



THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

IRANIAN POTTERY IN THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

By Peggy Horton Grant, Museum Volunteer

As a volunteer for Registrar and Associate Curator Ray Tindel, I have had the great opportunity to register artifacts from prehistoric Iran. Hidden away in a basement storage area with an IBM computer, I first learned the registration procedures from Ray; then Research Associate Abbas Alizadeh introduced me to some of the wonders of Iranian prehistoric pottery.

The collection of Iranian pottery in the Oriental Institute encompasses material from several regions. My first assignment was to organize, classify, and register pottery sherds from Tall-e Bakun A, located a mile from Persepolis in Fars province, and then to do the same for the Gremliza Surface Collection from Susiana in southwestern Iran (see map). My next project will be to register the pottery from Chogha Mish on the Susiana plain, excavated for twelve seasons by the late Professors Pinhas Delougaz and Helene Kantor.

The painted pottery of prehistoric Iran is to me exciting evidence of the creativity and ingenuity of the early peoples of Iran. With the imminent and long-awaited publication of the first five seasons at Chogha Mish and the publication of the second and last season at Tall-e Bakun, it seems appropriate to give

you an overview of the excavations, purchases and gifts that have made our collection such an important one. (The Oriental Institute has the largest collection of Iranian painted pottery sherds in the United States, and the Louvre has the largest collection in Europe.)

The Oriental Institute's ambitious program and considerable means in

first field director of the Persepolis project, dug a trial trench at the small prehistoric site of Tall-e Bakun A. In 1932 Herzfeld appointed Alexander Langsdorff and Donald McCown to conduct systematic excavations at the site. When Erich Schmidt succeeded Herzfeld in 1935, McCown continued the excavations at Bakun for another season in 1937. The results of this last, important season are not published, but Alizadeh studied them for his doctoral thesis, and published some of the data that pertain to the presence of administrative technology at the site.

The next addition to our collection arrived in 1945, through the purchase of part of the Herzfeld Collection, which had been offered for sale by the Field Museum of Natural History. Kantor and Delougaz made a selection of the most important and valuable pieces; regrettably, financial considerations did not allow the Institute to purchase the entire collection. Most of these pieces are whole painted pottery vessels

ranging in date from the sixth to the second millennium B.C. Examples from this collection may be seen in display cases 4, 6, and 7 in the Iranian Gallery. Many of these vessels



the 1930s ushered in a series of archaeological excavations in Iran and Mesopotamia. One of the first sites chosen by the Oriental Institute for archaeological excavation was Persepolis, in the highland province of Fars. In 1928, Ernst Herzfeld, the

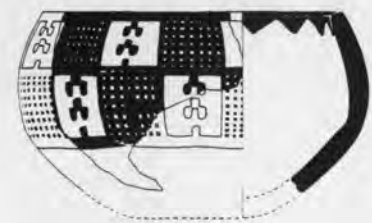
(continued on page 2)



No. 1



No. 2



No. 3

come from Tepe Giyan in Lurestan and from the Iranian central plateau.

For the next addition to our collection, and perhaps our most important one, we must travel over the rugged mountains from the highlands of Fars to the Susiana plain in Khuzestan, in the lowlands of southwestern Iran.

It was here in 1961 that Delougaz and Kantor began their twelve-season excavation at Chogha Mish under the auspices of the Oriental Institute (later co-sponsored by the University of California-Los Angeles). The death of Delougaz at Chogha Mish at the end of the ninth season in 1975 was a great loss, but Miss Kantor carried on in the field until 1978, when the Iranian revolution put an end to all American expeditions in Iran.

The importance of Chogha Mish and its place in Near Eastern archaeology is described in the accounts published in the *Oriental Institute Annual Reports 1962-1978*. The cultural levels of prehistoric Chogha Mish are delineated by the characteristics of the painted pottery. Archaic Susiana was the earliest period discovered there, dated to ca. 6000 B.C., although at the nearby site of Chogha Banut pottery was found that antedated Archaic Susiana pottery from Chogha Mish; this pottery represents the Formative Susiana period.

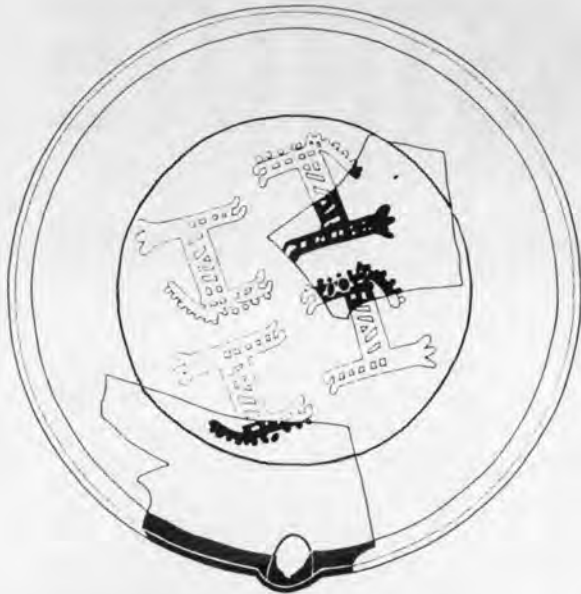
Some designs of the Archaic Susiana sequence are characterized by zigzag paral-

lel lines in a rickrack arrangement (no. 1); a wide bowl with alternating zones of parallel wavy lines and vertical bands (no. 2) represents the Painted-burnished ware, one of the earliest wares in the Archaic Susiana sequence. Another typical early example is a bowl with cross-hatched squares in a checkerboard pattern (no. 3).

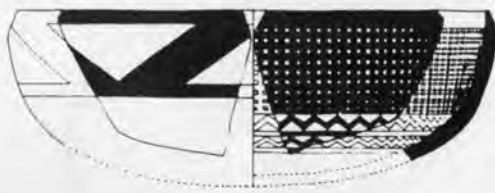
The succeeding Early Susiana period (ca. 5500 B.C.) developed more sophisticated arrangements of painted motifs. A lid is painted with geometric zigzags and birds with outstretched wings. An Early Susiana bowl has painted decorations on the exterior and a set of what appears to be four canines on the interior (no. 4). Another bowl shows the characteristic use of zigzags, squares, and cross-hatchings (no. 5), a pattern that remained a favorite throughout the prehistoric Susiana sequence.

In the following Middle Susiana period (ca. 5000 B.C.), Chogha Mish became the largest population center in Susiana. The repertory of painted motifs expanded greatly, while the previous artistic traditions continued. One example from the earliest phase of the Middle Susiana period shows a series of broad zigzags on the exterior and a circular design filled with "butterflies" or a checkerboard pattern on the interior (no. 6). Mask-like human faces with pigtailed decorate an elegant bowl (no. 7). A snake crawling up the side of a tall, graceful beaker (no. 8) reminds us of the later beakers found at Susa.

Many examples from Chogha Mish can be found in the Iranian Gallery in display cases 14 and 15. Here one notices examples of mountain sheep/goats, simply yet elegantly rendered with a few sweeping curves to indicate the body and horns.



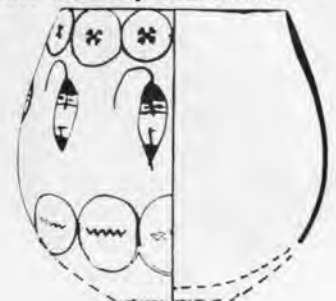
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No. 6



No. 7

Until the end of the Middle Susiana period, Chogha Mish was the most important center in Susiana, but the site declined in population, nearby Susa grew rapidly and replaced Chogha Mish as the regional center in the succeeding Late Susiana period (ca. 4000 B.C.).

Before leaving Chogha Mish it is well to recall other Oriental Institute projects in southwestern Iran. In 1970 Hans Nissen and Charles Redman surveyed the Behbahan region (southeast of Susiana) and conducted trial excavations at Tappeh Sohz and Do Tulan for the University of Chicago Department of Anthropology and the Oriental Institute (see *Oriental Institute Annual Report 1970/71*). Elizabeth Carter also contributed to the collection through her 1968–69 surveys in both the Behbahan and Susiana plains (*Iran*, volume 8). The materials from the excavations at the important site of Tall-e Ghazir (still unpublished), conducted by McCown and Caldwell in the late 1940s, further enhance our collections from this region.

In addition to the Herzfeld materials from the Zagros mountains, we have materials from two excavations conducted by Robert Braidwood in the late 1950s and early 1960s at Tappeh Sarab and Tappeh Asiab, as well as the materials from the excavations at Sorkh Dum, conducted by Erich Schmidt and published recently by Maurits van Loon. Our last addition to the Iranian prehistoric collection at the Oriental Institute came in 1988 as a gift of almost 10,000 sherds, as well as some complete vessels and small objects. The story behind the gift is interesting. Dr. F. G. L. Gremliza, a

native of Munich, Germany, worked for seventeen years as a public health doctor in Khuzestan. He traveled from village to village in a wide area on the Susiana plain and became a good and helpful friend of Delougaz and Kantor in the early 1960s.

In his travels Dr. Gremliza picked up painted pottery sherds from forty-three prehistoric mounds, many of which have never been mentioned in other surveys and which now may have fallen victim to bulldozers. Dr. Gremliza was aware of the importance of his collection and had been looking for a suitable person to publish it. When Helene Kantor mentioned the importance of the material to Alizadeh, he traveled to Munich to meet with Dr. Gremliza and to see the material. Three years later, in 1990, the material was published as a Technical Report of the Museum of An-



No. 9



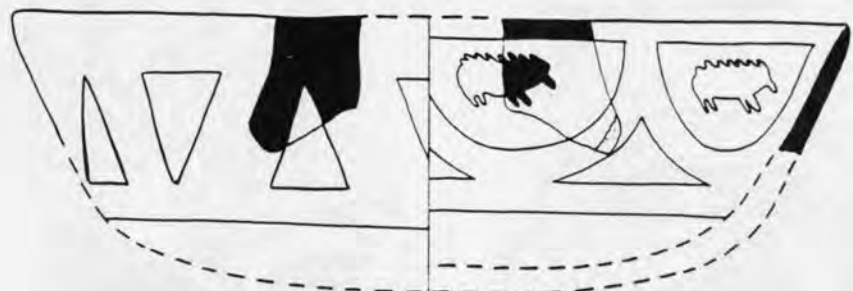
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No. 13



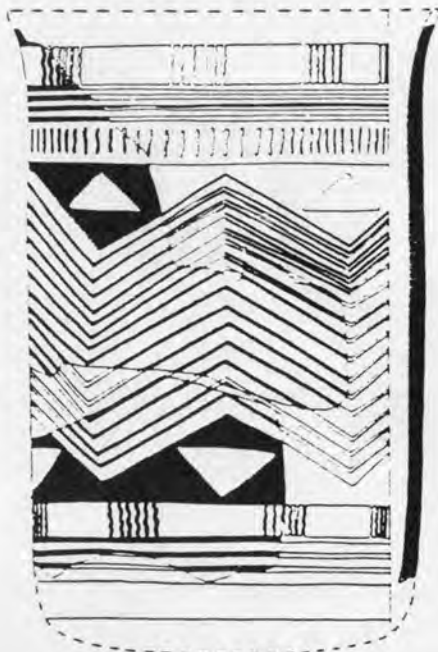
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No. 14



No. 15



No. 16



No. 17



No. 18

thropology of the University of Michigan.

The survey shows the area was sparsely settled in the Archaic Susiana period, and very few sherds can be dated with any certainty to this early period; this is not unusual as Archaic Susiana material is often buried deep under the deposits of later periods. Sherd 9 is a possible example of late Archaic Susiana period motif. Sherds 10-11 are characteristic examples of the Early Susiana period designs. A band of parallel wavy lines in reverse add movement to the rim of a broad bowl (no. 10); a band of reverse parallel wavy lines is shown on the diagonal of a pottery stand with bands of cross-hatching on either side (no. 11).

The Middle Susiana period is represented by many more sites and a greater number of sherds, indicating a large increase in the size of the population in the area. A later Middle Susiana tortoise-shaped vessel is decorated by a row of ibexes painted with a few masterful, sweeping lines



No. 19



No. 20

(no. 12). A row of hedgehogs framed in scallops enlivens another Middle Susiana bowl (no. 13).

In his monograph based on the Gremliza material, Alizadeh argues for the presence of a phase between the destruction and desertion of Chogha Mish in ca. 5,000 B.C. (Middle Susiana) and the establishment of Susa. He calls this phase Late Susiana 1 as the antecedent to Late Susiana 2 or Susa A, which is traditionally known as the last phase of the prehistoric Susiana sequence. The Late Susiana 1 phase is characterized by bold motifs and the use of dots. Two characteristic Late Susiana 1 vessels have parallel horizontal rows of dots, bands, and stripes (no. 14); and rows of dots create a panel for an abstract design, possibly representing a lizard, frog, or a beetle (no. 15). Another tall vessel has a striking design of parallel zigzags and a series of vertical wiggly lines in reverse bands (no. 16).

In the final phase of the Late Susiana period, the creative power



No. 21



No. 22



No. 23

and artistic sophistication of the Susiana potters blossomed. This development can also be seen in the Gha Mish sequence in the Iranian Gallery. The Gremliza Collection includes a particularly fine example from this phase (no. 17). This shallow, open bowl is decorated by abstract representations of shaggy goats arranged around a scalloped circle containing a pinwheel. Each pair of goats is separated from another by highly stylized flying birds. Here is an excellent example of symmetry, rhythm, and motion.

I would like to return now to my principal project, which was briefly mentioned at the beginning. In 1942 Alexander Langsdorff and Donald E. McCown published a complete report of the 1932 season at Bakun as an Oriental Institute Publication (volume 59). This handsome volume is illustrated with some eighty plates of Bakun painted pottery. McCown analyzes the design patterns into twenty different categories and discusses methods of composition. He empha-

sizes that "rhythm is the quality common to most of the designs," and that symmetry is an integral part of their composition.

Animal motifs such as a bull with a pinwheel floating between its horns (no. 18), lively rabbits (no. 19), birds, and snakes were favorite subjects of the artists from Bakun. Flocks of birds are shown both flying (no. 20) and wading (no. 21). Fish are sometimes enclosed in ovals suggestive of nets (no. 22).

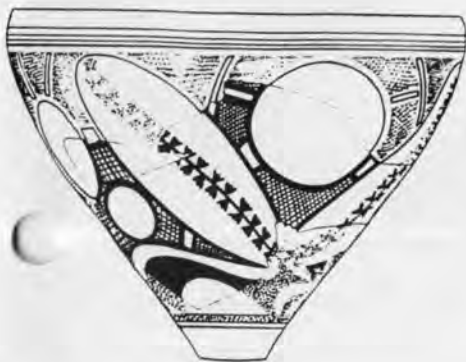
The pottery and small objects from Tall-e Bakun are on view in display case 11 in the Iranian Gallery. The shapes of the vessels and the arrangement of decorative motifs create a harmonious and pleasing effect. The conical bowls are decorated with tremendously enlarged mouflon horns that fill the sides of the bowl in a rhythmic pattern (no. 23). On a tall beaker the contrast between the rim band of reverse triangles and the diagonal swirls of opposed stacked dashes provides tension and movement (no. 24). Another sherd from our collection, not on display, shows a design combining enlarged horns decorated with blossoms with fills of reverse circles surrounded by cross-hatched shapes (no. 25).

At Bakun human figures rarely occur on the sherds, and when they do, they are usually rendered in a highly stylized and abstract form (nos. 26–27). Lizards are more frequent and resemble human figures (nos. 28–29). But notice the pair of lizards (no. 30, top view) skillfully drawn on the shoulder of a jar. Such naturalistic drawing is rarely seen in prehistoric art, but this vessel, now at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, exhibits the movement, symmetry, and harmony of the art of the period.

The second and last season at Bakun in 1937 extended the area previously excavated and provided a better picture of the site. The materials from the second season, as well as those unpublished or poorly published from the first season, were analyzed by Alizadeh for his doctoral thesis. In 1988, he published some of his results in *Iran*, volume 26. In this article he argues that Bakun was not just a simple farming community, but an important center for manufacturing pottery and other goods with an incipient administrative technology. He also shows that Bakun exhibits the early stages of those socio-economic pro-



No. 24



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No. 28



No. 29

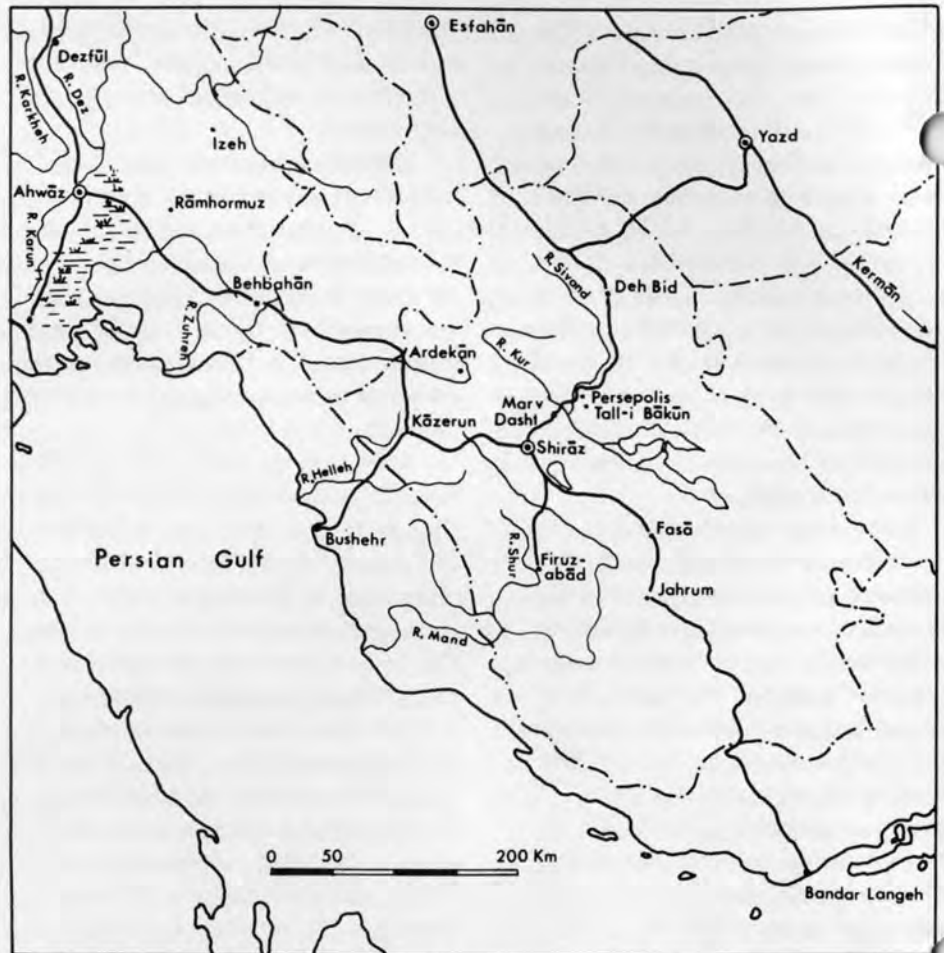


No. 30

cesses that culminated in state organizations in Iran.

The importance of the Bakun material in this light calls for the final publication of the archaeological materials in our archives. Most of the initial preparation, such as sorting, classifying, registering, and drawing of objects is already completed. The Oriental Institute is now looking into possibilities of obtaining financial support for the publication of Bakun materials and has established a fund for Iranian studies that gratefully accepts financial assistance towards the publication of this important material from Bakun.

Peggy Horton Grant has been a volunteer at the Oriental Institute for over twenty years. A former Docent Coordinator, she is also a member of the Visiting Committee and the James Henry Breasted Society. She holds degrees in Philosophy from Wellesley College and Columbia University.



Detail map showing major towns and ancient sites in Fars

AQABA ... REVISITED



The photograph on page 2 of the previous issue of News & Notes (No. 142, Spring 1994) was reversed during printing. The wadi cuts across the left side of the picture (above) and the northwest city wall appears on the right. The 1993 excavations of the mosque are in the left foreground.



An enthusiastic J. J., Donald Whitcomb's son, learns excavation techniques from the bulldozer operator who assisted in the excavations at Aqaba, Jordan during the 1993 season

Photographs courtesy of Donald Whitcomb

MORE MEDINET HABU DOCUMENTS RECOVERED

Emily Teeter, Ph.D., Assistant Curator, The Oriental Institute Museum

Sometimes, good events promote more good events. Such is the case surrounding the return of the Medinet Habu excavation records (see *News & Notes* Winter 1994).

The story of the return of the records from Berlin in September 1993 caught the interest of reporters and readers alike, and it was widely covered by the press. It is our very good fortune that a report in the *New York Times* was read by a doctor in Stockelsdorf, Germany, who then wrote to William Sumner, Director of the Oriental Institute. You can hardly imagine the shock on the faces of the museum staff when Mr. Sumner came into the office with a letter, dated November 5, 1993, signed "Uvo Hölscher." A man of the same name served as the field director of the Architectural Survey of the Oriental Institute, leading the excavation of Medinet Habu from 1926–33. Unbeknownst to any of us, "our" Hölscher had a grandson who shared the same name.

Our excitement grew as we read Dr. Hölscher's letter. He related that in 1972, nine years after the death of his grandfather, eleven volumes of Medinet Habu records had surfaced at the Technical University in Hannover, where the elder Hölscher had taught for years. The books were discovered during restoration work on the facility and returned to the Hölscher family. The family had offered the documents to the Institute at the time, but tragically, we have no record of receiving the letter. Hölscher inquired whether the Institute would be interested in the documents. A very affirmative letter was sent to Germany that same day and on March 15, 1994, the eleven volumes "came home."

Seven of the eleven volumes are object registers (Fundlist) that document the artifacts recovered from the site throughout the entire period of the excavation. These are very welcome, for although the Berlin docu-



Photograph courtesy of Jean Grant

ments were also object registers, four volumes were missing. The "new" documents fill in these significant gaps in our documentation.

Another four volumes, bound in tan, boldly imprinted "Medinet Habu," are excavation logs. These fascinating notes record events during the dig, as well as notes on architecture at Thebes. These documents are especially welcome because the object registers often refer to more detailed plans in the logs. The logs are also fascinating reading because they supply the human and anecdotal side of the huge excavation, such as a dispute between the excavators and Pierre Lacau, the head of the Egyptian Antiquities Service, over the excavation of the temple of Aye and

Horemheb. There are also references to the discovery and transport of our colossal statue of Tutankhamun. Reports on incidents such as a fight between two workmen (one was hit over the head with a adze and required hospitalization!) make the excavation come to life once again.

The new set of documents will be archived as a reference for scholars who work on Theban architecture and artifacts. We are greatly indebted to Dr. Hölscher and his family for their generosity.

ORIENTAL INSTITUTE MEMBERS DINE LIKE EGYPTIANS

On Saturday, March 19, professional chef and Oriental Institute volunteer Mary Jo Khuri taught over thirty people how to cook traditional Egyptian foods in her sold-out cooking course, "Dine Like an Egyptian." The menu consisted of dishes such as baba ghanouj, hummus, kibbeh, homemade bread, and baklava. During the course, Mrs. Khuri not only explained some of the history of cooking in the Middle East but offered valuable pointers on technique and ingredients as well. After the cooking was complete, participants dined on their achievements. Dr. Thomas Glonek (pictured below) contributed his own speciality, homemade honey wine, to the feast.

Mrs. Khuri is planning another cooking course for fall 1994. For more information on this or any other adult education programs, please call the Museum Education Office at 312/702-9507.



Top: Myrette Katz (left) and Lilian Swenson prepare kibbeh

Center: Head of Museum Education Carole Krucoff (left), chef Mary Jo Khuri, chef's assistant Kathy Neff, and Docent Coordinator Terry Friedman (right)

Below: Helen Bloom (left), Dan Foley, and Dr. Thomas Glonek (right) display their contributions to the feast



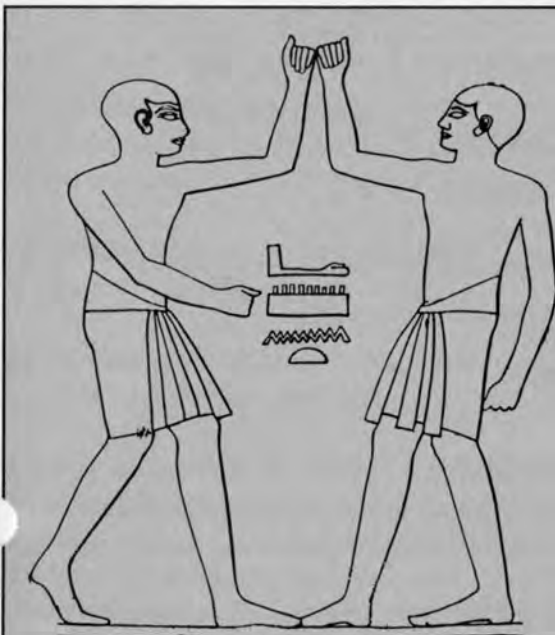
Photographs courtesy of Mary Alice Regnier

NAW ROUZ CELEBRATED AT THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

The Oriental Institute and the Nima Cultural Institute co-sponsored a *Naw Rouz* (Persian New Year) celebration in the Iranian Gallery on Wednesday, March 30, 1994. Mahvash Amirmokri (pictured at right), an advisor to the Nima Board of Directors, set up the traditional *Haft Sin* (literally seven S's) table, and explained the symbolism of each item to the guests. *Haft Sin* is central to the Iranian *Naw Rouz*, and consists of at least seven items whose names in Persian begin with the letter S, such as *sib* (apples), *samanu* (wheat sprout pudding), *sir* (garlic, used to keep evil forces away), *sumaq* (symbolizing patience and endurance), *sabzi* (herbs, symbolizing spring), *serkeh* (vinegar), *senjed* (oleaster), and *Sawhan-e 'asal* (a candy made from almonds and honey).

After the reception, with food generously donated by Reza's Restaurant, Research Associate Abbas Alizadeh spoke to a near-capacity crowd in James Henry Breasted Hall. Dr. Alizadeh presented a slide lecture on the continuity of a number of ancient Near Eastern traditions, the connection between Mithraism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, and the significance of *Naw Rouz* as a powerful cultural expression in Iran today.

Photograph courtesy of Jean Grant



"SPORTS AND GAMES" OPENS JUNE 1

The Oriental Institute is pleased to announce a special exhibit, **Sports and Games in the Ancient Near East**, featuring ancient artifacts from the permanent collection, as well as photographs, reprinted texts, and drawings. The materials document activities such as horsemanship, archery, wrestling, hunting, footraces, and a passion for board games. The drawing at left, taken from *The Tomb of Kheruef*, OIP 102, shows ritual boxers (the hieroglyph between the boxers says "boxing").

There will be a members' preview and opening reception on **Tuesday, May 31, 1994, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** The exhibit will be open to the public from **June 1 through September 18, 1994.** To complement the exhibit, the Museum Education Office will be offering a wide variety of family and adult education programs on ancient sports. For more information, call the Oriental Institute Museum at 312/702-9520, or the Museum Education Office at 312/702-9507.

CALENDAR

OF

ADULT EDUCATION COURSES

June 11–August 6, 1994

Land of Plenty: The Economy of Ancient Egypt

Instructor: Frank Yurco

June 1–June 22, 1994

**Pharaoh at the Bat: Sports and Games
in the Ancient World**

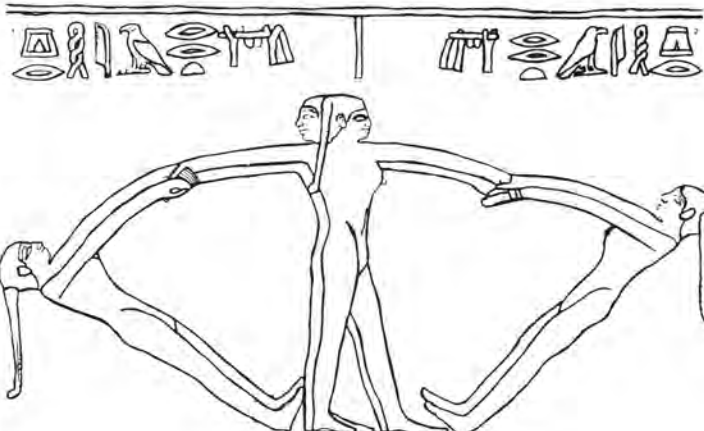
Instructors: Emily Teeter, Scott Branting,
Augusta McMahon, Peter Piccione

See page 12 for more information

GALLERY TOURS FOR ADULTS

On Fridays at 11:30 a.m. in July and August, join us for guided gallery tours highlighting selected themes or topics. Tours last approximately 45 minutes. Admission is free and reservations are not needed. Meet in the Museum Lobby.

- | | | |
|---------------|-----------|--|
| July | 8 | Ancient Sports and Games |
| | 15 | World of the Pharaohs |
| | 22 | Unearthing the Past: Archaeology and the Ancient Near East |
| | 29 | Ancient Nubia and Egypt |
| August | 5 | They Wrote on Clay |
| | 12 | Ancient Sports and Games |



"Setting up the Vineyard," detail from the Tomb of Kheruef (OIP 102)

"BACK TO THE PAST"

Summer Adventures for Children

- | | | |
|---------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| July | 7 | Fun and Games from Long Ago |
| | 14 | A Child's Life in Ancient Egypt |
| | 21 | B.C. (Before Computers) |
| | 28 | Pyramids and Mummies |
| August | 4 | Two Queens and a Princess |
| | 11 | Three Ancient Kings |
| | 18 | Ancient Nubia: The Source of Gold |
| | 25 | Fun and Games from Long Ago |

See page 15 for more information

TREASURE HUNTS

The first treasure hunt begins June 1, 1994.

See page 15 for more information

CHICAGO DAY

Sunday, June 19, 1994

12:00 noon–5:00 p.m.

Join us for a day of festivities honoring the World Cup Soccer Competition.

See page 14 for more information

FAMILY DAY

Saturday, June 25, 1994

1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.

A festival of music, games, and fun for all ages.

See page 14 for more information

REUNION TOURS

In conjunction with University of Chicago Reunion 1994, the Oriental Institute Museum is offering guided gallery tours at 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m. on Friday, June 3, 1994. Admission is free and reservations are not required. Meet in the Museum Lobby.

EVENTS

SUNDAY FILMS

All films are shown at 2 p.m. on Sunday afternoons. Except where noted, each film last approximately 30 minutes, is offered free of charge, and is immediately followed by a tour of the galleries.

- June**
- 5** Egypt's Pyramids: Houses of Eternity
 - 12** Iran: Landmarks in the Desert
 - 19** Chicago Day—see page 16
 - 26** Megiddo: City of Destruction
- July**
- 3** The Egyptologists
 - 10** Iraq: Stairway to the Gods
 - 17** Nubia '64: Saving the Temples of Ancient Egypt
 - 24** Turkey: Crossroads of the Ancient World
 - 31** Rivers of Time
- August**
- 7** Champollion: Hieroglyphs Deciphered
 - 14** The Royal Archives of Ebla (58 minutes)
 - 21** Of Time, Tombs, and Treasure
 - 28** Myth of the Pharaohs: Ancient Mesopotamia
- September** Watch for information on new Sunday film listings for September, including a special film showing on Sunday, September 18, in conjunction with Illinois Archaeology Awareness Week. For additional information, contact the Museum Education Office at 312/702-9507.

ORIENTAL INSTITUTE/ART INSTITUTE SUBSCRIPTION SERIES

Lecturer: Emily Teeter, Ph.D., Assistant Curator, Oriental Institute Museum

September 21/September 23, 1994

"The Cultural Context of Egyptian Art"

September 28/September 30, 1994

"Conventions, Materials, and Techniques"

October 5/October 7, 1994

"Art of the Old and Middle Kingdoms"

October 12/October 14, 1994

"Art of the New Kingdom to the Ptolemaic Era"

See page 13 for more information

SUMMER 1994

COMING THIS FALL

LECTURES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Friday, October 7, 1994

Gala 75th Anniversary Dinner

Special Guest Speaker: Robert McCormick Adams

Watch your mail for more information

Wednesday, November 16, 1994

7:30 p.m.

Kenneth Kitchen

University of Liverpool

"The History and Chronology of South Arabia"

James Henry Breasted Hall

Reception to follow

ORIENTAL INSTITUTE TRAVEL PROGRAM

October 21–23, 1994

Egypt in Boston

Details to be announced

October 31–November 20, 1994

Incense Routes of Arabia: Oman, Yemen, and Bahrain

Lecturer: Emily Teeter, Ph.D., Assistant Curator, Oriental Institute Museum

November 20–December 1, 1994

Museums of Paris and Berlin

Lecturer: Karen L. Wilson, Curator, Oriental Institute Museum

See page 19 for more information

ARCHAEOLOGY AWARENESS WEEK

Sunday, September 18, 1994

"The First Farmers"

1:00–4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 21, 1994

"Reconstruction of Ancient Pottery"

Demonstrator: Janet Helman

See page 14 for more information

ADULT EDUCATION COURSES

LAND OF PLENTY: THE ECONOMY OF ANCIENT EGYPT

June 11–August 6, 1994

Saturday Mornings 10:00 a.m.–12:00 noon

For the better part of 2,500 years ancient Egypt flourished, satisfying the basic needs of all its people. The waters of the Nile made Egypt phenomenally rich agriculturally, and the desert provided a wealth of mineral resources. Exports of Egyptian grain and papyrus supplied the whole Levant and Mediterranean, while riches in gold fueled the country's diplomacy and underscored its prosperity. Long-distance trade provided what Egypt lacked, including timber and exotic luxury goods. This course will examine all aspects of the ancient Egyptian economy, contradicting the popular myth of despotic control by the pharaohs and covering the roles played by private landowners, merchants, and traders.

INSTRUCTOR Frank Yurco is an Egyptologist who has taught numerous courses on topics of ancient Near Eastern history, culture, and language, both at the Oriental Institute and the Field Museum. This course will meet at the Oriental Institute. There will be no class held on Saturday, July 2, 1994.

Required text: *Pharaoh's People*. T. G. H. James. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1984.

Other materials will be provided by the instructor. Tuition for this Adult Education Course is \$75 for members of the Oriental Institute; \$95 for non-members.

PHARAOH AT THE BAT: SPORTS AND GAMES IN THE ANCIENT WORLD

June 1–June 22, 1994

Wednesday Evenings 7:00–9:00 p.m.

Most people assume that the tradition of competitive sports began in ancient Greece with the first Olympic Games in 776 B.C. But the people of the ancient Near East were sports enthusiasts more than a thousand years before those first organized games. Even the pharaohs of Egypt took part in sports, including a ritual bat and ball game similar to today's softball. This course will highlight ancient people's involvement in such sports as horsemanship, archery, acrobatics, hunting, wrestling, and footraces, as well as board gaming. Discussions will explore the cultural role of sports and games in ancient Egyptian, Mesopotamian, and Hittite society. Classes will visit **Sports and Games in the Ancient Near East**, a new exhibit opening in the Oriental Institute Museum on June 1, 1994.

INSTRUCTORS are Scott Branting, Ph.D. student in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations; Augusta McMahon, who holds a Ph.D. in Mesopotamian archaeology; Peter Piccione, Ph.D., an Egyptologist whose special interest is the relationship between religion and ancient sports; and Emily Teeter, Ph.D., Assistant Curator of the Oriental Institute Museum and co-curator of the Sports and Games exhibit.

The course will meet at the Oriental Institute. Tuition for this Adult Education Course is \$49 for Oriental Institute members; \$59 for non-members.

PLEASE ENROLL ME IN THE FOLLOWING ADULT EDUCATION COURSE(S)

_____ *Land of Plenty: The Economy of Ancient Egypt*

_____ *Pharaoh at the Bat: Sports and Games in the Ancient World*

_____ I am a member and enclose \$75 for tuition for *Land of Plenty* and/or \$49 for tuition for *Pharaoh at the Bat*

_____ I am not a member and enclose \$95 for tuition for *Land of Plenty* and/or \$59 for tuition for *Pharaoh at the Bat*

_____ I would like to become a member of the Oriental Institute. Enclosed is \$35 for an individual membership or \$45 for a family membership. (Please send a separate check for membership fee.)

Total enclosed \$ _____. Make check(s) payable to the Oriental Institute.

I prefer to pay by check, money order, credit card

MasterCard/Visa: _____
Account number _____

Expiration date

Signature

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Daytime phone _____

Send to: **The Oriental Institute, Education Office, 1155 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60637**

ORIENTAL INSTITUTE/ART INSTITUTE SUBSCRIPTION SERIES

IMAGES FOR ETERNITY: ANCIENT EGYPTIAN ART

Jointly sponsored by the Oriental Institute and the Art Institute, this four-week series is designed to give extensive background for the study and appreciation of ancient Egyptian art. The series will address questions such as the permanence of Egyptian artistic styles and themes, the relationship of art to religion, conventions of representation, and why certain materials were employed.

SERIES LECTURER Emily Teeter, Ph.D., is Assistant Curator of the Oriental Institute Museum and Consultant to the Art Institute of Chicago.

The lectures take place on Wednesday evenings, 7:00 p.m., at the Oriental Institute; and Friday mornings, 11:00 a.m., at the Art Institute. Participants may sign up for either the Wednesday evening or Friday morning sessions.



Statuette of Priest Iret-Horru, OIM 13953, Thirtieth Dynasty, ca. 350 B.C.

THE CULTURAL CONTEXT OF EGYPTIAN ART
Wednesday, September 21; or Friday, September 23

CONVENTIONS, MATERIALS, AND TECHNIQUES
Wednesday, September 28; or Friday, September 30

ART OF THE OLD AND MIDDLE KINGDOMS
Wednesday, October 5; or Friday, October 7

ART OF THE NEW KINGDOM TO THE PTOLEMAIC ERA
Wednesday, October 12; or Friday, October 14

PLEASE ENROLL ME IN THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE/ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO SUBSCRIPTION SERIES
IMAGES FOR ETERNITY: ANCIENT EGYPTIAN ART

_____ Wednesdays, September 21–October 12, 1994, 7:00 p.m., at the Oriental Institute

_____ Fridays, September 23–October 14, 1994, 11:00 a.m., at the Art Institute of Chicago

_____ I am a member of either the Oriental Institute or the Art Institute and enclose \$30 for tuition

_____ I am not a member of either the Oriental Institute or the Art Institute and enclose \$40 for tuition

Total enclosed \$ _____. Make check payable to **Museum Education** and send to the Art Institute of Chicago.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Daytime phone _____

Evening phone _____

Membership expiration date _____

Send to: Art Studies, Museum Education, The Art Institute of Chicago, 111 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60603-6110.

SPECIAL EVENTS

CHICAGO DAY

Sunday, June 19

12:00 noon–5:00 p.m.

The Oriental Institute joins Chicago's leading cultural and educational institutions in hosting the 6th annual Chicago Day. This year's event honors the World Cup Soccer Competition being held in Chicago this summer. Chicago Day festivities at the Oriental Institute will feature sports and games with longer histories, in conjunction with the special exhibit **Sports and Games in the Ancient Near East**. Join us for free gallery tours of the **Sports and Games** exhibit, and an introduction to ancient Egyptian-style "sports medicine." See demonstrations of ancient sports, including the art of juggling. Egyptologist Peter Piccione will teach the game of *senet*, often called King Tut's favorite board game. Enjoy films, craft activities, and take the whole family on the "Ancient Sports and Games" Treasure Hunt to discover runners, gymnasts, wrestlers, and our earliest example of "crooked dice." **On this day only, the Suq is offering non-members a 5% discount. Members of the Oriental Institute, including those who join on Chicago Day, will receive a 15% discount at the Suq.**

ORIENTAL INSTITUTE/SMART MUSEUM OF ART FAMILY DAY

Saturday, June 25

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Smart Museum of Art

5550 South Greenwood Avenue

Chicago, Illinois

The Oriental Institute and the Smart Museum of Art invite you to our second annual Family Day, to be held this year in the courtyard and the galleries of the Smart Museum. Co-sponsored by both museums, this festival of music, entertainment, refreshments, games, and crafts will be a delightful afternoon of fun for children of all ages. Admission is free and no reservations are required. For additional information and a schedule of the day's events, call the Museum Education Office at 312/702-9507.

ILLINOIS ARCHAEOLOGY AWARENESS WEEK

The First Farmers

Sunday, September 18

In conjunction with the statewide celebration of Illinois Archaeology Awareness Week, September 18, 1994 to September 25, 1994, the Oriental Institute is offering two special programs. On Sunday afternoon, September 18th, a family event will highlight "The First Farmers," this year's Archaeology Awareness Week theme. Join us from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. for films, demonstrations, and hands-on activities throughout the Museum. Try grinding grain like the Sumerians, spin some wool and some flax, and use a take-apart model of a *shaduf* to learn how ancient Egyptians got water to their crops. This family program is supported by the Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust.

Reconstruction of Ancient Pottery

Wednesday, September 21

On Wednesday evening, September 21, 1994, Janet Helman, Researcher for the Oriental Institute's Prehistoric Iranian Project, will demonstrate the process of reassembling ancient pottery. She will work with examples from Tall-e Bakun, an Iranian prehistoric site that produced extraordinarily beautiful and sophisticated pottery. Presented in the Iranian Gallery, this program is a rare opportunity to experience and discuss the "behind-the-scenes" activities of the Oriental Institute. The presentation takes place at 6:15 p.m. and is repeated at 7:15 p.m.

SPECIAL EVENTS

"75 FOR THE 75TH" — TREASURE HUNTS FOR THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

Which ancient king was a long-distance runner?
Where were "crooked dice" first produced?

Find the answers to these and other questions by going on the **Ancient Sports and Games Treasure Hunt**, the first of three Oriental Institute Museum gallery hunts to take place during 1994. Finish all three hunts to be "in the know" about 75 unique, and sometimes overlooked, Museum treasures—one for each year since the Oriental Institute was founded in 1919. The Ancient Sports and Games Treasure Hunt begins on June 1, 1994 in conjunction with the opening of the Oriental Institute exhibit **Sports and Games in the Ancient Near East**. The next treasure hunts will appear in fall and winter. Completing all three hunts makes you eligible to take part in a 75th Anniversary drawing for grand prizes. Treasure hunt forms are available in the Museum Lobby.

"BACK TO THE PAST"

ORIENTAL INSTITUTE MUSEUM SUMMER ADVENTURES FOR CHILDREN

Take a trip in a time machine and travel back to the ancient past during the Oriental Institute Museum's Summer Adventures for Children. Offered on Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. throughout July and August, "Back to the Past" programs are recommended for children ages 6–12. Each program lasts approximately one hour and includes a gallery visit and hands-on museum activities. Admission is free and reservations are not required.

Please note that these programs are designed for individual children and family groups, and cannot accommodate larger school or community groups. Larger groups may make arrangements for guided tours by calling the Museum Education Office at 312/702-9507.

- July 7 Fun and Games From Long Ago**—Find out what people in ancient times did for fun. See what sports they liked, and what games they played. Learn how to play an ancient board game and make your own game to take home. This program is being offered in conjunction with **Sports and Games in the Ancient Near East**, an Oriental Institute exhibit on view this summer.
- 14 A Child's Life in Ancient Egypt**—Egyptian children went to school, had toys, liked music, ate special treats, and sometimes got into trouble for misbehaving! Meet some ancient Egyptian children at home and at school and make a toy just like one from long ago.
- 21 B. C. (Before Computers)**—Today's computers could never have been created without an invention that took place about 3500 B.C. What invention was that? The discovery of writing. Learn how people from the past invented writing and then write a secret message on a clay tablet.
- 28 Pyramids and Mummies**—Get all "wrapped up" in ancient Egypt. See some real mummies, make some discoveries about pyramids, and view some treasures from ancient tombs. Experiment with a take-apart model of an Egyptian tomb.
- August 4 Two Queens and a Princess**—Meet a woman who became an Egyptian pharaoh, see one of the world's most beautiful queens, and view yourself in finery fit for a princess—or a prince!
- 11 Three Ancient Kings**—Meet three kings from the ancient past and pay a visit to one of their palaces. Make your own version of a royal headband.
- 18 Ancient Nubia: The Source of Gold**—The ancient African kingdoms of Nubia were rich in gold, the precious metal valued everywhere in the ancient world. Learn about the civilizations of Nubia and see treasures made from gold. Make a Nubian "golden treasure" to take home.
- 25 Fun and Games From Long Ago**—(Repeat of July 7 program)

SPECIAL EVENTS

SPECIAL INTEREST TOURS FOR ADULTS

On Fridays at 11:30 a.m. in July and August, join us for guided gallery tours highlighting selected themes or topics. Tours last approximately 45 minutes. Admission is free and reservations are not needed. Meet in the Museum Lobby.

- July 8** **Ancient Sports and Games**—Long before the Olympic Games in ancient Greece, the people of the ancient Near East were enjoying such sports and games as wrestling, boxing, juggling, foot races, and board gaming. This tour highlights Sport and Games in the Ancient Near East, a special Oriental Institute exhibit on view this summer.
- July 15** **World of the Pharaohs**—Pyramids, mummies, the Book of the Dead, and a colossal statue of King Tut are among the many artifacts featured on this tour that describes ancient Egyptian civilization during its 3,000 years of history along the Nile.
- July 22** **Unearthing the Past: Archaeology and the Ancient Near East**—Archaeologists from the Oriental Institute have been excavating Near Eastern sites since the Institute was founded in 1919. This tour introduces sites in Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Syria, and Turkey and features finds that range from intricately carved figurines of gods and goddesses to the 40-ton, human-headed, winged bull that once guarded an Assyrian palace.
- July 29** **Ancient Nubia and Egypt**—The special exhibit Vanished Kingdoms of the Nile: The Rediscovery Ancient Nubia will be the starting point for an introduction to ancient Nubia, as well as to the rivalry between Nubia and its North African neighbor, ancient Egypt.
- August 5** **They Wrote on Clay**—The world's first system of writing can be seen on clay tablets from ancient Mesopotamia, where scribes began keeping track of business records over 5,000 years ago. On this tour, see some of the earliest clay tablets ever created, as well as objects inscribed with some of the most sophisticated examples of literature and law produced in the ancient world.
- August 12** **Ancient Sports and Games**—(Repeat of July 8 program)

CHANGES IN THE EGYPTIAN GALLERY

The Oriental Institute Museum's program of gradually updating the exhibits continues with the partial rearrangement of the alcove featuring Egyptian writing. The cases along the eastern wall of the alcove have been redesigned to give the visitor background into the Egyptian language and scripts in order to enable fuller appreciation of the other exhibits. Examples of hieroglyphic, hieratic, Demotic, and Coptic texts are on exhibit with a brief description of when and how each was used. Another display case features a discussion of sign order and the relationship of texts to representations, while another exhibit focuses on the symbolism and composition of cartouches.



Photograph courtesy of Jean Grant

T. G. H. JAMES SPEAKS TO ASSOCIATE MEMBERS



Jane Belcher (left) and Diane Posner (center) have books autographed by Mr. James before the dinner. Photograph courtesy of Kaylin Goldstein

T. G. H. James, former Keeper of Western Asiatic Antiquities at the British Museum and author of a number of books about Egypt, was the featured speaker at a dinner for Associate members of the Oriental Institute at the University Club on Thursday, March 31. Mr. James, the noted biographer of Howard Carter, spoke about James Henry Breasted, Howard Carter, and the often less-than-friendly competition for artifacts among museums in the early years of this century.

If you would like more information about becoming an Associate of the Oriental Institute, please call the Membership Office at 312/702-1677.

GEORGIE MAYNARD NOMINATED FOR HEART OF GOLD AWARD

Georgie Maynard (pictured at right), an Oriental Institute volunteer for over eighteen years, was chosen as a 1994 United Way Heart of Gold Volunteer. Selected because of her dedicated service to the Institute, Georgie can be found almost anywhere in the museum, helping stock the Suq, guiding a group through the galleries, registering spindle whorls in the basement, or helping the Education Office put together a special program. We congratulate Georgie on being honored in this way, and thank her for her many invaluable years at the Institute.

Georgie was also recently notified that her book, *Letters from Turkey 1939-1946*, known to many docents from excerpts printed in *Docent Digest*, has been accepted for publication by the Oriental Institute. Watch future issues of *News & Notes* for more information.



Photograph courtesy of Jean Grant

EGYPT IN NEW YORK



The group in front of the Dendur temple at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. From left to right: Dr. Joseph Strain (Ft. Worth, Texas), Emily Teeter, Linda Stringer (Garland, Texas), Toshi Iwama (Tokyo, Japan), Ellen Cain (Dallas, Texas), Nancy Densman (Richardson, Texas). Photograph courtesy of Toshi Iwama

One thing that simply cannot be controlled is the weather—especially one more of the horrible blizzards of this bitter winter. Armed with travel horror stories, our smaller-than-planned group assembled in New York to brave the mountains of snow from February 11th to 13th, 1994. It was worth the difficulties for the six of us who were lucky enough to get flights to New York. On Saturday, we met at the Brooklyn Museum where Richard Fazzini, Chairman of the Department, personally gave us a “front and back of the house” tour. He gave us many insights into the beautiful new galleries that had opened only several weeks before. This first full day was capped with dinner in the fabulous dining room of the Museum of Modern Art.

The next day I escorted the group through the Gold of Meroe exhibit and the galleries of Egyptian art in the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Although we regretted that the weather had forced many people to cancel, the stalwarts felt lucky to have such an intimate and compatible group. They agreed that one of the best things was to be among other people who shared their intense interest in ancient Egypt! We thank Mr. Fazzini of the Brooklyn Museum and Drs. Dorothea Arnold and James Allen of the Metropolitan Museum of Art for their assistance.

—Emily Teeter, Ph.D., Assistant Curator, Oriental Institute Museum

— Watch for more details on “Egypt in Boston,” October 21–23, 1994 —

ORIENTAL INSTITUTE TRAVEL PROGRAM

EGYPT IN BOSTON

October 21–23, 1994

The third in our **Museum Weekend** series, this trip to Boston will feature the world-class Egyptian and Nubian collection at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. Watch for further details in the mail in July.

INCENSE ROUTES OF ARABIA: YEMEN, OMAN, AND BAHRAIN

October 31–November 20, 1994

In ancient times, the lands of Oman, Yemen, and Bahrain were part of a trade system which linked Mesopotamia, the Nile Valley, and even the Far East with Europe. Through these Arabian lands—known then as the lands of Magan, Dilmun, and Saba (Sheba)—came the precious incense that fueled funerary pyres and braziers before the gods. The Three Wise Men bore Arabian products among their gifts and, in antiquity, the location of the great fields of frankincense were closely guarded. Cut off geographically and by inward-looking rulers, Arabia is still one of the last unexplored areas of the world.

The first departure of this once-in-a-lifetime trip sold out within a month, but some spaces are still available on the second departure for Oman, Yemen, and Bahrain from October 31 to November 20, 1994. **Emily Teeter**, Ph.D., Assistant Curator of the Oriental Institute Museum, an experienced leader of trips to Arabia, will be your guide on this program which includes Muscat, Manama, Sana'a, Marib, and the Wadi Hadramaut.

Cost: \$5,950 per person, exclusive of international airfare.

Call **Zegrahm Expeditions** at 800/628-8747 for itinerary and reservations.

THANKSGIVING GETAWAY TO PARIS AND BERLIN

November 20–December 1, 1994

Join Oriental Institute Museum Curator **Karen L. Wilson**, Ph.D., on a unique study trip to the great museums of Paris and Berlin. Highlights of the program will include the new *Cour de Khorsabad* at the Louvre, where you can see the cast of our famous winged bull in an installation that recreates the original courtyard of the Palace of Sargon II, and the Egyptian Museum in the former East Berlin, from which we have recently recovered the "lost" notebooks of the Oriental Institute excavations at Medinet Habu. See future issues of *News & Notes* for more details on this exciting trip.

Cost: \$3,950 per person, including international airfare.

Call **Academic Travel Abroad** at 202/333-3355 for itinerary and reservations.

EGYPT IN EGYPT

March 1995

We are currently planning a trip to Egypt in March 1995. Watch *News & Notes* for further information.

The Membership Office, 312/702-1677, will be happy to send you an itinerary for any of the trips listed above.

NEW ORIENTAL INSTITUTE REPRODUCTION OF A NEO-BABYLONIAN TABLET NOW ON SALE AT THE SUQ

Made of solid clay and inscribed on both sides, this tablet confers freedom on a slave family April 1, 560 B.C. King Amel-Marduk, named in this tablet, is also mentioned in the Hebrew Bible. Translation, transliteration, and notes have been prepared by J. A. Brinkman.

This reproduction is made from a mold of a tablet in our own collection (A32099) then fired in a oven which slightly reduces the size as the moisture from the clay dissipates. The dimensions of the tablet are 8.8 × 5.2 × 2.6 cm.

The price including tax and shipping is **\$11.58** for members and **\$12.45** for non-members. Please send mail orders to the Suq, 1155 E 58th St., Chicago, IL 60637 or call 312/702-9509, 9510. We take Visa, MasterCard, or check made out to the Oriental Institute.



**THE
ORIENTAL INSTITUTE**

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All inquiries, comments, and
suggestions are welcome.

PROBLEMS WITH MAIL DELIVERY?

As many of you know, there is an ongoing problem with mail delivery in Chicago. If you find that you are not receiving your mail from the Oriental Institute, please phone the Membership Office at 312/702-1677, and we will send another copy of the item(s) in question. Your local post office should also be informed of the problem.