

NEO-ASSYRIAN TEXTS AND FRAGMENTS FROM COPENHAGEN

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The ten Neo-Assyrian texts of legal content presented here are held in the collection of the Institute of Assyriology of the University of Copenhagen. Despite their generally poor state of preservation (only no. 10 is a complete tablet), their scientific interest is decidedly above the average, since various clues point to a provenience of the group from the materials of Fort Shalmaneser, recently published in book form by S. Dalley and J.N. Postgate (*The Tablets from Fort-Shalmaneser* = CTN 3, London 1984). In particular, as will be seen below, no. 10 concerns persons attested exclusively — but widely — in the Fort Shalmaneser corpus; while no. 5 represents an even more prized booty for the Assyriologist — a long-distance join with one of TFS fragments.

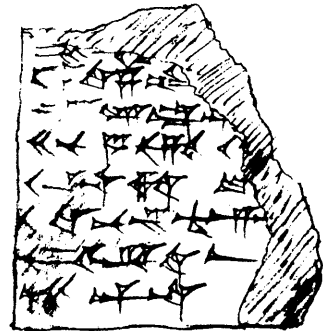
My warmest thanks go to the academic staff of the Institute of Assyriology of the University of Copenhagen, in the persons of Profs. M.T. Larsen and A. Westenholz, for their kind permission to study and elaborate these texts for publication. I am also very grateful to Dr. O. Pedersen, for putting at my disposal his previous work (transliterations, preliminary copies) of the material. The copies published in the present article are by A. Westenholz, who also very kindly provided the photographs here reproduced.

No. 1

Left-hand fragment (8+9 ll.) of conveyance: sale of slave woman². From photo, copy by A. Westenholz.

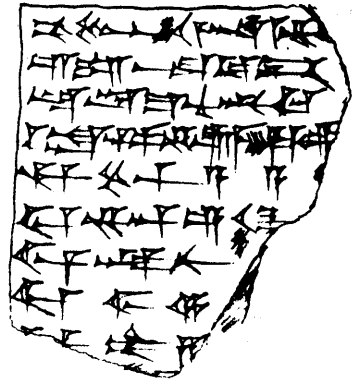
Obverse

- 1' kas-[⌈]pu[⌋] [gammur tadin (sinn)issu]
- 2' šú-[⌈]a[⌋]-tú za-ár[-pat laqiat]
- 3' [⌈]tu-ā[⌋]-ru DUG₄.D[UG₄ laššu]
- 4' [⌈]man-nu[⌋] šá GIL-u-n[i]
- 5' [⌈]10 MA[⌋].NA KÙ.BABBAR SUM[-an]
- 6' [⌈]šib[⌋]-tú be-en-nu ina 1 me [u₄-me]
- 7' [⌈]sa[⌋]-ar-tú ina [kal]
- 8' MU.AN.NA^[MES]



Reverse

- 1 *kas-pu ina 10^{MEŠ}-te ana EN-š[ú?]*
 2 *GUR-ra ina la de-ni-šú [()]*
 3 *la DUG₄-ma NU TI-qi*
 4 *¹SUHUŠ-^dPA EN.ŠU^{II.MEŠ} šá MÍ e?[x?]*
 5 *IGI ¹Mad-bar-a-a [()]*
 6 *IGI ¹EN-DINGIR-e-¹mur[?][-an-ni(?)]*
 7 *IGI ^{1d}PA.PAP*
 8 *IGI ¹IGI.15*
 9 *IGI ¹Ár-ša[-a-a(?)]*
 rest lost



Translation

“The price [has been paid in its entirety]; this [woman] is legally [acquired]. [There is no (further)] withdrawal (or) litigation. Whoever revokes [shall] pay 10 minas of silver. (In case of) the illnesses *šibtu* and *bennu* — for 100 days — or for crime — for all [time] — he will return the amount tenfold to its owner. In a non-(legal) case of his, he will not be able to make a claim, and will take possession. Ubur-Nabû is guarantor for the woman [...]. Witness: Madbarayyu; witness: Bêl-ili-êmur[anni]; witness: Pân-Ištar; witness: Arša[yyu]” (rest lost).

No. 2

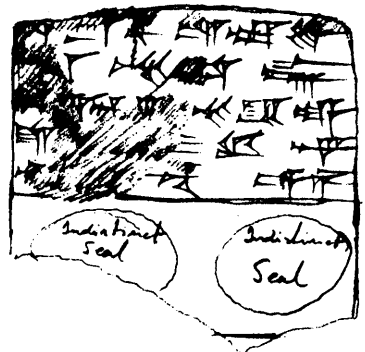
Upper fragment (5+9+3+2 ll.) of conveyance: sale of a slave. From photo, copy by A. Westenholz.

Obverse

- 1 *NA₄.KIŠIB ¹PAP-mil-ka-te*
 2 *[DUMU] ¹Mu-GIN-LUGAL*
 3 *NA₄.KIŠIB ^{1d}[1]5-[e?-]mu-qi-ia*
 4 *ša ^{1?} (or ^U[RU[?]])[x x+]x'-din-15*
 5 *x [x x šú]-nu SUM-ni*

SEAL

SEAL



rest lost

Reverse

- 1' *[de-nu(?)] ¹DUG₄.DUG₄ [x] ¹x¹ i-[x x]*
 2' *[šib-t]ú be-nu ina 1 mie UD^{MEŠ}*
 3' *[sa]-ar-tú ina kal MU.AN.NA^{MEŠ}*

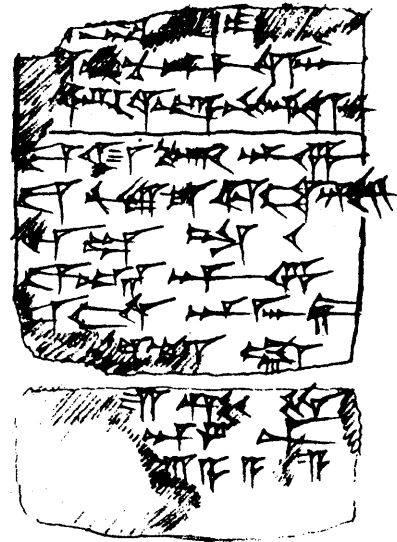
- 4' IGI ¹Ki-šir-^d15
 5' IGI ¹PAP-lam-ma IGI ¹Rim-ut-^dIM
 6' IGI ¹Ab-du-u
 7' IGI ¹GIŠGAL-^d15
 8' IGI ¹Rim-ut-DINGIR^{MES}-ni
 9' [IGI ¹x]-^rdi[?]-li[?] x

Upper Edge

1. [IGI ¹] x zi-te
2. [IGI ¹]^d15-MAŠ
3. [IGI ¹T]a-a+a-e

Left Hand Edge

1.]-na[?]
2.]x ta-lik-u-ni



Translation

Obverse: “Seal of Ahi-milkate, son of Mukin-šarri. Seal of Ištar-emuqiya, of-din-Ištar, owners of their slave woman(?) being sold” (space for seals — rest of Obverse lost).

Reverse: “... (further) lawsuit or litigation ... ; (guarantee) for the illnesses *šibtu* (and) *bennu* — for 100 days — and for crime — for all time. Witness: Kišir-Ištar. Witness: Ahi-lamma(?). Witness: Rimut-Adad. Witness: Abdu. Witness: Sukku-Ištar. Witness: Rimut-ilani. Witness: ...dili, ... Witness: ...zite. Witness: Ištar-ašaredu(?). Witness: Tayya'e”.

Left Hand Edge: “... (when) ... was sold”.

Notes. The formula on the left edge could be similar to the one attested in ND 3421 = Postgate, *FNALD*, no. 8: ll.15-17, *ina MU.AN.NA la ba-si-ti / a-ki 1 qa ŠE.PAD^{MES} 1 1/2 MA.NA URUDU^{MES} ta-lak-u-ni GEMÉ TI-at*. Cf. Postgate, *GPA*, 46, for further parallels and comments. For the name Sukku-Ištar, well attested in the legal texts of the Fort Shalmaneser corpus, cf. *TFS*, 277. An individual by this name occurs together with Remut-ilani in *TFS* no. 61.

No. 3

Upper fragment (5+8 ll.) of conveyance: sale of bare ground. From photo, copy by A. Westenholz.

Obverse

1 NA₄[?] [.KIŠIB[?]

2-3 illegible

SEAL

4 EN *qaq-qi-r*[i SUM-ni(?)]

5 *qaq*[-qi-ri pu-še-e

rest lost

Reverse

1' x [

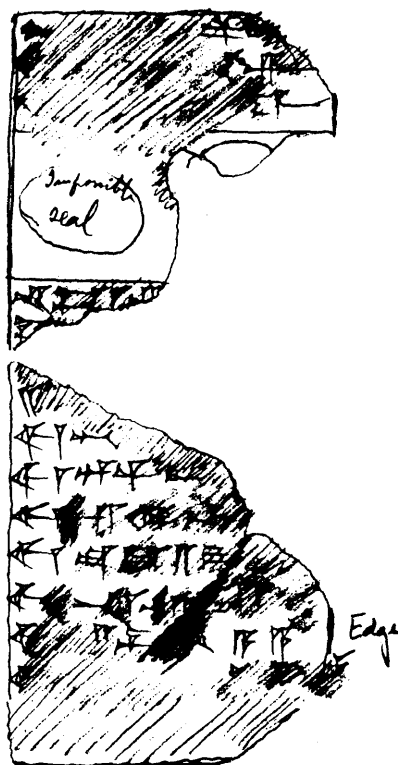
2' IGI ^{ITU}It[?] [

3' IGI ^{1d}MAŠ x [

4' IGI ^{ITU}Qur[?]-di-^dM[AŠ[?]

5' IGI ¹AD-lu[?] 2-^{ITU}ú[?] [

6'-8' illegible



Notes. Virtually nothing is preserved of this conveyance text, except the type of land under transaction (*qaqquru pušû*, “ground suitable for building”) and the names of some of the witnesses.

No. 4

Fragment of envelope (7 ll.). From photo, copy by A. Westenholz. Loan of silver (?); late post-canonical (Šin-ālik-pāni).

Face A

1' IGI I ^{1d}x[?]-iq[?]-bi[?]

2' *ina p*]u-u-hi ÍL

3']ina 4-ut-ti-šú GAL-bi

4' ^{ITU}GU]D[?] UD 1 KÁM

5' *limmu* ^{1d3}]0.DU.IGI

6' ^{LÚ}ša UGU]É-an-ni

7'] x GAL x [



Translation.

“ ... (n of silver², belonging to x) to ...-iqbi; he has taken in exchange; the silver will increase by 1/4. The month Ayyaru, the first day; eponymy of Sîn-ālik-pāni, the overseer of the inner quarters, ...“

Notes. On the formula *ina pūhi ittiši* (or *ittaššu*), cf. Postgate, *FNALD*, 37. A writing of the verb *našû* as ÍL occurs also e.g. in *TFS*, no. 39, a silver loan made to one Šalmu-šarru-iqbi (NU.MAN-*iq-bi*) in the eponymy of Sîn-ālik-pāni, as in the present text. It is conceivable, in this light, that the fragmentary signs in A, 1', preceding *iq-[□]bi[□]* could be made to yield the initial elements Šalmu-šarru. For the (late post-canonical) eponym and his professional title, cf. resp. M. Falkner, *AfO* 17 (1954-1956), 105, 115, 120; and *TFS*, no. 40: 8-9. The final GAL could be part of the professional title of the first witness.

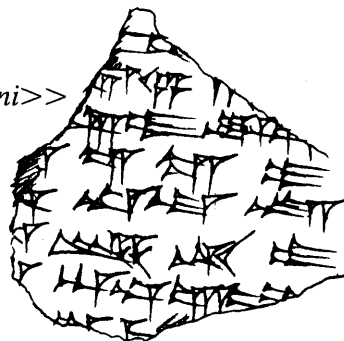
No. 5

Fragment of envelope (8 ll.). From photo, copy by A. Westenholz. List of witnesses.

This text may be reconstructed as joining with *TFS* no. 73, Envelope, Fragment B, lines 6' ff., on the basis of the shape of the two fragments as copied, and — more essentially — through an overall comparison with the well-preserved witness list of *TFS* no. 73, Tablet, lines 11 ff. In other words, the Copenhagen text would represent a hitherto missing portion of the Envelope of *TFS* 73. In the following transliteration, our text occupies the central position. To its left, the joining lines of *TFS* 73, Envelope, Fragment B have been indicated by < >; while, at the far right, further parts of the text, as reconstructed from *TFS* 73, Tablet, have been marked out by << >>.

Face A

- 1' <ina IGI ¹NU>[.MAN-*i*q-bi
 2' <ina IGI ¹GIŠ>]GAL.15 [□]A [□] [<<¹EN.DINGIR.E-u-ni>>
 3' <ina IGI ¹>]Sa-i-li-[□]i[□]
 4' <ina IGI>]¹Si-si-i
 5' IG]I ¹Ba-la-su
 6' IG]I ¹Kab²-ti-i
 7' IGI]^{1d}Ba-Ú-M[U
 8' ¹]^{□d}MAŠ[□] [<<-šal-lim>>



Notes. Line 1': *TFS* 73, Tablet, l.10 has the personal name HA.LA-a-a (=Zittaya) here, not Šalmu-šarru-iqbi; on the other hand, the sign NU is clear in Postgate's copy, while x-bi is on the Copenhagen tablet, with a decided gap in between. Lines 2' ff.: from here on, the sequence of the Copenhagen tablet tallies perfectly with that of the witness list of

TFS 73, Tablet. For Sukku-Ištar, cf. text no. 2, above. The name Bau-iddin is written with a final AŠ in *TFS* 73, Tablet, 17, but with MU in *TFS* 62, 11.

No. 6

Fragment of envelope, lower right-hand corner (1+4+4 ll.). From photo, copy by A. Westenholz.

Obverse

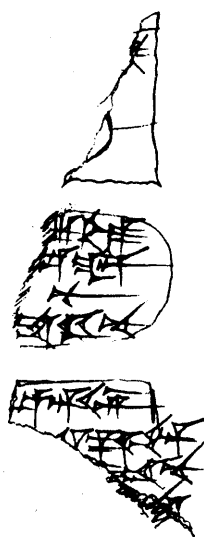
1' bears remains of one sign; followed by seal impression part

Left Edge

- 1]ú²-su
 2]¹TU BĀR
 3 SUM]-nu
 4 šumma la] id-di-nu

Reverse

- 1]SUM²-an-u-ni
 2 i-n]a-áš-ši²-u
 3]¹i²-du-nu
 4] x
 rest lost



No. 7

Right-hand fragment (5+1 ll.). From photo, copy by A. Westenholz. List of witnesses.

Reverse?

- 1']¹GAL² pi-il[-ki
 2'] x ^{*LÚ}GAL 50
 3']-e² ^{*LÚ}šá¹ [IG]I né-ri-bi
 4' ¹]Bal(a)-su ^{*LÚ}A.BA
 5' ¹Bi²]-it-ta-a+a [()]

Edge

- 1]-a-ni ^{*LÚ}šá IGI né-r[i-bi]



No. 8

“Fragment of bulla or clay sealing with string impression through the middle” (A.W.).
From photo, copy by A. Westenholz.

Face A

- 1' *T]A IGI ¹Bi-
2']*TA IGI ¹GAŠAN-SUM-n[a?
3'] IGI ¹EN-K[I²-ia(?)
4'] IGI ¹Gab-b[u?-
5']GI ¹d_x [
rest lost



Notes. No physical connection has for the moment been spotted between these three fragments and the Fort Shalmaneser text corpus. However, it may be noticed that (1) a scribe (A.BA) named *Ba-la-su* (text 7, l. 4') is also attested in *TFS* 44:23-24; (2) a ^{LU} *ša* IGI *ne-ri-bi* (text 7, ll. 3', Edge 1) is present as witness in *TFS* 30; (3) one Belit (or Beltu)-iddina (text 8, l. 2') witnesses the conveyance *TFS* 33.

No. 9

Right-hand fragment (5+6 ll.) of conveyance: sale of daughter into slavehood. From photo, copy by A. Westenholz.

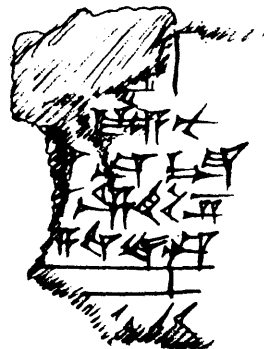
Obverse

- 1' ^{Mf} x x (x)]-si-in-tú DUMU.MÍ-su
2' n ru-]tu
3' lan-ša(?) ú-p]iš-ma
4' ¹x x]x -ra-a-a
5' ina libbi] 10[?] GÍN^{MES} KÙ.BABBAR
rest lost



Reverse

- 1'] x [
2' tuaru] de-e-nu
3' DUG₄.DU]G₄ la-áš-šu
4' mannu š]a GIL-u-ni
5' n MA.NA K]Û.BABBAR SUM-an



6'] x x

Translation

Obv.: “ ... the woman ...sintu, his daughter, ... *n* spans (is) her height, ...ra bought for 10 shekels of silver” (rest lost).

Rev.: “ there is no (further) withdrawal, lawsuit, (or) litigation. Whoever revokes, shall pay *n* minas of silver ... ” (rest lost).

Notes. The text concerns the sale of a daughter into slavehood on the part of the father. For a similar text, cf. e.g. *TFS*, no. 34 — where, curiously enough, a similar-sounding name for the daughter is preserved (]x *si-in*, followed by the word-divider GAM) and the father is described as an Egyptian (^{LÚ}*mušurayyu*). For the *ruṭu*, “span“, cf. Postgate, *FNALD*, 25, with previous bibliography.

No. 10

Tablet, almost complete (5+2+5+2 ll.). Loan of silver: late post-canonical (=Iqbi-ili/il-āni). From photo, copies by A. Westenholz, O. Pedersen; transliteration by O. Pedersen also consulted.

Obverse

- 1 10 GÍN^{MEŠ} KÙ.BABBAR
- 2 [š]a^{MÍ} Ka-ba-la-a-a
- 3 ^{LÚ}2-i-tú ša É^{MÍ} KUR
- 4 ina IGI¹ La-qi-pu
- 5 ina pu-u¹-hi it-ti-ši

Left Edge

- 1 ina 4-ut-ti-šú i-GAL-bi¹
- 2 ^{ITU}APIN UD 21 KÁM

Reverse

- 1 lim-mu¹ E.DINGIR^{MEŠ}
- 2 IGI¹ Tar-te-ma-a-ⁿⁱ
- 3 ^{LÚ}GAL É.[GAL]
- 4 IGI¹ Šal-mu-u[h-tú]
- 5 IGI^{1d} MAŠ.PAP.SU[M[?]]

Upper Edge

- 1 IGI^{1d} AG^{1?}.PAP.PAP
- 2 IGI¹ EN.KASKAL.BĀD[?]



Translation

“10 shekels of silver, belonging to the woman Kabalayya, deputy (of the *šakintu*) of the queen’s household, at the disposal of Laqipu, he has taken ‘in exchange’. It will increase by one-fourth. The month Arahsamna, the eponymy of Iqbi-ili/ilāni. Witness: Tartemani, the palace manager. Witness: Šalmu-uhhutu. Witness: Ninurta-ahu-iddin. Witness: Nabû-ahu-ušur. Witness: Bēl-harran-duri”.

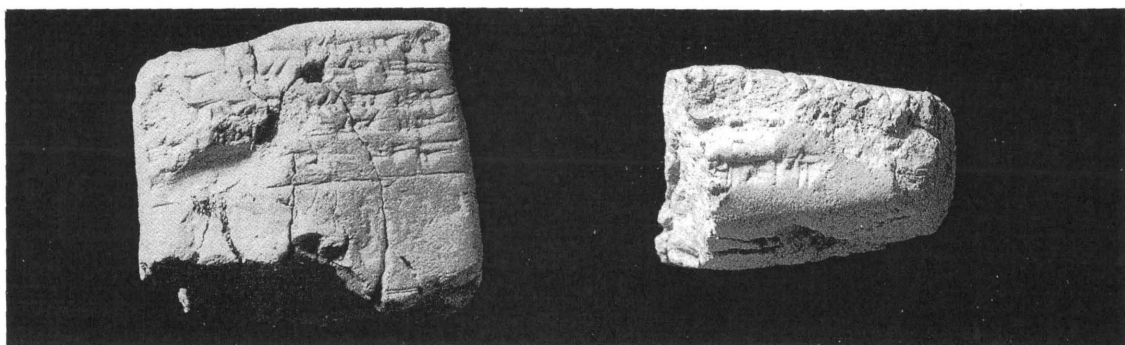
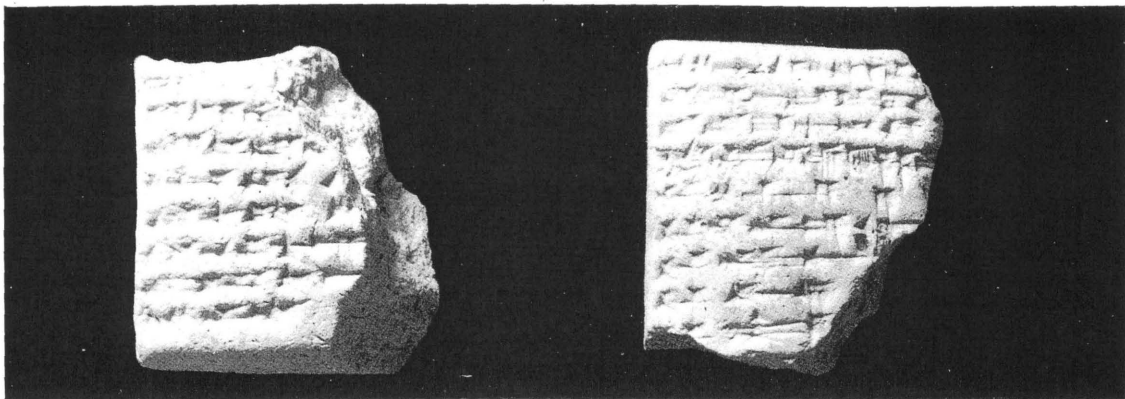
Notes. This text is unequivocally connected with Fort Shalmaneser, and specifically with the *šakintu*’s household of the post-canonical period therein. Kabalayya, the *šanitu* of the *šakintu*, appears in a court case in *TFS*, no. 30, and presumably also in no. 29 (only title given); Tartemani (known as ^{LÚ}DUMU É.GAL as well as ^{LÚ}GAL É.GAL), Šalmu-a/uhhutu (a ^{LÚ}ša IGI *nerebi*, cf. no. 7, above), Ninurta-ahu-iddin (by profession ^{LÚ}GAL ^{GIŠ}KAK^{MEŠ}, “bolt-keeper”) are among the witnesses in her texts, as is Sukku-Ištar (cf. no. 5, above). For the activities of the woman Kabalayya and of other contemporary ladies of the *šakintu*’s household, cf. Dalley-Postgate, *TFS*, 9 ff. For the eponymy of Iqbi-ilāni in Fort Shalmaneser texts, cf. *TFS*, no. 52.

PLATE II

Obv.

No. 1

Rev.

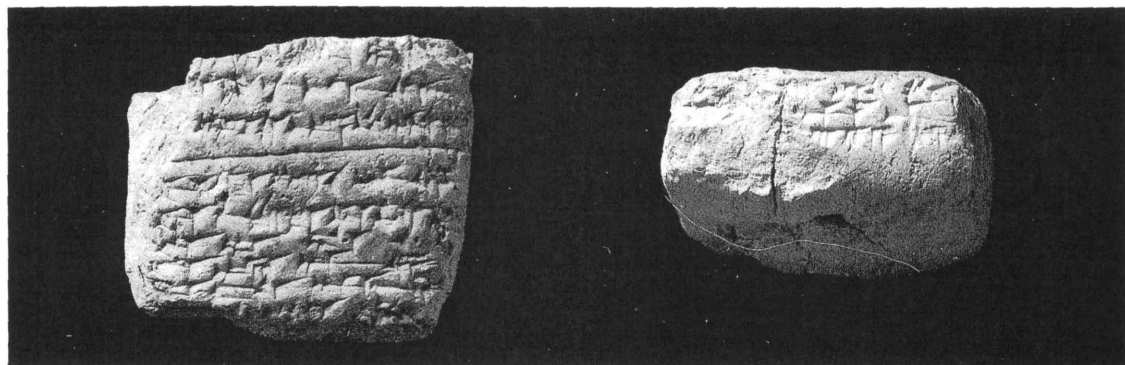


Obv.

No. 2

Upper Edge
Left Hand Edge

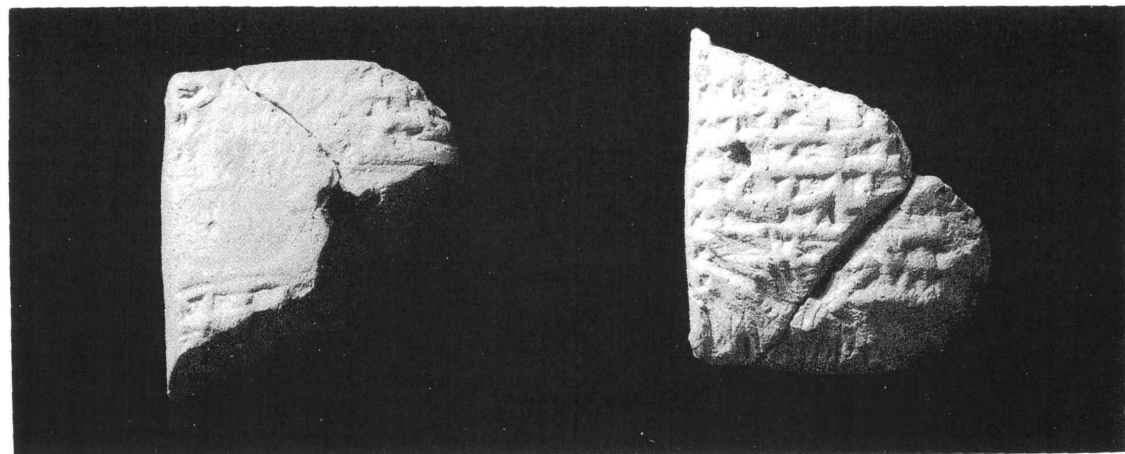
Rev.



Obv.

No. 3

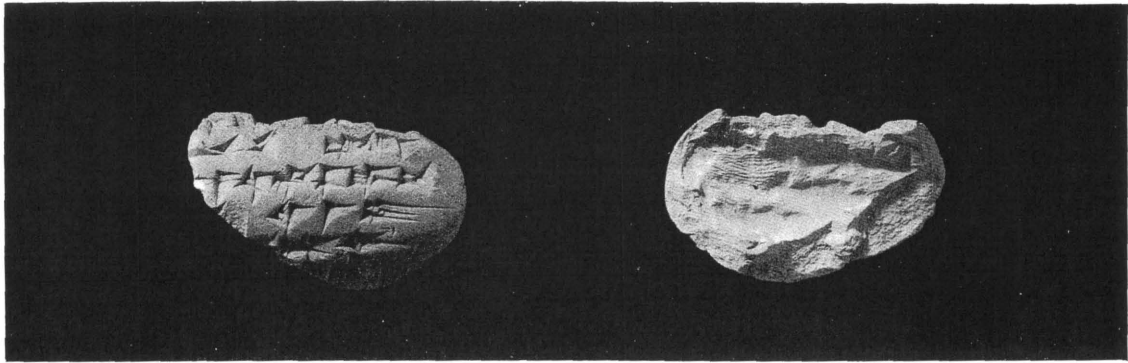
Rev.



A

No. 4

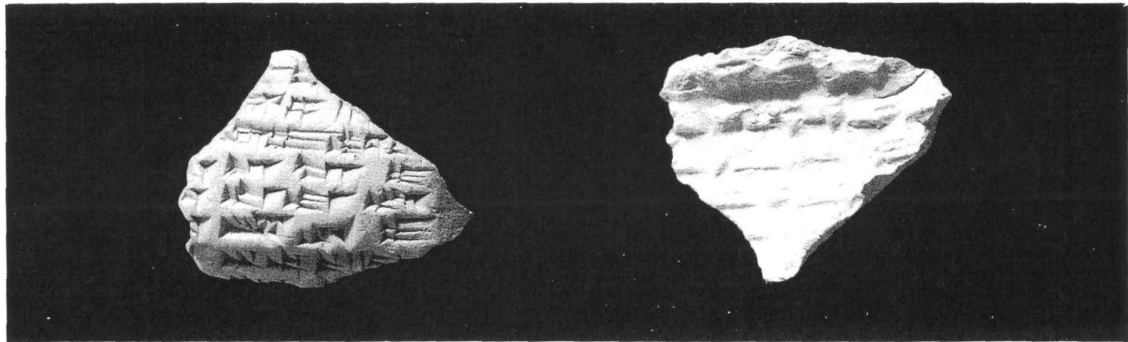
B



A

No. 5

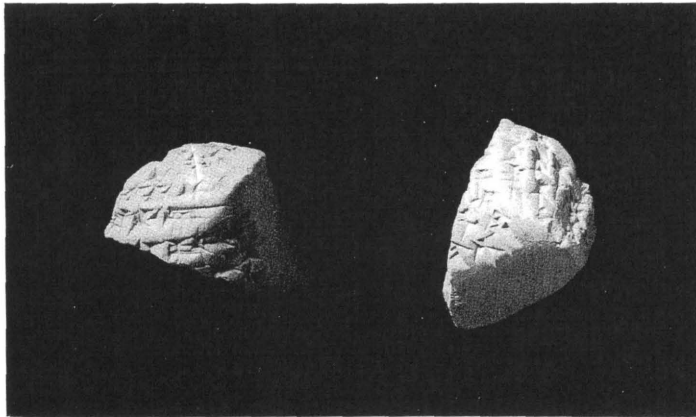
B



Left Edge

No. 6

Rev.

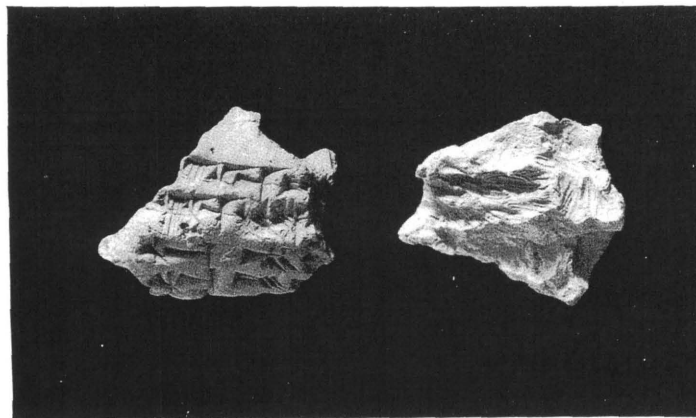


Rev.?

A

No. 8

B



No. 7

Obv.?

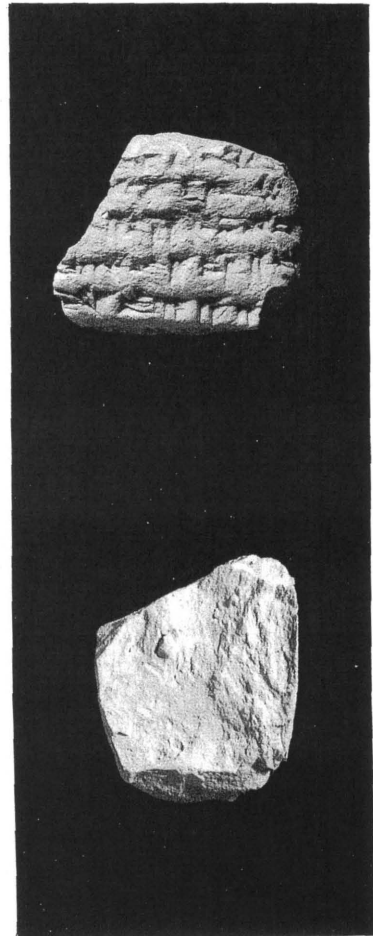
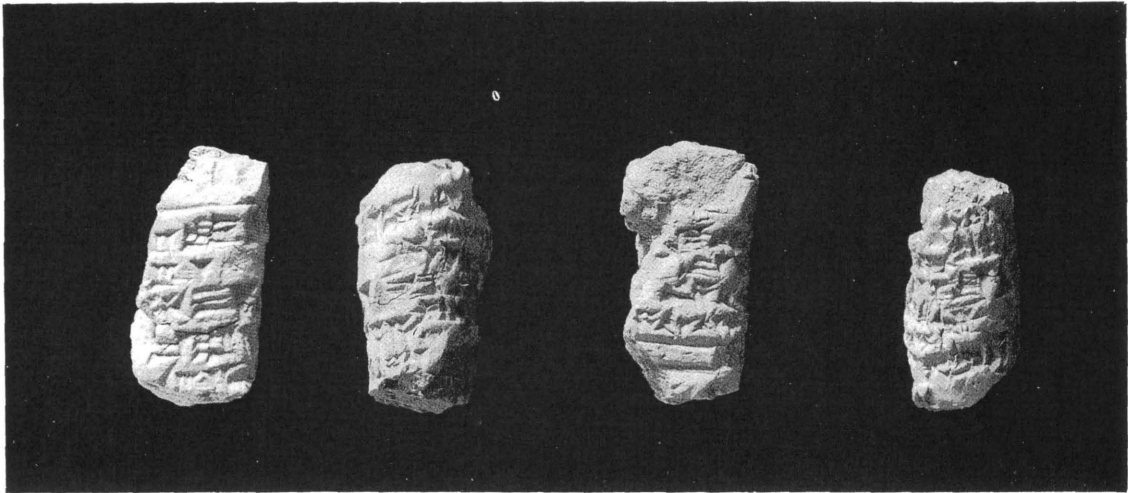


PLATE IV

No. 9

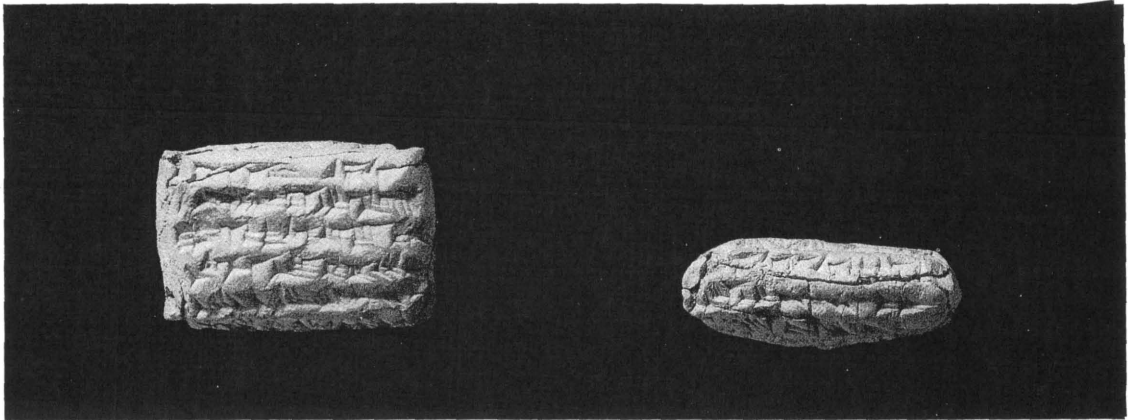


Obv.

Edge

Rev.

Edge



Obv.

Left Edge

No. 10

Rev.

Upper Edge

