

Individual Research

◆ During the past year, **JAMES A. ARMSTRONG** completed his dissertation on "The Archaeology of Nippur from the Decline of the Kassite Kingdom until the Rise of the Neo-Babylonian Empire." As a result of this study, he has been able to revise the published stratigraphy of late second- and early first-millennium levels at Nippur and has identified a substantial occupational hiatus at that site for several hundred years around the beginning of the first millennium.

As an outgrowth of this research, Armstrong now hopes to find archaeological material in western Babylonia from those centuries that are not well represented at Nippur. In February 1989 he was able to collect and study surface ceramics from Tell el-Deylam, a site about thirty kilometers south of Babylon that is believed to be ancient Dilbat. As a Fulbright Scholar during 1989-90, he will be examining other sites in this virtually unexplored area.