

Learning from the Ancestors;  
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**Our excavations of the Hurrian city of Urkesh, in northeastern Syria, have uncovered a city dating 3000-1500 BC. Over the centuries certain traditions were rediscovered, particularly in the areas of ceramic production and the carving of cylinder seals. In both cases we have examples of learning by imitation. In the ceramic production, it is clear that when the imitations were produced there were no living practitioners of that type of ceramics, given the long chronological distance between the original and the imitation. The cases for cylinder seal design imitation are two, both imitations of the original design of inferior quality.**