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Cuneiform Tablet Donated to Horn Museum

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Cuneiform Tablet donated to Horn Museum

The Horn Archaeological Museum has received a donation of ancient artifacts from Dick Rentfro, a man who first worked with the Horn Museum on a dig in 1957. The collection includes an arrowhead, an Egyptian coin, a Samarian pot and a mammoth tooth—and a clay cuneiform tablet from around 2039 B.C.

The one-inch tablet from the Third Dynasty of Ur is a receipt of a goat, signed by the scribe, Lukalla. The transaction occurred in the tenth month (the day is illegible) of the seventh year of Amur-Sin’s reign, in the province of Umma. The tablet was translated by the curators at the Babylonian Collection of Yale University, and reads: “One dead goat, received from Lugal-mashtaba, sealed by Lukalla. The month of the feast of Shulgi, the year Huhnuri was destroyed.”

Rentfro was one of the participants in the 1957 Holy Land tour sponsored by Siegfried Horn. He attended as part of classes he was taking at Potomac University, which was shortly to combine with Emmanuel Missionary College and become Andrews University. He spent almost three months visiting sites such as Petra, Nineveh and Babylon. The experience made such a large impact on Rentfro that when he heard of the Horn Museum, he knew the gift “had to go there.”

The Egyptian coin dates from 221–204 B.C., and quite possibly was in circulation during the lifetime of Jesus. The Samarian pot dates to the time of Christ, and the arrowhead dates from 1500 B.C. The arrowhead was found near the city of Mamina. The mammoth tooth was found in Oregon by a friend of Rentfro, and the Horn Museum plans to donate the tooth to the Andrews University Museum of Natural History, located in the Science Complex.

Newsweek recognizes Andrews

According to Newsweek, Andrews University is one of the 25 most diverse schools in America. In an effort to “address the real concerns of parents and prospective students,” Newsweek has released their first “College Rankings: Schools for Every Kind of Student.”

Out of 12 “best of” lists of universities, some of the other categories include: The 25 Most Desirable Schools, 25 Schools for the Service-Minded, The 25 Most Desirable Rural Schools, and rankings of small and large universities. Andrews University is the only Adventist institution on any of Newsweek’s lists. On the same diversity list are top schools such as Stanford University, Columbia University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, as well as smaller liberal arts colleges.

To evaluate the “25 Most Diverse Schools,” Newsweek compared the population of the school with the percent and distribution of ethnic groups, geographic origin of the students, economic status and gender. The number of students receiving Pell Grants was also taken into consideration.