

THE GROWTH OF AN EARLY STATE IN MESOPOTAMIA:  
STUDIES IN UR III ADMINISTRATION

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST AND SECOND UR III WORKSHOPS  
AT THE 49<sup>TH</sup> AND 51<sup>ST</sup> RENCONTRE ASSYRIOLOGIQUE INTERNATIONALE,  
LONDON JULY 10, 2003 AND CHICAGO JULY 19, 2005

EDITED BY

STEVEN J. GARFINKLE AND J. CALE JOHNSON

CONSEJO SUPERIOR DE INVESTIGACIONES CIENTÍFICAS  
MADRID 2008

# I

## THE CORPUS OF NEO-SUMERIAN TABLETS: AN OVERVIEW

MANUEL MOLINA  
*CSIC, Madrid*

The Neo-Sumerian period is well known among assyriologists due to the abundance of its administrative documentation. Since 1882, when J. N. Strassmaier published the first text dated to this period, hundreds of editions of administrative Neo-Sumerian texts have followed. In 1991, M. Sigrist and T. Ozaki marked the limits of this corpus in a volume that systematically collected the bibliography on Ur III text editions;<sup>1</sup> their catalogue also provided a list of the texts chronologically arranged, in addition to information about the provenance and sealing of the documents. W. Sallaberger carried out in turn, in 1999, an excellent and comprehensive study on the Ur III period, with a philological, archaeological and historical approach.<sup>2</sup> Many aspects of the corpus, scattered through lots of publications, were here methodically discussed for the first time, together with new and interesting interpretations of the epigraphic and archaeological material.

The aim of this contribution is to offer an assessment of the corpus of Neo-Sumerian administrative texts taking as reference the *Base de Datos de Textos Neo-Sumerios - Database of Neo-Sumerian Texts* (BDTNS), which is being developed in Madrid.<sup>3</sup> I shall thus provide some specific data that have not been made available before due to the overwhelming size of the corpus, and which I hope will be useful for Neo-Sumerian studies.

### A. The corpus

The BDTNS catalogue includes published and unpublished administrative texts dated to the Neo-Sumerian period. It embraces documents of the Third Dynasty of Ur, the Second Dynasty of Lagaš, and those of not well defined date that can be attributed to the period between the end of the Sargonic Dynasty and the beginning of the Ur III Dynasty.

---

<sup>1</sup> M. Sigrist and T. Gomi, *The Comprehensive Catalogue of Published Ur III Tablets* (Bethesda, MD: CDL, 1991).

<sup>2</sup> W. Sallaberger, "Ur III-Zeit," in W. Sallaberger and A. Westenholz, *Mesopotamien. Akkade-Zeit und Ur III-Zeit*. *Orbis Biblicus et Orientalis*, 160/3 (Freiburg: Universitäts Verlag Freiburg Schweiz, 1999).

<sup>3</sup> The BDTNS (<http://bdtns.filol.csic.es>) project is being developed at the *Instituto de Filología* of the *Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas* in Madrid, and is funded by the Spanish *Ministerio de Educación y Ciencia* (ref. BFF 2001-2319 and HUM 2004-1516).

Cataloguing data obviously depend on those provided by the editors of the documents, as well as on those generously provided by several colleagues for thousands of unpublished documents. Therefore, the statistical data I shall offer below do not always originate from the total of the texts, but from those where the estimated datum can be assessed with certainty.

At present, the total of Neo-Sumerian administrative documents catalogued in BDTNS is of 87,241, which can be classified in the following way:

Published documents:	
In transliteration / handcopy / photo:	56,361
In catalogue:	17,864
	<hr/>
Total:	74,225
Unpublished documents:	
In transliteration / handcopy / photo:	2,890
In catalogue:	10,126
	<hr/>
Total:	13,016
	<hr/> <hr/>
Total of texts in BDTNS:	87,241

It is very difficult to make an evaluation of the texts not yet catalogued. Nevertheless, on the basis of the information provided in the footnotes of section B, I would estimate that the total number of administrative texts dated to this period, and kept in museums and private collections all over the world, is at least 120,000. To this figure we should add an important and indeterminate number of texts kept in the Iraq Museum; unpublished tablets housed in small collections which have no doubt escaped my attention; and hundreds of documents which are regrettably being illegally excavated in the south of Iraq, and which in the near future will presumably end up in private collections.<sup>4</sup>

## **B. Collections of Neo-Sumerian texts<sup>5</sup>**

The Neo-Sumerian cuneiform texts catalogued in BDTNS belong to 545 identified different owners (to which ten more uncatalogued collections mentioned in footnotes should be added), scattered through thirty-six countries. The number of collections will undoubtedly increase as new tablets are published.

---

<sup>4</sup> On June 9, 2004, for example, Iraqi police recovered 3,000 objects that had been looted from archaeological sites in Iraq; hundreds of tablets were found among them (see [www.fourcornersmedia.net/Iraqarchaeology/lootedobjects/lootedobjects.htm](http://www.fourcornersmedia.net/Iraqarchaeology/lootedobjects/lootedobjects.htm)). See also note 107.

<sup>5</sup> Figures in brackets represent the number of tablets recorded in the catalogue of BDTNS (*Base de Datos de Textos Neo-Sumerios - Database of Neo-Sumerian Texts*); figures in italics represent unpublished texts catalogued in BDTNS. Some references to unpublished collections out of the catalogue of BDTNS are given in footnotes.

The list that follows reflects the present owners of the documents, as has been inferred from their publication and information provided by several colleagues.<sup>6</sup> Except for some particular cases, I have avoided the description of frequent changes in ownership of hundreds of tablets. I am also aware of the fact that many tablets may have changed owners after their publication, especially those edited many years ago.

The list separates “private collections” from the rest. I call “private collections” those owned by an individual, an antiquarian, or an auction house. Obviously, tablets offered for sale by dealers and catalogued in BDTNS as such should soon be considered as dispersed.

Of course, it would have been very useful to provide also the place of publication for all these collections, but this would have made this contribution extremely long. Nevertheless, access to cataloguing data and transliterations of texts of each collection is now possible through the website of BDTNS (<http://bdtns.filol.csic.es>).

### 1. Australia

- Australian Institute of Archaeology, Melbourne, VIC [2]
- State Library of South Australia, Adelaide, SA [1]
- State Library of Victoria, Melbourne, VIC [1]
- University of Tasmania - J. Elliot C. Museum, Hobart, TAS [1]<sup>7</sup>
- Private Collection: B. C. Galleries, Melbourne, VIC [35]; W. C. Holt (antiquarian) [9]; P. Thomas [1]

### 2. Austria

- Institut für Orientalistik, Innsbruck [2]
- Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna [3+2=5]
- Private Collection: anonymous, Vienna [2]

### 3. Belgium

- Abbaye de Maredsous, Denée [1]
- Banque Nationale de Belgique, Brussels [5]
- Katholieke Universiteit te Leuven, Louvain [13]
- Musée Biblique, Antwerp [1]
- Musées Royaux d’Art et d’Histoire, Brussels [217]
- Université Catholique de Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve [21]
- Université de Liège, Liège [38]
- Private Collections: P. Naster, Louvain [44]; G. Ryckmans, Louvain [2]; anonymous, Ghent [1]; anonymous [3]

---

<sup>6</sup> Many colleagues have generously provided valuable information on published and unpublished collections. I am very grateful to all of them: F. al-Rawi, J. Armstrong, N. Brisch, M. Civil, F. D’Agostino, J. Dahl, R. K. Englund, S. Garfinkle, K. De Graef, W. W. Hallo, M. Hilgert, F. Huber, U. Kasten, N. Koslova, T. J. H. Krispijn, B. Lafont, P. Mander, R. Mayr, P. Michalowski, D. I. Owen, T. Ozaki, F. Pomponio, M. Sigrist, A. Seri, D. C. Skemer, P. Steinkeller, J. Taylor, L. Verderame, M. Vincent, C. B. F. Walker, and R. L. Zettler.

<sup>7</sup> To be published by M. Sigrist.

#### 4. Canada

- Laurier House, Ottawa, ON [2]
- Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature, Winnipeg, MB [37]
- McGill University, Montreal, PQ [15]
- National Museum of Man, Ottawa, ON [1]
- National Postal Museum, Ottawa, ON [1]
- New Brunswick Museum, Saint John, NB [12]
- Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, ON [680]
- Université Laval, Quebec City, PQ [1]
- University of British Columbia - Museum of Anthropology, Vancouver, BC [2]
- University of British Columbia - Special Collections Division, Vancouver, BC [6]
- University of Victoria, Victoria, BC [1]
- Private Collection: S. A. B. Mercer (dispersed?), Toronto, ON [43]<sup>8</sup>

#### 5. Croatia

- Archaeological Museum, Zagreb [7]

#### 6. Czech Republic

- Charles University, Prague [20]
- National and University Library, Prague [24]

#### 7. Denmark

- National Museum, Copenhagen [64]
- Private Collections: B. Alster, Copenhagen [1]; F. M. Kristensen, Espergaerde [4]

#### 8. Finland

- Finnish National Museum, Helsinki [29]

#### 9. France

- Abbaye Saint-Pierre, Solesmes [11]
- Bibliothèque Municipale, La Rochelle [14]
- Bibliothèque Nationale - Cabinet des Médailles et Antiques, Paris [14]

---

<sup>8</sup> Mercer published 53 Ur III tablets which he said ("Some Babylonian Cones," *JSOR* 10 [1926]: 281) belonged to his own collection (*JSOR* 12 35-41, 13 175-180, 14 45-50). Five of these tablets had been previously published as belonging to other collections: Nesbit's private collection (now at the Cornell University - Department of Near Eastern Studies) [1] (*JSOR* 13 178 43 = *SRD* 8); University of Manchester - John Rylands Library [2] (*JSOR* 13 180 53, 177 39 = *STU* 37, 47); Yale University [1] (*JSOR* 14 48 59 = *UDT* 44); Musées Royaux d'Art et d'Histoire [1] (*JSOR* 14 49 64 = *RIAA* 119 = *TSDU* 23); University of Manchester - Manchester Museum [1] (*JSOR* 12 37 11 = *JMEOS* 12 37). I cannot explain how Mercer could have published these five tablets as part of his private collection, when they had in fact been published years before as belonging to several other different collections. They do not seem to be duplicates, with the possible exception of *JSOR* 13 180 53 = *STU* 37.

Four more tablets were published after Mercer's edition. They belong now to the Rosicrucian Museum [3] (*JSOR* 12 40 24, 41 27, 14 49 62 = *SET* 271, 321, 253), and the Stanford University Libraries [1] (*JSOR* 14 47 54 = S. Maul, [prelectur.stanford.edu/lecturers/maul/cuneiform.html](http://prelectur.stanford.edu/lecturers/maul/cuneiform.html)).

- Bibliothèque Nationale et Universitaire, Strasbourg [344]
- Bibliothèque de Versailles, Versailles [20]
- Collège de France, Paris [150]
- École Pratique des Hautes Études, Paris [221]
- Institut Catholique, Paris [643+89=732]<sup>9</sup>
- Institut Catholique - Musée de la Bible et Terre Sainte, Paris [3]
- Musée des Antiquités, Rouen [11]<sup>10</sup>
- Musée Archéologique, Strasbourg [5]
- Musée de Laval, Laval [1]
- Musée du Louvre, Paris [1,161]<sup>11</sup>
- Musée Postal, Paris [3]
- Muséum d'Histoire, Blois [1]
- Private Collections:<sup>12</sup> J.-M. Aynard [4]; M. J. Béghin, Versailles [19]; Bessonneau (dispersed?) [13]<sup>13</sup>; A. Blanchet [2]; Boucher [13]; G. Cardascia, Paris [3]; Comte Chandon de Briailles [1]<sup>14</sup>; G. Contenau (dispersed?) [92]<sup>15</sup>; L. Cugnin [23]; Feuardent [1]; J. P.

---

<sup>9</sup> This figure includes 547 tablets catalogued in *CDLI* as kept at the Institut Catholique. Part of them had been published by G. Contenau (*RA* 12 20-21, 153-155 [8]; *UDU* [38]: see note 15), Ch.-F. Jean (*ŠA* 63, 73, 82, 117a, 155 [5]), and L. Legrain (*TRU* [408]: I have excluded ICP 149 = *TRU* 149, said to be “manquante”); the remaining 89 tablets (some of them from the private collection of Allotte de la Fuÿe: see also note 12 and 17) will be published by J. Dahl.

According to B. Lafont (“The Cuneiform Tablets of the Catholique Institute of Paris,” [cdli.ucla.edu:591/CDLI/ICP/icp\\_intro\\_en.html](http://cdli.ucla.edu:591/CDLI/ICP/icp_intro_en.html)), the Institut Catholique also keeps the tablets which belonged to the private collection of C.-F. Jean and were published by him in *ŠA* and *RA* 19 1-44. Therefore, I have also considered the rest of the Ur III tablets from Jean’s private collection (184 tablets in all) as belonging to this institution, with the exception of 33 tablets catalogued by R. D. Freedman (*The Cuneiform Tablets in St. Louis* [Ph.D. diss., Columbia University, 1975]) as being now property of the Kenrick-Glennon Seminary (St. Louis, MO), and one more tablet now in a private collection in Paris (*ŠA* 9: see note 12).

<sup>10</sup> These 11 tablets belonged to the private collection of H. de Genouillac and were published in *Babyloniaca* 8 HG 1-11. The edition of the whole collection of cuneiform tablets kept in this museum, consisting of ca. 30 tablets, is being prepared by J.-M. Durand and D. Charpin (courtesy B. Lafont).

<sup>11</sup> A small part of the collection of Neo-Sumerian tablets kept in the Musée du Louvre is still unpublished (see B. Lafont, [cdli.ucla.edu/comm/reports/Oct/Lafont20020131.html](http://cdli.ucla.edu/comm/reports/Oct/Lafont20020131.html)). See also note 21.

<sup>12</sup> 17 Ur III tablets from a private collection in Paris, to be published by J. Dahl and L. F. Hebenstreit in *Revue d'Assyriologie*, should be added. In most cases these tablets can be traced back to the old French collections of Allotte de la Fuÿe (nos. 2 and 3; see also notes 9 and 17), Chandon de Briailles (nos. 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, and 15), G. Contenau (no. 17; see also note 15), and Ch.-F. Jean (no. 4; see also note 9). J. Dahl points out (personal communication) that the collection consists of more than those 17 tablets foreseen for publication in *RA*.

<sup>13</sup> L. Delaporte published 20 Ur III tablets from the collection of Bessonneau (*RA* 8 183-198). Seven of these documents are now kept in the National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka (*Santag* 7 92, 114, 116, 123, 128, 132, 188).

<sup>14</sup> See also note 12.

<sup>15</sup> Part of the collection of G. Contenau is now kept in the Institut Catholique of Paris (see note 9); one more tablet (*RA* 12 21 15) has been recently identified as part of a private collection in Paris (see note 12). There are still 92 tablets (published in *UDU* and *RA* 12 15-25, 145-157) of his private collection whose whereabouts remain unknown.

Grégoire, Paris [2]; Malavieille [1]; J. Mariaud de Serres, Paris [17]; Mercier [5]; Col. Pupil [36]; G. Roux, Paris [20]; C. F. A. Schaeffer [1]; V. Scheil (dispersed?) [1]<sup>16</sup>; G. Schlumberger [6]; F. Seidl-Geuthner, Paris (dispersed?) [11]<sup>17</sup>; E. Szlechter [4]; Thierry [2]; M. J. Viau, Paris [5]; anonymous, Paris [1]

#### 10. Germany

- Archäologisches Institut, Tübingen [1]
- Badisches Landesmuseum, Karlsruhe [6]
- Deutsches Museum, Munich [21]
- Erzabtei St. Martin, Beuron [21]
- Freie Universität Berlin – Institut für Altorientalistik, Berlin [1]<sup>18</sup>
- Gratianus Stiftung, Reutlingen [1]
- Gutenberg-Museum, Mainz [2]
- Heidelberger Orientalisches Seminar, Heidelberg [28]
- Kapuzinerkloster, Münster [3]
- Land Berlin, Berlin [7]<sup>19</sup>
- Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg, Halle (Saale) [2]
- Missionsmuseum der Franziskaner, Werl [162]
- Museum für Vor- und Frühgeschichte - Archäologische Staatssammlung, Munich [2]
- Römer-Pelizaesus-Museum, Hildesheim [1]
- Römisch-Germanisches Zentralmuseum, Mainz [5]
- Ruhr-Universität Bochum - Archäologisches Institut, Bochum [2]
- Staatliche Sammlung Ägyptischer Kunst, Munich [11]

---

<sup>16</sup> The private collection of V. Scheil was acquired by the Couvent Saint-Etienne, Jerusalem (CSE), although some tablets from this institution were later lost (see M. Sigris, “Catalogue des tablettes cunéiformes du Couvent Saint-Étienne,” *RB* 92 [1985]: 570-576). Scheil published five tablets from his private collection in *RA* 10 1-9, 14 181-182, 17 207-214. Three of these tablets are in fact now kept in CSE (*RA* 17 211 5 = *TCCSA-CSE* 276 [SE 36]; *RA* 17 212 4 = *TCCSA-CSE* 277 [SE 37]; *RA* 14 182 = *RB* 86 240 2 = *TCCSA-CSE* 290 [SE 141]), and one more is said to have been lost from CSE (*RA* 17 207 1 [SE 37a]: see *RB* 92 572). It is possible that the remaining tablet [*RA* 10 6] was part of the lost group from CSE. In different issues of *RA*, *RT* and *ZA*, V. Scheil also published 37 tablets with no information about the owner of the tablet; these documents, which perhaps were part of his own collection, are here counted under “37. Unknown country.” See also notes 23 and 24.

<sup>17</sup> J.-P. Grégoire published in *MVN* 10 203-214 twelve tablets belonging to the private collection of F. Seidl-Geuthner. One of these tablets (S-G 14) is now owned by M. Schøyen (MS 1984). Moreover, Grégoire reports (*AAICAB* 1/4, pp. 471-472) that another tablet (Allotte de la Fuyé, *RA* 16 19-20, here counted under “37. Unknown country”) owned by F. Seidl-Geuthner was sold in Paris in 1994 (see also notes 12 and 9). It is thus possible that these eleven tablets were also sold on that occasion.

<sup>18</sup> This is the tablet published by A. Deimel, *OrSP* 5 60 26 Wengler 36 (= *Frühe Schrift*, Abb. 12m, Kat. 12.11). A number of tablets also originally belonging to the Wengler Collection (see note 101), later bought by J. Friedrich, and now kept at the Institut für Orientalistik (see R. K. Englund, “Ur III Sundries,” *ASJ* 14 [1992]: 78<sup>+5</sup>), should be added.

<sup>19</sup> Tablets from the Erlenmeyer Collection (see note 96), and now on permanent loan to the Vorderasiatisches Museum, Berlin (see R. K. Englund, “The Year: ‘Nissen returns triumphant from a distant land’,” *CDLJ* 2003:1, note 3).

- Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, Erlangen [2]
- Universität Jena, Jena [360+94=454]<sup>20</sup>
- Universität Münster - Archäologisches Museum, Münster [1]
- Vorderasiatisches Museum, Berlin [860]
- Private Collections: P. Berghaus, Münster [1]; H. Böllinger, Endorf [4]; R. Borger, Göttingen [1]; “Chiemgauer Münzfreunde,” Prien am Chiemsee [8]; W. L. Fischer, Nürnberg-Fürth [1]; E. Kienzle, Hamburg [1]; P. Kress, Bochum [14]; H. H. Kricheldorf (auction house), Stuttgart [2]; Martin, Hamburg [1]; Nagel Auktionen (auction house), Stuttgart [1]; K. Schippmann, Göttingen [3]; T. Schmidt-Kaler, Margetshöchheim [3]; N. Schneider [7]; W. von Soden, Münster [8]; H. Wyrauch, Lippstadt [1]; anonymous, Berlin [1]; anonymous, Cologne [2]; anonymous, Munich [2]; anonymous, Münster [1]; anonymous [2]

### 11. Hungary

- Museum of Fine Arts, Budapest [11]

### 12. India

- Kaiser Bagh Museum, Uttar Pradesh [1]

### 13. Iran

- Iranian National Museum, Tehran [28+x]<sup>21</sup>

### 14. Iraq

- Iraq Museum, Baghdad [1,289+318=1,607]<sup>22</sup>

### 15. Ireland

- Chester Beatty Library, Dublin [81]

### 16. Israel

- Archaeological Museum, Jerusalem [6]
- Bar Ilan University, Ramat Gan [1]
- Bible Lands Museum, Jerusalem [4+7=11]

---

<sup>20</sup> These 94 unpublished Ur III texts belong to the Hilprecht Collection (courtesy M. Hilgert, who will publish the tablets). Pictures of these unpublished tablets can now be found at the web site of CDLI (P235892 to P235988 and P273908).

<sup>21</sup> This figure includes 28 tablets found at the end of the 21<sup>st</sup> campaign in Susa, published by K. De Graef in *MDP* 54 (ten more tablets from this campaign are now in Paris), and one tablet published by P. Michalowski and P. Daneshmand in *JCS* 57 31. I cannot say whether the Ur III tablets published in *MDP* 22, 23, and 28 are now in Tehran or at the Musée du Louvre.

<sup>22</sup> Although no exact number of tablets for this collection can be given for the time being, it is likely to at least include 100,000 documents. This rough figure, commonly accepted by assyriologists, has been contradicted by G. Pettinato after a visit to the Iraq Museum in April 2004. He estimates that the museum of Baghdad houses about 300,000 cuneiform tablets (*Corriere della Sera*, 5.5.2004, p. 49).



- Couvent Saint-Etienne, Jerusalem [55]<sup>23</sup>
- Couvent Sainte-Anne, Jerusalem [105+134=239]<sup>24</sup>
- École Biblique et Archéologique Française, Jerusalem [2]
- Hebrew University - Institute of Archaeology, Jerusalem [5]<sup>25</sup>
- Israel Museum, Jerusalem [1]
- Municipal Museum of Ancient Art, Haifa [4]
- Museum Haaretz, Tel Aviv [10]
- Museum of the Kibbutz Hazore'a [1]
- Museum of the Kibbutz of Bar-Am [16]
- Studium Biblicum Franciscanum Archaeological Museum, Jerusalem [9]
- YMCA - Clark Collection of Antiquities, Jerusalem [32]
- Private Collections: P. Artzi, Jerusalem [1]; L. Beit, Jerusalem [2]; M. Harari, Tel Aviv [2]; R. D. Hecht, Haifa [1]; M. Israeli, Jerusalem [1]; G. Kirkendale, Jerusalem [1]; G. Kloetzly, Jerusalem [1]; M. Megiddon, Tel Aviv [4]; J. Meishan, Tel Aviv [2]; M. Rosenberger, Jerusalem [3]; B. Rothenberg, Tel Aviv [1]; A. Spaer, Jerusalem [2]; R. Zer-Kavod, Jerusalem [1]

### 17. Italy

- Banca d'Italia, Rome [64]
- Civico Museo Archeologico, Milan [3]
- Collegiata dei SS. Pietro e Orso, Aosta [83]
- Museo di Antichità, Turin [2]
- Museo Archeologico, Florence [125]
- Museo Barracco, Rome [8]
- Museo Egizio, Turin [717]
- Museo dell'Opera del Duomo, Orvieto [2]
- Ordine Antoniano Maronita, Rome [3]
- Pontificio Istituto Biblico, Rome [194]

---

<sup>23</sup> Four more tablets catalogued by E. Dhorme and M. Sigrist (SE 1 [RA 9 46 = RB 92 571], SE 3 [RA 9 47 = RB 92 571], SE 6 [RA 9 50 = RB 92 571], and SE 37a [RB 92 572 = Scheil, RA 17 207 1]) as belonging to the Couvent Saint-Etienne cannot be found today in this institution (see also notes 16 and 24).

<sup>24</sup> A complete edition of the Ur III tablets now kept in Couvent Sainte-Anne (CSA) and Couvent Saint-Etienne by M. Sigrist is forthcoming (*TCCSA-CSE*). Part of the collection of CSA was sold in 1911: some of the tablets were acquired by the Birmingham Museum of Art (Alabama) [2], and some others are now kept in the Katholieke Universiteit te Leuven [9] and in the Université Catholique de Louvain (Louvain-la-Neuve) [10]. There are still 122 tablets formerly in CSA and catalogued by E. Dhorme in RA 9 39-63, 155-159, whose whereabouts remain unknown (see under "37. Unknown country"). In an unpublished manuscript (courtesy M. Sigrist), H. Sauren suggests that part of this collection was possibly acquired by the Yale University. He bases this idea just on the coincidence of the year-names recorded in three tablets catalogued by Dhorme (RA 9 46 SA 73, 50 SA 154, 51 SA 192) and published by C. Keiser (*YOS* 4 68, 62, 61); nevertheless, two of these tablets are still kept in CSA (*TCCSA-CSE* 33 [SA 154], 59 [SA 192]).

<sup>25</sup> These are the tablets published by S. Levi and P. Artzi (*Atiqot* 4 4 19, 24; 5 25; 8 42) and by E. Dimenstein (*NABU* 2004:17). The whole collection of cuneiform tablets kept in the Hebrew University consists of ca. 30-40 tablets, most of them dated to the Ur III period (courtesy L. Verderame).

- Università Cattolica del S. Cuore, Milan [71]
- Università Pontificia Salesiana, Rome [105]
- Università degli Studi di Messina, Messina [4]
- Private Collections: M. Baldacci, Rome [1]; A. Bolaffi, Turin [1]; G. Boson, Aosta (dispersed?) [5]<sup>26</sup>; O. Bulgarelli, Milan [7]<sup>27</sup>; A. Garuti, Bologna [2]; G. Hajnal, Rome [2]; G. Ligabue, Venice [32]; C. von Mac-Arrow, Rome [1]; P. Mander, Rome [3]; L. Michail, Milan [32]; O. della Monica, Florence [2]; E. di Pasquale, Messina [2]; U. Sissa, Mantua [2]; L. Valli, Trieste [1]; anonymous, Milan [4]; anonymous [1]

### 18. Japan

- Aichi Prefectural University, Aichi [2]
- Ancient Orient Museum, Tokyo [84]<sup>28</sup>
- Hiroshima Jogakuin College, Hiroshima [2]
- Kyoto University, Kyoto [55]<sup>29</sup>
- Metropolitan Museum, Fujisawa City [3]
- National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka [106]
- Okayama Orient Art Museum, Okayama [2]
- Osaka Prefectural Chikatsu - Asuka Museum, Osaka [1]
- Tokyo National Museum, Tokyo [1]
- Toyama Memorial Museum, Kawagoe City [1]
- University of Hiroshima, Hiroshima [3]
- University of Tenri - Tenri Sankokan Museum, Tenri [4]
- University of Tokyo - Art Museum, College of Arts and Sciences, Tokyo [1]
- Yokohama Museum of EurAsian Cultures, Yokohama [321]<sup>30</sup>
- Private Collections: K. Atarashi, Tokyo [1]; N. Egami, Tokyo [1]; Habara, Kurashiki [1]; I. Hirayama, Kamakura [5]; K. and Y. Hirose, Tokyo [8]<sup>31</sup>; T. Kaku, Tokyo [1]; S. Masuda,

---

<sup>26</sup> The private collection of G. Boson, published in different issues of *Aegyptus* by Boson himself and G. Rinaldi (and then partly republished in *TCS* and *Torino* 1-2), was inherited by G. Rinaldi, and then donated to the Università Cattolica del S. Cuore (Milan) and to the Museo di Antichità (Turin) (courtesy F. Pomponio). There are still five texts from Boson's collection whose current whereabouts remain unknown (*Aegyptus* 8 264 11, 268 7; 27 25 21; 29 110 41, 111 42).

<sup>27</sup> Courtesy L. Verderame.

<sup>28</sup> The Ancient Orient Museum of Tokyo houses part of the private collection of K. and Y. Hirose, namely the tablets published by T. Ozaki and K. and Y. Hirose (*Neo-Sumerian Administrative Texts of the Hirose Collection* [Potomac, MD: CDL, 1990]) as nos. 316-398 (courtesy T. Ozaki); the other Ur III tablet kept in this museum was published in *Santag* 7 50. See also note 30.

<sup>29</sup> Formerly private collection of Y. Nakahara (courtesy T. Ozaki).

<sup>30</sup> These tablets were part of the private collection of K. and Y. Hirose, namely the tablets published in Ozaki and Hirose 1990 as nos. 1-315 and 399-409 (courtesy T. Ozaki); 321 of these 326 documents belong to the Ur III Dynasty. See also note 28.

<sup>31</sup> This figure includes the tablets published by M. Yoshikawa, *ASJ* 9 314-316 2-5, 10 257 3-6. I cannot say whether these documents were also donated to a Japanese public institution (see notes 28 and 30).

Tokyo [1]; A. Matsumoto, Hiroshima [1]; H. Mihira, Chiba [35]; T. Taniichi, Tokyo [1]; K. Yoshida, Hiroshima [20]; M. Yoshikawa, Hiroshima [1]; R. Zushi, Osaka [8]; anonymous, Tokyo [5]

#### **19. Jordan**

- Department of Jordanian Antiquities, Amman [166]<sup>32</sup>

#### **20. Korea**

- Abraham Park, Seoul [2]

#### **21. Lebanon**<sup>33</sup>

- Directorate General of Antiquities, Beirut [1]

#### **22. Luxembourg**

- Bibliothèque Nationale, Luxembourg [35]

- Musées de l'État, Luxembourg [9]

#### **23. Norway**

- University of Oslo, Oslo [27]

- Private Collection: M. Schøyen, Oslo [19+249=268]<sup>34</sup>

#### **24. Pakistan**

- Private Collection: C. D. Gamble, Taxila [4]

#### **25. Poland**

- District Museum, Torun [10]

- National Museum, Warsaw [19]

- Private Collection: R. Barnycz-Gupieniec, Lodz [3]

---

<sup>32</sup> According to G. Pettinato, these tablets, confiscated by the Jordanian customs authorities and kept at the Department of Jordanian Antiquities, come from ancient Urusagrig. A preliminary catalogue of these texts can be found in R. Menegazzi (ed.), *An Endangered Cultural Heritage: Iraqi Antiquities Recovered in Jordan*. Monografie di Mesopotamia, VII (Firenze: Le Lettere, 2005), 81-98, and pl. 54-56. See also note 107.

<sup>33</sup> The following collections should be added (courtesy B. Lafont, who will publish the documents): the American University of Beirut collection, with 50 tablets, 40 of them dated to the Ur III period; the National Museum (Beirut) collection, with an Ur III prism; anonymous private collection, with about 50 tablets, most of them dated to the Ur III period.

<sup>34</sup> Pictures of the unpublished tablets from this collection can now be found at the web site of CDLI (P250454-P250827, and others). See also [www.nb.no/baser/schoyen](http://www.nb.no/baser/schoyen) and note 17.

## 26. Russia

- Pushkin State Museum of Fine Arts, Moscow [439]<sup>35</sup>
- State Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg [1,019+561=1,580]<sup>36</sup>

## 27. Spain

- Abadía de Montserrat, Montserrat (Barcelona) [769]
- Museo Arqueológico Nacional, Madrid [1]
- Museo Bíblico del Seminario Diocesano, Palma de Mallorca [15]
- Museu de la Ciència, Barcelona [1]
- Real Academia de Córdoba de Ciencias, Córdoba [1]
- Real Academia de la Historia, Madrid [1]
- Universidad de Santiago de Compostela - Facultad de Geografía e Historia, Santiago de Compostela [5]
- Private Collections: M. Careaga, Madrid [1]; Lamas Bolaño (antiquarian), Barcelona [2]; A. Ortega, Barcelona [1]; J. A. Varela, Madrid [2]; anonymous, Barcelona [1]; anonymous, Madrid [2]

## 28. Sweden

- The Einar Hansen Library, Fridhemsborg (Malmö) [1]<sup>37</sup>
- Museum of Mediterranean and Near Eastern Antiquities, Stockholm [11]

## 29. Switzerland

- Musée d'Art et d'Histoire, Geneva [318]
- Universität Freiburg, Freiburg [2]<sup>38</sup>
- Private Collections: anonymous, Geneva [1]; anonymous [1]

## 30. Syria

- Aleppo Museum, Aleppo [506+140=646]<sup>39</sup>
- Deir ez-Zor Museum, Deir ez-Zor [5]

---

<sup>35</sup> The whole collection of Ur III texts kept in the Pushkin Museum consists of ca. 900 tablets; about ten of the tablets published by M. Nikol'skij in *Nik.* 2 are missing. The edition of the unpublished ones is being prepared by B. I. Perlov and J. A. Saveljev (courtesy N. Koslova).

<sup>36</sup> An edition of the unpublished tablets kept in the State Hermitage Museum is being prepared by N. Koslova.

<sup>37</sup> See note 96

<sup>38</sup> Besides these two texts (published by H. Keel-Leu and B. Teissier, *OBO* 200, nos. 97 and 104), two letter-orders are also kept in the "Bible+Orient" Collection of the Universität Freiburg (courtesy F. Huber).

<sup>39</sup> Pictures of the unpublished tablets from the Aleppo National Museum can now be found at the web site of CDLI (P341902-342139). Imad Samir has recently noted that the total number of Ur III texts kept in this museum is 700: see <http://cdli.ucla.edu/workshop/papers.html>.

### 31. The Netherlands

- Bijbels Museum, Amsterdam [15]
- Bijbels Openlucht Museum, Heilig Landstichting [2]
- Gemeentebibliotheek, Rotterdam [1]
- Groningen University - Dep. of Middle and Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, Groningen [15]
- Katholieke Universiteit, Nijmegen [20+2=22]
- Museon, The Hague [6]
- National Museum of Antiquities, Leiden [26]
- Netherlands Institute for the Near East, Leiden [184]<sup>40</sup>
- University of Amsterdam - Allard Pierson Museum, Amsterdam [1]
- Private Collections: J. Kist, Amsterdam [6]; W. F. Leemans, Arnhem [1]; J. Schoneveld, 's-Hertogenbosch [14]; anonymous [6]
- Unknown [6]

### 32. Turkey

- Istanbul Archaeological Museum, Istanbul [9,979]<sup>41</sup>
- Sadberk Hanim Museum, Istanbul [8]

### 33. Ukraine

- Academy of Humanities, Kiev [2]

### 34. United Kingdom<sup>42</sup>

- Ashmolean Museum, Oxford [1137]
- Birmingham City Museum, Birmingham [475]<sup>43</sup>
- British Museum, London [20,336+7,258=27,594]<sup>44</sup>
- Church's Ministry Among the Jews Museum Dept. [1]

---

<sup>40</sup> There are still ca. 1,140 unpublished Ur III texts in the de Liagre-Böhl Collection, of which 270 come from Drehem, 210 from Girsu, 30 from Umma, and 630 are of unknown provenance (courtesy T. J. H. Krispijn).

<sup>41</sup> The whole collection of Neo-Sumerian texts kept in the Istanbul Archaeological Museum consists of ca. 30,000-40,000 tablets and fragments (courtesy B. Lafont). Therefore, between 20,000-30,000 documents, mostly from Tello, remain unpublished (see also B. Lafont, [cdli.ucla.edu/comm/reports/Oct/Lafont20020131.html](http://cdli.ucla.edu/comm/reports/Oct/Lafont20020131.html)).

<sup>42</sup> The collection of the Ulster Museum (Belfast), with a small number of cuneiform tablets, should be added (courtesy L. Verderame).

<sup>43</sup> A. George (*Iraq* 41 125-130 1-9) and P. J. Watson (*BCT* 1 and 2) respectively edited 9 and 450 tablets from this collection. According to P. J. Watson (*BCT* 2, p. 125), 16 more documents not included in the edition of *BCT* 1 and 2, but also kept in the Birmingham City Museum, had been previously published by Th. Pinches: see note 94.

<sup>44</sup> About 2,000 unpublished Neo-Sumerian tablets should be added to this figure. Therefore, the whole collection of the British Museum should include more than 30,000 Ur III tablets. This information has been made possible thanks to C. B. F Walker, who gave me access to his personal catalogue of the tablets kept in the Museum; M. Sigrist, who shared with me his very extensive material of transliterated and catalogued texts; T. Ozaki and F. al-Rawi, who participate in a joint project together with M. Sigrist and myself to catalogue the Umma texts kept in the Museum.

- County Museum and Art Gallery, Truro, Cornwall [5]
- Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge [15]
- Liverpool Museum, Liverpool [2]
- Merseyside County Museums, Liverpool [184]
- Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh [6]<sup>45</sup>
- University of Cambridge - Faculty of Oriental Studies, Cambridge [63]
- University of Durham - Oriental Museum, Durham [15]<sup>46</sup>
- University of Leeds [17]<sup>47</sup>
- University of Manchester - John Rylands Library, Manchester [1,024]
- University of Manchester - Manchester Museum, Manchester [58]
- Private Collections: Artemission.com Antiquities (antiquarian), London [3]<sup>48</sup>; Christie's (auction house), London [32]<sup>49</sup>; P. Clayton [2]; A. Cook, Hertfordshire [1]; J. Crosby, Forest Hale, Northumberland [1]; Duroc-Dannaer, London [1]; Ch. Ede Ltd. (antiquarian), London [19]; T. Fish, Manchester [1]; O. R. Gurney, Oxford [6]; Hadji Baba Ancient Art Gallery (antiquarian), London [1]<sup>50</sup>; Knight [1]; J. R. Knox, London [1]; D. de Labillière, Leeds [1]; R. A. Linenthal [1]; C. May, Headley, Surrey [1]; A. F. Mockler-Ferryman [1]; Sh. Moussaieff, London [1]; K. Parsons [1]; N. Prescott [3]; J. D. Tucker, Saint Albans, Hertfordshire [1]; V. West, London [1]; P. Wright, Manchester [1]; anonymous, London [1+2=3]; anonymous [2+1=3]

### 35. USA

#### Alabama

- Birmingham Museum of Art, Birmingham [23]

#### Arizona

- Arizona State Museum, Tucson [99]

#### California

- California Museum of Ancient Art, Los Angeles [17]
- Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento [6]
- Fowler Museum of Cultural History - UCLA, Los Angeles [61]
- Huntington Library, San Marino [2]

---

<sup>45</sup> The whole collection of Neo-Sumerian tablets kept in the Royal Scottish Museum consists of about 150 tablets (courtesy L. Verderame).

<sup>46</sup> Courtesy L. Verderame.

<sup>47</sup> Courtesy L. Verderame.

<sup>48</sup> Two of these tablets offered in sale by this antiquarian are said to come from the Amherst Collection. See also note 94.

<sup>49</sup> See also note 96.

<sup>50</sup> See also note 96.

- Libraries of The Claremont Colleges, Claremont [1]<sup>51</sup>
- Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles [1]
- Rosicrucian Museum, San Jose [150]
- San Diego Museum of Man, San Diego [10]
- Stanford University - Iris & B. Gerald Cantor Center for Visual Arts, Stanford [6]
- Stanford University Libraries, Stanford [1]
- Tulare County Library, Visalia [2]
- University of California at Berkeley - Hearst Museum of Anthropology, Berkeley [265]
- University of California at Berkeley - Near Eastern Studies (Dales Collection) [9]
- University of California at Davis, Davis [1]
- University of California at Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz [1]
- University of Southern California, Los Angeles [324]
- Private Collections: W. Van Camp, Soquel [1]; L. Cotsen, Los Angeles [1]; S. Coviello, San Francisco [1]; Ebay Inc. (auction house), San Jose [105]; K. Gleason, Alameda [1]; H. J. de Jager, Loma Linda [1]; A. D. Kilmer, Berkeley [2]; R. C. Kimball, Berkeley [1]; R. Kovacs, San Francisco [1]; J. Malter, Encino [10]; Malter Galleries Inc., Encino [47]; A. Marshall, Martinez [1]; H. Minc, Santa Barbara [2]; H. Mintz, Santa Barbara [1]; C. Olivieiro, Banning [6]; R. Oswalt, Kensington [1]; Ott [2]; Papyrus Books & Antiquities (antiquarian), Newark [1]; Pre-Long Beach Sale (antiquarian), Beverly Hills [1]; S. E. Root, Berkeley [1]; M. S. Taber, Dale City [2]; D. Taylor, San Francisco [1]; E. Tompkins, Palos Verdes [1]

### **Colorado**

- Iliff School of Theology, Denver [4]
- University of Colorado at Boulder, Boulder [2]<sup>52</sup>

### **Connecticut**

- Bristol Public Library, Bristol [6]
- Bruce Museum, Greenwich [3]
- Lyman Allyn Museum, New London [1]
- Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford [17]
- Yale University, New Haven [8,454+3,286=11,740]<sup>53</sup>
- Private Collections: S. Bensing, New Canaan [4]; J. E. Rogers, Lakeville [1]; C. Sharp, Granby, [4]

### **District of Columbia**

- Catholic University of America, Washington [10]
- Library of Congress, Washington [16]

---

<sup>51</sup> Courtesy L. Verderame.

<sup>52</sup> Courtesy L. Verderame.

<sup>53</sup> Courtesy U. Kasten and M. Sigrist.

- National Geographic Society, Washington [4]
- Smithsonian Institution, Washington [22+13=35]<sup>54</sup>

### Florida

- Scriptorium: Center for Biblical Antiquities, Orlando [14]<sup>55</sup>
- Private Collection: C. Hand, Ft Myers [1]

### Georgia

- Emory University - M. C. Carlos Museum, Atlanta [92]
- Valdosta State University, St. Valdosta [8]
- Private Collection: Wicks [1]

### Illinois

- Bethany Biblical Seminary, Chicago [6]
- McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago [1]
- Millikin University - Staley Library, Decatur [6]
- Moody Bible Institute, Chicago [3]
- Northwestern University Law School Library, Chicago [8]
- Oriental Institute Museum, Chicago [1,740+511=2,251]<sup>56</sup>
- University of Illinois - Spurlock Museum, Urbana [532]<sup>57</sup>
- Private Collections: H. J. Berk (antiquarian), Chicago [4]; W. F. Edgerton, Chicago [1]; V. Lober, Chicago [2]; G. Maynard, Chicago [1]; M. Yondorf, Chicago [2]; anonymous, Chicago [7]

---

<sup>54</sup> A complete edition of the Ur III tablets kept in the Smithsonian Institution by M. Sigrist is forthcoming.

<sup>55</sup> The “Scriptorium: Center for Biblical Antiquities” is the repository of the Van Kampen Collection. The Scriptorium closed its Grand Haven (Michigan) facility at the end of 2000, and moved to Orlando (Florida) in 2002. According to M. Civil (private communication), it is alleged to contain ca. 1,000 unpublished tablets.

<sup>56</sup> This figure includes: a) the Haverford College Collection [392]; b) the Piepkorn Collection [16]; c) tablets from regular excavations in Adab [21]; d) tablets from regular excavations in Ešnunna [2] (there are 156 documents from Tell Asmar catalogued in BDTNS, but information about the museum where they are kept was available in only five cases); e) tablets from regular excavations in Nippur [228]; f) rest [1,592]. According to M. Hilgert (private communication), the Ur III tablets kept in the OIM that do not come from regular excavations, including the Haverford Collection, number 2,670, while the tablets coming from the excavations in Ešnunna number about 100. This means that the whole collection of the OIM consists of at least 3,019 Ur III tablets, of which 1,279 remain unpublished. A number of Ur III tablets from Nippur should be added to this figure, since, as R. L. Zettler points out (private communication), the OIM probably got half of the 1,100 tablets inventoried as a result of the excavations in Nippur.

<sup>57</sup> Formerly World Heritage Museum. This collection houses at least 1,000 tablets (courtesy M. Hilgert), of which 532 were published by A. Goetze (*JCS* 2 186-199 [12]), A. Falkenstein (*NSGU* 138 [1]), T. Jones (*JCS* 15 114 [1]), S. T. Kang (*SACT* 1 and 2 [519, 10 of them already published by Goetze]), and E. Sollberger (*TCS* 1 [9]). The unpublished tablets from this collection were being prepared for publication by S. T. Kang, who worked on a new volume which never came to light (courtesy M. Civil).



**Indiana**<sup>58</sup>

- Indiana University - Lilly Library, Bloomington [7]
- University of Notre Dame - Hesburgh Library, Notre Dame [65]<sup>59</sup>
- Wabash College, Crawfordsville [1]

**Iowa**

- Davenport Public Museum, Davenport [5]
- Luther College Norwegian-American Museum, Decorah [7]
- University of Iowa, Iowa City [10]
- Westmar College, Le Mars [1]

**Kansas**

- Baker University, Baldwin City [3]<sup>60</sup>

**Kentucky**

- Kentucky Museum, Bowling Green [1]

**Maryland**

- Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore [24]
- Walters Art Museum, Baltimore [2]<sup>61</sup>
- Private Collection: PBJI Ancient Coins and Antiquities, Salisbury [8]

**Massachusetts**

- Amherst College - Mead Art Museum, Amherst [7]
- Berkshire Museum, Pittsfield [22]
- Clark University, Worcester [3]<sup>62</sup>
- Clinton Historical Society, Clinton [5]
- Harvard Semitic Museum, Cambridge [466+1=467]<sup>63</sup>
- Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley [3]
- Museum of Fine Arts, Boston [4]

---

<sup>58</sup> The collection of the Indiana Wesleyan University, Marion (formerly Marion College), with at least three tablets, should be added (courtesy M. Civil).

<sup>59</sup> Pictures of the unpublished tablets from the University of Notre Dame can now be found at the web site of CDLI (P274031-P274101).

<sup>60</sup> Courtesy L. Verderame.

<sup>61</sup> These are the texts published by D. I. Owen, *MVN* 15 140 and 390. The whole collection of cuneiform tablets kept in the Walters Art Museum consists of approximately 100 texts (courtesy L. Verderame). I cannot say how many of them belong to the Ur III period.

<sup>62</sup> Courtesy L. Verderame.

<sup>63</sup> The whole collection of Ur III texts kept in the Harvard Semitic Museum consists of 2,457 tablets (courtesy P. Steinkeller and J. Armstrong).

- Smith College, Northampton [41+77=118]<sup>64</sup>
- Springfield City Library, Springfield [1]
- Wellesley College, Wellesley [1]
- Williams College Museum of Art, Williamstown [2]
- Worcester Art Museum, Worcester [1]
- Zion Research Library, Boston [35]<sup>65</sup>
- Private Collections: M. Altshul, Cambridge [1]; M. I. Hussey, South Hadley [1]; anonymous, Boston [7]; anonymous, Cambridge [1]

### **Michigan**<sup>66</sup>

- Andrews University - Horn Archaeological Museum, Berrien Springs [1,898]
- Kalamazoo Valley Museum, Kalamazoo [35]<sup>67</sup>
- University of Michigan - Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, Ann Arbor [60+277=337]<sup>68</sup>
- Private Collection: J. H. Trestrail III, Kalamazoo [1]

### **Minnesota**

- A. M. Chisholm Museum, Duluth [1]
- Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minneapolis [22]
- Science Museum of Minnesota, Saint Paul [9]
- University of Minnesota - E. L. Andersen Library, Minneapolis [16]
- Walker Art Center, Minneapolis [85]
- Private Collection: S. K. Osman, Minneapolis [1]; L. D. Sullivan, Saint Paul [1]

### **Mississippi**

- Mississippi State University - L. D. Cobb Museum of Archaeology, Mississippi State [3]
- Private Collection: Balouch [1]

---

<sup>64</sup> Pictures of the unpublished tablets from Smith College can now be found at the web site of CDLI (273947-P274029).

<sup>65</sup> D. I. Owen and G. Young published 36 tablets from this collection in *JCS* 23 95-115. One of these tablets is reported to be kept now in the Harvard Semitic Museum (see *Sale Documents*, 305).

<sup>66</sup> The collection of Olivet College should be added (courtesy D. I. Owen).

<sup>67</sup> The collection of the Kalamazoo Valley Museum includes some tablets previously owned by W. Harding-Smith and Lord Amherst (see A. Seri, "The Mesopotamian Collection in the Kalamazoo Valley Museum," *CDLIJ* 2007:1, and notes 94 and 97).

<sup>68</sup> Pictures of the unpublished tablets from the Kelsey Museum can now be found at the web site of CDLI (P234795- P235304). The edition of the tablets is being prepared by N. Brisch.

### Missouri<sup>69</sup>

- Concordia Theological Seminary, Saint Louis [5]
- Kenrick-Glennon Seminary - The Charles L. Souvay, C. M., Memorial Library Collections, Saint Louis [65]<sup>70</sup>
- Saint Louis City Art Museum, Saint Louis [30]
- Saint Louis Public Library, Saint Louis [4]
- University of Missouri at Columbia - Ellis Library, Columbia [1+5=6]<sup>71</sup>

### Nebraska

- Joslyn Memorial Art Museum, Omaha [15]
- Omaha Public Library, Omaha [53]
- Union College, Lincoln [10]
- University of Nebraska State Museum, Lincoln [10]

### New Hampshire

- Dartmouth College Museum, Hanover [7+24=31]<sup>72</sup>

### New Jersey

- Newark Public Library, Newark [33]<sup>73</sup>
- Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton [585+488=1,073]<sup>74</sup>
- Princeton University Library, Princeton [1,144]<sup>75</sup>
- Private Collection: E. L. Owen (antiquarian), Lake Hopatcong [3]

---

<sup>69</sup> The collection of Washington University in St. Louis, with a small number of cuneiform tablets, should be added (courtesy M. Civil).

<sup>70</sup> See also note 9.

<sup>71</sup> Pictures of the unpublished tablets from the Ellis Library can now be found at the web site of CDLI (P345961-P345967).

<sup>72</sup> Pictures of the unpublished tablets from the Dartmouth College Museum can now be found at the web site of CDLI (P273920- P273946).

<sup>73</sup> A complete edition of the collection of the Newark Public Library by M. Sigrist is forthcoming.

<sup>74</sup> These 488 unpublished tablets from the Princeton Theological Seminary will be soon published by M. Sigrist.

<sup>75</sup> This figure includes one tablet published by W. W. Hallo (*Studies Veenhof*, 163) and 1,143 tablets catalogued by E. Chiera in his *Catalogue of the Babylonian Cuneiform Tablets in the Princeton University Library* (Princeton: University Library, 1921) (I obtained a copy of this book, very difficult to find, from R. Mayr, to whom I am very grateful); 38 of the texts catalogued by Chiera were later published by Chiera himself (*STA* [36]), E. Sollberger (*TCS* 1 132), and P. Steinkeller (*Sale Documents* 98). According to D. C. Skemer (private communication), after Chiera's catalogue was published, 56 additional clay tablets were acquired by donation by the Princeton University Library, and are now kept in the Manuscript Division; there are also a few clay tablets deposited in the Scheide Library, which are privately owned.

**New York**<sup>76</sup>

- Arnot Art Museum, Elmira [4]
- Brooklyn Museum of Art, Brooklyn [22]
- Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School - Bexley Hall, Rochester [5]
- Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School - Crozer Museum, Rochester [128]<sup>77</sup>
- Colgate University Library, Hamilton [43]
- Columbia University Library, New York [277]<sup>78</sup>
- Cornell University - Department of Near Eastern Studies, Ithaca [45+2,178=2,223]<sup>79</sup>
- Cornell University - Kroch Library, Ithaca [20]
- Elmira College, Elmira [7]
- General Theological Seminary, New York [158]<sup>80</sup>
- Institute of Technology, Rochester [2]
- Maryknoll Seminary, Maryknoll [24]
- Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York [42]
- Museum of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences, Buffalo [18]
- New York Public Library, New York [393+3=396]
- Rochester Museum and Science Center, Rochester [6]
- Saint Bernard's Catholic Seminary, Rochester [9]
- Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art - SUNY New Paltz, New Paltz [1]
- Syracuse University Library, Syracuse [489]
- University of Rochester - Memorial Art Gallery, Rochester [95]
- University of Rochester - Rush Rhees Library, Rochester [2]
- Vassar College Library, Poughkeepsie [5]
- Wells College Library, Aurora [12]
- Private Collections: J. Agre, New York [1]; Anavian Gallery (antiquarian), New York [1]; Arte Primitivo - H. S. Rose Gallery (antiquarian) [4]; Christie's (auction house), New York [3]; S. Gratton, Marion [3]; Hixenbaugh Ancient Art (antiquarian), New York [7]; E. Margolis, New York [44]<sup>81</sup>; Medusa Art (antiquarian), Champlain [5]; D. I. Owen, New York

---

<sup>76</sup> A small collection of cuneiform tablets formerly kept at the now dissolved Chase Manhattan Bank Money Museum, and whose whereabouts remain unknown, should be added (courtesy M. Civil).

<sup>77</sup> A number of cuneiform tablets from the Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School were auctioned at Sotheby's in April 2003: see *ANENews*, 17 January 2003 ([oi.uchicago.edu/OI/ANE/OI\\_ANE.html](http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/ANE/OI_ANE.html)).

<sup>78</sup> A complete edition of the collection of the Columbia University Library by S. Garfinkle and M. Van De Microop is forthcoming [318 tablets].

<sup>79</sup> This figure includes 100 tablets from the W. M. Nesbit collection (36 already published in *SRD*), 1,398 documents from Garšana (seven of them already published in *Fs. Pettinato* 162-170) and 38 from other sites to be published by D. I. Owen and R. Mayr (*The Garšana Archives*. CUSAS 3), 685 unpublished administrative Ur III texts catalogued in CDLI between P32219 and P332812, and two texts already published by R. Mayr (*JCS* 54 63 2) and L. Allred (*Cooks and Kitchens* 236 2).

<sup>80</sup> Tablets on permanent loan to the Yale Babylonian Collection.

<sup>81</sup> This figure includes 24 texts published by E. Margolis, *Sumerian Temple Documents* (New York, 1915), and one text edited plus 19 more catalogued through their incipit by W. W. Hallo, "Day Dates in Texts from Drehem,"

[53]<sup>82</sup>; C. J. Pabst [4]; E. J. Platt, Forest Hills [2]; J. Rosen, New York [2]; F. Wagner, Kirkville [2]

### **North Carolina**

- Duke University, Durham [9]
- University of North Carolina - Museum of World Cultures, Wilmington [1]
- University of North Carolina - Wilson Library, Chapel Hill [8]
- Private Collection: Eddie, St. Pauls [1]<sup>83</sup>; H. G. Haviland, Tryon [4]

### **Ohio**

- Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati [9]
- Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland [1]
- Cleveland Public Library, Cleveland [11]
- Dyke College, Cleveland [44]
- Jewish Institute of Religion - Museum of the Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati [25]
- Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, Cincinnati [5]
- Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo [25]
- University of Cincinnati - Carl Blegen Library, Cincinnati [1]
- University of Cincinnati - Classics Department, Cincinnati [1]
- Private Collections: Binsfield (?), Carthage [1]; N. H. Miller, Wauzeka [1]; P. R. Obermark, Cincinnati [3]; C. E. Puckett (antiquarian), Akron [3]

### **Oklahoma**

- Phillips University, Enid [1]
- University of Oklahoma - Stovall Museum of Science and History, Norman [11]

### **Oregon**

- Oregon State University - Valley Library<sup>84</sup>, Corvallis [2]
- Private Collection: D. Minas, Portland [1]

### **Pennsylvania**

- Allegheny College, Meadville [17]
- Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr [5]
- Erie Historical Museum, Erie [6]
- Fonthill Museum, Doylestown [6]

---

in this volume. Hallo notes that 16 of the tablets published by E. Margolis “have been scattered among other members of the family or otherwise disposed of.”

<sup>82</sup> This figure includes some of the texts from the D. Cadorini Collection [6] and the Auburn Collection [47].

<sup>83</sup> This tablet, which was part of the Haverford Collection (G. Barton, *HLC* 24, pl. 16+154), is now privately owned: see [www.fayobserver.com/article?id=271101](http://www.fayobserver.com/article?id=271101).

<sup>84</sup> Formerly W. J. Kerr Library.

- Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster [1]<sup>85</sup>
- Free Library of Philadelphia, Philadelphia [1,157]
- Gratz College, Melrose Park [2]
- Pittsburgh Theological Seminary - Bible Lands Museum, Pittsburgh [24]
- University of Pennsylvania - Annenberg Institute, Philadelphia [4]<sup>86</sup>
- University of Pennsylvania - Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Philadelphia [3,339]<sup>87</sup>
- Waynesburg College Museum, Waynesburg [3]
- Private Collection: M. Dugan, Jenkinstown [1]

### **Rhode Island**<sup>88</sup>

- Brown University - John Hay Library, Providence [2]<sup>89</sup>
- Museum of Primitive Art and Culture, Peace Dale [1]

### **South Dakota**

- Black Hills State University - E. Y. Berry Library-Learning Center, Spearfish [10]<sup>90</sup>
- South Dakota State University - H. M. Briggs Library, Brookings [5]
- University of South Dakota - W. H. Over Dakota Museum, Vermillion [39]

### **Texas**

- Southern Methodist University - A. V. Lane Museum, Dallas [4]
- University of Houston Library, Houston [1]
- University of Texas, Austin [1]
- Private Collection: Sands of Time Antiquities (antiquarian), Kemah [1]

### **Utah**

- Brigham Young University - Museum of Peoples and Cultures, Provo [2]
- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints - Museum of Church History and Art, Salt Lake City [21]
- University of Utah - Museum of Natural History, Salt Lake City [74]
- Utah State University - LDS Institute of Religion, Logan [8]
- Private Collection: J. A. Langfeldt, Bountiful [2]

---

<sup>85</sup> Courtesy L. Verderame.

<sup>86</sup> Formerly in Dropsie College, Philadelphia (courtesy D. I. Owen).

<sup>87</sup> This figure includes 1,394 tablets from Nippur, of which thirty are casts. The University of Pennsylvania Museum also houses ca. 500 uncatalogued fragments from Ur (courtesy R. L. Zettler).

<sup>88</sup> The collection of the Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, with a small number of cuneiform tablets, should be added (courtesy M. Civil).

<sup>89</sup> The cuneiform collection of Brown University consists of 27 tablets and cones, although I do not know how many of them are dated to the Ur III Dynasty: see [www.brown.edu/Facilities/University\\_Library](http://www.brown.edu/Facilities/University_Library).

<sup>90</sup> Courtesy L. Verderame.

### **Vermont**

- University of Vermont - Robert Hull Fleming Museum, Burlington [17]
- Private Collection: S. Bradeen [1]

### **Virginia**

- James Madison University Foundation, Harrisonburg [1+5=6]<sup>91</sup>
- Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond [1]
- Private Collection: T. R. Owens, Front Royal [8]

### **Washington**

- Seattle Art Museum, Seattle [1]
- Walla Walla College, College Place [4+3=7]<sup>92</sup>

### **Wisconsin**

- Beloit College - Logan Museum, Beloit [4]
- Lawrence College, Appleton [1]
- Ripon College, Ripon [5]
- Private Collection: D. H. Stephens, Ephraim [1]

### **Unknown state of the USA**

- Private Collections: V. E. Bailey [1]; M. Cohen [3]; Currier [1]; Curtis [1]; D. Davis [1]; D. A. Dorsey [2]; H. P. Goldfried [1]; L. Hatcher [1]; Hood [1]; C. S. Knopf [1]; R. Roth [1]; Ruhoff [1]; H. Sachs (?) [2]; N. Totten [18]; W. S. Towner [1]; D. H. Wice [1]; anonymous [33+16=49]

### **36. Vatican City**

- Musei Vaticani [2]<sup>93</sup>

---

<sup>91</sup> Courtesy L. Verderame.

<sup>92</sup> Walla Walla College keeps seven Ur III tablets (courtesy M. Vincent), one of them pictured in its website ([www.wwc.edu](http://www.wwc.edu): M. Vincent, "Cuneiform Tablets on Campus," *Newsletter* 3/2, 2003). This tablet (WWC 6), published by E. Sollberger as *MVN* 5 100, was part of the Pinches Collection (see note 98). An unpublished manuscript kindly sent by M. Vincent shows that three more tablets from the Pinches Collection are now kept in Walla Walla College: WWC 1 = *MVN* 5 97; WWC 2 = *MVN* 5 102; WWC 4 = *MVN* 5 134.

<sup>93</sup> The whole collection of Neo-Sumerian tablets kept in Musei Vaticani consists of at least 14 tablets: see [www.vatican-patrons.org/restore\\_3p4.htm](http://www.vatican-patrons.org/restore_3p4.htm).

### 37. Unknown country

- Lord Amherst Collection (dispersed) [191]<sup>94</sup>
- Couvent Sainte-Anne Collection, Jerusalem (dispersed) [122]<sup>95</sup>
- M.-L. Erlenmeyer Collection (dispersed) [53]<sup>96</sup>
- W. Harding-Smith Collection (dispersed) [8]<sup>97</sup>
- Th. Pinches Collection (dispersed) [134]<sup>98</sup>

---

<sup>94</sup> Th. Pinches (*The Amherst Tablets*. I [London: Bernard Quaritch, 1908]) and E. Sollberger (*The Pinches Manuscript*, *Materiali per il Vocabolario Neosumerico* 5 [Rome: Multigrafica Editrice, 1978]) published 230 Neo-Sumerian documents originally belonging to Lord Amherst. His collection was auctioned at Sotheby's in 1921. Twenty-three of these tablets have been republished, now housed in other collections: Birmingham City Museum [4] (*Amherst* 59, 93, 109 = *BCT* 2 286, 190, 106; *MVN* 5 145 = *BCT* 2 166), Free Library of Philadelphia [1] (*Amherst* 13 = *MVN* 3 115), Merseyside County Museums [3] (*Amherst* 55, 99 = *Orient* 16 94 138, 99 151; *MVN* 5 22 = *Orient* 16 65 80), Musées Royaux d'Art et d'Histoire [1] (*Amherst* 52 = *RIAA* 84 = *TSDU* 86), Universidad de Santiago de Compostela [2] (*Amherst* 44, 53 = *AuOr* 10 89-90), private collection of K. Yoshida [9] (*Amherst* 43, 51, 68, 78, 80a, 97, 113 = *Al-Rafidan* 9 198-220; *MVN* 5 287, 288 = *ASJ* 10 257 11, 12), and anonymous private collection [2] (*MVN* 5 158 = *MVN* 15 243; *MVN* 5 201 = *JCS* 46 25 14); Kalamazoo Valley Museum [1] (*Amherst* 50); 16 more tablets, not republished by P. J. Watson, are now kept in the Birmingham City Museum (*Amherst* 22, 27, 28, 31-35, 40, 58, 61, 62, 64, 66, 69, and 91: see *BCT* 2, p. 125). 230 more Ur III tablets of the Amherst collection, not published by Th. Pinches nor by E. Sollberger, were acquired by the Wellcome Foundation from intermediate collectors or dealers after the Amherst sale in 1921 (P. J. Watson, *BCT* 1, pp. 1-2, 7-10; *BCT* 2, pp. 1-2, 125); these tablets are now housed at the Birmingham City Museum, and were published by P. J. Watson, *BCT* 1-2 (as written above, Watson edited four tablets of the Amherst collection which he did not realize that had been previously published: *BCT* 2 106, 166, 190, 286). A number of previously unpublished tablets from the Amherst collection were probably also acquired by A. M. Todd and are now kept at the Kalamazoo Valley Museum (see A. Seri, "The Mesopotamian Collection in the Kalamazoo Valley Museum," *CDLJ* 2007:1). See also notes 43, 48, and 67.

<sup>95</sup> See note 24.

<sup>96</sup> 63 Ur III tablets from the Erlenmeyer Collection were auctioned at Christie's in 1988 (see *Christie's 1988.12.13*; R. K. Englund, "Ur III Sundries," *ASJ* 14 [1992]: 77-78.). The current owners of only ten of them are known to me: Land Berlin [7] (*JNES* 50 262 = *Christie's 1988.12.13* no. 86 [Erl. 155]; *ASJ* 14 99 1, 100 2, 101 3, 101 5, 102 4 = *Christie's 1988.12.13* no. 76 [Erl. 118], 85a [Erl. 94], 85b [Erl. 158], 69b [Erl. 112], 69c [Erl. 93]; *CDLJ* 2003:1 1 = *Christie's 1988.12.13* no. 92 [Erl. 152]); anonymous private collection, Vienna [1] (*AfO* 42-43 154 = *Christie's 1988.12.13* no. 68a); Hadji Baba Ancient Art Gallery, London (*Art of the Eastern World* 1 = *Christie's 1988.12.13* no. 93); The Einar Hansen Library, Fridhemsborg (Malmö) [1] (*Christie's 1988.12.13* no. 66). See also notes 19 and 101.

<sup>97</sup> The Harding-Smith collection was auctioned at Sotheby's in 1922 (C. B. F. Walker, "Cuneiform Tablets in the Collection of Mr. E. M. Dring," *AfO* 24 [1973]: 122). Part of it was acquired by the County Museum and Art Gallery, Truro, and published in Walker 1973. E. Sollberger (*MVN* 5) edited 11 tablets from this collection, three of which are now kept at the Kalamazoo Valley Museum (*MVN* 5 88, 148, 156) and have been published by A. Seri ("The Mesopotamian Collection in the Kalamazoo Valley Museum," *CDLJ* 2007:1; see note 67); the whereabouts of the other eight tablets are unknown to me. P. J. Watson published seven more tablets (*BCT* 1 3, 4, 59, 96, 113; *BCT* 2 166, 190) from the W. Harding-Smith collection now kept at Birmingham City Museum (see notes 43 and 94). According to him (*BCT* 1, p. 9), it is possible that these tablets were originally in the Amherst collection, and in fact one of them had been published by E. Sollberger as belonging to such collection (*MVN* 5 145 = *BCT* 2 166).

<sup>98</sup> The 138 Neo-Sumerian texts of the Pinches Collection were edited by E. Sollberger (*MVN* 5), who included in his volume the tablets previously published by Pinches himself. The collection was sold at Sotheby's in 1958 (see



- Saint Paul Public Library Collection, Saint Paul MN (dispersed) [31]<sup>99</sup>
- F. A. Schollmeyer Collection (dispersed) [77]<sup>100</sup>
- B. Wengler Collection, (dispersed) [34]<sup>101</sup>
- Private Collections: Aernout [1]; De Beul [1]; C. K. Daly [1]; R. Deutsch [2]; E. M. Dring [1]; J. C. Faye [1]; F. Graysel [1]; Indjoudjian [1]; Kazmitcheff [1]; Kelekian-Khan [12]; Letailleur [3]; Lévesque [1]; Maimon [2]; Newell [1]; F. von Oefele [1]; Osnan [1]; Peiser [1]; L. Perutz [1]; D. H. Ruddy [1]; Stawarczyk [1]; Col. Stevenson [23]; A. Trampitsh [1]; G. Vaux [7]; anonymous [143+7=150]
- Unknown (tablets for which no information about the owner is given,<sup>102</sup> or reported to be lost by the editor of the text) [559]

### C. Editions of the texts

A very complete summary on the evolution of Neo-Sumerian text editions up to the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century has been carried out by Sallaberger.<sup>103</sup> I shall only point out here that it is increasingly common for pictures and catalogues of cuneiform tablets kept in small collections to appear on the Internet. In the field of the digital editions, the work developed by the *Cuneiform Digital Library Initiative*, with excellent digital photos of tablets, is outstanding.

On the other hand, important sections of large collections, such as the ones in the British Museum and the Yale University, have been catalogued in recent years. Thus, out of the 32,588 new documents published between 1996 and 2007 (see fig. 1), 13,811 were in fact published just in catalogue (*CBT 2*, *CBT 3*, *CBCY 3*, and *Nisaba 5*). The principal scholar responsible for this task has been M. Sigrist, who is also to be considered one of the greatest contributors in the field of Ur III texts editions: in fact, out of the 87,241 documents catalogued in BDTNS, M. Sigrist has catalogued or edited 30,715 texts.

---

E. Sollberger, "Byblos sous les rois d'Ur," *AfO* 19 [1959-60]: 120), and its whereabouts remain unknown with the exception of the aforementioned four tablets now kept in the Walla Walla College (see note 92).

<sup>99</sup> The Saint Paul Public Library Collection, published by T. Jones and J. Snyder (*SET*), was sold in Japan (courtesy M. Civil).

<sup>100</sup> See G. Pettinato and H. Waetzoldt, *MVN* 1, pp. 11-12.

<sup>101</sup> 38 Ur III tablets from the Wengler Collection were published by A. Deimel in "Collection Wengler. Miscellen 4-8," *OrSP* 2 (1920): 58-64; "Collection Wengler. Miscellen 5-27," *OrSP* 5 (1922): 47-63; "Ur III-Texte aus der Sammlung Wengler," *OrSP* 6 (1923): 58-64. At least three of these tablets found their way into the Erlenmeyer Collection (see also notes 19 and 96): *OrSP* 5 47 6 Wengler 21 (= *Christie's 1988.12.13* no. 63a), *OrSP* 6 59 Wengler 47 (= *Christie's 1988.12.13* no. 64e); *OrSP* 5 55 Wengler 30 (= *Christie's 1988.12.13* no. 69b = *ASJ* 14 101 5 Erlenmeyer 112), this one later purchased by the Berlin Senate (see R. K. Englund, "Ur III Sundries," *ASJ* 14 [1992]: 78). Another tablet of the Wengler Collection (*OrSP* 5 60 26 Wengler 36) is said to be kept now at the Freie Universität of Berlin (*Frühe Schrift*, Abb. 12m, Kat. 12.11), and R. K. Englund (1992, 78<sup>+5</sup>) notes that some other tablets from the Wengler Collection are now kept in this institution (see also note 18).

<sup>102</sup> See also note 16.

<sup>103</sup> Sallaberger 1999, 201-206.

Below I present a graph with the evolution of published Neo-Sumerian texts through the years (including those published just in catalogue) up to 2007.

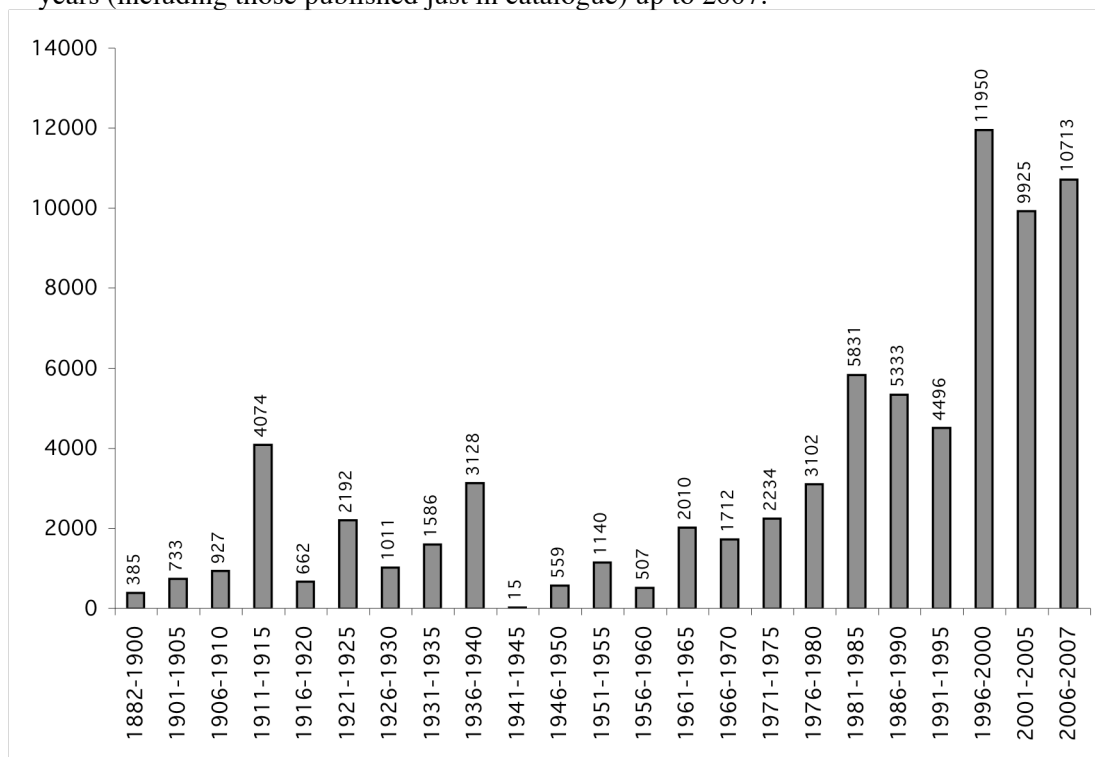


Fig. 1. Edition and cataloguing of Neo-Sumerian texts through the years

## D. Physical features of the documents

### 1. Length of texts

There is not enough information in the BDTNS catalogue to provide consistent statistical data on the measurements of the documents. We can offer instead information about the length, in number of lines, of the texts.

Number of lines	Percentage of texts
1-4	1.4 %
5-15	73.4 %
16-30	19.2 %
31-50	3.2 %
50-100	1.7 %
More than 100	1.1 %

Longest text: *MVN 15 390* = 1,663 lines

Number of lines in transliteration managed by BDTNS: 883,747

## 2. Envelopes

There are 2,692 envelopes (closed, opened, or in fragments) catalogued in BDTNS. Considering just the entries of the catalogue where the information about the nature of the document is complete (as has also been done for the following sections), we can ascertain that 3.3 % of them are envelopes (with or without the tablet). Here follows the rate of envelopes according to provenance:

<i>Provenance</i>	<i>Percentage of texts</i>
Garšana	18.95 %
Girsu	9.10 %
Nippur	5.78 %
Ur	0.94 %
Drehem	0.78 %
Umma	0.55 %

## 3. Pisan-dub-ba texts

There are 656 *pisan-dub-ba* texts catalogued in BDTNS. The percentage of this kind of text with respect to the whole corpus is of 0.83 %. The rate of *pisan-dub-ba* texts according to the place of provenance is as follows:

<i>Provenance</i>	<i>Percentage of texts</i>
Girsu	1.87 %
Ur	0.61 %
Umma	0.59 %
Drehem	0.45 %
Nippur	0.13 %

There are also 385 *bullae* catalogued in BDTNS, although I can not assure the consistency of these data in relation to the whole corpus. Therefore, I shall not offer here statistical data for this kind of document.

## 4. Seals

There are 24,847 sealed texts in BDTNS. Some of these texts have two or more different seals: 133 texts have two seals; eighteen texts have three seals; five texts have four seals; and one text has five seals. The global percentage of sealed texts is of 35.7 %. Here is the rate of sealed documents according to provenance:

<i>Provenance</i>	<i>Percentage of texts</i>
Umma	56.2 %
Garšana	47.4 %
Nippur	46.5 %
Girsu	19.3 %
Drehem	15.6 %
Ur	14.5 %

### **E. Contents of the texts**

The classification of Neo-Sumerian texts through a typology that embraces the whole corpus is still in process. At present, we can offer some data about the following kinds of texts:

<i>Kind of text</i>	<i>No. of texts</i>
Messenger texts	5,364
Loan documents (še ur <sub>5</sub> -ra texts included)	1,456
Letter-orders	696
Court records	398
Sale documents	185

### **F. Dates**

Out of the 84,308 texts catalogued in BDTNS, only 389 can be considered as belonging to the Second Dynasty of Lagaš or to the period between the end of the Sargonic Dynasty and the beginning of the Third Dynasty of Ur. Nevertheless, it is possible that some of the texts ascribed to the Old Akkadian period, or even some of those dated to the beginning of the Third Dynasty of Ur, are instead to be taken as belonging to the aforementioned group.

Among these 389 texts, 106 bear a date formula of the Second Dynasty of Lagaš:

<i>Ruler</i>	<i>No. of texts</i>
Ur- <sup>d</sup> Ba-ba <sub>6</sub>	2
Gu <sub>3</sub> -de <sub>2</sub> -a	65
Ur- <sup>d</sup> Nin-gir <sub>2</sub> -su	20
Ka-ku <sub>3</sub>	2
Lu <sub>2</sub> -gu-la	4
Lu <sub>2</sub> - <sup>d</sup> Ba-ba <sub>6</sub>	4
Ur-gar	1
Ur-Ma-ma	1
Pirig-me <sub>3</sub>	3
Nam-mah-ni	1
Ur-ab-ba	3

On the other hand, the catalogue of BDTNS has 57,236 texts dated with a year-name belonging to the Ur III calendar. The graphs that follow show the chronological distribution of these texts, first globally considered, and then according to their place of provenance.

As is well known, some year-names, in their abbreviated form, are ambiguous, while others, due to their incomplete state of preservation, can also be interpreted in various ways. This is the case with 1,346 texts. Here, every possibility of interpretation has been counted. Thus, for example, if a year-name can be understood as Šulgi 25 / Šulgi 44 / Ibbi-Suen 3, each of these dates are included in the graphs that follow. The number of ambiguous cases is written within brackets for each year-name.

No doubt, as soon as a prosopographical analysis is carried out for all texts, many of these ambiguities will be solved. Nevertheless, a simple look at the graph will show where these ambiguities introduce some degree of distortion. For example, out of the 426 texts possibly dated to Šulgi 25, 346 could be ascribed to a different year. In this case, the evolution of the graph shows that most of the 346 texts are indeed to be dated to a different year.

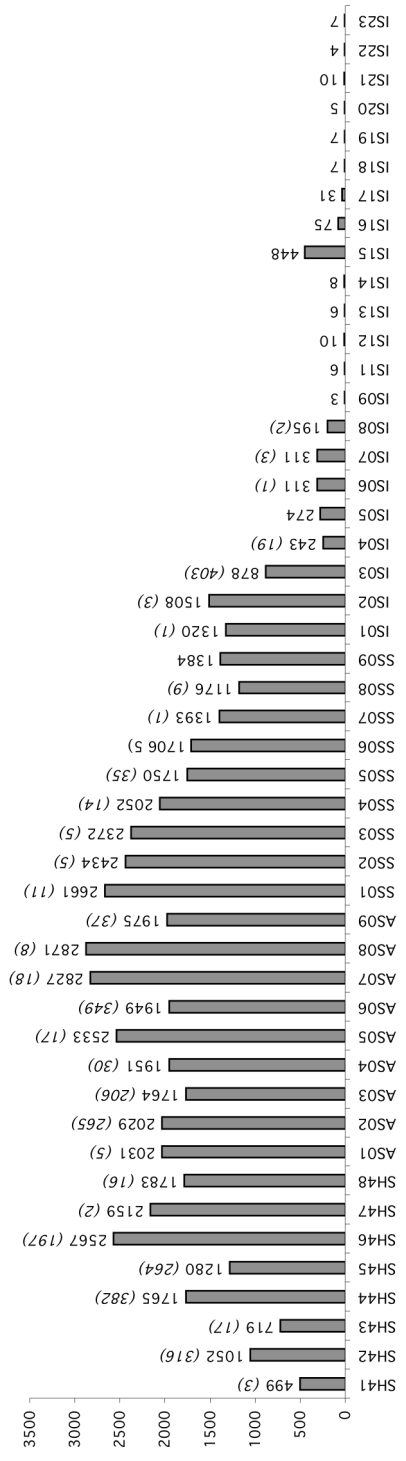
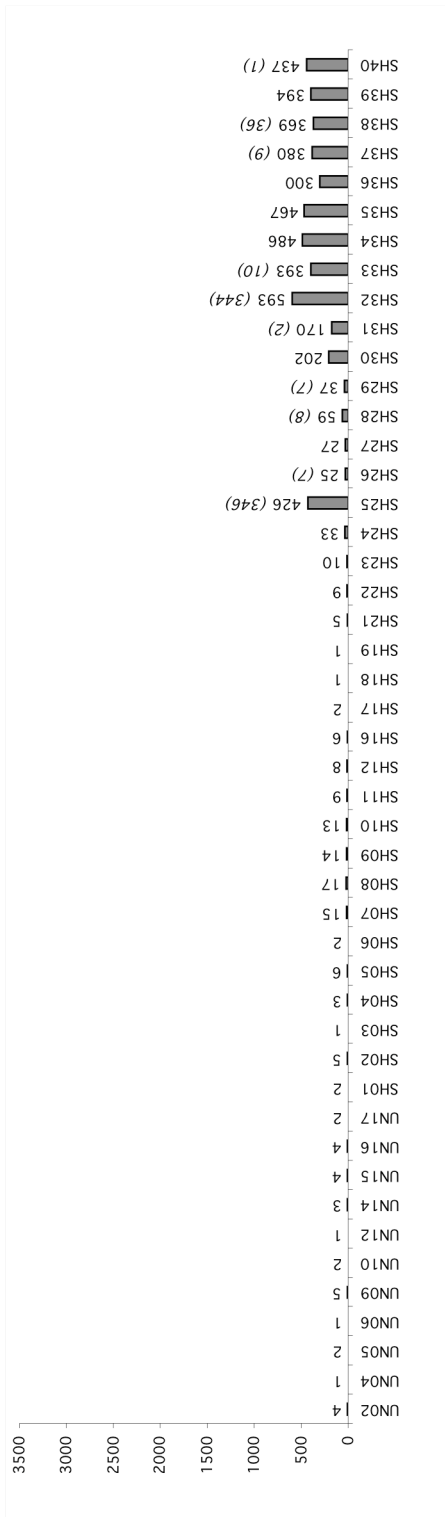


Fig. 2. Chronological Distribution of Ur III Texts

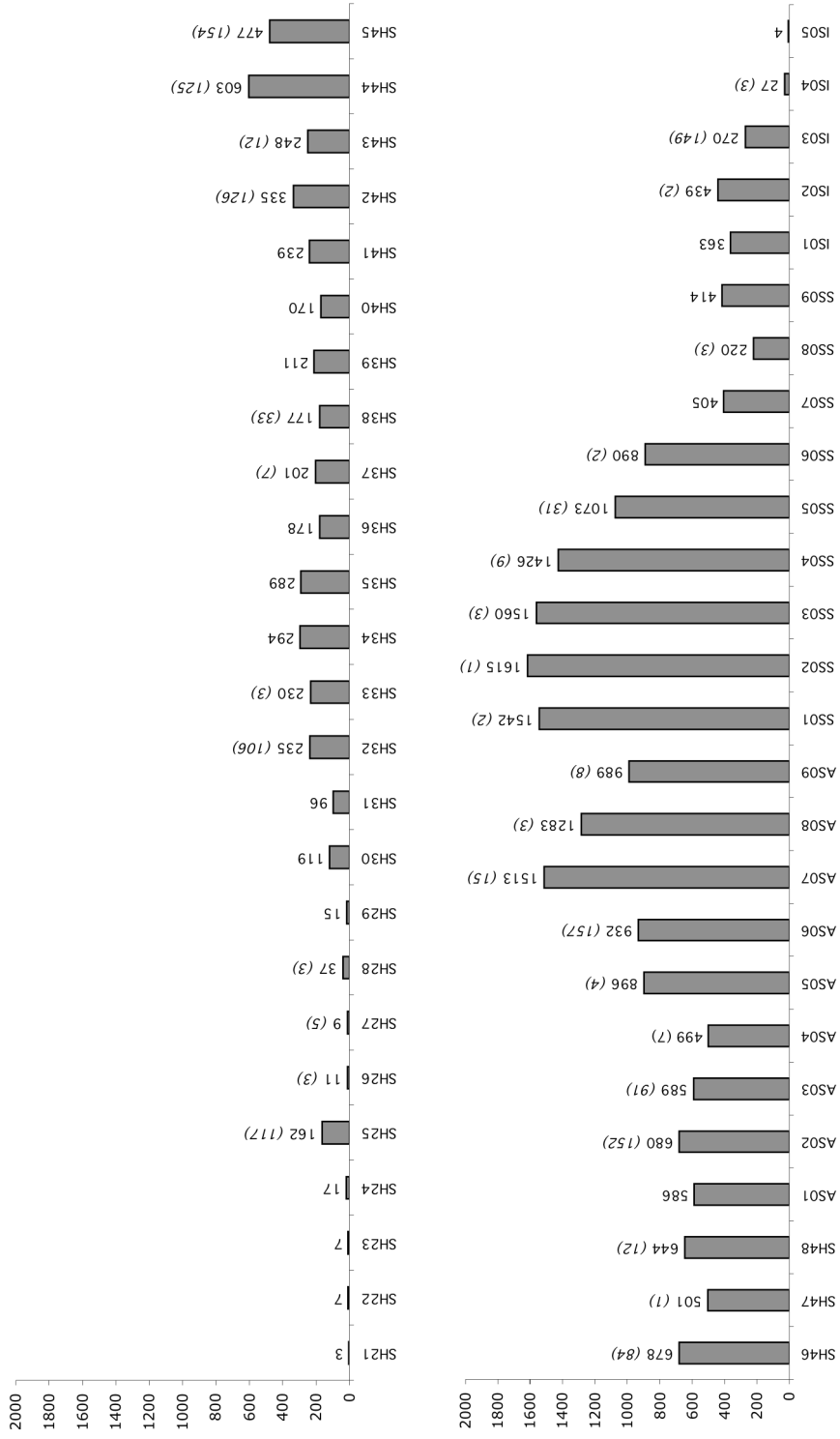


Fig. 3. Chronological Distribution of Ur III Texts from Umma

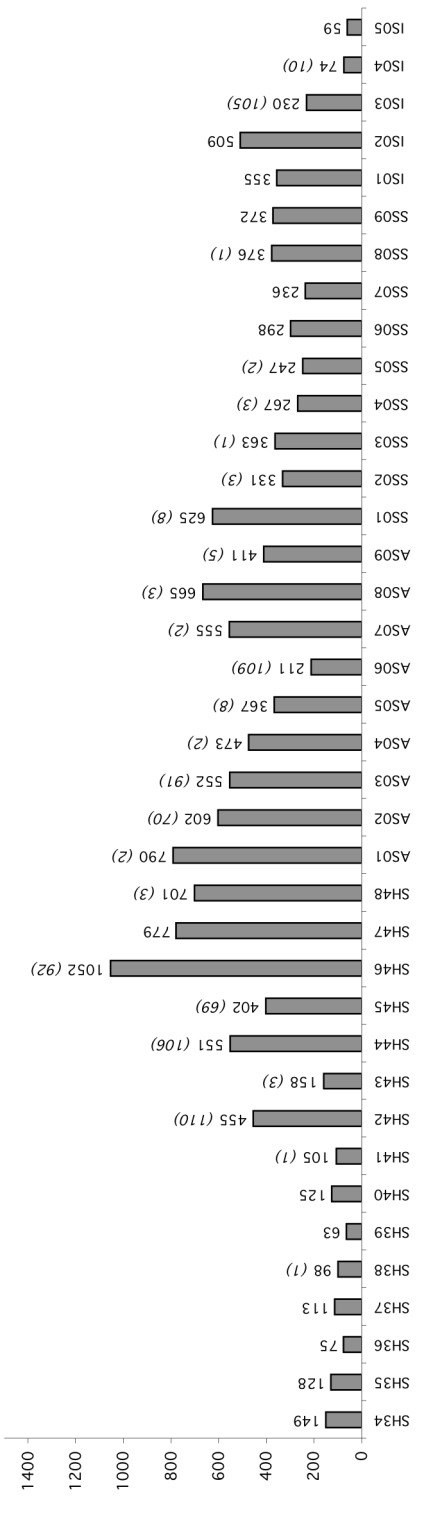
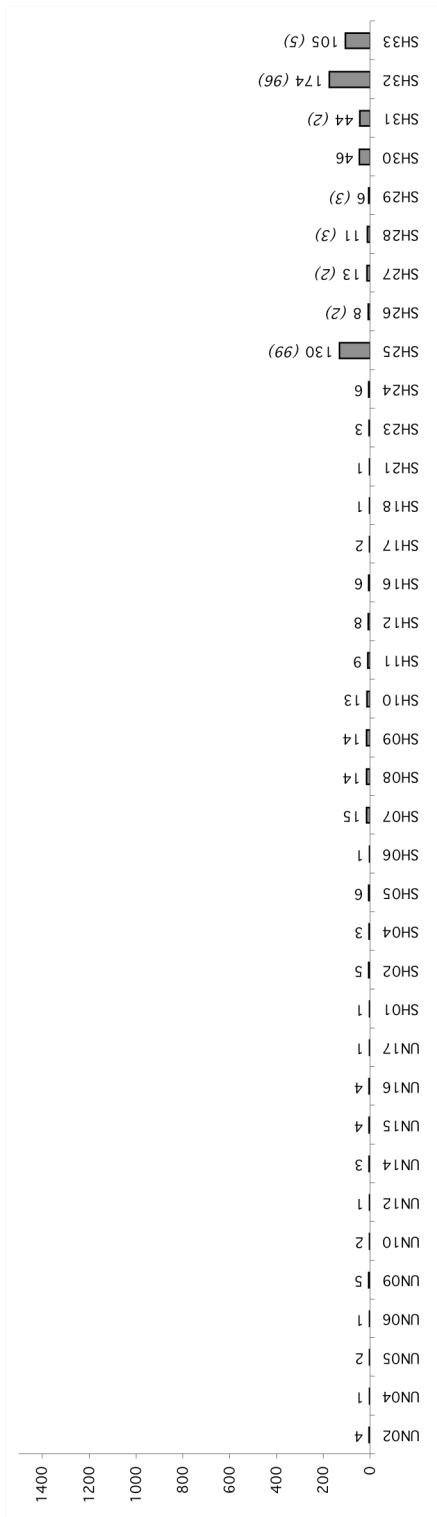


Fig. 4. Chronological Distribution of Ur III Texts from Girsu



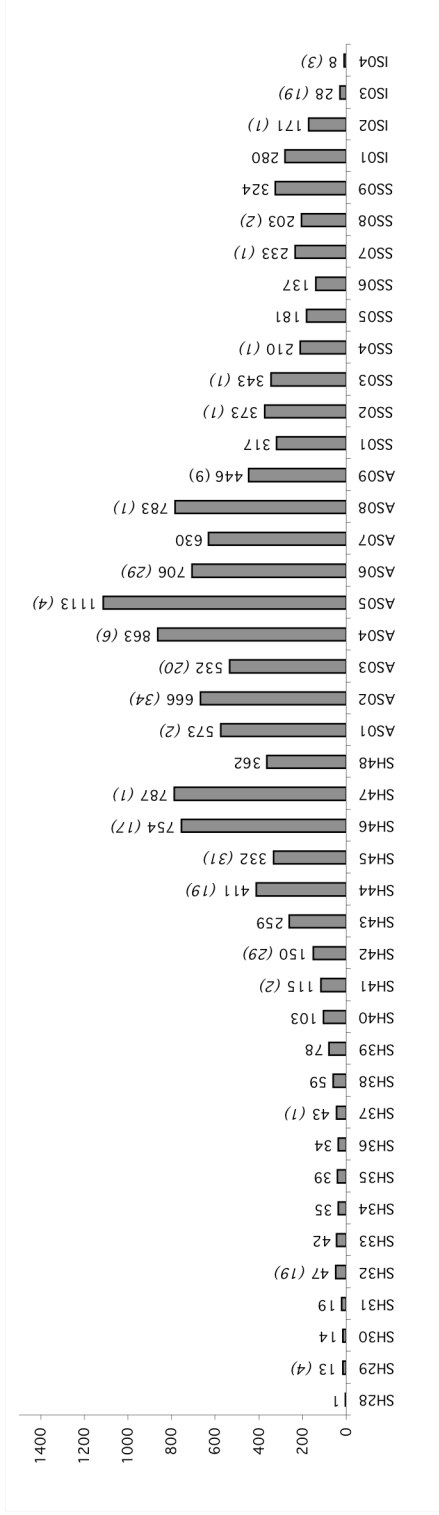


Fig. 5. Chronological Distribution of Ur III Texts from Drehem

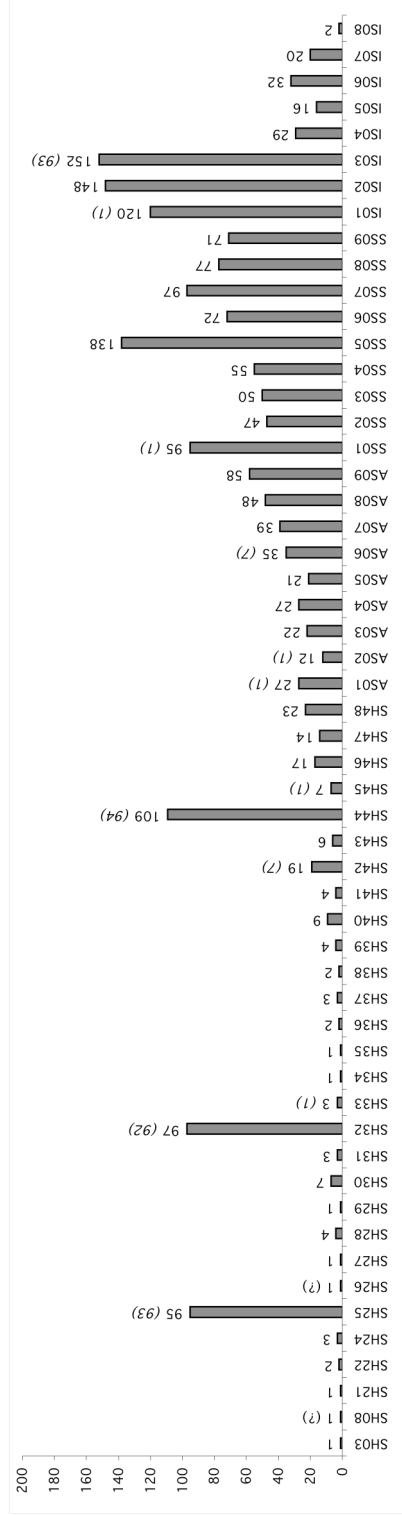


Fig. 7. Chronological Distribution of Ur III Texts from Nippur

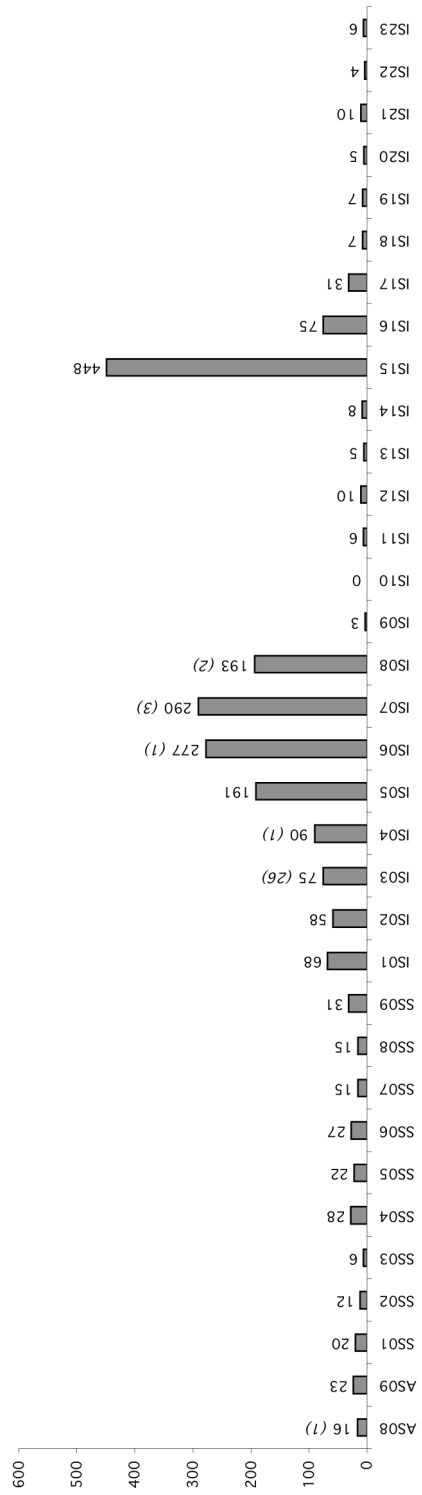
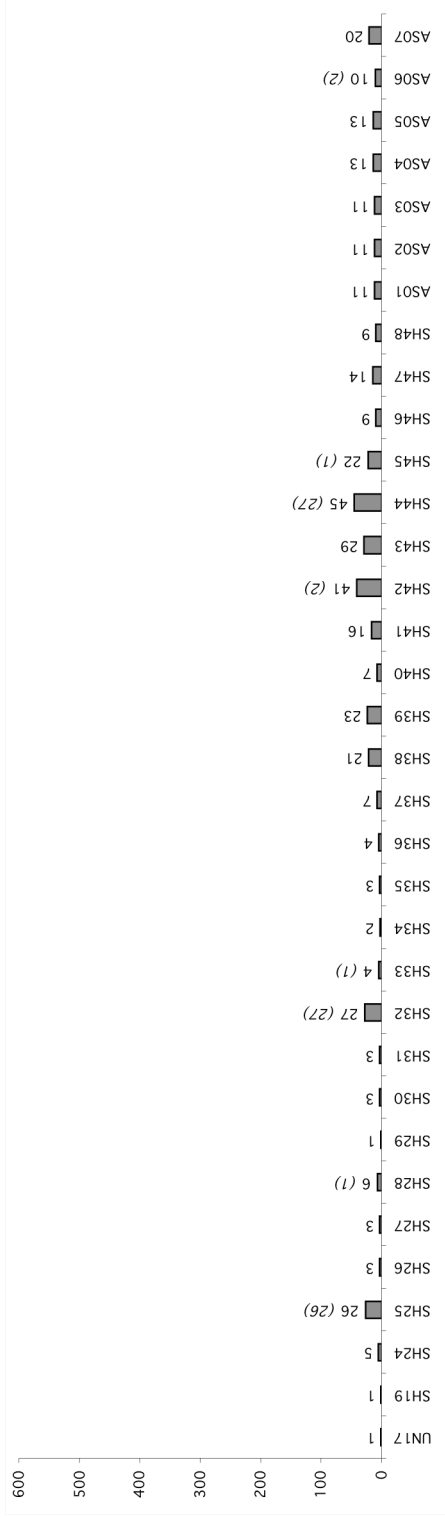


Fig. 6. Chronological Distribution of Ur III Texts from Ur

## G. Provenances

The provenance of Ur III texts has also been extensively discussed by Sallaberger.<sup>104</sup> We shall only add here the number of texts catalogued in BDTNS for every provenance (there is a total of 75,836 texts in BDTNS with an established provenance<sup>105</sup>), in addition to some new references to his “Liste kleinerer Fundorte.”

<i>Provenance</i>	<i>No. of texts</i>		<i>Percentage</i>
Umma	27,684	(+260?)	36.50 %
Girsu	24,332	(+126?)	32.08 %
Drehem	13,803	(+103?)	18.20 %
Ur	4,251	(+12?)	5.60 %
Nippur <sup>106</sup>	3,570	(+19?)	4.70 %
Garšana	1,425		1.88 %
Urusagrig <sup>107</sup>	207	(+8?)	0.27 %
Ešnunna <sup>108</sup>	156		0.20 %
Adab <sup>109</sup>	87	(+6?)	0.12 %

<sup>104</sup> Sallaberger 1999, 207 ff.

<sup>105</sup> The number of texts of uncertain provenance is added in brackets.

<sup>106</sup> A. Hattori, *Texts and Impressions*, 3, writes that the total number of known Ur III texts from Nippur is roughly about 4,000. Unpublished texts kept in the Istanbul Museum and the Yale Babylonian Collection are included in the figure provided by Hattori.

<sup>107</sup> This figure includes 166 texts catalogued in Menegazzi 2005 (see note 32), plus other tablets offered in sale by galleries and auction houses on the Internet in recent years. The grounds for the identification of Urusagrig texts are prosopography, calendar, contents, and physical features of the tablet. D. I. Owen, who has gathered this material and other unpublished documents, kindly made me available a catalogue and a study of ca. 400 tablets from Urusagrig and other sites which will appear in the *Nisaba* series (Messina).

<sup>108</sup> For 137 of these texts we have only a concise reference given by Th. Jacobsen, *OIP* 43, pp. 142-144 and 161-172. In addition to these texts from Ešnunna mentioned in *OIP* 43, we have in BDTNS: *JAOS* 97 171 (= *OIP* 43 143 5 TA 1931-T188), *JAOS* 97 173 3 (= *OIP* 43 144 7, 170 TA 1931-T715), *JAOS* 97 174 8 (= *OIP* 43 144 8 TA 1931-T663); *Amorites* 1, pl. 1 (= *OIP* 43 161 TA 1931-T334); *JCS* 28 179 (= *OIP* 43 167 TA 1931-T615); *JAOS* 97 174 8A; *AS* 22 37 1; *JAOS* 108 120 (= *OIP* 43 169 TA 1931-T622); *NATN* 395; *MVN* 15 366, 367; *Sale Documents* 75 and 76. See also note 56.

<sup>109</sup> To the 44 Ur III texts from Adab quoted by Sallaberger, the following ones should be added: three more texts published in *MVN* 3 (the texts from Adab edited in *MVN* 3 are: 165, 166, 172, 174, 183, 184, 188, 204, 205, 209, 211, 212, 246, 250, 268, 271, 279, 320, 322, 327, 351 [Adab?], 355, 356, 365, 369, 376, 378, 381); *NATN* 116 (Adab?); *MVN* 13 14 (Adab?), 26 (Adab?), 688, 895; *OIP* 14 190 (Ur III?); *CDLJ* 2002:2 (CMAA 15-C19); eleven texts kept at the Istanbul Archaeological Museum to which F. R. Kraus makes reference in “Die Istanbul Tontafelsammlung,” *JCS* 1 (1947): 101; *CBCY* 3 NBC 6632, 6672 (Adab?), 6673, 6726, 6733, 6744, 8184, 8192, 8213, 8217, 8219, 9950, 9953, 10111, 10112, 10161; RAH 1999-83 (Adab?); *Subartu* 16 148 2; *Cooks and Kitchens* 236 2; CDLI P254041 (M. Schøyen Collection). According to the BDTNS catalogue, the texts from Adab kept at the Oriental Institute Museum are (see some of the references in Z. Yang, *Adab*, p. 23): A 635, 641, 644, 648, 656 (= *OIP* 14 190), 703, 710, 722, 724+1102, 741, 743, 757, 789, 797, 808, 822, 832, 843, 845, 883, 903.

SI.A-a Arch. (Wilāya?) <sup>110</sup>	80		0.10 %
Susa	69		0.09 %
Tūram-ili Arch. (Wilāya?) <sup>111</sup>	59		0.07 %
Išān Mizyad <sup>112</sup>	50		0.06 %
Uruk	19	(+1?)	0.02 %
Wilāya <sup>113</sup>	11	(+3?)	0.02 %
Kiš <sup>114</sup>	6		0.01 %
Mari	5	(+2?)	—
Isin	4		—
Kisurra	4		—
Sippar Jahrurum	3		—
Šuruppag <sup>115</sup>	3		—
Lagaš (al-Hiba)	2		—
Sulaima <sup>116</sup>	2		—
Gasur <sup>117</sup>	1		—
Nagar <sup>118</sup>	1		—
Šašrum	1		—
Sippar Amnānum	1		—

<sup>110</sup> See S. Garfinkle, “SI.A-a and Family: The Archive of a 21<sup>st</sup> Century (BC) Entrepreneur,” *ZA* 93 (2003): 198; R. Mayr, “The Seals of the Turam-ili Archive,” *JCS* 54 (2002): 63; C. Halvgaard and C. Johansen, “Ur III Texts in the Danish National Museum,” *RA* 98 (2004): 10. According to S. Garfinkle (personal communication), these texts are likely to be associated with those from Urusagrig. This is also true for the Tūram-ili archive and for the texts listed below in footnote 113.

<sup>111</sup> See S. Garfinkle, “Turam-ili and the Community of Merchants in the Ur III Period,” *JCS* 54 (2002): 26.

<sup>112</sup> According to M. Hilgert (private communication), there are 194 texts from this site kept at the Iraq Museum.

<sup>113</sup> Three texts possibly from Wilāya should be added to the references provided by W. Sallaberger: *CBCY* 3 NBC 7781, 9980, 9981.

<sup>114</sup> Add to Sallaberger’s list: *AAICAB* 1/1 Ashm. 1924-584 (possibly dated to Ur III); *CBCY* 3 NBC 10056.

<sup>115</sup> Add to Sallaberger’s list: *FTUPM* 93 (= *JAOS* 52 113 [F 974]) and 95 (F 750).

<sup>116</sup> Texts published by F. al-Rawi, *ZA* 82 185 IM 85455 and 85456, possibly dated to Ur III (see M. Hilgert, *IMGULA* 5, pp. 44 72 and 45 73).

<sup>117</sup> *HSS* 10 pl. 92 228.

<sup>118</sup> *Iraq* 55 201-207 (early post-Akkadian sealed strip of clay).