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- 1 The purpose of this article is to outline the evidence for the Neo-Elamite (ca. 1000-525 BCE) and early Achaemenid periods (ca. 525-330 BCE) collected during surveys across the Ram Hormuz plain and the excavations at Tal-i Ghazir, with special attention to the burials in the Fort Mound. This site and its surrounds comprised a thriving settlement zone from the early second millennium BCE and a critical crossroads of Elamite and Iranian interaction in the centuries leading up to the emergence of the Persian Empire.
- 2 When reviewing the work of E. Carter (1994) and A. Alizadeh (2014) on unpublished legacy records housed at the Oriental Institute from two excavation seasons (1948/49) conducted at Tal-i Ghazir by Donald E. McCown, the paper exemplifies both archaeological history and collegiality. The author underlines the challenging nature of the still unpublished field notes left behind by McCown and the discrepancies between

Carter and Alizadeh's publications. In particular, the omission of Carter's earlier publication by Alizadeh and internal inconsistencies in his report remains baffling. As the author states, were the two authors looking at different sets of data? Time may be ripe for the Oriental Institute to make publicly available the Donald E. McCown's fieldnotes from Tal-i Ghazir.

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