

FEDERICO ZAINA, *Delving into Archaeological Archives, a Single-researcher Approach. The Case Study of Ancient Kish (Central Iraq)* p. 1

ABSTRACT: Archive archaeology emerged in the last decades as a significant approach in the study and interpretation of cultural heritage. However, while the majority of past and current projects applied a large-scale mostly team-based approach, less attention has been paid to the potential of single-researcher studies.

By using the case study of ancient Kish (Central Iraq), in this paper I will show how archive archaeology can contribute to the study and reconstruction of an old excavation. In particular, I will present the methodology and the dissemination strategy of a single-scholar research.

KEYWORDS: Archive archaeology; single-researcher; old excavations; Mesopotamia; Kish

MAURIZIO VIANO, *Some Business Documents from Emar* » 15

ABSTRACT: The Late Bronze Age site of Emar on the middle Euphrates was an important commercial center at the crossroad of trade routes connecting Mesopotamia, Syria, Anatolia and the Levant. This contribution explores a small number of documents, mainly written according to the Syro-Hittite tradition, which deal with various commercial activities. By revealing the trade routes as well as the money-lending practices used by merchants, these sources strengthen the role of Emar in the international trade. Additionally, other sources show that also small-scale commercial activities were carried out at Emar during the Late Bronze Age.

KEYWORDS: Emar; Trade; Late Bronze Age; Merchants; Hittite Empire.

STEFANO DE MARTINO, *The Fall of the Hittite Kingdom* » 23

ABSTRACT: The first part of the present essays deals with the time when Hatti collapsed and the events related to its fall. Besides, we have tried to investigate four possible causal factors that might have determined the fall of the Hittite kingdom, namely, a situation of shortage of foods, movements of peoples, an economic crisis and, lastly, the break of the political and social network.

KEYWORDS: Hittite kingdom; Sea Peoples; Famine; Collapse.

ABBAS AL-HUSSAINY, *Inscriptions of Nebuchadnezzar II from the Iraqi Excavations at Marad..* » 49

ABSTRACT: This paper presents five inscribed artifacts from the time of Nebuchadnezzar II, which were found in the Iraqi excavations at Tell as-Sadoun, the ancient Babylonian city of Marad. One of them, a fragment of a terracotta cylinder, is particularly remarkable in that it allows us to identify a temple building as the shrine of Lugalmarada, the city-god of Marad.

KEYWORDS: Marad; royal inscriptions; Neo-Babylonian; Nebuchadnezzar II; Lugalmarada; E'igikalama temple.

WATHIQ AL-SALIHI, *The Architecture and Decorative Elements of Temple of Allat at Hatra* » 59

ABSTRACT: The paper illustrates the architecture and the sculptural decoration of the temple of Allat, one of the main religious buildings in Hatra, located in a prominent position within the Great Temple complex. The temple was investigated by the Directorate of Antiquities and Heritage of Iraq between 1974 and 1975.

KEYWORDS: Hatra; Parthian architecture; religious architecture; architectural decoration; inscriptions.

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GIOTTO - MARCO IAMONI - CRISTINA TONGHINI, *The Italian-Kurdish Excavations at Gir-e Gomel*

in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. Preliminary Report on the 2017 and 2018 Field Seasons » 67

ABSTRACT: The article presents the preliminary results of the Italian-Kurdish excavation project carried out by the University of Udine and the Directorate of Antiquities of Duhok at the site of Gir-e Gomel (Kurdistan Region of Iraq). From at least the mid-3rd millennium BC onwards, Gomel was the central site of the entire Navkur Plain, a very fertile and well-watered region on the route linking Arbail and the Greater Zab Valley with the Upper Tigris region to the north of Nineveh. The Eastern Tigris plains between the modern city of Duhok and the Greater Zab have never been the object of a target-oriented archaeological excavation aimed at establishing a stratigraphic reference sequence for this still under-explored archaeological landscape and investigating diachronically the development of the region's material culture. With this purpose – and the aim of exploring the character and function of this important site on a local and regional scale, investigating the role it played in the region's cultural and socio-economic processes – Gir-e Gomel has become the subject of extensive archaeological excavations as from 2017 and 2018. The main results of the first excavation seasons are discussed in the following article.

KEYWORDS: Gir-e Gomel; Iraqi Kurdistan; Chalcolithic; Bronze and Iron Age; Classical and Islamic periods.