

BRITISH SCHOOL OF ARCHAEOLOGY IN IRAQ

(*Gertrude Bell Memorial*)

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

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 Glynn Davies

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

The Journal **IRAQ** Vol. XXXII Parts 1 and 2 (1970).

218 pp. + 45 plates. £5.

The Journal **IRAQ** Vol. XXXIII Parts 1 and 2 (1971).

128 pp. + 41 plates. £5.

In Press (for Publication Spring 1972)

THE NIMRUD WINE LISTS

by J. V. Kinnier Wilson

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REPORT & ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st MAY, 1971

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THE THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SCHOOL WILL BE HELD IN THE ROOMS OF THE **BRITISH ACADEMY**, BURLINGTON HOUSE, PICCADILLY, W.1, ON **TUESDAY 23rd NOVEMBER, 1971, AT 5 p.m.**, TO HEAR PROFESSOR DAVID 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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**Member of Executive Committee.*

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

THE year has been a very active one as the School sponsored two full-scale excavations and the Baghdad hostel was filled to capacity with visiting scholars, students and the members of the excavation teams.

At the end of the year the Assistant Director, Mr. Jeffery J. Orchard, resigned on his appointment as Lecturer in Archaeology and Ancient History at the University of Birmingham. Mr. Orchard, whose kindness and courtesy to visitors will be remembered by many, has served the School with zeal and efficiency since he was first awarded a Woolley Memorial Fellowship in 1960 and was subsequently made its Secretary-Librarian (1961) and Assistant Director (1964). The School therefore owes much to him for his work in Baghdad over many years.

The School welcomed as its annual lecturers in Iraq, Dr. Edmond Sollberger of the British Museum and Professor Seton Lloyd. Both were generously given every facility by the Directorate General of Antiquities to use the resources of the Iraq Museum and to travel to various sites. At the conclusion of their visits each of our guests gave a lecture which was much appreciated at the British Council.

Two School Fellowships were awarded this year. One to Mr. John Curtis to enable him to continue the study of the metal objects from Nimrud; the other to Miss Shereen Ratnagar to work on background studies relating to the stone sculptures from the temple at Tell al Rimah.

Among visiting scholars who spent considerable periods at the School in Iraq were Professor W. G. Lambert, studying texts at the Iraq Museum; Mr. Peder Mortensen of Aarhus University, who studied the flints from Choga Mami for publication and afterwards joined the Director's excavations; Mr. Nicholas Postgate (S.O.A.S.) and Mr. Mervyn Richardson (University of Manchester) both worked on tablets at the Iraq Museum; Mr. Andrew Moore, specialising in the Neolithic period, visited prehistoric sites and worked in the Iraq Museum.

The Secretary-Accountant has continued the valuable task of recataloguing and indexing the Baghdad Library which is expanding steadily.

In December the Director surveyed that part of the Jazira which lies within a range of c. 50 kms. around Hatra. Just under half of the 87 prehistoric sites visited proved to be Hassuna-Samarra settlements, some with Halaf pottery as well. One, 26 kms. west of Hatra, although the most southern found of that period, was chosen for excavation using Hatra as a supply base for food and water. An interesting result of the survey shows that the southernmost limit at which an agricultural settlement could exist in that area was, within a very few kilometres, the same in early Hassuna times as it is today—a period of some 8,000 years.

The first season of excavation at Umm Dabaghiyah was undertaken by the Director. This is a small site situated in a marginal farming area. Three of the 13 squares opened were carried down to bedrock, and 12 building phases were recorded in the deepest trench. It was a small agricultural settlement with well built houses of more than one room. The walls were made of packed mud and their interior faces covered with plaster,

sometimes painted red; floors were also plastered. The early pottery culture represented at Umm Dabaghiyah is at present unknown elsewhere in Iraq. The upper levels have affinities with Hassuna Ia, Gird Ali Agha and early Matarrah. The lower levels seem to represent an earlier and better aspect of that group. The pottery is, in general, primitive in ware, firing and shape, that of the earlier levels being better than the later. In particular, a very fine, hard burnished ware, very well fired and of finely levigated almost pure clay is found in the earlier levels. A great variety of experiments in decoration were being tried. Apart from burnishing, tentative painting in red on a cream or light slip was frequent, the patterns varying from circles, dots and squiggles through lines and eventually to the chevron known from Archaic Hassuna. Applied decoration was particularly popular, with human figures, ears, eyes, snakes, knobs and animal heads to mention only a few motifs. Incised decoration was also tried, rough incisions in the form of crosses, lines or parallel lines, but not chevrons, were met with infrequently. Finally, and also from the lower levels came three female figurines, unfortunately broken, but nevertheless the most elegant yet found among the earliest cultures of Iraq. In short, the culture at Umm Dabaghiyah may take us back a step earlier into the antecedents of Hassuna, but that remains to be proven in another season's work.

The sixth season of excavations at Tell al Rimah lasted from the middle of March until the end of May 1971. It was directed by Professor David Oates, assisted by Mr. J. E. Reade, Assistant Director, Mrs. Carolyn Postgate and Miss Nan Shaw, in charge of pottery and conservation respectively, Miss Shereen Ratnagar, registrar, Mr. David Hawkins, epigraphist, Mr. John Curtis, who bore a large share of the site supervision and took charge of metal objects, and Sayid Sabah Abboud, representative of the Directorate General of Antiquities. Professor and Mrs. Seton Lloyd and Mr. Nicholas Postgate joined the expedition for shorter periods.

The object of the season's work was to explore a further section of the administrative building (the 'Palace') in Area C where a collection of tablets dating to c. 1800 B.C. had been found in earlier seasons. The ruins of the Palace are overlaid by five metres of stratified debris representing continuous occupation down to c. 1200 B.C. and a Late Assyrian resettlement. The excavation of these levels, over an area of some 600 sq. m., occupied most of the season. It yielded a succession of courtyard houses; their plans were unremarkable, but an interesting feature was the frequent use of pitched-brick vaults. A number of seals were found, and substantial additions made to the corpus of pottery now being prepared for publication by Mrs. Postgate. A most interesting find was a large bowl of c. 1500 B.C. with a channel rim into which liquid was poured through funnels, to discharge through a terra-cotta ram's head spout into the interior of the vessel; its purpose is unknown.

In the Palace valuable information about the history of the building was obtained. In 1968 were found parts of an underlying structure, resting on virgin soil, which had apparently been razed to make way for the Palace. This year it was discovered that a part of this structure had been left standing and that the Palace, with its large reception suite, had been grafted on to it. The Palace in turn had undergone extensive restoration, with many walls refaced and floors replastered, and minor changes of plan. Tablets

and seal-impressions date its latest phase to the period when the site, now almost certainly identified as Karanā of the Mari letters, had achieved independence from Assur and was ruled by its own princes, notably Askur-Addu. The two earlier phases are not precisely dated. A seal impression of a servant of Shamshi-Adad of Assyria was found beneath the latest floor, but we cannot be certain whether the first phase of the Palace or the preceding building should be attributed to his reign.

The plan of the reception suite is of unique interest. Its entrance, from the north, presumably opened off the main courtyard of the whole complex, as yet unexcavated. It led into a long ante-chamber, some 20 by 9 m., occupying the whole south side of the courtyard. From here a wide doorway gave access to a smaller chamber, c. 12 m. long by 5 m. wide, which appears to be an inner reception or throne room; its monumental character is emphasised by the massive walls, about 4 m. thick. On either side were smaller rooms, opening off the ante-chamber, and giving access to the private parts of the palace excavated in previous seasons. The tablets and other finds have established the secular nature of the building, which was clearly administrative if not the ruler's principal residence. Yet there is no parallel in secular buildings of this time for the layout of the reception suite, although an almost identical plan is standard in the divine suites—the cella and ante-cella—of contemporary temples. Unfortunately the rooms excavated this year had been completely cleared before the abandonment of the building, which seems to have been deliberately cut down and its site used as a rubbish dump for another large complex farther to the south. Only eight tablets were found, dealing with the production or distribution of beer, and obviously comparable with the wine issue texts found in 1968.

In addition to the issue of *Iraq* vol. XXXII the School published a further fascicule (No. II) in the series 'Ivories from Nimrud' by Sir Max Mallowan and Mrs. Leri Davies entitled *Ivories in Assyrian Style*.

Thanks are again due to the Director General of Antiquities, Dr. 'Isa Salman, and the Inspector General of Excavations, Professor Fuad Safar, and their staffs for the continued encouragement, interest and unfailing generous aid they have given to the various activities of the School.

On behalf of the Council,

D. J. WISEMAN,

Chairman of the Executive Committee.

DIANA HELBAEK,

Director,

COLIN KERR,

Hon. Treasurer.

6th October, 1971.

BRITISH SCHOOL OF ARCHAEOLOGY IN IRAQ
(GERTRUDE BELL MEMORIAL)

BALANCE SHEET, 31st MAY, 1971

	£	p	£	p		£	p	£	p
ENDOWMENT FUND:					ENDOWMENT FUND:				
Balance as at 1st June, 1970			8,200	00	Investment, at cost:				
WORKING FUND:					8,149 Income Shares in Charities Official Invest-				
Balance as at 1st June, 1970	11,222	09			ment Fund			8,200	00
Add Excess of Income over Expenditure for the					(Market Value at 31st May, 1971, £9,073)				
Year	627	06			WORKING AND EXCAVATIONS FUNDS:				
			11,849	15	Investments, at cost	30,035	41		
SUNDRY CREDITORS			7,438	23	Less Provision for Depreciation	3,017	28		
ACCUMULATED RESERVE FOR RENEWAL					(Market Value at 31st May, 1971, £28,908)			27,018	13
OF MOTOR VEHICLES			2,250	00	INCOME TAX RECOVERABLE				3,414
“SEVEN PILLARS OF WISDOM” FUND, as					DEBTORS AND PAYMENTS IN ADVANCE ...				3,253
at 1st June, 1970			1,225	00	BALANCES AT BANKS:				
JEBEL SINJAR FUND, as at 1st June, 1970 ...			2,156	20	On Current Accounts	7,568	49		
SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS AND EXCAVA-					On Deposit Account	2,000	00		
TIONS FUND:								9,568	49
Balance as at 1st June, 1970	25,696	50			CASH IN HAND:				
Less Excess of Expenditure over Income for the					London		7		
Year	5,979	23			Baghdad		1,374	20	
			19,717	27				1,381	29
D. J. WISEMAN, <i>Chairman</i>									
C. KERR, <i>Hon. Treasurer</i>									
			£52,835	85				£52,835	85

I 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 I have received all the information and explanations I have required. In my opinion and to the best of my knowledge and belief, the Income and Expenditure Accounts for the year to 31st May, 1971, 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.

PROVINCIAL HOUSE, 98/106 CANNON STREET, LONDON, E.C.4

C. W. McCORMACK,
Chartered Accountant.
15th October, 1971.

BRITISH SCHOOL OF ARCHAEOLOGY IN IRAQ
(GERTRUDE BELL MEMORIAL)

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MAY, 1971

	£	p	£	p		£	p	£	p
TO LONDON EXPENDITURE:					By WORKING FUND:				
Journal, including reprinting of back numbers	5,416	22			SUBSCRIPTIONS TO SCHOOL AND				
Office expenditure	884	76			JOURNAL	1,459	77		
			6,300	98	INCOME TAX RECOVERABLE UNDER				
„ BAGHDAD EXPENDITURE:					COVENANTS	18	06		
Directors' Salaries and Superannuation ...	4,620	00			OUTSIDE SALES OF JOURNAL			1,477	83
Assistant Director's Salary and Superannua-					INCOME RECEIVED FROM THE TRUS-			2,329	54
tion	2,310	00			TEES OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM				
Staff Salaries, Allowances and Expenses ...	2,140	12			(Gertrude Bell Trust)			262	68
Office, Library and Insurance		728	57		TREASURY GRANT			21,500	00
Fellowships and Visiting Lecturers	1,435	89			INTEREST AND DIVIDENDS:				
Rent of School Building and House	1,433	12			On Investments	2,650	03		
House and School Expenses	2,873	85			Bank Deposit	753	59		
Travelling and Car	1,593	05						3,403	62
Entertainment	161	03							
			17,295	63					
„ AMOUNT SET ASIDE TOWARDS RE-									
NEWAL OF MOTOR VEHICLES			750	00					
„ TRANSFER TO SPECIAL PUBLI-									
CATIONS AND EXCAVATIONS FUND			4,000	00					
„ EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDI-									
TURE FOR THE YEAR			627	06					
			£28,973	67				£28,973	67

SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS AND EXCAVATIONS FUND

	£	P	£	P
To MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES:				
London...				
Baghdad Excavations:				
Tell Rimah	7,975	12		
Umm Dabaghiyah	5,340	82		
Sundries	319	82		
	13,635	76		
CONTRIBUTION TO SIRAF EXPEDITION			13,840	70
COST OF PUBLISHING "IVORIES FROM NIMRUD"			2,977	49
			1,456	10
			£18,274	29
By TRANSFER FROM WORKING FUND				
DONATIONS:				
Anonymous			5,957	45
Iraq Petroleum Company			1,000	00
British Academy			1,000	00
Miscellaneous			12	30
			7,969	75
SALES AND ROYALTIES				325
EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME				5,979
				23
			£18,274	29

FORM OF BEQUEST

I bequeath unto the Honorary Treasurer of the British School of Archaeology in Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial) the sum offree of duty, to be applied towards carrying out the objects of the School. Orders to: The British School of Archaeology in Iraq, 31-34 Gordon Square, London W.C.1.

TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTION TO IRAQ Membership of the School, which includes a subscription to the journal, costs £3.25.

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To (name and address of Bank).....

Please pay to National and Grindlay's Bank Ltd., 23 Fenchurch St., London, E.C.3, for the credit of the British School of Archaeology in Iraq (Account Number 107832), now and annually on 1st January until I cancel this order, the sum of three pounds twenty-five pence.

Signature.....

Description (Mr., Mrs., etc.).....

Address.....

Date.....

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