

BRITISH SCHOOL OF ARCHAEOLOGY IN IRAQ

Recent Publications

IVORIES FROM NIMRUD

FASCICULE II—IVORIES IN ASSYRIAN STYLE

Commentary, Catalogue and Plates

by Max Mallowan and Leri Glynne Davies

60 pp.+350 photographs, 233 line drawings (1970). £6.30.

The Journal *IRAQ* Vol. XXXIV Parts 1 and 2 (1972). £6.50.

The Journal *IRAQ* Vol. XXXV Parts 1 and 2 (1973). £6.50.

CUNEIFORM TEXTS FROM NIMRUD

I: THE NIMRUD WINE LISTS

by J. V. Kinnier Wilson

167 pp., 54 pls. (1972). £5.00.

II: THE GOVERNOR'S PALACE ARCHIVE

by J. N. Postgate

283 pp., 98 pls. (1973). £8.00.

BRITISH SCHOOL OF ARCHAEOLOGY IN IRAQ

(Gertrude Bell Memorial)

31—34 Gordon Square, London, W.C.1

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REPORT & ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st MAY, 1973

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THE FORTIETH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the School will be held in the rooms of the BRITISH ACADEMY, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W.1, on THURSDAY 1st NOVEMBER, 1973, at 5 p.m., to hear Dr. JULIAN READE; 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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*Member of Executive Committee

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

The increasing activity of the School in Baghdad was marked this year by full-scale excavations conducted by the Director at Umm Dabaghiyah, and by Dr Julian Reade at Tell Taya. The Assistant Director spent three weeks making a contour plan of Abu Salabikh, an Early Dynastic site near Nippur, in readiness for his forthcoming participation in the excavations by the Oriental Institute, Chicago, at that site.

The School Fellowship was awarded to Mr Peter Farries for a study of Islamic pottery and participation in the Director's excavations. More than 70 scholars and students used the School's facilities in Baghdad. These included the Chairman and two members of Council. Professor Wiseman visited the excavations at Tell Taya and al Hibr and worked on Nimrud texts in the Iraq Museum. He was entertained by the Director General of Antiquities, for whom, with some 60 guests, the School gave a reception. This and other entertainment included Iraqi, American, French, Belgian, Italian and Russian colleagues who are currently at work in the field. Miss Parker worked on the Rimah clay seals and Miss Talbot reclassified the Library. Both were able to visit various sites during their stay.

During the year the Director visited the United States to attend a symposium on 'Arabia in Antiquity' at which she read the opening paper. Mrs Helbaek spent two weeks travelling in the U.S.A. and Canada lecturing on the School's excavations at Umm Dabaghiyah. Both the Director and the Assistant Director continue with their publications.

The Director continued her excavations at the Pottery Neolithic site of Umm Dabaghiyah. The expedition, with a staff of ten members, was in the field for eleven weeks. With increased financial support this year the excavations were extended over an area of 1500 square metres. Increased knowledge of the site has enabled the excavator to answer many of the questions posed during the earlier seasons' work. Originally interpreted as an early farming community probably inhabited by refugees pushed out of their homeland by population pressures, the third season shows that this may be incorrect and that both Umm Dabaghiyah and the culture it represents must be reconsidered.

The re-evaluation of the site is based on the architectural remains. In Level III about two-thirds of the site is composed of rows of small rooms of which over seventy have so far been excavated; they are bounded by long parallel party walls. The plan of these rooms is laid out with the precision of a Roman barrack. The size of the rooms was probably governed by the amount of available roofing timber which, judging from modern environmental studies and from the carbonised remains from the site, was not much. Therefore, at every 1.50 metres there was either a cross wall or opposing buttresses. This canon of proportion remains constant in both domestic and non-domestic buildings. These rooms lie in lines down the north, south and east sides of the site, with an open space in the centre in which lie a few very small buildings with yards and ovens of a more domestic aspect. Opposing each other on the north and south walls are two angular tower-like projections. The exterior walls of these ranks of small rooms are without doors and, so far, we have found no doors on the interior, courtyard side. Intercommunicating interior doors are also rare. The walls are wide and heavily tempered with vegetable matter; most of them are not plastered. The domestic houses lie to the west to catch the good winds. They have plastered floors and walls, but the walls are flimsy by comparison with the small rooms and

not heavily tempered. Unfortunately the excavation of the domestic part of Level III is not yet complete.

Level II, counting from the top, is now virtually complete. During this period the inhabitants rebuilt and re-used the inner ranks of small rooms. In short, the village contracted in size. The building was somewhat rougher, and the small rooms showed some variation on the strict units of Level III. Level II has the large central courtyard paved with mud slabs. The domestic houses and courts lay to the west, the houses had plastered walls and floors and separate storage rooms and kitchens. The domestic courts contained ovens, hearths and kilns and were evidently used for butchering. These courts are in addition to the large central one.

Looking at the remains of Level III it seems that the lines of small rooms laid out with such precision and built with high technical skill were the most important element. The site seems to have been built to a known contemporary plan, and for a specific purpose. It now seems possible that in Uruk Dabaghiyah we have an organised trading, or collection depot for some commodity that was available there and that was needed elsewhere. The commodity supplied can only be guessed, but it could have been fine hides and other animal products.

Level IV still remains to be excavated, and until this has been done we cannot tell for certain whether this was a trading post from the beginning or not. It is hoped to continue these important excavations during the coming year. The expedition was again honoured by a visit from the Director-General of Antiquities and Professor Fuad Safar.

The third season at Tell Taya, directed by Dr Julian Reade, lasted from late September 1972 into January 1973. Excavations were concentrated on the third-millennium citadel or cult-centre; in addition, the work of planning the exposed stone remains of the Early Dynastic town was continued throughout the season. The site is now known to cover 160 hectares, or nearly 400 acres, though the density of building varies. Houses of various sizes, streets and shrines can be distinguished, with industrial areas on the outskirts. Almost half the town has now been recorded, and the completion of this unique plan will be a priority next season. On the citadel Early Dynastic remains have been largely destroyed by Akkadian alterations (circa 2300 B.C.) but one seal impression was recovered. More of the Akkadian gate-house was exposed, including a room possibly used for brewing. Finds in this area included a seal and a hoard of jewellery; there was an enormous amount of pottery, including fragments of black burnished ware decorated with animals and human heads in white inlay. A monumental Akkadian building occupied the southern side of the citadel, opposite the shrine on the north; one of its rooms, probably vaulted, was cleared, and the destruction level produced parts of blue-glazed faience vessels, together with a carved shell "lamp" of a type familiar from the Ur and Kish cemeteries. The later Level IV village (circa 1850 B.C.) proved to incorporate a bent-axis shrine built on an entirely different scale from that of the surrounding houses. The Old Babylonian settlement, Level III, which offers unusual insights into village as opposed to city organisation, has now mostly been excavated. This year's buildings include a stable, probably for sheep, and several rooms, constructed around a central pond into which ran numerous drains; samples of carbonised grain were plentiful. Other items of particular interest, from an intermediate phase of this occupation, were a fine cylinder seal and the contents of a long workroom; the latter contained, besides technical equipment and an assortment of objects, two administrative texts. They

give the name of Hazidanum, who was a regional governor under Shamshi-Adad I; a *limmu*-date, previously unknown but datable within a few years of 1780 B.C.; and a place-name, Zamiatim or roughly speaking "Ruins", which would have been an appropriate name for Taya itself at this time. The Neo-Assyrian settlement on top of the mound provided ample, less spectacular information. The next season is planned for the autumn of 1974.

The School registered on June 9th, 1973 in accordance with the Arab and Foreign Cultural Centres and Institutes Law No. 132 of 1972. This allows for the continued archaeological and philological activity of the School in Iraq under the Ministry of Information and through the Directorate General of Antiquities.

We once again take this opportunity to extend our gratitude to the Director-General of Antiquities, Dr Isa Salman, to the Director of Excavations, Dr Fuad Safar, the Director of the Museum, Dr Fawzi Rashid, and their staffs for their unflinching help and encouragement to the staff and visiting scholars of the School.

On behalf of the council,
D. J. WISEMAN,
Chairman of the Executive Committee.

DIANA HELBAEK,
Director.
DAVID CLARKE,
Jt. Hon. Treasurer

BRITISH SCHOOL OF ARCHAEOLOGY IN IRAQ

(GERTRUDE BELL MEMORIAL)

BALANCE SHEET, 31st MAY, 1973

1972		1972		1972	
8,200	ENDOWMENT FUND: Balance as at 1st June 1972	8,200.00		ENDOWMENT FUND: Investment, at cost	
	WORKING FUND: Balance as at 1st June 1972	14,650.32	8,200	8,149 Income shares in Charities	
14,650	Add Excess of Income over Expenditure for the Year	<u>2,064.53</u>	16,714.85	Official Investment Fund	8,200.00
6,849	SUNDRY CREDITORS		8,728.14	Market value at 31st May 1973 £10,458 (1972 £11,095)	
1,245	ACCUMULATED RESERVE FOR RENEWAL OF MOTOR VEHICLES	3,744.58		WORKING AND EXCAVATION FUNDS: Investments, at cost -	
1,225	"SEVEN PILLARS OF WISDOM" FUND, as at 1st June 1972	1,225.00	27,018	29,878.78	
	JEBEL SINJAR FUND, as at 1st June, 1972	4,656.20		Less Provision for Depreciation	3,445.40
	Add Donations	1,084.95		Market value at 31st May 1973 £27,947 (1972 £30,221)	26,433.38
	Transfer from Publications and Excavations Fund	<u>766.43</u>	2,280	INCOME TAX RECOVERABLE	2,537.91
		<u>1,851.38</u>	4,481	DEBTORS AND PAYMENTS IN ADVANCE	3,217.37
4,656	Less Expenditure in 1972-73	<u>6,507.58</u>		BALANCES AT BANKS:	
	SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS AND EXCAVATIONS FUND: Balance as at 1st June 1972	19,477.41	12,277	On Current Accounts	5,171.29
	Less Excess of Expenditure over Income for the Year	<u>1,652.10</u>		On Deposit Account	<u>7,000.00</u>
19,477		<u>17,825.31</u>		CASH IN HAND:	
<u>£56,302</u>		<u>£56,437.88</u>	2,046	London	8.65
	D. J. Wiseman, <i>Chairman</i>			Baghdad	<u>3,869.28</u>
	D. Clarke, <i>Joint Hon. Treasurer</i>				3,877.93
					<u>£56,437.88</u>

We have prepared the Balance Sheet set out above and the accompanying Income and Expenditure Accounts from the books, vouchers and records of the School, and we have received all the information and explanations we have required. In our opinion and to the best of our knowledge and belief, the Income and Expenditure Accounts for the year to 31st May 1973 correctly show the result of the transactions for that year and the Balance Sheet gives a true and fair view of the state of the School's affairs as at that date.

Giltspur House,
5/6 Giltspur Street,
London, EC1A 9PD.

DEARDEN, LORD,
ANNAN, MORRISH
Chartered Accountants
2nd October, 1973

BRITISH SCHOOL OF ARCHAEOLOGY IN IRAQ

(GERTRUDE BELL MEMORIAL)

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MAY, 1973

WORKING FUND

1972		1972		1972	
4,595	LONDON EXPENDITURE: Printing Journal (including back numbers)	4,508.31	1,442	SUBSCRIPTIONS TO SCHOOL AND JOURNAL	1,889.81
1,288	Salaries and Office Expenses	<u>1,189.72</u>	5,698.03	INCOME TAX RECOVERABLE UNDER COVENANTS	<u>18.59</u> 1,908.40
4,707	BAGHDAD EXPENDITURE: Director's Salary and Superannuation	4,840.00	3,488	OUTSIDE SALES OF JOURNAL	2,945.56
1,533	Assistant Directors' Salary and Superannuation	2,400.00	250	INCOME RECEIVED FROM THE GERTRUDE BELL TRUST	250.00
2,114	Staff Salaries, Allowances and Expenses	1,958.33	23,375	TREASURY GRANT	24,687.50
1,126	Library Expenditure	1,052.63	2,690	INTEREST AND DIVIDENDS:	
1,148	Fellowships and Visiting Lecturers	1,726.16	260	On Investments	2,648.61
1,737	Rent of School Building and House	2,900.00		Bank Deposit	309.40
2,659	House and School Expenses	4,671.79			2,958.01
1,529	Travel and Car	1,622.00			
282	Entertainment	<u>316.00</u>	21,486.91		
3,000	AMOUNT SET ASIDE TOWARDS RENEWAL OF MOTOR VEHICLES	2,500.00			
2,000	TRANSFER TO SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS AND EXCAVATIONS FUND	1,000.00			
1,000	TRANSFER TO JEBEL SINJAR FUND				
2,801	EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR	<u>2,064.53</u>			
<u>£31,519</u>		<u>£32,749.47</u>	<u>£31,519</u>		<u>£32,749.47</u>

