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ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

The Nineveh East Archaeological Project: The Shamash Gate Excavation and Stabilization Project 2020-2014

BATIUK S. 1*, ABU JAYYAB K. 1, HARRISON T. 2

- ¹ University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada
- ² University of Chicago, Chicago, United States

Abstract

The Shamash Gate was the monumental eastern gateway of the ancient Neo-Assyrian capital city of Nineveh. One of the fifteen gates that pierce the 12km long walls built by Sennacherib in the early 7th Cen, it represents one of the best-preserved architectural monuments visible at the site today. Heavily damaged by the ISIS occupation of Mosul, it has been the focus of excavations, stabilization, and preservation efforts since 2020 by an international team initially led by the University of Toronto, in collaboration with the NINEV-E Expedition of the University of Bologna, and currently as part of the Institute for the Study of Ancient Culture's (ISAC) Nineveh East Archaeological Project (NEAP). This paper describes the mapping, excavation, and critical stabilization efforts at the gate as part of a broader effort of developing an archaeological park in collaboration with the municipality of the city of Mosul, and the wider research goals of investigating and documenting the urban topography of the Neo-Assyrian Capital.

Keywords

Nineveh, Neo-Assyrian, ISIS, Excavations, Preservation

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^{*}Corresponding author