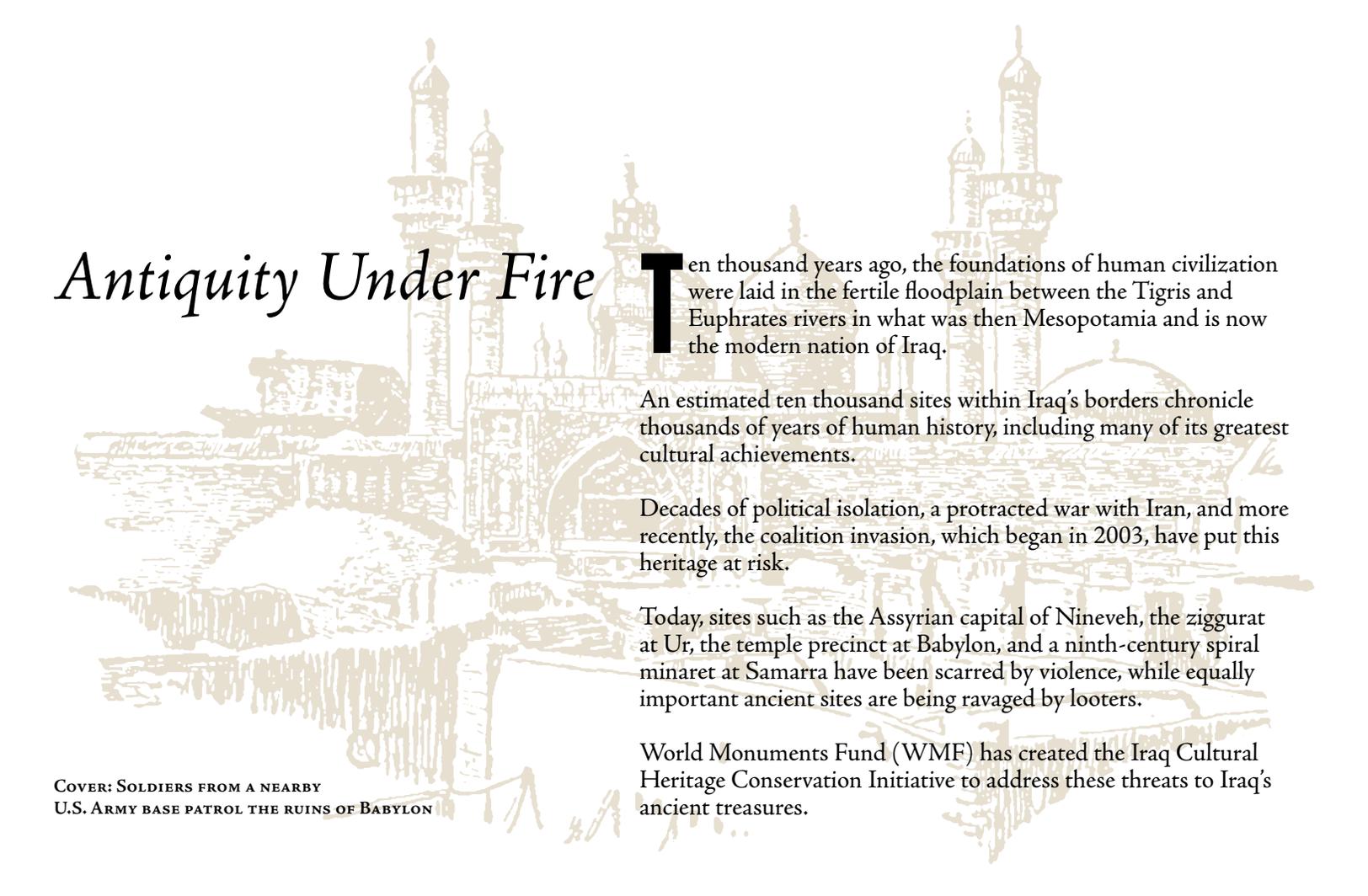
A photograph showing the ruins of ancient brick structures in Iraq. The buildings are made of yellowish-brown bricks and are partially destroyed, with some walls missing and others crumbling. In the foreground, three soldiers in military uniforms and helmets are walking along a paved path. The sky is clear and blue. The text "WORLD MONUMENTS FUND IN IRAQ" is overlaid on the right side of the image in a white, serif font.

WORLD MONUMENTS FUND
IN IRAQ



Antiquity Under Fire

Ten thousand years ago, the foundations of human civilization were laid in the fertile floodplain between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers in what was then Mesopotamia and is now the modern nation of Iraq.

An estimated ten thousand sites within Iraq's borders chronicle thousands of years of human history, including many of its greatest cultural achievements.

Decades of political isolation, a protracted war with Iran, and more recently, the coalition invasion, which began in 2003, have put this heritage at risk.

Today, sites such as the Assyrian capital of Nineveh, the ziggurat at Ur, the temple precinct at Babylon, and a ninth-century spiral minaret at Samarra have been scarred by violence, while equally important ancient sites are being ravaged by looters.

World Monuments Fund (WMF) has created the Iraq Cultural Heritage Conservation Initiative to address these threats to Iraq's ancient treasures.

COVER: SOLDIERS FROM A NEARBY
U.S. ARMY BASE PATROL THE RUINS OF BABYLON



ASSYRIAN BAS-RELIEF FROM
NIMRUD, LISTED ON THE 2002
WORLD MONUMENTS WATCH

Four Ways to Support WMF's Work In Iraq



Preserving The Past

While fieldwork in Iraq has been nearly impossible for most organizations since the war began in 2003, the World Monuments Fund has developed the partnerships required to proceed with conservation work on the ground. With the support of the U.S. Department of State, WMF has launched a new project at the ancient city of Babylon.

This collaborative effort will develop a comprehensive site management plan, help local officials prepare a nomination for World Heritage listing, and establish site boundaries for the long-term protection of this ancient city. Ultimately, it will become the foundation for future fieldwork, creating a blueprint for Iraq to protect, preserve, and maintain its cultural heritage.

A DONATION OF \$2,500 CAN HELP LAY THE FOUNDATION FOR WORK AT BABYLON, INCLUDING THE STABILIZATION OF THE CRUMBLING CITY WALLS.



THROUGHOUT IRAQ, THE LANDSCAPE
IS POCKMARKED WITH PITS LEFT BY
SCAVENGING LOOTERS

Mapping The Sites

Windblown sands and new construction have covered many of the ancient cities of Iraq over the last several millennia. Old surveying equipment and inconsistent record-keeping have meant that the exact locations of even active archaeological sites are not precisely known, making it difficult to avoid them when planning building projects.

The World Monuments Fund and the Getty Conservation Institute are developing a state-of-the-art system to record, map, and manage thousands of cultural heritage sites in Iraq. By employing the latest satellite technologies, the system will provide Iraqi archaeologists with the information necessary to protect these treasures from future damage.

**A DONATION OF \$1,000 CAN HELP LOCATE AND MAP DOZENS
OF IRREPLACEABLE SITES THROUGHOUT IRAQ.**

IRAQI CONSERVATORS GATHER IN JORDAN FOR A
WMF-SPONSORED TRAINING SESSION TO LEARN
STATE-OF-THE-ART SURVEYING TECHNOLOGIES

Training the Experts

Every day, Iraqi archaeologists and conservators risk their lives to protect their country's rich cultural heritage from armed looters and collateral damage. Isolated from the international preservation community for more than 20 years, they have also had only limited access to the advanced technologies that have revolutionized the field and would make their work easier and more effective.

Through a series of workshops in Jordan, the World Monuments Fund is supporting a training program for these professionals, teaching them the latest methodology, technology, tools, and site management techniques in keeping with international standards.

A DONATION OF \$500 CAN HELP BRING AN IRAQI ARCHAEOLOGIST TO WMF TRAINING WORKSHOPS IN JORDAN, SAFE FROM THE CROSSFIRE OF WAR.





**LISTED ON THE 2002 WORLD MONUMENTS WATCH,
NIMRUD—ONCE THE ASSYRIAN IMPERIAL CAPITAL—
HAS BEEN HEAVILY LOOTED SINCE THE START OF THE WAR**

Raising Awareness

The World Monuments Watch is the cornerstone of the World Monuments Fund's advocacy efforts, bringing international attention to imperiled cultural heritage sites around the world. In 2006, WMF took the unprecedented step of naming the entire country of Iraq to the Watch list of 100 most endangered sites, mobilizing the international community to address the threats facing its rich archaeological heritage and its caretakers. WMF named Iraq to the Watch again in 2008.

**A DONATION OF \$100 CAN HELP SUPPORT THE WATCH,
EDUCATING THE WORLD ABOUT THE DANGER TO CULTURAL
HERITAGE SITES, LIKE THOSE IN IRAQ, THAT ARE IN THE MIDST
OF WAR AND CONFLICT.**



A BAS-RELIEF FROM THE ROYAL PALACE
AT NINEVAH, LISTED ON THE 2002 WORLD
MONUMENTS WATCH

World Monuments Fund

World Monuments Fund is the leading nonprofit organization devoted to saving the world's most treasured places. For over 40 years, working in more than 90 countries, our highly skilled experts have applied proven and effective techniques to preserve important architectural and cultural heritage around the globe. Through partnerships with local communities, funders, and governments, we inspire an enduring commitment to stewardship for future generations. Nearly 90% of the revenue raised by the World Monuments Fund goes directly toward preservation projects, fieldwork, and educational programs. Headquartered in New York, WMF has offices and affiliates worldwide.



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