

BRITISH SCHOOL OF ARCHAEOLOGY IN IRAQ

*(Gertrude Bell Memorial)*

31-34 GORDON SQUARE, LONDON, W.G.1



REPORT & ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st MAY, 1970



**THE THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** OF THE SCHOOL WILL BE HELD IN THE ROOMS OF THE **BRITISH ACADEMY**, BURLINGTON HOUSE, PICCADILLY, W.1, ON **WEDNESDAY 11th NOVEMBER, 1970**, AT 5 p.m., TO HEAR DR. JOAN OATES; TO CONSIDER THE ACCOUNTS, THE BALANCE SHEET AND THE REPORTS OF THE COUNCIL AND THE AUDITOR; TO ELECT MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL; TO APPOINT AN AUDITOR; AND FOR ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH MAY PROPERLY BE TRANSACTED.

BEFORE THE MEETING THERE WILL BE A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

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## REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

ON 1ST OCTOBER 1969, our Director, Mr. David Oates, took up his appointment as Professor of Western Asiatic Archaeology in the University of London. We congratulate him most warmly on his election to this post which will enable him, like his predecessors, to maintain his connection with Iraq. Your Council elected Diana Helbaek, the well-known prehistorian, as Professor Oates' successor. The new Director arrived in Baghdad to take up office in early November.

It is with deep regret that we report the death of Professor C. J. Gadd, on 2nd December 1969. He was elected one of the original Executive Committee Members of the School in 1929 and his last public appearance was at our Annual General Meeting on 28th November 1969, when he was presented with a specially bound copy of *Iraq* Vol. XXXI which had been compiled by his friends in honour of his 75th birthday.

In the course of this year more than 25 persons were accommodated at the School—all of them engaged in various forms of research in the study of Ancient Mesopotamia. Many of these persons visited ancient sites throughout the country and were given facilities for working in the Baghdad Museum.

The two Fellows for the year were Mr. John Curtis and Mr. Martin Selman. Mr. John Curtis, recently a student in the Department of Western Asiatic Archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology, was studying and drawing the metal objects discovered during the School's excavations at Nimrud between 1949 and 1963, now housed in the Iraq Antiquities Department, Baghdad, and is preparing a volume on this subject. Mr. Martin Selman examined legal and economic texts of the type well known from Nuzi, which were generously placed at his disposal in the Museum. Mr. Selman's researches into the Nuzi texts are connected with a doctoral thesis which he is preparing under the supervision of Professor H. W. F. Saggs. Once again the help and collaboration of the staff in the Iraq Museum has proved invaluable in enabling our Fellows to gain access to material at first hand.

Among other research workers who stayed at the School and profited from their visits to the Museum and elsewhere in the country, we may mention Professor H. W. F. Saggs who had given a series of seminars in Assyriology at the University of Mosul during the months of April and May in the previous year, and this year spent about four weeks in Baghdad with the aid of a grant from the Leverhulme Foundation. During the course of his stay he collated texts from Nimrud and Tell al-Rimah in the Iraq Museum's collections.

Professor W. G. Lambert was the School's annual lecturer for 1969/70 and spent about three weeks in Baghdad working on tablets in the Iraq Museum; Mr. Peter Hulin collated texts of Shalmaneser III in the same Museum. Mrs. K. R. Maxwell-Hyslop investigated various items of jewellery in the Museum for inclusion in her forthcoming book on Mesopotamian jewellery.

Mr. Douglas Kennedy studied ancient texts in the Museum; Miss Jocelyn Farrell worked on the material for a thesis. Among other scholars who stayed at the School we may mention Professor Robert McC. Adams, Professor Maguire Gibson, Dr. Anne Kilmer, Mr. Peter Parr, Mr. Peder Mortensen and Miss Beatrice de Cardi. Professor Donald P. Hansen and Dr. Vaughn E. Crawford also visited the School.

Both the Director and the Assistant Director were engaged in special research. In particular Mrs. Helbaek was examining prehistoric material in the

Iraq Museum with a view to future excavation at an early prehistoric site, while Mr. Jeffery Orchard was preparing Fascicule 1, Part I, the Commentary—on *Equestrian Bridle Harness Ornaments* which he had published in 1967. He was also assembling material for Part III in the same series, and has in preparation for *Iraq* an article on miniature painted glass plaques.

The School was glad to welcome Miss Theodora Newbould the new resident Secretary-Accountant, whose assiduous attention to the administration enabled the remainder of the staff to devote a much greater proportion of their time to research.

No excavation was undertaken this year, but it is expected that work at Rimah and elsewhere will be continued in the year 1971 with the encouragement of the Authorities and of the Iraq Antiquities Department which has promised the School all facilities for that purpose. These excavations are expected to be in operation both at historic and prehistoric sites.

It was gratifying to the Director and her staff to be able to receive Mr. Derek Allen, the new Secretary of the British Academy, who was making his first visit to the School in Baghdad.

In general it may be said that this year has been a period of considerable activity on the part of all those concerned with the effort to prepare for publication some of the many volumes that are expected to appear in the next decade as a result of the School's activities in the field. The next volume due for publication is Fascicule II, entitled *Ivories in Assyrian Style* by Sir Max Mallowan and Leri Glynn Davies. This work combines commentary, catalogue and plates in a single volume, and is expected to be ready in November.

The School replaced its dilapidated vehicles with two new ones: a Volkswagen 1600 Variant for use both inside and outside Baghdad as a general utility vehicle, and a Land-Rover 10-seater Station Wagon for use on excavations.

Once again we have to express our gratitude to the Director General of Antiquities and all his staff for their unfailing goodwill and collaboration.

On behalf of the Council,  
M. E. L. MALLOWAN,  
Chairman of the Executive Committee.

DIANA HELBAEK,  
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