

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

New Research at Isin

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Abstract

Isin (Išan Bahriyat), located between Diwaniya and Afak, is one of the major urban sites of central Iraq. It also represents one of the few locations offering a unique perspective on the political and social developments in Babylonia at the transition from the Ur III to the Old Babylonian period. Despite its significant historical and archaeological importance, the site has received only limited archaeological attention. First mentioned in the 1920s, Isin quickly became a target for looters, who inflicted severe damage as early as the 1930s, and returned with renewed vigor after 2003. The most extensive excavations to date were carried out between 1973 and 1989 in 11 field campaigns under the direction of Barthel Hrouda (Institute of Near Eastern Archaeology, LMU Munich). Following a revision of the results of previous research, LMU Munich has resumed archaeological fieldwork and geophysical prospection in 2023. The presentation will summarize the new data and offer an insight into the ongoing reanalysis of the 1980's excavation archive.

Keywords

Survey, Fieldwork, Isin, Mesopotamia, Geophysical Prospection

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