



NEW EXHIBIT

PIONEERS TO THE PAST

AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGISTS
IN THE MIDDLE EAST, 1919-1920



ALSO INSIDE:

THE GALILEE
PREHISTORY PROJECT
New Excavations
at Marj Rabba, Israel

2008-2009
CHICAGO HOUSE
BULLETIN

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NEWS & NOTES

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FROM THE DIRECTOR'S STUDY

The year 2009 marks the 90th anniversary of the founding of the Oriental Institute. This issue of *News & Notes* highlights both the Institute's past and its future — from James Henry Breasted's 1919–1920 Near Eastern odyssey — the trip that marks our origins as a research center — to the ways that the Oriental Institute's founding vision continues to structure the way our scholars pursue their work of discovery.

Our lead article describes the new special exhibit *Pioneers to the Past: American Archaeologists in the Middle East, 1919–1920*. As described by Geoff Emberling and Emily Teeter, this exhibit highlights Breasted's 1919–1920 trip to Mesopotamia, Syria, Palestine, and Egypt in the immediate aftermath of World War I — the trip that laid the foundations for our archaeological, textual, and art-historical research across the "Fertile Crescent." The photographs, letters, and objects in the exhibit not only tell the story of the Oriental Institute's origins, but also give a rarely seen view of people, places, and politics at the origins of the modern Middle East. This unique perspective helps us better understand the current complexities of this crucial region.

Breasted understood that the immediate post-war period represented an extraordinary window of opportunity when the newly founded Oriental Institute, with the strong support of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., could transform the fundamental structure of research on the ancient Near East. The key characteristics of Oriental Institute research were laid down at this time: a broad comparative focus on civilizational developments across the Near East from Egypt to Iran, and a willingness to undertake long-term, large-scale projects that would establish the chronological and cultural foundations for understanding each of those civilizations.

Yorke Rowan's article "Connecting the Chalcolithic Landscape: The New Excavations at Marj Rabba in Israel" provides a perfect example of the ways that Breasted's original vision has evolved and continues to guide the Institute's work of discovery in ways that extend and enrich his original vision of the Institute's intellectual goals. The Galilee Prehistory Project is a long-term, large-scale project that investigates economy, society, and religion in the Chalcolithic period (ca. 4500–3600 BC) of the southern Levant, specifically northern Israel. This poorly known period marks the crucial transitional phase between the origins of food production in the Neolithic and the origins of towns and cities in the southern Levant during the Early Bronze Age. Although some Chalcolithic sites have been excavated in the arid and marginal Negev region to the south, we know almost nothing about Chalcolithic society in the fertile, well-watered regions of Galilee. To fully investigate the Galilee Chalcolithic, Yorke plans to spend the next decade investigating a range of sites — villages, burial caves, and regional centers — as a way to document the full range of settlement types of this period while clarifying for the first time the religious beliefs and social organization of this enigmatic culture. The 2009 first field season of excavations at the village site of Marj Rabba marks the first step in this project.

Breasted envisioned the Oriental Institute as an interdisciplinary research center that would take on the big questions and fundamental issues in the study of the ancient Near East. Today — 90 years later — our researchers continue to fulfil that ambitious goal.



Maeve Reed

COVER ILLUSTRATION:

The University of Chicago Expedition caravan of Fords traverses the desert near Falluja, bound for Abu Kemal

PIONEERS TO THE PAST

A NEW EXHIBIT AT THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

GEOFF EMBERLING & EMILY TEETER

A new exhibit at the Oriental Institute tells the dramatic story of the Oriental Institute's first expedition, in 1919–1920. Running from January 12 to August 30, 2010, *Pioneers to the Past: American Archaeologists in the Middle East, 1919–1920*, will be displayed in the Marshall and Doris Holleb Family Gallery for Special Exhibits. The exhibit includes several related events this winter; please see page 9 for details.

The exhibit takes visitors along on a real-life adventure story that follows James Henry Breasted and his team as they traveled across the Middle East in the unstable aftermath of World War I, with tribal and nationalist rebellions making the trip extremely dangerous at many points. Breasted's photographs, quotations from his letters home, and documents that survive from the trip present the story itself. This story is joined by another "voice" that comments on the expedition and its aims from a modern perspective, illustrating how much has changed in archaeology (and in the Middle East) since Breasted's time.

BACKGROUND

In 1919, James Henry Breasted had been professor of Egyptology and chair of the Department of Oriental Languages at the University of Chicago for more than twenty years. At the age of 53, he continued to conduct his extraordinarily energetic and brilliant research on the history and languages of ancient Egypt, as well as writing and lecturing widely for the general public. He also maintained a dream of founding a research institute that would produce "a great history of the Origin and Development of Civilization."¹

The origins of civilization, in Breasted's view, were to be sought in the ancient Middle East, rather than in the classical world of Greece and Rome. He argued that the civilizations of the "Orient" (a term used in his time for the Middle East) were interconnected along the "Fertile Crescent," a term he coined to describe the arc of fertile agricultural land extending from Mesopotamia, across the northern Mesopotamian plains, and down the Mediterranean coast. He

believed that adequate understanding of these cultures required interdisciplinary scholarship, encompassing study of ancient languages as well as archaeology and art history.

Breasted had written a general textbook called *Ancient Times* in which he summarized the history of the ancient Middle East, as it was known in 1916. He had sent it to John D. Rockefeller, Jr., then one of the wealthiest men in America, and had received a note from Rockefeller's wife Abby saying that she had read the book to their children. In February 1919, Breasted sent a full proposal for founding the Oriental Institute to Rockefeller, and three months later he received a letter offering five years of support.

THE FIRST EXPEDITION

Breasted immediately began planning a trip across the Middle East to acquire objects for the new Oriental Institute, to make contacts with political figures in the region that would be important in developing collaborations, and to identify sites for future excavation. He would be joined by two of his students, Ludlow Bull and William Edgerton, and two young colleagues, Daniel Luckenbill and William Shelton (fig. 1).

Although Breasted had argued that it was an ideal time for such a trip — that antiquities had accumulated in dealers' shops during the war, when Westerners could not get access to them — it was in fact an extremely unstable and dangerous time to be traveling in the Middle East. The Ottoman Empire had been defeated in 1918, and the boundaries of the modern countries we know in the region had not yet been established. It was a region under military rule (mostly British but also French), and protests against the foreign domination were growing



Figure 1. The University of Chicago Expedition on board the ship *City of Benares* in the Suez Canal bound for Bombay. Left to right: Breasted, Luckenbill, Shelton, Edgerton, and Bull. February 1920

Figure 2. Breasted in full aeronautical garb at the Heliopolis airport, preparing to take aerial photos of ancient monuments, 1919



for the diplomatic history of the region. For example, when he visited the British Military Permit Office, he found it swarming with people. Once they recognized who he was, they were more than accommodating, processing all the required permits and even walking him to their French counterparts, putting his paperwork ahead of the other applicants. When Breasted visited Lord Carnarvon (whose expedition later discovered the tomb of Tutankhamun), Carnarvon contacted the British administrators in Mesopotamia on his behalf. As Breasted wrote in one of his letters, "...even in archaeology, it reeks with politics, and intrigue and counter-intrigue are everywhere."²

By October, Breasted was in France, where he concentrated on making acquisitions of objects for the new museum. He described a visit to the Kalebjian Brothers:

They had a house filled with wonderful things which they were offering for sale.... I went through their entire stock, which was a job of days, like going through a considerable museum, piece by piece — slow and wearying work. I usually kept going until 7:30 or even later, and then went off to dinner and bed.³

During the week, he purchased over 700 objects.

Breasted arrived in Egypt in late October 1919 to find Alexandria and Cairo in turmoil from the tension between the British and the Egyptians. As he wrote, "there is trouble in the air, and the outbreak in Cairo is likely to come at any minute." He referred to "revolutionaries" — members of the nationalist movement — who had started to assassinate British officers. Breasted socialized with members of the High Command, including the High Commissioner of Egypt Lord Allenby and his wife Lady Allenby. Again, Breasted's connections paid off. He had requested copies of aerial images of Egypt that potentially would be of immense value to archaeologists. When examined, they proved to be "partially nothing of use to us archaeologists." Allenby authorized the "scientific work" of Breasted going aloft in a Royal Air Force biplane to photograph the monuments in the Cairo area (fig. 2). Breasted recorded:

The air was very lumpy and at frequent intervals we dropped with a sickening fall into a hole in the air, as you come down in an elevator. This had been going on for nearly an hour. I stuck to my pictures and to studying the terrain from one great pyramid cemetery to the next, grinding my teeth and swearing I was not going to give up to it.... I was not a bit sorry when we turned about and sailed away northward on the

in intensity. In spite of his optimism, Breasted recognized that he needed political connections to accomplish his expedition, especially in Mesopotamia and what is now Syria, for he had no first-hand knowledge of those regions.

The journey really began in England, where Breasted repeatedly gained entrée to upper-level administrators through his publications, which many colonial administrators had read as background

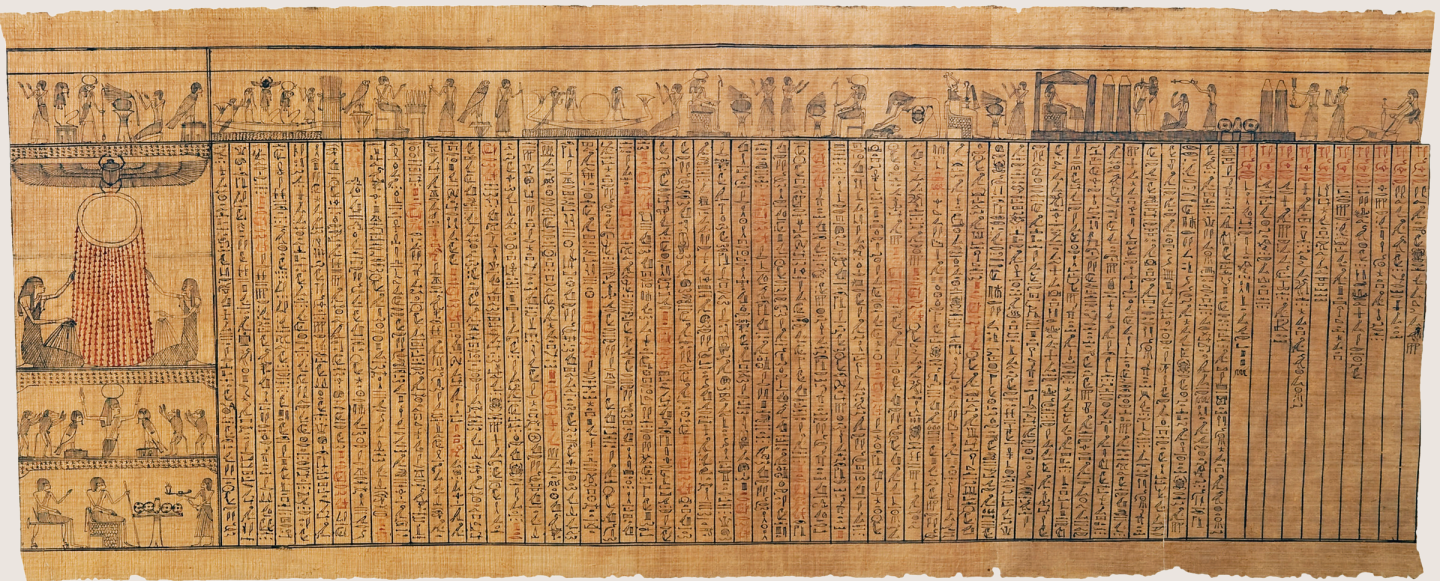


Figure 3. Section of Papyrus Milbank, purchased by Breasted in Cairo in 1919. Ptolemaic Period, 4th–1st centuries BC. OIM 10486

return.... The magnificent panorama of the eastern desert illuminated by the low afternoon sun behind us as we swung northward I shall never forget.⁴

Breasted spent much of his time making the rounds of dealers, acquiring some of what are now the finest pieces in the Oriental Institute's Egyptian collection. At this time, buying and selling antiquities was legal, and objects could be exported with a permit obtained from the Egyptian Museum. Indeed, the museum itself was involved in the market, disposing of unwanted objects through its own sales room.

In one dealer's shop, Breasted was presented with an astounding papyrus (now called Papyrus Milbank) (fig. 3):

And then I could hardly believe my eyes, for I saw something which I have never yet seen in all my years in Egypt. Tano lifted the mummy wrappings, and lying under them was a beautiful brown roll of papyrus, as fresh and uninjured as if it had been a roll of wall paper just arrived from the shop! And it was about as thick as an ordinary roll of wall paper! ... I confess I had some difficulty in maintaining a "poker face." ... Tano laid it down on the table, put his finger on the unrolled inch or two and giving the roll a fillip, he sent it gliding across the table, exposing a perfectly intact

bare surface before the beginning of the writing. It was the first uninjured beginning of a papyrus I had ever seen unrolled and the first roll I ever saw in such perfect condition that it could be thus unrolled as its owner might have done. And then came the writing! An exquisitely written hieroglyphic copy of the Book of the Dead with wonderfully wrought vignettes, the finest copy of the Book of the Dead which has left Egypt for many years!⁵

Among the other important purchases were the group of limestone serving statues from the tomb of Nykauinpu (figs. 4–5), and the mummy and cartonnage coffin of Meresamun. He also bought material for the Art Institute of Chicago. As he wrote to their director:

I think that I have never been so busy before in all my life and I have seen some fairly busy times. I have spent a great deal of time on the Art Institute purchases, and it has been a great pleasure to do so, for I have secured you some very beautiful things. I have been through the entire stocks of the leading dealers in Cairo; chiefly Blanchard, Kyticas, Tano, Nahman and Kalekian.... It has taken a great amount of time to go over these collections.... I feel however that I am in duty bound to let you know that the present opportunity to secure more such material will never return

again, and that it would be very wise to seize the opportunity while it is still ours. The situation is this. The natives have made a great deal of money on the war. Many of them who never bought antiquities before have done so since last spring and they are holding all that they have bought at preposterous prices.... Meanwhile most of them are willing to listen to reason and are disposing of what they have at practically pre-war prices ... there is therefore a body of material here in Cairo, which will never be available again and which would give the Art Institute at fair prices a very beautiful group of sculpture....⁶

Only a few years later, the laws changed dramatically as artifacts became politically charged symbols of Egyptian identity. They served as vivid reminders of the antiquity, distinction, and uniqueness of Egyptian culture and they served to differentiate Egypt from its Arab neighbors. Today, artifacts are valued as part of the national patrimony, and it is illegal to buy, sell, or export antiquities from Egypt.

By February 1920, the four others met Breasted and they sailed for Bombay and then on to Basra. This lengthier route was arranged by the British India Office because they did not control the shorter overland route. At this point, Breasted



Figure 4. The serving statues of Nykauinpu at dealer Nicola Tano, 1919. Note the black drape that is being held for photography and the ghostly image of an attendant, to the left



Figure 5. A butcher from the group of Nykauinpu statues purchased by Breasted in Cairo, 1919. Fifth Dynasty, ca. 2445–2414 BC. OIM 10626

was in territories familiar to him only from their ancient times — indeed, he had written about them, but he had never experienced the modern reality of the region. His letters repeatedly reflect that he was traveling through a landscape that was meaningful to him because of its past rather than its present: “I have never been through the [Suez] Canal before, as you know and I naturally found it interesting to pass or rather cross the line of march of Pharaoh’s armies in Egypt’s great campaigns in Asia.”⁷ His letters evoke names from antiquity — Moses, Sindbad the Sailor, Darius, and Alexander the Great — more than they do modern political figures.

Once in Basra, the expedition saw signs of the uneasy British military occupation everywhere. Armored gunboats plied the Euphrates, Rolls-Royce armored cars (prototype tanks), airfields, and military encampments dotted the landscape. The danger was very real. British soldiers were being attacked and killed by tribesmen. In Baghdad, Breasted met with the highest-ranking British officers — General Haldane and Major General Hambro — who arranged transportation onward. Breasted crossed paths with Gertrude Bell (who later

founded the Iraq National Museum), accompanying her and her father on a visit to the ziggurat at Aqar Quf.

From Baghdad, the group traveled by the new Mesopotamian railways to visit Ashur, then by armed caravan in Model T Fords to other Assyrian cities of Nineveh, Nimrud, Khorsabad, and Balawat. As he explored the sites, Breasted made preliminary recommendations for which sites to excavate. Again, he stayed in contact with the military and governmental officials, mixing politics with archaeology:

I promised the Civil Commissioner at Baghdad to hand him a complete plan for the organization of a Mesopotamian Department of Antiquities. What is more, if I could put my hand on young Americans of the right experience, I could also man the organization for him, and he would be very glad to get them, for there are no English Assyriologists.⁸

Repeatedly he stressed the importance of American involvement in archaeology of the Middle East, referring to the “obligation” of the United States to work in the area, in terms of “the great new task before us and to determine the extent and character of the obligation

which rests upon us Americans especially in view of the fact that we have not suffered such frightful losses in men and resources as have France and the other allied peoples.”⁹

These remarks, which brim with American energy and optimism, were perhaps excessively dismissive of the long-standing work of the British and French in the region.

Although the expedition emphasized reconnaissance, the group took advantage of an opportunity to examine a startling find made at Salihyah on the Euphrates River near the modern border between Iraq and Syria. Wall paintings had been discovered there when British troops dug a machine-gun emplacement. To get there from Baghdad, the expedition joined a military convoy that was the frequent target of Arab snipers. Five vans and two touring cars traversed the distance in five nervous days. Once at Salihyah, they had a single day to draw, measure, and photograph the wall paintings (fig. 6),¹⁰ and Breasted was able to identify the site as ancient Dura Europos, a Roman border fortress.

As Breasted and his team continued up the Euphrates toward the Mediterranean (and toward home), they had to leave the area controlled by the British. They entered a precarious area known as the Arab State — T. E. Lawrence (“of Arabia”) had assembled Arab fighters during the war with the promise that they would be given their own state with its capital in Damascus. In this unstable and ambiguous moment, King Faysal ruled the area just as British and French diplomats were negotiating treaties that would abolish the independent Arab state in favor of the French mandate of Syria.

The party had to leave the Model T’s behind and transferred to very uncomfortable local wagons for their eight-day journey to Aleppo. They flew the American flag (fig. 7) to ensure that the locals recognized that they were not British. They were received warmly by the Arabs, who looked to Americans for support for their independence from the French and British. Once in Aleppo,



Figure 6. Photo of the wall painting at Salihyah (ancient Dura Europos) showing the Roman tribune Julius Terentius offering incense to local gods. Published in OIP 1, *Oriental Forerunners of Byzantine Paintings*



Figure 7. The wagon (*arabanah*) of the University of Chicago at Tibni, Iraq, looking toward the Euphrates. The American flag was an attempt to inform the local peoples that the expedition members were American, not British. May 7–8, 1920

Breasted met with the American Consul and the Arab governor. Later, he also met twice with King Faysal, and asked him to autograph a photograph (fig. 8).

The expedition continued to Lebanon and Haifa, where the group disbanded. Breasted's plan to visit Megiddo, whose ancient history he knew so well, was thwarted by logistical problems. He returned to Cairo, then on to London where he briefed the British government on his impressions of the political situation in the Middle East.



Figure 8. Breasted's autographed photo of King Faysal, then King of the Arab State, 1920

In July he was back in Chicago, eleven months after his initial departure.

APPRAISAL OF THE EXPEDITION

As mentioned, the goals of the first expedition were to acquire objects for the museum and to scout sites for the University of Chicago to excavate. There is no question that Breasted made brilliant purchases — many of the highlights of the Egyptian collection were acquired then. Overall, he succeeded admirably in his second goal, especially when considered in the long term. Ironically, because of unstable conditions he was not able to visit Megiddo, Persepolis, or the sites in the Amuq that were to be associated with Chicago. But Medinet Habu (1924 Epigraphic Survey, 1926 Architectural Survey) and Khorsabad (1928) became Chicago projects in the 1920s (as did Megiddo in 1925, the Amuq in 1926, and Persepolis in 1931), together making Chicago a world force in Middle Eastern archaeology. Largely forgotten today are Breasted's recommendations that did not reach fruition: the excavation of Nimrud, Nineveh, Sidon, Byblos, and Kadesh. But there is no other single figure in ancient Near Eastern studies who has had such an impact on the field. The exhibit *Pioneers to the Past: American Archaeologists in the Middle East, 1919–1920*, gives us the opportunity, ninety years later, to reflect

on Breasted, his times, his attitudes to the world around him, and the legacy he left us all.

As a final note, we should add that the record of this expedition is extraordinarily rich. Breasted's letters home, more than 200 typed pages in transcript, are a detailed account of people and places he encountered. He is both a keen observer and great writer, and his uncensored remarks provide a wide range of perspectives on the man and his times. Approximately 1,100 photographs from the expedition also survive. The letters and photographs will be made available online at the opening of the exhibit. The exhibit catalog provides a guide through this material as well as essays that contextualize the many issues — of archaeology and politics and ownership of the past — raised by the expedition and its time.



The exhibit and the research behind it would not have been possible without the assistance of John Larson, Oriental Institute Archivist, and a number of Oriental Institute volunteers who scanned photos. Special thanks to Peggy Grant for her painstaking transcription and scanning of Breasted's letters to his family, and to Jean Fincher for her equally careful proofreading. Watch for an article by Peggy Grant on Breasted's purchases of Egyptian objects in the Spring 2010 issue of *News & Notes*.

NOTES

- ¹ Original capitalization. From Breasted's proposal for the Oriental Institute, February 1919. Oriental Institute Archives.
- ² Breasted to T. G. Allen, October 2, 1919.
- ³ Breasted to his family, October 18, 1919.
- ⁴ Breasted to Frances Breasted, January 14, 1920.
- ⁵ Breasted to Frances Breasted, December 10, 1919.
- ⁶ Breasted to Hutchinson, December 4, 1919.
- ⁷ Breasted to Frances Breasted, February 19, 1919.
- ⁸ Breasted to Frances Breasted, June 19, 1920.
- ⁹ Breasted to Mrs. Anderson, December 10, 1919.
- ¹⁰ Published in 1924 as Oriental Institute Publications 1. *Oriental Forerunners of Byzantine Paintings*.

“ THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE IN THE NEWS ”

A selection of recent coverage of the Oriental Institute in Chicago and national media sources

GENERAL COVERAGE

Chicago Tribune

October 9, 2009

"Olympics or Not, We Love Hyde Park" — <http://www.chicagotribune.com/entertainment/events/chi-1009-neighborhoodwatch-hydepact09,0,7597897.story>

Community Star Network

November 11, 2009

"If You're into Mummies, Today's Your Day," by Rachel Sheeley — <http://www.indystar.com/article/20091101/LOCAL/911010350/1001/NEWS/If+you+r+e+into+mummies++today+s+your+day>

MERESAMUN EXHIBIT

Archaeology Magazine

September/October 2009, p. 12

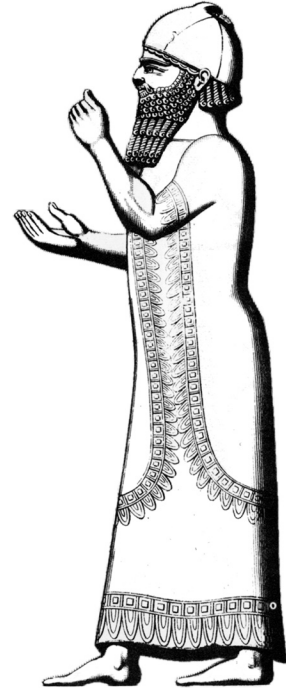
"Faces of Egypt" — www.archaeology.org/online/features/meresamun/reconstruction.html

PERSEPOLIS

Physorg.com

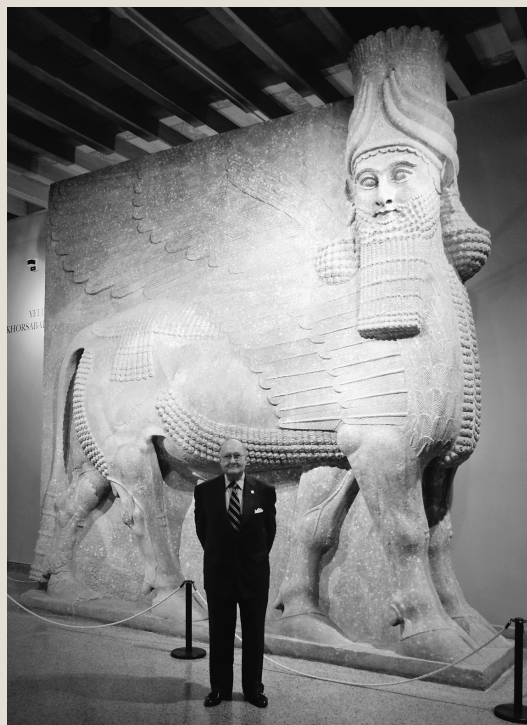
October 14, 2009

Technology Brings New Insights to Ancient Language" — <http://www.physorg.com/news174760375.html>

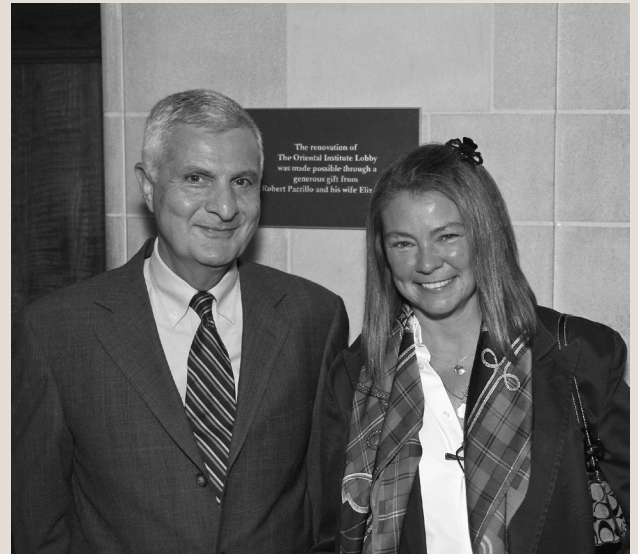


DONOR SPOTLIGHT

On June 17, 2009, the Oriental Institute honored Robert and Elizabeth Parrillo for their gift to fund improvements to the Institute lobby. To date, the Parrillos have given \$50,000 in support of these improvements which included the design and installation of new lighting, signage, and video equipment.



Ambassador John Ong in front of the lamassu in the Yelda Khorsabad Court



Robert and Elizabeth Parrillo pose in front of the plaque in the redesigned Oriental Institute lobby

On May 13, 2009, the Oriental Institute honored Ambassador John Ong, former chair of the Oriental Institute Visiting Committee, for two major gifts to the Oriental Institute totaling \$200,000. A dedication plaque was installed next to the great lamassu to show our appreciation for Ambassador Ong's continued support.

Gifts such as these help us continue the high-quality research and programming for which the Oriental Institute has earned its world-class reputation. If you are interested in making a gift to the Oriental Institute or would like additional information on giving opportunities, please contact the Oriental Institute Development Office at (773) 834-9775.

PIONEERS TO THE PAST: AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGISTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST, 1919–1920

GALLERY TOUR

PIONEERS TO THE PAST

Geoff Emberling

Wednesday, January 13

12:15 PM

FREE

Be among the first to take a guided tour our newest special exhibit, *Pioneers to the Past: American Archaeologists in the Middle East, 1919–1920*. Join Geoff Emberling, Oriental Institute Museum Director, to discuss the many never-before exhibited photographs, artifacts, and archival documents on view and learn the behind-the-scenes story of the creation of the exhibit.



Members of the first expedition of the University of Chicago at Meyadin in the Arab State, with their American flag, 1920. Left to Right: William Edgerton, William Shelton, James H. Breasted, Ludlow Bull. Note the pistol on Breasted's belt

FAMILY PROGRAM

DIG IT!

Saturday, February 6

1:00–3:00 PM

Is Indiana Jones a typical archaeologist? Come find out! Go behind the scenes to take part in a hands-on archaeological dig in our new Kipper Family Archaeology Discovery Center, where you'll meet Oriental Institute archaeologists and unearth amazing ancient-style artifacts. Then go on a scavenger hunt in the Museum galleries to learn the secrets of some of our most famous discoveries and see the spectacular treasures brought to the Oriental Institute by James Henry Breasted, the Institute's founder, whose adventures rival Indy's own.

FEE: \$7 per person for Oriental Institute Members; \$9 for non-members. Fee includes the program, all materials, and an archaeology experiment to take home.

Space is limited and pre-registration is required. Suggested for children ages 8 and up, accompanied by an adult.

EDUCATOR OPEN HOUSE

THE MIDDLE EAST TODAY: HEARING THE ECHOES OF WORLD WAR I

James Henry Breasted's letters and photographs from his 1919–1920 trip across the Middle East provide unique insights into the unstable aftermath of the region following World War I. Watch our Web site and the *E-Tablet* electronic newsletter for the date and details on this program for high-school educators which will address such questions as Who owns the past? and Which events during and after World War I still resonate on the world stage today?

FILM SCREENING

LAWRENCE OF ARABIA

Commentary by Fred M. Donner,
Professor of Islamic History

Part 1 Sunday, February 21

Part 2 Sunday, February 28

2:00 PM

Breasted Hall

FREE

Widely considered one of the greatest films ever made, *Lawrence of Arabia* brilliantly portrays many of the World War I-era luminaries that James Henry Breasted met on his historic expedition to the Middle East, including Faysal, king of the short-lived Arab State based in Damascus; Lord (later Viscount) Edmund Allenby, Commander of the Expeditionary Force sent from British-occupied Egypt; and T. E. Lawrence "of Arabia" himself. View this masterpiece of world cinema on the big screen as it was meant to be seen and see how it succeeds as an epic story of a remarkable man amid a collapsing empire. Then discuss the historical significance of the era with Professor Fred Donner, who introduces and provides commentary on the film.

SUNDAY FILMS

Each Sunday afternoon, enjoy the best in documentary and feature films about the Middle East. These free showings begin at 2:00 PM and run approximately 30–50 minutes, unless otherwise noted. Following the film, Museum docents will be available in the galleries to answer your questions about our exhibits.

January 3 Breasted Hall closed for winter break

January 10 *Deciphering the Dead Sea Scrolls* (1999)

This film explores the discovery and heated disputes surrounding the authorship and interpretation of the Dead Sea Scrolls, the oldest and most complete biblical manuscripts ever found. The film features commentary by scholars from around the world, including Norman Golb, Ludwig Rosenberger Professor in Jewish History and Civilization at the University of Chicago.

January 17 *Pioneer to the Past: The Life and Times of James Henry Breasted* (2004)

Part of WTTW's Chicago Stories series, this film presents Chicago-area native James Henry Breasted, founder of the Oriental Institute. Arriving at the University of Chicago in the 1890s as the first American professor of Egyptology, Breasted's scholarly vision, entrepreneurial flair, and unbending determination helped him shape the Oriental Institute into a great academic institution that is still guided by his principles.

January 24 *Mesopotamia: I Have Conquered the River* (2000)

Explore ancient Mesopotamia — today's Iraq — in a film that examines the vital role of waterways in the development of this great ancient civilization. The film features a dramatic computerized re-creation of life along the Euphrates River more than 4,000 years ago.

January 31 *Who Were the Israelites?* (1996)

This film considers ways the latest archaeological discoveries relate to the Bible's depiction of the Israelites' conquest of the Promised Land.

February 7 *Nubia 64: Saving the Temples of Ancient Egypt* (1987)

This Cannes Film Festival Grand Prix-winning film presents the unprecedented international campaign to salvage and reconstruct ancient monuments in Egypt and Sudan that were threatened by the construction of the Aswan Dam.

February 14 *Sampson and Delilah* (1949) 128 min.

February 21 *Lawrence of Arabia* (1963), Part 1, 108 min. See p. 9

February 28 *Lawrence of Arabia*, Part 2, 108 min.

Join us to celebrate Women's History Month on the first Sundays in March with two highly regarded documentaries offering perspectives on *Cleopatra*, ancient Egypt's most famous queen.

March 7 *Cleopatra: Destiny's Queen* (1994)

This documentary from the A&E Biography series mixes rare footage with updated research and exclusive interviews to present a biographical portrait of Cleopatra that strives to separate myth from fact.

March 14 *Cleopatra's Palace: In Search of a Legend* (1999)

Narrated by Omar Sharif, this film tells the story of the underwater excavations that led to the discovery of the remains of Cleopatra's palace in the harbor at Alexandria in Egypt.

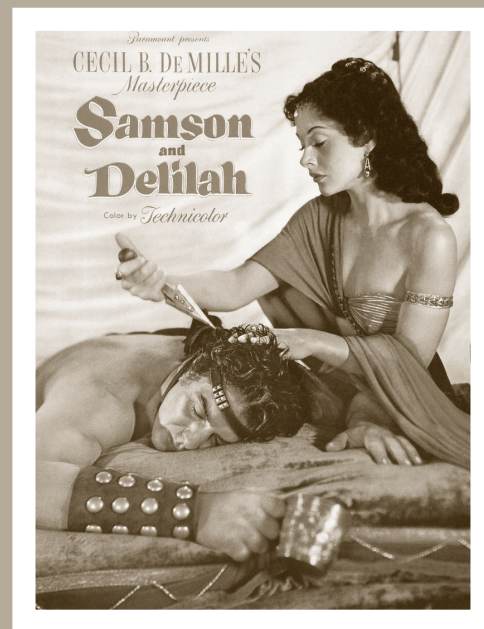
March 21 *Noah's Flood in Context: Legend or History?* (2004)

This film uses satellite imagery, declassified intelligence photos, dramatic artwork, and archival footage to consider the scientific plausibility of the Old Testament story of Noah.

March 28 *Mt. Nemrud: Throne of the Gods* (2001)

Discover the eighth wonder of the ancient world in this film highlighting the massive ruins located on Mount Nemrud in eastern Turkey.

VALENTINE'S DAY FILM



Movie poster from the 1949 Paramount film *Samson and Delilah*

SAMSON & DELILAH

Sunday, February 14

2:00 PM

Breasted Hall

FREE

Celebrate Valentine's Day with a really old-time love story. This 1949 Cecil B. DeMille classic stars Victor Mature as the biblical strongman and Hedy Lamarr as the seductive lady with the knife who captivates and then betrays him. Don't miss this spectacular, Oscar-winning sword-and-sandal epic. There may even be popcorn!

WINTER 2010 CALENDAR

Unless otherwise noted, all programs take place at the Oriental Institute. All programs subject to change.

JANUARY

- 3 | SUNDAY **Breasted Hall closed for winter break**
- 6 | WEDNESDAY **Searching for Ancient Sam'al: Four Seasons of Excavation at Zincirli in Turkey**
Members' Lecture
7:00 PM
See page 21 for details
- 10 | SUNDAY **Deciphering the Dead Sea Scrolls**
Film
2:00 PM
See page 10 for details
- 11 | MONDAY **The Temples of Greco-Roman Egypt**
Adult Education Course
Mondays, January 11–March 8
10:00 AM–12:00 noon
Gleacher Center
See page 18 for details
- Pioneers to the Past: American Archaeologists in the Middle East, 1919–1920**
Members' Preview
6:00 PM
See page 12 for details
- 12 | TUESDAY **Pioneers to the Past: American Archaeologists in the Middle East, 1919–1920**
Exhibit Opens to the Public
- 13 | WEDNESDAY **Pioneers to the Past**
Gallery Tour
12:15 PM
See page 9 for details
- In the Footsteps of Alexander the Great**
Adult Education Course
Wednesdays, January 13–March 3
7:00–9:00 PM
See page 18 for details
- 16 | SATURDAY **Women's Work, Women's Power: The Responsibilities, Actions, and Authority of Women in the Ancient Near East**
Adult Education Course
Saturdays, January 16–February 20
10:00 AM–12:00 noon
See page 19 for details

The Ancient Mediterranean World: A Story of Trade, Diplomacy, War, and Migration

Adult Education Course
Saturdays, January 16–March 6
1:30–3:30 PM
See page 19 for details

17 | SUNDAY **Pioneer to the Past: The Life and Times of James Henry Breasted**

Film
2:00 PM
See page 10 for details

24 | SUNDAY **Mesopotamia: I Have Conquered the River**

Film
2:00 PM
See page 10 for details

31 | SUNDAY **Who Were the Israelites?**

Film
2:00 PM
See page 10 for details

FEBRUARY

- 3 | WEDNESDAY **Death's Dominion: Chalcolithic Religion and the Ritual Economy of the Southern Levant**
Members' Lecture
7:00 PM
See page 21 for details
- 6 | SATURDAY **Dig It!**
Family Program
1:00–3:00 PM
See page 9 for details
- 7 | SUNDAY **Nubia 64: Saving the Temples of Ancient Egypt**
Film
2:00 PM
See page 10 for details
- 14 | SUNDAY **Samson and Delilah**
Film
2:00 PM
See page 10 for details

WINTER 2010 CALENDAR

21 | SUNDAY

Lawrence of Arabia, Part 1

Special Film Showing
2:00 PM
See page 9 for details

27 | SATURDAY

Egypt in Chicago

Field Trip
10:00 AM
Meet at the Oriental Institute
See page 22 for details

28 | SUNDAY

Lawrence of Arabia, Part 2

Special Film Showing
2:00 PM
See page 9 for details

MARCH

3 | WEDNESDAY

Biblical Archaeology, the Limits of Science, and the Borders of Belief

Members' Lecture
7:00 PM
See page 21 for details

4 | THURSDAY

Tastes of Lebanon

Cuisine and Cookery of the Near East
7:00 PM
Fattoush Restaurant
See page 18 for details

7 | SUNDAY

Cleopatra: Destiny's Queen

Film
2:00 PM
See page 10 for details

14 | SUNDAY

Cleopatra's Palace: In Search of a Legend

Film
2:00 PM
See page 10 for details

20 | SATURDAY

Stravaganze! The Virtuoso Violinists

Concert in the Yelda Khorsabad Court
7:00 PM Pre-concert Lecture
8:00 PM Concert
See page 19 for details

21 | SUNDAY

Noah's Flood in Context: Legend or History?

Film
2:00 PM
See page 10 for details

28 | SUNDAY

Mt. Nemrud: Throne of the Gods

Film
2:00 PM
See page 10 for details

MEMBERS' PREVIEW

PIONEERS TO THE PAST: AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGISTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST, 1919–1920

Monday, January 11, 2010

6:00–8:30 PM

An Exclusive Oriental Institute Members' Event

Join us for the Oriental Institute Members' preview of the special exhibit *Pioneers to the Past: American*

Archaeologists in the Middle East, 1919–1920. Ninety years ago, the archaeologist-Egyptologist James Henry Breasted traveled with four companions across a war-torn Middle East to purchase antiquities for study and display in Chicago and to identify sites for excavation. It was the first expedition for the Oriental Institute. The exhibit *Pioneers to the Past* takes a fresh look at this formative event in the life of the Oriental Institute.

Breasted's letters, photographs, and the objects he brought back to Chicago are featured in the exhibit and tell a great adventure story, but they also raise questions for archaeologists of today. For example: Who owns the past? How are

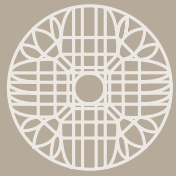
modern nations linked to past civilizations? How do archaeologists relate to people in foreign countries where they work? These questions are explored in this thought-provoking exhibit.

6:00 PM Program and remarks by curator Geoff Emberling, followed by exhibit viewing in the Marshall and Doris Holleb Family Special Exhibits Gallery. Reception to follow in the Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery.

7:00–7:30 PM Exhibit catalog signing

The Suq will feature a special selection of related books and gifts.

Please RSVP by January 4 by contacting the Membership Office at oi-membership@uchicago.edu or call (773) 834-9777.



The Research Archives Adopt-a-Journal Campaign

THE RESEARCH ARCHIVES needs your help to maintain its position as the premier library for ancient Near Eastern studies in the Western Hemisphere. The Adopt-a-Journal Campaign is an opportunity to provide the library with its most valuable asset and demonstrate your commitment to the preservation of knowledge and learning for future generations of Oriental Institute members, scholars, students, and visitors.

DONORS TO THE PROGRAM can choose to adopt a journal annually, create a fund to ensure long-term support, or donate a personal copy of a specific journal needed in the collection. Every dollar donated goes toward purchasing new volumes, above and beyond our current subscriptions. We are pleased to recognize our donors with a permanent, personalized bookplate in the books and journals that they sponsor, as well as a mention in the pages of the *Oriental Institute Annual Report*. Please contact Foy Scalf at (773) 702-9537 or scalffd@uchicago.edu if you would like more information about how to sponsor a specific book or journal. We are very grateful for your sponsorship.



MUSEUM EDUCATION

Please enroll me in the following museum education program(s):

Don't miss out — register early!

	MEMBERS	NON-MEMBERS	TOTAL
<input type="checkbox"/> The Temples of Greco-Roman Egypt	_____ \$240	_____ \$290	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> In the Footsteps of Alexander the Great	_____ \$240	_____ \$290	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Women's Work, Women' Power	_____ \$175	_____ \$225	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> The Ancient Mediterranean World	_____ \$240	_____ \$290	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Tastes of Lebanon	_____ \$49	_____ \$54	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Egypt in Chicago	_____ \$79	_____ \$89	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Dig It!	_____ \$7	_____ \$9	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Stravaganze! <i>General Admission \$25; Students \$5. Call the Newberry Consort at (312) 255-3610 to purchase tickets.</i>			

GRAND TOTAL _____

I would like to become a member of the Oriental Institute. Enclosed is \$50 for an Annual Membership; \$40 for seniors, UC/UCH Faculty & Staff, and National Associates (persons living more than 100 miles from Chicago within the USA). **Please send a separate check for membership.**

I prefer to pay by Check (payable to the Oriental Institute) Money order MasterCard Visa

Account number: _____ Exp. date: _____ 3-digit security code: _____

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Daytime phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Cut out and send form to: The Oriental Institute Education Office, 1155 East 58th Street, Chicago, IL 60637

REGISTRATION AND REFUND POLICY

For multi-session on-campus courses, a full refund will be granted to anyone who notifies us about his/her cancellation before the first class meeting. Those who cancel after the first class meeting, but before the second class meeting, will receive a full refund minus a \$50 cancellation fee. After the second class meeting, no refunds will be granted unless the course is canceled by the Education Office. Failure to attend a class does not entitle a registrant to a refund. Some courses require a small materials fee to be paid at the first class meeting.

For single-session programs, where tickets are sold by the Oriental Institute, no refunds will be granted, but if the Museum Education Office is notified of cancellation at least 48 hours before the program begins, a credit voucher will be issued for the full amount. With less than 48 hours notice, a voucher for the full amount, less a \$5 cancellation fee, will be issued. Credit vouchers can be used for any Oriental Institute single-session program for one full calendar year from the date on the voucher. Tickets sold by other organizations for programs held at the Oriental Institute are subject to the cancellation policies of the organization selling the tickets. Only those registered for classes may attend them. The Museum Education Office reserves the right to refuse to retain any student in any class at any time.

CONNECTING THE CHALCOLITHIC LANDSCAPE THE NEW EXCAVATIONS AT MARJ RABBA IN ISRAEL

Yorke M. Rowan

The southern Levant, that small region (roughly, Israel, Jordan, and the Palestinian National Authority) whose history is frequently overshadowed by the two empires that arose in Egypt and Mesopotamia, was the scene for fundamental changes to human society. Since the earliest migrations of our hominid ancestors over two million years ago, the region served as a key land bridge between the African continent and Asia. From that time until the domestication of plants and animals during the Neolithic period, human groups lived as small bands of hunting, foraging, and gathering societies. Between eleven and eight thousand years ago, human control over food production, commonly called the “Neolithic Revolution,” included processes (increased birth rate and population, introduction of new diseases, social practices, etc.) that kicked off irreversible changes to human evolution that remain with us to this day.

Not long after the Neolithic Revolution, a technological change took place that, like the domestication of plants and animals, had lasting ramifications. This technological revolution started with the smelting of copper, and in the southern Levant this era is known as the Chalcolithic period (chalco = copper; lithic = stone), dated to roughly 4500–3600 BC. Before the Neolithic invention of pottery and copper smelting during the Chalcolithic period, humans made tools, weapons, containers, and other items from materials such as wood, stone, bone, antler, and shell by reducing the material (carving, striking, pounding, grinding) — that is, without altering the geochemical structure of the material. Through the transformation of clay and ore, a profound alteration of matter from one state to another opened a new world of possibilities.

This early metallurgy was important, but the initial impact as a technological improvement may have been less important than the social value these metal items accrued to those who possessed them. Items such as axes, chisels, and mace-heads were rare and available to very few people; their impact as labor-saving devices was probably minimal, and their effectiveness as tools may have been limited due to the softness of the unalloyed copper. Could it be that the manipulation and display of these beautiful objects was more important for ritual or status dimensions than for any efficiency or economic value?

At about the same time that the smelting of metal began, other major cultural transformations took place in the southern Levant. People who combined farming with animal husbandry spread into regions previously only sparsely occupied (e.g., Golan Heights and the Beersheba Valley), living in villages of

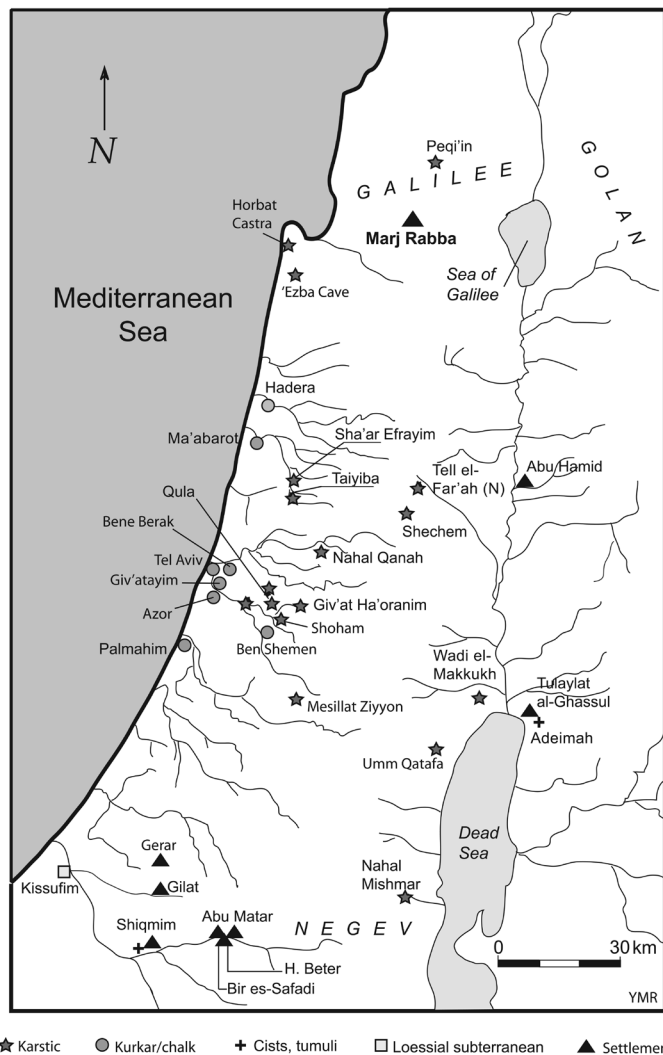


Figure 1. Selected Chalcolithic cave and settlement sites



Figure 2. The site of Marj Rabba

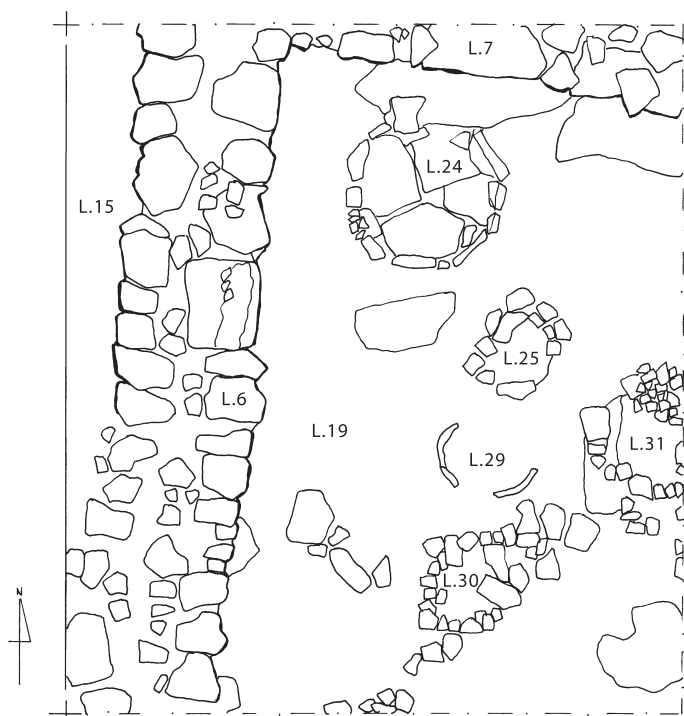
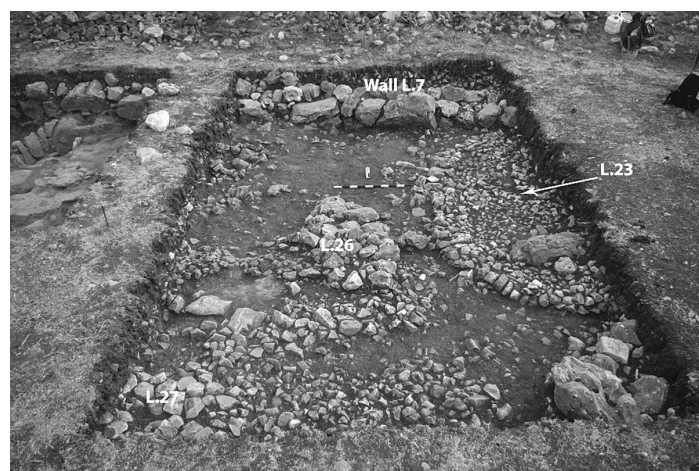


Figure 3. Square C1, photograph and plan

various sizes. Secondary animal products became an important economic factor, evident in specialized pottery vessels for milk products and weaving tools such as spindle whorls and animal-bone shuttles. Horticulture, the olive in particular, became significant and probably played an increasingly important role in trade with neighboring people, such as those living in Egypt. Craft production involved greater technological expertise, the long-distance procurement of raw materials, and greater labor investment. Weaving, smelting, stone and ivory working, and pottery manufacture all increased dramatically in quantity and expertise during the Chalcolithic period. Rather than intended to make life easier or more efficient, much of this increased labor investment was dedicated to creating status goods, which are much more prominent in the archaeological record, especially in mortuary contexts. Rituals surrounding burial of the dead became much more elaborate during the Chalcolithic

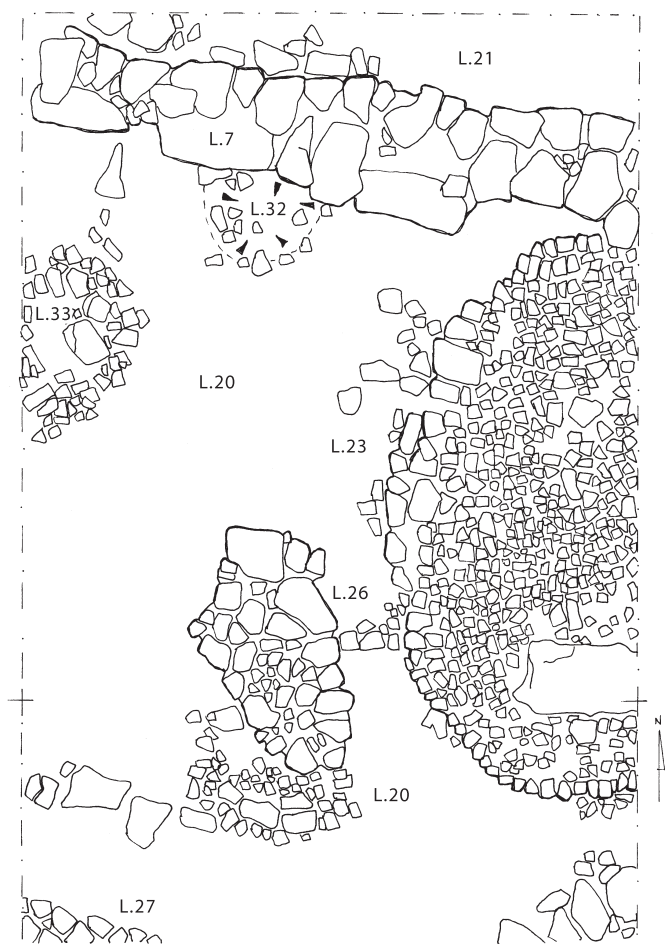


Figure 4. Square D1, photograph and plan

period, with secondary burial becoming common. In secondary burial, the living return to earlier inhumations, remove selected skeletal remains (typically long bones and the cranium), and rebury them in new locations. During the Chalcolithic period, these rites sometimes included reburial of the selected skeletal elements in ceramic or stone boxes, called ossuaries. Ceramic ossuaries are painted, and most have at least a large nose and simple eyes placed at the top. Others are much more elaborate, with a range of modeled heads, some with beards and headgear;

a few include arms and teeth, features never before seen on Chalcolithic ossuaries. Usually placed in caves, often with pottery, other items such as carved basalt bowls, metal objects, and stone stelae were sometimes included.

One of the richest burial caves, in terms of human remains and ossuaries, was discovered accidentally with a bulldozer during road construction. Peqi'in Cave, in the Upper Galilee of Israel, included human remains from hundreds of individuals, and a range of ossuaries far surpassing any found in Levantine prehistory. In addition to the ossuaries, copper, ivory, and many pottery vessels were recovered, some made of non-local materials. Did people come from distant areas, such as the Golan, the Negev, the Jordan Valley, and other regions, to re-bury their loved ones, or was Peqi'in the burial ground of people living nearby? Archaeologists are uncertain because our knowledge of life in the Galilee during the Chalcolithic period is extremely limited. Were these communities similar to those in the Negev, or those in the Golan? Did they trade with Egypt, like those people living to the south?

The Galilee Prehistory Project, a new research initiative launched by the Oriental Institute, is designed to answer these questions about the lives of people living in the Upper and Lower Galilee during the Chalcolithic period. In order to do this, we will collect not only objects of material culture (pottery, flint, ground stone), but also animal remains, sediment samples, and hopefully botanical remains from a variety of sites.

Marj Rabba, the first site of this new initiative, is located about one kilometer north of the Roman site of Yodfat (figs. 1–2). No architecture was visible on the surface of the site, which is a rocky area used primarily for pasture and olive groves, but surface finds suggest that the site was occupied only during the Chalcolithic period. Our initial exploratory excavations during July and August 2009 opened two areas, east and west.

EAST AREA

Located in a strip of unplanted field, the east area is where we sought to find the remains of the Chalcolithic village. We opened three 5 x 5 meter squares, plus one half square. Although the ground was extremely compact and initially required pickaxes to penetrate, we were happy to discover well-preserved architecture not far below the surface, sometimes as little as 20 cm. In square C1 we quickly uncovered two stone walls. Wall L.7 runs east–west along the northern edge and wall, L.6 runs north–south along the western edge of the square, possibly forming the corner of a large room or courtyard (fig. 3). Near this corner, an

elliptical limestone slab-lined pit (L.24) was built up against the base of wall L.7. Roughly 1 m in diameter and preserved about 50 cm deep, the bottom of the pit was paved. Just to the south of this slab-lined pit (or silo?), a large flat limestone slab suggests a work surface related to this feature. Nearby, a small section of original laid surface (L.25) was preserved, consisting of larger pottery fragments beneath a hard-packed layer of mud.

Square D1 was opened directly east of square C1. Wall L.7 continues its east–west course in this square and more stone features were exposed. The most notable feature uncovered in square D1 is L.23, a large curvilinear structure made of small limestone cobbles (fig. 4). Square D1 was extended south to expose the southern portion of L.23; next season we plan to excavate the adjoining square to expose the rest of this intriguing structure in the hopes of understanding its function. Some of our most interesting finds of the season were recovered near curvilinear structure L.23, including the thin (ca. 8 mm thick) bifacially flaked flint disk fragment and the beautiful bone pendant fragment (fig. 5).

Approximately 35 m to the east of squares C1 and D1 we opened square L1 (fig. 6). This area of the site seems to be stratigraphically more complex, perhaps because of the greater depth we achieved. We initially encountered a large amount of rock tumble across square L1. Below this, wall L.12 runs north–east–southwest across the square. Three courses of this well-built, double-row stone wall are preserved in one section. Less well-built is the single-row curvilinear addition wall L.34 that runs from L.12 into the southern baulk; this suggests a reuse of wall L.12. In the center of the square, about seven stones form

curvilinear wall fragment L.5 which may have been the northern continuation of L.34. Abutting the western face of wall L.12, four carefully placed flat stones (L.35) remained in situ, where they were either the last traces of a paving, or, more likely, the remains of an interior bench. These extended 90 cm along the wall, to a width of 35 cm. An additional east–west wall (L.18) was discovered in the center of square L1. At least three courses of this single-row stone wall run under wall L.12 and deeper courses may yet await exposure. Additional excavation next season will determine its depth and clarify the stratigraphic relationship of this wall to the more substantial wall L.12.

The face of another wall (L.22) was exposed in the north profile of square L1. This wall runs east–west for at least 2.8 m and appears to have a mudbrick matrix below it similar to that seen below wall L.7 in square C1. Wall 22 is roughly



Figure 5. Above, a fragment of chipped flint disk with drilled hole; below, a fragment of a bone pendant, both recovered from curvilinear structure L.23 in square D1

parallel to wall L.18, and their similar elevations suggest that they are contemporaneous. Next season we plan to open a unit north of square L1 in order to clarify the purpose of walls L.22 and L.18, their relationship to each other, and their relationship to the presumably later wall L.12.

There seem to be at least three building phases in square L1. The latest phase with any preserved architecture is represented by the single-row walls L.34 and L.5. A cluster of stones removed from the center of the square may also belong to this phase. Below this phase, the well-built wall foundation L.12 and the associated “bench” feature L. 35 appear to be earlier, and possibly re-used by the later walls L.34 and L.5.

The earliest phase seems to be represented by the parallel walls L.18 and L.22. We have no exposed bedrock yet, so presumably the site continues below the foundations of these two walls.

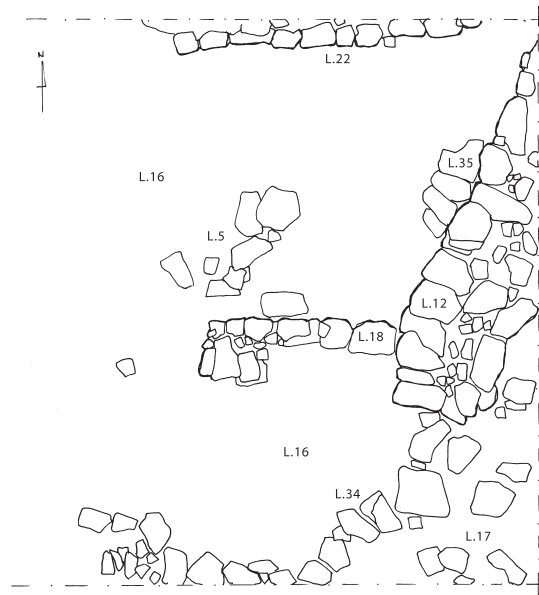


Figure 6. Plan of square L1

WEST AREA

The west area, located in a recently planted forest, was selected to examine one of several large cairns (rock piles). These mounds of limestone rocks include pottery fragments dated to the Chalcolithic period, as well as the occasional Roman/Byzantine sherd, but such mounds are not known from either period. Rock Cairn 1 had a linear feature (wall?) running north–south across the surface of the mound. We laid a 10 m x 2 m trench (Trench 1) east–west across the mound, perpendicular to the linear feature (wall L.510). Excavation of Trench 1 proved very difficult due to the large number of limestone field stones on either side of the wall. The rocks did not conceal some other feature, but continued to bedrock. Mixed in among these stones we found a few artifacts, mostly small Chalcolithic and Roman or Byzantine ceramic sherds. Their provenance within the rock mound is not necessarily significant, given the likelihood that, being small, they probably worked their way down through the stratigraphic layers over the years.

The 2 m exposure of wall L.510 at the center of the mound indicates it was well made and apparently built on top of pre-existing limestone cobbles or excavated into the rock mound. Either way, we remain uncertain of the mound’s date or function. Trench 2, a second excavation area north of Trench 1, revealed another wall running east–west and forming a corner with wall L.510. Given the extremely difficult nature of digging through rock, we must decide whether or not to continue excavating this cairn or to begin exposure of another cairn next season.

CONCLUSIONS

The first season of fieldwork at Marj Rabba demonstrates that this site has rich potential for investigating the Chalcolithic period in northern Israel. With three intact building phases dated to the Chalcolithic period, we have an extraordinary opportunity to examine the development of a site during this long time period. Although Marj Rabba was probably only a small village, the shallow deposits of well-preserved architecture, plentiful material culture, and an excellent faunal assemblage confirm a wonderful opportunity to write a new chapter in explorations of the Chalcolithic period in an understudied region. Next season we plan to

conduct an intensive site survey in order to better understand the size of the site, excavate broader exposures to gain a fuller architectural plan, and complete a deep sounding to establish a chronological sequence.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

On behalf of my co-director, Dr. Morag Kersel and myself, we would like to take this opportunity to thank the Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA), in particular Shuka Dorfman (Director), Dr. Gideon Avni (Director of Excavations and Surveys), Dr. Zvi Greenhut (Acting Director of Excavations and Surveys), and the staff of the IAA for their support and assistance in granting us permission to initiate this new project. For essential logistical support and advice, Dr. David Ilan, Director of the Nelson Glueck School of Biblical Archaeology – Hebrew Union College, and his assistant Levana Tsfania were instrumental to the smooth inaugural season. Also vital to the success of logistics and day-to-day operations in the field, Dr. Dina Shalem was invaluable. Dr. Seymour Gitin, Director of the W. F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research, provided important advice and made the Institute in Jerusalem available despite renovations. Also in Israel, our hosts at Moshav Shorashim generously welcomed us into their community, and we would like to thank Rachel Sadeh in particular for making this possible. In Chicago, Gil Stein, Steven Camp, Carla Hosein, and Mariana Perlinac provided guidance and administrative support that was greatly appreciated. I would also like to thank our crew: Amanda Berman, Mark Dolynskyj, Austin (Chad) Hill, Brittany Jackson, Natasha Jurko, Max Price, Stephanie Selover, and Salman Salwad.

ADULT EDUCATION COURSES

Our multi-session courses, which are co-sponsored by the Graham School of General Studies, offer Teacher Recertification CPDUs from the Illinois State Board of Education. For more information, call Museum Education at (773) 702-9507.

THE TEMPLES OF GRECO-ROMAN EGYPT

Foy Scalf

Mondays, January 11 to March 8

10:00 AM–12:00 noon

Gleacher Center

450 North Cityfront Plaza Drive

Chicago, Illinois 60611

Who is that pharaoh on the wall? When today's travelers visit Egypt, many of the famous temples they see were not built by native rulers but by pharaohs of the Greek Ptolemaic dynasty or Roman emperors who governed Egypt. These temples followed Egyptian concepts while simultaneously developing era- and region-specific styles. Examine art and architecture and read translations of ancient texts to discover the social and economic importance, political ties, and ritual uses of such temples as Dendera, Philae, and many more. After completing this course students will be well prepared for visits to these temples on their next (or first!) trip to Egypt.

INSTRUCTOR: Foy Scalf is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations of the University of Chicago. He specializes in the religious literature of Greco-Roman Egypt. He is writing a dissertation entitled *Passports to Eternity: Formulaic Demotic Funerary Texts and the Final Phase of Egyptian Funerary Literature in Roman Egypt*.

CPDUs: 16

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Arnold, Dieter. *Temples of the Last Pharaohs*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1999.

Bagnall, Roger S., and Dominic W. Rathbone, editors. *Egypt: From Alexander to the Early Christians*. Los Angeles: The J. Paul Getty Museum, 2004.

RECOMMENDED TEXT: Kurth, Dieter. *The Temple of Edfu: A Guide by an Ancient Egyptian Priest*. Translated by Anthony Alcock. Cairo: American University in Cairo Press, 2004.

This class meets at the Gleacher Center from 10:00 AM to 12:00 noon on Mondays beginning January 11 and continuing through March 8. Pre-registration is required. There will be no class on January 18.

Join us to expand your culinary knowledge and recipe repertoire at Fattoosh Restaurant, where owner Samer Elakhaoui and his wife Lina invite you to savor authentic dishes from their Lebanese homeland. They will explain the preparation and traditions of each dish, making your dining experience a discovery of the history and culture of southern Lebanon, where both were trained as master chefs. Sample *fattoush*, the restaurant's signature salad, a lemony

toss of lettuces, tomatoes, cucumbers, mint, and sumac spice topped with toasted pita chips. Enjoy an array of *mezze*, traditional southern Lebanese appetizers that range from spiced potatoes to a delectable spinach pie. Selected entrees, a sampling of desserts, and beverages that include Lebanese coffee flavored with cardamom complete your full-course meal. The chefs will provide a copy of a favorite recipe for you to take home.

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ALEXANDER THE GREAT

Ilya Yakubovich

Wednesdays, January 13 to March 3

7:00–9:00 PM

Oriental Institute

A legend even in his own time, Alexander the Great continues to live on as an icon of martial prowess. This course considers Alexander as a warrior-king of mythic proportions but also focuses on the great changes that his conquests brought to all the peoples of the ancient Middle East. Follow the itinerary of his military campaigns and see how the kingdoms and ethnic groups he subdued from Egypt to India had their destinies changed forever by the new states that arose in those regions after the collapse of Alexander's short-lived empire.

INSTRUCTOR: Ilya Yakubovich is a recent graduate of the joint Ph.D. program in Linguistics and Near Eastern Studies at the University of Chicago. He is the author of more than sixty publications, many of which deal with linguistic and cultural contacts in the ancient Near East.

CPDUs: 16

REQUIRED TEXT: Wood, Michael. *In the Footsteps of Alexander the Great: A Journey from Greece to Asia*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1997.

This class meets at the Oriental Institute from 7:00 to 9:00 PM on Wednesday evenings beginning January 13 and continuing through March 3. Pre-registration is required.

CUISINE & COOKERY OF THE NEAR EAST

TASTES OF LEBANON

Thursday, March 4

7:00 PM

Fattoush Restaurant

2652 North Halsted Street

Chicago, IL 60614

PROGRAM FEE: \$49 for Oriental Institute Members, \$54 for non-members, which includes tax, gratuity, and recipes, as well as wine compliments of the Oriental Institute. Pre-registration is required.

Meet at Fattoush Restaurant, 2652 North Halsted Street, Chicago, Illinois 60614. Street parking is readily available.

WOMEN'S WORK, WOMEN'S POWER: THE RESPONSIBILITIES, ACTIONS, AND AUTHORITY OF WOMEN IN THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST

Ginger Emery, Katharyn Hanson,
Eudora Struble

Saturdays, January 16 to February 20

10:00 AM–12:00 noon

Oriental Institute

course provides an overview of the recent scholastic emphasis that focuses on the roles of women in ancient cultures, delving into the world of women in both public and private life in ancient Egypt, Mesopotamia, and the Levant.

INSTRUCTORS: This team-taught course presents a unique opportunity to study with three specialized instructors. **Ginger Emery** is a Ph.D. candidate in Egyptian archaeology in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago. She has participated in excavations at Tell el-Hibeh, Abydos, Tell Edfu, and Malqata, as well as working as an epigrapher for the Oriental Institute's Epigraphic Survey in Luxor, Egypt. **Katharyn Hanson** is a graduate student in Mesopotamian archaeology in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago. She is also co-curator of the Oriental Institute's special exhibit Catastrophe! The Looting and Destruction of Iraq's Past. **Eudora Struble** is a Ph.D. candidate in Syro-Palestinian archaeology in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago. She has excavated extensively in Jordan and Turkey and is currently part of the Neubauer Expedition to Zincirli, Turkey.

CPDUs: 12

REQUIRED TEXT: Robins, Gay. *Women in Ancient Egypt*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1993. The instructors will provide additional readings at the first class session.

This class meets at the Oriental Institute from 10:00 AM to 12:00 noon on Saturday mornings beginning January 16 and continuing through February 20. Pre-registration is required.

We have all heard of Nefertiti, Cleopatra, and Jezebel, but what is really known of their lives? Who were the royal women of the ancient Near East? What role did these early "first ladies" play? What would life have been like for an ancient Michelle Obama? And how was life different for non-elite women in the ancient past? This

THE ANCIENT MEDITERRANEAN WORLD: A STORY OF TRADE, DIPLOMACY, WAR, AND MIGRATION

Natasha Ayers

Saturdays, January 16 to March 6

1:30–3:30 PM

Oriental Institute

This course focuses on the Late Bronze Age (1550–1150 BC) — an international era of frequent contact, trade, and interaction, both peaceful and hostile, between ancient Egypt, Mycenaean Greece, Turkey, and Syria-Palestine. Examine evidence from archaeological sites, salvaged shipwrecks, and ancient texts to explore this fascinating period in Eastern Mediterranean history, with emphasis on the perspectives of ancient Egypt.

INSTRUCTOR: Natasha Ayers is a graduate student in Egyptian archaeology in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago. She has excavated in Greece at Mycenae and in Egypt at East Karnak and Tell Edfu.

CPDUs: 16

REQUIRED TEXT: Van De Mieroop, Marc. *The Eastern Mediterranean in the Age of Ramesses II*. Oxford: John Wiley and Sons, 2008.

This class meets at the Oriental Institute from 1:30 to 3:30 PM on Saturday afternoons beginning January 16 and continuing through March 6. Pre-registration is required.

The mosaic of cultures that made up the ancient Mediterranean world did not exist in isolation. Instead, they were linked socially, economically, and diplomatically in ways that echo our own global culture of the twenty-first century.

CONCERT IN THE YELDA KHORSABAD COURT

STRAVAGANZE! THE VIRTUOSO VIOLINISTS

The Newberry Consort

Saturday, March 20

7:00 PM Pre-performance lecture by David Douglass

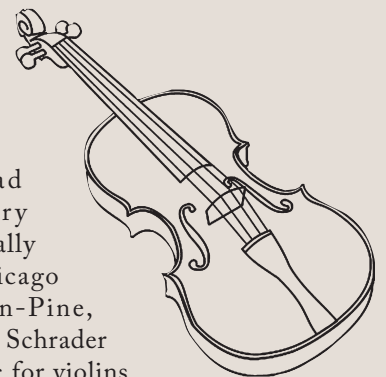
8:00 PM Concert

Yelda Khorsabad Court

The Oriental Institute invites you to a return engagement of the Newberry Consort in the awe-inspiring setting of the Yelda Khorsabad Court. During this very special concert internationally acclaimed artists and Chicago celebrities Rachel Barton-Pine, David Douglass, and David Schrader will perform virtuosic music for violins and harpsichord. Featuring the music of seventeenth-century violinists and composers Biagio Marini, Marco Uccellini, and Giovanni Fontana, the concert highlights the work of these historic superstars who brought audiences to their feet with displays of musical fireworks and heartfelt emotion.

FEE: General admission: \$25; Students \$5. Call the Newberry Consort at (312) 255-3610 to purchase tickets.

Space is limited; register early.



THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE TRAVEL PROGRAM PRESENTS IRAN: PERSIA & THE SPLENDORS OF EMPIRE

Escorted by Dr. John E. Woods of the University of Chicago • April 29–May 15, 2010

John E. Woods is a Professor of Iranian and Central Asian History at the University of Chicago. A former director of the Center for Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago, Professor Woods focuses primarily on the history of Turkey, Iran, and Central Asia from the thirteenth to eighteenth centuries and is particularly interested in aspects of the encounter

of sedentary and nomadic people in those regions during that time period. In 2008, Professor Woods received the Second Farabi International Award in the Humanities and Islamic Studies presented by the Iranian Ministry of Science, Research, and Technology and UNESCO in honor of his work in the field of Islamic and Iranian studies.

Thursday, April 29 | Depart the USA.

Friday, April 30 | **TEHRAN, Laleh Hotel** Arrive in Tehran.

Saturday, May 1 | **TEHRAN, Laleh Hotel** Enjoy a full day of sightseeing in Tehran with visits to the Archaeological Museum, Glass and Ceramics Museum of Iran, and the Carpet Museum. Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner.

Sunday, May 2 | **TEHRAN, Laleh Hotel** Visit the Riza 'Abbasi Museum, home to a superior collection of Persian miniatures. After lunch, get an exclusive view the Iranian crown jewels including the world's largest uncut diamond and the Peacock Throne. B,L,D.

Monday, May 3 | **TEHRAN and AHWAZ** Visit the site of Cheshmeh Ali, jointly excavated by the Oriental Institute, in the ancient city of Ray, near Tehran. Take an afternoon flight to Ahwaz, the ancient capital Xuzestān. B,L,D.

Tuesday, May 4 | **AHWAZ, Fajr Hotel** Enjoy a full-day excursion from Ahwaz focusing on Chogha Zanbil, an ancient Elamite complex in the Khuzestan province of Iran and one of the few extant ziggurats outside of Mesopotamia. B,L,D.

Wednesday, May 5 | **AHWAZ, Fajr Hotel** Begin the day at Susa, once among the greatest cities of ancient Persia and one of the oldest-known settlements in the world, founded in about 4200 BC. Continue on to Chogha Mish, an important site for information about the development of writing, and end the day at Shushtar, an island city on the Karun River. B,L,D.



Thursday, May 6 | **SHIRAZ, Homa Shiraz Hotel** Drive on the most scenic mountain road to Shiraz, stopping at the Sasanian site of Bishapur to examine its fire temple. Continue on to the site of Tang-i Chogan, home to Sasanian-period rock reliefs and inscriptions. B,L,D.

Friday, May 7 | **SHIRAZ, Homa Shiraz Hotel** Explore the many sites of Shiraz, including the Arg of Karim Khan Citadel, the Fars Museum, a preserved Shiraz house, the Friday Mosque and its Quran repository, the tomb of the poet Hafiz, and the bazaar of Shiraz. B,L,D.

Saturday, May 8 | **SHIRAZ, Homa Shiraz Hotel** Drive to Persepolis, the ceremonial capital of the Achaemenian Empire and perhaps one of the most beautiful and spectacular archaeological sites surviving today. Persepolis was excavated in the 1930s by the Oriental Institute. Afterward, visit Naqsh-e Rostam, home of the carved tombs of four Achaemenian rulers. B,L,D.

Sunday, May 9 | **YAZD, Moshir Garden Hotel** Drive to Yazd, stopping en route at Pasargad to visit the white limestone tomb of Cyrus the Great. B,L,D.

Monday, May 10 | **YAZD, Moshir Garden Hotel** Visit the Friday Mosque and its twin minarets, the tallest in the country, and enjoy a walking tour through the bazaar and old quarter of Yazd. Spend the afternoon concentrating on the Zoroastrian religion with a visit to the Zoroastrian village of Taft and ending the day at Yazd's fire temple, the Atashkade. B,L,D.

Tuesday, May 11 | **ISFAHAN, Abbasi Hotel** Drive to Na'in, an important trade center at the geographical center of Iran, well known for its carpet making. Continue on to Ardestan to visit its large Suljuk mosque dating from the tenth century. B,L,D.

Wednesday, May 12 | **ISFAHAN, Abbasi Hotel** Explore the immense

Maydan-i Shah, or Royal Square, and the architectural jewels that flank it: the Royal Qaysariyeh Bazaar, the Lutfallah Mosque, the Ali Qapu Palace, and the Shah Mosque. Spend the afternoon exploring the bazaar and learning about traditional crafts in Iran. B,L,D.

Thursday, May 13 | ISFAHAN, Abbasi Hotel Take a walking tour of the city's Armenian quarter and visit the Friday Mosque. Drive to the Palace of Forty Columns, a charming pavilion used to receive dignitaries and ambassadors. B,L,D.

Friday, May 14 | TEHRAN, Laleh Hotel Drive back to Tehran making some wonderful stops en route at Natanz, well known in Iran for its locally produced fruit, and take a step back in time in the village of Abyaneh. Visit the Gardens of Fin and the excavated mounds at Sialk in the town of Kashan before returning to Tehran. Late evening departure for the airport for return flight home. B,L,D.

Saturday, May 15 | Arrive back in the United States.

COST OF TOUR: \$5,550

Single supplement: \$1,040

INCLUDES:

- Accommodations based on double occupancy in hotels as listed
- Domestic flight between Tehran/Ahwaz
- Meals as listed in the program
- An excellent local Iranian escort/guide throughout
- All sightseeing and entrances as listed in an air-conditioned bus
- Portage

DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- International airfare from Chicago to Tehran
- Visa fees
- Any items not listed

**FOR INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS,
CONTACT THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE
MEMBERSHIP OFFICE:**

e-mail: oi-membership@uchicago.edu

phone: (773) 834-9777

Web: oi.uchicago.edu/getinvolved/
member/travel.html

MEMBERS' LECTURES

The Oriental Institute Members' Lecture Series is a unique opportunity for supporters of the Oriental Institute to learn about the ancient Near East from world-renowned scholars. Lectures are held the first Wednesday of every month, October through June, at 7:00 PM in Breasted Hall at the Oriental Institute. These lectures are made possible by the generous support of Oriental Institute Members.

SEARCHING FOR ANCIENT SAM'AL: FOUR SEASONS OF EXCAVATION AT ZINCIRLI IN TURKEY

David Schloen, Oriental Institute

January 6, 2010

The Neubauer Expedition to Zincirli has completed four seasons of excavation at ancient Sam'al, the capital of a prosperous biblical kingdom in what is today southeastern Turkey. This lecture highlights recent work and ongoing excavations that have revealed new information about the social, economic, and political life of the city during the period of the Assyrian empire, including the recently recovered "Kuttamuwa Stela," the mortuary monument of a royal official.

DEATH'S DOMINION: CHALCOLITHIC RELIGION AND THE RITUAL ECONOMY OF THE SOUTHERN LEVANT

Yorke Rowan, Oriental Institute

February 3, 2010

Since the discovery in the 1930s of fantastic wall murals at Teleilat al-Ghassul, researchers have debated the reasons for the period's striking florescence of imagery, iconography, and representation and the accompanying new burial traditions, technological advances, and population expansion. This lecture touches upon new excavations launched by the Oriental Institute in 2009 as part of its Galilee Prehistory Project. These investigations aim to explore the links between burial caves and settlements during this formative period of human development.

BIBLICAL ARCHAEOLOGY, THE LIMITS OF SCIENCE, AND THE BORDERS OF BELIEF

Nina Burleigh, author of *Unholy Business: A True Tale of Faith, Greed and Forgery in the Holy Land*

March 3, 2010

In this lecture, journalist and author Nina Burleigh examines what Israeli authorities have called "the fraud of the century" — a scheme to modify archaeological objects or create entirely new ones to make them appear to verify biblical characters or stories. Burleigh discusses these characters, the scheme to defraud high-end collectors, and the religious public, and how the James Ossuary Case in a small courtroom in Jerusalem has put all of biblical archaeology on trial.

WATCH FOR THESE FUTURE MEMBERS' LECTURES:

April 7, 2010 Ann Gunter, Northwestern University — **Tracking the Frontiers of the Hittite Empire**

May 5, 2010 Mark Kenoyer, University of Wisconsin, Madison — **Meluhha: The Indus Civilization and Its Contacts with Mesopotamia**

COMING SOON FROM THE PUBLICATIONS OFFICE

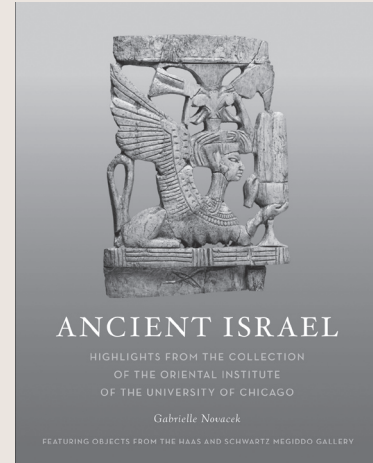
**ANCIENT MEGIDDO: HIGHLIGHTS
FROM THE COLLECTION OF THE
ORIENTAL INSTITUTE OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO**

By Gabrielle Novacek

Oriental Institute Museum
Publications 31

Pp. xiii + 131; 68 full color photographs

On January 29, 2005, the Oriental Institute celebrated the official public opening of the Haas and Schwartz Megiddo Gallery. This occasion marked the return of some of the most extraordinary artifacts ever excavated in the southern Levant to permanent public display. The Oriental Institute's prolific history of exploration in the region is testament to a long-standing scholarly passion for discovery and the pursuit of knowledge. This volume draws from the momentum generated by the opening of the Megiddo Gallery and present a selection of highlights from the Institute's greater Israel collection.



Available in the Suq



Frieze of striding lions. Limestone. Persepolis, Iran. Achaemenid period, ca. 522–465 BC. OIM A24068

ORIENTAL INSTITUTE/ ART INSTITUTE FIELD TRIP

EGYPT IN CHICAGO

Saturday, February 27

10:00 AM–3:30 PM

Emily Teeter, Oriental Institute

Lucas Livingston, Art Institute of Chicago

Meet at the Oriental Institute

Bus Transportation to Art Institute

Explore “Egypt in Chicago” on this unique field trip that gives you an insider’s view on the city’s three major collections of ancient Egyptian art and artifacts. This special program is led by Egyptologist Emily Teeter, Oriental Institute Coordinator of Special Exhibits, and Lucas Livingston, an assistant director in the Department of Museum Education at the Art Institute of Chicago. Begin the day at the Oriental Institute, where Teeter introduces you to a daring post-World War I expedition

to Egypt and the Middle East led by James Henry Breasted, the Institute’s founder. One of Breasted’s goals for his trip was to acquire ancient Egyptian artifacts for the Institute’s museum, and he made spectacular purchases for the University of Chicago. But he also obtained ancient Egyptian art and artifacts for the Art Institute, and for the Field Museum, on other expeditions, placing Chicago on the world stage as a holder of truly significant ancient Egyptian collections.

After presenting an illustrated lecture on the history of Chicago’s three collections and leading a tour of *Pioneers to the Past: American Archaeologists in the Middle East, 1919–1920*, a special exhibit that tells the story of Breasted’s travels, Teeter will join you on a bus trip to the Art Institute. Enjoy a private lunch in the Millennium Park Room overlooking Lake Michigan and the Art Institute’s new Modern Wing. Then join Teeter and Lucas Livingston for a guided tour to view and discuss the ancient Egyptian art that James Henry Breasted obtained for study and display at the Art Institute.

FEE: \$79 for Oriental Institute and Art Institute members; \$89 for non-members. Fee includes admission and programs at both museums, lunch at the Art Institute, and round-trip bus transportation.

Space is limited and pre-registration is required. Registration deadline is February 12.



CHICAGO HOUSE BULLETIN



Issued by The Epigraphic Survey
of The Oriental Institute, The University of Chicago

Volume XX

Privately Circulated

November 2009

THE CHICAGO HOUSE SEASON OCTOBER 2008 TO APRIL 2009: A SEASON DIARY

By W. Raymond Johnson, Field Director

The events of the Chicago House 2008–2009 season in Luxor are by now well known to our readers through our updates during the course of last winter. You all know that one of the challenges we faced was the Government of Egypt's expansion of the Corniche Boulevard into the Chicago House front property, and that after months of discussions the decision was made to reduce what was originally requested by almost half. By March the new wall dividing our front garden in half was finished, with our security and other concerns satisfied. I can tell you that the bougainvillea vines that we planted along the inside of the new wall are very happy in their new home.

Despite the distraction of the Corniche expansion, the archaeological work of last season was literally groundbreaking in every way. We returned to Khonsu Temple at Karnak to collaborate with the American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE) and the Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA) in a floor-restoration project designed to improve the accessibility of the temple. We knew that this project would be interesting. It has long been known that Ramesses III wanted his Khonsu Temple erected quickly, so his workers dismantled several temple complexes on the west bank — parts of Amenhotep III's mortuary temple, the mortuary temples of Horemheb and Amenhotep Son of Hapu, among others — and reused their blocks in the new construction. Our job was to do the epigraphic recording of the reused blocks in the foundations and flooring that would be made inaccessible later by the new sandstone-slab floor blocks. This was coordinated by senior epigrapher Brett McClain, assisted by epigraphers Jen Kimpton and Virginia (Ginger) Emery, epigraphic artist extraordinaire Krisztián Vértés, and photographer Yarko Kobylecky. Imagine our surprise when we found that the reused material was from another temple altogether! The evidence is still coming in, but it looks like we have an earlier Khonsu Temple dating to the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Dynasties. So far we have cartouches of Thutmose III, Thutmose IV, Ay, Horemheb, Sety I, Ramesses II, and Sety II. We will have much more to say about this work in our later reports, so stay tuned. Thanks to ARCE, USAID, and in particular to ARCE director Gerry

Scott for supporting this extremely important documentation. No one had any idea how truly extraordinary the material would be.

The Medinet Habu work, supported by a grant from USAID, also broke new ground with the completion of the new blockyard storage area on the southern side of the precinct. Julia Schmied and Christian Greco supervised the tracking, cataloging, and moving with our workmen of 760 fragments from around the precinct into the new blockyard onto specially built damp-coursed platforms. There they were sorted by category and condition, and treated by the Medinet Habu conservation crew directed by Lotfi Hassan when necessary. The epigraphic art staff — Margaret De Jong, Sue Osgood, and (very welcome) new girl Keli Alberts — continued the recording of the bark sanctuary and ambulatory of the small Amun temple, but also started the drawing of the Twenty-first Dynasty Pinudjem marginal inscription that wraps around the outside of the temple, in an area of increasing salt decay; decidedly challenging.

At Luxor Temple the Italian conservators finished the cleaning of the painted frescos in the king's/emperor's chamber, after which Yarko finished the post-conservation photography. Thus was completed the Roman Wall Painting Conservation Project directed by Michael Jones and conservators Luigi Di Caesaris, Alberto Sucato, and Maria Cristina Tomassetti. A publication is now in the works. The blockyard open-air museum construction and chronological display of designated fragment groups — supported by the World Monuments Fund (a Robert Wilson Challenge to Conserve our Heritage grant) — was coordinated by Luxor Temple conservator Hiroko Kariya assisted by Tina Di Cerbo, Nan Ray, and our trusty workmen. New display platforms were constructed, educational signage composed, sandstone paving laid, and fragment groups assembled in their new locations. The first section of the chronological display of fragments and groups — from the Middle Kingdom through the Twentieth Dynasty — was mounted and set up with temporary signage... a taste of what is to come when it is finished in 2010. A section of Amenhotep III sun court eastern wall, northern end, in 109 fragments, was

2008–2009 CHICAGO HOUSE BULLETIN

partially rebuilt by Frank Helmholz and our workmen, and is also scheduled to be finished in 2010.

Finally, in July photo archivist Sue Lezon, Brett McClain, Ginger Emery, and I reviewed the final plate proofs for Medinet Habu IX, *The Eighteenth Dynasty Temple, Part I: The Inner Sanctuaries* with Oriental Institute Publications Managing Editor Tom Urban and digital consultant Waseem Jafar. We all then spent most of August at Chicago Press printing the plate section, with results beyond our wildest expectations. Words cannot express how deeply satisfying it is to get to this point in our publication program, and how much we appreciate all of the assistance we have had with this project. As a result, Medinet Habu IX not only upholds our standards of excellence, but raises the bar considerably higher. Sincerest thanks to Tom Urban and Leslie Schramer for their patience and guidance through the production phase, to Sue Lezon and Waseem Jafar, whose efforts have insured the highest quality reproduction of the color and black-and-white photographs, and especially to Brett McClain, who coordinated every aspect of the publication production. Special thanks must also go to the gang at Chicago Press who allowed us to realize the excellence for which we have all aspired over the years, and to Margie Fisher who helped make it all happen. This publication is a monument to everyone who was involved in its production, and a testament to what is now possible.

I am particularly pleased that this volume, and everything that we have ever published, is now also available for free PDF download from the Oriental Institute Publications Web site:

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/research/pubs/catalog/>

(Click “Egypt” and all our titles will appear, for either purchase or free download). Bravo to the Oriental Institute — and to donors Lewis and Misty Gruber — for this generous, and again, groundbreaking program that now allows free and instantaneous access to all the data we have ever recorded. This has to be one of the most exiting chapters in the history of the Oriental Institute, and I have a feeling that James Henry Breasted would greatly approve.

Now ... in past Chicago House Bulletins we have occasionally featured portfolios of images in the center of the bulletin, to supplement the reports. This issue will be almost ALL illustrations. Our work in Luxor is rich with visual imagery, and it is always frustrating for me to be limited by what we can present in reports and bulletins. So this time I am presenting a rich feast of images that will, I believe, communicate to you, the reader, much better than words can describe, some of the richness and complexity of what we are experiencing here. Enjoy!



2008–2009 Chicago House Staff

CHICAGO HOUSE



Chicago House garden, new wall going up, December 12, 2008



The completed wall from outside



The completed wall from inside



The completed wall from above



Thank-you dinner for the workmen in the residence courtyard



Chicago House librarian Marie and library students



Anait Helmholz working in the Chicago House library

MEDINET HABU



*The blockyard crew: Hassan, Ahmed, Said, Christian, and Julia.
Photo by Ellie Smith*



*Moving blocks in the blockyard: Said, Ahmed,
Christian, Hassan, and Julia*



The blockyard with roofing

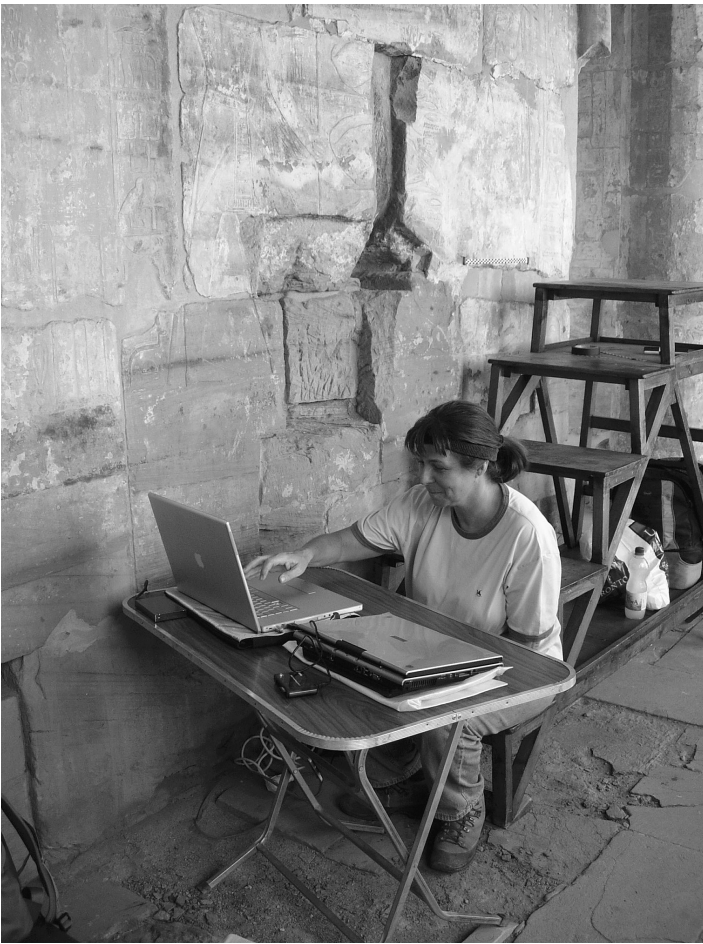


*Julia taking measurements for the Medinet
Habu blockyard database*

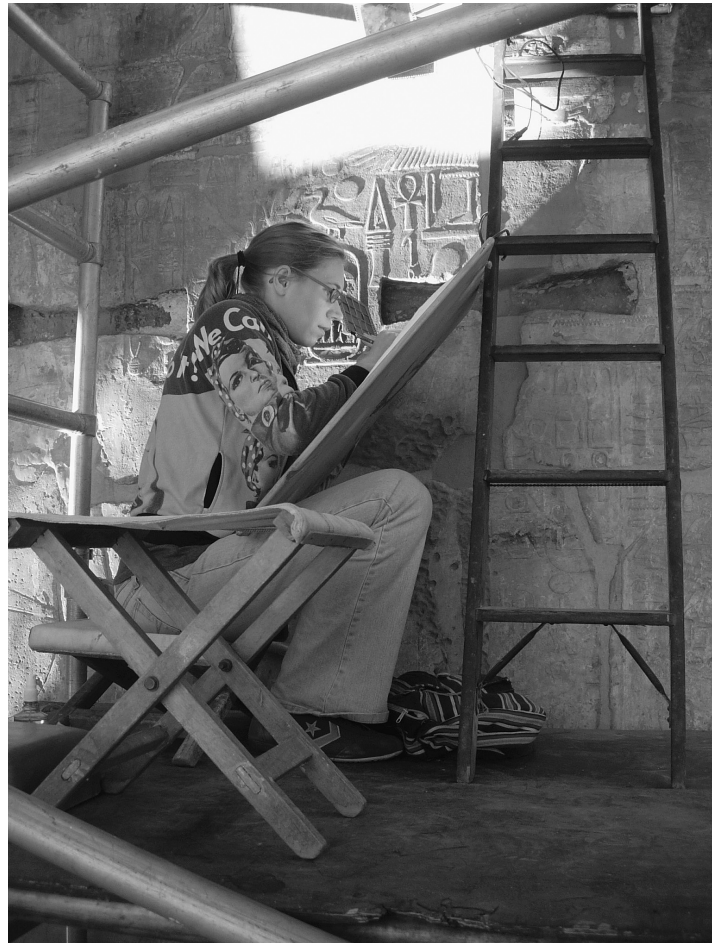


Blocks in the blockyard

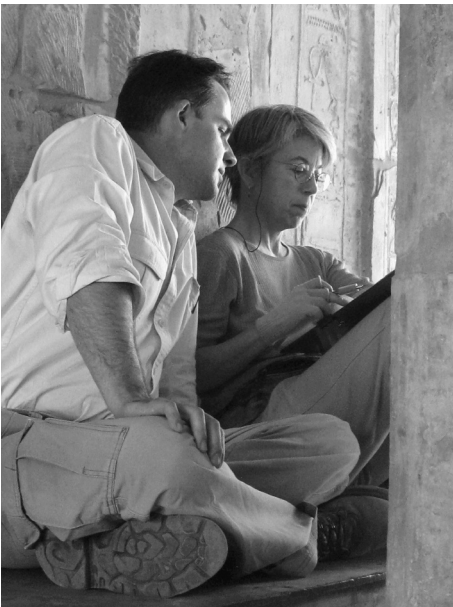
MEDINET HABU SMALL AMUN TEMPLE



Tina Di Cerbo documenting graffiti on her laptop



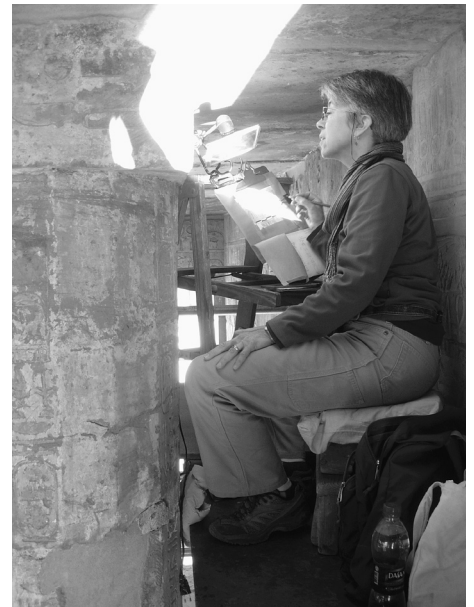
Keli Alberts at work



Brett McClain and Sue Osgood collating at an Akoris column. Photo by Margaret De Jong

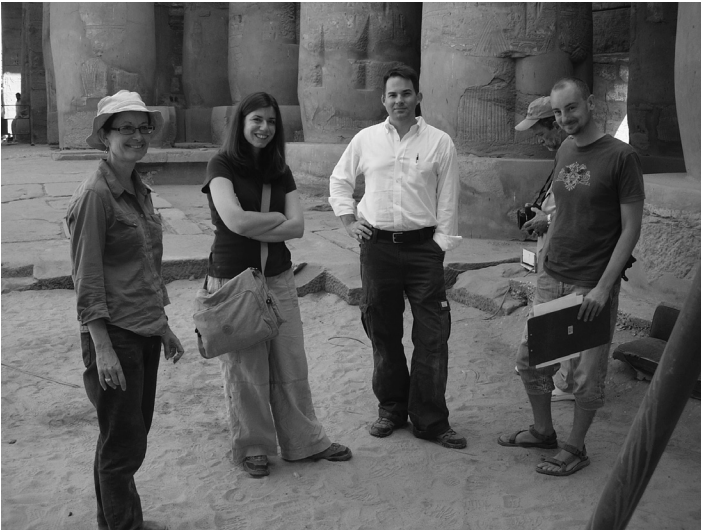


Margaret penciling the Pinudjem inscription at the small Amun temple

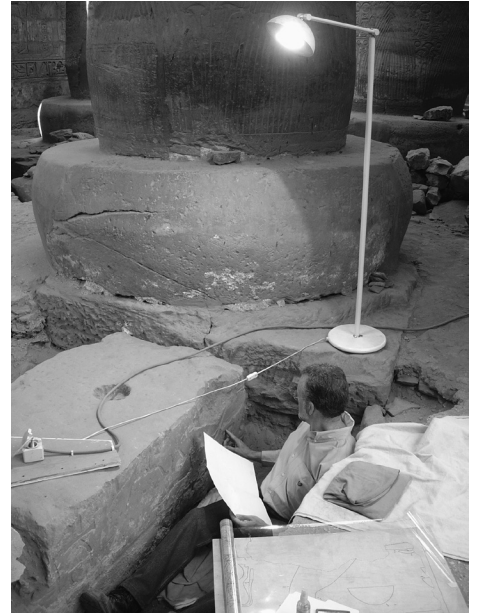


Sue penciling an Akoris column at the small Amun temple

KHONSU TEMPLE, KARNAK



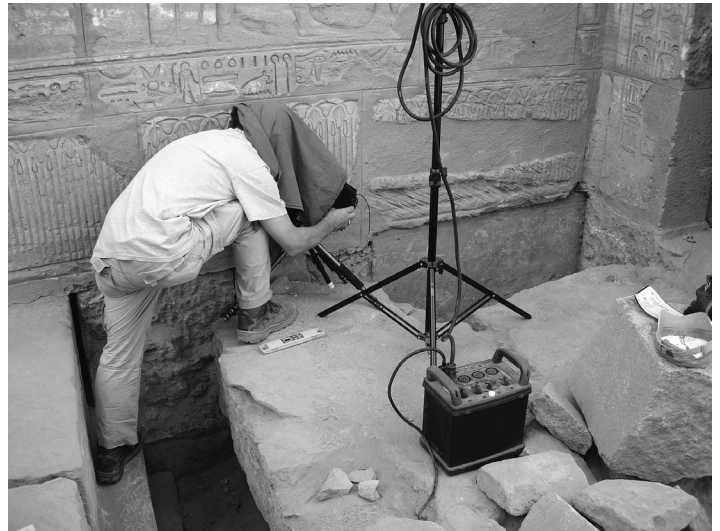
Khonsu Temple team members Pam, Jen, Brett, Yarko, and Krisztián



*Ray doing a director's check of collated tracing.
Photo by Krisztián Vértés*



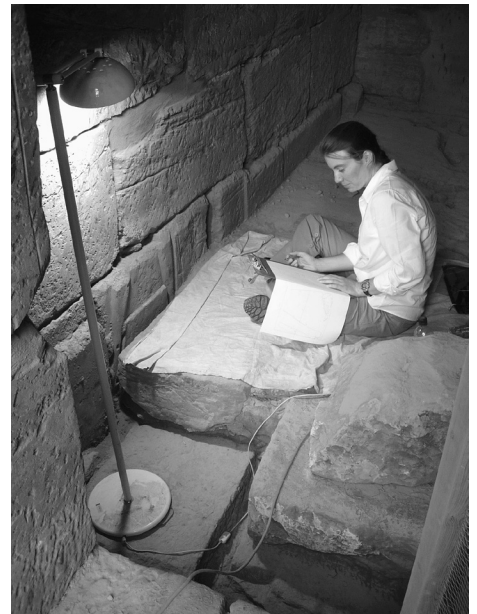
Inspector Ghada Ibrahim Fouad tracing a section of wall



Yarko photographing a foundation block

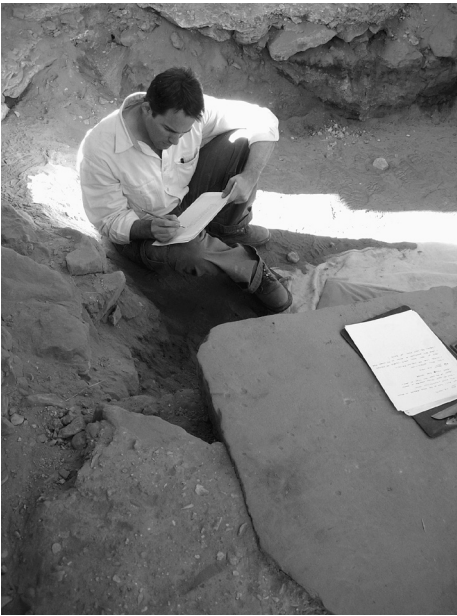


Krisztián Vértés tracing a block in the foundation of Khonsu Temple



Ginger Emery collating

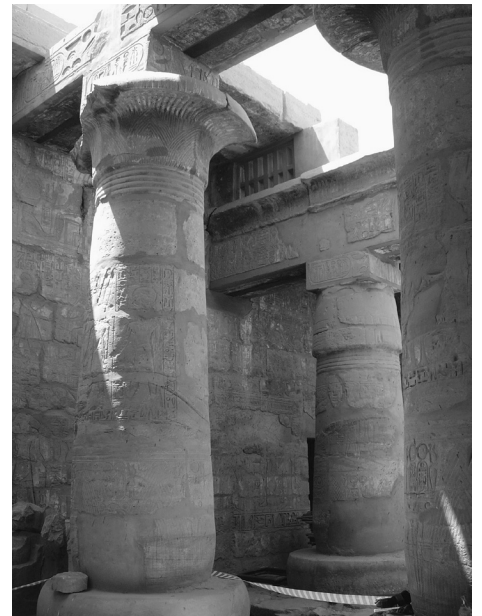
KHONSU TEMPLE, KARNAK



Brett, Jen, and Krisztián collating a reused threshold block

Brett collating a floor block

Khonsu Temple Hypostyle Hall



Khonsu Temple facade



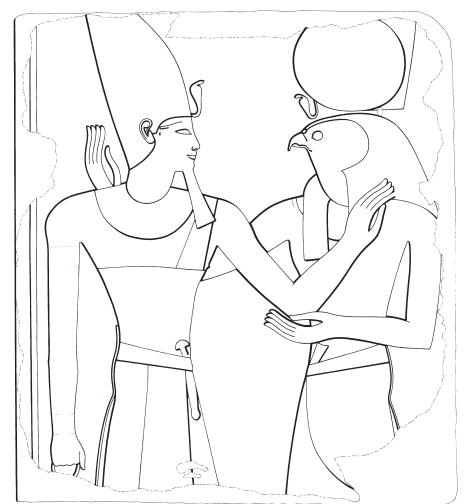
King offering to Khonsu (named)



Khonsu Block 10, drawn by Krisztián Vértés



Krisztián's rolled tracing of Block 10



Khonsu Block 11, drawn by Krisztián Vértés

LUXOR TEMPLE, OPEN-AIR MUSEUM



The open-air museum, view to the south



The open-air museum, view to the north



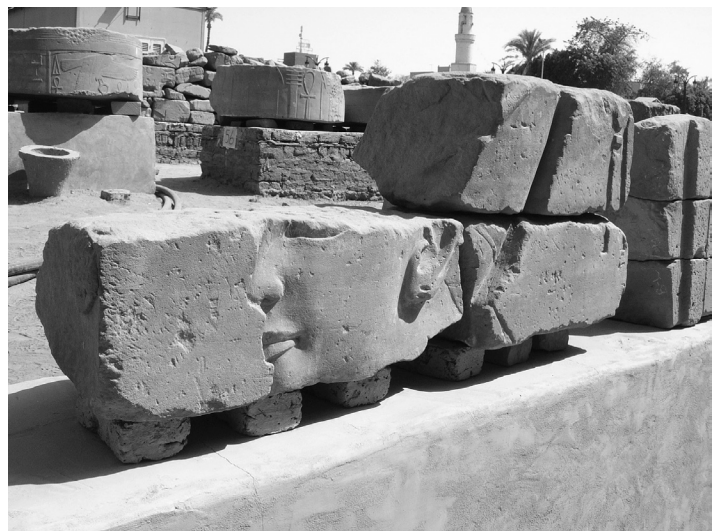
Hiroko preparing signage in the open-air museum



Amenhotep III block



Ptolemy II group



Ramesses III colossal relief

LUXOR TEMPLE, OPEN-AIR MUSEUM



Twenty-fifth Dynasty Hathor wall



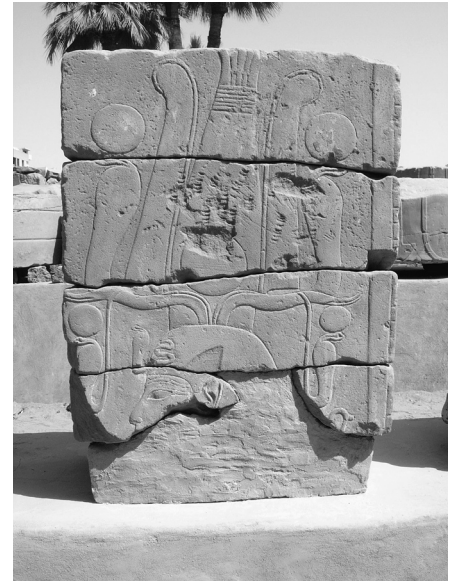
Twenty-fifth Dynasty lion-goddess group



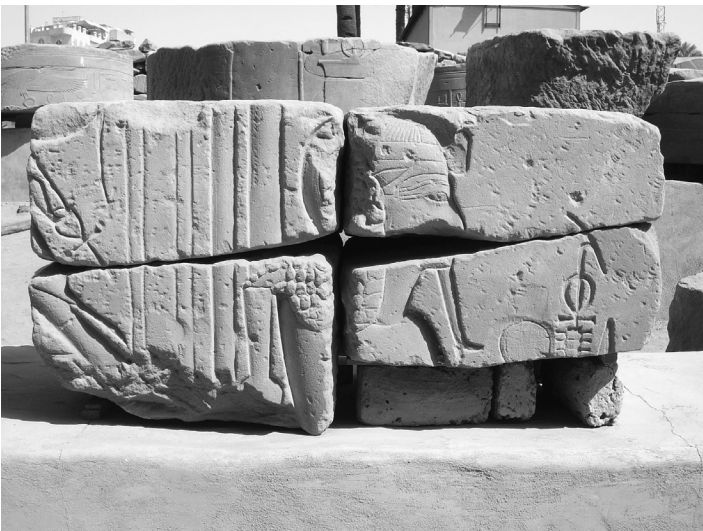
Detail of Nectanebo II group



Cartouche frieze of Ptolemy VI



Block of Sety I from the Colonnade Hall



Ramesses II Khonsu figure



Akhenaten talatat block

LUXOR TEMPLE



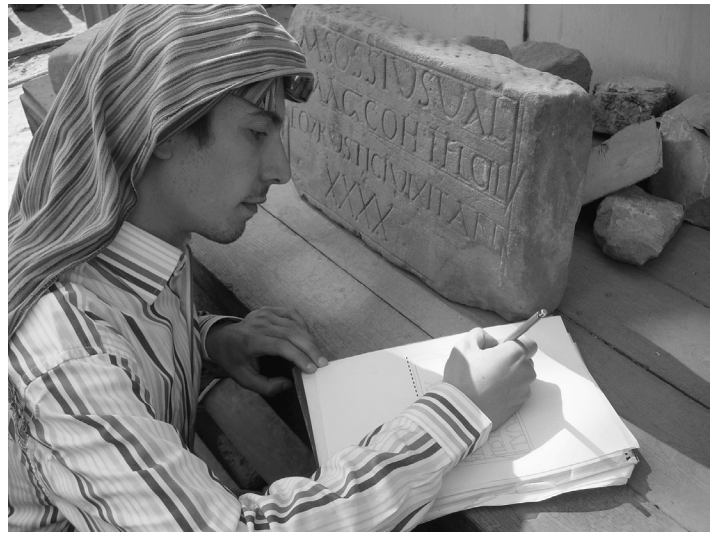
Luxor Temple and the Sphinx Road from the roof of the Emilio Hotel



Luxor Temple from the roof of the (now-demolished) New Winter Palace hotel



The Amenhotep III wall, looking north



Christian Greco collating a Roman grave marker



Frank, Hiroko, Mustafa, and Ali consulting at the Amenhotep III wall



Frank reviewing the new stone backing of the Amenhotep III wall

CHICAGO PRESS CORPORATION



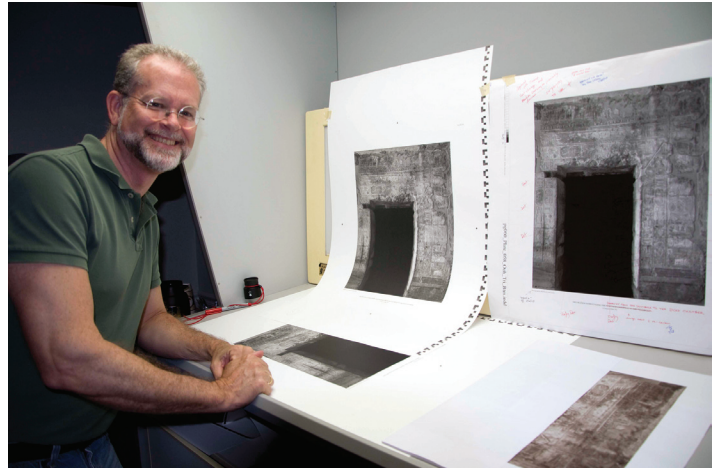
The Chicago Press Corporation. Photo by Sue Lezon



Tom and Sue with Mitchell Harrison, President of Chicago Press



Sue checking color plates at a lightbox



Ray checking a tritone photo plate. Photo by Sue Lezon



Brett and Sue at the lightbox



Brett, Sue, and Ginger ... What are they doing?!

CHICAGO PRESS CORPORATION



The printing press



Tritones coming off the press



*Pressman William T. Chromzack.
Photo by Sue Lezon*



*Lead Pressman Ronald A. Orr.
Photo by Sue Lezon*



*Andy Renner of Chicago Press and the
completed, packaged OIP 136*



*Brett, Ray, Ginger, Tom, and the Chicago Press crew, August 19,
2009. Photo by Sue Lezon*



Stacks of Medinet Habu IX plates. Photo by Sue Lezon



Karnak, December 21, 2008

Let me once again express my sincerest appreciation and thanks to the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities — and particularly to SCA Chairman and Deputy Minister of Culture, Dr. Zahi Hawass — for another extraordinarily productive collaboration this year. For all of you who support our preservation work in Luxor, please accept our heartfelt thanks. You are the best! Chicago House is open from October 15 to April 15 each year, closed Saturday afternoons and Sundays. If you are going to be in Luxor and would like to visit, please contact us ahead of time by calling the Oriental Institute Membership Office (773) 834-9777 or dropping me a line via my e-mail address: wr-johnson@uchicago.edu. Please see our contact information for Egypt and Chicago on the last page of this bulletin. Best, and once again, thanks to all!

*All photos by Ray Johnson
unless otherwise indicated*

ADDRESSES OF THE EPIGRAPHIC SURVEY

April through September:

The Oriental Institute
1155 East 58th Street
Chicago, IL 60637
TEL: (773) 702-9524
FAX: (773) 702-9853

October through March:

Chicago House
Luxor
Arab Republic of EGYPT
TEL: (011) (20) (95) 237-2525
FAX: (011) (20) (95) 238-1620

The Epigraphic Survey home page is located at:
<http://oi.uchicago.edu/research/projects/epi/>

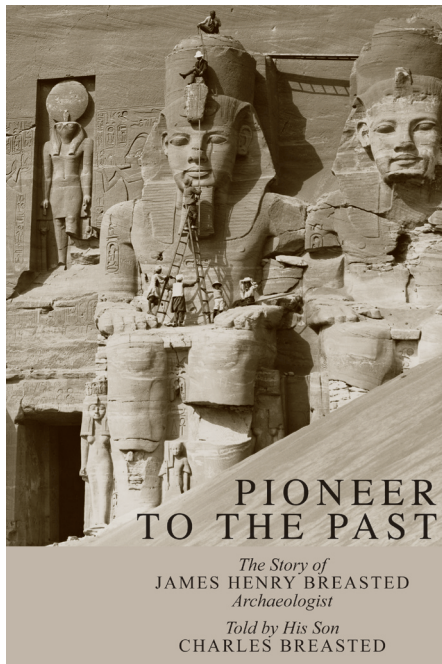
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