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مركز البحوث الأمريكي بمصر

AMERICAN RESEARCH CENTER IN EGYPT, INC.



**AMERICAN RESEARCH CENTER IN EGYPT, INC.
EGYPTIAN ANTIQUITIES PROJECT**

USAID Grant No. 263-G-00-93-00089-00

Annual Report VI

November 1, 1998 – October 31, 1999

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ANNUAL REPORT

Executive Summary

This report covers the period November 1, 1998 through October 31, 1999
of USAID Grant No. 263-G-00-93-00089-00

The main activities were as follows:

- Implementation of Cycle One projects; completion of one; commencement of two new ones.
- Implementation of Cycle Two projects; completion of one, commencement of three new ones.
- Implementation of Cycle Three projects; completion of four.
- Completion of six projects, extension of one to include another monument. Completion ceremonies for the INA conservation lab, the Karnak Statue and the Minbar at the Mosque of Saleh Tala'i.
- Site visits with officials and for monitoring and evaluation.
- Participation in ARCE's annual meeting and conferences.
- Fine cooperation in the relationship with SCA, and approvals by the SCA Permanent Committee.
- Hiring of new staff, including an Assistant Technical Director, new Chief accountant, and a Publishing Director.
- Publication of first book.
- Completion of the Bulging wall at the Bayt Al-Razzaz, a health and safety issue.
- Visit at several sites by the First Lady of the United States.
- Transfer of L.E. holdings to USD.
- Decision to hire ADP staff for EAP

HIGHLIGHTS AND PROGRESS FOR THE YEAR

Completion of Projects: More projects have been completed and several of them treated with official ceremonies. In March, the First Lady of the US, Hilary Rodham Clinton visited the Mosque of Saleh Tala'I and formally marked its completion. Additionally, she handed out certificates to the five Egyptian trainees on the project. Earlier in the month, Dr. Gaballa, Mark Easton and Douglas Haldane opened INA-Egypt's conservation laboratory in Alexandria. In January, the new exhibit room of the fine funerary furniture of Hetep-heres was put on display. In July, the Minister of Culture attended the ceremony for the Karnak Statue in the Egyptian Museum. Together with him were the US Ambassador and Dr. Gaballa and the Deputy Director of USAID. Elsewhere, three of the projects were completed without the official fanfare. A vehicular barricade was constructed across the Wadi of Bir Umm Fawakhir to protect it from degradation. The Hetep-Heres exhibition room in the Egyptian Museum was opened to visitors. Lastly, the Three Houses project resulted in the renovation of 4 owner-occupied houses on the street near our Islamic Cairo Projects.

The first book on one of the projects, that of Preservation in Sinai, was published in April. With the hiring of a consulting Publishing Director, the publications program has a new focus. Additionally, Alaa El-Habashi has been hired full time as an Assistant Technical Director.

Allied with one of our projects is USAID's \$12 million contract with the Cairo Water Organization to control ground water in the Old Cairo area. During the year the area has been receiving much upgrading, partly because of the ideas generated by our Old Cairo Master Plan.

The concept of adaptive re-use of monuments received a real body blow when a court ruled this it was against the law. The preservation community feels a real loss. However, the continuation of Dr. Gaballa as the head of the SCA was greeted with unanimous applause. Under his direction, we have been able to receive approval for projects and resolve situations as and when they arise. He has been a key component to cooperation and success.

The US Ambassador launched an initiative to deal with the ground water problems at Luxor or Karnak Temples with an audience of key players. An investigating study, funded by the Swedish Government and the SCA, has started.

In the Fall IFAO and SCA hosted a conference to address the local application of International principles of conservation. Resolutions were agreed to and signed that day.

At the ARCE annual meeting in Chicago, a session was devoted to conservation projects for half a day. Nine papers were presented to good-sized audiences.

Lastly, with the completion of the ADP projects, we have hired the staff to step in and help with existing and new EAP ones.

SPECIFIC PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

CYCLE ONE

Completed Projects:

- North Sinai Salvage
- Presentation in Sinai
- Museum Management Training in USA
- Royal Jewelry Exhibition Rooms in Egyptian Museum
- Hetepheres Exhibition Rooms in Egyptian Museum
- Documentation of Bab Zuwayla
- Documentation of Salah Tala'i
- ARCE Field School; three seasons

Projects Underway:

The Field School:

Year Six Accomplishments: Because of a variety of commitments from her full-time job, the Project Director has been unable to be free to conduct the fourth season of the Field School. She is the right person for the job and it would mean a great loss of time and efficiency to search for and identify someone else at this stage

Plans For Next Year: We/she hope she will be able to have a fourth season this year

Zawiya-Sabil Farag Ibn Barquq:

Year Six Accomplishments: A structural engineer visited the site and concluded that the structure is stable. The collapse of the floor is due to settling of the soil under the floor since the water table is dropping as a result of the drainage of the water in the area because of the installation of the Bab Zuwayla sewer.

A number of technical and procedural differences have been agreed upon by Saleh Lamei, his staff and ourselves. The major points were for skylight in the prayer hall, the stairwell and the roof itself. In the case of the former two, we were concerned that the monument needs to be protected from the destructive forces of dirt, debris and acid rain. Simple, non-intrusive, irreversible structures could be used to cover these openings. Saleh Lamei believed that such a step would not be authentic; that instead we should ask USAID to change the environment! Ultimately, we reached sufficient agreement in principal on the concept that we could proceed. But we did not have sufficient details to include it in the RFP sent to several short-listed contractors and a site visit was held with them and the Lamei staff.

On October 3, the responses to the RFP were received. One contractor did not respond, another was non-responsive. He submitted a one-page piece of paper with no work plan and with no budget; just a simple request for LE one million. The third was a good bid from a good individual with a proven record in Cairo. We have begun discussing procedural and technical details with him. He has worked with the SCA system and therefore has a different experience and perspective of what he and we can expect. This individual first came to our attention as a result of the archaeological conservation workshop we held upon completion of Sabil Nafisa. After a long series of correspondence we arranged for a saw technician to come

to Cairo and visit the monument. He concluded that the saw-cutting technology is appropriate and feasible as a means to protect the monument from rising damp. He was asked to prepare two cost estimates; one was to rent the equipment and the other to purchase it. Both would include training.

Plans for Next Year: Conclude sub-agreement for both the conservation work and the saw cutting. Prepare for and implement the saw-cutting, commence and undertake additional conservation work including rebuilding and repainting walls and re-roofing the structure.

Dar Al Kutub/Manuscripts:

Year Six Accomplishments: Each time we tried to move ahead with this project new obstacles were raised. For instance, we had always been led to believe through documents provided that the Dar Al-Kuttab was not a governmental organization. However, this is not the case and we cannot give funds to a governmental organization. This project was one where the Dar basically said "Give us the money and we'll produce the facsimiles." This would be a sure formula for no results. Accordingly, a decision was taken by the Oversight Committee in April to cancel the project and re-program the funds to the Kuttab of the Sabil Mohammed Ali (See below under Cycle III).

Valley of the Kings:

Year Six Accomplishments: The team returned in April, finished their field work and began the installation of two prototype flood protection measures. They returned to the USA and began their final report, including the production of a digitized map for use in illustrating the contours, the hydrology and the tomb plans. We requested that we receive at least a preliminary set of their recommendations so that we could evaluate them and then proceed to begin to seek appropriate approval in principal with the SCA.

Plans for Next Year: Receive and evaluate the final report. Have the team return to finish the prototypes. Submit and obtain approval for protective measures. Proceed with design/construction drawings so implementation of flood protection measures on site could commence possibly in the Winter of 2000/2001.

Luxor Temple:

Year Six Accomplishments: The SCA decided to change the site of the laboratory and then reviewed the first chosen site and decided to permit it to be positioned as first agreed. The site was prepared, and the lab installed. It will serve as site office, a place to apply non-toxic chemicals and as a statement that conservation will be done at Luxor Temple. The analysis of the 1700 blocks shows that 77% do not need treatment, 5% are so severely damaged that they are likely to be lost and that the other 23% have or will receive continuing treatment. The temperature and RH data logger was removed, down loaded and cleared, so information for nearly a year is available. Assessment of last year's season has been completed and shows the importance of storing affected blocks under shelter and cleaning dust and detritus of the surface. By the end of the season, six new mastaba benches had been built to accommodate more efficiently these and other temple blocks.

Plans for Next Year: Continue the treatment and assessment of the program. Transfer blocks to the new mastabas.

Sinai Salvage:

Year Six Accomplishments: The on-site work and final report are completed.

Plans for Next Year: Identify best equipment and means to scan the 1000 B and W negatives before turning them in to the SCA.

Sinai Preservation:

Year Six Accomplishments: The fieldwork is done, the final report finished and the book published and available from the University Press Colorado.

Plans for Next Year:

Mosque of Saleh Tala'i

Year Six Accomplishments: a) The USAID sewer work has been completed. Limestone slabs were installed in front of the shops. The SCA has built and installed a number of doors ARCE repaired steps at the front of the mosque A SCA/ municipality employee has been keeping the entire area clean and the water is successfully flowing through the drains.

b) The minbar was conserved and moved to its original position above a newly completed, raised and waterproof floor and platform. Lighting was installed. On March 21, Hilary Clinton visited the mosque, presided over a completion ceremony for the minbar and presented certificates to five Egyptian trainees on the project. An exhibit of photos, first displayed in the mosque for the Clinton visit, was moved to ARCE and opened as an exhibit by the Director of USAID, Mr. Richard Brown

In the summer, we initiated discussions with the SCA to relocate at the mosque shops of some vendors from near the Bab Zuwayla. The SCA stated that doors would be closed; no vendors would be allowed there.

Without warning the SCA unilaterally decided to remove the roof. This is a job we had agreed to do and the work was jeopardizing the minbar We agreed with the SCA that work on the roof above the minbar would stop until they protected the minbar, and we would conserve the floor of the mosque instead.

Plans for Next Year: Continue to monitor the situation. Receive a bid for floor replacement and begin implementation.

Bab Zuwayla:

Year Six Accomplishments: The documentation of Bab Zuwayla is complete

Bayt Al-Razzaz:

Year Six Accomplishments The bulging wall project was completed. Dangerous walls and arches were removed and/or re-erected. Window grills were re-installed. Quarry-specific-stones from Al-Guyushi were selected for stone replacement. The contractor presented five different Homra (brick dust). After chemical analysis using our protometer kit, we decided to crush the bricks saved from the demolition of the air raid shelter. These bricks contained only 15% salt whereas the others had an average of 80% The brick dust is used in the mortar in place of usrumill (fly ash). Present day usrumill contains burned plastic and resins

The issue of the use only of US Environmental Protection Agency approved chemicals for wood preservative became a major concern because none of the products available in Egypt is permitted. We evaluated whether: 1) Local supplies can import approved products from the US or 2) ARCE will import quantities and make them available as needed. 3) We can use an alternative technique. The solution for the present was to utilize a traditional technique that is safe by applying ethyl alcohol and linseed oil. A specification to re-roof the rooms adjacent to the building wall was prepared and sent out for bid. The project is now almost complete. Emergency shoring was positioned under a weak balcony and a Mashrabiya window bay has been protected.

Specifications and discussions have been underway to convert the two rooms now safe and sound into site offices for ARCE, the SCA and a contractor(s). This will be a good adaptive re-use of the conservation project. A contractor selected to design the implementation of focus areas responded. We sought clarification on several issues. A revised proposal was submitted and over subsequent discussions agreement has been reached.

Plans for Next Year: Implement the site office, commence the design work for the action areas and if time permits, start with implementation

Museum Management:

Year Six Accomplishments: The Hetepheres room work proceeded and was completed under the administration of the Friends of Fulbright Commission. Exhibit modifications including painting, lighting and air conditioning were done. The center display is an all-glass case made of security glass and housing a litter, a chair, canopy poles and other items.

Plans for Next Year:

The Coptic Area of Cairo:

Year Six Accomplishments: a) Masterplan: A final report and drawings were received. These were delayed because the contractor was busy on ADP projects and we agreed that he could concentrate in accelerated work for ADP. A design for a sample bench was submitted, approved and built by a local stone fabrication company. A sample information panel and text was submitted. The language was ponderous and only historical in nature without any discussion of the place where it was intended to be located. Accordingly, we visited the site and re-wrote it. The Arabic text is under review by the SCA. A wonderful series of activities have taken place in Old Cairo. Certainly the submission and circulation with the government of the documents and plans of the Master has helped instigate these activities but other factors are at work here. The Governor has re-paved the entire road around the area. The Minister of Tourism has given money for face-lifting the houses, shops and walks and for putting around the area a new stone sidewall paving. Much of this work has been conducted already in anticipation of year 2000 visits, particularly since the cave/ crypt of the Church of Abu Serga was allegedly a refuge for the Holy Family during their flight to Egypt.

Hilary Clinton visited the area on March 22 and received a briefing on the Master Plan and the ground water control project of USAID. The water project became a reality during the fall following design work and funding. The US Ambassador and the Minister of Housing signed a \$12 million agreement to de-water the area. ARCE will have a team archaeologically monitor the work.

Thus, through preliminary study, investigation and report preparation, ARCE has played a significant role in instigating positive change in Old Cairo.

Plans for Next Year: Install a sample bench in the Coptic Museum garden in conjunction with the SCA. Install a sample information panel and, if successful install twelve more and five orientation maps. Investigate issues of access within the area to all sites and re-paving.

Medieval Zone Database:

Year Six Accomplishments: We decided to wait until we had additional staff before we proceed on this project.

Plans for Next Year: With the completion of ADP, we will be able to devote time to this in the Fall of 2000.

Conservation Lab:

Year Four Accomplishments: We have been having ongoing internal staff, SCA and OC Committee discussions about the best way to proceed on the project.

Plans for Next Year: Conduct needs assessment by a conservator and support team to determine what facilities and resources exist already. Determine where to site the lab

CYCLE TWO

Completed Projects:

- Conservation Lab For Submerged Artifacts
- Technical study Al-Muzzawaka tombs at Dakhla Oasis
- KV55
- Conservation of Sabil-Kuttab Nafisa Al-Bayda

Sabil Kuttab Nafisa Al-Bayda:

Year Six Accomplishments: We open the Sabil from time to time to show visitors. Otherwise, the project is complete.

Cairo Mapping Projects:

Year Six Accomplishments: The plans found in the SCA archives have been incorporated into the drawings. On-site survey work has been done and is also being incorporated. We decided to include unregistered but historically important buildings. Five of seven columns of the maps have been finished. A delay occurred because the architect needed to finish his supervision work at Qesir Fort.

Plans for Next Year: Receive the finished product and decide how to publish it.

Synagogue of Maimonides:

Year Six Accomplishments: Discussions were held with Dr. Hefny and a sub-agreement issued based on a proposal we requested from him. He conducted a ground water investigation complete with the drilling of two boreholes to determine stratigraphy.

He has submitted the final reports recommending both local and global solutions. He has learned that the GOE plans to install a sewage network in the area, which will help alleviate the overall situation in the area and it could take the ground water from the synagogue. However since the network would be at a higher location, drainage project at the synagogue would feed by gravity into a collection chamber and then have to be pumped out. This is not a preferred method but seems unavoidable.

Plans for Next Year: Evaluate the report and figure out if technical solutions are feasible. Keep the Ambassador informed and if, necessary discuss, with USAID.

Conservation of Bab Zuwayla:

Year Six Accomplishments: This year the work on this monument moved beyond initial mobilization and preliminary work into full-fledged conservation. The major activities included removal and replacement of the damaged blocks and the bases of the towers. New cornice and other blocks have been quarried, carved and fitted on the upper terraces. The entire terraces have been re-paved by putting slabs over a waterproofing and the existing roof slabs. The slabs were set in a pattern to show the foundation of the apartments that had been built on and occupied the terraces until their removal by the Comité at the turn of the century. Slope and drains have been built into the terraces to remove rainwater. Fine conservation has been

conducted on the stucco inscription and decorated ceiling in the small room in the lower Western Tower. Architectural evidence suggests this may be the location of a stairway connecting a street level door and rooms that would have provided access for the Sultan. A blazon of one Sultan has been found under layers of plaster. If this stairway exists or was once there, it would be a perfect place to provide access up to the towers. The access through the Mosque is intrusive and we have earlier considered providing it up through the dome from the street. If we discover this old stairway it would be a much better solution practically and ethically.

A JOS cleaning system was purchased in the Spring, and following trials, has performed very successfully. Two Egyptians have been trained in its use and maintenance. The system clears between 6-10 m² per day. The upper terraces and upper levels of both towers have been cleaned so far. A small artifact from the towers, a small boat has been conserved. Test cleaning and conservation specifications for the metal of the door have been conducted.

As a part of its Fatamid Cairo Project, the Ministry of Culture has designated the minarets of the Bab Zuwayla as one of their projects. Their consultants are recommending that ARCE does the conservation instead of the contractor tasked with MUYAID Mosque. This is for reasons of continuity, safety, and familiarity with the site and appropriate equipment. The ARCE has approved adding this site to the Bab Zuwayla and re-programming funds to do it. It would fit well into the project schedule and only cause an addition of 3 months to the whole project since work can be simultaneously with the other components.

Plans for Next Year: Approach the SCA for approval of the minarets. Finish the cleaning of the towers. Determine what are the best options for removing/relocating some of the shops on the facades and under the dome.

Small Temple of Amun at Medinet Habu:

Year Six Accomplishments: Three major phases of the work were conducted this year. First, the stone slabs for the area of the roof over the shrines were cut, and fitted precisely in place and sealed with mortar. This followed the previous years work which had yielded good direct results. For, when the shrine room was opened after the summer break, the humidity inside was markedly lower than in previous years, apparently because of the roof repairs. Other areas of the roof are being cleaned, repaired and sealed.

Second, the cleaning of the relief decoration in the walls of the shrine has yielded spectacular results. Using, poultices, distilled water and mechanical cleaning, the conservation has removed centuries of grime and revealed lovely details and colors.

Third, the floor of the first shrine has been cleared of soil in preparation for installing a floor. During the process of removing soil so it could be compacted for the flooring, the team re-earthed parts of a seated statue of Tuthmosis III and the god Mut first found in the 1930's. There is now consideration being given to joining the base to the upper portion, including the torsos, which have long been situated next to the temple.

Plans for Next Year: Finish the roof repairs on the areas other than above the shrines. Put in floors, continue to clean the relief. Decide how to approach the concept of the statue conservation.

Graeco-Roman Site:

Year Six Accomplishments: The team leader sent information on his team and a proposal and security clearance applications were sent to the SCA. Apparently, the security applications went missing and they were re-sent several months late. The Graeco-Roman Museum indicated an interest in the project but appeared to want to control it, unlike our other projects.

Plans for Next Year: Clarify the Museum's position. Reach accord on the supervising structure, if possible, and then move ahead to implement the project.

Conservation Education:

Year Six Accomplishments: This activity is tied to the conservation Lab in Cycle One, and will follow from decision made about where to place it and how to equip it.

Plans for Next Year: Conduct needs assessment by a conservator and support team to determine what facilities and resources exist already. Determine where to site the lab

UV Filters:

Year Six Accomplishments: The final report was received and has good information. We have not pursued this project further this year because we've concentrated on other ones.

Plans for Next Year: The new EAP staff will take this on in the Fall of 2000

Pest Netting:

Year Six Accomplishments: This has the same planning as UV Filters.

Islamic Inscriptions:

Year Six Accomplishments: The SCA gave full approval to visit and photograph the monuments. Details were worked out on-site with SCA inspectors. This has enabled the projects to move well beyond the first phase of inventorying previously published monuments. To move the project ahead further the Director has agreed to dedicate some of his sabbatical salary for additional graduate students.

Plans for Next Year: Continue the process.

Abydos:

Year Six Accomplishments: Following a series of discussions and clarifications with the Project Director and New York University, the sub-agreement was signed.

Plans for Next Year: The team will mobilize. The associate Director will come with a surveyor followed by a photographer and then a conservation and documentation team in the New Year. In the Spring work will begin on the boat graves. More teams and the conservation team will work again in the Fall.

Conservation of Coptic Icons:

Year Six Accomplishments: ARCE and the Institute of Coptic Studies signed a sub-agreement. At the same time an agreement was signed with the Royal Netherlands Embassy for the training component of the project. In the early part of the year, the team assembled and proceeded to inventory and document over 2000 icons. The general and photo-documentation submitted was of a very good standard. A hitherto-unknown collection of icons was discovered in Middle Egypt. The team submitted a final report and a work plan for the next phase that was lacking in details. Additionally, it has not been reviewed by the team principals. We have asked for a re-submission to try and deal with a complex organizational situation where the personalities are strong. We met with the Dutch to determine a course of action. Subsequently, we met with all the principals to sort out differences. Together we determined how to proceed to overcome some difficulties with the Institute of Coptic Studies. The acting Director of the Institute is difficult to reach and has been busy and not able to respond. He also consults with the Pope and so his response time has a built in delay.

Plans for Next Year: Meet with the head of the Institute, receive a new work plan. Evaluate it and decide hopefully to proceed with Phases II and III.

Cultural Resource Management:

Year Six Accomplishments: As a response to our request for clarification of the status of the projects, AUC withdrew its proposal. We have decided to focus the funding of this work on a more specific program than CRM; it will be on site management. The SCA has requested whether we can do this, and we are exploring options about where the course should be, who should take it, and what its content should be.

Plans for Next Year: Bring these discussions to a head. Hire a consultant to answer some of the above questions. Identify a team to do the training.

Tomb of Parrenefer

This project has been cancelled.

CYCLE THREE

Completed Projects:

- Alexandria Mosaics
- Bir Umm Fawakhir
- Equipment for Conservation Laboratory at INA
- Karnak Statue
- Three Houses in Cairo

Alexandria Mosaics:

Year Six Accomplishments: During construction at one side of the shelter, a new mosaic was discovered. Since the tesserae on the border panel were the same size as the tesserae on the central panel of the bird mosaics, it was decided to reveal the new mosaic. The central panel depicted a panther, constructed in the smallest tesserae on-site. Ancient repairs covered over a horned animal the panther held underneath his paws. Because of the importance of this piece, it was decided not to bury it cover it under the shelter wall, but instead to extend the shelter with a niche in order to include the panther.

During the Winter, steel trusses were installed by hand and the beige painted steel roof put in place to protect the conserved and exposed mosaics from Winter rains. Subsequently, gutters, side panels, vertical security glass panels, doors and a viewing bridge/walkway were constructed.

The team left at the end of June with all but a few finishing touches necessary for completion. When members returned in October, we were told to prepare for an opening by the Minister in early December. Accordingly, everything including the preparation of an informational brochure was prepared with such a target in mind.

Plans for Next Year: Opening the shelter by Dr. Gaballa, the Governor of Alexandria. the Minister, the US Ambassador, the head of USAID and the Polish Ambassador Receive a final report.

Bir Umm Fawakhir:

Year Six Accomplishments: Many of the team were unable to return at the last moment because of sickness or because they could not get away from their jobs. We left it to team leader whether to postpone or return with a full team the next year. She decided to finish this year and perform a smaller scale of work. Therefore we funded the construction of the stone barricade.

A contractor from the Nile Valley, supervised by a conservator, located granite country rock off-site and from a nearby location, so there would be no scars to the site. Together they constructed a barricade of a slightly undulating double row of granite boulders across the Wadi. They blend in well with their surroundings. They are large (150x100x70 cm) enough so that machinery has to be used to displace them. In this way two men and a pick up truck cannot remove them to use as convenient building material as has happened at sites under the Sinai Preservation Project. Additionally, with spaces between them any water flow down the

Wadi can pass unhindered. So, effectively the site is protected from vehicular traffic and damage.

Plans for Next Year: Receive a final report.

El-Muzzawakha Tomb:

Year Six Accomplishments: We did not receive a further report from the team and have asked them about its status.

Plans for Next Year: Meet with them in November-December when they return for a Dakhleh field season.

Hierakonpolis:

Year Six Accomplishments: The team returned in early January. They found that the wire mesh they had installed prevented bats from entering the tombs and from causing damage. The sealed fissure also stopped the bats and the entrance of rain from an April shower. Further cleaning and consolidation of wall paintings of the burial Chamber of Hormose was done. Tracings and drawings were done for the cleaned decoration in the antechamber. The re-attachment of the inscription shattered by vandals in the tomb of Djehuti was completed. The hill containing the tomb was surveyed to permit a proper drainage design. Plans and sections of the two other selected tombs, Ny-anch Pepi and Khoremkhawef in another hill were drawn. At their request, female villagers were given a special visit to the tombs.

Plans for Next Year: Most of the conservation has finished but more drawing will occur.

Institute of Nautical Archaeology:

Year Four Accomplishments: The equipment for the lab was purchased and installed. In March, Dr. Gaballa, Mark Easton and Douglas Haldane cut the ribbon officially opening the facility.

Plans for Next Year: This Project is now completed.

Karnak Statute:

Year Four Accomplishments: A change in the design of the statue conservation, to hang it on a steel supporting frame rather than join it, caused the project to be completed later than planned. By the end of June it was finished on-site at new location in the museum. With three days notice the Minister decided to hold a completion ceremony. He, the US Ambassador and Dr. Gaballa presided over it. Also, in attendance was the Deputy Head of USAID and the German ambassador. This type of statue conservation is leading edge at a few European and American institutions and so marks a new departure for Egypt. Most comments have been positive. In any case, it attracts attention and thus underlines conservation work.

Plans for Next Year: Receive the final report.

Ramesses VI:

Year Six Accomplishments: some of the team staff were unavailable because of other work.

Plans for Next Year: Receive final clarifications, discuss and issue a sub-agreement. The work should be completed in a year.

Sabil Mohamed Ali Pasha (Tusun Pasha):

Year Six Accomplishments: During the course of the year, the Kuttab of this monument was added to the scope of work. Early in the year, structural analysis determined that both the internal dome and the walls of the small vestibule were dangerous and needed immediate intervention. Emergency shoring was installed. The situation worsened and an adjoining mosque roof collapsed. The cause of this instability has been the GOE sewer works. Heavy machinery caused vibrations. The subsequent drop in the water levels in the previously hydrated unconsolidated fill under the foundation has caused uneven settlement. More extensive micro-piling was inserted to strengthen the foundations. During the course of the year, the OC decided to add the Kuttab to the Sabil project. Not only could both projects run concurrently, but also the Kuttab would not be jeopardized by the intervening instability.

The wooden dome has been strengthened and covered with lead for waterproofing. Conservation is underway on the marble and the bronze grills, which were originally gilded.

Plans for Next Year: Continue all phases of conservation.

Three Houses in Cairo:

Year Six Accomplishments: It ended up that four houses were actually done. Beit Sokhar was finished first and the owner is a happy man. Two houses proposed for intervention were not available, so two more were sought. Beit Atef an adjacent one have significant architectural features and adjoin a small tomb. Repairs were made to the stairs, toilets, roofs, walls and woodwork. The houses are much more pleasant places to live in and see from the street. The project on-site and final report is now completed. After discussions with the Royal Netherlands Embassy and a proposal from the team leader, it appears that the team will receive funding for two more houses.

Plans for Next Year: This project is completed.

Consultant Activity

Patrick Godeau: has done excellent photo documentation.

Dr. Kamal Hefny: was hired to investigate ground water issues at the Synagogue of Maimonides.

Brian Green: as Publishing Director has started the publications program.

Presentations

On December 7: Chip Vincent spoke to a group visiting Egypt led by Lanny Bell, Former Director of Chicago House.

On March 10: Chip Vincent spoke to 130 persons at the Women's Association.

On April 7: Chip Vincent and Jarek Dobrowolski spoke to over 100 on the conservation projects at ARCE. USAID Mission Director, Richard Brown opened an exhibit at ARCE on the conservation of the minbar from the Mosque of Saleh Tala'i.

On April 22: Mark Easton, Chip Vincent and Jarek Dobrowolski at the ARCE Oversight Committee.

On April 25: Chip Vincent and Jarek Dobrowolski presentations at the ARCE annual meeting

Site Visits

Over and above the normal technical site visits, the following occurred:

On Nov. 29 and 30: Chip Vincent and Jarek Dobrowolski and Michael Jones accompanied a group of 30 representatives of international organizations donating funds to Egypt to Luxor

On November: Chip Vincent and Jarek Dobrowolski took Mrs Kurtzer Christine Kalke of NEH, and Catherine Clyne and Ray Salamanca of ARCE to the Bab-Zuwayla area.

On Jan. 6: Chip Vincent and Jarek Dobrowolski took 17 graduate students and their two professors in the MIT-Aga Khan program of Islamic Architecture to the Bab-Zuwayla area

On Jan. 10 and 11: Ray Johnson of Chicago House showed Ambassador and Mrs. Kurtzer ARCE conservator sites in Luxor.

On Jan. 27 and 28: Chip Vincent took instructors and students in ARCE's stone workshop to the Bab-Zuwayla and the Karnak statue projects, respectively.

On Feb. 1: Chip Vincent took instructors and students in ARCE's stone workshops to the Sabil Mohammed Ali Pasha.

On Feb. 8: ARCE staff visited sites in the Bab-Zuwayla area.

On Feb. 14: Chip Vincent and Jarek Dobrowolski took the ARCE tour of 10 from New York to the Bab-Zuwayla area.

On Feb. 28: Alaa El-Habashi took the above group to the Bayt al-Razzaz.

On April 8: Chip Vincent and Jarek Dobrowolski led the ARCE/DC tour of 30 to the Bab-Zuwayla.

On March 14: Chip Vincent and Jarek Dobrowolski took Bob Randolph, USAID Assistant Administrator, Dick Brown, USAID Mission Director in Cairo and Mark Silverman, USAID Assistant Director on a visit to Bab-Zuwayla.

On March 21-25: The visit of Mrs. Clinton and Chelsea was preceded by multiple pre-advance and advance visits; too numerous to remember and to put on paper. A description of the visit itself follows:

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and her daughter Chelsea paid a visit to Egypt from March 21-25 and spent most of their time visiting antiquities sites being conducted under ARCE's USAID funded conservation grants. Throughout their stay, they were accompanied by Dr. Gaballa, Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Antiquities.

The first evening, the First Lady and her daughter arrived at the Bab-Zuwayla area and proceeded to the mosque of Saleh Tala'i. There Dr Gaballa and Chip Vincent led them through a visit of the newly conserved 14th century minbar or pulpit starting with a review of the fine exhibit created by Agneiszka Dobrowolska, Jarek Dobrowolski and Patrick Godeau.

After introductory remarks praising the SCA, USAID and ARCE's role in conservation, she presented certificates to the five Egyptian trainees who worked on the project. They next visited the Sabil-Kuttab Nafisa Al-Bayda before departing for the Egyptian Museum where they saw the royal jewelry rooms that ARCE helped renovate last year.

Earlier that afternoon, she had toured the Mohammed Ali Mosque at the Citadel with Dr Gaballa, assisted by William Lyster, who is involved in the conservation projects at St. Anthony and St. Paul's monasteries.

The next day, they visited Old Cairo, where they received a briefing from Chip Vincent on the Master Plan for the area. After they saw the Ben Ezra synagogue, they went to the Church of Abu Serga, where the Holy Family had taken refuge during their flight to Egypt. Coptologist and former ARCE fellow Betsy Bolman, who is the lead author of the St. Anthony's wall paintings publication, helped guide them through the Church

That evening, Minister of Culture Farouk Hosni held a splendid reception in the newly conserved Monasterli Palace.

On the 23rd, the First Lady and her staff went to Luxor, where Ray Johnson showed them Luxor temple, including the stone fragment conservation project that ARCE is funding.

The next day in the Valley of the Kings Chip Vincent explained the flood protection study and then conducted them to the tomb of Seti I, where Michael Jones gave details of the project.

Other West Bank sites were visited next before a fine lunch at Chicago House, where Mark Easton was able to spend considerable time talking to Mrs. Clinton about ARCE and conservation.

The climax of the cultural visit was a splendid, atmospheric dinner that evening in the first courtyard of Luxor temple, again hosted by Minister of Culture, Farouk Hosni.

The First Lady and her team visited over 15 antiquities sites, including 8 ARCE conservation sites, and were accompanied by six ARCE related personnel. Many high embassy and USAID officials were part of the visit and many discussions were held about ARCE's conservation projects and other activities.

On March 30: Chip Vincent took a Congressional Delegation of 20 led by Rep. Benjamin Gilman of New York, to Old Cairo for a briefing

On Sept. 23: Chip Vincent and Jarek Dobrowolski took USAID on site visit to the Maimonide Synagogue.

On Sept. 25: Chip Vincent and Michael Jones assisted on the ARCE trip to the Monastery of St. Anthony's Church.

Meetings

On April 16, 17: Chip Vincent participated in a breakfast hosted by the US Ambassador to develop an initiative on the ground water issues facing Luxor temple.

On April 27: Mark Easton, Chip Vincent and Elaine Schapker visited with the former US Ambassador to Egypt, Frank Wisner and briefed him on ARCE's projects.

On May 5: Chip Vincent had lunch with the Aga Khan, seven of his top officials and the President of the AUC and the Director of Ford Foundation to discuss the Historic Cities Support in Project in Cairo.

In early May: Mark Easton and Chip Vincent participated in two review panels for the USAID contractor in charge of training for the desert field school and for training in submerged artifact conservation.

On May 14: Mark Easton and Chip Vincent participated in a follow-up meeting in Luxor about the Luxor and Karnak temples. Dr. Gaballa presided.

On May 30 Chip Vincent met with UNESCO representatives studying the Government's plans for Islamic Cairo.

On June 16: Mark Easton and Chip Vincent met with representatives of the Dutch Institute and Leiden University.

In early July: Chip Vincent met separately with students from Cambridge University, the Aga Khan program and provided copies of the Cairo Mapping Project maps to help them in their research.

On Sept. 2: Chip Vincent met with Duncan Miller who is leading a project to strengthen NGOs. He wanted to know of ones involved in cultural heritage that might like assistance.

On Sept. 5: Representatives of laser scanning technology met at ARCE to discuss the potential of the equipment for recording monuments.

On Sept. 20: Mark Easton, Chip Vincent, Jarek Doborowolski and Hoda Abdel Hamid participated in a one day meeting at IFAO chaired by Dr. Gaballa and Dr. Grimal. The statement on conservation guidelines is attached to the appendix.

On Oct. 27: Mark Easton and Chip Vincent attended the signing ceremony between the SCA and the Swedish Ambassador for the ground water study in Luxor.

SCA

On July 21-23: Michael Jones and Chip Vincent went with Dr. Abdallah Attar, Head of Islamic and Coptic Section, Dr. Shaaban Taha, Director of Projects and Engineer Ramsy Naguib, Coptic Section for site management planning at Quesir fort, and St. Anthony's and St. Paul's monasteries.

Friends and Visitors

We wish to thank the many USAID and Embassy officials who have been extremely helpful and generous with these projects. Many of them have been able to visit the sites. We mention them and other visitors in the following list.

- Congressman Benjamin Gilman
- Robert Randolph, Assistant Administrator of USAID, Washington
- Ambassador and Mrs. Daniel Kurtzer
- Mr. And Mrs. Richard Brown, USAID, Egypt Mission Director
- David Ballard, US Embassy
- William Cavness, US Embassy
- Nihal Rizk, US Embassy
- Paul O’Friel, US Embassy
- Toni-Christiansen-Wagner, USAID
- Alan Davis, USAID
- Wafaa Faltaous, USAID
- Kay Freeman, USAID
- Jim Harmon, USAID
- Seifalla Hassanein, USAID
- Janina Jaruyelski, USAID
- Cheryl Mc Carthy, USAID
- Samir Mikhail, USAID
- Anne Patterson, USAID
- Donella Russell, USAID
- Mark Silverman, USAID
- Phillip Tresch, USAID
- Glenn Whaley, USAID
- Betsy Bryan, ARCE
- Irene Bierman, ARCE
- Charles Herzer, ARCE
- Everett Rowson, ARCE
- Chris Taylor, ARCE

Appendices:

- Photographs of ARCE projects
- Presentations on ARCE projects
- Articles on ARCE projects
- Other information concerning ARCE projects
- Table of status of projects
- Financial Information

Photographs of ARCE Projects

Mark Easton, Douglas Haldane and Dr. Gaballa open the new INA-Egypt conservation facility at Alexandria

Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE



Removal of deteriorated stones at the Bab-Zuwayla

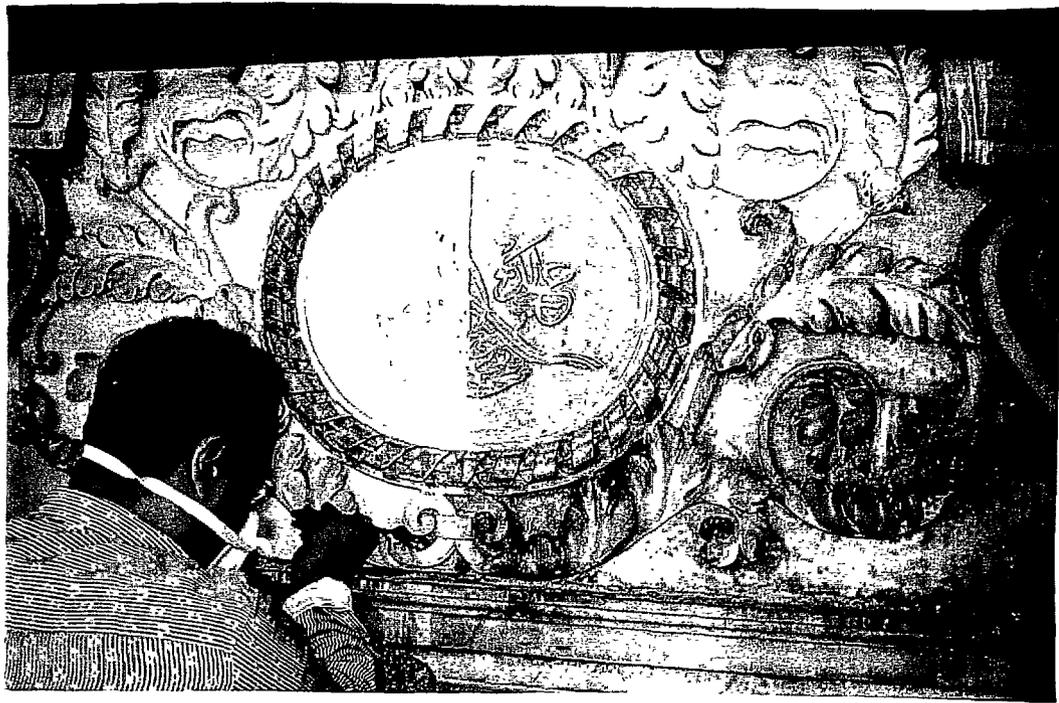
Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE



Stone cleaning on the tower of the Bab Zuwayla

Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE



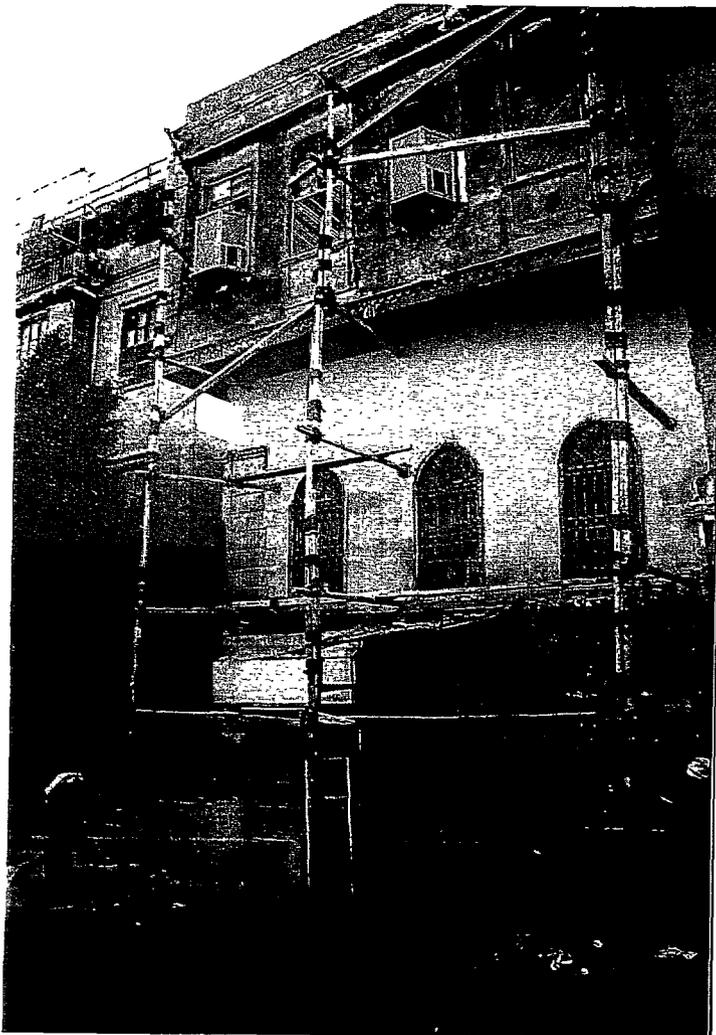


Marble cleaning at the Sabil Muhammed Ali Pasha (Tusun Pasha)

Photo by Alaa El-Habashi/ARCE

During and after renovation of the House Beit Atef on Bab-El-Wazir

Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE



The conserved Minbar in the mosque of Saleh Tala'i

Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE



USAID Mission Director, Richard Brown opens the exhibit at ARCE about the Conservation of the Minbar from the Mosque Of Saleh Tala'i

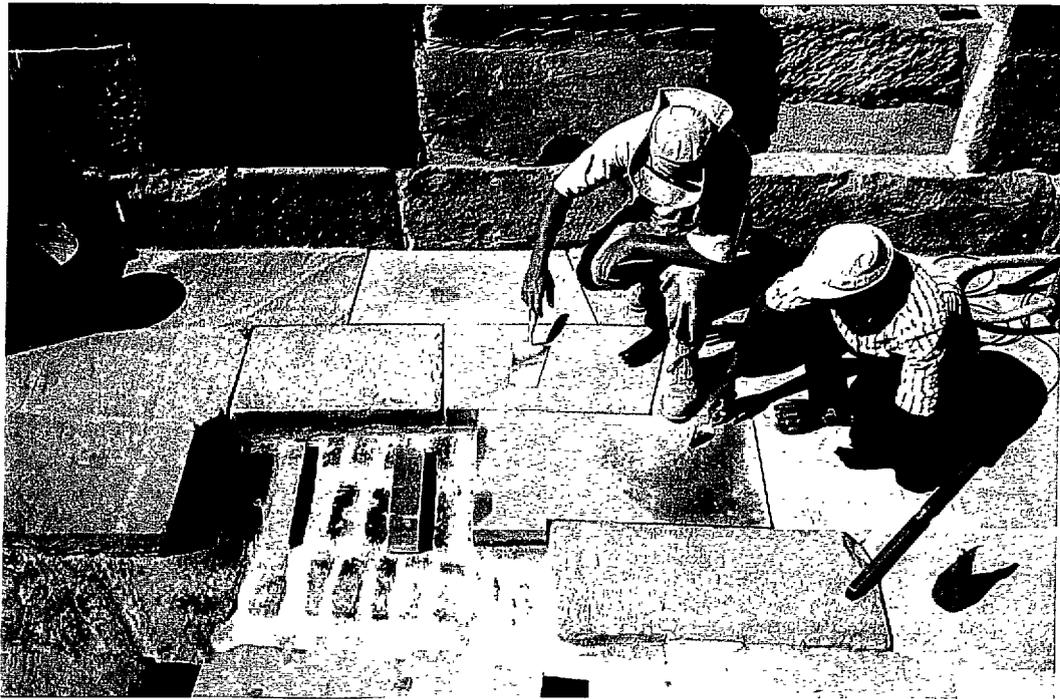
Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE



Hillary Clinton speaking
At the opening ceremony
For the Minbar in the
Mosque of Saleh Tala'i

Photo by Patrick Godeau/ARCE





Dany Roy repairing the roof at the small temple of Amun at Medinet Habu

Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE

Conservator Lotfy Hassan cleaning the wall relief in the shrine room at the small temple Of Amun

Photo by Yarko Kobylecky/ARCE

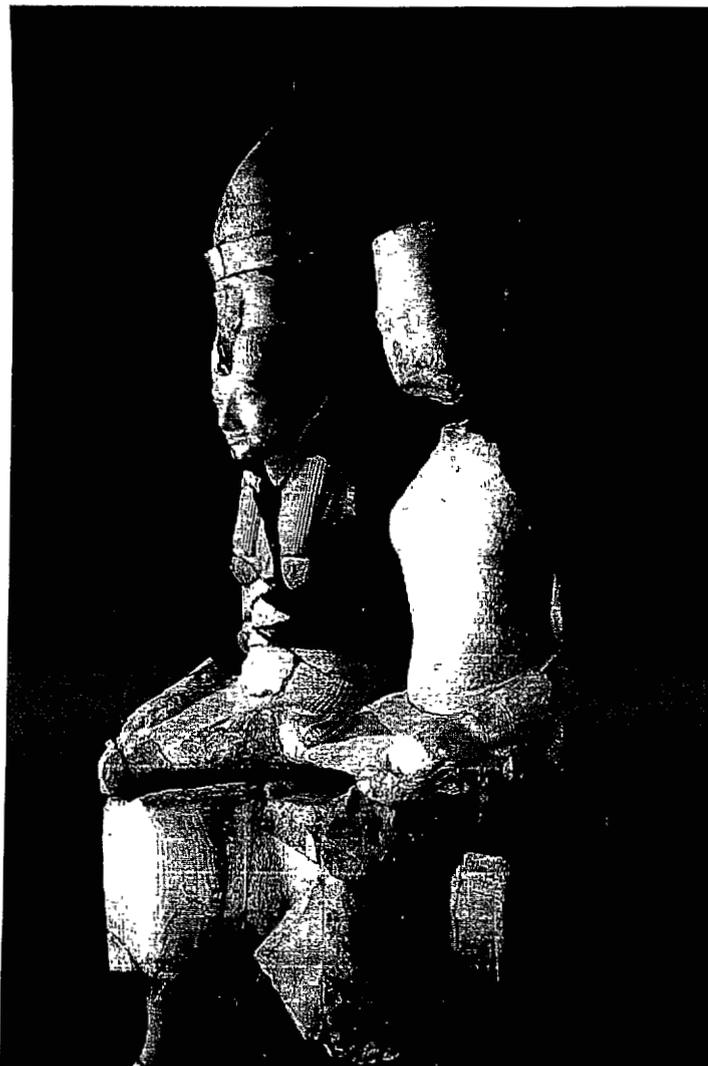
Conservator Hiroko Kariya talking to the ARCE stone conservation workshop at Luxor temple
Photo by Yarko Kobylecky/ARCE





Opening ceremony of the Karnak Statue display in the Egyptian Museum
Left to Right: Dr. Gaballa, Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Antiquities, Farouk Hosni, Minister of Culture, Hourig Sourizian, Project Director, Daniel Kurtzer, US Ambassador, Toni-Christiansen-Wagner, Deputy Director-USAID
Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE

Diad of Mut and Amun after and during conservation
Photos by Patrick Godeau and Jarek Dobrowolski /ARCE



Presentations on ARCE Projects



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SEMINAR SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 1999

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

*COPTIC WALL PAINTINGS FROM THE MONASTERY OF ST.
ANTHONY AT THE RED SEA: A THIRTEENTH-CENTURY
PROGRAM NEWLY REVEALED*

DR. ELIZABETH BOLMAN
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
TEMPLE UNIVERSITY, PHILADELPHIA, PA

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

*THE CAVE CHURCH AT THE RED SEA
MONASTERY OF ST. PAUL*

MR. WILLIAM LYSTER

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

*THE DOCUMENTATION OF MONUMENTS:
METHODS & TECHNIQUES*

MR. TARIQ AL MURRI
ARCHITECTURAL CONSERVATOR

Seminars begin at 6:00pm at ARCE. Refreshments will be provided following the lecture.

Everyone is welcome to the ARCE lectures



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SEMINAR SCHEDULE
APRIL 1999

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7

AN UPDATE ON ARCE'S CONSERVATION PROJECTS

DR. ROBERT K. VINCENT, JR.
EGYPTIAN ANTIQUITIES PROJECT DIRECTOR

MR. JAREK DOBROWOLSKI
EGYPTIAN ANTIQUITIES PROJECT TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14

*EARLY MONASTIC PRACTICE, SACRED SPACE AND THE
SOLITUDE OF THE CELL IN CHRISTIAN EGYPT*

DARLENE BROOKS HEDSTROM
ARCE FELLOW, PH.D. CANDIDATE
MIAMI UNIVERSITY, OXFORD, OHIO

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21

*THE REAL IMAGE OF CLEOPATRA BETWEEN HISTORY AND
LITERATURE*

PROF. AHMED ETMAN
PROF. OF GREEK AND LATIN STUDIES
CENTRE FOR COMPARATIVE LINGUISTICS AND LITERARY
STUDIES, DIRECTOR, FACULTY OF ARTS, CAIRO UNIVERSITY

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28

NO LECTURE

Seminar will begin at 6.00PM at ARCE. Refreshments will be provided following the lecture.

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EAST 107th STREET, APT 401, NEW YORK, NY 10035 1010 TEL: (212) 529 6661 - FAX: (212) 529 6856



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SEMINAR SCHEDULE
FEBRUARY 1999

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

*IMAGES OF EXILE: EARLY CHRISTIAN ART AND THE CULT OF
THE SAINTS IN THE KHARGA OASIS*

DR. STEPHEN DAVIES
PROFESSOR IN NEW TESTAMENT AND EARLY CHURCH
HISTORY AT THE EVANGELICAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY IN
CAIRO (ETSC)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

*SCIENTIFIC MATERIALISM IN LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH
CENTURY EGYPT*

MARWA ELSHAKRY
ARCE FELLOW
PH.D. CANDIDATE, PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

*THE LADY CALLED "PRECIOUS WHITE ONE": CONSERVATION
OF NAFISA AL BAYDA'S BUILDING IN CAIRO*

AGNIESZKA DOBROWOLSKA
ARCHITECT

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

*CONSERVATION AND PRESERVATION OF ARCHEOLOGICAL
SITES - A HOLISTIC PHILOSOPHY*

DR. WOLFGANG MAYER
CAIRO UNIVERSITY

Seminar will begin at 6:00PM at ARCE. Refreshments will be provided following the
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SEMINAR SCHEDULE
DECEMBER 1998

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2

RESTORATION OF THE SARCOPHAGUS OF RAMSES VI

MR. EDWIN BROCK
DIRECTOR OF THE RAMSES VI SARCOPHAGUS
RESTORATION PROJECT.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9

*OXYGEN FREE SHOW CASES FOR THE ROYAL MUMMIES AT THE
EGYPTIAN MUSEUM*

DR. NASRY ISKANDER
GENERAL DIRECTOR OF CONSERVATION
SUPREME COUNCIL OF ANTIQUITIES

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16

STONE CONSERVATION: SELECTED EXAMPLES AND SOME GUIDELINES

DR. WOLFGANG MAYER
CAIRO UNIVERSITY

Seminar will begin at 6:00PM at ARCE. Refreshments will be provided after the lecture

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4:20 Deborah Schorsch (Metropolitan Museum of Art), "Precious Metal Polychromy in Egypt during the New Kingdom"

4:40 John A. Seeger (Northern Arizona University), "The Mechanical Devices of Ctesibius"

Panel 16 PHILOLOGY II Buckingham
Chair. Ron Leprohon (University of Toronto)

3:00 Ronald Leprohon (University of Toronto), "Versification in Inscription Sinai 90"

3:20 Thomas J. Logan (Monterey Peninsula College), "The *Jmyt-pr*-Sales Document Combination"

3:40 Gay Robins (Emory University), "The Names of Hatshepsut as King"

4:00 Vincent Tobin (St. Mary's University, Halifax), "Interpreting the Lebensmüde"

4:20 Frank J. Yurco (Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago), "Ipu-wer's Admonitions: A New Light on the Hyksos Era"

4:40 John Charles Deaton, "The Discovery of Pyramid Texts on Wood Fragments from the Early Middle Kingdom Coffin of the High Official 'The Overseer of the Seal; The Judge of Private Matters, Ipi'"

6:30 RECEPTION AND BANQUET Francis I and Gold Rooms

SUNDAY, APRIL 25

MORNING

9:00 ARCE Conservation Projects Update Windsor
Robert K. Vincent, Jr., Egyptian Antiquities Project Director

Panel 17. ARCE CONSERVATION PROJECTS Windsor
Chair Chip Vincent (American Research Center in Egypt)

10:00 Agnieszka Dobrowolska, "Sabil-Kuttab Nafisa al Bayda Conservation Project"

10:20 Hiroko Kariya (Brooklyn Museum of Art), "Conservation of Sandstone Fragments at Luxor Temple"

10:40 Edwin C. Brock, "The Reconstruction of the Sarcophagus of Ramses VI"

11:00 Michael Jones (American Research Center in Egypt), "The ARCE Wall Paintings Restoration Project at the Monastery of St. Anthony, Egypt; Conservation Study: Seti I"
~~11:20 John Rutherford (California Academy of Sciences), "ARCE EAPVOK Valley of the Kings Tomb Protection Project - Prototype Tomb Protection Measures"~~

11:40 Raphael A. J. Wüst (University of British Columbia) and Garniss Curtis (University of California, Berkeley), "Damage Potential of Flash Floods in the Valley of the Kings, Luxor, Egypt: Progress Report of the ARCE Flood Protection Investigations"

12:00 Jaroslaw Dobrowolski (American Research Center in Egypt), "Theory and Practice: Conservation Charters at Work in ARCE's Conservation Projects"

12:20 Lyla Pinch Brock, "The Conservation of KV55 in the Valley of the Kings"

12:40 Ed Johnson (University of California, Los Angeles), "Conservation of the Dynastic Tombs at Hierakonpolis"

1:00 Michael Mallinson, "Master Plan: Preservation and Presentation of Old Cairo"

Panel 18: RELIGION, FOLKLORE AND MEDICINE I Buckingham
Chair. Peter Piccione (University of Charleston, S.C.)

10:00 Jennifer Hellum (University of Toronto), "Defining Myth in the Pyramid Texts"

10:20 J. Brett McClain (University of Chicago), "The Decade Festival of Thebes"

10:40 Kathlyn Cooney (Johns Hopkins University), "The Edifice of Taharqa: Ritual Function and the Role of the King"

11:00 Geoff Graham (Yale), "Crowns and Insignia in Osiris Bed Scenes"

11:20 Harold M. Hays (University of Chicago), "Form and Context of the Lion-Bed"

11:40 Ed Brovarski (Museum of Fine Arts, Boston), "A Sacerdotal Title of Anubis"

12:00 Mario H. Beatty (Morris Brown College), "The Title *hry-sst3*: Functional or Honorific?"

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and

THE INSTITUTE OF FINE ARTS

Present

Robert K. (Chip) Vincent

*Director, Egyptian Antiquities Project of the
American Research Center in Egypt*

**“Conserving Egypt’s Treasures:
Update on the Egyptian Antiquities
Project and the Antiquities
Development Project”**

With funding from the United States Agency for International Development, the Egyptian Antiquities Project and the Antiquities Development Project are working with the Egyptians to conserve Islamic, Coptic and Ancient Egyptian treasures from Cairo to the Eastern Desert, from Quseir on the shores of the Red Sea to the Valley of the Kings. Chip Vincent will illustrate this update with slides, many of which have not been seen before.

Thursday, October 29, 1998
6:00 p.m.

followed by a reception

**Institute of Fine Arts
1 East 78th Street**

See other side →

Articles on ARCE Projects

University Press of Colorado



Fall/Winter 1999

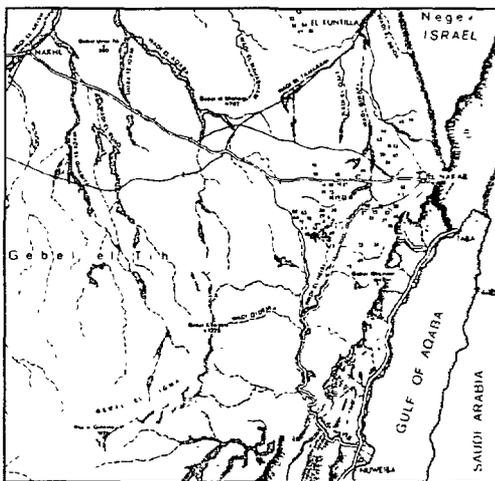
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35

An Archaeological Investigation of the Central Sinai, Egypt

Frank W. Eddy, Fred Wendorf and Associates
Co-published with the American Research Center in Egypt, Inc.

This volume details the findings of a reconnaissance survey of seventy-five archaeological sites and the subsequent excavation of ten representative sites on the Sinai Peninsula.



Map of the study area showing the archaeological sites

Based on field work conducted in 1996 by the Combined Prehistoric Expedition (CPE) in the Upper Wadi Graft Basin, *An Archaeological Investigation of the Central Sinai, Egypt* sheds further light on the Timnian Tradition of the southern Levant, one of the earliest (7000–3000 B.P.) nomadic pastoral cultures described to date.

The results of their research indicate that there were two distinct settlement patterns that were alternating adaptive responses to changing climatic conditions. First, a regional environmental analysis shows that nomadic tent pastoralists herding goats, sheep, as well as cattle, were responding to desert living during arid times. The settlement data reveal this adaptation in two periods: once during the Chalcolithic (Copper Age) (6500–4800 B.P.) and again during the Middle Bronze Age (3800–3300 B.P.).

By contrast, the second pattern—that of semi-nomadic village pastoralists—was a solution to life in the wetter climate that appeared during the Early Bronze Age (4800–3800 B.P.). Thus, the authors maintain, the Chalcolithic–Bronze Age archaeology shows a pattern in which the fully nomadic tent community alternated with semi-nomadic village pastoralists according to the intensity of rainfall and availability of forage.

An Archaeological Investigation of the Central Sinai, Egypt is divided into two parts: one describing the results of the survey and the other detailing the later excavations in the fall. Complete with 101 line drawings, 60 maps, and 23 black-and-white photos, this book is essential reading for scholars interested in the prehistoric archaeology of the Sinai region.

368 pages 8.5x11
23 black & white photos, 60 maps,
101 line drawings, 33 tables
0-87081-537-7
cloth \$75.00s
Now Available / MAY 1999

Frank W. Eddy is professor of anthropology at the University of Colorado, Boulder.

Fred Wendorf is professor of anthropology at Southern Methodist University.

Fall/Winter 1999

1-800-268-6044

University Press of Colorado

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FLOOD CONTROL

Groups to Prevent Flooding in Egypt's Valley of the Kings

A team of engineers, geologists, hydrologists, and historians from the California Academy of Sciences is developing a comprehensive flood control strategy to protect the 62 ancient tombs in Egypt's Valley of the Kings. The work, part of a collaborative effort between Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities and the Egyptian Antiquities Project of the American Research Center in Egypt (EAP/ARCE), is being funded by a grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development.



WATERPROOF DOORS and diversion channels could help protect tombs in Egypt's Valley of the Kings from damage during flash floods.

Despite the arid location, which receives less than 1 cm of rainfall annually, the ancient tombs and surrounding areas have suffered intense damage from infrequent but devastating flash floods over the past 3,000 years, according to Robert K. Vincent, Jr., the project director for EAP/ARCE.

Floods can send water-laden material into the tombs that erodes walls and delicate plaster paintings detailing life in ancient Egypt. The tombs also sustain damage when their limestone and shale walls absorb water and expand. The pressure placed on the walls and pillars from expansion can cause them to shatter, Vincent says.

In a preliminary report, the California team recommended several strategies, including clearing debris from

drainage channels constructed between 1500 and 1087 B.C. John Rutherford, a civil engineer and member of the investigative team, has also suggested fitting the tomb entrances with waterproof doors, building channels above the tombs to divert floodwater, and sealing cracks in the tombs with concrete or flexible waterproof membranes.

The groups involved in the project are currently conducting a final field inspection and plan to implement specific flood control strategies late in 2000, Vincent says. The area is flooded severely about once a century, he says. The most recent torrents flooded 13 tombs in 1994. A flood in 1979 also infiltrated the tombs and killed 30 people near El Kab, Mahamid. ▼

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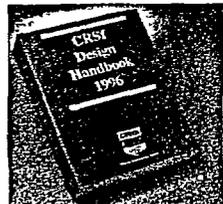
NEW STRUCTURAL DESIGN GUIDE to the ACI Building Code—466 pages It's a practical reference tool for structural, civil and architectural engineers who want to safely meet modern building requirements while taking advantage of the economies permitted by the 1995 ACI Code 318-95. The Guide follows the newest Code format to enhance clarity. It helps shorten time for computer-aided design and analysis and converts code formulas from the review form to direct design formulas. tabulations and charts aid you in the structural design of various concrete elements. Subject and code section indexes make locating a particular topic easy. Subjects covered include structural materials, one and two-way joists, beam and slab design, girders, columns, walls, footings, rebar space requirements, prestressed concrete, metric reinforcing steel and more. The CRSI Design Handbook, 8th ed. for reinforced concrete, also meets ACI 318-95 Code requirements. Order both books and save 30%!

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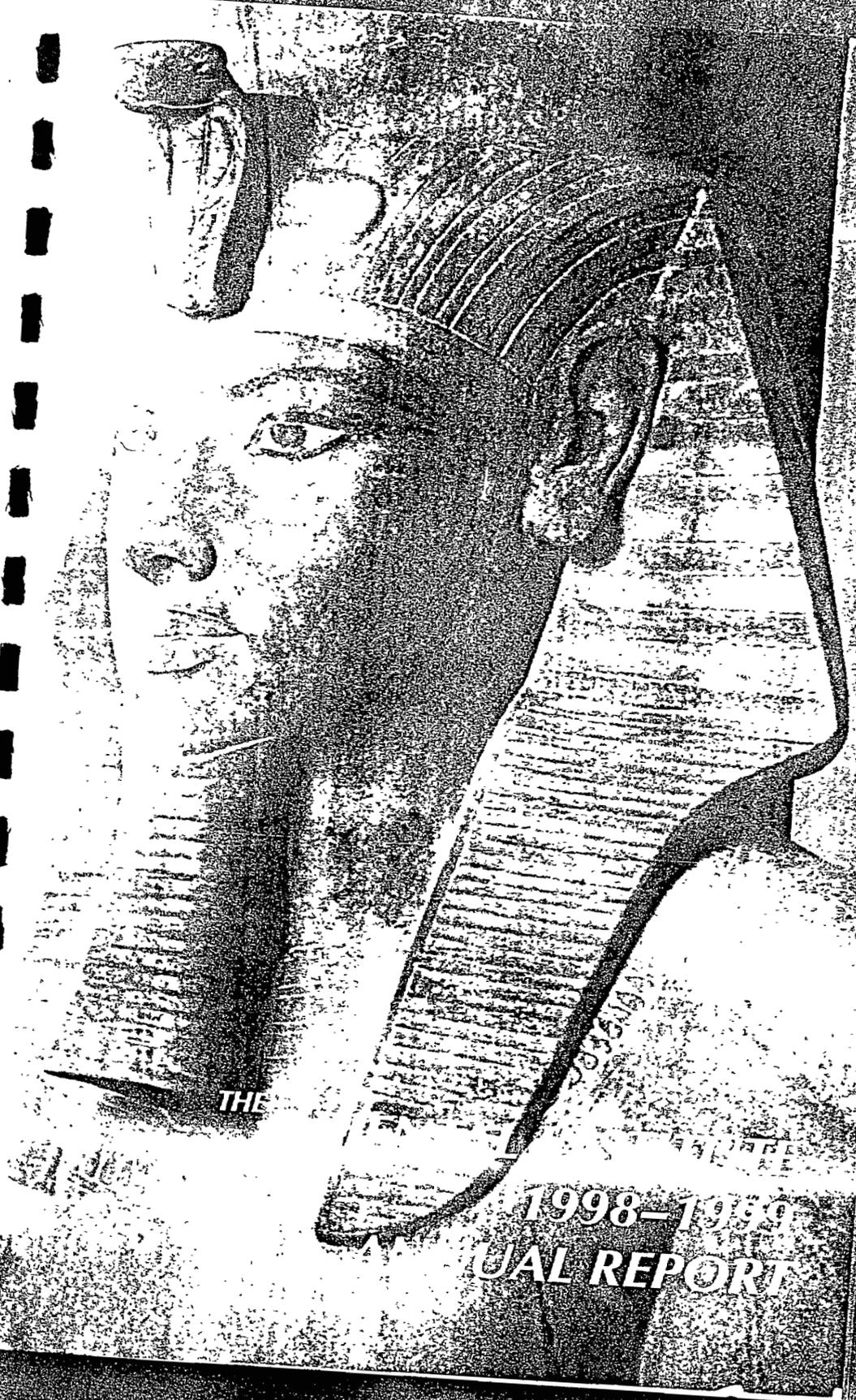
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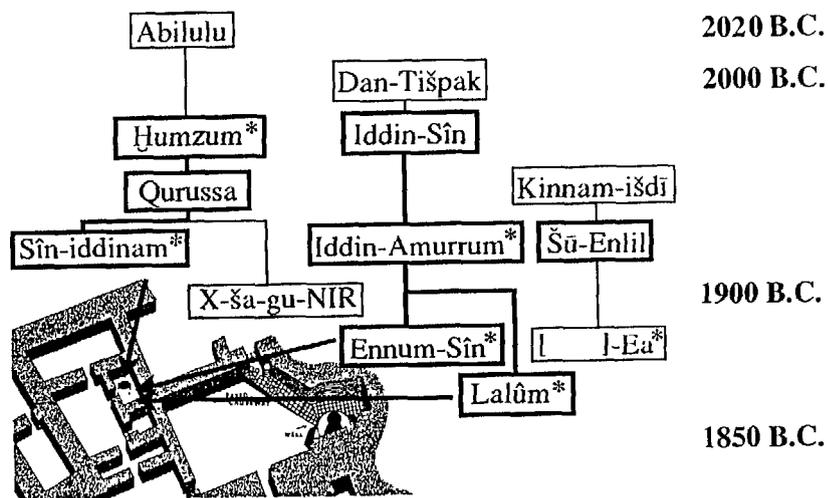
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THE

1998-1999
ANNUAL REPORT



Genealogies of officials in complex of buildings at Tell Asmar (ancient Eshnunna)

Weil, a longtime employee of the Computer Center of the University, has been steadily scanning photographs of objects so that we can include them in the database. Helaine Staver worked alongside Claudia in the meticulous checking for accuracy of the database and now searches out information on specific problems in old records in the Institute's archives. Betsy Kremers has taken hundreds of new photographs of Diyala objects that are in the Oriental Institute collections. With her negatives, we go to Helix downtown and have the images "burned" onto computer disks, which can then be entered into our database. Richard Harder has also been working closely with Clemens Reichel in other, more specialized, scanning of images. And as we enter a new academic year, we have offers of more volunteer help. There is no way to calculate the value of such volunteers, but their work is extraordinarily important. We wish to thank them for their time, expertise, intensity, and good humor.

EPIGRAPHIC SURVEY

W. Raymond Johnson

On 15 April 1999 the Epigraphic Survey successfully completed its seventy-fifth six-month field season. The documentation and conservation efforts of the Survey during this anniversary year were concentrated in the precincts of Medinet Habu and Luxor Temple. In the Eighteenth Dynasty Amun Temple at Medinet Habu the inking and collating of drawings continued in the painted chapels of Hatshepsut and



Figure 1. Epigrapher J. Brett McClain collating pillar in bark sanctuary of Eighteenth Dynasty Amun Temple, Medinet Habu. Photograph by Sue Lezon

The inscribed southern well of Ramesses III was completely photographed, and testing was done to determine the extent of the salt damage to the decorated wall surfaces. Across the river at Luxor Temple reference photography and statue cleaning continued in the Colonnade Hall, and conservation was resumed on the block fragments in the southeast blockyard. The Survey's latest volume, and a monument in itself, *Reliefs and Inscriptions at Luxor Temple, Volume 2: The Facade, Portals, Upper Register Scenes, Columns, Marginalia, and Statuary in the Colonnade Hall* (OIP 116), was published in the fall.

Eighteenth Dynasty Temple at Medinet Habu

From 15 October 1998 to 15 April 1999 the Epigraphic Survey staff of artists and epigraphers continued penciling, inking, and correcting facsimile drawings of the painted reliefs in the small temple of Amun, on the pillars that surround the bark sanctuary, and on the bark sanctuary itself. Four new staff members were trained on-site: two epigraphers, graduate students Hratch Papazian and J. Brett McClain (fig. 1); and two artists, Bernice Williams (wife of Senior Epigrapher Ted Castle) (fig. 2) and Carol Abraczinskas. I am pleased to report that all four are returning for the 1999/2000 season. Eleven drawings were penciled at the wall by artists Sue Osgood, Margaret De Jong, Bernice, and Carol, mostly in preparation for work over the summer. Twenty-nine drawings were checked at the wall by epigraphers Ted Castle, Debbie Darnell, Hratch, Brett, and the art staff during the course of the season, and seven drawings await the final Director's Check. The drawings of the painted chapels of Hatshepsut and Thutmose III, the earliest portion of the temple, and their facade have now been successfully completed (fig. 3) and await one final paint collation after the reliefs have been completely cleaned. They will be pub-

lished in the first of three volumes projected for the small temple of Amun at Medinet Habu. The second volume will be devoted to the Thutmoseid bark sanctuary area and miscellaneous graffiti. The third volume will document the temple's Twenty-fifth Dynasty, "Kushite" additions; a final volume will be dedicated to the Ptolemaic and Roman additions. This season Staff Photographer Yarko Kobylecky, assisted by Ellie Smith, completed the photography of the west interior wall of the bark sanctuary and the inscribed ceiling blocks for the second volume.

The 1998/99 season saw the third year of a five-year grant generously approved by the Supreme Council of Antiquities and the Egyptian Antiquities Project of the American Research Center for conservation of the Eighteenth Dynasty Temple complex at Medinet Habu. This season's conservation work focused on the rooftop of the Thutmoseid temple, inside the central painted chapel and the northern "King's Chapel," the south exterior wall of the bark sanctuary, the northern ambulatory of the bark sanctuary, and the north Ptolemaic wing.

Stonecutter Dany Roy worked from 15 January to 15 April and resumed the roof restoration begun last season. He continued to clean all of the cracks between the stone roof blocks carefully with a compressor and vacuum cleaner and sealed the roof blocks over the bark sanctuary with a mortar compound tempered with crushed brick, a technique utilized in restoration work at Karnak and approved by the Supreme Council of Antiquities and the Egyptian Antiquities Project. On the north side of the sanctuary area, Dany restored and replaced thirteen roof block slabs originally dating from the time of Ptolemy VIII, removed during restoration work earlier this century and not replaced. He also identified three original stone slabs in the debris on the roof and put them back in their original positions. The new roof blocks were obtained from the same quarry as the original blocks, Gebel Silsileh, and were custom-cut (fig. 4) and shaped by Dany based on a photograph of the roof taken in the 1930s and published in U. Hölscher, *The Excavation of Medinet Habu*, Volume 2: *The Temples of the Eighteenth Dynasty* (OIP 41), page 8, figure 7. Sincerest thanks are extended to François Larché, Director of the Franco-Egyptian Center at Karnak for expediting the acquisition of the sandstone. The replacement of the roof blocks restores an ancient drainage channel that directs water off the roof through a Ptolemaic period rainspout, thereby ensuring the protection of the decorated rooms below from future rainstorms. Dany also recut and replaced six Ptolemaic roof blocks over the facade of the sanctuary entrance and three more above the bark sanctuary south wall, thereby eliminating two additional areas of water leakage. In all he relaid twenty-five stone blocks, cutting and shaping twenty-two new stones from scratch.

Egyptologist/artist Christina Di Cerbo continued to measure and draw all of the bark sanctuary roof blocks and plotted all of the details on a master plan of the entire Eighteenth Dynasty Temple roof. She extended her plan this season to include the Kushite pylons (fig. 5) and Ptolemaic additions to the Eighteenth Dynasty Temple and plotted all of the traces of now missing architectural elements from those structures where they joined the Eighteenth Dynasty Temple roof. Photographer Yarko Kobylecky continued his reference photography of the roof areas before, during, and after cleaning and infilling.

This season saw the inauguration of a new phase of the Eighteenth Dynasty Temple conservation program. Painting and stone conservator Lotfi Hassan (fig. 7), whose previous work experience includes cleaning the tomb of Ramesses II's queen Nefertari with the Getty Conservation Institute, began the careful cleaning of the painted reliefs in the Eighteenth Dynasty Temple sanctuary from 15 October 1998 to 15 January 1999, and completed about 90% of the north interior wall of the central room. This is an area where incursions of rainwater in the mid-1990s had activated the migration of salts trapped in the walls, staining the reliefs. Lotfi was able to remove all of the surface salt, along with a fair amount of soot and dirt. The phases of the conservation process were:

1. Cleaning, manual and chemical
2. Desalination
3. Consolidation of the color layers and stone degradation surface
4. Repointing of the missing parts and micro and macro cracks
5. Final protection of the wall paintings' surface with acrylic resin

Lotfi expanded his operation late in December to include the exterior south wall of the bark sanctuary where rain-washed mud from the roof obscured some of the reliefs. This mud has now been removed, allowing artist Sue Osgood to transfer newly exposed details to the drawings-in-progress of those wall sections. From 15 March to 15 April Lotfi removed the salt from the upper, south interior wall in the "King's Chapel," stained during the same rainfall, and tested different mortar infills between the stone wall courses.

Lotfi also consolidated with the silicate Wacker OH some of the large sandstone floor blocks of the small Amun temple exhibiting signs of decay, one in the northern ambulatory of the bark sanctuary, one in the eastern ambulatory, and three in the Ptolemaic wing addition to the north of the bark sanctuary. This work will continue next season.



Figure 2. Artist Bernice Williams penciling photographic enlargement in bark sanctuary ambulatory of Eighteenth Dynasty Amun Temple, Medinet Habu. Photograph by Sue Lezon

Southern Well of Ramesses III

In January large-format photography of the inscribed southern well of Ramesses III, one of the priorities for this season, was launched in earnest. This well is one of two located on either side to the south and north of the mortuary temple used in Ramesses III's time to obtain sacred groundwater for purification rituals. The preserved area of the southern well consists of a short entrance corridor, an inscribed descending stepped passage to the right, and a third descending corridor to the left, now completely underwater. The last corridor leads to a submerged doorway that opens into the well shaft itself, which is open to the sky. While the carved decoration of the submerged corridor, although inaccessible at present, is in an excellent state of preservation, the reliefs of the first descending corridor, only partly submerged, are completely covered with salt, in some places up to 3 cm thick, with much of the present decoration now extremely difficult to see.

Due to the confined space within the well, the fragile nature of the reliefs on the walls, and a water level more than a meter and a half higher than in the 1930s, the logistics of photographing what is left of the interior decoration (Nile gods bringing sacred water up from the well, and purification scenes) were difficult to say the least (fig. 6). To facilitate the photography, Senior Epigrapher Ted Castle, with the assistance of Chicago House carpenter Shayib Kyrollos Abadir, designed and built a series of wooden "pier" sections that extend into the main descending passage just above water level and provide a firm footing for the camera tripod and photographer. These sections can be dismantled and removed when the well is not being worked on.

The east wall of the entryway is in an active state of decay. The middle course of the wall is being squeezed between the weight of the upper course and the unyielding lower course, causing the upper lintel stone to split in half and the whole left side of the well entrance to subside. Stabilization of this area is being undertaken now with the kind assistance of the local Supreme Council of Antiquities Gurna Inspectorate. Three large-format negatives of the well's interior taken between 1939 and 1946/47 were located in our Photographic Archives, and one of the shots shows the interior east wall, now damaged, and the exterior lintel block, before serious subsidence had occurred. These photographs will supplement a complete set of 35 mm reference photographs taken by former Staff Photographer Tom Van Eynde in 1986 that preserve numerous details subsequently destroyed by the salting of the walls. The 35 mm negatives, already scanned, will be joined into full wall montages using Adobe Photoshop software. Both sets of earlier photographs will be compared to the large-format photographs generated this season to determine the rate of decay of the structure from the 1930s till now.

When Yarko and Ellie Smith were finished with the arduous task of photographing every square centimeter of accessible, decorated wall surface in the well, a truly noble accomplishment, conservator Lotfi Hassan did some sample cleaning of the salt-covered, inscribed wall surfaces to determine how much stone was preserved beneath the thick layer of salt (fig. 7). He found differing amounts of preservation in different areas: on some wall surfaces the inscribed stone was intact beneath the salt, in others only partly preserved, and in others completely missing,

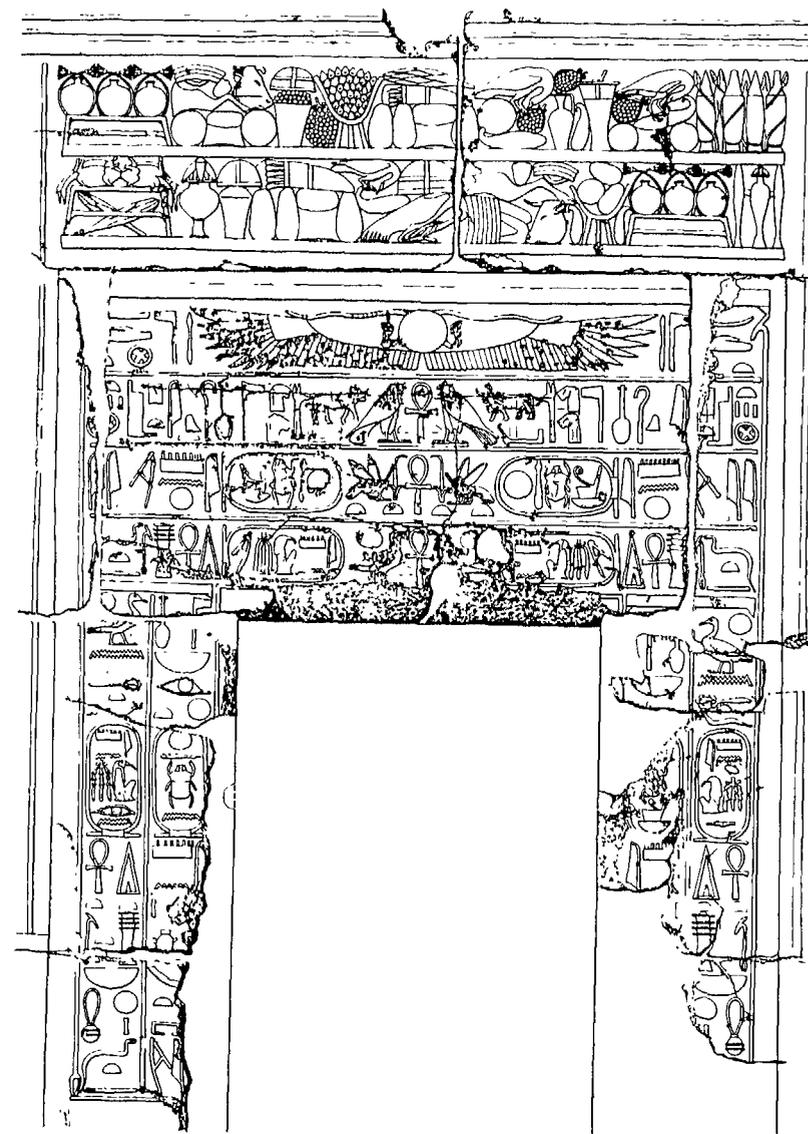


Figure 3. Inscribed doorway leading from sanctuary Room I to Room IV, small temple of Amun at Medinet Habu, time of Hatshepsut and Thutmosis III. Facsimile drawing by Susan Osgood. Photograph by Yarko Kobylecky

duct more tests and cleaning next season in an effort to lessen the corrosive action of the salt on the walls.

Luxor Temple

The Survey's latest and long-awaited volume, *Reliefs and Inscriptions at Luxor Temple Volume 2: The Facade Portals Upper Register Scenes, Columns,*

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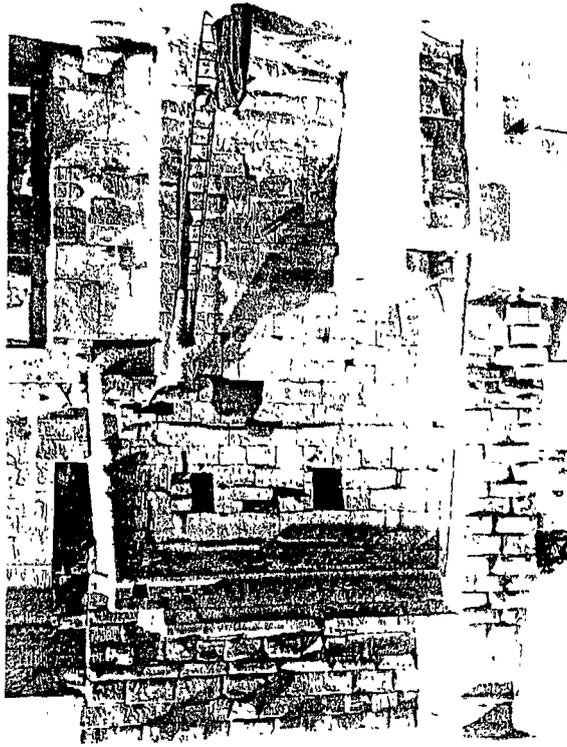


Figure 5: Epigraphic Survey Egyptologist and artist Tina Di Cerbo mapping Kushite (Twentieth Dynasty) pylon, small Amun temple, Medinet Habu, photograph by Yarko Kobylecky

desalination was performed on four fragments, which included testing of various polishing materials. Salt crystals found on twenty-four fragments were sampled and identified.

This season Chicago House received permission from the Supreme Council of Antiquities to expand the Epigraphic Survey Fragment Project to include all of the decorated stone fragments stored around Luxor Temple. During the first half of the season a prefabricated conservation laboratory/office was constructed in the Epigraphic Survey blockyard to facilitate the treatment of the deteriorating fragments and to function as the "command center" for the new operation (Chicago House residents Helen Jacquet-Gordon and her husband Jean Jacquet, Tina Di Cerbo, and Hatch Papazian carefully surveyed the entire area along the east side of the Luxor Temple precinct (fig. 8). Tina then generated an excellent map of the area which conserva-

tors John Stewart, Hiroko Kariya, and I used to plot the expanded Epigraphic Survey blockyard and fragment treatment area. During the latter part of the season four new, damp-coursed storage mastabas made of baked brick (three 12 m in length and one 7 m in length) were constructed south of the conservation laboratory, extending the blockyard to the south, and six were constructed in the lower area to the north, east of the Amenhotep III sun court (each 15 m long). Special thanks to Engineer Molsen Fahmy Sewelha for supervising their construction. As fragments are sorted, photographed, and moved next season and in seasons to come, more mastabas will be built in both areas, and also to the west and north of the temple. The long, meter wide storage platforms will house fragments sorted by style and content carefully stacked by category with all carved surfaces visible for later documentation and study. Deteriorating fragments will be isolated and placed on special mastabas for future consolidation. It is the goal of Chicago House to raise all of the fragments off the ground in order to protect the fragile material from the corrosive groundwater, and to develop a special database for the entire assemblage.

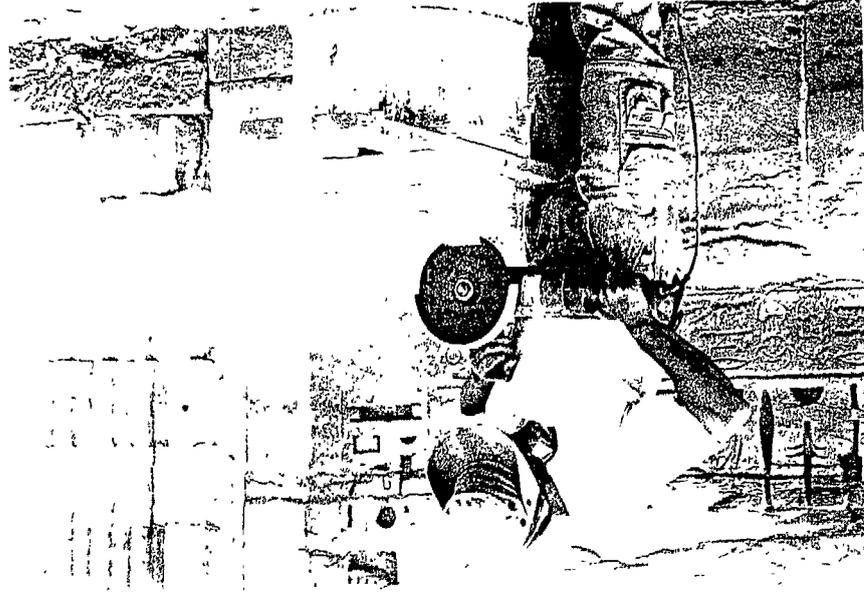


Figure 4: Stonecutter Dany Roy cutting new sandstone block for Eighteenth Dynasty Amun Temple roof, Medinet Habu, March 1998, photograph by Yarko Kobylecky

Mangintha, and Statuvs in the Colonnade Hall (OIP 116), was finished and published this past fall. This volume completes the Epigraphic Survey's documentation of the standing wall remains of the great Colonnade Hall at Luxor Temple, begun at the height of Egypt's empire period by Amenhotep III and finished by Tutankhamun, a magnificent and increasingly fragile structure. James Henry Breasted would be pleased; in correspondence dating from 1932 he expressed the wish to the first Chicago House Field Director, Harold Nelson, that the Colonnade Hall be included in the publication program of the Epigraphic Survey because of its condition, already precarious even then. We have tried to make up for lost time and are very proud of this milestone in the history of the Epigraphic Survey, but we are not entirely finished there yet, a third volume in the series will be dedicated to up-register decorated stone fragment groups, the analysis of which is still in progress, and an architectural study, which will resume in a year.

This season marked the fourth year of a five year grant generously approved by the Supreme Council of Antiquities and the Egyptian Antiquities Project of the American Research Center for the Treatment and Consolidation of Deteriorating decorated stone fragments at Luxor Temple. Conservator John Stewart, Ph.D., returned for a week in January to consult with Hiroko Kariya in the continuation of the project, while Hiroko worked from 11 January to 13 February. All one thousand five hundred and forty fragments recorded on our computer database were monitored for stability. Seventy-four sandstone blocks were physically strengthened with the Wacker OH consolidant in the expanded outdoor laboratory. One hundred eighty-four fragments are currently sheltered in a special, covered platform that protects them from rain, snow, or on covered tables and shelves. Trial

In mid-January stone conservator Ellen Pearlstein returned to resume the cleaning of the colossal indurated-limestone statues in the Colonnade Hall (fig. 9), thanks to the continued generosity of friend and colleague Dr. Marjorie Fisher. Ellen concentrated this season on the small seated dyad of Amun and Mut on the east side of the hall (fig. 9) and will finish the cleaning of it and all three groups next year.

Continuous, above-average levels of salt-laden groundwater at Luxor Temple (and Karnak) and unusual humidity fluctuations during the last two seasons have resulted in dramatically increased salt efflorescence on the walls of the Colonnade Hall (fig. 10) and noticeable disintegration of the column bases. This is a truly alarming situation, in that the disintegration of some lower stone courses is now irreversible, and bodes ill for the future of the monument(s) if these conditions persist. Photographers Yarko Kobylecky and Sue Lezon took additional reference photographs in the hall this season to compare with earlier photographs of the same areas to help us gauge the rate of decay.

After long, on-site discussions with me and American Research Center in Egypt Director Mark Easton, the Honorable Daniel C. Kurtzer, United States Ambassador to Egypt, sponsored a historic meeting on 16 April at the United States Embassy residence to address the water and conservation problems in Luxor and to discuss possible solutions. Present at the meeting were the Director General of the Supreme Council of Antiquities Dr. Gaballa Ali Gaballa; Swedish Ambassador Sylvén; Bengt Hallmanns and Magda Houta of the Swedish engineering firm SWECO International; French Cultural Counselor Vincent Grimaud; Dr. Nicholas Grimal, Director of the French Archaeological Institute; Dr. François Larché, Director of the Franco-Egyptian Center at Karnak; Mark Silverman and Peter Argo of USAID; Dr. Chip Vincent, Director of the Egyptian Antiquities Project; and I, representing the Epigraphic Survey. The consensus was that we must all work together, but we must begin now because time has almost run out. A second meeting was held on 14 May in Luxor with the Governor of Luxor and the Ministry of Agriculture to discuss drainage measures that may be taken to lower the water table and slow down the decay. It was decided that engineering studies, sponsored by the Swedes, will begin immediately and will include both Karnak and Luxor Temples. It is only a first step, but it is a crucial one, and we owe a great debt to Ambassador Kurtzer for getting things started at this critical time.

Chicago House

1999 began on an upbeat note with the arrival on 1 January of Photographer/Photograph Archivist Sue Lezon and assistant Ellie Smith, who jointly oversaw the Photographic Archives for the rest of the season. Sue immediately resumed the monitoring and duplication of deteriorating nitrate negatives (39 were duplicated this year), and both worked on refining our new Photographic Archives database, designed by John Sanders and Jason Ur. Sue brought with her a special gift, generously donated by our friend and colleague Dr. Fred Giles: a Microtek Scanmaker 5, a 36 BIT reflexive and transmissive flatbed scanner with an 8 x 14 inch scanning area. This remarkable machine scans large and small format negatives as well as opaque photographs at 1,000–2,000 dpi, and Fred's magnanimity has allowed us to begin the

scanning of the 17,000 negatives in our Photographic Archives for burning onto CD-ROM for inclusion in our database a year ahead of schedule. Thus we are pleased to announce the inauguration of the Chicago House Imaging Center, an exciting new extension of our Photographic Archives, with sincerest thanks to Fred for opening that door for us. The Franco-Egyptian Center at Karnak has agreed to assist us in our task, having just finished the scanning of their own Photographic Archives, and Sue will be coordinating the scanning in both places. So far 248 4 x 5 inch Kushite block fragment negatives, 1,636 5 x 7 inch Luxor temple block fragment negatives, and 30 8 x 10 inch negatives have been scanned and burned onto compact disks (CD). By the end of the summer it is expected that the entire 5 x 7 inch holdings of the Epigraphic Survey will be scanned (painstakingly coordinated by Ellie), while the wholesale scanning of our 8 x 10 inch negative archive will begin next year. This year the only 8 x 10 inch negatives scanned were of the Ramesses III southern well, for computer joining and analysis starting this summer. In addition to the scanning, this season Yarko produced 102 large-format negatives, and the photographic team generated 148 sets of 35 mm negatives, all of which were carefully numbered and registered by Ellie.

During the first part of December Senior Epigrapher Ted Castle, when not "at the wall," oversaw the long-overdue review and updating of the Chicago House "Black Book," our epigraphic operations manual, assisted by artists Sue Osgood, Margaret De Jong, and me. Initially written as a guide for the epigraphic copying and collating process at the beginning of our operation in Luxor, many of the procedures and conventions outlined in the book have been improved upon and refined considerably in recent years. Its updating was deemed particularly appropriate at this time, when so many new staff members are being trained and our whole operation in Luxor is being reviewed and reevaluated as the new millennium approaches; it will be a valuable reference work for all staff members, new and old alike, and I daresay we will always be tweaking it since the refining process is never-ending.



Figure 6. Epigraphic Survey Photographer Yarko Kobylecky photographing in southern decorated well of Ramesses III, Medinet Habu. Photograph by Sue Lezon

ARCE CONSERVATION

Egyptian Antiquities Project and Antiquities Development Project Update

From: Robert "Chip" Vincent

Spring 1999

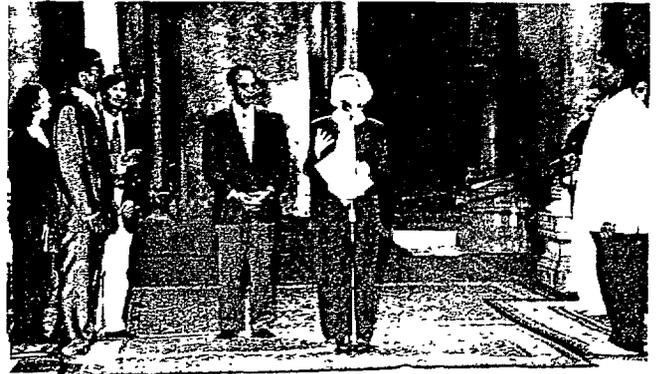
The American Research Center in Egypt has signed two agreements with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to conduct projects for the conservation of Egyptian antiquities. Implemented in close collaboration with the Supreme Council for Antiquities (SCA), the scope of the conservation work is extensive, covering prehistoric through Pharaonic, Graeco-Roman, Coptic, Islamic and Jewish periods in Egyptian history. This update is provided by Robert K. "Chip" Vincent, Jr. who has been the project director since February 1994.

FIRST LADY'S VISIT TO EGYPT

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and her daughter Chelsea paid a visit to Egypt from March 21-25 and spent much of their time visiting antiquities sites where work is being conducted under ARCE's USAID-funded conservation grants. Throughout their stay, they were accompanied by Dr. Gaballa, Secretary General of the Supreme Council for Antiquities.

The first evening, the First Lady and her daughter arrived at the Bab Zuwayla area and proceeded to the mosque of Saleh Tala'i. There, Dr. Gaballa and Chip Vincent led them through a visit of the newly conserved fourteenth-century minbar (pulpit) starting with a review of the fine exhibit created by Agnieszka Dobrowolska, Jarek Dobrowolski and Patrick Godeau. After introductory remarks praising the SCA, USAID and ARCE's role in conservation, she presented certificates to the five Egyptian trainees who worked on the project. They next visited the sabil-kuttab Nafisa al-Bayda before departing for the Egyptian Museum where they saw the royal jewelry rooms that ARCE helped renovate last year. Earlier that afternoon, she had toured the Mohamed Ali mosque at the citadel with Dr. Gaballa, assisted by William Lyster, who is involved in the conservation projects at the monasteries of St. Anthony and St. Paul.

The next day, they visited Old Cairo, where they received a briefing from Chip Vincent on the Master Plan for the area. After they saw the Ben Ezra synagogue, they went to the church of Abu Serga, where the Holy Family took refuge during their flight to Egypt. Coptologist and former ARCE fellow Elizabeth Bolman, who is the lead author of the St. Anthony wall paintings publication, helped guide them through the church. That evening, Minister of Culture Farouk Hosni held a splendid reception in the newly conserved Monasterli Palace.



First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton makes remarks at the opening ceremony for the conservation of the minbar in the mosque of Saleh Tala'i. L to R: Chelsea Clinton, Chip Vincent, Dr. Gaballa, and project trainees look on prior to the award of certificates. Photo by Patrick Godeau.

On March 23, the First Lady and her staff went to Luxor, where Ray Johnson showed them Luxor temple, including the stone fragment conservation project that ARCE is funding. The next day in the Valley of the Kings, Chip Vincent explained the flood protection study and then conducted them to the tomb of Seti I, where Michael Jones gave details of the project. Next, Mrs. Clinton visited other West Bank sites before a fine lunch at Chicago House, where Mark Easton was able to spend considerable time talking to her about ARCE and conservation. The climax of the cultural visit was a splendid, atmospheric dinner that evening in the first courtyard of Luxor temple, again hosted by Farouk Hosni.

The First Lady and her team visited over 15 antiquities sites, including eight ARCE conservation sites, and were accompanied by six ARCE-affiliated personnel. Many embassy and USAID officials were part of the visit. It was a wonderful opportunity to share ARCE's conservation projects and other activities with them as well as Mrs. Clinton.

ARCE CONSERVATION PROJECTS

EGYPTIAN ANTIQUITIES PROJECT

Since the last update several projects have been completed including some that have only started in the meantime. Their variety shows the breadth of the conservation work ARCE is realizing

Completed Projects

Sabil-Kuttab Nafisa al-Bayda

On a fine spring day in Islamic Cairo, United States Ambassador Daniel C. Kurtzer and Minister of Culture Farouk Hosni presided over the completion ceremony of the Sabil-Kuttab Nafisa al Bayda, a signal event to mark the conservation of the first Islamic monument.

In the shade of a locally crafted Khayamia tent, water and soft drinks were distributed to thirsty participants, echoing the traditional function of the sabil. Secretary-General Gaballa Gaballa of the SCA, ARCE Vice President Richard Fazzini, ARCE Cairo Director Mark Easton, ARCE EAP and ADP Project Director Chip Vincent, and the Sabil Nafisa al Bayda Project Director Agnieszka Dobrowolska all spoke about different aspects of the project. A festive reception at ARCE, complete with photographs and drawings of the project, brought the day's events to a close.

Next morning ARCE hosted a technical workshop entitled "Architectural Conservation in Cairo." Practitioners in Cairo presented a series of illustrated talks and engaged in healthy discussion. That evening storyteller Sherine El Ansary treated participants and local residents to a specially created performance in the street in front of the sabil. The sentiments expressed by the more than 50 participants were very positive and were followed up by site visits to several conservation projects. In addition, the text of the talks was gathered, assembled into a single document, and distributed to all participants.

Preservation in Sinai

Publication is the requisite end product of a project and readers will soon have a chance to obtain the first book produced from one of the conservation projects. Fred Wendorf and Frank Eddy's work on preservation in Sinai, An Archaeological Investigation of the Central Sinai, has been published by the University Press Colorado and is available for purchase. It follows the same format as the award-winning Wadi Kubannya series and will be a welcome addition to all prehistorians. To oversee and initiate an ARCE publication series based on these conservation projects, Brian Green has been lured as publishing director. He has started the process with the final report of the Sabil Nafisa al-Bayda project.

Greco-Roman mosaics

Among other projects that were underway last year and have been completed this year is the conservation, protection and sheltering of Graeco-Roman mosaics at Kom el Dikka in Alexandria. These are the finest in-site mosaics in Egypt and

during construction of the supporting structures for the roof, an even finer Hellenistic motif mosaic was discovered. Adjustments to the design of the shelter were made to accommodate the mosaics so visitors will be able to see it, too

Wojciech Kolataj, Gregory Majcherek, and Eva Parandowska have spent over a year, including most of the long hot summer, to bring to fruition this marvelous project. The low-impact roof, the use of existing Byzantine walls and these colorful bird and geometric mosaics are an exciting new attraction for visitors to see in Alexandria. See for yourself starting this summer

New Projects Started and Completed This Year

INA-Egypt

Also in Alexandria, the Institute of Nautical Archaeology-Egypt started and finished its second EAP-finance project devoted to purchasing conservation equipment to install in the laboratory it completed earlier with ARCE conservation funding.

Dr. Gaballa, Mark Easton and Douglas Haldane cut the ribbon at a ceremony in March. Douglas Haldane and conservator Jane Haldane will next embark on a USAID-funded program at the fully-functioning lab to train Egyptians in the conservation of submerged artifacts



Mark Easton Douglas Haldane and Dr Gaballa cut the ribbon to formally open the INA-Egypt conservation laboratory at the Maritime Museum in Alexandria. Photo by Chip Vincent

Egyptian Museum

Egyptologists and visitors alike will find themselves drawn even more to the Egyptian Museum in Cairo. Under the direction of Dr Mohamed Saleh, the coordination of Mark Easton and the administration of the Friends of the Fulbright Commission, a set of stunning furniture from the tomb of Hetepheres, mother of Snefru, builder of one of the great pyramids, is beautifully encased and displayed in previously closed galleries

Newly added to the displays in the museum will be a spectacular monumental statue of Amun and the strikingly

beautiful Mut, which was found, conserved and reassembled under the direction of Hourig Sourouzian Stadelmann. She located and identified many previously unknown fragments in Luxor and Cairo. Conservators Lynn Humphries and Theo Gayer-Anderson devoted themselves to the technical aspects of the project. The statue enjoys a prominent position and will be formally dedicated by the Minister of Culture.



The 14th-century minbar from the mosque. This is the second oldest surviving one in Cairo and was recently conserved during a six-month period. Photo by Chip Vincent

Saleh Tala'i

In Cairo, Agnieszka Dobrowolska accommodated the conservation of the minbar at the Mosque of Saleh Tala'i into her busy schedule. Once the minbar was moved, conservator Erico Peintner led a team of Egyptian trainees and carpenters who cleaned away layers of dirt and paint, stabilized cracks with flexible balsa wood and preserved it with turpentine and varnish. The floor under the minbar was excavated, dried out, refilled and waterproof barriers inserted under the raised minbar platform so that water can no longer continue to penetrate and damage it.

Bir Umm Fawakhir

Deep in the Eastern desert at the Byzantine gold mining settlement of Bir Umm Fawakhir, Carol Meyer and Thomas Roby have erected a barricade across the wadi leading to the site to prevent vehicle access and resulting damage. Constructed entirely of local granite boulders that are too heavy to be lifted away easily and that will allow water to flow through them, they are designed to blend into the natural landscape.

On-going Projects in Cairo

Drainage

The USAID project at the mosque, supervised by engineers Rajan Patel and Shree Gokhale of CCJM Engineering, have completed the sewer and drainage works and now ground water flows by gravity from below the shops at the Mosque of Saleh Tala'i and into the 250-meter-long sewer in the streets. It is a wonderful feeling to at last walk along the shop level

where previously wastewater and accumulated garbage made passage impossible. For its part, the Cairo Water Organization has installed an additional section of sewer for 250 meters up the central spine of Fatimid Cairo, thus contributing further to conservation through infrastructure.

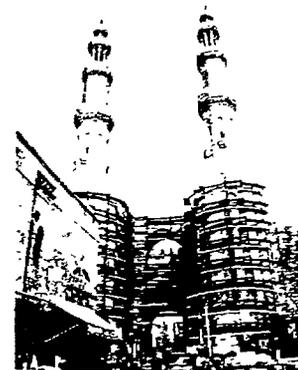
Nineteenth-century houses

Eastwards along the street towards the Citadel, Dr. Salah Zaky Said has completed the rehabilitation of the first of three nineteenth-century houses. Such houses constitute the fabric that holds together the monuments in the area and we do not want to have them disappear only to be replaced by modern high-rises. New sewage fittings and pipes, stairs, handrails, stabilizing walls and external plaster have given these dwellings a new lease on life. Other owners are requesting similar treatment and we hope to interest other donors.

Bab Zuwayla

Nairy Hampikian has attacked the defensive fortifications of the Bab Zuwayla and is well underway with its cleaning and consolidation. Fine art conservator Monica Cyran spent her first months preparing a mashrabiya balcony adjacent to the Sabil Nafisa al-Bayda so that its appearance would be pleasing to the sabil completion ceremony.

Since then, stone cleaning tests have been completed and stone masons Dany Roy and Johannes Walz have begun replacing deteriorated blocks with stone personally selected and manually cut from Tura limestone quarries. Currently upper roof terraces are restored by replacing damaged stone slabs and establishing proper water drainage.



The Bab Zuwayla is now bedecked in scaffolding as cleaning, consolidation and replacement of the stone begins. Photo by Chip Vincent

Master Plan for Old Cairo

In Old Cairo, sometimes referred to as the Coptic Area, the team assembled by Mallinson Architects has conducted field studies and submitted draft final reports. All participants such as the residents, visitors, the Coptic Church, SCA, police, and Jewish and Greek interests in Old Cairo were involved in talks designed to elicit their ideas. The resulting document, submitted to and approved by the Minister of Culture, recommends a change of the main entrance to the area from the current access on the West at the metro station to one on the East near the Ben Ezra Synagogue.

The existing access and entrance is a bottleneck and while it would still remain open, groups of visitors would be driven by bus to the new entrance along uncrowded streets. Once inside, access would be provided to all public sites inside the area. Currently, the Hanging Church and all the other churches and the synagogue are blocked off from one another. Consequently circulation is very difficult because it is necessary to exit from one site out to the street in order to visit another site.

ARCE is evaluating whether it can install orientation, directional and information signage and, perhaps, new pavement, to help guide visitors through the area.

Undocumented inscriptions

Bernard O'Kane of the American University in Cairo has been continuing his recording of undocumented inscriptions. His on-site work was recently approved by the SCA, so he has been able to move into new areas of recording.

Cairo Mapping Project

Nick Warner began Phase II of the Cairo Mapping project, incorporating new ground plans he has obtained in the SCA archives and from on-site survey. His first final maps have been submitted; they are excellent and already sought after by scholars.

Bayt al-Razzaz; Zawiyah Sabil Farag Ibn Barquq

ARCE technical staff Jarek Dobrowolski, and technical adjuncts Alaa El-Habashi and Hoda Abdel Hamid have been busy with work at Bayt al-Razzaz and further preparation for the conservation of Zawiyah Sabil Farag Ibn Barquq. Alaa El-Habashi has been supervising the removal of a wall that has bulged threateningly into an adjoining residential courtyard. It was carefully dismantled and the process of reconstruction has started. Hoda Abdel Hamid supervised the removal of the air raid shelter in the courtyard of Bayt al-Razzaz and has been coordinating the effort leading to the conservation of Farag Ibn Barquq under the supervision of Saleh Lamei.

Conservation of Coptic icons

In December, ARCE and the Royal Netherlands Embassy Local Cultural Fund signed separate agreements with the Institute of Coptic Studies for the conservation of Coptic icons and associated training. The team, led by Dr. Shawki Nakhla, includes Dr. Gawdat Gabra, Father Maximous, Suzanna Skalova and Karel Innemee. They have begun a preparatory phase of the work and have already discovered a collection of very fine hitherto unknown icons in Middle Egypt.

UV radiation project

Ahmed Harfoush, who has worked at Chicago House, spent much of his summer monitoring UV radiation and inventorying existing fluorescent lamp fittings in the Coptic, Islamic, and Greco-Roman museums and the tombs of the Valley of Kings. By inserting UV blocking sleeves over existing tube lamps we can cost-effectively block out rays which are harmful to pigments in these locations.

ARCE Field School

The ARCE Field School is scheduled to begin its fourth and final season in the fall under the direction of Dr. Diana Craig Patch. The staff of six will assist 18 SCA inspectors in improving their archaeological excavation, recording, and conservation skills.

Luxor and Upper Egypt

Luxor Temple

Chicago House, under the direction of Dr. Ray Johnson, has continued its two conservation projects. At Luxor Temple the results of the previous season's work were analyzed by consulting conservator John Stewart and on-site conservator Hiroko Kariya. The results are very promising. The analyses of the 1700 blocks show that 77% do not need treatment, that only 5% are so deteriorated that they are likely to be lost and the remaining stones are receiving treatment that is successfully consolidating them. A temporary facility has been installed on-site. It will serve as a site office, a lab for the use of non-toxic chemicals and a statement that conservation will be done.



Ray Johnson of Chicago House during a visit by ARCE staff to the Luxor temple stone fragment conservation project. In the background is the newly installed conservation lab site office. Photo by Chip Vincent.

Small temple of Amun, Medinet Habu

Across the river on the West Bank, the first fruits of the roof sealing at the small temple of Amun at Medinet Habu are being realized. When the shrine room door was opened after the summer break, the humidity inside was markedly lower than in previous years. Conservator Lotfi Hassan has begun cleaning the relief decoration with spectacular results. Details and pigments that have long been hidden are appearing. Dany Roy returned to finish the replacement of the roof paving over the roof he had sealed the previous year.

Flood protection in the Valley of the Kings

In the Valley of the Kings, John Rutherford returned with his Flood Protection team from the California Academy of Sciences to conduct a field check and final season to conclude a draft report. Recommendations for protection measures will be submitted and raised for discussion and implementation.

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St. Anthony's Church

St. Anthony's Church, the subject of the most effort, is almost entirely cleaned and consolidated. By the end of 1998, conservation of all of the figures in the wall paintings was finished. New ones, dating stylistically to the 8th-9th century were found on the archway of the side chapel, helping to confirm that the church dates not from the 13th century, as previously thought. The last paintings to emerge were those of warrior saints. They, too, are stunning and, together with the magnificent paintings already conserved have shown the importance of this small church in the desert of Egypt.

Its significance lies in several areas: it pushes further south than Cyprus the cultural frontier of the Byzantine empire; it demonstrates the side-by-side harmony of traditional Egyptian and innovative European painting techniques; it is the one church in Egypt where the whole panoply of Coptic saints and religious figures from one period appears in a single place.

We will all continue to hear more of this church. Extra appreciation is due to the splendid coordination of the project by Father Maximous, and to the team of dedicated conservators led by Adriano Luzi and Luigi de Cesaris and composed of Alberto Sucato, Jean Luca, Emiliano Albanese, Stefano Fulloni, Massimiliano Gusmaroli, and Gianluca Tancioni.

Elizabeth Bolman, Gawdat Gabra and William Lyster, among others, are preparing the text of a publication on St. Anthony's, which will be illustrated by the wonderful photodocumentation of Patrick Godeau.



These fabulous arabesque patterns, similar to 13th-century miniature paintings from Baghdad have emerged on the ceiling above the channel at St. Anthony's church. This ceiling is probably the only surviving Ayyubid period one still in existence in Egypt. Photo by Chip Vincent.



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CHICAGO HOUSE BULLETIN

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THE 1997-1998 SEASON AT CHICAGO HOUSE

By W. Raymond Johnson, Field Director

On April 15, 1998, the Epigraphic Survey successfully completed its seventy-fourth season, and it was a full season indeed. Our documentation efforts this year were concentrated at the temple of Amun at Medinet Habu, where the inking and collating of drawings continued in the painted chapels of Hatshepsut and Tuthmosis III, and conservation was initiated on the rooftop. At Luxor Temple reference photography continued in the Colonnade Hall and Amenhotep III sun court, and conservation was resumed on block fragments in the southeast blockyard. The Survey's latest volume, *Reliefs and Inscriptions at Luxor Temple Volume 2: The Facade, Portals, Upper Register Scenes, Columns, Marginalia, and Statuary in the Colonnade Hall*, received the final editing back in Chicago this summer and is now available (see page 3).

Deir el-Bahri

Most of our readers are aware of the tragic events at Hatshepsut's mortuary temple on November 17, 1997, when fifty-eight tourists and four Egyptians were trapped and slain by six terrorists in a senseless act of violence that shocked Egypt and the world. Although our Medinet Habu temple crew was within sight and sound of the final gun battle, at no time were we ever threatened, nor were any of the other foreign and Egyptian archaeological missions working in the area. Encouraged by the local authorities and the US Embassy in Cairo, we agreed that it was of the utmost importance to continue our documentation work without interruption, since it was clear that there was no further danger, and to stop at that point would have put the work itself at risk. Security measures in Luxor and throughout Egypt were immediately revamped, so that security everywhere is now excellent, but the healing will, of course, take time. The signs are good; while tourism was severely curtailed throughout most of our season, by the time we departed in mid-April the tour groups were back in ever-increasing numbers and things were getting back to normal. The continuous series of memorial services and anti-terrorism protests held at Deir el-Bahri and throughout the country all winter, largely ignored by the Western media, bore witness to the tremendous outpouring of collective grief and anger on the part of the Egyptians, and were deeply moving to see. The Chicago House staff participated with our colleagues in a state memorial service at the site on December 10, attended by President and Mrs. Mubarak and numerous Egyptian and foreign representatives.

Temple of Amun at Medinet Habu

The major focus of this past season's epigraphic work was at Medinet Habu. The artists and epigraphers continued penciling, inking, and correcting drawings of the reliefs located in the six painted chapels of the temple of Amun, on the pillars that surround the bark sanctuary, as well as on the bark sanctuary itself, inside and out. Fifty-two drawings were checked at the wall by epigraphers John Darnell, Debbie Darnell, and Ted Castle, most of which were corrected by the artists; eight drawings were penciled at the wall by artists Sue Osgood, Tina Di Cerbo, and Margaret De Jong, mostly in preparation for work over the summer; and nine drawings received approval for publication (seven more await the final Director's Check). The majority of the drawings of the painted chapels and their eastern facade, the earliest portion of the Tuthmoside temple, have now been successfully completed and collated, and work is progressing well on a final, comparative examination of all recorded scenes within the chapels. The drawings of the chapels will be published in the first volume projected for the Temple of Amun at Medinet Habu after a final cleaning of the wall surfaces during the next two seasons. The second volume in the series, currently well underway, will be devoted to the Thutmoside bark sanctuary area and miscellaneous graffiti. The third volume will document the Kushite (25th Dynasty) additions to the small temple. This season Staff Photographer Yarko Kobylecky, assisted by Ellie Smith, finished the photography of the Kushite pylons in preparation for the production of drawing enlargements for that volume. Next season Yarko will finish the photography of the Ptolemaic and Roman additions for volume 4.

The 1997/1998 season saw the second year of a five-year grant approved by the Supreme Council of Antiquities and the Egyptian Antiquities Project (EAP) of the American Research Center (ARCE) for conservation of the Thutmoside temple at Medinet Habu and its later additions. The first phase of the project last year focused on the foundations of the Ptolemaic addition to the east, made up of over four hundred reused Kushite-period blocks (as well as some early Ptolemaic blocks), half of which preserve identifiable decoration, and many of which are suffering from salt efflorescence. The 1997/1998 season's conservation work focused on the rooftop of the Thutmoside temple, over the painted chapels and bark sanctuary. Torrential rainstorms in recent years had penetrated the

sanctuary in two main areas, causing staining of the painted reliefs and the migration of salts trapped in the sandstone. The rains had also caused mud from the roof to wash over the south wall of the bark sanctuary, obscuring carved details in several areas

Examination of the roof revealed that the leaking roof had been a problem even in the Ptolemaic Period. Settling of the structure because of improper foundations had caused the roofblocks to shift almost 20 centimeters, resulting in gaps between the blocks that had to be repaired even then. Ptolemy VIII undertook the task of restoration, raised the roof of the bark sanctuary, and added an upper two courses of stone, on the lower of which he carved a marginal inscription which names him. At the same time he repaired the roof blocks and sealed the repairs with a veneer of thin stone slabs over the entire roof which directed rainwater to water spouts in the roof; the veneer keys into Ptolemy VIII's new stone courses and is contemporary with them. In most areas this stone veneer is now missing, but marks on the original roof blocks often indicate where the blocks were laid. On the north side of the sanctuary, the site of one of the major leaks, some of the veneer blocks had been removed at some time in order to restore the large Thutmoside roofblock below, and were not replaced. This veneer is shown intact in photographs taken by the Epigraphic Survey in the thirties, before the restoration, and our plan is to replace them, based on the photographs, with new stone.

The technique for sealing was decided after lengthy onsite discussions with EAP Director Dr. Robert 'Chip' Vincent, Assistant Director Dr. Jaroslaw Dobrolowski, and the Director of the Franco-Egyptian Center at Karnak, Dr. François Larché, last spring and this fall. Stonecutter Dany Roy supervised the careful cleaning of all of the cracks between the stone roof blocks with a compressor and vacuum cleaner, and sealed the roof over the entire sanctuary area with a mortar compound tempered with crushed brick for lightness and strength, of the same type which has been utilized in restoration work at Karnak and approved by the SCA and EAP. On the south side, a screened rain spout was inserted into a gap between two large roofblocks to direct the flow of rainwater off the roof. Where the water hits the ground, a trench was dug and filled with gravel to prevent splashing of mud onto the temple wall. Before the application of the mortar, Tina Di Cerbo meticulously planned all of the roofblocks and plotted all of the details on a 1:20 scale master plan of the entire roof. She took special care to plot the marks indicating where the stone veneer blocks had been laid but are now missing, and also documented the position of the roughly forty graffiti carved on the roof. Photographer Yarko Kobylecky photographed the roof areas, including the graffiti, before, during, and after cleaning and infilling. The sealing over the sanctuary was finished by April, but new stone ordered to replace the missing veneer blocks on the north side had not arrived by season's end, so they will be cut and placed next season, at which time Dany also will complete the sealing of the entire bark sanctuary roof. In the meantime Dany filled the depression over the north side of the chapels with a thick sponge sealed with polythene against any water seepage. It was timely that he did so; on Easter Sunday,

three days before the end of the 1997/1998 season and one day after he had completed his operations on the Amun temple roof, Luxor was hit by a tremendous sandstorm accompanied by thunder, lightning, and torrential rains. Inspection showed that the newly sealed roof and rain spout worked perfectly; we couldn't have planned it better.

Luxor Temple

This season marked the third year of a five-year EAP grant for the treatment and consolidation of deteriorating decorated stone fragments at Luxor Temple. Conservator Dr. John Stewart returned for a week to consult with stone conservator Hiroko Kariya, who oversees the project for three months each winter. This season all one thousand, five hundred and forty fragments in the Epigraphic Survey blockyard were surveyed and recorded on a special conservation database. Ninety-two sandstone blocks were physically strengthened with the Wacker OH consolidant in the expanded outdoor laboratory, and provision was made for more permanent conservation facilities and protected storage space that will be set up next season. Thirty-eight additional fragments scheduled for future treatment were placed on a special, covered platform which will protect them from rainfall and wind erosion. Forty smaller deteriorating fragments were placed on covered tables and shelves. With the kind permission of the Supreme Council of Antiquities, samples from the undecorated backs of twelve fragments were taken for analysis for the purpose of characterizing stone geology, decay agents (i.e. salt), and effectiveness of the treatment. The first group of seven samples was sent to the Engineering Center for Archaeology and Environment at Cairo University, and more will follow.

Unusually high levels of salt-laden groundwater at Luxor temple over last summer and during this season resulted in increased salt efflorescence on the lower walls of the Colonnade Hall and alarming deterioration of the column bases. Photographer Yarko Kobylecky took reference photographs of the columns and walls to compare with earlier photographs of the same areas to help us gauge the rate of decay and to help determine what might be done to rectify this problem. He also took reference photographs of the two easternmost rows of columns in the Amenhotep III sun court, restored and reerected last spring by the SCA. Greatly facilitating these tasks, and the Medinet Habu photography as well, was the generous gift of a Toyo large-format 8x10 field camera by friends Daniel and Lucia Woods Lindley in January, for which we are very grateful indeed. This light-weight, portable camera has made the whole photographic process smoother and faster, and allowed us greater productivity at a critical time. The simple truth is that the Epigraphic Survey must expand its photographic operations considerably in order to keep up with the rapidly accelerating deterioration of the pharaonic monuments in the Luxor area. This gift effectively launches our expansion efforts, and we extend our sincerest thanks to Dan and Lucia for lighting the way.

Photographer and Photo Archivist Susan Lezon made a welcome return to Chicago House in January after an absence of four years. She surveyed two thousand nitrate-based negatives in the Photo Archives to assess the degree of their

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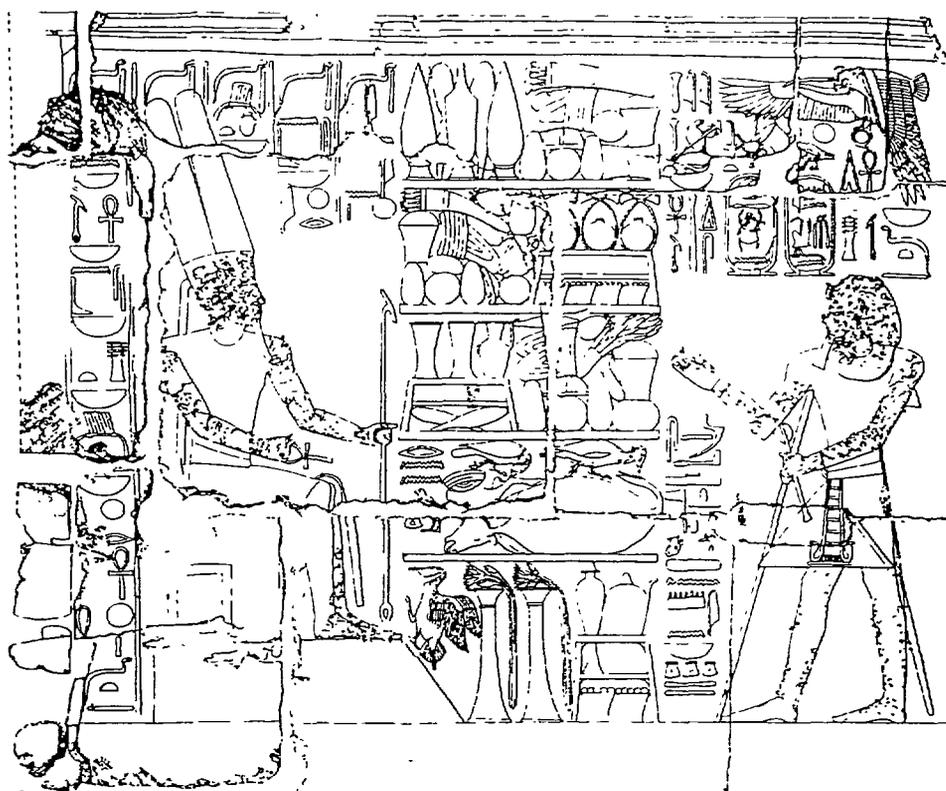


Figure 2. King offering to Amun-Re; bark sanctuary Room III, small temple of Amun at Medinet Habu, time of Hatshepsut and Thutmose III. Facsimile drawing by Susan Osgood

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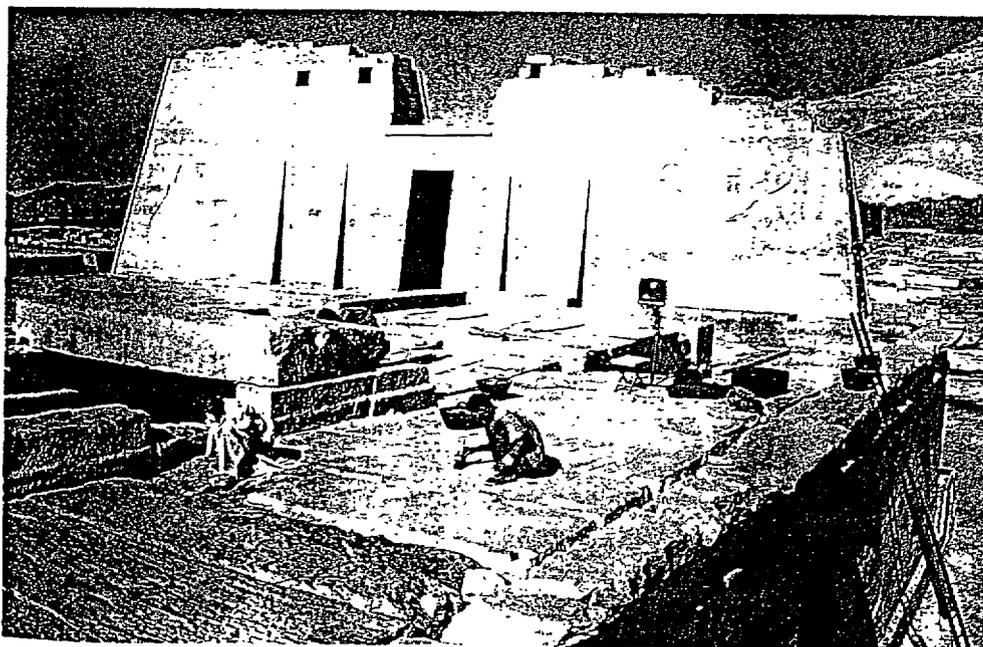


Figure 3. Cleaning and photography on Amun Temple roof, Medinet Habu, March 1998. Photograph by W. Raymond Johnson

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storms in recent years have penetrated the sanctuary in two main areas, causing staining of the painted reliefs and the migration of salts trapped in the sandstone. The rains have also caused mud from the roof to wash over the south wall of the bark sanctuary, obscuring carved details in several areas.

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Figure 4. Stonecutter Dany Roy applying mortar to seal Amun Temple roof against rainwater, Medinet Habu, March 1998. Photograph by Yarko Kobylecky

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the Luxor area. This gift effectively launches our expansion efforts, and we extend our sincerest thanks to Dan and Lucia for lighting the way.

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Photograph Archives assistant Ellie Smith continued to bring order to our lives, registering 268 large-format negatives and 85 35 mm negatives this season, as well as finding and filing negatives and prints as needed and helping to refine our new database. She provided invaluable assistance to Yarko in the field where she numbered and kept track of photographic negatives as Yarko produced them on site, and she coordinated the production and packaging of duplicate negatives that are brought back to the Oriental Institute each spring. She and Sue Lezon flew to Chicago this July for a meeting with John, Jason, and me to discuss the final refinements to the database program. She, Sue, and I visited Yarko at his North Side studio, where he is computer-scanning 35 mm black and white negatives taken by former Chicago House photographer Tom Van Eynde in 1986. These negatives document the severely deteriorating carved reliefs in two Ramesses III wells at Medinet Habu, which were used for water rituals in his mortuary temple. Eventually we will join the scanned negatives (using the Photoshop software program) to produce montages of whole wall areas for drawing and publication.

Epigrapher and Chicago House Librarian Debbie Darnell continued to spend half of her time during the season coordinating the administration of the Chicago House library, the finest library of Egyptology in Upper Egypt. Although it is fundamentally a field library whose primary function is to facilitate our documentation work, Chicago House has an open door policy to all expeditions working in the area, members of the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities, and visiting scholars, and this year record numbers of our colleagues used our facility. Debbie supervised the procurement and shelving of books and photographs for our scholarly visitors, and also registered two hundred and fifteen new books, which now brings our total holdings to 17,596 volumes. She was capably assisted in February by archival assistant Nan Ray, who this year brought her husband David back to us after a long absence, and throughout the season by resident Egyptologist Dr. Henri Riad, former Director

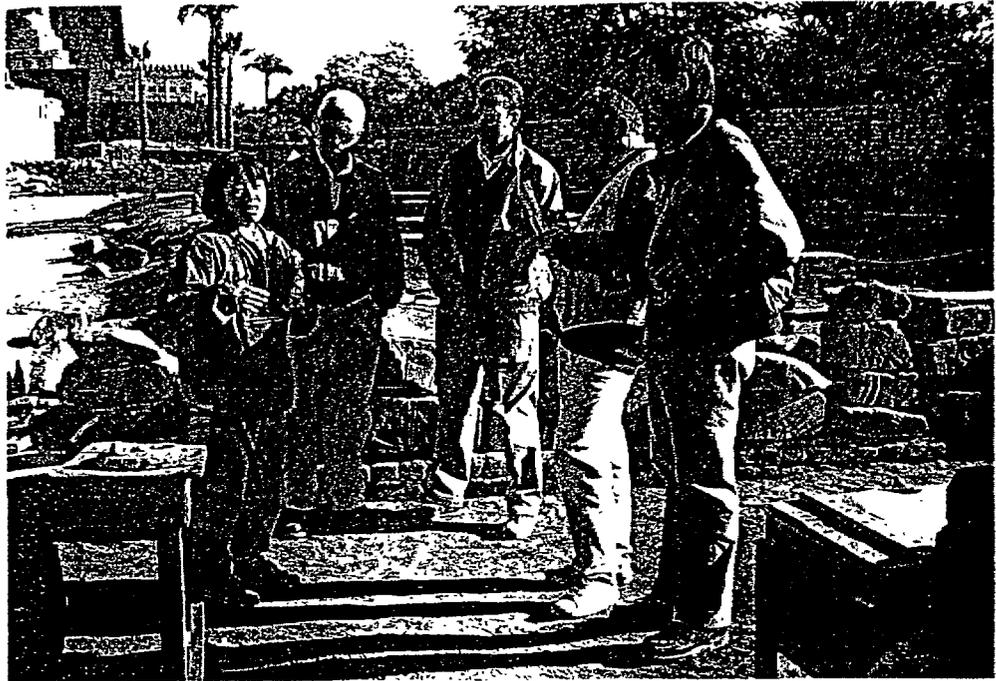


Figure 5. Conservators Hiroko Kariya and John Stewart confer with Ray Johnson and EAP Assistant Director Jarek Dobrolowski and Director Chip Vincent in the Epigraphic Survey blockyard, Luxor Temple, January 1998. Photograph by Yarko Kobylecky

of the Cairo Museum and Graeco-Roman Museum in Alexandria, who worked through hundreds of photographs in the Labib Habachi archives, identifying many dozens of objects that Labib had recorded. Henri very kindly watched the library when Debbie was at the temple and was always on hand to offer help to anyone who needed it. Drs. Helen and Jean Jacquet, who resided with us this year, were also a wonderful resource for all. Helen, a former Epigraphic Survey epigrapher, is currently finishing her long-awaited study of the rooftop graffiti at Khonsu Temple, Karnak, which will appear in our Khonsu Temple series. Jean, who continues to be our primary resource for matters architectural, spent long hours inducting Tina into the mysteries of the architect's theodolite. Our warmest thanks are extended to all of these much-appreciated helpers. It should also be mentioned that this year Chicago House was pleased to donate several dozen duplicate books and pamphlets, many devoted to Nubian culture and history, to the library of the new Nubian Museum in Aswan, which opened in November to great acclaim.

In February stone conservator Ellen Pearlstein returned to continue the cleaning of the indurated-limestone colossal statues in the Colonnade Hall, concentrating this season on the seated king on the east side. It was decided that two fragments of the statue — an arm section and part of the lower face — would not be restored at this time for lack of supporting stone. Ellen refined the infill around the face of the large-dyad goddess Mut on the west, which the Epigraphic Survey, in cooperation with the Supreme Council of Antiquities and the Egyptian Museum in Cairo, re-joined to its body in January of 1997. Ellen started cleaning the lower section of the small Amun and Mut dyad on the east side, exposing a Coptic cross, which had been covered with resin and cement, engraved on the goddess's knees, and will finish that

ARCHAEOLOGY

a special debt of thanks. Professor Dr. G. A. Gaballa, Director General, Dr. Mohamed el-Saghir, General Director of Pharaonic Monuments in the Nile Valley, Dr. Mohamed Nasr, General Director of Antiquities for Upper Egypt, Dr. Sabry Abdel Aziz, General Director for the West Bank of Luxor, and Mme Nawal, Chief Inspector of Luxor Temple. Warmest thanks and best wishes to all.

As the old millennium ends and the new millennium fast approaches, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to the many friends of Chicago House whose support has allowed our work to continue without interruption into the 21st century, we truly couldn't do it without you. Special thanks must go to the American Ambassador to Egypt, the Honorable Daniel Charles Kurtzer, and Sheila Kurtzer; Vincent Battle, Deputy Chief of Mission of the United States Embassy in Cairo; William Cavness, Janet Wilgus, and Haynes Mahoney of the United States Embassy; Dick Brown, John Westley, Justin Doyle, Shirley Hunter, and Jean Durette of the United States Agency for International Development; Exa Snow of Coopers and Lybrand, Cairo; David and Carlotta Maher; David and Nan Ray; Mark Rudkin; Dr. Barbara Mertz; Daniel Lindley and Lucia Woods Lindley; Dr. Marjorie M. Fisher; Tom and Linda Heagy; Donald Oster; William Kelly Simpson; Kelly and Dr. Grodzins; Ben Harer; Anita and Solon Stone; Roxie Walker; Louis Byron, Jr.; Terry Walz; Mark Easton, Ray Salamanca, Mary Sadek, and Amira Khattab of the American Research Center in Egypt; Chip Vincent, Jarek Dobrowolski, and Cynthia Schartzet of the Egyptian Antiquities Project; Michael Jones of the Antiquities Development Project; and all of our friends on the Oriental Institute "mother ship." I must also express our gratitude to the Amoco Foundation, the Getty Grant Program of the J. Paul Getty Trust, Coca-Cola, Bechtel, Xerox, and LaSalle Banks for their invaluable support. Thank you all.

As always, members of the Oriental Institute and other friends of Chicago House are welcome to stop by to see us, and we suggest that you write or call in advance to schedule a meeting that is convenient to all. Chicago House is open from 15 October until 15 April, and closed Saturday afternoons and Sundays. Our address in Egypt: Chicago House, Corniche el-Nil, Luxor, Egypt. The telephone number is (from the United States) 011-20-95-37-2525, fax 011-20-95-38-1620.

The Epigraphic Survey home page is at

<http://www-or.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/EPI/EPIgraphic.html>

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GIZA

Mark Lehner

Our most recent excavation season took place from late January through April 1998. From 10 February until 15 April 1999 Mark Lehner, Fabio Nodari, Christine Way

GIZA

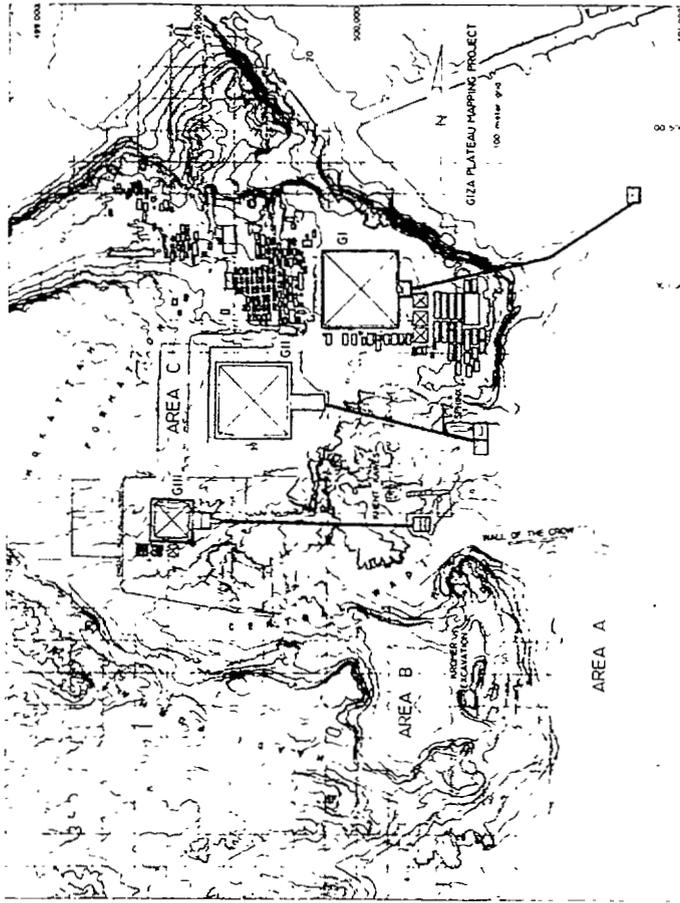


Figure 1. Map of Giza with Area A on low desert southeast (lower left) of the pyramids

ceramics, sealings, lithics, and bone in the project storeroom in the Western Cemetery. Here I report results of the 1998 excavations.

Summary of the Previous Seasons 1995-1997

Since 1988 we have been excavating at the foot of the Giza Pyramids Plateau about 300 m south of the Great Sphinx. Our site is a 1.3 ha tract of low desert stretching 450 m south of a large stone wall called Heit el-Ghurab, "Wall of the Crow," and 250 m south of the urban zone of Kafr Gabel and the high desert (fig. 1). We refer to this site as Area A (fig. 2). In 1991 we discovered two bakeries with intact dough-mixing vats, hearths, and bread pots. The bakeries were attached on the south side of a thick mudbrick wall that turned a corner at the bakeries and extended beyond the limit of our excavations to the north and west. In 1995 we excavated a series of squares inside the corner enclosed by the wall and here we found low troughs and benches. We found fish remains embedded in the floor nearby and fish bone in the soil that filled the troughs. In 1997 we excavated a series of squares farther west and north in order to trace the extent of the wall. I hypothesized that we may be finding an outer enclosure, given over to production activities, around a central institution or household.

We ascertained that the wall extends as far as 65 m to the west (fig. 8a). Other thick mudbrick walls extend to the north and the south. As far as we could tell from our 5 x 5 m excavations, the wall extends as far as 65 m to the west (fig. 8a). Other

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Visiting Committee) spent a very pleasant afternoon with us seeing our facility and the work at hand.

A most illustrious guest in March was the First Lady of the United States, Hillary Rodham Clinton, who visited Egypt with daughter Chelsea, and spent a total of two full days in Luxor. Preparations for this trip began in February, and continued all through March, as "pre-advance" and "advance" teams of White House and United States Embassy staff descended on us for a seemingly endless round of itinerary planning and site walk-throughs. Right up to the day she arrived the itinerary was in flux, but after all the hair-raising preparations, the visit itself was wonderfully pleasant. The First Lady and Chelsea arrived midday on Tuesday 23 March, and I was among the official "greeters" at the airport, along with the Governor of Luxor General Selmy Selim, the American Ambassador to Egypt Daniel Kurtzer, and the head of the Supreme Council of Antiquities, Dr. Gaballa Ali Gaballa. Dr. Gaballa and I were her official guides during her Luxor stay, and that first afternoon we squired her, the United States Ambassador, the Egyptian Minister of the Environment Dr. Nadia Makram Ebeid, and the head of USAID Egypt Richard Brown through the Luxor Museum of Art and Luxor Temple. Debbie Darnell led the White House staff on a separate tour behind us, while our friend the General Director for the West Bank, Sabry Abdel Aziz, led the press corps.

Mrs. Clinton was clearly impressed with the extent, and scale, of Luxor's ancient remains. An avid preservationist herself, she was distressed by the signs of accelerating decay that are now visible everywhere, particularly in the Colonnade Hall. While at Luxor Temple I was able to point out the all-too-visible problems caused by Egypt's wetter climate, the high groundwater, and the resultant migration of salts trapped in the stone, all causing the bases of massive walls and columns to disintegrate. After visiting the Luxor Temple sanctuary, we paused beside the Epigraphic Survey blockyard with its thousands of decorated stone fragments, where I talked about our Egyptian Antiquities Project/USAID funded fragment documentation and conservation projects.

That evening I was invited by the First Lady to join her, Dr. Gaballa, Ambassador and Mrs. Kurtzer, several USAID officials, and the assembled White House Press Corps for an al fresco dinner and round-table discussion about Luxor, its heritage, and its preservation problems. Dr. Gaballa opened with a talk about the significance of ancient Luxor, after which I spoke about the documentation work of the Oriental Institute at Chicago House, our history, present programs, and future plans. This led to an open discussion of the conservation problems facing Luxor and all of Egypt, and what steps have been taken to alleviate some of those problems elsewhere, such as the USAID Old Cairo drainage project, which by lowering the water table has slowed down the deterioration process. It was such a stimulating discussion that the party only grudgingly broke up at midnight!

The next day we took the First Lady and Chelsea to the Valley of the Kings where Egyptian Antiquities Project Director Chip Vincent, Antiquities Development Project Director Michael Jones, Dr. Gaballa, and I showed them the tomb of Sety I and discussed its history and conservation problems. Then Dr. Gaballa and I took them to Tutankhamun's tomb, followed by the mortuary temple of Hatshepsut,



Figure 11. Volunteer Mary Grimshaw hard at work in the Chicago House computer room, March 1999. Photograph by Sue Lezon

mind you. At about 1:30 the entire motorcade arrived at Chicago House, where we hosted a "private," sit-down buffet lunch for the First Lady, Chelsea, and forty assembled guests: the entire Chicago House staff, Dr. Gaballa, the Governor of Luxor, the Kurtzers, the Minister of the Environment, USAID officials, Kent and Susan Weeks, American Research Center in Egypt Director Mark Easton, Chip Vincent, Michael Jones, and Sabry Abdel Aziz. Credit must be given to the entire Chicago House staff for making the place shine, and the luncheon table glorious; everyone pitched in. Our kitchen staff, headed by chef cook Tayib Abdel Aziz Mohamed, truly outdid themselves, and Mrs. Clinton endeared herself to them forever by having her photograph taken with them afterward in the courtyard. She said in a short speech at lunch that the Luxor trip was one revelation after another, chief among which was the University of Chicago's efforts in Luxor. She told us that she was tremendously moved by our dedication, enthusiasm, and passion for this preservation work and was extremely proud that Americans were at the forefront of such work. After a group photograph of the entire luncheon party, Carlotta and I led the First Lady, her entourage, and the press into the library for a half-hour briefing of our documentation work, projects, and goals, which was very well received (fig. 12). I owe a tremendous debt to Carlotta for returning to assist with this event; we could not have done it without her. After signing the guest book, picking up a "Chicago House: 75 Years" button, and accepting a *Lost Egypt* print as a memento of her visit from Carlotta and Sue Lezon (and Chicago House t-shirts), we departed with Mrs. Clinton and entourage for Karnak up the street. There we had a very pleasant late-afternoon walk through the temple.

But that was not the end of the day. Later that evening at Luxor Temple, the

BIR UMM FAWAKHIR

floral material should be studied as well, and documentation for the dipinti, stamps, and sherds must be completed, hopefully during a study season in 2001. The trenches may be backfilled, but further discoveries surely await.

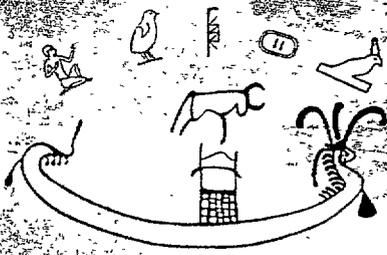
As usual, thanks are due to many people: Gene Gragg, Director, John Sanders, Michelle Wong, and Donald Whitcomb of the Oriental Institute; Dr. Gaballa Ali Gaballa, Dr. Mohammed Sughair, and Mohammed Nasr of the Supreme Council of Antiquities; Mr. Mohammed el-Hinnawi, Dr. Abd el-Aziz, and Dr. Gaber Naim of the Egyptian Geological Survey and Mining Authority; Robert K. Vincent, Cynthia Scharzter, and Jaroslaw Dobrowolski of the Egyptian Antiquities Project; Mark Easton and above all Mme Amira Khattab of the American Research Center in Egypt; Raymond Johnson, Ahmad Harfoush, Sue Lezon, Yarko Kobylecky, and especially Tina Di Cerbo of Chicago House in Luxor; and Worldwide Chain Store Systems. Support for the project was provided by the National Geographic Society, the Egyptian Antiquities Project, Mrs. Catherine Novotny-Brehm, Pennzoil, Mr. and Mrs. H. I. Meyer, Dr. Robert K. Smither, Diana Grodzins, and Leila Foster.

DHAMAR PROJECT

Tony J. Wilkinson

This report should be detailing the results of the 1998 field season conducted in February and March 1999. Unfortunately, owing to circumstances following the kidnapping of tourists in late 1998, and a United States government travel advisory notice against visiting Yemen, the winter 1999 season was postponed until fall 1999. However, we were able to take advantage of the available time to prepare for publication some of the materials recovered from earlier field seasons. Consequently, just as the results from the 1998 field season were appearing in the journal *Arabian Archaeology and Epigraphy*, major articles synthesizing our knowledge on the Bronze Age pottery from highland Yemen and the Iron Age and Himyarite architecture were being prepared respectively by Christopher Edens and Eleanor Barbanes. In addition senior graduate students Joseph Daniels and Colleen Coyle were able to critically examine inscriptional evidence (Daniels) and obsidian sourcing (Coyle) from the Dhamar area.

Since our return from the field, results of the geoarchaeological analyses are starting to appear. This is enabling us to make more sense of the sequence of environmental change as well as interactions between early highland communities and the environment. The extraordinary length and scale of the Yemeni sedimentary sequences is well illustrated by figure 1, which shows an expanded diagrammatic view of the stratigraphic succession behind the destroyed Himyarite dam of Sedd adh-Dhra'ah II (for a photograph, see *1995/96 Annual Report*, p. 75, fig. 4). This sequence, which represents virtually the entire sweep of the Holocene (i.e., the last



NEKHEN NEWS

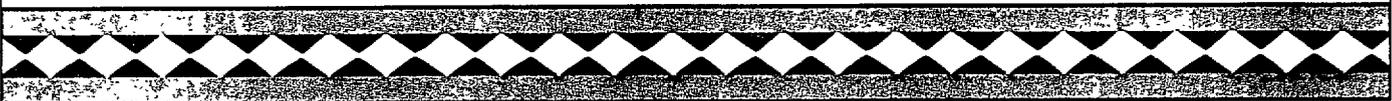
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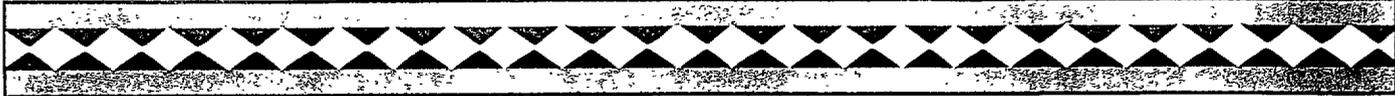
Volume 11

Fall, 1999



New Finds for the Next Hundred Years

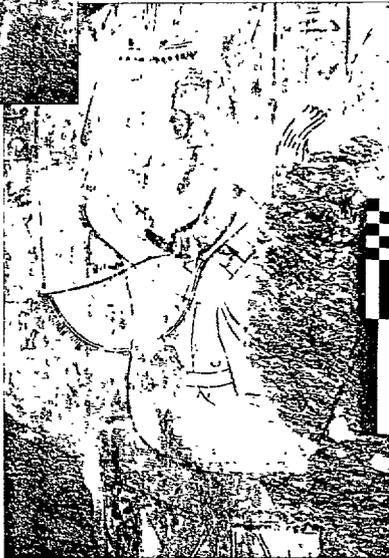




The work in the decorated Dynastic tombs continues to be financed by the Egyptian Antiquities Project (EAP) of the American Research Center in Egypt, Inc. (ARCE) under its USAID Grant for the "Restoration and Preservation of Egyptian Antiquities."



From faded remnants, Will Schenck is able to retrieve the masterful painting, the richness of detail on the walls of the tomb of Hormose. The results are worth the effort—compare the photography with the drawing on next page.



A Master and his Apprentice: The master artist was clearly responsible for the decoration of this beautiful leopard skin robe (top). The apprentice tries his hand at the same (bottom) with quite different results!



General view—the tomb of Ny-ankh-Pepy.



False Door. The red hieroglyphs beneath the yellow lion are part of the original decoration of Ijefy.



The Artists in the Tomb of Hormose

—by Betsy Bryan, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore

For the past 5 years I have been studying the unfinished Theban tomb of Suemniwet, a royal butler during the reign of King Amenhotep II (1472-1400BC) in order to understand the techniques and methods used by Egyptian artists in the middle of the 18th Dynasty. This work has produced interesting results that illustrate the diversity and creativity of Egyptian painters' artistry. For the past two years, examination of the late New Kingdom tomb of Hormose at Hierakonpolis has given me the opportunity to compare painting methods used hundreds of years later and to learn whether artists continued to demonstrate individual approaches in both style and technique.

One of only three or four known tombs dating to the end of the New Kingdom, the tomb of Hormose is also of historic

importance. It contains unique testimony to the renewal of the temple of Horus by Ramses XI, which had been built some 500 years earlier by Thutmose III, as well as interesting scenes associated with the care of the infant god Horus, not by his mother Isis but by the tomb owner's wife Henut-ao. Given the blackened state of the paintings when work began in 1998, as the cleaning progressed I was surprised to discover that the tomb preserved an impressive amount of evidence indicating how it was decorated.

The lower registers of the walls of the main chamber preserve the processions of family members before Hormose and his wife, seated on the north side, and before his parents on the south. Due to the large number of human figures of similar size and dress, I was able to identify patterns of stylistic details that were consistent and eventually combined to identify two distinctive line artists' hands. The patterns included such details as navels (round or oval), necklace string ties (straight or wavy), garment pleating techniques, and the representation of five toes on outer feet, among other diagnostic features. The artist responsible for decorating the southern side of the chamber was the less accomplished. Vertical lines to guide the placement, orientation and drawing of the human figures were inevitably observed on this wall while none could be found on the northern. Indeed, the northern side appears to have been painted for the most part by the master. Although the figures on this wall show extensive evidence of change between the initial and final rendition, all corrections appear to have been done free hand with great confidence. Indeed, in one case this season we identified a complete sex change!

The best example of the two hands at work was evident on the leopard skin robe that Hormose wears in the depictions on the two jambs flanking the statue niche (see color pages). On the south side of the niche we see the hand of the master—evenly spaced roundels, well-applied spots, and even line width. The north side was painted by an artist attempting to match the southern one as closely as possible but with varying success, as the photographs make clear.

There was not, however, a pure south/north (that is, left and right) division between the artists, as known in the tombs of the Valley of the Kings for example. The decoration of this tomb is more complex than that, as some scenes show evidence of true workshop production with varying skills in drafting and in-painting. This is apparent on single large elements, such as the barque of Horus and the shrines before it. These will be further documented in the coming season by the help of the USAID grant administered by the American Research Center in Egypt's Egyptian Antiquities Project, which has allowed us to conserve and study this tomb.



Henut-ao restored to the beautiful mistress of a beautiful tomb. Note also the lovely *wedjat* eye bracelet on her right arm. (Drawing by Will Schenck)

The Tomb of Djehuty: Putting it back together again!

—by Ed Johnson

This season the collected fragments of the famous biographical inscription of Djehuty were finally reinstalled in the tomb. The inscription was the object of an attempted theft in 1989. Using a crowbar, thieves attempted to remove the inscription but the horizontal bedding of the sandstone caused it to shatter rather than scale off into salable artifacts. The culprits (from Esna) were apprehended before further damage was done. Over the past three years we have been collecting the shattered fragments by laboriously sieving and manually sorting all of the debris cleared from this tomb. The fragments have now been reassembled and we replaced them in their original location this season.

We used standard epoxy for this and coated the five large fragments and the wall fracture with several coats of Paraloid B-72 for insurance. This formed a separation layer which allows reversal of the process with acetone should any of the pieces slip during reconstruction and the placement need to be corrected. *That* only happened once!

Slowly all the fragments were reinstalled in their original locations, with only a small number of fragments remaining unplaced. Next season, after the possibility of any further mends has been exhausted, the remaining gaps will be filled to promote the structural integrity and aesthetic appearance of the inscription. Once the gaps have been filled, the filler will be colored appropriately to resemble the original stone. Almost like new.

Left and above right: Finally the fragments of Djehuty's biographical inscription are reinstalled.



A Visitation

The local village at Hierakonpolis, known as Kom el Gemuwia, is a very traditional one. Although educated, the wives and teenage daughters of the villagers are still secluded in the harem at the back of the houses and rarely venture out. They are even more circumspect in their movements when the Expedition is present because of the foreign and non-related men the work attracts. At the end of the season, when the crew had diminished to three female members, we were surprised to receive a request from the ladies asking if they could visit our work in the tombs of the Burg el Hammam. Having heard stories of the dramatic results in the tombs from our workmen—their husbands and sons—they were curious and wished to take advantage of this opportunity to come out and see for themselves.

We were, of course, delighted to grant their request, and as most of the information and imagery in the tomb of Hormose actually concerns his wife, Henut-ao (whose family connections may have arranged its decoration and whose money may have paid for it), their visit seemed even more appropriate. They arrived late one afternoon with babies and children in tow. Our conservator, Lamia Hadidi, took them through the tombs, explained to them what our work entailed, and told them the story of Henut-ao, which they all found particularly interesting. Many questions were asked, and the visit lasted until sunset.

Their visit shows that the impact our conservation project goes beyond just the preservation of the tombs. The long-term survival of Hierakonpolis as a whole is dependent on a local interest in its monuments. In future we hope to encourage this interest with a small museum in one of the rooms of our new but growing dig house.



A young visitor in Hormose.

An Artist in Hormose: A Day in the Life...

—by Will Schenck

27 January 1999. 7 AM: Standing in the back of the pick-up truck, leaning up against the driver's compartment, the fresh wind battering against our faces—this is the real wake-up call. The morning ritual to this point has been on autopilot. Looking now across the desert, the mound of the Burg el Hammam rising up before us, the day is truly beginning. At the base of the hill we lumber out, handing out buckets, bags, tools, chemicals, cameras, whatever. Usually it is just the three of us; Ed Johnson, Lamia Hadidi and myself. We start up the steep path at our own individual pace, loaded like pack horses or decorated like Christmas trees with whatever and however much we have to carry—no one wants to make a second trip! As we near the top, the truck has shrunk to the size of a matchbox toy and we sense that first moment of glorious isolation, masters of all we survey. We enjoy the solitude and that rare commodity, peace and quiet, which our roost in the hill provides.

As Ed and Lamia take their places on the scaffolding and resume the cleaning of Hormose's soot stained ceiling, I unfurl today's sheet of clear acetate, carefully cut the night before to the standard 60x90cm. It has to be placed gently against the wall and secured by small balls of Blu-tack and masking tape carefully placed only in damaged areas so as not to harm the fragile plaster.

I have now reached the lower register of the antechamber's north wall. This register contains a sequence of vignettes illustrating the funeral procession. Yesterday I finished copying a group of standard bearers. Today it is the complicated, badly faded group of mourning women. I have devised a method of using different colored markers to denote the condition of the decoration. I make no attempt to reproduce the color of the pigments used to paint the figures, as the range is far too large. I begin by outlining all of the damaged areas with the red pen.



Artist Will Schenck copying the mourning women.

This usually takes some time since so much of the plaster has fallen away. Before starting with the scene itself, I put on the blue crosses that indicate the points of overlap with the surrounding sheets as well as noting the vertical distance from a standard horizontal line measured throughout the tomb. This information will be critical when it comes to joining up the individual sheets for publication. Next I check for areas of plaster which have popped off the wall, leaving behind a ghost outline of the original painted design. These I note with the letter 'c'. Don't ask me why. Another check is made for areas of color that were not originally outlined in the red or black paint used in this tomb. These areas are indicated with green ink. Finally, I am ready to begin the real job of copying the surviving scene with the black ultra-fine point marker.

The group of women mourners is drawn in an almost sketch-like manner. Many lines indicating legs and arms seem to vanish into a tangle and it is hard to make out which limbs belong to whom. After outlining several heads I try to follow their bodies through to the arch of their feet and end up with too many legs! This is weird. Fortunately the scene is fairly standardized in New Kingdom painting. I think back to the famous scene in the tomb of Ramose at Thebes and stare at the wall some more. At last I make the crucial discovery. In amongst the jumble of lines in the center I find what is certainly a nose and lips. The penny drops. Channeling a beam of sunlight with foil-covered cardboard, in the raking light I now see three or four little heads, shoulders and side locks of little girls mixed in the fray with the women. Now I understand all of those extra legs. What a relief!

As the season progresses, I will think back on this occasion as a relatively easy piece of detective work. Future scenes will require the opinions of almost the entire team. Crowding into the narrow antechamber, they will stand closer, step back, point to this line, and try to follow that line. Eventually it will come, almost like an optical illusion, and every one will finally see it, nod, and leave me the difficult job of getting it recorded before the illusion fades.

11 AM: Second breakfast takes me by surprise. The three of us retreat with the food hamper for a picnic in another of the rock-cut tombs along the terrace. Looking out across the desert toward the dig house and the fort we rest our weary eyes and stretch cramped muscles. During breakfast we decide to enhance the work experience by setting up my Walkman with small speakers. We initiate the experiment with Lamia's copy of *Shaherazade*. It seems the perfect choice and the acoustics are unexpectedly excellent. Back to my mourning women and girls, with the appropriately sad and eerie music wafting from

5

the inner chamber, I can't help but think that Hormose would have appreciated this added touch. But it is now a race against time. From bitter experience I know that, for reasons not clearly understood, the acetate will warp if it is left on the wall overnight. I must finish my ladies before the end of the working day. Now that I know what I'm looking for, the work goes much faster and I see the small details that I'd missed earlier—curled fingers, locks of hair, etc. But the end of the day always comes in a rush.

2 PM: The truck has been sighted on the horizon and equipment is being packed away. One last line and I'm finished for the day. Gently I peel the acetate from the wall and carefully roll it into a plastic tube for the return journey to the house. Already my mind is on tomorrow's challenge: a group of men carrying a mysterious shrine... and the next music selection.

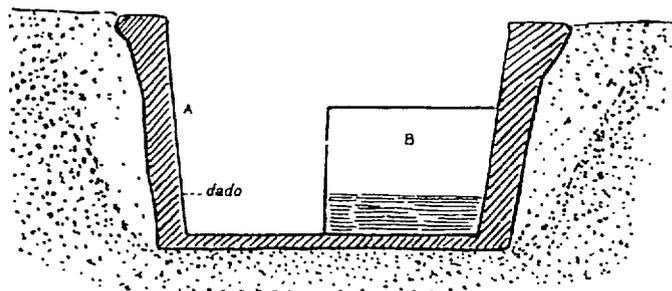
The Painted Tomb at Hierakonpolis

—by Barbara Adams

In 1899, during his second season of work at Hierakonpolis, it was reported to F.W. Green that there was a looted tomb with signs of paint near the desert's edge south of the town of Nekhen. Hastening to the location, Green cleared at least five rectangular mud-brick lined tombs, but only one of them had plastered and painted walls. The wall paintings were copied and then removed and taken to the Cairo Museum where they are still on display. The tomb itself has never been relocated. It is thought to have been part of a chieftain's cemetery on the far southeast-ern edge of the site, an area now under cultivation.

The Painted or Decorated Tomb 100 is dated by its contents, which are in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, to the middle Gerzean/Naqada II period of the Predynastic sequence, Kaiser's Stufen IId1-IId2. The rather high date of 3625 ±125BC was obtained from C¹⁴ analysis of a freshwater shell from the tomb in 1983; however it probably dates closer to 3400BC.

The tomb's dimensions were 4.5 x 2 x 1.5m. The paintings



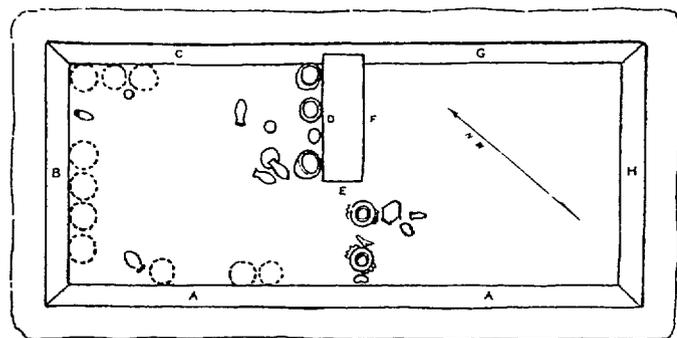
TRANSVERSE SECTION

were found on one long wall (A-A) and on the end of the semi-partition cross wall (E). There were traces of red figures on the whitewashed wall F but they were too faint to trace. A black dado bordered by a red ochre line occurred on all the walls in the southern half of the tomb and beneath the main painting on wall A-A. The background of the main scene was painted a light buff with yellow ochre and covered with scenes of hunting, combats and boats, painted in white, red and black. All the boats, except one, were painted white with an overwash of bright green (see back cover).

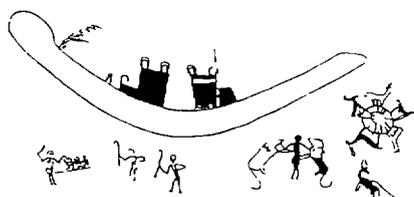
There are numerous parallels between the paintings and Gerzean art as found on Decorated pottery (D-class) and rock drawings. Many of the motifs were carried through into Protodynastic and Early Dynastic art. Notable among the motifs are the antithetical group of a man holding off two lions (Master of the Animals); the chieftain or king shown at a larger scale smiting prisoners with a pear-shaped macehead; the priestly figure dressed in a leopard skin robe; and the trussed ox. The boats all lack the oars which are shown on the Decorated pottery, but include the centrally placed cabins, one of which bears a figure seated beneath a canopy.

The tomb contains the largest and most complex Predynastic scene ever found and it has been said that all later monuments dating to the Protodynastic and Early Dynastic periods only replicate and refine the subjects which first appear here. No wonder the tomb has been the subject of much discussion since its first publication.

A bibliography of the most important discussions of the Painted Tomb compiled by Stan Hendrickx can now be found on our web site, www.hierakonpolis.org.



Plan of the Painted Tomb from Quibell and Green, Hierakonpolis II, 1902.



NEKHEN NEWS

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Volume 10

SPECIAL CENTENARY EDITION

Fall, 1998

1898–1998: Hierakonpolis Celebrates 100 Years of Discoveries

—by Renée Friedman

On the 100th anniversary of scientific excavation at Hierakonpolis, Egypt's first city continued to provide more Firsts, for which it is justly famous. New and exciting finds, ranging from pachyderms to date pits, were made at every locality examined in this, our third season of renewed field work. Hierakonpolis is indeed among the premier sites for understanding early (and later) Ancient Egypt.

Despite security concerns, a week after the Luxor massacre the Hierakonpolis Expedition bravely returned to the field under the direction of Barbara Adams (Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology) on November 29, 1997. The second part of the season, under the direction of Dr. Renée Friedman (University of California, Berkeley), began on January 7, 1998, which was, coincidentally, the very day, 100 years ago, that Quibell discovered the golden hawk head. This was a very good omen of things to come.

Barbara found the first "first" of the season in the elite Pre- and Early Dynastic cemetery at Locality HK6. Excavations were resumed here to clarify chronological issues raised by the previous excavations by Michael Hoffman.

Instead of recovering evidence of the missing temporal phase, she found something far more impressive: a Predynastic grave which contained the skeleton of an elephant, an unprecedented discovery in a funerary context in Predynastic Egypt and one which suggests that we need to rethink definitions of "wealth" at Hierakonpolis. More firsts soon followed when work and study were resumed in the Predynastic cemetery at HK43 un-

The Firsts of the First Hundred Years

The first hundred years of scientific investigation at Hierakonpolis, the site of Egypt's first capital, has produced a large number of firsts; i.e., the first occurrence of objects, practices and styles that were destined to typify Egyptian civilization, such as the first temple and first mummies. It has also produced a similar number of "onlys," that is, the only preserved example, although other occurrences are documented. There are also a few seconds and thirds just to round out the picture

A comprehensive list is rather formidable, so here are just some of the fascinating firsts which have led (and are currently leading) to a new and fuller understanding of ancient Egypt at its beginnings. The first group derives from the excavations of exactly 100 years ago (1898-9) when the British Egyptologists John Quibell and Frederick Green came to salvage the site after the depredations of looters

- The palette of Narmer, c. 3100 BC. After the golden mask of King Tutankhamen, it is probably the most reproduced image from Ancient Egypt. Though no longer considered the oldest political document in history, its importance has not diminished.
- The oldest life-sized human statue, a courtier or priest from the temple of Horus, c. 3000 BC.

Continued on page 2

der Renée's direction. Sixty-four burials were revealed this season, six of them intact. More wrapped bodies were uncovered and further information about the first mummies was collected. Although these are the graves of the poorer working class inhabitants of ancient Hierakonpolis, two complete copper pins were recovered and one pottery bottle incised with a scene depicting a large bird, perhaps an ostrich, and a giraffe—the first evidence of that animal in this period.

Detailed study of the ample remains of hair collected over the past three seasons revealed the first clear case of using henna to dye gray hair and the first documented example of hair extensions, the practice of using additional swatches of human hair to create an elaborate hairstyle, antedating the next known example by 500 years! On a more grisly note, the physical anthropologists studying the osteological material were able to identify two and possibly three cases of violent death. In addition, a rare congenital deformity was also observed in one individual. Finally, preliminary analysis of the botanical remains found with the bodies suggests that the practice of artificial pollination of dates was already known at Predynastic Hierakonpolis, some 2000

years earlier than previously attested.

In addition to cemetery work, a geophysical survey of the area around the mudbrick enclosure of King Khasekhemwy (Dynasty 2) was carried out by Tomasz Herbich. Several interesting magnetic anomalies in the subsurface topography were identified—mudbrick structures, possibly pottery kilns, streets and, we hope, the locations of Egypt's earliest royal boat graves.

Recovering the Secrets of the Tombs

— Ed Johnson

January 8, 1998 marked the beginning of the first campaign of a three-year program of intensive conservation and recording of the decorated tombs of Dynastic date at Hierakonpolis. Funds were provided by USAID and administered by the Egyptian Antiquities Project of the American Research Center in Egypt.

As readers of *Nekhen News* will remember, preliminary work on these tombs commenced in 1996, when iron gates were installed to secure the tombs and prevent further vandalism and robbery from which they had unfortunately suffered. The 1997 season saw preliminary work, when conservators began to analyze the nature of the conservation problems existing in the tombs and develop a protocol for treating them. In the 1998 season, attention was focused mainly in the late Ramesside tomb of Hormose and the early New Kingdom tomb of Djehuty and the results far exceeded our expectations.



Before and after: cleaning of the tomb of Hormose revealed the skill of the craftsmen and their sophisticated use of color

The tomb of Hormose, the First Prophet of Horus of Nekhen, takes pride of place in the Burg el Hammam, or Pigeon Hill. Hormose's tomb is one of only a few Dynasty 20 tombs known, making it extremely important in our understanding and documentation of this somewhat shadowy period of Egyptian history. Although it is the largest tomb on the hill and commands the best view, the sandstone into which it was cut is amongst the poorest. Faults and fissures were already apparent when the tomb was built and were later filled in with plaster by the ancient masons. These measures, however, have not stood the test of time and gaps in the ceiling and walls of the tomb have allowed the ingress of both rain water and a large and fearless colony of bats which have caused substantial damage to the decorated plaster. Our first priority was to plug these holes, a task to which Joe Majer, our construction supervisor, devoted his expertise with great success.



The Hand of the Master Revealed, or, An Ancient Nose Job.

Once secured, the problems of conserving the finely painted plaster of the tomb's walls could be tackled. The painted plaster required a variety of approaches, as it exhibited several types of deterioration. Thick layers of mud and animal dung covered the lower levels of the walls and very tenacious sooty black material, probably the result of fires lit in the tomb by inhabitants, both ancient and modern, badly obscured the details and the colors of the paintings. It was difficult to see much detail under the soot even with one's face right against the wall.

Various tests had been made during the 1997 season to see what could be used to remove this soot, keeping in mind that Egyptian wall paintings are very different from, and are more delicate than, European-style fresco paintings. Fresco paintings are done on wet lime plaster and the pigment materials chemically bind with the plaster as it dries. Egyptian paintings were done on gypsum plaster after it had dried, and there-



The deft hand of the master: toe lengthening.

fore tempera or secco paintings, which simply lie on top of the surface but are not chemically bonded to it. Such painting is much more delicate and easily damaged or erased, especially as the Egyptian pigments are water soluble.



An elegant lady in the tomb of Hormose.

We had decided on a poultice of ammonium carbonate, EDTA, and carboxymethylcellulose dissolved in distilled water. This was brushed over the surface, covered with plastic so that it would not dry out too quickly, and left for 20-30 minutes. The plastic was then carefully peeled back so as not to dislodge any of the loose paint or plaster and the wall gently washed down to remove the poulticing chemicals. In this way, most, if not all, of the sooty stain was lifted and removed.

The results were dramatic. The cleaned portions of the paintings were as different from the uncleaned as day is from night, revealing details of the artist's hand we had never hoped we could recover. For example, who would have imagined that as one of the elegant ladies approaching a table laden with offerings reappeared from beneath the grime, close inspection would reveal that the line of her toe had been changed and lengthened after the master artist had come through and corrected the initial drawing. Likewise, the master's deft touch

was responsible for instant weight loss, thinning her thighs and adjusting her feminine proportions. Another lady received cosmetic surgery when her overly aquiline profile was redrafted into a more refined visage.

The cleaning also revealed a very sophisticated use of color in this tomb. The combinations of colors, one applied over the other, provide an attractive range of pinks, beiges and creams. This is especially clear on an offering table which sprang to life from beneath the gloom. It testifies to the high level of the artistic capability of the craftsmen, who, it seems, may not have been local talent but imported perhaps from the Great Temple of Amun at Karnak where the family of Hormose's wife was very highly placed. In fact, the majority of ancestors shown in the tomb are not from the family of Hormose, but from that of his wife, a woman who seems to have been at the forefront in the growth of women's religious and secular power during the Late Period in Egypt. We hope to learn more about this process and her status as more of this important tomb is cleaned.

Conservation work in the tomb of Djehuty also succeeded in revealing some of its secrets. Although carved inscriptions, including the damaged biographical inscription, had appeared to be its only decoration, when conservator Lamia Hadidi began cleaning what looked to be plain white walls, details not seen before appeared like magic. It had seemed that all of the paint in this tomb had disappeared, we now suspect that an interaction of the thin wall plaster and the binder making up the paint caused the loss of color. When the walls were carefully moistened with distilled water (by gentle patting with wet cotton balls or with a fine mist) the invisible reappeared.

The first to appear was Osiris seated on a throne, then a complete figure of the goddess of the West with a falcon on her head; the colors red, green, yellow and white were still discernible, but only when the wall was moistened. This phenomenon, known as color saturation, is commonly seen whenever a surface is dampened with any liquid, as the liquid changes both color saturation and the refractive index of the underlying traces of paint. However, once the water has evaporated, in just

a minute or two, the figures disappear almost completely. Because we simply patted the walls with wet cotton balls or lightly sprayed the areas with



Lamia Hadidi cleaning a tomb.

Restorers piece together ancient Egyptian statue

Mahmoud Kassem
Reuters

An ancient statue of two Egyptian gods, smashed by robbers centuries ago and now painstakingly reassembled, went on display in the Egyptian Museum recently.

Culture Minister Farouk Hosni unveiled the four meter tall statue of Amun and Mut after nine months of restoration sponsored by the United States Agency for International Development.

Eighteenth dynasty ruler Djoserkheprure Horemheb (1348-1320 BC) had the statue built in the Temple of Karnak in Luxor, the southern capital of ancient Egypt.

The statue of the two gods, associated in ancient Egyptian religion with

the act of creation, has not been seen intact since it was destroyed in the Middle Ages, possibly so that its stone could be used as building material.

Project director Hourig Sourouzian said plans cherished by successive museum curators in Cairo to rebuild the statue had previously been foiled because key pieces were missing.

"It took years of sifting through boxes in the cellar of museums in Cairo and Luxor until we finally found the missing pieces in 1994," Sourouzian said. "We have now accounted for about 80 percent of the decorated surface."

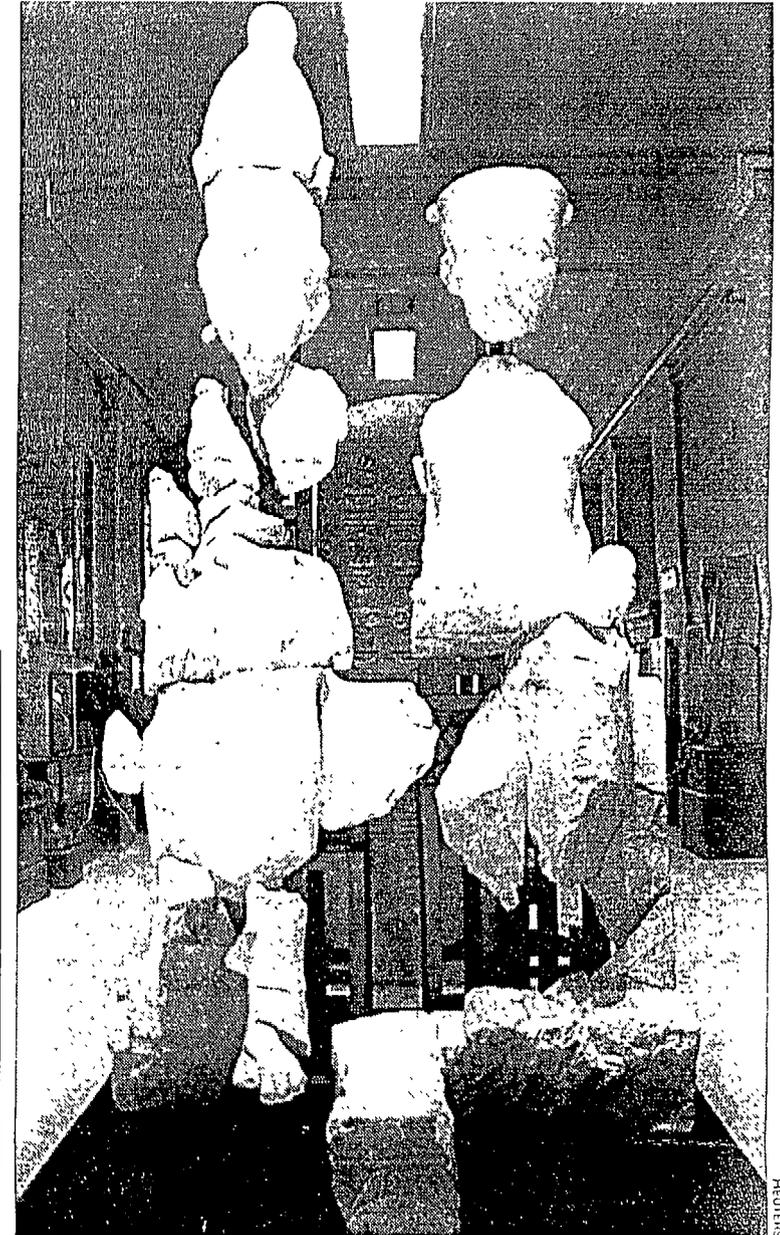
A team of 22 conservationists cleaned pieces of the two gods, depicted sitting side by side on a large throne, before reassembling the statue. Sourouzian said 78 of the more than 200 fragments found had been pieced together.

"Assembling the statue was like a jigsaw puzzle," said conservationist Theo Gayer-Anderson. "A really tough one, because all the pieces were originally black, and dusty and covered in sulfate."

"Some pieces still remain missing, but we have used modern methods of reconstructing without filling in with plaster so we can add them on when we find them," he said.

Mut's head was discovered in Luxor in 1870 by Egypt's first French director of antiquities, Auguste Mariette. It has been on display in the Egyptian Museum since 1902.

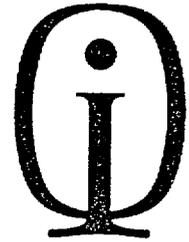
"Her face was on display but floating free from any of the other fragments," said Robert Vincent, director of the American Egyptian Antiquities Project. "She was disembodied and so it was nice to join her back together again."



It took a while, but everything's almost pieced together again.



CHICAGO HOUSE BULLETIN



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THE 1998 – 1999 SEASON AT CHICAGO HOUSE

By W. Raymond Johnson, Field Director

On April 15, 1999, the Epigraphic Survey successfully completed its seventy-fifth six-month field season. The documentation and conservation efforts of the Survey during this anniversary year were concentrated in the precincts of Medinet Habu and Luxor Temple. In the Eighteenth Dynasty Amun Temple at Medinet Habu the inking and collating of drawings continued in the painted chapel of Hatshepsut and Tuthmosis III, and conservation was continued on the rooftop over the sanctuaries. The inscribed southern well of Ramesses III was completely photographed, and testing was done to determine the extent of the damage to the decorated wall surfaces. Across the river at Luxor Temple reference photography and statue cleaning continued in the Colonnade Hall, and conservation was resumed on the block fragments in the southeast blockyard. The Survey's latest volume, and a monument in itself, *Reliefs and Inscriptions at Luxor Temple Volume 2: The Facade, Portals, Upper Register Scenes, Columns, Marginalia, and Statuary in the Colonnade Hall*, OIP 116, was published in the fall to great acclaim. And finally, one of our most distinguished visitors in Luxor this season was the First Lady of the United States, Hillary Rodham Clinton.

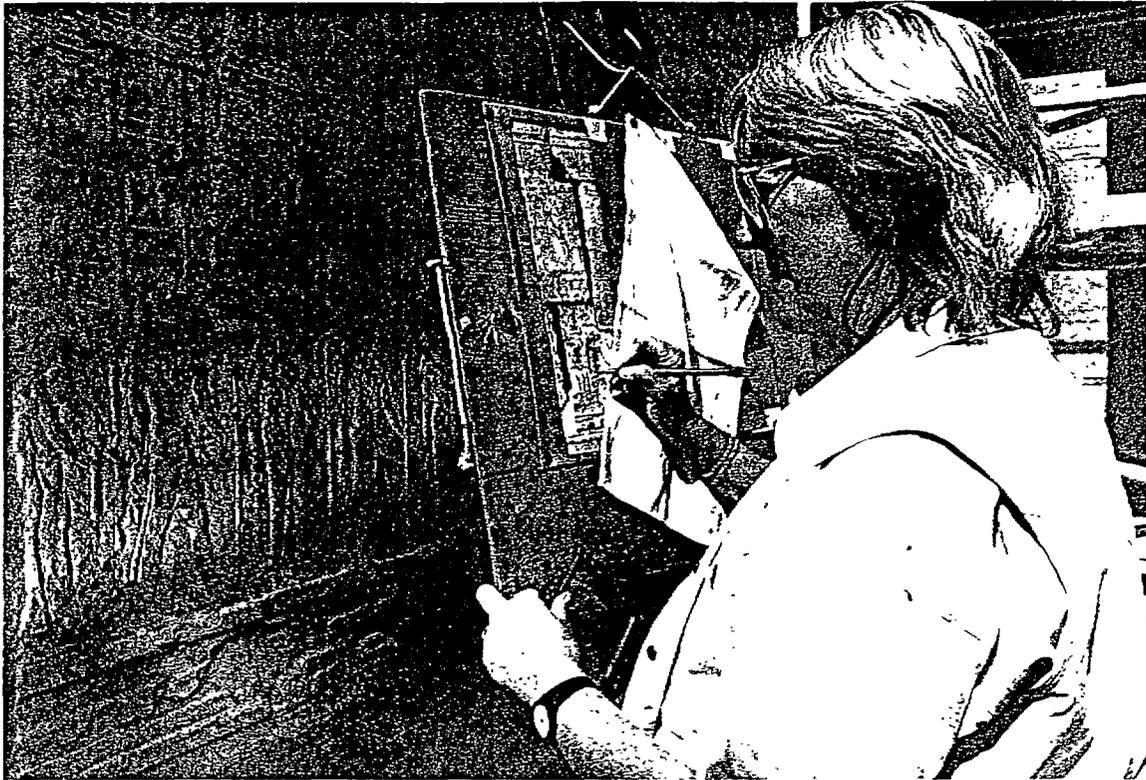
The Eighteenth Dynasty Temple at Medinet Habu

From October 15, 1998 to April 15, 1999 the Epigraphic Survey staff of artists and epigraphers continued penciling, inking, and correcting facsimile drawings of the painted reliefs in the small temple of Amun, on the pillars that surround the bark sanctuary, and on the bark sanctuary itself. Four new staff members were trained on-site: two epigraphers, Oriental Institute graduate students Hrach Papazian and J. Brett McClain; and two artists, Bernice Williams (wife of Senior Epigrapher Ted Castle) and Carol Abraczinskas. I am pleased to report that all four are returning for the 1999 – 2000 season. Eleven drawings were penciled at the wall by artists Sue Osgood, Margaret De Jong, Bernice, and Carol, mostly in preparation for work over the summer. Twenty-nine drawings were checked at the wall by epigraphers Ted Castle, Debbie Darnell, Hrach, Brett, and the art staff during the course of the season, and seven drawings await the final Director's Check. The drawings of the painted chapels of Hatshepsut and Tuthmosis III, the earliest portion of the temple, and their facade have now been successfully completed, and await one final paint colla-

tion after the reliefs have been completely cleaned. They will be published in the first volume projected for the small temple of Amun at Medinet Habu. The second volume will be devoted to the Thutmocide bark sanctuary area and miscellaneous graffiti. The third volume will document the temple's twenty-fifth Dynasty, "Kushite" additions, while a final volume will be dedicated to the Ptolemaic and Roman additions. This season Staff Photographer Yarko Kobylecky, assisted by Ellie Smith, completed the photography of the west interior wall of the bark sanctuary and the inscribed ceiling blocks for the second volume.

The 1998 – 1999 season saw the third year of a five-year grant generously approved by the Supreme Council of Antiquities and the Egyptian Antiquities Project of the American Research Center in Egypt for conservation of the Eighteenth Dynasty Temple complex at Medinet Habu. This season's conservation work focused on the rooftop of the Thutmocide temple, inside the central painted chapel and the northern "King's Chapel," the south exterior wall of the bark sanctuary, the northern ambulatory of the bark sanctuary, and the north Ptolemaic wing.

Stone cutter Dany Roy worked from January 15 to April 15 and resumed the roof restoration begun last season. He continued to carefully clean all of the cracks between the stone roof blocks with a compressor and vacuum cleaner and sealed the roof blocks over the bark sanctuary with a mortar compound tempered with crushed brick, a technique utilized in restoration work at Karnak and approved by the Supreme Council of Antiquities and the Egyptian Antiquities Project. On the north side of the sanctuary area, Dany restored and replaced thirteen roof block slabs originally dating from the time of Ptolemy VIII, removed during restoration work earlier this century and not replaced. He also identified three original stone slabs in the debris on the roof and put them back in their original positions. The new roof blocks were obtained from the same quarry as the original blocks, Gebel Silsileh, and were custom-cut and shaped by Dany based on a photograph of the roof taken in the thirties and published in U. Hölscher, et al., *The Excavation of Medinet Habu 2, The Temples of the Eighteenth Dynasty*, OIP 41 (Chicago, 1939), page 8, figure 7. Sincerest thanks are extended to François Larché, Director of the Franco-Egyptian Center at Karnak for expediting the acquisition of the sandstone. The replacement of the roof blocks restores an ancient



Artist Margaret De Jong penciling in the small Amun temple, Medinet Habu. Photo by Sue Lezon

drainage channel which directs water off the roof through a Ptolemaic Period rainspout, thereby ensuring the protection of the decorated rooms below from future rainstorms. Dany also recut and replaced six Ptolemaic roofblocks over the facade of the sanctuary entrance and three more above the bark sanctuary south wall, thereby eliminating two additional areas of water leakage. In all he relaid twenty-five stone blocks, cutting and shaping twenty-two new stones from scratch.

Egyptologist/artist Christina Di Cerbo continued to measure and draw all of the bark sanctuary roofblocks, and plotted all of the details on a master plan of the entire Eighteenth Dynasty Temple roof. She extended her plan this season to include the Kushite pylons and Ptolemaic additions to the Eighteenth Dynasty Temple, and plotted all of the traces of now missing architectural elements from those structures where they joined the Eighteenth Dynasty Temple roof. Photographer Yarko Kobylecky continued his reference photography of the roof areas before, during, and after cleaning and infilling.

This season saw the inauguration of a new phase of the Eighteenth Dynasty Temple conservation program. Painting and stone conservator Lotfi Hassan, whose previous work experience includes cleaning the tomb of Ramesses II's queen Nefertari with the Getty Conservation Institute, began the careful cleaning of the painted reliefs in the Eighteenth Dynasty Temple sanctuary from October 15, 1998 to January 15, 1999, and completed about 90% of the north interior wall of the central room. This is an area where incursions of rainwater in the mid-nineties had activated the migration of salts trapped in

the walls, staining the reliefs. Lotfi was able to remove all of the surface salt, along with a fair amount of soot and dirt. The phases of the conservation process were

1. Cleaning, manual and chemical
2. Desalination
3. Consolidation of the color layers and stone degradation surface
4. Repointing of the missing parts and micro and macro cracks
5. Final protection of the wall paintings' surface with acrylic resin

Lotfi expanded his operation late in December to include the exterior south wall of the bark sanctuary where rainwashed mud from the roof obscured some of the reliefs. This mud has now been removed, allowing artist Sue Osgood to transfer newly exposed details to the drawings-in-progress of those wall sections. From March 15 to April 15 Lotfi removed the salt from the upper, south interior wall in the "King's Chapel," stained during the same rainfall, and tested different mortar infills between the stone wall courses.

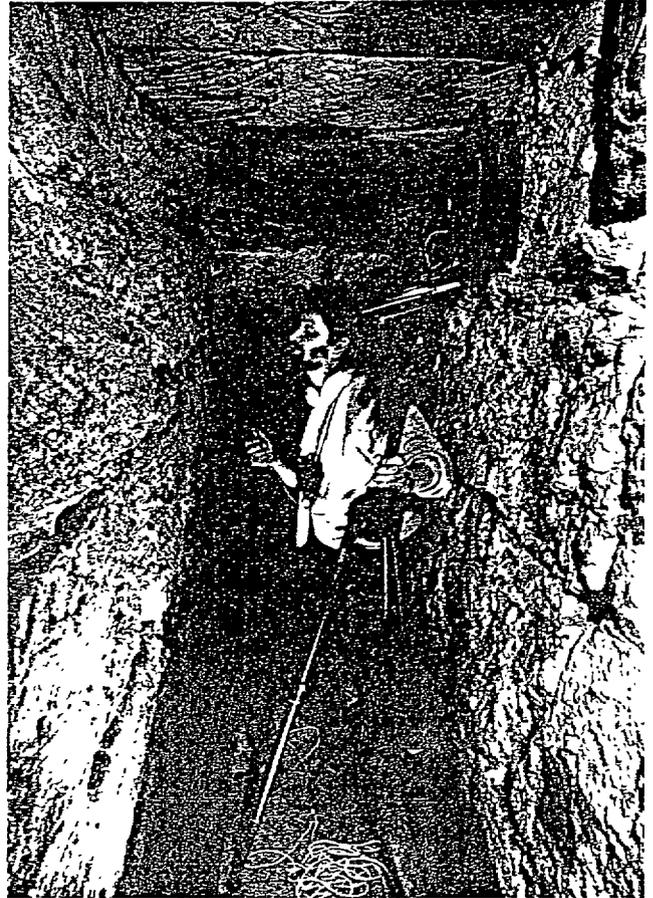
Lotfi also consolidated with the silicate Wacker OH some of the large sandstone floor blocks of the small Amun temple exhibiting signs of decay, one in the northern ambulatory of the bark sanctuary, one in the eastern ambulatory, and three in the Ptolemaic wing addition to the north of the bark sanctuary. This work will continue next season.

The Southern Well of Ramesses III

In January large-format photography of the inscribed southern well of Ramesses III, one of the priorities for this season, was launched in earnest. This well is one of two located on either side to the south and north of the mortuary temple used in Ramesses III's time to obtain sacred groundwater for purification rituals. The preserved area of the southern well consists of a short entrance corridor, an inscribed descending stepped passage to the right, and a third descending corridor to the left, now completely underwater. The last corridor leads to a submerged doorway which opens into the well shaft itself, which is open to the sky. While the carved decoration of the submerged corridor, although inaccessible at present, is in an excellent state of preservation, the reliefs of the first descending corridor, only partly submerged, are completely covered with salt, in some places up to three centimeters thick, with much of the present decoration now extremely difficult to see.

Due to the confined space within the well, the fragile nature of the reliefs on the walls, and a water level more than a meter and a half higher than in the thirties, the logistics of photographing what is left of the interior decoration (Nile gods bringing sacred water up from the well, and purification scenes) were difficult to say the least. To facilitate the photography, Senior Epigrapher Ted Castle, with the assistance of Chicago House carpenter Shayib Kyrollos Abadir, designed and built a series of wooden "pier" sections that extend into the main descending passage just above water level and provide a firm footing for the camera tripod and photographer. These sections can be dismantled and removed when the well is not being worked on.

The east wall of the entryway, on one's immediate left, is in an active state of decay. The middle course of the wall is being squeezed between the weight of the upper course and the unyielding lower course, causing the upper lintel stone to split in half, and the whole left side of the well entrance to subside. Stabilization of this area is now being undertaken with the kind assistance of the local Supreme Council of Antiquities Gurna Inspectorate. Three large-format negatives of the well's interior taken between 1939 and 1946/47 were located in our Photo Archives, and one of the shots shows the interior east wall, now damaged, and the exterior lintel block, before serious subsidence had occurred. These photos will supplement a complete set of 35mm reference photos taken by former Staff Photographer Tom Van Eynde in 1986 that preserve numerous details subsequently destroyed by the salting of the walls. The 35mm negatives, already scanned, will be joined into full wall montages using Photoshop software. Both sets of earlier photographs will be compared to the large-format photographs generated this season to determine the rate of decay of the structure from the thirties till now.



Photographer Yarko Kobylecky photographing in the southern well of Ramesses III. Photo by Sue Lezon

When Yarko and Ellie Smith were finished with the arduous task of photographing every square centimeter of accessible, decorated wall surface in the well, a truly noble accomplishment, conservator Lotti Hassan did some sample cleaning of the salt-covered, inscribed wall surfaces to determine how much stone was preserved beneath the thick layer of salt. He found differing amounts of preservation in different areas: on some wall surfaces the inscribed stone was intact beneath the salt, in others only partly preserved, and in others completely missing, with the salt alone preserving an impression of the carved decoration. We will conduct more tests and cleaning next season in an effort to lessen the corrosive action of the salt on the walls.

Luxor Temple

The Survey's latest and long-awaited volume, *Reliefs and Inscriptions at Luxor Temple Volume 2: The Facade, Portals, Upper Register Scenes, Columns, Marginalia, and Statuary in the Colonnade Hall*, OIP 116, was finished and published this past fall. This volume completes the Epigraphic Survey's documentation of the standing wall remains of the great Colonnade Hall at Luxor Temple, begun at the height of Egypt's empire period by Amenhotep III and finished by Tutankhamun, a magnificent and increasingly fragile structure James Henry Breasted would be pleased; in correspondence dating from 1932 he expressed the wish to the first Chicago House Field Director, Harold Nelson, that the Colonnade Hall be included in the publication program of the Epigraphic Survey because of its condition, already precarious even then. We have tried to make up for lost time, and are very proud of this milestone in the history of the Epigraphic Survey, but we are not entirely finished there yet; a third volume in the series will be dedicated to upper-register decorated stone fragment groups, the analysis of which is still in progress, and an architectural study, which will resume in a year.

This season marked the fourth year of a five-year grant generously approved by the Supreme Council of Antiquities and the Egyptian Antiquities Project of the American Research Center in Egypt for the treatment and consolidation of deteriorating decorated stone fragments at Luxor Temple. Conservator John Stewart, Ph.D., returned for a week in January to consult with Hiroko Kariya in the continuation of the project, while Hiroko worked from January 11 to February 13. All one thousand, five hundred and forty fragments recorded on our computer database were monitored for stability. Seventy-four sandstone blocks were physically strengthened with the Wacker OH consolidant in the expanded outdoor laboratory. One hundred eighty-four fragments are currently sheltered in a special, covered platform, or on covered tables and shelves which protects them from rainfall and wind erosion. Trial desalination was performed on four fragments, which included testing of various poulticing materials. Salt crystals found on twenty-four fragments were sampled and identified.

This season Chicago House received permission from the Supreme Council of Antiquities to expand the Epigraphic Survey Fragment Project to include all of the decorated stone fragments stored around Luxor Temple. During the first half of the season a prefabricated conservation laboratory/office was constructed in the Epigraphic Survey blockyard to facilitate the treatment of the deteriorating fragments and to function as the "command center" for the new operation. Chicago House residents Helen Jacquet-Gordon and her husband Jean Jacquet, Tina Di Cerbo, and Hratch Papazian carefully surveyed the entire area along the east side of the Luxor Temple precinct. Tina then generated an excellent map of the area which conservators John Stewart, Hiroko Kariya, and I used to plot the expanded Epigraphic Survey blockyard and fragment treatment area. During the latter part of the season four new, damp-coursed storage mastabas made of baked brick (three twelve meters in length and one seven meters in length) were constructed south of the conservation lab, extending the

blockyard to the south; and six were constructed in the lower area to the north, east of the Amenhotep III sun court (fifteen meters long each). Special thanks go to Engineer Mohsen Fahmy Seweha for supervising their construction. As fragments are sorted, photographed, and moved next season and in seasons to come, more mastabas will be built in both areas, and also to the west and north of the temple. The long, meter-wide storage platforms will house fragments sorted by style and content carefully stacked by category with all carved surfaces visible for later documentation and study. Deteriorating fragments will be isolated and placed on special mastabas for future consolidation. It is the goal of Chicago House to eventually raise all of the fragments off the ground in order to protect the fragile material from the corrosive groundwater, and to develop a special database for the entire assemblage.

In mid-January stone conservator Ellen Pearlstein returned to resume the cleaning of the colossal indurated-limestone statues in the Colonnade Hall, thanks to the continued generosity of friend and colleague Dr. Marjorie Fisher. Ellen concentrated this season on the small seated dyad of Amun and Mut on the east side of the hall and will finish the cleaning of it and all three groups next year.

Continuous, above-average levels of salt-laden groundwater at Luxor Temple (and Karnak) and unusual humidity fluctuations during the last two seasons have resulted in dramatically increased salt efflorescence on the walls of the Colonnade Hall, and noticeable disintegration of the column bases. This is a truly alarming situation, in that the disintegration of some lower stone courses is now irreversible, and bodes ill for the future of the monument(s) if these conditions persist. Photographers Yarko Kobylecky and Sue Lezon took additional reference photographs in the hall this season to compare with earlier photographs of the same areas to help us gauge the rate of decay.

After long, onsite discussions with me and American Research Center in Egypt Director Mark Easton, the Honorable Daniel C. Kurtzer, US Ambassador to Egypt, sponsored an historic meeting on April 16 at the US Embassy residence to address the water and conservation problems in Luxor and to discuss possible solutions. Present at the meeting were the Director General of the Supreme Council of Antiquities Dr. Gaballa Ali Gaballa, Swedish Ambassador Sylvén, Bengt Hallmanns and Magda Houta of the Swedish engineering firm SWECO International, French Cultural Counselor Vincent Grimaud; Dr. Nicholas Grimal, Director of the French Archaeological Institute; Dr. François Larché, Director of the Franco-Egyptian Center at Karnak, Mark Silverman and Peter Argo of USAID; Dr. Chip Vincent, Director of the Egyptian Antiquities Project; and I, representing the Epigraphic Survey. The consensus was that we must all work together, but we must begin now, because time has almost run out. A second meeting was held on May 14 in Luxor with the Governor of Luxor and the Ministry of Agriculture to discuss drainage measures that might be taken to lower the water table and slow down the decay. It was decided that engineering studies, sponsored by the Swedes, will begin immediately, and will include both Karnak and Luxor Temples. It is only a first step, but it is a



Artist Bernice Williams and resident Egyptologist Henri Riad taking a stroll in the Chicago House garden. Photo by Yarko Kobylecky

crucial one, and we owe a great debt to Ambassador Kurtzer for getting things started at this critical time.

Chicago House

1999 began on an upbeat note with the arrival on January 1 of photographer/Photo Archivist Sue Lezon and assistant Ellie Smith, who jointly oversaw the Photo Archives for the rest of the season. Sue immediately resumed the monitoring and duplication of deteriorating nitrate negatives (thirty-nine were duplicated this year), and both worked on refining our new Photo Archives database, designed by John Sanders and Jason Ur. Sue brought with her a special gift, generously donated by our friend and colleague Dr. Fred Giles: a Microtek Scanmaker 5, a 36 BIT reflexive and transmissive flatbed scanner with an 8x14 inch scanning area. This remarkable

machine scans large and small format negatives as well as opaque photographs at 1000-2000 dpi, and Fred's magnanimity has allowed us to begin the scanning of the 17,000 negatives in our Photo Archives for burning onto CD-ROM for inclusion in our database a year ahead of schedule. Thus we are pleased to announce the inauguration of the Chicago House Imaging Center, an exciting new extension of our Photo Archives, with sincerest thanks to Fred for opening that door for us. The Franco-Egyptian Center at Karnak has agreed to assist us in our task, having just finished the scanning of their own Photo Archives, and Sue will be coordinating the scanning in both places. So far 248 4x5" Kushite block fragment negatives, 1636 5x7" Luxor Temple block fragment negatives, and 30 8x10" negatives have been scanned and burned onto CDs. By the end of the summer it is expected that the entire 5x7" holdings of the Epigraphic Survey will be scanned (painstakingly coordinated by Ellie), while the wholesale scanning of our 8x10" negative archive will begin next year. This year the only 8x10" negatives scanned were of the Ramesses III southern well, for computer joining and analysis starting this summer. In addition to the scanning, this season Yarko produced 102 large-format negatives, and the photographic team generated 148 sets of 35-mm negatives, all of which were carefully numbered and registered by Ellie.

During the first part of December Senior Epigrapher Ted Castle, when not "at the wall," oversaw the long-overdue review and updating of the Chicago House "Black Book," our epigraphic operations manual, assisted by artists Sue Osgood, Margaret De Jong, and me. Initially written as a guide for the epigraphic copying and collating process at the beginning of our operation in Luxor, many of the procedures and conventions outlined in the book have been improved upon and refined considerably in recent years. Its updating was deemed particularly appropriate at this time, when so many new staff members are being trained and our whole operation in Luxor is being reviewed and reevaluated as the new millennium approaches: it will be a valuable reference work for all staff members, new and old alike, and I daresay we will always be tweaking it, since the refining process is never-ending.

Epigrapher and Chicago House librarian Debbie Darnell continued to supervise the running of the library this season and registered 211 new acquisitions, upping our total holdings to 17,807 volumes and 410 journals/series. In January Assistant to the Director Carlotta Maher returned to Luxor for a two-month stint of her ever-gracious brand of development work, which included numerous stimulating library talks to interested individuals and groups, and hundreds of hand-written thank-you notes to you, our loyal supporters. Her personal touch is infinitely appreciated by all, and we are enormously grateful for every second she can be with us, not to mention all the work she does for Chicago House back home. In February Oriental Institute Visiting Committee member Nan Ray returned and kindly assisted Debbie in the library. Administrator Ahmed Harfoush in the main office, and Carlotta with the development work, and was joined by her husband David later in the month, who helped staff engineer Jamie Riley with the house maintenance: they are a wonderful team. Oriental Insti-

tute Visiting Committee member Mary Grimshaw joined the Chicago House staff for a month in February/March, generously assisted where needed in the library and Photo Archives, and kept resident Egyptologist Dr. Henri Riad in line at the dominoes table after dinner. She is a very special addition to the house, and her help is very much appreciated. Our beloved Dr. Henri oversaw the library when Debbie was in the field, and continued to work through the Labib Habachi photographic archive, patiently identifying, sorting, and labeling hundreds of priceless photographs. Friends Helen and Jean Jacquet continued to lend their expertise where needed, whether it was surveying in the Luxor Temple blockyard, helping monitor the library, identifying photographs in the Habachi archive with Dr. Henri, or simply sharing their knowledge and experience with anyone who needed it. My heartfelt thanks are extended to all of our talented, dedicated friends and helpers. Without them, Chicago House wouldn't operate even a fraction as smoothly.

I am pleased to announce that Moataz Abo Shadi, CPA, who for the last two years, with the accounting firm of Coopers and Lybrand, guided us in putting together our new Financial Management System, in March joined the Chicago House team as Finance Director. He and accountant Marlin Nassim will now oversee all of the accounting for our Luxor operation, which will greatly ease the burden of the Chicago House

Administrator (and Field Director!). Next season his wife Dalia and new baby Seif will join him at Chicago House during the season. We extend to Moataz and his family the warmest welcome, and look forward to many years of happy accounting together.

We were also very grateful to have engineer Jamie Riley return for the last half of the season to assist long-time Chief Engineer Saleh Shahat and me with the never-ending maintenance of the Chicago House house and grounds. This year, in a concerted effort to make the facility ship-shape for the new millennium, we replaced the plumbing in five suites of rooms in the residence, repaired and repainted the eastern dining room wall, retiled the residence courtyard, and sealed the roof against rainwater over the north and south library wings. With the help of our friend, engineer Girgis Samwel, Jamie supervised the roof work, the installation of a new kitchen drain system, and the repair of solar water heating units over the back service area and the darkroom. He also coordinated the laying of a new, multiple-line telephone cable through the garden, encased in an insulated pipe for protection and buried a meter deep, which will make telecommunications even easier and faster for us now. It is great to have someone around who can deal with these tasks so well, and his presence is much appreciated by us all, but especially by me!



Epigraphers J. Brett McClain and Ted Castle collating in the small Amun temple, Medinet Habu. Photo by Sue Lezon

December also saw the revival of the bi-annual spraying of the Chicago House grounds against insects, something that had not been done for a decade, and the lack of which had resulted in the decimation of the flower beds, particularly our famous rose bushes. Fifty-three new rose bushes were brought in to restore the old rose beds; by March they were gushing with blossoms. The remnants of the old bushes are perking up as well, blossoming like crazy and showing excellent signs of recovery.

Tourism was definitely "up" this year, and Chicago House saw many friends, colleagues, and guests stop by. In October Susan Allen from the Metropolitan Museum of Art stayed several nights with us after her season at Dashur, and reminisced about her earlier years here with husband and former Chicago House epigrapher Jim Allen. Bill Harms, Senior News Writer with the University of Chicago and good friend to the Oriental Institute, stopped by over Halloween to see our work, the result of which was an excellent article on our Medinet Habu work published in the February 1999 issue of the University of Chicago Magazine. Oriental Institute Visiting Committee member Dr. Marjorie Fisher paid us several pleasant visits during the season, including Halloween, while former Chicago House epigrapher and administrator Peter Piccione and his Theban Tomb Project crew (including wife Myrna and former Chicago House photographer Danny Lanka) came by often while working on the West Bank. Friends of Chicago House tour veteran Tom Granger came by to do research on his Masters thesis for Yale University, and Dick Cook from the Virginia Museum of Art in Richmond came by to prepare for the Hildesheim show of Egyptian art, scheduled for the Richmond museum this summer. Former Epigraphic Survey Director Chuck Van Siclen very kindly presented Chicago House with a copy of *Studies in Honour of Martha Rhoads Bell*, which he has recently published. On October 31, Chicago House hosted its annual Halloween costume party for all of our friends and expeditions in the area, always a popular event.

The beginning of November saw the return to Chicago House of the Demotic Dictionary's Steve Vinson and colleague Alejandro Botta for a visit, followed soon after by the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Dorothea Arnold, Malcolm Wiener, and former staff member Jim Allen, whose wife Susan had visited earlier. Colleague and roving reporter for the Egypt Exploration Society *Egyptian Archaeology Bulletin* Lisa Giddy stayed with us a week in the middle of the month. November 17 marked the first year anniversary of the Hatshepsut massacre, and wreaths were laid at Deir el-Bahri very quietly that morning by the Japanese and Swiss Ambassadors. That same day US Consul Roger Pierce and Embassy Security Deputy Director Scott Gallo dropped by Chicago House for tea. They were on an inspection tour of the major archaeological sites in the Nile Valley to check on security arrangements, and reported that they were very pleased with what they saw.

Thanksgiving Day dinner guests included Geoffrey Martin, Peter Lacovara, and Nick Reeves (in town starting up their exciting new Valley of the Kings project); Nigel Strudwick and his Theban tomb crew; the Antiquities Development

Project's Bojana Mojsov who was working in the tomb of Sety I; United States Embassy Public Affairs Officer Bill and Cary Cavness and their two daughters; old friends David and Diana Lipsey; and American Research Center in Egypt Cairo Director Mark Easton. On the last day of the month we had a site visit from the director of the Egyptian Antiquities Project Chip Vincent, Assistant Director Jarek Dobrolowski, and Antiquities Development Project Director Michael Jones, plus thirty members of the United Nations Donor Agency Group, who came to see the documentation and conservation work at the small Amun temple.

In December former Chicago House staff member John Darnell joined wife Debbie for a month of intensive western desert-road surveying, exploration, and documentation, for which Debbie's time, one of the Chicago House Land Rovers, and the use of our facility were donated by Chicago House in support of that important project. Barbara Adams and her University College London crew stopped by Chicago House after a month at Hierakonpolis on their way back to England for the holidays. In late December Colin Hope stayed with us for a few days on his way to Dakhla Oasis and assisted the Jacquets in the analysis of pottery found in their north Karnak excavations. The holiday season was filled with friends and holiday cheer. Dinner guests included Boyo Ockinga's Australian team working on late Ramesside tombs across the river, Nigel and Helen Strudwick and their Theban tomb team, Ted and Lyla Brock, working on the reassembly of stone sarcophagi in the tomb of Ramesses VI, and Rosalind and Jac Janssen. Stopping by in mid-month were old friends Eleanor and Richard Johnson, followed shortly by their newlywed daughter Betsy and husband Jason Crook. Our New Year's Eve celebration was small but merry, the only guests being Ros and Jac Janssen. The kitchen crew outdid themselves with a five-course dinner followed by dancing in the tea room to some of Breasted's old 78 rpm records, a fitting way to ring in the new year.

January 1 also saw the continued steady influx of other friends and colleagues into Luxor. Bruce Williams stopped by to borrow our Nubian Expedition theodolite for his work at Hierakonpolis with the Penn State team. Former Epigraphic Survey Director Chuck Van Siclen and former Oriental Institute Museum Curator Tom Logan arrived to resume their excavations between the Eighth and Ninth Pylons at Karnak, and Betsy Bryan arrived with twelve students to conduct her final season's documentation work at the tomb of Suenmwet on the West Bank. A few days later American Research Center in Egypt Treasurer Charlie Herzer and his wife Adrienne stopped by for a visit and dinner, friends Renee Friedman and Will Schenck stopped briefly on their way down to Hierakonpolis to continue their work on the site, Berkeley's Candy Keller came by for a library tour with a large group from southern California, and former artist (now architect) Jay Heidel arrived for a two-week visit. On January 11 the US Ambassador to Egypt Daniel C. Kurtzer and his family arrived in Luxor to visit and see our work. As the Ambassador was observing Ramadan fasting, we gave them an *iftar* dinner at sundown on January 12, which was quite festive. I acted as their guide during their two days in Luxor, showing them our

work at Medinet Habu and Luxor Temple as well as other sites on both sides of the river and took special care to point out the signs of accelerating decay everywhere. Finally, at the end of the month former Chicago House staff member Carol Meyer returned to resume her work at Bir Umm Fawakhir in the Wadi Hammamat, with logistical support and food supplies contributed by Chicago House.

On Wednesday, January 27, Ambassador and Mrs. Kurtzer graciously hosted a reception at the US Embassy residence commemorating Chicago House's 75th anniversary. The event was timed to coincide with the arrival in Cairo of the University of Chicago Women's Board tour led by the Oriental Institute Museum Archivist John Larson and Director of Development Tim Cashion, and allowed us to inaugurate the celebrations in style with folks from back "home." Other guests included Oriental Institute Visiting Committee member Dr. Marjorie Fisher; USAID, American Research Center in Egypt, and Egyptian Antiquities Project Directors; and various Supreme Council of Antiquities and Embassy officials, corporate heads, and friends. Senior epigrapher Ted Castle, artist Bernice Williams, and epigrapher Hrach Papazian assisted Carlotta and me in representing Chicago House. Carlotta and I visited various Cairo corporations in our ongoing fundraising efforts, and while in Cairo I made the last payment on our renovation loan, another major milestone (and a terrific way to begin the new year!). We continued the 75th anniversary celebrations in Luxor by hosting the Women's Board tour at a reception, library talk, and dinner at Chicago House, where our guests were able to mingle and talk with the entire staff. That day I gave them a tour of Luxor Temple and the blockyard, while the next day Ted Castle gave them a tour of the small Amun temple at Medinet Habu and a closer look at our work.

On February 8 Chicago House hosted a reception and library talk for the American Research Center in Egypt conservation school led by Brooklyn Museum conservator Ellen Pearlstein (two weeks in Cairo, two weeks in Luxor). The sixteen Egyptian conservators were shown the fragment conservation work at the Luxor Temple blockyard by conservator Hiroko Kariya, the Colonnade Hall indurated limestone statue cleaning and restoration by Ellen herself, and the Medinet Habu small Amun temple relief cleaning by conservator Lotfi Hassan. On February 18 Chicago House hosted a reception and talk for the American Research Center in Egypt New York Chapter tour. Ted gave the group a site tour of Medinet Habu featuring the work of the Epigraphic Survey, and I gave them a tour of Luxor Temple and the work of the Survey there. In mid-February USAID Egypt Financial Director Shirley Hunter came down for a review of Chicago House's financial management system, and also to run in the annual Luxor Marathon with 15 other USAID members (Chicago House assisted with water along the West Bank race course). She had an excellent run, and I am pleased to say that we had an excellent review as well.

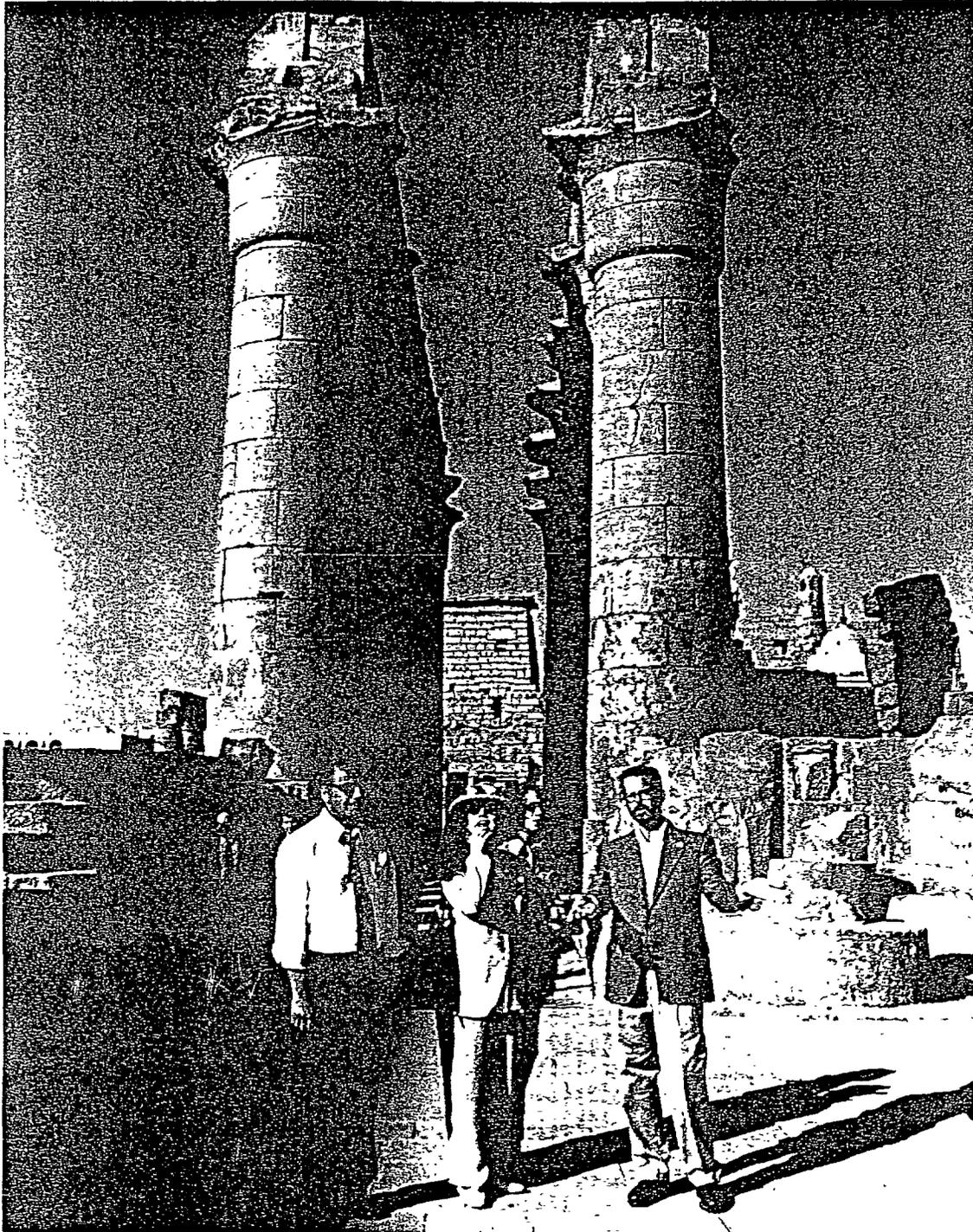
March was particularly noteworthy for friends who stopped by, although to our great disappointment beloved friend Barbara Mertz could not make it out this year (she swears she will make up for it next season, and we intend to

hold her to her promise) Chicago House hosted a reception and library talk for the Washington, DC chapter of the American Research Center in Egypt, guided by the University of Chicago's Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations Ph.D. candidate Nicole Hansen. KMT editor Dennis Forbes and photographer George Johnson stopped by on their annual pilgrimage to Luxor and its environs. Mark Lehner and his family were in Luxor during the first two weeks of the month shooting a second obelisk documentary, and were able to join us for a meal or two. Jason Ur spent a good week with us working on our Photo Archives database. Former Chicago House epigrapher Lorelei Corcoran stopped by on a tour, as well as friend Barbara Porter from the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Kaylin Goldstein (who very capably oversaw the Epigraphic Survey office at the Oriental Institute for a couple of winters while we were away) and her parents Iris and Paul Goldstein (Oriental Institute Visiting Committee) spent a very pleasant afternoon with us seeing our facility and the work at hand.

A most illustrious guest in March was the First Lady of the United States, Hillary Rodham Clinton, who visited Egypt with daughter Chelsea, and spent a total of two full days in Luxor. Preparations for this trip began in February, and continued all through March, as "pre-advance" and "advance" teams of White House and US Embassy staff descended on us for a seemingly endless round of itinerary planning and site walk-throughs. Right up to the day she arrived the itinerary was in flux, but after all the hair-raising preparations, the visit itself was surprisingly pleasant. The First Lady and Chelsea arrived midday on Tuesday, March 23, and I was among the official "greeters" at the airport, along with the Governor of Luxor General Selmy Selim, the American Ambassador to Egypt Daniel Kurtzer, and the head of the Supreme Council of Antiquities, Dr. Gaballa Ali Gaballa. Dr. Gaballa and I were her official guides during her Luxor stay, and that first afternoon we squired her, the US Ambassador, the Egyptian Minister of the Environment Dr. Nadia Makram Ebeid, and the head of USAID Egypt Richard Brown through the Luxor Museum of Art and Luxor Temple. Debbie Darnell led the White House staff on a separate tour behind us, while our friend the General Director for the West Bank, Sabry Abdel Aziz led the press corps.

Mrs. Clinton was clearly impressed with the extent, and scale, of Luxor's ancient remains. An avid preservationist herself, she was distressed by the signs of accelerating decay which are now visible everywhere, particularly in the Colonnade Hall. While at Luxor Temple I was able to point out the all-too-visible problems caused by Egypt's wetter climate, the high groundwater, and the resultant migration of salts trapped in the stone, all causing the bases of massive walls and columns to disintegrate. After visiting the Luxor Temple sanctuary, we paused beside the Epigraphic Survey blockyard with its thousands of decorated stone fragments, where I talked about our Egyptian Antiquities Project/USAID funded fragment documentation and conservation projects.

That evening I was invited by the First Lady to join her, Dr. Gaballa, Ambassador and Mrs. Kurtzer, several USAID officials, and the assembled White House Press Corps for an al



First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and daughter Chelsea flanked by Supreme Council of Antiquities Director General G.A. Gaballa and Chicago House Field Director Ray Johnson, Luxor Temple, March 23, 1999. Photo courtesy The White House

fresco dinner and round-table discussion about Luxor, its heritage, and its preservation problems. Dr. Gaballa opened with a talk about the significance of ancient Luxor, after which I spoke about the documentation work of the Oriental Institute at Chicago House, our history, present programs, and future plans. This led to an open discussion of the conservation

problems facing Luxor and all of Egypt, and what steps have been taken to alleviate some of those problems elsewhere, such as the US AID Old Cairo drainage project, which by lowering the water table has slowed down the deterioration process. It was such a stimulating discussion that the party only grudgingly broke up at midnight!

The next day we took the First Lady and Chelsea to the Valley of the Kings where Egyptian Antiquities Project Director Chip Vincent, Antiquities Development Project Director Michael Jones, Dr. Gaballa, and I showed them the tomb of Sety I and discussed its history and conservation problems. Then Dr. Gaballa and I took them to Tutankhamun's tomb, followed by the mortuary temple of Hatshepsut, and Nefertari's tomb in the Valley of the Queens. This in a motorcade 40 cars long, mind you. At about 1:30 the entire motorcade arrived at Chicago House, where we hosted a "private" sit-down buffet lunch for the First Lady, Chelsea, and forty assembled guests: the entire Chicago House staff, Dr. Gaballa, the Governor of Luxor, the Kurtzers, the Minister of the Environment, USAID officials, Kent and Susan Weeks, American Research Center in Egypt Director Mark Easton, Chip Vincent, Michael Jones, and Sabry Abdel Aziz. Credit must be given to the entire Chicago House staff for making the place shine, and the luncheon table glorious; everyone pitched in. Our kitchen staff, headed by chief cook Tayib Abdel Aziz Mohamed, truly outdid themselves, and Mrs. Clinton endeared herself to them forever by having her photo taken with them afterward in the courtyard. She said in a short speech at lunch that the Luxor trip was one revelation after another, chief among which was the University of Chicago's efforts in Luxor. She told us that she was tremendously moved by our dedication, enthusiasm, and passion for this preservation work, and was extremely proud that Americans were at the forefront of such work. After a group photo of the entire luncheon party, Carlotta and I led the First Lady, her entourage, and the press into the library for a half-hour briefing of our documentation work, projects, and goals, which was very well received. I owe a tremendous debt to Carlotta for returning to assist with this event; we could not have done it without her. After signing the guest book, picking up a "Chicago House: 75 Years" button, and accepting a "Lost Egypt" print as a memento of her visit from Carlotta and Sue Lezon (and Chicago House t-shirts), we departed with Mrs. Clinton and entourage for Karnak up the street. There we had a very pleasant, late-afternoon walk through the temple.

But that was not the end of the day. Later that evening at Luxor Temple, the Minister of Culture Farouk Hosny hosted a lavish banquet for the First Lady in the first court of Ramesses II. While a string quartet played in the southwest corner, and brilliantly lit 35-foot statues of Ramesses II gazed down on the assembled Egyptologists and dignitaries, Mrs. Clinton, Chelsea, and the Minister of Culture greeted each guest in a receiving line on the east side. Ten tables were set up along the west side of the court, and I had the pleasure of being seated with the First Lady, the Egyptian Ministers of Culture, Health, and the Environment, Mark Easton, Ambassador Kurtzer, Dr. Gaballa, and the Governor of Luxor. The next day, while her mother was giving speeches at the El-Karnak Clinic and a local school, I escorted Chelsea and White House Social Director Capricia Marshall to the West Bank for a tour of Medinet Habu, where Ted Castle, Margaret De Jong, and Lotfi Hassan showed them our epigraphic and conservation work. We then took in some private tombs, after which we drove back to the Luxor airport for their departure to Tunisia. Later that afternoon I returned to

Medinet Habu with new USAID Director Richard Brown for another important site visit before he returned to Cairo.

All in all it was a very stimulating visit, and the good will it generated was far-reaching and across the board. I truly believe that it was time very well spent, and that we were a credit to the Oriental Institute and the University of Chicago.

Finally, our 75th anniversary was celebrated with our friends and colleagues back home in Chicago on April 23, when I was honored to give the keynote address at the American Research Center in Egypt Fiftieth Annual Meeting, hosted by the Oriental Institute, entitled: "The Epigraphic Survey on the Occasion of its Seventy-fifth Anniversary." Most recently, on July 20, I spoke on the same topic to the University of Chicago Women's Board. There is much to be proud of in this anniversary year, but, as Breasted would remind us, there is still much to do. Chicago House must adapt to the rapidly changing conditions in Egypt by expanding its documentation and conservation programs in order to preserve what little is left, a goal well worth striving for. Here's to the challenge, the new millennium, and the next 75 years!

1998 - 1999 Staff

The professional staff this season, besides the Field Director, consisted of Ted Castle as Senior Epigrapher; Deborah Darnell as epigrapher and librarian; Hratch Papazian and J. Brett McClain as epigraphers, Susan Osgood, Tina Di Cerbo, Margaret De Jong, Bernice Williams, and Carol Abraczinskas as artists; Yarko Kobylecky and Susan Lezon as photographers; Ahmed Harfoush as administrator; Moataz Abo Shadi as Finance Director; Marlin Nassim as accountant; Jill Carlotta Maher as Assistant to the Director for Development, Elinor Smith, Nan Ray, and Mary Grimshaw as assistants for the photo archives and library; and Saleh Shahat Suleiman as Chief Engineer. Dr. Lotfi Hassan, Dr. John Stewart, Hiroko Kariya, and Dr. Ellen Pearlstein worked with us as stone conservators, and Dany Roy as stone cutter. Special thanks go to Dr. Henri Riad, Egyptologist in residence for the season, and to Drs. Helen and Jean Jacquet, who all shared their expertise generously. Numerous friends and members of the Supreme Council of Antiquities generously assisted us during our work this season, and to them we owe, as always, a special debt of thanks: Prof. Dr G. A. Gaballa, Director General. Dr. Mohamed el-Saghir, General Director of Pharaonic Monuments in the Nile Valley; Dr. Mohamed Nasr, General Director of Antiquities for Upper Egypt; Dr. Sabry Abdel Aziz, General Director for the West Bank of Luxor, and Mme. Nawal, Chief Inspector of Luxor Temple. Warmest thanks and best wishes to all.

Acknowledgements

As the old millennium ends and the new millennium fast approaches, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to you, the many friends of Chicago House, whose support has allowed our work to continue without interruption into the 21st century; we truly could not do it without you. Special thanks must go to the American Ambassador to Egypt, the Honorable Daniel Charles Kurtzer, and Sheila Kurtzer; Vincent Battle,

Deputy Chief of Mission of the US Embassy in Cairo; William Cavness, Janet Wilgus, and Haynes Mahoney of the US Embassy; Dick Brown, John Westley, Justin Doyle, Shirley Hunter, and Jean Durette of the United States Agency for International Development; Exa Snow of Coopers and Lybrand, Cairo; David and Carlotta Maher; David and Nan Ray; Mark Rudkin; Dr. Barbara Mertz; Dr. Daniel Lindley and Lucia Woods Lindley; Dr. Marjorie M. Fisher; Tom and Linda Heagy, Donald Oster; William Kelly Simpson; Kelly and Di Grodzins; Dr. Ben Harer; Anita and Solon Stone; Roxie Walker; Louis Byron, Jr.; Terry Walz, Mark Easton, Ray Salamanca, Mary Sadek, and Amira Khattab of the American Research Center in Egypt; Chip Vincent, Jarek Dobrolowski, and Cynthia Scharzter of the Egyptian Antiquities Project; Michael Jones of the Antiquities Development Project; and all of our friends back on the Oriental Institute "mother ship." I must also express our

gratitude to the Amoco Foundation, the Getty Grant Program of the J. Paul Getty Trust, Coca-Cola, Bechtel, Xerox, and LaSalle National Bank for their invaluable support. Sincerest thanks are extended to you all.

As always, friends of Chicago House are welcome to stop by to see us, and we suggest that you write or call in advance to schedule a meeting that is convenient to all. Chicago House is open from October 15 until April 15, and closed Saturday afternoons and Sundays. Our address in Egypt: Chicago House, Corniche el-Nil, Luxor, Egypt. The phone number is (from the USA) 011-20-95-37-2525; fax 011-20-95-38-1620.

The Epigraphic Survey home page is at:
<http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/EPI/Epigraphic.html>

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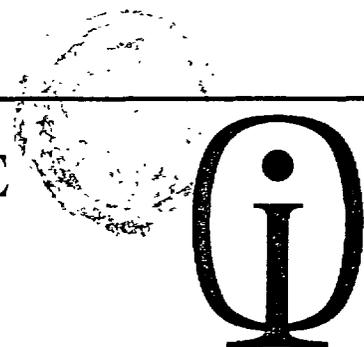
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CHICAGO HOUSE BULLETIN

Volume X, No. 1



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PRESIDENT Hosni Mubarak swears in chief judge of the Court of Cassation Ali Hamza Abdel Aziz Khedr yesterday.

Monumental statue of Amun, Mut viewed again for the first time in over 2000 years

CULTURE Minister Farouk Hosni yesterday marked the completion of a recently conserved monumental statue from Karnak. It will be given a high-profile display at the Egyptian Museum and supports Government's plan to promote national tourism.

The project has conserved and reassembled a 4-metre-high monumental statue group representing Amun and Mut seated on a throne. The statue group comes from Karnak temple where it was dedicated by King Horemheb (1320-1306 BC) at the end of the Eighteenth Dynasty in the Columned Hall to the north of the Obelisk of Hatshepsut. The sculpture was broken up in the Middle Ages by stone robbers who quarried away blocks from the statue's back slab and base, and hollowed a basin in the back of the throne.

Since then, pieces of the statue have been found through excavations by dif-



Farouk Hosni

ferent people over different periods of time and subsequently sent to different storerooms where they were dispersed and lay forgotten.

The head of the goddess Mut was excavated in 1870. Thirty years later, the head of the god Amun and parts of the torso and throne were found. Despite intentions at the turn of the century to reassemble it, the project was abandoned. Only the head of Mut, misidentified as

Queen Tiye, was put on display in the Egyptian Museum. The rest of the fragments were sent to the basement of the Museum or left in the storerooms in Karnak.

In 1994, some fragments were re-identified. Gradually, through extensive research and painstaking deduction other pieces were located. Subsequently around 250 fragments were gathered for study, conservation and reassemblage in September, 1998 at the conservation area of the Egyptian Museum. Each fragment was measured, drawn, photographed and recorded in files, before and during the cleaning.

After almost a century of storage, they had suffered from heavy soiling and sulphation. All surfaces of the stone fragments were cleaned and then protected by applying a thin coating of microcrystalline wax. Once cleaned, the fragments were studied and brought together in group-

Egyptian Gazette

Focus

Amon et Mout à nouveau réunis

Deux statues de divinités égyptiennes viennent d'être prodigieusement reconstituées après cinq ans de travaux.

Isis est connue pour avoir rassemblé les membres du corps d'Osiris éparpillés un peu partout, ce qui a permis de le ressusciter. L'égyptologue Hourig Sourouzian, de l'Institut allemand d'archéologie, vient de réussir le même prodige : elle a reconstitué deux statues monumentales n'en formant qu'une, celle d'Amon, dieu de la création, et celle de Mout, divinité présidant à la nature, à partir de six emplacements différents où se trouvaient leurs fragments. Ces statues, originaires de Karnak et datant du règne de Horemheb (1320-1306 av. J.-C.), de la XVIII^e dynastie, avaient été pillées et fragmentées au cours du Moyen-Age.

Il aura fallu cinq ans à Hourig Sourouzian pour regrouper les différents morceaux du puzzle. La statue de la déesse Mout avait été découverte en 1870 par Auguste Mariette durant des travaux de fouilles dans le temple d'Amon Rê à Karnak. Mariette avait envoyé la tête au Musée du Caire, où elle fut exposée en tant que tête de la reine Ti. Trente ans plus tard, la tête d'Amon et des parties du buste et du trône furent révélées. Les autres pièces furent retrouvées par la suite, à l'issue de différentes recherches, et ont été entreposées dans divers dépôts. Hourig Sourouzian, qui a eu l'occasion d'effectuer des recherches au Musée du Caire



Mohamad Mossaad

en 1994, s'est rendu compte que tous ces fragments en calcaire appartenaient à un même ensemble. Elle a réussi à les reconstituer, presque intégralement, en suivant une méthode moderne. Ainsi, Amon et Mout, qui formaient un couple selon la mythologie égyptienne, se sont retrouvés. Le rideau vient d'être levé sur ce chef-d'œuvre qui peut désormais être admiré au Musée du Caire, dans le couloir nord situé devant la salle Akhenaton. Ce travail gigantesque et minutieux a été réalisé sur la base d'une collaboration entre le HCA et le Centre américain de recherches en Egypte. Il a été financé par l'USAID.

Névine Habib

Le M

*Al-Ahram Hebdo
14-20 July 1999*

THE STATUE

The monumental limestone sculpture represents the god Amun and the goddess Mut seated side by side on a large throne. The right hand of the goddess is placed flat on her knee while her left hand rested on the left shoulder of the god. She wears a tight fitting long dress held with two shoulder straps and completely decorated with plumes. Her coiffure consists of a tripartite wig, which is covered by a vulture headdress and surmounted by the double crown.

The god Amun has both hands resting on his knees, holding with the left hand the symbol of life. He wears a divine costume consisting of a corset decorated with feathers and a pleated kilt held around his waist by a large belt. The god's crown is the characteristic high mortar surmounted by two high plumes. A plaited beard, now broken, once adorned his chin.

The busts of the statues once leaned against a back slab, which has been quarried away. The face and the sides of the throne are framed with an incised decorative freeze. At the lower back angle of each side, is engraved the binding of the two heraldic plants symbolizing the Union of Upper and Lower Egypt. The throne jambs are inscribed with the names of the deities. On Amun's side we read «Amun-Re, Lord of the Thrones of the Two Lands, who presides at Karnak»; on the fragment of the jamb on Mut's side we see the remains of her name and «Lady of Asheru».

The statue base displayed two symmetric inscriptions with the titulary of the king, which were engraved on both sides of the life symbol preserved on the bloc at the axis of the statue group. The two cartouches of the king containing the birth and throne names of the king, qualify him as «beloved of Mut» on the statue's right side, while the left side is very fragmentary

THE PROJECT

The project has reassembled and conserved a fragmentary limestone monumental statue group representing Amun and Mut seated on a throne. The statue group derives from Karnak where it was placed in the hall to the North of the obelisk of Hatshepsut, during the reign of King Horemheb (1320-1306 BC) at the end of the Eighteenth dynasty.

This work was done, in co-operation with the Supreme Council of Antiquities of Egypt (SCA), by the Egyptian Antiquities Project of the American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE-EAP), with a grant of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Conservation and restoration works were carried out and completed by an international team of experts from September 1998 to June 1999.

The project was under the high patronage of H.H. Farouk Hosni, Minister of Culture and Professor Dr. Gaballa Ali Gaballa, Secretary General of SCA. It was supported by Mr. Mark Easton, director of ARCE and Mr. Robert Vincent, director of ARCE-EAP. The team was assisted by the authorities of the Egyptian Museum: Dr. M. Saleh, former director; Dr. M. Shimi, actual director; Adel Mahmud, head keeper of the New Kingdom Section; I. Abd el-Gawad, deputy keeper; Suha Mahmud, U. el-Sheltawy, curators, and the conservators of the Museum

Dr. H. Sourouzian, project director; T. Gayer-Anderson, I. Humphries and H. Lafore stone conservators, Hany Abdalla, assistant conservator. Final drawings and design of the supporting frame by T. Gayer-Anderson. Mahmud al-Tayeb realized the supporting framework.

Dr. N. Hampikian and Prof. R. Stadelmann acted as advisors by courtesy. The scaffolding was kindly made available by B. Maury. The transfer of the fragments from Karnak was made possible by the kind assistance of Dr. M. El-Saghir, Under Secretary of State, Bakheet Mahmud and F. Larché, Directors of the Franco-Egyptian Center at Karnak; and Hamdy Abd el-Galil, Chief Inspector.

MONUMENTAL STATUE GROUP CONSERVATION PROJECT AT THE EGYPTIAN MUSEUM CAIRO



Reconstructed dyad of Amun and Mut from Karnak
Height: 4.14 m, width 1.86 m, depth 1.69 m
Endurated limestone

AUG 11 1999

BULLETIN DE LA
SOCIÉTÉ FRANÇAISE D'ÉGYPTOLOGIE

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BROOKLYN MUSEUM OF ART
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N° 144

Mars 1999

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*The creation of the Alexandria Laboratory
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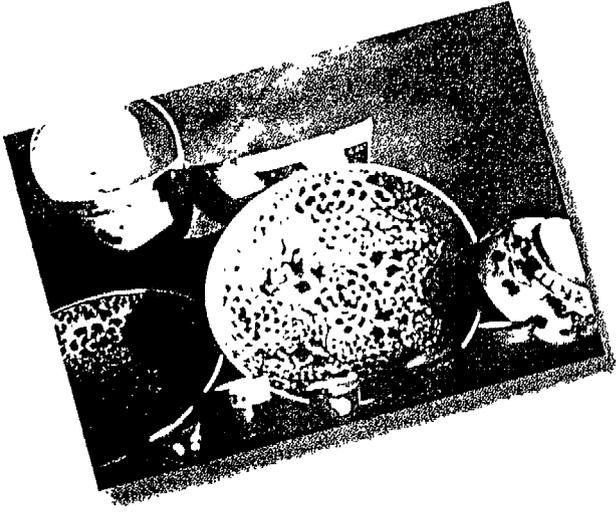
The Alexandria Business Association, The Alexanian Foundation, The American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE), The Amoco Foundation, The Arab Contractors, Bechtel - Egypt and The Bechtel Foundation, Dr. Richard and Mrs. Bari Bienia, The Chase Manhattan Foundation, DHL Worldwide Express, Mrs. Diane Haldane , Lt. Gen. Robert and Mrs Elise Haldane, International Electronics (Goldstar), The Mobil Foundation, Mr. Billings K Ruddock, The United States Agency for International Development (USAID). INA is a private , non-profit, research organization based at Texas A & M University, College Station , Texas. INA is funded by Egyptian, European and US corporate and private donors, and the US government. INA in Egypt's Director is Douglas Haldane , Deputy Director : Emad Khalil , Assistant Director : Adel Farouk, Director of Conservation : Howard Wellman , Assistant Director of Conservation : Jane Haldane .

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*The Supreme Council of Antiquities and
The Institute of Nautical Archaeology
are pleased to invite you to the opening of
the Alexandria Conservation Laboratory
for Submerged Antiquities
in the
Egyptian National Maritime Museum,
Stanley Bay,
Alexandria, at 12:00
Tuesday March 2nd, 1999.*

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Training Worth Millions

Minya General Authority for Water and Sanitation (MEGAWS) was able to collect over L.E. 4.4 million out of L.E. 7 million outstanding bills in a period of six months. Mr. Samir Abu El Leil, Chairman of MEGAWS, attributed this achievement to the Management Improvement Program – a long-term training program administered by DT2. Mr. Abu El Leil stated that the training program also enabled his staff to develop a new bill collection system that was key to collecting outstanding bills. Monitoring the process of collecting overdue bills, in addition to the introduction of computers to support the bill collection process in the city of Minya, increased the rate of collection considerably. With MEGAWS new bill collection system in place, it has raised its annual collection target to L.E. 4 million from L.E. 1.5 million.



Mr. Samir Abu El Leil

Continued on page 3

Promoting Citizen Participation in Public Decision-Making

Increased citizen participation in public decision-making is one of the developmental goals of USAID/Egypt. Redefining and enhancing the role of the NGO sector as a means to increase public awareness and participation in local communities are key in supporting this objective.

Three participants were nominated to attend a Workshop in Washington entitled "Non-Governmental Organizations: Creating Effective Partnerships" organized by the Institute for Public-Private Partnerships (IP3) in the US from August to September 1998. They represented three non-governmental organizations: Hurghada Environmental Protection and Conservation Association (HEPCA), the Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Services (CEOSS), and Friends of Environment Association.

Continued on page 4

Famous Newspaper Writer Addresses Alumni

Mr. Salah Montasser, best known for his daily column, "Just an Opinion", was the speaker in the second General Lecture Series organized by DT2 as part of the Follow-on Program for DT2 alumni. 250 people attended the March 16 event. Mr. Montasser gave wide-ranging remarks and responded to numerous questions from the audience. He offered several reasons behind the management problems evident in running public enterprises. He also explained the proper role of the media in development. According to Mr. Montasser, the media should report facts in a manner simple enough to be understood by the general public. The media should not create "facts" simply to make news headlines to sell more papers.



From left to right, Dr. Norm Goodman (DT2), Mr. Salah Montasser and Dr. Mohamed Youssef (Team Misi)

Continued on page 3

DT2 News Brief

We are always proud to present our alumni's continuous contribution to their organizations. One of these instances is the latest contribution of our alumni from the Egyptian Museum who received USAID training in display techniques in 1997. After the completion of their



DT2 Participants with new Egyptian Museum Director, Mohamed El-Shimi

training, DT2 participants renovated and reinstalled two Tutankhamoun jewelry exhibit rooms that are located on the second floor of the museum. Recently, nine of these DT2 participants helped reorganize the Hetep-Heres funerary collection in a hall that used to be a storeroom on the ground floor. The magnificence of the Hetep-Heres funerary collection is now prominently displayed away from the Tutankhamoun collection that used to overshadow it. Now, Khufu's mother's, Hetep-Heres', funerary collection resides on the ground floor in the context of its era.

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- Egypt and the proliferation of nuclear weapons
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Summaries in german, arabic, italian, japanese and russian

The first free-standing *sabil/kuttab* appeared in 1497. They were very popular as a pious endowment during the Turkish period, and Napoleon's surveyors counted over three hundred when they arrived in 1798.

Nafisa, the benefactress of this particular *sabil-kuttab*, was born somewhere in eastern Turkey in the 1750s and was brought to Cairo as a young girl to be sold as a slave. She was bought by the most powerful Mamluk of the day, Ali Bey al Kabir, who himself had been brought to Cairo in his teens and had risen to power through the ranks of the Mamluks. Nafisa quickly became a favourite and in a few years Ali freed her and took her as his second wife. Mortally wounded in battle by his rivals, he left Nafisa much of his vast estate. Another powerful Mamluk, Murad, immediately married the beautiful young widow. In 1791 she made legal provision for the future security of her property, known as a *waqf*, which entailed the transfer of all her income-producing assets to God. In July 1798, the Battle of the Pyramids was a catastrophe for the Egyptians, and her husband Murad, who was at the head of his gorgeously caparisoned but undisciplined army, fled to Upper Egypt abandoning Nafisa to her fate.

Clever and charming, Nafisa made full use of her brains, her wit and her negotiating skills to obtain the best possible terms for herself and her entourage. Though in fact she detested the French, she entertained both Napoleon and his stepson, Eugène de Beauharnais at dinner. Meanwhile she was in constant communication with her husband through spies who slipped in and out of the city. On one occasion at least the couple signalled to each other, she from her rooftop and he from the top of the Cheops Pyramid. But before the Turks reasserted their hold on the country and the French were shipped home, Murad was dead of the plague. Nafisa died in 1816, when Egypt was ruled by Muhammed-Ali.

Because of its location and size, Nafisa Bayda's *sabil-kuttab* was chosen by the American Research Center in Egypt, Egyptian Antiquities Project, in cooperation with the Egyptian Supreme Council Antiquities, to pilot the restoration of a series of monuments in the immediate vicinity of Bab Zuweila, funded by a USAID grant. Area conservation is recommended by all the experts, because following experience, restoration of various monuments in one neighbourhood secures protection and preservation, stimulating the populations living in the environment.

After piped water was brought to this part of the city at the beginning of the century, and the Nasser regime scrapped the old system of Qu'ranic schools in 1956, the lovely little *sabil-kuttab* lost its function. Forty years later it was in pitiful condition. The stairs had fallen in, the roof had collapsed, the place was abandoned and passers-by had been throwing rubbish through the window for years.

Thanks to the pioneering spirit and hard work of two Polish architects, Jarek and Agnieszka Dobrowolski, and the team of experts they assembled, the building has been rescued and lovingly restored. The work was initiated in November 1995 and completed in February 1998. The team measured and studied every aspect of the building: the foundations, the floors, the masonry, the woodwork, the walls, the iron grilles, the inscriptions, the roof. They identified the major causes of deterioration. As in many of the monuments of historic Cairo, water, both from below and from above, was the chief culprit. Ground water infiltrating the stones from below had been drawn upward by capillary action and created destructive chemical effects. Masonry was encrusted with salts which had expanded and cracked the stone. Once the roof started to fall in, rainwater, too, penetrated from above and hastened the general decay of wood and stone. Leaking drains from the next door building had taken their toll. Vandals and squatters had broken in, leaving piles of trash and debris, and the filth had left a thick coat of grease on the sill and metalwork of the original water dispensary.

The team patiently removed the rubbish, and step by step for two years drained the foundations, reinforced the walls, replaced missing stones, rebuilt the stairs and roof and cleaned every square centimeter of stone with poultices of cotton wool soaked in chemicals and mild detergent, revealing the warm golden sandstone beneath. Until May 1998, when they felt proud... for having given back to the Bab Zuweila community and to the Egyptian Antiquities this precious architectural gem.



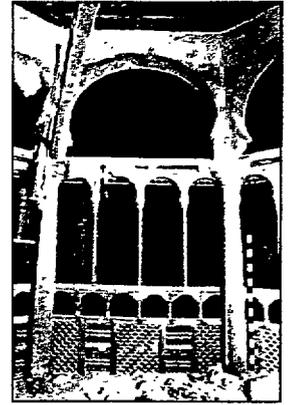
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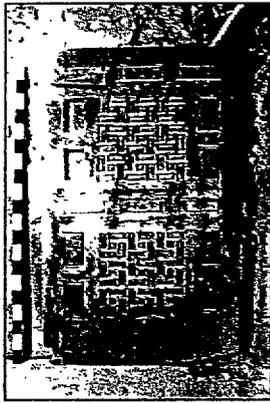
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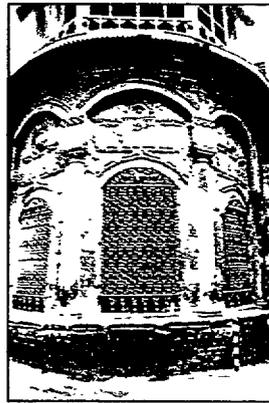
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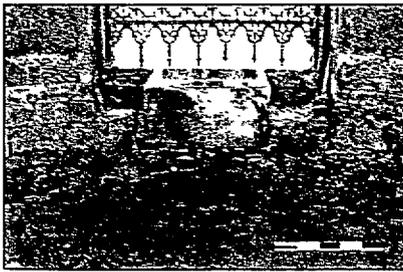
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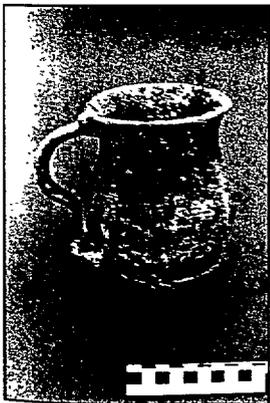
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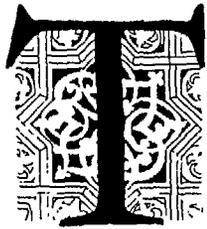
Before restoration

- 1 - Interior, ground floor stairwell, view north *December 1996*
- 2 - Interior, second floor, teacher's room interior, view west *December 1996*
- 3 - Interior, second floor, corner of classroom with entrance, view north-east *February 1996*
- 4 - Interior, second floor, grill n° 2, view south-west *December 1996*
- 5 - Exterior, front door open, view east *December 1996*
- 6 - Exterior, side view of sabil, view east *February 1996*
- 7 - Exterior, grill n° 2, view north-east *February 1996*
- 8 - Exterior, detail of roof construction, view west *April 1996*
- 9 - Interior, ground floor, basin n° 2 under excavation, view south-west *February 1996*
- 10 - Found objects, brass drinking mug before cleaning *May 1996*

After restoration

- Page 44 - Interior, ground floor stairwell, view north *January 1998*
- Page 45 - Interior, second floor, teacher's room interior, view west *January 1998*
- Page 46 - Interior, second floor, corner of classroom with entrance, view north-east *January 1998*
- Page 47 - Interior, second floor, grill n° 2, view south-west *January 1998*
- Page 48 - Exterior, front door open, view east *January 1998*
- Page 49 - Exterior, side view of sabil, view east *January 1998*
- Page 50 - Exterior, grill n° 2, view north-east *February 1998*
- Page 51 - Roof, detail of sub-structure, view south-west *June 1996*
- Page 52 - Interior, ground floor, basin n° 3 in context, view west *January 1998*
- Page 53 - Found objects, brass drinking mug during conservation *June 1997*
- Page 56 - Exterior, detail of bronze grill n° 3, view south-east *February 1997*

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he conservation of the *minbar* started in August 1998, as part of the Egyptian Antiquities Project of the American Research Center in Egypt, and took seven months to complete.

Careful documentation and analytical studies preceded the work to identify the causes of deterioration and to determine appropriate interventions.

The conservation team, working in conjunction with the Supreme Council of Antiquities, included foreign experts and a group of young Egyptians training in conservation techniques, all enthusiastically committed to their work. Before the conservation of the wood began the *minbar* was wrapped in a protective padding of foam and temporarily moved eight meters to one side on to a specially designed supporting structure. The floor was excavated, a waterproof barrier inserted, and a waterproof platform was installed so that the *minbar* is now doubly protected from any groundwater.

The team reinforced the structure of the *minbar* and exposed its decoration from under layers of grime accumulated through the centuries. This involved the painstaking use of dental and medical tools on the medieval patient to clean every square millimeter of its surface. Fissures and cracks that had appeared when the structure became stressed, because of the sinking of the of the floor underneath it, were filled.

In order to respect the authenticity of the *minbar* all conservation materials applied were chosen to blend harmoniously with its historic fabric, but they can also be immediately recognized by a specialist as a contemporary intervention.

The American Research Center in Egypt is a nonprofit, non-governmental American institution dedicated to fostering knowledge and understanding of the history, culture and civilization of Egypt through a variety of programs and projects.

The Egyptian Antiquities Project

focuses on conservation issues.

The EAP implements the grant awarded by the US Agency for International Development (USAID)

for the restoration and preservation of Egyptian antiquities.

The Minbar of Al-Salih Tala'i^c Mosque Conservation Project

financed by the Egyptian Antiquities Project of the American Research Center in Egypt under a grant from the US Agency for International Development (USAID)

Grant No.: 263-G-00-93-00089-00

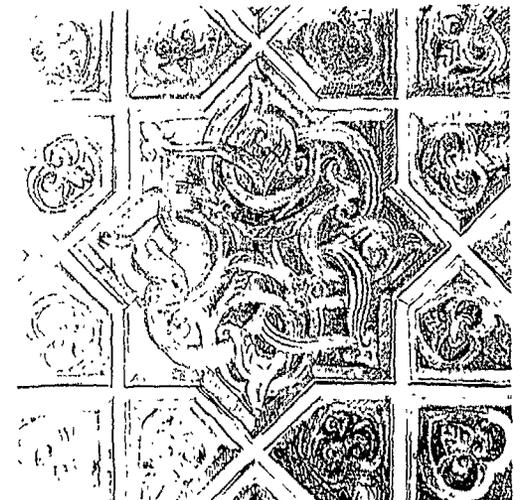
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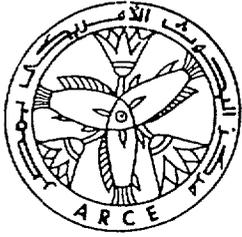
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Minbar of Al-Salih Tala'i^c Mosque Conservation Project



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مركز البحوث الأمريكية بمصر
AMERICAN RESEARCH CENTER IN EGYPT, INC.

ARCE
Announces
the opening of the
EXHIBITION

presenting the

**Conservation of the Minbar
in the Mosque of Al Salih Tala'i' in Cairo**

the conservation was conducted August 1998 to January 1999 as part
of the

**American Research Center in Egypt's
Egyptian Antiquities Project.**

financed under its grant from the
United States Agency for International Development

The Exhibition will be opened on 7 April 1999, at 7 P.M.;
after the lecture in the ARCE seminar series entitled, "ARCE Conservation
Projects: an Update" by Robert K. Vincent Jr. and Jaroslaw Dobrowolski.

The exhibition was conceived, designed and realized
by Agnieszka Dobrowolska, Jaroslaw Dobrowolski and Patrick Godeau.

Photographs by Patrick Godeau

Additional photographs by Agnieszka Dobrowolska, Jaroslaw Dobrowolski, Robert K. Vincent, Jr.

Drawings by Agnieszka Dobrowolska and Erico Peintner.

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EGYPT

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14 - 20 February 1999

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Fatimid Cairo project gathers speed – despite criticism

Paul Schemm
Middle East Times staff

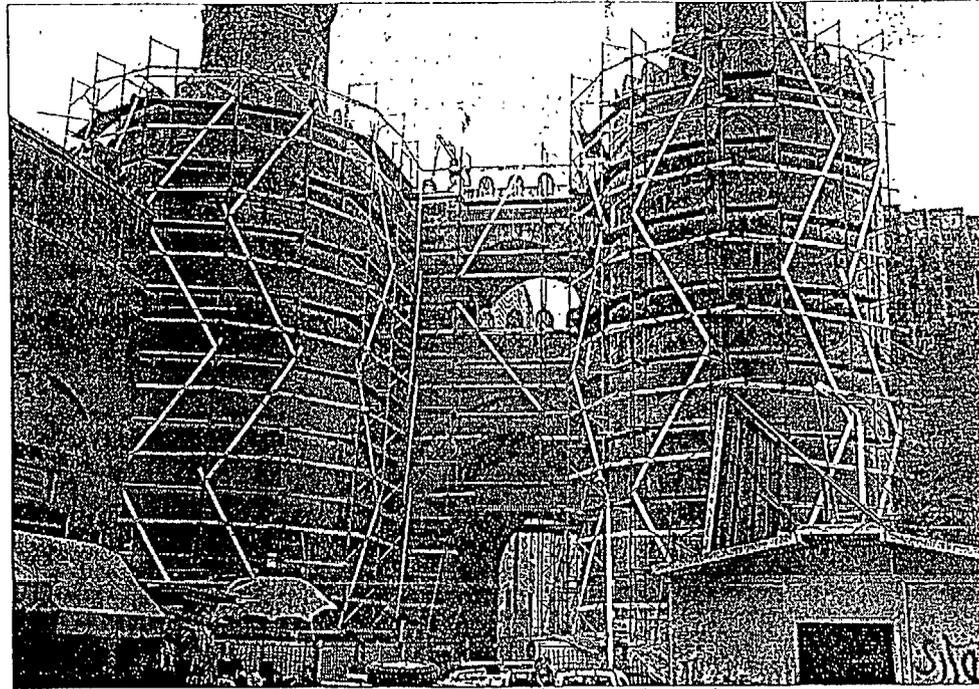
The long-discussed plan to restore Fatimid Cairo became more serious on December 30, 1998 when the Ministry of Culture presented its comprehensive plan to rehabilitate the entire area along Al Muezz Street, the heart of the historic neighborhood. After a great deal of talk and debate, it seems that the open-air museum is actually going to get off the ground.

Unfortunately this project, which everyone agrees the area is in desperate need of, has much of the professional community of antiquities restoration specialists worried.

"What we have seen in the past was not good. It was really ugly and it was not done well. We do hope that in the future they will have learned from the past to do it in a better way," said Saleh Lamey, the head of the Center for the Preservation of Islamic Heritage and a veteran of conservation work in the area.

At first it seems that the government project might be just what the area needs. The unsightly flyover running through the middle of the neighborhood with its monument-damaging car exhaust and vibrations will be removed. Al Azhar Street, which bisects the neighborhood with six lanes of traffic will be replaced by a tunnel from Opera Square to Saleh Salem.

Then there is Al Azhar itself, unveiled over the summer in its newly cleaned form. The 1,000-year-old mosque and university has gone from dirt brown to a pleasing light tan color with mosaics and striped brickwork.



The southern gates of Bab Zuweila being restored by a USAID project

nothing but a sad mud color.

This is just the kind of treatment that the rest of the neighborhood needs with the monuments brightly refurbished to lure tourists who would normally just check out the pyramids and leave.

DOING IT FAST OR RIGHT?

The problem is that the way Al Azhar was restored and the way many fear the rest of the buildings of the neighborhood will be approached, is in

direct contravention to most international standards of antiquity conservation.

Cement was liberally used in restoring the building and in some cases rickety (but incredibly old) structures were just torn down and replaced with cement and acrylic paint.

One expert bemoaned the use of wire brushes to take off the dirt on the outside as well as the top layer of stone, leaving the building extremely vulnerable to further exposure from Cairo's unfriendly toxins.

For the experts, conservation of buildings is a painstaking process that takes years and years. Lamey detailed the studies and procedures that he went through for even the smallest of projects. Even a simple *sabil* (public drinking fountain) can take two years with traditional tools and methods coupled with the latest in conservation techniques.

The massive complex of Al Azhar took the Arab Contractors construction company less than that.

"It's like they were working on a bridge project," Lamey said. "It's completely different with conservation work."

Of course in a place like Egypt that suffers from a wealth of antiquities, unlike the West that can spend years on just a few select pieces, the slow and steady approach has its drawbacks.

The Ministry of Culture has now been allocated E£242 million pounds to restore some 200 buildings throughout this area. While they welcome any foreign projects, like the USAID-funded American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE) projects around Bab Zuweila, they say most of it will be done on their own.

As Lamey and a number of other experts point out, however, there is not

Continued on page 13

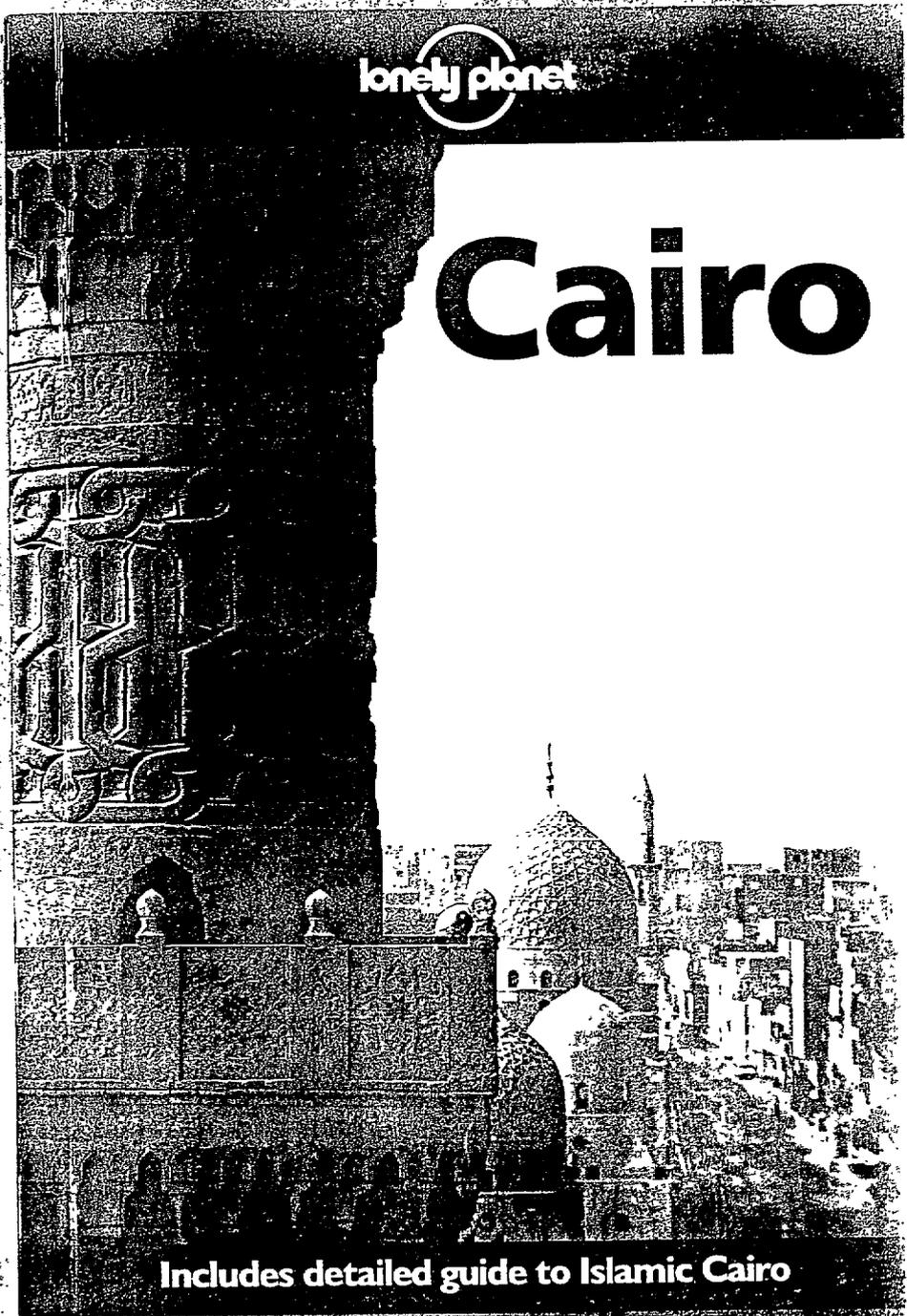
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lonely planet

- 5 DEC 1999

Cairo

Andrew Humphreys



American Research Center in Egypt, Inc.
Egyptian Antiquities Project
مركز البحوث الامريكى بمصر
مشروع الاثار المصريه

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miss the beautiful mashrabiyya and stained-glass windows of the 'business room'. The house is open from 9 am to 5 pm, and admission is E£3 (E£1.50 for students). To get here from Sharia al-Muizz li-Din Allah take the side street that is on the left just before the crumbling Mosque of al-Fakahani. Follow this street round and then take the first right into Sharia Khushqadam, the house is No 6

Mosque of al-Muayyad

Al-Muayyad was a great intriguer, for which he was arrested and thrown into a lice-infested prison which stood on this site. While incarcerated he vowed that one day he would replace the prison with a 'sanitary place'. On coming to power he did just that. His mosque, a typically monumental Mamluk work, was completed in 1422. The great bronze doorway that you see originally belonged to the Mosque-Madrassa of Sultan Hassan. The entrance leads into the mausoleum where Al-Muayyad and his son lie in two cenotaphs; beyond that is the mosque itself, an extremely tranquil place with the prayer hall opening on to a large tree-filled garden courtyard. In the far corner of the prayer hall is a small door leading to the mosque's two minarets which sit on top of the Bab Zuweyla (added 330 years after the gate was built - how on earth did the master masons know that the gate could take the extra weight?). The view from the top of the minarets is about the best in Cairo, offering a panorama of rooftops used as chicken runs, goat pens, pigeon lofts, rubbish dumps and even workshops.

The entrance fee to the mosque is E£6 (E£1.50 for students) but the caretaker will probably insist on bakshesh to open the door up to the minarets.

Immediately across from the entrance to the mosque is a mashrabiyya-fronted wikalá and beside that a door which leads into the Hammam as-Sukariyya, a public bath. The narrow alley beside this is Sharia Sukariyya, or Sugar Street, from which the second novel in Naguib Mahfouz's *Cairo Trilogy* takes its name (see the boxed text 'Mahfouz's Cairo' earlier in this chapter).

Bab Zuweyla

Built at the same time as the northern gates, Bab Zuweyla is the only remaining southern gate of the old medieval city of Al-Qahira. Until the late 19th century it was still closed each evening. The area in front of the gate was one of the main public gathering places in Mamluk times. It was also the site of executions, which were a highly popular form of street theatre. A particularly vicious bunch, the Mamluks used to execute victims by publicly sawing them in half or crucifying them on the great gates. The last Mamluk sultan, Tumanbey, was spared this indignity. He was sentenced to be hanged from the gate's vaulted ceiling, however, it took three attempts to kill him - the rope snapped the first two times. After the massacre at the Citadel (see the boxed text 'The Massacre of the Mamluks' on page 119) the heads of the 500 slain Mamluks were exhibited in front of the gate on spikes.

The gate gained a slightly better reputation in the 19th century when it became associated with Metwalli, a local saint who lived nearby. People in need of healing or divine intercession would leave a lock of hair or piece of clothing nailed to the gate in the hope of his attention. It's a practice continued to this day - look carefully and you will see fresh nails hammered into the great wooden doors.

Around Bab Zuweyla

Immediately in front of the gate are several Islamic monuments, including the tiny **Zawiya of Ibn Barquq** (1408, a *zawiya* is small school dedicated to a particular sheikh - in this case Ibn Barquq) which has some beautiful but barely discernible marble work adorning its facade and, across the street, the freestanding **Mosque of Salih Talai** (1160). The mosque was built over a lower storey of shops the rent from which paid for its upkeep, but the ground has risen since that time and today the shops are 3m below street level. For many years the mosque was flooded but the American Research Centre has been busy with restoration work and it's starting to look pretty good.

From here the routes south and east continue on to the Citadel (see the Street of the Tentmakers and the Darb al-Ahmar sections following), while west is the Museum of Islamic Art.

To the Museum of Islamic Art

Sharia Ahmed Mahir, which runs west from Bab Zuweyla, is lined with shops selling striped cotton and canvas, and tin-plate workshops turning out ducting, funnels,

Museum of Islamic Art

Overshadowed by the Pharaonic crowd-pulling power of the Egyptian Museum, this museum, which has one of the world's finest collections of Islamic applied art, receives little attention.

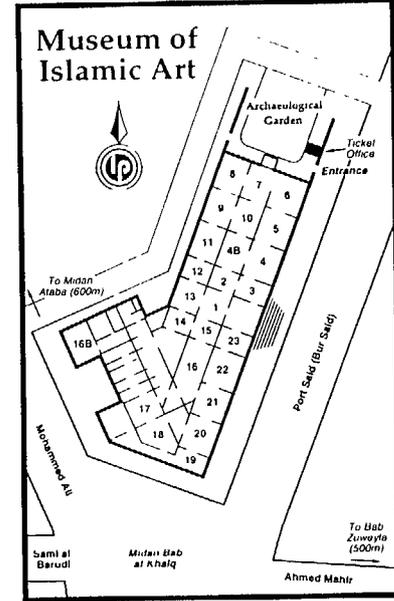
It has to be said though, it doesn't do itself any favours. Labelling is often completely inadequate ('Statue in the shape of a lion painted blue' reads the printed card beside a statue of a lion painted blue) and there's a definite warehouse quality to the place. Do a few walks through Islamic Cairo before coming here and visit a few mosques; that way you'll be able to supply the context required to better appreciate some of the museum's undeniably fine pieces.

Entrance is through the garden door off Sharia Port Said. This brings you into the central hall containing some of the most beautiful exhibits so we suggest you immediately turn right, saving the best for later. Rooms 8 and 9 contain woodwork, including some nice coffered ceilings; Room 11 is metalwork and Room 12 contains Mamluk weaponry. Room 13 is for 'masterpieces'. Beyond are the rooms (14-16) given over to ceramics. There is no tradition of glazed tile making in Egypt so most of what's on display comes from Iran. The cone-topped fireplace in Room 16, however, is from Turkey.

Push on through Rooms 21 (glass) and 20 (Ottoman era) to Room 19 which contains a small collection of illuminated manuscripts and fantastically ornate Qurans formerly owned by King Farouk. From here make your way back to Rooms 4 and 4B, which are divided by a row of carved Mamluk columns. The museum's centrepiece is in 4B: an Ottoman fountain combined with some beautiful mashrabiyya and a carved wooden ceiling. There's another more elaborate sunken fountain in Room 5 which dates from the time of the Mamluks. The upstairs rooms containing textiles and carpets from Iran and Central Asia were closed for renovations (they have been for at least two years now) at the time of going to press.

The museum (☎ 390 9930) is open daily from 9 am to 4 pm but is closed on Friday from 11.30 am to 1.30 pm. Admission is E£16, or E£8 for students.

Getting There & Away The museum is about a 1km walk from Midan Ataba, straight down Sharia Mohammed Ali (also called Sharia al-Qaiaa). Midan Tahrir is 1.5km west along Sharia Sami al-Barudi and its continuations. Alternatively, a taxi back Downtown should cost no more than E£3. ■



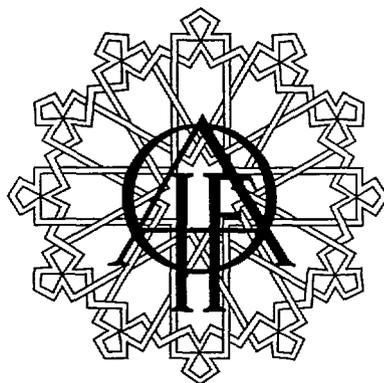
THINGS TO SEE & DO

THINGS TO SEE & DO

8 NOV 1998

LES ANNALES ISLAMOLOGIQUES

32



institut français d'archéologie orientale

Anisl 32 - 1998

Recording the monuments of Cairo: an introduction and overview

THE PURPOSE of this article is to provide a synopsis of the process of listing the monuments of Cairo, variously referred to as Saracenic, Muhammadan, Arab or Islamic. This apparently simple subject is, in fact, remarkably complex and confusing once one investigates beyond the last published information: namely the *Index to the Muhammadan Monuments of Cairo (Fihris al-aṭār al-islāmiyya)* that accompanied a map showing the location of the listed buildings, first published in Arabic in 1948 and subsequently published in English in 1950. This map, at a scale of 1:5000, and index was produced by the *Comité pour la conservation des monuments de l'art arabe* or *Laġnat hiḏz al-aṭār al-ʿarabiyya* (henceforth referred to as the *Comité*) shortly prior to this organisation's demise in 1953 and re-incarnation within the Egyptian Antiquities Organization (today named the Supreme Council for Antiquities). It remains the standard reference tool for anyone working in the field of historic architecture in Cairo. The genesis of this document, however, and the flaws that it contains have thus far received little scholarly attention.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE COMITÉ

The *Comité* was founded in december 1881 by decree of the Khedive *Tawfiq*, as a body within the Ministry of *Awqāf* responsible for the arab monuments of Egypt.¹ Within the *Comité* were appointed two sub-committees, one of which, the "First Commission", was entrusted with the task of drawing up a complete inventory of the arab monuments of Egypt. The brief of the other committee, the "Second Commission" (later the "Technical Commission"), was to visit the various mosques, tombs, water-fountains, etc., which appeared to be most urgently in need of attention, to report upon their condition and to recommend

¹ The Khedival Decree is published in *al-Waqāʿiʿ al-maṣriyya*, December 1881, and in the first Bulletin of the *Comité* published in 1882, p. 8-10. The Bulletins are henceforth referred to here

as B.C., the *Procès-Verbaux* as P.-V., and the *Rapports* as R. Bulletin years are cited in preference to years of publication as the latter are often confusing.

steps for their preservation. If a monument was so wholly ruined that conservation would be both useless and impossible, the *Comité* removed any objects of interest found among the ruins to the Museum of Arab Art.² In 1915 the *Comité* was further subdivided into two separate administrations: the Administration of the Conservation of Arab Art, *Idārat ḥifẓ al-aṭār al-ʿarabiyya*, and the Administration of the Museum of Arab Art and Excavations, *Idārat dār al-aṭār al-ʿarabiyya wi ašgāl al-ḥafr*.³ In 1936, control of these two administrations of the *Comité* were transferred to the Ministry of Public Instruction (*Wizārat al-Maʿārif al-ʿumūmiyya*).⁴ In 1939, the *Comité* was replaced by the "Conseil Supérieur pour le Service de Conservation des Monuments de l'Art Arabe", and its Technical Section became the "Permanent Committee".⁵ None of these subdivisions and reshufflings, however, affected the continuing usage of the original denomination of the institution, the *Comité pour la Conservation des Monuments de l'Art Arabe*, in its publications or in the perception of the general public.⁶ The work of the technical bureau will not be considered here, except in the ancillary area of listing monuments prior to their preservation.⁷

THE GRAND BEY MAP

The "First Commission" of the *Comité* was directly charged with the work of drawing up a list of protected buildings. To do this it relied heavily on an existing map of Cairo produced by one of its own members, Pierre Grand Bey,⁸ for the Khedive *Ismāʿil* in 1874 (fig. 1). The Grand Bey map, printed at a scale of 1:4000 and rendered in colour on four sheets, presented Cairo not simply as it was, but as it might be for it included avenues or "percements" through the fabric of the old city which were never in fact executed, such

² The Museum of Arab Art was formed in the standing arcades of the ruined mosque of *al-Ḥākim* in 1881. The present Museum of Islamic Art (earlier called the Museum of Arab Art or *Dār al-aṭār al-ʿarabiyya*) in *Bāb al-Ḥalq* was founded by the *Comité* and was opened to the public in 1903.

³ See *Taqwīm sanat 1936* (the report of the Ministry of Finance on the events of 1936), Cairo: *al-Amīriyya*, 1936, p. 155.

⁴ See the report of the Ministry of Public Instruction (*Wizārat al-Maʿārif al-ʿumūmiyya*) on the work of the Administration of the Conservation of Arab Monuments, *Idārat ḥifẓ al-aṭār al-ʿarabiyya risālatuha fi riʾāyat al-aṭār al-islāmiyya fi al-Qāhira wa al-aqālim*, Cairo: *Dār al-maʿārif*, 1949, p. 4. See, also, *Maḥmūd Aḥmad* (Director of Arab Monuments), «Avant-Propos», in B.C. 36, 1930-32.

⁵ The Permanent Committee was established by Article 4 of the Decree No. 79 of August 1939, issued in the name of Farouk I, which authorised the "Conseil Supérieur" to select from its members a "Comité Permanent [pour] préparer les programmes relatifs à la conservation des monuments dépendant du Service, et de surveiller leur exécution, après leur approbation par le Conseil". For the Decree, see B.C. 38, 1936-1940, p. 239-241.

⁶ For a concise historiography of the *Comité*, see Donald Reid, "Cultural Imperialism and Nationalism", *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 24, 1992, p. 57-76. See also Philipp Speiser, *Die Erhaltung der arabischen Bauten in Ägypten, Reihe ADAIK*, Heidelberg, in press.

⁷ On the preservation philosophy of the *Comité* and the conservation technology followed during its lifetime, see Alaa el-Habashi, *Cairo of the Comité de Conservation des Monuments de l'Art Arabe: a Study on the Preservation of the Arab Monuments and the Protection of Arab Architecture from 1881 to 1961*, forthcoming Ph.D. dissertation, School of Fine Arts, University of Pennsylvania, 1998.

⁸ Pierre Grand was a French civil engineer who arrived in Egypt in 1868 and was first employed by the *Société Anonyme des Eaux du Caire*. In 1871, he directed the Department of the Streets of Cairo before promotion took him, in 1885, to the post of General Director of Cities and Buildings in the Ministry of Public Affairs. See *Résumé des Travaux de la Société des Ingénieurs Civils de France*, 1918, p. 38. Grand was an active member of the *Comité's* Second Commission from 1884 to 1897. For Grand's activities in the *Comité*, review the minutes and technical reports published in the *Comité's* Bulletins 1 to 14.

DOCUMENTATION. Le Centre américain de recherches procède, avec le HCA, à un enregistrement des inscriptions qui ornent les monuments islamiques du Caire.

Enregistrement monumental de la calligraphie

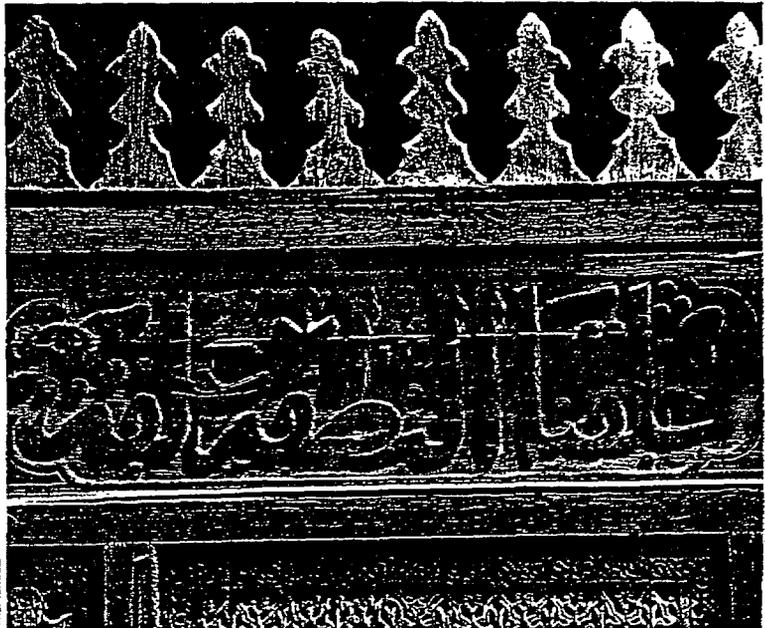
« Créer des archives complètes des monuments islamiques du Caire existant jusqu'à aujourd'hui est l'une des principales raisons qui nous ont poussés à entreprendre ce projet », explique Robert K. Vincent Jr, directeur d'Egyptian antiquities project. Avec un budget de 150 000 US\$, le Centre américain de recherches a commencé en 1996 les études nécessaires à l'enregistrement de la calligraphie arabe et des inscriptions qui ornent la quasi-totalité des monuments islamiques du Caire. Et ce projet monumental doit se terminer vers 2002.

Outre les inscriptions, les données de base-qui seront répertoriées contiennent aussi des informations sur l'état actuel du monument, les précédentes restaurations, ainsi que sur la nature et la fonction de l'édifice.

Sur 1 800 monuments islamiques au Caire, seuls 514 ont été choisis parce que « les autres se trouvaient dans un état déplorable », explique Bernard O'Kane, professeur d'art islamique à l'Université américaine

du Caire et un des superviseurs du projet. Il ajoute que ce choix se justifie également par le fait qu'un bon nombre de ces monuments n'ont pas été enregistrés. L'héritage ottoman a été sélectionné pour le lancement de ce projet, peut-être à cause de son état qui se détériore. Les travaux commencent donc avec la période ottomane (entre 1517 et 1914) avant de revenir à l'ordre chronologique normal : époques toulouide, fatimide et enfin mamelouke.

Ce projet permettra aussi de réhabiliter la calligraphie arabe. En fait, nombreux sont ceux qui pensent que la calligraphie et les inscriptions des monuments islamiques sont d'importance secondaire et qu'elles sont uniquement d'ordre ornemental. Avis qui n'est pas partagé par Bernard O'Kane, qui estime que « chaque monument est riche d'un grand nombre d'inscriptions qui donnent des informations sur la date de la fondation du bâtiment, ainsi que sur le rôle de l'édifice (mosquée, échantées, sabil ou autres). Quant aux versets cora-



Une inscription en nashk sur le côté de la Qibla de la mosquée Al-Maridani.

niques, ils indiquent la fonction d'une pièce à l'intérieur d'une maison ».

Les inscriptions ne se limitent pas seulement à des versets coraniques, elles renferment aussi des hadiths (paroles du prophète), des invocations, des

vers de poésie et dans certains cas des décrets de califes. « On arrive souvent à reconstituer le verset du Coran ou le hadith, si on arrive à identifier au moins un mot », explique Robert Vincent.

La trace par l'écriture

L'intérêt de cette documentation est étendu. La calligraphie des inscriptions peut très facilement indiquer à quelle époque appartient l'édifice. « L'écriture coufique indique que ce bâtiment appartient à l'époque toulouide ou fatimide, alors que l'écriture nashk indique que l'édifice appartient à l'époque mamelouke ».

Les travaux s'appliquent donc à relever méthodiquement et exhaustivement l'ensemble des inscriptions de chaque monument. A la variété des monuments choisis s'ajoute une autre moins grande variété de matériaux gravés, comme le marbre, le bois, la céramique, le stuc, etc. Bon nombre de ces monuments choisis sont caractéristiques de telle ou telle période et permettent de « couvrir une large partie de l'histoire médiévale égyptienne », explique Robert Vincent. Car ce projet participe à la préservation de l'héritage du Caire médiéval.

Outre cette œuvre ambitieuse, la sauvegarde des monuments en général et de la calligraphie en particulier ne saurait être complète sans l'exécution du projet de sauvegarde du Caire fatimide. Cela comprend tout à la fois la transformation des rues historiques en rues piétonnes et la délocalisation de toutes les activités nuisibles. « Seule une conscience globale et populaire de la valeur de cet héritage est le garant de la sauvegarde de ce patrimoine », conclut le Dr Vincent. Un slogan adéquat qu'il faudrait aussi faire entendre aux riverains et aux touristes par une vaste campagne d'information.

Nada Al-Hagrassy
Dina Al-Daly

Em bref

□ Egypte

Sinaï

La mission archéologique opérant dans le site Al-Qoris, dans le Nord-Sinaï, vient de mettre au jour une mosquée datant de l'époque mamelouke. Elle était notamment utilisée par les pèlerins qui se dirigeaient vers La Mecque. L'importance de cette découverte réside dans le fait que c'est le seul monument qui nous est parvenu du sultan mamelouk Zein Al-Abidine Katokhda. Le seul objet qui reste de son règne est un candelabre se trouvant au Musée islamique du Caire.

Découverte

La mission archéologique du HCA fouillant le site de Manchiyat Ezzat vient de mettre au jour une nécropole pharaonique qui renferme 20 tombes et qui remonte aux première et deuxième dynasties. Des squelettes, des ustensiles en porcelaine et des couteaux en pierre pourraient apporter des informations sur le début de l'époque dynastique dans le Delta.

Réhabilitation

L'Unesco va aider l'Egypte dans la réhabilitation du Caire islamique afin de préserver le patrimoine historique et le patrimoine humain de ce quartier, a affirmé Georges Zouein, directeur-adjoint du comité du patrimoine mondial de l'Unesco. « Nous allons proposer, lors de la réunion du comité du patrimoine mondial qui se réunira du 2 au 7 décembre à Kyoto, de financer un programme de 3 ans sur la réhabilitation du Caire islamique. Nous sommes pour une réhabilitation et une revitalisation, c'est-à-dire un projet intégré pour préserver le patrimoine, mais également pour améliorer la situation des habitants, car il n'est pas question d'avoir un immense musée urbain vidé de toute âme ». L'Unesco va commencer par créer un projet pilote dans le quartier populaire de Gamaliya, dans Le Caire historique, en réhabilitant les monuments et en offrant des micro-crédits aux locataires et aux propriétaires nécessiteux pour l'amélioration de leurs habitations.

82 écritures

L'écriture arabe puise son origine dans l'écriture nabatéenne. Les Nabatéens étaient un peuple du nord-ouest de l'Arabie. Leur langue était nord-sémitique et leur écriture cursive a préparé l'écriture arabe.

Il existe aujourd'hui 82 sortes de calligraphies. Certaines existent encore aujourd'hui, d'autres ont disparu parce qu'elles ne se sont pas adaptées aux changements sociaux. Certains genres de calligraphie puisent leur origine du nom des villes, comme l'écriture coufique, originaire de la ville de Koufa en Iraq).

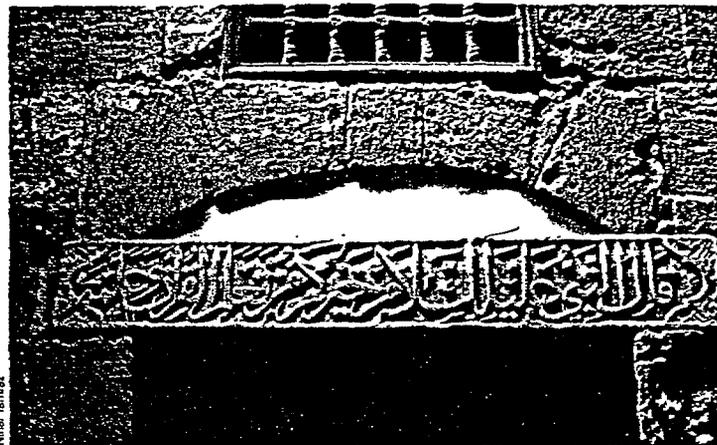
D'autres proviennent du nom de personnes qui l'ont inventée, comme l'écriture Al-Rihani, qui tient son nom d'Ali bin Oubay Al-Rihani, calligraphe du calife abbasside Al-Maamoun.

La calligraphie tient aussi son caractère de l'évolution de ses fonctions comme la calligraphie al-tawqie (signatu-

re), ou selon la forme, comme l'écriture al-mousabat (enchaînée). L'écriture coufique, avec laquelle les premiers sourates du Coran ont été écrites, se fonde sur les lignes strictes et droites. Cette écriture est celle des cinq premiers siècles de l'hégire. A l'époque moderne, son maniement exige un véritable art. Les décorations qui accompagnent la calligraphie coufique se sont diversifiées. Entre autres, des bandeaux à décor géométrique ou floral. L'écriture coufique se dessinait initialement sur des matières solides comme les poteries, les pierres et les pièces de monnaie.

La calligraphie nashk se caractérise par des lignes souples et rondes. Elle était utilisée dans la vie quotidienne. A l'époque moderne, elle est utilisée par la presse et pour enseigner la langue arabe aux élèves.

D. D.



Un hadith du prophète gravé sur un linteau en marbre de la porte du sabil Nafissa Al-Beida.

Nihal Tamouz

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CREATING A FUTURE OUT OF THE PAST:
 THE WORK OF THE ANTIQUITIES DEVELOPMENT PROJECT AT QUSEIR

BY CHARLES LE QUESNE
 CONSULTING ARCHAEOLOGIST

INTRODUCTION

Early this year, work began in earnest on the investigation, restoration and presentation of one of Egypt's lesser-known monuments: the Ottoman fort known to Quseiris (as the local inhabitants are known) as the "Tabiya" in the Red Sea port of Quseir (Fig. 1). The project is one of four being funded by USAID and administered through the Antiquities Development Project (ADP) by the American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE). The ultimate objective of the Project is to establish the renewed building as the Red Sea's first cultural Visitors' Center, informing Egyptian and foreign visitors about the past and present of the Egyptian Red Sea coast: a rich and, until relatively recently, little-explored subject.

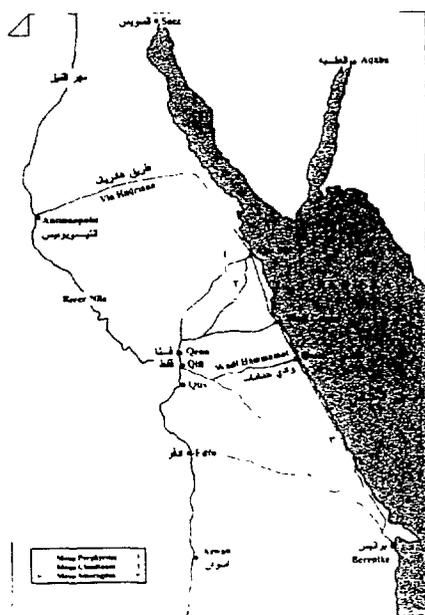


Figure 1 The Red Sea showing location of Quseir

the fort's head *gafiya* (antiquities guard), recalls from his childhood the weekly post being brought by camel from Qena: a three-day trek. The very existence of a town in such an isolated location is more than a simple accident of geography: it has no hinterland, no economic basis in the sense that we are used to. Like all Red Sea towns of history, Quseir has a compelling commercial and political *raison d'être* which has led merchants and administrators through time to set up the complex support networks necessary to maintain an urban settlement in so hostile an environment.

Modern Quseir, it would appear, is an Ottoman foundation. It replaced the Mamluk (and formerly Roman) port seven kilometers to the north at Quseir el-Qadim (excavated by Donald Whitcomb and Janet Johnson in the period 1978-82). The apparent explanation for this change of location is silting up of the lagoon which provided such a safe harbor for ships at Quseir el-Qadim. The provision of a fort above the new harbor to the south is an indication that it was a settlement established at least with official approval, and very possibly by central initiative.

These periodic occupations and abandonments are another reminder of the fragility of urban society in the desert. By contrast with the ports of

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 11)

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On the internet: <http://www.arce.org>

The archaeological and conservation aspects of the project, mostly carried out in the first half of 1998, are now largely complete. While much archaeological research and study remains to be done and the Visitors' Center awaits its finishing touches, it is possible now to reflect on what has been accomplished and learnt over the past nine months.

BACKGROUND

Until the 1960's, with the construction of the first asphalt roads along the Red Sea coast and across to the Nile Valley, Quseir was isolated to a degree that it is difficult for the modern visitor to conceive. Hasan,

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DEVELOPMENT NEWS

EGYPTIAN ANTIQUITIES PROJECT UPDATE

On October 29, thanks to the gracious hospitality of Drs. James McCready and David O'Connor, the Institute of Fine Arts was the setting for a lecture by Robert K. (Chip) Vincent, Project Director of the Egyptian Antiquities Project (EAP), who updated ARCE members and friends on the Egyptian Antiquities Project. The Institute hosted a reception for attendees after the lecture.

Beginning in Cairo his tour of EAP and Antiquities Development Project (ADP) sites, Chip showed some work in progress as well as the first finished project, the Sabil-Kuttab Nafisa al-Bayda. This is a small building near the Bab Zuwayla, the southern gate of the old city, which combined a sabil, or place where water was dispensed to passersby, with a kuttab or Koranic school. This sabil-kuttab was endowed by the rich widow of the emir in power at the time of the Napoleonic invasion, so the building has historic as well as artistic value. The walls have been stabilized, a new stairway has been built to replace one that was crumbling and the grillwork has been restored. The result is a lovely small building, which we hope can eventually be used as a bookshop/visitors' center for the area. The Bab Zuwayla itself is now under scaffolding and work to clean and consolidate it and replace the stones at its base is underway. Nearby, thanks to a USAID project to install a sewer for the whole area, what was once a "moat" filled with refuse around the mosque of Saleh Tala'i is now a paved walkway and the adjoining merchants' shops are drying out. In the mosque itself, work proceeds on the minbar (pulpit). Because of the moisture in the wall that it was



Steps leading to school room, before and after restoration
Photos by Francis Dzikowski



attached to, it had warped. It has been removed from the wall and it is drying out naturally. The fine woodwork is being carefully conserved with a varnish from the 1950s being cleaned away to reveal the brightness of the wood beneath it.

Not far from the Bab Zuwayla, work is going forward on the Bayt al-Razzaz. This wonderful old house has

180 rooms, many of them, including the great hall, gems of their type. Most of the work that has been done so far has been basic structural conservation like the shoring up of unstable walls and ceilings. Currently, a dangerously bulging wall is being dismantled and rebuilt. Cleaning the complex required over 320 truckloads of debris to be carted away, including the Nasser-era bomb shelter. Nearby are three houses that are being renovated and where sanitary fittings have been installed to further strengthen the fabric of this area of Cairo.

Another sabil, that of Mohammed Ali, all a lacework of marble, is about to be conserved not far from the Bab Zuwayla. The fact that many of these monuments are in close proximity illustrates the position of the EAP that it is important to cluster sites within a relatively small area to create a critical mass. Chip showed a map with all of the ARCE work sites as well as those of several other countries and the Supreme Council of Antiquities; when these monuments are finished the whole area will be enhanced. Nowhere is this more true than where USAID has worked on groundwater problems. The inhabitants of the area as well as the monuments benefit from the sewer and drainage systems that they have installed or plan to install.

A relatively new project that is also dependent upon clearing up groundwater problems, is the synagogue of Maimonides. Once the site is dry, cleanup and conservation can be undertaken there. This was once the burial site of the famous medieval Jewish philosopher and consequently has a great deal of historical interest.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 9)

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Gamal 'Abd al-Nasir (1918-70).
Credit: NYPL

lives of many Egyptians; it has been. But the government Law school, *Dar al-'Ulum*, and the Higher Teachers College have produced a large share of notable Egyptians. All scholars know that Egypt has long led the Arabic-speaking world in education, scholarship, literature, poetry, and print journalism, but I have also learned that Egypt's cultural leadership of the Arab world in such fields as theater, cinema, radio and television broadcasting, have been more extensive in time and more intensive in influence than I had realized. Much of my data is still raw, waiting for literary revision and careful analysis, but I feel that I have benefited immensely from the opportunities that I have received during my research fellowship in Cairo thus far. I am grateful to the ARCE and its staff, my old and new friends, many professors and graduate students in modern Egyptian history, and in a sense to all the many Egyptians whom I have met this year, for what they have taught me about my "bold project," a biographical dictionary for modern Egypt. ♣

DEVELOPMENT NEWS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FOUR

Chip then turned to Antiquities Development Projects sites for the second part of his lecture. Recently he and Michael Jones, the ADP director, spent several days photographing in the tomb of Seti I in the Valley of the Kings in preparation for a visit by a conservator. He showed the group breathtaking pictures from that visit — especially exciting since the tomb has been closed to the public for six or seven years. The ADP is doing a preliminary study of what would be necessary to conserve the tomb in order to make it accessible again.

Quseir, an ancient fort on the Red Sea that was a center of trade and pilgrimage is a project that is almost finished. After consolidation of the structure, including the four ancient towers, the fort will be opened as a visitors' center. (For more on Quseir, see page one of this newsletter.)

Finally Chip turned to St. Anthony's Monastery. Even though we have seen the patriarchs, angels and saints gradually emerging from the grime of centuries at his lectures over the last couple of years, it is always thrilling to see their brilliance in contrast to the once-blackened walls. The Italian conservators are again at work; they are almost finished with the whole church.

Showing a picture of the monastery at dawn, Chip ended the lecture by saying that we feel that we are making a contribution to a new dawn for many of the antiquities in Egypt. The enthusiastic crowd agreed, caught up in the excitement of what the EAP and ADP, with the close collaboration of the Supreme Council of Antiquities, are accomplishing there. ♣

See many of these sites on the ARCE tour in February. Contact the New York office for information.

ERRATA

July 1998 Newsletter

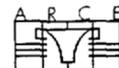
Conservation of Sabil-Kuttab Completed, p. 3, missing credit should read:

Mary McKercher, Research Associate, The Brooklyn Museum of Art

A Vanished Egypt, p. 8, captions should read (upper photo):

"To my dear Kandice: my colleague and friend, on the occasion of the honoring of Mr. Zaki Tuliemat." Sincerely, Abd al-Hady, May 29, 1931." Lower photo: "The actress Esther Chatawy Salama of the Troupe Teatro."

HAVE
YOU
REMEMBERED
THE
ANNUAL
FUND?



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BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Royal comfort in Pyramid Age

The magnificent funerary collection of Khufu's mother Hetep-Heres is now on the ground floor of the Egyptian Museum. Nevine El-Aref spent time in the hall

We often wonder what life was like in the time of the pyramid-builders. There are many reliefs in the tombs of Saqqara and Giza that depict the lives of farmers, craftsmen, overseers and noblemen. But what of the royal family?

Until recently the funerary collection of Hetep-Heres, mother of the builder of the Great Pyramid, was exhibited near the Tutankhamun treasures on the Egyptian museum's upper floor. Its beauty was, consequently, somewhat overshadowed. Now it has been placed where it belongs historically — within the Old Kingdom. In here it can be appreciated for what it is — a remarkable example of the high standard of craftsmanship and royal luxury.

The newly organised hall for the Hetep-Heres collection is a small room. On display are the queen's gold and silver anklets, bracelets and earrings inlaid with precious and semi-precious stones. There is also a complete set of bedroom furniture including a canopied bed (its legs carved like the paws of a lion), carrying chair, armchair, headrest and jewel box. The queen's mirrors and brushes are also on view.

Work on the museum's ground floor intensified in recent months. The Queen's complete funerary equipment was brought in and placed beside the tiny limestone statues of her son, the great King Khufu, and her husband, Senefru. The latter is a life-size statue showing Senefru wearing a wig and holding an emblem of authority at the entrance.

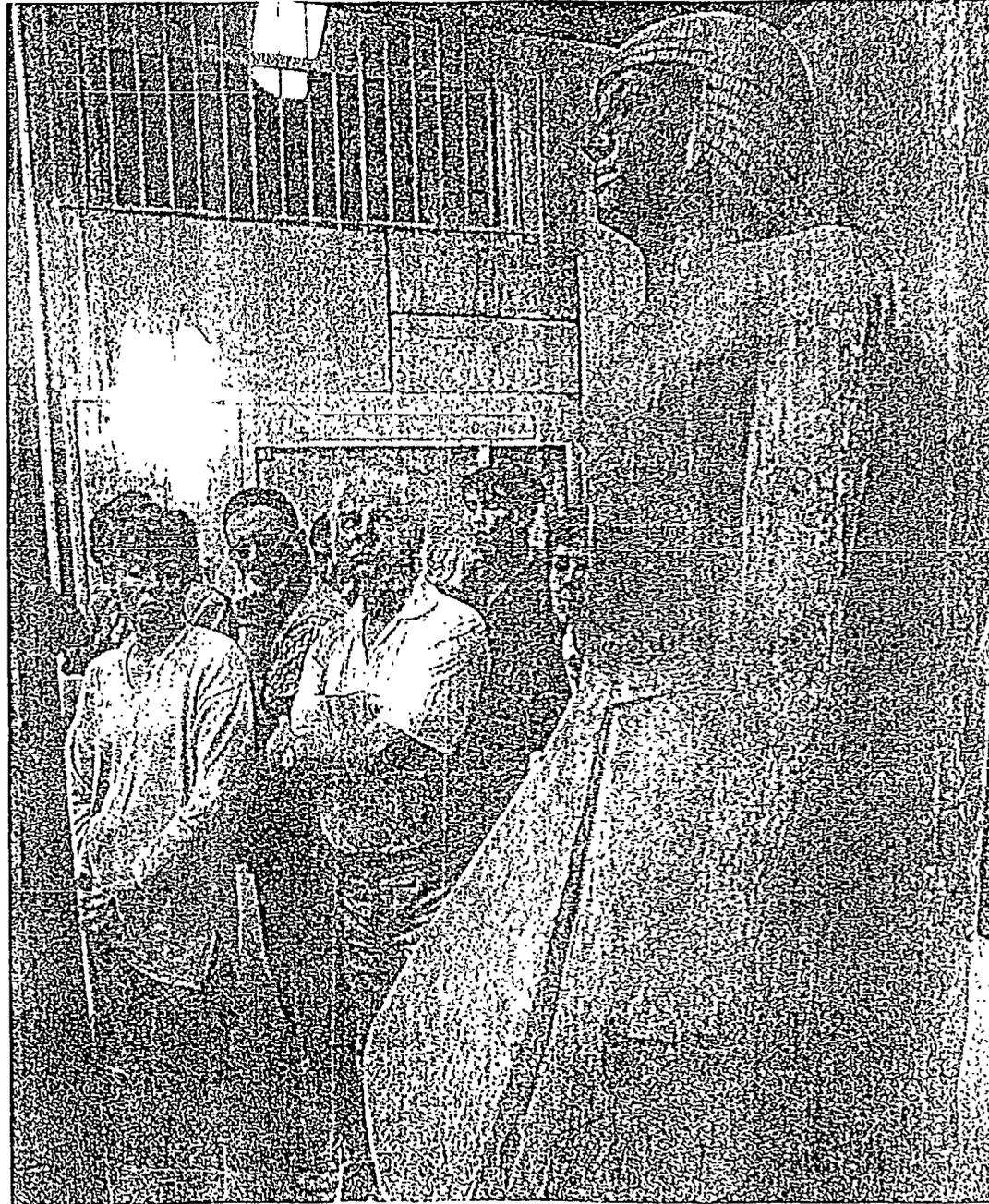
"This hall was previously used as a storeroom," said Mohamed Saleh, director of the soon-to-be-built Egyptian museum in the pyramid area. "When it was decided to remove this valuable collection to be placed in the context of the era to which it belongs, it was very difficult to find a suitable place. Finally, we thought that an old storeroom would be ideal."

The storeroom has been divided into two. The lower is Hetep-Heres hall, while the upper provides space for a laboratory and researchers. It includes previously stored items displayed on shelves, plus a small computer.

"Eventually, I foresee that all the storerooms in the museum could be put to better use," said Saleh, who pointed out that numerous valuable items are never seen

Mohamed El-Shumi, the newly-appointed director of the existing Egyptian Museum, said that preparing and organising the Hetep-Heres hall took about a year. New lighting, ventilation and air-conditioning systems were installed, care was given to the special designs of the modern showcases and all the objects were cleaned and restored.

The Hetep-Heres collection was found in 1923 beside Khufu's pyramid complex in Giza. It was in a very poor condition and took a decade to restore to its original splendour.



The life-size statue of Senefru, the husband of King Khufu's mother, Hetep-Heres, is a new drawcard at the Egyptian Museum

photo: Khaled El-Fici

Britain's 'Millennium D.
A GIGANTIC architecture Dome will be established in countries of the world and culture throughout Ministry of Tourism of a study, in cooperation and the Egyptian tourists could best benefit from participate. The Dome is expected

Road accidents
THE MINISTRY OF looking at the reasons Egypt. A memo has been specific instructions to imposed on agencies especially if police in either technical neglect. The ministry has asked links between various Ministry of Transport maintenance and provision especially in flood risk

A stand for nature
"THE NATURAL environment and we have Mamdouh El-Beltagi while detailing a plan minister has joined for counterpart and the project is financed natural areas hand-in-development

Millennium restoration
IN A meeting with the El-Beltagi outlined the celebrations. Part of the route of the Holy Land Islamic, Coptic and Jewish. The ambassador said USAID contribution who work on these projects American Research Studies dealing with many of the sites

Oneworld promotion
THE Oneworld carrying global advertising can powerful alliance of American Airlines, Qantas. The campaign line alliance, which 600 destinations will run in over 90 countries a combination of local newspapers, but banners to sell the alliance

Al Ahram 18-24 March 99

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SCIENCE

Egyptology's ignition key

A study that began by chance has often continued that way

By DOUGLAS MARSHALL
SCIENCE EDITOR

IN AUGUST, 1799, 200 years ago next month, a French army engineer strolling north of the Egyptian town of Rosetta (Rashid) near the mouth of the Nile, chanced on a piece of flat, black basalt. It was a little smaller than a movie poster and had one corner broken off.

The engineer's precise surname is lost to history; it was either Bouchard or Boussard. The thing he stumbled on was the Rosetta Stone, now in the British Museum. It became the foundation block of Egyptology and a metaphor for any key that unlocks a mystery.

The Rosetta Stone bears three inscriptions of the same text, a summary of gifts conferred by the pharaoh Ptolemy V (205 to 180 B.C.). The top inscription is in Egyptian hieroglyphics; the middle is in demotic script, a cursive form of hieroglyphics; and the bottom is in classical Greek.

Thanks to the Greek, scholars were finally able to decipher hieroglyphic writing and begin the study of pharaonic Egypt (circa 4500 B.C. to the Arab conquest in A.D. 641).

By the 1870s, Egyptology was an established academic discipline. Egypt remains the only country in the world that merits its own distinct branch of archeology.

It is clear that Egyptologists will not soon run out of research material. Rarely, a week goes by without a report about a new-found corner of ancient Egypt's past, much of which remains dark.

Frequently, these discoveries come about by the same sort of happenstance that gave us the Rosetta Stone. For example, a tomb found by travellers in the 19th century was dismissed as small and uninteresting by Howard Carter, who discovered



AP PHOTO

ASSEMBLED GODS: Egyptologist Hourig Sourouizian, above, spent five years assembling pieces of limestone from six locations to restore a sculpture of Mut, right, goddess of motherhood and nature, sitting beside Amun, god of air, creation and empire.

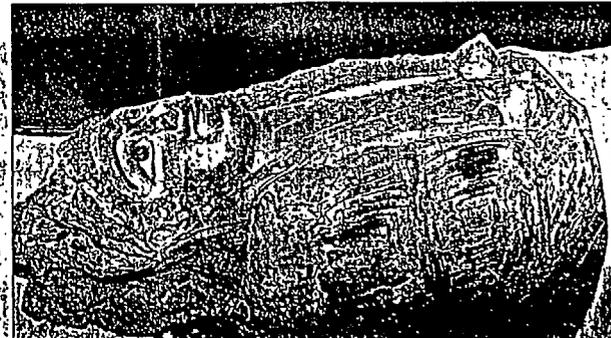
scriptions that may tell scholars much about Ramses II (1290 to 1224 B.C.), who built lots of monuments to himself but whose history is almost a blank.

Similarly, a tomb complex in the Western Desert that contains 105 Greco-Roman mummies was discovered three months ago, only after a donkey slipped and fell into it. And a sculpture of an Egyptian god and goddess unveiled this month at the Cairo Museum was assembled only after an Egyptologist recognized that pieces of limestone stored in six different places in Egypt belonged together.

The engineer who discovered the Rosetta Stone was an officer in the army of Napoleon Bonaparte, which had become stranded in Egypt when Admiral Horatio Nelson destroyed the French fleet in the battle of



AP PHOTO



Jay Ingram



Are dowsers on the level or all wet?

Reports that Great Lakes' water levels are abnormally low and that our aquifers are threatened by bottled-water companies are conspiring to alarm us about the state of fresh water in Ontario. Where will landowners worried about the state of water on their property turn?

How about the centuries-old technique of dowsing, also known as divining or water-witching? It's cheap; just have a skilled dowser walk across your property with a stick or coat-hanger in hand to locate sources of underground water. Should you be worried about the reliability of such a technique? Yes, you should.

Even though dowsing is scorned by almost all scientists as being complete nonsense, I've been intrigued by it ever since I interviewed a construction engineer in Liverpool years ago who swore by dowsing. He used dowsers to locate buried objects at construction sites and was unworried that there seemed to be no scientific basis to it. It worked for him and that's all he cared about.

However, personal testimony is no substitute for a well-designed experiment, and a couple of years ago such an experiment was carried out in Germany. It seems, however, that even in this case the "positive" results have to be taken with a grain of salt.

The tests of dowsing were conducted in a two-storey barn in Germany. On the ground floor, a cart carrying a water pipe was set up to run along a 10-metre line drawn on the floor. The location of the cart at any moment was determined by a random number generator. On the second floor, a replica line was drawn, and dowsers were invited to mark on that line where they thought the cart was at any moment. Extensive measures were taken to

lat

Other Information About ARCE Projects



4 OCT 1999



INSTITUT FRANÇAIS
D'ARCHÉOLOGIE ORIENTALE

المعهد الفرنسي للآثار الشرقية

وزارة الثقافة
المجلس الأعلى للآثار

During the Round-Table conference on "The Limits of Monumental Restoration", which took place at the Institut Français d'Archéologie Orientale on September 27th 1999 at the request of the Supreme Council of Antiquities, the following recommendations were made and agreed upon in the presence of Pr. Dr. G.A.GABALLA General Secretary of the Supreme Council of Antiquities and of Pr. Dr. N.GRIMAL, Director of the the Institut Français d'Archéologie Orientale. The participants, listed below, have all agreed upon those issues as well. The Cultural Heritage department and the Cairo branch of the UNESCO expressed their great interest in this conference but where not able to participate.

Have participated to the conference:

Pr. Dr. Gaballa Ali GABALLA (SCA, General Secretary)
Dr. Kamal BARAKAT (SCA)
Dr. Shaaban TAHA (SCA, Director of Projects Department)
Dr. Mohamed EL SAGHIR (SCA, Director of the Egyptian Antiquities Department)
Dr. Samir ABDEL HALIM (SCA, General Director of Restoration)
Dr. Nasry ISKANDER (SCA, General Director of Research and Maintenance Department)
Mme Amira ABU BAKR (Restoration Director of Lower Egypt Museums, Greco-Roman Museum, Alexandria)
Dr. Shawki NAKHLA (Conservation and Restoration Consultant for SCA)
Pr. Dr. Nicolas GRIMAL (IFAO, Director)
Pr. Dr. Bernard MATHIEU (IFAO)
Eng. Michel WUTTMANN (IFAO, Head of Conservation Department)
Mr. Ramez BOUTROS (IFAO)
Mr. Pierre ZIGNANI (IFAO)
Mr. George CASTEL (IFAO)
Mr. Hassân El-AMIR (IFAO)
Mr. Mohamed ABOULAMAYEM (IFAO)
Mr. Mark M. EASTON (ARCE Director)
Mr. Jaroslaw DOBROWOLSKI (ARCE, EAP-Technical Director)
Mr. Robert K. VINCENT, Jr (ARCE, EAP-Director)
Eng. Hoda ABDEL HAMID (ARCE, EAP-Conservator)
Dr. Fatma HELMI (Director of Restoration Department of the Cairo University, Faculty of Archaeology)
Dr. Horst JARITZ (Director - Swiss Institute for Archaeological and Architectural Research of Ancient Egypt)
Mr. François LARCHÉ (Director of the Franco-Egyptian Centre for Studies of Karnak Temples)
Mr. Christian LEBLANC (CNRS, Archaeological Documentation Centre in Egypt)
Dr. Wolfgang MAYER (DAI, Cairo)
Dr. Karel INNEMÉE (NVIC, Director of Research & Restoration of Wall Paintings, Netherlands)
Dr. Tomasz HERBICH (Director of the Polish Centre for Archaeology in Cairo)
Dr. Jean-Yves EMPEREUR (CEA, Director)
Pr. Giuseppe FANFONI (CFPR, CIERA)
Dr. Josef DORNER (Austrian Institute in Cairo)
Eng. Hossam MAHDI (Arab Contractors)
Eng. Tarek El MURI (Arab Contractors)

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e-mail : mwuttmann@ifao.egnet.net

Recommendations:

Preliminary Remarks:

Four issues are of general interest for all historical, environmental and deontological aspects linked to monumental restoration:

- The necessary documentation linked with every conservation or restoration project is not easily available for the parties concerned. There is a great need for a database recording the existing information and where and how they can be consulted.
- The respect of the monument in all its historical and artistic values defines the limits of any restoration work to be done.
- The function of the monument by the time of the restoration has to be taken into account.
- As a rule restoration should be limited to the necessary minimum.

1-Are their means to adapt the interventions and the technical choices according to the historical context to which the monument belongs?

The status, the kind and the state of preservation of the monument prevail on the historical background for decision making in restoration projects: archaeological sites and monument reconstruction's deserve different treatments than those still in use such as mosques and churches.

2-In the reconstruction process of a monument or part of a monument from scattered elements, it has been frequently required to add new parts such as blocs of stone or masonry. Should we suggest in the reconstruction, the architectural details (cornice, bands in prominent position, etc...) of the basic elements? If yes, how and within which limits?

Any reconstruction has to be based on sound historical architectural and technical studies. The choice between brick masonry and newly carved stones to replace missing parts depends on the cases. No general rule can be established. The following requirements have to be fulfilled: respecting the integrity of the original parts, using compatible materials. Architectural details can be suggested by their general outlines or volumes.

We could similarly fill in the gaps with stone material to insert floating fragments or improve the stability of the structure. How and within which limits?

The filling of gaps is sought to protect from the destructive environmental forces of the surrounding environment and is necessary to insert floating elements. From an aesthetical point of view, the fillings have to be well integrated, should not affect the original construction, be reversible if the option comes in the future to introduce original elements, and be identifiable.

When dismantling and rebuilding a monument, can we discard extremely damaged

elements of the basic structure? If yes, what do we replace them with?

If deteriorated elements cannot be consolidated *in-situ* they can be replaced by material fulfilling both the similarity constraints (physico-chemical compatibility and aesthetical values) and the mechanical resistance.

In the case where original coatings or mortars are missing (gypsum, lime...) should we replace them? And if yes, with materials of similar composition? How should we mark the restoration?

The replacement should contribute to the conservation of the surrounding original remains: closed joint can be protected. If that contribution is nil or negligible, it must be prescribed for an open joint provides free access to the monument's structure. The used material should be as much as possible similar to the original. The technique to be used should allow further identification of the new addition.

3-It is almost always necessary to protect the structures built with bricks or clay. One of the most commonly used methods is to "restore" those elements by covering them with one or few layers of bricks. How should we mark the separation between the original and the additions to the structure? Should we use similar bricks? Similar colour, composition or texture?

Excavated mud-brick structures must be protected. If technically possible, the use of protecting layers of newly made mud-brick should be preferred. The separation between the addition and the original remains should be very distinctly marked (using a mortar coating of a different colour, or using a layer of broken pottery). A solution to the problem can be the stamping of the new bricks. When technically possible the dimensions of the new bricks should differ and the texture and colour be only slightly different.

4-The open-air sites, suffering from weather fluctuations such as sandstorms, rain, or marine environment are sometimes protected with shelters. When should we use those shelters? How should we build them? What are their impacts on landscape? Should we rather sometimes bury the endangered structures?

The shelters should adequately protect and fit in the surrounding environment of the site. In the situations where no satisfactory technical solution is available, reburying the structures is recommended.

5-The monumental statues are often conserved *in situ*. They are sometimes totally or partially reconstituted from originally dissociated elements. When should we stop restoring? Should we limit the restoration to the elements needed for stability? Should we fill in the gaps? Should we give the statue its original total volume?

In most cases, the reconstitution should be limited to the minimum required in order to assure the stability of the overall elements, either through using a discrete but maintainable structure or through limited filling of the gaps.

When filling in the gaps is necessary for a clear and readable overall assembly, those should be identifiable and reversible in order for further additions to be possible. Full documentation and graphical restitution of preliminary element, exposed in the vicinity of the monument would be of great usage to a new restoration procedure, as well as an elegant alternative.

6-The mortar supporting the pictorial layer of wall paintings could present some gaps and show the masonry, therefore perturbing the reading of the decoration. Should we fill in the gaps of the mortar? With a similar material, compatible or clearly differentiated from the original material? Should we make a difference in surface level of the restored part?

The filling of gaps should be limited to small surfaces surrounded by conserved elements in order to ensure the stability of the elements belonging to the original structure or for aesthetical purposes. The additions should be realised with compatible material of slight colour difference or with a slight surface level variation.

Concerning the pictorial layers or carved decoration, in which cases should we fill in the missing parts? Should we evoke a missing but recoverable part? Should we restore the missing parts of the repetitive motifs sculptured or painted?

The evocation of the frame lines of carved or painted decoration can be expressed in reconstruction's in the slightest way technically possible (outlines for example).

In buildings still in use, limited reintegration can be performed when necessary with well-known techniques such as *tratteggio* and *puntinato*.

Table of Status of Projects

Egyptian Antiquities Fund (EAF) Grant				
Progress to Date on Subgrants: as of Oct 31, 1999.				
1	Title of Subgrant (subgrant Description)	Status *** Not Obligated	Ongoing /compl	Progress Description
	<i>Cycle One:</i>			
1	Ibn Barquq: Managed by (ARCE)* Period: Islamic/Mamluk Type of Activity: Documentation/ Conservation		1	Completed: Site. Ongoing: Italian saw technician visited site & confirmed its feasibility. RFP's received & evaluated. Discussions occurring with selected contractor. Next: Award subgrant, start site work in February. Overall: Delayed
2	Bab Zuweila: Managed by Nairy Hampikian Period: Islamic / Fatimid Type of Activity: Documentation / conservation		1	Completed: Architectural, Photographic and historical documentation and SOW for conservation, arrival of JOS cleaning system. Ongoing: Conservation work, scaffolding, replacement of stones. JOS system works well, cleans 6-10m per day. E. Tower cleaned. Approval being sought to add minarets to project. Next: Continuing Conservation Overall: On schedule
3	Salah Tala'i: Managed by A. Dobrowolska Period: Islamic / Fatimid Type of Activity: Documentation / conservation		1	Completed Architectural Photographic and historical documentation and scope of work for conservation. Minbar conservation finished, January 1999. Completion ceremony by Flotus. Ongoing: SCA started to remove roof. Next: We are intending to repair floor instead. Overall: On schedule
4	Bayt Al Razzaz: Managed by (ARCE)* Period: Islamic/ Ottoman Type of Activity: Documentation / Conservation		1	Completed: Existing Conditions Report, clearing of rubble and emergency shoring. Removal of Bunker. Dismantle and re-erect bulging wall. Proposal for design of conservation of action areas. Ongoing: Roof being replaced, discussion are occurring re: conservation design. Next: Award sub-agreement for design Overall: On schedule / Delayed

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2	Title of Subgrant	Status		Progress Description
	(subgrant Description)	Not Obligated	Ongoing /compl	
5	Coptic Area: Managed by Mallinson Architects Period: Graeco - Roman Type of Activity: Documentation/Site Presentation		1	Completed On - Site work, Draft Final Report Ongoing Final report received & under evaluation Sample bench being built Next Determine signage Install Bench Overall : Delay from contractor
6	ARCE Field School: Managed by ARCE Period: n.a. Type of Activity: Training / Institutional Building		1	Completed Three seasons, 50 SCA inspectors were trained Ongoing Next. A new season of training is scheduled for the Spring of 2000 Overall On schedule / Delayed
7	Dar El Kutub: Managed by Dar El Kutub Period: n.a. Type of Activity: Conservation/ Publication		1	Completed Project Cancelled
8	Luxor Temple: Managed by Chicago House Period: Pharaonic Type of Activity: Conservation		1	Completed Analyses have been done on the fragments and final recommendations prepared and implemented Conservation shed in place and operating. New Mastabas built to store fragments Ongoing. Chicago House has reopened. Next. Conservators will return in January 2000 Overall : On schedule
9	Medieval Zone Database: Managed by (ARCE)* Period: Medieval/ Islamic Type of Activity: Documentation	1		Completed Ongoing Scope of work being prepared before issuing sub-agreements Principal unavailable Next Work will start after new staff starts Overall . Pending
10	North Sinai: Managed by New South Period: All periods Type of Activity Salvage		1	Completed Subgrant 100% completed Ongoing Next Digitize B+W negatives before giving to SCA, investigating best method to digitize

3	Title of Subgrant	Status		Progress Description
	(subgrant Description)	Not Obligated	Ongoing /compl	
11	South Sinai: Managed by Southern Methodist University (SMU) Period: Prehistoric Type of Activity: Documentation		1	Completed Subgrant 100% completed Book published in April, 1999
12	Valley of the Kings: Managed by California Academy of Sciences Period: Pharaonic Type of Activity: Feasibility Study for flood control		1	Completed First phase of work was completed Ongoing: Team working on Final report Overall : Delayed Next: Team to return January 2000, Team to forward recommendation in December, 1999.
13	Conservation Lab: Managed by (ARCE)* Period: n. a. Type of Activity. Procurement/ Conservation / Training	1		Completed Selection of Luxor as a location for the lab and some work has been done on the specifications for the tender documents Ongoing: Discussions with SCA Next: Select consultants for needs assessments Overall Pending
14	Museum Management: Managed by Friends of the Fulbright Commission (FFC) Period: n.a Type of Activity. Training / Institution Building		1	a) Training in US Completed. Subgrant 100% completed 16 employees have received training in the US b) Royal Jewelery Exhibit Rooms Completed Subgrant 100% completed Two rooms opened c) Hetepheres Exhibit Room Completed Portion of exhibit funded by ARCE Ongoing N/A Next Open exhibit, up to museum to decide

4	Title of Subgrant	Status		Progress Description
	(subgrant Description)	Not Obligated	Ongoing /compl	
II	Cycle Two:			
1	Abydos: Managed by New York University Period: Pharaonic Type of Activity: Conservation		1	Completed Subgrant signed Ongoing. Next: Team mobilizing Site work to start in New year Overall. Now on track
2	Alexandria Laboratory: Managed by the Institute of Nautical Archaeology Period: n.a. Type of Activity: Adaptive Re-use		1	Completed Subgrant 100 % completed
3	Cairo Mapping: Managed by Nick Warner Period: Medieval Type of Activity: Mapping		1	Completed Phase 1 Preliminary Maps received Final columns 1-4 received Ongoing Phase 2 Next Receive additional final maps, incorporate drawings from SCA Documentation Center and unregistered monuments Overall Delayed because Director worked at Quseir for ADP
4	Conservation Education: Managed by (ARCE)* Period: n.a. Type of Activity Training/ Institutional Building	1		Completed Ongoing Next RFP is required for this activity, since it is tied to the conservation lab in Luxor where the activity will be held, this activity is pending Training only start after the completion of the Conservation Lab (See Activity 13 above) Overall . Pending
5	Coptic Icons: Managed by Institute for Coptic Studies. Period: Coptic Type of Activity Conservation/ Training		1	Completed Phase 1 & extensive documentation Ongoing Working with team to advance to phase 2, which is actual conservation Next Sign agreement for phase 2 Overall Slight delay

5	Title of Subgrant (subgrant Description)	Status		Progress Description
		Not Obligated	Ongoing /compl	
6	Cultural Resources Management: Managed by Period: n.a. Type of Activity: Training	1		Completed AUC has withdrawn their proposal Ongoing Funds allocated for CRM Design made to concentrate on site management training at Saqara Next: Identify consultant Overall .
7	Dakhleh: Managed by Dakheh Oasis Project Period: Pharaonic Type of Activity: Conservation		1	Completed: Subgrant 100% Completed. Ongoing: Next: See Cycle III, Activity 3.
8	Graeco - Roman: Managed by (ARCE)* Period: Graeco - Roman Type of Activity: Conservation of Mosaics	1		Completed: ARCE submitted proposal, which was delayed by SCA Ongoing. Assembling new team. Next: Waiting for approval of project from SCA Overall : Delayed
9	Hayyim Capusi / Maimonides: Managed by (ARCE)* Type of Activity: Documentation / Conservation.		1	Completed. Photographic and historic documentation of Hayyim Capusi and Committee approval of new Maimonides site Completed conservation action plan of Maimonides Ground water study Ongoing Evaluate study recommendations Next Determine next steps
10	Documentation of Inscriptions in Medieval Cairo: Managed by AUC Period: Medieval / Islamic Type of Activity: Documentation		1	Completed: Subgrant signed in July 1996, site photography underway and scanned into database has given approval Obtained SCA security clearance for future photography on - site Ongoing Photography, scanning and data entry Next Continuing Overall On schedule / Delayed

6	Title of Subgrant (subgrant Description)	Status		Progress Description
		Not Obligated	Ongoing /compl.	
11	KV 55 Tomb in the Valley of the Kings: Managed by Laila Brock Period: Pharaonic Type of Activity: Conservation			Completed Subgrant 100% completed Ongoing Next
12	Medinet Habu: Managed by Chicago House Type of Activity: Documentation / Conservation		1	Completed: Sealing of roof against leaks. Cleaning of E. Wall Reliefs Ongoing: Team returned. Cleaning of wall reliefs. Clearance of statue base, laying of floor paving Next: Overall . On schedule
13	Pest Control Netting in Coptic Cairo: Managed by (ARCE)* Period: Coptic Type of Activity: Conservation	1		Completed Ongoing. Next Scheduled for September, 2000 Overall . Pending
14	Sabil Nafisa Bayda: Managed by A. Dobrowolska Period: Islamic Ottoman Type of Activity: Documentation / Conservation		1	Completed Subgrant 100% completed Ongoing Next
15	Tomb of Parennefer: Managed by University of Toronto: Period: Pharaonic Type of Activity: Feasibility Study		1	Completed Cancelled because revised proposal did not meet parameters of the grant Ongoing Next Overall Cancelled

7	Title of Subgrant (subgrant Description)	Status		Progress Description
		Not Obligated	Ongoing /compl	
16	UV Filters: Managed by (ARCE)* Period: Pharaonic & other Type of Activity:		1	Completed Final Report on Lighting in the Valley of the Kings, Draft report on Coptic Museum, Graeco - Roman Museum and Islamic Museum. Ongoing. Next Scheduled for September, 2000 Overall
17	Bab Zuweila:		1	The documentation component of Bab Zuweila is a Cycle 1 activity, the conservation component is a Cycle 2 project, reporting on this subgrant will all be under the Cycle 1 subgrants section above.

8	Title of Subgrant (subgrant Description)	Status		Progress Description
		Not Obligated	Ongoing /compl	
	III. Cycle Three:			
1	Alexandria Mosaics: Managed by Dr. Kolataj Period: Graeco - Roman Type of Activity: Conservation and Presentation (?)		1	Completed Subgrant Signature, Mosaics cleared and conserved Erection of Shelter, new Mosaic found, construction of safe viewing access to incorporate it in display Replacement of stone blocks, installation of walkways 99% Complete June, 1999 Draft final submitted Ongoing. Preparation to open site in December, 1999 Overall : On schedule
2	Bir Umm Fawakhir: Managed by University of Chicago Period: Coptic Type of Activity: Documentation & site preservation		1	Completed: Proposal, Barricade installed in March 1999. Ongoing: Final report. Next: Winter 2000 Overall . On schedule
3	EI - Muzzawaka Tomb: Managed by Dakhleh Oasis Project Period: Graeco - Roman Type of Activity: Conservation and Presentation		1	Completed Planning Grant, report submitted Ongoing: Discussions with Subgrantee Next Clarification of status of project; decide whether to proceed Note. This activity is a second Phase of the Dakhleh subgrant (Completed in Cycle 2). Overall : On schedule / Delayed
4	Hierakonpolis: Managed by Milwaukee Public Museum Period: Pharaonic Type of Activity:		1	Completed First season, Emergency measures, conservation Ongoing Reports Team finished 2nd season, March 1999 Next 3rd season January 2000 Overall On schedule
5	Institute of Nautical Archeology Managed by INA Period: n.a. Type of Activity Procurement of conservation equipment		1	Completed Project completed Ongoing. Next Overall
6	Karnak Statue: Managed by Dr Sourouzian Stadelmann Period: Pharaonic Type of Activity: Documentation / Conservation		1	Completed Subgrant signed Opening ceremony Ongoing Draft final report Next Overall Delayed

9	Title of Subgrant (subgrant Description)	Status		Progress Description
		Not Obligated	Ongoing /compl	
7	Ramesses VI: Managed by Ted Brock Period: Pharaonic Type of Activity: Conservation	1		Completed. SCA approval, concession extended for a year Ongoing: Subgrantee Discussion Next: Sign subgrant; start Winter 2000 Overall: Slight delay because conservator not available
8	Sabil Mohamed Ali: Managed by A. Dobrowolska Period: Islamic Type of Activity: Conservation and Adaptive re-use		1	Completed: Arch , Historical and Photo Doc , Structural engineering Done repairs Ongoing: Conservation of grills, stone Kuttab added to SOW Next: Conservation Overall: On schedule
9	Three Houses in Cairo: Managed by United Consultants Period: Islamic Type of Activity: Conservation		1	Completed: 4 Houses completed Final report Sugrant 100% completed Ongoing Next: Overall

Analysis of progress of total number of approved subgrants under Cycle 1, Cycle 2 and Cycle 3:

	Not Obligated	Ongoing /compl
1 Total number of Subgrants	7	33
2 Percentage of total number of approved subgrants (%)	17%	83%
Notes:		
* Subgrants managed by (ARCE), in parentheses, are subgrants that are managed by ARCE in the initial stages only, then they will be subgranted - out		
** Bold and italic font highlight issues in subgrants		
*** Not Obligated: Activity Subgrant has not been signed yet or if activity is managed by ARCE, then major subgrant activity has started and / or has started disbursing		
Ongoing/ Compl Activity subgrant has been signed or if activity is managed by ARCE, then major subgrant activity has started and / or has started disbursing		
disbursing funds (disbursement data collected from CIB report), or if activity is completed		

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