



## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

# Neo-Assyrian Ceramics from the 2023 Excavations at Shamash Gate, Nineveh

*EVANS B.* <sup>1,2,\*</sup>, *HARRISON T.* <sup>2,4</sup>, *ABU JAYYAB K.* <sup>1,2</sup>, *BATIUK S.* <sup>1,2</sup>, *GIBBON E.* <sup>1,2</sup>, *REIMER W.* <sup>1,2</sup>, *MONASTERO J.* <sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada

<sup>2</sup> Computational Research on the Ancient Near East (C.R.A.N.E), Toronto, Canada

<sup>3</sup> University of Bologna, Bologna, Italy

<sup>4</sup> University of Chicago, Chicago, United States

\*Corresponding author

## Abstract

During the 2023 season of excavations at Shamash Gate, a small assemblage of ceramics was collected and analyzed by the C.R.A.N.E Project with the University of Chicago and University of Toronto. This was the second season of excavations in the main gateway and the first season excavating the northern and southern towers. In total we collected 1126 sherds, including 87 diagnostic sherds. The ceramic assemblage was analyzed in the field by categorizing sherds into typological categories, identifying construction techniques and conducting macroscopic fabric analysis. Aside from a few outliers, the pottery collected is dated to the Neo-Assyrian and Post-Assyrian/Achaemenid periods. Comparatively, the Shamash Gate assemblage is most similar to forms and fabrics represented at Nineveh's Maski Gate but varied slightly in the dominating fabric and some forms. The Shamash Gate assemblage includes predominantly yellowish/green fabrics, with some red/brown fabrics of varying grit sizes, fine ware and decorative elements including incised lines, combing, punctures and one vibrant yellow Assyrian glazed ware sherd. Overall, the ceramic assemblage from the 2023 season is shedding light on continuity and variability in occupation history amongst the various gates of Nineveh, potentially pointing to different use-lives and social roles in directing traffic through the ancient city.

## Keywords

Ceramics, Nineveh, Neo-Assyrian, Material Analysis, Iraq

## Session

1. Advances in Near Eastern Archaeology

## Type of paper

Poster session