscher had documented and mostly cleared. The sides of the pit, which he recorded as having been cut into virgin soil, surprisingly revealed horizontal plastered layers going well below the present water table. These layers may represent floor levels or they may be something else, and the feature seems to have gone unrecognized by Hölscher. In the back room we found the same plaster layers on the sides of a similar pit in the center of the room, also previously documented by Hölscher. Whatever this layered area was (its

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analysis will take some time), it was located behind an earlier stone sanctuary Hölscher found partly built into the front of Hatshepsut and Thutmose III's bark sanctuary (possibly dating to the Middle Kingdom); it had its own mudbrick enclosure wall and was important enough for Hatshepsut to "cap" with her new stone temple.

We refilled both rooms with original soil against the walls (to restore the balance of salt between the stone foundations and the soil next to them, thereby prohibiting the destructive migration of those salts) and layers of clean sand and gravel. While refilling the central room, Dany built a reinforced concrete, damp-coursed footing one-half-meter thick in the center of the room. This will provide a firm foundation for the three-meter-high pair statue that we will restore to its original position after the flooring is in place next season.

Southern Well of Ramesses III

One of the priorities of the season before last was the total large-format photographic documentation of the salt-encrusted reliefs in the southern well of Ramesses III. Last summer, at our request, local SCA engineers shored up the well entryway and foyer with thick timbers to stabilize the structure, which was beginning to subside due to two deteriorating blocks on the east wall. Eventually the whole entryway will be dismantled, and the decayed stone will be replaced with new stone before reconstruction.

Northern Well of Ramesses III

In February and March large-format photography of the inscribed northern well of Ramesses III, a salvage priority for this season, was initiated and completed by staff photographer Yarko

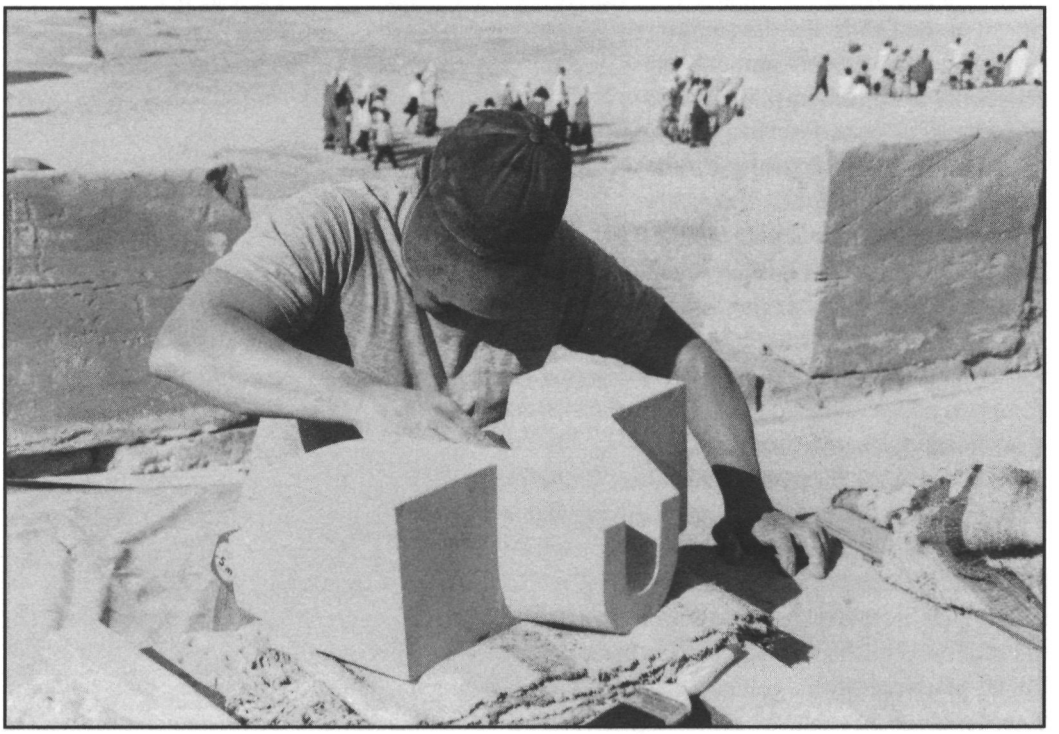


Figure 4. Stonecutter Dany Roy fashioning a sandstone drainspout for the Eighteenth Dynasty Amun temple roof, Medinet Habu, March 2000. Photograph by Ray Johnson

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Kobylecky assisted by photographic archives assistant Ellie Smith (fig. 7). This well, on the north side of Ramesses III's mortuary temple, and its mate to the south were used to obtain sacred water for purification rituals in the temple. We have incorporated these two monuments into our documentation program because of the accelerating decay of their decoration due to corrosive salts in the groundwater. The preserved area of the northern well consists of a long, descending, inscribed entrance corridor; an inscribed, descending, stepped passage to the right, mostly submerged; and a third, short, descending corridor to the right, now completely inaccessible, which attaches to the circular well shaft. The subject of the decoration is Nile gods bringing sacred water up the stairway from the well and the king being purified with that water.

The large-format photographs of both wells that we took this and last season will supplement a set of 35 mm black and white photographs of the wells taken in 1986 which document numerous details now destroyed by the salting on the walls. The scanned 35 mm negatives are being joined into full-wall montages using Adobe Photoshop software, after which the earlier photographs will be compared to the large-format photographs to determine the rate of decay of the structures from the 1930s till now.

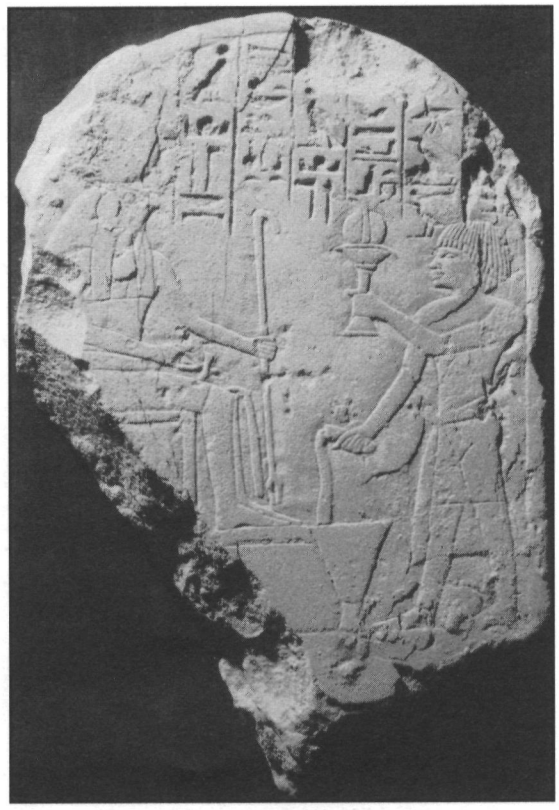


Figure 5. Small limestone stela from late Eighteenth Dynasty re-used during the Ptolemaic period as rooftop fill, small Amun temple, Medinet Habu. Photograph by Yarko Kobylecky

Luxor Temple

This season marked the fifth year of a five-year grant generously approved by the Supreme Council of Antiquities and the Egyptian Antiquities Project of the American Research Center, for the treatment of deteriorating decorated stone fragments at Luxor temple.

Conservators John Stewart and Hiroko Kariya arrived on 16 January to resume the Luxor Temple Fragment Consolidation Project, just as engineer Mohsen Fahmy put the finishing touches on 20 new, damp-coursed brick storage mastaba/platforms (fig. 8) in the expanded blockyard. During the next three months Hiroko monitored all 1,540 fragments recorded on our computer database for stability and effectiveness of previous treatment. Ninety-four fragments (one or more faces) were treated with Wacker OH. All treated fragments, as well as those requiring future treatment, were placed under a covered area for protection. Desalination experiments were conducted on uninscribed, stray sandstone fragments to test the effectiveness of various salt-extracting techniques, and salt crystals were sampled and identified.

The first fragments to be moved to the new east storage area were a group of over a hundred fragments that join the east wall of the Amenhotep III sun court and were partially restored on the wall a decade and a half ago by John Stewart. Special thanks go to assistant Nan Ray who

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supervised the tracking and moving of most of this material with Hiroko and will continue this crucial work in seasons to come (fig. 9). The remaining fragments have been moved to new mastabas and sorted into two groups: those requiring consolidation and those which are stable. Consolidation of this material was one of this season's priorities, and we hope that the rest of this important group can be restored to the wall starting next year.

During the latter part of the season the Chicago House epigraphers and I began a catalogue of the decorated stone fragments stored on the ground in the southeast area. By season's end we had successfully raised two entire rows of over two hundred fragments onto the new damp-coursed storage mastaba/platforms, sorted and arranged by category, which will facilitate analysis and reconstruction later. The primary goal of the Epigraphic Survey is to raise all of the fragmentary material at Luxor temple up off the ground over the next few years, away from the increasingly corrosive groundwater. This season's work marks the important beginning of a major new chapter in our documentation and preservation efforts at Luxor temple.

Although the EAP grant as originally written and planned would have expired this year, I am pleased to report that there is enough of a surplus in the account to fund a sixth season, and permission has been granted by the EAP to apply it to next season's fieldwork.

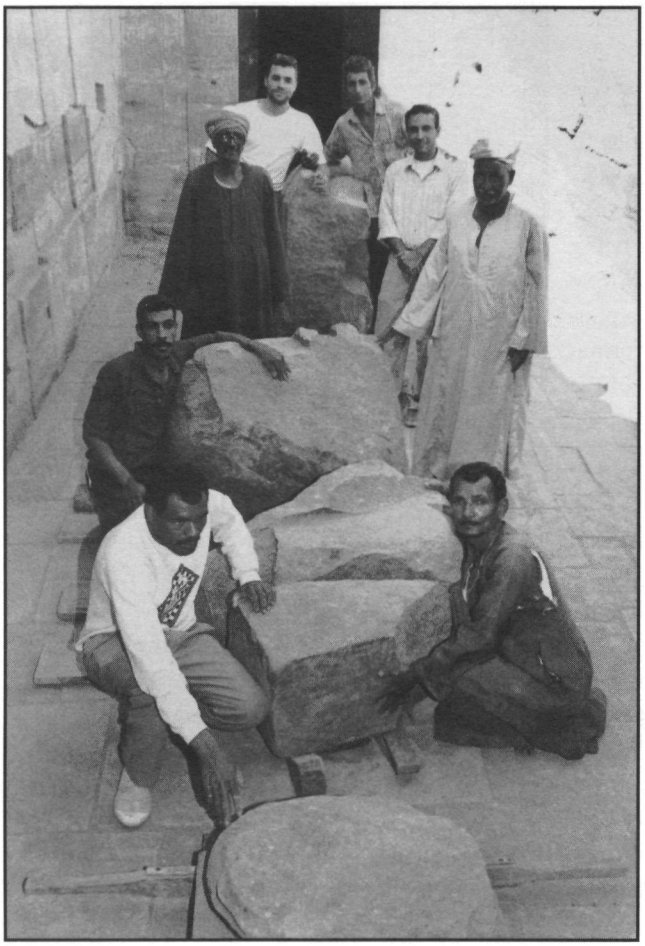


Figure 6. Dany Roy, SCA Inspector Ahmed Ezz, and workmen with granodiorite fragments of a colossal seated pair statue of Amun and Thutmose III, small Amun temple bark sanctuary, Medinet Habu. Photograph by Yarko Kobylecky

Chicago House

Chicago House reopened for the 1999/2000 season on 15 October, thanks once again to the good graces of Christina Di Cerbo, who came two weeks early to supervise the arduous opening/cleaning process. In October and the first two weeks of November epigrapher and librarian Debbie Darnell supervised the training of Egyptologist Briant Bohleke and his wife Karin Bohleke in the mysteries of the Chicago House library management. In mid-November Briant succeeded Debbie as Chicago House librarian, ably assisted by Karin, when Debbie left Chicago House to work full time on her and husband John's Theban Desert Road Project. We wish her and John all the best for that extremely important effort. Like Debbie before him, Briant now divides his time between running the library and working as epigrapher at the Epigraphic Survey temple sites. Briant was an undergraduate at the University of Chicago and received his doctorate in Egyptology at Yale University; we are very pleased to have him back with us. Karin received her doctorate in French at Yale as well

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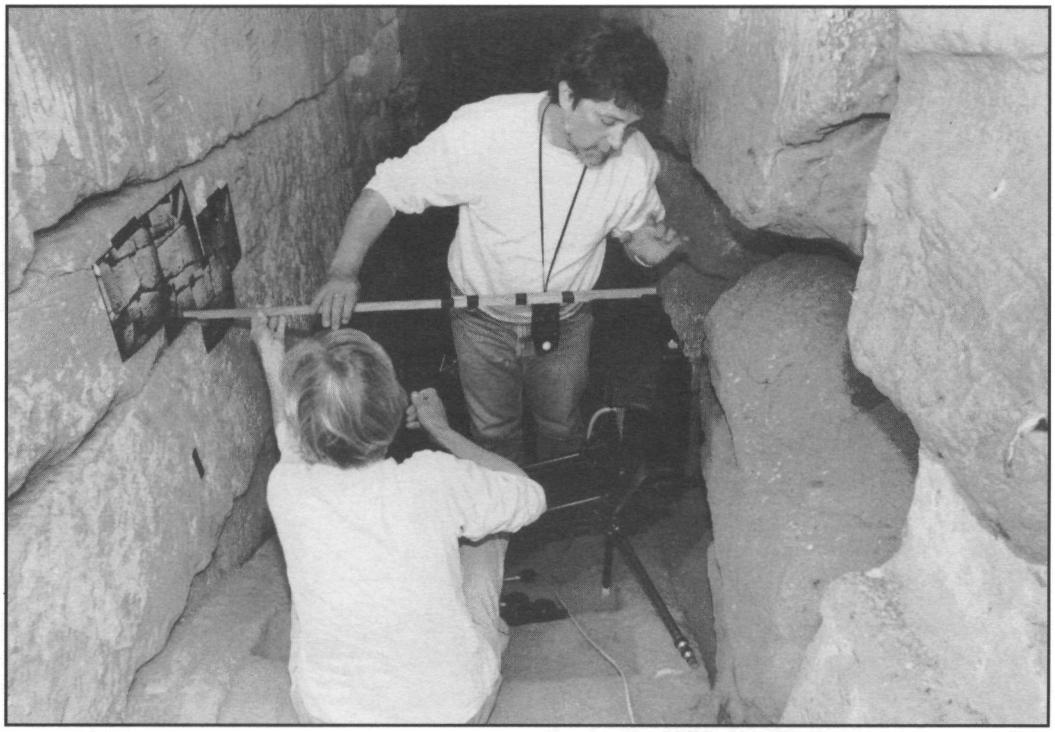


Figure 7. Epigraphic Survey photographer Yarko Kobylecky, assisted by Ellie Smith, photographing in the northern decorated well of Ramesses III, Medinet Habu. Photograph by Ray Johnson

and is putting her extraordinary knowledge of foreign languages to excellent use in the Chicago House library. Together this season they registered 570 titles comprising over 700 individual volumes, and our library holdings have now passed the 18,000 mark. Assistant Nan Ray re-inked or retyped new call number labels for all of the folio volumes this season and created new easier-to-read shelf labels for each folio cabinet, greatly facilitating use of that material. She and assistant Ellie Smith also cleaned, repaired, and encapsulated in mylar twenty maps, a process that will continue next season. Special thanks go to assistant Mary Grimshaw, who returned to us for the month of March and finished her data-entry project listing our duplicate offprints. Mary also checked the shelf-list cards and assisted the librarians in tasks that are so important to the smooth running of the Chicago House library and photographic archives.

This season staff photographer Yarko Kobylecky, assisted by Ellie Smith, generated 191 large-format negatives, which were all registered in the new, updated photographic archives database designed by Jason Ur (we are now up to a total of 17,481 large-format negatives). Jason kindly visited Luxor in March for a few days on his way to Syria to check on the database, consult with the photographic archives crew, and do any necessary "tweaking." Ellie also recorded 190 rolls of 35 mm negatives and contact sheets for the season, taken by me, Yarko, and Sue Lezon, mostly of this season's fieldwork and house construction activities. In addition to the drawing enlargements he produced for our work at Medinet Habu, Yarko also produced forty emergency drawing enlargements for the University of Memphis Karnak Great Hypostyle Hall Project directed by former Epigraphic Survey senior epigrapher Bill Murnane. Bill and his team noticed that the lowest register of reliefs on the west wall of the hall was quickly deteriorating; it was deemed prudent to start the documentation while there was still something to record. Chicago House was very pleased to be able to assist, thereby allowing the recording of that precious material to begin this year.

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Figure 8. New storage platforms, Epigraphic Survey blockyard at Luxor temple, east. Photograph by Ray Johnson

This season photographic archivist Sue Lezon and Ellie Smith continued to coordinate the scanning of our large-format negatives onto CD-ROM at the Karnak Franco-Egyptian Center, thanks to the kindness of Director François Larché. To date, 11,629 large-format negatives have been successfully scanned and 2,455 more are being scanned over the summer while we are away; our goal is to have the whole process completed by 2001. Special thanks go to Ellie for coming out for a very full five months this season, and in particular for packing up and tracking 7,500 8 × 10 negatives for scanning at Karnak, no easy chore. During the summer Sue has been downloading 4,000 images from the photographic archive, scanned onto CD-ROM by the Karnak crew, into the formerly text-only photographic archives database. The images currently being worked with are from the early part of the twentieth century, and their inclusion in our database is particularly important, as many of these negatives have a nitrate base and are subject to deterioration. We have duplicated many of these negatives in the past, but having the images on CD and in our computer files is one more way to insure that they will be preserved for posterity. Also, making the images accessible through the database will save scholars countless hours when searching for specific visual information from among the 18,000+ current entries.

Henri Riad continued his analysis of the Labib Habachi photographic archives housed at Chicago House and continued the formidable process of organizing and identifying the hundreds of unmarked photographs, a noble task indeed and much appreciated by those of us who use that archive. This spring we received word from Peter Janosi of the Austrian Archaeological Institute that the first volume of the Tel e-Daba series, devoted to Labib's work there and illustrated with dozens of photographs from the Habachi photographic archives, is about to be published. We also received word from Steven Snape in Liverpool that the volume on the temple and chapels at Zawiyet Umm el-Rakham, where Labib worked in the 1950s, is also being prepared. This will include photographs from Labib's archive of stelae and other material that he excavated and re-

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corded, but which cannot now be located. I think that Labib would be very pleased with the good use to which his archive has already been put.

Helen and Jean Jacquet continued to lend us their invaluable expertise in the library and in the field and are generously donating a copy of their own photographic archive to Chicago House; 1,650 of their personal negatives recording fifty years of work in Egypt and the Sudan were also sent to Karnak for scanning onto CD-ROM this season. These images will be downloaded into a specially designed database (designed this summer by Jason), which later will be adapted for the Habachi archives as well. Helen Jacquet was especially busy this year; she also finished the plate section mock-up of her Khonsu temple rooftop graffiti volume. While she is finishing the text this coming winter, Yarko will print the photographs that will appear in her publication, the next in our Khonsu temple series.

The constant maintenance work required for a facility like Chicago House goes without saying, but I must remark that engineer Jamie Riley was a godsend once again this season. Jamie not only coordinates the dozen or more different maintenance tasks ongoing at any given time, from screen replacement to automotive and plumbing maintenance to refrigerator repairs, but his presence has also allowed for major improvements to the house, some of which have been needed for a long time. This winter, because we are now such a full house staff-wise, Jamie supervised the conversion of a large storeroom in our smaller residence, Healey House, into a staff bedroom with bath; thanks to his expertise, and the assistance of our Chief Engineer Saleh Shehat and local contractor (and good friend) Girgis Samwell, the job was accomplished in an exemplary fashion and in record time. We also decided to raise the front enclosure wall along the Corniche, something that has been a growing necessity, by adding an extension which matches the original grillwork. Jamie supervised the beginning of that work before the end of the



Figure 9. Nan Ray and workmen moving decorated stone fragments to new storage and treatment platforms, Epigraphic Survey blockyard at Luxor temple. Photograph by Sue Lezon

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Figure 10. Oriental Institute tour members (clockwise from bottom left): Carole Yoshida, Carlotta Maher, Denise Paul, Erl Dordal, Hazel Cramer, John Larson, Bernadine Basile, Emily Napolitano, JoAnne Putz, Robert Ritner, Ray Johnson, Doris Holleb, and Marshall Holleb. Photograph by Yarko Kobylecky

season, while Girgis took over after we all left for the United States on 15 April. I returned to review the completed fence on 2 June and found it more than satisfactory; one would never know we had done anything to it. The wall needed to be raised without sacrificing light, air, or our view of the Nile and western cliffs, and this has now been successfully accomplished.

December of 1999 was a month of festivals. The holy month of Ramadan began on the 9th and ended a month later with a three-day Eid-festival, while Christmas and New Year's made the end of the month quite lively for everyone. Christmas at Chicago House was warm and full of cheer as always, with our in-house Christmas dinner (turkey and goose). We rang in New Year 2000 with our beloved Carlotta and David Maher, who flew in just for the occasion; friend and former Chicago House staff member Jay Heidel; friends Bob (Dean of the University of Chicago's Graduate School of Business) and Anne Hamada; colleagues Nigel and Helen Strudwick and Francesco Tiradritti; and longtime supporter and dear friend Donald Oster. Although we were prepared for any kind of Y2K problem (and were in close touch with the United States Embassy in Cairo about it), like most places in the world we luckily encountered no problems at all. It was an excellent beginning to the new year, not to mention the close of the millennium!

Tourism was definitely "up" this season, and the month of February was particularly noteworthy for an unusual density of groups and visitors, many from Chicago. During the first week former Epigraphic Survey Field Director Peter Dorman brought a VIP group from the Field Museum, including Director John McCarter, for a library talk at the house and site visits to Medinet Habu and Luxor temples. At the month's beginning we were pleased to welcome Art Institute Director Jim Wood and his wife Emese, who also enjoyed seeing our operations on both sides of the river, and later Ian Wardropper, the Art Institute's Curator of European Decorative Arts and

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Classical Art, who, with his wife Sarah McNear, Curator of the LaSalle National Bank Photography Collection, came by with an Art Institute tour. Carlotta returned to Luxor on 4 February and for the next month was a tremendous help in entertaining the troops and educating them about the work of the Oriental Institute in Luxor. The museum tours, directors, and curators were all scouting out Akhenaten's Egypt in preparation for the travelling exhibition *Pharaohs of the Sun: Akhenaten, Nefertiti, and Tutankhamun* here in Chicago at the Art Institute from 12 July until 24 September. The Oriental Institute tour groups came through Luxor on 24 February, led by Robert Ritner and John Larson, assisted by Emily Napolitano; we gave them a library talk and a festive reception that day and site visits to Medinet Habu on the 26th. I lectured to the group later that afternoon on "The Legacy of Chicago House." They seemed to be having a terrific time, despite the initial snow delay in leaving Chicago (fig. 10). Other visitors included Donald and Susan Levy, Louise Mahdi, Henry Dixon and Linda Giesen, and old friends and supporters Mark Rudkin and Fred Giles (back in Egypt for the first time in twenty-five years).

Emily Teeter, Oriental Institute Museum Associate Curator, joined the Chicago House staff from 11 to 21 February to study the three Medinet Habu mortuary temple storage magazines with me to ascertain what still remained there from Hölscher's excavations of the site. We found one magazine totally empty, one full of objects from all over the West Bank (including, I have recently learned, objects from excavations at Amenhotep III's mortuary temple in the mid-1960s), and one housing fragmentary material (blocks and some sculpture fragments) that ap-



Figure 11. Epigraphic Survey professional staff, 1999/2000. Photograph by Yarko Kobylecky and Sue Lezon

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pears to be from the Medinet Habu complex, but which was recovered after the University of Chicago's excavations there. The empty magazine undoubtedly held small objects excavated by Hölscher that were subsequently moved elsewhere; we are trying to track down that material now. Emily's visit allowed us to focus on the problems of what is there and to incorporate plans for its proper storage and documentation into our short and long-range program for Medinet Habu.

Finally, on the last day of the month, 29 February, we were very pleased to host the newly-appointed twelfth president of the University of Chicago Don M. Randel and his wife Carol to casual drinks and dinner, during which time they saw Chicago House and relaxed a bit from their Cornell University tour. Carlotta and I gave them an impromptu library briefing about our work and a walk through the complex, and Yarko gave them a special tour of the photography laboratory and darkroom facility, which they especially appreciated since they are both avid photographers. It was a wonderful way to introduce them to the work of the Oriental Institute before he had even taken office!

In closing, it should be mentioned that Chicago House now has some very young staff members. Last August, administrator Dalia Munshi, wife of financial and administrative director Moataz Abo Shady, gave birth to little Seif, who assisted his mother in the office through most of the season. At the end of February, Chicago House accountant Marlin Nassim gave birth to little David who is also assisting his mom at the office. The children add a very pleasant new element to Chicago House and are greatly cherished by all.

On a sadder note, our beloved colleague Ibrahim Sadek suffered a fatal stroke at the end of February. He was a dear friend to us all, and was of tremendous assistance with our development work in the past. No one I know lived life more fully or enthusiastically, and we will miss him very, very much.

The professional staff this season (fig. 11), besides the field director, consisted of Edward Castle as senior epigrapher; Deborah Darnell as epigrapher and librarian (to 15 November); Briant Bohleke as epigrapher and librarian; Hratch Papazian and J. Brett McClain as epigraphers; Christina Di Cerbo, Margaret De Jong, Susan Osgood, Bernice Williams, and Carol Abraczinskas as artists; Yarko Kobylecky as staff photographer; Susan Lezon as photographer and photographic archivist; Moataz Abo Shady as financial and administrative director; Dalia Munshi as administrator; Marlin Sarwat Nassim as accountant; Jill Carlotta Maher as assistant to the director; Karin Bohleke as assistant librarian; Elinor Smith, Nan Ray, and Mary Grimshaw as assistants for the photographic archives and library; and Saleh Shehat Suleiman as chief engineer. Lotfi Hassan, Veronica Paglione, Adel Aziz, John Stewart, and Hiroko Kariya worked with us as conservators, and Dany Roy as stonecutter. Jason Ur continued to act as Chicago House's photographic archives database programmer. Special thanks go to Henri Riad, Egyptologist in residence for the season, and to Helen and Jean Jacquet, whose advice and assistance are greatly appreciated. As in the past, numerous members of the Supreme Council of Antiquities kindly assisted us during our work this season, and to them we owe a special debt of thanks: G. A. Gaballa, Secretary General; Mohamed el-Saghir, General Director of Pharaonic Monuments in the Nile Valley; Sabry Abdel Aziz, General Director of Antiquities for Upper Egypt; Mohamed el-Bially, General Director for the West Bank of Luxor; Mr. Bakit, Director of Karnak and Luxor Temples; Mme Nawal, Chief Inspector of Luxor Temple; and Mohamed Nasr, Acting Director of the Luxor Museum. Our inspector this season, Ahmed Ezz, proved to be a great asset and was a pleasure to work with. The invaluable assistance of our friends allowed a truly excellent and productive season; warmest thanks and best wishes to all.

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As the new millennium begins, I would like to express my thanks once again to the many friends of Chicago House whose support has allowed us to continue our vital documentation and conservation work. Special thanks must go to the American ambassador to Egypt, the Honorable Daniel Charles Kurtzer, and Sheila Kurtzer; Reno Harnish, Deputy Chief of Mission of the United States Embassy in Cairo; Haynes Mahoney, Cultural Affairs Officer of the United States Embassy; Dick Brown of the United States Agency for International Development; Exa Snow of Coopers & Lybrand, Cairo; Ahmed Ezz, EZZ Group, Cairo; David and Carlotta Maher; David and Nan Ray; Mark Rudkin; Barbara Mertz; Daniel Lindley and Lucia Woods Lindley; Marjorie M. Fisher; Tom and Linda Heagy; Donald Oster; William Kelly Simpson; Kelly and Di Grodzins; Bob and Anne Hamada; Ben Harer; Solon and Anita Stone; Roxie Walker; Louis Byron, Jr.; Mark Easton, Ray Salamanca, Mary Sadek, and Amira Khattab of the American Research Center in Egypt; Chip Vincent, Jarek Dobrolowski, and Cynthia Schartzer of the Egyptian Antiquities Project; Michael Jones of the Antiquities Development Project; and all of our friends back home at the Oriental Institute. I must also express special gratitude to the Amoco Foundation, the Getty Grant Program of the J. Paul Getty Trust, and the Nuveen Benevolent Trust for their invaluable support. Thank you!

Members of the Oriental Institute are, as always, welcome to stop by to see us, and we suggest that you write or call in advance to schedule a meeting that is convenient to all. Chicago House is open from 15 October until 15 April, and closed Saturday afternoons and Sundays. Our address in Egypt is Chicago House, Corniche el-Nil, Luxor, Egypt. The phone number is (from the USA) 011-20-95-37-2525; fax 011-20-95-38-1620.

The Epigraphic Survey home page is at:

http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/EPI/Epigraphic.html

GIZA

Mark Lehner

Since 1988 we have been excavating at Giza, 350 m south of the Great Sphinx and south of the gigantic stone *Heit el-Ghurob* ("Wall of the Crow"). The concession, 650 m north-south and 250 m east-west (16 ha), extends from the bottom of the slope where Zahi Hawass has excavated the "workers' cemetery" in recent years, to the modern paved road and houses of Nazlet es-Semman and Kafr Gebel.

A substantial amount of sand accumulated over our site not long after the Fourth Dynasty and certainly well before the end of the Old Kingdom. Substantial deposits of sand blown over Old Kingdom surfaces have been noted elsewhere at Giza as well as other Old Kingdom sites at Saqqara and Abusir. Over the years, as the horse and camel stables have proliferated in the communities near the Giza Plateau, the incremental daily action of boys with pack donkeys has turned over much of the sand on our site. They take clean sand to the stables, where it is used to clean the floor, and afterwards return the sand to the site (until this season) with its new inclusions. In order to reach the third-millennium deposits in our small excavation squares, we have

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had to dig through this chaff-laden sand, some of Selim Hassan's dumps from his excavation in the Sphinx area in the 1930s, and recent rubbish. This modern overburden ranges from 1 m to 6 m thick.

Underneath the sand in the eastern part of the site is a compact surface of gray alluvial soil. The "mud mass," as we call it, resulted from the purposeful toppling of mudbrick walls by those who abandoned the site, after they had removed everything of value, such as wooden columns and even mudbricks, from the massive walls. If the occupants had abandoned the site gradually and left the walls to collapse over time, we would expect to find a pattern of sand layers intercalated with toppled or deteriorated mudbrick. We have watched sand accumulate over the floors of our excavated squares within weeks or even days and seen sandstorms leave a foot of sand banked up in our trenches; yet none of our sections showed much sand. The tumbled mudbrick lies directly on the ancient floors or upon the ancient refuse lying on the floors, suggesting that the walls were toppled suddenly.

All the evidence — pottery, seal impressions, and stratigraphy — indicates that this demolition took place at the end of the Fourth Dynasty. The forces of erosion subsequently removed a good part of the tumbled ruins of the mound, leaving walls ankle- to waist-high embedded in compact mudbrick tumble. However, thanks to these processes, we can discern the outlines of major walls with only shallow excavation through the mud mass. In many squares we can discern the lines of walls by lightly scraping or even brushing the surface with our trowels. The walls are often revealed by marl lines that result from the plastering of desert clay, or *tafla,* on their faces.

The Old Kingdom mud mass is a hard, compact (sometimes almost cement-like) seal over the fragile layers and floors of the architecture. Each square that we excavated between 1988 and 1998 was a small window into a truly huge architectural complex that housed Fourth Dynasty Egyptian workers, in which they baked bread, processed fish and meat, ground pigment, and worked copper.

As we became increasingly familiar with the conditions of the site, it became clear to us, and to our colleagues in the Giza Inspectorate, that it was safe to use a front loader to remove the enormous overburden, which was always increasing on our site. Illicit digging for sand for the riding stables has continued over the years and sometimes hit the Old Kingdom ruins. At various times a backhoe has ripped large holes through the mud mass, obliterating parts of the 4,500-year-old architecture. Investigation on a scale larger than our previous small squares became urgent. We began to see our project as one of salvage archaeology.

In February 1999 Ann Lurie, who supported our project for the previous three years, visited the site. She challenged us to come up with a plan for removing the sand and rubbish from much of the site in order to map the outlines of the major walls in the mud mass — to "capture" the ancient footprint of the beast below the overburden. Through an extraordinary grant from the Ann and Robert H. Lurie Foundation in Chicago we were able to carry out the strategy that we devised in response to Ann's challenge. David H. Koch, Jon Jerde, Robert Lowdermilk, and Bruce Ludwig joined the challenge with generous grants, and we had a great deal of help from our other supporters as well.

In October 1999 we launched our "Millennium Project," a marathon season from fall 1999 to summer 2000. Thanks to Dr. Zahi Hawass and engineer Abd al-Hamid, we were able to use the Giza Inspectorate's powerful front loader and its skilled driver, Mohammed Musilhi, who has long experience in archaeological situations. We also had the use of an SCA dump truck and its driver, Adel Musilhi.

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We began by clearing the overburden from a large zone that encompassed most of the excavation squares we had dug so far. When the overburden was removed to within a meter or two above the mud mass, workers cleared the remaining sand. We set out 5 × 5 m squares as the basic units within which to record the surface conditions, brush, scrape, or lightly excavate in order to find the walls, and map the architecture at a scale of 1:50. We refer to north-south rows of squares, designated by numbers, as *ranges* and east-west rows, designated by letters, as *tiers*. Our main goal this year was to capture the overall architectural plan in a broad horizontal exposure of the Old Kingdom ruins by mapping the walls without intensive excavation. This plan is the prize of our long season, from October 1999 until June 2000 (figs. 1–2).

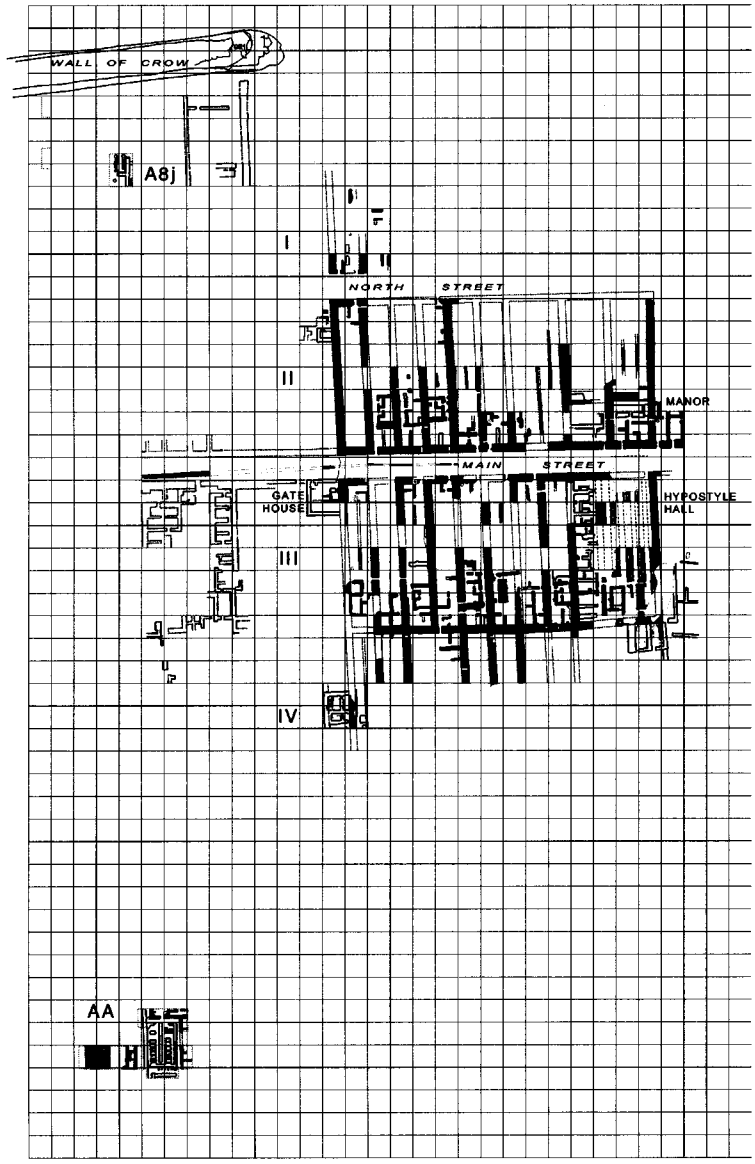


Figure 1. Plan of all Old Kingdom architecture mapped to date in concession area, from Wall of the Crow on the north to area AA (excavated 1988–91) on the south

In the eight months beginning in October, we cleared around 12,000 sq. m of the overburden, which ranged from 1 to 6 m thick with an average thickness of roughly 3 m, from the Old Kingdom ruins. In total, we removed, hauled, and dumped between 31,000 and 36,000 cubic m of overburden, thanks to the collaboration of the Giza Inspectorate, Engineer Abd al-Hamid, and the Musilhi brothers. We set iron stakes in this cleared area, based on our survey and excavation grid, to an accuracy of plus or minus two centimeters. By the end of the season, these stakes defined a total of 413 survey and excavation squares, each 5 × 5 m, for a total area of 10,325 sq. m (about 1 ha). We hand-mapped a total of 169 squares, an area of 4,225 sq. m, at a scale of 1:50 or 1:20. We were able to map such a large area with such small, focused units thanks to the survey control network that David Goodman designed and implemented over the Giza Plateau in 1984–86.

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Great Gallery System

We discovered that what we had found in our excavation squares in most of our previous seasons belonged to a vast royal storage and production complex comprised, for the most part, of a series of long corridors or galleries. There are three, and possibly four, sets of these galleries (fig. 1).

Our 1998 TBLF 20 × 20 m excavation square exposed a substantial part of gallery set II, just north of "Main Street" (see "Giza" in the 1998/99 *Annual Report*). We have now recovered the greater part of two sets of galleries or long corridors (fig. 2), separated by a paved street ("Main Street") that is 5.2 m (10 cubits) wide. The total length of each set, north to south, is 34.5 m. The two sets (II and III) plus the street comprise an area of more than 75 m north to south and 52 m (100 cubits) east to west. In each set there are eight galleries ranging in width from 4.5 to 4.8 m between the walls. To the east within the same enclosure, gallery set II is attached to the "manor" complex while gallery set III is attached directly to the hypostyle hall. Including these structures the entire arrangement is 80 m wide east to west.

Standard Gallery Plan

Although each gallery is unique in its details, we see some general features that may form a standard gallery plan. Inside the galleries, internal walls in the southern parts form chambers, while the middle and northern parts of each gallery are more open. This is true in both sets II and III. In set III, the more open northern area is toward the entrance onto Main Street, while in set II, the more open area, again to the north, is away from Main Street. However, there is probably another street ("North Street") along the north wall of set II (see fig. 1).

Colonnades

The northern and middle parts of eight or nine of the galleries are divided by a narrow, low wall or bench parallel to the north-south walls. These are 2.6 m — about 5 cubits — from the major north-south gallery wall to the west, and about 2 m from the other major gallery wall to the east. In some cases they are similar to the benches in the hypostyle hall on the eastern side of our site (see below). Round or irregular stones embedded in and under the benches probably served as column bases, making the low walls something like a stylobate, a continuous flat coping or pavement that supports a row of architectural columns. The column bases in question range from slightly above to slightly below floor level. In a couple of places we found semicircular edges to the plaster around holes above the bases. These show that the columns, which must have been wooden, were about 23 cm in diameter. The low walls and benches may have protected the wooden columns against insects, moisture, or the heat-generating activities that took place in the colonnades along the open ends of the galleries. The columns would have formed a crude colonnade — a series of columns set at regular intervals usually supporting a roof — that provided support for a roof over either the east (if the 2.0 m space was covered) or the west (if the 2.6 m space was covered) side of the northern end of the galleries. This half-roof provided both shade and protection from wind. These are among the oldest colonnades found in Egyptian architecture.

In square J7, in the open end of the westernmost gallery of set III, we found a nearly perfect circle of burnt earthen floor, 1 cubit in diameter, from which an oven may have been removed. If the 2.62 m, or 5-cubit, space on the west was roofed (and not the 2.0 m space on the east), it would have sat just under the roof of the colonnade. Was there a reason why cooking and baking needed shelter from the wind on the west that necessitated the colonnade? I should note that not

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all the galleries have evidence of such colonnades, although they usually have a partition in the northern open end. In two places where the 5-cubit spacing would predict a column base in the low walls or benches, I dug to check and found none. But eight or nine galleries certainly had roofed colonnades or were partially roofed with columns on their open ends.

In the open northern ends of the galleries excavated so far, we found layers of concentrated ash and charcoal over the marl-paved floors. These areas, at least at the end of occupation, were allowed to fill with ash. Occasionally the occupants threw down a thin layer of desert clay, *tafla,* to keep the powdery ash down. The concentrated ashy deposits suggest that the open ends of these galleries were not particularly pleasant spaces.

Elongated House Compounds?

Like the northern open ends of the galleries, the southern ends are often partitioned into two nearly equal, north-south oriented halves ranging from just over, to just under 2.0 m in width. Here the space is divided by walls that are about 0.5 m thick and more substantial than those which divide the northern ends of the galleries.

In 1997/98 we excavated two chambers within the southern end of one of the western galleries of set III (squares D9–E9). Here we found a rectangular space divided into two chambers by a partition wall (see "Giza" in the 1998/99 *Annual Report*). A "back" entrance had been cut into the south chamber through the thick southern wall of gallery set III. To the east of this forced doorway, a rectangular cooking installation was built within the core of the wall. I compared the two-room arrangement to New Kingdom workers' houses at Deir el-Medineh. This was a more simplified version of a rectangular plan divided into front and rear spaces, with a cooking installation ("kitchen") in the rear.

In 1998 we excavated the southern chamber of one of the galleries of set II (square L11), which undoubtedly served as a bakery (fig. 2). Thick deposits of concentrated ash in the far southern ends of the galleries suggest that these areas were used for cooking, baking, or roasting. Our square D17–D17x, in which we found clear evidence of copper working (see "Giza" in the 1998/99 *Annual Report*), turned out to be one of the southern (downwind) industrial chambers at the back of a set III gallery in the 16–17 range of



Figure 2. Plan of main area of work with gallery sets I–IV

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squares. (The copper working may have been on a small scale for the production of household items; along with slag, charcoal, and ash, we found a copper fish hook and needle). In square D9, in the southern chamber of the southern (set III) gallery in the 8–9 range, we found, as I mentioned, a cooking installation built into the southern enclosure wall. We also found a thin ashy layer over the floor, with red and yellow ochre, used possibly as a pigment, and a cache of dolerite hammerstones on or near the floor.

This season our shallow excavations and mapping revealed patterns of more complex room structures toward the southern ends of other corridors. The repeating plan includes a small vestibule, a main room, and a small niche or inner (sleeping?) room (fig. 2). Sometimes a wing wall is attached to the eastern gallery wall, forming an additional room or corridor to the north. This arrangement is found in the southern galleries of set III in the 9–10, 12, and 16 ranges of squares, and in the northern galleries (set II) in the 8, 9–10, and 10–11 ranges (fig. 2). In 1998 we excavated rooms belonging to some of these units in the northern galleries (squares N9 and N11). The ancient occupants left these rooms fairly clean, without thick accumulations of ash or debris. The walls and floors were plastered in marl. These units may have been the residences of those who supervised the activities within each corridor.

These galleries bear a general resemblance to the storage and production magazines that surround New Kingdom temples at Thebes and Amarna, or the so-called workmen's barracks west of the Khafre pyramid. But inside the galleries we see some of the traditional elements of an ancient Egyptian house. The galleries contain a cooking, baking, or heat-generating room for food production or other industries at the rear; a core living area; and the crude colonnades that may have served purposes similar to a portico, open court, or columned hall. Are these elongated house compounds? The modular repetition of elongated house units along a central street reflects a desire for supervision and control. Anyone occupying either of the two large structures at the ends of Main Street — our so-called "manor" at the east end, north side, and the "gate house" at the west end, south side — could monitor anyone entering or leaving the galleries.

"Workers' Houses" and Hypostyle Hall

To the east of gallery set III, within the 34.5 m between the northern and southern enclosure walls, a different sort of layout occupies the width of three normal galleries. In the north-south 17 range of squares, short fieldstone walls form a series of oblong units, about 2.0 m wide and 4.0 m long, oriented east-west (fig. 2). John Nolan excavated the southern of the two units in square I17 in 1997. The units are divided into two chambers by a partition wall, with evidence of cooking in the rear (west) chamber. Four of the units have low rectangular platforms or bins in the east room against the west wall. The units look like simplified versions of workers' houses. Their function is still not confirmed; I call them "workers' houses" for convenience.

The workers' houses in the 17 range of squares are attached to a hall that occupies our ranges 19–20, tiers D–J (figs. 2–3). The hall, oriented north-south, is about 15 × 25 m. The floor is covered with a series of low troughs and benches, about ankle height off the floor, plastered in marl (*tafla*) and oriented north-south. The benches are about 30 cm wide at the top and 40 cm at the bottom, splaying outward with a cross-section like a mastaba. The troughs that separate the benches are 10 to 20 cm wide. We excavated parts of this trough and bench configuration in squares F19 and G20 in 1995 (see "Giza" in the 1995/96 *Annual Report*). This season we excavated more in squares G19 and I18. We also traced the tops of the benches in square J19 where Ramsi Lehner cleaned an east-west section in a cut made through the hall by a modern backhoe (fig. 3).

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There are three sets of three benches in the center of this hall. Each set is separated from the adjacent sets by about a meter of open floor. Along the east and west walls there are sets of two benches separated by a single trough. These benches are about 20 cm wide. We once again found significant amounts of fish bone this season in the deposits filling the open floor and embedded in the troughs between the benches (see "Giza" in the 1995/96 *Annual Report*). Richard Redding supervised a careful washing and screening operation of measured quantities of the soil to test for the abundance of fish bone with respect to floor deposits elsewhere on our site. A preliminary impression is that much of the bone derives from very small fish, ranging from less than 5 to 10 cm long.

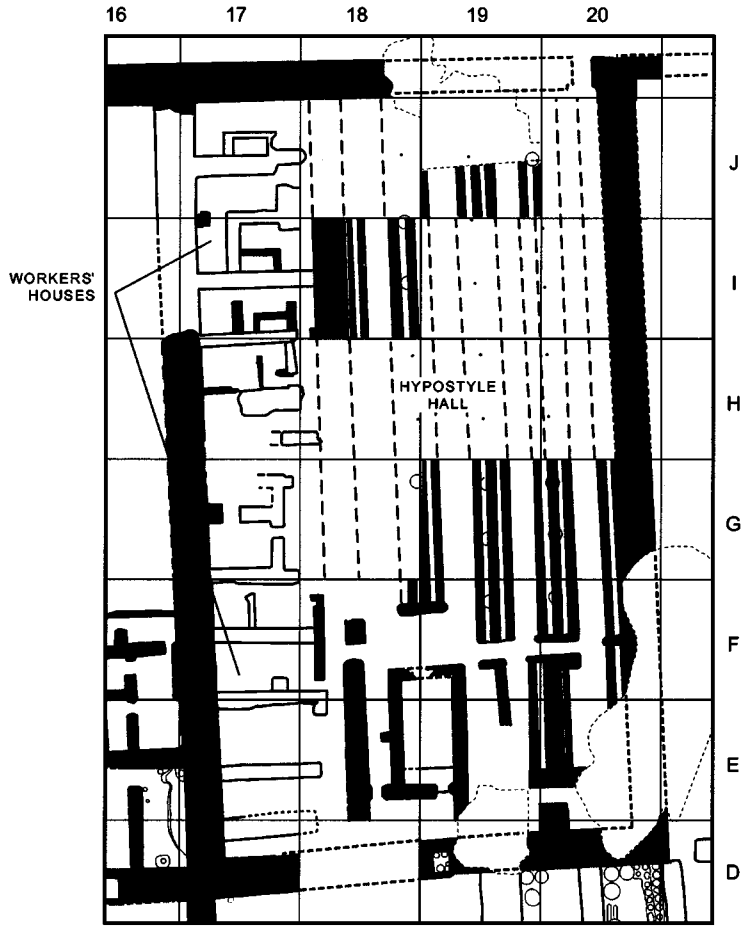


Figure 3. Plan of hypostyle hall and "workers' houses" east of gallery set III. Circles indicate column bases; dots mark position of column bases not yet excavated

Under the center bench in each group of three are a series of fine limestone column bases, each about 52 cm (1 cubit) in diameter, set at intervals of 2.62 m (5 cubits). We found the first pair of these bases in 1995 in square G20 (see "Giza" in the 1995/96 *Annual Report*), but it was only this year that we realized they belong to a series that lies under the entire length of the three sets of three benches. (Where we did not actually excavate to find the bases, we ascertained their probable presence by pounding in survey pins; these hit a hard surface at just the right spacing and depth). The east and west rows of column bases are about 2.62 m, or 5 cubits, from the east and west walls of the hall. The columns were probably wood, each about 23 cm in diameter, judging by the holes in the tops of some of the benches above the column bases. The builders first set up the columns on the bases and then built the benches around them, finally plastering the bench with *tafla*. When the columns were later pulled out, a few of the holes that were left retained a semicircle of plaster that indicates the diameter of the column.

This was, strictly speaking, a hypostyle hall, perhaps the oldest one in Egypt known so far, except for the token hall in stone at the west end of the entrance hall in the Djoser step pyramid complex. It appears, however, to have served some practical rather than ceremonial function, although we are not certain of its purpose. Suggestions range from a place for drying fish or grain to a dining hall. In 1991 we found a cache of complete jar stands and shallow bowls, of a

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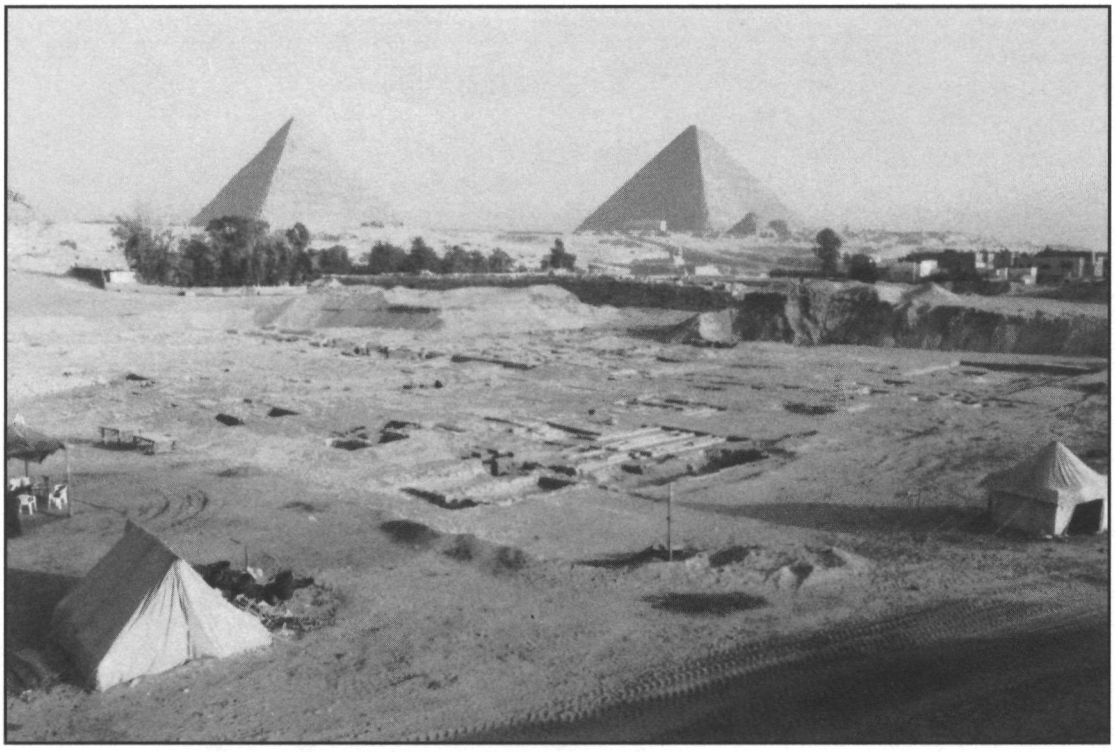


Figure 4. General view of concession area for 1999/2000, looking northwest across cleared zone to the Sphinx and pyramids

type that we believe were lids, on or near one of the benches in square F20 (then designated area A7b; see "Giza" in the 1991/92 *Annual Report*). This season we found more complete examples of these types on the benches in square G19.

The area south of the troughs and benches contained three rectangular rooms oriented north-south. These rooms were excavated in 1991 and 2000 in squares E19, F19, and F20. The backhoe trenches in this area removed large parts of this arrangement of rooms on the east and south. The two rooms on the east are each about 2.6 m wide and a little less then 5 m long. A wall, 0.6 m thick, separates these two rooms. Along the western base of the eastern room are two narrow benches separated by a single trough, while on its eastern base is a single bench, or curb. We have found similar curbs along the bases of several of the major gallery walls.

The relationship between the workers' houses and the hypostyle hall with its curious troughs and benches remains unclear. Evidence from our 2000 season excavation of squares I17 and I18 suggests that the hall once had a thick western wall separating it from the workers' houses. This appears to have been taken down, perhaps when the workers' houses were built. The results of our excavation in square F18 suggest a similar restructuring to allow direct access via a gently sloping floor from the workers' houses down into the hall. Justine Way's excavations in 1997 in square D17 indicated that the fieldstone wall along the north side of the square, which is one of the series of walls forming workers' houses, was built at a later period than the thick mudbrick southern enclosure wall of gallery set III. This thick wall also formed the southern wall of the enclosure containing both the workers' houses and the hypostyle hall (the bakeries we found in 1991 are attached to this southern wall; see "Giza" in the 1991/92 *Annual Report*). In the coming season we will begin a detailed investigation of the development of our site in the hypostyle hall and workers' houses.

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The "Manor"

East of the northern set of eight galleries is a rectangular structure that could be taken for a large house. For convenience, we call it the "manor." Measuring about 10.5 m (20 cubits) east-west by at least 15 m north-south, its outer walls, like the gallery walls, are about 1.5 m thick.

This season Hratch Papazian excavated in the southeastern room within square M20. This room was well maintained. Fragments of marl plaster found in the fill had thin red paint layers, indicating that parts of the walls, perhaps a dado around the base, were painted red (we found red painted plaster fragments in several other areas of the site as well: squares E19, J6, and J7). Sarah Sterling excavated in the western room just inside the western doorway and found a thick ashy layer with ample evidence of cooking or baking.

Two bakeries are attached to the east side of the manor, with their own entrances through the north wall of Main Street. In an enclosure to the west, the same width as the manor, there are at least one and possibly two additional bakeries (judging by the presence of a vat, much ash, and the shape and size of the chamber). This enclosure and the manor occupy the width of three galleries, like the hypostyle hall and fieldstone units directly south across Main Street.

The south wall of the manor is a continuation of the north Main Street wall, while its eastern wall is the eastern enclosure wall of the whole complex containing the northern set (II) of galleries plus the manor. The walls of the manor and the western enclosure containing the bakery are aligned with those of the hypostyle hall across Main Street to the south. The manor together with the hypostyle hall might have functioned as a substantially larger version of the galleries. Perhaps the broad hypostyle hall south of the manor is a larger version of the colonnades with columns and low walls or benches in the northern open areas of the galleries.

On the other hand, our last days of clearing and mapping revealed two long thin benches or low walls north of the manor, within an enclosure of one and one-half gallery widths (fig. 2). The two low walls are 2.6 m (5 cubits) apart and each is about 2 m from the east and west gallery walls, respectively. This is a larger version of the colonnades in the galleries. Until we do more detailed excavation, we can only speculate about the purpose of these facilities. If the hypostyle hall belongs to the manor, the workers' houses along its western side may have housed direct dependents of the manor's occupant who perhaps had some supervisory role in the function of the hall and its southern chambers.

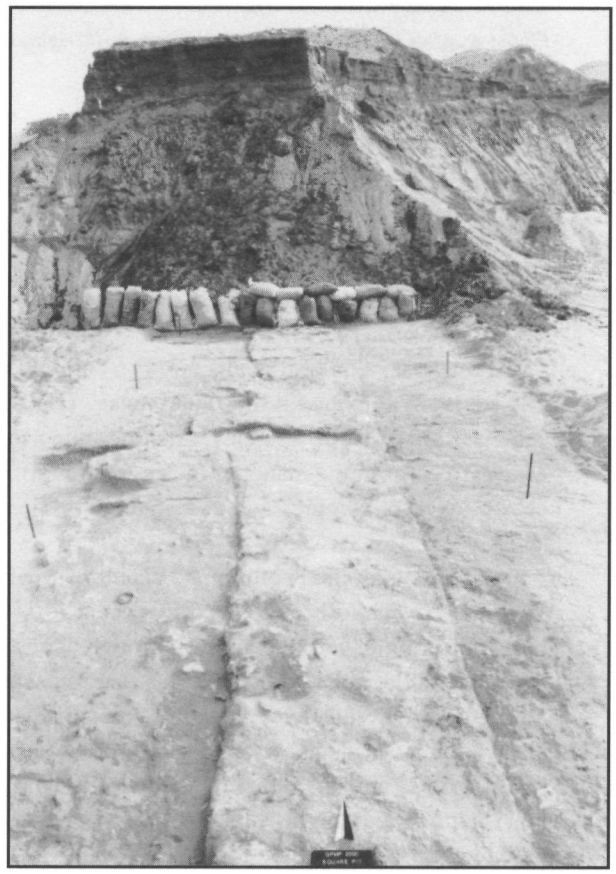


Figure 5. Gallery wall oriented north through squares P-Q-R11 to sandy overburden

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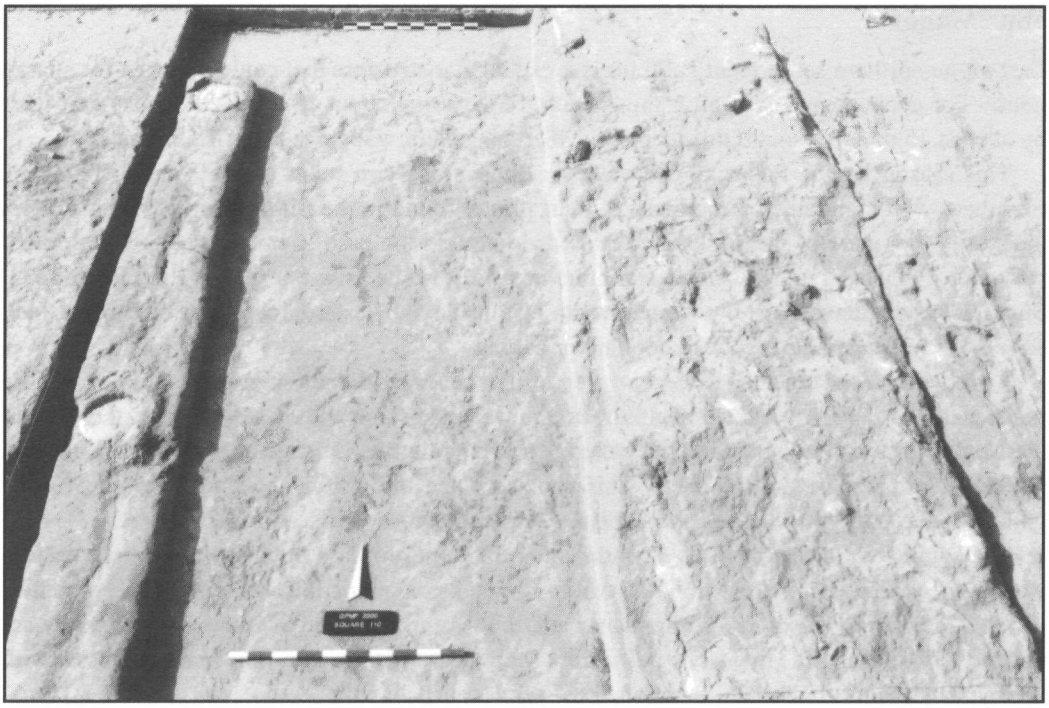


Figure 6. After shallow excavation, gallery wall (right) and low stylobate wall with column bases (left) in square I9, gallery set III

Main Street and "Gata House"

Main Street is one of the oldest paved streets in the world. We have uncovered 130 m of this remarkable street. Within the gallery complex Main Street is paved with *tafla* gravel topped with compact gray alluvial mud. The north and south walls of Main Street end where they meet the west walls of gallery sets II and III. We traced it about 55 m farther west where it is flanked by fieldstone walls (fig. 1).

At the south side of this juncture is a building of fieldstone walls occupying the better part of 100 sq. m. We dubbed it the "gate house" (fig. 2). It has a well-paved floor and a pillar, 0.9 × 1.1 m, made of stone and clay. Anyone living in the gate house at the west end, south side of Main Street, or in the manor at the east end, north side of Main Street, would have had excellent control over all comings and goings through the doorways of the galleries which open onto the street.

A drain sits in the approximate center of Main Street between gallery sets II and III. Ashraf Abd al-Aziz carefully excavated this drain in squares K6, K8, K9, and K11. Here the ancient builders carefully formed a narrow trough about 20 to 30 cm wide into the *tafla* gravel bed. At the far western end of our street clearing, outside the gallery system, we see the drain running along the southern side of the street, broadening to 1.05 m (2 cubits) for a length of 15 m. In excavation areas along the street, we found considerable amounts of large mammal bones of the kind — for example, teeth and jawbones — that are rejected in a butchering site. It is possible that the drain and the broad street (5.2 m or 10 cubits) had something to do with slaughter and butchering.

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Southern Extension: Gallery Set IV

We cleared an area 17 m north-south by 50 m east-west between the 8 to 15 ranges. Here we found large gallery walls extending south from the southern enclosure wall of gallery set III. So far, all the gallery walls in range 8–14 seem to have counterparts on the south side of the southern enclosure wall, except, possibly, for the gallery wall in the 10–11 range. The main southern enclosure wall of gallery set III separates that set from these southernmost galleries, set IV. There is no street between sets III and IV.

Our southern extension revealed that there may have been *four* sets of great galleries (depending on the northern layout). The whole complex of corridors might have been, in this case, about 34.5 m (the length of a set) × 4 plus 10.4 m (two 10 cubit streets) equaling about 148.5 m north to south. So far the new southern set is clearer than the new northern set.

Northern Layout: Gallery Set I?

From January to March 2000 we pushed northward in a 15 m-wide swath through the overburden toward the east end of the Wall of the Crow. Through this breach we tracked the west wall of gallery set II to its northwest corner (fig. 2). Later in the season we extended our clearing at the northeastern corner of our site just wide enough to get the expected northeast corner of gallery set II. The general area where we would have expected the corner has a thick *tafla* deposit that seems to be artificial (culturally deposited). The ancient surface is pitted where the northeastern corner and the north wall of gallery set II should be.

The walls we were able to map in our northwestern breach through the overburden almost certainly indicate that another street (North Street), about 5.25 m (10 cubits) wide, extends east-west along the northern enclosure wall of gallery set II (fig. 1). There may be yet another set of



Figure 7. View to south across remains of gallery sets II and III from top of overburden. Squares of 1998 TBLF operation in foreground

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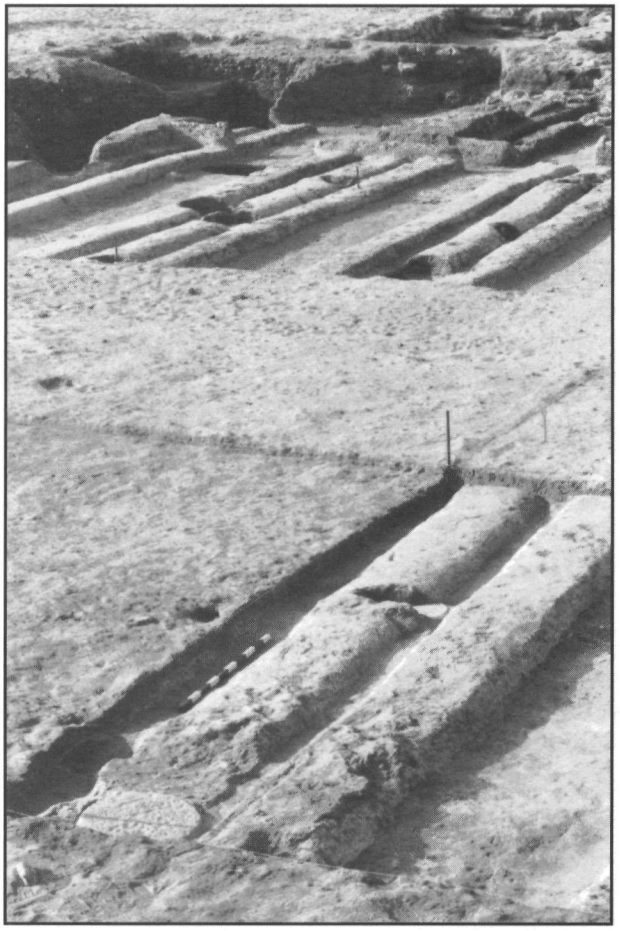


Figure 8. View to southeast across remains of hypostyle hall. Square I18 is seen at lower right, with column bases embedded in bench. Squares G19–20 and F19 with more troughs and benches in background

galleries north of North Street, for which I have reserved Roman numeral I. A thick wall, that extends northward and approaches the end of the Wall of the Crow, lines up with the western enclosure wall of gallery sets II, III, and IV. To the east of this western wall, another thick wall lines up with the gallery walls of sets II, III, and IV in the 7–8 range of squares to the south (fig. 1).

Numerous Late Period burials have prevented us from finding the Old Kingdom layout in the north end of our northwestern breach. Next season we plan to have a team of bio-anthropologists excavate these burials.

Our clearing turned westward along the base of the ancient stone Wall of the Crow. This became necessary when we cut through the path over the high overburden long used by horse and camel riders to go around the end of the Wall of the Crow. For safety reasons we had to remove the overburden to a substantial distance from the wall in order to force riders to take another route. We cleared out modern debris from the gate through the Wall of the Crow to the west, so that riders are now able to cross the wall by passing under it.

When we scraped off the last sand cover in the area along the southern side of the wall, toward its eastern end, we exposed large rectangular areas of dark ash enclosed by fieldstone walls. Right up against the wall we found thick, mounded, reddish dumps of concentrated pottery sherds — mostly bread molds. This "bread pot gravel" is familiar to us; we found similar thick deposits to the east of the bakeries that we excavated in 1991 in the southeast corner of zone C. There are at least two long fieldstone walls forming a corridor that extends south from the Wall of the Crow. Fieldstone walls that run east-west divide these corridors at fairly regular intervals. These are probably more bakeries like the one Augusta McMahon excavated in 1991 a short distance to the west of the Wall of the Crow in area A8j (fig. 1).

Western Extension

To the west of the galleries, we cleared an area 65 m north-south and 40 m east-west. Our workers cleared the last of the sand off only part of this area that includes the western end of Main Street (see above). Under the sand we found not the mud mass characteristic of the ruined surface in the area of the galleries, but ridges and compact mounds of toppled walls and buildings

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made of soft yellowish broken limestone from the Maadi formation that rises above the site on the west.

We have not excavated to expose the faces of the walls, although we did map the stony patches before the end of the season. This gives some idea of the pattern of the walls and chambers (fig. 1). Perhaps residences lie in this western zone. The large quantities of pottery and other refuse in the gallery area suggest that many people lived on and around our site; the few habitable structures found so far within the galleries are not sufficient to house them.

Acknowledgments

For a very successful season, we are grateful to G. A. Gaballa, Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Antiquities. None of our work would have been possible without the generous assistance of the SCA Giza Inspectorate. I am pleased to carry out this research as part of a long collaboration with Zahi Hawass, Undersecretary of State for the Giza Pyramids. I owe a special thanks to Abd al-Hamid, Chief Engineer of the SCA at Giza, for his assistance with the equipment for moving the overburden without which we could not have carried out our program. We thank Ahmed al-Hagar, Director of Giza, for his kind assistance. We are grateful to Mahmoud al-Afifi, Chief Inspector for Giza, and Mansour Bureik, Senior Inspector, for their assistance. We thank Mohammed Sheeha and Ashraf Abd al-Aziz who represented the Supreme Council of Antiquities at the excavation site. We would like to thank Ahmed Hussein who served as our inspector in the storeroom. A hearty thanks goes to Mohammed Musilhi for his skillful use of the front loader.

Our marathon season was possible because of Ann Lurie's extraordinary grant on behalf of the Ann and Robert H. Lurie Foundation. This was accompanied by the challenge that we sustain and increase other support. David H. Koch has made our work possible since our first season in 1988/89, and his major contribution allowed us to go forward with Ann's initiative. Bruce Ludwig and Jon Jerde made major contributions toward the Millennium Project. We are grateful to all our loyal supporters, particularly Robert Lowdermilk, Glen Dash, Matthew McCauley, Fred and Suzanne Rheinstein, Sandford and Betty Sigoloff, Victor and Nancy Moss, David Goodman, Marjorie Fisher, and Don Kunz. Richard Redding, Lora Lehner, Bill and Kathy Dahlman, Bonnie Sampsell, Art and Bonnie McClure, and Charles Rigano also helped us this season.



Figure 9. In square F20 a circular hole in tafla plaster indicates 23 cm column. Next column base to north in background in square G20

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The team consisted of Mark Lehner (Harvard Semitic Museum and the University of Chicago), director; John Nolan (University of Chicago), archaeologist and assistant director; Mohsen Kamal (University of California, Los Angeles), archaeologist; Richard Redding (Michigan Museum of Natural History), faunal analyst; Nicholas Conard (University of Tübingen), lithics analyst; Cordula Werschkun (University of Tübingen), assistant lithics analyst; David Goodman, surveyor; Ann Wodzinska (University of Warsaw), ceramicist; Sarah Sterling (University of Washington), archaeologist; Justine Gesell (University of Heidelberg), archaeologist; Tobias Tonner (University of Tübingen), archaeologist; Ric and Laura Brown (University of Massachusetts College of Art), artists; Glen Dash, geophysical surveyor; and Hratch Papazian (University of Chicago), archaeologist. Mr. Abd al-Aziz worked full time as an archaeologist, commanding four excavation squares; he helped train Marian Raouf Sadek and Dania Yousry Hafez in our methods, who supervised two excavation squares on their own. Mr. Amir Abd al-Hamid has been untiring and unfailing as our project manager.

HADIR QINNASRIN

Donald Whitcomb

The Hadir Qinnasrin project began in 1998 with an extensive survey of the immediate vicinity of the village of Hadir and the walled ruins of Chalcis at the village of al-ʾIs. These sites are located about 25 km (10 miles) south of Aleppo, just east of the main road connecting Aleppo with Hama, Homs, and Damascus. The survey was augmented by two sondages on the northern periphery of Hadir; one of these, area K, revealed a single two-room house with characteristics common to typical tents of the bedouin. The dating evidence in both ceramics and coins suggests occupation in the eighth century. One interpretation of this trench is as evidence of early Islamic sedentarization of the edge of the *misr,* or administrative center for the Islamic state in northern Syria. This hypothesis was suggested in the 1998/99 *Annual Report* and has since been expanded in an article to be published by *Archéologie Islamique* this fall. The results from the excavations at Hadir Qinnasrin in 1998 clearly pointed to the identification of Qinnasrin in dating and cultural characteristics. Like the research program at Aqaba, conducted by the Oriental Institute from 1986 to 1995, the Hadir Qinnasrin project will advance our understanding of the nature of the Islamic city, the beginnings of a new phase of urbanization in the Middle East.

On the other hand, the site of Hadir Qinnasrin has exposed problems in our understanding of pre-Islamic history in this region. The first aspect involves the classical city of Chalcis, some 4 km west of Hadir (see map). Chalcis was a classical city of some culture and sophistication, as suggested in the Syriac story of Rabbula who came from an aristocratic family in Qennishrin. The story was expounded by Glen Bowersock at the Hama conference in 1999; beyond the relation of Christian conversion is an implication of the existence of a separate Qinneshrin and its association with Arab tribes. This ties into the idea that by the latter half of the sixth century, the Banu Tanukh and Banu Tayyi' had settled at Chalcis. The Byzantine historian John Haldon notes, "... substantial Arab settlements already existed near a number of cities [in Syria], and prior to conquest, very considerable numbers of Arabs ... were based at these sites, serving the

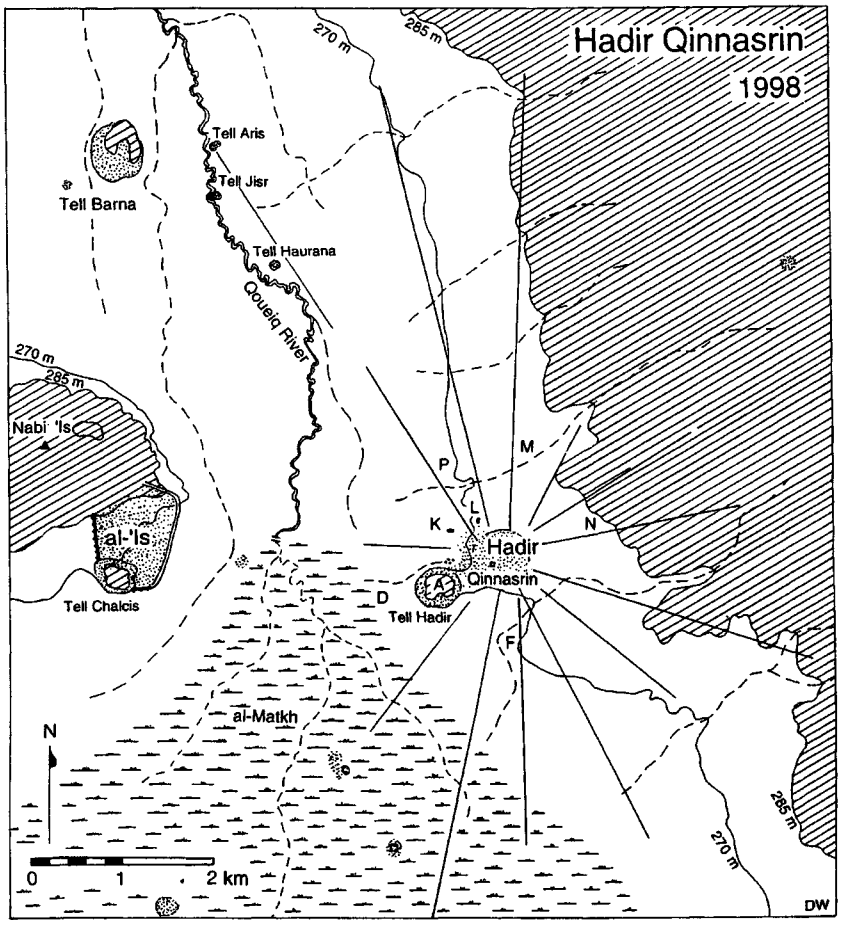
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Romans as federate or allied troops." This suggests that Qinnasrin may be viewed as a military camp, a *hadir*. Such camps no doubt also served as extramural commercial centers for the Arab-dominated caravan trade. To Irfan Shahid, the *hadir* was an ethnic suburb with permanent architecture, the locus of tribal sedentarization. In the case of the *hadir* of Chalcis, this camp retains its name in the modern town of Hadir.

The classical city of Chalcis was probably always associated with a military camp. This was a military aspect no doubt appreciated by the Byzantines, who had made Chalcis the key point for the *limes chalcides*, their defense of the eastern frontier. No doubt these same factors attracted the forces of the Ghassanids and Lakhmids for the battle at Chalcis in 554. The Ghassanids had operated in Syria as Arab clients to the Byzantines for much of the sixth century. The Ghassanid phylarch Arethos (Harith ibn Jabala) won a decisive victory over Mundir (ibn al-Nu'man), the Lakhmid who died in this battle. This victory may be the battle day known as Yawm Halima, according to Shahid's analysis of the battle. Harith's son, Jabala, also died in this battle and a *martyrion* for him was constructed near Chalcis at the *qastra*, or fortified place, near an important spring. A Greek source gives two topographic features, the Arab camp or *parembole* (or *hadir*) and a small hill in the midst of the camp.

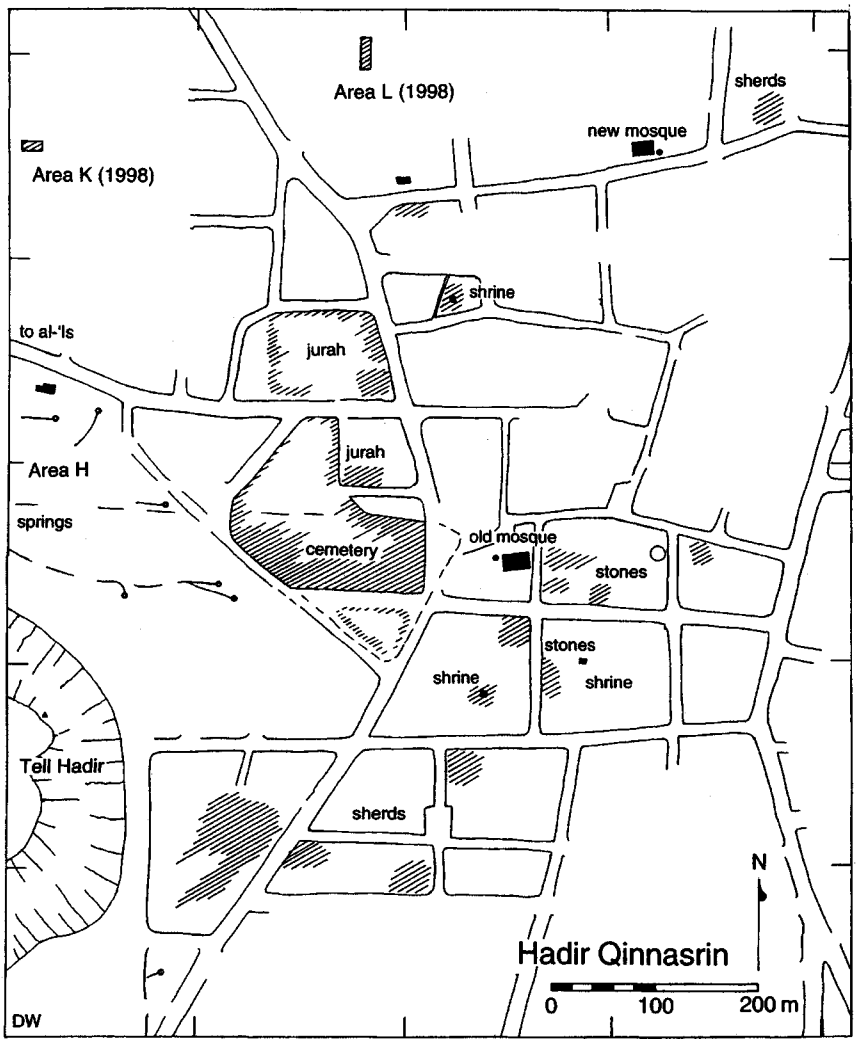
It may be suggested that this fortified camp was located at the site of Hadir Qinnasrin, where one finds an important spring (seven sources according to local accounts) and an overlooking mound, the Bronze Age tell. The radial roads, at least twelve vectors laid out with planned precision, focus on a site slightly to the east of the old mosque in the town (where numerous basalt construction stones are still to be found). This may be hypothesized to be the *martyrion* of Jabala ibn Harith and possibly a victory monument for the battle of Chalcis.

The role of Qinnasrin as a military center was a function that the Sasanians may have adopted in 614, when they captured Syria (as well as the Levant and Egypt). The lack of Sasanian evidence in major cities may be explained in a location in rural camps in preference to urban garrisons. The Muslim leaders must



Map showing relationship of Chalcis and Qinnasrin

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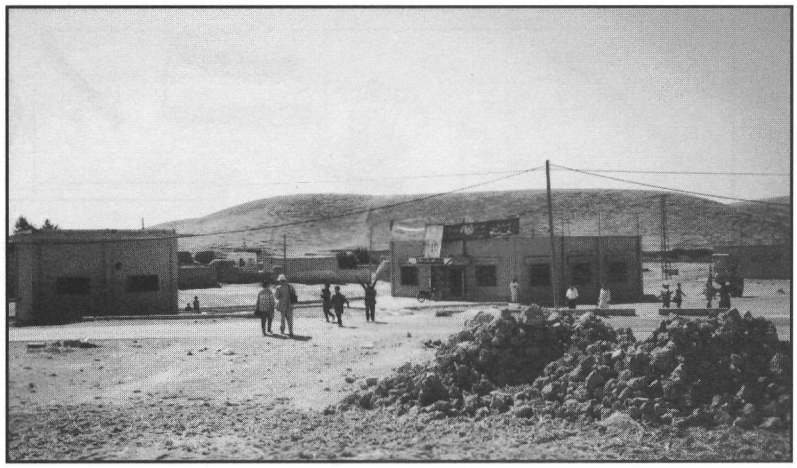
Plan of the town of Hadir and traces of its archaeological remains

have appreciated Chalcis as a Byzantine military center on the road from Antioch toward the Euphrates, the key of the *limes chalcidis*, the eastern frontier (contra the Sasanians). During the Muslim conquests in northern Syria, the Treaty of Chalcis allowed the Byzantines to evacuate their military forces and civilians from the region (in 637, according to Kaegi). Thus Qinnasrin continued its role as a central place, a large, well-watered valley (a *hima*, a state pasturage), and a convenient assembly point for large numbers of troops bivouacked in preparation for the yearly campaigns into Anatolia.

More than a simple military garrison, the Jund Qinnasrin must have evolved administrative functions appropriate for a rich province of the early Islamic state, a province which included the cities of Antakya (Antioch), Afamia (Apamea), and Halab (Aleppo). The state of these cities during this period is a matter of some debate; in the case of Aleppo, the apparent lack of attention paid to it after the Muslim conquest suggests that it was a minor center during the early Islamic period and revived only as the Hamdanid capital in the tenth century. Qinnasrin was founded by Mu'awiya while he was governor of Syria in 643 or, according to other reports, by his son, the caliph Yazid I in 680. Both Mu'awiya and Yazid built upon the achievements of

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their Ghassanid predecessors and employed many Ghassanids in their administrations (and indeed married Ghassanid ladies). As with so many aspects of the new Islamic state, its relationship to the past remains problematic and solvable only through archaeological research.

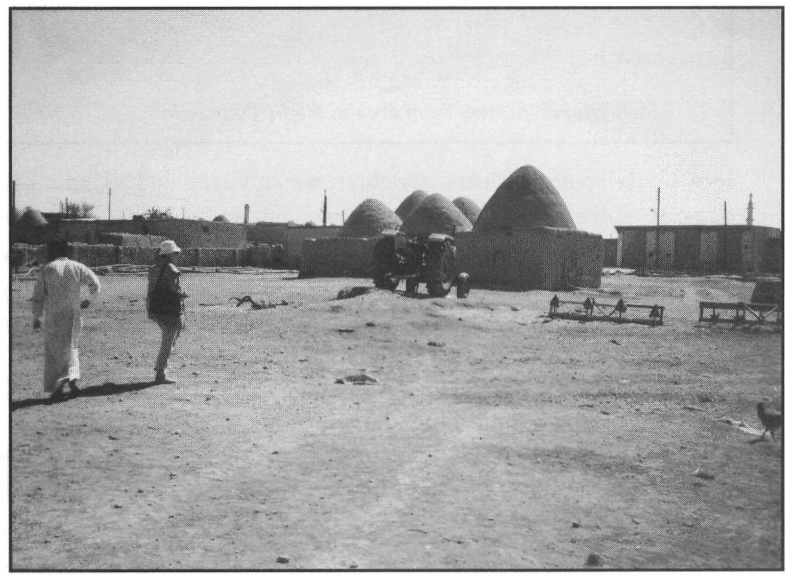


Hadir near springs with Bronze Age mound in background

Research in 1999

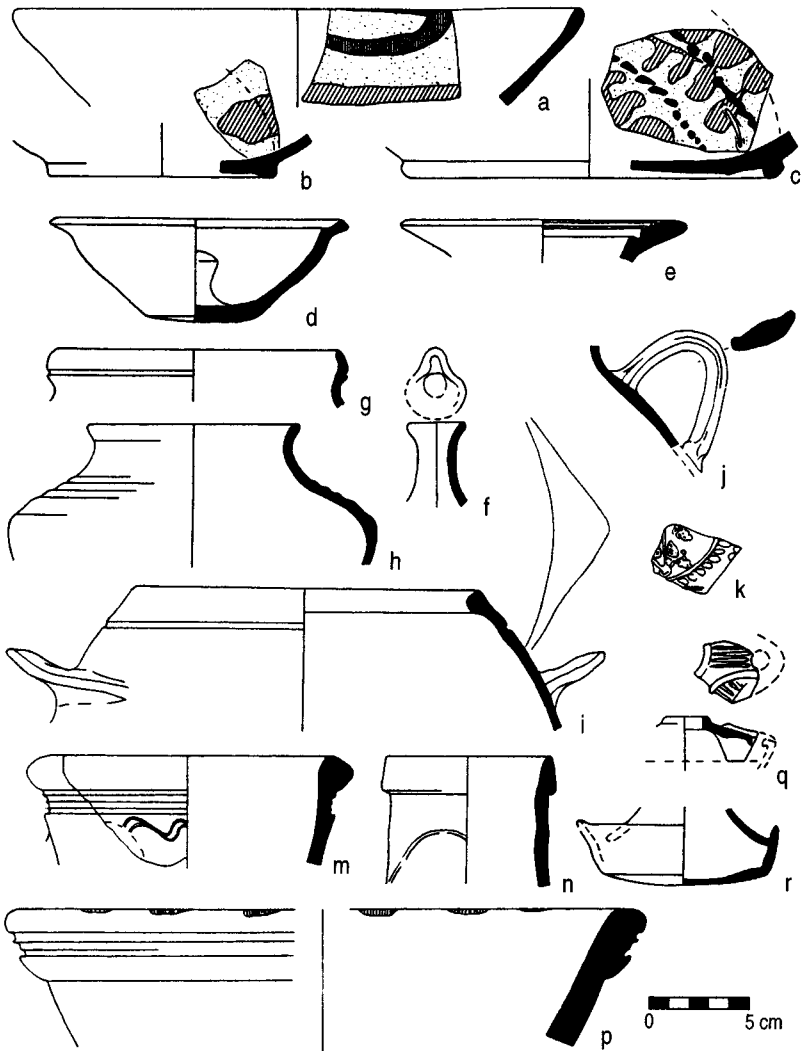
From the initial examination of Chalcis in 1990 to the first sondages in 1998, the focus of archaeological research has become increasingly clear. The first hurdle was the differentiation of the classical walled city of Chalcis at the town of al-ʾIs (Tell Chalcis on the map) from the early Islamic capital of Qinnasrin located at the town of Hadir. The survey and sondages of 1998 revealed an added complexity of a Bronze Age mound southwest of the Islamic town, attracted by the same springs (Tell Hadir on the map). This Bronze (and Iron) Age tell has been surveyed by Italian archaeologists in conjunction with Ebla, located only about 40 km to the south. The size of this mound and continuity of its occupation should make it appropriate for future investigation; no doubt a simple step trench and fragments of sealings would inspire a needed breakthrough in ancient urbanization.

Most recently, an examination of archaeological remains within the town of Hadir revealed Islamic artifacts and apparently pre-Islamic monuments. This was accomplished through a systematic walking tour, armed with good maps of the town, noting down its "antiquities" with Ms. Fedwa Abido and Mr. Omar Mahmud, both of the Aleppo Museum. The obvious beginning was the cemetery, clearly part of the early Islamic town but obviously unavailable for excavation (see map). Beyond its walls on the north was the Jurat al-Nasara, the declivity or hollow of the Christians, which is indeed a pit where early occupation could be investigated (once modern trash was removed). Of more interest was the south side of the mosque, where several open lots sported large stones from archaeological structures. With the assistance of Katherine Strange and Col-



North edge of Hadir with beehive-shaped buildings

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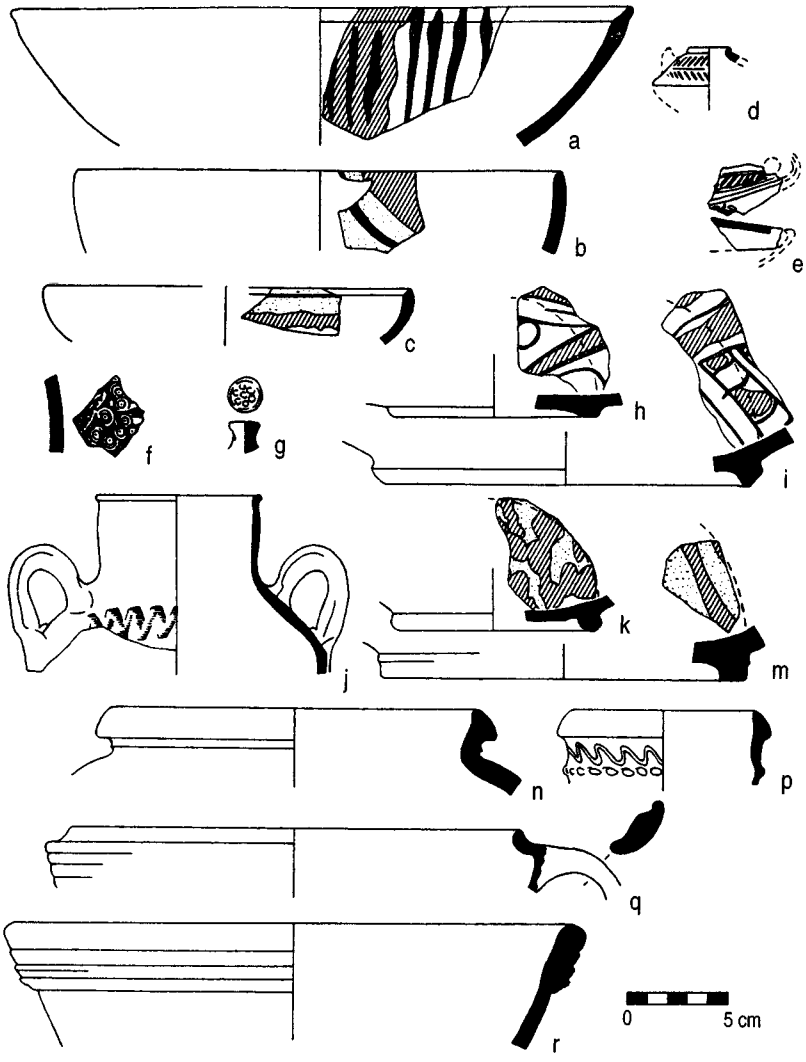


Early Islamic pottery from area K. Hadir Qinnasrin

leen Coyle (both graduate students), we surveyed and found a number of ancient columns and capitals on the slightly mounded area south and east of the mosque. These were often made of basalt; one capital contained the name "Eusebios." These architectural elements may be a strong indication of the distribution of late Byzantine, and more precisely Ghassanid, buildings in the center of Qinnasrin. An alternative interpretation may be the incorporation of pre-Islamic spolia recycled in later, Islamic architecture.

The ubiquitous presence of basalt architectural elements makes the lack of previous archaeological investigation puzzling and, given the intense modern development of Hadir, very disappointing. One realizes that even a few years ago much of this site would have been visible or readily uncovered. Fortunately there are still extensive areas within the town that are left open and relatively undisturbed. One of our workmen, Ahmad Kalbun, who understood our preoccupation with potsherds, led us to a school yard and large courtyard south of the old mosque. Visible on the surface were stone walls, ovens, ash, and quantities of glazed sherds; this was

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Early Islamic pottery from area L. Hadir Qinnasrin

especially gratifying in that our goals are not confined to monumental architecture but will include studies of residential areas, following upon the houses fortunately uncovered in the first season of research.

Ceramic Evidence

The ceramics recovered from the 1998 survey resulted in detailed study by M. Cyril Achard, a student project in the Sorbonne. He was able to outline the periods from the Early Bronze IV through the Middle Islamic and begin rudimentary distribution patterns. His study was limited only by the nature of the reconnaissance; one may hope that this preliminary research provides a basis for his participation in the future surveys at Qinnasrin and its region. On the other hand, the ceramic collections from the sondages, soon to be published in *Archéologie Islamique*, are divided into two phases. The earlier phase I came from layers deposited within the stone walls of

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these rooms (mudbrick walls were foundations only, sunk into pre-Islamic strata). The preliminary hope that the Byzantine/Umayyad transitional phase may be distinguished seems unjustified from the limited collections within relatively shallow layers. Nevertheless, parallels with Déhès and other transitional sites clearly indicate an occupation during this period, i.e., late seventh and early eighth centuries. A single, very early, Abbasid coin may confirm this dating (this was a *fals* of Salih ibn 'Ali, minted in Aleppo, ca. 758). Other coins include two of Heraclius, ca. 630–641, and may be more typical currency of this phase; otherwise a few residual coins of the sixth century were found in all layers.

The main occupation of the 1998 sondages, phase II, is characterized by collections from surface loci in area K and more generally from area L (where there was little or no material from phase I). Specific brittle wares, basins, lamps, and jars (with amphorae) are paralleled in late Umayyad and Abbasid contexts at Qasr al-Hayr, al-Sharqi, al-Rusafa, and especially Tell Aswad (al-Raqqa). Perhaps most interesting are the glazed wares, usually a polychrome on simple forms; this has recently been described as "yellow-glaze-family" by Watson at Tell Aswad. While there is some controversy over this ware, it seems to be pre-Samarran and oriented toward Levantine production traditions. A small percentage of these glazed sherds have simple sgraffiato decoration; these occur on the surface and may be considered the latest ceramic development recovered in these excavations. Phase II may be dated from the later eighth into the very early ninth century, a dating confirmed by one Abbasid coin (a *fals* of 'Abbas ibn Muhammad, governor of the Jazira, ca. 772–775).

One may conclude from the ceramics, and to a less extent from coins, a dating for the periphery of Hadir Qinnasrin to the eighth century, with indications of an immediately preceding phase. The survey ceramics indicate that this earlier phase may be found toward the center of the modern town of Hadir. Thus the ceramic indicators support the implications of the architectural elements in positing a transitional occupation of late Byzantine and early Islamic periods. The potential for distinguishing an assemblage clearly related to a Ghassanid presence would represent an important contribution for Syrian history through the utilization of archaeological evidence.

Putting all this information together, one arrives at the picture of an urban center south and east of the old mosque, which forms the slight rise of a mound and encloses remains of Ghassanid and early Islamic Qinnasrin. The next stage of investigation must turn to excavation to uncover the forgotten history of this lost city. This research will continue in fall 2000 with the cooperation of Marianne Barrucand of the Sorbonne, and with the support of the Directorate General of Antiquities and its able representation by Ms. Fedwa Abido from Aleppo.

HAMOUKAR

McGuire Gibson

The first season of excavation at Hamoukar was an unqualified success. The areas excavated have already shown that this mound contains abundant evidence to address two of the most im-

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portant questions in Near Eastern archaeology: the origins of civilization and the development of the Akkadian state, which is normally considered the world's earliest empire.

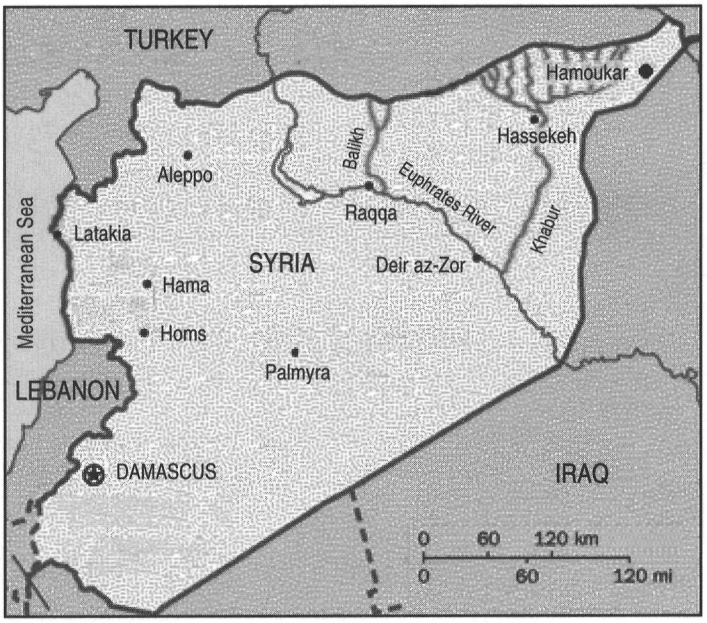
The expedition is a joint effort of the Syrian Directorate General of Antiquities and the Oriental Institute. Muhammad Maktash is my co-director, and in the first season he was joined by Abdulillah Salama, an architect, and Mahmoud Fawaz. Amr al-Azm of the University of Damascus joined the expedition as environmental specialist, especially dealing with botanical remains. The Chicago part of the staff included Judith Franke, who worked several seasons at Nippur and now directs the Dickson Mounds Museum in Illinois; Tony Wilkinson, landscape archaeologist; John C. Sanders, architect and computer expert; Peggy Sanders, draftsperson; Clemens Reichel, graduate student and archaeologist; Jason Ur, graduate student and archaeologist, specializing in surface survey during this season; Carrie Hritz, archaeologist; and Brigitte Watkins, archaeologist and photographer.

Hamoukar, in northeastern Syria, is only eight kilometers from the border with Iraq and is situated on a major east-west route. Just as today's highway links Mosul with Aleppo, in ancient times a similar route joined Nineveh with Aleppo, passing through major sites like Tell Leilan, Tell Beydar, and on an alternate branch, through Tell Brak.

Intensive archaeological investigation over the past twenty years in northern Iraq, northern Syria, and southern Turkey has made it clear that there is a large zone of shared culture that is summed up in terms such as Late Chalcolithic (fourth millennium BC) or Ninevite 5 (third millennium). In these early periods, this cultural zone is distinct in much of its material culture from southern Mesopotamia, but there is evidence of linkages with the south and even colonization in specific periods.

The environmental situation in the northern area is starkly contrasted with that in southern Mesopotamia. Lying in the arc of the great Taurus/Zagros mountain chain, the northern zone receives sufficient rainfall to allow farming without irrigation, and in some periods the area has produced tremendous crops of wheat, barley, etc., using a fraction of the human energy and expense required of the irrigated agriculture in southern Mesopotamia. But the area has also been subject to fluctuations in rainfall, and for long periods in history, the Khabur and Balikh river drainages have not been cultivated, but have been the province of herders. Tony Wilkinson, who is a member of the Hamoukar team, has been at the forefront of researchers laying out the patterns of settlement and abandonment through surface reconnaissance in southern Turkey, northern Syria, and northern Iraq.

As early as the fifth millennium BC, southern Mesopotamian artifacts that we term Ubaid, especially pottery but also architecture, were transferred to the northern zone. Ubaid pottery, or local derivations from it, can be found on



Map showing Hamoukar in northeast corner of Syria

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1 HM 90. Stamp seal from area B. Hamoukar, 1999. Photograph by Brigitte Watkins

sites across northern Iraq and northern Syria. That contact is normally accounted for under the term "trade," with varying reconstructions of the amount of human movement that may have accompanied the pottery.

More striking is the evidence of a large scale transfer of southern artifacts in the late Uruk period (ca. 3500–3000 BC). Although it has been known for decades that temples and numerous kinds of southern items reached northern Iraq and eastern Syria (especially at the site of Tell Brak) during this time, it was only with the excavation during the 1970s of a group of sites in the Tabqa Dam Salvage operations on the Euphrates above Raqqa that the extent of that transfer could be estimated. At Habuba Kabira South, almost an entire city, complete with a city wall and southern-style temples and artifacts, was exposed. A few kilometers to the north was the smaller site of Jebel Aruda, located on a strategic and easily defensible mountain slope, and composed of what I interpret as a large administrative complex (published as "houses"), a sacred area with two temples enclosed by a wall, and a group of houses, in effect a microcosm of a southern Mesopotamian city. Both these sites seemed safely assigned to the late Uruk period, but a small mound across the Euphrates, Shaykh Hassan, also had earlier pottery that could be classed as middle Uruk.

Farther up the Euphrates, in Turkey, were other sites with Uruk materials mixed with local artifacts. These sites look more like trading posts established by southerners or places in which a few artifacts were acquired by local people.

To my mind, sites such as Habuba Kabira, Jebel Aruda, Shaykh Hassan, and Tell Brak are not just the result of trade, but are administrative and commercial centers, signs of conquest of territory. In fact, we may come to see the late Uruk occupation of the northern zone as the world's earliest empire. This term is normally applied to the Akkadian period (ca. 2300 BC), when Sargon of Akkad and his grandson Naram Sin laid claim to all the territory between the Persian Gulf and the Mediterranean.

Hamoukar allows us not only to investigate the Uruk presence in northeastern Syria, but also gives us a chance to look at that second incursion of southern Mesopotamia into the northern zone. From surface collections, made by Jason Ur, we estimate that Hamoukar was at least 13 hectares (ca. 30 acres) in the fourth millennium. But it reached its greatest extent, more than 103 hectares (300 + acres), in the third millennium, just before, during, and after the coming of the Akkadians.

The surface collections show that the site was perhaps occupied for the first time in the Halaf period, some time around 5000 BC. There are also a few sherds of late Ubaid pottery (ca. 4300 BC). We cannot estimate the size of the site in these periods.

During the late Chalcolithic (fourth millennium), however, we can make estimates of settlement. In fact, for the earliest part of this millennium, we have something of a puzzle. The fields to the south of the main mound have in them hundreds of sherds of pottery that can be dated on sites in Turkey, Syria, and northern Iraq to the earliest part of the fourth millennium. In some

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scholars' terminology, this is the Early Gawran; others prefer to call it Early Northern Uruk, although there is little evidence of southern Mesopotamian material in the assemblage. The spread of the sherds over the fields amounts to something like 279 hectares, well over 500 acres. This is too huge a site for such an early period, and it is unlikely to have been occupied all at the same time. We think it may prove to be a village or a couple of villages that shifted location through a couple of hundred years. And that village (or villages) may be similar to modern cases in which nomads settle, but each household take up lots of space. We will be excavating this area in the next season and hope to have some answers.

On the main mound, we concentrated most of our digging on two areas, A and B, but also put an exploratory trench into area C. Area A was a step trench, designed to get an idea of what is in the mound from top to bottom. Clemens Reichel supervised this area, which measures 60 × 3 m, and was taken down to a depth of four or more meters in a number of the steps. In short, he moved a lot of dirt in two months. At the bottom of the trench, we encountered house levels that we date to the Middle Gawran (or Middle Northern Uruk, ca. 3700 BC). Above the level of these houses was a huge mudbrick wall. The wall, about four meters thick and more than three meters high, was built of large rectangular bricks. We assume that this was a city wall but cannot say that for certain until we expose more of it. Above the level of the monumental wall we encountered three building levels of late Uruk date, with southern Uruk pottery in abundance. In a layer that ran above the latest of the late Uruk houses, we had pottery that is called Ninevite 5, incised and excised, datable to about 2400 BC. On the Ninevite 5 layer was the earliest of three buildings that we date to the Akkadian period and later. These three buildings, especially the uppermost one, have baked brick pavements and multiple layers of plaster on the walls. We think we have here buildings that are more than just private houses, probably being administrative buildings. We will investigate these levels in a later season.

The latest occupation in area A is a building of the early Islamic period, with one small room that yielded slabs of unbaked clay, perhaps evidence of tile making or pottery making.

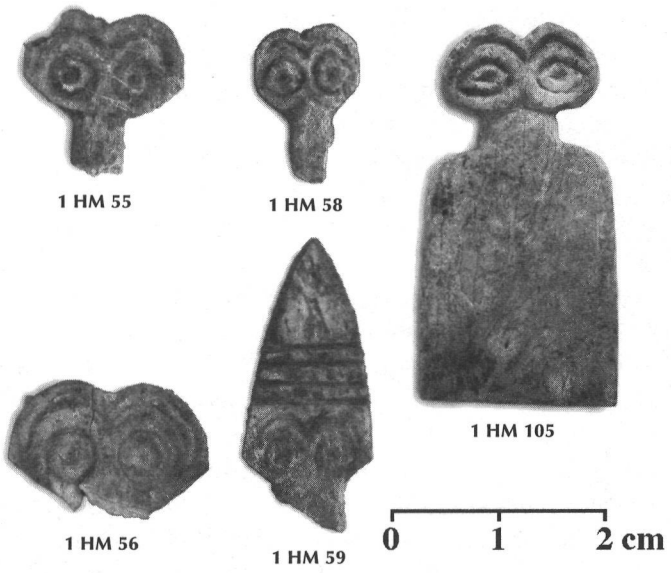
Area C, down on the lower part of the main mound at the northeastern corner, was a 2 × 2 m pit that was sunk to determine what might be here. We had thought that we would build an expedition house here and needed to know what we would be making inaccessible if we did build there. As it turned out, Carrie Hritz, the supervisor, found a building level of the first millennium BC near the surface, and at about two meters she encountered the corner of a building with a buttress and two niches. The walls were covered in mud plaster with an outer coat of white lime plaster. Niches and buttresses normally indicate public buildings, and we think we are dealing with a temple that belongs in the time just before or during the Akkadian period. We have decided to locate our house elsewhere, and we will be opening this area in a major way during the coming season.

Area B was the responsibility of Judith Franke and Abdulilla Salama. The spot was selected because surface sherds included large numbers of southern late Uruk pottery. Digging proved that the late Uruk level had been eroded away except for a set of large pits filled with ash and trash, including pottery. These pits cut down into a group of houses datable by the pottery to the Middle Gawran (= Middle Northern Uruk) with not very impressive mudbrick walls. The houses were full of ash, pottery, animal bones, seeds,



1 HM 3. Ancient seal impression. On left, animal with head turned back and long tail; on right, a tree. Hamoukar, 1999. Photograph by Clemens Reichel

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Eye idols. Hamoukar, 1999. Photograph by Clemens Reichel

and other debris. The ash was derived from a group of large, ovoid ovens that we found in two of the squares. In one square, there were at least five ovens. They were not all used at the same time, but as one would go out of use, another would be built to take its place. In another square, the oven was relatively well preserved, showing its dome shape. Such ovens are beyond the size needed for household cooking. In that circumstance, bread would have been made in a small conical oven, very similar to those used in the Near East today. And usually other household cooking, such as roasting or boiling, would have been done over a hearth.

Supporting the idea that the ovens were institutional, not only in scale but in purpose, was the finding in the house debris of eighteen bits of clay or bitumen that had been used to seal bottles, jars, and other containers. These bits of clay and bitumen had on them impressions of stamp seals, showing animals, perhaps human beings, and vegetation. Such sealings have been found at other fourth millennium sites from Turkey to northern Iraq. The style is a local one, having nothing to do with southern Mesopotamia. The use of seals is one of the signs of the beginnings of early states, being indications that some persons are administering and regulating the going in and out of goods or safeguarding stored items. In area B, we had other evidence for some kind of administrative hierarchy. In a pit, which was perhaps a grave since it also contained a few human bones, we discovered more than 5,000 beads, at least 89 stamp seals, and other items. The beads were predominantly made of bone, with shells and stone forming a minor percentage. There were some beads made of faience, a kind of glass product. Although the fourth millennium may be thought to be very early for production of faience, there are very similar beads found in similar Middle Northern Uruk contexts at Tell Brak. Included among the beads were five fragments of bone figurines that have been termed "eye idols." These figurines, consisting usually of a large pair of eyes on a thin neck and a stylized body, such as the whole one that we found in a baby grave in area B, can also have a variation in which the head is conical. Both types have been found previously at Tell Brak. We also found broken examples of stone "eye idols" in the debris on floors within the houses in area B.

The stamp seals, almost all of bone, are pierced for suspension and are of two general classes: a) a flat rectangle with grooves on the upper surface and incised hatching or cross-hatching on the stamping surface, and b) animal-shapes. The animal-shaped seals include lions, pairs of lions, lion heads joined at the backs, a dog, hares, bears, gazelles, fish, and birds. Among the birds is a duck or goose with its head turned back over its body. This is an important set occurring in three sizes, small, medium, and large. The small seal has cross-hatching on the stamping surface. The medium-sized seal has a scene of one animal attacking another. The largest seal has a motif that is not yet identified but may be coiled snakes. We know from the impressions on clay found in the buildings that stamp seals with figurative scenes were used for sealing purposes, so we assume that the two larger types were definitely meant to be used as seals. The fact that we also

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have a small one with hatching implies that it too must have been a seal, not just an amulet or bead. And if this type was a seal, so were all the other animal-shaped and rectangular stamps.

The largest of all the bone stamp seals are especially well made. One is in the form of a deer (with its horns broken off). On the stamping surface is a scene of three horned animals in a line. The other is a remarkably sensitive rendering of a leopard, lying down with its front paws extended. The leopard's spots were made by drilling small holes into the body in thirteen places, then inserting tiny dowels. Unfortunately, this object was badly damaged in several places. The stamping surface, however, is intact and also shows three animals in a line.

We conclude that because we have bits of clay and bitumen that had been sealed with stamp seals having figurative scenes, that all of the larger seals with figurative scenes served a more important function than the smaller ones with only hatching. We assume that the different types were used by functionaries in different levels of a hierarchy.

Putting together the evidence of the possible city wall, the food preparation on an institutional scale, and evidence of sealing and an implicit differentiation in levels of a hierarchy, we conclude that in the time before 3500 BC when there was a late Uruk occupation of Hamoukar, there was already a state level of complexity in this area. In other words, the usual picture of civilization developing in southern Mesopotamia in the late Uruk period and then moving north to stimulate civilizational development in Syria has to be revised. In Syria, and presumably in other areas such as southern Turkey and western Iran, complex forms of society and governance were being developed at an earlier period, independent of what was happening in southern Mesopotamia. Joan Oates, digging at Tell Brak, has been moving toward such a conclusion for some time now.

Because much work is now being done in Syria and Turkey, the tendency is for scholars to start seeing the northern zone as more important than the south. But they must deal with the fact that when we find evidence of contact, it is southern Mesopotamian material found in the northern zone, not vice versa. At this point, it seems that there was more independent development in the northern zone, but we cannot rule out the role played by the earlier contact from the south in the Ubaid period. Long-range trading contacts at that time may have stimulated both areas to develop more complex economic and social entities, so that when the late Uruk people came to occupy areas of Syria at about 3500 BC, they found kingdoms, not just tribally organized farmers and herders.

In August 2000 we will be returning to Hamoukar to build an expedition house and resume digging. The site deserves long-term attention and will be a focus of Oriental Institute research for some time to come.

JOINT PREHISTORIC PROJECT

Robert J. Braidwood and Linda S. Braidwood

Aslı Özdoğan has been excavating an interesting site in central Anatolia but has made this her final year because she feels that by next year she should be able to begin work again at Çayönü. Meanwhile, there are still things that need to be done for Çayönü, such as buying the yearly sup-

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plies needed by the guard. (The University of Istanbul pays the monthly wages of the guard; the Prehistoric Project assumes the cost of his yearly supplies, including bullets.) It is an interesting tale as to how we came by our guard.

Nail Bey, Halet's husband, was very interested in making the excavation house as comfortable as possible, and he spent the winter of 1968 living in a tent near the construction site, concentrating on getting wooden floors in the rooms where people would be spending most of their time, arranging for running water in each room, and searching for the best wash basins to place in each of the bedrooms. When he had finished, he returned to Istanbul for the rest of the winter.

But when he and Halet came in the spring to check up on what still needed to be done, they were horrified to find that the house had been vandalized — beautiful basins smashed, utter chaos. The house was being built on school property and the students had caused the damage. Halet and Nail immediately went to the administrative office in Ergani, the nearest town, to tell their sad tale. They hadn't noticed an older gentleman who was sitting in the corner. But as they finished, he spoke up in words to the effect that his honor was at stake since it was his people who had done the damage; he felt responsible and would send them a guard from his village.

And so Mehmet Ates came to be our guard. And the bullets? If really needed, he wouldn't hesitate to use them. This is our Mehmet who has taken such good care of us over the years and who should now be retiring. Aslı reports that Mehmet's son has finished his military service and will take a test in July or August; if he gets the necessary grade of 70 (at least) she'll be able to hire him as our guard. That would be great — we are keeping our fingers crossed.

Meanwhile, the study of the Çayönü animal bones goes forward with Gülçin Ilgezdi and Banu Öksüz who first worked with the late Berrin Kuşatman; they enjoyed learning about ancient animal bones and are now working steadily on them under Hitomi Hongo's direction. Hitomi comes out to Turkey several times a year for some months, and Richard Meadow stops in Istanbul once a year to offer advice. Hitomi wrote that she was taking the girls to a zooarchaeological meeting in Jordan. She and Richard would like to see Gülçin and Banu get doctorates outside of Turkey, but realize the difficulties, financial as well as linguistic. Germany is much more generous in providing support and there is a chance that Gülçin, who was born in Germany (of Turkish parents) may be able to get a doctorate from Tübingen. Berrin worked there for some months with Uerpman, an excellent zooarchaeologist. Banu needs to keep working on her English.

We are pleased that the Prehistoric Project can assist with the study of the chipped stone artifacts from Çayönü by providing a modest monthly room and board stipend for Güner Coşkunsu and Çiler Altinbilek. This enables them to work steadily at the flint analysis. Isabella Caneva and her Italian team can only come out to Istanbul for short periods several times a year, but with Güner and Çiler's help, the chipped stone analysis is moving steadily ahead. And we must add that we are especially impressed with the way in which Isabella is handling the great bulk of chipped stone. They are using a powerful microscope to study use wear on artifacts. For example, Isabella is now able to say, from tools found in the skull building, that they had been used exclusively on flesh and bone, suggesting that the great mass of bones that were found in pits in the skull building had been prepared for burial right in the building.

In closing, we want to warmly thank all the friends of the Prehistoric Project for their continued support.

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NIPPUR

McGuire Gibson

Work continues on manuscripts of Nippur reports, even though much of the staff are holding teaching and research positions far from Chicago. Graduate students are employed to work on parts of this material, especially in drawing objects and putting basic information into databases for easier reference when we work on manuscripts. In addition, during the year, a volunteer has been sorting and laying out photographs for inclusion in two of the manuscripts. David Reese has continued to prepare chapters on animal bones and shells for two volumes. And I find time occasionally to work on descriptions of objects and analysis or stratigraphy. The best news is that Augusta McMahon's report on the Early Dynastic/Akkadian Transition has its plates completely "pasted up," the final draft has been proofread, and the book is definitely going to be submitted to the editorial office this year. Since it is presenting a crucial revision of an important part of Mesopotamian history, this book is a complex one and takes extra care and effort to produce.

The site of Nippur itself lies neglected and un-worked but, as far as I know, to date the mound itself remains undamaged. (You may remember that the dig house was set afire several years ago, as part of a tribal dispute.) Many other sites in Iraq, especially those in the desert area between the two rivers in the south of the country, are being systematically looted by gangs of men using earth-moving equipment. The objects are then smuggled over the border and on to Europe, where they are given faked certificates of provenience and offered on the antiquities market. The number of objects being smuggled out of Iraq each year is in the thousands. Although the trade is centered in London, many of the objects find their way to dealers in New York and even Chicago. The enormous damage being done to archaeological sites will continue as long as there is an embargo on Iraq. The Iraqi Directorate General of Antiquities has recently begun to dig at three of the most damaged sites, but the looters will just move off to more remote mounds. Although the embargo is not supposed to relate to cultural matters, it does in fact do so. There are some signs that this cultural embargo is finally beginning to crack. Several European archaeological teams are about to resume work in Iraq. Thus, we can hope that eventually the United States government will allow us to resume work. Meanwhile, we continue to teach Mesopotamian archaeology and prepare publications in order to keep the field alive.

I would like to acknowledge the contributions of Friends of Nippur, who have continued to support our work even in this phase of writing-up, which may not be very exciting to the public, but is actually one of the most exhilarating parts of archaeological research. Often, things that did not seem important turn out to be crucial to understanding a problem, and very often in the writing of a report, things just fall into place and make wonderful sense.

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PROJECT FOR THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF YEMENI TERRACED AGRICULTURE

Tony J. Wilkinson

To many people Yemen is a rather obscure part of the Middle East, but as our work there has begun to demonstrate, the country holds considerable archaeological interest, which has resulted in a multipart project encompassing settlement survey and excavation, obsidian sourcing, and epigraphic survey. Past *Annual Reports* have described our results within a regional setting, but it is also necessary to state the important role that the project is playing in understanding the development of South Arabian civilization. In brief, prior to the 1980s when Alessandro de Maigret discovered the first distinctive traces of a Yemeni Bronze Age, the pre-conditions that enabled the civilization of Sab'a and the incense states to develop were unknown. Now, as a result of five seasons of survey and excavations, we can state that prior to the rise of the state of Sab'a, the mountainous area of southwest Arabia was well populated with numerous Bronze Age highland communities, mostly in the form of small hilltop towns and villages. This moist heartland then provided the core around which the incense states subsequently developed. Consequently throughout the first millennium BC this area provided the verdant hinterland for the new vibrant and affluent civilization that developed around cities such as Sab'a. Therefore it is no longer necessary for us to suggest that the incense trade and its cities grew up in a vacuum, without a predecessor, or developed simply as a result of southward emigration from the Levant to the north. Rather, its foundations were homegrown. Of these Bronze Age communities, the best example we have studied to date is the hilltop town of Hammat al-Qa, discussed below.

Project for the Archaeology of Yemeni Terraced Agriculture

The project has now been re-named the "Oriental Institute Project for the Archaeology of Yemeni Terraced Agriculture" (OIPAYTA). This is partly because the previous more ponderous title frequently resulted in my being unable to remember the name of my own project. Between 7 October and 12 November 1999 we conducted the fifth field season of the project. As in previous seasons a general survey of the region was conducted. In 1999 special efforts were made to re-examine sites that had been visited in the first season in order to improve our record of those sites and their environment. Second, a major endeavor was made to record as many South Arabian inscriptions as possible. Third, the important site of Hammat al-Qa was surveyed using a "total station" laser theodolite so that every building and ancient agricultural feature was recorded. Finally, soundings were made at Hammat al-Qa (DS 101), Hawagir (DS 293), and al-Miqta' (DS 322A). We also took the opportunity to analyze in greater detail the artifacts recorded from the 1998 field season, specifically the pottery and lithics from Ribat 'Amran (DS 226) and Kharraib (DS 227 and 228).

Funding for the 1998 and 1999 seasons came from the National Science Foundation, the National Geographic Society, and several private donors from the Oriental Institute. We are very grateful to all who have contributed to the project over the years. Because as many as three teams were in the field at any one time, we had three representatives (Ali Sanabani, Khalil al-Zubeiri, and Mu'ammar al-'Amry), all of whom are to be thanked for contributing enormously to the success of fieldwork. We particularly wish to thank Ali Sanabani, Director of the Dhamar Office of the Department of Antiquities, for lending his help and advice at every stage of fieldwork. Considerable gratitude must go to officials of the General Organization of Antiquities and

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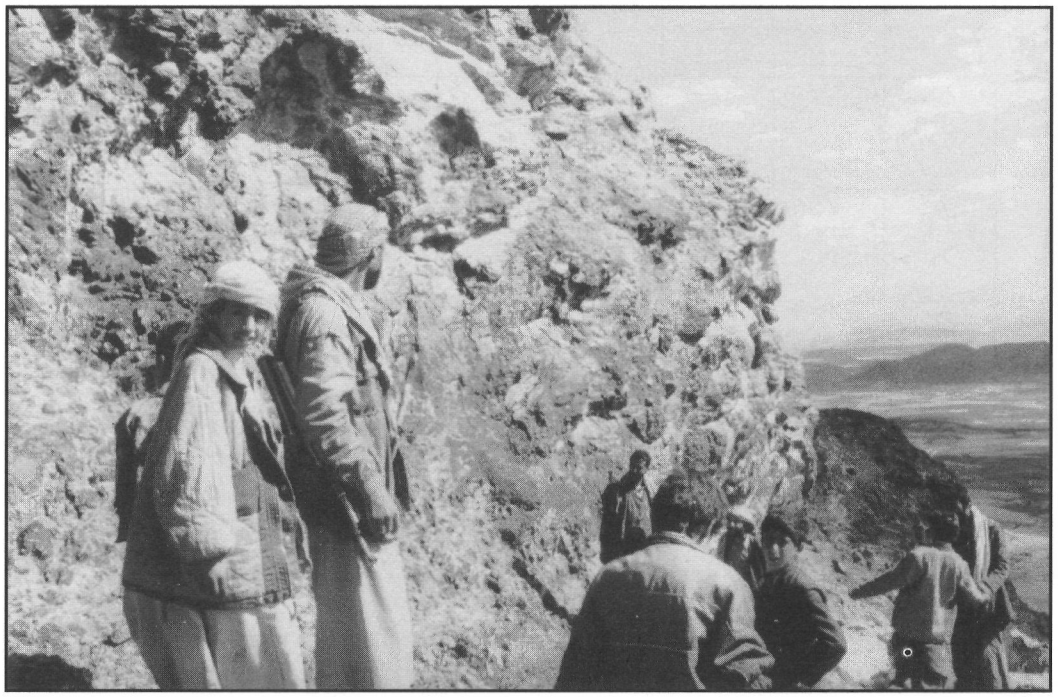


Figure 1. In center of view dipping from top right to lower left is obsidian source near village of Asakirah within volcano of Jebel Isbil

Museums, especially Yusuf Abdullah and Ahmed Shujar, and to Ahmed Shemsan, for help and advice before and during the season.

Archaeological Survey

Because we are now starting to get a more comprehensive picture of the cultural record of this previously little known area, in 1999 there was less emphasis on general reconnaissance. Hence we only recorded some 22 new sites, which brings the total number of sites on record to 322. Rather than simply covering additional ground, we decided to expend increased effort on improving our record of known sites, especially those that were recorded during the first field season in 1994, when we had scant knowledge of the cultural assemblage. Much of the survey and site recording in 1999 was conducted by Krista Lewis (graduate student, University of Chicago), who will be using her fieldwork in the area toward a doctoral dissertation.

A large number of Bronze Age sites continued to be recorded, demonstrating the high density of occupation that prevailed between about 3000 and 1200 BC. One of these sites is situated on top of an extinct volcano, a location which testifies to the disregard that early Yemenis showed for the risks inherent in occupying certain sites, or perhaps, more realistically, to the importance in their minds of defense and status. Therefore, the inhabitants probably considered it important to have part of their site in a defensible and lofty position even though living there entailed potential discomforts or risks.

Obsidian Sourcing

Part of the survey entailed a detailed study of sites at or near obsidian sources. Such a study should enable us to trace the process of manufacture of obsidian tools or their raw materials prior to their distribution, and to enable obsidian found on sites both within the Dhamar area and

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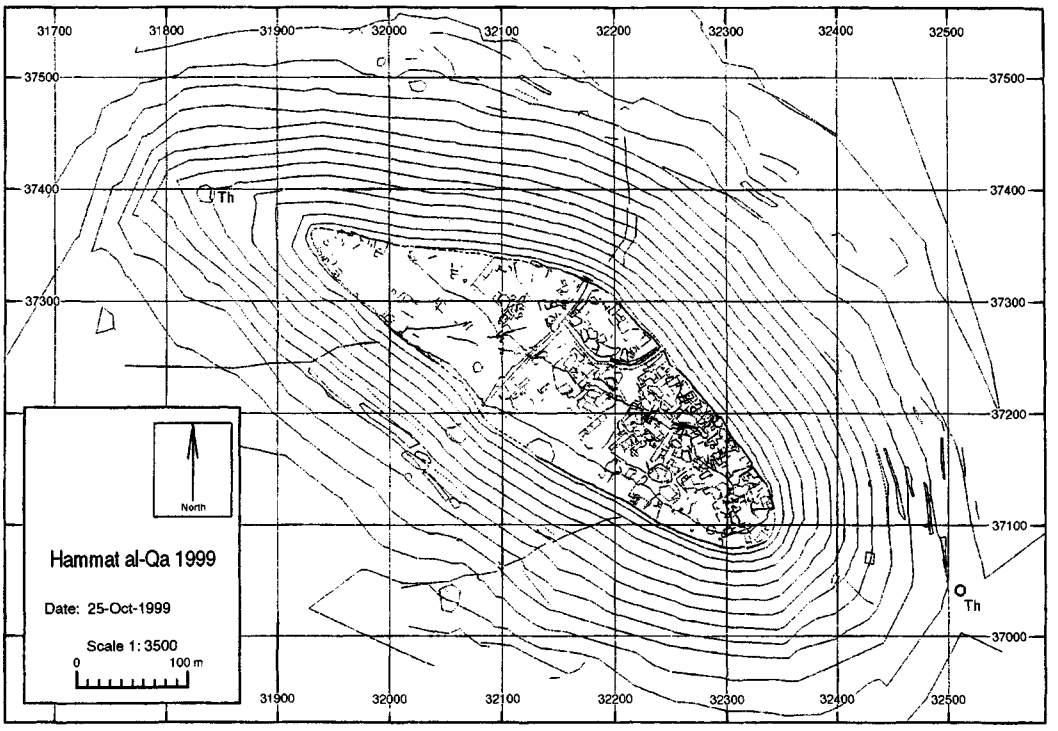


Figure 2. General contour map of Hammat al-Qa showing main town, relict terrace fields on slopes, and threshing floors (Th)

beyond to be traced to their source. Obsidian sampling by Colleen Coyle (graduate student, University of Chicago) is being conducted in conjunction with trace element analysis by James Blackman (Smithsonian Analytical Laboratory, Washington, DC). The analyses will eventually enable us to describe patterns of ancient obsidian trade back to the Neolithic period. Sites that appear to have been involved in the manufacture of obsidian tools, or raw materials for export, include sites DS 301 and DS 179. The term "obsidian source" is rather an abstraction, and it must be emphasized that such sources can range from a dense scatter of glossy, black obsidian waste on a mountaintop settlement (as at DS 301) to much more extensive workshops such as site DS 179, which consists of a vast area of obsidian flakes and other waste material spread over several square kilometers of ground (i.e., virtually a square mile). Usually the exact source is simply an outcrop of black volcanic glass on a hillside, or even a bed of rolled obsidian that erupted out of an ancient volcano. Tentatively, the Bronze Age site of DS 301, located to the southwest of the dormant volcano of Jebel al-Lisi, appears to have been involved in the manufacture of obsidian tools whereas DS 179, located a short distance to the northwest of Dhamar, appears to have been heavily involved in the manufacture of stone cores, primarily during the Iron Age and Himyarite periods. In addition, an obsidian source below the village of al-Asakirah within Jebel Isbil was sampled for analysis (fig. 1). Preliminary analysis of obsidian from this source suggests that sites in the Wadi Jubbah, some 90 miles away to the northeast, received some of their obsidian from this source.

Hammat al-Qa

Hammat al-Qa was described in *Oriental Institute News & Notes* 165 (Spring 2000), so it is necessary only to summarize the results from this important site that was occupied in the final cen-

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turies of the third millennium BC and the early second millennium. In 1999 Christopher Edens (currently director of the American Institute of Yemeni Studies) and Glynn Barratt (University of Birmingham, United Kingdom) undertook a general survey of all buildings on this hilltop town. Mapping was a two-stage process that first entailed fixing all wall alignments using a total station laser theodolite (fig. 2). It was then necessary to return to every wall or building with conventional tapes to record the buildings at a scale sufficient to show all their details (fig. 3). The latter exercise, which proceeded "stone by stone," was particularly instructive because it enabled us to see precisely not only how each wall had been constructed, but also how at a later date they might have been dismantled to supply building materials for other growing parts of the site. This contrast is best brought out by figure 3, which shows the dense building plans within the main part of the site. This compares to a much more sparse and extensive scatter of buildings that occurred to the west of the main wall in the northwest "outer town" (fig. 4).

In addition we mapped off-site features such as relict field terraces, threshing floors, and rural buildings, which together provide evidence of where at least some of the crops eaten by the inhabitants were grown, threshed, and winnowed (fig. 5). By combining population estimates obtained from the number of houses mapped within the settlement to the area required to grow the crops the inhabitants needed for food, we can deduce that only a modest proportion of the surrounding lowlands (the Qa) would have been required for cultivation. The remainder of the Qa could have served as long-term pasture for the sheep and goats that would have constituted the household flocks.

In 1999, in order to provide some stratigraphic confirmation for the surface collections and survey, soundings were undertaken at three sites. Those at Hammat al-Qa and Hawagir were both supervised by Mark al-Taweel (graduate student, University of Chicago), with the assistance of Muʾammar al-ʿAmry (General Organization of Antiquities and Museums, Sanʾa). Excavations at al-Miqta were supervised by Krista Lewis and Ali Sanabani.

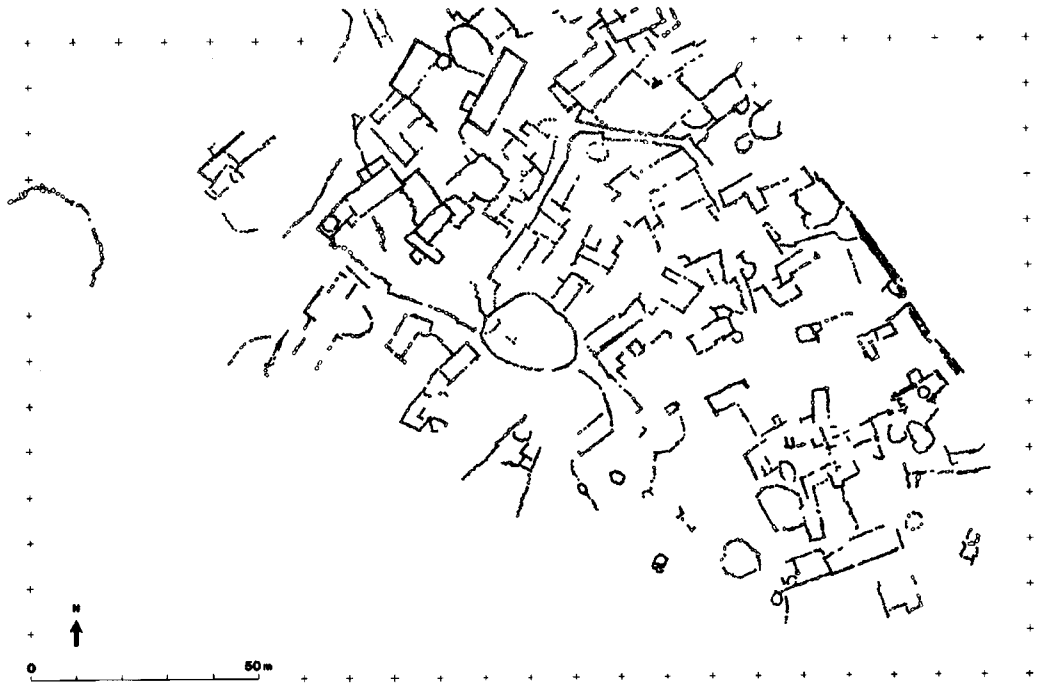


Figure 3. Detailed plan of southeast part of main town of Hammat al-Qa

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Soundings at Hammat al-Qa

Two soundings were placed within the main town of Hammat al-Qa. The first, operation 6, suggested that the town wall was constructed in two phases. The first phase was probably in the Bronze Age. After a period of abandonment during part of the second millennium BC and probably the entire first millennium BC, the wall was rebuilt and a second wall of large rough tabular orthostats was placed over the earlier wall and gravel platform (fig. 6). Himyarite pottery from the construction phase of the gravel platform suggests that this later phase of wall construction took place during the Himyarite period or somewhat later. However, we do not know at present whether this later rebuilding was a major feature or merely surrounded part of the site.

The second sounding, operation 7, was positioned within an open space towards the center of the town. These excavations indicated that the open space had once contained buildings which were subsequently reduced to little more than a relict northwest-southeast wall surrounded by abundant building rubble. Such a result is important because it eloquently demonstrates that even when we see an open space on the ground, the area probably contained buildings, thereby suggesting that the density of buildings is greater than the remains visible on the surface.

Soundings at Hawagir

The roughly 15 ha Bronze Age site of Hawagir (DS 293) is located on the east side of the extensive lowland known as the Qa Jahran. The site was discovered in 1998, but at that time it was not clear to what extent the surface scatter of building rubble and Bronze Age pottery reflected the actual area of the site. Because this site is considerably bigger than any other highlands site of its period it was felt that soundings would help demonstrate both its true size and whether or not occupation levels and perhaps architecture still remained at the site despite several centuries or

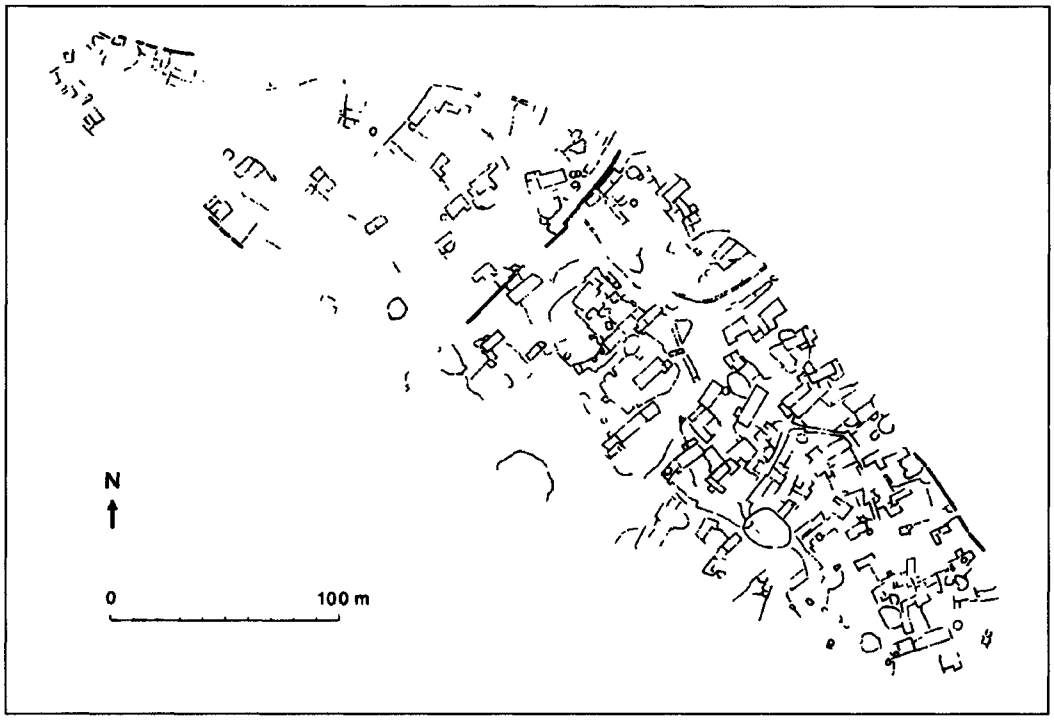


Figure 4. General wall plan of Hammat al-Qa

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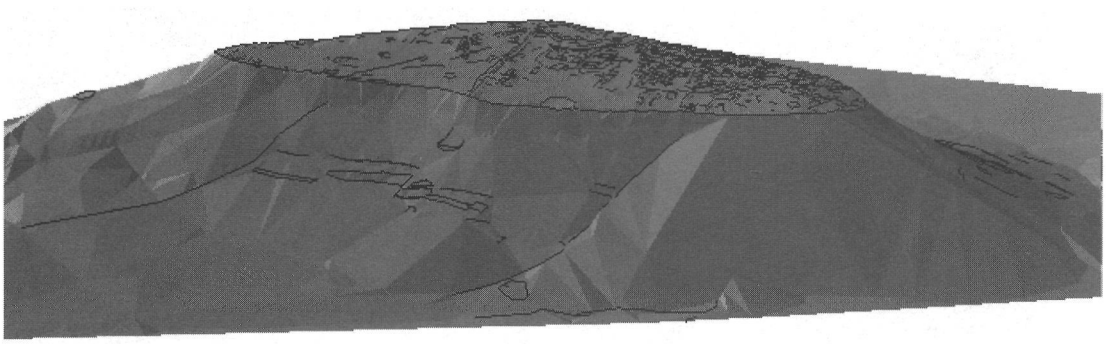


Figure 5. Oblique three-dimensional view of Hammat al-Qa

millennia of cultivation. We were fortunate therefore to have forged a link with the Department of Archaeology and Ancient History at Dhamar University in order to undertake a joint excavation program. This project, with the considerable help of Gemal Idris of Dhamar University and about ten of his students, enabled us to place four 2 × 3 m soundings in the northern part of the site.

In short, in all four of the 2 × 3 m trenches the cultural deposits were never more than 1 m deep, and only in two soundings (operations 1 and 3) was there any evidence of *in situ* floors or stratigraphy. Abundant pottery was found, however, and it appears that Hawagir dates mainly from the later part of the Bronze Age (probably late second millennium BC), with a small amount of Iron Age pottery in the upper levels.

Therefore although we confirmed that Hawagir was a large site with remains of *in situ* Bronze Age deposits, we found that many of the archaeological remains within the modern



Figure 6. Rebuilt town wall at Hammat al-Qa showing earlier phase of town wall (by scale) overlaid by later phase (above gravel)

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Figure 7. Himyarite inscription on sluice of dam (Sedd edh-Dhib: OI al-Qaʾima) describing administrative relationship of dam to Dhu-Raydan. Originally recorded by Norbet Nebes. Photograph by Joseph Daniels

fields appear to have been disturbed by a combination of plowing, construction of terraced fields, and, in the worst case (operation 4), bulldozing. Nevertheless we now know that stratified Bronze Age deposits are present, and if the site is going to be investigated in the future, we would expect the best results to come from small undisturbed areas between the existing fields.

al-Miqta

This small site (DS 322) is located about 1 km east of Hawagir in the vicinity of an inscription on a rock face that refers to the construction of a temple. Because the nearby site was about to be destroyed by earth-moving activities, it was decided to place a sounding within the site in order to describe and date the function of the building and the site.

Excavations revealed that this low mound consisted of rubble overlying well-preserved and rather high walls. The western trench, which revealed the main part of a room floored with rough flagstones, contained abundant evidence of occupation. This included much domestic pottery as well as numerous quern stones and stone weights. The eastern trench exposed part of an outer wall of the building, together with a buttress and perhaps a secondary support wall. The building contained debris that appears to be the result of domestic rather than ritual activities, and it is therefore possible that the building was simply a house or farmstead. Based on the abundant Himyarite pottery, it can be tentatively suggested that this site was occupied during the late first millennium BC, or perhaps the beginning of the first millennium AD.

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Epigraphic Studies

An important component of the 1999 field season was the recording of inscriptions, both monumental and in the form of graffiti on rocks, as well as associated rock art (fig. 7). This work was undertaken by Joseph Daniels (graduate student, University of Chicago), assisted by Khalil Zubeiry (General Organization of Antiquities and Museums, San'a). Although a number of inscriptions had been noted and recorded in a preliminary fashion during earlier field seasons, no detailed studies were made until the 1998 season when several inscriptions were recorded by Norbert Nebes (University of Jena). During the 1999 field season several new inscriptions, graffiti, and rock art were recorded, thereby furthering our knowledge of the religious substratum in the Dhamar region during the pre-Himyarite and Himyarite periods (late first millennium BC and first half of the first millennium AD). Of the twenty-five rock art and inscriptional sites recorded by Joseph Daniels, the following sample provides a taste of the range of fascinating information contained in such inscriptions.

OI Sanabana 1a–d	Cluster of early graffiti and rock art listing personal names, tribal, and religious affiliations. Himyarite period
OI Sedd al-Ajma' 1b	Dedication to local divinities/religious sites ('Athtar Dhu-Sana, Sharqan, Dhu-'Adnam) listing personal names and tribal affiliations. Himyarite period
OI Sedd al-Ajma' 1c	Fragment listing a personal name and tribal affiliation, attesting divine assistance from enemies. Himyarite period
OI Sedd al-Ajma' 1d	Monogram, personal name, and tribal affiliation, with accompanying Christian motifs. Himyarite period
OI Sedd al-Ajma' 1e	Inscription relating the allocation of water(?) to various places within the Dhamar region. Himyarite period
OI Jebl Isbîl 1	Rock art including ibexes and archers. Pre-Himyarite period
OI 'Ulayb 1b	Inscription citing the restoration of a Qatabanian temple and its restorer. Early Himyarite period
OI 'Asam 1	Fragment of an inscription (relocated within the wall of a building) listing the dedication of a funeral chamber. Himyarite period
OI Khirbet Afîq 1	Fragment of an inscription citing construction and fortification work performed under the auspices of the king of Saba. Sabaean

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TELL ES-SWEYHAT

Thomas A. Holland

Area V Step Trench

A final study of the archaeology and finds from the Tell es-Sweyhat area V step trench during this year has added new information with regard to the extent of the original occupation at the site during the first half of the third millennium BC and has provided evidence for new pottery forms dated to both the Early Bronze Age and the Hellenistic period.

The area V step trench (fig. 1) was situated on the steepest northern portion of the central mound along the north-south grid line that bisected the tell at its highest point, 13.5 m above the present-day surface of the lower town surrounding the original site (figs. 2, 3–5). One 2.0 × 5.5 m trench and six 2.0 × 5.0 m trenches were initially excavated, labeled VA to VG from the lowest northern end to the highest southern end, with 1 m wide baulks between each trench; when the baulks were removed, the total length of the step trench measured 41.5 m.

Although nine phases of occupational and wash debris levels have been identified in the step trench, the excavation depths were unequal in all seven trenches and therefore not all of the phases are represented in every trench (figs. 6–9). Phase 1, represented by the lowest excavated levels in trenches VA to VC (figs. 7–8), for example, was not excavated in trenches VF and VG and represents considerably later occupational material than that represented in phase 3 of trenches VD and VE (figs. 6–7, 9), which are located higher up the northern slope of the mound

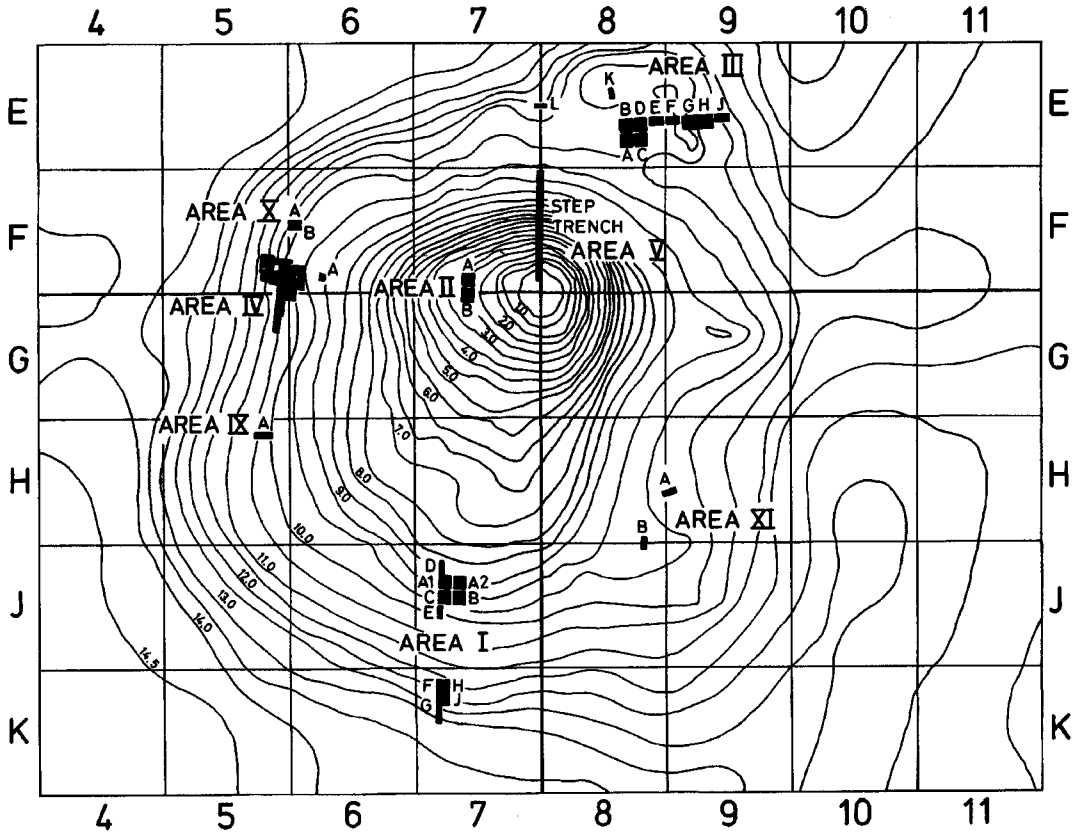


Figure 1. Contour plan of central mound, showing position of area V step trench. Tell es-Sweyhat

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and which reached into earlier third-millennium remains belonging to the initial settlement of the site confined to the basal mound. The relationship of the nine phases in trenches VA to VG is given below in tabular form:

Phases 1–9 in Trenches VA to VG

Period	*VA*	*VB*	*VC*	*VD*	*VE*	*VF*	*VF-G*	*VG*
Hellenistic	4	4	4	5, 9	5, 9	9	7–9	9
Late Third Millennium	1–3	3	3[a]	4	4	4–6	6–7	6–8
Mid-Third Millennium	—	—	3	3	3	—	—	5
Early Third Millennium	—	1	1–2	—[b]	3[c]	—	—	—

[a] Phase 3 in trench VC is mixed with both middle and late third-millennium pottery types.
[b] The bottom of the phase 9 late Hellenistic pit 2.4 in trench baulk VC-D and trench VD (fig. 9) cut into the top portion of the surviving remains belonging to the Early Bronze Age I period of the basal mound.
[c] Lower portion of pit 1.4.

The wide bowl with a splayed-out wall and upright rim (type BR.B.II.a; fig. 10:19) from pit 2.4 in trench VD is equivalent to the same bowl forms from the Early Bronze Age I phase 2 in the deep sounding of area IIA, located on the western slope of the basal mound; a comparison of the relative depths of trench IIA and trench VD on the west-east and north-south cross-sections of the central mound reveal that the Early Bronze Age I phase 2 in the area IIA trench is about the same as the lowest point reached in pit 2.4 of trench VD (figs. 1–2). The Early Bronze Age I period is also represented in trench VC, phases 1–2 and the Early Bronze Age II period has been cut into by pit 1.4, the lowest levels reached in trench VE (fig. 6). The early third-millennium material from trenches VC, VD, and VE now indicates that the northern part of the basal mound extended at least to the 8.25 m contour or 40 m north of the zero datum point located on the highest surviving portion of the mound. Pottery vessels similar to early third-millennium examples found in trenches IIA and trenches VC, VD, and VE, as well as from the deep sounding in area IC on the southern slope of the main mound, phases 2–4, indicate that the Early Bronze Age I settlement at Tell es-Sweyhat extended at least another 125 m to the south of trench VG. The only early third-millennium level reached on the extreme western side of the mound was in a deep sounding below the floor of room 7 in area IVM (fig. 1), which contained an early cooking pot form with partially incised circular impressions on its outer wall (see *Levant* 9, fig. 5:5a, 5b) that compares well with Early Bronze Age I and II examples from the Amuq phase G excavations (cf. OIP 61, fig. 229). Although no deep sounding has been conducted on the east side of the tell, the present evidence from the area V step trench, the deep sounding in area I (trench C),

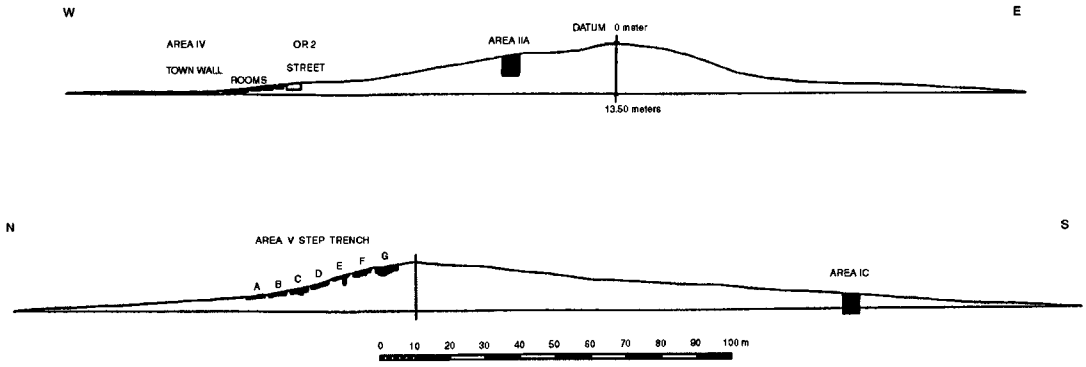


Figure 2. Cross-sections of west-east and north-south elevations of central mound. Tell es-Sweyhat

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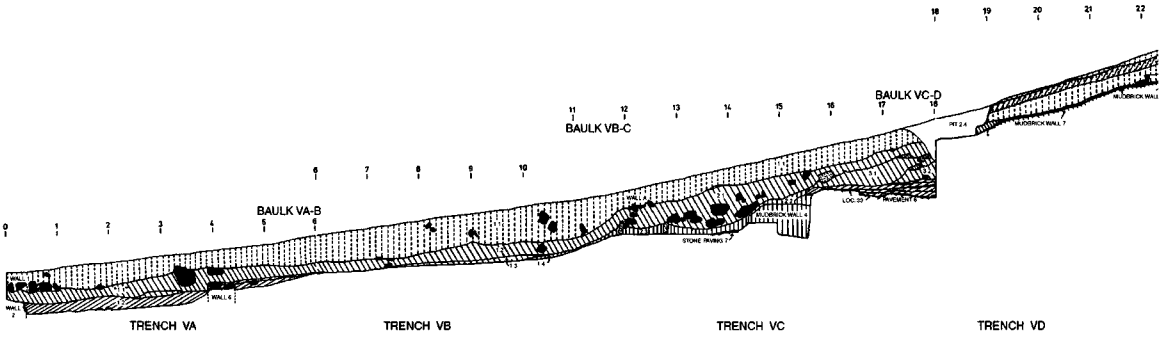


Figure 3. East section of trenches VA to VG. Tell es-Sweyhat

located on the south end of the mound, and the trench IVM deep sounding, located on the west side of the mound, strongly suggests that the initial Early Bronze Age I settlement at Sweyhat was situated in most of the area now forming the central mound at the site, which measures about 250 m east-west and at least 200 m north-south.

The mid-third-millennium remains from the area V step trench, dated to the Early Bronze Age III period (ca. 2700–2350 BC), were recovered from trenches VC, VD, VE, and VG. In trench VC, the main architectural remains consisted of a wide mudbrick installation identified as wall 4 in phase 1, which had a grooved channel partially lined with paving stones (fig. 8); just to the north of wall 4 in front of the channel a large area was covered with more paving stones, which might have been used for a working surface as well as deflecting any liquid contents escaping from the channel above it. During phase 2 the western portion of wall 4 was preserved and rebuilt and the entire excavated area to its east was filled with large flat paving stones, which again suggests that this was an industrial or working area. Although no pottery or finds were recovered from trench VC phases 1 and 2, the overlying phase 3 (fig. 7) had a good mid-third-millennium pottery assemblage, a selection of which is illustrated in figure 10, nos. 7–14.

In trench VD, the phase 3 large mudbrick wall (wall 6; fig. 9) is a continuation and rebuilding of the phase 2 wall 5 in trench VC. The paving stones to the east of wall 5 in trench VC, phase 2, appear to have gone out of use when another mudbrick wall (wall 7) was constructed flush along the eastern side of wall 6 during phase 3; however, a late Hellenistic pit (pit 2.4) cut into this area and destroyed the stratigraphical relationship between the phase 3 remains in both trenches VC and VD. The phase 9 pit 2.4 cut into occupational remains just below wall 6 on the southern side of baulk VC-D, which contained one derived bowl (type BR.B.II.a; fig. 10:19) that is similar to Early Bronze Age I forms in trench IIA; a new type of a holemouth jar (type JR.R.I.b; fig. 10:20) that was made of coarse straw-tempered ware also belongs to the early third-millennium pottery assemblage at Sweyhat. The lower level of the phase 5 wash level overlying the mid-third-millennium remains contained two interesting bowl forms: the first, a small bowl or cup (type SBR.C.II.a; fig. 10:17) is also comparable to Early Bronze I forms in

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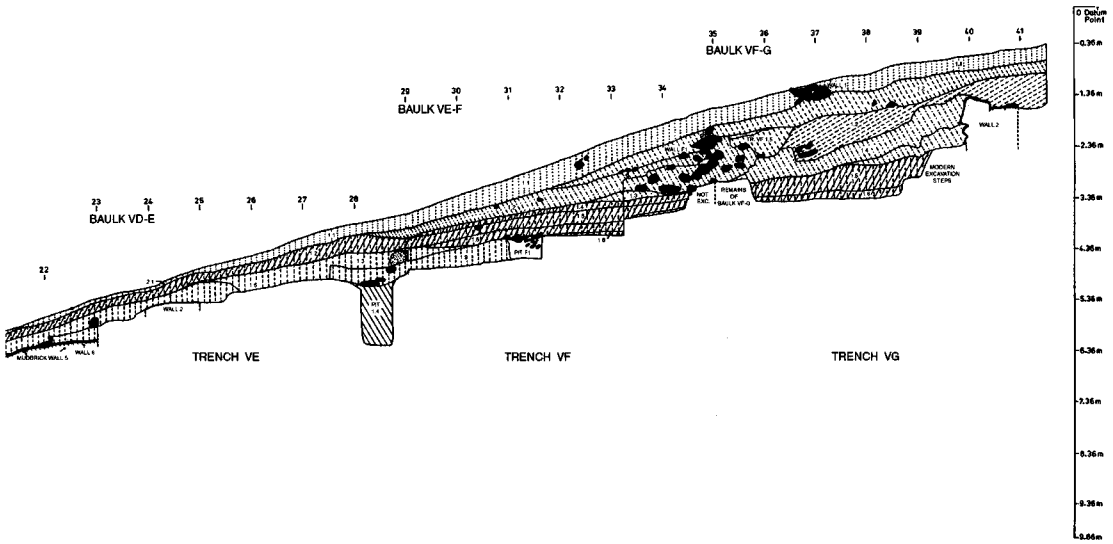


Figure 3 (cont.). East section of trenches VA to VG. Tell es-Sweyhat

trench IIA; the wide bowl with a carinated upper wall (type BR.C.I.c; fig. 10:18) belongs to the Sweyhat Early Bronze-Middle Bronze Age pottery assemblage (cf. an example from Hama, period H, tomb G III, in HAMA 2/1, pl. X:5B 616).

The earliest third-millennium remains excavated in the southern portion of trench VE came from a Bronze Age pit (pit 1.4) assigned to phase 3 (see figs. 6, 9). Two of the distinctive pottery vessels from this pit were the cyma-shaped cup (type SBR.A.I.h) and the wide-mouth jar with a splayed-out rilled rim (type JR.G.I.b; fig. 11:1–2).

The highest and southernmost step trench (trench VG) was only excavated to a depth of 3 m. The earliest phase, phase 5 (see figs. 6, 9), is dated to the mid-third millennium, along with the phases discussed above in trenches VC, VD, and VE. No architectural features were found in this phase and only a few pottery fragments were recovered from the lowest strata (locus 1.6); the most diagnostic vessel was a high-necked storage-type jar (type JR.J.III.x; fig. 11:18), which is comparable to other examples from Tell B at Halawa, located south of Sweyhat, that are dated to the same period and even earlier (cf. SBA 31, pl. 57:10)

Due to the general narrow width and shallow depth of excavation in all of the area V step trenches, no architectural features were entirely defined; however, the largest stratified pottery assemblages were recovered from the late third-millennium phases in all of the trenches. In trench VA, stone foundations belonging to one or two rooms in phase 1 were associated with a flagstone paved doorway in the eastern half of the trench (fig. 8). Although no pottery vessels came from the initial occupation associated with these walls (phases 1 and 2), the phase 3 destruction debris above the walls (locus 1.1; fig. 7) contained good Bronze Age pottery examples that included a wide, collar-rim type of bowl (type BR. L.III.h), and a high-necked storage-type jar (type JR.J.III.e; fig. 10:1–2). The contemporary destruction layer in trench VB (fig. 7) also contained a substantial collection of pottery forms, some notable examples of which are illustrated in figure 10:3–6. In trench VC, the destruction level (phase 3) has a mixture of both middle and late third-millennium pottery forms (fig. 10:7–14); the earlier forms include two small cups (fig. 10:7, 9) and a number of storage-type jars (fig. 10:10–14), and the later forms

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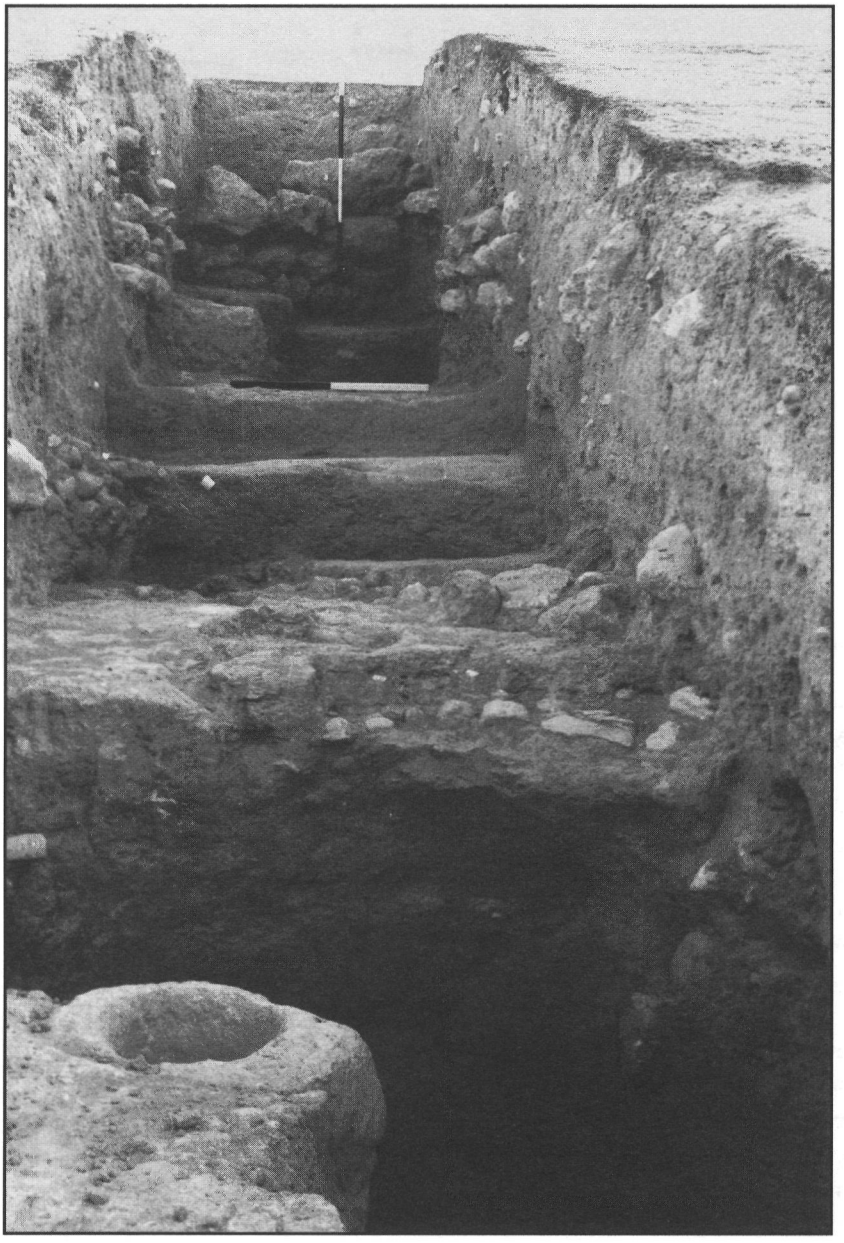


Figure 4. View of highest, southern portion of step trench with stone mortar in left foreground. Tell es-Sweyhat

include the small narrow collar-rimmed bowl and the high-necked jar with a potter's mark on its shoulder (fig. 10:8, 13).

The late third-millennium occupation in phase 4 of trench VD primarily consisted of destruction debris (locus 2.1; fig. 7) that contained an unusual cooking pot (type CP.B.I.h; fig. 10:16) and a pottery spindle whorl manufactured from a broken pot sherd, which suggests that this area of occupation on the basal mound was of a domestic character.

In trench VE, the late third-millennium occupation in phase 4 consisted of a 1.25 m wide mudbrick wall (wall 2) oriented in an east-west direction (fig. 9). A large stone mortar, associated with wall 2, was located 1.5 m to the south of the wall (see left foreground in the photograph, fig. 4). The pottery assemblage in locus 1.3, clustered to the south of, and associated with, the use of the mortar, consisted of both eating and storage-type vessels such as the three drinking cups (types SBR.A.I.c, A.I.h, C.II.c; fig. 11:3–5), a wide shallow bowl (type BR.A.I.f; fig. 11:6), and the two high-necked jars (type JR.F.II.a; fig. 11:7; and type JR.G.I.c, which has an internal ledge below the rim for placement of lid to seal the jar's contents; fig. 11:8). The goblet-shaped cup with a deeply ribbed wall (type SBR.A.I.c; fig. 11:3) is, at present, a unique shape at Sweyhat.

Three phases of late third-millennium occupation were excavated in trench VF, which are designated phases 4, 5, and 6 (figs. 6, 9). Although no architecture was encountered in phase 4, the pottery assemblage that was present included three small bowl forms (fig. 11:9–11), which

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indicate this was an area of domestic habitation. During phase 5 the area appears to have been transformed into a likely industrial working place. The area on the north end of the trench and continuing into baulk VE-F contained a pit (pit F1), a mudbrick platform type of surface (locus 1.7), which was surrounded on two sides with cobblestones that contained much ash, as well as a one-meter square area located to the northwest that was paved with large flat paving stones. Among the pottery vessels in phase 5 were one small bowl (fig. 11:12), two storage-type jars (fig. 11:13–14), and the remains of a large cooking pot (fig. 11:15). The remains of stone foundations (wall F1), with a destroyed mudbrick superstructure, covered the south end of trench VF and baulk VF-G during phase 6, which may have been a retaining wall that was associated with the contemporary occupational material belonging to the phase 6 wall 2 in trench VG. The phase 6 pottery associated with wall F1 included a large storage-type jar and the remains of a wide-mouth cooking pot (fig. 11:16–17).

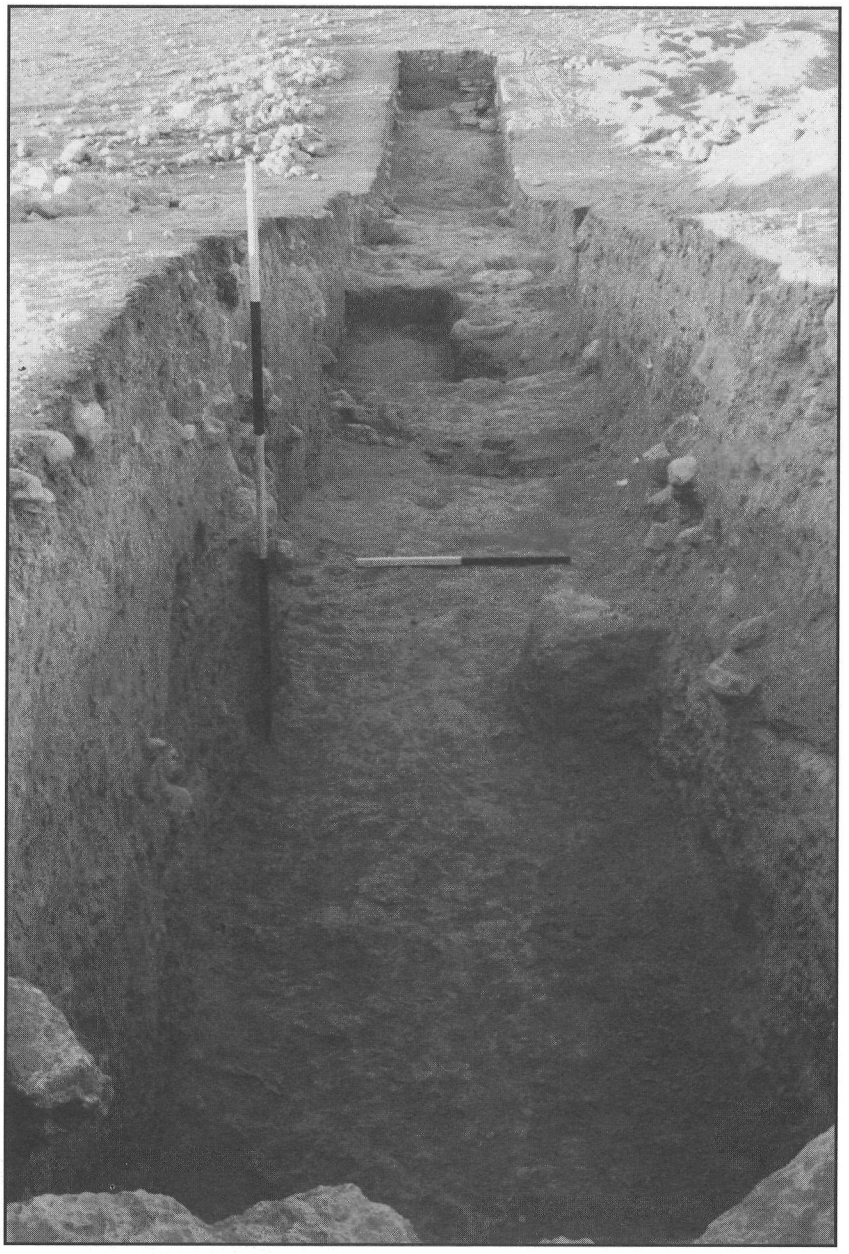


Figure 5. View of lower, northern portion of step trench at end of excavations. Tell es-Sweyhat

The only architectural feature in trench VG, dated to the late third millennium, was the phase 6 wall 2, which is stratigraphically related to wall F1 in trench VF (figs. 6, 9). The phase 6 pottery assemblage included two wide-mouth, platter-type bowls, one deep bowl with pierced vertical lug handles used for suspension, and a large storage-type jar with a deeply rilled collar rim (fig. 11:19–22). The destruction levels above phase 6, designated phases 7 and 8, contained a

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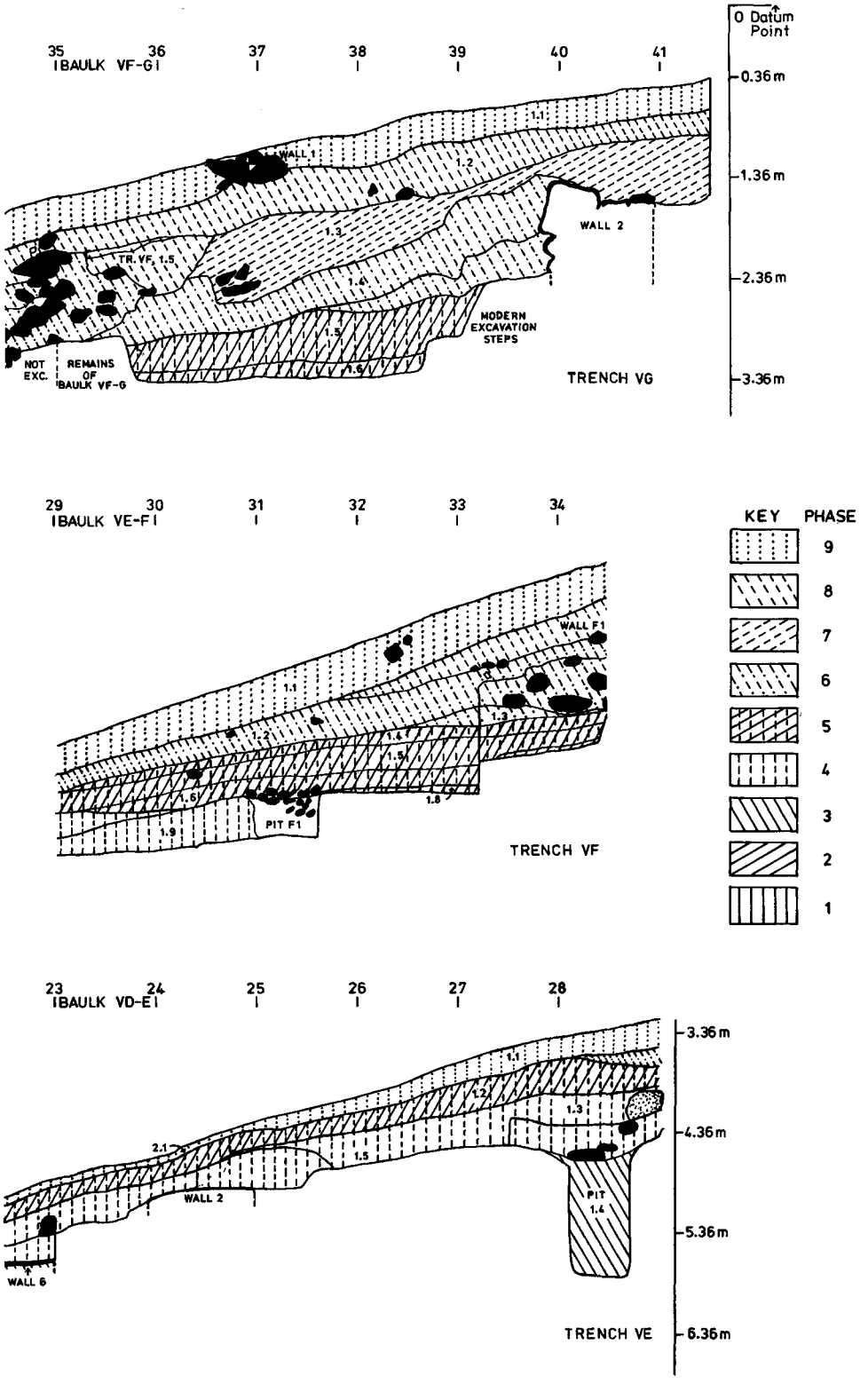


Figure 6. East sections of trenches VG, VF, and VE with key to hatching of phases 1–9. Tell es-Sweyhat

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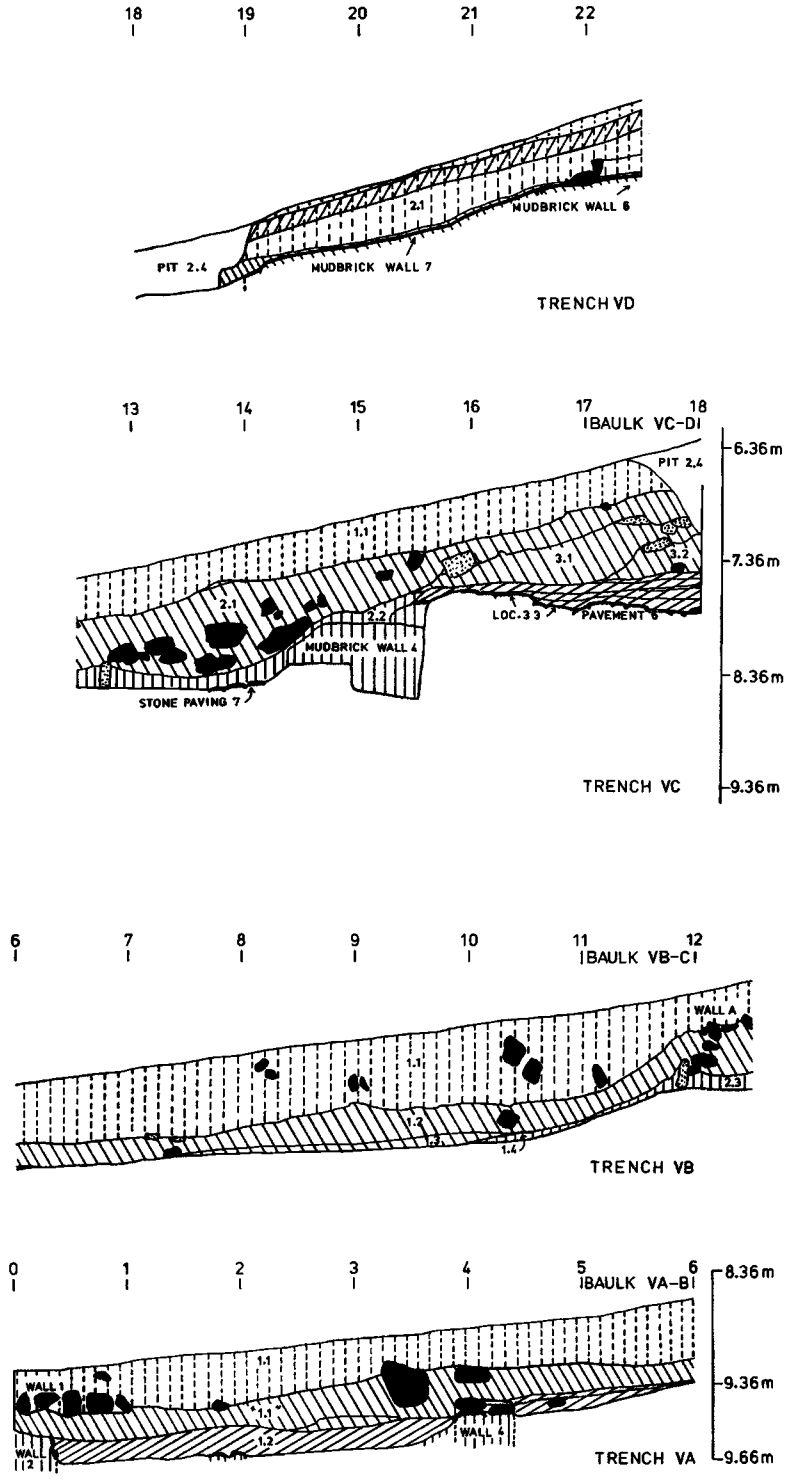


Figure 7. East sections of trenches VD, VC, VB, and VA. Tell es-Sweyhat

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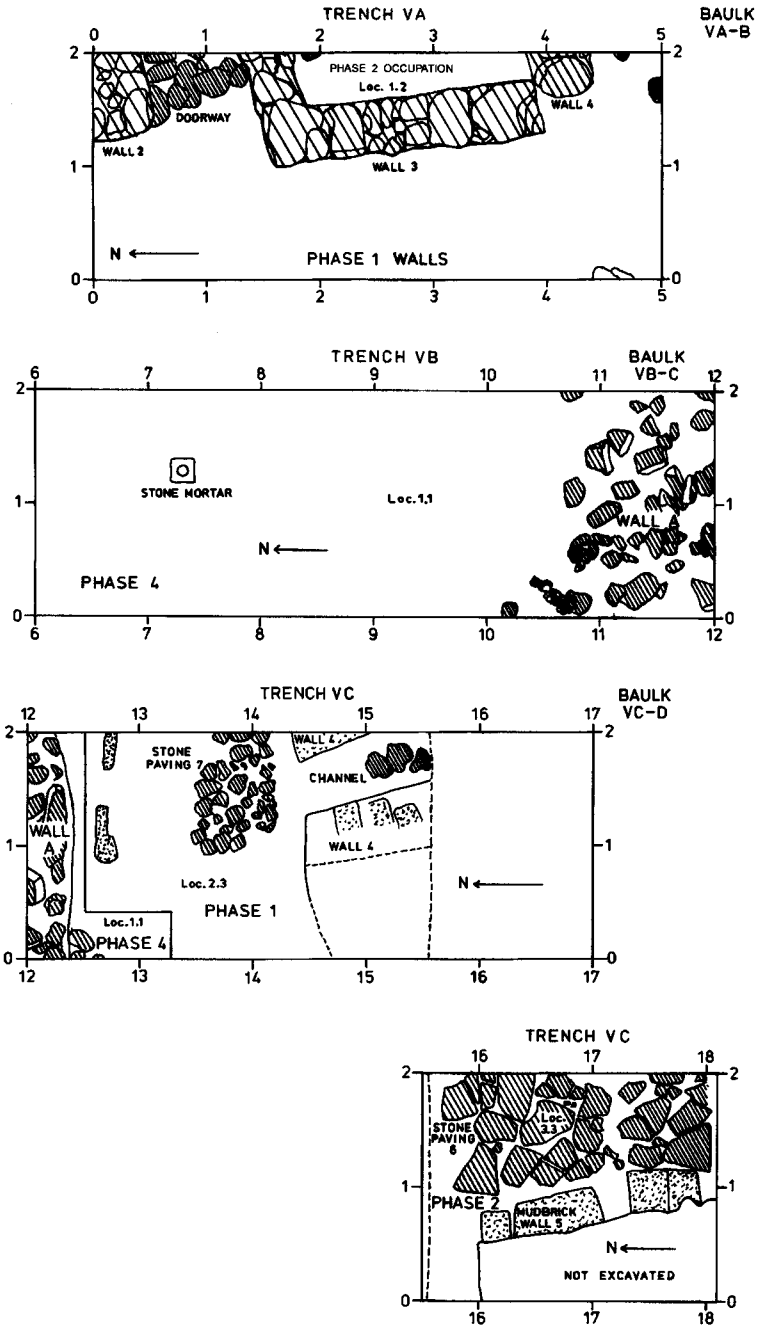


Figure 8. Plans of trenches VA (phase 1), VB (phase 4), and VC (phases 1, 2, and 4). Tell es-Sweyhat

large number of other Bronze Age (late third millennium) pottery vessels as well as a few Hellenistic vessels derived from the wash level that extended down the north slope of the mound from the Hellenistic watch post, which had been constructed on the top of the basal mound. Phase 7 contained a wide-mouth jar (type JR.F.I.a; fig. 11:23) and a narrow, high-necked storage jar (type JR.J.II.i; fig. 11:24). The pottery assemblage in phase 8 included a small jar with an upright broad ribbed collar rim (type SJR.C.II.u; fig. 11:25) and a probable Early-Middle Bronze Age jar with the remains of a potter's mark on its shoulder (type JR.B.III.b; fig. 11:26).

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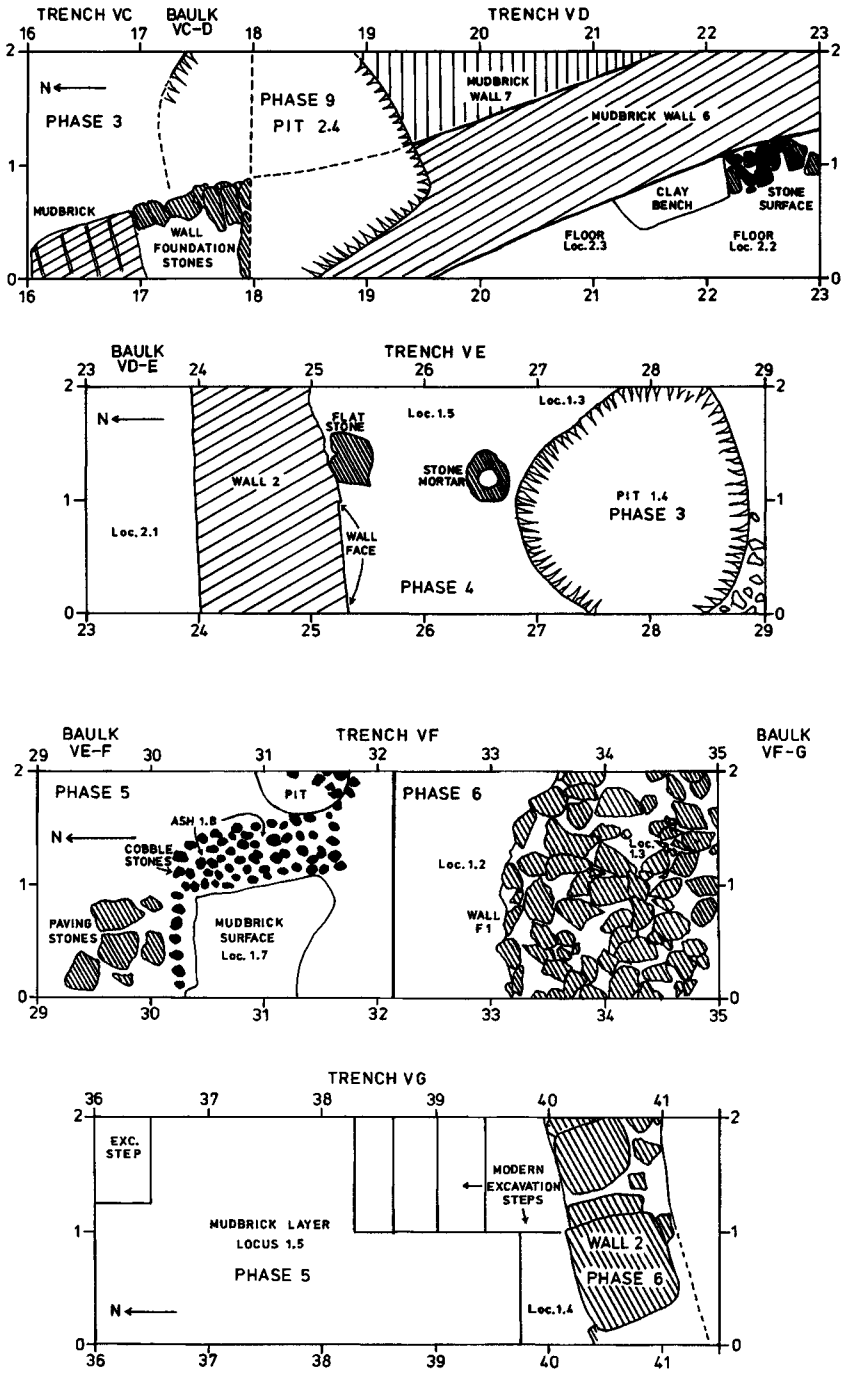


Figure 9. Plans of trenches VD (phase 3), VE (phases 3 and 4), VF (phases 5 and 6), and VG (phases 5 and 6). Tell es-Sweyhat

Although stone foundations of a roughly square-shaped structure were noted at the top central portion of the mound, they were not excavated as the main Syrian geographical survey point was situated there and served as the main datum point for all measurements taken on the site during the excavations. These foundations were identified as belonging to the Hellenistic period

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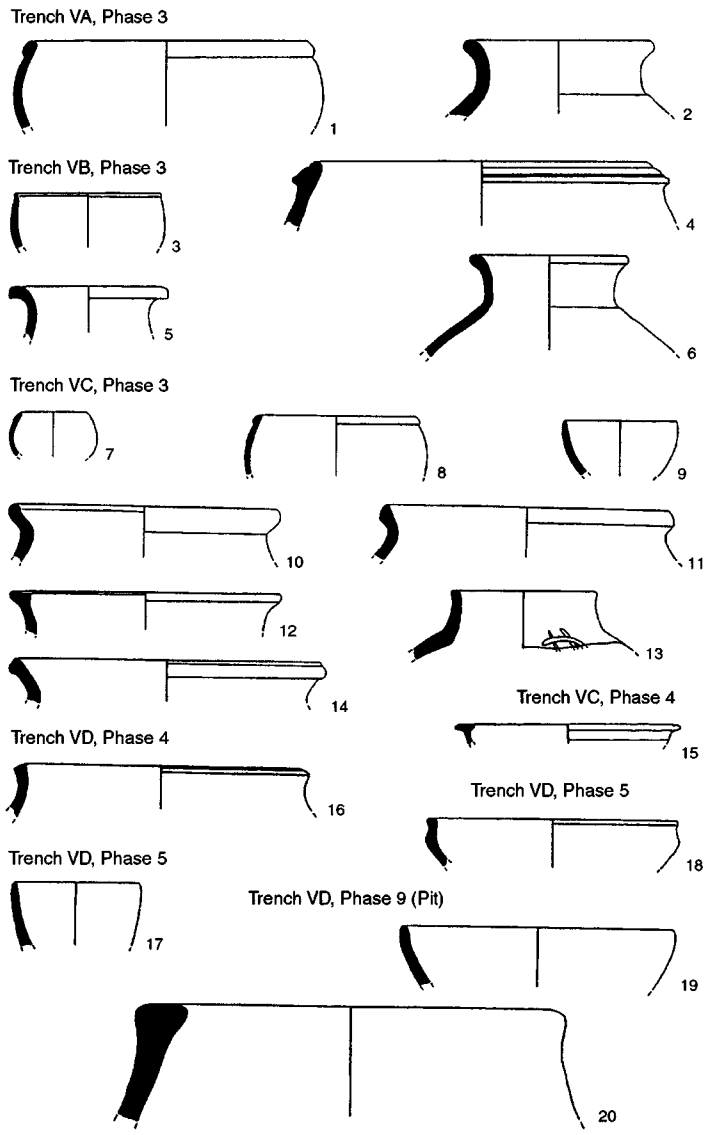


Figure 10. Selection of Early Bronze Age pottery types from trenches VA to VD. Tell es-Sweyhat. Scale ca. 1:7

and interpreted as a "watch post" since Hellenistic occupation and pits were excavated in area II, situated near the top of the mound to the west of the datum point and the area V step trench. The uppermost surviving levels in the area V step trench also contained a broad spectrum of Hellenistic pottery remains, therefore confirming that the existing top of the main mound at Sweyhat must be dated to the Hellenistic period; epigraphic evidence from trench IIB indicates that this period should be dated between about 300 and 280 BC.

The uppermost wash levels in the step trench of area V sloped steeply down the north face of the mound from 0.36 m below the zero datum point at the top of the tell at the south end of trench VG to a depth of 9.66 m at the bottom north end of trench VA (fig. 3). The upper deposits were more shallow in trenches VD to VG than in the lower deposits in trenches VA to VC, which were more horizontal and less prone to wind and rain erosion. All of the upper levels in the step trench contained Hellenistic pottery that was primarily derived from the small settlement situated on top of the Early Bronze Age remains.

A selection of some of the most noteworthy examples from the 160 sherds belonging to the Hellenistic pottery assemblage from the area V step trench is given in figure 12. The most common ware that occurred in all of the trenches consisted of red-slipped vessels, particularly the wide shallow bowls (35 rim and wall examples and 1 base) with either upright rims (type C, 7 examples) or inturned rims (type D, 17 examples) that are similar to the examples illustrated from trenches VF, phase 9, and VG, phase 9 (fig. 12:18, 21). The remainder of the red-slipped bowl forms are: type A, with a straight splayed-out wall (4 examples; cf. fig. 12:1 and 16); type B, globular shaped bowls with either plain or everted rims (1 example with plain rim, fig. 12:17); and type E, miscellaneous shapes (4 examples; cf. the one example with a vertical loop handle from trench VB, phase 4, fig. 12:7, and another example with a simple, slightly everted

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rim, fig. 12:11). One example of the type A red-slipped bowls stands apart from the other examples in the form of its decoration; while most examples are partially or completely covered with red slip inside and outside, the example from trench VE, phase 9 (fig. 12:14), is only decorated inside with a painted pattern of loops below the inside of the rim and with a diagonal leaflike pattern towards the base of the vessel; this type of vessel decoration has been identified elsewhere as a "festoon" style, particularly at the Failaka [Kuwait] Hellenistic fortress dated to period I (late first century BC into the first century AD), the date of which is considerably later than the Sweyhat period of Hellenistic occupation (cf. IKAROS 2/2, nos. 432–35, pl. 44:432). Small red-slipped jars were uncommon with only three examples, one good example of which came from trench VA, phase 4 (fig. 12:2).

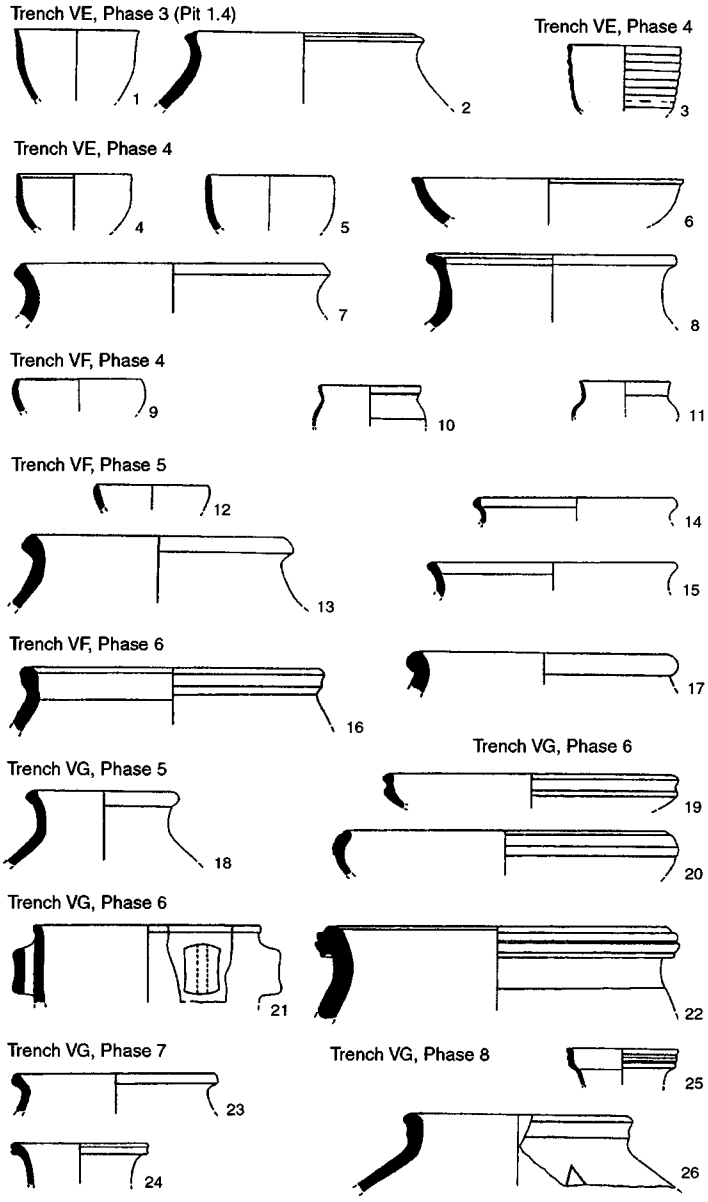


Figure 11. Selection of Early Bronze Age pottery types from trenches VE to VG. Tell es-Sweyhat. Scale ca. 1:7

The second largest assemblage of Hellenistic period vessels in the step trench consists of thirty-one various types of storage jars, the most common being the narrow-neck form with a deep collar-like rim such as the example from baulk VF-G, phase 9 (fig. 12:20); other examples had more barrel-shaped bodies and thickened collar-type rims similar to the example from trench VD, phase 5 (fig. 12:12). Wide mouth jars were the next most numerous vessels with 29 examples; these jars had a variety of shapes such as the examples from trench VB, phase 4 (fig. 12:8), and trench VF, phase 9 (fig. 12:19). Bowls were also numerous with twenty-five examples, which were also manufactured in a variety of shapes such as the examples illustrated here from trench VB, phase 4 (fig. 12:6), and trench VE, phases 5 and 9 (fig. 12:13, 15). The presence of ten cooking pot types implies that the preparation of food was done within or very near the Hellenistic watch post; the one illustrated example from trench VA, phase 4 (fig. 12:5),

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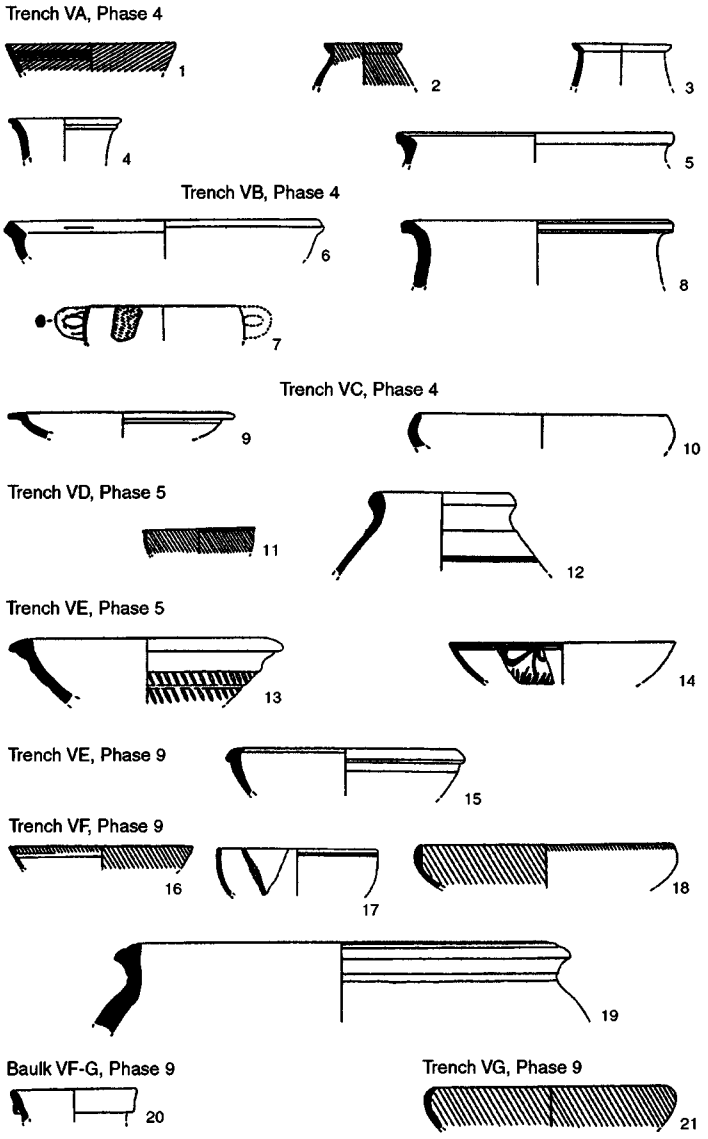


Figure 12. Selection of Hellenistic pottery types from trenches VA to VG. Tell es-Sweyhat. Scale ca. 1:7

had a very wide mouth and an everted rim with an internal ledge for the placement of a lid. Although they were very rare in the Hellenistic pottery assemblages, the gray burnished, almost glaze-like, type of ware occurred with only five examples, three in area II and two in step trench VC, phase 4 (fig. 12:9–10), and were most likely imports. The remaining Hellenistic vessel types included six small bowls, three small jars, six jugs (cf. example from trench VA, phase 4, fig. 12:3), one lid, two pot stands, and seven bases, one of which came from a red-slipped bowl that had a stamped palm-leaf decorative pattern on its inside.

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PHILOLOGY

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Overleaf. McGuire Gibson articulating mudbricks. Hamoukar, 1999. Photograph by Clemens Reichel

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CHICAGO ASSYRIAN DICTIONARY

Martha T. Roth

We are pleased to report that during 1999/2000 we sent the P volume of the *Chicago Assyrian Dictionary* (CAD) to press, printed the R volume, and received funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities for an additional three years. The funding will allow us to complete the writing and editing of the last two volumes of the dictionary, Ṭ and U/W.

The 3,735-page printed manuscript for the P volume along with the single zip disk containing the entire manuscript was ready to be sent to press before the new year. Eisenbrauns began setting the manuscript from the disk, using the paper copy to verify the fonts and type sizes. By June they had sent us the first two hundred galleys corresponding to manuscript pages 1–589. These pages have been distributed here in Chicago to the members of the CAD Editorial Board (Robert D. Biggs, John A. Brinkman, Miguel Civil, Walter Farber, Erica Reiner, Martha T. Roth, and Matthew W. Stolper) and mailed to our consultants (Simo Parpola of the University of Helsinki and Klaas R. Veenhof of the University of Leiden) for their final comments and corrections. The members of the Editorial Board and the consultants return the pages to editor-in-charge Martha T. Roth, who, with research associate Tim Collins, incorporates their suggestions into a corrected copy which is then returned to Eisenbrauns.

In April 2000 the R volume appeared, the first volume to be set and printed by Eisenbrauns and the first to appear since 1994. A preview copy of the R volume was displayed at the American Oriental Society Meetings in Portland, Oregon, and enthusiastically consulted by all. Now that a smooth system is in place with Eisenbrauns, we expect that the next volumes, P and T, will follow within a few short years.

We are extremely gratified by the confidence expressed by the National Endowment for the Humanities, and by the granting agency's reviewers, in awarding the CAD a three-year grant to complete the Dictionary. Our goal is to have the final volumes ready for press by 2003.

During the year, work on several volumes continued. Although the major push for the first half of the year was to get P ready to leave the house, Roth worked on editing the volume of words beginning with the emphatic dental occlusive represented as Ṭ (pronounced "tet"). In this task, she is ably assisted by David Testen, who referred to their hours hunched over difficult words as tête-à-tête sessions; in order to finish the gargantuan word *ṭuppu* "tablet," they launched a "Tet offensive."

After a word is edited by the Assyriologists, it goes to Linda McLarnan for manuscript editing and then to Edythe Seltzer for inputting. The edited words are also sent to W. G. Lambert of Birmingham, England, for his comments and additions. The next stage, final reference checking, begins only when all the lemmata for the volume have been similarly treated.

In February 2000 we sent the T volume to Eisenbrauns. This volume had been in press with our former printer since 1991 but had not progressed beyond first and second galleys. Fortunately, the entire set of galleys had been read and commented on by the members of the Editorial Board and by our outside consultants. In order to speed the publication of the volume and to

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avoid diverting our time and attention away from the remaining volumes, we decided to "close" the T volume, that is, not to add new texts published after the volume originally went to press and to resist the temptation to rewrite or re-edit portions of the volume in light of later scholarship. In consultation with Eisenbrauns, we have decided to give priority to publishing the P volume; thus Eisenbrauns will begin typesetting the T volume only after they have finished the first galleys for P. We anticipate going directly from first galleys to page proofs and hope to see the T volume published in 2002.

During this year we have been assisted (twice) by visiting scholar Joan Westenholz, and by research associates Tim Collins, Gertrud Farber, and David Testen. Westenholz, on leave from her job as chief curator at the Bible Lands Museum Jerusalem, assisted us for eleven months during 1998/99 and returned for the summer of 2000. Collins switched from part time to full time in spring 2000, eager to spend more time writing the U/W volume. Farber spent much of her time checking the lexical sections of the P volume and verifying that changes were entered correctly before the volume was sent to press. Testen recently switched from full time to half time in order to prepare for his move to Israel, where he has accepted an appointment in Semitic Linguistics at Tel Aviv University. Graduate student Michael Kozuh was our part-time research assistant. Edward Schoolman, an undergraduate who works for the Dictionary project through the College Research Opportunities Program, devoted his time to entering the Sachs offprint collection into a bibliographic database. He is spending his summer in and around the Mediterranean and will return to Chicago and to the Dictionary in the fall.

CHICAGO HITTITE DICTIONARY

Harry A. Hoffner, Jr.

This was a "roll over" year for the Chicago Hittite Dictionary (CHD) Project, in which Hoffner had to prepare an application for a new grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). This application was submitted on 1 July 2000.

Co-editors Harry Hoffner and Hans Güterbock, Research Associates Richard Beal, Oğuz Soysal, and Hripsime Haroutunian, volunteer Irv Diamond, and graduate students Simrit Dhesi, Kathleen Mineck, and Dennis Campbell constituted the project staff during 1999/2000.

The saddest news for the year is that we lost co-founding editor Hans G. Güterbock on Wednesday morning, 29 March, almost two months to the day before his 92nd birthday. Hans served the dictionary from its inception in 1974, and although for the past five years he was largely confined to his apartment in a weakened physical condition, he faithfully and tirelessly met with dictionary staff — usually Richard Beal, less often Harry Hoffner — to comment on dictionary articles read aloud to him. His mind was very sharp and perceptive to the end. We are still integrating his comments into the manuscript of the forthcoming first installment of the S volume.

On a brighter note, with the retirement of Harry Hoffner from the university faculty on 1 July 2000, the university has appointed Theo van den Hout the new faculty Hittitologist. This means that Hoffner will continue more or less in the same capacity that Güterbock occupied during his

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emeritus years. Hoffner will be emeritus faculty but co-editor with van den Hout of the CHD. The project will retain the same number of staff members, but the average age of its staff will drop to a level close to what it was in the 1980s.

Progress on the dictionary continues to be good. The P volume was completed in summer of 1997, almost three years ago. During this interval the staff has been preparing the material for the S volume. We have almost completed the reference checking and final formatting of the first two-thirds of the SA words, which should make up fascicle 1 of the S volume. The material will be delivered to the Institute's Publications Office in midsummer, which has recently upgraded it's computers to much faster ones with more robust software, and we hope to have the first installment of S in print by the end of this calendar year.

Meanwhile work continues on the material for the end of S and the beginning of T. Soysal has been writing the last first drafts of articles at the end of S, and Hoffner has composed about 50 articles in the first part of T. By the end of the current NEH grant period (1 July 2001) we should have 100 to 150 articles in T written in draft form.

Haroutunian was used in the reference-checking tasks of the past six months, but as of June 2000 she has returned to her usual duty of keying newly published texts into the project computers.

As part of our commitment to the NEH, Hoffner, in consultation with John Sanders, Head of the Computer Laboratory, has been selecting portions of the published volumes of the dictionary to be put on-line on the Institute's website. Other documents of interest are being considered for on-line publication, including Hoffner's unpublished Hittite-English Glossary, a useful aid to private or classroom study of the Hittite language.

The distribution of responsibilities on the CHD staff remained the same as in previous years: (1) Newly published texts and text editions were incorporated into the main lexical files by Haroutunian, who also, together with Soysal, maintains a bibliographical database of secondary literature on Hittite texts and language; (2) most first drafts were written by Soysal, with a smaller number by Beal and Hoffner; (3) revising of first drafts was done by Hoffner and by Güterbock (assisted by Beal); (4) preparation of the biannual NEH application, which takes most of May and all of June in alternate years (this was such a year), was the responsibility of Hoffner. As the Executive of the project and co-editor with Güterbock, Hoffner also made all the decisions concerning staffing, equipment, and day-to-day operations.

Communication by e-mail makes possible an extremely helpful stream of daily exchanges of queries and advice on dictionary matters with our three consultants: Gary Beckman of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; Craig Melchert of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; and Gernot Wilhelm of the University of Würzburg, Germany.

Last 28–29 October we were visited by a team from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The purpose of the visit was twofold: to hear our plans for preparing and distributing the dictionary electronically, and to explore the possibility of changing the manner of the dictionary's financial support from short-term renewed grants to a permanent infusion of funding to create an endowment for support through completion. The site visit was extremely successful. Specialists in the production of electronic dictionaries participated, including several from the University of Chicago and Steven Tinney of the Pennsylvania Sumerian Dictionary Project. All participants agreed that our ideas were good and our goals achievable.

Since the visit Hoffner has been working with Gene Gragg to create a scheme for electronic text markup for the dictionary, utilizing Extensible Markup Language (XML). As of mid-June they have several sample articles marked up and ready to mount on a server for the NEH to examine.

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Although the Munich project for a Hittite Dictionary, begun by the late Annelies Kammenhuber, is continuing after her death, its progress has slowed. European scholars now tend to look to the Chicago dictionary as the leading lexical tool for the field. We are pleased with this recognition and are determined to keep the standard of excellence attained in the past twenty-five years during the co-editorship of Güterbock and Hoffner.

CONFERENCE ON ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION OF ANCIENT NEAR EASTERN TEXTS

David Schloen

The following report offers a summary of the conference, Electronic Publication of Ancient Near Eastern Texts, sponsored by the Oriental Institute and the Franke Institute for the Humanities, to discuss the prospect of using the World-Wide Web for electronic publication of ancient Near Eastern texts. The conference was held at the Franke Institute, 8–9 October 1999.

The organizing committee (Gene Gragg, Charles Jones, John Sanders, David Schloen, and Matthew Stolper) was pleased by the enthusiastic response to the announcement of a conference. Nearly thirty colleagues from out of town attended the two-day meeting, including several from Europe and Israel. They were joined by roughly the same number from the University of Chicago and neighboring institutions. During some sessions the number in attendance reached seventy, and it never fell below forty. More important than numbers, however, is the high level of discussion and debate that was achieved during the conference, as all who participated will attest. This is due to the energy and acumen both of those who made formal presentations and those who spoke up during the discussion sessions. We are grateful to all of the participants for the time and effort they invested in coming to Chicago and in contributing to the success of this conference.

A major goal of the conference was to assess the prospects for establishing a formal international standards organization charged with setting technical standards for the interchange of Near Eastern data in digital form. Both the conference and the establishment of such an organization are timely in light of the recent development of Internet-oriented data standards and software that now provide a common ground for cooperation among diverse philological and archaeological projects, which have heretofore adopted quite idiosyncratic approaches. This common ground, not just for academic research but in all areas of information exchange, is created by the Extensible Markup Language (XML) and a growing array of software tools that make use of XML to disseminate information on the Internet.

As noted in the original announcement of the conference, XML is a non-proprietary "open" or public standardized data format that provides a simple and extremely flexible "tag"-based syntax for both representing complex information as a stream of ordinary text and delivering it over the World-Wide Web (for more details, see http://www.oasis-open.org/cover). Furthermore, XML is based on a proven approach because it is a subset of the International Standards Organization-ratified Standard Generalized Markup Language (SGML), which has been used for electronic publication world-wide for more than a decade. XML therefore makes possible

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powerful and efficient forms of electronic publication via the Internet, including academic publication of philological and archaeological data. But XML itself is merely a starting point because its simplicity and flexibility, which ensure its widespread adoption, require the development of specific XML tagging schemes or "markup languages" appropriate to each domain of research. Such a tagging scheme expresses the abstract logical structure of a particular kind of data in a rigorous and consistent fashion. Thus, for example, chemists have already created a "chemical markup language" using XML to express the structure of molecules and chemical reactions, so that the data they work with can be easily shared and searched on the web. Likewise, NASA has created an "astronomical instrument markup language," biologists have created a "biological markup language," and so on. Once such tagging schemes exist, various kinds of software can then be developed to present different views of logically structured data for different purposes, or to create new sets of data structured in a particular way, with the assurance that these data structures can be created and viewed on any computer anywhere without special conversions or translations.

The consensus of the conference participants is that XML should be used as the basis for future electronic publication of Near Eastern data. The establishment of a formal working group for Near Eastern text markup was also endorsed as a vehicle for the collaborative development and dissemination of suitable XML tagging schemes and associated software. The name and scope of the new standards organization remain to be decided. A number of conference participants emphasized the importance of including Near Eastern languages and texts of all periods within the scope of the text markup group, rather than arbitrarily limiting it to ancient Near Eastern texts, because the same issues arise in dealing with non-European scripts and languages regardless of their date. Similarly, several people expressed what seemed to be a generally held desire to find ways to include electronically published archaeological data within the standards-setting effort. This would ensure maximum interoperability of textual and archaeological datasets, so that it would be easy to obtain information about the spatial provenience and the material-cultural context of excavated or monumentally inscribed texts, and conversely so that it would be easy to obtain philological information about texts viewed as artifacts from an archaeological perspective.

In the opinion of the conference organizing committee, therefore, a new standards organization could develop XML markup for Near Eastern information of all kinds, including both primary data (philological, archaeological, and geographical) and relevant secondary literature. Even restricting the scope to "Near Eastern" information is rather arbitrary from a technical standpoint, but this mirrors the scope of the existing academic infrastructure of Near and Middle Eastern departments, institutes, and centers to which members of this organization would belong. Note that the mission is not just to devise XML tagging schemes but also to facilitate the development of well-documented web browser-based software, which could be widely shared among Near Eastern projects, and to coordinate training and professional development for researchers who want to learn how to use these tagging schemes and software. Thus at some point it might also be desirable to create a formal task force for training and professional development within this organization.

In the aftermath of the conference, discussion is underway concerning these details, including the name and the precise scope and mode of operation of a new international organization, as well as a schedule of future meetings. Decisions will be announced in the future, but it is clear already that there is a widespread desire to make this organization as broadly based as possible so that it can facilitate the cooperative development of effective and widely accepted technical standards. The Oriental Institute will continue to sponsor this effort and to support it with its

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reputation and resources, in collaboration with the University of Chicago's Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, and Committee on the Ancient Mediterranean World.

The conference program and abstracts, a list of attendees, and summary is available on the Oriental Institute website at http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/INFO/XML_Conference_1999.html.

A full account of the conference was published as "Electronic Publication of Ancient Near Eastern Texts" by Charles E. Jones and David Schloen in *Ariadne* 22 (December 1999), which is available on-line at http://www.ariadne.ac.uk/issue22/epanet/

DEMOTIC DICTIONARY PROJECT

Janet H. Johnson and Thomas Dousa

The staff of the Demotic Dictionary Project this year (Thomas Dousa, François Gaudard, and Janet H. Johnson) spent time checking content of entries for the last letters still waiting to be checked, preparing facsimiles of the thousands of words being cited in the dictionary, and preparing the bibliographic indexes that will accompany it. We have missed our colleague of recent years, Steve Vinson, who took a job in the History Department at the University of Oregon and will soon be moving to the State University of New York. We have benefited immensely from the work of Alejandro Botta, who has checked our suggested parallels and borrowings from the various Northwest Semitic languages and has also contributed to several entries with his knowledge of developing legal terminology. As we have discussed in previous *Annual Reports*, the dictionary is intended to treat all the vocabulary that appears in texts published between 1955 and 1979, a period of very active publication of Demotic texts. We tie in "our" materials with all the information collected by Wolja Erichsen in his immensely useful *Demotisches Glossar*, published in 1954. In addition, we include a fair amount of material published since 1980, especially materials that connect directly with the texts published between 1955 and 1979. In addition to the standard information provided in a dictionary or glossary (transliteration, translation, range of orthographies, and connection with earlier and later stages of Egyptian or with contemporary foreign languages, especially Greek and various Semitic languages), we are including extensive examples of the words used in compounds, phrases, titles, divine epithets, and so on. In this way, people who are not themselves specialists in Demotic will be able to use the dictionary as a resource and entry point for accessing the wealth of social, cultural, historical, and religious information preserved in Demotic texts. A brief resumé of the dictionary, its aims and methods, appeared this year as "The Chicago Demotic Dictionary Project" in *Textcorpus und Wörterbuch, Aspekte zur ägyptischen Lexikographie*, edited by Stefan Grunert and Ingelore Hafemann.

Because we hope that the dictionary will be a resource for a wide range of scholars, it seemed interesting to see how many terms for foreigners or names of foreign places are being included in the dictionary (studies of foreign vocabulary attested in Demotic have already been done). Demotic was used for over a thousand years, under native Egyptian rulers as well as rulers from Ethiopia (Kushites), Persia (Achaemenids), Macedonia/Greece (Ptolemies), and Rome, and the

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geographic awareness of the Egyptians must have changed with time. With this in mind, here are a few of the items that appeared in a quick survey of the dictionary files.

Throughout their history, the Egyptians were keenly aware of other countries and maintained contacts, both friendly and hostile, with their neighbors; thus, from very early on, they developed a traditional set of designations for these countries and their inhabitants. Many of these older designations continued to be used in the later periods of Egyptian history, and so in Demotic texts we find thoroughly traditional names, already attested in Old Kingdom sources, such as *Ḫnty-š* for the land of Lebanon, *Gpn* for the city of Byblos, or *Nḥs* for Nubia and the Nubians. One late literary text, the Myth of the Solar Eye, even mentions the African land of Punt, so vividly depicted in the Eighteenth Dynasty temple reliefs of Queen Hatshepsut at Deir el-Bahri. Alongside these older names, there occur some that reflect more recent Egyptian interactions with foreign peoples. For instance, the consequences of the movement of Libyan peoples into Egypt in the late New Kingdom and their rise to political dominance during the Third Intermediate Period (early first millennium BC) are reflected in the Demotic usage of Libyan ethnonyms such as *Pyt*, which can be found in Demotic religious texts of the Ptolemaic and Roman periods, for example, in an epithet belauding the goddess Hathor as "ruler of Libya, mistress of the West," apparently a reference to her role as a patroness of the deceased. The term *Mʿ*, the short form of *Meshwesh*, the name of another of these Libyan peoples who settled in Egypt in the Third Intermediate Period, is attested in a fifth-century BC document from el-Hibeh, in Middle Egypt, where a man called "chief of the Ma" seems to serve as leader of a troop of regional security guards.

Most references to foreign countries and foreigners in Demotic texts, however, are interesting because they provide information about Egyptian experience and perceptions of foreigners and foreign lands during the Persian, Ptolemaic, and Roman periods, a time when Egypt was enmeshed within a nexus of commercial, military, and cultural ties to both the Mediterranean world and Africa, and when the Nile Valley became in many ways a multi-cultural "melting pot" with a large population of resident foreigners. The Demotic materials incorporated in our entries provide striking testimony of this complex cultural interconnectedness.

During the Ptolemaic and Roman periods, the lands to the south of Egypt saw the emergence of an empire whose capital was the city of Meroe (located in the Upper Sudan). The Meroitic Empire was both a trading partner of Egypt and a rival to the latter's Ptolemaic and Roman rulers, vying with them at various times for control of the region of Lower Nubia stretching from Philae in the north to Maharraqa in the south. Our Demotic sources call this "the foreign land of *Ta-km-sw*," a stretch of land more commonly known by its Greek designation, Dodecaschoinos. As had been the case with the Kushite dynasty (eighth–seventh century BC), the political and religious culture of the Meroites was influenced by Egyptian models. This influence is especially discernible in Demotic graffiti carved by visitors upon the walls of temples at Philae, Dakka (*Pꜣ-nbs* "Pnubs" in Demotic) and Kalabsha (*Ṯlms* "Talmis" in Demotic). These graffiti include inscriptions written in the name of high-ranking Meroitic officials with Meroitic names; the most natural assumption is that these men wrote these texts themselves and thus were bilingual, an assumption that is strengthened by the presence of Meroitic loanwords, primarily administrative titles, rendered in Demotic. On the other hand, Egyptian titles attested in Demotic texts also appear in Meroitic inscriptions (e.g., "the general" [Demotic *pꜣ mr-mšʿ* = Meroitic *pelmoš*] and priest [Demotic *ḥm-nṯr* = Meroitic *ant*]). Of especial interest is the designation *wpṯ ʿꜣ n Hrme* "grand ambassador to (lit. "of") Rome," borne by a much betitled Meroitic official of the early fourth century AD, a time when Meroe appears to have been reasserting control in Lower Nubia. Not only does it offer us a glimpse at the structure of Meroitic diplomatic service, but it interest-

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ingly enough also occurs in such Meroitic inscriptions as *apote lḫ Hrmy-li-s*, where the term *apote*, messenger, is certainly a loanword from Egyptian, a telling indication of Egyptian influence on the Meroitic conception of a "foreign service" office.

Although some Egyptians and Egyptian authors might have looked down on Nubians as backward, the Egyptian physician of the Late Period continued to value products imported from the South, as is evidenced by the mention of "Nubian ochre (*sṯ Nḥs*)" — long one of the staple ingredients in Egyptian medicine — in the Crocodilopolis medical papyrus, while the magician — who in certain instances was probably identical with the physician — might recite a spell using the Nubian language (*mt ʾIkš*) to enhance its magical power. These few examples may suffice to show that if Egyptian culture exerted an influence on the Nubians and Meroites, the traffic of cultural interchange could and did flow in the other direction as well.

When we turn from Africa to Asia we once again find interesting new terminology, presumably reflecting political developments during the first millennium BC. The new term *ʾIš(w)r* for Syria is frequently taken to reflect Egyptian contact with the Assyrians, who came to control all of Syria-Palestine and with whom the Egyptians fought a number of wars. Indeed, the Assyrians, under King Ashurbanipal, captured Memphis, taking control of the Delta, and later returned and attacked and sacked even Thebes in southern Egypt. In a Demotic list of mercenaries serving in the army of the Saite ruler Amasis (529 BC) in his campaign against Nubia, the "men of Khor" (the old term for Syria) are distinguished from what is generally translated the "men of Assyria." This distinction has been suggested to reflect the geographic distinction between Syria and Palestine. Indeed in the Canopus Decree a distinction is made between Syria and Phoenicia using the terms *Ḫʾr(.w)* and *ʾImr*, a distinction and terminology found also in New Kingdom texts. But the term *sḫ ʾIš(w)r* "writing or script of *ʾIš(w)r*" was used to refer specifically to Aramaic. Aramaic was a Northwest Semitic language, spoken in much of Syria-Palestine at this time, which became the lingua franca of the Persian Empire. A Demotic document states that the Persian King Darius had the laws of Egypt collected and recorded in *sḫ ʾIš(w)r* and in *sḫ šʿ.t*, "letter writing or document writing," the Demotic term for Demotic script. In other words, the laws were written down so that both Egyptian and Persian officials could read and consult them: the Egyptians in Demotic, the Persians in Aramaic. Many Aramaic speakers had begun settling in Egypt even before the advent of the Persians. There is a famous community of Aramaic speaking Jews who lived at Elephantine before and during the Persian occupation of Egypt, and numbers of non-Jewish Aramaic-speaking immigrants in communities from Elephantine at the southern border to Saqqara and at various fortresses in the Delta. Many of the members of these communities were serving as mercenaries. It seems to me most likely that the term *ʾIš(w)r* referred not to the dreaded Assyrians but rather to speakers of Aramaic, which fits very well with the fact that one of the major criteria Egyptians used in determining ethnicity was language. That these communities remained in Egypt for generations or centuries is suggested by such Ptolemaic place names as "The Place of the *ʾIš(w)r.w*" and "The Wall of the *ʾIš(w)r.w*," both in the Fayum; "The Island of the *ʾIš(w)r.w*," near Coptos, just north of Thebes, and "The Resting Place(?) of the *ʾIš(w)r.w*," a village in the Theban area.

One result of the incorporation of Egypt into the Persian Empire and, later, its position as the heart of the Ptolemaic kingdom, was a greater degree of openness than ever before to the Mediterranean world and susceptibility to its geopolitical vicissitudes, and this too is reflected in Demotic texts. Some texts allow us to see how Egypt and its rulers were involved in diplomatic or military ventures overseas. The famous Canopus Decree records how King Ptolemy III shipped grain to Cyprus (*tꜣ mꜣy.t n Sꜣlmynꜣ* "the island of Salamis" in Demotic), then part of his realm, when it was suffering from a famine. Another intriguing text from a later phase of Ptole-

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maic history is a letter sent by a man stationed at the Phoenician port city of Ptolemais (Akko) to some military men in the Upper Egyptian town of Pathyris in 103 BC, during the military conflict between the Ptolemies and Hasmoneans known as the "War of Scepters." This letter speaks of a journey by Ptolemy X from Ptolemais/Akko to Damascus (*Tmysqꜣ* in Demotic), though the precise reason for the visit is not stated in the letter and cannot be gleaned from collateral historical sources. In the mid-second century BC, another important Mediterranean power enters the Demotic record, Rome. Among the ostraca written by the fascinating, if somewhat troubling, religious enthusiast Ḥor, who frequented the temples at Saqqara, we find the draft of a petition to King Ptolemy VI recounting the aftermath of one of Ḥor's prophetic dreams. In the letter it is stated, somewhat cryptically, that "*Nwmnys* (Noumenios) went to Rome (*Hrmꜣ*)." When one recalls that Ḥor was writing in the troubled period of the early 160s BC when the Seleucid King Antiochus IV had invaded Egypt, claiming the crown for himself, it is tempting to interpret this as an allusion to a Ptolemaic diplomatic mission to Rome, presumably to seek aid from that burgeoning geopolitical force. However this may be, it is known from the Greek historians that Roman intervention did bring an end to Antiochus' pharaonic ambitions.

From the later Roman period comes the Vienna Omen Papyrus, which is based upon earlier texts dating to the Persian period. This text mentions Crete (*Grṯy*) and the Cretans (*nꜣ Grṯ(y)*), as well as the ruler of Crete (*wr Grṯ*), in its calculations concerning the future course of events, though none of the allusions seems to have any bearing on concrete historical occurrences. Roman period literary texts also mention distant locales such as Babylon, Nineveh, and India, references that reflect another result of the incorporation of Egypt into the empires of the Persians and Alexander: the widening of Egyptian geographical horizons in the literary imagination. For example, a narrative known from a Roman period manuscript, Papyrus Serpot, recounts the conflict between the Egyptian ruler Petekhons and Serpot (lit. "Lotus"), the queen of "the land of women" (*pꜣ tꜣ (n) nꜣ sḫm.wt*), a mythical country located to the east of Egypt whose female inhabitants exhibit an Amazon-like taste for warfare. Inevitably, love triumphs over any hostile intentions so that Petekhons and Serpot make peace and join forces. Not only does this story mention the old Assyrian capital of Nineveh, but even more interestingly, India plays a major role in the proceedings, because after Petekhons and Serpot have contracted their romantic and military alliance, her realm is threatened by an invasion from India (*Hntw*), and together they must fight long and difficult battles before the ruler of India (*wr Hntw*) admits defeat and sues for peace. The mention of India in a late Egyptian text is intriguing but should not occasion surprise because Egyptian knowledge of the existence of India can be attested as early as the reign of Darius I in the Persian period and was doubtless reinforced by the burgeoning trade via the Red Sea with India of the late Ptolemaic and Roman periods. Nevertheless, certain elements also point here to the strong possibility of Greek literary influence on the Egyptian image of India. At one point in the text the god Osiris appears as "the great agathodaimon (i.e., tutelary god) of India." We know from Greek sources that Osiris could be assimilated to the Greek god Dionysus who, in Hellenistic mythography, was celebrated as a culture hero who had traveled the world as far as India and had civilized its inhabitants. However, according to the Greek historian Diodorus Siculus (writing in the first century BC), it was Osiris who engaged in these world travels and visited India. It is thus quite reasonable to suggest that the association of Osiris with India in Papyrus Serpot is a reflection of this Hellenistic motif of Osiris/Dionysus in India. If this suggestion is accurate, it would show how the Egyptian literary imagination, aware of the existence of India yet lacking firsthand experience of the country, seized upon the "information" offered by other cultural traditions about that exotic land to formulate its own image of the subcontinent.

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Another dimension of Egyptian contacts with foreign countries was that of trade, and sundry imports find their place in Demotic texts as well. We have already seen that Nubian ochre was imported, at least in part for medicinal purposes. Syria (*Ḫr* "Khor") is particularly well represented by trade products, a function of its proximity to Egypt as well as the close political links and secular trade connections between the two lands. These products include comestible items, such as "Syrian wheat" (*sw n Ḫr*) and "Syrian herbs" (*sym n Ḫll*), ingredients for medicines, such as "Syrian ointment" (*mrḥy Ḫr*) and "Syrian fig(s)" (*qnṯ Ḫr*), and household devices such as the "Syrian lock (*qrʿ Ḫr*) with its key(?)," mentioned in tandem with a "Greek lock" (*qrʿ Wynn*) in a list of materials used to build a tomb in second-century BC Thebes. Other types of goods appear to have come from more distant locales. The Ionian city of Miletus, well known for the quality of the wool of the flocks in its district, is represented by *mylt*, a term for "Milesian wool," while a Roman period ostracon not only mentions a Maltese dog (*mlytyn*), but even gives a picture of the shaggy little pooch. Furthest afield appears to be the product mentioned in a passage from a literary narrative known from the Roman period, Papyrus Spiegelberg, which describes how, in the course of an internecine conflict between Egyptian princes, an aristocratic prisoner-of-war is tied up with "cable(?) of *Gṯeṯn*." It has been plausibly suggested that the latter word perhaps derives from the Greek ethnonymic adjective *Gadeitana*, "from Cadiz." If this interpretation is correct, then the Egyptian prince will have been tied up with cables ultimately derived from (or, perhaps, simply made in the style of those derived from) a city on the other end of the Mediterranean, beyond the pillars of Hercules at the outer reaches of the Iberian peninsula!

This possible interpretation of *Gṯeṯn* as the transcription of a Greek ethnic term brings us to a large category of references to foreign people or places: the use of ethnics. It was normal in Greek documents from Ptolemaic Egypt to refer to mercenaries by the name of the city or area from which they, or their ancestors, had emigrated, and such descriptions occur occasionally in Demotic. The extent to which these people had become integrated into Egyptian society is indicated by examples such as the Memphite document which refers to priestly responsibility for the offerings at a list of tombs, including the "(tombs) of the Carians." Similarly, people identified as Blemmyes, from the Nubian tribe recorded in classical authors, are found in Middle and Upper Egypt from Saite or Persian times at least through the Ptolemaic period, when they are found as landowners near Edfu, in the south. A literary text from Elephantine from the Roman period refers to "drinking with the Blemmyes." But the most common ethnic term found in Demotic is *Wynn* "Greek" (lit. "Ionian"). Occasionally this term refers to objects typical of Greek culture (e.g., "Greek stater (a kind of coin)"). But, as noted above, the Greek documents from early Ptolemaic Egypt make it clear that the immigrants thought of themselves not as generic "Greeks" but in terms of the specific part of the Greek-speaking world from which they came. What they did share was a common language and it is clear that in the vast majority of examples, the description "Greek" refers to use of the Greek language: *mt.t Wynn* "Greek language"; *sḫ Wynn* "Greek writing" or "document written in Greek"; "Greek woman"; "Greek cavalryman"; or, from very early in Ptolemaic history, "Greek born in Egypt." This use of the general term "Greek" fits very well with the standard Egyptian practice, noted above, of using language as one of the major determinants in ethnic identifications.

One other common tendency in ancient Egypt was for terms which started out as ethnic identifiers to turn into descriptions of occupations, in most cases apparently because a large percentage of the members of the ethnic group who lived in Egypt served in that particular occupation. An early example is the term *Mḏ3y*, originally referring to a Nubian tribe but by the New Kingdom already used as the term for "police." Similarly, *3m* "Asiatic," attested already in the Old

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Kingdom, soon came to mean "herdsman" or "shepherd." An apparent example of the same type of development is found in Demotic texts involving the more recent ethnic term *Hgr*. This term seems to have been the name of a north Arabian tribe whose name also provided the Achaemenid Persians with the name for their Arabian satrapy. But the term also came to be used to refer to a "mounted courier" and editors of Egyptian literary texts most frequently use the occupational translation, not the ethnic one.

The latest of these ethnic-to-occupation switches that we note here occurred in the early Ptolemaic period and brings us full circle to the "*Md3y*-to-policeman" transformation found in earlier pharaonic times. Census lists and other administrative documents from the early Ptolemaic period note special dispensations (especially tax breaks) given to people described as "Greeks," "Jews," and "Persians." Modern scholars used to assume that this reflected discrimination against native Egyptians. However, careful study of the documents involved indicates that Egyptians with clearly military titles (e.g., man or soldier who is inscribed at or assigned to a specific geographic location, often a fortress) are given the same dispensations. Since it is known that both Greeks and Jews served as soldiers, it seems likely that these originally ethnic terms are being used as indicators of occupation. This conclusion is reinforced by the fact that the Ptolemies singled out another occupation for similar special treatment: Greek schoolteachers, needed to train enough people to read and write in Greek so that the state administration, at least on the national and regional level, could be switched to Greek from Egyptian. The case of the so-called "Persians," who are given some, but not all, of the dispensations given to the "Greeks," is less clear. They could be understood to be actual "Persians" who had abandoned their loyalty to the Achaemenid Empire and settled down as loyal mercenary employees of the Greeks. But the fact that they had Greek names, never Persian, makes it possible that they were actually Greek-speaking mercenaries who had fought on the side of the Persian king during the wars with Alexander. In later generations, when this distinction between "mercenary who fought on the right side" and "mercenary who fought on the wrong side" had lost any value (all such individuals and their immediate kin having long since died), the apparent ethnic term "Persian" was applied to a very different category of individuals — debtors.

Whether inhabitants of Egypt during the second and first centuries BC were aware of the ethnic background of the term, and if so how they would have explained its contemporary use, is uncertain. Certainly such examples illustrate the complexity of ancient cultures and of modern attempts to understand them. It is hoped that the Demotic Dictionary will soon be serving as a fundamental resource as scholars publish and republish basic source materials and address such questions of social, political, and religious history throughout the millennium of the existence of Demotic.

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RESEARCH

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Overleaf. Abdullah Hashim, skilled pickman. Hamoukar, 1999. Photograph by Clemens Reichel

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INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH

Richard H. Beal

Richard H. Beal spent much of his time reference checking and otherwise preparing the first fascicle of the Hittite Dictionary's Š volume for publication. Beal read entries of this volume to Professor Güterbock, who was almost blind, for his invaluable comments, gleaned from some seventy years of experience reading Hittite. His comments were then noted. Minor things were entered directly into the computer manuscript, while Beal took substantial matters to Professor Hoffner to be hammered out. Often Beal had to provide one or more revised drafts, particularly of the longer articles, before these passed muster with Professor Güterbock. These were then passed on to Hoffner for review and further discussion with Güterbock, where needed. Meanwhile, Beal copy edited the texts that he had been reading to Güterbock, which will make the job quicker when these dictionary articles return to his desk. During the course of this year a number of long *ši-* words and most *šu-* words were read to Güterbock and approved by him. Also, frequently Professor Güterbock's thoughts on one of these later Š words required re-reading and rethinking and occasionally reprocessing of earlier Š words. Beal also entered the other project member's corrections made from reference checking into the dictionary articles, chasing down and solving the remaining difficult problems that they had been unable to solve. In addition, Beal transliterated a section of newly published volume 41 of the series *Keilschrifttexte aus Boghazköi,* which contains questions to the gods and the gods' answers, for the dictionary's files.

This year with Professor Hoffner, his teacher, retiring, Beal suggested to fellow students of Hoffner, Gary Beckman of the University of Michigan and J. Gregory McMahon of the University of New Hampshire, that a volume of papers on Hittite topics should be organized in honor of these events. As the senior student, Beckman has now taken the lead in this endeavor. Some twenty-nine Hittitologists — students of Hoffner, present and former staff members of the Hittite Dictionary Project, and other colleagues — from England, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Turkey, and the United States contributed by the deadline. (Twelve others promised to contribute but we are still waiting.) A copy of the manuscript was presented to Hoffner as a surprise in January by Beckman and Beal. For this volume, Beal has written an article on the beginnings of Hittite history. He argues that if one takes literally the odd genealogy given by Ḫattušili I, trusts the order given in the offering list of dead royalty, properly places the history of Hittite relations with the kingdom of Zalpa in the reign of Ḫattušili, and pays proper attention to the genealogy given to the Hittite royalty mentioned therein, one can come to a clearer understanding of the period of the Hittite kingdom preceding the reign of Ḫattušili I.

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Robert D. Biggs

Robert D. Biggs continued his work on Babylonian prophecy texts and potency incantations and rituals at the British Museum during part of the summer of 1999. He also continued his work on Babylonian liver omens and related omen texts as well as on Babylonian medical texts, including an article for the *Reallexikon der Assyriologie* on diseases of the ears.

John A. Brinkman

John A. Brinkman wrote numerous biographical entries on various Babylonians, Assyrians, Elamites, Arameans, and Chaldeans for *The Prosopography of the Neo-Assyrian Empire*, volume 2, parts 1 and 2 (being published in Helsinki as part of the Neo-Assyrian Text Corpus Project). Daniel Nevez, Shelley Luppert-Barnard, John Nielsen, and Jonathan Tenney, graduate students in the Mesopotamian historiography seminar, wrote additional entries — a total of more than sixty articles contributed by all participants involved here.

Last summer, Brinkman did research at the British Museum, continuing the work of editing a small unpublished seventh-century Babylonian archive excavated at Ur in 1919. With the help of British Museum staff, especially Julian Reade, he was able to examine the sparse excavation records (mostly letters sent by the dig director, H. R. Hall, to the director of the museum) and managed to find out exactly where these tablets had been uncovered. Since one of the tablets contains an extensive inventory of household furniture and utensils, and the archaeologists found a large number of metal objects in the same building as the tablets, this may provide a unique opportunity to match up some of the rare vocabulary in the inventory with surviving artifacts.

In May, Brinkman worked at the University Museum in Philadelphia, continuing to catalog the extensive Kassite archives excavated at Nippur.

This year, the historiography seminar began a consideration of various schools of historical research, beginning with post-modernism and current theories of narrative, and working back through feminism, the Annales, quantitative history, psychohistory (Freud and successors), varieties of Marxism, to von Ranke. This general theme will continue next year with other theoretical approaches to historiography.

Fred M. Donner

Fred M. Donner continues to serve as chairman of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, which along with his teaching absorbs most of his time. He has also continued to serve as editor of *Al-'Usur al-Wusta* ("The Middle Ages" in Arabic), the semiannual Bulletin of Middle East Medievalists.

Donner has worked in desultory fashion on researching the question of Qur'anic and early Islamic eschatology. He was awarded a grant to head a Summer Institute for the National Endowment for the Humanities on the subject of "Islamic Origins," which he taught in collaboration with Oriental Institute faculty members Walter E. Kaegi (Byzantine history) and Donald S. Whitcomb (Byzantine and Islamic archaeology). This program ran for five weeks in June and July 2000 and was attended by twenty-three college and university teachers from various parts

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of the United States. Donner will be on leave in winter and spring quarters, 2001, when he will spend four months at the American Center for Oriental Research in Amman, Jordan, drafting a general book on the origins of Islam.

McGuire Gibson

McGuire Gibson spent almost the entire year initiating the Hamoukar Expedition (see separate report). He was able, however, to continue other lines of research and to take part in two international conferences in Copenhagen. The first, in December, focused on the role of Mesopotamian palaces. Gibson's contribution, entitled "'Paper Trails' in Palaces," dealt with ways to reconstruct the function of different parts of palaces and the patterns of information flow within them. By analyzing the architecture, one can suggest probable traffic patterns. When these patterns are combined with information gleaned from cuneiform tablets found in the building along with other objects, one can sometimes come to exciting new formulations on ancient administration and society. Clemens Reichel's work on the palace at Eshnunna (see the Diyala Objects Publication Project separate report) is a superb example of the potential benefits of this approach. At the second conference, the Second International Congress on Near Eastern Archaeology, held in May 2000, Gibson gave the first scholarly presentation on Hamoukar. During the year, he also convened and chaired a workshop at the Oriental Institute entitled "The Waters of Babylon," in which Belgian and American scholars presented their work in interpreting the ancient landscape of southern Mesopotamia by means of satellite images. This conference is connected to the ancient Mesopotamian landscapes project that he and Tony Wilkinson are doing with the cooperation of John Christensen at Argonne National Laboratory under a collaborative grant from the University of Chicago and Argonne National Laboratory. Also during the academic year, he sent two articles to press on the drastic losses of antiquities from Near Eastern sites due to illegal digging and smuggling. He is currently serving as chair of the Oriental Institute's Museum and Outreach Committee as well as the Helen Rich Memorial Fund Committee, which aids students in archaeology. He continues to serve as head of the Fund Raising Committee for the Center for Middle Eastern Studies and as a member of the Ryerson Fellowship Committee in the Humanities. Outside the university, he is a trustee of the American Institute for Yemeni Studies, the American Research Center in Syria (not yet established in Damascus), and is a member of the Executive Committee of the Council of American Overseas Research Centers. During the past year, he has given academic and popular lectures in Damascus, New York, and Chicago, including a talk at the Chicago Humanities Festival on the modern uses of Antiquity for political purposes.

Alexandrine Guérin

Granted a Fulbright, **Alexandrine Guérin** spent the academic year at the Oriental Institute as an Islamic archaeologist and colleague of Donald Whitcomb. Her research continued from her dissertation on "Settlement Patterns and Territory in Syria during the Islamic Period" (Lyon, 1998). She spent much of her time writing articles and preparing the final manuscript of her dissertation for publication by the Institut français des études arabes de Damas.

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She presented her research on southern Syria, where she lived and worked for seven years, at the Antiquity and Late Byzantine Workshop in November 1999 in a paper on the Roman, Byzantine, and Islamic Site of Msayke. She also published "Some Features of Village Architecture: Transition from Antiquity to Islam" in *Al-'Usur al-Wasta, Bulletin of Middle East Medievalists* in October 1999. The *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* has accepted an article for publication in which she gives an account of the fiscality and territory situations during the end of the sixteenth century by linking textual sources (fiscal Ottoman registers) with geographical and archaeological data. She suggested a new interpretation of the organization of territories in "Interprétation d'un registre fiscal ottoman: Les territoires de la Syrie méridionale en 1005/1596–97." An ethnoarchaeological study to define the settlement of tribes in Laja, "Architecture villageoise et tribu nomade: Définition d'un peuplement dans le Laja, la période Islamique-Syrie méridionale," was accepted for publication in *Berytus* (American University of Beirut).

In addition to writing about Southern Syria, Alexandrine has studied the relationship between Damascus and its hinterland. She translated a biographical sketch recorded by Ibn Asakir concerning the *fitna*/sedition of Damascus (176–177/792–794). This source allowed her to examine spatial organizations that reflect social and political dynamics between Damascus and its nomad neighbors (forthcoming: "Acte du colloque: Syrian Cities and Change," IFEAD, IFAPO, and GREMO, Damascus 1999; "Les territoires de la ville de Damas: La période abbasside"). The historical analysis is thus enriched with an archaeological approach that takes inspiration from geography, topography, toponymy, and ethnoarchaeology. Alexandrine will return to the field 1–12 August 2000 to do preliminary survey work on an aspect of Damascus' defenses during the end of the eighth century — the oasis of Damascus, consisting of gardens and villages that belong to the Yaman or Qay tribes (44 villages).

Alexandrine will continue her studies of the Islamic city by participating in the Hadir Qinnasrin project, directed by Donald Whitcomb, 15 August–1 October 2000. She has also planned research in Qatar, studying the Islamic material excavated by Danish (1950s) and French expeditions (1980s) in Murwab.

Harry A. Hoffner, Jr.

Harry A. Hoffner's activities as Executive Editor of the Hittite Dictionary of the Oriental Institute are described in the project report (see separate report).

Hoffner traveled to Würzburg, Germany, to participate in the Fifth International Congress of Hittitology (3–8 October 1999). As part of his participation he gave a paper on Hittite Agriculture. He made the major presentations at the Site Visit of the National Endowment for the Humanities (visiting team George Farr and Helen Aguera), including a presentation on the growth of electronic resources for the Hittite Dictionary over the past twenty years and its plans for further growth in new areas (28–29 October 1999). From October 1999 through January 2000 he participated in the planning and conducting of visiting lectures by Hittitology candidates and deliberations of the search committee to choose its nominee.

Hoffner presided as President at the Annual Meeting of the American Oriental Society Midwest Branch, meeting in Hyde Park (13–15 February 2000). On 14 February he delivered an invited lecture on "Hittitology and the Hebrew Bible" at this meeting and served on a panel on the same subject.

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On 12 March 2000 Hoffner participated in the national Board of Directors Meeting of the American Oriental Society. On 13 March he gave an invited lecture on "Hittite Agriculture" at this meeting.

Hoffner continues to serve as a consulting editor (for Hittite) for E. J. Brill's series Context of Scripture, the managing editor of which is W. W. Hallo.

Hoffner is the current President of the American Oriental Society Midwest Branch.

Among his publications over the past year are "Thoughts on a New Volume of a Hittite Dictionary" in *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 120 (2000): 68–75, and "Agricultural Perspectives on Hittite Laws §167–169" in *Acts of the IIIrd International Congress of Hittitology,* Çorum, 16–22 September 1996, edited by Sedat Alp and Aygül Süel, pp. 319–30 (Ankara: Grafik, Teknik Hazirlik Uyum Ajans, 1998); although bearing publication date 1998, this volume only appeared in late 1999.

Accepted for publication and forthcoming are the following: "Hittite Archives" in *The Archaeology of Anatolia: An Encyclopedia,* edited by G. Kenneth Sams (Ankara: Bilkent University, 2000); "Hittite for Hebraists" in *Beyond Babel,* edited by John Kaltner and Stephen McKenzie (Society of Biblical Literature); and "The Hittite King" in *Text, Artifact, and Image: Revealing Ancient Israelite Religion* (Gruss Colloquium in Judaic Studies), edited by Gary M. Beckman (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania, Center for Judaic Studies).

Forthcoming publications with joint authorship include: with H. G. Güterbock and K. Aslıhan Yener, *Recent Developments in Hittite Archaeology and History* (Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns); and with H. G. Güterbock, *The Hittite Dictionary of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago,* Volume S, fascicle 1 (Chicago: Oriental Institute). Currently Hoffner is collaborating with H. Craig Melchert to produce an introductory grammar of the Hittite language.

Thomas A. Holland

Thomas A. Holland completed his research for the first and major portion of the final publication of the Tell es-Sweyhat archaeological expedition to Syria at the beginning of this year. The two volume report, text and plates, was submitted to the Director and Publications Committee on 20 January 2000 for publication by the Oriental Institute. The final studies on the Bronze Age occupational remains for most of the site are now complete and will appear in the forthcoming volume. A good portion of the Roman remains from area I, especially those in trenches IA1 and IA2, were presented in last year's *Annual Report.* The research that was also needed to clarify both the Bronze Age and Hellenistic periods in the area V step trench was undertaken this year and is presented in this report (see separate report).

Holland's biographical entry entitled "Kathleen Mary Kenyon; 1906–1978" appeared this year in the *Encyclopedia of Archaeology: The Great Archaeologists,* edited by Tim Murray. In June, Holland received and corrected the proofs of the article he submitted last year for Winfried Orthmann's festschrift volume that is entitled "Third Millennium Wall Paintings at Tell es-Sweyhat, Syria." The expected publication date of this volume is 16 August 2000, the date of Orthmann's sixty-fifth birthday.

On behalf of the Sweyhat Expedition to Syria, Holland wishes to express his gratitude for the continuing financial support of the project by Margaret and Jim Foorman.

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Janet H. Johnson

Janet H. Johnson attended the Seventh International Congress of Demotists held in Copenhagen in August 1999, the Eighth International Congress of Egyptologists held in Cairo in March–April 2000, and the annual meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt held in Berkeley in April 2000. She reported on the Demotic Dictionary Project at the two international meetings. In addition, she served as a "respondent" during the Plenary Session discussion of "Egyptian Language" at the Cairo meetings. While in Cairo she also, in her capacity as Chairman of the Committee for the Annual Egyptological Bibliography, gave a "Status Report on the *Ancient Egyptian Bibliography* (*AEB*)" and convened a meeting of the members of that Committee to discuss ongoing organizational and financial concerns of the *AEB*. Here at the Oriental Institute, she gave presentations on "Egyptian Language and Egyptian Hieroglyphs" and "Electronic Resources" at the Oriental Institute Workshop on Egyptian Hieroglyphs held 4 March 2000. She remained a member of the "Technology Oversight Committee" of the Division of the Humanities, which helps keep the Oriental Institute tuned in to what is going on technologically in the most closely related part of the University. She has had several articles appear this year, including "Ethnicity in Persian Period Egypt" in *Gold of Praise: Studies on Ancient Egypt in Honor of Edward F. Wente*, edited by Emily Teeter and John A. Larson, and "Speculations on Middle Kingdom Marriage" in the festschrift in honor of British Egyptologist Harry S. Smith.

Much of her time during the year was spent working on the Demotic Dictionary Project (see separate report) and on the Annotated Egyptian Readingbook Project, part of the Mellon Foundation grant to a consortium of Universities for Less Commonly Taught Languages. The Readingbook Project aims to produce an annotated, interactive readingbook for students of classical Middle Egyptian. A selection of texts representing the many genres of preserved Middle Egyptian materials is being entered into the computer together with grammatical and lexical analyses. Students will be able to select a text and work through it, sentence by sentence, practicing reading the hieroglyphs and transliterating and translating the text. A click of a button will bring help with reading signs, understanding grammar, or finding vocabulary. Extensive graphics will illustrate Egypt, the areas where individual texts were discovered, items mentioned in the texts, and, to the extent possible, the actual individuals mentioned in the texts being read. The readingbook is intended to serve as a classroom aid, but it should also be possible for individuals to use it as a stand-alone teaching aid in learning, or reviewing, Middle Egyptian. It may eventually be published as a CD-ROM, but it may also be delivered over the Internet using the World-Wide Web. Much time has been spent this year selecting texts and beginning the process of analyzing their grammar and vocabulary. Graduate student Randy Shonkwiler took our list of texts scheduled for inclusion and has begun the laborious job of tracking down legal ownership of materials in order to secure formal permissions for inclusion. Our computer programmer, Sandy Schloen, has developed an elegant interface for inputting data, including hieroglyphs, and graduate student Harold Hays has begun entering data using the interface. They are at the stage where they are finding a few flaws and working together to get everything as smooth and efficient as possible. Additional student participation in data entry will begin once Schloen and Hays have worked out the bugs in the program. Michael Berger, a graduate student here in the Oriental Institute and the Manager of the Language Faculty Resource Center on campus, will be assisting with input of related cultural materials. In addition, Oriental Institute graduate Terry Wilfong, who is now Assistant Professor at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and his colleague, Janet Richards, will also be participating in this project, Wilfong helping with identi-

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fication and analysis of texts to be included and Richards assisting especially with identification and incorporation of cultural materials.

W. Raymond Johnson

W. Raymond Johnson successfully completed his twenty-first year working for the Epigraphic Survey in Luxor, and his third season as Field Director (see separate report). In November he supervised a fifth short season of documentation work for the Egypt Exploration Society at the small Ptah temple in Memphis, studying and recording limestone blocks of Nebmaatre Amenhotep III reused by Ramesses II, in particular (this season) the reused architectural elements. These include doorway and papyrus-bundle column fragments, pylon sections, and cornices; the homogeneity of the material suggests that most or all of it came from a single structure. Once the recording and analysis are complete, the material will be published in the Egypt Exploration Society's Survey of Memphis series.

This summer Ray was kept pleasantly busy with activities associated with the exhibition *Pharaohs of the Sun: Akhenaten, Nefertiti and Tutankhamun*, at the Art Institute of Chicago from 12 July through 24 September, for which he wrote a chapter in the catalog entitled "The Setting: History, Religion, and Art." Ray launched the Art Institute public lecture program for this exhibition on 23 May with a talk entitled "Amenhotep III, Akhenaten, and the Beginning of the Amarna Period." This summer his article, "The *Nfrw*-Collar Reconsidered," was published in *Gold of Praise: Studies on Ancient Egypt in Honor of Edward F. Wente* (SAOC 58).

Charles E. Jones

Charles E. Jones' research centered, as usual, on the development and maintenance of the collections and catalogs of the Research Archives (see separate report), and, in collaboration with John Sanders, on the development of the electronic resources of the Oriental Institute (see separate report). He published two articles in an on-line journal, "Electronic Publication of Ancient Near Eastern Texts," with David Schloen, *Ariadne*, No. 22 (December 1999) [http://www.ariadne.ac.uk/issue22/], and "The Web Editor: Abzu and Beyond," *Ariadne*, No. 21 (September 1999) [http://www.ariadne.ac.uk/issue21/]. He was appointed as coordinator for text encoding, available web resources, and tool developments relating to the ancient Near East for the same journal. The first of these two articles is a retrospective on seven years of experience in the development of the on-line presence of the Oriental Institute and in particular of the process of building Abzu. The second article is a summary of the conference held at the Oriental Institute in October 1999 for which he was one of the organizing committee and a panelist. Jones also published "Ziššabarna (*Ciçafarnah), not Uššabarna in PFS 36*," N.A.B.U.: *Nouvelles assyriologiques brèves et utilitaires* 1999, Number 3 (September 1999).

Work continues on the seal inscriptions from the seal impression on the Persepolis Fortification Tablets, and on the editing and publication of additional texts from that archive with Matthew W. Stolper.

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In May Jones was invited to deliver a paper "Electronic Media and the Ancient Near East: The Experience of the Oriental Institute — Chicago" at the Second International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East [2ICAANE] in Copenhagen.

Walter E. Kaegi

This year, **Walter E. Kaegi** agreed to chair the Oriental Institute/Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations committee to search for an ancient Near Eastern historian to succeed John A. Brinkman during 2000/2001. That search has already begun and is taking much time. Kaegi has been heavily involved in writing the advertisement and in soliciting advice and names of potential candidates.

As Adviser to the Dean of Humanities on Armenian affairs for the past twenty-five years, Kaegi wrote the report "Recommendation for Armenian Studies," and headed the visiting Armenian Studies faculty search that resulted in the hiring of Christina Maranci (Ph.D., Princeton University) for Art History in spring 2001.

Kaegi served as Director of the Workshop on Late Antiquity and Byzantium in the absence of Rob Nelson. He also represented the Department of History on the American Historical Association Annual Meeting (6–9 January 2000) Local Arrangements Committee.

Kaegi wrote a proposal that resulted in more than doubling the University's annual Armenian funding for visiting faculty in Armenian studies. Kaegi also served as a sub-grantee on the Near Eastern History seminar on Islamic origins with co-instructors Fred M. Donner (principal grantee) and Donald Whitcomb.

Outside the University, Kaegi continued as a member of the Local Arrangements Committee for the American Historical Association's Annual Meeting, held in Chicago 6–8 January. He served as Bibliographer for *Byzantinische Zeitschrift* and editor for *Byzantinische Forschungen*, volume 26, which he completed and sent to the printer for publication. He also served as external referee for two personnel decisions for the Departments of History in the University of Tel Aviv and the American University in Beirut.

This past year, Kaegi gave the following lectures: "Heraclius in Africa" at the Byzantine Studies Conference at the University of Maryland 4–7 November; "The Muslim Conquest of Diyarbekir and Edessa" at the conference on Historic Armenian Cities and Provinces at the University of California, Los Angeles, 13 November; and "Reinterpreting the Early Muslim Invasions of Anatolia" at the Workshop on Late Antiquity and Byzantium on 18 January at the University of Chicago. Kaegi was the commentator on the Session on Late Antiquity at the Association of Ancient Historians meeting 7 January (held jointly with the American Historical Association) and chaired the session on Ethnographic Methods and Models at the conference on Hellenism, History, and Ethnography in the Early Roman Empire at the Franke Institute on 5 February.

Publications printed or forthcoming include "Heraclius" in *Late Antiquity: Guide to the Post-Classical World*, edited by Peter Brown, G. W. Bowersock, and O. Grabar (Cambridge: Harvard, 1999); "Observations on the Historical Context of Bir Umm Fawakhir" in *Bir Umm Fawakhir Survey Project 1993: A Byzantine Gold-Mining Town in Egypt*, with C. Meyer, L. A. Heidorn, and T. Wilfong (Oriental Institute Communications 28; Chicago: Oriental Institute, 2000); "Heraclius," "North Africa," "Yarmuk," "Warfare," and "Byzantine" in the *Encyclope-*

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dia of Greece and the Hellenic Tradition, edited by Graham Speake; "Yarmuk" in the *Encyclopedia of Islam*; "A Misunderstood Place-name in a Poem of George of Pisidia" and "Gigthis and Olbia in the Pseudo-Methodius Apocalypse and Their Significance" in *Byzantinische Forschungen*, volume 26. Kaegi also wrote a number of reviews, but most importantly, he completed his book manuscript, *Heraclius*, and awaits its submission to a publisher.

Carol Meyer

Although **Carol Meyer**'s research time was curtailed due to a death in the family, she brought several projects to conclusion. She submitted a report on the Bir Umm Fawakhir 1999 season to the National Geographic Society and another on the construction of a protective barricade at the site to the Egyptian Antiquities Project; the latter will become a chapter in the final report. She also checked the final galleys of the report on the 1993 Bir Umm Fawakhir season for the Oriental Institute Communications series, and, looking forward, started planning and preparation for a projected 2001 study season. She also wrote reviews of *Mons Claudianus 1987–1993: Topography and Quarries* for the *Bulletin of the American Society of Papyrologists* and *Excavations at ed-Dur (Umm al-Qaiwain, UAE): The Glass* for the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* and drafted the chapter on the history of east Indian glass for the reissue of the Forbes ancient technology series. In December Carol presented a talk on "Beyond the Valley of the Gilded Mummies: Some Context for the Recent Finds at Bahariyah Oasis" to the Society of Woman Geographers.

Erica Reiner

Erica Reiner continued her research on the celestial omen texts. Her contribution "Babylonian Celestial Divination" appeared in the volume *Ancient Astronomy and Celestial Divination*, edited by N. M. Swerdlow (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1999). Her article on quantifier nouns in western dialects of Akkadian entitled "One Potato Two Potato" appeared in the festschrift for Johannes Renger, and she has three other articles in press.

She also read manuscript and proofs of volumes of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary now in press, and prepared volume T for typesetting by Eisenbrauns.

Robert K. Ritner

Robert K. Ritner spent much of the past year preparing the final translations for his volumes on *The Libyan Anarchy: Documents from Egypt's Third Intermediate Period* and the revised and expanded *The Literature of Ancient Egypt*, edited by W. K. Simpson (Yale Press). He taught six courses on topics in Coptic, Late Egyptian, Demotic, Ptolemaic hieroglyphs, and Egyptian history, and completed manuscripts for the forthcoming *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Ancient Egypt* and *The Context of Scripture*, volume 2. His article on "Innovations and Adaptations in Ancient Egyptian Medicine" appeared in *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, volume 59/2.

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Throughout the year, Ritner lectured to a series of scholarly and popular audiences. From 23 to 27 August 1999 he attended the Seventh International Conference of Demotic Studies in Copenhagen, where he lectured on "Third Intermediate Period Antecedents of Demotic Legal Terminology," demonstrating the continuity of Egyptian practice and the dependence of contemporary Aramaic documents on Demotic formulary. He also chaired the concluding panel on Lexicography and Onomastics. On the morning of 13 September 1999, he conducted a gallery and lecture tour on Egyptian magic for the Oriental Institute docents and, in the afternoon, was filmed by the Fox Family Channel regarding the supposed Curse of King Tutankhamun for a new series provisionally entitled *Exploring the Unknown*. The ultimate fate of this footage confirms one genuine victim of the Tutankhamun curse. At the popular Oriental Institute/Seven Wonders Travel symposium *Egypt Revealed*, held at the Field Museum on 23–24 October 1999, he spoke on a similar theme, offering two lectures concerning "Death on Swift Wings: The Mummy's Curse in Ancient Egyptian Ritual and Literature." Other participants included Zahi Hawass, Mark Lehner, and Kent Weeks.

On 26 January 2000, Ritner participated as a radio commentator regarding Ancient Egypt on the local WGN program "Extension 720" with Milt Rosenberg. From 17 February through 4 March 2000, he led an Oriental Institute tour to Egypt with thirty participants, in conjunction with Membership Coordinator Emily Napolitano and a second tour of equal size led by Archivist John Larson. After a day's delayed departure caused by a blizzard and closed airport, the tour proved very successful, if hectic. In addition to the standard itinerary, the tour offered exceptional, private viewings of the Giza plateau, the Sphinx temple, the Cairo Museum, Edfu, and the much-publicized "Valley of the Golden Mummies" in the Bahriya Oasis. Seeing the Cairo Museum without the usual crowds was a particular privilege, and our evening visit to Edfu was the first of its kind, inaugurating the local generator for lighting (we brought a spare).

On 13 April 2000, Ritner lectured for the Dallas Museum of Art on "The One God Who Made Himself into Millions: Ancient Egyptian Conceptions of Deity, Religion, and Magic," and on 15 April he spoke to the North Texas chapter of the American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE) on the historical complexities of "Egypt in the Third Intermediate Period." On 28 April at the ARCE conference in Berkeley he discussed "A Healing Stela of Bes Pantheos in the Brooklyn Museum," providing an art historical analysis of an unpublished magical relief. On 5 May 2000 at the Drake Hotel in Chicago, he celebrated his birthday by providing the program for the Institute's Breasted Medallion Ceremony, "Romancing the Past 2000," in honor of a prized friend and former student, Janet W. Helman. Entitled "The Egyptian Hours of the Night," the multimedia presentation described the course of the sun during the hours of darkness by incorporating narration, original photography, line drawings, laser effects, and background music. With the assistance of Emily Napolitano and Aura Technologies, Inc., Ritner scripted, photographed, narrated, and edited the resulting film. Back at the Oriental Institute on 7 May, he offered an illustrated lecture on "Magical Conventions in the Egyptian Romance of Setna Khamuas" for the University's series on "Works of the Mind."

David Schloen

In addition to **David Schloen**'s regular research and teaching activities, highlights of the past year include an international conference on the "Electronic Publication of Ancient Near Eastern

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Texts" in October 1999, sponsored by the Oriental Institute and the Franke Institute for the Humanities, which Schloen helped to organize and in which he made a presentation on web-based publication in archaeology (see separate report). Later in the year, as part of the centennial celebrations of the American Schools of Oriental Research, he contributed conference papers on William F. Albright's view of the origins of ancient Israel (in Boston in November) and on the problem of "state formation" in Iron Age Israel and its neighbors (in Washington, DC, in April).

In the spring and summer of 2000 Schloen engaged in an extended three-month period of archaeological fieldwork. First, in May and June, he directed large-scale excavations on behalf of the Oriental Institute at the site of Yaqush in the northern Jordan Valley in Israel, near the Sea of Galilee. For this project an international team of sixty people was assembled, including twelve professional staff and forty-eight volunteer diggers. Schloen and his University of Chicago graduate students were joined by Timothy Harrison of the University of Toronto and his students, together with four dozen volunteers from Canada and Austria. The team had excellent accommodations at Kibbutz Ashdot Ya'akov, not far from the Yaqush site, and enjoyed unseasonably cool weather, in a region more than 200 meters below sea level which can experience spring and early summer temperatures in excess of 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

The late Douglas Esse had initiated the excavation of this important Early Bronze Age village site on behalf of the Oriental Institute in 1989 and 1991 (see the 1991/92 *Annual Report*). A further 800 square meters of village houses were exposed this year by Schloen's team, almost doubling the existing exposure. As in Esse's dig, several phases of architecture were detected, ranging from Early Bronze I (ca. 3300 BC) to the end of Early Bronze III (ca. 2300 BC). Pro-



Early Bronze Age III houses. Field 3, Yaqush

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cessing and publication of the finds is underway, and a more detailed report of the recently completed excavation season at Yaqush will appear in next year's *Annual Report.*

From Yaqush Schloen moved south to the site of Ashkelon on the Mediterranean coast where he participated from mid-June until early August in the annual excavations of the Leon Levy Expedition, of which he is the associate director. Highlights of the 2000 season at Ashkelon include the unearthing of dozens of coins of the Roman and Hellenistic periods (including a coin of the famous Cleopatra that was minted in Ashkelon itself), the large-scale exposure of one of the earliest Philistine architectural phases, dating to the late twelfth century BC, and the discovery of an open-air mortuary complex, complete with baking ovens and storage pits, above a complex of subterranean Middle Bronze Age Canaanite chamber tombs.

Oğuz Soysal

Oğuz Soysal continued his job on the Chicago Hittite Dictionary Project. He spent most of his time writing articles on words beginning with *šu-*. After five years of work and more than one hundred articles he is now approaching the end of the *šu-* words.

Aside from this, his research activities have continued to focus on Hittite culture and history and the Hattian language. The following articles were published or are currently in press: "Beiträge zur althethitischen Geschichte (I). Ergänzende Bemerkungen zur Puḫanu-Chronik und zum Menschenfresser-Text" in *Hethitica* 14 (1999): 109–45; Review of *StBoT 37,* by J. Klinger, in *Kratylos* 44 (1999): 161–67; "Bazı kayıp, gözden kaçmış ve yanlış saptanmış Hattice fragmanlar" in *Archivum Anatolicum* 4 (2000): 177–205; "Analysis of a Hittite Oracular Document" in *Zeitschrift für Assyriologie* 90/1 (2000): 85–122; "Hattice Araştırmalarında Son Durum" (Fourth International Congress of Hittitology, Würzburg, Germany, 4–8 October 1999); "Zum Nomen: šuwaru-" for a festschrift; "A Practical Vocabulary from Ortaköy," with Aygül Süel, for a festschrift; and Review of *Systematische Bibliographie der Hethitologie 1915–1995,* by V. Souček and J. Siegelová, in *Journal of the American Oriental Society.*

In addition to these activities Soysal has also been preparing since January 1996 a Hattian word list based on texts in the Hattian language from Boğazköy and Ortaköy (Hattian-Hittite bilinguals, Hattian recitations, Hittite rituals and festivals with Hattian elements, etc.). The list in question currently consists of 10,000 computer-stored entries (words and word complexes; 100% of published material) on 500 pages and is still in progress.

In 1998 he received an official invitation from the leaders of the Ortaköy excavation (in Çorum, Turkey) to work jointly with them on the epigraphic finds. The work on the Ortaköy epigraphic finds was begun in 1990 by a Turkish team led by Aygül Süel, excavator of Ortaköy and member of Ankara Üniversitesi Dil ve Tarih-Coğrafya Fakültesi. Soysal joined this team in 1998 and since then he has been contributing to the studies on the documents in Hattian within his personal project Ortaköy-Sapinuwa Epigraphical Research (OSER). This project was financially supported by the American Research Institute in Turkey (ARIT) in 1999 with a research fellowship. In February 2000 the good news came from ARIT that another fellowship was granted for the research on the Ortaköy materials in 2000. The work in 2000 was conducted during June. Accompanied by Yasemin Soysal (who is a member of Ankara Üniversitesi Dil ve Tarih-Coğrafya Fakültesi), the team went to Çorum and took ca. 400 pictures of the selected original tablets (primarily the Hattian and bird oracle texts), which are deposited at the Museum

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of Çorum. The activities of the 1999 season are briefly reported in "Epigraphical Studies from Hittite Sapinuwa" in *ARIT Newsletter* 27 (spring 1999), p. 7, and the first results of the epigraphic studies will be released by Oğuz Soysal and Aygül Süel in a joint article.

On his trip to Turkey, Soysal also had an opportunity to join several archaeological surveys in the vicinity of Sivas and to inspect some ancient sites like Kayalıpınar and Kahvepınar. The former promises to be an extremely important Hittite settlement, as reported by the Turkish and German archaeologists at the Fourth International Congress of Hittitology in Würzburg in October 1999.

Emily Teeter

Emily Teeter's attention this year was devoted to promoting the new Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery and to continuing research on the objects excavated by the Institute at Medinet Habu.

She spoke to the Friends of Egypt at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and she appeared on a lively segment of the *Aaron Freeman* show. Other lectures included "Camels to Khartoum: The 1905–07 Breasted Photographic Expedition" at the McClung Museum, University of Tennessee; "Funerary Beliefs" at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts; and "Maat and Salvation" and a seminar on Egyptian language at the Dallas chapter of the American Research Center in Egypt. With Edward F. Wente and Robert K. Ritner, she participated in a radio discussion show on WGN radio.

Teeter continues to work on the next volume of the catalogs of the small finds from Medinet Habu, dealing with baked clay figurines. The finds from the site were divided between the Oriental Institute and the Egyptian Museum in Cairo. Other objects, known from the field photographs, were supposedly locked in chapels in the temple. Permission, kindly facilitated by the Epigraphic Survey, was granted to open the magazines so that the objects could be studied and rephotographed. In February, Emily and W. Raymond Johnson, Field Director of the Epigraphic Survey, met with Luxor inspectors who handily produced the keys. Unfortunately, the Treasury suite proved to be completely empty, and the room off the Montu barque chapel contained only miscellaneous (though fascinating) architectural fragments that were not part of the research project. The sought-after objects were apparently moved from the temple at some unknown time and placed in another, yet to be identified, storage facility on the West Bank of the Nile River. The publication project will resume, using the field photographs for the "missing" objects. The brief season was a great disappointment, but at least it is now known that the objects are not in the temple magazines. Emily wishes to thank the Epigraphic Survey for its support of the project.

Publications for the year include "Celibacy Among the Gods Wives of Amun: A Reexamination of the Evidence," which appeared in the long-awaited festschrift for Professor Edward Wente, edited by Teeter and John A. Larson. Her book *Egyptian and the Egyptians*, co-authored with Douglas Brewer, was reprinted by Cambridge University Press. Other articles appeared in *Minerva*, *KMT*, *Near Eastern Archaeology* and *Egyptian Archaeology*. She finished the text for *Egyptian Art in the Collection of the Oriental Institute*, which was funded by the University of Chicago Women's Board.

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During spring and summer 2000, Emily acted as Consulting Curator for the exhibit *Pharaohs of the Sun: Akhenaten, Nefertiti, Tutankhamen*, which was presented at the Art Institute of Chicago.

Travel included acting as a lecturer for a private jet program through the Middle East to Myanmar.

David Testen

Now that the manuscript for the P volume has been dispatched to the printer, the staff of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary Project has turned its attention to compiling and editing the remaining volumes, Ṭ and U/W. In addition to assisting Professor Martha T. Roth in reviewing the manuscripts for the Ṭ volume articles, **David Testen** has been working on examining proofs of the P volume and contributing to the writing of U/W. Testen has also continued his historical linguistic research, with studies devoted to several topics in the Semitic and Indo-European fields. Publications which have appeared over the course of the past year are "On *ʾinna, ʾanna* et alia," *Perspectives on Arabic Linguistics XII*, edited by Elabbas Benmamoun; "Conjugating the 'Prefixed Stative' Verbs of Akkadian," *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*; and a pair of notes in *Notes assyriologiques brèves et utilitaires*, "Parsing an Iranian Participle, Dar. 388: 2" and "A Verb Reread, TCL 12 122:20." He also delivered papers at the Chicago meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, "Excrescent Obstruents in the Development of Semitic Stems," and the joint session of the North American Conference on Afroasiatic Linguistics and the American Oriental Society in Portland, "Palatalization and the Early Akkadian Sibilants." Forthcoming publications include "Stem-Final *-*kk*- in Celtic Terms for the Pig" in the Dublin journal of Celtic studies *Ériu*, "The Amyrgian Scythians and the Achaemenid Empire" in the Vladikavkaz journal of Ossetian studies *Nartamongae*, and book reviews in the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* and *Diachronica*.

Edward F. Wente

Because Harvard University Press requested **Edward F. Wente** to prepare the entry "Esotericism and Mysticism: Egypt" for the third part of the projected reference work, *Religions of the Ancient World: A Guide*, he has been collecting and evaluating relevant material from such religious literature as the Coffin Texts, Book of the Dead, and compositions from the New Kingdom royal tombs. The issue of mysticism in pharaonic Egypt remains a highly controversial one, involving such problems as the interrelationship of life and death, the Egyptian concept of cyclic time, and initiation. During spring 2000 Wente attended the meetings of the International Congress of Egyptologists held at the Mena House near the pyramids. Although he did not present a paper, he participated in several of the discussions and had the opportunity to meet with old acquaintances from many years back. This year Wente submitted two book reviews for publication, one of a volume of New Kingdom ostraca and the other of a book of essays on the reign of Amenhotep III, who has become so popular these days. Especially gratifying to Wente was the presentation of *Gold of Praise*, containing over forty articles written in his honor.

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Donald S. Whitcomb

Donald S. Whitcomb pursued plans for future excavations as well as the first scientific publication on Hadir Qinnasrin, which is a report on the results of the 1998 sondages that will appear in *Archéologie Islamique* in 2000. This report builds upon the hypothetical foundations laid out at the UNESCO-sponsored conference called The Silk Road and Archaeology in Syria some four years earlier. These foundations are explained in "Notes on Qinnasrin and Aleppo in the Early Islamic Period," which appeared at the time of the Hama conference this fall. Its prediction of an early Islamic site in the region of Tell Chalcis has proven well justified through the surveys of Claus-Peter Haase and then the 1998 sondages on the edge of Hadir.

Don met with his collaborator, Mariannne Barrucand of the Sorbonne, in Hama before proceeding to the town of Hadir. As noted in the Hadir Qinnasrin report (see separate report), research on this site is complicated by its overlay of the modern town. Unlike the romantic notion of going out into the desert, this is a special kind of urban archaeology that Don had encountered in Aqaba and Luxor. Special requirements for such research entail careful and patient discussions with inhabitants, who often have vital pieces of information (if not actual artifacts) but lack the chronological and contextual information necessary to make this a part of their history. A description of this survey, done with the assistance of Katherine Strange and Colleen Coyle (graduate students) is available in *Oriental Institute News & Notes* 163 (Fall 1999). Another factor in the success of this venture has been the understanding of Syrian archaeology offered by Alexandrine Guérin, who was a Fulbright scholar here at the Oriental Institute.

In the spring, Don gave invited lectures at the Sorbonne, where he discussed religious architecture at Aqaba in his "From Earliest Church to Earliest Mosque," and at the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut in Berlin, where he presented "The 'Commercial Crescent': Trade and the Port of Ayla (Aqaba)," a regional contextualization of Aqaba through archaeological evidence. This is a subject of interest to German projects in the plain behind Aqaba and in Yemen as well. Indeed, Aqaba retains a research interest in a new initiative to examine the Aqaba castle, the context of which Don wrote in his "The Town and Name of Aqaba: An Inquiry into the Settlement History from an Archaeological Perspective," which was published in the sixth volume of Studies in the History and Archaeology of Jordan. Between these lectures, Don attended the Second International Congress on Archaeology of the Ancient Near East in Copenhagen, which featured special sessions on Islamic archaeology. In fact, the sessions on this subject filled the entire week, within which Don presented his most recent discoveries on archaeological evidence for institutional features of the early Islamic cities.

In addition to courses on introduction to Islamic archaeology and on Byzantine and Islamic archaeology of Syria-Palestine, a new course, entitled "Jazirat al-Arab: Islamic Archaeology of Arabia," grew out of an article called "Out of Arabia: Early Islamic Aqaba in Its Regional Context." This course proved highly successful, even though the enormous amount of information was difficult to get through in the short time available during a single quarter. An inspiration for this course was the geographical studies by Paul Wheatley, who sadly passed away during this year. He was enthusiastic for the Islamic archaeology program. At present there are three students with dissertations in progress, all working on ports during the Islamic periods: Ghida el-Osman on Beirut, Tasha Vorderstrasse on al-Mina near Antioch, and Tracy Hoffman (née Alsberg) on Ascalon (Ashkelon). One final aspect of teaching this year was participation with Fred Donner and Walter Kaegi in a summer workshop on "Islamic Origins" sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities, during which it was shown how archaeological evidence plays an increasingly important role.

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Iranian studies proved another, growing research facet with the appearance of "Sasanian or Islamic? Monuments and Criteria for Dating" in the festschrift for Ezat Negahban, edited by Abbas Alizadeh. Likewise, Don appeared in an Iranian television documentary on the history and archaeology of Iran. Most recently, his attention has come full circle in his assistance for the reopening of the Persian Gallery in the Oriental Institute Museum, in particular the Islamic period city of Istakhr, the medieval continuation of Persepolis. Study of this Oriental Institute excavation formed a major portion of Don's dissertation and remains a continuing research interest. He had the pleasure of reviving these ideas in a docent lecture in anticipation of the gallery's reopening.

Tony J. Wilkinson

At the end of the summer, **Tony J. Wilkinson** traveled to Syria, first to visit the site of Qinnasrin, where Donald Whitcomb has a new field project, and then on to the Khabur Basin in eastern Syria. In the Khabur, camp was set up in order to conduct a brief two-week field season of geoarchaeological fieldwork around Tell Brak. Brak was well positioned for two (brief) forays to Hamoukar, where McGuire Gibson had a team undertaking an initial field season. The two field days at Hamoukar were rather busy, first in making preliminary interpretations of the geoarchaeology of the area, and second visiting the enigmatic southern part of the site complex. From Damascus it was then a short hop to San'a in Yemen for the 1999 campaign of "The Oriental Institute Project for the Archaeology of Yemeni Terraced Agriculture" (formerly the Dhamar Project; see separate report). In addition to the fieldwork the project forged a good working relationship with the Department of Archaeology at the University of Dhamar, where Wilkinson gave an inaugural lecture to the faculty of Arts and Humanities. This lecture resulted in the award of a University of Dhamar medal! After a brief two days in Chicago, Wilkinson then flew on to Boston for the annual meeting of the American Schools for Oriental Research, where a paper was presented on "Interactions between Humans and the Environment in the Yemeni Highlands" at a special session on the archaeology of Arabia.

In December, Gibson and Wilkinson organized a small workshop entitled The Waters of Babylon. The main aim of this small international group of scholars was to examine some of the recent results from remote sensing, archaeological, and textual research on the development of settlement and water systems in southern Iraq. It was especially gratifying to see Robert McCormick Adams fired up again and producing a new generation of maps of the Partho-Sasanian landscapes of southern Iraq. A related theme was also picked up in the year 2000 as part of the Interdisciplinary Archaeology Workshop when Jennifer Pournelle (University of California, San Diego) presented the results of satellite image interpretation for changing settlement in the southern plains of Iraq. The theme of the workshop in 1999/2000 was "Science and Technology," and this year there were two Oriental Institute convenors: T. J. Wilkinson and Aslıhan Yener. The themes ranged widely from Indian Ocean trade to archaeometallurgy, and speakers included Maurizio Tosi, Tim Earle, Judith Todd, and Stanley Ambrose.

The California coast is delightful in March, and Dwight Reynolds and his colleagues from the University of California, Santa Barbara, are to be thanked for providing an invitation to give a plenary address on "Environmental Change and Human Activity" at their Annual Conference of Near Eastern Studies. The organization was excellent and the format of the conference catered

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to a wide range of interests that took us well beyond the narrow confines of Near Eastern archaeology.

Back to reality in Chicago, most of the year has been spent trying to coax reluctant articles through ever extended publication bottlenecks. Experience over the last few years suggests that as computers get faster, the process of publication gets slower. Consequently 1999/2000 saw only one article appear: "Demographic Trends from Archaeological Survey: Case Studies from the Levant and Near East" in *Long-Term Demographic Trends in the Mediterranean Basin,* edited by John Bintliff and Kostas Sbonias, for Oxbow books. Most publication work was therefore spent checking proofs or editing and updating various publications, specifically the monograph *On the Margin of the Euphrates: Settlement and Land Use at Tell es-Sweyhat and in the Upper Lake Tabqa Area, Syria* (to be published by the Oriental Institute). This was reviewed in early 2000 and is in press for 2001. Although ostensibly presenting just the results of a small survey around Tell es-Sweyhat, this work deals with a broader canvas by providing an overview of some 10,000 years of settlement and environment within the area of the Tabqa Dam on the Syrian Euphrates. The help of Clemens Reichel and Donald Whitcomb in the production of major contributions to the volume is much appreciated.

May 2000 witnessed the second International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East, in Copenhagen. The organization of such a meeting is formidable and it is to the credit of the Carsten Niebuhr Institute and Ingolf Thuesen and colleagues that the sessions proved to be a success. Wilkinson presented a paper on "Interactions of Humans with the Environment" (but a rather different paper from that given in Santa Barbara), and was a discussant in a special session on the Orontes Valley. This session, organized by Timothy Harrison, a University of Chicago graduate, brought together projects from the entire Orontes Valley within both Syria and Turkey. It is hoped that this international cooperation will provide a foundation for future basin-wide cooperation.

This was also a year of diversification into the medium of radio with two appearances being made on WBEZ's *Odyssey* program and a third on public radio in Reno, Nevada.

K. Aslıhan Yener

During 1999, **K. Aslıhan Yener** directed the fifth season of work at the Amuq Valley Regional Project in the Hatay/Antakya, Turkey. Tell Kurdu was excavated by a multinational team, and the survey program was continued with several teams targeting specific research aims (see separate report). The Fulbright fellowship provided her the opportunity to conduct the research in Turkey. The excavation house and research program became the focus of a funding campaign both in Chicago and Antakya. To that end committees of friends on both sides of the Atlantic were organized to operate the campaign.

The work in the Amuq is published in "Oriental Institute Returns to the Amuq: 1998 Excavation Season at Tell Kurdu, Turkey," *Oriental Institute News & Notes* 161 (Spring 1999): 1–3; "Tell Kurdu, Turkey [Letter from the Field]," *Oriental Institute News & Notes* 164 (Winter 2000): 20–21; "1996–1997 Yılları Oriental Institute Amik Ovası Projeleri: Yüzey Araştırmaları, Arkeometri ve Tell Kurdu Kazısı" [1996–1997 Oriental Institute Amuq Regional Project: Survey, Archaeometry, and Excavations at Tell Kurdu], *XIV. Arkeometri Sonuçları Toplantısı*, with T. J. Wilkinson, pp. 97–112 (Ankara: General Directorate of Antiquities, 1999); "Amuq Valley

Regional Project," 1998/99 *Annual Report*, pp. 9–18; "Archaeology at the APS: Illuminating the Past," with E. S. Friedman, A. P. J. Stampfl, Y. Sato, E. E. Alp, D. R. Haeffner, T. J. Wilkinson, and C. E. Johnson, *Advanced Photon Source Research* 2/1 (1999): 12–16; as well as forthcoming articles in the *American Journal of Archaeology* and *Anatolia*. In addition the Amuq Valley Regional Project website was updated (www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/AMU/Amuq.html).

Ongoing archaeometallurgical research at the Oriental Institute was taken a step further by the purchase and installation in the Anatolia Laboratory of an Olympus BX50 transmitted/reflected light microscope. Yener's work with ancient metallurgy appeared in the publications *The Domestication of Metals: The Rise of Complex Metal Industries in Anatolia* (Leiden: E. J. Brill, 2000), and "An Analytical Study Using Electron and Ion Microscopy of Thin-Walled Crucibles from Göltepe, Turkey," with A. Adriaens and F. Adams, Proceedings of the International Archaeometry Conference, Urbana, Illinois, *Journal of Archaeological Science* 26: 1069–73.

The reinstallation of galleries in the Oriental Institute provided the opportunity to investigate the collections from Turkey within the framework of a course, *Problems in Anatolian Archaeology: Museum Collection and Installation*, taught with Karen Wilson. Wilson and Yener reviewed incredibly wonderful, and in many instances unpublished, sculpture, reliefs, and small finds from Tells Tayinat, Judaidah, and Chatal Höyük in the Amuq, which will be displayed in future years. The Amuq collections, bolstered by finds from Alisar as well as other Urartian, Phrygian, and Hittite materials, will constitute the Anatolia section.

In addition to teaching and committee work, Yener delivered papers entitled "The Oriental Institute Amuq Valley Regional Project, the 1998 Tell Kurdu Excavations," at the Meetings of the International Symposium of Excavations, Surveys, and Archaeometry, 25–29 May, Ankara, Turkey, 1999; "Oriental Institute Amuq Valley Regional Project: The 1998 Tell Kurdu Excavations," at the Antiocheia Ad Orontes, Symposium on Excavations in the Hatay Province, Mustafa Kemal University, Antakya, Turkey, 1999; and "Craft Specialists of Power and Prestige: Traders, Jewelers, and Metallurgists of the Third Millennium BC," at the Cleveland Museum of Art, Ur Exhibit, 2000.

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COMPUTER LABORATORY

John C. Sanders and Peggy M. Sanders

Thanks to the generosity of the Luther I. Replogle Foundation, the new William M. Sumner Computer Laboratory opened in December 1999. Located in room 202, the Institute's new computing facility provides faculty, staff, and students with ready access to both Macintosh and Windows computers, scanners up to 11″ × 17″ for printed materials as well as for 35 mm photographic slides or negatives, a CD-recordable drive for storing computer data in CD format, and a large-format plotter. The new facility is spacious, with room for future growth as the Institute's computing needs expand. In fact, several new computer purchases are being planned, and these acquisitions and the breaking-in process of the new laboratory will be reported in next year's *Annual Report.*

Contemporary with the opening of the new Computer Laboratory was the moving of all the Institute's computer "servers" into a server room on the second floor, a room kept cool year-round that houses the Institute's three web servers, e-mail server, and file server located there. John Sanders' office is now in room 205, which Norman Golb vacated as he moved his office into room 232, the Computer Laboratory's former location.

Besides these new computing facilities, we added a very significant, in many ways the most significant, addition since the laboratory was founded in 1990. Graduate student Katherine Strange was hired as the laboratory's first, part-time, assistant. Currently, she is working on HTML markup for the previous three years of *Annual Reports*, so they will shortly be available on our website. She is leaving soon for archaeological fieldwork in Syria with Don Whitcomb and I hope she will return in the fall and continue working in the laboratory. She has become a valued assistant overnight.

Right next door to the new Computer Laboratory Charles E. Jones has added new public computers in the Research Archives reading room (see separate report). With all of these developments, computing at the Oriental Institute is starting off the new millennium in a very positive direction — to the benefit of ancient Near Eastern scholarship world-wide.

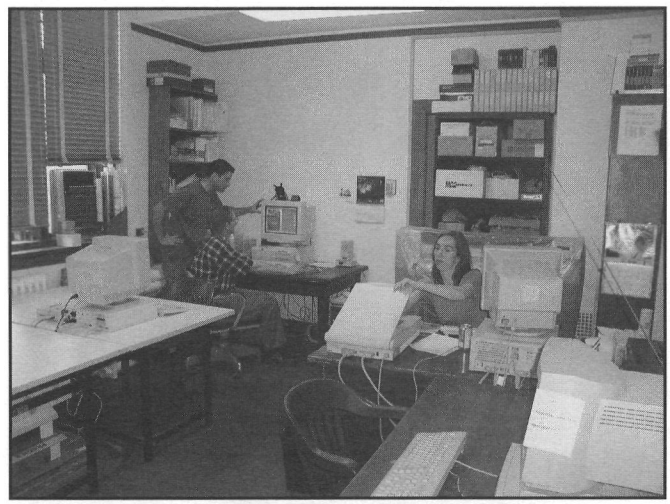


Figure 1. Left, Clemens Reichel (standing) and Docent Volunteer Richard Harter (seated) scanning 35 mm slides at Windows computer; right, Katherine Strange scanning documents for Institute's website. New Computer Laboratory, room 202

I wish to thank Margaret C. Brandt, a member of the Oriental Institute, for her contribution to the Computer

Laboratory's operations. And Docent Volunteers Richard Harter, Irv Diamond, Peggy Grant, Karen Terras, Nancy Gould, and Irene Glasner are due a hearty "thank you" for their efforts working in the Computer Laboratory on several Institute projects. Always eager to help in any way they can, their contributions are most welcome, helpful, and much appreciated.

Conservation Laboratory Web Pages

In March 2000 the Computer Laboratory created several pages for the Conservation Laboratory on the Oriental Institute's website, detailing its new, post-renovation facilities and its current Archaeological Iron Storage Research Project. See Electronic Resources, below, for web address.

Dead Sea Scrolls Exhibition — Comments and Criticisms

Timed to coincide with the spring 2000 exhibition of the Dead Sea Scrolls at The Field Museum in Chicago, Norman Golb asked the Computer Laboratory to post two articles regarding scrolls on the Institute's website: "As the Scrolls Arrive in Chicago ..." and "Small Texts, Big Questions ... ," both published in *Oriental Institute News & Notes* 165 (Spring 2000). A short time later we also posted on the website Golb's critique of The Field Museum's exhibit: "Current Controversy over the Dead Sea Scrolls, with Special Reference to The Field Museum Exhibition." See Electronic Resources, below, for additional information and web addresses.

Electronic Publication of Ancient Near Eastern Texts

The Computer Laboratory cooperated with the Oriental Institute and the Franke Institute for the Humanities, University of Chicago, to sponsor a two-day conference, 8–9 October 1999, to assess the prospects for establishing a formal international standards organization charged with developing technical standards for the interchange of Near Eastern data in digital format, from which a working group was formed. For more information on this conference, see the separate report by David Schloen.

To help facilitate the operations of the working group that was created to carry on the recommendations drafted during the conference, the Computer Laboratory offered the use of the Institute's majordomo list server to operate a Near East Markup Language List (NEML), a closed discussion group for those conference participants who agreed to participate further with establishing standards for electronic texts. The list has been in operation since early March 2000 and work continues on this important initiative for future Near Eastern scholarship.

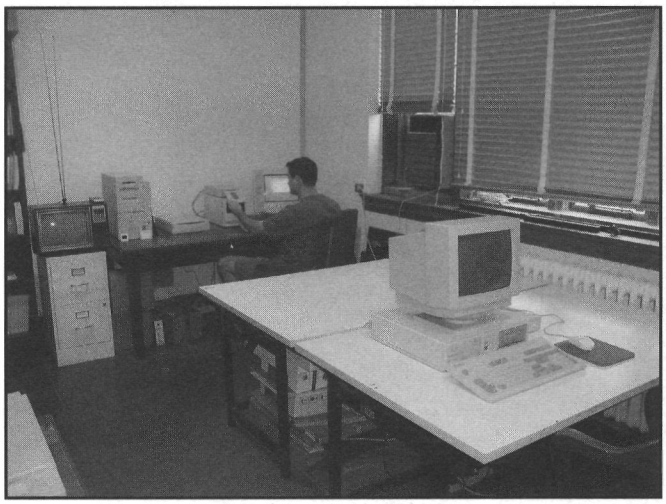


Figure 2. Clemens Reichel preparing CD-ROM disks at Macintosh computer. New Computer Laboratory, room 202

Laboratory Equipment and Resources

In a repeat performance from last year, the Computer Laboratory's 35 mm slide scanner continued to be used frequently as several graduate students,

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including Aaron Burke, Joey Corbett, and Gabrielle Novacek, continued to scan the entire Ashkelon slide collection into digital format for inclusion in the Ashkelon database being developed by David Schloen.

Use of the ArcView Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software by several of the Institute's archaeological projects, primarily to view and manipulate satellite imagery and aerial photographs, has produced fairly steady use of the Computer Laboratory's CD-ROM "burner" throughout the year as a means of creating data backups of their work. Photographic mosaics of the landscape of northeastern Syria, photographs of artifacts from the Diyala Objects Publications Project, and many other types of data are now being "archived" in CD format in the Computer Laboratory. Some of these same projects are also using the laboratory's large-format plotter to output color maps of survey regions, pottery concentrations on site maps, and other archaeological data in graphic format.

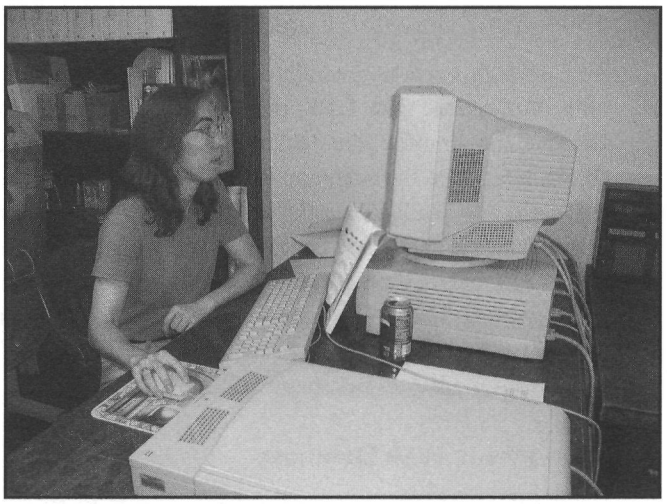


Figure 3. Katherine Strange preparing documents for Institute's website. New Computer Laboratory, room 202

Website Coding Changes

With the release of Netscape version 4.7 for the Macintosh and Windows certain display discrepancies between it and Microsoft's Internet Explorer browser software developed when looking at the Institute's website. To correct this issue I undertook to rewrite portions of the HTML code on about one hundred pages on our web server. Now these pages produce a similar display regardless of which browser program or platform viewers use to access the Oriental Institute website.

Year 2000 Problem (Y2K)

I can report only the most minor computer coding problems with the Institute's web server occurred due to the transition from calendar year 1999 to 2000, the Y2K "problem," with all but one dealt with immediately. No interruptions were reported by the faculty and staff regarding their desktop computers. Having prepared for the event by performing all the well-published precautions on all the Institute's Windows and Unix computers, we experienced a most pleasant end to the Y2K hype of the past few years!

As a part of our Y2K preparations the Institute's three Sun SPARC Unix-based computers were upgraded to the latest version of the Solaris operating system (2.7), and the web server was outfitted with dual, external 8.3 gigabyte hard disks (quadrupling our capacity for website online data storage), utilizing Sun's Disk Suite software to create a level 0 RAID system for redundant data storage. This type of protection of our electronic data insures the hard work involved in producing all of the Institute's website documents will remain accessible even in the case of a hard drive failure on our web server.

1905–1907 Breasted Expedition to Egypt and the Sudan

As I write this report several docent and student volunteers are being gathered to start the scanning of the more than 1,100 photographs from the Institute's Photographic Archives, taken by Oriental Institute founder James Henry Breasted during his early travels throughout Egypt and the Sudan. Once the scanning is complete, these images will be linked to their respective captions, already available on the Institute's website thanks to the help last year of Docent Irv Diamond. These images and captions were originally published in the 1975 Oriental Institute text/microfiche publication entitled *The 1905–1907 Breasted Expedition to Egypt and the Sudan: A Photographic Study*. Through the use of the Internet, and the gracious assistance of our volunteer staff, the images are now available to scholars and the public world-wide via our website. See Electronic Resources, below, for web address.

World-Wide Web Database

For further information concerning several of the above mentioned research projects, the Institute's World-Wide Web (WWW) database, and other electronic resources in general, refer to the *What's New* page on the Oriental Institute's website at:

http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/INFO/OI_WWW_New.html

The homepage for the Oriental Institute website is at:

http://www-oi.uchicago.edu
(NOTE: web addresses are case-sensitive)

ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

John C. Sanders

The following electronic mailing list and web pages were maintained, updated, or added during the year:

1. Ancient Near East (ANE) Mailing List: This list offers four options for different levels of discussion on topics relating to the ancient Near East. Sanders oversees the majordomo computer program which automates the routine administration of Internet mailing lists and Charles E. Jones administrates the ANE list itself. We welcome either active or passive participation. Membership remains steady, as it has over the past few years, at between fourteen and fifteen hundred subscribers. Full information on the list, and a complete archive of all traffic can be found at: http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/ANE/OI_ANE.html.

   To subscribe to the ANE mailing list, now in its ninth year, send an e-mail message to:

   majordomo@oi.uchicago.edu

   In the body of your message, include either one or more of the following lines:

   subscribe ane

   subscribe anenews

subscribe ane-digest

subscribe anenews-digest

You will receive a return e-mail confirming your subscription.

2. Oriental Institute World-Wide Web Pages: Several Oriental Institute units and projects either updated existing pages or became a new presence on the Institute's website during the past year. Note that all web addresses below are case-sensitive.

Amuq Valley Regional Project

Report on the 1996 field season.

http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/AMU/NN_Fal97/NN_Fal97.html

Report on the 1998 excavation season at Tell Kurdu, Turkey.

http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/AMU/NN_Spr99/NN_Spr99.html

Breasted Expeditions to Egypt and the Sudan

Captions for 1,100+ photographs from Breasted's 1905–1907 Expeditions to Egypt and the Sudan. The images will be added during the next year.

http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/MUS/PA/EGYPT/BEES/BEES.html

Conservation Laboratory

Conservation Laboratory homepage.

http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/MUS/CON/Conservation_Lab.html

Dead Sea Scrolls

New readings of Murabba'at Papyrus 24 by Norman Golb.

http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/SCR/SBKP/SBKP.html

Comments on the Dead Sea Scrolls by Norman Golb.

http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/SCR/NN_Spr00/Scrolls_In_Chicago.html

http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/SCR/NN_Spr00/STBQ.html

http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/SCR/DSS_Chicago_2000/DSS_Exhibition.html

Hamoukar Expedition (to Syria)

Expedition homepage.

http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/HAM/Hamoukar.html

Report on the 1999 season.

http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/HAM/NN_Sum00/NN_Sum00.html

Research Archives Catalog

Web version of the Research Archives catalog.

http://oilib.uchicago.edu/oilibcat.html

oi.uchicago.edu

PUBLICATIONS

Thomas A. Holland

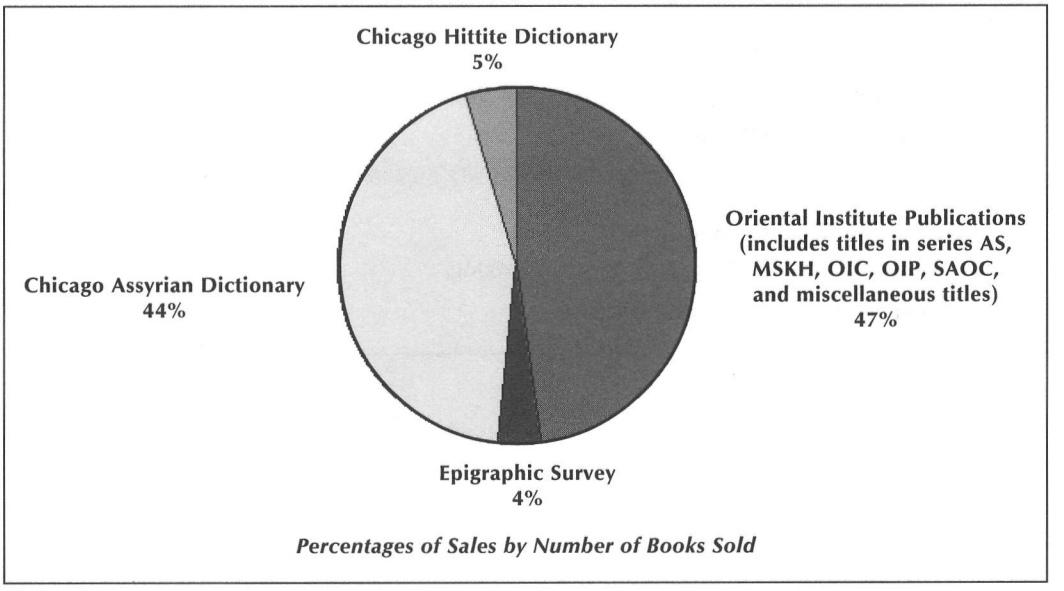
The staff of the Publications Office changed this year: Thomas Holland and Thomas Urban remained in the Editorial Office, but in the Sales Office, Christopher Kahrl left for Washington, DC, and was replaced by Robert Herbst, who formerly was a Production Controller at the University of Chicago Press. Also, we were fortunate to have the assistance of graduate students Simrit Dhesi and Blane Conklin, who helped move the publication process to a higher level. We thank Joan Curry, Kathleen Mineck, Thomas Dousa, François Gaudard, Steven Vinson, and Irv Diamond for their help; and, as usual, Jean Grant and John Larson provided invaluable assistance on a number of projects. Our effort, for most of the year, was spent preparing the Wente festschrift (SAOC 58) and Carol Meyer's report on the 1993 season at Bir Umm Fawakhir (OIC 28) for press and finishing work on the fascinating double volume on seals from the Persepolis Fortification Tablets, by Mark Garrison and Margaret Cool Root (OIP 117); we also continued preparing *News & Notes* and the *Annual Report* for press.

A special thank-you goes to Brenda Neff of United Graphics for providing technical assistance on how to set up our scanner and to use Adobe Photoshop to adjust scanned photographs for printing. We again took advantage of the Membership Office's two publications — *News & Notes* and (this) *Annual Report* — to test this new skill before we use it to publish in-house prepared halftones for titles in our series. For well over a year we have printed scanned line drawings; the new technique that we are testing is the printing of scanned photographs (halftones) at various resolutions and line screens.

Sales this year remained relatively consistent, with 1,703 books sold for sales totaling almost $110,000 (see chart).

Volumes Printed

1. *Assyrian Dictionary of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago*, Volume 14, R
2. *Assyrian Dictionary of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago*, Volume 15, S. Reprint



Percentages of Sales by Number of Books Sold

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3. *Gold of Praise: Studies on Ancient Egypt in Honor of Edward F. Wente.* E. Teeter and J. A. Larson, eds. SAOC 58
4. *Bir Umm Fawakhir Survey Project 1993: A Byzantine Gold-Mining Town in Egypt.* C. Meyer, L. A. Heidorn, W. E. Kaegi, and T. Wilfong. OIC 28

Volumes in Preparation

1. *Seals on the Persepolis Fortification Tablets,* Volme 1: *Images of Heroic Encounter.* M. B. Garrison and M. C. Root. OIP 117
2. *Scarabs, Scaraboids, Seals, and Seal Impressions from Medinet Habu.* E. Teeter. OIP 118
3. *Theban Desert Road Survey,* Volume 1: *Rock Inscriptions of Gebel Tjauti,* Part 1, *and Wadi el-Ḥôl,* Part 1. J. C. Darnell and D. Darnell. OIP 119
4. *Studies in the Archaeology of Israel and Neighboring Lands in Memory of Douglas L. Esse.* Joint Publication of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago and Scholars Press. S. Wolff, ed. SAOC 59

Manuscripts Accepted for Publication

1. *Demotic Egyptian Texts in the Brooklyn Museum of Art.* Joint Publication of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago and the Brooklyn Museum of Art. G. R. Hughes
2. *Excavations at the Prehistoric Mound of Chogha Bonut, Khuzestan, Iran: Seasons of 1976–1978 and 1996.* A. Alizadeh
3. *Cuneiform Texts from the Ur III Period in the Oriental Institute,* Volume 2: *Drehem Administrative Documents from the Reign of Amar-Suena.* M. Hilgert
4. *Neo-Babylonian Texts of the Oriental Institute Collection.* D. Weisberg
5. *Early Urban Life in the Land of Anshan: Excavations at Tal-e Malyan in the Highlands of Iran.* Joint Publication with the University of Pennsylvania Museum. W. M. Sumner
6. *On the Margin of the Euphrates: Settlement and Land Use at Tell es-Sweyhat and in the Upper Lake Tabqa Area, Syria.* T. J. Wilkinson

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REMOTE SENSING AND GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Tony J. Wilkinson

Today remote sensing and Geographical Information Systems (GIS) appear quite regularly in the media. Geographical Information Systems are credited with almost magical qualities, whereas "cutting edge" satellite imagery is reputed to be able to do remarkable things such as, for example, reading from space the license plate of a military vehicle. It does not take much imagination to envision how these technologies can be applied to archaeology, and at the Oriental Institute over the last few years we have slowly been developing a modest capability in these

areas of research. The current note is to update readers of the *Annual Report* on some of the useful ways these technologies can be employed in the archaeology of the ancient Near East.

Here I discuss first how GIS can be employed for large-scale regional analysis of archaeological landscapes. I then focus on progressively smaller areas, in which ground control (i.e., field investigations) becomes vital to the interpretation of remotely-sensed data. Most of our work is done in the Annette Klein Archaeology Laboratory, a research laboratory in the basement of the Oriental Institute, where we conduct research in part funded by a collaborative program of the Argonne National Laboratory and the University of Chicago. Jason Ur and Carrie Hritz have been working in the laboratory on a range of satellite imagery from northern and southern Iraq and northern Syria, as well as parts of southern Turkey. The hard work of Carrie and Jason during the first year or so of the laboratory is much appreciated, as is the stalwart contribution of John Sanders who advised during the establishment of the laboratory and helped install the software.

Geographical Information Systems provide a way of organizing mapped data in the form of layers or overlays so that it is possible to see how different properties of the landscape relate to each other. For example, if one has a map of soils of an area, a second map of archaeological sites, and a third map with mean annual rainfall, then superimposing one map over the other shows how, for example, sites relate to the distribution of soils and rainfall, or conversely how soils themselves relate to the pattern of rainfall. Of course these methodologies have been in use for decades, but it is now possible to pursue such investigations using more and more layers of mapped information, and also to analyze them quantitatively using a wide range of analytic tools. In addition to their analytical capabilities, GIS also enable us to visualize, for example, two dimensional landscapes in three dimensions. Even some rather simple capabilities provide useful results, as the following example should make clear.

In the last two years a small group of Oriental Institute researchers including myself, McGuire Gibson, John Sanders, and Steven Cole have been trying to recreate an ancient "cyber community" based on a Bronze Age Upper Mesopotamian city state, and then to determine how such a community could have thrived, or suffered, over long periods of varying climate. In order to build such a model, not only do we need to know much about the systems of cultivation that existed some 4,000 years ago, but also roughly how much land might have been devoted to cultivated crops, and how much to animal husbandry, specifically for flocks of sheep and goats. Unfortunately for one of the main areas of interest, the Khabur Basin in northern Syria, there was insufficient information from the ground to make such deductions. However, by combining some basic principles of landscape archaeology with GIS analysis, we have been able to make a preliminary estimate in the following way.

First it was necessary to determine the cultivated areas around a specific tell, then if all the Bronze Age sites in the Khabur Basin could be recognized, we would then be able to estimate roughly the cultivated areas around each site. Finally by default, and by analogy with modern village cultivation systems, we could infer that the land beyond the areas of defined cultivation were available for pasture. Fortunately GIS and remote sensing technologies aid us in most of these problems.

For example, in many parts of northern Syria and Iraq, radial systems of linear valleys radiate from the larger Bronze Age sites and then fade out some 2–5 km (1.3–3.0 miles) distant. These "linear hollows" (as they are described in earlier *Annual Reports*) appear to have been etched into the terrain as a result of the sustained passage of humans and their animals, which wear down and compress the ground surface and encourage erosion of the tracks. The fade-out point

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of the tracks must then represent a zone at or near the limit of cultivation where traffic along village tracks dwindled to a minimum as more traffic was generated to gain access to the nearer fields than to those near the borders of cultivation. This process of fade-out is illustrated from the map of the modern small town of Qara Qosh to the southeast of Mosul where the radial tracks exhibit branches and then fade out beyond, apparently in the vicinity of the limits of the lands of Qara Qosh and before the lands of the neighboring smaller villages are reached (fig. 1).

The Bronze Age equivalent of such a system is illustrated in figure 2, which illustrates a CORONA satellite image taken in December 1967 of the area of Tell Cholma Foqani in the western Khabur Basin in northern Syria. The Bronze Age tell is in the center of the image whereas the distinctive lines that radiate out from the site, linear hollows, represent the fossils of ancient tracks. This site therefore supplies the basic model for the large or moderate size central tell (i.e., a Bronze Age village or small town) surrounded by its territory of fields extending for some 2–5 km away.

Next, to compute the number of Bronze Age sites in the Khabur Basin we can use a relationship developed in earlier ground surveys in the region. This work demonstrated that Early Bronze Age settlement mainly occurred in the form of tells, that is sites that were rather higher (usually greater than 5 m) in comparison to their area (see Tell Beydar survey in the 1997/98 *Annual Report*, p. 24, fig. 6). Thus most tells are likely to have been occupied during the third and perhaps the second and the fourth millennium BC. Although only an approximation, this technique enables us to make an estimate of the number and distribution of Bronze Age sites in those areas that had not been surveyed by archaeologists. Then we could complete the picture by

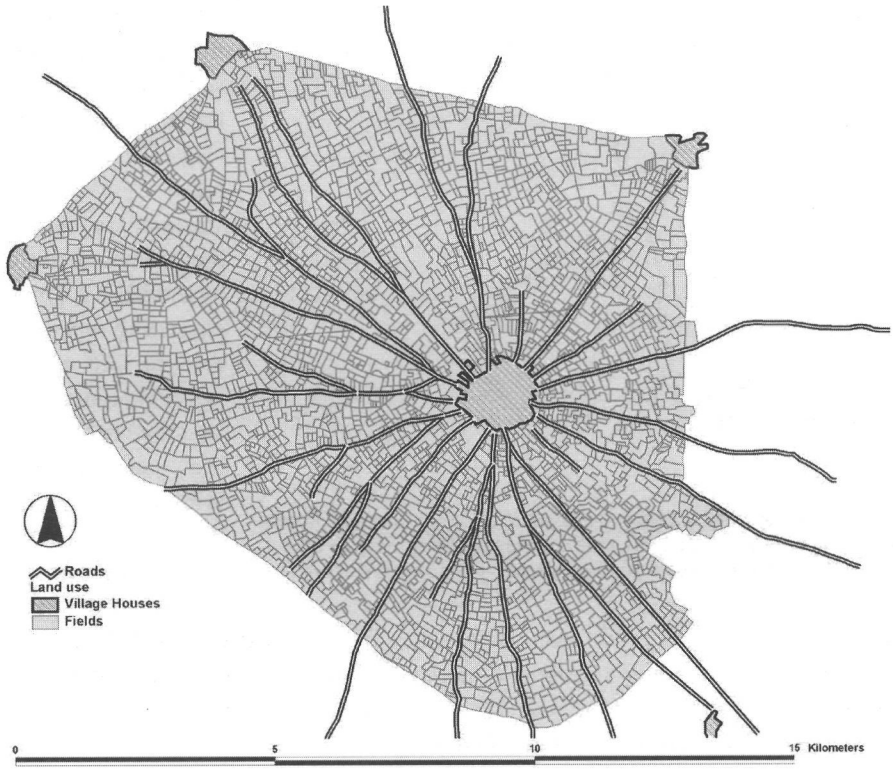


Figure 1. Pattern of twentieth-century fields and radial roads around small town of Qara Qosh in northern Iraq, which is similar to that existing in Bronze Age. Image by Jason Ur

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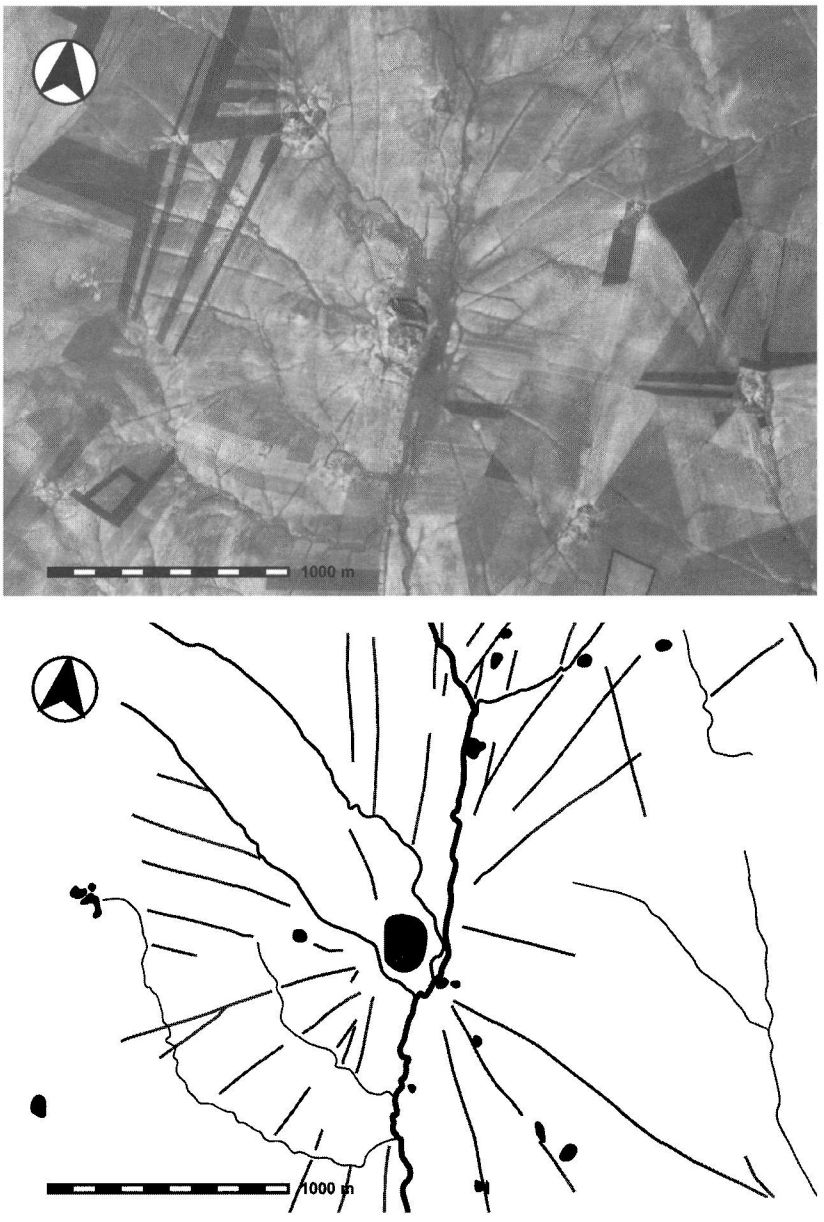


Figure 2. (top) Photograph taken by satellite (11 December 1967) of Tell Cholma Foqani, northwest of Chagar Bazar in northeastern Syria. (bottom) System of radial linear hollow roads extrapolated from photograph. Image by Jason Ur

combining this distribution of tells with the record provided by patchy archaeological surveys in the area. Tells, being conspicuous landmarks, can be recognized on maps of the region because they are usually referred to by name, and in addition they are recognizable on satellite images either from their distinctive pattern of erosional gullies or from the shadow they cast, especially during periods of low angle sun.

These principles have enabled Jason Ur and Carrie Hritz to produce a first approximation of the Bronze Age settlement pattern of the upper Khabur Basin (fig. 3), which shows tells (small open circles), surrounded by the estimated cultivated land within 3 km (gray encircling areas, "buffers" in GIS terminology). This map is useful first because it shows the very distinctive alignments of Bronze Age sites and cultivated land along the wadis, and by default, areas of non-cultivation beyond (white areas). Interestingly, these white areas of land left vacant form elongated patches often paralleling the wadis usually along the watersheds. The patches appear to form interconnected corridors of land that would have potentially provided grazing as well as passage for pastoral nomads through the area. Nevertheless, despite these large areas of potential pasture, it is quite clear that the Khabur Basin must have been rather densely settled in antiquity. Furthermore, during times of maximum population, probably in the third quarter of the third millennium BC, there must have been a considerable pressure on most of the pastureland.

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On the other hand, in the area to the southwest around the upland of the Jebel Abd al-Aziz it is apparent that Bronze Age sites roughly encircle the foot of the Jebel, albeit with large areas of available pasture beyond. Fortunately we now know much more about this arid and remote southeastern area because of a recent survey conducted by Frank Hole (Yale University) and Nick Kouchoukos (formerly of Yale and now at the University of Chicago). Their work confirms that many of the Early Bronze Age sites in this climatically marginal area are large but may have been in part dependent upon the economy of pastoral production, as well as upon small areas of cultivated land around the sites. Such communities must therefore have received more of their livelihood from pastoral economies than those sites in the crowded area of the upper Khabur Basin itself (fig. 3).

GIS methodology also provides powerful software for the visualization of terrain. For instance in the area of the Tell Beydar survey (see 1997/98 *Annual Report*, figs. 2–3) it is possible to take data from contour maps and manipulate it to form three-dimensional images. In this case we can see one of the ancient pasture areas (fig. 4: dark plateau to the right), with a broad swathe of cultivated land through which a small line of tells is aligned along the wadi itself. Although we were aware of this landscape configuration from our fieldwork in the area, the powerful number crunching capabilities of the GIS software provide a novel way of illustrating this terrain.

It should be emphasized that there can be no substitute for ground survey for providing confirmatory evidence of features recognized on satellite images. It is therefore fortunate that in September 1999 I had the opportunity of undertaking some two weeks of geoarchaeological survey around Tell Brak in the Khabur Valley. During this fieldworkWalton Green (Cambridge University graduate student) and I were able to check the alluvial stratigraphy of the Brak area, and also to record sections through the linear hollows that radiate from that site. These features are shown in figure 5 (top) as faint broad lines in dark and light shades and (below) as radiating lines that lead away from the halo that surrounds the tell. Tell Brak is heavily eroded by gullies, hence it appears on the figure as a light area with alternating dark patches, the latter being slopes that were in shade when the picture was taken. The pale gray area that surrounds the tell, and from which the lines radiate, is an area that has accumulated sediments eroded from the main tell, as well as being an area of pits excavated perhaps to supply mudbrick for the buildings of the numerous superimposed settlements that form the tell. Although since the area was photographed from space in 1967 there has

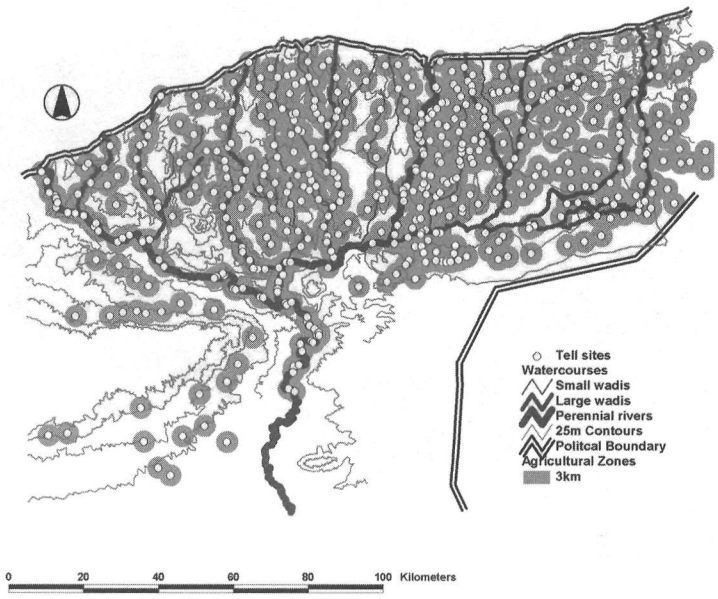


Figure 3. Pattern of Early Bronze Age settlement in Khabur Basin, inferred cultivation and potential pastoral areas. Image by Jason Ur and Carrie Hritz

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been a vigorous growth of houses, shops, and various government buildings, it is still possible to recognize some linear hollows on the ground. Today these appear as broad hollows, some 50 to 100 m wide, but only about 1–3 m in depth.

Clarification was provided by a backhoe trench cut by the local municipality. This provided a section which demonstrated that originally the linear hollow was some 1.5 to 2.0 m deeper but had since become filled in by deep loams washed from the surrounding fields. Centrally within the hollow and along its base, was a 6 to 9 inch thick deposit of pea grit or fine gravel that had been washed along the feature, apparently when it was in use. This gravelly deposit was the result of the flow of water along the hollow during times of intense rains such as are common in northern Syria in the fall, winter, or spring. However, it is clear from the lack of features resulting from waterlogging, the absence of freshwater molluscs, as well as the local nature of the stones, that these sediments were not deposited from permanent flow from wadis or canals, but rather were the result of episodic flow of flashfloods from the nearby surrounding terrain. In other words, as along any track today, these ancient tracks and roads concentrated runoff along them so that during wet weather they varied between being elongate puddles to flowing torrents of water. Such flow must therefore have eroded the hollows during their long life, which, judging from the date of occupation of Tell Brak, was between at least the fifth millennium BC and the Middle Assyrian period of the late second millennium.

These features are therefore formed by a complex range of processes, both human and natural. Because of the operation of such processes, the linear features we see on the images do not simply reflect the position of the ancient tracks, but they also result from erosional processes along them. Consequently such patterns usually only represent that part of the ancient system that was preferentially etched by erosional processes. That this is the case around Brak is quite evident because to the southeast of the site no such features are visible. This is presumably not because tracks were originally absent from this area, but rather because this sector receives little runoff from upslope and therefore erosion was minimized. Thus it appears that the linear hollows upslope of Brak were funneling runoff from those areas upslope and to the north and flow was then concentrated into one or two features that flowed southwest of the site and into the Jaghjagh River to the south.

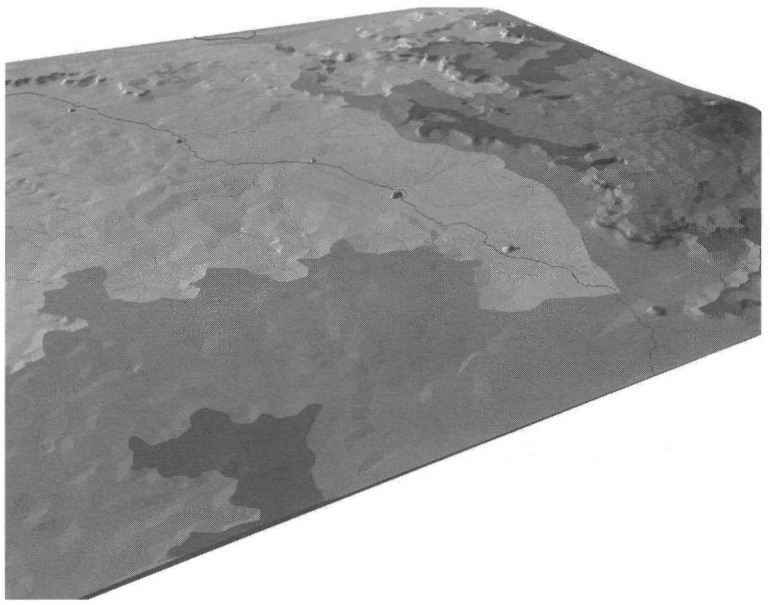


Figure 4. Three-dimensional reconstruction of area south of Tell Beydar in western Khabur River Basin with long-term pastoral zone on basalt plateau to right. Image by Jason Ur

Nevertheless despite their invisibility on the images, it seems likely that roads were in fact originally located in this empty area because about one mile north of the junction of the Jaghjagh River and the Wadi Radd a stone causeway had been constructed across the Jaghjagh (fig. 6). This feature, first recorded by Joan and David Oates, was originally considered to have been

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in use during the Roman-Parthian period. However, when examined in detail in 1999, the alluvial deposits that overlaid the causeway, or were contemporaneous with it, proved to be associated with pottery of either fourth- or third-millennium BC date. Thus we potentially had a causeway of Chalcolithic or Bronze Age rather than Roman date. This was a valuable discovery, and it is therefore thanks to the generous support of the Brak expedition, David and Joan Oates, and Geoff Emberling, that funding was raised to enable Walton Green (pictured in fig. 6 during the initial recording in 1999) to excavate this feature in spring 2000. This work has now been completed, and preliminary examination of the pottery from the associated stratigraphy demonstrates that the feature dates from between the fourth and mid-second millennium BC and was probably mainly in use during the Early or Middle Bronze Age.

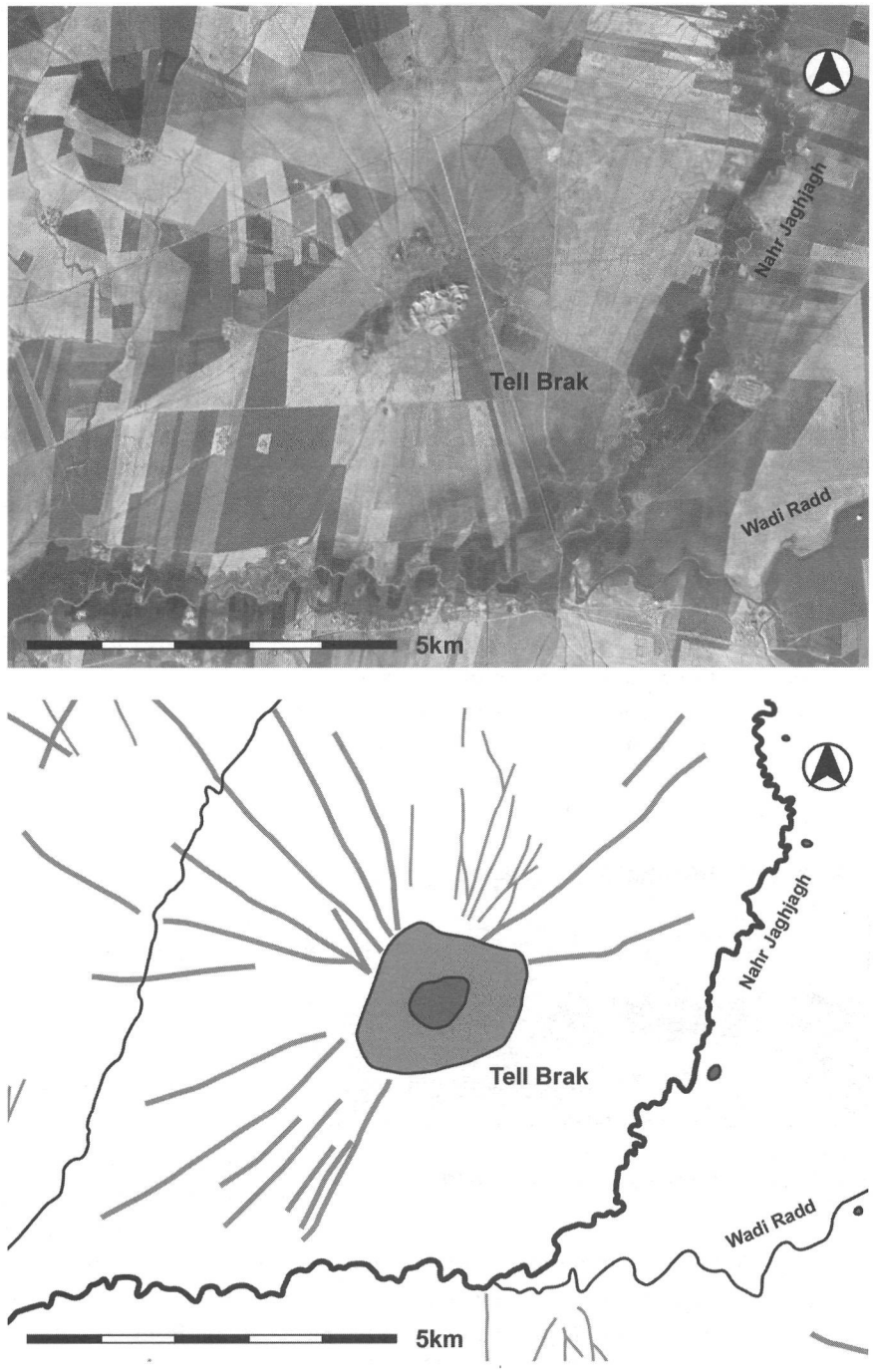


Figure 5. (top) Photograph taken by CORONA satellite (6 December 1969) of Tell Brak. (bottom) System of radial linear hollow roads extrapolated from photograph

Excavation by Walton Green suggested that the feature indeed was a causeway, but that during its use it did dam up the water sufficiently so that flow over it was quite vigorous. The alluvium that overlay or was contemporaneous with this causeway was a pale silty deposit that

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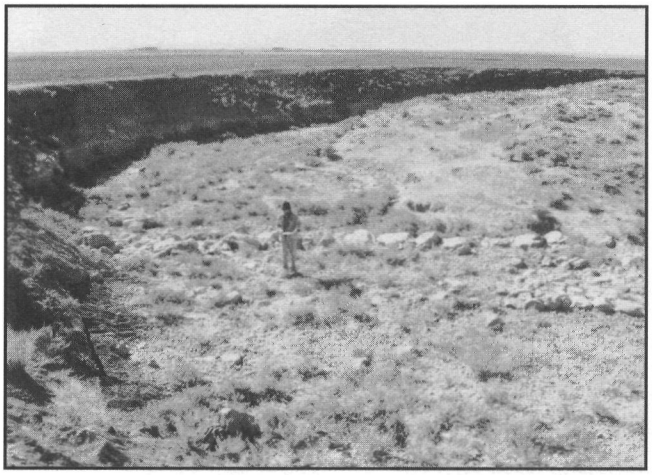


Figure 6. Walton Green recording probable causeway of Bronze Age date where road crossed Jaghjagh River near Tell Brak, Syria

contrasts quite markedly with the upper wadi fill of brown clay. This is evident in figure 6 in the wadi cut in the background that shows a dark (clay) upper fill over the lower pale-colored silty fill. Detailed examination of the alluvial sequence along much of the Jaghjagh and Radd within 5 km of Brak demonstrated that the lower pale fill was dated to the fourth and third millennium BC, but at one point about one and a half miles upstream of the crossing it was Late Bronze Age in date. This date was established by the presence of a large quantity of Late Bronze Age pottery and a single bronze arrowhead (fig. 7) contained within a deposit of the pale silts at the level of the wadi floor. These artifacts, which had presumably been dumped in the early Jaghjagh as domestic waste, have clearly not been moved any distance by the wadi. They therefore provide the latest date for the lower fill.

Overall, we can suggest that during the prehistoric period and through to the mid- to late second millennium BC, flow along the Jaghjagh had been vigorous and along a rather wide and shallow channel. Then after about 1300 or 1000 BC a distinct clay-rich upper fill accumulated, and the river developed a deeper and more meandering course. This later channel continued to conduct flow, but probably rather less vigorously than during the Bronze Age. Although this decline in flow may result from climatic drying during the first millennium BC or later, it may alternatively result from the siphoning off of the flow of the Jaghjagh by the development of large-scale irrigation systems upstream near the modern town of Qamishli. Although still a tentative suggestion, we know from Ottoman administrative records (*defterli*) that in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries AD the region south of Qamishli was an area of rice cultivation. Furthermore, from the CORONA images it seems that a complex sequence of canals radiated out from the well-watered area around the twin towns of Nisibis (in modern Turkey) and Qamishli (in Syria). Such canals cannot yet be dated, but from the Ottoman records they can be seen to be at least 400 years old. To judge by their appearance on the images, however, these features were in use over several phases, and it will be one of our tasks in the future to try to map from the satellite images these possible irrigation systems.

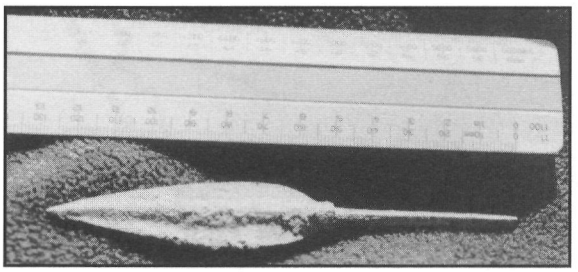


Figure 7. Late Bronze Age arrowhead recovered in situ in lower grayish silts of Jaghjagh River, northeast of Tell Brak, Syria

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RESEARCH ARCHIVES

Charles E. Jones

The mission of the Research Archives is to provide quick and easy access to the corpus of published scholarship on the ancient Near East. During the year ending in June 2000 we have been able to push forward two projects that support the goals of this mission in new and interesting ways: the renovation of the reading room and the development of the on-line catalog.

Renovation of the Reading Room

Through the initiative of the Elizabeth Morse and Elizabeth Morse Genius Charitable Trusts, and supported with ample and generous matching funds from a multitude of friends, we were finally able to proceed in December 1999 with the long-awaited renovation of the Elizabeth Morse Genius Reading Room and the electrical systems in the Research Archives.

For much of the autumn, electrical contractors worked behind the scenes, inching their way through basements, attics, hollow walls, and ceilings to find ways to bring new sources of power and acceptable wiring up to the library. Working in many cases with the original (and not always well charted) seventy-year-old systems they were able to replace and update all of the wiring serving this area of the building, and to prepare for the installations that would take place in later phases of the renovation project.

Some components of the Research Archives collection had been packed and stored last summer in anticipation of the project, but it was on the first day of the winter vacation that the serious work began. In order to remove the decaying cork floor, it was necessary to evacuate the reading room entirely: books, shelves, tables, and chairs. In addition, the library offices had to be packed and moved, and temporary office space claimed and set up on the upper level of the library — and all of this in a single week! Despite the time pressure, we were able to accomplish this job on schedule to allow the contractors to encase the built-in shelving in plastic sheeting and begin the machine shredding of the floor.

It was an interesting process to observe, and I'm pleased to say that we had a hard-working and imaginative crew on the job — they were able to offer interesting and useful solutions to many of the problems encountered along the way.

Once the wiring was installed, the flooring crew, plasterers, and painters were able to complete the projects in time for us to rebuild the bookshelves, replace the books, install the tables and chairs, unpack, reconstruct the offices, and prepare for the reopening as scheduled on 19 January.

The result is superb! The new cork floor, matching the original pattern of the floor, shines under its coat of wax. It brightens the room in a way I had not anticipated. It is also much cleaner — the old floor was so badly worn in many places that the cork was disintegrating and producing mountains of dust. The new appearance greatly enhances the pleasantly cool silence of the reading room. It is a joy to work here.

More importantly however, we are now able to offer users in the library a reliable and properly grounded electrical source at each table as well as 10baseT Ethernet connections. This gives readers in the Research Archives full and speedy access to the world of information and to the tools available in their own laptop computers, in the Oriental Institute's file servers, in the University of Chicago's resources, and in the world at large. It's a great leap forward. Getting up to walk into the reading room as I write this, I see nine such computers connected and in use, as well as the two public access terminals we provide.

Of the reading room renovations there remains a single component to complete. We await the reduplication and redesign of the original lighting fixtures (which are now installed in the ground floor corridor of Harper Hall) to replace the unattractive fluorescent fixtures installed some decades ago.

Development of the On-Line Catalog

As we announced in the last *Annual Report*, we were then prepared to begin the installation and testing of the new Internet accessible version of the on-line catalog of the Research Archives. As users of the Research Archives will remember, we have had a locally accessible electronic catalog available for nearly a decade. It was a nice piece of software, easy to use, and reasonably easy to maintain, but it was platform specific (Apple), slow, and we were hampered by procedures we had developed to work around local cataloging problems. We had recognized for some time that we needed to develop the catalog to address these and other issues, and a year ago we had the machinery and the software in place. Shortly before the closing of the reading room for the renovation, we were finally able to install the server in the newly developed — and finally secure — server room of the Computer Laboratory. With John Sanders' usual energetic and indispensable assistance we put the catalog on-line, got it operational, and prepared for testing while the library was closed. Following quite a lot of work, we were finally prepared to announce it publicly at the beginning of February. It has been more successful than we had anticipated. To date the server had processed more than 125,000 queries from more than six thousand visitors (of whom about a thousand are repeat visitors) from seventy-eight countries. Clearly we are fulfilling a need. I urge you to visit the Research Archives on-line catalog at http://oilib.uchicago.edu/oilibcat.html. I welcome any and all comments on how we can make the catalog more useful.

It is likely that we will be able to double the number of records in the on-line catalog in the year to come. We are currently developing the procedures for more rapid data editing, entry, and indexing.

Taken together the rewiring of the Research Archives and the new accessibility of the on-line catalog are significant advances in both the consumer and supplier ends of the information revolution. Together they tend to increase the abilities of the scholarly communities served by the Research Archives and the Oriental Institute to interact with the resources available. The solid establishment of an electronic infrastructure also prepares the way for the development of new tools such as those discussed at last October's conference on Electronic Publication in ancient Near Eastern Studies.

Publications and Projects

In addition to the six publications listed below, several long-term publication projects are underway. We have nearly completed the initial editing of the first volume of *The Oriental Institute Archaeological Newsletter*, appearing between 1950 and 1973, which was the predecessor to the quarterly newsletter *Oriental Institute News & Notes*. These newsletters, usually letters from the field, give us a fascinating glimpse at the history of many of the Oriental Institute's projects overseas since the Second World War. I hope we will have this project complete within the next year or so. Several additional dissertation proposals are also in the works. We hope also to have a web-based version of the Oriental Institute Arabic Manuscripts Project, described in last year's *Annual Report*, available in the not too distant future.

1. Abzu: Guide to Resources for the Study of the Ancient Near East Available on the Internet. By Charles E. Jones. Oriental Institute Research Archives Bibliographical and Informational Documents, Supplements to Oriental Institute Research Archives Acquisitions List 3. Chicago: Oriental Institute Research Archives, 1994–2000. We have added more than 700 entries to Abzu during the past year, and this index remains the most complete guide to on-line materials relating to the ancient Near East.

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

2. Archaeology and Historical Problems of the Second Intermediate Period: A Dissertation Submitted to the Faculty of the Division of the Humanities in Candidacy for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations. By Bruce B. Williams. December 1975. Thanks are due to Bruce Williams for his efforts in making the image files of his dissertation available. We believe he still holds the record for the longest dissertation in the Humanities at the University of Chicago — the paper version of this encyclopedic dissertation covers some 2,143 pages.

   Available exclusively on-line at:

   http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/BBW/BBWIntro.html

3. Plant Ornament: Its Origin and Development in the Ancient Near East: A Dissertation Submitted to the Faculty of the Division of the Humanities in Candidacy for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, Department of Oriental Languages and Literature. By Helene J. Kantor, March 1945. We are all indebted to Peggy Grant and Mary Shea for their extraordinary effort over several years in transcribing, editing, and checking the references in this enormously difficult manuscript, and to John Larson and the Museum Archives, which have custody of the papers of the late Helene J. Kantor, for making the dissertation available.

   Available exclusively on-line at:

   http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/HJK/HJKIntro.html

4. Research Archives Catalog

   Web version of the Research Archives Catalog.

   http://oilib.uchicago.edu/oilibcat.html

5. Research Archives Recent Acquisitions (RABooks) Mailing List: This new list offers monthly postings of lists of acquisitions in the Research Archives. There is no discussion on this list. We welcome your membership. As of mid-July 2000, membership stands at exactly three hundred subscribers.

   To subscribe to the RABooks mailing list, send an e-mail message to:

   majordomo@oi.uchicago.edu

   In the body of your e-mail message, include the following line in the body of the message:

   subscribe RABooks

   You will receive a return e-mail confirming your subscription.

6. Virtually all on-line publications of the Research Archives are under constant revision and updating; a list of such publications can be found at:

   http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/Research_Arch.html

Acquisitions Lists

For many years, lists of recent acquisitions in the Research Archives were produced periodically and distributed informally. For a period in the 1990s the acquisitions lists were published more formally, but that ambitious project was abandoned in 1995. The development of electronic media offers us new opportunities to distribute acquisitions lists widely and in a timely and inexpensive manner. In June we announced the availability of the Research Archives Acquisitions List monthly — free of charge — by means of an automated e-mailing list called RABooks. We hope also to use this list to distribute topical lists, lists of dissertations, and other useful material from time to time as they are developed here. For information on how to subscribe to RABooks, see above.

Current Acquisitions

Following are the acquisitions statistics for the past year.

	May 1999–April 2000	*Total*
Monographs and Series	613	23,977
Journals	272	9,954
Total Books	**885**	**33,931**

This year's acquisitions statistics are consistent with the trends of the past few years. In our acquisitions policy, we continue to be committed to the mission statement articulated at the beginning of this report. We try to acquire all the basic published resources for the study of the ancient Near East.

Staff

I am honored to have three excellent graduate student assistants this year. Katherine Strange, second-year graduate student in Archaeology returned for a second year in the Research Archives. In addition two new assistants, Jake Lauinger, first-year student in Assyriology, and Mark Saathoff, first-year student in Egyptology, joined us last fall. All three of them shared office duties and covered weekend and evening hours for me. It is always a pleasure to acknowledge the help of excellent assistants, and this year is no exception. Each of them has taken on specific (and often odious) tasks with energy and imagination. This library simply could not function without them.

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Overleaf. House with well in right foreground, oven in left foreground. Mid-fourth millennium BC. *Area B, Hamoukar, 1999. Photograph by Clemens Reichel*

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MUSEUM

Karen L. Wilson

As the past year began, the museum staff gave a collective sigh of relief at finding ourselves once again in charge of a museum that is open, if only partially, to the public and is no longer a construction site. While our visitors were enjoying the new Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery, we spent our time above and below deck putting our spaces and our collections back in order and planning the new Persian Gallery, scheduled to open 9 September 2000.

On 3 November, Preparator Joseph Scott and I had our first meeting about the Persian Gallery, followed shortly by our first meeting with John Vinci and Tom Conroy of Vinci/Hamp Architects to begin working on the design of the gallery. Input on the contents and arrangement of the gallery was solicited from the Oriental Institute community in open meetings in the late fall and early winter. Since then, Joe and I have been working closely with faculty and staff to give the gallery its final form. We are especially grateful to Abbas Alizadeh, Charles Jones, Matthew Stolper, and Donald Whitcomb, who are giving so generously of their time and expertise to help make the gallery a great success. As I write this in mid-July, all the objects have been selected; Joe has designed and produced drawings of all case layouts; extra Preparation staff is busy constructing case interiors, buildups, and mounts; and text panels and labels are being written and circulated for input. Both Joe and Assistant Preparator Jessica Peterson are spending much, if not most, of their time in front of their computers, designing text panels, maps, time lines, and other graphics for the gallery. Once again we will be using both our old cases and new casework built by Helmut Guenschel. However, these Guenschel cases will be made of walnut — a material more in keeping with the character of the Persian Collection than the limestone that was so appropriate for the Egyptian Gallery.

As a result of all this, Registrar and Senior Curator Raymond Tindel and his crew handled some 23,000 objects over the past year. They have had to unpack and keep track of more than 1,200 objects for the new Persian Gallery alone. This task was made somewhat easier by the fact that new cabinets, purchased thanks to a grant from IMLS awarded in August, were available into which to unpack nearly 10,000 Iranian objects. Ray and his crew are also in the process of inventorying the Institute's collection of cuneiform tablets and registering the tablet cast collection, both of which have been moved down from the third floor into climate-controlled storage in the basement. Often these casts of tablets are the only form in which these documents are available to western scholars. Altogether these collections number several thousand objects. Those in registration also continue with the ever-ongoing process of registering and cataloging the backlog of unprocessed material in the Institute's collections, and with updating and improving the data on the material already registered.

Over the past year, Registration hosted a number of visiting scholars as well as faculty, research associates, and students within the Institute who used various parts of the collections in their research and teaching. John A. Brinkman arranged a display for his Mesopotamian history class, and Aslıhan Yener, Justine Way, and I used various collections for our archaeology

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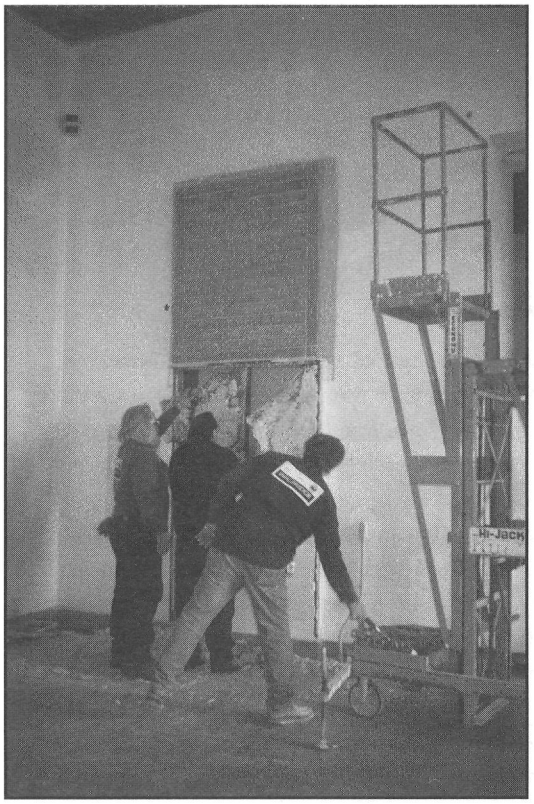


Figure 1. Doug Mertes, Milt Samuelson, and Bill Allison, Sr., from Belding/Walbridge preparing to remove an inscribed glazed brick panel from wall in order to relocate it as part of the Persian Gallery reinstallation. Photograph by Laura D'Alessandro

classes. Baruch Brandl from the Israel Antiquities Authority came to study Syrian "censers" from the Amuq excavations, and Maria Trentin visited to study the Amuq phase A material. Desmond Bright from Australia came to study Egyptian stelae, and Jeanine Bourreau continued her work on the Lisht material. Henry Wright from the University of Michigan reviewed some of Robert McCormick Adams' survey material, and Markus Hilgert from Jena went through some 300 tablets in his continuing research on Ur III administration. Clemens Reichel worked with 400 Diyala tablets in the course of his dissertation research, and Colleen Coyle is using over 100 Diyala weights for a paper that is part of McGuire Gibson's Diyala Objects Publication Project. Elena Dodge is studying some 200 pieces of Islamic glass from the excavations at Istakhr for a paper she is preparing under Donald Whitcomb's supervision. Timothy P. Harrison, University of Chicago graduate now with the University of Toronto, spent the week of 30 August in the basement sampling Stratum VI pottery from Megiddo for instrumental neutron activation analysis. While he was here, he also met with Gene Gragg, David Schloen, and myself to discuss plans for the new Megiddo Gallery.

And our collection does continue to grow, albeit slowly, due to the generosity of others. On 14 September the Geographic Society of Chicago donated six cuneiform tablets that one of their members had purchased in Iraq in 1926. Consisting of two Ur III accounts, three Old Babylonian accounts, and one Achaemenid legal text, this donation arrived in a custom-made, black leather case with a glass front. The Geographic Society is thanked by all of us for providing these tablets with a home where they can be cared for and studied along with other related texts.

Assistant to the Registrar, Tamara Siuda, served as Ray's only paid staff member during the academic year and is now generously giving of her time as a volunteer in Registration. The rest of the work that I described was made possible by some of the world's most wonderful volunteers: Debbie Aliber, Leila Foster, Peggy Grant, Mary Grimshaw, Janet Helman, Lorrie Luther, Georgie Maynard, Ila Patlogan, Lillian Schwartz, Richard Watson, Peggy Wick, and Lauren Zych. They continue to type data entry, haul objects back and forth, and generally do whatever is necessary. For all that, and much more, we offer them abundant praise and thanks!

While all this was going on, three of our Old Kingdom servant statues and one Old Kingdom relief continued to travel with the exhibition *Egyptian Art in the Age of the Pyramids*. In July 1999 Laura D'Alessandro, Head of the Conservation Laboratory, traveled to Paris to accompany the loan back to New York and, in addition, to study details of the new installation of Khorsabad reliefs at the Louvre in anticipation of our upcoming Khorsabad Court Installation. In August I traveled to New York to supervise the installation of the Old Kingdom pieces at the Metropoli-

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tan Museum of Art, and Laura accompanied them from New York to Toronto and back home again, where they once again occupy a proud place in the Egyptian Gallery.

During 1999 Laura and Getty Intern Sara Caspi began use of the Department of Geophysical Sciences' Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM), thanks to funds that are a part of the Getty Postgraduate Conservation Internships. Work began with the analysis of corrosion products on objects that were currently undergoing treatment.

In October 1999 Sara Caspi completed her Getty Internship and moved to New York where she now holds a Mellon Fellowship at the National Museum of the American Indian. Eric Nordgren, a recent graduate of the University of London's University College degree course in archaeological conservation, having recently completed two years at the National Museum of Beirut, Lebanon, began his twelve month internship just before Sara's departure. Eric has chosen, as part of his internship, to investigate the gilding and copper corrosion products on certain archaeological artifacts and is focusing his attentions on our gilded bronze god from Megiddo. He recently completed a research trip to Beirut to carry out a comparative study of figurines in the collection of the National Museum of Beirut and was generously granted permission by the Director General of Antiquities in Lebanon to return with samples for analysis using the SEM. We are pleased to be able to announce that in May 2000 the Institute received another grant from the Getty Program to support three more consecutive postgraduate conservation internships over the next three years. Thus we will be able to continue to train recent conservation graduates in the field of archaeological conservation.

Laura spent much of the year researching and ordering equipment and furniture with the generous Women's Board grant awarded last May. Her purchases included a digital laboratory oven; a low-weight digital balance (which allows the weighing of quantities as small as 0.002 gr); a LEICA MZ6 stereoscopic binocular microscope with fiber optic ring lights and a polarizer; a desiccator cabinet with vacuum pump for vacuum impregnations of mid-sized objects; an ultrasonic moisture meter to measure and monitor the moisture content of our organic materials,

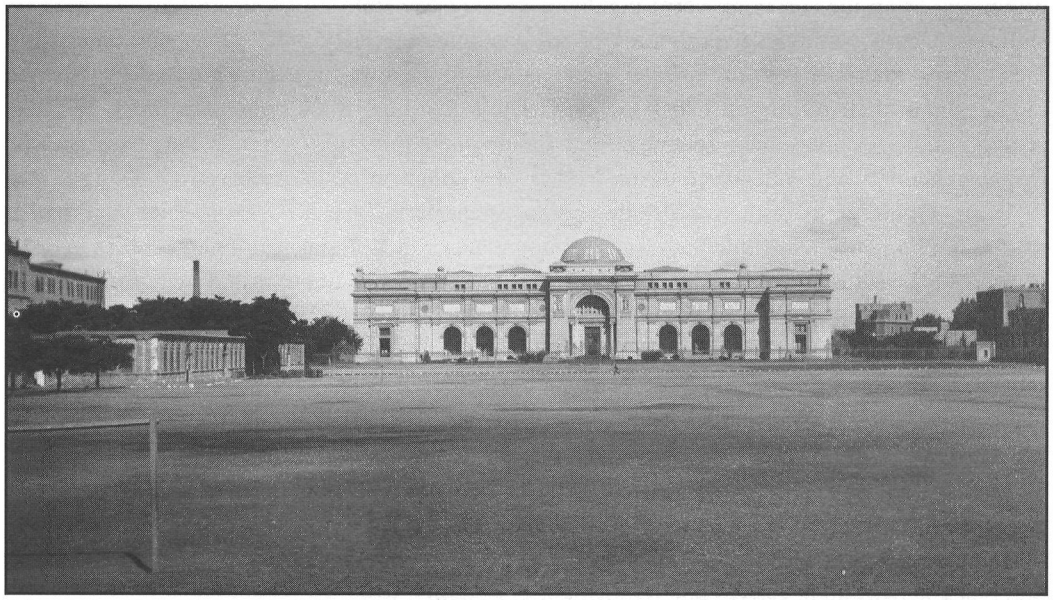


Figure 2. The "new" Egyptian Museum, Cairo, just four years after its official inauguration. Buildings visible on left are part of the Kasr el-Nil Barracks, replaced in the 1950s by the Nile Hilton Hotel. Open space in foreground is now Tahrir Square. Photograph by Sydney Upton on 29 October 1906 (Sydney Upton negative SU 86)

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such as wood and bone; and a pH meter to monitor the pH of flat organic materials such as papyrus, vellum, and paper. These purchases have significantly increased the analytical capabilities of the Conservation Laboratory, and we would like to thank the Women's Board again for their generous support.

In April 2000 the museum received a $50,000 IMLS Conservation Support grant to purchase cabinets to house our collection of ancient Egyptian pottery vessels dating from the predynastic period through the Middle Kingdom.

Anne Yanaway left her position as museum office manager after Thanksgiving to care for her new baby daughter, Abigail. But before she took on her new duties as a full-time mother, she trained Carla Hosein, who has been ably performing the many and varied tasks that come with that job, including keeping track of accounts, answering phones, supervising custodians, and overseeing audiovisual upgrades in Breasted Hall. Carla has also assumed responsibility for processing the requests that we receive for photographic image materials and reproduction permissions — a total of 209 transactions during fiscal year 1999/2000. Since 1 January we have received four requests for images in an electronic format, and have begun thinking about how we can efficiently accommodate such requests without disrupting the in-house operation of the Computer Laboratory.

Most of Archivist John Larson's time and that of his volunteers over the past year has been spent continuing to unpack the collections and make selected record groups more accessible for research. Priority is still being given to material that will support the reinstallation of the museum galleries and to the needs of both Oriental Institute researchers and visiting scholars.

For 1999/2000, the volunteers who have continued working regularly with John Larson in the Archives are Hazel Cramer, Patricia Hume, Sandra Jacobsohn, Lillian Schwartz, Helaine Staver, and Carole Yoshida. Pat is working on a long-term project based on the papers of Helene Kantor, Lillian has been re-cataloging our collections of nineteenth-century photographs, Helaine is creating Megiddo field diaries for the early seasons (for which none were produced originally) from the surviving correspondence of Megiddo field directors and other expedition staff, and Carole continues with the task of reorganizing our slide library. Hazel and Sandy lend their talents wherever they are needed, especially with proofreading. Though characteristically modest about their efforts on behalf of the Oriental Institute, these volunteers work on many projects in the Archives that might never get done without their dedication. We are truly grateful for the generosity and enthusiasm of our friends who volunteer in the Archives.

Peggy Grant works primarily off-site and has spent part of her New Hampshire summers as well as her home-time in Hyde Park transcribing manuscript materials from photocopies in order to produce useful word-processing files. She has worked on an unpublished manuscript by the late Klaus Baer on the ancient Egyptian workmen of Deir el-Medina and a collection of travel letters written by the late Margaret Bell Cameron in 1954, and now she is transcribing letters and related documents from James Henry Breasted's 1905–1907 epigraphic expedition in Egypt and Nubia. In addition to the regular Archives volunteers, Alison Carter, a student at Oberlin College, returned for a third year to work one day a week in the Archives during the summer of 2000. Since January, University of Chicago graduate student Stephanie Reed has been organizing negatives and prints from recent photography for registration in the Photographic Archives.

John is pleased to report that on 1 May we received a new acquisition: a collection of nearly 600 black-and-white negatives and related materials dating from 1906 to 1908 and documenting the activities of a surveyor for the Sudan Government Railways, Mr. Sydney Upton (1884–1977). These materials come to us as a gift from Mr. Upton's son, Murray Scott Upton. In late February, Mr. Upton saw a copy of the postcard book *Sifting the Sands of Time: Historic Photo-*

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graphs from the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago for sale in the bookshop at the Australian National Gallery in Canberra. He sent Institute Director Gene Gragg an e-mail message on 1 March in which he gave a brief description of his father's Sudan materials. Returning to Chicago in late March after leading the Oriental Institute tour to Egypt, John picked up the e-mail correspondence with Mr. Upton who, as it turns out, was seeking a permanent home for his father's Sudan records. It is our happy obligation to acknowledge his thoughtfulness and generosity in preserving these records and presenting them to the Oriental Institute.

Sydney Upton worked in the Nile Valley in the region between Aswan and Khartoum during the same period when James Henry Breasted was conducting the first epigraphic expedition of the University of Chicago in Egypt and the Sudan. The photographic images in the Upton Collection serve as a nice complement to the Breasted Expedition documentary photographs of ancient Egyptian and Nubian monuments.

In addition to Mr. Upton's own negatives and related diaries, the collection includes a nearly complete series of commercial postcards from the same period, made by G. N. Morhig, The English Pharmacy, Khartoum. The only other extensive collection of such material known to us at the present time is housed in the Sudan Archive at the University of Durham in England. These images can best be described as the sort of ethnographic pictures that were used to illustrate the pages of National Geographic Magazine in the early years of the twentieth century.

A smaller addition to the collection was presented by John in honor of the stalwart 1990 Oriental Institute group that toured Egypt with him at the time of the Gulf War. This is a student notebook kept by Carleton T. Hodge during the summer of 1939 — class notes for a course on the history of the Egyptian language taught at the Oriental Institute by Professor William F. Edgerton. We don't have a great deal of student-generated material from the past in our Archives, and the Hodge notebook is an interesting record of Edgerton's teaching. Hodge was a

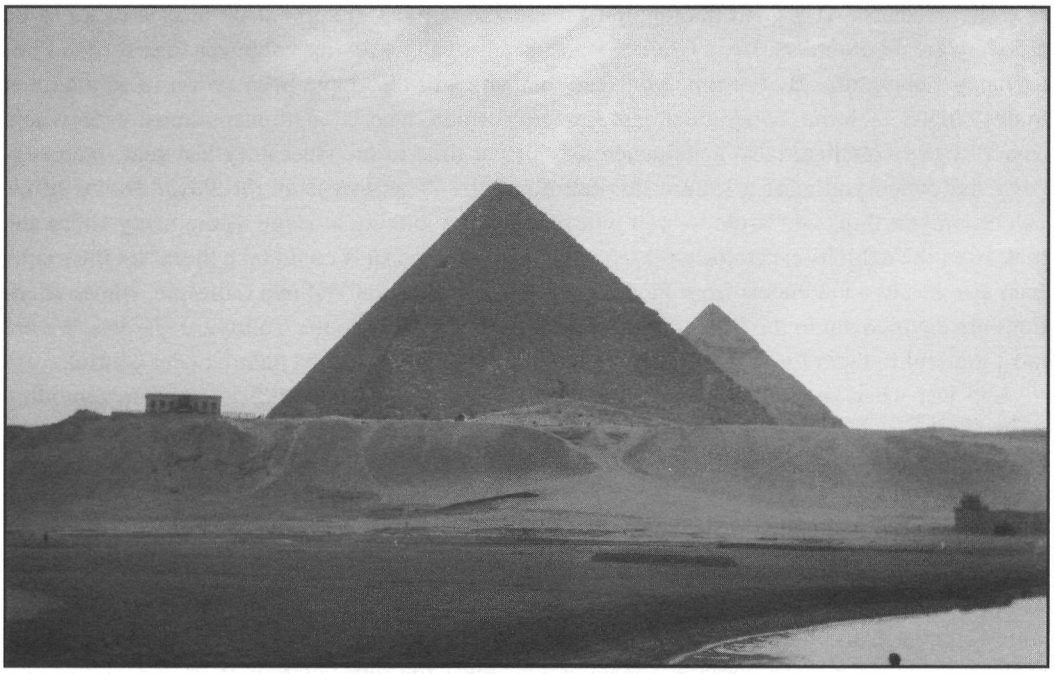


Figure 3. People climbing Cheops/Khufu pyramid. View of Giza Plateau taken from north, showing north face of Cheops/Khufu pyramid, with tip of Chephren/Kha-ef-Ra/Khafre pyramid visible behind and to right. "Modern" building at left is old royal resthouse. Photograph by Sydney Upton, 27 February 1907 (Sydney Upton negative SU 186)

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linguist who specialized in Afro-Asiatic languages, and he and his wife Pat were members of the 1990 Egypt Tour group, which also included Helen Ewing Breasted, James Henry Breasted III, Barbara Breasted Whitesides, and Helen Breasted Horton. We thank John for this thoughtful gift.

The opening of the Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery generated a substantial amount of press coverage thanks to the combined efforts of Associate Curator Emily Teeter and our indefatigable friend William Harms of the University News Office, who is always willing and eager to make us sound exciting and newsworthy to the media. The details of that coverage, which contributed substantially to record-breaking attendance throughout the summer, were given in the last *Annual Report*. The level of attention that we received was a welcome, and effective, way of alerting the public to the fact that the museum was again open, and to remind them that additional galleries would soon be available. It also stimulated visits by groups from other museums, including the Freer and Sackler Galleries of the Smithsonian Institution and several of the regional support groups of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Emily continues working on the guide to the Egyptian collection funded by the Women's Board of the University of Chicago. The book, which is written for a general audience, is composed of an introductory history of the Egyptian collection and sixty-two catalog entries, some of which deal with groups of artifacts. Manuelian Design of Boston has begun design layouts, and archivist John Larson and photographer Jean Grant continue to produce new photography of objects that will be included in the publication.

Photographer Jean Grant notes that, even when her subjects lie still for her — as did Lady Meresamun when she spent several days taking color photographs of her — she still needs assistance when she photographs. She says that in her over twenty-five years here, each and every member of the museum staff has been willing to lend two goods hands, a good back, or whatever else she needs to get a good photograph — and she is most grateful. Jean also is lucky to be aided by great volunteers. Irene Glasner is, as usual, steady with her volunteer time for the Photography Laboratory. By the time you read this, she will also have been sworn in as a United States citizen — Irene, congratulations! Carole Yoshida, who is mentioned almost everywhere as a versatile volunteer, also gave generously of her time to the laboratory last year. Jean suggests that when you're at a lecture this fall about the *Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur* exhibition you think of Carole — you will probably be looking at some of the many slides she took from the exhibition catalog so that Institute faculty and staff could take them "on the road." Jean also has two volunteers from Flossmoor this year, Teri and William Gillespie, whose attentions are devoted not to the Photographic Laboratory but rather to the Courtyard Garden. We are most grateful to them for their willingness to try to bring its unbridled nature under control.

And just when she had gotten used to the fact that she and her staff were again providing visitor services and security for a functioning museum, Margaret Schröeder found out that the University would be putting a new roof on our building this summer and next, and that keeping watch over men in hard hats would again be one of her duties. But, as always, she accepted the situation cheerfully and has them all well under control.

With the Persian Gallery scheduled to open 9 September and *Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur* coming up in October, the museum staff continues to remain frenetically busy. I would like to thank them all for their constant hard — and high quality — work and for their unflagging willingness to work as a team as we tackle the reinstallation of the remaining museum galleries over the next two years.

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MUSEUM EDUCATION

Carole Krucoff

The opening of the Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery brought Museum Education the special pleasures — and challenges — of once again sharing the treasures of our collection with the public. Faculty, staff, students, and volunteers gave us assistance and encouragement as we planned and presented a full year of gallery-based educational services. Collaborations with cultural institutions city-wide led to a wide range of innovative programs that spread the word our doors were open once more. The outcome was a rich and rewarding year filled with museum learning experiences that served a broad and diverse audience of youth, families, adults, and teachers and students in the Chicago Public Schools.

Public Programs

Collaboration was the watchword for public programs this past year. Joint planning with cultural institutions and museums throughout the city led to a whole host of innovative new programs. Along with some familiar favorites, these new programs attracted 3,100 adults, youth, and families to events that took place at the Oriental Institute and throughout the community.

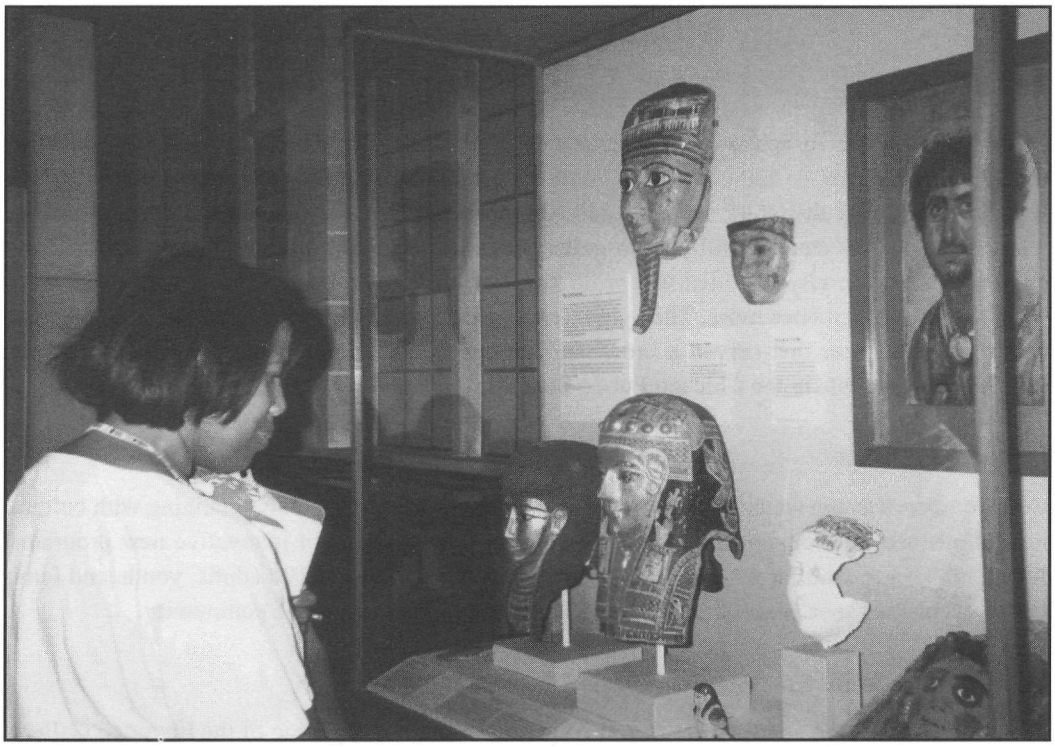
Youth and Family Programs

Programs for children and families benefited greatly from the reopening of the Egyptian Gallery. Once again we collaborated with Lill Street Studio on the north side for our fourth annual pre-



Kristina Cooper (left) and Elizabeth Gannett create headdresses in style of ancient pharaohs during* Tut's Treasures: Make a Royal Headdress *workshop. Photograph by Carole Krucoff

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Lynn Lanfair, North Kenwood/Oakland Charter School parent, studies Mummy Trappings display in Egyptian Gallery. Mrs. Lanfair is a parent advisor for **Families in the Museum** *project supported by Polk Bros. Foundation. Photograph by Carole Krucoff*

sentation of *Be An Ancient Egyptian Artist*, our popular week-long summer day camp for children ages 8–12. This year the camp was enhanced by a day of learning and hands-on arts activities in the Egyptian Gallery. *Be An Ancient Egyptian Artist* was also offered in partnership with the Hyde Park Art Center, and the program sold out almost as soon as it was announced. Fall began with our annual return to the 57th Street Children's Book Fair, where Docent Rebecca Binkley and her daughter Kristina helped children and their families create ancient-Egyptian-style "books." In winter we presented *Tut's Treasures: Make a Royal Headdress*. During this workshop, children and their parents produced recreations of Tutankhamun's golden mummy mask and then donned their masks to be photographed alongside our colossal statue of King Tut. Portions of this sold-out family program were repeated with great success at the DuSable Museum of African-American History.

Additional family programs were presented in conjunction with University of Chicago Events. During the Humanities Open House in October, our Saturday afternoon docents — Dorothy Blindt, David Covill, Nancy Gould, and Carole Yoshida — presented guided tours for parents, while Docent Karen Terras led a special hands-on arts program for children. During June Reunion, the University Alumni Office invited us to offer an afternoon of drop-in programming for families, which was presented by Education Programs Assistant Megan Kossiakoff.

"Families in the Museum" Project

The reopening of the Egyptian Gallery has enabled Museum Education to embark on an extensive project that will have an impact on the museum's services for children and their families for years to come. In December 1999 the Polk Bros. Foundation awarded the Oriental Institute a

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major grant to create museum learning experiences that will attract and serve families who generally do not take advantage of museums as a leisure-time option. This pilot project is being implemented in partnership with parents, students, and administrators from the North Kenwood/Oakland Charter School, who are working with us to develop and test a program of self-guided museum learning experiences for families based on exhibits in the Egyptian Gallery.

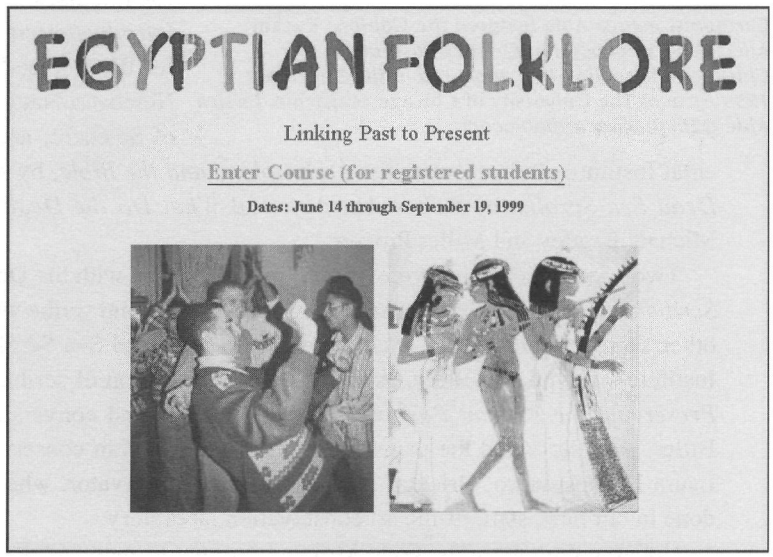
Anna Rochester, School and Family Programs Coordinator, is supervising this project in partnership with a panel of Charter School parents that includes Deborah Anderson, Ramona Clark, Janet Gray, Garcena and Bryant Hapgood, Lynn Lanfair, and Brenda Noble. Advisors to the project are Marvin Hoffman and Barbara Williams, co-directors of the Charter School, and Jane Dowling of Wellington Consulting Group, Ltd. who is serving as educational evaluator. We envision that the programs and activities emerging from this partnership will become a model for family learning throughout the museum as our remaining galleries reopen over the next two years.

Adult Education Programs

Adult education programs during the past year offered participants many choices: special events and symposia; multi-session courses at the Institute and at other sites; and Internet and correspondence courses that served a growing audience from across the nation and around the world.

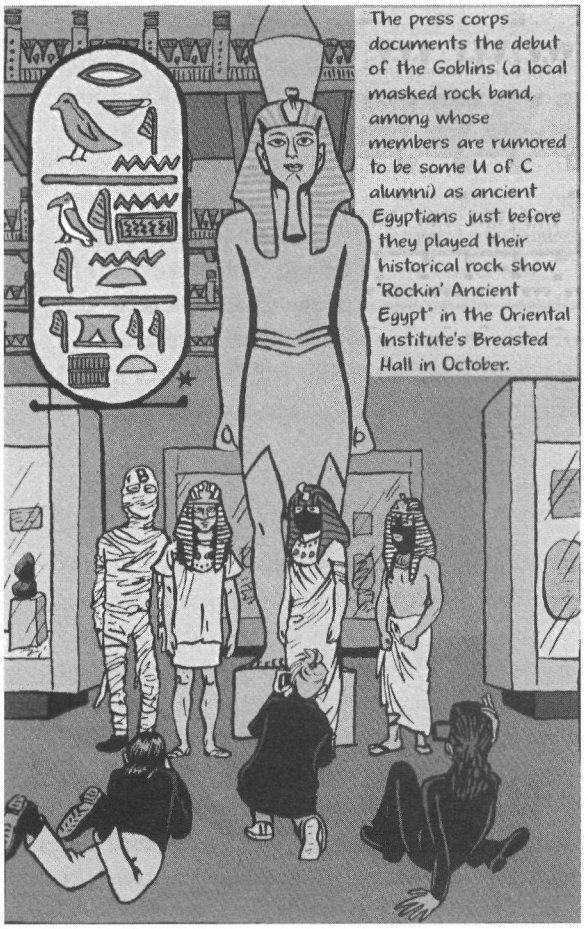
Internet and correspondence courses this year attracted 150 participants from 35 different states, as well as world-wide locations that ranged from Belgium to the United Arab Emirates. Our Internet course, *Egyptian Folklore: Linking Past to Present,* was taught by Nicole Hansen. John Sanders, Head of the Oriental Institute Computer Laboratory, also lent his talents and expertise to this project. Stephen Parker, assisted by Harold Hays, taught *Hieroglyphs by Mail* for beginners and intermediate students; Nicole Hansen taught a separate session for advanced students. Two audio-tape correspondence courses, *Ancient Egyptian Society* and *Akhenaten and the Amarna Age in Ancient Egypt*, were presented by Frank Yurco.

Closer to home, two courses were presented at the University of Chicago's downtown Gleacher Center, meeting the needs of members and friends who live on the city's north side and in the northern suburbs. Offered in conjunction with the University's Graham School of General Studies, the courses were *Archaeology and the Land of the Bible,* taught by Aaron Burke, and *Paradise Planned: Cities in the Ancient Near East,* taught by Eleanor Barbanes.



This World-Wide Web page introduced* Egyptian Folklore: Linking Past to Present, *Oriental Institute Internet course taught by Nicole Hansen. The course explored a variety of topics and used visuals like the two shown above to have students consider such questions as "Are dance moves of today's Egyptian teenagers inspired by the same rhythms played by ancient musicians?"

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Cartoonist Jessica Able featured the Goblins'* Rockin' Ancient Egypt *concert at Oriental Institute in her Chicagophile section that appeared in the December 1999 issue of* The University of Chicago Magazine. *Jessica Able ©2000; www.artbabe.com

Courses presented at the Oriental Institute included *Travelers, Rogues, and Scholars*, taught by John Larson; *The Middle Kingdom: Ancient Egypt's Classical Age*, *Opulence and Empire: The New Kingdom in Ancient Egypt-Part I*, *Warrior Kings and Massive Monuments: The New Kingdom in Ancient Egypt-Part II*, and *Post New-Kingdom to Late Period Egypt*, all taught by Frank Yurco; *They Wrote on Clay*, taught by Fumi Karahashi; *Gods, Myths, and Magic: The Religion of Ancient Mesopotamia*, taught by Tim Collins; and *The World of the Dead Sea Scrolls*, taught jointly by Michael Weschler and Yonder Gillihan.

Weschler and Gillihan's course was part of a wide-ranging collaboration between the Oriental Institute and The Field Museum, which took place in conjunction with *The Dead Sea Scrolls*, a major traveling exhibition on view at The Field Museum during winter/spring 2000. Field Museum and Oriental Institute Museum educators worked together to develop and present a series of highly successful adult education programs that included courses and field trips at both institutions. Joint courses held at The Field Museum were *Introduction to Archaeology*, taught by Jennifer Blitz, Vice-President of Education, Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, Chicago Academy of Sciences; and three courses taught by Oriental Institute graduate students: *Archaeology and the Bible*, by Aaron Burke; *Language of the Dead Sea Scrolls*, by Robert Hawley; and *What Do the Dead Sea Scrolls Really Say?*, by Michael Beetley and Miller Prosser.

Two special field trips were offered in conjunction with the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibition. *The Scribal Tradition*, led by Moshe Shaingarten, a rabbi and scribe who produces Torah Scrolls and other sacred Hebrew texts, included visits to the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibition and the Oriental Institute's Egyptian Gallery, as well as a demonstration of scribal techniques still in use today. *Preserving the Ancient Past* offered exhibit visits and conversations with Conservator Tania Bitler, who described the painstaking techniques used in conserving the Dead Sea Scrolls, and Laura D'Alessandro, Oriental Institute Senior Conservator, who demonstrated the work being done in our new, state-of-the art conservation laboratory.

Collaboration with The Field Museum brought us many adult education participants who had previously been unaware of the wide variety of public programs offered by the Oriental Institute. The Millennium Project, an even more extensive collaboration that took place throughout 1999, brought Oriental Institute programs to the attention of audiences across the city and state. Sponsored by the *Chicago Tribune* and various foundations and agencies, the Millennium Project in-

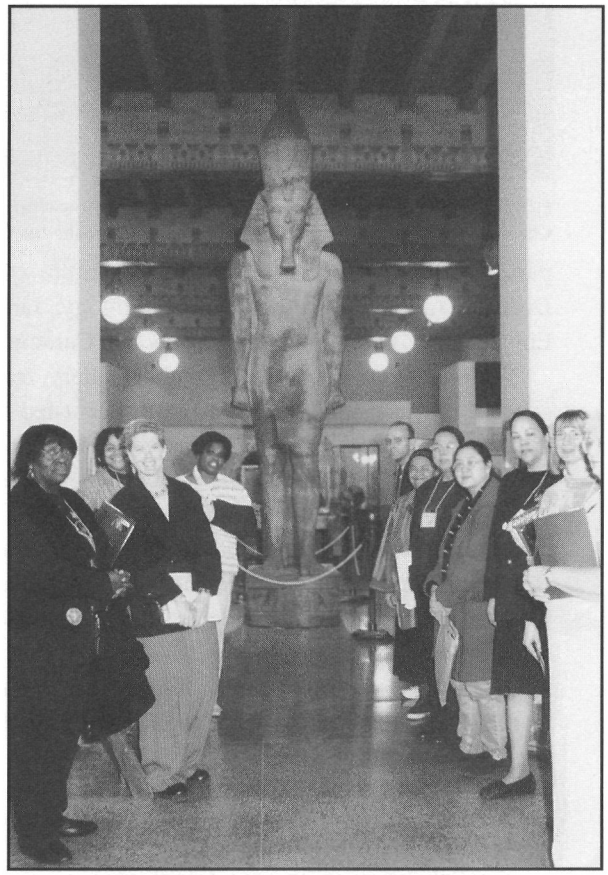
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volved more than 180 local and statewide cultural institutions who collaborated to explore themes relevant to the arrival of the twenty-first century.

The Millennium Project theme of "New Directions" inspired Museum Education to partner with cultural institutions who were examining ancient Egypt from innovative points of view. In October, we joined with the Chicago Moving Company, a modern dance troupe noted for its artistic innovation and powerful performance style, to present *Coming Forth By Day*. This spectacular dance program, critically acclaimed by the *Chicago Sun-Times* and the *Chicago Tribune,* was inspired by a poetic translation of prayers and spells from the ancient Egyptian Book of the Dead. Presented on the stage in Mandel Hall, *Coming Forth by Day* was created by Nana Shineflug, the Chicago Moving Company's award-winning choreographer. "New Directions" also inspired *Rockin' Ancient Egypt*, a pop concert by Rocktober Production's *The Goblins*, who used elements of performance art and Chicago-style improvisation to explore the history of pop music related to ancient Egypt. A favorite on campus, *The Goblins* drew a large crowd of students to see the concert and then view the new Egyptian Gallery. In November, Oriental Institute members and friends spent an evening at Chicago Shakespeare Theater, the city's most exciting new performance space, to see a production of *Antony and Cleopatra*. A highlight of the evening was the opportunity to meet and discuss the play with Barbara Gaines, the company's founder and artistic director, as well as members of the *Antony and Cleopatra* cast.

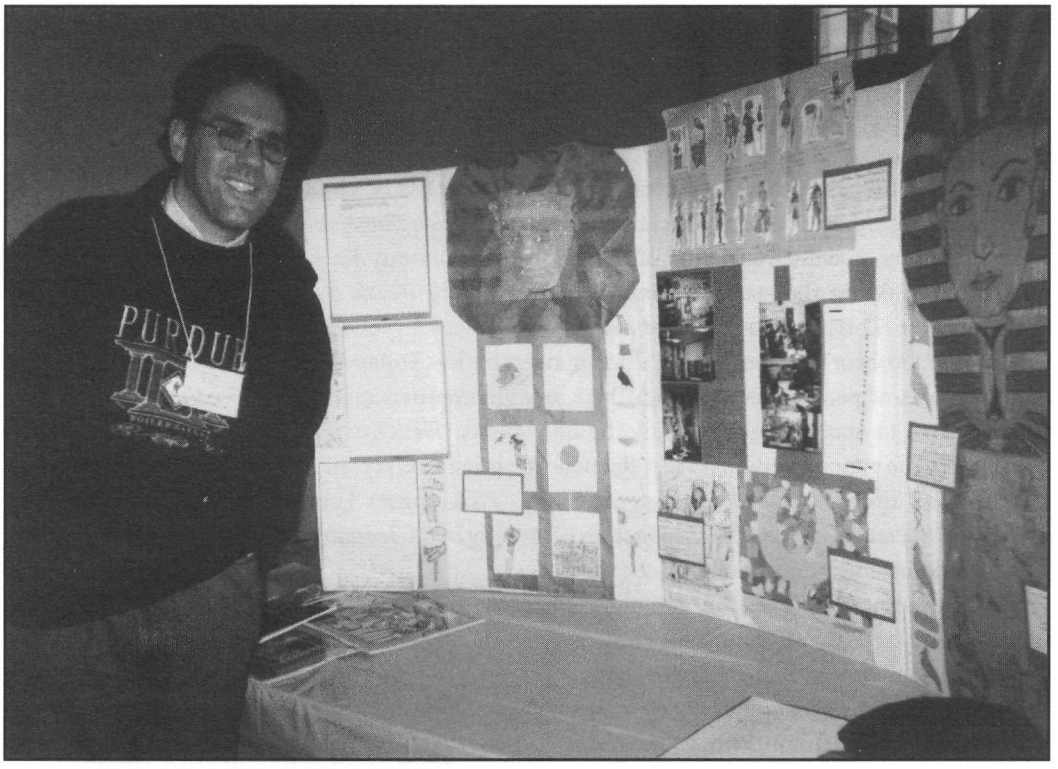
Y2K BC — The World 4,000 Years Ago was our final Millennium Project program. A day-long symposium, *Y2K BC* was a millennial event with a unique point of view — the world's earliest civilizations at the year 2000 BC. Oriental Institute lecturers included Peter Dorman, Associate Professor of Egyptology; McGuire Gibson, Professor of Mesopotamian Archaeology; and David Schloen, Assistant Professor of Syro-Palestinian Archaeology. Guest lecturer Jonathan Mark Kenoyer, Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, discussed the great cities of the Indus Valley Civilization. This program was co-sponsored by the University's Graham School of General Studies.

Introduction to Ancient Egyptian Hieroglyphs was another innovative and highly successful special event. This day-long seminar and workshop used lectures, reading exercises, and study sessions to focus on the development of the Egyptian language and script, and to provide participants with the skills needed to read royal names and basic inscriptions on Egyptian reliefs and monuments. The program, evaluated by



School and Teacher Service Coordinator Anna Rochester (second from left) introduces Chicago Public School teachers to the Egyptian Gallery. Seminars and workshops for CPS teachers were generously supported by Lloyd A. Fry and Polk Bros. Foundations this past year. Photograph by Jean Grant

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Edward Podsiadlik of Washington School displays student work that resulted from his participation in Oriental Institute/Chicago Public Schools seminar for teachers. Photograph by Carole Krucoff

participants as "one of the Oriental Institute's best," was prepared and presented by Peter Dorman, Associate Professor of Egyptology; Janet H. Johnson, Professor of Egyptology; and Emily Teeter, Oriental Institute Associate Curator.

With the reopening of the Egyptian Gallery, free drop-by events returned to the programming schedule. These included informal, docent-led tours following each Sunday film showing; *Lunchtime in Another Time,* a summer series of noontime gallery talks presented to welcome the University and Hyde Park community to the reopened museum; and *Women in Ancient Egypt,* a gallery talk presented in March in conjunction with Women's History Month. These programs could not have taken place without the support and involvement of docents Debbie Aliber, Jane Belcher, Rebecca Binkley, Wanda Bolton, Teresa Hintzke, George Junker, Nina Longley, Kathleen Mineck, Stephen Ritzel, Adrienne Runge, and Deloris Sanders. Robert K. Ritner, Associate Professor of Egyptology, presented a special free public lecture, *Magical Conventions in the Egyptian Romance of Setna Khamuas,* as part of the Works of the Mind series co-sponsored by the Graham School's Basic Program of Liberal Education for Adults.

"Schools in the Museum" Project

Since 1993, the Museum Education Office and a team of Chicago public school teachers have been collaborators in an educational initiative that has made Oriental Institute resources available to a wide-ranging cross section of underserved Chicago Public Schools (CPS). Generously supported by a series of major grants from the Polk Bros. Foundation, this project has created a rich array of award-winning classroom curriculum materials and programs that have enhanced the study of the ancient Near East for more than 14,000 CPS students. During the past year, this

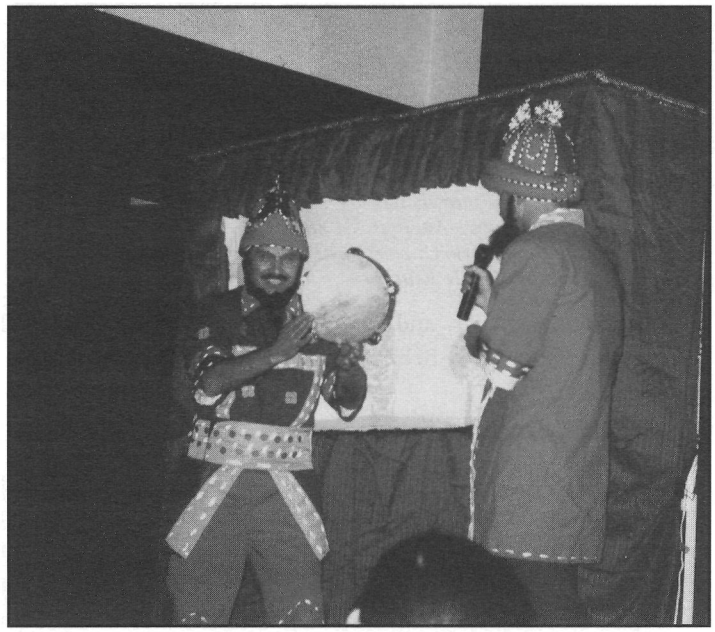
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initiative entered its final phase with "Schools in the Museum: Integrating Classroom and Museum Experiences." This project concentrated on ways the concepts and activities presented in the Oriental Institute's classroom materials could serve as a springboard for resources and programs directly related to the new Egyptian Gallery. The result was an entirely new menu of museum experiences that included

- guided tours focusing on the processes of archaeology, led by museum docents in tandem with Oriental Institute graduate students
- sketching sessions that focused on individual artifacts in the Egyptian Gallery, which served as vehicles to stimulate students' observation and critical thinking skills
- a bilingual education program where Spanish-speaking CPS students studied ancient Egypt using the Institute's curriculum materials, translated into Spanish, and then came to the museum to explore ancient Egyptian culture guided by a Spanish-speaking docent

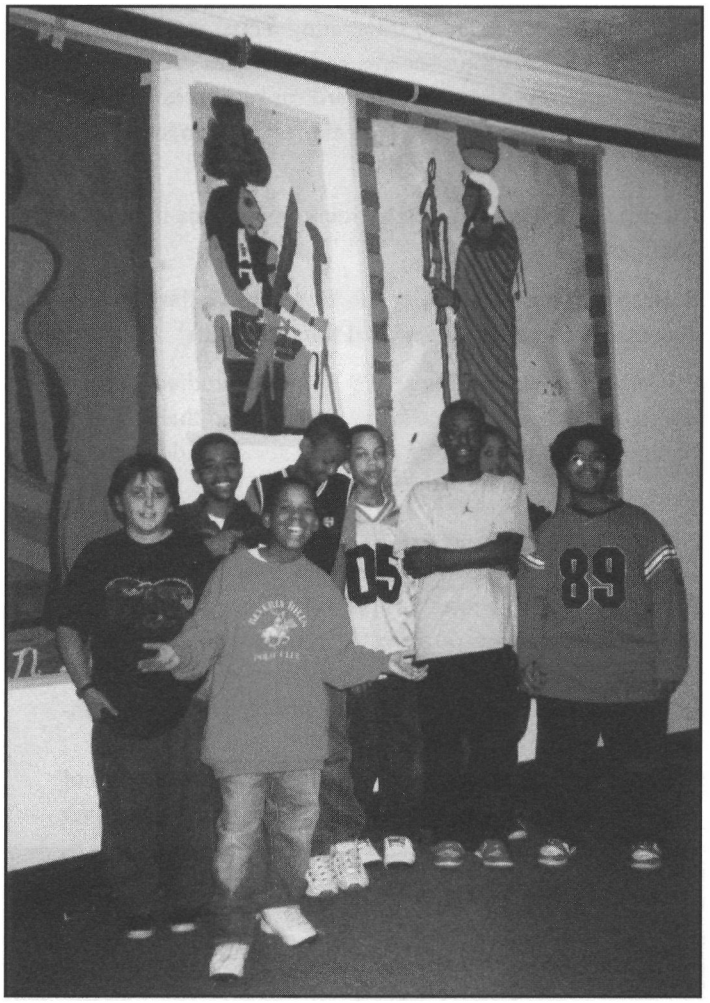
All these and other approaches, successfully piloted by partner teachers and their classes, are now available to become program options for schools that visit the museum. In addition, our teacher collaborators assisted in the development of a new, exhibit-based educational resource that includes an orientation to the Egyptian Gallery's themes and layout; vocabulary activities for students; full-color images and in-depth information on selected artifacts; and suggested ways that teachers coming to the museum with their classes can guide their own students in object-based learning activities. This resource is now a model for similar materials that can accompany each of the museum's galleries as they reopen.

In November 1999 Museum Education hosted an Educators Institute to share the outcomes of "Schools in the Museum" with CPS teachers city-wide. Based on the desire to stress quality over quantity, this one-day event was designed to serve a maximum of eighty educators, and it rapidly filled to capacity. A lecture by Laura D'Alessandro, Oriental Institute Senior Conservator, gave the teachers a behind-the-scenes look at choices a museum must make when installing a new gallery. Tours led by docents and Education staff introduced the teachers to the new menu of museum visit options. Workshop sessions led by our teacher partners showed educators ways in which museum visits could be fully integrated into the curriculum. Participant evaluations all gave this program the highest rating possible and urged us to offer more events like this in the future.



Turkish puppeteer Mustafa Mutlu (left), and his son, Mahir, came to Oriental Institute to present* Karagöz: Turkish Shadow Theater, *a special event for Hyde Park/Kenwood children and their families. Co-sponsored by University of Chicago's Center for Middle Eastern Studies, this program was generously supported by Regents Park/ University of Chicago Fine Arts Partnership. Photograph by Jean Grant

Anna Rochester, an extraordinarily talented and experienced



Proud student artists from North Kenwood/Oakland Charter School display their wall-sized murals based on ancient Nubian art, created during Oriental Institute's Ancient Art and Mythology program supported by Regents Park/University of Chicago Fine Arts Partnership. Photograph by Carole Krucoff

museum and classroom educator, has been the driving force behind all of the museum's CPS partnership programs since 1997. For the "Schools in the Museum" project she was aided by a panel of CPS elementary-school teachers, curriculum coordinators, and administrators that included Clothilde Bennett, Haley School; Mary Cobb, Ray School; Richard Diaz, Field School; Mary McElroy, Donaghue School; Ingia Jackson, Sawyer School; Trish Ronan, Clissold School; Jeffrey Sadoff, Jackson School; Shirley Talley-Smith, Lafayette School; and Georgette White, Bass School. Two consultants also assisted in shaping the project. Sara Spurlark, Associate Director of the University of Chicago's Center for School Improvement, has been our mentor and guide since 1993. Susan Stodolsky, professor in the University of Chicago's Departments of Education and Psychology, joined us in 1998 to serve as the project's evaluator. Graduate students and arts-educator consultants have also provided important assistance. These include graduate students Jesse Casana, Clemens Reichel, Jason Ur, and Justine Way, and arts educators Liz Cruger, Bob Gadomski, Anna Pertzoff, and Hardy Schlick.

Teacher-Training Seminars

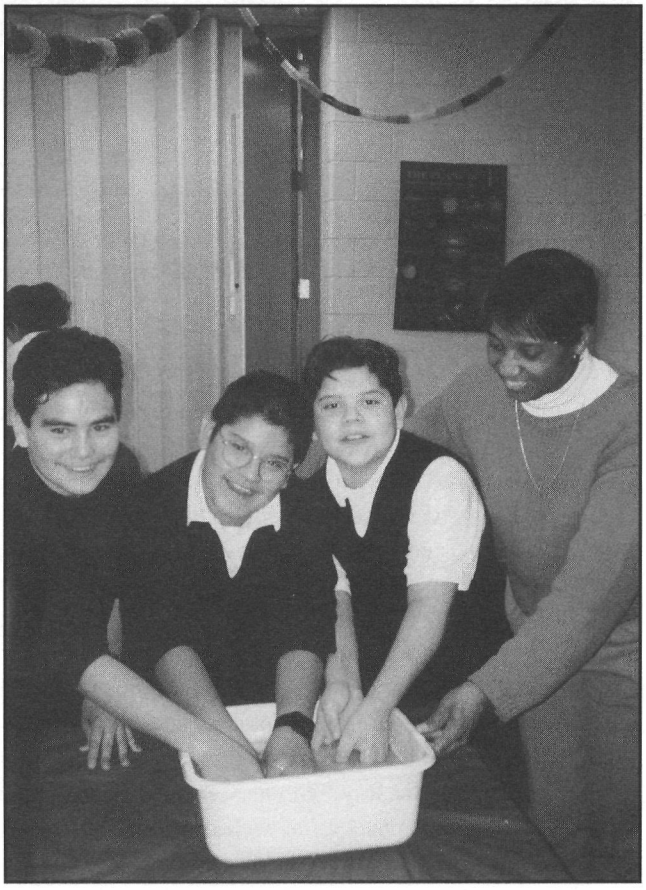
Anna Rochester is also involved in additional grant-funded programs that have helped Museum Education expand its services to the CPS. Since 1998, generous support from the Lloyd A. Fry Foundation has enabled us to present two series of in-depth teacher training seminars on ancient Egypt and Nubia in collaboration with the CPS Teachers Academy for Professional Growth. Designed to meet educators' needs for both academic content and teaching resources, these series of seven-day-long seminars began with lectures by Oriental Institute staff and volunteers, followed by workshops that engaged teachers in hands-on involvement with the Oriental Institute's curriculum materials on ancient Egypt and Nubia. This approach enabled educators to relate the academic content of the lectures to specific teaching and learning strategies for the classroom.

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This year's seminar lectures were led by John Larson, Oriental Institute Museum Archivist; Stephen Ritzel, Volunteer Docent Captain; and Emily Teeter, Oriental Institute Museum Associate Curator. Workshop sessions were led by Anna Rochester. This year, the reopened Egyptian Gallery gave Anna a new and invaluable teaching tool: she was able to involve teachers in ways to use the museum's collections, both for their own learning and as a resource for their students.

Thirty-one teachers from twenty-five different CPS schools took part in this year's seminar program. As was true in 1998, this year's participants represented the gamut of CPS instruction, from pre-kindergarten to high school, and from special needs programs to services for the gifted. Taken as a group, these educators reach close to three thousand students annually. The success of the seminar could be seen in the work produced by these teachers' students. Projects ranged from a student-produced puppet show based on the opera *Aida* all the way to a computer presentation in which students showcased all they had learned about ancient Egypt using a hypercard software program.

This year's seminar also included the World-Wide Web as a resource for study of the ancient Near East, an option not explored in 1998. Led by John Sanders, Head of the Oriental Institute Computer Laboratory, one full session was devoted to navigation on the web, with special emphasis on the Oriental Institute's own website. Seminar participants with a special interest in computers have joined Anna Rochester to help transform classroom and museum lessons from the seminar into an on-line Resource Center for Teachers. This Resource Center will be an entirely new educational service provided by the Oriental Institute.



Ingia Jackson, Curriculum Coordinator at Sawyer School, helps students begin process of making papyrus-like paper during Oriental Institute outreach workshop. Sawyer is a founding member of Oriental Institute School Affiliates program. Photograph by Anna Rochester

Chicago WebDocent

A project funded by the Chicago Public Schools is helping to expand the Museum Education's involvement with educational programming for the web. Called the Chicago WebDocent (CWD), this initiative is a collaboration between the Chicago Public Schools/University of Chicago Internet Project — a consortium working to meet the hardware, software, and teacher training needs of local schools — and several Chicago cultural institutions. These include the Adler Planetarium, the Chicago Historical Society, The Field Museum, the Museum of Science and Industry, and the Oriental Institute. Chicago WebDocent's goal is to develop a model for the production of web-based curriculum materials based on the resources of multiple museums. Anna Rochester is the Oriental Institute repre-

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"Meresamun" (actress Liz Cruger) meets Field Museum's T-Rex at Spotlight on Chicago event for educators. Sponsored by City of Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs, this event allowed Oriental Institute to publicize reopening of Egyptian Gallery to teachers and community educators throughout metropolitan area. Photograph by Carole Krucoff

sentative to CWD, and the project is gaining national attention. In April Anna joined other project personnel to present a paper on the CWD at the Museums and Web 2000 International Conference held in Minneapolis; she was also a CWD presenter at the National Education Computing Conference held in Atlanta in June. Although CWD is still in its beginning stages, the lessons and procedures learned, and the relationships that have been formed, hold great promise for educational enrichment throughout the city, the region, and eventually the nation.

Regents Park/University of Chicago Fine Arts Partnership

Closer to home, a generous local foundation has awarded us a second year of support to further relationships with our community's sister institutions and our neighborhood public schools. The Regents Park/University of Chicago Fine Arts Partnership has enabled the Court Theater, the Hyde Park Art Center, the Smart Museum of Art, University Theater, the University's Music Department, and the Oriental Institute to expand our educational enrichment services for Hyde Park/Kenwood schoolchildren.

This year, the North Kenwood/Oakland Charter School joined the Oriental Institute's previous neighborhood partners — Bret Harte School, Ray School, and Kenwood Academy. Working in collaboration with teachers and administrators, Museum Education was able to offer these schools a wide range of educational experiences that could never have taken place without the support of the Fine Arts Partnership.

Bret Harte and Ray Schools were both invited to take part in guided tours and hands-on arts activities at the museum, as well as artist residencies that focused on student recreation of ancient Egyptian arts processes. In addition, the entire sixth grade at Ray School, a total of ninety-five students, took part in special programs that introduced them to the tools and processes used in archaeological excavations. They also met for a discussion session with archaeology graduate student Justine Way, who described and answered questions about her work at the site of the pyramids at Giza. These programs were the initial stages of a project that will develop a perma-

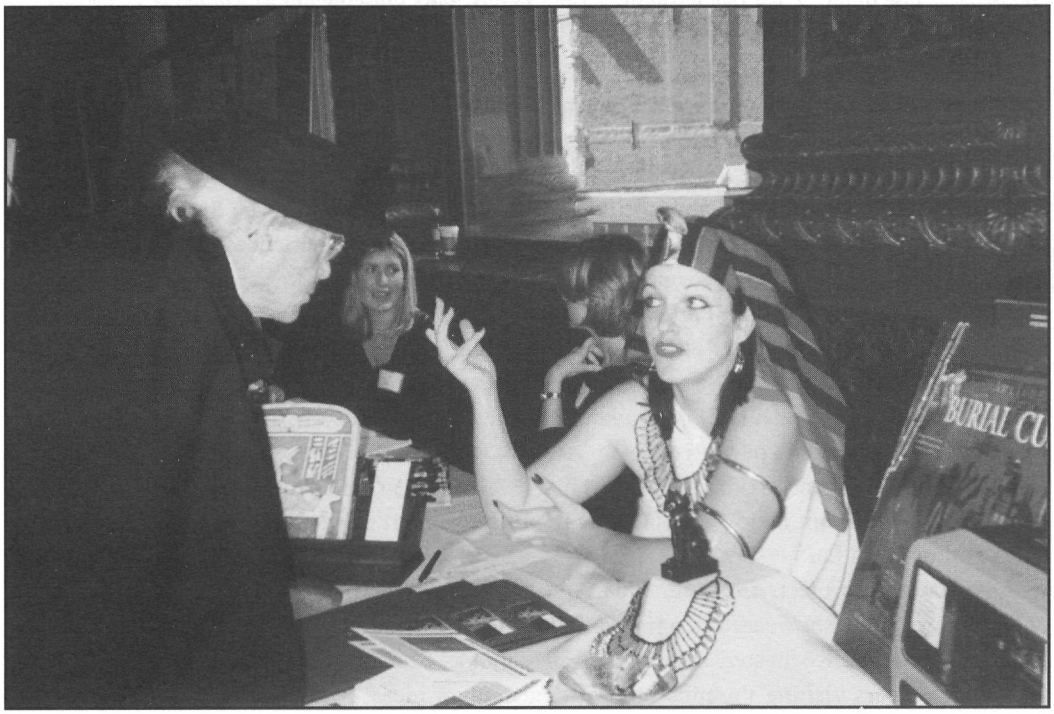
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nent simulated archaeological dig site on the Ray School grounds, which will be available to all Ray students and possibly other partner schools as well.

At Kenwood Academy, support from the Regents Park Fine Arts Partnership helped us repeat and expand last year's highly successful collaboration on Roman Egypt with Latin teacher Alice Mulberry and her classes. Graduate student Clemens Reichel visited Kenwood to present an introductory slide lecture on archaeology in the ancient Near East. Students then visited the museum for a guided tour focusing on Egypt in Roman times. Two classroom sessions involved students in the reconstruction of ancient pottery using ceramic reproduction kits from the Archaeological Institute of America. This special unit ended with two classroom visits by graduate student Jesse Casana. He introduced students to archaeological drawing, a key step in the research and recording processes archaeologists must follow when working with ancient ceramics.

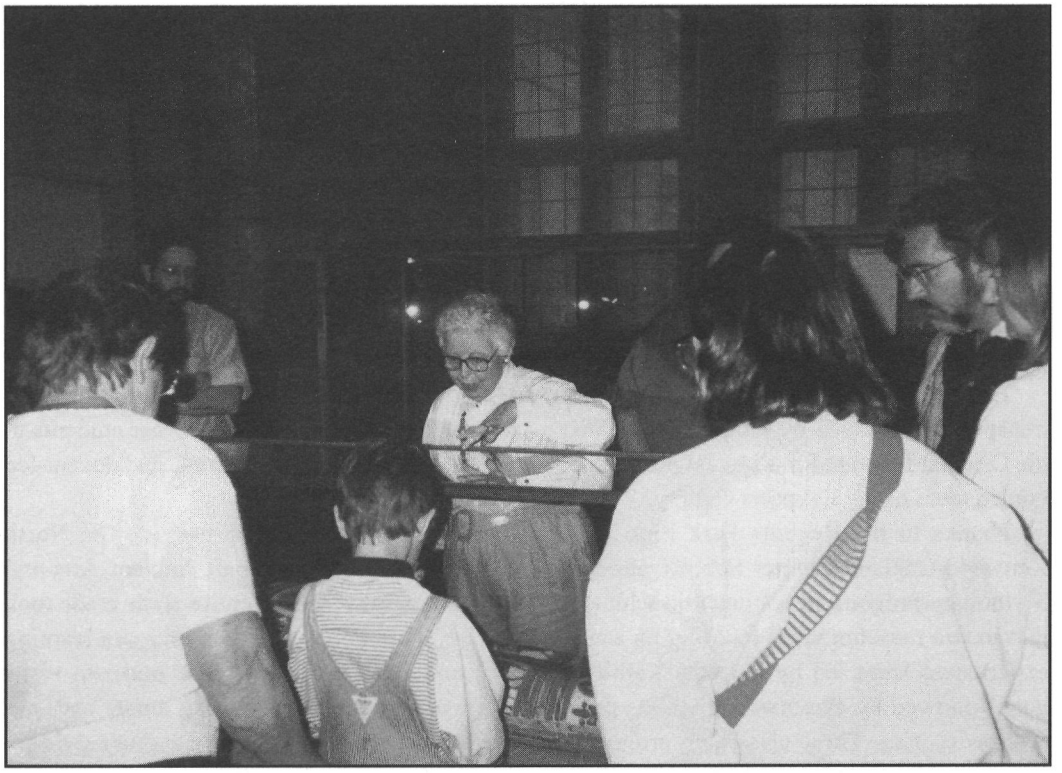
This year, Kenwood's African-American History program joined the collaboration. Bus transportation funded by the project enabled teacher Erica Coleman to bring all her students to the Oriental Institute for a special program of film showings, discussion sessions, and docent-led guided tours of the Egyptian Gallery.

Thanks to the Regents Park Fine Arts Partnership we were able to provide the North Kenwood/Oakland Charter School, our newest collaborator, with a six-part Ancient Arts and Mythology program in conjunction with the Smart Museum of Art. The entire sixth grade took part in two museum visits focusing on ancient Egyptian art and culture. These museum learning experiences were led by Docents Kathleen Mineck and Deloris Sanders. The museum visits were followed by classroom programs on ancient Egypt and Nubia by visiting artists and museum educators. These classroom programs included the creation of ancient-Egyptian-style reliefs like those the students had seen at the museum. This arts project was led by Anna Rochester



"Cleopatra" (graduate student Carolyn Cracraft) meets Architecture Foundation's "Frank Lloyd Wright" at Spotlight on Chicago event for media, which publicized reopening of Egyptian Gallery to media and tourist agency representatives statewide. Photograph by Carole Krucoff

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Docent Nina Longley shows visitors ancient symbols that decorate mummy's coffin during "Mummies and Magic," one of the Lunchtime in Another Time *gallery tours presented to welcome the University and Hyde Park communities to the reopened museum*

and Karen Terras, an Oriental Institute docent and arts educator. Also included were storytelling, creative dramatics, and the creation of wall-sized murals of Nubian gods and royalty as they would have appeared in ancient Nubian temples. These projects were led by actress and artist Liz Cruger. Following the Oriental Institute's Charter School programs, the Smart Museum used their collections as a springboard for gallery visits and hands-on experiences that focused on mythology and art in ancient Greece and China.

In the spring, the Regents Park Fine Arts Partnership helped Museum Education serve the neighborhood in an even wider way. Students and families of Hyde Park/Kenwood's elementary schools were invited to attend a free, early evening performance of *Karagöz: Turkish Shadow Puppet Theater*. More than two hundred children and parents filled Breasted Hall to near capacity as two master shadow puppeteers from Ankara delighted the audience with this centuries-old folk tradition. Co-sponsored by the University of Chicago's Center for Middle Eastern Studies, this program could not have taken place without the support of the Regents Park/University of Chicago Fine Arts Partnership.

Last summer, projects from our Fine Arts Partnership schools, as well as our other school collaborators, were showcased in a museum display of student work entitled *Hands on the Past*. Designed by Anna Rochester, this colorful display has been successful in several ways. It has provided teachers visiting the museum with curriculum ideas; it has appealed to students who like seeing other children in action; and it has introduced the general public to the museum's role as provider of educational services for Chicago's teachers and schoolchildren.

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Oriental Institute School Affiliates

Generous support and major grant funding has been crucial in enabling Museum Education to develop a wide-ranging program of highly successful and nationally-recognized services and materials for schools. In 1998, principals of several schools that had collaborated with us over the years joined together to help create the Oriental Institute/CPS School Affiliates Program, a structured system that encourages schools to pay a modest fee for services as grant-funded support comes to an end. In 1999 we were delighted when principals and local school councils voted to renew the Affiliates Program, allowing materials production and classroom visits to continue for their schools. The success of the Affiliates Program is a reaffirmation of the value schools place on the educational services we offer for teachers and students.

Behind the Scenes

None of the Education Department's services could have taken place without the support and guidance of the Oriental Institute's faculty and staff, and the ongoing interest and assistance of the museum's docents. My heartfelt thanks go to the Museum Education staff, whose long working hours, selfless service, and extraordinary creativity are what make everything happen!

As is evident throughout this report, Anna Rochester's talents, skills, and dedication make her an invaluable asset to the Oriental Institute. Several additional people deserve special mention here. Much of the success of all our programming is due to Judy Chavin, Education Programs Associate, who has worked "behind the scenes" as our public relations officer, editor, and graphic expert since May 1998. Judy writes and distributes our quarterly press packets and all individual press releases. She also designs and supervises production of our educational and marketing materials. This year, her tasks included a complete redesign of our quarterly events brochure to incorporate the many new adult education and family programs offered in conjunction with the Egyptian Gallery, the Millennium Project, and the Dead Sea Scrolls collaboration with The Field Museum. In addition, Judy wrote, developed the format, and designed the brochure that announced the resumption of the museum's guided tour program. She also produced a series of marketing pieces for individual programs, as well as highly effective display advertisements for several community calendars and selected local and national media.

Finally, Judy is always on the watch for public events that allow us to share information about our programs. Last year she introduced us to the Department of Cultural Affairs' annual Spotlight on Chicago event for educators. This year, with the reopening of the Egyptian Gallery, she urged us also to take part in the Spotlight on Chicago event for media and tourist agency representatives. There, she operated our booth with great success, making media contacts that have served us well throughout the year. Our office is fortunate to have such a capable, talented, and experienced professional on staff.

All of us are also fortunate to have the assistance of another marketing professional. Debby Halpern, who recently joined the Volunteer Program, has been helping us develop marketing strategies for Museum Education's award-winning curriculum materials.

In spring 1999 Michelle Schwegmann joined our staff as Education Programs Assistant. She rapidly mastered the tasks of this position, which include implementing the registration process for all reserved adult education and family programs, handling all financial record-keeping, and providing general information services for the public. The reopening of the Egyptian Gallery meant that Michelle was also responsible for all guided tour reservation and confirmation services. In order to process the extraordinary volume of calls and inquiries regarding tours, she created a reservation format that is done exclusively by mail.

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Everyone in Museum Education appreciated Michelle's efficiency, organizational skills, and her great good nature. We were sad to see her depart one year after joining us when she and her fiancé took advantage of an opportunity to move to California. Megan Kossiakoff is our new Education Programs Assistant. A graduate in history from Stanford, Megan is a talented writer and researcher, as well as an experienced office manager. She has quickly become an invaluable member of the Education staff and it is a pleasure to have her with us!

In the next section, you will see the accomplishments of the museum's Volunteer Program, supervised by Catherine Dueñas and Terry Friedman. These dedicated and extraordinarily creative women, along with their remarkable team of docents, have continued to maintain the highly successful Outreach Program developed during renovation, as well as the resumption of a full schedule of docent-led tours in the reopened Egyptian Gallery. They merit our accolades and congratulations!

Finally, let me once again express my admiration and gratitude to the Museum Education staff and volunteers who work with us. I commend you all for your efforts to provide the very best in museum education programming for our members, the University community, and the public audiences that we serve.

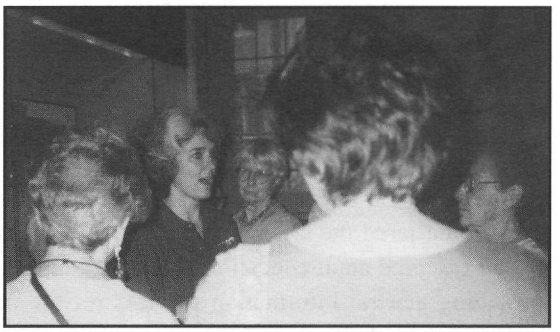
VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Catherine Dueñas and Terry Friedman

It was the best of times and the most challenging of years for the Volunteer Program. With the opening of the Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery in May 1999, the activity level in the Volunteer Office began to accelerate as we increased our efforts to accommodate the numerous requests for docent-led tours for school groups and adult audiences. The months of planning, training, and preparation helped us to focus on the program's resources and mission, while at the same time continue to motivate participation, sustain interest, and generate enthusiasm within the volunteer corps for both museum and outreach programs.

Tours

The official start of scheduled docent-led tours of the Egyptian Gallery was 27 September 1999. Throughout the preceding summer months, docents familiarized themselves with the new gallery space. They utilized the time to learn more about the objects as well as to practice interactive touring techniques. Museum Docents were delighted to be back at work in the beautiful Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery. Along with the return of tours in the mu-

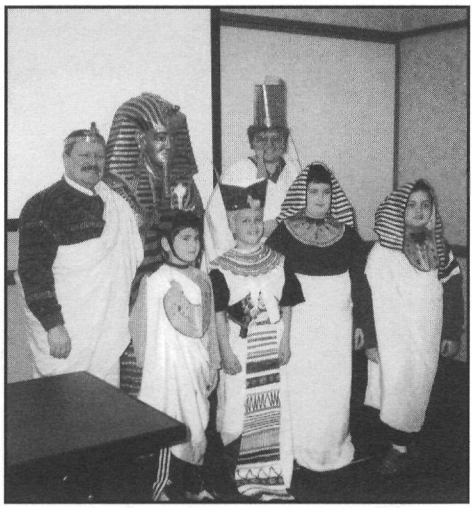


Emily Teeter leads group of docents and volunteers through newly opened Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery. Photograph by Terry Friedman

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seum, we reinstituted the Docent Captain System for organizing morning and afternoon shifts. We would like to thank all of our museum Docent Captains for making the Museum Tours Program run so efficiently and successfully. We are grateful to Debbie Aliber, Erl Dordal, Ira Hardman, Mary Harter, Teresa Hintzke, George Junker, Nina Longley, Masako Matsumoto, Georgie Maynard, Roy Miller, Stephen Ritzel, Lucie Sandel, Deloris Sanders, Larry Scheff, Anne Schumacher, and Carole Yoshida. We could never have had such a successful year without their support.

With the increased activity within the volunteer corps, we again began to track the number of volunteer service hours per week. Volunteers now sign a time log each time they perform a volunteer function. This daily record helps to tabulate important statistical information for writing grant proposals to support the museum as well as the Museum Education and Volunteer Programs.



Stephen Ritzel takes a moment to pose with Tut and several children during Docent Outreach visit at Central Library in Schaumburg. Photograph by Terry Friedman

Outreach

The Outreach Program continued to receive accolades and praise from students, educators, parents, and adults throughout metropolitan Chicago. The program has steadily grown in popularity over the past four years. Our audience base remains diverse and represents groups of all ages and cultural backgrounds. Even with the reopening of the Egyptian Gallery, many schools and community groups continue to request an outreach visit to further enhance their museum experience. The teachers feel that the slide presentation accompanied by the hands-on activities increases the students' background knowledge and thus prepares them better for the museum visit.

The Outreach Program achieved a major milestone this year. On 7 May 2000 at Abbott Middle School in Waukegan, Illinois, over 700 students were served in a single day as part of a school-wide multi-ethnic festival.

We have received many generous donations to the Outreach Program during this past year. From colorful costumes to creative hands-on activities and videos, volunteers continue to invest their time and talents helping to bring to life the "wonders of the ancient near east" through in-school docent-led learning experiences.

We would like to recognize the efforts of Denise Paul and Anne Schumacher, who compiled and cataloged written descriptions of the Egyptian materials contained in the outreach bins. Thank you for producing a valuable educational resource for the Outreach Program.



Karen Terras and beautiful Egyptian princess admire replica of King Tut's coffin during Docent Outreach visit to Hawthorne Library. Photograph by Terry Friedman

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These students from Abbott Middle School in Waukegan, Illinois, were part of a group who participated in ancient Egyptian and Mesopotamian fashion show. Photograph by Catherine Dueñas

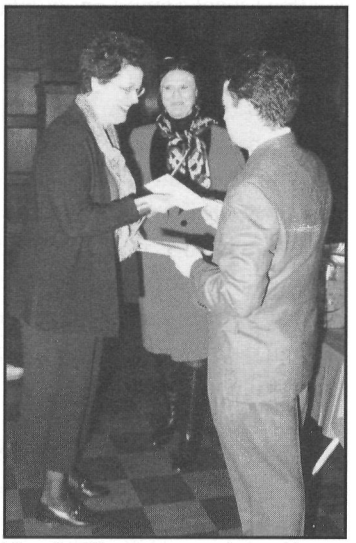
Donations

Throughout this past year, volunteers gave most generously with their financial support, contributions, and commitment to the program's success.

Our thanks and appreciation to Masako Matsumoto whose gift will help us purchase handsome new name tags for the volunteers.

We would like to voice a special note of thanks to Betty Baum for helping the Volunteer Program update its office equipment. Her gift provided the funds to purchase a new state-of-the-art iMac computer for the Volunteer Program and a laser printer for Museum Education.

We would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge, and express our gratitude for, the many generous memorial donations that were contributed to the Oriental Institute in memory of George Junker.



Tim Cashion presents Mary Shea with gift certificate award for twenty years of service to Volunteer Program as Catherine Dueñas looks on. Photograph by Jean Grant

Volunteer Recruitment and Training

Although a formal volunteer training class was not offered this year, several enthusiastic and highly motivated individuals were recruited. Through independent study and group mentoring, they were able to join the program. We applaud their determination and hard work. Welcome aboard to Joe Diamond, Tom Duda, Louis Gudger, Nancy Huth, Sriram Kanteti, Nicholas Lezak, Sherif Marcus, Ila Patlogen, and Roxanne Volkmann.

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Our appreciation and thanks to Mari Terman, who completely revised, streamlined, and updated the volunteer application form. Thanks to her efforts, we now have a concise and beautifully formatted new application.

Volunteer Recognition Awards and Annual Holiday Luncheon

Each year faculty, staff, and volunteers gather to enjoy a festive holiday celebration for December Docent Day. The popular program includes a guest speaker, a volunteer recognition ceremony, and a lovely holiday luncheon. This year's special event took place on Monday 6 December.

The morning program featured John Larson, Museum Archivist, whose lecture was "Collecting with James Henry Breasted in Egypt." His talk was a fascinating account of Breasted's life and times as an Egyptologist, collector, and visionary.

The morning's activities continued with Volunteer Recognition Awards. Congratulations and bravo to this year's twenty-two award recipients!

5 Year Honorees

Barbara Storms Baird
Wanda Bolton
Janet Calkins
Hazel Cramer
Mary Harter
Catherine Mardikes
Robert Randolph
Helaine Staver
Les Stermer
Pamela Wickliffe

10 Year Honorees

Ruth Hyman
Sandra Jacobsohn
Caryl Mikrut
Agnethe Rattenborg
Patrick Regnery
Bernard Shelley

15 Year Honorees

Rebecca Binkley
Catherine Dueñas
Gordon Evison
Alice James

20 Year Honoree

Mary Shea

25 Year Honoree

Terry Friedman

30 Year Honorees

Muriel Nerad
Eleanor Swift

Following the conclusion of the morning program, volunteers were joined by the faculty and staff of the Oriental Institute to enjoy a lovely luncheon at the Quadrangle Club. Our thanks and appreciation to Gene Gragg, Director of the Oriental Institute, for graciously underwriting this festive occasion and to Tim Cashion, Director of Development, for providing complimentary memberships to all the Volunteer Recognition Award recipients. We would also like to give a special note of thanks to Jean Grant for taking some wonderful photographs of the day's events.

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Docent Days Become Volunteer Days; Docent Digest Becomes Volunteer Voice

Docent Day lectures and discussion sessions continue to attract a large and enthusiastic audience of volunteers. These monthly seminars provide a unique opportunity for volunteers to continue their education in a structured, interactive learning environment. These sessions have been an integral part of the Volunteer Program from the very beginning. As we turned the corner of the twenty-first century, a subtle yet important change took place to make these classes more inviting and inclusive for the entire volunteer corps. The name was changed from "Docent Day" to "Volunteer Day." Along with this change, we changed the "Docent Digest" to the "Volunteer Voice." These small changes have been well received by everyone as we reach out to include all docents and volunteers who continue to learn and work in various areas of the Institute and the Museum.

This year's Volunteer Day program topics covered a broad spectrum of fascinating subject matter. Our thanks to Aaron Burke, Peter Dorman, Norman Golb, John Larson, Carol Meyer, Robert Ritner, Martha Roth, Emily Teeter, Joan Westenholtz, and Volunteer Sheldon Newman for their informative lectures, training sessions, and continued support of the Volunteer Program.

In addition to general areas of interest, three special training sessions were offered to acquaint docents and volunteers with the historical background and cultural uniqueness of ancient Persia. These sessions helped to prepare volunteers for the reopening of the Persian Gallery. Our appreciation to Abbas Alizadeh, Mary Shea, Matthew Stolper, Donald Whitcomb, and Karen Wilson for providing these special classes.



Volunteers Georgie Maynard and Masako Matsumoto enjoyed seeing each other during tea reception at President's home. Photograph by Jean Grant

Sonnenschein Tea

On 10 January faculty, staff, and volunteers gathered for a lovely midwinter tea reception and "fireside chat" at the home of President and Mrs. Sonnenschein. Our guest speaker was Martha Roth, who spoke about the *Chicago Assyrian Dictionary* and the many complicated issues involving the production of a dictionary. Her talk broadened our understanding and appreciation for this enormous collaborative research effort taking place on the third floor of the Oriental Institute.

A special note of appreciation to Elizabeth Sonnenschein for hosting this special program for the past six years. Her hospitality, friendship, and interest in the Oriental Institute have meant so much to all of us. Beth, thank you for adding so much grace and dignity to the entire university community.

Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum and The Field Museum

On 8 November docents, volunteers, and museum staff members enjoyed a field trip to the

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Professor Martha Roth speaks to volunteers about Assyrian Dictionary Project during January Tea at home of President and Mrs. Sonnenschein. Photograph by Jean Grant

Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum at the Chicago Academy of Sciences. The museum, at its dramatic new lakefront location, provided a magnificent backdrop to view and experience nature from both inside and out. Volunteer Services Coordinator Steve Bunyiak greeted everyone and gave an informative overview of the museum exhibits. He also highlighted the building's architectural details and the many ecosystems surrounding this impressive structure. The warm weather was delightful, and all who attended appreciated the opportunity to explore the academy's state-of-the-art science and education center as well as lunch at the Butterfly Cafe.

On 13 March volunteers enjoyed an extraordinary Volunteer Day on location at The Field Museum. The morning program featured Professor Norman Golb who lectured on "The Dead Sea Scrolls: Their Jerusalem Origins and Their Public Importance." His talk was very insightful and helped everyone examine both the information as well as the historical scholarship surrounding these important manuscripts. Immediately following the lecture, the volunteers had the opportunity to view firsthand this thought-provoking exhibit. We would like to express our appreciation to Mary Ann Bloom, Bob Cantu, and the staff of The Field Museum for their assistance with this important collaborative program. It was a memorable field trip for everyone.

Interns

We were delighted this year to have the opportunity to work with three energetic and motivated interns, Emily Schuttenberg from the University of Chicago Laboratory Schools and David Jakubowski and Michael Tafel from the University of Illinois at Chicago. From administrative tasks to Outreach Programs, these energetic and creative interns contributed a great deal to the Volunteer Program.

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In Memoriam

This past year the Oriental Institute lost two devoted and loyal volunteers, George Junker and Peggy Kovacs. Their gifts of time, support, talents, and skills helped to enrich the Volunteer program, the Museum, and the Institute. They will be missed, and we will treasure their valuable contributions and years of service.

Docent Library

Under the careful guidance and supervision of Debbie Aliber, our Docent Librarian, the library flourished this past year. Our collection has continued to expand, aided by the many generous donations and contributions of faculty, staff, and volunteers. This year the library was reorganized by geographic area (Egypt, Iran, Israel, Mesopotamia, etc.). The books are now alphabetized by author within each area. This modification has made the library more user-friendly and facilitates the search for a subject of particular interest.

In Retrospect and Reflection

Throughout its thirty-four year history, the Volunteer Program has adapted well to changing times, while still maintaining the highest standards for its volunteers. We gratefully acknowledge the friendship and support of the faculty and staff of the Oriental Institute for making this possible. Throughout the years, they have been our teachers and mentors, continually sharing their wealth of knowledge, sparking our curiosity, and supplying countless resources for our continuing education. Their accessibility and involvement motivate and inspire the high level of docent and volunteer commitment throughout many vital areas of the Oriental Institute and the museum.

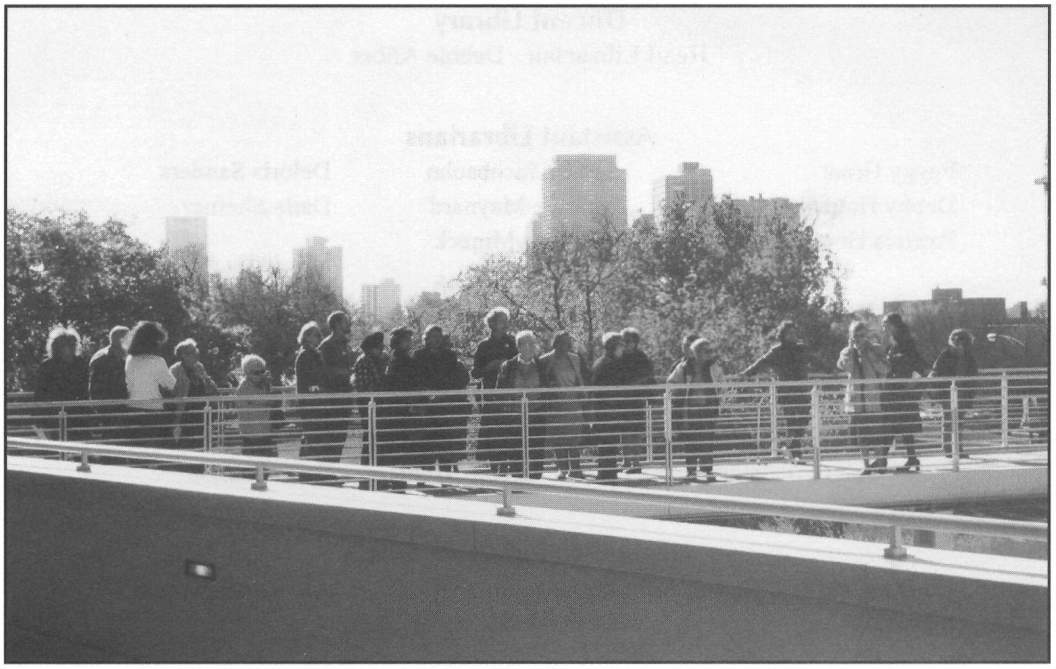
We would like to thank our colleagues in Museum Education — Judy Chavin, Education Programs Associate; Megan Kossiakoff, Education Programs Assistant; Carole Krucoff, Head of Education and Public Programs; Anna Rochester, School and Family Programs Coordinator; and Michelle Schwegmann, Education Programs Assistant, for their faithful support throughout this past year. In a whirlwind of activity, they are the voice of reason and reassurance.



Volunteers enjoy chatting and reminiscing during Annual Holiday Luncheon at Quadrangle Club. Photograph by Jean Grant

The new century provided a moment in time to reflect upon the Volunteer Program's past accomplishments while at the same time realistically set our vision for the program's future goals and direction in the twenty-first century. Preliminary plans are under way for a new program, Docent-on-Line, an interactive learning exchange through Internet access, which will link educators and students directly to a docent who will be able to answer their questions with the mere click of a computer mouse.

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Oriental Institute Docents and Volunteers visit "birdwalk" as part of special tour of newly opened Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum. Photograph by Jean Grant

Whether through in-house tours, outreach visits, or cyberspace access, the Oriental Institute Volunteer Program can now share its rich experience and knowledge with an expanded public audience.

The hard work and dedication of the volunteers continue to demonstrate how they are active contributing partners and valued human resources within the Institute's ongoing operation. Collectively and individually they are a rare and treasured asset.

Advisors to the Volunteer Program

Carlotta Maher Peggy Grant Janet Helman

Computer Laboratory

Irv Diamond	Nancy Gould	Richard Harter
Irene Glasner	Peggy Grant	Karen Terras

Conservation Laboratory

Vilma Basilissi

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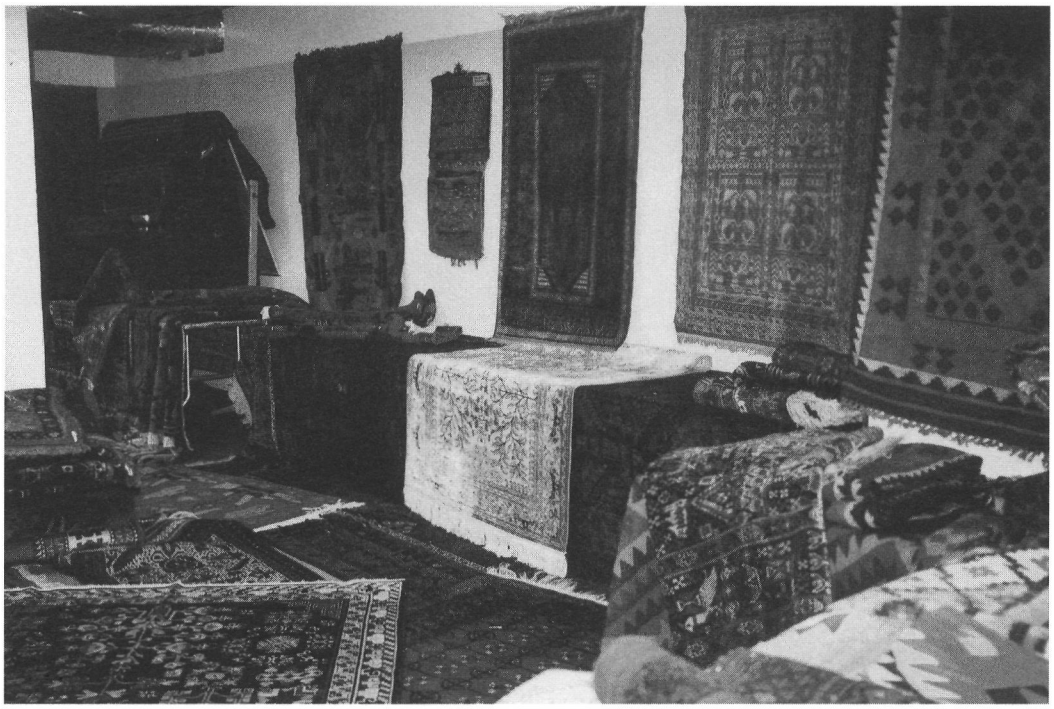
SUQ

Denise Browning

Let there be light! This year we continued our renovation by adding new track lighting to the Suq. The difference is simply amazing! We also added a new computer to the office that seems to move with the speed of light compared with our old computer. With these new advances we have increased sales 12% over last year.

On a very sad note we lost one of our most loyal docents this year, Peggy Kovacs. She came in with a cheerful smile every Friday morning for over twenty years! She will be genuinely missed. Another of our volunteers, Agnethe Rattenborg, had surgery on her knee.

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Photograph by Jean Grant

This year we moved the rug division of our inventory sale downstairs into the LaSalle Banks Education Center. Piled with rugs it looked like a Near Eastern Suq.

Many thanks to all of our volunteers who perform such a wonderful service for our customers and who have been such a pleasure to work with all of these years. Thanks to Florence Ovadia who continues to create wonderful displays, Georgie Maynard who replenishes our stock, Norma van der Meulen who designs and makes original jewelry for us, and our student staff: Christian Hess, Holly Warren, Jennifer Westerfeld (who graduated this year and will return to the Oriental Institute as a graduate student in Egyptology), Emily Shavers, Amanda Eichelkraut, Adrian Degifis, and Megan Dorman.

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DEVELOPMENT

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Overleaf. Step trench, middle of season, facing north. Hamoukar, 1999. Photograph by Clemens Reichel

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DEVELOPMENT

Tim Cashion

Overview

Private non-federal gifts and grants totaled $2,114,898.09. Membership revenues totaled $217,839.13. The Oriental Institute gallery reinstallation campaign debuted in November 1999 and had raised $1,570,000 of its $3,450,000 goal by the close of the fiscal year on 30 June 2000.

The Visiting Committee met twice in 1999/2000. The first meeting, on 3 November 1999 in the Dining Room of the LaSalle Bank Building in downtown Chicago, focused on the prospects of the Institute after the completion of the Legacy Campaign, with particular attention to named professorships, long-term support for dictionary and electronic publication efforts, and general research needs. On 17 May 2000, the Committee met to discuss the details of the ongoing gallery reinstallation effort.

The University of Chicago Board of Trustees has elected two new members to the Visiting Committee to the Oriental Institute. We welcome John W. Rowe and Neil J. King. The Institute accepted with thanks for several years of devoted service the resignation of the Rev. John M. Sevick and mourns the passing of Ira G. Marks.

The James Henry Breasted Society met twice during the year. On Thursday 18 November, the Society dined in the Director's Study with Professor Marvin Powell of Northern Illinois University, who spoke after dinner on Babylonian weights and measures. On May 17, the Society joined Robert Ballard, the famed underwater explorer, at The Field Museum of Natural History in downtown Chicago.

The Institute hosted the following lectures in 1999/2000:

13 October 1999: "Searching for Lot of the Bible," a Members Lecture by Konstantinos D. Politis, Ph.D.

19 January 2000: "Ras Shamra-Ugarit: Past Glories, Present Prospects," a Members Lecture by Professor Dennis Pardee of the Institute.

13 February 2000: "The Bible and the Monuments," a Members Lecture by Professor William W. Hallo of Yale University.

23 February 2000: "Artisan Workshops and Cosmic Symbolism: Ceramic Sculpture from Ancient Egypt," a Members Lecture by Associate Professor Peter F. Dorman of the Institute.

29 March 2000: "The Dead Sea Scrolls and the Current Controversy over Their Meaning," a Members Lecture by Norman Golb, the Ludwig Rosenberger Professor of Jewish Studies at the University of Chicago.

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4 April 2000: "Tel Anafa: Case Study of a Graeco-Phoenician Settlement in the Hellenistic Era," a joint Members Lecture and Archaeological Institute of America Lecture by Sharon Herbert of the University of Michigan.

12 April 2000: "Early Towns in Highest Yemen: Investigation of the Bronze Age Mountain Stronghold of Hammat al-Qa," a Members Lecture by Research Associate (Assoc. Prof.) Tony Wilkinson of the Institute.

17 May 2000: "Underwater Archaeology, Ashkelon, and the Black Sea: The 1999 Season," a Members Lecture by underwater archaeologist Robert Ballard.

31 May 2000: "An Important Early City Site in Syria: New Excavations at Tell Hamoukar," a Members Lecture by Professor McGuire Gibson of the Institute.

The Oriental Institute Travel Program offered departures to Egypt in February 2000, led by Associate Professor Robert K. Ritner and Museum Archivist John A. Larson, and to Eastern Turkey in May 2000, led by Associate Professor Emeritus Richard L. Chambers.

On 5 May 2000, more than 250 members and friends of the Institute gathered at the Drake Hotel to celebrate *Romancing the Past 2000*, a black-tie gala at which Visiting Committee Member **Janet Helman**, former Volunteer Coordinator, was awarded the James Henry Breasted Medallion by University of Chicago President Hugo F. Sonnenschein. The Breasted Medallion is the Institute's highest honor, recognizing extraordinary service by a volunteer: support for Institute initiatives, service in leadership roles, active engagement with the museum, and participation in research and field projects.

The evening included a silent auction of archival prints and rare jewelry, as well as a live auction of a one-week stay at Chicago House and a private dinner with Mark Lehner in the Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery. The evening's keynote address, a multimedia presentation of *The Egyptian Hours of the Night*, was presented by Robert K. Ritner, Associate Professor of Egyptology. Through the generosity of members and friends, Romancing the Past 2000 raised over $100,000 for the reinstallation of the Institute's galleries. The Institute thanks all of our supporters, particularly dinner chairs Thomas and Linda Heagy, Bruce Sagan and Bette Cerf Hill, Robert and Laura Lunn, and John and Jeanne Rowe and Medallion Underwriters Abbott Laboratories, The Coleman Foundation, LaSalle Bank, and Mayer Brown & Platt.

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The Membership Honor Roll is arranged in alphabetical order within each membership level and reflects active memberships as of 30 June 2000. The Donor Honor Roll, also alphabetical by gift level, includes non-membership gifts only. Gifts received after 30 June 2000 will appear in next year's *Annual Report*. We have made every effort to verify gift levels and donor names. Please contact the Development Office at (773) 702-9513 if you wish to make changes in your honor roll listing.

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The James Henry Breasted Society includes Oriental Institute members who annually contribute $2,500 or more (Director's Circle) and $1,000 or more (Patron) to provide a direct, renewable source of unrestricted funds for Oriental Institute projects and for matching money to private and federal grants. We thank each of our Breasted Society members for their ongoing generosity.

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