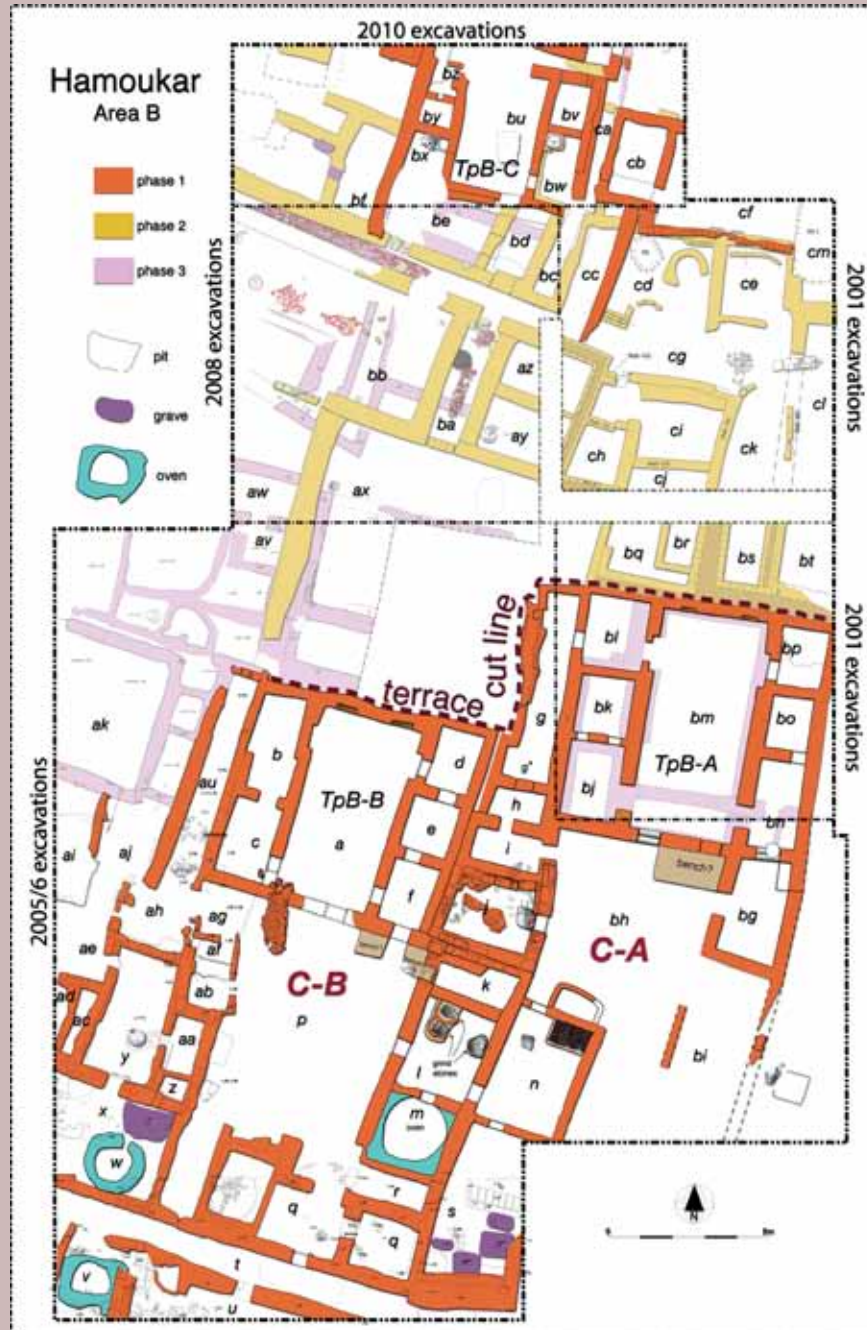




EXCAVATIONS AT HAMOUKAR, SYRIA



ALSO INSIDE:

- ★ 2011 Oriental Institute Gala
- ★ Travel to Egypt with the Oriental Institute

IN THIS ISSUE

From the Director's Study	2
Hamoukar 2005–2010	3
Calendar of Events	10
Members' Lectures	11
Travel Program	12
Adult Education	14
Registration Form	15
Sunday Films	20
Oriental Institute in the News	21
Suq Corner	Back Cover

NEWS & NOTES

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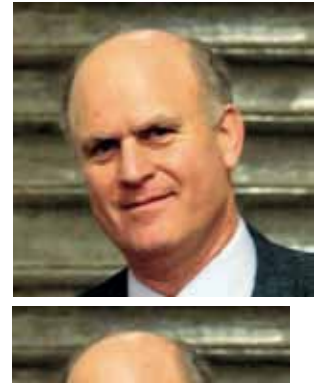
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FROM THE DIRECTOR'S STUDY

Some of the Oriental Institute's most important research focuses on exploring the rise of urban society in the ancient Near East. While we have known for a long time that Mesopotamia gave rise to the world's first cities, until recently, researchers believed that urban life originated in southern Mesopotamia — the land of Sumer — in the irrigation-fed region of what is now southern Iraq. But in the last three decades, that received wisdom has been overturned. Excavations in northern Mesopotamia — the rain-fed agricultural area called the "Jazira" of northern Iraq, northern Syria, and southeast Turkey — are now showing us that in fact there seem to have been TWO more-or-less parallel and independent inventions of urbanism in both northern and southern Mesopotamia. This exciting re-evaluation raises a multitude of important questions: Did urbanism develop by different pathways in the two regions? How were the cities of the north different from those of the south? Why did urbanism in northern Mesopotamia seem to be more fragile and subject to periodic collapse?

As described by Clemens Reichel in the main article, the Oriental Institute's excavations at the enormous 100 hectare site of Hamoukar in northeast Syria are providing some of the most important information available on the rise of cities in northern Mesopotamia. Initiated by Prof. McGuire Gibson, and now continuing under Prof. Clemens Reichel, the Hamoukar project is shedding new light on two fascinating (and quite different) episodes of urban life at Hamoukar — the Late Chalcolithic (4000–3100 BC) and the Early Bronze Age (2500–2200 BC). The meticulous work of the Hamoukar team has revealed the emergence of a 16 hectare small walled city early in the fourth millennium BC — at the same time cities were developing in the southern land of Sumer. The architecture, copper-working debris, and seal impressions all point to a highly complex incipient urban economy of farmers, craftsmen, and administrators. This precocious urban development seems to have been cut short by warfare and destruction — probably inflicted on the people of Hamoukar by invaders from the south around 3500 BC. For more than half a millennium, urbanism disappeared from northern Mesopotamia. By 2500 BC, a second, larger, and even more elaborate phase of northern urbanism was attested at well-known sites such as Brak, Ebla, and Leilan. The end of this second flowering of northern urbanism, around 2200 BC — this time apparently due to drought and other environmental stresses, rather than warfare — continues to be a matter of ongoing investigations and discussions.

These cycles of development and collapse are as fascinating as they are difficult to understand. By exposing large areas of the different urban phases at Hamoukar, Clemens Reichel and his colleagues are collecting the information that will give us a fundamentally deeper understanding of the origin of cities — what the English archaeologist V. Gordon Childe famously called the "Urban Revolution."



COVER ILLUSTRATION: Plan of Late Chalcolithic architecture in Area B, Hamoukar

HAMOUKAR 2005-2010

REVISITING THE ORIGINS OF URBANISM IN SYRIA

Clemens Reichel

The scent of fresh rain was overwhelming. We had just pulled up the car outside of the dig house. We could feel the wheels sinking into the wet soil. The rainfall had just stopped, and a warm beam of sunlight broke through the cloud. The rainfall had transformed the site — strong colors emerged everywhere. The soil featured a strong reddish brown, but most striking was the green shimmer on top — grass! Was this the same site?

I would be lying if I said that I ever considered Hamoukar to be a “beautiful” site. With its large size and very gradual slope, making the site difficult to distinguish against modern plain level from afar, it does not have the dramatic features of other Khabur sites like Tell Brak or Tell Mozan. Moreover, Hamoukar in fall is a sun-parched place, devoid of fresh, primary colors, crowned by a dusty village, and surrounded by scorched agricultural land that seemed to be as foreign to the concept of rainfall as Mount Everest would be to a shoreline. Returning in April 2010, the difference in the site’s appearance overwhelmed us. March and April had brought plenty of precipitation, the site was surrounded by lush and green fields, and the dust, usually omnipresent, for once had been forced out of the air by recent rainfalls. The view from the site was breathtaking — to the north the Taurus Mountains in Turkey loomed over the Khabur Plain, and to the

southeast the impressive silhouette of the Jebel Sinjar in Iraq was strikingly well defined.

Needless to say, this paradise was short lived — less than two months later, when we left the site in late June, heat and sandstorms had turned our impressions during arrival into distant memory.

A lot had changed since our last field season. In November 2008 I had left the Oriental Institute for a position as assistant professor of Mesopotamian archaeology at the University of Toronto and curator at the Royal Ontario Museum. By mutual agreement I have continued to direct Hamoukar as a joint project between the Oriental Institute and the Department of Antiquities in Damascus, with Salam al-Kuntar

as Syrian co-director. Over the years, Hamoukar had become a global team. The 2010 team members came from the University of Chicago (Tate Paulette, Kathryn Grossman, Mike Fisher, Ian Randall), University of Toronto (Khaled Abu Jayyab, Jad Kaado, Aaron Shapland, Tracy Spurrier, Joanna Velgakis), University of Arkansas (Tuna Kalaycı), Damascus University (Rasha Elendari), University of Ghent-Belgium (Steve Renette), University of London (Jill Goulder), Madrid University (Alejandro Gallego-Lopez), University of Münster (Yvonne Helmholz), and Yale (Max Price). Our Syrian-American-Canadian-Belgian-British-German-Lebanese-Spanish-Turkish team was augmented by Björn Oldsen (Germany), who joined us as site and object photographer.

Mahmoud el-Kittab — aside from me the sole “survivor” from the first season at Hamoukar in 1999, builder of the Hamoukar house, and now also working for the Oriental Institute’s Tell Zeidan expedition — continues to run our camp and organize shopping and our lives in general.

Back in 2006, when I last reported about Hamoukar in *News & Notes* after a four-year hiatus in excavations, I felt overwhelmed by the amount of data that we had recovered.

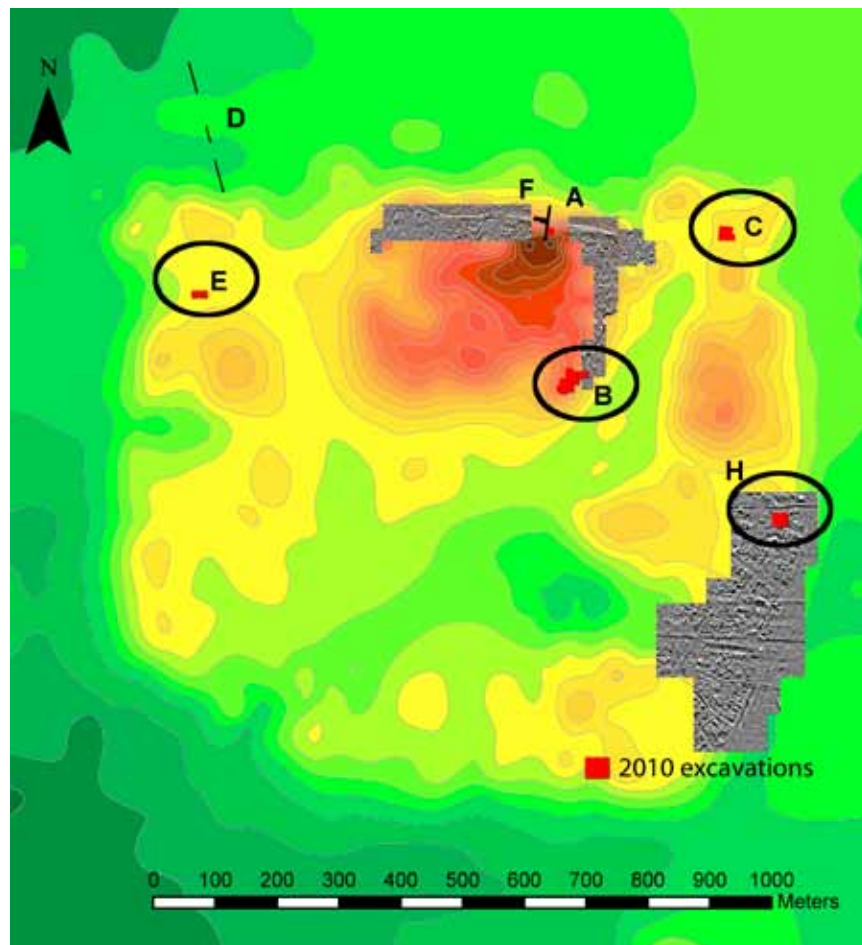


Figure 1. Map of Hamoukar's main mound, showing major excavation areas and the results of the 2007 and 2008 magnetometric surveys on the high mound and in the outer town

Five years and four field seasons later, that feeling has not subsided. Managing Hamoukar remains as much of a challenge as understanding it.

Hamoukar's main story, in a nutshell, is about urbanism — of not one but several consecutive cities that once were located there, separated by millennia (fig. 1). Its apex as a city occurred during the later third millennium when it extended over about 100 hectares (ca. 260 acres). Remains of an earlier city, dating to the mid-fourth millennium BC, were found on the site's high mound at the northern edge of the main site. Evidence for even earlier complexity during the late fifth millennium BC was found in the Southern Extension, a vast area to the south of the main site that contained numerous obsidian workshops.

Since 1999, most of our efforts have concentrated on the investigation of the fourth-millennium city, which was located on the site's high mound. This settlement appeared to be fortified: excavations in Area A on the northern side of the high mound uncovered a 3 m (10 ft) wide wall running parallel to the slope. When a similarly wide brickly deposit was found in Area B at the southeastern edge of the mound, McGuire Gibson, then director of the Hamoukar expedition, suggested that both were part of an ancient city wall. A magnetometric survey undertaken in 2008 by Ann Donkin and Mike Robinson, geophysicists from the University of Ohio at Akron, allowed us to conclusively connect these dots (fig. 1). Although modern housing on the mound only allowed us examine its northern and eastern edges, the area encircled by the wall corresponds well to the distribution of fourth-millennium BC pottery recorded by Jason Ur during his initial site survey in 1999 and 2000. Both wall course and pottery distribution suggest a settlement size of about 16 hectares (40 acres).

No floors with datable materials were abutting the wall in the step trench, leaving uncertainty as to whether it was a Late Chalcolithic construction or built by the Uruk intruders. In 2010, finally, we were able to answer

this question by digging a sounding across the very section of Area B where we had spotted in 1999 and laid out a trench across it (supervisors: Khaled Abu Jayyab, Joanna Velgakis). Inside the wall we found several abutting floors that were associated with large ovens. The pottery found on them dates to the earlier part of Late Chalcolithic 3 period (4000–3700 BC), making it clear that the origins of this wall, and hence of Hamoukar's urban development, were local, predating the arrival of the Uruk culture by centuries.

This discovery is of some importance since the origin of urban developments in much of the Middle East long has been sought in alluvial southern Mesopotamia. Dominated by labor-intensive irrigation agriculture that required a high degree of socioeconomic organization, labor division, and craft specialization, urban centers emerged around 4000 BC, with Uruk itself eventually reaching a size of 250 hectares (650 acres). The absence of key raw materials such as timber, stone, and (later on) metal resulted in the emergence of an Uruk-controlled trade network that by 3500 BC controlled key trade routes within northern Syria, southern Anatolia, and western Iran through numerous colonies, of which some showed a distinctively urban character. As an area dominated by rain-fed agriculture, the “coercive” elements that dominated irrigation agriculture in southern Mesopotamia on its pathway to urbanism were absent in northern Syria. Indeed, to the present day, this area is dominated by agricultural villages. Periods of urbanism such as the one found in northern Syria during the later third millennium BC, accordingly, were seen as “secondary,” as temporarily absorbing a non-indigenous idea that ultimately was doomed to fail in a genuinely agricultural setting. While work on local Late Chalcolithic sites in northern Syria and southeastern Turkey such as Tell Brak, Arslantepe, or Hacinebi Tepe (the latter excavated by Gil Stein between 1990 and 1997) showed the existence of distinctively urban settlements in pre-Uruk context,

large-scale exposures generally were possible due to later occupation levels.

At Hamoukar substantial erosion on the high mound, notably on its southern side, provided access to levels dating to Late Chalcolithic 3 to 4 (ca. 3500 BC) right below the site's surface, hence allowing a comprehensive exposure of settlement contexts. Since 2001 we have exposed 870 sq m (9350 sq ft) of architecture in Area B (fig. 2). The southern part of the excavated area contained the remains of two large building complexes (C-A and C-B), each organized around a square courtyard that had a tripartite building (TpB-A, B) attached to its northern edge. A violent destruction by fire had resulted in the collapse of walls and roofs, burying a rich artifact assemblage. Large numbers of storage vessels of various sizes in one of the tripartite buildings suggested that it had been used for storage and redistribution. Several dozen stamp seals and more than 2,300 clay sealing fragments found in the debris attest to the presence of complex bureaucratic machinery. The discovery of thousands of sling bullets, clay ovoids weighing roughly 1 oz, suggested a dramatically violent end for this early city by warfare. Numerous pits full of Uruk pottery, dug into the remains of the destroyed buildings, suggested that the cause, or at least the immediate beneficiaries, of Hamoukar's demise were southern intruders who established their own colony on this site.

When we first reported our warfare story in 2006, skeptics remained. Could warfare really have occurred at such an early time? And if so, how extensive was the destruction? Doubts re-emerged in 2008, when we opened the area to the north of these buildings, supervised by the experienced Jean Evans. Right from the beginning, the architecture found in this area could not have looked more different from that to the south. Instead of ashy debris covering thin, heavily burnt walls, we found well-built architecture close to the surface but no traces of burning. Since the terrain of Area B rises toward the north, I initially assumed that this level was later than the burnt levels, though the pottery assemblage, which was Late Chalcolithic

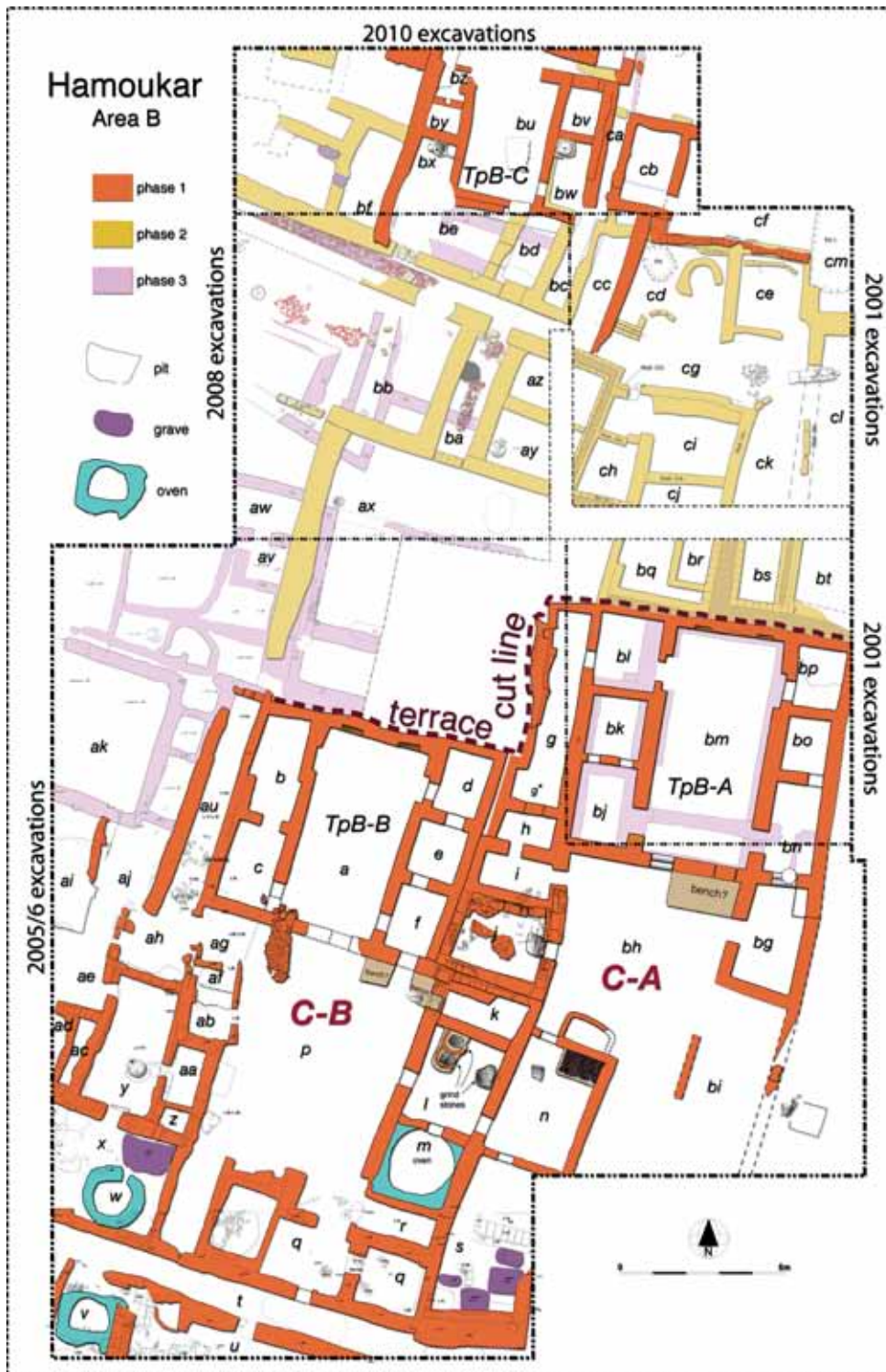


Figure 2. *Early urban substrucures*: Plan of Late Chalcolithic architecture in Area B, showing major phases of occupation (Level 1 = burnt phase)

without any Uruk influence, really told us otherwise. By the end of the season, when Jean had cut through five distinguishable phases of architecture, we were unquestionably below the burnt level, yet traces of burnings were to

be found nowhere. Any evidence of burning, in fact, stopped right at the northern wall of TpB-B. To its north the stratigraphy, even the soil color and morphology, looked entirely different, as if different parts of the site had been

cut out and glued together randomly. What had happened?

The mystery ultimately was solved by Yvonne Helmholz, a graduate student from Münster (Germany) who first joined Hamoukar in 2008 and who currently is collecting data for her dissertation on socioeconomic complexity in Late Chalcolithic Hamoukar. A careful, dedicated excavator with great love for detailed work, she undertook controlled follow-up excavations in 2010 to address problems that had remained unsolved during previous seasons (fig. 3a, b). When articulating the northern wall of TpB-B, she noticed a strip of densely packed soil along the northern wall face that became narrower as she went down farther. It was a cut, but not just for a wall — apparently the whole terrain to the south along the edge of the high mound had been leveled before Complexes A and B were built. Physically the architecture of the burnt complexes was at a lower elevation than the unburnt architecture to the north, but stratigraphically it was *above* the latter one. The mystery suddenly evaporated: the cut line represented a step up. Those buildings associated with the destruction level that were to the north of Complexes A and B had been built on a higher terrace that had eroded away. During excavation in 2008, we had found occasional sling bullets in extrusive context just below the surface. Hardened by fire, these “ghostly” imprints were the sole survivors of the burnt level in this area.

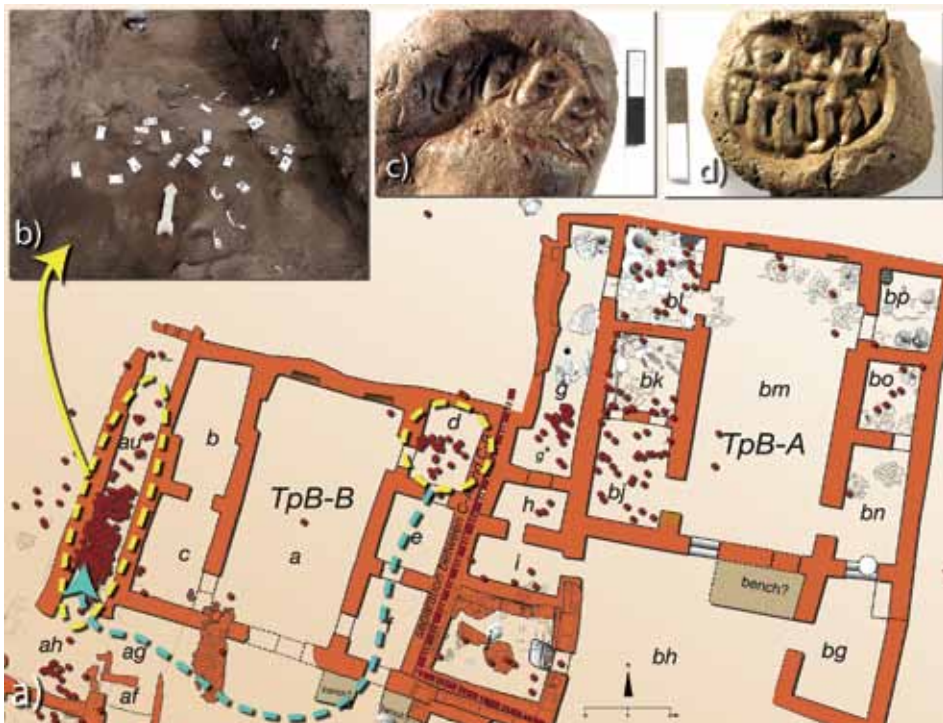
Our interpretation was confirmed when we continued excavations toward the north, supervised by Tracy Spurrier and Rasha Elendari, and encountered the burnt level again. Covered with ash, burnt debris, and sling bullets, we found yet another tripartite building (TpB-C) of about the size of TpB-B that was significantly destroyed by later Uruk pits. Looking at the plan in figure 2, it seems likely that, just like TpB-A and B to the south, it was at the northern edge of a building complex that otherwise had eroded away completely.

Did these buildings all have the same function? The artifact pattern found in them initially suggested oth-



Figure 3 (above). *Forerunners*: (a) excavating earlier Late Chalcolithic architecture in Area B; (b) recording the architecture in plans (Shapland); (c) assessing substantial walls found below Tripartite Building A (Reichel, Helmholtz)

Figure 4 (below). *Prehistoric paper trails*: (a) distribution of clay sealings in Tripartite Buildings A and B; (b) view of trash dump -au-; (c) and (d) impressions of “six lion” and “dancer” seals, found in room -d- and on trash dump -au-



erwise. TpB-A, the eastern tripartite building, was found to be full of large storage vessels. Its identification as a storage facility was supported by the discovery of door sockets in the entrance ways of the side rooms, indicating that these rooms could be locked individually. TpB-B, the western tripartite building, on the other hand, was virtually empty, at first suggesting a different function. A study of the distribution pattern of the clay sealings, shown in figure 4, however, clarifies this picture. In TpB-A 173 sealings were found, mostly basket sealings that had fallen down from the roof or an upper story, and jar sealings and door sealings associated with ground level. As it turns out, TpB-B was not entirely empty either since several sealings were found in room -d- in its northeastern corner. Two seals — a sausage-shaped seal with six superimposed lions, and a round seal with two dancers — showed up on both jar and basket sealings, suggesting that certain containers were opened and resealed on the premises by two officials that held the same position or administered the same area of control. To the west of TpB-B was a long, narrow trash dump (-au-), where several hundred sealings, the largest cluster found at Area B so far, were found. A large number of seal impressions on jar and basket sealings from -au- showed the same “six-lion” and “dancer” seals that also were found in -d-. Loose, ashy soils that surrounded these sealings on this dump confirmed that they had not accumulated over time but were discarded here within a very short time. The mystery around TpB-B’s function evaporated: like TpB-A it had been a storehouse. If the sealings from -au- reflected the number of items originally stored in it, then it was as packed as TpB-A. Just before its destruction, however, all items in it were removed and opened right outside the building. Just why this happened is not clear. If the city was already under siege, these goods might have been taken to feed the city’s population or its defensive forces. Whatever the course of this dramatic event during this city’s final hours, the

sealings left us with an imprint that otherwise would have gone unnoticed.

Due to destruction through numerous Uruk pits, the function of TpB-C in the north is less clear. Two large shallow bowls found in an almost symmetrical arrangement along the northern walls of side rooms -bx- and -bw- (see fig. 3) somehow might reflect the building's purpose, though their haphazard installations in benches made of broken bricks and dirt suggests that they belonged to a secondary, final usage phase. Both bowls had well-worn surfaces and outlets in their middle, suggesting that a substance had been ground or crushed in them that then collected from below in vessels. Drains that let from below these benches into central room -bu- might have diverted wastewater from cleaning these bowls. I assume that they were connected with food processing. Perhaps a future residue analysis of a sample can tell us what these bowls were used for.

The burnt level only represents the last of a long list of occupation levels in Area B, of which two earlier ones are shown in figure 2. Excavations below Tripartite Building A in 2010, supervised by Aaron Shapland, uncovered several walls that followed a similar orientation as those of later TpB-A (fig. 3b, c). Our initial assumption that these might be a foundation to TpB-A fell apart when we found doorways, secondary alterations in the architecture, and, most significantly, wall plaster on some of the walls. There is no reason to plaster foundation walls, so we were dealing with rising walls that at some stage were filled in deliberately. It is noticeable that these architectural remains look much more substantial than the latest ones. Did our burnt level already represent a period of contraction, an impoverished phase? Those are some of the questions I hope to answer with a larger exposure during next season's excavations.

Hamoukar's rise to early urban grandeur in all likelihood was connected with our Southern Extension, a large, low rise to the south of the main mound that extends over 280 hectares (730 acres) — roughly three times the

size of the main mound — that was covered with fragments of obsidian tools as well as debitage. The recovery of lithic debris is significant since it shows that tools were made, not just used, here. Excavations in 2005, 2006, and 2008 found remains of buildings that appear to be workshops that were engaged in large-scale specialized tool manufacture, probably for export to southern Mesopotamia. The pottery assemblage dates these buildings to Late Chalcolithic 1–2 (4200–4000 BC) — centuries earlier than the buildings in Area B that currently are excavated. However, the deposition in Area B extends downward for at least 6 meters, hence Hamoukar's urban origins might have to be sought much earlier. The presence of specialized production facilities in this location might hold the key for the early emergence of an urban entity in an area of rain-fed agriculture. In the absence of coercive elements imposed by irrigation agriculture, a huge profit margin, to be gained through specialized production and export of obsidian tools to southern Mesopotamia, could have enticed both farmers to give up subsistence-based life and specialist toolmakers from southern Anatolia to move to Hamoukar. Located on a key east–west trade route that crossed the Tigris in the area of Nineveh, it was situated ideally for long-distance trade while its rich agricultural hinterland easily would have sustained a non-subsistent work force. The discovery of crucibles and tuyères in Area B as well as in the Southern Extension suggests that, following 4000 BC, Hamoukar adjusted to gradually changing market demands and also engaged in copper and possibly specialized tool production. The Southern Extension promises to provide a unique insight not only into early technologies but also into the impact that technological developments had on social and economic developments in early societies. We hope to continue our excavations there in 2012.

If the Southern Extension forms a prequel to Hamoukar's first city, then the city's development during the late Early Bronze Age “Urban Revolution” of the Upper Khabur (2500–2200

BC) formed its grandiose sequel. Ur's initial site survey (recently published as Oriental Institute Publications 137) showed that by that time Hamoukar's lower town to the south, east, and west of the high mound extended over about 100 hectares. Hamoukar's power and wealth can be seen in a building complex in Area C in the northeast of the lower town, which has been the subject of several seasons of work since 2006 under the supervision of Tate Paulette (fig. 5a). So far we have excavated the remains of two large buildings that were separated by a corridor or alley. Almost every room contained baked brick pavements, a major expense in an area that is devoid of abundant fuel sources. The recovery of numerous clays sealings in several rooms suggests that administrative activities were conducted in these buildings, but their exact function still eludes us. The discovery of a niched facade in 1999 initially suggested that we had reached the outside of a temple. Subsequent excavations showed that this facade, in fact, was part of a podium inside a small square room. Similar constructions, though much larger in size, have been found in the contemporary palace at Tell Beydar in the western Upper Khabur Basin. Further evidence for cultic activities, however, was found in 2008 in a multiply recessed doorway in the southeastern quadrant of the excavation area, which provided access to a large, elongated room (fig. 5b). Excavations in 2008 and 2010 unfortunately did not reach the opposite wall of the room, so we do not know if it contained an altar or cult niche. In line with the niched doorway, however, we found a baked brick “podium” (fig. 5b, c), a secondary construction that carried a square basin with multiple spouts and incised decorations, probably used for libations (fig. 5d). A cache of beads and fragments found on the floor behind this “podium” probably was dropped when this building was ransacked.

The transition from Hamoukar's Late Chalcolithic to Early Bronze Age city remains shrouded in mystery. We know that an Uruk colony was established following its conquest by the Uruk culture around 3500 BC, but we



Figure 5. *Early Bronze Age urbanism*: (a) aerial view of Area C, with arrows indicating viewpoints shown in pictures b and c; (b) room with niched doorway and half-excavated “podium” (circled), 2008; (c) excavated “podium” after 2010 season; (d) libation basin found in association with “podium”; (e) pots used as ovens, probably for metal work (see picture c for location)

do not know how long it existed. Nor do we know much about Hamoukar’s fate during the transition toward the early Bronze Age, notably its role during the Ninevite V period, a culture found across northern Mesopotamia and northern Syria between 2900 and 2600 BC, initially defined at its type site by a characteristic type of pottery decorated with incisions and excisions and, to a much lesser degree, paintings. Easily recognizable in surveys, the extent to which this pottery style itself represents a distinct culture still remains under discussion. Several Ninevite V sites in the Upper Khabur region, notably Khazne and Tell Arbid, show urban components and centralized storage, but their placement in Syria’s transition toward urbanism remains unclear. A substantial layer of Ninevite V sherds was reached in the 1999 step trench. Underlying a later Early Bronze Age

public building, it unfortunately was in extrusive context, apparently connected with a terracing effort. Ur’s survey maps of Hamoukar, however, also show large concentrations of Ninevite V pottery along the edges of the early Bronze Age city. Such concentrations could be the result of extensive earth movements associated with the construction of Early Bronze Age fortifications, but also indicate the presence of an earlier Ninevite V city that was completely covered up by later Early Bronze Age remains and only “bled” through along its edges, in which case Hamoukar’s expansion in the lower city would have occurred much earlier than previously thought. Several soundings dropped in 2008 by Kate Grossman, whose dissertation research addresses urban development during the Ninevite V period, confirmed the presence of earlier Ninevite V occupations in several parts of the lower town.

Supported by a grant from the Wenner Gren Foundation, she opened large trenches during the 2010 season, using areas that had been excavated in 2001 as “windows of opportunity.” In Area H at the eastern edge of the site, below the remains of well-built houses with paved courtyards that are contemporaneous with the buildings in Area C, Ian Randall and Amanda Schupack uncovered part of at least three building units that were associated with Ninevite V pottery. Several ovens and large storage jars indicate that food storage and processing played a major part in some of the rooms or open spaces. Two remarkable discoveries dating to the late Early Bronze Age, hence not directly related to her dissertation topic, were made in Area E south of the dig house and close to the western edge of the site. One trench, supervised by Max Price, contained numerous wealthy burials that contained miniature vessels, jewelry (rings, bracelets, pendants made of copper as well as bone), and a cylinder seal that had been worn as a necklace. Once we had cleaned and studied it, we fell silent in embarrassment. Our first cylinder seal (fig. 6) at Hamoukar turned out to be adult themed! A neighboring trench, supervised by Tuna Kalaycı, contained the remains of an elaborate baked brick facade associated with a courtyard paved with baked bricks. The obvious display of wealth in the chosen building material leaves no doubt that this is a representative building, but further excavations are necessary to see if it is a palace, temple, or large residence.

Numerous seal impressions found in Areas H and E display interesting seal motifs. One of them shows a “heraldic” scene, consisting of a bird (eagle?) and two quadrupeds (lions?) under its feet (fig. 7). From the right side, it is approached, possibly attacked, by a human. The scene is reminiscent of contemporary (i.e., late Early Dynastic to Akkadian) scenes with Anzu, the lion-headed eagle, who already occurred on seal impressions from Area C. Instead of a seal impression, another sealing from Area H, a door sealing, was incised with the image of a five-pointed star (fig. 8c). It was associated with a jar that bore



Figure 6 (above). *Glyptic firsts*: seal, green stone, from Area E, with rolled-out modern impression showing erotic scene; date: ca. 2400 BC



Figure 7 (left). *Mesopotamian parallels*: sealing from Area H, showing an eagle and two lions, approached (or attacked?) by a male figure from the right side; date: ca. 2400 BC

the same symbol (fig. 8a, b). This is notable since my own studies of sealings from the Diyala excavations, Mari, and Hamoukar have shown that door and container sealings from one context never bear the same seal impression. This seems logical since the party that issues or sends a commodity and the one that stores it should not be the same. If both storage vessel and door sealing bear the same symbol, as in the case of our five-pointed star, then the authority in charge of storing this commodity also had the right to open and use it. At Hamoukar, incised symbols in place of seal impressions had a long history since they also were found on Late Chalcolithic sealings from Area B.

Hamoukar appears to have been abandoned after 2200 BC. No evidence of a second-millennium occupation has been found anywhere on site so far. Evidence for a resettlement during the Neo-Assyrian period (ca. 700–600 BC) was found in Area C in 2000, 2001, and 2006, but its generally poor condition precludes us from saying much about its function. The remains of several large buildings excavated in 2008 and 2010 by Mike Fisher and Jad Kaado suggests that their primary function was non-domestic. It is possible that dur-

ing the seventh century BC Hamoukar was resettled with deportees from the fringes of the Assyrian empire, in order to sustain or increase the agricultural production in this area. The pottery corresponds closely to that found at Sheik Hamad at the lower Khabur, suggesting a late Assyrian or even post-Assyrian date. As so often at Hamoukar, more excavation, we hope, will clarify the context of this settlement.

Excavation at Hamoukar will always remain a challenge, but it would be entirely impossible without the financial and logistical support from numerous institutions and individuals. These

include the Syrian Department of Antiquities, notably Director General of Antiquities and Museums Bassam Jamous, and Director of Excavations Michel al-Maqdissi, who have facilitated our work in countless ways. Over the years, the Oriental Institute generously supported our work financially. Several sponsors contributed quite generously: first and foremost I wish to thank Howard Hallengren (New York), also the late Alan Brody, Carlotta Maher, Rita and Kitty Picken, Toni Smith, Cathy Brehm, Virginia O'Neal (Chicago), and the Royal Ontario Museum (Toronto). Without their unwavering support, this season would not have been possible.

This year we concentrated our efforts on the analysis and publication of the first five seasons, but are eager to return to Hamoukar for further fieldwork. In light of the current crisis in Syria, however, the timing of our next season remains uncertain. Salam, who continues her work at the Department of Antiquities in Damascus, recently visited Hamoukar and reports the site to be essentially safe. The site continued to be protected by a site guard. Damage to the house, incurred during winter rain, currently is being repaired. Our main concern, however, has to be for the safety and well-being of our friends and colleagues in Syria with whom we continue to stay in contact. It is our hope that soon we can focus our efforts again on Hamoukar, uncovering more of its complex path toward urbanism that it entered more than six thousands years ago.

Figure 8. *Bureaucratic complexity*: (a) large jar embedded in floor of a storage room in Area H, marked with a five-pointed star; (b) and (c) the same symbol on door sealings from the immediate vicinity, identifying the authority that controlled storage in this area; date: ca. 2600 BC



FALL 2011 CALENDAR

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

OCTOBER

1 | SATURDAY

Order from Chaos: Ancient Mesopotamian Law Collections
Volunteer Program Mini-Series
10:00 AM
See page 19 for details

From Ground to Gallery: The Lamassu and the Khorsabad Reliefs
Adult Education Series
1:30 PM
See page 16 for details

2 | SUNDAY

Stones and Bones: The Birth of Archaeology
Film
2:00 PM
See page 20 for details

5 | WEDNESDAY

Excavations at Tell Tayinat, Turkey
Members' Lecture
7:00 PM
See page 11 for details

9 | SUNDAY

Treasure Seekers: From Passion to Plunder
Film
2:00 PM
See page 20 for details

12 | WEDNESDAY

Order from Chaos: Biblical Law
Volunteer Program Mini-Series
5:00 PM
See page 19 for details

The Invention of Money
Adult Education Course
7:00 PM
See page 14 for details

15 | SATURDAY

Order from Chaos: Ancient Egyptian Law
Volunteer Program Mini-Series
10:00 AM
See page 19 for details

Beyond the Stereotypes: The Persian Empire Revealed
Adult Education Course
10:00 AM
See page 14 for details

16 | SUNDAY

Digging by the Book
Film
2:00 PM
See page 20 for details

19 | WEDNESDAY

Before the Pyramids
Gallery Tour
12:15 PM
See page 27 for details

23 | SUNDAY

Looking for One Beginning
Film
2:00 PM
See page 20 for details

24 | MONDAY

Hieroglyphs by Mail
Correspondence Course
See page 14 for details

27 | THURSDAY

Mummies Night: Tales and Treats for Halloween
Family Program
6:00 PM
See page 17 for details

29 | SATURDAY

Order from Chaos: Islamic Law
Volunteer Program Mini-Series
10:00 AM
See page 19 for details

Order from Chaos: Panel Discussion and Q&A
Volunteer Program Mini-Series
1:00 PM
See page 19 for details

From Ground to Gallery: The Dead Sea Scrolls
Adult Education Series
1:30 PM
See page 16 for details

30 | SUNDAY

The Future of the Past
Film
2:00 PM
See page 20 for details

FALL 2011 CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

- 2 | WEDNESDAY** **Predynastic Iconography: The Bull, The Hippopotamus, The Palm Tree, and a Bird**
Members' Lecture
7:00 PM
See page 11 for details
- 6 | SUNDAY** **Islam: Empire of Faith, Part I**
Film
2:00 PM
See page 22 for details
- 12 | SATURDAY** **From Ground to Gallery: Ancient Egyptian Fakes and Forgeries**
Adult Education Series
1:30 PM
See page 16 for details
- Introducing Jack Green: New Chief Curator of the Oriental Institute Museum**
Exclusive Associate Members' Event
7:00 PM
See page 21 for details
- 13 | SUNDAY** **Islam: Empire of Faith, Part II**
Film
2:00 PM
See page 20 for details
- 20 | SUNDAY** **Egypt: Journey to the Global Civilization**
Film
2:00 PM
See page 20 for details
- 24 | THURSDAY** **Oriental Institute closed for Thanksgiving holiday**

27 | SUNDAY

Breasted Hall closed for Thanksgiving weekend

DECEMBER

- 4 | SUNDAY** **Decorating Ancient-Style Ceramics**
Art Workshop for Adults
1:30 PM
See page 17 for details
- Alexander the Great**
Film
2:00 PM
See page 20 for details
- 7 | WEDNESDAY** **Of Temples, Towers, and Altars: New Visual Evidence for Achaemenid Ritual in Persepolitan Glyptic Art**
Members' Lecture
7:00 PM
See Page 11 for details
- 11 | SUNDAY** **Nile: River of the Gods**
Film
2:00 PM
See page 20 for details
- 18 | SUNDAY** **Nubia and the Mysteries of Kush**
Film
2:00 PM
See page 20 for details
- 25 | SUNDAY** **Breasted Hall and Oriental Institute closed for holidays**

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. Unless specified below, 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.

EXCAVATIONS AT TELL TAYINAT, TURKEY

October 5, 2011

7:00 PM

Timothy Harrison, Professor in the Department of Near and Middle East Civilizations, University of Toronto, and Director of the Tayinat Archaeological Project

PREDYNASTIC ICONOGRAPHY: THE BULL, THE HIPPOPOTAMUS, THE PALM TREE, AND A BIRD

November 2, 2011

7:00 PM

Stan Hendrickx, Lecturer in Art History, The Media, Arts, & Design Faculty, Hasselt, Belgium
Presented in conjunction with the Oriental Institute Museum's special exhibit, Before the Pyramids: The Origins of Egyptian Civilization

OF TEMPLES, TOWERS, AND ALTARS: NEW VISUAL EVIDENCE FOR ACHAEMENID RITUAL IN PERSEPOLITAN GLYPTIC ART

December 7, 2011

7:00 PM

Mark B. Garrison, Chair and Professor, Department of Art and Art History, Trinity University, San Antonio, Texas

THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE TRAVEL PROGRAM

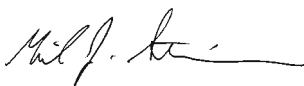
THE WONDERS OF ANCIENT EGYPT

Escorted by Dr. Robert K. Ritner
March 10–26, 2012

Dear Members of the Oriental Institute,

For over a century, the Oriental Institute has been one of the foremost academic institutions working in Egypt. From James Henry Breasted's expeditions in the early 1900s, to the establishment of the Epigraphic Survey in 1924, and down to the present day, we have had a continuous and distinguished record of research in the Nile Valley. Our unparalleled scholarly expertise is the reason why you should travel to Egypt with an Oriental Institute Travel Program. Whether this will be your first visit to Egypt or a return, we have the experience and access to show you what really counts. Our programs go far beyond the usual tours, calling upon our own in-country staff and colleagues to give you up-to-date information about current research. Our specially designed itinerary includes the most important sites from all periods of Egyptian history, even some "off-the-beaten-track" gems. One of the highlights of the tour is the visit to Chicago House, the headquarters of the Epigraphic Survey in Luxor, where you will meet our staff of Egyptologists and artists and hear about their vital work documenting the reliefs and inscriptions of ancient Thebes.

Your tour leader, Dr. Robert K. Ritner, has been leading Oriental Institute tours to Egypt regularly for thirty years. Dr. Ritner's familiarity with the sites, his vast knowledge, and his enthusiasm for Egypt will make this trip the experience of a lifetime. Space is limited, and our tours fill rapidly – I encourage you to join us!



Gil J. Stein
Director, Oriental Institute, and
Professor of Near Eastern
Archaeology

US to CAIRO | *Saturday, March 10*
Depart Chicago on Lufthansa Airlines

CAIRO | *Sunday, March 11*
Arrive into Cairo and transfer to Mena House Oberoi Hotel, located at the foot of the Great Pyramid.

CAIRO | *Monday, March 12*
We begin our touring with an exploration of Memphis and Sakkara, the necropolis of Memphis. At Sakkara we will tour the Step Pyramid complex of Djoser, which predates the Giza pyramids and is the world's first monumental building constructed entirely in stone. We will also visit the Sakkara Museum, the smaller Pyramid of Teti, and the tombs of the nobles Ti and Ptahhotep and Mereruka.
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner.

CAIRO | *Tuesday, March 13*
Our touring today brings us to the only surviving representatives of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, the Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx. We will have an opportunity to enter one of the pyramids and to visit the museum, where the remarkably preserved remains of the Solar Boat of Cheops are displayed. (B/L)

CAIRO | *Wednesday, March 14*
The focus of this day is the Egyptian Museum, where we will view the highlights of its huge collection including the mummy room and the objects from the tomb of Tutankhamun. After visiting Beit el-Sennari, the first house of Egyptology, touring continues with a walking tour of Islamic Cairo. This warren of streets is lined with a multitude of fascinating architecture. We will visit Al-Azhar Mosque, an accumulation of centuries of styles and influences. We end our walk in the renowned Suq Khan al-Khalili. (B/L/D)

LUXOR | *Thursday, March 15*
After a morning flight to Luxor, touring begins at the magnificent sanctuary of Amun-Re at Karnak with its maze of

monumental gateways, obelisks, pillared halls, and subsidiary shrines. We will also visit Karnak's open-air museum. In the evening we will attend a special reception at Chicago House, the home of the Oriental Institute Epigraphic Survey project. (B/D)

LUXOR | *Friday, March 16*
Today we will cross the Nile to visit the tombs of the Valleys of the Kings and Queens. Among the tombs to be visited are those of Tutankhamun and three other pharaohs selected from the tombs opened to the public today. We will also visit the tomb of Roy as well as the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut at Deir el-Bahri, one of the most spectacular monuments in Egypt, and the Colossi of Memnon. (B/L/D)

LUXOR | *Saturday, March 17*
Returning to the Nile's west bank, we tour some of the hundreds of tombs of the nobles, spread over two square miles, including the tombs of Ramose, Snefer, Menna, and Rekhmire. These tombs are of special interest for their naturalistic murals that give us an intimate view of life in ancient Egypt. We will also stop at the ancient village of the artisans, Deir el-Medina, one of the best-preserved town sites in Egypt and the subject of the television series "Ancient Lives." (B/L/D)

Option: An early-morning hot-air balloon ride over the spectacular monuments of Luxor.

LUXOR | *Sunday, March 18*
Drive north through villages of baked-mud houses and lush cultivated lands bordering the Nile to Dendera and visit the Temple of Hathor, goddess of love, music, and wine. On the roof of the temple is a plaster cast of the famous Zodiac of Dendera (original in Paris), one of three circular representations of the heavens found in Egypt. We continue to Abydos, where we will tour the Temple of Seti I, viewing the famous List of Kings and some of the most

beautifully painted reliefs surviving from Pharaonic times, and the nearby Small Temple of Ramesses II. (B/L/D)

LUXOR | Monday, March 19

This morning our luggage will be transferred to the cruise ship *Amarante Nile*, our floating hotel for the next four nights. Touring will continue on the west bank with the temples and chapels of Medinet Habu, the largest built by Ramesses III, and the Ramesseum. The morning ends with the rarely visited tombs of Kheruef and Ankh-Hor. In the late afternoon, we will visit Luxor Temple beginning at the newly renovated "Avenue of Sphinxes," which originally linked Luxor and Karnak temples. We will examine the Roman fresco paintings restored jointly by Chicago House and the American Research Center in Egypt, as well as the open-air museum and blockyard, conserved by Chicago House. (B/L/D)

EDFU | Tuesday, March 20

This morning we will drive to Esna to visit the half-buried Temple of Esna, dedicated to the ram-headed creator god Khnum-Re and dating to the Roman period. After our visit, the *Amarante* will make a special stop to pick us up at the Esna dock. We sail on to Edfu for the night. (B/L/D)

ASWAN | Wednesday, March 21

Touring begins at the Temple of Edfu, a well-preserved Ptolemaic temple of the falcon god Horus. We then sail on to Kom Ombo. Often called the Acropolis of Egypt for its spectacular site overlooking the Nile, Kom Ombo is unusual for its equal dedication to two gods, Horus the Elder and the crocodile god Sobek. (B/L/D)

ASWAN | Thursday, March 22

Today's touring includes the granite quarries, where an immense, unfinished obelisk remains embedded in its native stone. We continue to the High Dam, a project that forever changed the Nile's annual cycle. The morning ends with a visit to Philae, the Ptolemaic temple dedicated to Isis. This afternoon we sail by felucca to Elephantine Island to visit the excavations and Nilometer. (B/L/D)

ASWAN | Friday, March 23

We disembark this morning and fly to Abu Simbel, where the rock-cut temples

of Ramesses II and his favorite queen Nefertari have been saved from the rising waters of the Nile resulting from the Aswan High Dam. Returning to Aswan, we spend the remainder of the day visiting the Museum of Nubian Civilization. (B/L/D)

CAIRO | Saturday, March 24

Touring begins at the Kalabsha Temple built in the reign of Augustus on the site of an earlier sanctuary founded by Amenhotep II. In the same antiquities park, we will visit the relocated Greco-Roman kiosk of Qertassi and the shrine of Ramesses II from Beit el-Wali. This afternoon we will fly back to Cairo. (B/L)

CAIRO | Sunday, March 25

After a full day at leisure, we will gather for our farewell dinner.

Option: A morning Old Cairo tour, which will include the Coptic Museum and the Coptic Church of Abu Sarga. (B/D)

CAIRO to CHICAGO | Monday, March 26

Transfer to the airport for our Lufthansa flights to Chicago. (B)

TOUR PRICE PER PERSON: \$7,835
(includes group airfare from Chicago)

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$1,270

LAND ONLY RATE: \$6,760
(without group airfare)

TOUR PRICE INCLUDES:

- Transatlantic group flights from Chicago on Lufthansa Airlines
- All domestic flights within Egypt
- Surface travel by air-conditioned motor coach
- Accommodations in deluxe hotels/*Amarante Nile* cruise ship based on two persons sharing a twin-bedded room with private bath as listed or similar
- Meals as listed in the itinerary
- Baggage handling for one suitcase per person
- All gratuities to tour escorts, guides, drivers, and porters
- A \$400, tax-deductible contribution to The Oriental Institute

DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Passport and visa fees
- Transfers to and from airports for tour participants arriving or departing on flights other than the group flights
- Excess luggage charges
- Medical expenses
- Travel insurance

- Beverages and items not on the menus
- Items of a purely personal nature
- Any items not listed

PLEASE NOTE: This tour should be considered moderately strenuous. It requires walking over rough, uneven terrain, step climbing, and some long driving days. All participants are expected to be physically active and able to walk independently throughout our full touring days.

For additional information or to register for The Wonders of Ancient Egypt, please contact the Oriental Institute Membership Office at oi-membership@uchicago.edu or at (773) 834-9777.



ROBERT K. RITNER is a professor of Egyptology at the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago and was from 1991 to 1996 the first Marilyn M. Simpson Assistant Professor of Egyptology at Yale University. Dr. Ritner is the author of the books *The Libyan Anarchy: Inscriptions from Egypt's Third Intermediate Period* and *The Mechanics of Ancient Egyptian Magical Practice*, as well as over a hundred publications on Egyptian social and political history, religion, magic, medicine, language, and literature. In association with the Field Museum of Chicago, Dr. Ritner was the academic advisor for its current Egypt installation and for two British Museum exhibits. In addition, he served as consultant and lecturer for the traveling Cairo Museum exhibit *Quest for Immortality: Treasures of Ancient Egypt*. He has led Oriental Institute tours to Egypt regularly for thirty years.



FALL ADULT EDUCATION COURSES

The following courses are co-sponsored by the Graham School of General Studies. Each course offers Teacher Recertification CPDUs from the Illinois State Board of Education, and each counts as an elective for the Graham School's non-credit certificate in Arabic Language and Cultures. For more information, call Public Education at (773) 702-9507.

BEYOND THE STEREOTYPES: THE PERSIAN EMPIRE REVEALED

Tytus Mikolajczak

October 15 to December 10

Saturdays, 10:00 AM–12 NOON

Oriental Institute

At its height, the Persian Empire (530–330 BC) stretched from the Nile to the Indus, a realm as vast as the ancient world had ever seen. In today's popular culture, the empire is associated with the Greek struggle against the Persians, as well as with Alexander the Great's conquests. Both are subjects of numerous books, movies, comic books, and so on, yet all these media present stereotypes, prejudices, and misconceptions. This course will reveal how the most recent scholarship views the events and history of this great empire, offering new insights on the legendary rulers, art, architecture, and religion of ancient Persia.

INSTRUCTOR: Tytus Mikolajczak, a graduate student in the University of Chicago's Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, works with the Oriental Institute's Persepolis Fortification Archive Project and researches ancient Persia.

CPDUs: 16

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- Lindsay Allen. *The Persian Empire*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2005.
- Josef Wiesehofer. *Ancient Persia: From 550 BC to 650 AD*. London: I. B. Taurus, 2001.

This class meets at the Oriental Institute from 10 AM to 12 Noon on Saturday mornings beginning October 15 and continuing to December 10. Pre-registration is required. There will be no class on Saturday, November 26.

THE INVENTION OF MONEY

Brittany Hayden

October 12 to December 7

Wednesdays, 7:00 PM–9:00 PM

Oriental Institute

Bolts of cloth? Sacks of grain? Chunks of silver? Coins of bronze? In the ancient world, consumers often had a wide array of payment methods at their disposal, just as today we can use paper money, coins, credit cards, or checks. Explore the questions of how we define money, and how it evolved from prehistory through Roman times in Egypt, the Levant, Mesopotamia, and the Greek world. Learn about the earliest forms of credit, state regulation of money, and financial crises in ancient times, and discover the insights ancient economies can give us on current economic concerns.

INSTRUCTOR: Brittany Hayden is a graduate student in the University of Chicago's Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations. She specializes in the economic history of Greco-Roman Egypt.

CPDUs: 16

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- Christopher Howgego. *Ancient History from Coins*. London: Routledge, 1995.
- David M. Schaps. *The Invention of Coinage and the Monetization of Ancient Greece*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan, 2004.

This class meets at the Oriental Institute from 7 PM to 9 PM on Wednesday evenings beginning October 12 and continuing to December 7. Pre-registration is required. There will be no class on Wednesday, November 23.

CORRESPONDENCE COURSE

HIEROGLYPHS BY MAIL

Andrew Baumann and Vanessa Davies

October 24, 2011, to February 20, 2012

Registration Deadline: October 14

Taught by correspondence, this course introduces students to an in-depth study of Middle Egyptian, the "classical" language of ancient Egypt. Learn the fundamental structure and grammar of the language by completing the first eight lessons and exercises of Middle Egyptian Grammar by James Hoch. Mail or fax completed lessons to the instructor, who will correct them, answer any questions,

and return the lessons by mail or fax. Those who complete all course assignments will receive a certificate of course completion from the Oriental Institute.

INSTRUCTORS: Andrew Baumann holds a PhD in Egyptology from the University of Chicago. He has been an epigrapher and artist for the Oriental Institute's Epigraphic Survey based at Chicago House in Luxor, Egypt. Currently he is Publications Manager for the University of Chicago Press. Vanessa Davies holds a PhD in Egyptology from the University of Chicago. She has taught Egyptology courses at the University of Chicago and Loyola University and has also worked at the Oriental Institute's Epigraphic Survey in Luxor.

DURATION: The course will begin on Monday, October 24, and continue for sixteen weeks, with a two-week break during the winter holidays. Registration deadline: October 14. Pre-registration is required.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- James Hoch. *Middle Egyptian Grammar*, available from the Suq for \$65.
- James Hoch. *Middle Egyptian Sign List*, available from the Suq for \$18.

Oriental Institute Members receive a 10% discount. Illinois residents, 9.5% sales tax. Books may be purchased online at http://oi.uchicago.edu/order/suq/products/egypt_langlit.html

SPECIAL FILM SERIES

LOST WORLDS: THE STORY OF ARCHAEOLOGY

Sundays, October 2 to October 30

2:00 PM

Oriental Institute

FREE

This October, our Sunday film showings feature five episodes from *Lost Worlds: The Story of Archaeology* (2000). This intriguing historical overview produced and narrated by Egyptologist John Romer begins with the unearthing of the ruins at Pompeii in the eighteenth century. It continues with ways

archaeologists then turned to pursuing various objectives, including treasure seeking, efforts to prove the historical accuracy of such texts as the works of Homer or the Bible, and searching for the origins of civilization, which some believed came from a single source. Traveling through two centuries of evolving methods, theories, and discoveries, the series concludes with how use of the latest scientific techniques and technologies are making a major impact on the future of the past.

Sunday, October 2: *Stones and Bones: The Birth of Archaeology*

Sunday, October 9: *Treasure Seekers: From Passion to Plunder*

Sunday, October 16: *Digging by the Book*

Sunday, October 23: *Looking for One Beginning*

Sunday, October 30: *The Future of the Past*



EDUCATION PROGRAMS REGISTRATION FORM

Don't miss out — register early!

Please enroll me in the following Public Programs:

	MEMBERS	NON-MEMBERS	TOTAL
<input type="checkbox"/> Beyond the Stereotypes: The Persian Empire Revealed	\$255	\$305	
<input type="checkbox"/> The Invention of Money	\$255	\$305	
<input type="checkbox"/> Egyptian Hieroglyphs by Mail	\$275	\$315	
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Four-part Session: From Ground to Gallery <i>To sign up for specific sessions, visit us online at https://oi.uchicago.edu/events/courses.html</i>	\$39/session	\$44/session	
	\$140 for 4	\$160 for 4	
<input type="checkbox"/> Decorating Ancient-Style Ceramics	\$40	\$45	
	GRAND TOTAL		

I would like to become a member of the Oriental Institute. Enclosed is \$50 for an Annual Membership. **Please send a separate check for membership.**

I prefer to pay by Check (payable to the Oriental Institute) Money order Credit card

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 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 Education Office reserves the right to refuse to retain any student in any class at any time.

SPECIAL SERIES

FROM GROUND TO GALLERY: THE SECRET LIFE OF MUSEUM OBJECTS

Selected Saturdays: October 1, 15, 29, and November 12

1:30–4:00 PM

All sessions take place at the Oriental Institute

In the isolation of a glass case, it is difficult to see museum objects as more than relics of a dead past. But the history of an object does not end when it becomes an “artifact.” This unique series invites you to join Oriental Institute faculty and staff for one or more special sessions to examine the fascinating living histories — from ancient times to the present — of

selected objects in the Oriental Institute Museum’s collection. Most sessions include a rare behind-the-scenes look at the complex, often dramatic, lives of these objects as they moved from ground to gallery.

CPDUs: 2 per session; 10 for the entire series.

FEE: \$39 per session for Oriental Institute Members, \$140 for all four sessions; \$44 per session for non-members, \$160 for all four sessions.

Saturday, October 1: The Lamassu and the Khorsabad Reliefs

Guest Presenters: Jack Green, Chief Curator, Oriental Institute Museum, and Laura D’Alessandro, Head of Conservation, Oriental Institute Museum

The lamassu, a colossal sculpture of a human-headed winged bull, once guarded the throne room of Sargon II (721–705 BC) at Khorsabad in today’s northern Iraq. Now this sculpture is one of the most awe-inspiring pieces on view in our Museum. View the lamassu with Jack Green to discover the remarkable story of the statue’s original creation, its excavation by the Oriental Institute in 1929, and the incredible challenges archaeologists faced as this massive, forty-ton sculpture journeyed from Iraq to Chicago. Then join Laura D’Alessandro to learn about restoration and installation of the Khorsabad materials in the early 1930s, their reinstallation in the 1990s to re-create the experience of visiting Sargon’s palace, and how today’s technologies and equipment are being used to analyze and conserve the Khorsabad reliefs, ensuring a lasting future for these monuments from the past.

Saturday, October 15: The Persepolis Fortification Archives

Guest Presenter: Matthew Stolper, John A. Wilson Professor of Oriental Studies, Oriental Institute

In 1933, Oriental Institute archaeologists working in Iran at the site of the ancient capital of Persepolis discovered tens of thousands of clay tablet documents within a bastion of the city’s fortification wall. Most of the tablets, which date to around 500 BC, were loaned to the Oriental Institute for analysis in 1936. Join Professor Matthew Stolper to learn how the Institute’s long and painstaking study of the Persepolis Fortification Archive has provided a wealth of information about the languages, society, institutions, religion, and art of the ancient Persian empire at its zenith. Then go behind the scenes to see how the archive is now the subject of a multi-institutional research project that uses the most advanced imaging equipment to record and study the tablets.

Saturday, October 29: The Dead Sea Scrolls

Guest Presenter: Norman Golb, Ludwig Rosenberger Professor of Jewish History and Civilization and Director of the Dead Sea Scrolls and Other Hebrew Manuscripts Project

The Dead Sea Scrolls have been the subject of fascination and controversy since their initial discovery in the 1940s. The Oriental Institute is one of the few institutions in the United States to house — and exhibit — one of these incredible documents. Join Professor Norman Golb to delve into the controversial historical background of the scrolls, discuss the Oriental Institute’s pivotal role in the liberation of the scrolls for study in the 1990s, and discover the Institute’s ongoing contributions to Dead Sea Scrolls scholarship.

Saturday, November 12: Ancient Egyptian Fakes and Forgeries

Guest Presenters: Megaera Lorenz, PhD candidate in Egyptology, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, and Helen McDonald, Registrar, Oriental Institute Museum

Although most objects in the Oriental Institute’s collection were excavated, not all came from the ground. In the 1920s and 1930s, Institute founder James Henry Breasted purchased a variety of objects from antiquities dealers in Egypt. Decades later, modern Egyptologists recognized that some of these items were the work of clever forgers hoping to capitalize on the thriving antiquities market of the late nineteenth to early twentieth centuries. Join Megaera Lorenz to discover how modern Egyptologists spotted these fakes and why curators have chosen to place several on view in a special Egyptian Gallery display. Then join Registrar Helen McDonald for a behind-the-scenes trip to our storage area to see other Egyptian fakes and discuss why they are retained in our collection.



DECORATING ANCIENT-STYLE CERAMICS

AN ORIENTAL INSTITUTE/HYDE PARK ART CENTER WORKSHOP FOR ADULTS

Sunday, December 4

1:30–4:00 PM

Oriental Institute

Explore the ancient art of ceramic decoration at this hands-on workshop for adults presented in conjunction with the special exhibit *Before the Pyramids: The Origins of Egyptian Civilization*. Tour the special exhibit with museum docents and Aurora Tabar, Hyde Park Art Center

Teaching Artist, to view exquisite examples of ancient Egyptian pottery decorated with an array of painted scenes and designs. Discover the significance of the styles and designs and the tools and pigments used to produce them. Then try your hand at decorating two pre-fired versions of an ancient-style pot using the time-tested techniques of the ancient Egyptians.

FEE: \$40 for Oriental Institute and Hyde Park Art Center members; \$45 for non-members. Includes guided tour, workshop instruction, and all materials.

MUMMIES NIGHT: TALES AND TREATS FOR HALLOWEEN

FAMILY EVENT

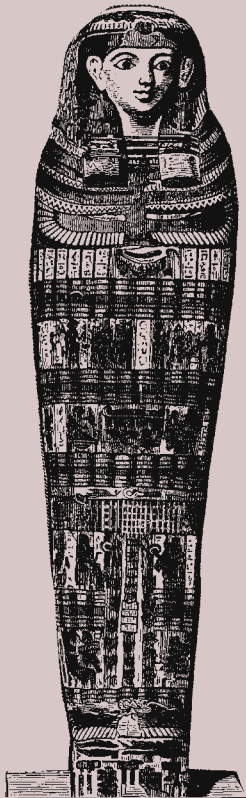
Thursday, October 27

6:00–8:00 PM

Oriental Institute

We can't keep this event under wraps! Come to our annual pre-Halloween celebration for a "tomb full" of family fun! Get up close and personal with a mummy, discover painted coffins and a Book of the Dead, and view "Mummies Made in Egypt," an award-winning children's film from the Reading Rainbow series. Browse the latest children's books on ancient Egypt, try on an outfit from King Tut's closet, and enter our "Guess the Mummy Lollipops" contest. Then take a treasure hunt in the Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery to see if you can find out what a mummified ancient Egyptian priestess actually looked like when she was alive three thousand years ago! Recommended for children ages five and up accompanied by an adult.

ADMISSION: \$3 per person, payable at the door. Free for Oriental Institute members. Pre-registration not required.



In Memoriam

William M. Sumner

*Director Emeritus,
Oriental Institute
1928–2011*

by Bill Harms

William M. Sumner, a leading figure in the study of ancient Iran and director of the Oriental Institute at the University of Chicago from 1989 to 1997, died July 7 in Columbus, Ohio. Sumner, who oversaw a major expansion of the Institute's building, was eighty-two.

"Bill Sumner was an outstanding archaeologist and a transformational leader at the Oriental Institute," said Gil Stein, director of the Oriental Institute. "His survey and excavations at the urban center of Malyan in the highlands of Iran made a lasting contribution to our understanding of the Elamite civilization and the deep roots of the Persian empire. He trained an entire generation of archaeologists who went on to become major scholars in their own right in the study of ancient Iran and Anatolia.

"As director of the Oriental Institute, Bill Sumner had the vision, the drive, and the organizational skills to conceptualize and carry out the building of our new wing, and the complete reinstallation of our permanent museum galleries. Most of all, Bill was a man with tremendous personal integrity who led by example. His death is a sad loss for our field, and we will miss him very deeply," Stein added.

At the Oriental Institute, Sumner encouraged the use of new technologies to expand the work of archaeologists in the field and in the laboratory.

"He saw the value, and sensed the impending importance of digital communication and publication, and laid the foundations for the next decade of development along these lines in the OI," said Gene Gragg, professor emeritus at the Oriental Institute. Gragg succeeded Sumner as director.

Sumner recognized the value to archaeology and history of the use of computational technologies and scientific instrumentation. "Bill was a visionary, one of the first who understood the ways that digitalization and computational tools could transform the humanistic and social science disciplines," said Martha T. Roth, the Chauncey S. Boucher Distinguished Service Professor of Assyriology in the Oriental Institute and Dean of the Humanities Division. "And he was a scholar and person of deep personal and professional integrity."

He also oversaw the initiation of the largest expansion of the Oriental Institute building since it was constructed in 1931. With the help of a federal grant and a \$10.1 million campaign, the Institute built a new wing to provide space for the equipment needed for climate control, as well as provide space for proper and climate-controlled artifact and archival storage. The new wing also houses a modern artifact-conservation laboratory.

The Oriental Institute's museum also underwent a massive redesign that began under his leadership. That redesign led to a rearrangement of the galleries and an updated presentation of the museum's art and artifacts from throughout the ancient Near East.

Sumner's own academic work focused on ancient Iran. From 1972 until 1978, he directed the University of Pennsylvania's excavations at the site of Tal-i Malyan, ancient Anshan, in the Fars province in western Iran. Sumner oversaw the publication of a series of monographs based on the work of five field seasons of fieldwork there.

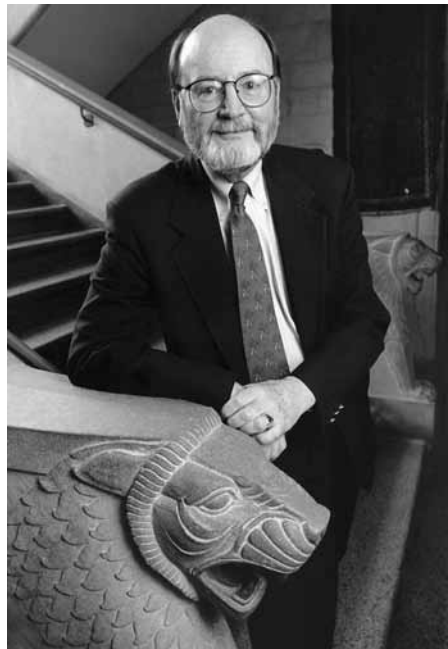
The Malyan archaeological project was seminal not only in discovering the highland Elamite city of Anshan, known locally as Malyan, but also in the cycles of nomadism and sedentism in the region of Fars, southern Iran, that operated in the region from at least the fifth millennium BC, according to Abbas Alizadeh, an Oriental Institute archaeologist who specializes in Iran.

In addition to his work on the Malyan monograph series, Sumner wrote many articles on the development of civilization in ancient Iran.

He is survived by wife, Kathleen Sumner; children, William (Kristin) Sumner and Jane Sumner; step-children, Douglas (Jamie) MacLean and

Megan (Savady) Yem; sister, Ida VSW Red; grandchildren, Katrina MacFarland, Eirian Yem, Dylan Yem, Shane Yem, Devon Yem, Lachlan MacLean, and Emma MacLean; and great-grandchildren, Nolan and Adeline MacFarland, Anthony Sumner, and Ashley and Colin Sizemore.

At his request, there will be no services.



FALL 2011 VOLUNTEER MINI-SERIES

ORDER FROM CHAOS: LAW IN THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST

Beginning this fall, the Oriental Institute Volunteer Program has generously opened their mini-series to Oriental Institute Members. For more information on this series, and to learn more about volunteer opportunities at the Oriental Institute, contact the Volunteer Office at (773) 702-1845. Presentations will take place in the LaSalle Banks Room unless otherwise noted.

Session 1: Ancient Mesopotamian Law Collections

Andrea Seri, assistant professor of Assyriology at the Oriental Institute
Saturday, October 1
10:00 AM

Session 2: Biblical Law*

Jeffery Stackert, assistant professor at the University of Chicago Divinity School
Wednesday, October 12
5:00 PM

*Please note, this session is held in Breasted Hall



Session 3: Ancient Egyptian Law

Brian Muhs, associate professor of Egyptology at the Oriental Institute
Saturday, October 15
10:00 AM

Session 4: Islamic Law

Ahmed El Shamsey, assistant professor of Islamic Thought at the University of Chicago's Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations
Saturday, October 29
10:00 AM

Panel Discussion and Q&A

Following Session 4, a panel discussion and Q&A with all four presenters will take place in Breasted Hall.
Saturday, October 29
1:00 PM



JOIN/RENEW TODAY!

I would like to become a Member of the Oriental Institute / Please renew my Oriental Institute membership.

Name: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Daytime phone: _____ E-mail: _____

- \$50 Annual Member
 \$40 Senior Member (65+)
 \$40 National Associate (US residents 100 miles from Chicago)
 \$75 Overseas Member (addresses outside the US)
 \$100 Supporting Associate
 \$500 Sponsoring Associate
 \$1,000 James Henry Breasted Society

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

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

Signature: _____

You can also renew by calling (773) 834-9777 or visiting us online at oi.uchicago.edu/getinvolved/

Questions? E-mail or call the Membership Office: oi-membership@uchicago.edu / (773) 834-9777

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

SUNDAY FILMS

Each Sunday afternoon, enjoy the best in documentary films on the ancient Near East at the Oriental Institute. Films begin at 2:00 PM, and admission is free. Running times range from 30 to 50 minutes unless otherwise noted. Following the films, museum docents will be available in the galleries to answer questions about our exhibits.

Sunday showings in October feature five episodes from the acclaimed film series *Lost Worlds: The Story of Archaeology* (2000) See p. 15 for more information.

October 2 *Stones and Bones: The Birth of Archaeology*

October 9 *Treasure Seekers: From Passion to Plunder*

October 16 *Digging by the Book*

October 23 *Looking for One Beginning*

October 30 *The Future of the Past*

November 6 *Islam: Empire of Faith, Part I* (2000) 100 min.

November 13 *Islam: Empire of Faith, Part II* (2000) 60 min.

This highly regarded two-part PBS series tells the story of Islam's first thousand years, showing how it sustained the intellectual legacies of Greece, Egypt, and China, and how it brought immeasurable advances in science, medicine, and the arts to Europe in the Middle Ages. These films are being shown in conjunction with Arab Heritage Month in Chicago.

November 20 *Egypt: Journey to the Global Civilization* (2000)

The disciplines of archaeology, anthropology, engineering, and climatology contribute to a thought-provoking examination of this great ancient civilization and its contributions to world culture.

November 27 No film showing during Thanksgiving weekend

December 4 *Alexander the Great* (2001)

Beginning in Macedonia, the empire of Alexander the Great quickly grew to include virtually all the known world in ancient times. This film from the Discovery Channel Conquerors series profiles a warrior king of mythic proportions who continues to live on as an icon of martial prowess and a figure of fascination.

December 11 *Nile: River of the Gods* (1994) 102 min.

Coursing 4,000 miles through three countries, the Nile River sustains some of the world's richest wildlife habitats and has shaped the ways and beliefs of cultures since the beginning of recorded history. Narrated by Academy Award-winner F. Murray Abraham, this spectacular film takes you on an odyssey of exploration as you journey down the entire length of the Nile.

December 18 *Nubia and the Mysteries of Kush* (2001)

This film highlights the splendors of an ancient kingdom in what is now the country of Sudan. Footage includes visits to several archaeological sites, focusing on the discoveries and preservation efforts underway. Created by Emmy Award-winning producer Judith McCrae, the film also explores the natural beauty of the region, accompanied by an original musical score composed by Nubian artist Hamza El Din.

December 25, 2011, and January 1, 2012, the Oriental Institute will be closed for the holidays. Sunday film showings begin again on January 8, 2012.

COMING NEXT FEBRUARY!

Watch for additional information about our next special exhibit, *Picturing the Past: Imaging and Imagining the Ancient Near East*, which explores the ways the region has been portrayed through painting, photography, models, and casts, and how those images have formed our perceptions of the Near East. The show runs from February 5 to September 2, 2012.

Vintagers and Bird-Catchers. Scene from the Theban tomb of Nakht (1420–1411 BC). *Ancient Egyptian Paintings* 1, pl. 48. Nina de Garis Davies, 1936





THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE IN THE NEWS



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

COMPLETION OF THE CHICAGO ASSYRIAN DICTIONARY (a selection of the coverage)

The New York Times

June 6, 2011

"After 90 Years, a Dictionary of an Ancient World," by John Noble Wilford — <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/06/07/science/07dictionary.html>

The Chicago Tribune (and elsewhere)

June 4, 2011

"Ancient World Dictionary Finished — After 90 Years," by Sharon Cohen — <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chicago-postcard-the90-ye,0,134626.story>

The Chicago Tribune

June 5, 2011

"University of Chicago Institute Completes Dictionary of Ancient Language after 9 Decades," by William Mulen — http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2011-06-05/news/ct-talk-assyrian-dictionary-20110605_1_assyrian-dictionary-project-james-henry-breasted-mesopotamian

Chicago Sun Times

June 4, 2011

"After 90 Years, U. of C. Completes Dictionary Documenting Humanity's Earliest Days," by Kara Spak — <http://www.suntimes.com/news/education/5737867-418/after-90-years-u.-of-c.-completes-dictionary-documenting-humanitys-earliest-days?print=true>

Chicago Tonight

June 20, 2011

"Assyrian Dictionary," Interview with Martha Roth on the completion of the CAD — http://www.wttw.com/main.taf?p=42,8,80&pid=c4JG2YGXSueVwP88E4vU5pKGnIMdWv_B&player=Chicago-Tonight

Print version of Chicago Tonight interview: <http://blogs.wttw.com/moreon-the-story/2011/06/20/assyrian-dictionary/>

University of Chicago Magazine

July–August, 2011

"The Definition of Persistence," by Jeff Carroll — http://magazine.uchicago.edu/1108/chicago_journal/definition-of-persistence.shtml

BEFORE THE PYRAMIDS EXHIBIT

Chicago Tonight

June 21, 2011

"Before the Pyramids" (starts at 7:22 into the segment) — <http://www.wttw.com/main.taf?p=42,8,80,32&pid=TTjdohgIVCXVvxql3FuyDkUxuGo0Ne9e>

THE OI AND ITS PROJECTS

University of Chicago Magazine

July–August, 2011

"Islam's Origins" (Fred Donner's research on OIM Koran page), by Asher Klein — <http://magazine.uchicago.edu/1108/investigations/islams-origins.shtml>

Explore Chicago Tourism

"A Hyde Park Afternoon: 7 Picks from the Oriental Institute," on the Chicago City website — <http://www.explorechicago-tourism.com/?p=885>

Copiah County Courier

April 29, 2011

Chicago Travel Tips: 5 Things You Shouldn't Miss — <http://www.eclassifiedsnetwork.com/v2/content.aspx?ID=16713&MemberID=1230&AID=12984>

Chicago Convention and Tourism Bureau

June, 2011

"Run to Hyde Park" (feature on Hyde Park for tourism professionals) — http://www.choosechicago.com/travelprofessionals/chicagotravelupdate/Pages/June_2011.aspx?CMP=EMC-Trav0611

CHICAGO READER'S BEST OF 2011

BEFORE THE PYRAMIDS WINS "BEST EXHIBIT OF 2011" IN READER'S POLL

Chicago Reader

June 23, 2011

<http://www.chicagoreader.com/chicago/best-museum-exhibit/BestOf?oid=4077977&keywords=>

INTRODUCING JACK GREEN: NEW CHIEF CURATOR OF THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE MUSEUM

AN EXCLUSIVE ASSOCIATE MEMBERS' EVENT

Saturday, November 12

7:00 PM

The Oriental Institute is pleased to introduce our new Chief Curator, Dr. Jack Green! Join Jack for a presentation on the role of chief curator and gain insight into upcoming special exhibits and behind-the-scenes projects at the Museum. Following the presentation, Associate Members are invited for a meet-and-greet cocktail reception in the Robert and Deborah Aliber Persian Gallery.

This is an exclusive Associate Level Members' event, and an RSVP is required. Please RSVP by October 31 to Meghan Winston by calling (773) 834-9775 or e-mail: meghanwinston@uchicago.edu.

For more information about becoming an Associate Level Member, please contact the Oriental Institute Membership Office at (773) 834-9777 or oi-membership@uchicago.edu

THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE CELEBRATES THE COMPLETION OF THE CAD



"AN ADVENTURE OF GREAT DIMENSION"

The Completion of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary (CAD)

June 6, 2011

On June 6, 2011, the Oriental Institute held a widely publicized celebratory symposium for the completion of the project — ninety years in the making (see *The Oriental Institute in the News*, previous page). Oriental Institute Director Gil J. Stein opened the symposium in Breasted Hall, and the seven talks followed highlighting the creation of the dictionary — from the personalities of the contributors and editors to stylistic and technical aspects — and the impact of the project on many fields of ancient studies that it touched, including Sumerology and the archeology and art history of the ancient Near East. The talks were given by Martha T. Roth and McGuire Gibson of the Oriental Institute, and Jerrold S. Cooper, Peter Machinist, Hermann Hunger, and Irene Winter of Johns Hopkins, Vienna, and Harvard universities. The day concluded with a reception in the Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery attended by more than 200 people.

The Assyrian Dictionary of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago (1956–2010) is available for purchase from the David Brown Book Company / Oxbow Books (www.oxbowbooks.com) and for free download from the Oriental Institute website (<http://oi.uchicago.edu/research/pubs/catalog/cad/>).

NEW PUBLICATION FROM THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

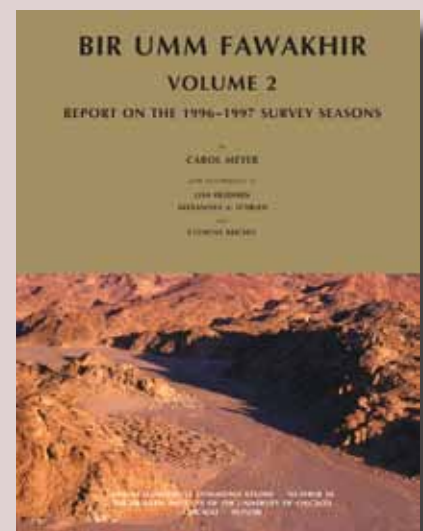
BIR UMM FAWAKHIR, VOLUME 2: REPORT ON THE 1996–1997 SURVEY SEASONS

Carol Meyer, with contributions by Lisa Heidorn, Alexandra A. O'Brien, and Clemens Reichel

This volume is the final report on the 1996 and 1997 seasons of excavation at Bir Umm Fawakhir, a fifth- to sixth-century AD Coptic/Byzantine gold-mining town located in the central Eastern Desert of Egypt. The main settlement at Bir Umm Fawakhir is one of the only completely mapped towns of the period in Egypt, as it is plotted room for room and door for door along with features such as guardposts, cemeteries, paths, roads, wells, outlying clusters of ruins, and mines. This volume presents the pre-Coptic material; a detailed discussion of the remains in the main settlement, outliers, and cemeteries; the Coptic/Byzantine pottery, small finds, and dipinti; as well as a study of ancient mining techniques.

Oriental Institute Communications 30. Pp. xxviii + 220; 53 figures, 108 plates, 1 table. Softbound. 9.00 x 11.75". \$49.95

Available from the David Brown Book Company / Oxbow Books (www.oxbowbooks.com) and from the Oriental Institute website (<http://oi.uchicago.edu/research/pubs/catalog/oic/oic30.html>).



MEDIA FRENZY CAUSES CAD DOWNLOADS TO SPIKE

Volume number, letter	First Printed	March	April	May	June	July	TOTAL 2011 March–July
Volume 1, A, part 1	1964	243	1,599	265	22,981	1,358	26,446
Volume 1, A, part 2	1968	144	223	133	2,312	304	3,234
Volume 2, B	1965	115	199	130	2,006	269	2,822
Volume 3, D	1959	102	151	116	1,681	223	2,361
Volume 4, E	1958	129	186	119	1,607	232	2,362
Volume 5, G	1956	234	242	217	3,040	324	4,226
Volume 6, H	1956	112	151	116	1,535	212	2,209
Volume 7, I/J	1960	107	1,169	105	1,394	199	3,053
Volume 8, K	1971	128	197	157	1,422	229	2,238
Volume 9, L	1973	107	168	164	1,382	206	2,412
Volume 10, M, part 1	1977	109	168	105	1,411	195	2,080
Volume 10, M, part 2	1977	99	157	100	1,302	211	1,947
Volume 11, N, part 1	1980	122	170	108	2,623	212	3,327
Volume 11, N, part 2	1980	124	189	107	1,236	244	2,003
Volume 12, P	2005	313	377	332	1,916	277	3,391
Volume 13, Q	1982	94	155	105	1,166	186	1,779
Volume 14, R	1999	473	292	225	1,850	303	3,267
Volume 15, S	1984	93	165	114	1,376	192	2,029
Volume 16, Š	1962	96	145	95	1,182	174	1,761
Volume 17, Š, part 1	1989	113	162	132	1,194	167	1,832
Volume 17, Š, part 2	1992	112	153	115	1,204	196	1,853
Volume 17, Š, part 3	1992	105	158	108	1,109	222	1,786
Volume 18, T	2006	178	236	264	1,348	270	2,447
Volume 19, Ț	2006	111	197	156	1,290	204	2,060
Volume 20, U and W	2010	0	939	407	2,518	321	4,343
Volume 21, Z	1961	91	200	124	2,216	272	2,899
Monthly Totals		3,563	8,148	4,419	64,301	9,736	90,167



The published volumes of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary

Note the Spike in Downloads!

Completion of the ninety-year project was widely publicized in the press and announcements were sent to major institutions and universities throughout the world.

Note the other spikes: In April, CAD U/W – the final volume – was released with moderate advertisement. In June, the worldwide publicity of the completion of the project clearly reached many unfamiliar with the CAD, and the letter A, the first volume of the set, wherein one finds an Introduction to the dictionary written by I. J. Gelb, was heavily downloaded.

Other places to learn about the CAD include:

Erica Reiner. *An Adventure of Great Dimension: The Launching of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary*. Philadelphia, 2002 (available at the Suq; see back cover)

Martha T. Roth. "How We Wrote the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary." *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 69/1 (2010): 1–21

FEAST WITH THE PHARAOHS THE 2011 ORIENTAL INSTITUTE GALA

On May 2, the Oriental Institute hosted 240 guests to feast with the pharaohs, while celebrating the Institute's 92nd year at an Ancient Egyptian-themed, black-tie gala. As guests arrived, mingled, enjoyed cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, they were invited to bid on a plethora of silent-auction items in the Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery.

Attendees then convened in Breasted Hall to listen to a presentation by Gil J. Stein, director of the Oriental Institute. The highlight of the speech was the presentation of the Breasted Medallion to O. J. Sopranos, long-time member, donor, and friend of the Oriental Institute. After the medal ceremony, attendees also enjoyed a slideshow honoring all five emeritus Oriental Institute directors — Robert McC.

Adams, John Brinkman, Janet Johnson, Bill Sumner, and Gene Gragg — and their various contributions to the infrastructure of the Oriental Institute.

Following the presentation, guests participated in a live auction in Breasted Hall. Auction items included a catered dinner for ten in the Oriental Institute Museum galleries with paleontologist Paul Sereno, and a retrofitted museum case customized by Oriental Institute preparator Erik Lindahl. During dinner in the Museum galleries, guests enjoyed an elegant plated dinner including filet mignon and lemon soufflé cake served by Calihan Catering, Inc. Throughout the evening, guests were entertained by Environmental Encroachment, an acting troupe whose members dressed as a belly dancer, a pharaoh, a pharaoh's attendant, and a variety of other Egyptian personalities. Finally, to complement our Ancient Egyptian feast, guests were given individually wrapped chocolate pharaohs as favors.

Special thanks goes out to everyone who worked tirelessly to ensure the evening's perfection. A particularly special thank-you is extended to the Gala committee — Deborah Halpern, Andrea Dudek, Margaret Foorman, Mari Terman, and Susan Geshwender — without whom this event would not have happened.



Above: Guests participated in a silent auction throughout the evening. Left: Caterers and performers wearing Egyptian costumes and headdresses entertained guests with dancing, juggling, and music



University of Chicago President Robert Zimmer



Gil Stein presenting the Breasted Medallion to Jim Sopranos



Breasted Medallion recipients past and present: (left to right) Carlotta Maher, Margaret Grant, Jim Sopranos, and Janet Helman



Gil Stein delivering a presentation honoring emeritus directors of the Oriental Institute



Theo and Lidwina van den Hout speak with Neil King



Gala attendees Oriental Institute Visiting Committee Chair Harvey Plotnick, Todd Schwebel, and Lawrence Becker



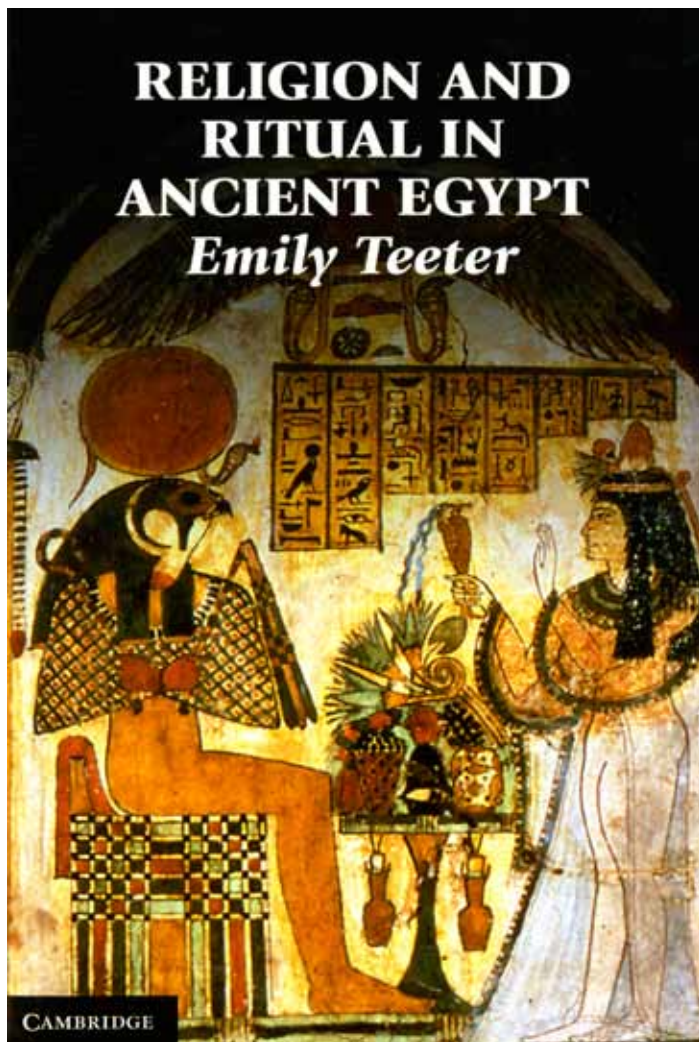
Guests enjoying dinner in the Yelda Khorsabad Court of the Oriental Institute Museum; counterclockwise from left: Janet Johnson, Greg Mueller, Betty Mueller, Don Whitcomb, Nicole Suzann Williams, Todd Schwebel, Liliana Lark, and Lawrence Becker



Scott Branting, Morag Kersel, and Yorke Rowan



Thomas and Linda Heagy, Ray Johnson, and Jay Heidel



NEW PUBLICATION BY RESEARCH ASSOCIATE EMILY TEETER

Religion and Ritual in Ancient Egypt

This book is a vivid reconstruction of the practical aspects of ancient Egyptian religion: Who was allowed to enter the temples, and what rituals were performed therein? Who served as priests? How were they organized and trained, and what did they do? What was the Egyptians' attitude toward death, and what happened at funerals? How did the living and dead communicate? In what ways could people communicate with the gods?

Members' price: \$26.09 (autographed)

THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE BIDS FAREWELL TO MAEVE REED



After two years as the Oriental Institute membership coordinator, Maevae Reed is leaving the Oriental Institute to start a new job at the Adler Planetarium in Chicago. She has been an important and esteemed part of the Oriental Institute and will be dearly missed. Good luck, Maevae!

GALLERY TOUR

BEFORE THE PYRAMIDS

Emily Teeter

Wednesday, October 19

12:15 PM

FREE

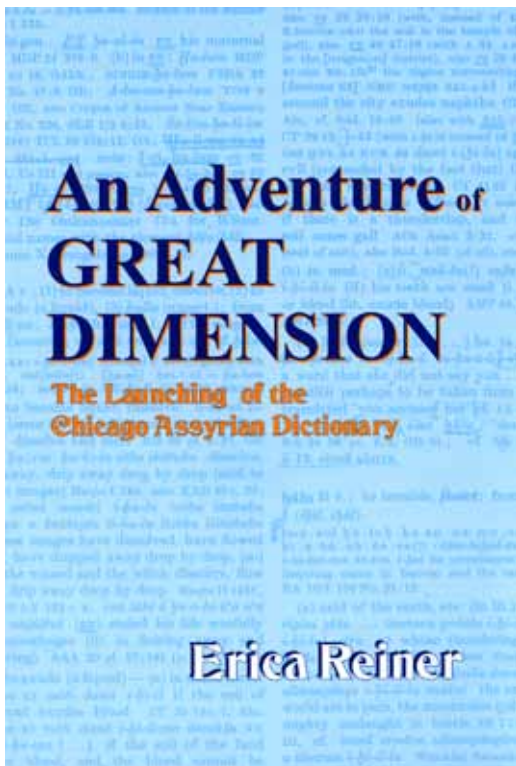


Don't miss this last opportunity take a curator-led tour of our special exhibit *Before the Pyramids: The Origins of Egyptian Civilization*, which closes at the end of the year. Join Emily Teeter, Oriental Institute research associate and curator of *Before the Pyramids*, to discuss the extraordinary artifacts that reconstruct the lives of the early craftsmen, administrators, and kings whose legacies gave lasting shape to the great civilization that arose along the banks of the Nile.

THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

The University of Chicago
1155 East 58th Street • Chicago, Illinois • 60637
(773) 702-9514

THE SUQ CORNER



NEW AT THE SUQ

An Adventure of Great Dimension: The Launching of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary. By Erica Reiner

With the completion of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary this year there has been renewed interest in Erica's book.

Now available in paperback. \$24.00
(Members' price: \$21.60)

