**SAMENVATTING VAN LEZINGEN GEHOUDEN DOOR BELGEN**
**RESUME DES COMMUNICATIONS FAITES PAR DES BELGES**

F. DEBLAUWE, A Study of Accessibility and Circulation Patterns in Some Mesopotamian Buildings from the Third Millennium B.C., Berkeley, 201st Meeting of the American Oriental Society, 3-6/III/1991

Some Mesopotamian buildings from the third millennium B.C. were examined with emphasis on structural integration: how does one access the different spaces (rooms, corridors, courtyards, etc.), how are they connected and what is their place in the complex as a whole? Most research on Mesopotamian architecture tends to focus on building materials and technology, fittings and furnishings, recovered objects, building levels, general plan and typology. However, what we were concerned with in the paper is how the built environment influences and shapes the social relations between people. When one constructs a building, choices are made, be they conscious or inconscious. Passage through and access to certain rooms can be made difficult or easy. Consequently, a certain hierarchy is evident in the distribution of and relationship between the spaces contained in a building.

The method used to evaluate this was inspired by the "space syntax" research of Hillier & Hanson as expressed in their book "The Social Logic of Space". Underlying this approach is the premise that it is primarily - though not only - through spatial configuration that social relations and processes express themselves in space. First, permeability diagrams are made up of each building and then the "relative asymmetry" or spatial integration value of the various spaces within each building is computed. An overall spatial integration value per building can also be established. Statistical analysis of this sort might help us to better understand and bring out certain underlying characteristics which are otherwise hard to grasp. A concrete case study explored the merits of this kind of analysis: The Sin Temple in Hafagi in Iraq, dating from the Gemdet Nasr till the Early Dynastic periods. Specifically, its sequence of 10 phases was investigated for meaningful breaks in order to verify some dating theories of the stratigraphic levels concerned. Finally, the results were compared with the mean integration values of a sample of other third millennium buildings.

F. Deblauwe

**PERSONALIA**

We vernamen het overlijden van J.-C. COURTOIS, I.M. DIAKONOFF en E. LAROCHE. We bieden de familie onze oprechte deelneming aan.

Nous avons appris le décès de J.-C. COURTOIS, I.M. DIAKONOFF et E. LAROCHE. Nous exprimons nos sincères condoléances à leur famille.