

# DR. JASON UR

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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**Current:**

*Stephen Phillips Professor of Archaeology and Ethnology*, Department of Anthropology, Harvard University (since July 2019)  
*Co-Chair, Standing Committee on General Education*, Harvard College (since July 2024)  
*Co-Editor, Bulletin of the American School of Overseas Research (ASOR)* (since October 2025)

**Past:**

*Director of Undergraduate Studies*, Department of Anthropology, Harvard University (July 2020-June 2023)  
*Chair, Standing Committee on Archaeology*, Harvard University (July 2020-June 2021)  
*Director*, Harvard University Center for Geographic Analysis (October 2014-June 2020)  
*Professor*, Department of Anthropology, Harvard University (July 2014-June 2019)  
*John L. Loeb Associate Professor of the Social Sciences*, Department of Anthropology, Harvard University (July 2011-June 2014).  
*Associate Professor*, Department of Anthropology, Harvard University (July 2009-June 2011).  
*Assistant Professor*, Department of Anthropology, Harvard University (July 2005-June 2009).  
*Lecturer*, Department of Anthropology, Stony Brook University (Jan 2004-June 2005).

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## EDUCATION

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*University of Chicago, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations*: Ph.D. in Mesopotamian Archaeology, awarded with honors, December 2004.  
*University of Pennsylvania, Department of Anthropology*: B.A. cum laude, Spring 1994

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## ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD PROJECTS

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**Current:**

Erbil Plain Archaeological Survey (EPAS), Erbil Governorate, Kurdistan Region of Iraq. Project Director (Summer 2012, 2013, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025).  
Mapping Post-Mortem Segregation in the Old Burying Ground in Cambridge. Co-PI with Aja Lans and Andrew Bair (2022-2025)

**Past:**

Berry Site Field School, Burke Co, North Carolina. UAV (drone) photogrammetry/field instructor (Summer 2019).  
Jemez Fire & Humans in Resilient Ecosystems Project (FHIRE), Jemez, New Mexico. Surveyor (Summer 2012).  
French Mission to Qasr Shemamok, Erbil Province, Kurdistan Region of Iraq. Surveyor (Fall 2011).  
Hirbemerdon Tepe Survey, Diyarbakir Province, Turkey. Field Director (Summer 2007, 2008, 2009, 2011).  
Kavuşan Höyük Regional Survey, Diyarbakir Province, Turkey. Gülriz Kozbe and Jason Ur, Project Directors (Summer 2009).  
Tell Brak Project, Syria. Suburban Survey Team Leader (Fall 2003, 2005, 2006), Survey Team Member (Fall 2002), Area TC J Supervisor (Spring 2002).  
Mughan Steppe Archaeological Project, Iran. Survey Team Member (Winter 2004-2005).  
Syrian-American Hamoukar Expedition, Syria. Survey Team Leader (Fall 1999, 2000), Area H Supervisor (Fall 2001).

Syrian-British-Belgian Chagar Bazar Excavations, Syria. Area B Supervisor (Spring 1999), Area G Supervisor (Spring 2000, 2001).

Syrian-European Tell Beydar Project, Syria. Survey Team Supervisor (Summer 1998).

Oriental Institute Dhamar Project, Yemen. Supervisor and Survey Assistant (Winter 1998).

Northwestern University Hacinebi Archaeological Excavation, Turkey. Area C Operation 5 Asst. Supervisor (Summer 1997).

Giza Plateau Mapping Project, Egypt. Square D14 Supervisor (Winter 1997).

Tell Madaba Project, Jordan. Field A Supervisor (Summer 1996).

University of Arizona Archaeological Field School. Student (Summer 1993).

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## PUBLICATIONS (\* Peer Reviewed)

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### **Books**

\*Ur, J. A. 2010. *Urbanism and Cultural Landscapes in Northeastern Syria: The Tell Hamoukar Survey, 1999-2001*. Oriental Institute Publications 137. Chicago: Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago.  
<http://oi.uchicago.edu/research/pubs/catalog/oip/oip137.html>.

See reviews by M. Danti in the *American Journal of Archaeology* 117.1 (2013), G. Philip in *The Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research* 370 (2013), J. Casana in *Antiquity* 88 (2014), E. Stone in the *Journal of Field Archaeology* 39 (2014), and D. Morandi Bonacossi in *The Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 74 (2015).

### **Books in Preparation**

Ur, J. A. in preparation. *The Evolution of Mesopotamian Cities*. Under contract with Oxford University Press.

### **Journal Articles in Preparation and in Press**

Brown, Jordan, Mehrnoush Soroush, James W. Rector, Aram Amin, Nisha Kumar, Parsa Kheirandish Zidehsaraei, and Jason A. Ur. in press. Low-Cost Seismic Geophysical Methods for the Detection of Karez: A Case Study on the Erbil Plain (Kurdistan Region of Iraq). *Journal of Archaeological Science*.

Soroush, Mehrnoush, and Jason Ur. in press. The Karez (Qanat) Landscape of the Erbil Plain. *Iraq*.

### **Journal Articles Published**

- Creamer, Petra M., Kyra Kaercher, Glynnis Maynard, Nader Babakr, Jason Ur, Rafeeq Bradosti, Khalil Barzinji, and Timothy Matney. 2025. The Site of Gird Qalachogan, Iraqi Kurdistan: Salvage Excavations and Survey. *Bulletin of the American Society of Overseas Research*:000-000.
- Ur, Jason A., and Karim Alizadeh. 2022. The Sasanian Colonisation of the Mughan Steppe, Ardebil Province, North-West Iran. In *Sasanian Archaeology: Settlements, Environment and Material Culture*, edited by S. J. Simpson. Oxford: Archaeopress.
- \*Palermo, R., L. de Jong, and Ur. 2022. "Hellenistic Landscapes and Seleucid Control in Mesopotamia: the View from the Erbil Plain in Northern Iraq." *American Journal of Archaeology* 126: 425-442.
- \*Hammer, E., M. Fitzpatrick, and J. Ur. 2022. "Succeeding CORONA: Declassified HEXAGON Intelligence Imagery for Archaeological and Historical Research." *Antiquity* 96 (387): 679-95. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.15184/aqy.2022.22>
- \*Ur, J. A., N. Babakr, R. Palermo, P. Creamer, M. Soroush, S. Ramand, and K. Nováček. 2021. "The Erbil Plain Archaeological Survey: Preliminary Results, 2012-2020." *Iraq* 83:205-243.
- \*Soroush, M., A. Mehrtash, E. Khazraee, and J. A. Ur. 2020. Deep Learning in Archaeological Remote Sensing: Automated Qanat Detection in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. *Journal of Remote Sensing* 12 (3):500.
- \*Hammer, E. L., and J. A. Ur. 2019. Near Eastern Landscapes and Declassified U2 Aerial Imagery. *Advances in Archaeological Practice* 7(2):107-126. <https://doi.org/10.1017/aap.2018.38>
- Ur, J. A. 2017. The Archaeological Renaissance in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. *Near Eastern Archaeology* 80:176-187.
- Ur, J. A. 2016. Challenges in Early Urbanism: A View from Mesopotamia (Commentary to Gaydarska, The City is Dead! Long Live the City!). *Norwegian Archaeology Review* 49:70-72.
- Ur, J. A. 2016. Commentary to Jennings and Earle, "Urbanization, State Formation, and Cooperation: A Reappraisal". *Current Anthropology* 57:487-488.
- \*Ur, J. A., and J. E. Reade. 2015. The Hydraulic Landscape of Nimrud. *Mesopotamia* 50:25-51.
- Ur, J. A., and M. Ertsen. 2015. Tony Wilkinson and the Water History of the Near East. *Water History* 7:377-379.
- \*Laneri, N., M. Schwartz, J.A. Ur, A. D'Agostino, R. Berthon, M. Hald, and A. Marsh. 2015. Ritual and Identity in Rural Mesopotamia: Hirbemerdon Tepe and the Upper Tigris River Valley in the Middle Bronze Age. *American Journal of Archaeology* 119:533-564.

- \*Ur, J. A. 2014. Households and the Emergence of Cities in Ancient Mesopotamia. *Cambridge Archaeological Journal* 24:249-268.
- \*Menze, B.H., and J.A. Ur. 2014. Multitemporal Fusion for the Detection of Static Spatial Patterns in Multispectral Satellite Images, with Application to Archaeological Survey. *IEEE Journal of Selected Topics in Applied Earth Observations and Remote Sensing (JSTARS)* 7: 3513-3524.
- Ur, J. A., and A. Al Hamdani. 2014. Settlement Patterns in Sumer and Akkad. *Subartu* 8:159-188 (in Arabic).
- \*Smith, M. E., J. A. Ur, and G. Feinman. 2014. Jane Jacobs' 'Cities First' Model and Archaeological Reality. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 38:1525-1535. DOI: 10.1111/1468-2427.12138.
- \*Ur, J. A., L. de Jong, J. Giraud, J.F. Osborne, and J. MacGinnis. 2013. Ancient Cities and Landscapes in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq: The Erbil Plain Archaeological Survey 2012 Season. *Iraq* 75:89-114.
- Ur, J. A. 2013. The Morphology of Neo-Assyrian Cities. *Subartu* 6-7:11-22.
- \*Ur, J. A. 2013. Spying on the Past: Declassified Intelligence Satellite Photographs and Near Eastern Landscapes. *Near Eastern Archaeology* 76: 28-36.
- Ur, J. A., and K. Alizadeh. 2013. The Sasanian Colonization of the Mughan Steppe, Ardebil Province, Northwestern Iran. *Journal of Iranian Archaeology* 4:98-110.
- \*Menze, B. H., and J. A. Ur. 2012. Mapping Patterns of Long-Term Settlement in Northern Mesopotamia at a Large Scale. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 109:E778-E787. DOI:10.1073/pnas.1115472109
- \*Al Quntar, S., L. Khalidi, and J.A. Ur. 2011. Proto-Urbanism in the late 5th Millennium BC: Survey and Excavations at Khirbat al-Fakhar/Hamoukar, Northeast Syria. *Paléorient* 37:151-175.
- \*Ur, J. A., P. Karsgaard, and J. Oates. 2011. The Spatial Dimensions of Early Mesopotamian Urbanism: The Tell Brak Suburban Survey, 2003-2006. *Iraq* 73: 1-19.
- \*Colantoni, C., and J. A. Ur. 2011. The Architecture and Pottery of a Late 3rd Millennium BC Residential Quarter at Tell Hamoukar, Northeastern Syria. *Iraq* 73: 21-69.
- \*Ur, J. A. 2010. Cycles of Civilization in Northern Mesopotamia, 4400-2000 BC. *Journal of Archaeological Research* 18:387-431.
- \*Wilkinson, T. J., C. French, J. A. Ur, and M. Semple. 2010. The Geoarchaeology of Route Systems in Northern Syria. *Geoarchaeology* 25:745-771.
- Laneri, N., and J. A. Ur. 2010. The Hirbemerdon Tepe Archaeological Project 2008: A Preliminary Report. *31. Kazı Sonuçları Toplantısı*: 213-229.
- \*Ur, J. A., and E. L. Hammer. 2009. Pastoral Nomads of the Second and Third Millennia AD on the Upper Tigris River, Turkey: Archaeological Evidence from the Hirbemerdon Tepe Survey. *Journal of Field Archaeology* 34:37-56.
- Laneri, N., M. Schwartz, J. A. Ur, S. Valentini, A. D'Agostino, R. Berthon, and M. M. Hald. 2008. The Hirbemerdon Tepe Archaeological Project 2006-2007: A Preliminary Report on the Middle Bronze Age 'Architectural Complex' and the Survey of the Site Catchment Area. *Anatolica* 34: 177-240.
- \*Ur, J. A., P. Karsgaard, and J. Oates. 2007. Urban Development in the Ancient Near East. *Science* 317:1188.
- \*Oates, J., A. McMahon, P. Karsgaard, S. al-Quntar, and J. Ur. 2007. Early Mesopotamian Urbanism: A New View from the North. *Antiquity* 81 (313): 585-600.
- \*Alizadeh, K., and J. A. Ur. 2007. Formation and Destruction of Pastoral and Irrigation Landscapes on the Mughan Steppe, North-Western Iran. *Antiquity* 81 (311): 148-160.
- \*Wilkinson, T. J., J. Christiansen, J. A. Ur, M. Widell, and M. Altaheel. 2007. Urbanization within a Dynamic Environment: Modelling Bronze Age Communities in Upper Mesopotamia. *American Anthropologist* 109:52-68.
- Wright, H. T., E. S. A. Rupley, J. A. Ur, J. Oates, and E. Ganem. 2006-2007. Preliminary Report on the 2002 and 2003 Seasons of the Tell Brak Sustaining Area Survey. *Les Annales Archéologiques Arabes Syriennes* 49-50:7-21.
- \*Menze, B. H., J. A. Ur, and A. G. Sherratt. 2006. Detection of Ancient Settlement Mounds: Archaeological Survey Based on the SRTM Terrain Model. *Photogrammetric Engineering & Remote Sensing* 72:321-327.
- Alizadeh, K., and J. Ur. 2006. Mughan Steppe Archaeological Survey. *Iranian Center for Archaeological Research Archaeological Reports* 4:49-56 (In Farsi).
- Ur, J. A. 2005. Les imatges per satèl·lit i l'estructura dels paisatges antics: exemples del Pròxim Orient. *Cota Zero* 20:129-138.
- \*Ur, J. A. 2005. Sennacherib's Northern Assyrian Canals: New Insights from Satellite Imagery and Aerial Photography. *Iraq* 67:317-345.
- \*Wilkinson, T. J., E. Wilkinson, J. A. Ur, and M. Altaheel. 2005. Landscape and Settlement in the Neo-Assyrian Empire. *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research* 340:23-56.
- Ur, J. A. 2004-2005. "المسح الأثري ودراسات المشهد الطبيعي في منطقة تل حموكار 1999-2001" *Les Annales Archéologiques Arabes Syriennes* 47-48:9-21 (Arabic Section). Translated by S. al-Quntar. Submitted January 2004.
- \*Ur, J. A. 2003. CORONA Satellite Photography and Ancient Road Networks: A Northern Mesopotamian Case Study. *Antiquity* 77:102-115.

- Ur, J. A. 2002. Settlement and Landscape in Northern Mesopotamia: The Tell Hamoukar Survey 2000-2001. *Akkadica* 123:57-88.
- \*Ur, J. A. 2002. Surface Collection and Offsite Studies at Tell Hamoukar, 1999. *Iraq* 64:15-44.

### ***Journal Articles in Preparation/under review/in Press***

- \*Ur, J.A., in preparation. "Central Planning and Urban Emergence in Early Bronze Age Cities of Northern Mesopotamia." To be submitted to *Antiquity*.
- Babakr, N., and J. A. Ur. in preparation. Sennacherib's Bastora Dam and its Implications for Assyrian Water Management.

### ***Book Chapters Published***

- Ur, J. A. 2022. "Remote Sensing of Ancient Canal and Irrigation Systems" in Rost, S. (ed.), *Irrigation in Early States: New Directions*. Chicago: University of Chicago Oriental Institute, pp. 65-81.
- Ur, J. A. 2021. "Kish and the Spatial Organization of Cities in 3rd millennium BC Southern Iraq" in Altaweel, M. and C. Hritz (eds.), *From Sberds to Landscapes: Studies in the Ancient Near East in Honor of McGuire Gibson*. Chicago: University of Chicago Oriental Institute, pp. 229-39.
- Ur, J. A., and J. Giraud. 2020. "Vers une histoire du peuplement de la plaine d'Erbil" in Alpi, F., Z. Bradosty, J. Giraud, J. MacGinnis and R. Mattila (eds.), *Arbela Antiqua*. Beirut: Institut Français du Proche-Orient, pp. 59-75.
- Ur, J. A. 2020. "Space and Structure in Early Mesopotamian Cities," in *Landscapes of Pre-Industrial Cities*. Edited by Georges Farhat, pp. 37-59. *Dumbarton Oaks*.
- Ur, J. A. and J. Blossom. 2019. "Mapping Ancient Landscapes," in *GIS for Science: Applying Mapping & Spatial Analytics*. Edited by Dawn Wright and Christian Harder, pp. 142-165. Redlands CA: ESRI Press.
- Ur, J. A. 2018. Water for Arbail and Nimrud. In *Water for Assyria*, edited by H. Kühne, pp. 57-75. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz.
- Rouault, O., M. G. Masetti-Rouault, I. Calini, J. Macginnis, J. Ur, and Q. Vitale. 2018. "Qasr Shemamok-Kilizu (Kurdistan d'Irak), les campagnes de 2011 (9 avril-15 mai et 16 octobre-5 novembre)" in Déroche, V., M. G. Masetti-Rouault and C. Nicolle (eds.), *Études Mésopotamiennes – Mesopotamian Studies No. 1*. Oxford: Archaeopress, pp. 212-53.
- Ur, J. A. 2017. "The Topography of Nineveh," in *Nineveh, the Great City: Symbol of Beauty and Power*. Edited by Lucas P. Petit and Daniele Morandi Bonacossi, pp. 58-62. Leiden: Sidestone.
- Ur, J. A. 2017. "Physical and Cultural Landscapes of Assyria," in *Blackwell Companion to Assyria*. Edited by E. Frahm, pp. 13-35. Oxford and Malden: Wiley Blackwell.
- Ur, J. A. 2017. "The Birth of Cities in Ancient West Asia," in *Ancient West Asian Civilization: Geoenvironment and Society in the Pre-Islamic Middle East*. Edited by Akira Tsuneki, Shigeo Yamada, and Kenichiro Hisada, pp. 133-147. Singapore: Springer.
- Ur, J. A. and J. F. Osborne. 2016. "The Rural Landscape of the Assyrian Heartland: Recent Results from Arbail and Kilizu Provinces," in *The Provincial Archaeology of the Assyrian Empire*. Edited by J. MacGinnis, D. Wicke, and T. Greenfield, 163-174. Cambridge: McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research.
- Kopaniak, K., C. Beuger, J. MacGinnis, and J. A. Ur. 2016. "The Tell Baqrta Project in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq," in *The Provincial Archaeology of the Assyrian Empire*. Edited by J. MacGinnis, D. Wicke, and T. Greenfield, pp. 117-128. Cambridge: McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research.
- Ur, J. A. 2015. "Urban Adaptations to Climate Change in Northern Mesopotamia," in *Climate and Ancient Societies*. Edited by S. Kerner, R. Dann, and P. Bangsgaard, pp. 69-95. Copenhagen: Museum Tusulanum Press.
- \*Ur, J. A. 2014. "Urban Form at Tell Brak Across Three Millennia," in *Preludes to Urbanism: The Late Chalcolithic of Mesopotamia*. Edited by A. McMahon and H. Crawford, pp. 49-62. Cambridge: McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research.
- Ur, J. A. 2014. Umma. B. Archäologische. *Reallexikon der Assyriologie und Vorderasiatischen Archäologie* 14 (3/4):327-330.
- \*Ur, J. A. 2013. "CORONA Satellite Imagery and Ancient Near Eastern Landscapes," in *Mapping Archaeological Landscapes from Space*. Edited by Douglas C. Comer and Michael J. Harrower, pp. 19-29. New York: Springer.
- \*Menze, B. H., and J. A. Ur. 2013. "Mapping Anthrosols in Multi-Spectral Images using a Multi-Temporal Classification Strategy: An Approach to Settlement Survey at a Large Scale in the Upper Khabur Basin, Syria," in *Mapping Archaeological Landscapes from Space*. Edited by Douglas C. Comer and Michael J. Harrower, pp. 209-218. New York: Springer.
- Ur, J. A. 2013. "Patterns of Settlement in Sumer and Akkad," in *The Sumerian World*. Edited by H. Crawford, pp. 131-155. London: Routledge.

- Wilkinson, T. J., J. A. Ur, and C. Hritz. 2013. "Settlement Archaeology of Mesopotamia," in *Models of Mesopotamian Landscapes*, BAR International Series 2552. Edited by T. J. Wilkinson, M. Gibson, and M. Widell, pp. 34-55. Oxford: Archaeopress.
- Widell, M., C. Hritz, J. A. Ur, and T. J. Wilkinson. 2013. "Land Use of the Model Communities," in *Models of Mesopotamian Landscapes*, BAR International Series 2552. Edited by T. J. Wilkinson, M. Gibson, and M. Widell, pp. 56-80. Oxford: Archaeopress.
- Branting, S., T. J. Wilkinson, J. Christiansen, M. Widell, C. Hritz, J. Ur, B. Studevent-Hickman, and M. Altaweel. 2013. "The 'External Economy': Networks and Trade," in *Models of Mesopotamian Landscapes*, BAR International Series 2552. Edited by T. J. Wilkinson, M. Gibson, and M. Widell, pp. 140-151. Oxford: Archaeopress.
- Ur, J. A. 2012. "Southern Mesopotamia," in *A Companion to the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East, Vol. 1*. Edited by D. T. Potts, pp. 533-555. Malden and Oxford: Blackwell.
- Ur, J. A. 2012. "Spatial Scale and Urban Evolution at Tell Brak and Hamoukar at the End of the 3rd Millennium BC," in *Looking North: The Socio-Economic Dynamics of the Northern Mesopotamian and Anatolian Regions during the Late Third and Early Second Millennium BC*, Studien zur Urbanisierung Nordmesopotamiens Serie D Band 1. Edited by Nicola Laneri, Peter Pfälzner, and Stefano Valentini, pp. 25-35. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz.
- Ur, J. A. 2012. "Landscapes of Movement in the Ancient Near East," in *Proceedings of the 7th International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East, 12-16 April 2010, the British Museum and UCL, London*, Volume 1. Edited by R. Matthews and J. Curtis, pp. 521-538. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz.
- Ur, J. A. 2011. "Ancient Landscapes in Southeastern Anatolia," in *Oxford Handbook of Ancient Anatolian Studies*. Edited by S. R. Steadman and G. McMahon, pp. 836-857. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Menze, B. H., and J. A. Ur. 2011. "Detection of Early Settlements in the Central Tigris Region by Classifying Multi-Spectral Satellite Imagery: A Remote Sensing Approach to Map Early Settlements in the Near East," in *Between the Cultures: The Central Tigris Region in Mesopotamia from the 3rd to the 1st Millennium BC*, Heidelberger Studien zum Alten Orient 14. Edited by Peter Miglus and Simone Mühl, pp. 361-367. Heidelberg: Heidelberger Orientverlag.
- \*Ur, J. A., and C. Colantoni. 2010. "The Cycle of Production, Preparation, and Consumption in a Northern Mesopotamian City," in *Inside Ancient Kitchens: New Directions in the Study of Daily Meals and Feasts*. Edited by E. Klarich, pp. 55-82. Boulder: University Press of Colorado.
- \*Ur, J. A. 2009. "Emergent Landscapes of Movement in Early Bronze Age Northern Mesopotamia," in *Landscapes of Movement: Paths, Trails, and Roads in Anthropological Perspective*. Edited by J. E. Snead, C. Erickson, and W. A. Darling, pp. 180-203. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Museum Press.
- Ur, J. A., and T. J. Wilkinson. 2008. "Settlement and Economic Landscapes of Tell Beydar and its Hinterland," in *Beydar Studies I*. Edited by M. Lebeau and A. Suleiman, pp. 305-327. Turnhout: Brepols.
- \*Wilkinson, T. J., M. Gibson, J. Christiansen, M. Widell, D. Schloen, N. Kouchoukos, C. Woods, J. C. Sanders, K.-L. Simunich, M. Altaweel, J. A. Ur, C. Hritz, J. Lauinger, T. Paulette, and J. Tenney. 2007. "Modeling Settlement Systems in a Dynamic Environment: Case Studies from Mesopotamia," in *The Model-Based Archaeology of Socionatural Systems*. Edited by T. A. Kohler and S. van der Leeuw, pp. 175-208. Santa Fe: School of American Research.
- Sallaberger, W., and J. A. Ur. 2004. "Tell Beydar/Nabada in its Regional Setting," in *Third Millennium Cuneiform Texts from Tell Beydar (Seasons 1996-2002)*, Subartu 12. Edited by L. Milano, W. Sallaberger, P. Talon, and K. Van Lerberghe, pp. 51-71. Turnhout: Brepols.
- Wilkinson, T. J., J. A. Ur, and J. Casana. 2004. "From Nucleation to Dispersal: Trends in Settlement Pattern in the Northern Fertile Crescent," in *Side-by-Side Survey: Comparative Regional Studies in the Mediterranean World*. Edited by J. Cherry and S. Alcock, pp. 189-205. Oxford: Oxbow Books.

### Book Reviews

- Review of A. Hausleiter et al. (eds.), *Material Culture and Mental Spheres. Rezeption archäologischer Denkrichtungen in der Vorderasiatischen Altertumskunde. Internationales Symposium für Hans J. Nissen, Berlin, 22.-24. Juni 2000*, in *Bibliotheca Orientalis* 70/3-4 (2013): 512-514.
- Review of M. E. Smith (ed.), *The Comparative Archaeology of Complex Societies*, in *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient* 55 (2012): 860-864.
- The Myth of Isolated Civilizations (Wengrow's *What Makes Civilization? The Ancient Near East & the Future of the West*), in *Current Anthropology* 52/4 (2011): 607-608.
- Review of E. Peltenburg (ed.), *Euphrates River Valley Settlement: The Carcbemish Sector in the Third Millennium BC*, in *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research* 359 (2010): 77-78.
- Review of R. Matthews (ed.), *Exploring an Upper Mesopotamian Regional Centre, 1994-1996*, in *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, in *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 65 (2006): 313-315.

Review of J.N. Postgate (ed.), *Artefacts of Complexity: Tracking the Uruk in the Near East*, in *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 65 (2006): 127-128.

Review of C. Postgate *et al.*, *The Excavations at Tell al-Rimah: The Pottery*, in *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 64 (2005): 65-68.

Review of D. Oates *et al.*, *Excavations at Tell Brak, Vol. 2.*, in *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 63 (2004): 107-110.

### Databases

Ur, J.A., and E. Hammer. 2018. Spatial Index of U2 Aerial Photography of the Middle East, 1958-1960  
<https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/VD74QX>. Harvard Dataverse, V2.

Ur, J.A. 2014. Geospatial Data and CORONA Satellite Imagery for the Site of Kish, Southern Iraq  
<https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/27163>, Harvard Dataverse, V1.

Ur, J.A. 2010. Landscapes of Settlement and Movement in Northeastern Syria <https://hdl.handle.net/1902.1/14011>.  
 Harvard Dataverse, V1.

### Newsletters/Other

Macginnis, J., D. Morandi Bonacossi, and J. Ur. 2021. "Divine Channels: Rediscovering the Canal Networks of the Assyrian Empire." *The Ancient Near East Today* 9 (10). (online)

Ur, J. A. 2020. Drones over Kurdistan. *In Situ* Spring 2020.

Ur, J. A. 2016. Middle Eastern Archaeology from the Air and Space. *In Situ* Fall 2016:1-4.

Ur, J. A. 2013. New Explorations in the Heart of Assyria: Cities and Landscapes on the Erbil Plain, Kurdistan Region of Iraq. *The Ancient Near East Today* 8 (November 2013), <http://asorblog.org/?p=6151>

Ur, J. A. 2012. The Present and Future of Archaeology in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. *TAARII Newsletter* 7-1 (Spring 2012): 20-23.

Ur, J. A. 2008. The Origins and Development of the First Cities in the Near East. *Symbols* Spring 2008: 9-10, 21.

Laneri, N., M. Schwartz, and J. A. Ur. 2008. The Hirbermerdon Tepe Archaeological Project. *Antiquity* Project Gallery.  
<http://www.antiquity.ac.uk/ProjGall/laneri/index.html>

Ur, J. A. 2007. Agricultural and Pastoral Landscapes in the Near East: Case Studies using CORONA Satellite Photography. *ArchAtlas*, October 2007, 2.1 Edition, <http://www.archatlas.org/workshop/Ur07.php>

Ur, J. A. 2006. Google Earth and Archaeology. *The SAA Archaeological Record* 6 (3): 35-38.

Ur, J. A. 2004. CAMEL Laboratory Investigates the Landscape of Assyria from Space. *Oriental Institute News & Notes* Spring 2004:6-7.

Ur, J. A. 2002. The Collapse of an Early Urban Center in Northern Mesopotamia: The Case of Tell Hamoukar. *American Schools of Oriental Research Newsletter* 52:8-9.

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## EXHIBITIONS

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*Spying on Antiquity: Declassified Intelligence Satellite Images and Archaeology*. Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnography, Harvard University. Curated with students of Anthropology 97x, Sophomore Tutorial in Archaeology and graduate student, Adam Stack, with Associate Curator of Visual Anthropology Ilisa Barbash. April 29, 2010 through February 7, 2011.

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## CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PAPERS PRESENTED (\* Keynote/Invited)

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- 2025
- “From Satellites to Ceramics: Tracking Landscape Change and Cultural Heritage Impacts in the Erbil Plain.” ASOR Annual Meeting, Boston MA, 22 November 2025. (Elise Laugier, Mohammed Lashkri, Madeline Ouimet, and Jason Ur)
  - “Death and Burial in Colonial Cambridge.” Harvard Museums of Science and Culture, 20 October 2025. (Jason Ur and Aja Lans)
  - “Recent research in Cambridge’s Old Burying Ground.” Association for Gravestone Studies Western MA chapter fall meeting, Wilbraham MA 25 October 2025.
  - “Landscapes of Death and Burial in the Boston Area and in the Cloud.” Science of the Human Past, Harvard University, 21 October 2025.
  - “Proxies for the Past: Remote Sensing and Historical Landscapes.” Proxy Landscapes Symposium, Weitzman School of Design, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia PA 11 April 2025. (Jason Ur and Emily Hammer)

- 2024
- “Spatial Distribution of Gravestones in Several Old Burying Grounds in the Boston Area: Drone and Computer Technology.” Fall Meeting, Association for Gravestone Studies – Western New England Chapter, Warwick Public Library, Warwick, MA; 9 November 2024.
  - “Modeling, Mobile GIS, and Virtual Reality in the Historic Burying Grounds of Greater Boston.” Center for Geographic Analysis Geography Colloquium; 26 September 2024.
  - “New Analyses of Colonial Burying Grounds of Greater Boston: Drones, 3D Models, and Web Mapping.” Association for Gravestone Studies Annual Meeting, Emory University, Atlanta GA 22 June 2024. (Jason Ur, Aja Lans, Andrew Bair, and Idabelle Paterson)
  - “Early Urban Mesopotamian Societies were not States.” Paper presented at the Society for American Archaeology (SAA) Annual Meeting, New Orleans, 19 April 2024.
  - “The Growth and Dissolution of Imperial Landscapes in Northern Mesopotamia: Results from the Erbil Plain, 2012-2023.” Lecture delivered at Bryn Mawr College Department of Classical and Near Eastern Archaeology, 25 March 2024.
  - “Mapping Postmortem Segregation in Cambridge’s Old Burying Ground.” Presentation at the Harvard Archaeology Seminar, 8 February 2024
  - “Catocin and Cambridge.” Commentary paper at the workshop “Ancient DNA & U.S. History: The Genetic Legacy of African Americans from Catocin Furnace,” organized by the Science of the Human Past Initiative, Harvard University, 7 February 2024.
  - “The Erbil Plain Archaeological Survey: A Decade of Research Collaboration.” British Association for Near Eastern Archaeology (BANE) Annual meeting, Glasgow, 5 January 2024.
- 2023
- “Low-Cost Seismic Methods for the Detection of Qanat Landscapes on the Erbil Plain,” Jordan Brown, Mehrnoush Soroush, James W Rector, Aram Amin, Nisha Kumar, Parsa Kheirandish Zidehsaraei, Jason Ur. Paper presented at the American Society for Overseas Research (ASOR) annual meeting, Chicago, IL, 17 November 2023.
  - \*“Mesopotamian Urban Structures in Comparative Perspective.” Invited presentation at the Archaeology Centre’s annual conference on The Archaeology of Alternative Urbanisms in the Tropical World, University of Toronto, 22 April 2023.
  - \*“Landscape Archaeology of Northern Mesopotamia in the Sassanian Period.” Presentation at UC Irvine’s Jordan Center for Persian Studies’ Fifth Payravi Conference on The Sasanians: Aspects, Tendancies, Trajectories, 27 March 2023.
- 2022
- “Urban Trajectories in Ancient Mesopotamia.” Paper presented virtually at the conference “Lost cities”: form, meaning and perception of urban settlements in the Ancient Near and Middle East, Pisa, Italy, Dec 29-30, 2022.
  - “Settlement Patterning in Northern Iraq Under the Neo-Assyrian Resettlement Regime,” J. Bishop and J. Ur. Paper presented at the American Society for Overseas Research (ASOR) annual meeting, Boston, MA, 19 November 2022.
  - “The Erbil Plain Archaeological Survey, 2012-2022,” J. Ur, N. Babakr, R. Palermo, P. Creamer, M. Soroush. Paper presented at the American Society for Overseas Research (ASOR) annual meeting, Boston, MA, 19 November 2022.
  - “Remote Sensing for Dating: How Old Are the Qanat Systems of Erbil?” M. Soroush and J. Ur. Paper presented at the American Society for Overseas Research (ASOR) annual meeting, Boston, MA, 18 November 2022.
  - “Postmortem Segregation in Colonial New England: Negro Servants in Cambridge’s Old Burying Ground.” Paper presented at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, 9 November 2022. (Aja Lans and Jason Ur)
  - \*“Modern Spy Satellites and Ancient Assyria: How New Technologies are Reconstructing the Landscape of the Ancient World.” Virtual presentation to the Harvard Clubs of Singapore and Australia, 22 February 2022.
- 2021
- “Urbanism and the Rise of Cities in Mesopotamia.” Virtual lecture at the University of Pisa, 10 December 2021.
  - “Subsurface Remote Sensing of Assyrian Settlements on the Erbil Plain, Iraqi Kurdistan,” Petra Creamer, Jason Ur, and Rocco Palermo. Paper presented at the American Society of Overseas Research (ASOR) annual meeting, Chicago, IL, 20 November 2021.

- “Neo-Assyrian Hydraulic Engineering and the Paleohydrology of the Bastora Chai,” Jordan Brown, Nader Babakr, Jason Ur, and Lisa Maher. Paper presented at the American Society of Overseas Research (ASOR) annual meeting, Chicago, IL, 19 November 2021.
- “The Erbil Plain Archaeological Survey, Kurdistan Region of Iraq.” Paper to be presented at the TARI Research Conference “From Ancient to Modern: The Current State of Research on Iraq,” Washington DC.
- “The Erbil Plain Archaeological Survey: Eight Seasons of Collaborative Fieldwork in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. 2012-2020.” Paper presented virtually in the ARWA in Action lecture series, 8 June 2021.
- “The History of Settlement on the Erbil Plain.” Virtual talk presented to the Erbil History, Archaeology, Arts and Architecture Seminar, hosted by L’Institut Français du Proche-Orient and the University of Kurdistan—Hawler, 29 April 2021.
- “Cities and Landscapes in the Core of the Assyrian Empire.” Virtual presentation to the Archaeology of the Middle East Seminar, School of Archaeology, University of Oxford, UK, 1 March 2021.
- “Landscape and Settlement on the Erbil Plain, Kurdistan Region of Iraq.” Virtual presentation at the 12th International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (12ICAANE), University of Bologna, Italy, 8 April 2021.
- 2020
- \*“Landscape and Empire in Ancient Assyria: The Erbil Plain Archaeological Survey.” Virtual presentation to the Center for Ancient Mediterranean and Near Eastern Studies (CAMNES), Florence, Italy, 16 December 2020.
- \*“Water and the Empire: The Archaeology of the Physical and Cultural Landscapes of Assyria.” Virtual presentation to the University of Groningen, 14 December 2020.
- “Landscape and Empire in Ancient Assyria: The Erbil Plain Archaeological Survey.” Virtual presentation to the Ancient Studies at Harvard Seminar, 14 October 2020.
- “Cities and Landscapes of the Erbil Plain, Kurdistan Region of Iraq.” Presentation to the Harvard Archaeology Seminar, 8 April 2020.
- “Seeing the patterns that persist in time – using multitemporal classification of multispectral images for archaeological prospection” (Bjoern Menze and Jason Ur). Paper presented at the workshop “Computational approaches to archaeological site detection and monitoring,” held at the McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom, 20 February 2020.
- 2019
- “The Quest for More Water: The Story of the Karez Water Systems on the Erbil Plain” (lead author Mehrnoush Soroush). Paper presented at the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) annual meeting, San Diego, 22 November 2019.
- “Middle Bronze Age Settlement Patterns in Upper Mesopotamia: A Perspective from the Erbil Plain” (lead author Petra Creamer). Paper presented at the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) annual meeting, San Diego, 23 November 2019.
- “The Creation and Collapse of Imperial Landscapes in Northern Mesopotamia” (lead author Rocco Palermo). Paper presented at the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) annual meeting, San Diego, 23 November 2019.
- “The Erbil Plain Archaeological Survey: Field Methods and Preliminary Results, 2016-2019.” With N. Babakr and K. Barzinji. Paper presented at the IFPO/General Directorate of Antiquities Conference on Archaeological Research in Iraqi Kurdistan, Erbil, Kurdistan Region of Iraq, 10 October 2019.
- \*“Provisioning Eurasian Cities: Thoughts and Comments from a Mesopotamian Perspective.” Concluding presentation at the international conference “Beyond the Walls: Provisioning Cities in Ancient Eurasia,” hosted by the Eurasia Department of the German Archaeological Institute (DAI), Berlin, 27-28 June 2019.
- \*“Mesopotamian Landscape Archaeology: What Comes After Adams and Wilkinson?” Paper presented at the Conference on “Landscape Studies in the Near East: the Next 100 Years,” University of Chicago Oriental Institute, Chicago, IL, 10-11 May 2019.
- \*“Modern Spy Satellites and Ancient Assyria: How New Technologies are Reconstructing the Landscape of the Ancient World.” Lecture delivered to the Harvard Club of Princeton, Princeton NJ, 24 May 2019.
- \*“The Imperial Landscape of Assyria, from the Ground and Above.” Lecture presented to the Association des Amis de Larsa, Institut d’art et d’archéologie, Paris, France, 4 April 2019
- “Forced Migration in the Assyrian Empire, on the Periphery and in the Heartland.” Paper presented at the Society for American Archaeology (SAA) Annual Meeting, Albuquerque NM, 10-14 April 2019.

- \*“The Archaeological Landscape of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq: Current Results and Future Prospects.” Lecture presented at the workshop “The Mesopotamian landscape archaeology: recent researches in Iraqi-Kurdistan,” Tsukuba University, Tokyo, 25 January 2019.
- 2018 “Settlement Patterns on the Erbil Plain, Kurdistan Region of Iraq.” Paper presented at the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) annual meeting, Denver, 14-17 November 2018.  
\*“The Imperial Landscape of Assyria, from the Ground and Above.” Annual Spring lecture, delivered at the Archaeological Research Facility, University of California at Berkeley, 5 April 2018.
- 2017 “Hydraulic and Demographic Engineering in the Assyrian Heartland.” Paper presented at the University of Utah, 18 December 2017.  
“The Evolution of the Assyrian Landscape in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.” Paper presented at the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) annual meeting, Boston, 15-18 November 2017 (with N. Babakr).  
“Drones and Archaeology: Case Studies from Faculty and Student Research at Harvard.” Presentation at the ESRI Imagery Education Summit, Redlands, CA, 9-10 November 2017.  
“Declassified U.S. Satellite Imagery and Near Eastern Archaeology. Lecture presented to the New York Society of the Archaeological Institute of America, Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, New York, NY, 23 October 2017.  
“Spying on Antiquity: Declassified U.S. Satellite Imagery and Near Eastern Archaeology.” Lecture presented to the Westchester (NY) Society of the Archaeological Institute of America, 22 October 2017.  
“Spy Satellites and Archaeology.” Talk presented to the Harvard Club of Fairfield County, Stamford CT, 19 October 2017.  
“Space and Structure in Early Mesopotamian Cities.” Paper presented at Landscapes of Pre-Industrial Cities: 2017 Garden and Landscape Studies Symposium, Dumbarton Oaks, Washington DC, May 6, 2017.  
“Drones and Historical Landscapes: An Archaeological Case study from the Middle East.” Paper presented at the 2017 conference “The Drone Revolution in Spatial Analysis,” Harvard University Center for Geographic Analysis, 28 April 2017.  
“Mesopotamian Megasites before Uruk.” Paper presented at the Society for American Archaeology (SAA) Annual Meeting, Vancouver, Canada, 30 March 2017.  
“Settlement and Water Management on the Erbil Plain, Kurdistan Region of Iraq.” Paper presented at the British Association for Near Eastern Archaeology (BANE), Glasgow, Scotland, UK, 5 January 2017.
- 2016 “Geographic Analysis at Harvard: Using Geographic Information in Research and Real-World Problems.” Presentation to the Harvard Clubs of Prague and Hungary, 7 December 2016.  
“Forced Migration and Resettlement in Iraq, Ancient and Modern.” Paper presented at the 115<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Minneapolis, MN, 17 November 2016.  
\*“The Present and Future of Landscape Research in the Ancient Near East.” Paper presented at the 50th Anniversary of the Columbia University Seminar on the Ancient Near East, New York, NY, November 12, 2016.  
\*“Archaeology and Cultural Landscapes.” Presentation at the Ministry of Culture, Republic of Peru, 19 July 2016.  
\*“GIS and Archaeology.” Public presentation to students in Chiclayo, Peru, 18 July 2016.  
“The City and Landscape of Ur: An Aerial and Satellite Reassessment.” Paper to be presented at the 62nd Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, Philadelphia, PA, July 11-15, 2016 (Emily Hammer and Jason Ur).  
\*“Declassified Spy Satellite Imagery and the Archaeology of the Middle East.” Presentation to the Harvard Club of Northeastern Ohio, Cleveland, OH, May 12, 2016.  
“Water for Arbail and Nimrud.” Paper presented at the 10th International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (10ICAANE), Vienna, Austria, 29 April 2014.  
“Assyrian Landscape Planning in the Core of the Empire (ca. 900-600 BC).” Paper presented at the 81st Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology (SAA), Orlando, Florida, 8 April 2016.  
Final discussion for the symposium “The Agricultural Origins of Urbanization: ‘Intensification’ in Late Prehistoric Western Eurasia and Beyond,” Ioannou Centre for Classical and Byzantine Studies, University of Oxford, 20 March 2016.

- \*“Remote Sensing of Ancient Canal and Irrigation Systems.” Paper presented at the symposium “Irrigation and Early States: New Directions,” University of Chicago Oriental Institute, 3 March 2016.
  - \*“Cities and Landscapes of Assyria: New Research in the Imperial Core.” A.K. Grayson lecture on Assyrian History and Culture, at the Canadian Society for Mesopotamian Studies, Toronto, Canada, 13 January 2016.
- 2015
- \*“Lost Cities and Landscapes in the Heart of the Assyrian Empire.” Lecture at Peking University, Beijing, China, 10 June 2015.
  - “Historical Aerial and Satellite Intelligence Imagery in Archaeological Research in the Middle East,” Geography Colloquium, Harvard University Center for Geographic Analysis, 5 May 2015.
  - \*“Spying on Antiquity: Declassified US Intelligence Satellite Imagery and Near Eastern Archaeology.” Public lecture at the University of Nevada Las Vegas, 16 March 2015.
  - \*“Landscapes of Early States and Empires in Mesopotamia.” Lecture given to the Department of Anthropology, University of Nevada Las Vegas, 16 March 2015.
  - \*“Cultural Heritage in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq: What’s at Stake, and What are the Threats?” Invited lecture at the symposium Cultural Heritage Crisis in the Middle East, University of Arkansas, 6 March 2015.
  - “Remote Sensing of Early States and Empires: Semi-Automated Case Studies from the Near East.” American Association for the Advancement of Science Annual Meeting, San Jose, February 2015.
- 2014
- \*“The Renaissance of Archaeology in Iraq and its Kurdistan Region.” Plenary lecture at the American Schools of Oriental Research annual meeting, San Diego, 19 November 2014.
  - “Cities, States, and Empires on the Erbil Plain, Kurdistan Region of Iraq.” Paper presented at the American Schools of Oriental Research annual meeting, San Diego, 19 November 2014.
  - “On Canals, Functions and Options in North Kurdistan.” Paper presented at the Landscape Archaeology Conference (LAC2014), Rome, Italy, 17-20 September 2014 (Maurits Ertsen and Jason Ur).
  - \*“Landscapes of Early States and Empires in Mesopotamia.” Lecture to the Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 27 October 2014.
  - “Cities and Landscapes of Assyria: New Research in the Imperial Core.” Lecture given at the University of Chicago Oriental Institute, Chicago, IL, 23 October 2014.
  - \*“The Birth of Cities in Ancient West Asia.” Invited lecture at the University of Tsukuba symposium “Ancient West Asian Civilization as the Foundation of All Modern Civilizations,” Tokyo, Japan, 29 June 2014.
  - “Results of the Erbil Plain Archaeological Survey (EPAS), Kurdistan Region of Iraq.” Paper presented at the 9th International Conference on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (9ICAANE), Basel, Switzerland, 9 June 2014 (James Osborne and Jason Ur).
  - “A Critical Assessment of the Akkadian Empire through the Lens of Archaeology.” Paper presented at The Sargonic Empire: An Interdisciplinary Workshop, Harvard Semitic Museum, Cambridge MA, May 21, 2014.
  - “LIDAR and the Structure of an Assyrian City: A Case Study from Erbil, Kurdistan Region of Iraq.” Paper presented at the 79th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology (SAA), Austin, Texas, 23-27 April, 2014 (Jason Ur, Bjoern Menze, Matthieu Murdoch).
  - \*“The Settlement History of the Erbil Plain (Dashti Hawler)” Keynote address at the conference “Ancient Arbela: Pre-Islamic History of Erbil,” organized by the Institut Français du Proche-Orient (IFPO), Finnish Institute in the Middle East, and Salahaddin University, Erbil, Kurdistan Region of Iraq, 8 April 2013.
  - \*“Satellite Remote Sensing of the Earliest Cities in the Near East: CORONA, ASTER, and Intensive Surface Collection.” Talk at the symposium “Digital Domains: Perspectives in Remote Sensing of Human Landscapes,” Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, March 21, 2014 (Jason Ur and Bjoern Menze).
  - \*“Declassified Spy Satellite Imagery and Ancient Landscapes of the Near East.” Presentation to the Harvard Club of Sarasota, Florida, March 14, 2014.
  - “Lost Cities and Landscapes in the Heart of the Assyrian Empire.” Public lecture at the Harvard Museums of Science and Culture, Harvard University, February 20, 2014.
  - \*“Landscapes of Early States and Empires in Mesopotamia.” Lecture to the Department of Anthropology, Southern Methodist University, February 3, 2014.

- “Central Planning and Urban Emergence in Early Bronze Age Cities of Northern Mesopotamia” Paper read at the British Association for Near Eastern Archaeology (BANEAE) Annual Conference, University of Reading, January 10, 2014.
- 2013
- \*“Landscape Planning in the Core of the Assyrian Empire. Ca. 900-600 BC.” Paper presented to the Garden and Landscape Studies Program, Dumbarton Oaks, Washington DC, 11 December 2013.
  - “Archaeological Landscapes of the Erbil Plain, Kurdistan Region of Iraq.” Paper presented at the Current Research in Anthropology Seminar, Harvard University, December 5, 2013.
  - “The Landscape of the Assyrian Heartland: New Archaeological Research in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.” Lecture delivered to the St. Augustine Archaeological Association, St. Augustine, FL, 25 November 2013.
  - “Archaeological Landscapes of the Erbil Plain, Kurdistan Region of Iraq.” Paper presented at the American Schools of Oriental Research annual meeting, Baltimore, MD, 20-23 November 2013 (Jason Ur and James Osborne).
  - \*“Resilience and Sustainability in Ancient Mesopotamian States and Empires.” Paper presented in the conference Resilience and Sustainability: What Are We Learning from the Maya and Other Ancient Cultures, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 8-9 November 2013.
  - “The Erbil Plain Archaeological Survey 2012-2013.” Paper read at the Conference on Archaeological Research in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, Athens Greece, 1-3 November 2013.
  - “Satellite Archaeology: Case Studies in the Ancient Near East.” Lecture given at the Institut français du Proche-Orient (IFPO), Erbil, Kurdistan Region of Iraq, 17 September 2013 (Jason Ur and Jessica Giraud).
  - “Scale and Intensity in Near Eastern Survey: Case Studies from Syria, Turkey, and the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.” Paper presented at the International Mediterranean Survey Workshop, Groningen Institute of Archaeology, Groningen University, Netherlands, 27 April 2013.
  - \*“Ancient Cities and Landscapes in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.” Lecture given at Leiden University, 24 April 2013.
  - \*“Water Systems in the Core of the Assyrian Empire.” Paper presented at the symposium “Between Human Niche Construction and Imperial Power: Long-Term Trends in Ancient Water Systems,” Delft University of Technology, Delft, Netherlands, 22-23 April 2013.
  - \*“Cities, Landscapes, and Water in the Core of the Assyrian Empire.” Lecture given at the Assyrian Landscapes Research Group meeting, University of Udine, Italy, 18 April 2013.
  - “The Rural Landscape of the Assyrian Heartland: Recent Results from Arbail and Kilizu Provinces.” Presentation for the Historiography of the Ancient Near East workshop, Harvard University, February 20, 2013.
  - \*“The Emergence of Cities in Mesopotamia.” Invited lecture at the Department of Anthropology, University of California at San Diego, February 11, 2013
  - “On the grounds of Gaugamela: Imperial landscapes in the Erbil Plain.” Paper presented at the 114th Annual Meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America, Seattle, Washington, January 4, 2013 (Lidewijde de Jong and Jason Ur).
- 2012
- “The Rural Landscape of the Assyrian Heartland: Recent Results from Arbail and Kilizu Provinces.” Paper presented at the Provincial Archaeology of the Assyrian Empire conference, University of Cambridge, December 13, 2012.
  - “The Tell Baqrta Project in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.” Paper presented at the Provincial Archaeology of the Assyrian Empire conference, University of Cambridge, December 15, 2012 (Konstantinos Kopanias, Claudia Beuger, John MacGinnis, Jason Ur).
  - \*“Remote Sensing of Sites and Landscapes in the Kurdistan Region, Northern Iraq.” Presentation at the conference Modern Techniques and Archaeological Sites in Iraq, Iraqi Cultural Center, Washington DC, December 8, 2012.
  - \*“New Archaeological Research in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.” Lecture presented at the Harvard Club of Boston/Harvard Alumni Association “Saturday of Symposia,” December 1, 2012.
  - “Archaeological Landscapes in the Core of the Assyrian Empire.” Paper presented at the American Schools of Oriental Research Annual Meeting, Chicago, November 17, 2012.
  - “Water and Early Civilization in Mesopotamia.” Presentation at the symposium “Water in Context: Exploring Water in the Middle East through GIS Mapping and Cross-Disciplinary Perspectives,” Harvard University Center for Middle Eastern Studies, September 28, 2012.

- “New Research in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.” Presentation at Anthropology Day, Harvard University, September 14, 2012.
- “The Erbil Plain Archaeological Survey.” Presentation to the Erbil International Study Group, Erbil, Kurdistan Region of Iraq, September 6, 2012.
- “Archaeological Survey on the Erbil Plain.” Lecture given at the Iraqi Institute for the Conservation of Antiquities and Heritage (IICAH), Erbil, Iraq, September 4, 2012.
- \*“The Landscapes of States and Empires in Northern Mesopotamia.” Presentation at the University of Copenhagen, June 11, 2012.
- \*“Agency and Emergence in the Formation of Ancient Landscapes.” Keynote address presented at the 2nd International Landscape Archaeology Conference (LAC2012), Freie Universität Berlin, Germany, June 7, 2012.
- “The Comparative Morphology of Neo-Assyrian Cities.” Paper presented at the 8th International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (8ICAANE), Warsaw, Poland, May 3, 2012.
- “Frogs Orbiting the Pond: Case Studies from the Near East.” Paper delivered in the session “Frogs Crossing the Pond: New Frontiers in Regional Archaeology” at the 77th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Memphis, Tennessee, April 21, 2012 (Jason Ur and Bjoern Menze).
- \*Discussant for the session “Socio-Natural Systems in Pastoral and Agro-Pastoral Societies: Archaeological Investigations of Pastoral Landscapes” at the 77th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Memphis, Tennessee, April 19, 2012.
- \*“The Engineered Settlement Landscape of the Assyrian Empire.” Presentation given at Stony Brook University, Department of Anthropology, March 14, 2012.
- \*“The Landscapes of States and Empires in Northern Mesopotamia.” Presentation delivered at the Old World Archaeology Seminar, Department of Anthropology, University of Connecticut, February 16, 2012.
- 2011
- “Forms and Stages of Urban Settlement in Early Mesopotamia.” Paper delivered at the American Schools of Oriental Research Annual Meeting, San Francisco, November 19, 2011.
- “Ancient Landscapes in Iraqi Kurdistan.” Presentation to the Erbil International Study Group, Ankawa, Erbil, Kurdistan Region of Iraq, November 6, 2011.
- “Ancient Landscapes in Northern Iraq: The Current State of Knowledge and Prospects for the Future.” Presentation at the International Meeting on Iraqi Archaeology, Erbil, Iraqi Kurdistan, November 1, 2011.
- \*“Spying on Antiquity: Declassified US Intelligence Satellite Imagery and Near Eastern Archaeology.” Baylor University Institute of Archaeology Distinguished Lecture, March 18, 2011.
- 2010
- \*“Spying on Antiquity: Declassified US Intelligence Satellite Imagery and Near Eastern Archaeology.” Nineteenth annual Breasted Lecture to the Rockford (IL) Society of the Archaeological Institute of America, April 22, 2010.
- \*“Landscapes of Movement in the Ancient Near East.” Keynote lecture at the 7th International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East, British Museum/University College London, April 12, 2010.
- “Cities and Landscapes of the Later 3rd Millennium BC in Northern Mesopotamia.” Presentation at Northeast by Northeast: Workshop on the Archaeology of NE Syria, Yale University, New Haven, CT, March 6, 2010.
- 2009
- \*“New Research on the Origins of Urbanism in Ancient Mesopotamia.” Invited presentation at the Institute of Archaeology, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing, China, December 11, 2009.
- \*“Spying on Antiquity: Declassified US Intelligence Satellite Imagery and Near Eastern Archaeology.” Invited lecture to the School of Archaeology, Peking University, Beijing, China, December 9, 2009.
- \*“Climatic Variation and Social Change in the Near East.” Keynote address to the Climate and Ancient Societies Conference, University of Copenhagen, October 22, 2009.
- “Extensive Settlements as Precursors to the Earliest Mesopotamian Cities.” Paper presented at the Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, April 23, 2009 (session organizer and chair).
- \*“Nomadic Pastoralist Landscapes Along the Upper Tigris.” Paper presented at the Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, April 23, 2009 (Emily Hammer and Jason Ur).

- \*“Spying on Antiquity: Declassified US Intelligence Satellite Imagery and Near Eastern Archaeology.”  
Invited lecture to the Department of Near Eastern Studies, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, March 23, 2009.
- “Fresh Evidence on the Origins of Urbanism in Ancient Mesopotamia.” Lecture presented at the Harvard Semitic Museum, Cambridge, MA, March 5, 2009.
- \*“Spying on Antiquity: Declassified US Intelligence Satellite Imagery and Near Eastern Archaeology.”  
Invited lecture to the Archaeological Institute of America Finger Lakes (Ithaca) Society at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, February 24, 2009.
- 2008
- “Pastoral and Agricultural Landscapes on the Margins of the Upper Tigris River, SE Turkey.” Paper delivered at the American Schools of Oriental Research Annual Meeting, Boston, November 22, 2008.
- \*“Spying on Antiquity: Declassified US Intelligence Satellite Imagery and Near Eastern Archaeology.”  
Invited lecture to the Archaeological Institute of America New Brunswick (Canada) Society at the University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, November 14, 2008.
- \*“Spying on Antiquity: Declassified US Intelligence Satellite Imagery and Near Eastern Archaeology.”  
Invited lecture to the Archaeological Institute of America Worcester, MA Society at the Worcester Art Museum, November 12, 2008.
- \*“New Research on the Origins of Urbanism in Ancient Mesopotamia.” Lecture at the St. Augustine Archaeological Association, Flagler College, October 30, 2008.
- \*“New Research on the Origins of Urbanism in Ancient Mesopotamia.” Invited lecture to the Archaeological Institute of America Central Florida Society at the University of Florida, October 29, 2008.
- \*“The Assyrians and their World.” Lecture given at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston in conjunction with the exhibition *Art and Empire: Treasures from Assyria in the British Museum*, October 16, 2008.
- “Hirbemerdon Tepe Archaeological Project 2007,” Nicola Laneri and Jason Ur. Paper presented at the 30th International Symposium of Excavations, Surveys and Archaeometry, Ankara University (Turkey), May 28, 2008.
- \*“Remote Sensing of Ancient Near Eastern Irrigation: Case Studies from Iraq and Iran.” Invited lecture at Delft University of Technology (Netherlands), May 22, 2008.
- \*“CORONA Satellite Photography and the Structure of Ancient Near Eastern Landscapes.” Invited lecture delivered at the Università degli Studi di Firenze (Italy), May 12, 2008.
- “Northern Mesopotamian Cities and their Hinterlands: Tell Brak and Hamoukar in the late 3rd and early 2nd millennia BC.” Paper presented at the 6th International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East, Sapienza Università di Roma, May 7, 2008.
- “Cyclical Patterns of Landscape Transformation in the Near East.” Paper read at the 109th Annual Meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America, Chicago, Illinois, January 5, 2008.
- 2007
- “CORONA Satellite Photography and the Structure of Ancient Near Eastern Landscapes.” Paper presented at the 72nd Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Austin, Texas, April 26, 2007.
- “Surveying and Mapping Near Eastern Settlement Mounds from Space,” Bjoern Menze, Simone Mühl, Jason Ur. Paper presented at the Computer Applications and Quantitative Methods in Archaeology annual meeting, Berlin, April 4, 2007.
- “Classification of Multispectral ASTER Imagery in the Archaeological Survey for Settlement Sites of the Near East,” Bjoern Menze and Jason Ur. Poster presented at the 10th International Symposium on Physical Measurements and Signatures in Remote Sensing, Davos, Switzerland, March 13, 2007.
- “Agricultural and Pastoral Landscapes in the Near East: Case Studies using CORONA Satellite Photography. Presentation at the workshop Mapping Human History From Space: Tells, Routes, and Archaeogeography in the Near East, University of Sheffield, March 3, 2007.
- “State-Sponsored Irrigation around Sennacherib’s Nineveh: Interpretations from Royal Inscriptions and Landscape Archaeology.” Presentation to the Ancient Near Eastern History and Historiography Workshop, Harvard University, February 21, 2007.
- “Spying on the Ancient World: Archaeological Applications of Declassified US Intelligence Satellite Photography in the Near East.” Presentation and poster at the Harvard University Center for Geographic Analysis’ Workshop on Remote Sensing, Cambridge, MA, February 16, 2007.

- 2006
- "The Evolution of Settlement at Tell Brak: New Data on Urban Emergence." Paper presented at the American Schools of Oriental Research Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., November 16, 2006. (Co-authored by Philip Karsgaard.)
  - \*"Emergent Landscapes of Movement in Early Bronze Age Northern Mesopotamia." Paper contributed to the Penn International Research Conference *Landscapes of Movement: Trails, Paths, and Roads in Anthropological Perspective*, University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, May 29-June 2, 2006.
  - "State-Sponsored Irrigation Systems in the Assyrian Heartland, 702-681 BC: Reconstructions Using Declassified Intelligence Satellite Imagery and Aerial Photography." Poster presented at the Harvard University Center for Geographic Analysis Launch Event, May 5, 2006.
  - "Emergent Landscapes of Intensification in Early Bronze Age Northern Mesopotamia." Paper presented at the 71st Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, San Juan, Puerto Rico, April 29, 2006 (Session co-organizer).
  - \*"Satellite Imagery and the Structure of Ancient Landscapes: Case Studies from the Near East." Invited paper presented to the Columbia Seminar on the Ancient Near East, Columbia University, April 6, 2006.
- 2005
- \*"Irrigation Landscapes of Ancient Empires: An Assyrian Case Study." Paper presented at the 4th Biennial International Water History Association, Paris, December 3, 2005.
  - "Landscapes of Irrigation and Pastoralism in Northwestern Iran." Paper read at the American Schools of Oriental Research Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, November 19, 2005 (co-authored by Karim Alizadeh).
  - "Irrigation and Pastoralism on the Mughan Steppe, Northwestern Iran." Lecture presented at the Harvard University Department of Anthropology Lunch Seminar Series, November 9, 2005.
  - "Recent Fieldwork on Ancient Landscapes in Syria and Iran." Lecture presented at the 2005 East Coast Marching and Chowder Society meeting, Philadelphia, October 29, 2005.
  - "The Classification of Urban Settlement Systems in Northern Mesopotamia in the Fifth to First Millennia BC." Paper presented at the 51st Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, Chicago, July 21, 2005 (Landscape Archaeology Workshop organizer).
- 2004
- "The Evolution of Settlement at Tell Brak, Syria: Preliminary Results of the 2003 Surface Collection." Paper delivered at the American Schools of Oriental Research Annual Meeting, San Antonio, November 20, 2004. (Co-authored with Philip Karsgaard.)
  - \*"Urbanism and Landscape in Bronze Age Northern Mesopotamia." Lecture delivered at Harvard University, Anthropology Department, November 4, 2004 (invited lecture).
  - \*"The Social Context of Food Consumption in Early Urban Northern Mesopotamia." Paper presented at the 69th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Montreal, Canada, April 3, 2004.
- 2003
- \*"Urbanism and Social Complexity in Early Bronze Age Northern Mesopotamia." Paper delivered at the Sixth Biennial Meeting of the Complex Societies Group, UCLA, November 8, 2003 (Invited Presenter).
  - "A GIS-Based Reassessment of the Waters of Nineveh." Paper delivered at the 49th Annual Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, London, July 8, 2003.
  - "Remote Sensing and GIS Applications in the Study of North Mesopotamian Road Networks." Paper delivered at the 68th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, April 12, 2003.
  - "The Use of Site Area and Cultivated Territory to Provide Cross Checks on Ancient Population Estimates," T.J. Wilkinson and Jason Ur. Paper delivered at the 68th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, April 10, 2003
  - "Recent Survey and Landscape Archaeology in the Upper Khabur Basin." University of Chicago Workshop on Archaeological Survey, January 31, 2003.
- 2002
- "Third Millennium Road Systems in Upper Mesopotamia." Paper delivered at the American Schools of Oriental Research Annual Meeting, Toronto, November 21, 2002.
  - "Settlement and Landscape in Northern Mesopotamia: The Tell Hamoukar Survey 1999-2001." Paper delivered at the 3rd International Conference on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East, Université de Paris I, April 17, 2002.

- "Remote Sensing and GIS in Archaeological Field Methodology: Applications to Site Survey and Landscape Archaeology in the Upper Khabur Basin." Remote Sensing and GIS Methods and Applications in Southwest Asia Workshop, University of Chicago, February 23, 2002.
- 2001 "Urbanization and its Impact on the Landscape of the 3rd Millennium B.C. Upper Khabur Plain, Northeastern Syria." Paper presented at the American Schools of Oriental Research Annual meeting, Denver, November 16, 2001.  
"Settlement and Landscape Reconstruction in the Upper Khabur Basin, Northeast Syria." Lecture presented for the University of Chicago Committee on Archaeological Studies' Interdisciplinary Archaeology Workshop, February 22, 2001.
- 2000 \*"Looking at Ancient Cities from Space: Using Satellite Images to Study Early Urbanism in Northern Mesopotamia." Lecture presented to the South Suburban Archaeological Society, July 20, 2000.  
"Ancient Route Systems and Urbanism in the 3rd Millennium BC Upper Khabur Basin." Paper delivered at the 2nd International Conference on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East, University of Copenhagen, May 23, 2000.
- 1999 "Ancient Route Systems and Satellite Photography in Northeast Syria." Lecture presented for the University of Chicago Committee on Archaeological Studies' Interdisciplinary Archaeology Workshop, February 4, 1999.
- 1998 "Seal Inheritance and Iconography in the Kassite Administration of Nippur." Paper delivered at the 45th Annual Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, Harvard University, July 5-8, 1998.

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#### CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP SESSIONS ORGANIZED/CHAired

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- 2023 *The Archaeology of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq*. Annual meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR), Chicago, IL. November 2023. Eight papers over two in-person sessions.
- 2022 *The Archaeology of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq*. Annual meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR), Boston MA. November 2022. Seven papers over two in-person sessions.
- 2021 *The Archaeology of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq*. Annual meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR), Chicago, IL. November 19, 2021. Four papers in the in-person session.
- 2020 *The Archaeology of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq*. Annual meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR), Boston, MA (virtual). November 20, 2020. Two sessions, 11 papers.
- 2019 *The Archaeology of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq*. Annual meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR), San Diego, CA. November 23, 2019. Two sessions, 12 papers.
- 2018 *The Archaeology of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq*. Annual meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR), Denver, CO. November 2018. Two sessions, 8 papers.
- 2017 *The Archaeology of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq*. Annual meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR), Boston, MA. November 16, 2017. Three sessions, 18 papers.
- 2016 *A New Archaeological Frontier: Urban Settlements and Landscapes in Kurdistan, Northern Iraq*. Eighty-first Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology (SAA), Orlando, Florida, 8 April 2016 (Jason Ur and Glenn Schwartz, co-organizers and chairs).
- 2015 *Archaeological GIS Workshop*. Gansu Provincial Institute of Archaeology, Lanzhou, China. Five-day intensive introduction to GIS and remote sensing for Chinese archaeologists, June 11-15, 2015. 30 participants.
- 2014 *Archaeological Research in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq: Recent Results*. Harvard University Department of Anthropology, November 10, 2014. Nine papers, 20 participants.

- World Monuments Fund Cultural Heritage Conservation and Management Program*, Module 2: Landscape Archaeology. Iraqi Institute for the Conservation of Antiquities and Heritage, Erbil, Kurdistan Region of Iraq. May 25-29, 2014. Twelve participants.
- 2013 *Archaeological Site Preservation*, Block 2: Survey Approaches. Iraqi Institute for the Conservation of Antiquities and Heritage, Erbil, Kurdistan Region of Iraq. May 12-23, 2013. Twelve participants.
- 2012 *Mesopotamian Civilization: New Directions in Iraqi Archaeology*. American Schools of Oriental Research 2012 Annual Meeting, Chicago, November 17, 2012 (Jason Ur and Carrie Hritz, Co-Organizers and Chairs). Two sessions, twelve papers.
- 2011 *New Directions in Archaeology*, Harvard University, Cambridge MA, April 15-16, 2011 (Rowan Flad, Jason Ur, Matt Liebmann, Susanne Ebbinghaus, Ruth Bielfeldt, and Michael McCormick, co-organizers). Sponsored by the Standing Committee on Archaeology. Eight papers, sixteen discussants.
- 2010 *Settlement and Society in the Ancient Near East*. American Schools of Oriental Research 2010 Annual Meeting, Atlanta, November 19, 2010 (Jason Ur and Jesse Casana, co-organizers and chairs). Two sessions, 7 papers. *Northeast by Northeast: Workshop on the Archaeology of Northeastern Syria*. New Haven, CT, March 6-7, 2010 (Harvey Weiss, Richard Meadow, and Jason Ur, co-organizers). 7 participants.
- 2009 *Chengdu Plains Archaeological GIS Workshop*. Chengdu Municipal Institute of Archaeology, Chengdu, China. Five-day intensive introduction to GIS and remote sensing for Chinese archaeologists, December 14-18, 2009. 40 participants. *Settlement and Society in the Ancient Near East*. American Schools of Oriental Research 2009 Annual Meeting, New Orleans, November 21, 2009 (Jesse Casana and Jason Ur, co-organizers and chairs). Two sessions, 10 papers. *Responses of Complex Societies to Climatic Variation*. University of Copenhagen Climate and Ancient Society Conference, October 20-24, 2009. 12 papers. *Recent Research in Mesopotamian Urbanism: Origins, Structure, Economy*. Society for American Archaeology 2009 Annual Meeting, Atlanta, April 22-26, 2009. 9 papers.
- 2008 *Settlement and Society in the Ancient Near East*. American Schools of Oriental Research 2008 Annual Meeting, Boston, November 22, 2008 (Jason Ur and Jesse Casana, co-organizers and chairs). 6 papers.
- 2007 *Spying on the Past: Archaeological Applications of Declassified Intelligence Satellite Photography*. Session at the Society for American Archaeology 2007 Annual Meeting, Austin, April 2007. 7 papers.
- 2006 *Landscapes of Intensification*. Session at the Society for American Archaeology 2006 Annual Meeting, San Juan, April 29, 2006 (Jason Ur and Verónica Pérez Rodríguez, co-organizers). 11 papers.
- 2005 *Landscape Archaeology Workshop*. Session at the 51<sup>st</sup> Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, Chicago, July 18-22, 2005.

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## GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS

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- 2025 Harvard Faculty of Arts & Sciences Dean's Competitive Fund, \$121,750 (for Mapping Mesopotamian Settlements Below the Surface: A New Approach to 6,000 Years of Urban History, a component of the Erbil Plain Archaeological Survey)
- 2014 US Department of State Public Diplomacy Grant SIZ-100-14-GR033, \$87,828 (for the Archaeological Study Tour of the Kurdistan Antiquities Delegation)
- 2013-2017 National Science Foundation Senior Research Grant BCS-1261118, \$197,075 (for The Erbil Plain Archaeological Survey)
- 2013 National Geographic Society, Committee for Research and Exploration Grant 9277-13, \$15,870 (for The Erbil Plain Archaeological Survey)
- 2013 Dumbarton Oaks, \$10,000 (for The Erbil Plain Archaeological Survey)
- 2008-2009 Kershaw Lecturer, Archaeological Institute of America
- 2008 Harvard University Tozier Fund, \$5,950 (for Ancient Landscapes of the Near East, Viewed from Space)

2003-2004 Mrs. Giles Whiting Fellow  
 2003 Ben Cullen Prize (awarded by the Trustees of *Antiquity* for best contribution by a junior scholar)  
 2002 University of Chicago Walsh Award (for computing in the Humanities Division)  
 2001 Dorot Travel Grant (ASOR)  
 2000-2001 American Schools of Oriental Research Mesopotamian Fellowship  
 2000-2001 University of Chicago Ryerson Fellowship  
 1996-2002 University of Chicago Oriental Institute Helen Rich Travel Fund awards

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## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

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### Professional Association Memberships:

Society for American Archaeology (SAA) 1999-Present; Annual Meeting Program Committee member (2013)  
 American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) 2004-Present;  
     Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees 2025-present.  
     Board of Trustees, 2021-present;  
     Member of the Committee on Mesopotamian Civilization (2009-2013);  
 British Institute for the Study of Iraq (BISI, formerly British School of Archaeology in Iraq) 2002-Present  
 The Academic Research Institute in Iraq (TARII) 2009-Present; Institutional representative, Harvard University  
 Association for Gravestone Studies 2022-Present  
 Association of American Geographers (AAG) 2014-2019  
 British Institute of Persian Studies (BIPS) 2005-2012  
 American Anthropological Association (AAA) 2007-2011  
 Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) 2007-2010  
 American School of Prehistoric Research (ASPR); Board member (2009-present)  
 Iraqi Institute for the Conservation of Antiquities and Heritage (IICAH); Advisory Council Member (2018-present)  
 Editorial Board memberships:

*Advances in Archaeological Practice* (2015-2024)  
*ARWA Journal* (2020-present)  
*Near Eastern Archaeology* (2012-2019)  
*Water History*, journal of the International Water History Association (2013-2022)  
 University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology Press (2016-2019)  
 Peabody Museum Press, Harvard University (2015-2019)  
*SUMER* journal (2019-present)

Scientific Committee member, Center for Ancient Mediterranean and Near Eastern Studies (CAMNES)  
 Manuscript reviewer, *American Anthropologist*, *Antiquity*, *Science*, *Journal of Archaeological Science*, *Geoarchaeology*, *Journal of Archaeological Research*, *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research*, *Irrigation and Drainage*, *Arabian Archaeology and Epigraphy*, *Journal of Field Archaeology*, *Near Eastern Archaeology*, *Iraq*, *Water History*, *American Journal of Archaeology*, *Remote Sensing*, *Cambridge Archaeological Journal*, Cotsen Institute of Archaeology Press, University of Arizona Press, Liverpool University Press  
 Grant Application Reviewer, National Science Foundation, National Geographic Society, European Research Council, Israeli Science Foundation

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## HARVARD UNIVERSITY ACTIVITIES

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### Undergraduate Courses Taught:

Anthropology 97x: Sophomore Tutorial in Archaeology (Spring 2010, 2015, 2018, 2019)  
 Anthropology 1010: Fundamentals of Archaeological Methods and Reasoning (Fall 2005, 2008, 2010, and 2012 with R. Flad, Fall 2006 with N. Tuross, Fall 2009 and 2013 with M. Liebmann, Fall 2014 with C. Tryon)  
 Anthropology 1045: Ancient Settlement Systems (Spring 2007)  
 Anthropology 1095: Urban Revolutions (Spring 2017, Fall 2017, 2018)  
 Anthropology 1155: Before Baghdad: Cities of Ancient Mesopotamia (Spring 2009, 2015)  
 Anthropology 1150: Ancient Landscapes (Fall 2009, Spring 2014, 2017, 2019, 2021, 2023, 2025)  
 Anthropology 1450: Water, Infrastructure, and Meaning (Fall 2017 with S. Caton)  
 Ancient Near East 155r: Ancient Mesopotamia: Archaeology and Texts (Spring 2012 with P. Steinkeller)  
 Gen Ed 1105: Can We Know Our Past? (Fall 2020 with M. Liebmann, Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Fall 2023 with Rowan Flad, Fall 2024, Fall 2025 with Rowan Flad)

Anthropology S-1150 Can We Know Our Past? Harvard Summer School, Summer 2021, 2022, 2024, 2025  
 First-Year Seminar FS73U Reading the History of Boston (Spring 2025)

*Undergraduate Senior Theses Supervised:*

- Chase, Adrian, “Beyond Elite Control: Water Management at Caracol, Belize” (Anthropology, Spring 2012)  
 Groth, Michelle, “Allotment, Uranium, and Resistance within the Navajo Nation” (Anthropology, Fall 2022)  
 Horowitz, Jennifer, “North of Eden: Utilizing GIS, Remote Sensing, and Spatial Analysis to Understand the Scale of Reduction in Marshland Size and Extent of Human Displacement In Southern Iraq” (NELC, Spring 2019)  
 Paterson, Idabelle, “*Ex Uno Plures*: A Regional Examination of Geoglyph Site Patterning in the Southwestern Amazon” (Spring 2022)  
 Pritchett, Allyson, “Ancient Suburbia? A GIS Analysis of Tiwanaku Settlement Patterns” (Applied Mathematics, Spring 2007)  
 Tian, Cindy, “VR-chaecology: Assessing the Potential of Virtual Reality in Demonstrating Archaeological Processes for Enhanced Learning in Museum Exhibits” (Anthropology, Fall 2023)

*Graduate Courses Taught:*

- Anthropology 2020: GIS and Spatial Analysis in Archaeology (formerly Anthropology 1065; Spring 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012, 2014, 2016 with R. Homsher, 2018, 2020, 2022, 2024)  
 Anthropology 2063: Ancient Landscapes (Spring 2006)  
 Anthropology 2064: Mesopotamian Archaeology (Spring 2020)  
 Anthropology 2065: Complex Societies of Northern Mesopotamia (Spring 2008)  
 Anthropology 2220: The Archaeology of Ancient Cities (Spring 2021, 2023 with William Fash)  
 Anthropology 2250a: Proseminar in Archaeology I (Fall 2016)  
 Anthropology 2250b: Proseminar in Archaeology II (Fall 2021)  
 Anthropology 3000: Reading Course on the Archaeology of Anatolia (Fall 2008)

*PhD Dissertations Supervised:*

- Alarcón Robledo, Sergio (Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations), “Sensing Architectural Change: Phenomenology at the North Saqqara Plateau in the Early Dynastic Period.” (Committee member). Post-doctoral scholar, Yale University (starting September 2025).  
 SU Xin (Anthropology), “Stone Resources and Society: Lithic Production and Circulation in the Jiangnan Area from 1600 to 1100 BC.” Spring 2024 (Committee member). Assistant Professor, Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences and the School of Chinese, University of Hong Kong (since 2024)  
 Zaia, Sara (Anthropology), “Trading for Power in Ancient Egypt: Modeling the Evolution of Travel Routes and Contacts in the Egyptian and Sudanese Eastern Deserts in the Pharaonic Period.” Spring 2023 (Co-chair with Peter Der Manuelian). Currently Researcher, Institute of Heritage Science (ISPC), Italian National Research Council (CNR), Rome.  
 Cusicanqui Marsano, Solsiré (Anthropology), “Crafting Community Identity: The Cajamarca of Iscoconga during the Intermediate Period (50 BC- AD 550).” Fall 2022 (Committee Chair). Currently Postdoctoral Fellow, UCLA Center for Early Global Studies and Fowler Museum, 2024–2026.  
 Pottorf, Andrew (Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations), “Social Stratification in Southern Mesopotamia during the Third Dynasty of Ur (ca. 2100–2000 BCE).” Spring 2022 (Committee member). Currently Teaching Associate in Assyriology, University of Cambridge.  
 Campbell, Wade (Anthropology), “The Early Navajo Pastoral Landscape Project: A Multi-Method Archaeological Study of (Peri)Colonial Navajo Pastoralism from the 18th to 21st Centuries A.D.” Fall 2021 (Committee member). Currently Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Boston University.  
 Caramanica, Ari (Anthropology), “The Role of ‘Inertia’ in Landscape and Settlement Transformations of North Coast Peru.” Spring 2018 (Committee member). Currently Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Vanderbilt University.  
 Corcoran-Tadd, Noa (Anthropology), “*Tambos* and the Andean *longue durée*: an investigation of transconquest socioeconomic landscapes in far southern Peru.” Spring 2017. Currently Pre-Columbian Studies Librarian, Dumbarton Oaks, Washington DC.  
 Soroush, Mehrnosh (NYU Institute for the Study of the Ancient World), “Irrigated landscapes and Political Dynamics in Khuzistan: A Landscape Study of the Miān-āb Plain (Iran).” Spring 2016 (Committee member). Currently Assistant Professor and Director of the Center for Ancient Middle Eastern Landscapes, University of Chicago.

- Erb-Satullo, Nathaniel (Anthropology), “The Rise of Iron in the Land of the Golden Fleece: Metal Production in Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age Colchis.” Spring 2016 (Committee Chair). Currently Senior Lecturer in Archaeological Science at the Cranfield Forensic Institute, Cranfield University.
- Price, Max (Anthropology), “Pigs and Complexity: The Evolution of Swine Husbandry Practices in Northern Mesopotamia from the Late Neolithic through the Early Bronze Age (ca. 6500-2100 cal. BC).” Spring 2016 (Committee member). Currently Assistant Professor, Department of Archaeology, Durham University (since 2023).
- Al-Dafar (al-Hamdani), Abdulameer (Anthropology, Stony Brook University), “Town, Village and Marsh Settlement in the Eridu Plain: Economic, Spatial, Political and Ritual Relationships between Settlements in the Sumerian Heartland in the Early Second Millennium BCE.” Fall 2015 (Committee member). Former Minister of Culture, Republic of Iraq (2018–2020); passed away in April 2022.
- Alizadeh, Karim (Anthropology), “Social Inequality at Köhne Shahar, an Early Bronze Age Settlement in Iranian Azerbaijan.” Spring 2015 (Committee Chair). Currently Assistant Professor of Anthropology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.
- Koons, Michele (Anthropology), “Licapa II: Examining Moche Socio-Political Organization from a Mid-Sized Center in the Chicama Valley, Peru.” Summer 2012 (committee member). Currently Curator of Archaeology, Denver Museum of Nature & Science; Lecturer at the University of Colorado Denver.
- Hammer, Emily (Anthropology), “Local Spatial Systems of Nomadic Pastoral Land-use in Southeastern Turkey,” Spring 2012 (Committee Chair). Currently Associate Professor, Middle Eastern Languages & Cultures, University of Pennsylvania.
- Osborne, James (Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations), “Power and Space in an Iron Age Kingdom: Spatial Analysis and Authority in the Iron II Kingdom of Patina,” Spring 2011 (committee member). Currently Associate Professor of Anatolian Archaeology, Department of Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations, University of Chicago.
- Aja, Adam (Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations), “Philistine Domestic Architecture of the Early Iron Age,” Fall 2009 (committee member). Currently Chief Curator, Harvard Museum of the Ancient Near East (formerly Harvard Semitic Museum).
- Park, Seong Hyun (Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations), “Ashkelon in Iron Age IIB: Pottery and Stratigraphy in the Assessment of Its Settlement and Culture,” Fall 2009 (committee member). Currently Provost and Assistant Professor of Old Testament, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary.

*PhD Dissertation Committees:*

- Bair, Andrew (Anthropology), “Diachronic Changes to Medieval Settlement in a Colonial Irish Landscape, 600 – 1400 CE.” (Co-chair with Matthew Liebmann)
- Ho, Joyce Wing In (Anthropology), “Metal Production and Circulation in the Late 2<sup>nd</sup> Millennium BC Southern Central Asia,” (committee member)
- Kumar, Nisha (Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations), “Faience Production and Consumption: An Archaeological Investigation,” (committee member)
- Puglisi, Julia Viani (Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations), “Innovation and Transformation in the Central Field Cemetery at Giza,” (committee member)

*PhD Advisory Committees:*

- Flicker, Dylan (G1 Anthropology), committee member
- HE Yiduo (G1 Anthropology), committee member

*Post-Doctoral Scholars:*

- Soroush, Mehrnoush (PhD NYU, 2016), “Machine Learning Methods in Karez Detection on Historical Satellite Imagery.” (2017-2018). Currently Assistant Professor of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, University of Chicago.
- Menze, Bjoern (PhD Heidelberg University, Computer Science, 2007), “Mapping Formation Processes of the Neo-Assyrian Empire using Archaeological Remote Sensing” (2007-2008). Currently Professor for Biomedical Image Analysis and Machine Learning, University of Zürich.

*Anthropology Departmental Service:*

- 2020-2023 Director of Undergraduate Studies
- 2014-2017 Director of the Archaeology Program

2008-2010, 2012-2013, 2018-2020, 2025-present Coordinator of the Harvard Archaeology Seminar (formerly the Archaeology Wing Wednesday Lunch Seminar)

*Harvard University Service:*

2024-present, Co-Chair, Standing Committee on General Education (FAS)  
 2021-2023 Member, Standing Committee on General Education (FAS)  
 2020-2023 Chair, Standing Committee on Archaeology  
 2019-2020 Member, Preceptor System Review Committee (FAS)  
 2016-2019 Member, Faculty Advisory Committee, Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology (PMAE)  
 2015-present Member, Institute for Quantitative Social Sciences (IQSS) Steering Committee  
 2014-2020 Director, Center for Geographic Analysis (CGA)  
 2014 Faculty Council Election Procedure Committee (FAS)  
 2014 Harvard Student Information System Faculty Advisory Board (FAS)  
 2013-2014 Member, FAS Faculty Council  
 2009-2017 Member, Standing Committee on Archaeology  
 2008-2010 Freshman Faculty Advisor (4 students)  
 2008-2014 Member, Center for Geographic Analysis (CGA) Steering Committee  
 2006-2007 Member, CGA Remote Sensing Workshop Advisory Committee  
 2006-2007 Member, Howard T. Fisher Prize in Geographic Information Science selection committee  
 2006 Member, CGA Director/Professor of Engineering Search Committee

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**SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE OF RESEARCH (UPDATED THROUGH 2017)**

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- 2017 Chen, Sophia, “Archaeologists Don’t Always Need to Dig—They’ve Got Drones.” *Wired* (online), 22 September 2017. <https://www.wired.com/story/archaeologists-dont-always-need-to-digtheyve-got-drones/>
- 2015 Salopek, Paul, “Fleeing Terror, Finding Refuge.” *National Geographic*, March 2015, pp. 48-71  
 Madeleine Amberger, “Archäologische Spurensuche aus dem All.” *Schweitzer Radio und Fernsehen*, 6 March 2015.
- 2014 Lawler, Andrew, “Erbil Revealed.” *Archaeology Magazine*, September-October, 2014.  
 “Satellite Archaeology: Making Discoveries with Remote Sensing Techniques.” Appearance on *Indiana Jones: Myth, Reality, and 21st Century Archaeology*, radio program hosted by Dr. Joseph Schuldenrein, April 16, 2014.  
 Curry, Andrew, “Kurdistan Offers an Open Window on the Ancient Fertile Crescent.” *Science* 334:18-19, 4 April 2014.  
 Mitter, Siddhartha, “Lost Cities.” *Colloquy*, Spring 2014.
- 2013 Petronzio, Matt, “The New Golden Age of Archaeology Is Right Now.” *Mashable*.  
<http://mashable.com/2013/11/06/space-archaeology/>  
 Meyer, Sebastian, “Regional Security Boosts Archeology in Northern Iraq.” *Voice of America*, 30 September 2013.
- 2012 Reuell, Peter, “Ancient Iraq revealed. Harvard illuminates ‘richest archaeological landscape in the Middle East.’” *Harvard Gazette*, November 26, 2012.  
 Huseman, Dirk, “Tell Brak—Die älteste Stadt der Welt.” *Bild der Wissenschaft*, October, 2012.  
 Foe, Aldo, “Automated Site Mapping: Computational Analysis of Satellite Images Detects New Evidence of Previously Overlooked Human Settlements.” *Archaeology Magazine*, July-August, 2012.  
 Cornelius, Bradley, “Dr. Jason Ur, Harvard University – Satellite Archaeology.” Northeastern Public Radio’s *The Academic Minute*, aired May 15, 2012.  
 “Satellites See Ancient Sites.” CBC Radio’s *Quirks & Quarks*, aired April 14, 2012.  
 “Satellite Archaeology.” Public Radio International’s *Life on Earth*, aired March 30, 2012.  
 Garber, Megan, “8,000 Years of Earth, From the Sky: New Discoveries of Aerial Archaeology.” *The Atlantic*, March 27, 2012.  
 Reuell, Peter, “New Frontier in Archaeology: Harvard’s Ur Uses Satellite Images to Search for Ancient Settlements.” *Harvard Gazette*, March 23, 2012.  
 Choi, Charles, “Eyes in the Sky Look Back in Time.” *Discover Magazine’s The Crux* blog, March 22, 2012.  
 “Satellite images spot early settlements.” *Australian Broadcasting Corporation* website, March 20, 2012.  
 “Ancient sites spotted from space, say archaeologists.” *BBC News* website, March 20, 2012.

- Flohr, Lee, "Syrian settlements mapped from space." *Science Fare* website, March 19, 2012.  
 "Mapping early human settlements in Syria, Iraq." *Light Years* blog, CNN, March 19, 2012.  
 Gewin, Virginia, "Satellites expose 8,000 years of civilization." *Nature News*, March 19, 2012.
- 2011 Brumfiel, Geoff, "Shared Intelligence." *Nature* 477, September 22, 2011, pp. 388-389.
- 2010 Powell, Alvin, "Getting a Bird's-Eye View of the Past." *The Harvard Gazette*, April 29, 2010, p. 4.
- 2009 Lawler, Andrew, "Out of Eden." *Discover Magazine*, December 2009, pp. 64-68.
- 2008 "Googling Discoveries." Interview on National Public Radio's *Here and Now*, October 23, 2008.  
 "Armchair archaeology." *The Economist*, September 4, 2008.  
 Lawler, Andrew, "66. Great Ancient City Unearthed in Syria," in "Top 100 Science Stories of 2007," *Discover Magazine* January 2008.  
 Gleason, Paul, "Outside-In Ur-banism." *Harvard Magazine*, May-June 2008, pp. 12-13.  
 Pringle, Heather, "Tell Brak, Syria," in "Top Ten Discoveries of 2008." *Archaeology Magazine*, January/February 2008, p. 25.
- 2007 Maugh, Thomas, "Outskirts may have preceded early city." *Los Angeles Times*, September 1, 2007, p. A-13.  
 Lavoie, Amy, "New research challenges previous knowledge about the origins of urbanization." *Harvard University Gazette Online*, August 31, 2007.
- 2006 Powell, Alvin, "Investigating Canals Across Time, from Space." *Harvard University Gazette*, March 16, 2006.
- 2004 Robbins, Michael, "Cold War Spy Photos Reveal Bronze Age Roads," in "100 Top Science Stories of 2003," *Discover Magazine* January 2004, p. 65.
- 2003 Wilford, John Noble, "Satellites Uncover Ancient Mideast Road Networks." *New York Times*, January 28, 2003, p. D3.  
 Curry, Andrew, "Spying on the Ancients." *Archaeology* March-April 2003, p. 13.  
 Kreiter, Marcella, "Archaeologists Find Ancient Road." *United Press International*, January 28, 2003.  
 Moffett, Nancy, "Cold War Spy Photos Detail Ancient Roads." *Chicago Sun-Times*, January 28, 2003.  
 "Spy Photos Reveal Ancient Middle East Road Network." *Reuters News Agency*, January 27, 2003.  
 Lathrop, Stacy, "Ancient Mideast Road System." *Anthropology News* 44(3):27, March 2003.  
 Cecilia, Lorella, "Un satellite per l'antica Mesopotamia." *Archeo* 19(3): 12-13, March 2003.  
 Harms, William, "Satellite images lead to ancient 'highways.'" *University of Chicago Chronicle* Vol. 22 no. 9 (6 February 2003). pp. 1, 8.  
 "Satellite Photos Reveal Ancient Roads." *Archaeology Odyssey*, May/June 2003, p. 20.  
 "Un satellite militaire perce des secrets de l'Antiquité." *Science et Vie* 1028 (May 2003), p. 18.  
 "Casus Uydular." *Atlas* (March 2003), p. 24.  
 [Also appearances on Discovery Channel Canada's "Daily Planet" program, BBC East Asia Service and BBC Radio Four, 29-30 January 2003.]