

FORM OF BEQUEST

I bequeath unto the Honorary Treasurer of the British School of Archaeology in Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial) the sum of free of duty, to be applied towards carrying out the objects of the School.

TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTION TO IRAQ

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ORDER TO BANKERS FOR ANNUAL PAYMENT

To (*name and address of Bank*)

Please pay to Ottoman Bank, 20 Abchurch Lane, London, E.C.4, for the credit of the British School of Archaeology in Iraq, now and annually on 1st January until I cancel this order, the sum of two pounds five shillings.

Signature

Description (*Mr. Mrs. etc.*)

Address

Date

This form to be sent to the School at 31-34 Gordon Square, London, W.C.1.

BRITISH SCHOOL OF ARCHAEOLOGY IN IRAQ

(*Gertrude Bell Memorial*)

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

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REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st MAY, 1963

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THE THIRTIETH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SCHOOL WILL BE HELD IN THE ROOMS OF THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, 1 KENSINGTON GORE, ON WEDNESDAY, 6th NOVEMBER, 1963, at 5 p.m., TO HEAR PROFESSOR D. J. WISEMAN; 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.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

We record with gratitude the work done for the School by Mr. Kevin O'C. Hayes as Honorary Secretary since 1955. A move from London to Newark has led him to offer his resignation which has been accepted with regret.

At the Annual General Meeting held on 7th November 1962 Mr. David Oates reported on yet another successful season undertaken on behalf of the School at Fort Shalmaneser, Nimrud, in the previous spring. He has published a detailed account of these discoveries in *Iraq*, XXV, Part I.

School Fellowships were awarded to Mr. T. Donald of the University of Manchester (epigraphy), Mr. J. E. Reade of Cambridge (examination of glazes), Mr. N. H. S. Kindersley (Assyrian pottery), Miss N. Shaw and Miss A. Searight (restoration and conservation of Assyrian ivories).

The School in Baghdad was well occupied throughout the year by the Fellows and staff and many visitors. Among the latter were Professor M. E. L. Mallowan, accompanied by Mrs. Mallowan representing the School at the Al-Kindi celebrations; Professor D. J. Wiseman (Joint-Director) and Professor D. Talbot-Rice (University of Edinburgh).

Between February and May this year the School was once again engaged on excavations at Nimrud, this being the thirteenth season there and the sixth conducted within the great complex of "Fort Shalmaneser". The Expedition was composed of the following members: Mr. J. J. Orchard (Director); Dr. V. E. Crawford (representing the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York); Mr. N. H. S. Kindersley; Mr. J. E. Reade; Miss S. N. Shaw and Miss C. A. Searight. Professor D. J. Wiseman and Mr. T. Donald were present for various periods as epigraphists. Sayid Selim al-Jelili rejoined us at the beginning of the season for his fourth tour as Representative of the Directorate General of Antiquities, but unfortunately ill-health deprived us of his valued assistance after barely a month. Our consequent regret at his departure was only mitigated by our pleasure in welcoming his replacement, Sayida Selma al-Radi, who in coming to us made history as the first Iraqi woman to be appointed Representative to a foreign expedition.

The main objectives of this season's work were three in number. The first was to add as much detail as possible to our knowledge of the construction and original external appearance of the east and south walls of "Fort Shalmaneser". The second was to identify the purpose of the building represented by the western mound of the pair known as the Tulul al-Azar, and to ascertain its relationship both to the palace of Shalmaneser III to the east and to the fortress as a whole. The third and concurrent objective was to complete the removal of ivories from Rooms S.W. 11-12 and T. 10.

The most important discovery made during the work on the east and south walls of "Fort Shalmaneser" was that on the south side there existed two successive wall-faces, an earlier and a later. The later wall, the line of which was traced in 1962 by Mr. David Oates, was built of mud brick and rested on a base composed of several courses of roughly squared limestone boulders faced with dressed ashlar masonry. The earlier, inner wall, against which the later had been built as a reinforcement, must be ascribed to Shalmaneser III, and constitutes the original south-facing continuation of the defences delineated by Mr. Oates on the east side. It was constructed of mud brick, and as far as the western mound of the Tulul al-Azar its face was regularly

buttressed by towers, which in their spacing and projection conformed closely to those along the east wall.

In following the respective lines of the earlier and later wall-faces along the southern flank of the western mound of the Tulul al-Azar, the Expedition made its outstanding discovery of the season. As the later, stone-based reinforcement wall approached and continued below the mound its width increased significantly, attaining a general mean of some 40 feet. The face here, while hitherto reflecting the tower arrangement of Shalmaneser's wall, was now relieved by broad, shallow bastions until finally it made a deep right-angled return to the line of the city wall westward of the mound. It was between the last of these bastions that the Door of Esarhaddon was brought to light, an imposing ogival entrance constructed entirely of stone masonry and formerly barred both within and without by two heavy, single wooden doors. Low down on the outer jambs had been cut two virtually identical inscriptions of the king, recording both how he had reinforced the terrace of Shalmaneser's *ekal mašarti* with "mountain stone", and how he had set up a palace for his "lordly pleasure" upon it. These phrases, besides dating the reinforcement wall, are almost identical with those employed on the Nimrud Village cylinder of Esarhaddon found in 1951 and on the duplicate discovered by Mr. Oates along the south wall in 1962.

Further clearance beyond the Door demonstrated that it formed the entrance to an ascending passage, similar, though more austere in conception, to that discovered by W. K. Loftus in the "North Palace" of Ashurbanipal at Nineveh in 1854. The passage lay at right-angles to the axis of the Door, and passed upwards in the thickness of the reinforcement wall through a series of three long, whitewashed galleries, ultimately making another right-angled turn, by which it ascended towards the summit of the mound. This further ascent was made through two more long galleries, of which the last at least was decorated with painted murals. At this point the way divided, one passage continuing out into the parade ground facing the west front of "Fort Shalmaneser", while to the right a doorway led by means of a paved court and portico into Courtyard S. 68 on the fortress terrace. Work on the north and west sides of the mound indicated that the main mass, which dominates the Esarhaddon Door and its associated passageway, conceals a straight-sided, rectangular platform of mud brick, the top of which is heavily eroded.

During the course of these other operations, the Expedition successfully completed the total clearance of the ivories both from S.W. 11-12 in the magazine area and from Room T. 10 of the palace, recovering in the process many fine pieces.

It is, lastly, our pleasurable duty to express our warmest thanks to the Directorate General of Antiquities for much assistance during the season, and most particularly do we thank Dr. Faisal al-Waily, the Director-General, and Sayid Fuad Safar, Inspector-General of Excavations, for their close and friendly interest in the success of our work.

On behalf of the Council,
J. M. TROUTBECK
Chairman of Executive Committee
D. OATES,
D. J. WISEMAN,
Joint Directors.

31st May, 1963.

