LOCKWOOD PRESS



Benjamin R. Foster

Sargonic Texts from Telloh
in the Istanbul Archaeological Museums
Part 2

Sargonic Texts from Telloh
in the Istanbul Archaeological Museums
Part 2

Sargonic Texts from Telloh
in the Istanbul Archaeological Museums
Part 2

Benjamin R. Foster



Lockwood Press
Atlanta

SARGONIC TEXTS FROM TELLOH

All rights reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and recording, or by means of any information storage or retrieval system, except as may be expressly permitted by the 1976 Copyright Act or in writing from the publisher. Requests for permission should be addressed in writing to Lockwood Press, P.O. Box 133289, Atlanta, GA 30333, USA.

© 2018 by Lockwood Press

ISBN: 978-1-948488-08-2

Library of Congress Control Number: 2018962274

Front cover: MLC 1148, obverse; courtesy of the Yale Babylonian Collection; photography by Klaus Wagensonner.



Printed on acid-free paper

Contents

Preface	vii
Abbreviations	ix
Typology of Text Contents	xi
Concordance	xii
The Texts	1
Collations	99
Index of Personal Names	103
Index of Professions and Statuses	115
Index of Toponyms and Gentilics	119
Index of Broken Names	121

Preface

This volume continues publication of the Sargonic tablets from Telloh in the Istanbul Archeological Museums begun with STTI in 1982. The original purpose was to publish in copy all the remaining Sargonic tablets in the first ten thousand museum numbers in the Lagash Collection known only from the brief summaries in the *Inventaire des tablettes de Telloh* I, II, and V. As explained in STTI, the plan was to republish them in groups by subject matter rather than by museum number. I prepared transliterations of the next bloc of material to be included, texts focused on grain, for consultation by my Turkish colleagues while making the copies. I used a selective and modified version of the strict sign-for-sign system developed by I. J. Gelb for his series, *Materials for the Assyrian Dictionary*, the advantages and disadvantages of which are well known to anyone who has worked with it, plus sketches of broken signs as I saw them. The transliterations were not intended for publication in their present state. The projected volume of copies never came to pass, so I have decided, after a long delay, to publish the transliterations as I made them, with a minimum of modernization and resisting, often with difficulty, the temptation to second-guess myself. None of these transliterations could be collated, as would of course be desirable in a more definitive publication. For certain texts, e.g., L. 3059, 4488, 5869, 9392, and 9393, I transliterated them using a different number from those in ITT. At this remove, I could not verify whether or not the museum number of the tablet is still the same as the original ITT number. To facilitate future collation, I have presented them here under the original ITT number, with a note of the number used in my transliteration. Various numbers in the collection were switched when the tablets were baked.

Because of limitations on the number of tablets that could be retrieved and studied in a given day, I had more time to examine them than the texts themselves might seem to warrant, and so became increasingly aware of significant differences in handwriting and tablet manufacture in the tablets before me. This eventually led to a sense of "levels of accountability" with corresponding expectations of how neatly tablets should be drawn up; for example, formal documents for consultation by the ruling elite were exquisitely written, whereas vouchers

and receipts for certain low-level transactions could be more hastily composed and with less finesse. The Akkadian elite in some cases wrote their own tablets in a highly refined script. An additional factor was the presence of learners' practice tablets. These could be identified by their physical appearance: manufacture, layout, clumsy or labored writing, erasures, as well as by their contents: seemingly random entries, unorthodox metrology, unusual names, or, in some cases, ordinary names that reappear in several such texts so might include that of the learner himself and comrades or supervisors.[1] In 1999, W. Sommerfeld produced a far more detailed and comprehensive study of Sargonic administrative handwriting than anything attempted hitherto.[2] I have not tried to calibrate with his system the casual and inconsistent notes I made forty years ago to these texts, beyond suggesting that "very neat" or "beautifully written" would correspond broadly to Sommerfeld's "Duktus III" or a superior "Duktus II," "classical administrative hand" would correspond to the central range of his "Duktus II," and "Grade B" to the bottom range of his "Duktus II."

Reconstruction and analysis of this magnificent corpus of documents, despite its importance, has only begun. My hope is that this publication will be a further step towards meaningful engagement with the Sargonic records from Girsu.

I thank the American Research Institute in Turkey and the National Endowment for the Humanities, which made possible my three extended periods of research in the Istanbul tablet archive. I further thank the antiquities authorities of the Republic of Turkey and the then Directors of the Istanbul Archaeological Museums for their approval of my project. My further thanks go to my Turkish colleagues, Fatma Yıldız, Mustafa Eren, and especially Veysel Donbaz, whose collaboration and friendship made research in Turkey not only productive but a pleasurable experience. I am grateful to Billie Jean Collins for her willingness to publish this rather raw material. My particular appreciation goes to Eva Huber for various improved readings and for drawing my attention to inconsistencies between ITT numbers of certain tablets and the numbers used in my transliterations. My admiration for the labors of my predecessors on these tablets, Thureau-Dangin and de Genouillac, only deepened as time went on. ITT is an extraordinary achievement to which my own work is merely a supplement.

Benjamin R. Foster

1. Benjamin R. Foster, "Education of a Bureaucrat in Sargonic Sumer," *ArOr* 50 (1982): 239–41.

2. Walter Sommerfeld, *Die Texte der Akkade-Zeit 1. Das Dijala-Gebiet: Tutub*. Imgula 3.1 (Münster: Rhema, 1999), 7–15.

Abbreviations

AOAT	Alter Orient und Altes Testament
ArOr	*Archiv Orientální*
FAOS	Freiburger Altorientalische Studien
ITT	Henri de Genouillac and François Thureau-Dangin. *Inventaire des tablettes de Telloh conservées au Musée Impérial Ottoman.* Paris: Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres, 1910–1921
JANES	*Journal of the Ancient Near Eastern Society of Columbia University*
JCS	*Journal of Cuneiform Studies*
JESHO	*Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient*
Kraus, *Sumerer und Akkader*	F. R. Kraus. *Sumerer und Akkader: Ein Problem der altmesopotamischen Geschichte.* Koninklijke Nederlandse Akademie van Wetenschappen. Afd. Letterkunde. Mededelingen. Nieuwe Reeks, deel 33, no. 8. Amsterdam: North-Holland, 1970
NABU	*Nouvelles Assyriologiques Brèves et Utilitaires*
RA	*Revue d'Assyriologie*
RTC	François Thureau-Dangin. *Recueil de tablettes chaldéennes.* Paris: Leroux, 1903
Scheil, *Recueil*	Vincent Scheil. *Recueil de signes archaïques de l'écriture cunéiforme … 4000–3000 av. J.-C.* Paris: Welter, 1898
STTI	Veysel Donbaz and Benjamin R. Foster. *Sargonic Tablets from Telloh in the Istanbul Archeological Museums.* Occasional Publications of the Babylonian Fund 5 and American Research Institute in Turkey Monographs 2. Philadelphia: University Museum, 1982
STT2	Benjamin R. Foster. *Sargonic Tablets from Telloh in the Istanbul Archaeological Museums*, part 2. Atlanta: Lockwood, 2018
TCTI II	Bertrand Lafont and Fatma Yıldız. *Tablettes cunéiformes de Tello au Musée d'Istanbul datant de l'époque de la III^e^*

	Dynastie d'Ur. Publications de l'Institut historique-archéologique néerlandais de Stamboul 77. Istanbul: Nederlands historisch-archaeologisch instituut, 1996
WdO	*Die Welt des Orients*

General

br.	brother of
DN	divine name
f.	father of
GN	geographical name
m.	mother of
NP	profession or title
PN	personal name
s.	son of

Typology of Text Contents

Birds and eggs: L. 5771, L. 5774, L. 5807, L. 9326, L. 9329, L. 9331, L. 9339, L. 9344, L. 9392
Bricks: L. 9356, L. 9385
Fish and aquatic creatures: L. 4661+L. 4687, L. 5694, L. 5741, L. 5744, L. 5746, L. 5748, L. 5757, L. 5778, L. 5821, L. 5836, L. 5843, L. 5863, L. 5866, L. 5871, L. 5891, L. 9329, L. 9334, L. 9338, L. 9341, L. 9345, L. 9351, L. 9354, L. 9368, L. 9375, L. 9378, L. 9393, L. 9394, L. 9399, L. 9437
Foods: L. 2846, L. 2874, L. 2900, L. 2906, L. 2909, L. 3001, L. 3059, L. 4429, L. 4638, L. 4658, L. 4685, L. 4691, L. 4696, L. 4700, L. 5693, L. 5698, L. 5702, L. 5703, L. 5720, L. 5736, L. 5786, L. 5808, L. 5862, L. 5874, L. 5883, L. 5891, L. 5900, L. 9333
Grain: L. 1063, L. 1076, L. 1078, L. 1177, L. 1191, L. 1198, L. 1211, L. 1220, L. 1237, L. 1249, L. 1257+L. 1263, L. 1292, L. 2841, L. 2846, L. 2874, L. 2890, L. 2891, L. 2894, L. 2900, L. 2906, L. 2909, L. 2938, L. 2948, L. 2977, L. 3001, L. 3042, L. 3121, L. 3131, L. 3140, L. 3145, L. 4343, L. 4353, L. 4409, L. 4428, L. 4429, L. 4435, L. 4484, L. 4510, L. 4530, L. 4542, L. 4552, L. 4555, L. 4594, L. 4691, L. 5698, L. 5702, L. 5703, L. 5720, L. 5730, L. 5737, L. 5770, L. 5808, L. 5820, L. 5861, L. 5862, L. 5892, L. 9422, L. 9427, L. 9428, L. 9442, L. 9447, L. 9457, L. 9458
Land: L. 9454
Livestock: L. 1257+L. 1263, L. 1367, L. 2891, L. 2895, L. 2938, L. 3059, L. 3121, L. 3131, L. 4414, L. 4429, L. 4648, L. 4674, L. 4696, L. 4701b, L. 5729, L. 5896, L. 5900, L. 9340, L. 9378, L. 9440
Metals: L. 5864, L. 9358, L. 9371, L. 9423?, L.9424, L. 9433, L. 9443, L. 9454
Oils and aromatics: L. 3059, L. 4685, L. 5742, L. 5770, L. 5891, L. 5900, L. 9449
Personnel: L. 1165, L. 1367, L. 4488, L. 4552, L. 4680, L. 4701a, L. 5846, L. 5852, L. 5869, L. 5876, L. 5882, L. 9360, L. 9377, L. 9383, L. 9428, L. 9435, L. 9438
Sale document: L. 9411
Student exercises: L. 1249?, L. 2909, L. 2977, L. 5789, L. 5855, L. 9365, L. 9372, L. 9432
Textiles: L. 5900, L. 9372, L. 9389, L. 9429
Wool: L. 9360, L. 9417
Work assignments: L. 5877

Concordance of Fully Published Sargonic Texts from Telloh in the Istanbul Archaeological Museums

I thank W. Sommerfeld for additions and corrections to this list.

L. 1040	ITT I, pl. 1	L. 1079	ITT I, pl. 4
L. 1042	ITT I, pl. 1	L. 1080	ITT I, pl. 4
L. 1047	ITT I, pl. 1	L. 1081	ITT I, pl. 5
L. 1048	ITT I, pl. 1	L. 1082	STTI, pl. 4
L. 1049	RTC 124	L. 1083	ITT I, pl. 5
L. 1053	ITT I, pl. 2	L. 1085	ITT I, pl. 5
L. 1056	STTI, pl. 1	L. 1086	ITT I, pl. 5
L. 1057	ITT I, pl. 2	L. 1088	ITT I, pl. 6
L. 1058	ITT I, pl. 2	L. 1089	ITT I, pl. 6
L. 1059	ITT I, pl. 2	L. 1091	ITT I, pl. 6
L. 1060	STTI, pl. 1	L. 1092	FAOS 19: 72
L. 1061	RTC 117	L. 1094	ITT I, pl. 6
L. 1062	ITT I, pl. 3	L. 1095	STTI, pl. 4
L. 1063	STT2	L. 1096	ITT I, pl. 6
L. 1064	FAOS 19: 77–78	L. 1097	ITT I, pl. 7
L. 1065	ITT I, pl. 3	L. 1098	RTC 99
L. 1067	STTI, pl. 2	L. 1099	ITT I, pl. 7
L. 1068	ITT I, pl. 3	L. 1100	ITT I, pl. 7
L. 1070	ITT I, pl. 3	L. 1101	ITT I, pl. 8
L. 1072	STTI, pl. 3	L. 1102	ITT I, pl. 8
L. 1073	FAOS 19: 105–6	L. 1103	ITT I, pl. 8
L. 1075	ITT I, pl. 4	L. 1104	ITT I, pl. 8
L. 1076	STT2	L. 1105	ITT I, pl. 9
L. 1077	ITT I, pl. 4	L. 1106	ITT I, pl. 9
L. 1078	STT2	L. 1114	ITT I, pl. 9

L. 1115	ITT I, pl. 9	L. 1210	STTI, pl. 12
L. 1119	ITT I, pl. 10	L. 1211	STT2
L. 1120	ITT I, pl. 10	L. 1212+4672	STTI, pl. 13
L. 1125	STTI, pl. 5	L. 1214	STTI, pl. 14
L. 1127	STTI, pl. 5	L. 1216	ITT I, pl. 13
L. 1129	STTI, pl. 6	L. 1220	STT2
L. 1130	STTI, pl. 6	L. 1225	ITT I, pl. 14
L. 1135	STTI, pl. 7	L. 1229	STTI, pl. 14
L. 1137	STTI, pl. 7	L. 1230	STTI, pl. 14
L. 1139	ITT I, pl. 10	L. 1234	STTI, pl. 15
L. 1146	STTI, pl. 8	L. 1237	STT2
L. 1152	STTI, pl. 8	L. 1241	ITT I, pl. 14
L. 1154	STTI, pl. 8	L. 1243	ITT I, pl. 14
L. 1155	ITT I, pl. 10	L. 1245	STTI, pl. 15
L. 1156	ITT I, pl. 10	L. 1246	STT pl. 16
L. 1158	STTI, pl. 8	L. 1249	STT2
L. 1159	ITT I, pl. 11	L. 1254	RTC 129
L. 1160	STTI, pl. 9	L. 1255	STTI, pl. 16
L. 1165	STT2	L. 1256	ITT I, pl. 14
L. 1168	ITT I, pl. 11	L. 1257+1263	STT2
L. 1170	ITT I, pl. 11	L. 1261	ITT I, pl. 15
L. 1172	STTI, pl. 9	L. 1262	ITT I, pl. 15
L. 1173	STTI, pl. 9	L. 1263+1257	STT2
L. 1174	ITT I, pl. 11	L. 1265	FAOS 19: 114
L. 1175	ITT I, pl. 11	L. 1266	STTI, pl. 17
L. 1176	STTI, pl. 10	L. 1267	ITT I, pl. 15
L. 1177	STT2	L. 1268	Scheil, *Recueil*, nr. 28
L. 1179	ITT I, pl. 12	L. 1272	STTI, pl. 17
L. 1182	ITT I, pl. 12	L. 1275	STTI, pl. 17
L. 1183	ITT I, pl. 12	L. 1277	STTI, pl. 18
L. 1184	STTI, pl. 10	L. 1279	STTI, pl. 18
L. 1186	STTI, pl. 11	L. 1280	STTI, pl. 18
L. 1189	ITT I, pl. 12	L. 1281	ITT I, pl. 16
L. 1191	STT2	L. 1282	ITT I, pl. 16
L. 1193	STTI, pl. 11	L. 1283	STTI, pl. 19
L. 1195	ITT I, pl. 13	L. 1287	ITT I, pl. 16
L. 1196	ITT I, pl. 13	L. 1288	ITT I, pl. 16
L. 1198	STT2	L. 1291	ITT I, pl. 16
L. 1201	ITT I, pl. 13	L. 1292	STT2
L. 1203	ITT I, pl. 13	L. 1293	STTI, pl. 19
L. 1205	RTC 122	L. 1295	ITT I, pl. 16
L. 1207	STTI, pl. 12	L. 1296	ITT I, pl. 17