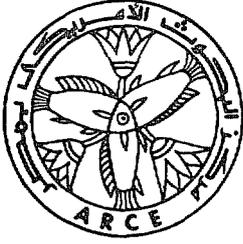


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مركز البحوث الأمريكي بمصر

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 VII

November 1, 1999 – October 31, 2000

٢ ميدان قصر الدوبارة - جاردن سيتي - القاهرة - ج.م.ع - تليفون: ٣٥٤٨٢٣٩ / ٣٥٥٨٦٨٣ / ٥٩٤٢٠٢٣ - مباشر وفاكس: ٣٥٤٨٦٢٢
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ANNUAL REPORT

Executive Summary

This report covers the period November 1, 1999 through October 31, 2000
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, commencement of a new phase of one, no-cost extension of one.
 - Implementation of Cycle Two projects; completion of one; commencement of one new one, incorporation of another monument into a project.
 - Implementation of Cycle Three projects; completion of one, incorporation of another monument into a project.
 - Completion of six projects, extension of one to include another monument. Completion ceremonies for the Villa of Birds.
 - 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.
- This year has been a transitional one in many ways. Michael Jones having successfully completed the four ADP projects took on a number of EAP projects.
- ARCE restructured the organization, moving the US office from New York to Atlanta and hiring new staff. Responsibilities were downsized there and shifted to Cairo.
- A new overall director was hired for ARCE following the completion of Mark Easton's employment term. Bob Springborg, a former ARCE fellow, university teacher and USAID contractor started in August.

HIGHLIGHTS AND PROGRESS FOR THE YEAR

Completion of Projects: After much planning and several target dates passed, we finally received notice that the opening of the Villa of the Birds would proceed in three days time! The ceremony went very well and was attended by high level officials: the Minister of Culture, the Governor of Alexandria, Dr. Gaballa A. Gaballa, The Deputy Director of USAID and the Polish Ambassador. The completed project was hailed as Egypt's newest museum and steps were laid to turn it into a facility to receive visitors.

Two projects received approval to include additional monuments within scope of work. At the Bab Zuwayla, the minarets of the adjoining mosque of Al- Mu'ayyad Sheikh were added to the project and work started. At the Sabil Muhammed Ali Pasha (Tusun Pasha) structural issues virtually required us to work on the integrated madrassa. In effect, two more monuments have been added to our portfolio, raising the number in the area to 9 projects and 8 registered monuments.

An all-Egyptian team began the architectural restoration of Zawiya Sabil Farag Ibn Barquq. This is the first real physical intervention at the monument.

In Old Cairo, archaeological monitoring of the \$12 million USAID grant water control project commenced under the direction of an experienced archaeology rescue specialist.

A team did an assessment of the laboratory equipment and conservator skills enhancement needs in the SCA. This is the first step in bolstering a SCA lab with needed equipment and providing training.

At Abydos, a team started working on the conservation issues of the mid-brick monument of the Shunet Al-Zebib and the excavated timbers of a 5000 year old boat.

Significant pieces of a large statue of Amun and Thutmose III were found by Chicago House in the small Temple of Amun at Medinet Habu.

ARCE as an organization has undertaken major structural changes. The New York office was moved to Atlanta and downsized, with responsibilities shifted over to Cairo. A new overall director was hired with authority over both offices.

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 Mosque of Saleh Tala'i
- ARCE Field School; three seasons
- Coptic area Master Plan

Cancelled Projects:

- Dar El Kutub/Manuscript
- Medieval Zone Database

Projects Underway:

The Field School:

Year Seven Accomplishments: The Project Director has indicated that she will be able to keep her commitments to her full-time job but also devote time to accomplish the fourth season of the field school.

Plans For Next Year: Obtain from the Project Director a schedule, budget and plans for the next season. Implement it in the Fall of 2001.

Zawiya-Sabil Farag Ibn Barquq:

Year Seven Accomplishments: Once a contractor was selected we worked to assist him with some contractual and financial matters so that we all have a satisfactory understanding. He has been used to working with the SCA and we did not want him to be hurt financially because of principles that he was not familiar with. This process was rather long and involved, but ultimately, a contract was signed and mobilization commenced in August. In the meantime, a team came from California to document the monument with laser-scanning equipment.

Once on-site, the contractor began the architectural restoration called for in the contract. A weak wall was partially re-built and strengthened. The floors were excavated to prepare for wall cutting, to remove non-compacted hydrated fill and to further investigate the foundations. As before, we determined that these foundations are in good condition, largely because the monument had been moved and rebuilt at a higher level. Thus they have been relatively removed from the ground water which is, in any case, dropping with the installation of the USAID sewer line. The contractor has also re-built the crumbling stairway to the roof and re-installed new gypsum and stained-glass windows. He has cleaned limestone wall blocks of salts, removed saturated plaster, replaced weakened blocks and cleaned and re-pointed the walls. Unfortunately, because of other on-going commitments, Saleh Lamei and his team decided they would be unable to act in a supervisory capacity and so they withdrew

their participation. Many technical and planning correspondence has been exchanged with the Italian saw cutting team in anticipation of the arrival.

Plans for Next Year: Make final contractual and logistical arrangements from the saw-cutting team to come and perform their conservation and training program. Continue conservation, specifically re-roofing to finish by August 2001. We also hope to hire an all-Egyptian team to conduct the fine conservation under the supervision of the same contractor.

Valley of the Kings:

Year Seven Accomplishments: A report with recommendations for flood protection measures for implementation was submitted and reviewed. Questions were raised for inclusion in the final report. In general, the SCA approved of the recommendations as part of the entire project approval. At the California Academy of Science, a good meeting was held to emphasize the importance of implementation in Phase II. Principal team members were asked to provide cost proposals for design, implementation, supervision and a tender for local contractors. Subsequently the CAS decided not to act as an organization to supervise the implementation phase. Therefore we have been contacting people to put together a management team. Some of the members are in place.

A site visit was held in the fall to discuss the project with SCA inspectors and to pave the way for the project team. Members are scheduled to arrive in January to execute two prototype protection measures as part of the final work of Phase I. An independent review of the reports will be conducted.

Plans for Next Year: The team will return and implement the 2 measures mentioned above by April 2001. During the course of the year we will receive design drawings, bid and award a contract and start work in the Valley or the high priority tombs. A team will be put in place to coordinate and execute the work for a six-month field season starting in the fall.

Luxor Temple:

Year Seven Accomplishments: More mastaba platforms for storing the fragments were built in the expanded blockyard to bring the total to twenty. All 1540 fragments were recorded on the database for stability and effectiveness of previous treatment. Ninety-four fragments (one or more faces) were treated with Wacker OH. All treated fragments, as well as those requiring future placement were placed under a covered area for protection. Desalination experiments were conducted on uninscribed strong sandstone fragments to test the effectiveness of various salt-extracting techniques, and salt crystals were sampled and identified. 140 blocks were set aside for priority treatment and to be installed at a later date on the east wall of the Amenhotep III sun court. They will join those put in place in a large offering scene containing the back of Amun. Chicago House requested to receive a no-cost extension to the grant to allow a sixth season to proceed.

Plans for Next Year: The team will continue its conservation treatment and begin to put in place on the wall the treated blocks before the season ends in April 2001.

Mosque of Saleh Tala'i

Year Seven Accomplishments: Because the SCA contractor was doing work on the roof, the minbar was installed in a plywood box to protect it from dust and possible falling debris. Just as a team member arrived to arrange for removal and replacement of the collapsing courtyard floor, the SCA, to our surprise started work on it. At a meeting with SCA officials, we asked

why they had proceeded to do work we had agreed we would do with them. They said the SCA had a contractor to do some work and so they put him in the Mosque. We asked why there had been no coordination and they said they had discussed it with their supervisors who were to write and tell us. We impressed upon them the need to make sure the shop level is properly maintained as regards water, garbage, and electricity. They asked our opinion about unblocking windows in the niches and putting in new ones. In a report based on historical and architectural research, we recommended against it. In any case, we shifted our emphasis and looked into conducting the fine conservation once the SCA has done all the architectural restoration. We requested permission from the SCA to undertake this based on the understanding that the contractor would not touch the stucco inscription, wood, windows, or marble. However, the contractor became involved in all of the above and we withdrew because we thought it would be difficult to conduct work already executed by someone else.

Plans for Next Year: For all intents and purposes, we have finished our role in this monument but we should assist and monitor as and when necessary.

Bayt Al-Razzaz:

Year Seven Accomplishments: Once the conservation of the bulging wall was completed attention was turned to several issues. All the metal scaffolding used was cleaned, rust-proofed, inventoried, and stored. Specifications were written to convert the two conserved rooms into site-offices. Bids were sent out, received and evaluated. Arrangements were made for the procedures and payments necessary for water, electricity, and sewage connections. In the fall, a situation developed with an internal weakened wall and specification prepared for an intervention.

Plans for Next Year: Undertake the intervention on the wall by April 2001. Evaluate and award the site office and action plan design by the spring. Commence work by the summer.

The Coptic Area of Cairo:

Year Seven Accomplishments: A sample bench was installed in the Coptic Museum Garden, but subsequent renovation work in and around the area have closed the area off for use of the bench. A sign was designed and produced and installed in the Shrine of St. George in the Greek Nunnery where it was well received. Negotiations started to write-up and produce an additional 12 signs. The large USAID ground watering project started and ARCE formally began archaeological monitoring of the work. Close cooperation had occurred during the design stage, which meant that ARCE and the contractor were working with each other, rather than as adversaries, as can occur in urban rescue projects of this nature. Recording has been done of the various features encountered during the contractors' excavation. They include massive Roman walls 3 meters below the surface to the north of the synagogue and large Pharonic temple blocks, particularly near the Greek Orthodox Church. Questions are raised as to whether the Romans built the fortress partly to enclose the temple, as at Luxor. Major issues occurred when Greek authorities raised concerns about cracks in the Greek Church. Historical work showed that the SCA owns the Roman tower upon which the Greeks built their Church. It was built in several phases and so is a complicated structure. Since USAID is conducting work outside of our project area of the walled area of Old Cairo, we have discussed with USAID the possibility of additional funding to enable ARCE to do this. USAID has agreed in principle and a series of correspondence is underway to realize it.

Plans for Next Year: Continue and expand the monitoring as required by the ground water control contract.

Medieval Zone Database:

Year Seven Accomplishments: The recommendation that the project be cancelled was approved. The grounds were as follows:

- It has been difficult for the lead consultant to obtain free time from his usual job to work with us.
- We know these monuments are deteriorating, regardless of objective measurements.
- Now, 6 years into the grant, this concept has outlived its monitoring usefulness.
- The Ministry of Culture has embarked on a massive restoration program involving up to 140 monuments. Many of these are significant ones that would be necessary for the monitoring system.
- These 140 monuments will be drastically altered and hence monitoring will not show progressive deterioration.
- It is very unlikely that we would obtain approval for such a wide-ranging project. It took 3 years to obtain permission for Cairo Mapping to visit/survey monuments. Now, with the Ministry's project, they would not want us checking up on the status of the monuments and, hence, the contractor's work. We could step on peoples' toes and be accused of gathering evidence to attack them.

Conservation Lab:

Year Seven Accomplishments: After a series of internal, committee and SCA discussions, we decided it made the most sense to determine what facilities, equipment, and personnel existed in Egypt. Since training is to follow after installation of the equipment, we thought it best to interview and evaluate the levels and needs of the SCA conservation staff. Accordingly, we turned to a group, INA that had already conducted a similar assessment for conservation of submerged artifacts. They had already covered about 60% of what we needed, had worked out the logistics and received permission from the SCA to do the survey. The group traveled to all labs outside of Cairo and then reflected on its findings. Next, they reviewed all the labs in Cairo. Their report was written and received with a preliminary recommendation to center the equipment and lab at the Egyptian Museum.

Plans for Next Year: Evaluate the recommendations. Discuss/coordinate with the SCA. If agreed implement first by preparing the lab, then by purchasing equipment and then commence training on the equipment. Physical work to start in the summer of 2001.

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
- Minbar of Saleh Tala'i

Cancelled Projects:

- Tomb of Parennefer

Cairo Mapping Projects:

Year Seven Accomplishments: Work was completed on the last two columns VI and VII, and submitted as drafts. Following project comments the project director has begun to finalize them. Discussions were held to investigate methods for copying the originals so that they are not damaged and so that duplicates are of high quality. Initial thoughts in publishing have also been tabled.

Plans for Next Year: Receive the final product and decide how to publish the first major cartographic record of monuments in Cairo to appear in over half a century. The new publishing director should start in the winter and can take the lead.

Synagogue of Maimonides:

Year Seven Accomplishments: After the Ambassador reviewed the reports on a conservation study, he asked USAID to review. A site visit took place and USAID decided to fund an initial feasibility/design study for ground water control for the synagogue, the church of Haret Zuwayla and the mosque of Abdel Basit, in order to provide political balance to the project. The Cairo Water Organization did not award the design to the consultants who have done their last 2 projects and went out to tender. Even though only one bid was received, they decided to tender it out a second time, with the same result. ARCE asked SCA for approval to develop a conservation/specification proposal of the synagogue.

Plans for Next Year: CWO will re-bid. Subject to SCA approval, we will contract for the proposal and use it to determine how to next proceed.

Conservation of Bab Zuwayla:

Year Seven Accomplishments: The SCA gave conservation approval for the minarets to ARCE rather than the overall Al-Mu'ayyad Sheikh Mosque contractor (to which the minarets belong). Accordingly, scaffolding was erected in the summer in preparation for cleaning in the fall/winter. This work and replacement of marble balconies and an upper metal staircase proceeded. Other conservation work continued including that of the wood and metal artifacts hanging on one tower. An analysis was done of the metal on the great Bab door. The upper terrace paving was finished and new cornice blocks installed. A model of the Bab was carved in stone. We also worked closely with the SCA at the top and local levels to re-locate 3 shops that blocked the monument and have to be permanently removed. One shop-keeper will relocate his shop permanently; one will consolidate this one shop into another he owns. The third has moved entirely. His shop blocked the possible staircase into the tower.

Plans for Next Year: Finish the Western minaret by January and then start the next work on the areas in the street under the dome; to finish by the spring. Refurbish the shops and return the owners by the fall. Figure out lighting and exhibit concepts. Determine how to deal with the huge doors. Locate the stairwell, if it exists.

Small Temple of Amun at Medinet Habu:

Year Seven Accomplishments: The season's primary conservation work continued on the rooftop of the Thutmose temple and inside the painted chapels. In the sanctuary, conservation began on the cleaning of the painted reliefs in the southeast chamber, with wonderful results. Completed was about 75% of the total wall surface and 80% of the ceiling, which revealed yellow stars painted against a dark background. The phases of the conservation process this season were:

- examination and documentation;
- cleaning process, mechanical and chemical;
- extraction of salts;
- consolidation of the color layers and stone degradation surface;
- repointing of the missing parts and micro-and macrocracks.

Some of the mortar infilling were at the bases of the south and east walls in the same room, which had decayed due to rising damp. On the north side of the roof of the sanctuary area, thirteen roof block slabs over the king's chamber on the north, replaced last season, were grouted with liquid mortar, which effectively sealed the area and an ancient Ptolemaic drainspout was re-activated. Where one small block on the southwest side had decayed, a new one complete with a beautiful fully carved drainspout was fashioned. This now directs water from the upper roof area on to the lower roof and through another spout on the south, off the roof altogether. In roof debris over the northeast corner of the bark sanctuary, the stone mason found a small limestone stela from the late Eighteenth Dynasty re-used as a chinking stone in the Ptolemaic period when the roof was first restored. It is inscribed for a "servant in the Place of (Truth)" (preserved height: 35 cm; width: 25 cm; depth: 5 cm). Also removed were a half dozen large fragments (one weighing several tons) of a colossal granodiorite pair statue of Thutmose III and the God Amun that were in the backfill debris in the two central chambers of the sanctuary. The Small Temple of Amun was excavated for the University of Chicago in the 1930s; they found the colossal statue group broken into pieces. But only the broken upper section was removed from the floor debris; the larger, lower section was left buried in the front chamber.

Plans for Next Year: Fashion and place new sandstone paving slabs in the floor. Reassemble and re-erect the monumental statue. Continue to clean and conserve wall paintings. The season will end in April and recommence in October 2001.

Graeco-Roman Site:

Year Seven Accomplishments: We received permission from the Museum's Committee to conserve the mosaics. During a site visit to the museum to meet with the director and regional conservator, we were told the French would conserve one of the Berenice mosaics we had offered to do. We can substitute another. One of these may be from the Alexandria library site. We have been offered these and they are among the finest mosaics in Egypt. Meanwhile, the project director proposed that Palestinian trainee conservators work together on the project. New conservators are being recruited to replace those who were no longer available.

Plans for Next Year: Meet with project director, finalize agreements and proceed with the project by the summer or fall, depending on availability of the team.

Conservation Education:

Year Seven Accomplishments: This activity is tied to the Conservation Lab project in Cycle I. Please see above for details.

UV Filters:

Year Seven Accomplishments: This project has been set aside for the moment in order to concentrate on others.

Plans for Next Year: Start the project in Fall of 2001.

Pest Netting:

Year Seven Accomplishments: One of Egypt's best naturalists will work on the wildlife management issues involved when he finishes his dissertation.

Plans for Next Year: He will be available in the late of Spring of 2001 and we will start then.

Islamic Inscriptions:

Year Seven Accomplishments: Recording and data entry continued at different monuments. Additional graduate students were hired for data entry. Over 2000 inscriptions have been recorded and entered into the database. Two graduate students are using the material for their theses. We began discussions about eventually putting the database in a CD format.

Plans for Next Year: Continue as before.

Abydos:

Year Seven Accomplishments: A three-man team consisting of an architectural conservator, a structural engineer and an earthen architecture specialist worked on-site at the Shunet to assess its conservation. They submitted a report identifying problems to it caused by wind erosion, infrequent rain, fractures, undermining from habitations used by hermits, and wasp nests. Initial recommendations are being evaluated. The other component of this project is the boat graves. Excavations in a boat grave demarcated by 2 ancient intrusive pits revealed a 2m x 1m section of relatively well-preserved planks (strakes). They have mortises where ropes were used to lash the boat together. Fragments of rope and of reed matting used for caulking/cushioning were also found. Pigment on the supporting mud bricks indicated the boats were painted gold/yellow. All of this is exciting; a (probably) cedar vessel that's 5000 years old. Preliminary consolidation conservation has occurred. Additionally, three more boat graves have been found.

Plans for Next Year: The team will return to do photogrammetry, preliminary conservation work on the Shunet and boat. This will determine how conservation should proceed. Implementation measures are anticipated during the year.

Conservation of Coptic Icons:

Year Seven Accomplishments: Differences between team members and lack of supervision by the Institute of Coptic Studies caused a delay in coordination for the submission of an integrated work plan for phase II. Accordingly, we met with Director of the Institute to work out an appropriate modus operandi. The first and other meetings were delayed because of his injury in a car accident. We finally determined what he needed to do, and he was to see the Pope to conclude the issues. Regrettably, he died of a heart attack. So we proceeded to discuss having the agreement with the organizational arm of the Coptic Church and we held a meeting with their principals to see if we could find common ground. Both they and we insisted on a requirement for an integrated work plan. Dr. Gaballa wanted some additional icons in the Hanging Church conserved and they can be done under this program.

Plans for Next Year: Receive the work plan, work out the details with the appropriate authority and move on phase II.

Cultural Resource Management:

Year Seven Accomplishments: This is now a Site Management project. Based on a request from the SCA first by Dr. Gaballa and then at the International Congress of Egyptologists, ARCE requested approval for the concept. This was received and ongoing discussions have been held with Zahi Hawass. The current thinking is that Abusir is an appropriate venue. Initial discussions were held with a consultant for assistance on how to structure, detail, and implement the concept.

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.

CYCLE THREE

Completed Projects:

- Alexandria Mosaics: Villa of Birds
- Bir Umm Fawakhir
- Equipment for conservation laboratory at INA, Alexandria
- Karnak Statue
- Three Houses in Cairo

Completed Projects:

- Al-Muzzawaka tombs at Dakhla Oasis

Alexandria Mosaics:

Year Seven Accomplishments: On the day scheduled for this opening, we were very worried as we approached Alexandria and encountered strong raining weather. However, shortly before noon the dark clouds parted and the sun shone down gloriously. At this occasion, the Minister of Culture Farouk Hosni, the Governor of Alexandria, Abdel Salam El-Mahgoub and Dr. Gaballa made up the Egyptian delegation, while representing the US was Toni Christiansen-Wagner, Deputy-Director of USAID. Also, attending was the new Polish Ambassador, Joanna Wronecka.

They entered the steel and glass cover that had been constructed to protect the lovely animal and geometric mosaics in the Villa of the Birds. Dating from the late 1st early 2nd century AD, they are the finest mosaics in situ in Egypt. Two types of mosaics are on display; those made of colored stone cubes and another made of inlaid pieces of marble and other stone. The Governor had contributed extensive grass landscaping, which, quite literally, framed the whole landscape.

The Egyptian-Polish Mission had undertaken the site preparation and water drainage works. Combined with the USAID funds under ARCE's grant, the end results are comprehensive site presentation. Appreciation thus goes to a number of individuals named above, but especially to Wojciech Kolataj, Gregory Majcherek and Eva Parandowska for the direction, archaeology, and conservation components, respectively. These colorful bird and animal mosaics, housed under a low-impart roof held up by existing Byzantine walls, are the newest cultural attraction for visitors to Alexandria. An excellent final report was received so this project is completed.

Bir Umm Fawakhir:

Year Seven Accomplishments: An excellent final report was received so this project is completed.

El-Muzzawaka Tomb:

Year Seven Accomplishments: We received an expensive proposal for a feasibility study that would address only the tomb. We expected the SCA will ask for another study of the replica. If we funded this, we will be left with L.E.351,000 for a project that requires a total of L.E. 2.5 million. We suspected this project, as laudable as it may be, would not be pulled together. Regrettably, a decision was made not to provide any further support to the project.

Hierakonpolis:

Year Seven Accomplishments: The last field season of this project was completed in April. Some final conservation was accomplished and much final drawing was done.

Plans for Next Year: The draft final report will be under preparation.

Karnak Statute:

Year Seven Accomplishments: The final report was received and this project is completed.

Ramesses VI:

Year Seven Accomplishments: Various difficulties have emerged with this project such as unavailability of staff and a lack of final integrated work plan. Nonetheless, we are behind this project and expect to proceed with it.

Plans for Next Year: Start in December to complete by April.

Sabil Muhammed Ali Pasha (Tusun Pasha):

Year Seven Accomplishments: The OC approved extending the project to include the Kuttab. The common wall with the mosque was shored up. A structural engineer advised and boreholes were dug to determine soil characteristics and soil mechanics. Much of the work during the year concentrated on structural issues. It was decided to install groups of piles down to the stable soil level (5-9 meters). This micropiling technique had been originally proposed but the worsening structural situation meant more piles had to be inserted; 122 rather than 64. The collapse of the Mosque roof meant that it and the Kuttab had to be structurally stabilized together. Approvals were received from the SCA, Awqaf and mosque community to proceed. Early in the year we were stopped from continuing work on the Kuttab, or more properly, the madrassa, because we learned that it had recently been given a different monument registration number than the Sabil's. We therefore submitted for and ultimately received approval and security clearance for the project. Work recommenced after a hiatus of six weeks. Ultimately, we met with Dr. Gaballa and Dr. Abdallah El-Attar to sort the matter out. In the meantime, the site was closed by the SCA on May 25. We were able to resolve the problems but it was not until July 11 that we received written permission to recommence.

Initial work after the long hiatus started with the structural engineer. The findings showed that the buildings had continued to move because of the lack of attention. Furthermore, many of the micropile holes became filled up with clay and an internal sewer backed up and caused damage to the walls. An electricity cable had to be moved so that further micropiling could proceed. The Dutch and Ford Foundation provided grants for strengthening of the Mosque and helps the Sabil and Madrassa. Fine conservation work continued on the grills, wood, and marble.

Plans for Next Year: Much structural stability work remains, but it should be finished by the Fall. The gilded grills will be re-installed. Most of the marble façade will be cleaned as well as the painted wooden caves. Work will start on the painted dome and on a preliminary exhibition of the project. Ford Foundation may be approached to help transform the monument into a museum for Mohammed Ali. It would be very appropriate since as part of the modernization of Egypt he reformed the educational system. And this school is the first constructed for teaching the new curriculum. Additionally, Tusun Pasha, after whom the Sabil was named, was his favorite son.

Consultant Activity

Patrick Godeau: has continued his excellent photo documentation at Bab Zuwayla.

Brian Green: Further developed the layouts and formats for the first publication. He conducted peer reviewed, worked with authors, and copy-edited much of the first volume in the series.

OTHER:

SCA

The fine working relationship with the SCA at the highest level has continued. Approvals were given to new projects, to continue existing ones and for security clearances, as needed. Complex issues over the allegations at Sabil Muhammed Ali and the removal of shopkeepers were solved through clear discussions with Dr. Gaballa and his sector heads.

Staff

- This year has been a transitional one in many ways. Michael Jones having successfully completed the four ADP projects took on a number of EAP projects.

- ARCE restructured the organization, moving the US office from New York to Atlanta and hiring new staff. Responsibilities were downsized there and shifted to Cairo.

- A new overall director was hired for ARCE following the completion of Mark Easton's employment term. Bob Springborg, a former ARCE fellow, University teacher and USAID contract started in August.

- We had bad luck this year with finding associate grant administrators. The first one, who was very good, was fully trained up when she had to leave almost overnight when her husband was unexpectedly transferred to the USA. After a recruitment drive the best of candidates was hired. Despite assurances that she and her AUC husband would continue to stay in Cairo, he left for the US. The third round of recruitment produced a very fine candidate who is being offered the position.

Presentations

On 16 February: Alaa Al-Habashi gave a lecture on the Bayt Al-Razzaz at ARCE.

On 22 February: Chip Vincent gave a lecture to 135 persons at a meeting of the Cairo Petroleum Wives. Ian Whitney was present to provide information on ARCE membership.

On 18 April: Chip Vincent and Jarek Dobrowolski gave a lecture on ARCE's conservation projects at ARCE.

On 5&9 May: Following the ARCE meeting, Michael Jones lectured at a symposium at Dumbarton Oaks and at Temple University, respectively.

On 17 May: Chip Vincent gave a lecture to the students of Donald Reid, a former ARCE fellow.

On 15 August: Chip Vincent gave a lecture to 12 Gaza University Islamic architecture students.

Site Visits/Meetings

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

On 6 November: Mark Easton and Chip Vincent attended the OC meeting in New York.

On 22 November: Chip Vincent attended a USAID contractors meeting.

On 1 December: Chip Vincent and Jarek Dobrowolski conducted a site visit at Old Cairo for Congressional staffer John Shank.

On 11 December: Chip Vincent and Jarek Dobrowolski conducted a site visit at Old Cairo for 5 Congressmen and their staff.

On 13 December: Chip Vincent and Michael Jones conducted a St. Anthony's site visit for USAID.

On 1 May: Chip Vincent met with Valley of the Kings Flood Feasibility Team members and the administrators of the CAS at the latter's Museum. He gave a lecture on ARCE's projects.

On 18 May: B.J. Fernea discussed her ideas for a video on the projects.

On 22 May: Jarek Dobrowolski gave a site visit at the Bab Zuwayla area for Donald Reid's students.

On 23 May: Mark Easton and Chip Vincent attended a breakfast meeting called by the US Ambassador to follow up on Luxor and Karnak Ground Water Initiative. Mark Easton and Chip Vincent met with Bonnie Burnham, President of the World Monuments Fund and the US Ambassador to see if her organization is willing to be a partner in the issue. The answer is positive and Chip Vincent put her and Ray Johnson in touch to investigate Luxor Temple possibilities.

On 24 May: Chip Vincent took Ms. Burnham on a site visit to Bab Zuwayla.

On 2-3 June: Michael Jones took Mrs. Kurtzer and Toni Christiansen-Wagner on a site visit of Quseir Fort and then to Bir Umm Fawakir.

On 5 June: Chip Vincent and Jarek Dobrowolski first took Dick Brown and Toni Christiansen-Wagner on a site visit of the Institute of Nautical Archaeology-Egypt facilities in Alexandria in the morning. In the afternoon, they took Ambassador and Mrs. Kurtzer and Juliet Wurr of the Alexandria Office of the US State Department on a visit of the mosaics at Kom El-Dikka.

On 7 June: Staff visited the newly cleaned Ayyubid walls of Cairo, part of the Aga Khan project, and met with four of the project's principals. The no-cost extension for two years to the EAP grant was signed in a ceremony at ARCE.

On 13 June: Mark Easton, Chip Vincent and Jarek Dobrowolski took Abercrombie and Kent managers in Cairo on a site visit of the Bab Zuwayla area.

On 14 June: The staff visited the newly conserved Bayt Suhaymi.

On 21 June: Chip Vincent, Jarek Dobrowolski, Alaa Al-Habashi and Hoda Abdel Hamid met with the Head of the SCA Southern Inspectorate on several issues and then went to the hospital to visit the Head of the SCA Northern Inspectorate.

On 22 June: ADP amendment signed for conservation of St. Paul's Church.

On 25 June: Chip Vincent went to the Egyptian Museum to meet with Madame Soheir and present her with the third and last plaque acknowledging the donors, including ARCE, of the museum rooms.

On 27 June: Chip Vincent and Michael Jones took Everett Rowson to visit St. Anthony's Church.

On 5 July: Chip Vincent and Michael Jones met at USAID to brief a Cairo Times journalist on work in Old Cairo.

On 18 July: Chip Vincent took David Hales, Deputy Administrator of USAID Washington and Ko Barrett of his office on a site visit to St. Paul's and St. Anthony's Churches.

On 19 July: Chip Vincent and Alaa Al-Habashi went with Agnieszka Dobrowolska to visit officials of the Northern Cairo Inspectorate to talk about the future work at the Sabil Muhammed Ali Pasha.

On 26 July: Chip Vincent and Alaa Al-Habashi met with USAID, CCJM, Arab Contractors and Greek Orthodox church authorities about procedural and technical issues over the ground control project.

On 30 July: Chip Vincent met with USAID and the Army Corps of Engineers to discuss groundwater issues at Karnak Temple.

On 8 August: Jim Harrell came to discuss his further identification of the use of stone from Egyptian quarries in monuments.

On 8 August: Chip Vincent and Jarek Dobrowolski met with representatives from Gaza University.

On 16 August: Jarek Dobrowolski and Alaa Al-Habashi took the 12 Gaza University Islamic Architecture students on a site visit to the Islamic sites.

On 27 August: Jarek Dobrowolski and Michael Jones took Senator Bennett on a site visit to Old Cairo.

On 28 August: Jarek Dobrowolski took Senator Bennett to Islamic Cairo.

On 4 September: Michael Jones and Jarek Dobrowolski met with the USAID contractors undertaking agricultural policy reform to reduce water use in crops near antiquities sites.

On 18 September: Chip Vincent met with USAID contractors undertaking agricultural policy reform to reduce water use in crops near antiquities sites

On 20 September: Bob Springborg and Chip Vincent attended a USAID contractor meeting to meet the new mission and deputy director.

On 25 September: Chip Vincent and Jarek Dobrowolski attended a workshop on the agricultural policy reform.

On 27 September: Anne Aarness, new Deputy Director of USAID opened a photo exhibit on St. Anthony's Church. Father Maximous of the Monastery and Photographer Patrick Godeau attended.

On 30 September: Chip Vincent and Jarek Dobrowolski took USAID personnel on a site visit to Old Cairo.

On 25 September: Chip Vincent and Jarek Dobrowolski attended a workshop on the agricultural policy reform.

On 8 October: Bob Springborg, Chip Vincent, and Jarek Dobrowolski took the Deputy Administrator of USAID, Washington, John Wilkenson and, new USAID Mission Director, Bill Pearson on a site visit to Old Cairo.

On 12 October: Bob Springborg, Chip Vincent, and Michael Jones welcomed and briefed Johns Hopkins and UCLA alumnae from a tour led by Betsy Bryan.

On 16 October: Bob Springborg and Chip Vincent met with Ford Foundation to discuss conservation and community development issues in the Bab Zuwayla area.

On 22 October: Jarek Dobrowolski took 25 people from the Heliopolis Civic Group to Bayt Al-Razzaz.

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 Robert Aderholt
- Congressman Benjamin Gilman
- Congressman Jack Metcalf
- Congressman Joseph Pitts
- Congressman Tom Tancredo
- Evelyn Lieberman, Under Secretary of State
- 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
- Paul O'Friel, US Embassy
- Michael Pelletier, US Embassy
- Nihal Rizk, US Embassy
- Marcelle Wahba, 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
- Jerry Vincent, ARCE

Appendices:

- Photographs of ARCE projects
- Presentations on ARCE projects
- Articles on ARCE projects
- Table of status of projects

Photographs of ARCE Projects

The Minister of Culture, Dr. Gaballa A. Gaballa, The Polish Ambassador, Dr. Kolataj, Toni Christiansen-Wagner and a SCA official at the opening ceremony of the Villa of Birds

Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE



The site of Kom El-Dikka with the mosaics shelter nestled among the Byzantine houses, framed by grass given by the Governor

Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE



Dr. Kolataj showing visitors the mosaic display

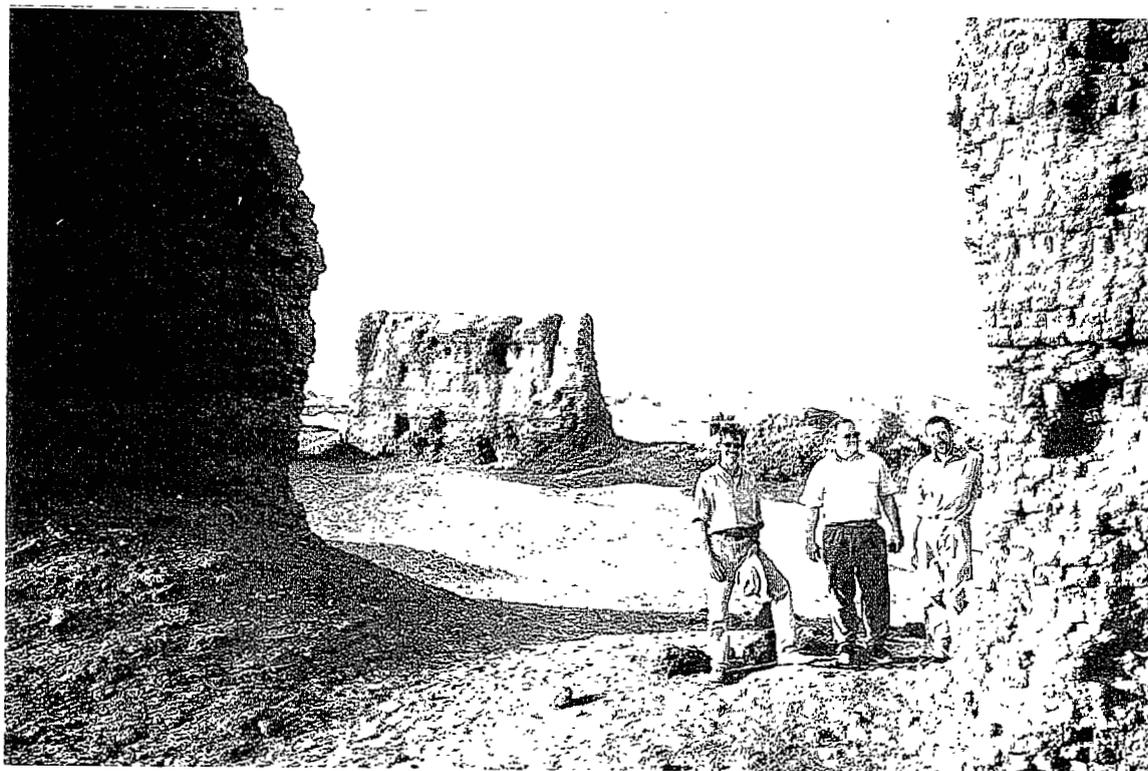
Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE





Conservator Debbie Schorsch cleaning 5000 year old boat timbers at Abydos

Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE



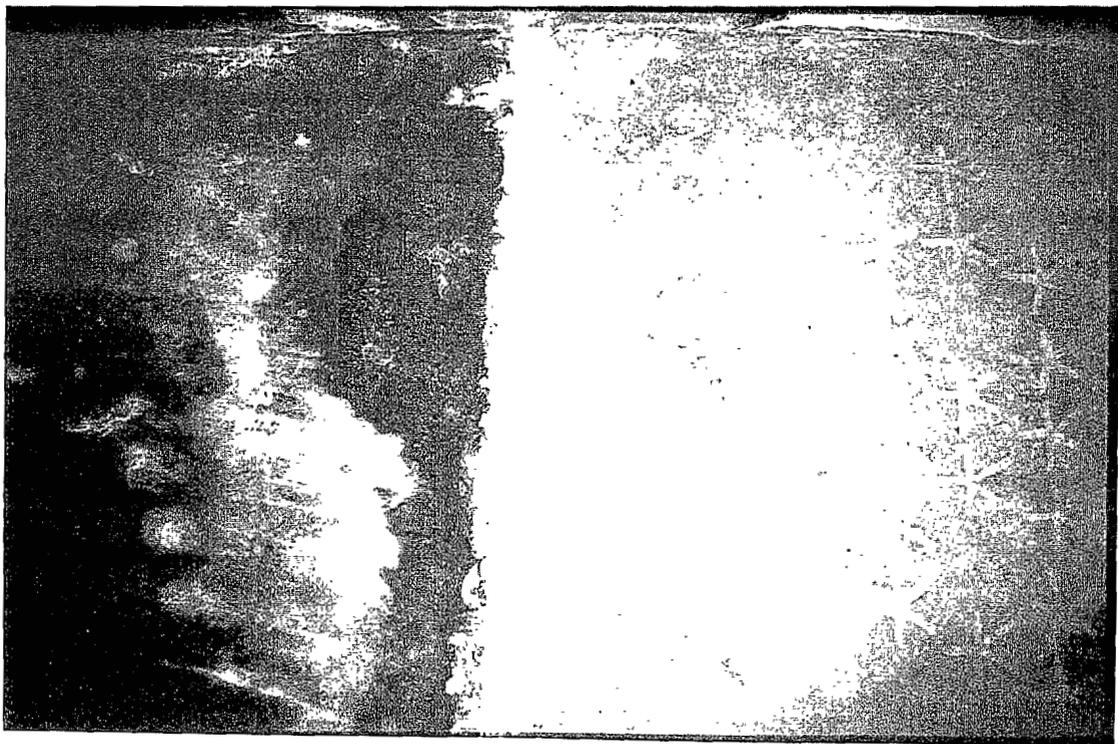
Matthew Adams, Jarek Dobrowolski and Michael Jones at the Shunet El-Zebib

Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE



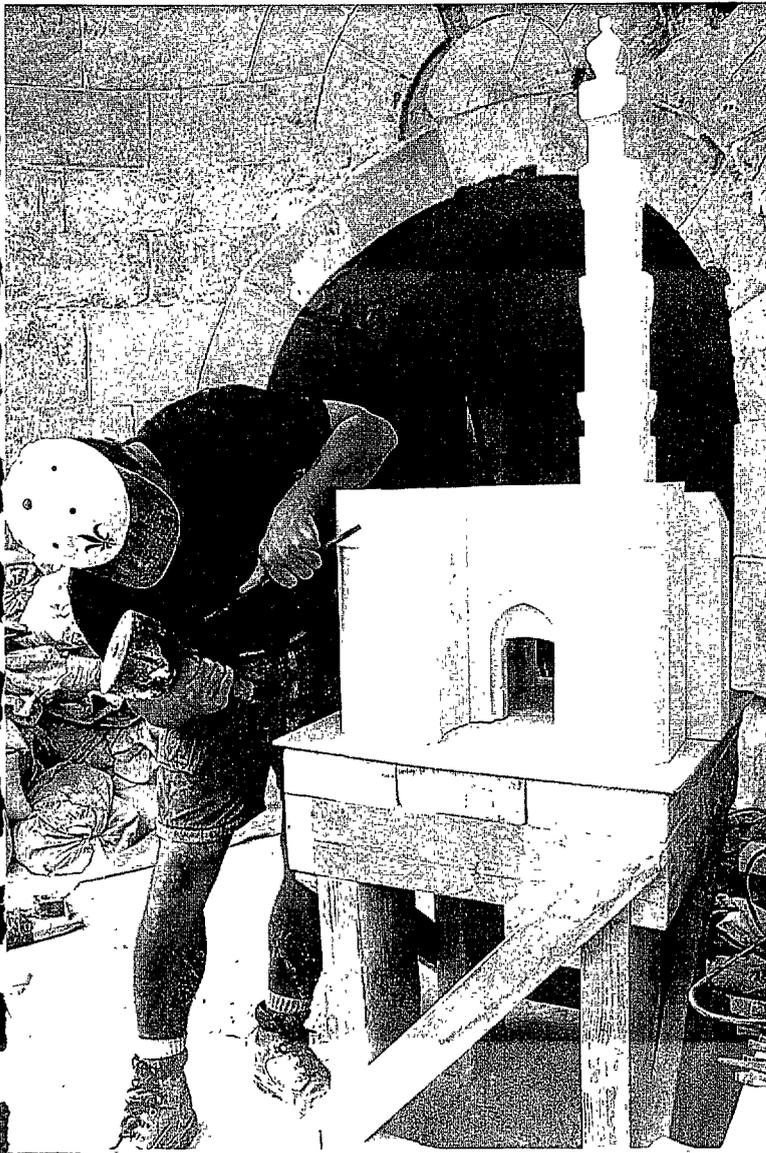
Ray Johnson, Hiroko Kariya and Jarek Dobrowolski observing conserved stone fragments at Luxor Temple

Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE



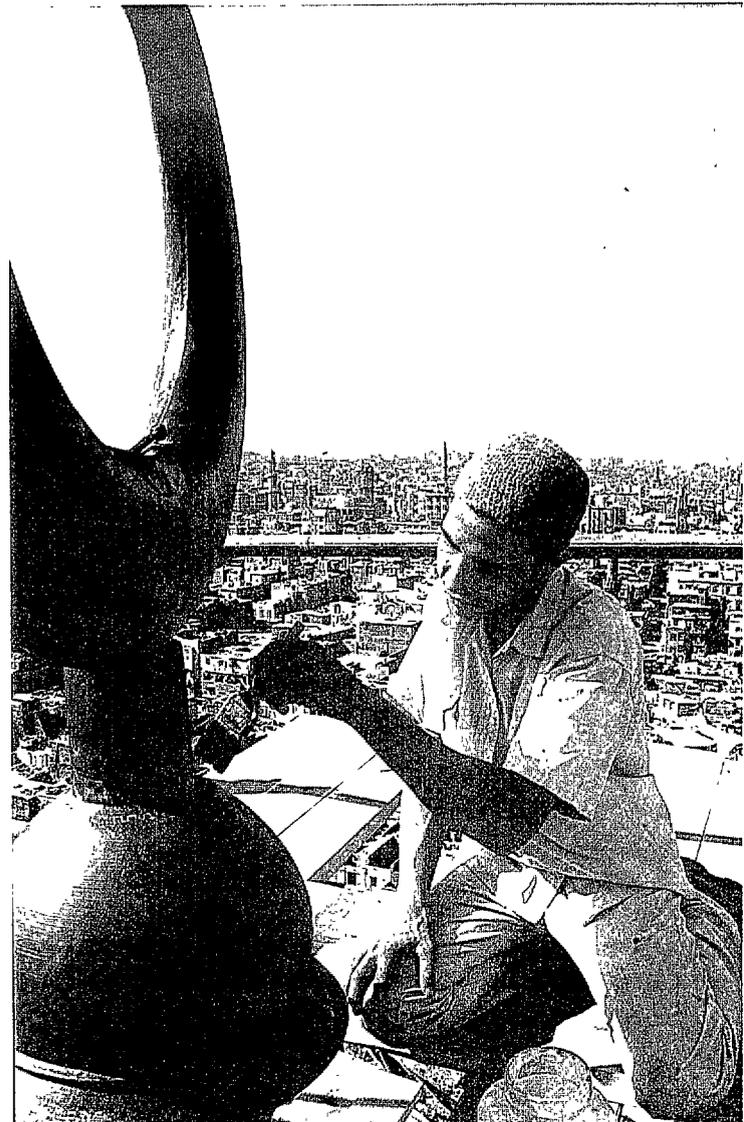
Left to right: Before and after treatment on the ceiling at the Small Temple of Amun at Medinet Habu

Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE



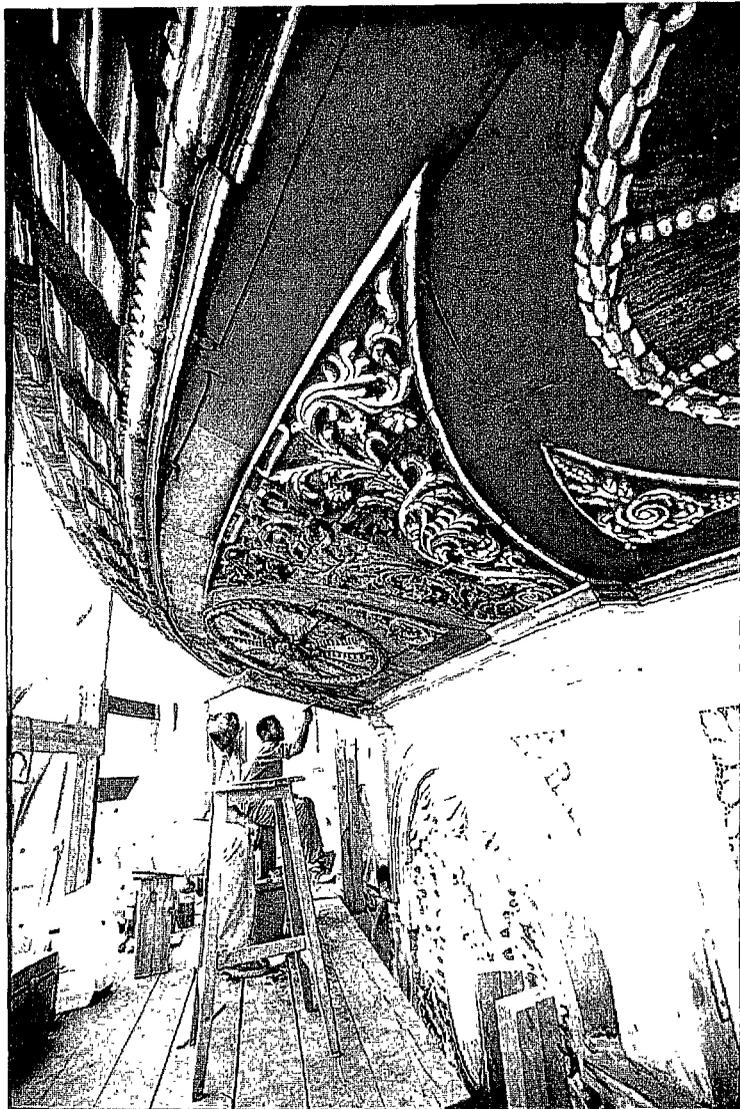
Dany Roy carving a limestone model of the Bab Zuwayla for display

Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE



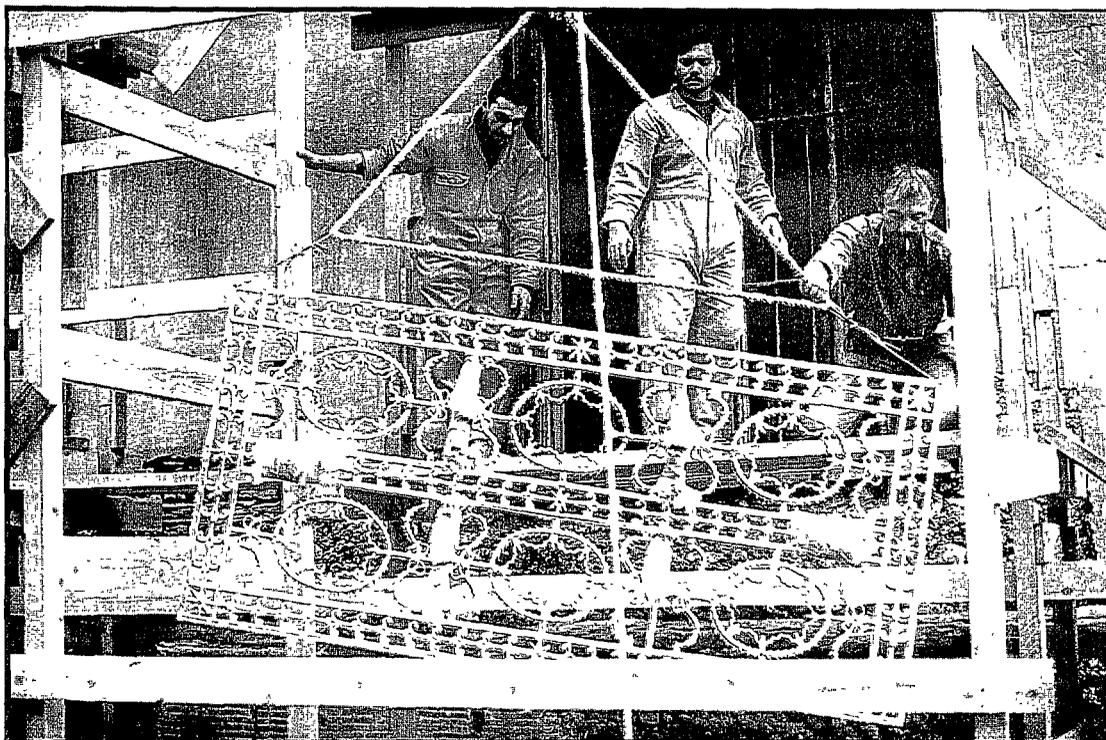
Ikrami Gharib cleaning the Finial on the top of the minarets of Al-Mu'ayyad Sheikh

Photo by Theo Gayer-Anderson/ARCE



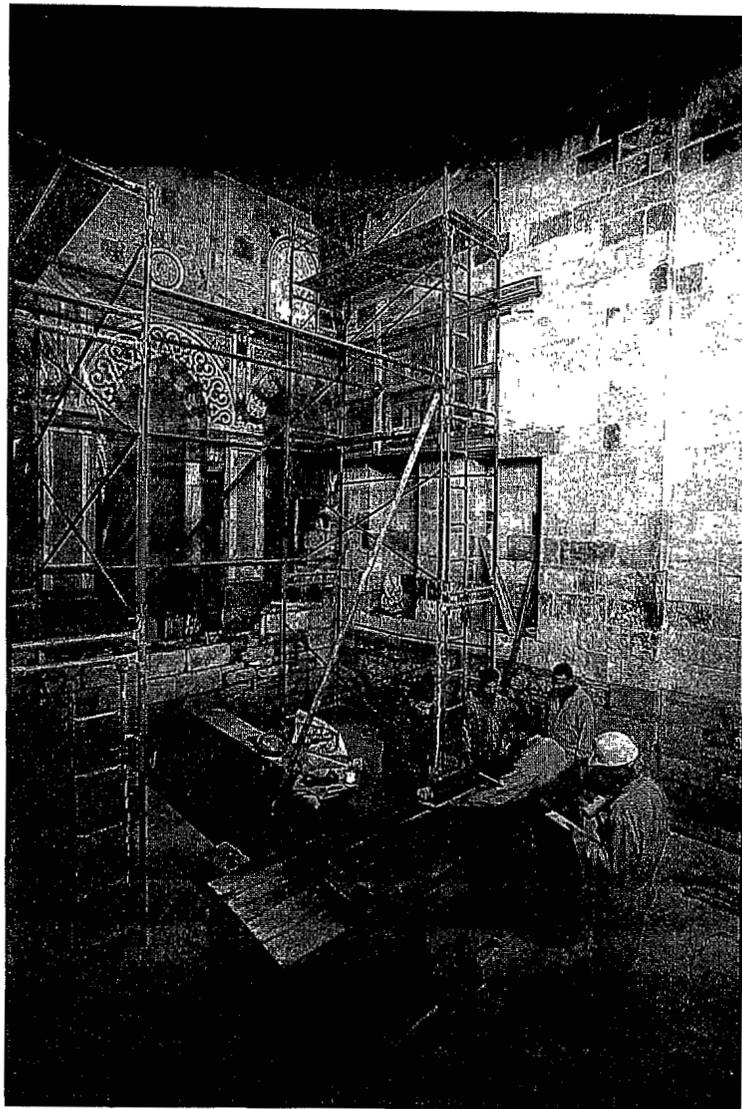
Cleaning of the wooden eaves at the Sabil Muhammed Ali Pasha (Tusun Pasha)

Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE



Cleaned and re-gilded bronze grills are returned to the windows of the Sabil Muhammed Ali Pasha (Tusun Pasha)

Photo by Agnieszka Dobrowolska/ARCE



Conservation work at the Zawiya Sabil Farag Ibn Barquq

Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE



The conserved West way of the Bayt Al-Razzaz

Photo by Alaa Al-Habashi/ARCE

Presentations on ARCE Projects



١٠ أكتوبر ٢٠٠٠

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

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

OCTOBER 2000

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4



*IN THE WAKE OF THE PHARAOHS, INSTITUTE OF NAUTICAL
ARCHAEOLOGY – EGYPT OPERATIONS 1998 – FORWARD*

DOUGLAS HALDANE
DIRECTOR, INSTITUTE OF NAUTICAL ARCHEOLGY, EGYPT

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

*INTIMATE WHISPERS: CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN
MUHAMMAD AND HIS LORD ON THE NIGHT OF THE
ASCENSION*

FREDERICK COLBY
ARCE FELLOW, DUKE UNIVERSITY

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

To be announced

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25

*COINS AND HISTORY: THE USE OF NUMISMATICS IN
RECONSTRUCTING THE HISTORY OF A 10TH CENTURY
MUSLIM DYNASTY IN EGYPT*

DR. JERE BACHARACH
PROFESSOR OF HISOTRY, UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

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
MAY 2000

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3

***WHAT DID THEY SEE WHEN THEY LOOKED AT BUILDINGS:
ARCHITECTURE IN MAMLUK SOURCES***

NASSER O. RABBAT
ARCE FELLOW, AGA KHAN PROFESSOR OF THE HISTORY
OF ISLAMIC ARCHITECTURE, MIT

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10

***FIQH ON THE MARGINS: HANAFI COMMENTARIES ON THE
ISLAMIC LEGAL TEXTBOOK OF AL-QUDURI***

BRANNON WHEELER
ARCE FELLOW, WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17

CONTEMPORARY EGYPT THEATRE: THE STATE AND THE ART

PROF. MONA MIKHAIL
ARCE FELLOW, NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24 NO LECTURE

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31

* ***ARCE ANTIQUITIES DEVELOPMENT PROJECT: FINAL REPORT***

MICHAEL JONES
PROJECT MANAGER
ARCE EGYPTIAN ANTIQUITIES PROJECT

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

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CAIRO AMERICAN COLLEGE
AND

CENTER FOR ADULT & CONTINUING EDUCATION
THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY IN CAIRO

Invite you to attend a Presentation and Commentary

Entitled

**“Between Two Fountains”
Architectural Conservation in Historic Cairo**

by

Agnieszka Dobrowolska,
Architect, Presently Directing the Conservation of
Mohamed Aly Sabil in Islamic Cairo

Monday, April 17th, 2000 8:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Room 600
Cairo American College
Road 253 and Road 213, Maadi

You must bring ID card to be admitted on campus.



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SEMINAR SCHEDULE
APRIL 2000

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5

**PRECIOUS METAL POLYCHROMY IN EGYPT
IN THE NEW KINGDOM**

DEBORAH SCHORSCH
CONSERVATOR
SHERMAN FAIRCHILD CENTER FOR OBJECTS CONSERVATION
METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12

**SLAVES, SULTANS AND KHANS: MAMLUK LEGITIMIZING
IDEOLOGY AND THE MONGOLS, 1260-1405**

ANNE F. BROADBRIDGE
ARCE FELLOW, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

MONDAY, APRIL 17

✱ **AN UPDATE ON ARCE'S CONSERVATION PROJECTS**

ROBERT K. VINCENT, JR.
EGYPTIAN ANTIQUITIES PROJECT DIRECTOR

JAREK DOBROWOLSKI
EGYPTIAN ANTIQUITIES PROJECT TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26

PROBLEMS OF COPTIC MONUMENTS

DR. GAWDAT GABRA
COPTOLOGIST

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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**CAORC DIRECTORS MEETING
AMERICAN RESEARCH CENTER IN EGYPT
MARCH 21st – 23rd, 2000**

- Mon March 20th Arrival at Cairo Airport, pick up by Emeco Travel
Check-in at the Shepard Hotel, Garden City, Cairo.
- Tues March 21st 9:00-9:15am: Welcome from Mark Easton, Cairo Director,
ARCE; Richard Lariviere, University of Texas, Chairman,
CAORC; and Mary Ellen Lane, Executive Director, CAORC
9:15-10:45am: David Magier, Columbia University,
"American Overseas Digital Library: Progress and Prospects"
10:45-11:00am: Break
11:00am-12:00pm: Tony Stewart, North Carolina State
University, "Electronic Archives Project Survey"
12:00-1:00pm: Hank Kennedy & Craig Runde, Wake Forest
University, "Distance Learning Possibilities for CAORC
Member Centers"
1:00-2:00pm: Lunch and Session "Theme vs. Area. What's
New and What's Old in Middle East Studies." Mark Tessler,
University of Arizona
2:00-5:30pm: Visit to Medieval Cairo with Chip Vincent,
Director, Egyptian Antiquities Program, ARCE, leaving from
in front of the ARCE building
7:00-8:30pm: Reception for participants and guests at ARCE
- Wed March 22nd 7:00am-7:00pm: Day trip to the Eastern Desert, Monastery of
St. Anthony, restored by ARCE, with Michael Jones, ARCE-
EAP, Project Director (By bus with lunch, leaving the Shepard
at 7am)
- Thur March 23rd 9:00-10:00am: Richard L. Spees, CAORC General Counsel,
"Federal Funding: New and Proven Procedures and Approaches"
10:00-11:15am: Ruth Anna Stolk, "Outreach and Development.
Total Commitment"
11:15-11:30am: Break
11:30am-1:00pm: Old & New Business – Mary Ellen Lane
CAORC Multi-country Regional Program
Dept. of State/USIA Solicitation
CIES agreement
Title VI evaluation Ria Ellis
1:00-2:00pm: Lunch
2:00-7:00pm: Visit to Giza Pyramids with ARCE and Supreme
Council of Antiquities Egyptologists
Banquet at the Café Felfela, near Mena House, Giza Pyramids.



5 JAN 2000

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HALF DAY TO BAYT AL-RAZZAZ

FEBRUARY 26, 2000

BY

ALAA EL-HABASHI

Bayt al-Razzaz is a large residential building in historic Cairo, halfway between Bab Zuwayla and the Citadel. It includes two courtyards each representing a typical traditional rich house in Cairo surrounded by a monumental gate, a loggia (*maqad*), a great reception room (*qa'as*), as well as smaller *qa'as*, subsidiary rooms and service facilities. A 1490's endowment deed (*waqfiyya*) indicates that the place that surrounds one of the courtyards was owned by Sultan al-Ashraf Qait Bay whose name is inscribed on a monumental gateway. In the beginning of the nineteenth century, a prominent figure from al-Razzaz family bought the place along with another neighboring house, and joined them both together. The house was then refurbished and expanded to include, as it currently stands, more than 180 rooms some of which are architectural masterpieces, with magnificently decorated interiors. By mid twentieth century, the whole building was included in the list of Islamic Monuments.

The American Research Center in Egypt is currently carrying out an architectural conservation project in Bayt al-Razzaz.

TIME: Bus departs ARCE at 9:00am

COST: Member: LE25
Non-Member: LE30

Call Mary Sadek at ARCE



٤٥٠٠٠٠ JAN 2000

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SEMINAR SCHEDULE
FEBRUARY 2000

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

**PAINTING AMENMOSE
ANCIENT AND MODERN ARTISTS
IN THE TOMB OF AMENMOSE (TT89)**

A small exhibition of epigraphic work will accompany the talk

LYLA PINCH BROCK
CO-DIRECTOR, ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM
THEBAN TOMBS PROJECT

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

THE USE OF PAPER IN FATIMID EGYPT

JONATHAN M. BLOOM
AUTHOR OF *THE ART AND ARCHITECTURE OF ISLAM: 1250-1800*

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

* **BAYT AL-RAZZAZ: A POSSIBLE HISTORIC SCENARIO**

ALAA EL-HABASHI
ASSISTANT TECHNICAL DIRECTOR, EAP/ARCE

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

* **MINBAR ON THE MOVE**

AGNIESZKA DOBROWOLSKA
ARCHITECT

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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Articles of ARCE Projects

ARCE CONSERVATION

Egyptian Antiquities Project and Antiquities Development Project Update

From: Robert "Chip" Vincent

Spring 2000

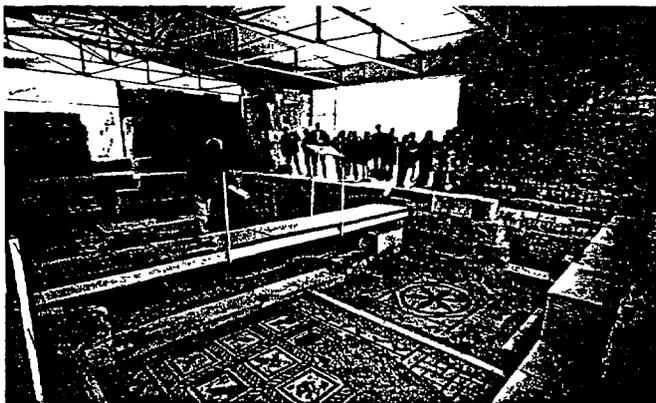
The American Research Center in Egypt has signed two agreements with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to conduct projects for the conservation of Egyptian Antiquities. Implemented in close collaboration with the Supreme Council for Antiquities (SCA), the scope of the conservation work is extensive, covering prehistoric, Pharaonic, Graeco-Roman, Coptic, Islamic, and Jewish antiquities.

This has been a good year for Egypt, the SCA, and ARCE because of the completion of some very important, highly visible projects. Underscoring the balance of projects from various traditions that ARCE has designed for this grant, Pharaonic, Graeco-Roman, Coptic, and Ottoman period projects have been or will soon be marked by ceremonial openings. This year also marks the completion of the four projects under the Antiquities Development Project Grant. The Egyptian Antiquities Grant continues. This issue of the Update brings new staff to ARCE in the US: Susanne Thomas and Carolyn Tomaselli. While we bid them welcome, we also extend our fond farewells to staff in New York who loyally supported these projects. Thank you, Terry Walz, Elaine Schapker, Catherine Clyne, Rebecca Holder, and Mary Soliman.

COMPLETED PROJECTS

Mosaics at Kom El-Dikka

On the day scheduled for this opening, we were very worried as we approached Alexandria and encountered a downpour. However, shortly before noon the dark clouds parted and the sun shone down gloriously. At this occasion, the Minister of Culture Farouk Hosni, the Governor of Alexandria, Abdel Salam El-Mahgoub, and Dr. Gaballa made up the Egyptian delegation, while representing the U.S. was Toni Christiansen-Wagner.



*Visitors view the new mosaic display under its protective cover.
Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE*



Completion ceremony of the Kom El-Dikka Mosaics in Alexandria. From Left to Right: Minister of Culture, Farouk Hosni; Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Antiquities, Dr. Gaballa A Gaballa; Polish Ambassador, Joanna Wronecka; Director of the Mosaics Project, Dr. Wojciech Kolataj; Deputy Director of USAID, Toni Christiansen-Wagner Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE

Deputy Director of USAID. Also attending was the new Polish Ambassador, Joanna Wronecka.

They entered the steel and glass cover that had been constructed to protect the lovely animal and geometric mosaics in the Villa of the Birds. Dating from the late 1st / early 2nd century A.D., they are the finest mosaics *in situ* in Egypt. Two types of mosaics are on display; those made of colored stone cubes and another made of inlaid pieces of marble and other stone. The Governor had

Mosaics at Kom El-Dikka (Cont.)

contributed extensive grass landscaping which, quite literally, framed the whole landscape.

The Egyptian-Polish Mission had undertaken the site preparation and water drainage works. Combined with the USAID funds under ARCE's grant, the end result was a comprehensive site presentation. Appreciation thus goes to a number of individuals named above, but especially to Wojciech Kolataj, Gregory Majchereh, and Eva Parandowska for the direction, archaeology, and conservation components, respectively. These colorful bird and animal mosaics, housed under a low-impact roof held up by existing Byzantine walls, are the newest cultural attraction for visitors to Alexandria.

Amun and Mut

In July, the dyad statue from Karnak of Amun and Mut



Re-united after 2000 years, the Goddess Mut and God Amun from Karnak Temple have been conserved, re-assembled, and put on display in the Egyptian Museum. Photo by Patrick Godeau/ARCE

was officially dedicated by the Minister of Culture Farouk Hosni, U.S. Ambassador Daniel C. Kurtzer, and Dr. Gaballa. Also attending were Toni Christiansen-Wagner, Deputy Director of USAID, and the German Ambassador.

Occupying a prominent position in the Museum, the four meter-high statue has drawn the compliments of scholars and tourists alike. Assembled from amongst a selection of 250 fragments that had been displayed in various locations in Cairo and Luxor, it is now on view for the first time in 2000 years. This cutting-edge method of statue assembly and presentation has only recently been adopted by some of the world's leading museums, and this statue marks the first time it has been done in Egypt.

In this technique the fragments are not joined by neutral

material but instead are hung on a skeleton, so that the sculpture's original profiles are displayed. This highlights the fragments' history and allows further pieces to be added as they are found.

The project was directed by Hourig Sourouzian with conservators Lynne Humphries, Theo Gayer-Anderson, and Hubert Lafore. Dr. Mohamed Saleh and Dr. Mohamed El Shimi, former and present Directors of the museum, respectively, and Adel Mahmoud, were instrumental in the project.

St. Anthony's Church

One of the most recent and surely the most visibly spectacular completed project has been at the Church of St. Anthony at the Monastery of the same name in the mountains of the Red Sea coast. Of the work completed this year, most notable was the unblocking and re-installation of hand-made stained glass windows in the barrel-vaulted roof. Covered for centuries, they now allow colored light, carefully protected by UV filters, to pour into the Church and better display the exquisite wall paintings. Additional work this year occurred on waterproofing and consolidation of the roof, new lighting, cleaning and conservation of the woodwork,



The new stained-glass windows, hand made and based on the original colors, allow light to stream into the completed Church of St. Anthony. Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE

repair of the floor, and new carpeting. Cleaning of the lower two meters of the wall not only revealed more important inscriptions, but added light and depth to the Church. Following re-consecration of the Church, services will be held again. Visitors, under the supervision of the monks, will be allowed to visit the church in small groups. This project is a major contribution to the rediscovery and safeguarding of Egypt's cultural heritage. Imagine, visitors and pilgrims



After centuries of obscurity, the wall paintings at the Church of St. Anthony are visible again. Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE

alike, are now able to see the interior of the church as it looked when the paintings were new in the 13th century.

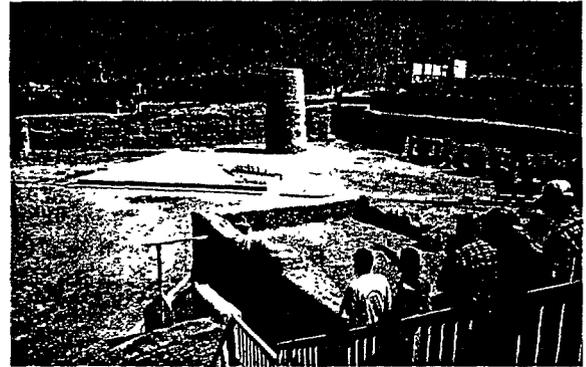
ARCE and Yale University Press will be jointly publishing a large-format book in its art book series, thus making available to a wider audience this important scholarly information and collection of superb paintings. Proceeds from the sale of the book will go to the Monastery to sustain the maintenance of the church. Ordering information will be ready in the Fall of 2000 from ARCE and on the Yale University Press Website: www.yale.edu/yup. Father Maximous conducted the project for the Monastery while Michael Jones managed it for ARCE. A dedicated group of 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 did the on-site work. Rami and Karim El-Dahan did the roof and other components. Giorgio Funaro and Rita Rivelli produced and installed the stained glass. Elizabeth Bolman as author was responsible for the manuscript, which includes chapters by Gawdat Gabra and William



U.S. Ambassador and Mrs. Kurtzer and USAID Mission Director and Mrs. Brown visiting the conservation work at St. Anthony's. Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE

Lyster and the fine photographs of Patrick Godeau. Anne Patterson of USAID and Phillip Tresch acted as project and agreement officers, respectively.

Quseir Fort



The Quseir Fort has been consolidated and designed to attract visitors into its interior to view exhibits on cultural and historical aspects of the Red Sea region. Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE

The new Quseir Fort Visitor Center was also completed this year. Designed to attract visitors to experience the fort itself, the center provides historical and cultural information on the activities of the region. These include the history and architecture of the fort, maritime trade, overland trade, Bedouin life, the monasteries, and the mining activities in the region. These exhibits were possible only after archaeology, survey, photography, and architectural consolidation had been done. Solar panels were fitted to provide electrical power. Archaeological work was directed by Charles Le Quesne. The survey was done by Michael Mallinson and Peter Sheehan, and the visitor's center was designed by Mallinson Architects. Nicholas Warner was the site manager for the consolidation and other work carried out by Keminco Contracting and Trading. We hope that the protection and display in this, the largest standing cultural monument on the Red Sea coast, will demonstrate the importance of preserving cultural heritage in the region.

OTHER PROJECTS COMPLETED THIS YEAR

Nineteenth-Century House

The Three Houses of Cairo project, which seeks to preserve some residential buildings in ARCE's conservation area, has finished renovating the last of the owner-occupied buildings. These two adjoin a small tomb and now protect it, too. Other owners have expressed an

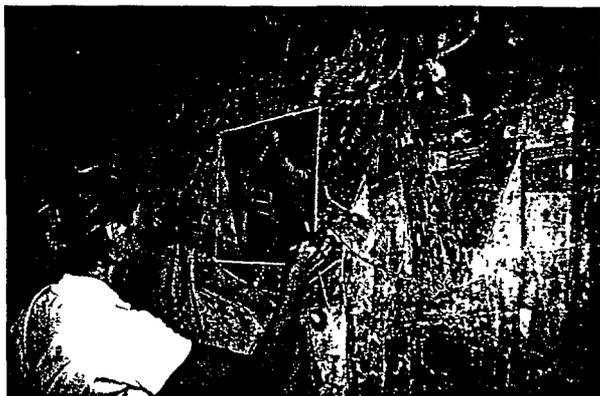
interest in such work and so has another donor. We hope this program will encourage owners not to sell their houses and erect architecturally incompatible buildings. Dr. Saleh Zaki and his team of Egyptian architects have done a fine job on this project.

Master Plan of Old Cairo

Mallinson Architects have completed their work and submitted their recommendations. We have been able to table many of these with the Government of Egypt and help energize a good confluence of interest in the area. The SCA continues the work on the Hanging Church while the Ministry of Tourism is funding a facelift of the houses, shops, walls, and sidewalks leading to and around the area. The Governor of Cairo has re-paved the streets surrounding the area. We have installed the first informational panel in the Shrine of St. George in the Coptic nunnery and a sample bench has been installed in the Coptic museum garden. ARCE is evaluating the emplacement of orientation maps and further informational panels. For its part USAID has signed a \$12 million ground control project with the Ministry of Housing and Cairo Water Organization to relieve the high water levels in Old Cairo. Under this project, Shree Gokale and Rajan Patel of CCJM Engineering will supervise the work, which is based on the micro-tunneling procedures used successfully in the Bab-Zuwayla area. ARCE, through Peter Sheehan and Charles Le Quesne, will assist the SCA with monitoring the excavation work to make sure that architectural and archaeological material is given proper treatment.

Seti I

The survey and geo-technical and site preservation studies produced by Brad Porter, James Mc Lane, and Shari Saunders are complete and very thorough. Cristina Vazio submitted a detailed report and a conservation assessment



Conservator Christina Vazio performing a sample cleaning in the tomb of Seti I. Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE

St. Paul's Monastery

While architectural work had been previously completed, survey work and a guidebook were still required. Peter Sheehan completed the survey work and plans at this, and St. Anthony's Monastery. William Lyster wrote and Patrick Godeau illustrated a guide book to the Monastery. ARCE has published it and it is available for sale at the Monastery. Revenues from the sale are to be used in a revolving fund to print more books, as needed.

ONGOING PROJECTS

CAIRO

Sabil Kuttab Mohammed Ali (Tusun Pasha)

This monument was one of the first Ottoman monuments built with dominant non-Cairene architectural elements. The monument is named after Pasha Mohammed Ali's favorite son who was killed in a battle with the Wahibis of Saudi Arabia. Its intricate carved marble façades, gilded bronze grills, and decorated dome dazzles. A great deal of structural instability has occurred over time and Agnieszka Dobrowolska, assisted by structural engineer Gregory Bogobowicz, are busy protecting it. Conservation work has started on all of the architectural features.



Agnieszka Dobrowolska, Gregory Bogobowicz, and Alaa El-Habashi inspect the completed lead sheeting over the conserved dome of the Sabil Kuttab Mohammed Ali Pasha. Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE

Bab Zuwayla

The arrival of a JOS system cleaning machine has enabled a team of Egyptians led by stone conservationist Theo Gayer-Anderson to dramatically clean the stone surfaces at a rate of about 6 m² per day. The conservation of this landmark monument is under the direction of Nairy Hampikian assisted by May Al-Abrashi. Fine art

conservationist Monica Cyran has been cleaning and consolidating a stucco inscription and a painted ceiling in an interior room. New gypsum stained glass windows ornament the adjoining mosque area. Stonemasons Dany Ray and Johannes Walz have finished replacing dozens of huge deteriorated blocks in the towers. Irene Bierman has been studying the historical elements of this Fatamid period monument.



Using the JOS system, stone surfaces are cleaned at the top of the Bab Zuwayla. Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE

Undocumented Inscriptions

Bernard O'Kane and Lobna Sherif of AUC have been proceeding with much more on-site recording. Additional graduate students have assisted in the field and with data-entry.

Cairo Mapping Project

Nicholas Warner has almost completed this important project. It contains a wealth of information backed up by a superb text, never before combined in one spot.

Bayt Al-Razzaz and Zawiya Sabil Farag Ibn Barquq

Alaa El-Habashi, who was appointed Assistant Technical Director, has been supervising the re-roofing of the rooms that were reconstructed last year. Hoda Abdel Hamid has assisted at the Bayt and has been coordinating the process at Barquq. A specialized technique of damp proofing of the building will commence shortly. The use of a cutting machine makes the technique feasible. A saw will be used to make horizontal cuts in the joints between the wall blocks and a waterproof material will be inserted.

Conservation of Coptic Icons

The team has done an excellent job inventorying and documenting over 2000 icons in preparation for the process of cleaning, consolidation, and final conservation of some selected icons. The team is led by Dr. Shawki

Nakhla and includes Dr. Gawdat Gabra, Father Maximous, and Karel Innemee. The training aspects of the project are financed by the Local Cultural Fund of the Royal Netherlands Embassy.

Maimonides Synagogue

A ground water investigation, complete with borehole drilling for stratigraphy, has been completed by Dr. Kamal Hefny. USAID is presently conducting a design/feasibility study to determine further possibilities for the area, which encompasses a church and mosque.

OUTSIDE CAIRO

Luxor Temple

The site of the laboratory was thoroughly discussed with the SCA and an appropriate spot chosen. The site was prepared and the lab was installed. It serves as an on-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 relative humidity 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 from the surface. By the end of the season, six new mastaba benches had been built to accommodate more efficiently these and other temple blocks. Currently, priority is given to 140 block fragments, which, when reinstalled on the Sun Court wall, will complete a large bark of Amun offering scene.

Small Temple of Amun at Medinet Habu

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, fitted precisely in place, and sealed with mortar. This followed the previous year's 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

Temple of Amun at Medinet Habu (Cont.)

compacted for the flooring, the team re-earthed parts of a seated four-meter high statue of Tuthmosis III and Amun, first found in the 1930's. Consideration is now being given to joining the base of the statue to the upper portion, including the torsos, which have long been situated next to the temple.

Valley of the Kings

The team returned in April, finished its fieldwork, and began the installation of two prototype flood protection measures. They returned to the U.S. and began their final report, including the production of a digitized map for use in illustrating the contours, the hydrology, and the tomb plans. Their preliminary recommendations have been received and we hope to move ahead with approvals for them.

Abydos

Following a series of discussions and clarifications with the Project Director and New York University, the sub-agreement was signed. The opening phase of the program for the conservation of the Shenut ez-Zebib of Pharaoh Khasekhemwy started in the late fall. Under the supervision of Associate Director Matt Adams, who together with David O'Connor will direct the project, a three-man team came for an initial reconnaissance of the structure. Architectural conservator William Remsen, structural architect Conor Power, and earthen architecture specialist Tony Crosby will detail their findings in preparation for conservation intervention.

Hierakonpolis

A conservation team returned in early January to Hierakonpolis. The conservation of the late Ramesside tomb of Hormose and of the early New Kingdom tomb of Djehuty continues. Under the direction of Dr. Renée Friedman conservators Ed Johnson and Lamia El-Hadidy have finished most of the conservation work. The cleaning of these wall paintings has revealed brilliant colors and is providing new information about this little-known Middle Kingdom period. Betsy Bryan continues to analyze the paintings and Will Schenck, joined by Katherine Spence, has been drawing the details.

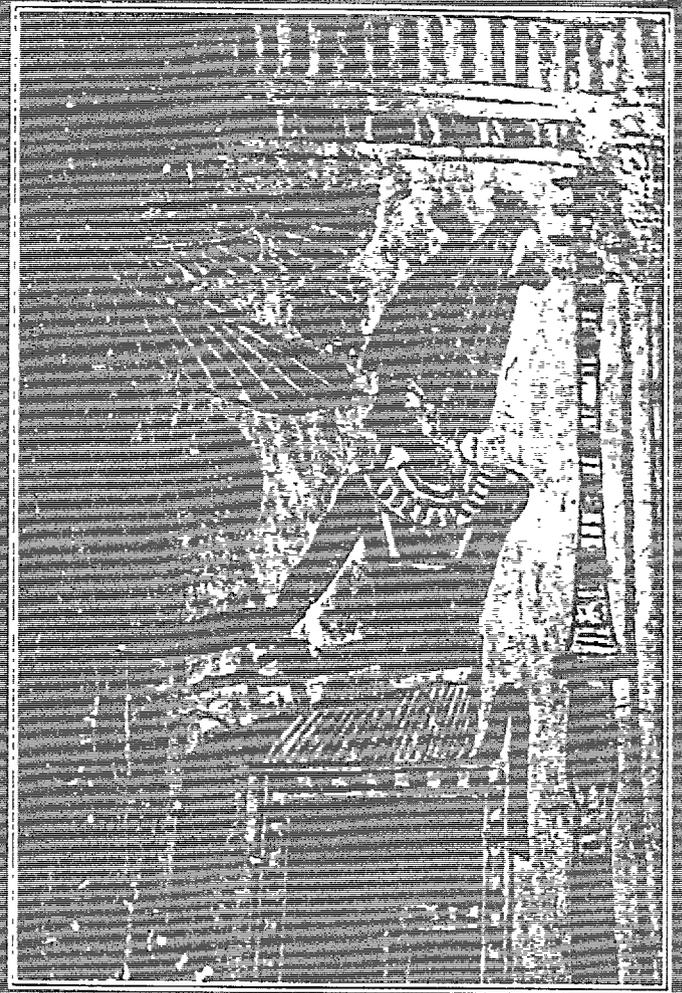
Friends and Visitors

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 Robert Aderholt
Congressman Benjamin Gilman
Congressman Jack Metcalf
Congressman Joseph Pitts
Congressman Tom Tancredo
Evelyn Lieberman, Under Secretary of State
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
Paul O'Friel, US Embassy
Michael Pelletier, US Embassy
Nihal Rizk, US Embassy
Marcelle Wahba, 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 McCarthy, 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
Jerry Vincent, ARCE



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American Research Center in Egypt

annual report

2000

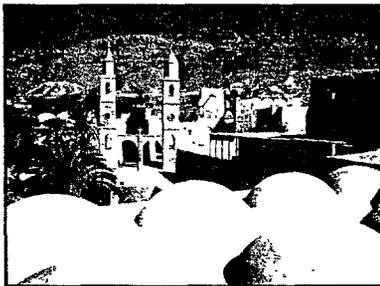
ARCE Conservation Projects

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, Pharaonic, Graeco-Roman, Coptic, Islamic, and Jewish antiquities. This update is provided by Robert K. "Chip" Vincent, Jr. who has been Project Director since February of 1994.

This has been a good year for Egypt, the SCA, and ARCE because of the completion of some very important, highly visible projects. Underscoring the balance of projects from various traditions that ARCE has designed for this grant, Pharaonic and Graeco-Roman period projects have been marked by ceremonial openings. This year also marks the completion of the four projects under the Antiquities Development Project Grant. The Egyptian Antiquities Grant continues. This year brings new staff to ARCE in the U.S. Atlanta office: Susanne Thomas and Carolyn Tomaselli. While we bid them welcome, we also extend our fond farewells to staff in New York who loyally supported these projects. Thank you, Terry Wälz, Elaine Schapker, Catherine Clynne, Rebecca Holder, and Mary Soliman.

Completed Projects

One of the most recent and surely the most visibly spectacular completed project has been at the Church of St. Anthony at the Monastery of the same name in the mountains of the Red Sea coast. Of the work that has been completed in the last year, most notable has been the unblocking and re-installation of hand-made stained glass windows in the barrel-vaulted roof. Additional work this year occurred on waterproofing and consolidation of the roof, new lighting, cleaning and conservation of the woodwork, repair of the floor and new carpeting. Cleaning of the lower two meters of the wall not only revealed more important inscriptions, but added light and depth to the church. Yale University Press and ARCE will be jointly publishing a large-format book on the church in Yale's art book series, thus making available to a wider audience this important scholarly information and collection of superb paintings.



St. Anthony's Monastery. Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE

Following completion of the work on the mosaics at Kom El-Dikka in Alexandria, an official opening ceremony was held to mark this accomplishment.

On the day scheduled for this opening, we were very worried as we approached Alexandria and encountered a downpour. However, shortly before noon the dark clouds parted and the sun shone down gloriously. At this occasion, the Minister of Culture, Farouk Hosni, the Governor of Alexandria, Abdel Salam El-Mahgoub, and Dr. Gaballa made up the Egyptian delegation, while representing the U.S. was Tom Christensen-Wagner, Deputy Director of USAID. Also attending was the new Polish Ambassador, Joanna Wroniecka.

They entered the steel and glass cover that had been constructed to protect the lovely animal and geometric mosaics in the Villa of the Birds. Dating from the late 1st/early 2nd century AD, they are the finest mosaics *in situ* in Egypt. Two types of mosaics are on display: those made of colored stone cubes and another made of inlaid pieces of marble and other stone. The Governor had contributed extensive grass landscaping which, quite literally, framed the whole landscape. The Egyptian-Polish Mission had undertaken the site preparation and water drainage works. Combined with the USAID funds under ARCE's grant, the end result was a comprehensive site presentation.

The new Quseir Fort Visitor Center has also been completed this year. Designed to attract visitors to experience the fort itself, the center provides historical and cultural information on the activities of the region. These include the history and architecture of the fort, maritime trade, overland trade, Bedouin life, the monasteries, and the mining activities in the region. These exhibits were possible only after archaeology, survey, photography, and architectural consolidation had been done. Solar panels were fitted to provide electrical power.



The conserved Church of St. Anthony. Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE.

Elsewhere in Cairo, Bernard O'Kane and Lobna Shenf of AUC have been proceeding with much more on-site recording of undocumented inscriptions. Additional graduate students have assisted in the field and with data-entry. And Nicholas Warner has almost completed the important Cairo Mapping project. It contains a wealth of information backed up by a superb text, never before combined in one spot. The re-roofing of the rooms that were reconstructed last year at Bayt Al-Razzaz and Zawiya Sabil Farag Ibn Barquq is also on going. Alaa El-Habashi, who was appointed Assistant Technical Director, has been supervising. Hoda Abdel Hamid has assisted at the Bayt and has been coordinating the process at the Bayt Al-Razzaz. A specialized technique of damp proofing of the building will commence shortly. In the realm of conservation of Coptic Icons, the team has done an excellent job inventorying and documenting over 2000 icons in preparation for a process of cleaning, consolidation, and final conservation of some selected icons. The team is led by Dr. Shawki Nakhla and includes Dr. Gawdat Gabra, Father Maximous, and Karel Innemee.

Outside Cairo

At Luxor Temple the SCA decided to change the site of the laboratory and then reviewed the previously chosen site, deciding to permit it to be positioned as first agreed. The site was prepared and the lab installed. It serves as an on-site office, a place to apply non-toxic chemicals, and as a statement that conservation will be done at Luxor Temple. Assessment of last year's season has been completed and shows the importance of storing affected blocks under shelter and cleaning dust and detritus from the surface. By the end of the season, six new mastaba benches had been built to accommodate more efficiently these, and other temple blocks. Currently, priority is being given to blocks that can be reinstalled on the enclosure wall of the Sun Court.

Three major phases of the work were conducted this year at the Small Temple of Amun at Medinet Habu. First, the stone slabs for the area of the roof over the shrines were cut, fitted precisely in place, and sealed with mortar. This followed the previous year's 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. 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 4-meter high statue of Tuthmosis III and Amun, first found in the 1930's. Consideration is now being given to joining the base to the upper portion, including the torsos, which have long been situated next to the temple.

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Opening ceremony of the Karnak Statue 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, U.S. Ambassador; Toni Christensen-Wagner, Deputy Director, USAID. Photo by Chip Vincent/ARCE.



Dyad of Mut and Amun after conservation. Photo by Patrick Godeau/ARCE.

In July, the dyad statue from Karnak of Amun and Mut was officially dedicated by the Minister of Culture Farouk Hosni, U.S. Ambassador Daniel C. Kurtzer, and Dr. Gaballa. Also attending were Toni Christensen-Wagner, Deputy Director of USAID, and the German Ambassador. Occupying a prominent position in the museum, the 4 meter-high statue has drawn the compliments of scholars and tourists alike. Assembled from amongst a selection of 250 fragments that had been displayed in various locations in Cairo and Luxor, it is now on view for the first time in 2000 years.

Among the other undertakings completed this year is the Three Houses of Cairo project which seeks to preserve some residential buildings in ARCE's conservation area. Renovation of the last of the owner-occupied buildings has been completed. These two adjoin a small tomb and now protect it, too. Other owners have expressed an interest in such work and so has another donor.

Mallinson Architects have completed their work and submitted their recommendations for the Master Plan of Old Cairo. We have been able to table many of these with the Government of Egypt and help energize a good confluence of interest in the area. The SCA continues the work on the Hanging Church while the Ministry of Tourism is funding a facelift of the houses, shops, walls, and sidewalks leading to and around the area. The Governor of Cairo has re-paved the streets surrounding the area. A sample bench has been installed in the Coptic museum garden and ARCE is evaluating the emplacement of orientation maps and informational panels. A sample panel has been produced and installed in the Shrine of St. George in the Coptic Nunnery. For its part USAID has signed a \$12 million ground control project with the Ministry of Housing and Cairo Water Organization to relieve the high water levels in Old Cairo.

Several surveys were completed this year. The very thorough Seti I survey, and geo-technical and site preservation studies, were produced by Brad Porter, James McLane, and Shan Saunders. Crisuna Vazio submitted a detailed report and a conservation assessment. While architectural work on St. Paul's Monastery had been previously reported, survey work and a guidebook were still required. Peter Sheehan completed the survey work and plans at this, and St. Anthony's Monastery. William Lyster wrote and Patrick Godeau illustrated a guidebook to the Monastery. ARCE has published it and it is available for sale at the Monastery. Revenues from the sale are to be used in a revolving fund to print more books, as needed.

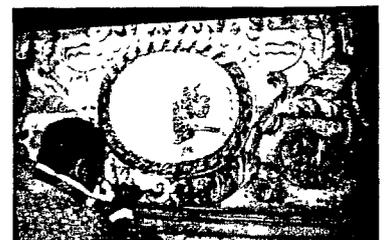


Dyad of Mut and Amun during conservation. Photo by Jack Dobrowolski/ARCE.

Ongoing Projects in Cairo

The Sabil Kuttab Mohammed Ali (Tusun Pasha) monument was one of the first Ottoman monuments built with dominant non-Cairene architectural elements. Its intricate carved marble façades, gilded bronze grills, and decorated dome dazzles. A great deal of structural instability has occurred over time and Agnieszka Dobrowolska, assisted by structural engineer Gregory Bogobowicz, is busy protecting it. Conservation work is finished or has started on all of the architectural features.

The arrival of a JOS-system cleaning machine has enabled a team of Egyptians led by stone conservationist Theo Gayer-Anderson to dramatically clean the stone surfaces of Bab Zuwayla at a rate of about 6 m² per day. The conservation of this landmark monument is under the direction of Nairy Hampikian, assisted by May Al-Abrashi. Fine art conservationist Monica Cyran has been cleaning and consolidating a stucco inscription and a painted ceiling in an interior room. New gypsum stained glass windows ornament the adjoining mosque area. Stonemasons Dany Ray and Johannes Walz have finished replacing dozens of huge deteriorated blocks in the towers. Irene Bierman has been studying the historical elements of this Fatimid period monument.



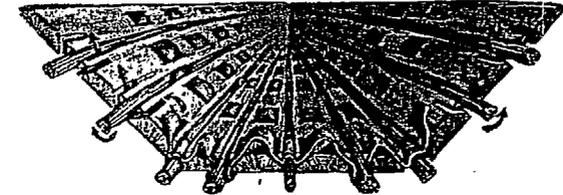
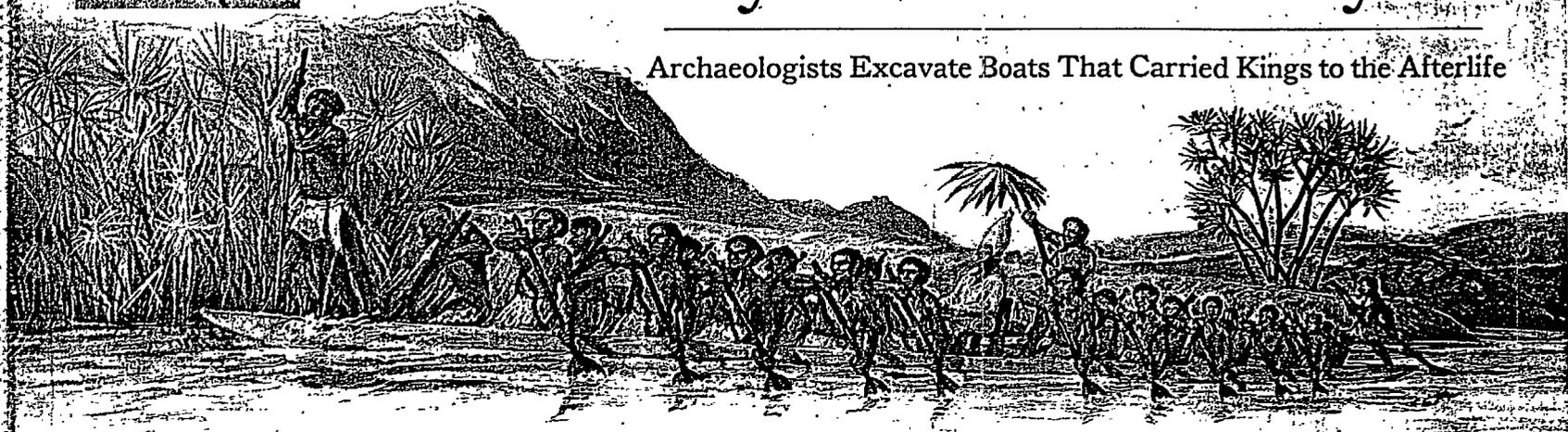
Marble cleaning at the Sabil Muhammed Ali Pasha (Tusan Pasha). Photo by Alaa El-Habashi/ARCE.

The New York Times



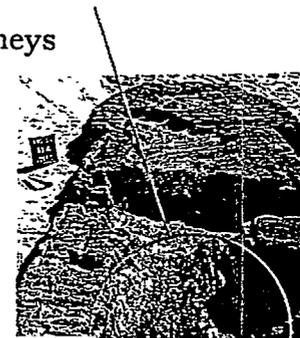
Early Pharaohs' Ghostly Fleet

Archaeologists Excavate Boats That Carried Kings to the Afterlife



Real Boats, Final Journeys

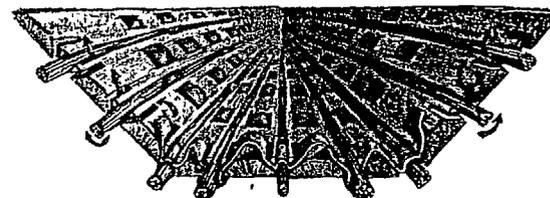
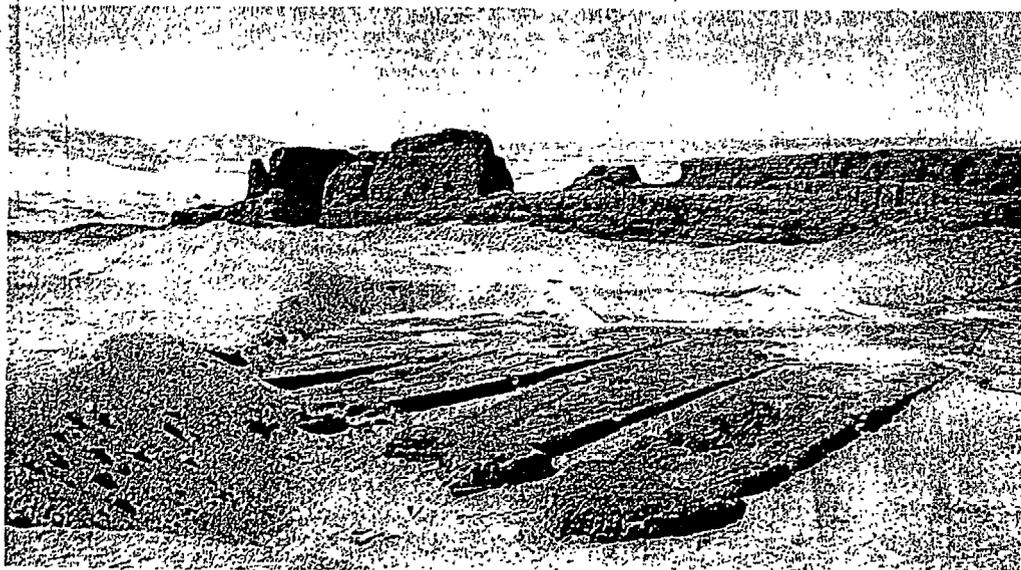
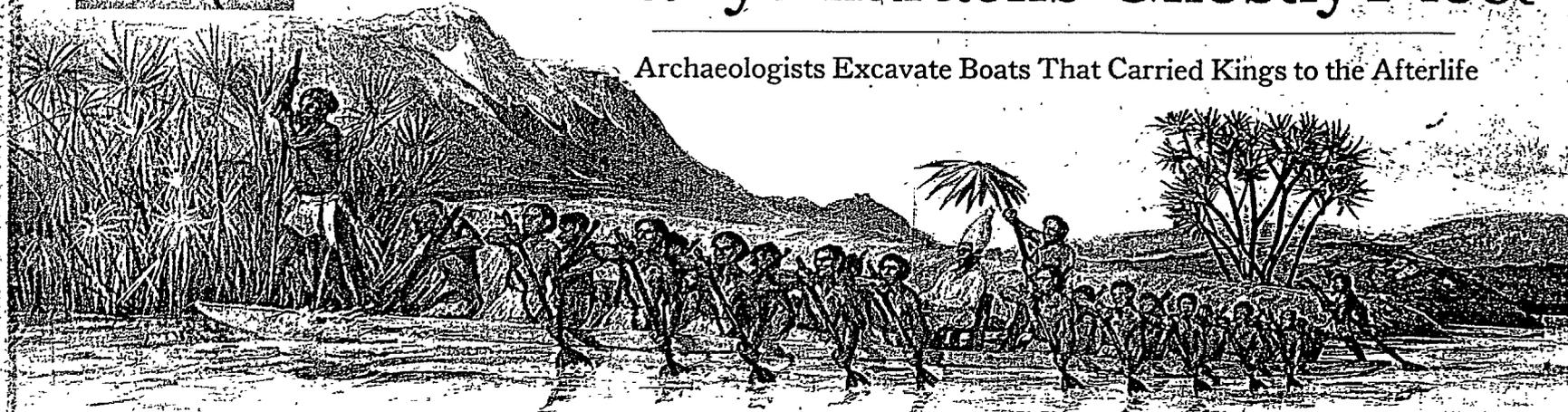
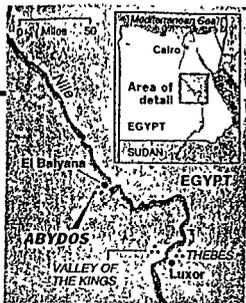
In ancient Egyptian theology, the dead sailed vast distances in the afterlife, so it seems that boats, buried near a king's tomb, were meant as vessels for the ultimate voyage. These boats are the earliest known examples of "built" boats constructed of fitted planks. The cross-section above shows a hypothetical reconstruction of one of the boats, below it, its mortised planks lashed together with webbing and bundles of reeds. Archaeologists believe the boats were actually put into use, as in the drawing at top, before they were buried



The New York Times

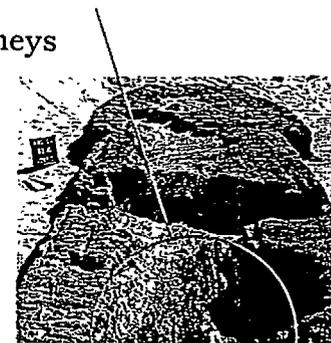
Early Pharaohs' Ghostly Fleet

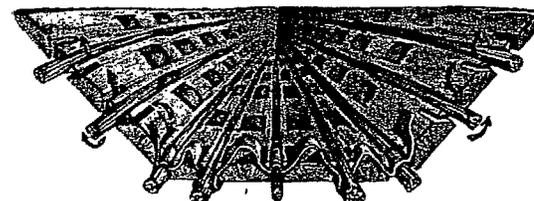
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Real Boats, Final Journeys

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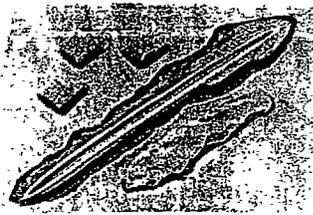


Illustrations by Michael Rothman; Photographs courtesy American Research Center in Egypt

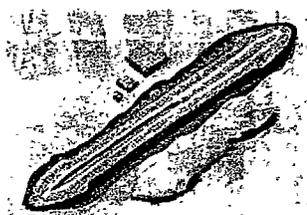
A FLEET AT ANCHOR

At one site, at least 14 boats were buried in parallel, like a ghostly fleet lying at anchor. So far, evidence suggests that they were flat-bottomed and relatively shallow, but with sturdy wooden shells. Two of them, at least, seem to have been painted yellow on the outside.

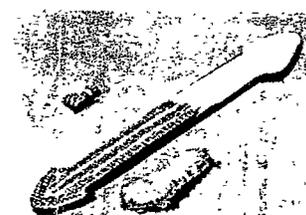
Source: Dr. Cheryl Ward, Florida State University



1. To create the boat graves, a hole was dug in the sand, its flat bottom lined with bricks. The boat was placed in the hole.



2. Bricks were placed around and in the boats. These brick walls were as much as two feet thick.



3. Pottery offerings might be placed near or on the boat, which would be covered over with mud plaster and whitewash.

By JOHN NOBLE WILFORD

Archaeologists have excavated the hull of a boat fit for an ancient Egyptian king's final journey in the afterlife. The 5,000-year-old wooden hull, they say, is the earliest surviving example of a "built" boat, one constructed out of planks lashed together and representing a major

technology like this," said Dr. Cheryl Ward, a nautical archaeologist at Florida State University in Tallahassee who examined a 10-foot-long section of the hull. "In the ancient world, boats were the most complex machines produced. They were one of the premier symbols of the leadership of the pharaoh."

the dugout logs and reed vessels of more ancient vintage. The boat — about 75 feet long and 7 to 10 feet wide at the widest part, with narrowing prow and stern and a shallow draft — was examined in detail this summer by American archaeologists at Abydos, 300 miles south of Cairo. Here the earliest pharaohs known to history were buried, long before the pyramids at Giza, outside Cairo, or the tombs in the Valley of the Kings, across the

A study of the Abydos boat and at least 13 others buried in parallel, like a fleet riding at anchor near mortuary monuments, is expected to provide scholars with new evidence about the wealth, power and technological prowess of the earliest royal dynasties of the Egyptian civilization. The boats have not been precisely dated, but other remains indicate they were associated with pharaohs of the first dynasty, beginning around 3000 B.C.

Egyptologists hope to learn from these findings more about the significance of boats in the ancient religion and royal funerary practices, related to the belief that the

sun-god Ra traveled by boat through the sky by day and the netherworld by night in cycles of regeneration. Boats were buried near a king's tomb so that in death he, too, could achieve endless renewal.

The Abydos boat, archaeologists said, predated by as much as 400 years the famous boat recovered at Pharaoh Khufu's pyramid at Giza, but in meaning and function it appeared to be a direct ancestor. The

Continued on Page 4

Scientists Excavate Boats That Carried Early Pharaohs to Afterlife

Continued From First Science Page

boat's design and construction also should provide insights into the craft plying the Nile on more mundane missions in early Egypt.

"Our boat experts say this is an actual and viable boat, not a symbolic one," Dr. David O'Connor of New York University, director of the expedition, said in an interview. "But there's no evidence that any of these boats were ever actually used in water. Would you give a king a used boat?"

An official announcement of the excavations was made in Cairo last week by Farouk Hosni, Egypt's minister of culture, and Dr. G. A. Gaballa, head of the Supreme Council of Antiquities. The council licensed the work at Abydos by archaeologists from the University of Pennsylvania Museum, Yale University and New York University's Institute of Fine Arts.

"It's tremendous news," said Dr. Rita E. Freed, an Egyptologist at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, who was not involved in the project. "This is clearly a boat technology the Egyptians would have used in daily life. It also shows their abilities for organization and technology."

Until now, the only evidence of such ancient Egyptian boats came from illustrations on pottery and tomb walls, and archaeologists could not be sure how realistic these were. Of the few actual boats to survive, the oldest had been two found in boat-shaped pits next to Khufu's pyramid at Giza; each was 142 feet long.

"The rarity of royal boat burials suggests that kings' burials might have more often included boat models, magically empowered substitutes for the real thing," Dr. O'Connor said. The tomb of Tutankhamen, who lived much later, in the 18th dynasty, more than 3,300 years ago, contained 35 boat models.

Boats of one sort or another have a much deeper history. Dugout boats from about 6000 B.C. have been uncovered in Denmark, and rafts and reed vessels were probably in use for thousands of years earlier than that. People were presumably floating some kind of boats as early as 50,000 years ago, or how else could humans have first settled Australia.

"We don't see built planked boats until we get to Egypt, not until the start of urban civilizations," Dr. Ward said in an interview. "It takes a lot of skill to build a boat like the ones at Abydos, something we don't think about in our day of power tools. There had to be trained workers shaping the wood, usually with stone tools. It took planning and discipline and a higher level of organization in a society, which the Egyptians must have had 5,000 years ago."

Archaeologists have been digging the ruins of Abydos since the turn of the 20th century. In 1988, while exploring a northern sector of the site, more than a mile away from the royal tombs, the American team, including Dr. O'Connor, found lines of mud brick peeking from the wind-deposited sand. At first, they took these to be buried walls. After closer examination three years later, Dr. O'Connor reported what he then called a "startling and significant discovery." Each "wall" turned out to be part of an enormous boat "grave."

Preliminary excavations in 1991 revealed 12 such graves, each lined and topped with brick and each enclosing a wooden boat. The outline of each grave was the shape of a boat. Each grave surface was originally coated with mud plaster and white-wash, giving the impression of a great white fleet, and a small boulder had been placed near the prow or stern of several graves, the sugges-

An actual ancient boat destined never to touch water.

tion of anchors. Dr. O'Connor said the placement of the boulders "seems deliberate, not random."

Except for a few scattered probes to determine the presence of actual boats, archaeologists made no attempt then to excavate any of the graves. They needed to make arrangements for the conservation and perhaps reconstruction of any excavated boats, and to obtain permission from the Egyptian authorities. All



Excavations at the Abydos site south of Cairo began at the turn of the 20th century. In 1988, archaeologists discovered traces of the grave boats. These conservators work to preserve the exposed wooden planking.

this came together in time for last summer's digging season.

The excavators started by clearing a three-foot-deep covering of sand off the No. 10 boat. Dr. Matthew Adams, a Penn archaeologist and the associate project director, said this particular grave was chosen because part of its buried hull had already been exposed in 1991 and appeared to be revealing, even though it was in a poor state of preservation. All the better, the team figured, for investigating what it will take to preserve the remains from more promising graves.

For about five days, Dr. Adams recalled, excavators carefully probed the midsection of the buried boat beneath its mud brick topping. They uncovered wooden planks, the remains of rope and reed matting and bundles. Wood-eating ants had been busy, and in many places all that was left of the hull was frass, the ants' excrement.

"The frass retained the shape of

the original wood," Dr. Adams said. "So we could see from the frass as well as the remaining wood the profile of the original wooden hull."

Noting that the type of wood has yet to be identified, Dr. Adams said: "Wood was a precious commodity in Egypt, and when we determine the type of wood, we'll be able to pinpoint just where it came from, which opens a whole new avenue of understanding about trade, political relationships and power."

After examining the hull section, Dr. Ward said the flat-bottomed boat reflected "a previously undocumented style of construction" for that period. The boat appeared to be built from the outside in, in contrast to the later shipbuilding technique of starting with an internal frame. The thick planks were lashed together by rope fed through mortises. The seams between planks were filled with bundles of reeds to make the boat watertight. Additional reeds carpeted the floor.

Judging by the length of these boats, from 60 to 80 feet, she said, they probably would have been propelled by as many as 30 rowers. Two additional boat graves were found during the most recent excavations.

Dr. O'Connor said that other artifacts found in and around the boat graves might eventually help with dating and understanding this royal fleet. Archaeologists have already uncovered more than 30 pottery jars, each about a foot tall and of a shape that typically was used for beer, and some seal impressions. So far, none of the remains bear the name or other identifying clues of the king for whom the boats were interred.

The current assumption is that all the Abydos boats were buried at about the same time and were intended for the use of one king in the afterlife. But which king?

Archaeologists have ruled out what once appeared to be the most likely candidate, Pharaoh Khasekhemwy from the late second dynas-

ty, about 2675 B.C. The ruins of a huge enclosure of thick mud-brick walls, standing near the row of boat graves, has been associated with the performance of sacred rituals for this particular pharaoh after his burial at Abydos. But further research has established that the graves lie in a lower stratum of sediment, and thus probably were dug sometime during the first dynasty, which extended from about 3000 B.C. to 2800.

Dr. O'Connor said that the boat graves might have been associated with Pharaoh Djer of the first dynasty, whose probable cult center has been uncovered in the vicinity, or even to Aha, the first of the first dynasty rulers of Egypt, whose reign began shortly after 3000 B.C.

Whomever they were intended to venerate, the Abydos boats were an impressive expression of religion and power by the ancestors of Egyptians who would later outdo themselves in temples and pyramids throughout the land.

"This is the oldest, largest and most amazing waste of labor we know of up to this time," Dr. Ward said. "This is an incredible investment by the government in validating itself by burying all these boats."

But the mode of expression was based on the Egyptian concept of life after death. "Virtually everything the Egyptians did on this scale was religious," said Dr. Freed of the Boston museum.

The American team plans to return to the site this winter to make a more detailed inspection of the wood and other material and also to continue treating the fragile wood to prevent its deterioration. Dr. Deborah Schorsch of the Metropolitan Museum of Art is in charge of the conservation work, which is supported by a grant from the United States International Development Agency in Egypt.

In two years, archaeologists expect to dig up another of the Abydos boats, one they have reason to think is better preserved. Egyptologists may then have an even better idea of what it was like to cruise the Nile 5,000 years ago and how people prepared their kings for the ultimate voyage.

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نؤيد جهود الرئيس مبارك لوقف نزيف دماء الفلسطينيين ووحدة الصف العربي بناء قوتنا الذاتية والتسلح بالعلم والمعرفة ضمانة حقيقية لحماية السلام

كتب مصطفى بلال:

تحول حوار الدكتور حسين كامل بهاء الدين وزير التربية والتعليم مع حوالي ٦ آلاف من طلاب المدارس عبر شبكة الفيديو كونفرانس أمس، الى مطاهرة حب وتأييد ودعم بلا حدود للفلسطينيين بالاراضى العربية المحتلة. اعلن الطلاب عن تأييدهم للجهود الجبارة التي يبذلها الرئيس حسنى مبارك لوقف نزيف دماء الاخوة الفلسطينيين قال احد الطلاب نحن على استعداد للجهاد وانقاذ القدس ومساعدة زملائنا الفلسطينيين وقالت طالبة اخرى ان الانتماء يعنى العمل لرفعة الوطن وليس مجرد كلمات او مشاعر، ولقت بعض الطالبات قصائد شعرية حماسية تدعو لمساندة انتفاضة الأقصى. وأكد الدكتور حسين كامل بهاء الدين حرص الرئيس مبارك على وحدة الصف العربي وتوحيد الكلمة والحفاظ على الحقوق العربية. وقال: لقد احترنا السلام، ولكنه يحتاج الى جهد متواصل لا يقل عن جهد الحرب. وأشار الى انه يمكن للطلاب عرض الحق العربي عبر شبكة

الانترنت والى امكانية التبرع بالدماء وبالمال عبر جمعية الهلال الاحمر التي ترأسها السيدة الفاضلة سوزان مبارك. وعلينا الا ننسى هدفنا الاستراتيجى الذى نسعى اليه وهو بناء قوتنا الذاتية والتسلح بالعلم والمعرفة باعتبارهما ضمانة حقيقية لحماية السلام. لقد تابعنا جميعا ما يحدث فى الاراضى المحتلة ونشعر بالغضب من التصرفات والاستفزازات غير الانسانية. وأكد الدكتور بهاء الدين على ضرورة تدعيم جمعيات المناظرات المدرسية، والبرلمان المدرسى والاتحادات الطلابية. وذلك باعتبارها وسائل لتدريب الطلاب على العمل السياسى والحوار والتفكير العلمى. وأكد على اهمية مشاركة المجتمع بأسره فى دعم العملية التعليمية ودور مجالس الاباء فى دعم التوسع الراسى لتكنولوجيا التعليم مشيراً الى انه لم يتبق سوى ١٢٥ مدرسة سيتم خلال الشهر القادم تزويدها بالكمبيوتر. وحذر الوزير من عدم تمكن الطلاب من استخدام تكنولوجيا التعليم مؤكداً ان المسألة لن تكون لصغار

الموظفين بل ستبدا بكيار المستولين. وان لجان المتابعة ستتابع ذلك ولاتوجد مدرسة فى مكان نادر عن المتابعة. وأكد الوزير على ضرورة تكاتف قوى المجتمع للتصدى لظاهرة الدروس الخصوصية مشيراً الى ان الدروس لاتصنع موهبة او عبقرية مؤكداً ان هذه الظاهرة تحرم غير القادرين من فرصتهم الوحيدة للتعليم بما يهدد السلام الاجتماعى والاستقرار الاجتماعى. وقد اعرب عدد كبير من الطلاب عن رفضهم للدروس الخصوصية والتمسك بمجموعات التقوية المدرسية. وهنا طالب الوزير باستيعاب كل الطلاب الراغبين فى المجموعات داخل المدارس، وحذر من تحويل حصص الأنشطة لتدريس اى مادة علمية. مؤكداً ان الأنشطة التربوية هى جزء مكمّل لسياسة تطوير التعليم. وأشار الى المشروع القومى للالعاب الرياضية فى لعبات كرة السلة ورفع الأثقال والعدو وتيسر الطاوله. وقد طلب الدكتور بهاء الدين من جميع الحاضرين الوقوف دقيقة حداداً على ارواح الشهداء الفلسطينيين فى بداية الاجتماع

اكتشاف أقدم مراكب ملكية فى أيدوس بسوهاج المراكب صنعها المصري القديم عام ٢٠٠٠ قبل الميلاد



جزء من الكشف الأثرى المهم فى أيدوس

كتب علاء عبدالهادى:

نجحت بعثة أثرية أمريكية تابعة لجامعة بنسلفانيا فى اكتشاف أقدم مراكب ملكية فى مصر القديمة يتم العثور عليها حتى الآن. يعود الكشف الذى تحقق فى أيدوس بسوهاج إلى عصر الأسرة الأولى أى حوالي عام ٢٠٠٠ ق.م. اعلن ذلك فاروق حسنى وزير الثقافة أمس وقال إن الكشف هو أكبر رد علمى على التخاريف التى يرددها البعض بأن الحضارة الفرعونية لم يصنعها أهل الأرض من المصريين القدماء.. اكتشفت البعثة ١٤ دفنة أثرية مبنية بالطوب اللبن، ويبلغ طول الدفنة الواحدة ٢٩ متراً. أعدت صحيفة النيويورك تايمز ملفاً مصوراً بالكشف لنشره قريباً.

وقال د. جاب الله على جاب الله أمين عام المجلس الأعلى للأثار إن البعثة قامت بفتح واحدة من هذه المقابر تحت إشراف المجلس، ووجدت بداخلها بقايا مركب من خشب الأرز، الذى كانت

مصر تستورده من لبنان، ويبلغ طول المركب ٢٢ متراً، وعرضه متران وعمقه ٧٥ سم. وقال د. جاب الله إن تكتيك صناعة المركب يشير إلى أنه تم بأسلوب «التدكيك» باستخدام حبال دقيقة، وليس باستخدام الصمغ أو المسامير، مشيراً إلى أنه نفس الأسلوب الذى استخدم فى صناعة مركب الملك خوفو بالهرم فيما بعد ومركب الملك سنوسرت الثالث أشهر ملوك الأسرة الـ ١٢ فى دهشور، ١٨٥٠ ق.م. وقال أمين عام المجلس الأعلى للأثار إن الدلائل كلها تؤكد وجود ١٤ مركباً من الحجم الكبير مشيراً إلى أن الكشف يؤكد أن فكرة دفن مراكب حول المقبرة ليس مرتبطاً فقط بالدولة القديمة ولكنها كانت موجودة قبل هذا التاريخ.

وقال د. فغيد اوكتور رئيس البعثة إنه سيتم استئناف العمل فى الكشف عن بقية المراكب المدفونة فى موسم الحفائر المقبل.

بحث مساواة العاملين بالأزهر فى مكافأة الامتحانات قبول المدرسين بالمعاهد الأزهرية بنقابة المعلمين

كثرت لطيفة عبد الرازق: طلب مجلس إدارة النقابة العامة للتعليم والبحث العلمى من فضيلة الامام الأزهر، سيد طنطاوى، شيخ الأزهر ونسبة ٥٪ فقط للعاملين بالمناطق الأزهرية، ويصرح فاروق عابدين نائب رئيس النقابة العامة وسكرتير الاتحاد العام للمعلمين، بأن النقابة طلعت من

٥ آلاف من الطلائع يزورون المشروعات العملاقة

كتبت فاطمة السيد: أعد قطاع الطلائع مشروعاً تنمياً الوعى وتعميق الانتماء فى نفوس النشء من خلال تعريفهم بالانجازات الحضارية والمشروعات العملاقة التى يشهدها عصر الرئيس مبارك وزيارة الآثار والمعالم التاريخية من خلال تنظيم رحلات قومية

لجنة متابعة مشروع مكتبة الاسكندرية تجتمع بعد غد

كتبت كريمة عبدالرازق: تجتمع لجنة متابعة أعمال مشروع مكتبة الاسكندرية بعد غد الأربعاء بمقر المكتبة بمدينة الاسكندرية للوقوف على ما تم انجازه من أعمال فى المشروع الذى أوشك على الاكتمال بناء وتأثيثاً صرح بذلك الدكتور مفيد شهاب وزير التعليم العالى والدولة للبحث العلمى. وقال من الموضوعات التى تناقشها اللجنة برنامج تنفيذ نظام المعلومات الخاصة بالمكتبة التى تقوم بها شركة فرنسية كما تتابع اللجنة نتائج الاتصالات الدولية لدعم مشروع المكتبة مالياً وعينياً وذلك على ضوء النداء الدولى الذى وجهته منظمة اليونسكو. وقال الدكتور شهاب.. إن اليابان من أوائل الدول التى تساند وتدعم المشروع، حيث قدمت منحة قيمتها ٥٠ مليون ين يابانى «نصف مليون دولار» ممثلة فى تجهيز المكتبة بالأجهزة السمعية والبصرية. كما تقدم الجمعية التذكارية للمعرض العالمى باليابان منحة سنوية لعمامى ٢٠٠٢/٢٠٠١ قيمتها ٣٠ مليون ين يابانى «نحو ٢٠٠ ألف دولار أمريكى» وتستفيد المكتبة بهذه المنح فى دعم معمل الحفظ

19 APR 2000

04/18/00

**Text: Pickering on Diplomacy and Archaeology, Past, Present, Future
(Says all tracks of the Middle East Peace Process are active)**

Under Secretary of State Thomas Pickering says "all tracks" of the Middle East peace process "are active."

"We are encouraged," he said, "by Israel's decision to withdraw its forces completely from south Lebanon, in accordance with the relevant UN resolutions.

"At the same time, we hope to find ways to resolve the small but significant gaps that remain between Syria and Israel. All of this demands very hard work but we are committed to achieving peace."

In remarks at the Centennial Celebration of the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) in the Benjamin Franklin Room of the State Department the evening of October 14, Pickering told the gathering that "You have played an historic role in America's determination to find peace in the region. Archaeology has never respected modern boundaries. Indeed, it has helped us transcend those boundaries."

The Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs covered other foreign affairs issues during the course of his remarks, including Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's "set of major new initiatives toward Iran" last month.

Following is the State Department text:

(begin text)

Thank you, Mr. MacAllister, for that generous introduction, and I join you in extending a special welcome to the distinguished members of the diplomatic corps present tonight, and to Senator and Mrs. Moynihan.

Let me also express my thanks to President Joe Seger, Dr. Rudy Dornemann, and all the others who worked so long and hard to organize this wonderful event.

I know something about what you went through to get here. It makes Indiana Jones's adventures look like a tea party!

On behalf of the Department of State, welcome to the Benjamin Franklin Room. The age of these beautiful objects may not overly impress this gathering, but whenever I enter here, I am reminded that we in the Department are engaged in an enterprise far greater than our individual preoccupations. I suspect that this is a familiar thought to most of you as well.

Alice and I are deeply honored to be asked to be part of your centennial celebrations, and to have the honor of welcoming you here.

My one contribution as an ardent amateur to the literature of archaeology unfortunately has only found its way into Reader's Digest and People magazine.

In early 1986 at the Sea of Galilee, when some of your colleagues were excavating an early fishing boat, a local journalist asked me to compare archaeology and diplomacy.

The best I could do was to say that archaeology was uncovering the unknown, and diplomacy almost certainly was the opposite!

Nevertheless, Alice and I both take great pride in our amateur status and our personal association with this remarkable organization. Like so many others who have breathed the excitement and dust of a major dig, we have found no other experience in the world that can provide such a combination of intellectual challenge and physical discomfort.

This evening, we celebrate not merely the centennial of a remarkable organization, but of a century of extraordinary scientific exploration. The American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) was present at the creation of an era that has profoundly transformed our understanding of the ancient worlds of the Middle East and Mediterranean.

Consider just three milestones of the last half-century in which ASOR participated: discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls at Qumran, recovery of ancient Petra's Nabatean and Byzantine civilizations, and excavation of pygmy hippopotamus bones from the Neolithic era on Cyprus.

These are not simply monuments, but monumental additions to the storehouse of knowledge about a region that gave birth to civilization and shaped the Western world.

They are achievements of painstaking scholarship, creative imagination, and sheer backbreaking labor.

ASOR's individual members and member institutions have enriched the world, and transformed our understanding of it in ways that are as fundamental as Edwin Hubble's discovery that we live in an expanding universe.

At the same time, ASOR -- through its three major centers in Jerusalem, Amman, and Nicosia -- has not simply survived the ethnic and religious conflicts of the region, but served as a model of inclusive, politically neutral scholarship.

Through times of political turbulence and conflict, ASOR has built institutions of intellectual excellence -- and thereby demonstrated the power of international cooperation to achieve a common purpose.

These lessons did not pass unnoticed by the political leaders of the region, and serve as excellent models for what success in the peace process can (and has) created.

Securing a just, lasting and comprehensive Arab-Israeli peace is at the center of our work at the State Department. It is never easy, and yet we can also trace how our efforts over the years have made a real difference for people throughout the region.

All tracks of the peace process are active. Israeli Prime Minister Barak was just in Washington and Chairman Arafat is scheduled to visit soon. We also are encouraged by Israel's decision to withdraw its forces completely from south Lebanon, in accordance with the relevant UN resolutions.

At the same time, we hope to find ways to resolve the small but significant gaps that remain between Syria and Israel. All of this demands very hard work, but we are committed to achieving peace.

You have played an historic role in America's determination to find peace in the region. Archaeology has never respected modern boundaries. Indeed, it has helped us transcend those boundaries.

Having had the pleasure of serving both in Jordan and Israel, I know that the archaeologists on both sides of the Jordan River have much to say to each other. And there is real joy in learning that old friends in the field of archaeology on both sides are now working more closely together than ever before. This kind of cooperation has helped to build the public support and backing for peace that the region so urgently needs.

With your commitment to preservation and protection of sites, fact finding, truth telling, and scientific inquiry, you embody the core values of this country, and strengthen our relationships with nations throughout the region.

This new century offers you many challenges, not the least of which is to match the achievements of your own past.

I have little doubt that ASOR's future holds many more exciting insights into our human past. They may be found in the Vasilikos Valley of Cyprus, the Madaba Plains of Jordan, the Caesarea excavations of Israel -- or most likely in many places yet unknown.

This evening, I would like to talk about several challenges, facing archaeology, especially those that intersect with diplomacy and U.S. foreign policy.

My first point is both an obvious and fundamental one: the importance of partnership. Just as ASOR's scholarly integrity can strengthen the foundations of trust among people, so the U.S. commitment to fostering dialogue can nourish the work of international researchers.

Let me give you an example, one whose last chapter has yet to be written. A collection of 10,000-year old animal bones of wild goats, cattle, gazelles, and dogs - currently resides inside drawers at the Smithsonian's Museum of Natural History. As described in a recent National Public Radio report, they offer a striking picture of one of the most important events in human history: the Neolithic revolution that led to the invention of agriculture and domestication of animals.

The tale these bones seem to tell is that the Neolithic people, rather than having been forced by hunger into animal domestication, may have been experimenting with creative ways of managing resources and maximizing gain.

However, there is a problem: these bones were found years ago at a site in Iran that is no longer generally open to the scholarly community.

Suddenly, past and present are joined, and the political conflicts of today are inescapably connected to the lives of human beings ten centuries ago.

Two years ago, President Khatami of Iran spoke of opening a "dialogue of civilizations." Last month, Secretary Albright announced a set of major new initiatives toward Iran -- motivated, and I quote:

"solely by a realistic interest in taking this relationship to a higher level so that we may use diplomacy to solve problems and benefit the people of both countries."

In taking this initiative, the United States is affirming its belief in the proposition that expanded dialogue and exchanges among nations are in everyone's interest. Make no mistake, serious political differences between the United States and Iran remain.

Nevertheless, the Secretary made clear our commitment to encourage cultural exchanges of scholars, scientists, artists, athletes, and others, to serve as a bridge between our two countries. It is not hard to imagine that this opening may one day -- soon, we hope -- lead to new opportunities for expanded archaeological research in Iran -- and a better understanding of the moment in human history when hunters became herders -- and then found the spare time to create something we now can call civilization.

But we don't need to speculate about the positive aspects of public-private partnerships in international archaeology. We have many concrete examples.

In Jordan, the United States, along with ASOR and other private donors, has provided decades of support for the excavation and preservation of one of the most evocative archaeological sites in the world -- Petra.

I take some pride in being a part of this process when some years ago we asked the Agency for International Development (USAID) to apply U.S. standards of good environmental practice. As standard procedure, our development projects now survey -- and avoid -- archaeological resources whenever possible, and conduct salvage archaeology only as a last resort.

And we found that support for archaeology in Jordan has meant support for greater economic development through enriched tourism.

So USAID over the years helped fund development of a master plan for Petra, a dam to control periodic flooding, and an innovative shelter for the display of a Byzantine mosaics. To meet the infrastructure demands of local residents and tourists, USAID is now helping fund a wastewater treatment facility for the Wadi Musa community located outside Petra.

USAID is also continuing its long partnership with the Jordan American Center of Oriental Research (ACOR) through a grant for archaeology and site preservation not only at Petra, but also at the Madaba Archaeological Park, Aqaba, and the Citadel in Amman.

Elsewhere in the region, in Egypt, the challenge is not simply to protect archaeological sites, but to manage an unparalleled cultural heritage.



In cooperation with such institutions as the American Research Center in Egypt and the Egyptian Supreme Council for Antiquities, USAID has helped fund conservation projects that reflect Egypt's diverse heritage. To note just a few:

- Conservation of Greco-Roman mosaics at the Kom El Dikka archaeological park in Alexandria;
- The tomb of Seti I in Luxor, the largest decorated tomb in the Valley of the Kings,
- Quseir Fort, built by Sultan Selim on the Red Sea; and
- Monasteries of St. Anthony and St. Paul, which contain Coptic wall paintings from the 13th century.

We are also providing Egyptians with training in the core archaeological disciplines of excavation, documentation, conservation, and museum management

A second critical intersection between archaeology and diplomacy is that of protection. Whether as a nation, as scientists, or simply as a people anxious to understand our past -- we all are victimized by the looting of archaeological sites and the trafficking in illegal or stolen artifacts.

The United States was the first major art-importing country to ratify the 1970 UNESCO Convention on Cultural Property. We now have entered into agreements or taken emergency actions with eight nations to protect an array of archaeological treasures. These include:

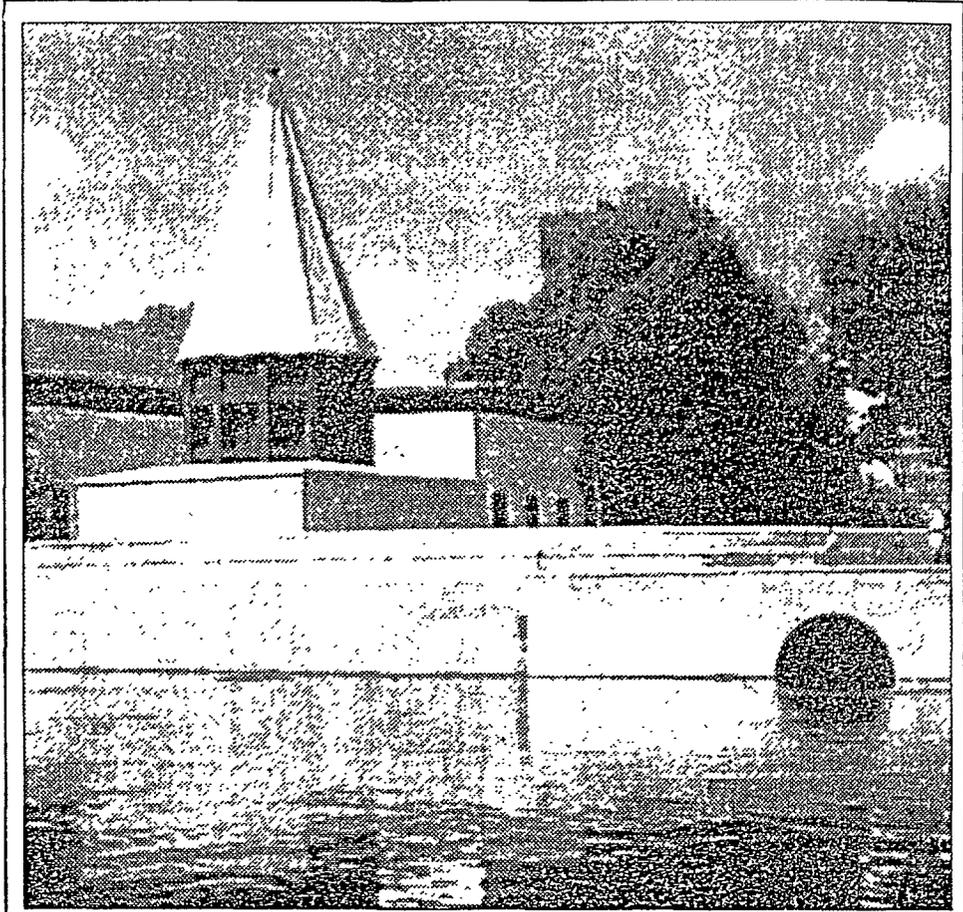
- Khmer stone sculptures and architectural pieces from Cambodia;
- Artifacts of Canada's aboriginal cultures;
- Byzantine ecclesiastical and liturgical objects from Cyprus;
- Both pre-Columbian and colonial materials from Peru;

Culture of Arabians in Sinai

Excavation team of the Aqaba Gulf
will resume work which
they started on the site of the
harbour. The team is also
surveying valleys used by the Anbat
Arabs who transferred their trade
routes.
Excavations are part of a plan
of the Ministry of Culture to trace
Arabian history through evidence. The
team will provide proof of the Arab domi-
nion in the area through the years.
They have already discovered traces of
the Anbat Arabs in Sinai such
as a harbour on the Aqaba Gulf,
Pharaon Island in Taba
Bay and Wadi Firan in addition to
the site of an Arab settlement.
Dr. Amr Abdul-Rehim Riham said
excavations are scheduled to start next month,
including hearing architectural ele-
ments of the harbour and surveying valleys
to trace the development of the
area and its relation to the Arabic

Egyptian icons displayed at Museum in Greece

Excavations are currently taking part in the
display of icons held in Greece for
the last three months. According
to the Minister of Culture Farouk Hosni, the
display shows some 85 icons collected
from museums in eleven countries
including the US, Greece, Ukraine,
France and Britain.
Dr. Ali Gaballah, Secretary
General of the Supreme Council for
Cultural Affairs, said that Egypt was displaying
the icons originally among the acqui-
sitions of the Monastery of the
Virgin Mary and Jesus
Christ. The pieces have, however, been
valued at 10 million dollars, Dr Gaballah



The Nilometer on the island of Roda has a 19th-century pointed roof.

Archaeological team unearths oldest royal boat in ancient Egypt

An American archaeological team from Pennsylvania University has reported finding the oldest royal boat in ancient Egypt so far unearthed. The find pertaining to the first dynasty i.e about 2000 BC was made in Abidous, Suhag in Upper Egypt.

The team managed to discover 14 cachets made of sun-dried bricks, each was found to be 29 metres long, said the minister of Culture Farouk Hosni.

Secretary General of the SCA, Dr Gaballah Ali Gaballah said that one of the cachets was tapped and was found to house the remains of a boat made of cedar wood imported from Lebanon. The boat is 23 metres long, two metres wide and 75 cm deep.

Dr Gaballah said that the boat was built according to a joining technique where thin ropes are used instead of glue or nails. He noted that this same technique was followed in building the Cheops boat at the pyramid and the boat of Sesostris III, the most famous royalities of the 12th dynasty in later ages.

Dr Gaballah said that there is a great possibility that the cachets embrace the whole 14 large size boats. He, however, pointed out that the discovery proved that the idea of burving boats in the vicinity of tombs was not just associated with the Old Kingdom but existed long before that time.

Work is scheduled to be resumed on the site in the following excavation in an endeavour to unearth the rest of the boats.

AC: Abydos file

revised January 30, 2000

DECORATIVE STONES IN THE PRE-OTTOMAN ISLAMIC BUILDINGS OF CAIRO, EGYPT

Part II:

INVENTORY OF STONES IN THE BUILDINGS

by

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#149 Mosque/Mausoleum of al-Nasr Farag Ibn Barquq (1400-11 AD) L-4

Restoration: in the early to mid-1900's by the Comité.

NORTHWEST ENTRANCE AND PASSAGEWAY

At the entrance there is an uninscribed sill of Aswan granite, but in the passageway leading to the mosque there is a sill of Aswan granodiorite with a faint Pharaonic relief. Another uninscribed Aswan granite sill occurs at the courtyard portal. The other courtyard portals may also have Aswan granite or granodiorite sills.

MOSQUE

The courtyard and surrounding liwans are all undecorated, except for 6 columns flanking the three mihrabs in the qibli liwan (2 each). The central niche has round columns and the lateral ones have octagonal columns - all are light gray marble with Islamic capitals.

MAUSOLEUM (on south/right side)

Essentially all the decorative stone is new: "black", "white" and mottled pink/purple marbles, porous travertine, and verde alpi. Only a few of the original ? wall panels exist, and these are of verde antico and astracane dorato (d'Egitto?). Plate 158 of Hautecoeur and Wiet (1932; vol. 2) shows the pre-restoration stone paneling in the mihrab and on the east wall.

MAUSOLEUM (on north/left side)

All the decorative stone is new (same ones as in the other mausoleum) except for a few panels and rotae of MP imperial porphyry, MP black and greenish black porphyries, and astracane dorato (d'Egitto?).

Visited by: JAH in '96.

References: B-A89, 135-138; MW92, 74-77; W93, 235-239.

#203 Zawiya/Sabil of al-Nasr Farag Ibn Barquq (1408 AD) G-5

This small building is rich with decorative stones which is unusual for a pre-Ottoman zawiya/sabil in Cairo. The stones and their distributions are illustrated in Figures FIB-1, FIB-2, FIB-3, FIB-4, FIB-5a and FIB-5b.

The codes used on these figures are different from those employed elsewhere in this document. The numbers correspond to the following materials: 1 = WB quartz diorite (E4), 2 = WUS diorite (E5), 3 = MP imperial porphyry (E1), 4 = verde antico (I22), 5 = WH graywacke (E8), 6 = mottled pink limestone/marble (U10), 7 = dark gray to black

limestone/marble (U2), 8 = gray-banded Proconnesian marble (I16), 9 = non-banded light gray marble (probably either Proconnesian and/or marmo bianco di Carrara, I14a), 9a = same as #9 but painted red, 9b = same as 9 but with black paste inlays, 9c = same as 9 but with red faience and black paste inlays, 9d = same as 9 but with blue faience inlays, 9e = same as 9 but with elaborate mosaic inlays (mother-of-pearl, red and blue faience, black limestone/marble like #7, and red limestone like #13), 10 = occhio di pavone rosso (I18), 11 = fossiliferous red limestone (U4), 12 = bigio lumachellato (I3b), 13 = mihrab mosaic (dark gray to black limestone/marble like #7, and red and green limestones), 14 = mihrab mosaic like #13 but with orange astracane dorato (d'Egitto?, E18), 15 = astracane dorato (d'Egitto?), 16 = black marble with white veins (possibly nero antico, I17), 17 = basalt (E15), 18 = Mokattam limestone (E17), 19 = cipollino rosso brecciato? (I10b), 20 = red terracotta, and X = missing stone panel.

Visited by: JAH in '96.

References: W93, 108.

#35 Mosque of Gamal al-Din al-Ustadar (1408 AD) H-4

NOTE: due to a recording error in the field notes, it is not certain that the description that follows is for the above named mosque.

The only decorative stones are 4 light gray marble columns with Corinthian capitals supporting the roof, and 2 spiral/fluted columns of the same stone flanking the mihrab. The entrance sill is uninscribed Aswan granite.

Visited by: JAH in '97.

References: W93, 212-213.

#151 Mosque of Qanibay al-Mohammadi (1413 AD) F-8

The only decorative stones inside are 4 columns of light gray marble (2 flanking each of the 2 mihrabs) and, in a small room on the north side of the mosque, a pavement with panels of mostly a variety of light gray and dark gray marbles but also with two panels each of MP greenish black porphyry and Aswan granodiorite.

Visited by: JAH in '97.

References: W93, 63.

#190 Mosque/Mausoleum of Sultan al-Muayyad Shaykh (1415-22 AD) G-5

Restoration: in the 1890's by the Comité.

12 MAR 2000

abstract of a paper to be presented at the
VIth International Conference of the
ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF MARBLE AND OTHER STONES IN
ANTIQUITY
Venice, Italy, June 15-18, 2000

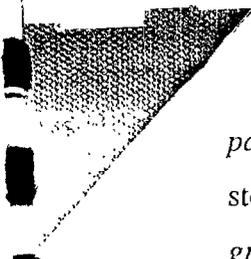
**REUSE OF ANCIENT ORNAMENTAL STONES IN MEDIEVAL CAIRO,
EGYPT**

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1A, 00186 Roma, Italia.

The city of Cairo in Egypt is renown for its hundreds of surviving buildings from the medieval Islamic period. Many of these are richly decorated with ornamental stones taken from earlier Pharaonic, and especially Roman and Byzantine structures. In many cases all that now remains of these structures are the reused stones. A survey of these stones was conducted in the mosques and other Islamic buildings that pre-date the Ottoman period (i.e., prior to 1517 AD). Ornamental stones were initially used only for columns (from the 9th century AD onward) but beginning with the Mamluks in the mid-13th century they were also employed for interior wall veneers and pavements. Most of the material must have come from buildings within Egypt but, during the 13th and 14th centuries, some was also brought from Palestine and Phoenicia as spoils from the Crusader Wars.

Over 50 varieties of Roman ornamental stones are encountered in Cairo. Those present in significant amounts include: from Egyptian quarries — *breccia verde antica*, *granito bianco e nero del Cairo*, *granito della colonna*, *granito rosso di Siene*, *granito nero di Siene*, *pietra bekhen*, *porfido rosso antico*, *porfido verde antico*, and *serpentina moschinata*; and from outside Egypt — *bianco e nero antico*, *bigio antico di Lesbo*, *bigio lumachellato di Lesbo*, *cipollino verde*, *cipollino rosso*, *marmo di proconneso*, *occhio di*



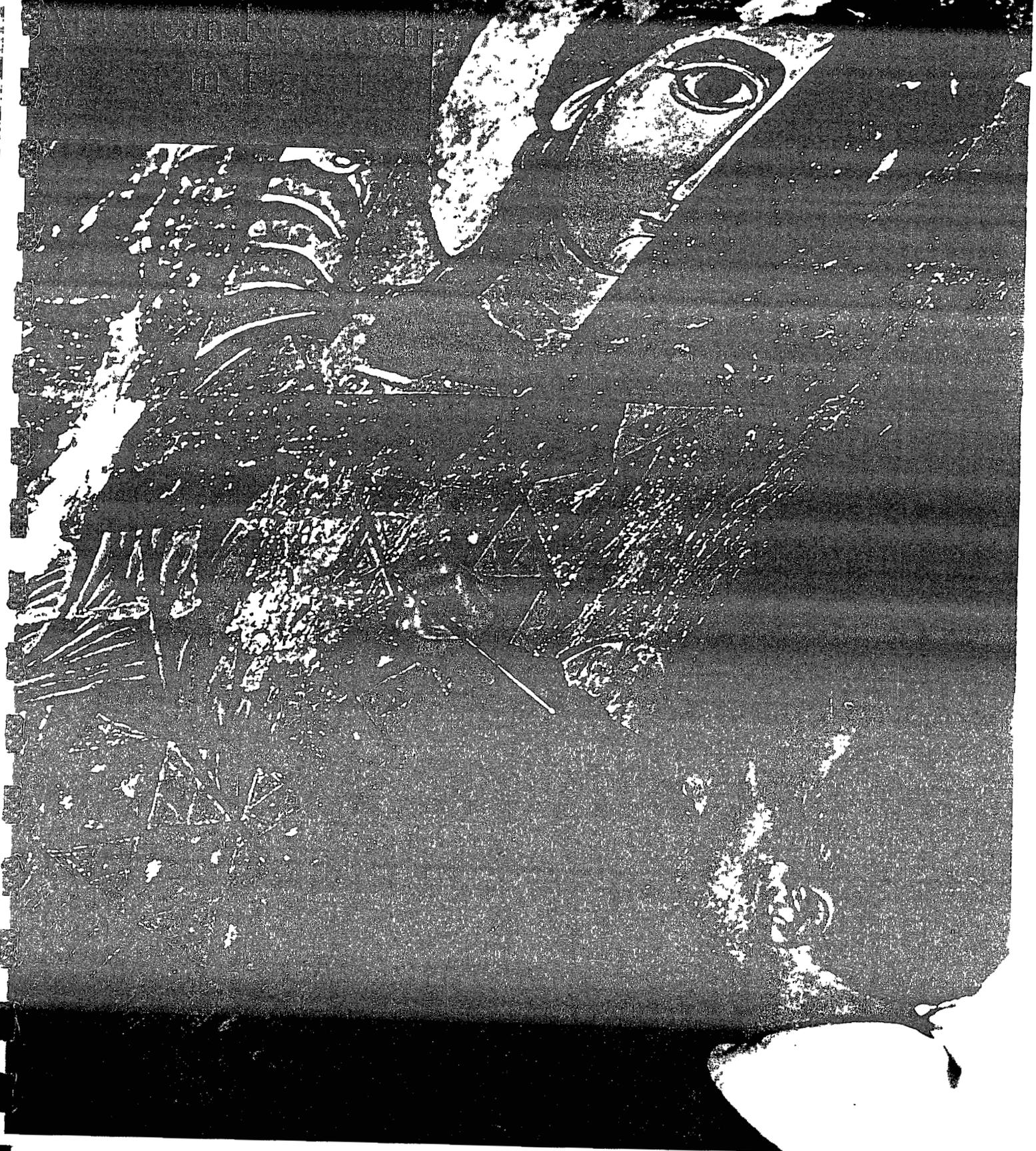
pavone rosso, pavonazzetto, and verde antico. Notable by their absence or rarity are stones from the other Roman quarries in Egypt: *alabastro cotognino, gabbro eufotide, granito bianco e nero di Santa Prassede, granito del foro, granito del Uadi Fawakhir, granito verde della sedia, granito verde fiorito di bigio, and porfido serpentino nero.*

These stones, unlike the others from Egypt, were apparently strictly export commodities. In contrast, the *granito bianco e nero del Cairo* was used mainly in Egypt. Also notable are the absence or rarity of certain Roman stones from outside Egypt that were quarried in large quantities and had a wide distribution within the Mediterranean basin: *africano, breccia corallina, breccia di Settebasi, granito violetto, porfido serpentino verde antico, portasanta, and rosso antico* among others. For these stones it would appear that Egypt was outside the usual trade routes.

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Fall 2000

NEWSLETTER



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Deanna Kiser cleans Tomb 2239 at Giza. Photo by Ann Roth. See page 6.

ARCE Fellow Laurie Flentye examines details of tomb decoration at Giza. Story page 9



Newsletter

American Research Center in Egypt

Director

Robert D. Springborg

Editor and Designer

Shari Saunders

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Cover photographs by Patrick Godeau.
FRONT: Adriano Luzi cleaning and conserving the painting of an archangel, annex archway.
BACK: Church of St. Antony, general view, sanctuary and khurus.

Hail and Farewell

One hot June evening in Cairo, more than a hundred friends, colleagues and dignitaries gathered in ARCE's Grand Salon to bid farewell to Director Mark M. Easton and welcome Robert D. Springborg to his new post.

Mr. Easton is well known in Egypt for his Herculean efforts to help preserve Egypt's monuments and to provide opportunities for young Egyptians to learn archaeological and conservation techniques. Earlier that day, Mark conducted one of his last site visits to Cairo's medieval quarter with a potential donor. As they looked across the expanse of domes and minarets, an Egyptian conservator expressed the feelings of many colleagues. Spreading her arms as if to embrace the old city, she said, "Mark, Cairo thanks you."

Among the guests at the "Hail and Farewell" reception were Dr. Gaballa Ali Gaballa, Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Antiquities, and his predecessor Dr. Hahm Nur El Din.

Addressing the 150 guests, Mark said, "As I leave ARCE I wish to express my deep appreciation for the opportunity to serve as Cairo Director for the past eight years. For me it has been an exciting adventure to move ARCE's agenda forward. It too has been a great pleasure to meet so many stimulating and interesting people and to make such a wide

variety of friends. I wish ARCE every good and perfect thing and wish Dr. Springborg every success in his new post."

Robert Springborg was a Professor of Middle East Politics at Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia, from 1973 until 1999. Since 1991 he has been a consultant to the United States Agency for International Development. He has a Ph.D. from Stanford University and has taught at the University of Pennsylvania (1980-1982) and the University of California at Berkeley (1979, 1987/88).

Dr. Springborg has written two books on Egypt and is co-author with James A. Bill of *Politics in the Middle East*, which is now in its fifth edition. His most recent books are *Legislative Politics in the Arab World* (with Abdo Baaklini and Guilain Denooux) and *The Politics of Economic Development in the Middle East and North Africa* (with Clement M. Henry, forthcoming).

Since 1997, he has been the Cairo-based Director for the Middle East for Development Associates, a U.S.-based consulting firm. He has lived and worked in Egypt intermittently since 1965, when he was a front desk clerk at the Nile Hilton Hotel.

Joining him in Cairo is his wife Dr. Anne-Marie Drosso who was born and raised in Cairo and who completed her B.A. from the American University in Cairo. They have three children.



Greeting guests at the 13 June 2000 reception. Right to left: Mark M. Easton, Everett Rowson, Robert D. Springborg and Richard Brown, Director of USAID/Cairo. Photo by Shari Saunders

NARCE FALL 2000

Photo by Patrick Godeau



Church of St. Antony, window restoration and roof repairs.

of St. Antony at the Red Sea. It is due to be published in 2001. The book will include close to three hundred images, most in color, and has contributions by art historians, historians, Father Maximous, an anthropologist, an archaeologist, and the painting conservators.

Three periods of work are visible in the church, each with a distinct style. The earliest is best seen in an archway painted with Christ and the Apostles, and dated on stylistic grounds to between 550-700 A.D. The second period dates to the thirteenth century, and includes the large majority of paintings in the church. They were created by the Coptic painter Theodore and his team in 1232-1233 A.D. The third period of work in the church most likely dates to the middle or late thirteenth century A.D. These paintings participate in a kind of international style of art from the eastern Mediterranean region, with specific elements from the art of Byzantine Cyprus and also the Ayyubid Dynasty.

The Early Paintings

These remnants of early veneration at the site are located in the archway leading into a small side chapel, opening off the south-western corner of the nave. The archway was painted in the sixth or seventh century and eventually covered with plaster. Prior to their discovery in 1998, scholars believed that the church dated to the thirteenth century.

The enthroned Christ in Majesty was originally supported by four incorporeal beings, who appear with the face of a man, an eagle, a lion and an ox. One of these four, the lion, is still clearly visible supporting the mandorla (body halo) of Christ, adjacent to his right foot. Seven bust-length portraits of the apostles, surviving from the original twelve, complete the composition.

Antiquity. This style is characterized by an interest in design and strong, saturated color. The subjects of the paintings are figural, whether human or incorporeal, but they are rendered as fabulous, two-dimensional patterns with bold, dark outlines. These artists were not interested in presenting the naturalistic illusion of figures in three-dimensional space, but in depicting spiritual truths in paint.

One enters the church in the northwestern corner of the nave, and is immediately surrounded by a protective band of martyrs on horseback, defending the church. Standing figures, positioned frontally, complete the program of the nave. They are important hermits and monks, who contributed to the formation of monasticism in Egypt and, from there, the larger Medieval world. The figure known as the father of Egyptian monasticism, St. Antony the Great, is shown on the eastern wall, at the right side of the entrance to the *khurus* and the sanctuary.

Proceeding to the east, the first room beyond the nave is called the *khurus*. The paintings in the lower zone belong to Theodore's program, while those in the upper level were made by a later team. The theme uniting both zones is salvation. To the left (North), the three Hebrews stand untouched by the flames of the furnace into which Nebuchadnezzar

Theodore's Paintings: 1232-1233 A.D.

These paintings constitute the best preserved and most complete example of Coptic art from the Middle Ages. They demonstrate a confidence and richness of style and subject matter which shows that Christians in Egypt were still working within the vital artistic tradition begun in late

has thrust them, because the Lord has sent an angel to protect them. To the right (South), the three patriarchs Abraham, Isaac and Jacob sit in paradise, accompanied by the small child-like figures of the saved. The two most popular and powerful of the martyrs, St. George (at the North) and St. Mercurios (at the South), guard the entrance to the sanctuary.

The easternmost room in the church is also the most holy: the sanctuary. The apse in the sanctuary shows Christ twice: as a child, in the arms of Mary, and also as the ruler of heaven and earth. The all-powerful Christ is shown again in the dome, over the central altar. Below the dome, four scenes from the Old Testament are included in the program. These are: an angel touching Isaiah's lips with a burning coal, Melchizedek offering Abraham a drink, Abraham being stopped just before sacrificing his son Isaac, and Jephthah, shown at the moment of sacrificing his daughter. They all prefigure the sacrifice of Christ on the cross and the celebration of the eucharist.

The final area of the church painted by Theodore is the side chapel off the nave. The enthroned Christ in majesty is shown again, flanked by the four incorporeal beings, Mary, and St. John the Baptist. Below Christ is a small niche showing a beautifully decorated cross, being censured by angels.

The Late Paintings

The final group of artists who worked in the church painted the ceiling zone of the *khurus*, and a pair of archangels in the archway preceding it. These painters may have been



Church of St. Antony, Two dog-headed creatures attacking St. Mercurios' grandfather, detail from the painting of St. Mercurios' *khurus*. Photo by Patrick Godeau

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Monastic Visions

Wall Paintings from the Monastery of St. Antony at the Red Sea

Elizabeth S. Bolman

In A.D. 1232 or 1233 an Egyptian Christian named Theodore identified himself as the *zographos*, or "writer of life," of a magnificent program of wall paintings in the Old Church at the Monastery of St. Antony, located in the remote Egyptian desert not far from the Red Sea. The Greek word *zographos* means painter, but its literal translation conveys for us an essential aspect of these paintings for their original audience, and indeed for a modern audience of Egyptian Christians. In Coptic terms, they possess a spiritual life, and are not meant to illustrate the physical world around us. These paintings have been covered for centuries by dense layers of soot, candle wax, and overpainting. Leaking rainwater, damage from termites, and unstable plaster threatened them with permanent obscurity. After their recent cleaning and conservation, these newly revealed paintings have the impact of a major new discovery. The paintings transform our understanding of the importance of Coptic art in the Middle Ages.

The extensive project of cleaning and conserving the wall paintings from the Monastery of St. Antony has been funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The project was managed by Michael Jones, for the Antiquities Development Project (ADP) of the American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE), in collaboration with the Supreme Council of Antiquities and the Monastery of St. Antony, under the guidance of Father Maximus El-Anthony. The project has been undertaken with the blessings of His Holiness Pope Shenuda III, and of Bishop Yustus, Head of the Monastery of St. Antony.

The principal goal of the ADP project was conservation of the wall paintings, which included consolidation of the walls in the church. The paintings are now not only cleaned and visible again, after centuries, but are also firmly attached to the now stable wall surfaces, and so will be preserved for centuries to come. Adriano Luzi and Luigi De Cesaris directed the conservation team between 1996 and 1999, comprising Emiliano Albanese, Stefano Fulloni, Massimiliano Gusmaroli, Alberto Sucato, and Gianluca Tancioni. Other important aspects of the project included the restoration of all of the windows in the church, which have been fitted with protection from ultraviolet rays. Fragments of colored glass preserved in one section of the ceiling permitted the reconstruction of stained glass panels by the specialists Giorgio Funaro and Rita Rivelli (FORME). Karem el-Dahan of Dahan and Farid Architects, of Cairo, restored the church roof. Father Maximus El-Anthony assisted with all of these aspects of

conservation; he also undertook the cleaning and restoration of the woodwork in the church.

Comprehensive documentation was an important part of the project from the beginning. Site surveys were produced by Peter Sheehan, Mike Dunn and Michael Malinson. Patrick Godeau photographed all of the work, before, during, and after conservation. Luzi and De Cesaris prepared extensive graphic documentation of every stage of their work. All of this material is available for scholarly use at ARCE. The results of the project will be published by ARCE and Yale University Press in a volume edited by Elizabeth S. Bolman, entitled: *Monastic Visions: Wall Paintings from the Monastery*



Photo by Patrick Godeau

Group photograph in the apse, with Father Maximus, the conservation team, and the project photographer. From left to right, top row: Adriano Luzi, Father Maximus El-Anthony, Luigi De Cesaris; bottom row: Gianluca Tancioni, Stefano Fulloni, Patrick Godeau, Alberto Sucato, Emiliano Albanese (Conservator not present Massimiliano Gusmaroli)

EA's projects

ARCE FALL 2000

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VILLA OF THE BIRDS

Wojciech Kolataj

Copts, but they were not working in a traditionally Coptic style of painting. The Byzantine and Ayyubid traditions predominate here, the former in the figural sections and the latter in the dramatic geometric banding of the ceiling.

Two narrative moments from the Gospels are shown on the eastern wall: three women approaching the tomb of Christ, only to be told by an angel that He has risen from the dead; and two women, one of whom is His mother Mary, encountering the risen Christ. These are proof of the resurrection, and therefore of the redemption of humankind.

Conclusion

In summary, the paintings from the Old Church at the Monastery of St. Antony are newly revealed to us as a precious record of Christian painting in early Byzantine and Medieval Egypt. The earliest paintings give us important evidence for a redating of the church. Theodore's thirteenth-century paintings make a powerful statement about the importance of Egypt in the development of monasticism, and about Christian salvation. In style, they demonstrate the vitality of the Coptic tradition. The last period of painting is an interesting witness to a multi-culturalism in art, characteristic of the period of the Crusades in the eastern Mediterranean.



Church of St. Antony, newly rediscovered early Medieval paintings, Christ in Majesty, side chapel archway. Photo by Patrick Godeau



NARCE FALL 2000

Photo by Stuart Saunders



Decades ago, during the 1970s, excavations by the Polish Center of Archaeology at the Kom el-Dikka site in Alexandria broadly defined both the ancient and modern city centers. Our discoveries included a complex of Byzantine houses and workshops. Beneath these buildings we found remains of early Roman urban villas, some decorated with mosaic floors. One villa had mosaics of exceptional quality, including one depicting several species of birds—hence it became known as the Villa of the Birds.

After initial excavations, we reburied the Villa to preserve the mosaics until the means were found to care for them. This opportunity came in April 1998 when we initiated the ARCE/EAP "Conservation and Display of Roman Mosaics, Kom el-Dikka, Alexandria" project. The project's multinational staff included: Dr. Wojciech A. Kolataj, project director; Dr. Grzegorz Majcherek, archaeologist; Ms. Ewa Paradowska, conservator; Mr. Edwin Brock, photographer; and Mr. Asam Mradny, civil engineer.

History of the Villa

The Villa of the Birds was constructed in the first century A.D. and was occupied until the late third century A.D. Many of the Villa's mosaics were laid during the reign of Hadrian (A.D. 117–138) when Alexandria enjoyed a period of prosperity. But this period of grandeur lasted for little more than a century. A thick layer of destruction debris covered the Villa: collapsed walls, smashed window panes, burned wooden beams, and mosaics bulging due to intense heat. The Villa had been destroyed by fire in the late third century A.D.

either as a result of disturbances during the reign of Emperor Aurelian (A.D. 272), or during a long siege by Emperor Diocletian (A.D. 297) in retaliation against the Alexandrians' rebellious spirit. After the fire people carted away reusable building materials. Later, after the A.D. 365 earthquake, houses, storerooms and workshops were built over the ruins.

Typical of Roman villas, the rooms of the Villa of the Birds are arranged around an open courtyard that provided light and air circulation. The dining room (*triclinium*) opened onto the courtyard. Three nearby rooms that form the eastern wing of the house may have served as bedrooms (*cubicula*). The entrance to the villa, its bath and kitchen still lie buried. Only about one-third of the Villa is uncovered.

The Mosaics

The mosaic floors represent several periods in the Villa's history as well as different manufacturing techniques. Although a long tradition of mosaics can be traced in Egypt, very few are preserved in their original structures. The Villa of the Birds is one exception. For this reason, the Villa is an important resource for understanding Egypt's cultural heritage.

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The largest and perhaps most interesting mosaic was found in the *triclinium*. It is

constructed in a style that combines two techniques. The U-shaped border around three sides of the room is composed of tesserae, whereas the central field is composed of tiles of marble and other stones that are cut in various shapes to create an elaborate design. In places where the marble tiles were removed in ancient times, we can examine the mortar bedding reinforced with amphorae sherds that created a 'sub-flooring' for the mosaic. This type of mosaic, known as *opus sectile*, was very popular in Roman Alexandria.

The Project

Our principal objective was to clear and conserve the entire set of mosaic floors and ensure their protection. An important further component was to interpret the Villa for visitors. This required a better understanding of its architectural history by tracing the course of particular walls. Our program also envisaged

Photo by Shaan Saunders



The gellinoe, or water hen, joins the pigeons pictured on the facing page in the beautiful nine-panelled mosaic depicting various Egyptian birds.

incorporation of existing walls of the later period buildings into the proposed shelter that would protect the mosaics from the environment.

The choice of appropriate conservation techniques and procedures was predicated by the decision to treat the mosaic floors *in situ*, in their original context. Conservation took place in accordance with current standards recommended by the International Committee for the Conservation of Mosaics which recognizes original context as integral to the cultural value of a mosaic. Conservators cleaned the fire-blackened mosaics and repaired breaks caused by collapsing walls. After cleaning, the bedding was consolidated and some small missing areas of the mosaics were restored using cubes found during excavation.

To maintain the mosaics *in situ*, construction of an overhead cover was absolutely essential in view of the need to protect the mosaics against climatic and mechanical destruction. The shelter measuring

Photo by Shaan Saunders



Ancient mosaicists used tiny bits of stone and glass, a technique called *opus vermiculatum*, to create the panther.

15 x 12m was designed on a basic 3 x 3m structural module, and stands entirely independent. Envision a glass box inserted between the ancient walls. The southern wall of the shelter serves as the revetment wall for the embankment. The shelter's construction posed many challenges, such as assembling the roof girders over the mosaic floors without scaffolding. The structure's gabled roof relates well to ancient examples, and suits the archaeological park because it does not conflict with the surrounding ancient architecture either by its color or by its form.

We cleaned the Villa's ancient sewage system and reused it for draining away rainwater. We installed an underground aeration system composed of perforated pipes covered by gravel to protect the mosaics from water damage in the future. It was during this phase of the project that archaeologists discovered the exceptional panther mosaic.

The interpretive display component of the ARCE/EAP project is one of the most important elements of the Kom el-Dikka Archaeological Park. Visitors view the mosaic from a foot-bridge that spans the area about one meter above the ancient floors. Not only is the Villa a major tourist attraction, it is also an important contribution to the preservation of the cultural heritage of ancient Alexandria. Among the remains of the few Roman houses found in Alexandria, the Villa of the Birds is the best example of a wealthy urban residence. The display helps visitors

understand the Villa, its mosaics, and its significance.

His Excellency Farouk Hosni, Minister of Culture, and Abdel Salam El-Mahgoub, Governor of Alexandria, officially opened the shelter on 22 January 2000. Attending the ceremony were Polish Ambassador Joanna Wronecka and Ms. Toni Christiansen-Wagner, Deputy Director of USAID/Cairo.

The conservation project was entirely funded by the USAID ARCE/EAP grant; however, some related supplemental work, such as landscaping and construction of visitor routes leading to the mosaic shelter, was carried out by the Polish-Egyptian Preservation Mission currently working at the site and sponsored jointly by the Supreme Council of Antiquities and the Polish Center of Archaeology. The Governor of Alexandria supported the project by providing the grass needed to solidify and beautify the 30m tall embankment between the levels of the ancient and modern cities.

It is our pleasant duty to acknowledge gratefully the generous assistance of Prof. Dr. Gaballa Ali Gaballa, Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Antiquities. Our thanks also go to all the ARCE/EAP staff: Robert Vincent, Jaroslaw Dobrowolski and Cynthia Shartzer, for their help in bringing this project to a successful conclusion. Friendly support of Prof. Michal Gawlikowski was essential to the successful outcome of our work. We also owe a debt of thanks to Mr. Ahmed Moussa, site antiquities inspector, and to our Egyptian workers—Mohamed Fawzi, Ramadan Abdel Rahim, Osama Mursi and Ali Abdel Fatah, to name a few—who have once again demonstrated their professional skills and capability to perform even the most demanding work.



Ewa Paradowska works to conserve one of the mosaics *in situ*. Photo by Robert K. (Chp) Vincent

Souk Al-Sélah (des armes), etc. Al-Khayamiya est le quartier des activités artisanales qui lui confèrent son aspect historique. Comme l'indique son nom, la fabrication de tentes, ou *kheymas*, est le métier dominant dans ce quartier islamique et *khayamiyas* sont les faiseurs des tentes qui travaillent aujourd'hui dans des locaux appartenant au ministère des Waqfs. La fabrication des tentes a évolué durant ce siècle qui touche à sa fin. Les artisans ont pu réaliser des tableaux agréables avec les mêmes matériaux et le même style ancien : des paysages, des scènes pharaoniques, des formules islamiques (géométriques ou plantes), des écritures arabes anciennes. Les touristes (arabes ou étrangers), ainsi que les riches Égyptiens sont ceux qui peuvent se procurer ces chefs-d'œuvre manuels qui coûtent cher pour un homme ordinaire.

En passant dans cette rue aujourd'hui, vous verrez d'ailleurs des artisans exerçant encore cette profession. Le piéton pourra rencontrer aussi plu-



Une esthétique très originale caractérise les tissus.

sieurs échafaudages qui retiennent quelques mosquées, dont la plus célèbre et la plus importante est celle d'Al-Saleh Talala, qui fut construite en 1160. En effet, c'est le seul monument remontant à l'époque fatimide et qui se trouve en dehors des quatre portes du Caire ancien. Al-Malek Al-Saleh Talala a ordonné de construire cette mosquée pour y enterrer la tête d'Al-Hussein Ibn Ali Ibn Abi-Taleb, le petit-

fils du prophète Mohamad. Le promeneur passant par Al-Khayamiya pourra aussi rencontrer la *madrassa* (école) ottomane d'Al-Mahmoudiya établie par Mahmoud pacha, le gouverneur d'Égypte en 1567, sous le règne du sultan Soliman, fils du sultan Sélim. Plus loin, Al-Khayamiya prend l'aspect d'un bazar couvert. Et là se situe le palais et la *wékala* (agence commerciale) ottomans du prince

Radwane bey, et dont on voit de l'étranger les beaux balcons à moucharabehs.

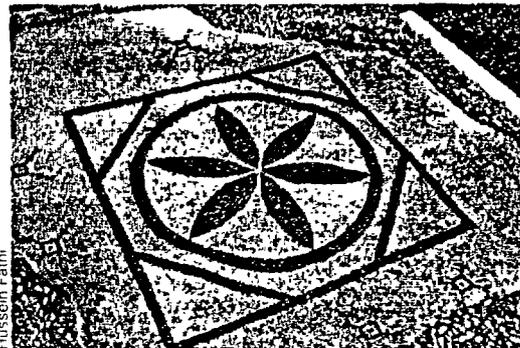
Aujourd'hui, le marché de la main-d'œuvre souffre de la stagnation. Al-Khayamiya comme dans les autres quartiers du Caire islamique, les métiers risquent fort de devenir une histoire, comme c'est déjà le cas de la fabrication des épées. ●

Amira Sam

Focus

La mosaïque des oiseaux

Lever de rideau sur une des plus belles et des plus grandes mosaïques de style romain à avoir été découverte à Alexandrie : elle vient d'être inaugurée après deux ans de travaux de restauration dans un endroit au nom évocateur, « la villa des oiseaux ». Cette fresque est le dernier vestige d'une villa antique qui était surnommée ainsi étant donné ses principaux thèmes décoratifs. La mission polonaise qui travaille sur le site de Kom Al-Dekka, où se trouve l'amphithéâtre romain, découvre souvent des monuments et des restes de monuments qui évoquent la vie quotidienne à l'époque romaine. En ce qui concerne la mosaïque découverte et restaurée, elle est décorée de thèmes figurant des oiseaux, notamment des canards. La villa se trouve dans un coin du grand jardin de l'amphithéâtre romain. Le sol de la villa a été recouvert de mosaïques sous le règne de l'empereur Hadrien (117-138), mais un incendie a



Une mosaïque d'une douce beauté avec oiseaux et plantes.



éclaté et a complètement détruit la villa, et entre les années 450-550, plusieurs constructions ont été réalisées voilant ainsi le bâtiment original, mais permettant de préserver la précieuse mosaïque. Celle-ci a été protégée par la mission polonaise par une baie vitrée. La visite est autorisée, mais par petits groupes de sept à huit personnes. En fait, le site est très riche.

Plus loin, de l'autre côté du jardin, la mission polonaise vient de découvrir une autre mosaïque de la même époque. « Cet endroit est l'un des plus riches d'Alexandrie. Il englobe des vestiges de plusieurs périodes historiques : byzantine, romaine et islamique. Il y a 12 ans que je travaille sur ce site. Je suppose que cet endroit renferme d'autres villas et d'autres mosaïques », explique Renetta Macherek, membre de la mission polonaise. Les travaux de fouilles et de restaurations ont été exécutés par la mission polonaise en collaboration avec le HCA (Haut Conseil des Antiquités). L'USAID a financé la restauration, tandis que le gouvernorat d'Alexandrie s'est chargé de l'aménagement du jardin. La mission polonaise continue ses travaux de fouilles, espérant toujours trouver d'autres monuments reflétant l'art de vivre à cette époque. ●

Hala Fares

Lire l'Égypte

L'aventure de Carter en poche

La mise au jour de la tombe de Toutankhamon est sans doute la découverte majeure du siècle présent ou passé (selon le point de vue qui fait commencer le nouveau siècle en 2000 ou 2001). Quoi qu'il en soit, la publication récente, pour la première fois d'une édition de poche de l'ouvrage de l'auteur même de la découverte,

Howard Carter, témoigne de l'intérêt que représente cet événement. Celui-ci continue de marquer les esprits tant par la richesse et l'or qui se trouvaient dans la tombe que par les différents aspects d'aventures, de mystères et d'anecdotes qui l'entourent. D'ailleurs, les mémoires de Carter n'étaient jusqu'à présent connus directement que des lecteurs anglophones.

La publication du livre par l'édition très populaire *J'ai lu* est la première en français. Elle intervient 50 ans après sa publication en Angleterre. Ce livre permet de vivre en direct

l'un des moments les plus exaltants de l'aventure archéologique. Les émotions nous sont restituées. Les illustrations aussi sont intéressantes avec des photos rares du sceau de la nécropole, de Carter avec son équipe de fouilleurs, de lord Carnarvon, le mécène qui a financé l'expédition, le transport du buste de Toutankhamon et le célèbre banquet dans la tombe avec les plus grandes figures archéologiques : Breasted, Burton, Lucas, Callender, Mas et Gardiner avec Carter. Un livre agréable à lire en dépit des préjugés actuels qui tentent de rejeter tout ce qui est sensationnel en matière d'archéologie. Mais des petits moments d'évasion sont parfois les bienvenus, à côté du classique *Toutankhamon, vie et mort d'un pharaon*, de Christiane Desroches Noblecourt. ●

Ahmed Louffi

Howard Carter

la tombe de Toutankhamon

Édition illustrée



VILLA OF THE BIRDS

Wojciech Kolataj

Copts, but they were not working in a traditionally Coptic style of painting. The Byzantine and Ayyubid traditions predominate here, the former in the figural sections and the latter in the dramatic geometric banding of the ceiling.

Two narrative moments from the Gospels are shown on the eastern wall: three women approaching the tomb of Christ, only to be told by an angel that He has risen from the dead; and two women, one of whom is His mother Mary, encountering the risen Christ. These are proof of the resurrection, and therefore of the redemption of humankind.

Conclusion

In summary, the paintings from the Old Church at the Monastery of St. Antony are newly revealed to us as a precious record of Christian painting in early Byzantine and Medieval Egypt. The earliest paintings give us important evidence for a redating of the church. Theodore's thirteenth-century paintings make a powerful statement about the importance of Egypt in the development of monasticism, and about Christian salvation. In style, they demonstrate the vitality of the Coptic tradition. The last period of painting is an interesting witness to a multi-culturalism in art, characteristic of the period of the Crusades in the eastern Mediterranean.

4



Church of St. Antony, newly rediscovered early Medieval paintings, Christ in Majesty, side chapel archway. Photo by Patrick Godeau



NARCE FALL 2000

Photo by Shari Saunders



Decades ago, during the 1970s, excavations by the Polish Center of Archaeology at the Kom el-Dikka site in Alexandria broadly defined both the ancient and modern city centers. Our discoveries included a complex of Byzantine houses and workshops. Beneath these buildings we found remains of early Roman urban villas, some decorated with mosaic floors. One villa had mosaics of exceptional quality, including one depicting several species of birds—hence it became known as the Villa of the Birds.

After initial excavations, we reburied the Villa to preserve the mosaics until the means were found to care for them. This opportunity came in April 1998 when we initiated the ARCE/EAP "Conservation and Display of Roman Mosaics, Kom el-Dikka, Alexandria" project. The project's multinational staff included: Dr Wojciech A. Kolataj, project director; Dr Grzegorz Majcherek, archaeologist; Ms. Ewa Paradowska, conservator; Mr. Edwin Brock, photographer, and Mr Asam Mradny, civil engineer

History of the Villa

The Villa of the Birds was constructed in the first century A.D. and was occupied until the late third century A.D. Many of the Villa's mosaics were laid during the reign of Hadrian (A.D. 117–138) when Alexandria enjoyed a period of prosperity. But this period of grandeur lasted for little more than a century. A thick layer of destruction debris covered the Villa: collapsed walls, smashed window panes, burned wooden beams, and mosaics bulging due to intense heat. The Villa had been destroyed by fire in the late third century A.D.

either as a result of disturbances during the reign of Emperor Aurelian (A.D. 272), or during a long siege by Emperor Diocletian (A.D. 297) in retaliation against the Alexandrians' rebellious spirit. After the fire people carted away reusable building materials. Later, after the A.D. 365 earthquake, houses, storerooms and workshops were built over the ruins.

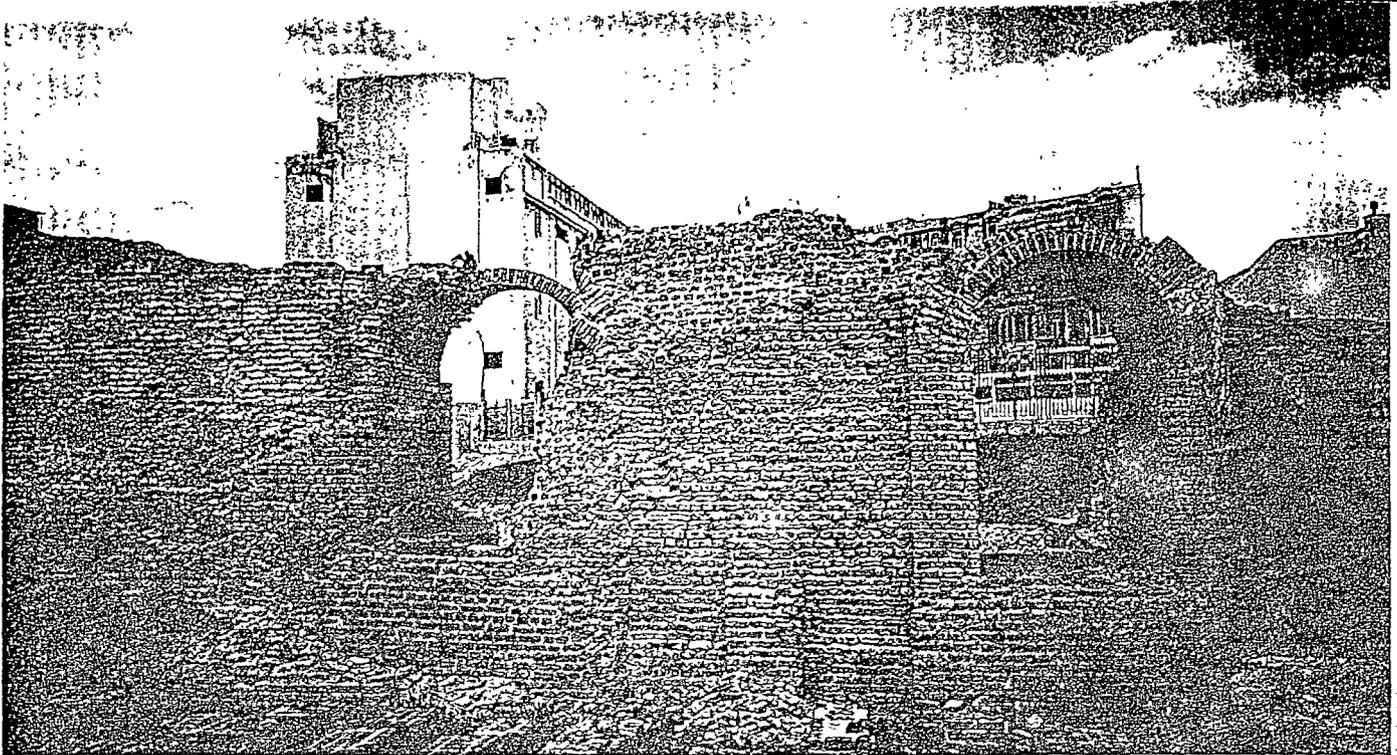
Typical of Roman villas, the rooms of the Villa of the Birds are arranged around an open courtyard that provided light and air circulation. The dining room (*triclinium*) opened onto the courtyard. Three nearby rooms that form the eastern wing of the house may have served as bedrooms (*cubicula*). The entrance to the villa, its bath and kitchen still lie buried. Only about one-third of the Villa is uncovered.

The Mosaics

The mosaic floors represent several periods in the Villa's history as well as different manufacturing techniques. Although a long tradition of mosaics can be traced in Egypt, very few are preserved in their original structures. The Villa of the Birds is one exception. For this reason, the Villa is an important resource for understanding Egypt's cultural heritage.

Perhaps the most impressive mosaic floor in the Villa is the 'carpet' with nine multicolored panels, each with a different species of bird. Ancient mosaicists created this decorative flooring from thousands of small cubes using a technique called *opus tessellatum*. The same technique was used in the adjacent room in which black and white tesserae create a large rosette. The earliest mosaic, dating to c. A.D. 100, is the *opus tessellatum* floor with a panther centerpiece surrounded by an acanthus scroll. Circles of alternating black and white quadrants surround this central design. The panther's exquisite quality of workmanship surprised us with its tiny tesserae in a technique known as *opus vermiculatum*. Still visible near the forepaws are the horns of a defeated prey that was purposefully erased from the scene during ancient repairs (see photo opposite page). The panther motif is often related to Dionysiac mythology and is rather a rare theme for Egyptian mosaic floors.

The largest and perhaps most interesting mosaic was found in the *triclinium*. It is



The Roman baths that employed sophisticated central heating and water heating methods

duck, parrot and pigeons, although three of the squares have been obliterated. One impressive aspect of this configuration is that the three birds closest to the central room face in that direction and the other six face the wall in the opposite direction. Thereby occupants of both rooms could contemplate their beauty.

Kolantaj proposes that a small room in the corner of the corner of the villa may have originally been used as a chapel. Obviously at home in the classical world, the archaeologist explains that the panther represented in the center of the mosaic design signifies Dionysius, the Roman god of wine, making an apt symbol of decadent Roman society. The rosette mosaic in the third adjoining room is complete and while of contrasting simplicity to the others, is no less effective. A coin found beneath the floor dating from 133 AD indicates that the floor was laid

after that year.

The villa was severely damaged by fire in the late third century and in 365 AD, an earthquake forced the villa, along with many other Roman and Ptolemaic buildings, to sink below the water table. Kolantaj and his team began work at this site in 1962, reconstructing the Roman theatre and restoring the Imperial baths which were provided by the emperor "gratia" to the local community. Tall columns of Aswan granite have also been re-erected nearby unearthed from a Roman gymnasium.

Kolantaj's admiration for the ancient builders is clearly as deep as his knowledge is wide. Leading the way through the rubble, he descends to the subterranean passages situated below the baths. The tall narrow brick ovens, he points out, were designed for the burning of

reeds, and windows placed at eye level allowed for the height of the flames and therefore the temperature to be monitored. He explains how water was heated for use by the bathers as well as to heat the floors and walls. Visitors to the baths first washed at a private basin, either individually or as a family group, before joining the others in the public area for leisure and recreation. Like the later Turkish baths, the temperatures were graded from room to room so bathers avoided catching colds from sudden

Guests would recline on sofas, partaking of sweetmeats and fine wines

temperature changes and the baths contained a steam room.

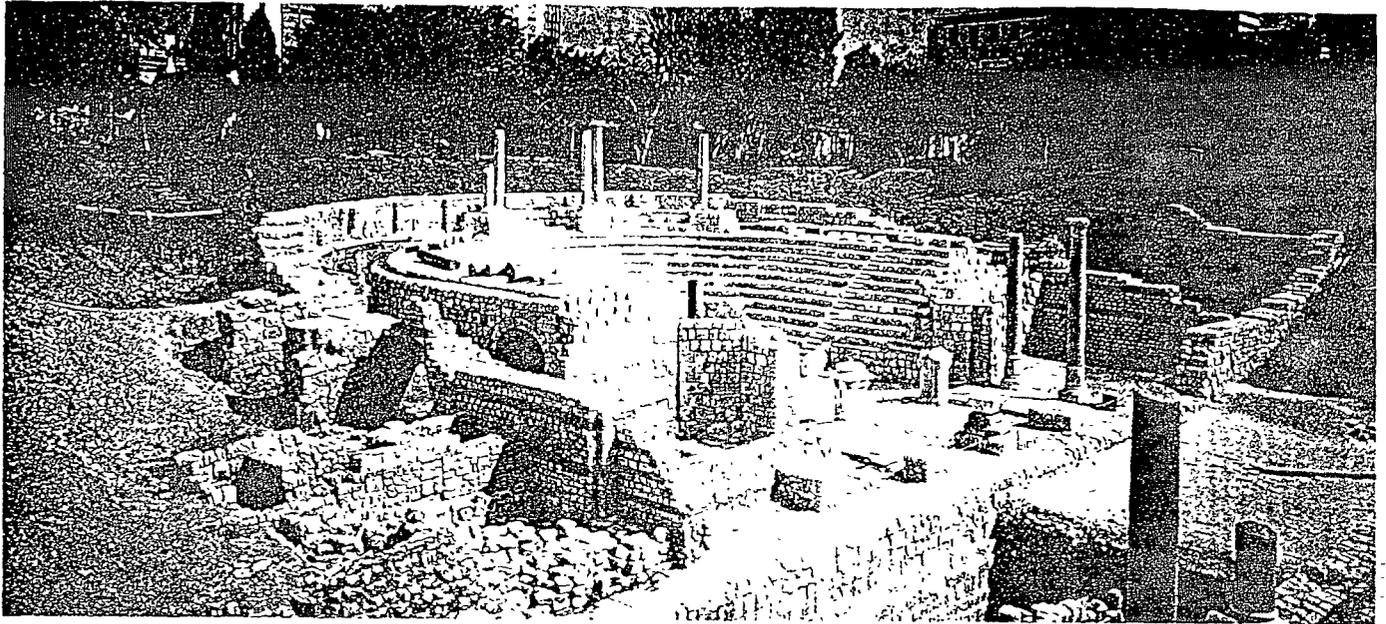
Another sophisticated feature of the baths is seen in the v-shaped cornerstones, a characteristic unique to Syrian stone-masonry, evidence that Alexandria, as the centre of the civilized world, could command the best of everything.

What other relics of Graeco-Roman Alexandria lie buried in the vicinity? Kolantaj firmly believes that the bones of Alexander the Great are laid beneath the Nabi Daniel Mosque nearby, although some contemporary archaeologists would disagree. Apart from that, more Roman villas await excavation at the site.

"The Villa of the Birds we have called alpha, so we still have beta, gamma, delta and epsilon to unearth," he says. ■



Corinthian columns of Aswan granite from the gymnasium



Above, photo shows the previously excavated Roman theater at the site only a javelin's throw away from Ramleh Railway Station.

Visitors in search of ancient Alexandria can now add the newly restored Villa of the Birds to their itineraries. One of the few buildings to survive from the Graeco-Roman period, the importance of this 2nd century villa, built at the time of the Emperor Hadrian, lies not only in its rarity but also in the exquisite mosaic pavements it contains.

The villa, named after the mosaic of birds adorning one of the rooms is situated at the site of the previously excavated Roman theatre, Roman baths and gymnasium at Kom El Dikka.

only a javelin's throw away from Ramleh Railway Station. The newly restored Roman residence represents only a quarter of the original building, the remainder still to be unearthed, explains Dr. Kolataj (pronounced Kowontay), the Polish director of site excavations. His approach to the restoration work, he explains, involves preserving the original as it stands, rather than adding to it.

"Copies can be made elsewhere," he says. Hence, some of the mosaic floor designs are incomplete, and only supporting stones have been added to the partially ruined walls. When

the roofless villa was excavated around two years ago there was no time to lose in protecting it from the elements. USAID stepped in with the sum of \$92,000 to fund the work directed by Kolataj and conducted by the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities and the American Research Center's Egyptian Antiquities Project in cooperation with the Polish Center of Archaeology.

The team cleaned the fire blackened mosaics, repairing cracks and relocating scattered pieces. The largest room features a floor decoration of colorful marble marquetry work known as *opus*



Leila Johnston

Kolataj admires the masonry techniques in a passage underneath the Roman baths.

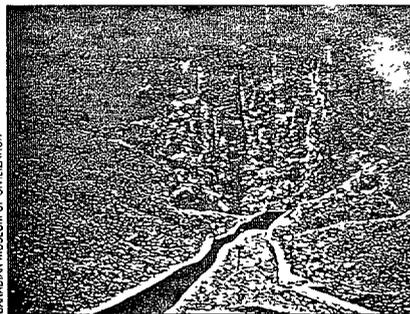
USAID stepped in with the sum of \$92,000 to fund the work

sectile rather than mosaic. Only patches of the stars and wheels design remain, but enough to indicate its former appearance and to allow for the design to be reconstructed elsewhere. It is in this room, originally surrounded by a single colonnade, that the hosts and guests would recline on sofas, partaking of sweetmeats and vintage Egyptian as well as imported wines laid out on a central table and offered by servants. Amphorae fragments found in the house originated in Crete, the Aegean and Mauritania, having contained wine and other goods. The mosaics in the adjoining rooms are of the more conventional type known as *opus tessellatum*, made of small cubes of stone, marble, glass paste or faience. The bird mosaic decorating one of these small rooms consists of nine squares containing birds that include a peacock,

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.



CANADIAN MUSEUM OF CIVILIZATION

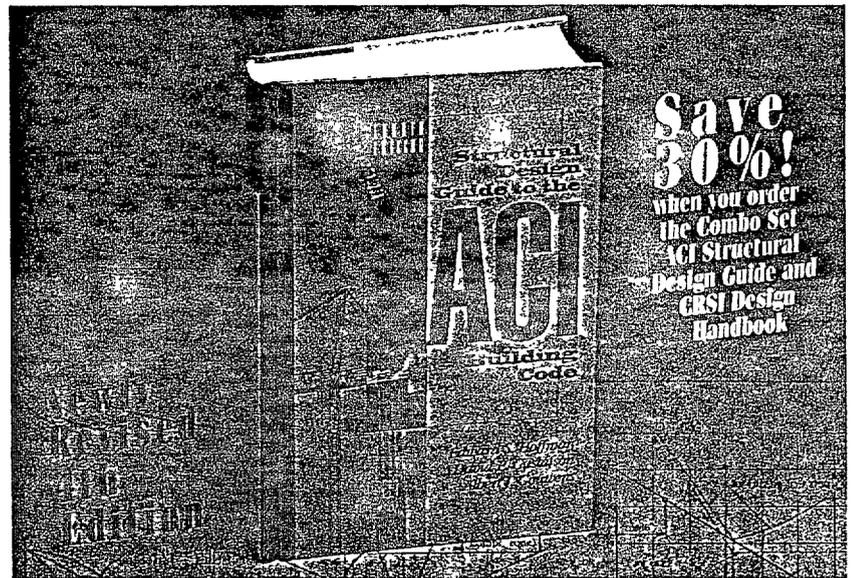
WATERPROOF DOORS and diversion channels could help protect tombs in Egypt's Valley of the Kings from damage during flash floods.

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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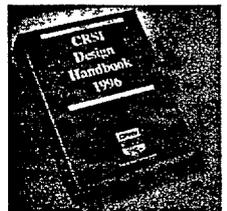
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Restored large dyad of Amun and Mut. Luxor Temple, Colonnade Hall, 1999. Photograph by W. Raymond Johnson

Reliefs in that area have been completely cleaned. They will be published in the first volume projected for the Eighteenth Dynasty Temple of Amun at Medinet Habu, while the second volume in the series will be devoted to the Thutmoseid bark sanctuary area and miscellaneous graffiti, currently underway. The third volume will document the Twenty-fifth Dynasty, Kushite additions to the small temple, and the fourth volume will be dedicated to the Ptolemaic and Roman additions to the east.

Under Lanny Bell's directorship twenty years ago, the Epigraphic Survey added conservation to its program and a conservator to the staff, and we have continued that policy ever since. Now, because of rapidly changing conditions in Egypt that are causing the monuments to decay at an ever increasing rate, we find ourselves obliged to expand our conservation programs even further.

Recently the Epigraphic Survey received a five-year grant from the Egyptian Antiquities Project and USAID, adminis-

tered through the American Research Center in Egypt, for documentation and conservation of the Thutmoseid temple at Medinet Habu and its later additions. Lately the conservation work has focused on the rooftop of the Thutmoseid temple, over the back painted chapels and bark sanctuary, where we have sealed the roof against incursions of rainwater which stained the reliefs inside. Cleaning and desalination of the painted reliefs was initiated this season by our new conservator Lotfi Hassan, with spectacular results. For a full report of recent conservation work, please see the *Oriental Institute 1998-1999 Annual Report*.

LUXOR TEMPLE

Across the river in the land of the living Chicago House has been involved in another long-term project at Luxor Temple, the place of Amun-Re's divine birth. In 1996 the Epigraphic Survey presented the first volume in its Luxor Temple series, *Reliefs and Inscriptions at Luxor Temple, Volume 1: The Festival Procession of Opet in the Colonnade Hall* (49 scenes total). This volume, the Epigraphic Survey's largest ever, documents in detailed drawings and photographs the first register of decoration in the hall, built by Amenhotep III but largely decorated during the reign of Tutankhamun and his successors. It is one of the very few monuments of Tutankhamun to survive to the present day. The reliefs, executed in the lively style of the late Amarna period, commemorate one of the most important annual festivals in the Egyptian religious calendar, the great Festival of Opet, the occasion when Amun-Re traveled from his palace at Karnak to his birthplace at Luxor Temple to experience rebirth and rejuvenation. The Opet reliefs document in particular detail the lavish water procession associated with this festival, when Amun-Re, his wife the mother-goddess Mut, and their son the moon-god Khonsu traveled from Karnak to Luxor Temple and, later, back to Karnak, in great gilded divine barges towed by the elaborate royal barges of the king and queen, assisted by numerous smaller towboats manned by dozens of oarsmen, the whole procession escorted by a cheering populace on the riverbanks. In the history of Egyptian art there is nothing that equals its scope and lively detail.

I am pleased to announce that the Epigraphic Survey has recently completed the production of *Reliefs and Inscriptions at Luxor Temple, Volume 2: The Facade, Portals, Upper Register Scenes, Columns, Marginalia, and Statuary in the Colonnade Hall* (103 scenes). The title truly says it all. As the companion to Volume 1, which documents the first register of decoration, this second volume covers all the rest. With this volume we have now completed the documentation and publication of all the standing wall remains in the great Colonnade Hall of Luxor Temple, one of the largest, most beautiful, and most threatened monuments in all of Egypt.

DENNIS PARDEE MEMBERS LECTURE: SEE PAGE 13

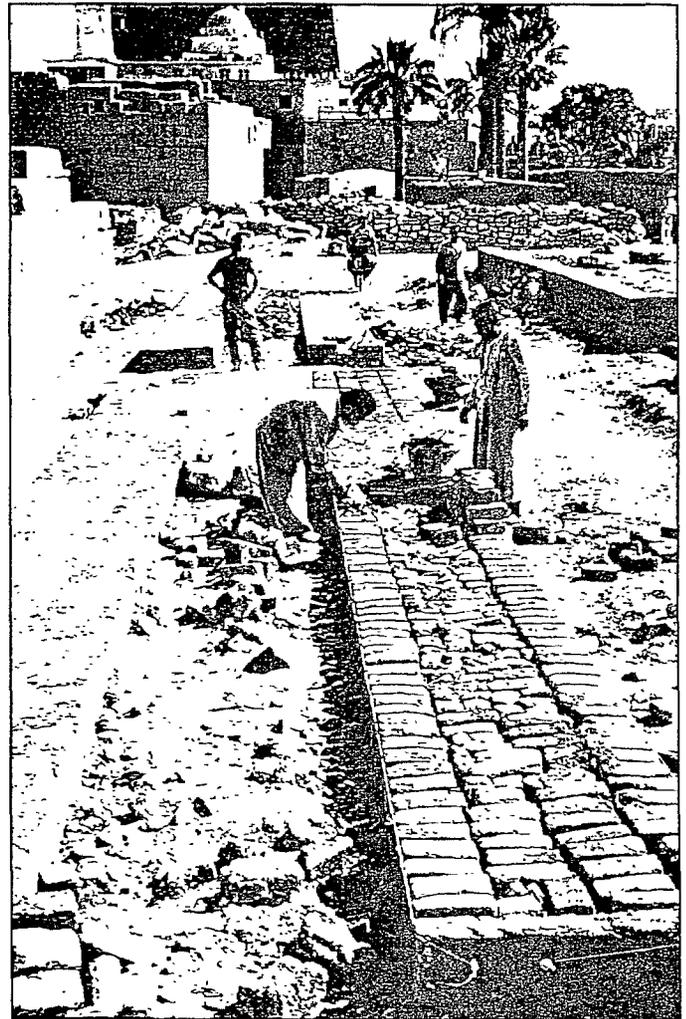
LUXOR TEMPLE FRAGMENT PROJECT

Although the Epigraphic Survey has in the past dealt exclusively with standing wall remains, an exciting opportunity presented itself at Luxor Temple to incorporate fragmentary material in our publication program. The upper walls of the Colonnade Hall and other parts of Luxor Temple are mostly missing, quarried away in the medieval period when stone was needed for house, church, or mosque construction. Excavations in the 1950s and 1960s, which exposed the southern end of the alleyway of sphinxes linking Luxor and Karnak Temples, also exposed hundreds of buried stone foundations made up of reused block fragments that had been torn off the upper walls of the temple. When the excavations were finished, the fragments were piled in dozens of rows around the temple for future analysis. From this pool of material, the Epigraphic Survey has identified over 1,500 sandstone fragments from the Colonnade Hall alone and has included them in the publication of the hall. Each block fragment is drawn the same way a wall section would be drawn using photographic enlargements, and when the drawings are collated and finished, each fragment drawing is photographed (or scanned) so that scale prints of the drawings can be reassembled for publication. Many of the fragments join to form long strips or sections from numerous identifiable scenes and augment considerably our understanding of the decorative scheme of the missing upper registers. Volume 2 features joined fragment groups from the Colonnade Hall facade that preserve important information about its original decorative program, while Volume 3 in the series will be devoted primarily to the upper register fragment groups, one of which is 75 feet long, and will include an architectural study of the Hall.

In 1995 the Epigraphic Survey received a five-year grant from the Egyptian Antiquities Project, USAID, and the American Research Center in Egypt for conservation and consolidation of the deteriorating decorated sandstone fragments in our Luxor Temple blockyard. Conservators John Stewart and Hiroko Kariya have supervised this project since its inception. This year we erected an on-site conservation laboratory, and initiated the expansion of the Epigraphic Survey blockyard by constructing new damp-coursed brick storage platforms for the proper storage of the thousands of fragments that are still lying on the ground, to protect them against the rising damp.

THE COLONNADE HALL'S MISSING GODDESSES

Our second volume in the Colonnade Hall series also includes the publication of the colossal statuary found in the Hall. These include two great seated dyads in indurated limestone of the gods Amun-Re and Mut, carved either by Tutankhamun or his successor Ay at the end of the Eighteenth Dynasty, and a seated sculpture of a king from the same period, all appropriated later on by Ramesses II, who erased the original king's



New storage platform under construction. Luxor Temple, Epigraphic Survey blockyard, 1999. Photograph by W. Raymond Johnson

names and replaced them with his own. Both dyads are missing the heads of the Mut-goddess figures, but with the generous assistance of colleagues Hourig Sourouzian and Betsy Bryan I was able to identify the missing heads in the Cairo Museum basement storage area where they had ended up after the clearance of the Hall in the 1880s. The small dyad goddess turns out to be a Late Period, possibly early Ptolemaic restoration of the original Eighteenth Dynasty goddess, which must have broken off (possibly hit by falling roof blocks) and been so damaged she required a totally new upper body.

The large dyad goddess is another story. Her face had broken clean off in antiquity, and dowel holes in both the body and the face fragment attested to an ancient restoration. A cast later proved that there was enough surviving stone for a proper restoration. Through the kindness of Mohamed Saleh, the former Director of the Egyptian Museum, and the Supreme Council of Antiquities, the face of the large-dyad

PETER DORMAN MEMBERS LECTURE: SEE PAGE 13

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THE EPIGRAPHIC SURVEY IN LUXOR THE FIRST SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS

W. RAYMOND JOHNSON, FIELD DIRECTOR

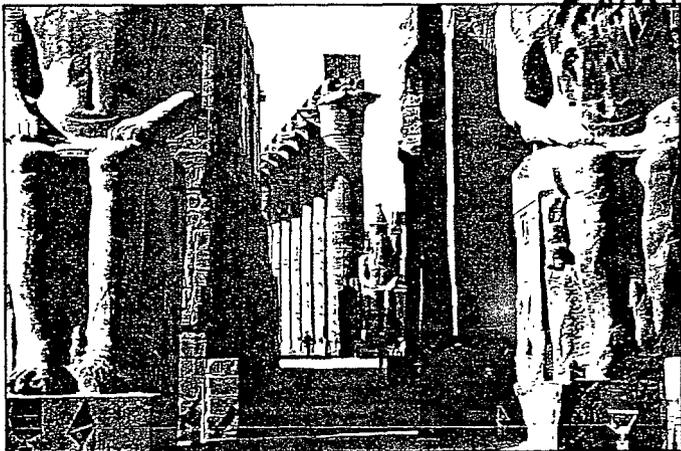
BREASTED IN EGYPT

This year the Epigraphic Survey of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago celebrated 75 years of documentation work in Egypt, but the story actually begins more than a century ago. The year 1894 was a momentous one for James Henry Breasted, the University of Chicago, and the field of Egyptology. Breasted completed his degree in Germany, was offered the first chair in Egyptology in the United States here at the University of Chicago by William Rainey Harper, and decided that this was an opportune time to get married. He and his young bride Frances spent their honeymoon traveling on the Nile River, photographing and studying Egypt's spectacular Pharaonic monuments for the first time.

Breasted's excitement at "reading" the temples, tombs, and hieroglyphic inscriptions firsthand was tempered by his dismay at the inaccuracy of some of the copies of those inscriptions that had been the basis of his studies. He

ther alarmed at the serious deterioration the monuments had suffered since earlier expeditions had copied them, due to the depredations of nature and man. Some temples, such as Amenhotep III's shrine to the god Khnum on Elephantine Island in Aswan, published in Napoleon's groundbreaking *Description* volumes, were even wholly missing, quarried away for reuse in the construction of modern sugar factories and cotton mills throughout the country.

Breasted realized that the threat to Egypt's priceless pharaonic heritage was grave, but he also believed that precise documentation and publication could counter the destructive forces of nature and man, preserving precious material from the past against an uncertain future. In 1919 he founded the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago to be a center of Near Eastern studies in America and became its first Director. He was determined to create an arm of the Oriental Institute that would be permanently based in Luxor, where lay the highest concentration of Egypt's New Kingdom temple and tomb remains. The necessary funds were not forthcoming until 1924, but with the help of John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and increased public interest in ancient Egypt stimulated by the discovery of King Tutankhamun's tomb two years earlier, Breasted's dream was finally realized.



View of Luxor Temple Colonnade Hall from Ramesses II Pylon.
Photograph by W. Raymond Johnson

THE EPIGRAPHIC SURVEY IN LUXOR

The Epigraphic and Architectural Survey of the Oriental Institute, known by most of our friends as Chicago House, was originally set up on the West Bank of Luxor on the desert edge behind the Colossi of Memnon. The core house and work areas were designed by Breasted himself and were built for him by Howard Carter's assistant, A. R. Callender. The original staff consisted of only three people: the director, one

continued on page 2

ROMANCING THE PAST 2000

5 MAY 2000

You are cordially invited to join us at the Drake Hotel in Romancing the Past 2000. The Oriental Institute will host a gala dinner in honor of Janet W. Helman, the third recipient of the James Henry Breasted Medallion. The Breasted Medallion recognizes extraordinary service by a volunteer: support for Institute initiatives, service in leadership roles, active engagement with the Museum, and participation in research and field projects.

continued on page 23

16 OCT 2000



CHICAGO HOUSE BULLETIN



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THE CHICAGO HOUSE SEASON OCTOBER 1999 TO APRIL 2000: A MONTHLY DIARY

By W. Raymond Johnson, Field Director

OCTOBER

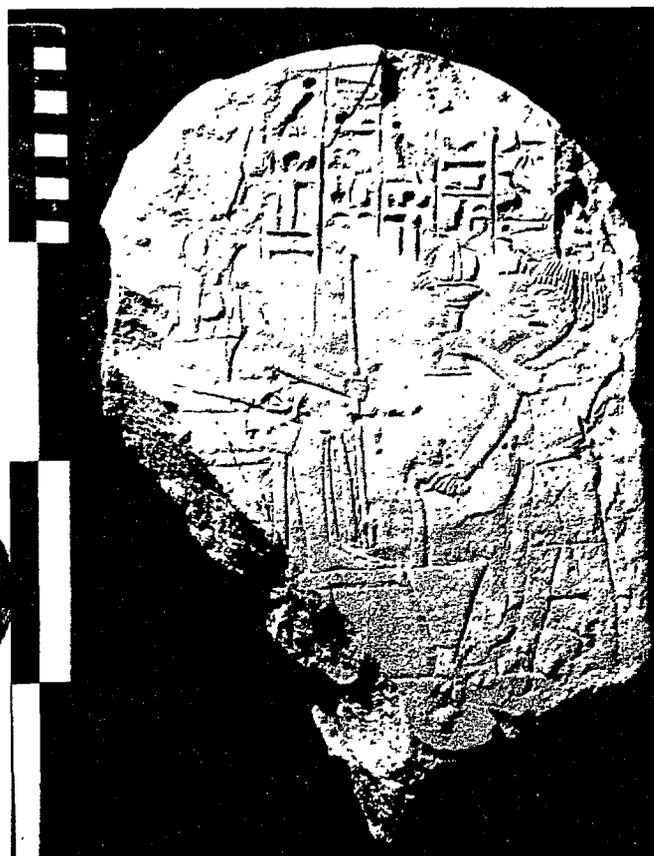
Chicago House reopened for the 1999–2000 season on October 15, thanks once more to the good graces of Egyptologist Tina Di Cerbo, who came two weeks early to open up and clean. Most of the staff arrived on October 14 and 15, while the rest will be trickling in over the next couple of months.

We found the gardens unusually lush, our guard dog Nikon looking fit and trim, and Luxor absolutely awash with tourists. The high season is clearly already here, and we are told that the hotels are fully booked for the winter months. Security is also excellent, even better than last year. The heat was intense when we arrived, but the temperatures are gradually going down, and it's very comfortable now.

We immediately reopened the small Amun temple at Medinet Habu and found everything dry (thanks to the newly sealed roof) and untouched. Conservator Lotfi Hassan did a condition study on the monument, inside and out, and on the Ramesses III wells. The southern well has been shored up by the Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA) with thick timbers, pending dismantling of the roof blocks and repair of the two disintegrating blocks on the east wall, which will get underway later this season. We have signed on a local SCA conservator to work with Lotfi this season, Mr. Adel Aziz; later in the winter conservator Veronica Paglione will join the Medinet Habu conservation team to further speed up the cleaning and consolidation process. Stonecutter Danis will continue to seal the roof over the bark sanctuary, and will begin preparations for laying stone floors in the central chamber and king's chamber of the small temple structure.

When Uvo Holscher excavated the central room of the Amun temple at the University of Chicago in the 1930s, he found that the floor blocks had been removed in antiquity. In the fill he found the sad remains of what had been a three meter high granodiorite dyad of Thutmose III and Amun which had stood in the center of the room. The Amun had been severely hacked during the Amarna period, and at some point in time, perhaps the Ptolemaic period, the decision was made to remove the dyad. Since it was too big to fit through the door (in fact the chamber seems originally to have been built

around it) it was broken into pieces and buried. Holscher uncovered three major pieces in his clearance; an upper section was removed to the area outside the temple to the north. The large lower section was still too large to remove, so it was left buried, in situ. Parts of the statue were totally missing: the heads of Thutmose III and Amun, a large section from the legs/knees of both figures to the bottom of the statue base, and most of the front section of the base.



Small limestone stela from the late Eighteenth Dynasty reused in the Ptolemaic Period as rooftop fill, small Amun temple, Medinet Habu. Photograph by Yarko Kobylecky



Epigrapher Hratch Papazian, conservators Lotfi Hassan and Adel Aziz, SCA Inspector Ahmed Ezz, stonecutter Dany Roy, Senior Epigrapher Ted Castle, and Chicago House and Supreme Council of Antiquities workmen triumphant after moving a two-ton fragment of a colossal granodiorite seated pair statue of Amun and Thutmose III from the floor debris of the inner sanctuary. Medinet Habu, small Amun temple bark sanctuary. Photograph by Yarko Kobylecky

In preparation for the eventual floor-laying in this chamber, we have located and uncovered the large lower section of the dyad. Since statuary in its original location is a rarity in Egyptian monuments, we have decided to recover the pieces and restore the group. This week we started to raise it with the kind assistance of the SCA West Bank engineers. We will put it to the side for future restoration in its original location when we re-lay the floor. At the same time we have started going through the debris of Holscher's backfill in this chamber, and are recovering sherds (primarily Coptic) and additional small sculpture fragments (some undoubtedly from the dyad) for future analysis. Since the restored floor will effectively seal off the debris, the time to recover this material is now.

On October 23 John and Debbie Darnell's Theban Desert Road Project material (being stored in the small temple for convenience) was moved to their newly completed magazine. Debbie will be leaving the Epigraphic Survey on November 15 to devote full time to their remarkable project, and is now training Briant and Karin Bohleke in the mysteries of the Chicago House library management. Like Debbie before him, Briant will work half-time as librarian and half-time as epigrapher, and his wife Karin will cover the library when Briant is in the field. Many of you will recall that Briant took his undergraduate degree at the University of Chicago, and

left us for graduate studies at Yale where he received his doctorate. It is now our good fortune that he has returned to the fold. His credentials as an Egyptologist are sterling, and his eighteen years of Yale University Library experience will greatly benefit the Oriental Institute's field library in Luxor. Karin received her Ph.D. degree in French at Yale as well, and is putting her extraordinary knowledge of foreign languages to excellent use in the Chicago House library.

It is a busy time in Luxor for Egyptological activity, and we have already been deluged with colleagues and guests. Nick Reeves, Geoffrey Martin, and Peter Lacovara have resumed work in the Valley of the Kings, and will continue into December. The Poles at Deir el-Bahri under Professor Andrej Niwinski have been doing some extremely interesting work in the cliffs over Hatshepsut's mortuary temple. The UCLA mission under Daniel Polz is working at Dira Abu el-Naga; the French at Karnak; and the Documentation Center at the Ramesseum and Ramesses II's tomb in the Valley of the Kings. A Belgian mission headed by Professor Roland Tefnin has been recording the tomb chapel of Sennefer (TT96) – long closed, quite dirty, but very well-preserved. Before our season, Lotfi did some preliminary cleaning for them that showed the garden of Amun scene intact beneath the grime, as well as a sensational granary scene. All of these missions and other friends attended our annual masquerade Hallow-



Epigrapher Brett McClain, Senior Epigrapher Ted Castle, and artist Sue Osgood discussing a point at the wall, Medinet Habu, small temple of Amun. Photograph by Yarko Kobylecky

een party on October 31, always the perfect occasion to get together and celebrate the resumption of our fieldwork.

NOVEMBER

November began on a bright note with the arrival of epigrapher Hratch Papazian after his successful Ph.D. dissertation proposal defense, and my departure for Memphis, where I am "loaned" each season to the Egypt Exploration Society (EES) for a few days of salvage epigraphy at the partially submerged Ramesses II Ptah chapel. Former Chicago House Librarian (and dear friend) May Trad and I flew back to Luxor together a few days later, and May stayed with us a night before continuing on to the site of Hierakonpolis for a week of fieldwork with University College London's Barbara

Adams. The beginning of November also saw the arrival of Finance Director Moataz Abo Shady's wife Dalia and their two-month old son, Seif, probably the youngest staff member Chicago House has ever seen. Dalia has taken over many of the Administrator's duties, and the whole family is a most welcome addition to the house.

Hratch's return boosted the epigraphy at the small Amun temple at Medinet Habu, and in mid-month artist Carol Abraczinskas also returned, further swelling the ranks of epigraphers and artists hard at work in the bark sanctuary and ambulatory of the core Eighteenth Dynasty temple. On November 15 Debbie Darnell finished her last day of work for the Epigraphic Survey and will now devote full time to her and husband John's Desert Survey Project. Briant and Karin Bohleke are now in charge of the Chicago House library, and Briant has also begun his training as epigrapher. On November 22 conservator Veronica Paglione joined the Medinet Habu conservation team and is now assisting Adel and Lotfi with the cleaning of the painted reliefs and ceilings of the southern sanctuary chambers of the small temple.

The cleaning and examination of Holscher's debris in the first chamber of the small temple sanctuary continued in earnest through the entire month and is in its final recording phases now prior to complete refilling. The cleaning, coordinated by Tina Di Cerbo, revealed many more fragments of the buried colossal granodiorite dyad of Thutmose III and Amun than we ever expected to find, including major sections of the base of the statue, which will greatly facilitate restoration later. Cleaning also revealed a half dozen large paving blocks along the north and east sides of the chamber not recorded by Holscher, angled down toward a medieval pit which Holscher's men had followed when they

cleared the chamber, which we now believe was used in Medieval times as a convenient repository for the unwanted statue fragments. We have recovered all of the pottery and granodiorite fragments, in a range of sizes, from Holscher's backfill, and are now in the process of cleaning them. Photographer Yarko Kobylecky has been carefully documenting all stages of the process, now assisted by archivist Ellie Smith, who arrived at Chicago House the day before Thanksgiving. Helen and Jean Jacquet, also recently returned, are proving to be valuable consultants, particularly in regard to the pottery being found.

Thanksgiving was a small but festive affair this year. Guests included friends and colleagues Barbara Mertz, Dennis Forbes, George Johnson, Nick Reeves, Susanne Bickel,



Stonecutter Dany Roy with newly restored sandstone roofing blocks, Eighteenth Dynasty Amun temple roof, Medinet Habu, March 2000. Photograph by Ray Johnson

Lyla Brock, and UCLA archaeologist Mohsen El-Sayid (working with Nick Reeves in the Valley of the Kings and who will later work with Mark Lehner at Giza). Chicago House cooks Tayib and Ibrahim truly outdid themselves with two huge turkeys, heads intact, decorated with vegetable garnish, little chef's hats, and tin-foil bow ties. (The creativity in the kitchen sometimes takes one's breath away).

Visitors to Chicago House this month have been many and varied, and included David Kurtzer, son of American Ambassador Daniel Kurtzer; Lisa Giddy, gathering data for the *EES Egyptian Archaeology Bulletin*; and a large group of Fulbright alums. Barbara Adams and her crew, in Luxor for some rest and relaxation, came to dinner on the 14th, and Nigel Strudwick and his crew, including John Taylor from the British Museum, are in town to resume their Theban Tomb documentation project.

Luxor is awash with visitors, and tourism is at an all-time high. This is wonderful for Egypt, but it often makes our work more difficult, since we are documenting what is now a major tourist site. The last week has been unusually pleasant however, since almost all of the more than two hundred tour boats which usually cram the Nile banks for several miles along the Luxor waterfront have been obliged to moor south of Esna on account of the low water. The Luxor riverbank hasn't been this peaceful in fifteen years, and we are savoring every minute of it, since we are told that all the boats will be back within the week!

DECEMBER

December saw the continuation of drawing and collating in the Medinet Habu Eighteenth Dynasty temple bark sanctuary and ambulatory, and the epigraphic training of Briant Bohleke "at the wall." The month also saw the final documentation and filling-in of the floor in the first chamber, supervised by Tina Di Cerbo, and the resumption of the roof-sealing work up above by stonecutter Dany Roy, who worked on the mortar infill between the new roof blocks. Conservators Lotfi Hassan, Veronica Paglione, and Adel Aziz continued cleaning and consolidating the painted wall reliefs of the two southernmost sanctuary chambers, and revealed for the first time since antiquity some of the painted stars on the ceiling.

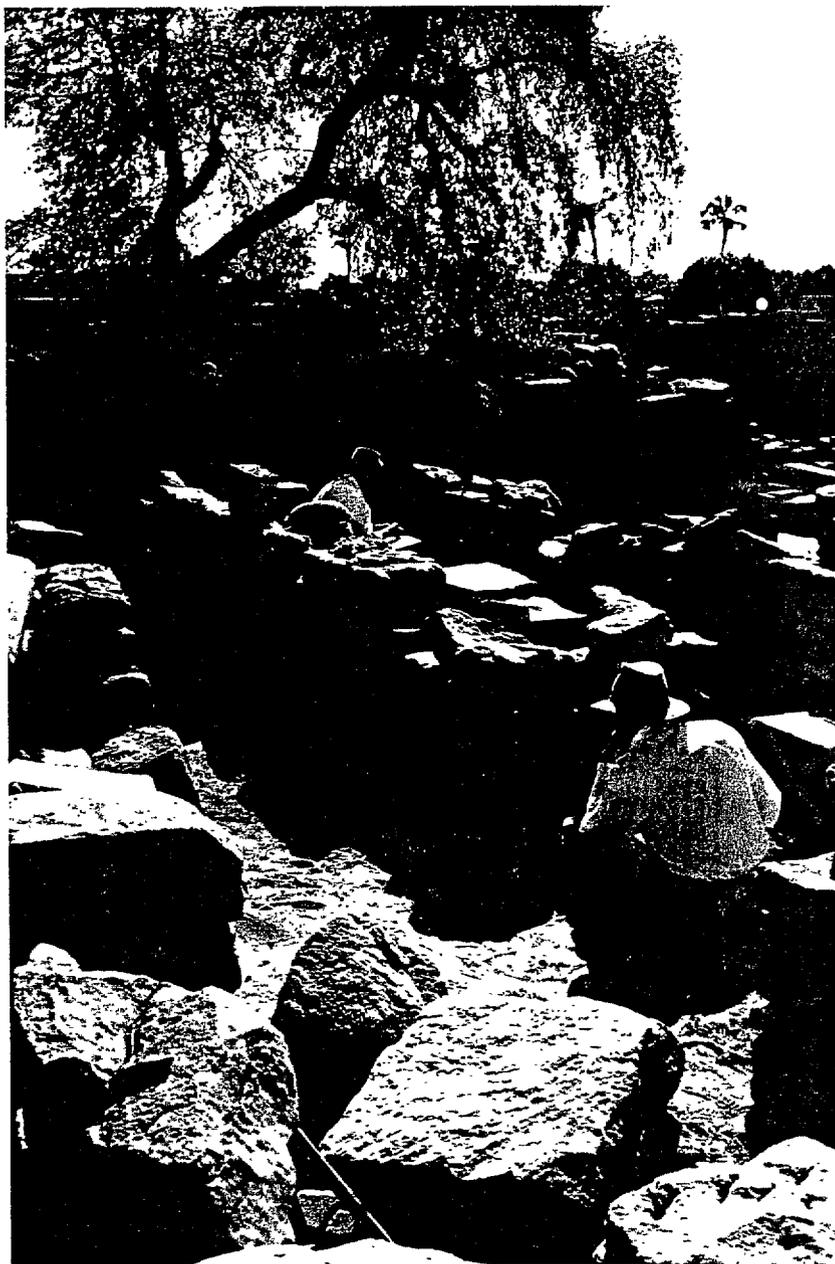
The fragments of the granodiorite dyad of Thutmose III and Amun which were recovered from the first chamber floor debris are now stored in the bark sanctuary which has been fitted with slatted, wooden, lockable gates for security. The fragments have all been cleaned, and will be documented, consolidated, and stored in the bark sanctuary until their reassembly next season. Before the floor was completely filled in, Dany constructed a concrete footing roughly in the center of the chamber to act as a foundation for the restored group.

At Luxor Temple the blockyard storage and treatment area expansion was resumed, and as of this writing, the

greater east area is now finished. Sixteen new damp-coursed brick mastaba storage platforms were constructed, eight of them up to fifteen meters long, and several more are planned for the south area. Chief Engineer Saleh Shahat supervised the construction of a steel framework which will be built around one of the new treatment mastabas which will then be covered with a canvas tarpaulin to protect treated fragments from the elements. Conservators John Stewart and Hiroko Kariya are due to arrive next week to resume coordination of the fragment consolidation project.

Earlier in the month the new Deputy Chief of Mission of the United States Embassy Reno Harnish and his wife Leslie paid Luxor and Chicago House a visit with a USAID review team, and it was my pleasure to show them our documentation and conservation work at Medinet Habu and Luxor Temples. Later Dr. Per-Olof Johansson, SWECO geology and groundwater engineer, and Engineer Maher Abd El Halim El Shiwiy, Research Assistant, Head of Greater Cairo Research Unit, Research Institute for Ground Water, came by to discuss the groundwater drainage initiative currently under way in Luxor, partly sponsored and funded by the Swedish government. They will return this month with a larger team to study the best ways to implement proper drainage of groundwater away from the East Bank temple sites. Artist Sue Osgood returned at that time, as well as architect and former artist Jay Heidel for a visit, and other visitors to Chicago House included the Italian Ambassador to Egypt Francesco Aloisi de Larderel and wife Vittoria Buffe (an archaeologist herself); a group of Egyptology students from the Netherlands and Flemish Institute in Cairo (with whom Epigrapher Brett McClain discussed our work); Barbara Adams on her way back to London from Hierakonpolis; and Catherine Eaton from New York University. More recent visitors include Mary-Louise Mahdi; Senators Shelby (Republican, Alabama) and Bryan (Democrat, Nevada), their wives and entourage, with whom I spent a full day touring Chicago House, our projects, and the sights of Luxor; Jiro Kondo and Nozamu Kawai with the Waseda University, Tokyo, mission; and Amina Al Sabah from Kuwait.

It was a month of festivals. The holy month of Ramadan began on December 9 and ended last week with a three-day *Eid*, while Christmas and New Years made the end of the month quite lively for everyone. Christmas at Chicago House



Epigraphers Ted Castle and Brett McClain copying decorated stone fragments, Epigraphic Survey blockyard, Luxor Temple. Photograph by Ray Johnson

was warm and full of cheer as always, with our in-house Christmas dinner (turkey and goose) We rang in the New Year 2000 and the end of the old millennium with our beloved Carlotta and David Maher, who flew in just for the occasion; friends Bob Hamada (Dean of the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business) and his wife Anne; Nigel and Helen Strudwick; Francesco Tiradritti, and Donald Oster. And although we were prepared for any kind of Y2K problems (and were in close touch with the US Embassy about it), like most places in the world we luckily encountered no problems at all. An excellent beginning!



Epigraphic Survey Photographer Yarko Kobylecky, assisted by Ellie Smith, photographing in the northern decorated well of Ramesses III, Medinet Habu. Photograph by Ray Johnson

JANUARY

January 2000 was noteworthy for the arrival of new staff members and stepped-up activity on all fronts. Sue Lezon, Jamie Riley, and Nan Ray arrived at Chicago House in mid-month, swelling the ranks in our secondary residence, Healey House. Sue reopened the Chicago House Imaging Center and began coordinating the digital scanning of our Photo Archives 8x10 large-format negatives. The negatives were all organized and boxed by Ellie Smith and are being scanned and burned onto CD-ROM at the Karnak Franco-Egyptian Center. Jamie was put to work almost immediately supervising the addition of a bathroom to the Healey House storage and refrigerator room, which by necessity is being pressed into service as a residence room. That work is finished, and Jamie and Administrator Dalia Abo Shady are now coordinating the construction and procurement of its furnishings.

Conservators John Stewart and Hiroko Kariya arrived on January 16 to resume the Luxor Temple Fragment Consolidation Project, just as Engineer Mohsen Fahmy put the finishing touches on the last of nineteen new, damp-coursed brick storage mastabas. John spent an intense week plotting the season strategy with Hiroko, and Nan Ray has been assisting Hiroko ever since organizing, numbering, monitoring, and moving decorated sandstone wall fragments to their new holding areas. The first fragments to be moved to the new

east storage area were a group of over a hundred fragments which join the east wall of the Amenhotep III sun court, partially restored on the wall a decade and a half ago by John Stewart. The remaining fragments have been moved to new mastabas and sorted into two groups: those requiring consolidation and those which are stable. Consolidation of this material will be one of this season's priorities, and it is hoped that the whole group can be restored to the wall the season after next.

At Medinet Habu epigraphic drawing and collation continued in the small Amun temple of Hatshepsut and Thutmose III. Briant Bohleke continued his on-site training most mornings, while his wife Karin supervised the field library. While infilling the central room, Dany Roy prepared a half-meter thick reinforced concrete base for the colossal granodiorite dyad of Thutmose III and Amun which we will restore in the center of the room, its original architectural setting, next season. Dany then prepared the back central room for cleaning, where at month's end Tina Di Cerbo began the task of going through Holscher's backfill, recovering sherds and sculpture fragments in the process.

In mid-January a wooden "wharf" platform designed by Senior Epigrapher Ted Castle was constructed by Chicago House carpenter Shayib and inserted into the northern Ramesses III well just above the present water level. Shortly afterward Yarko and Ellie began arduous, emergency photography of every square inch of the inscribed inner wall

surface, now badly eroded by groundwater salts, with our large-format, 8x10 field camera. When they are finished with the first sloping corridor later this month, a second platform will be constructed in the second sloping corridor which continues at a right angle to the first, now mostly submerged.

Visitors this month included Donald and Susan Levy, and old friends and supporters Mark Rudkin and Fred Giles (back in Egypt for the first time in twenty-five years). Hratch Papazian left us at the beginning of the month to experience the joys of working at Giza with Mark Lehner and his crew for a month; we trust Mark will return him to us safely. And dear friend Marjorie Fisher has just arrived for three weeks work with us "at the wall."

FEBRUARY

At Medinet Habu our documentation efforts continued in the bark sanctuary and ambulatory of the small Amun temple, with artists Margaret De Jong and Bernice Williams drawing inside the bark sanctuary, and epigraphers Ted Castle, Briant Bohleke, Brett McClain, Hratch Papazian, and artists Carol Abraczinskas and Sue Osgood working in the ambulatory. Tina Di Cerbo continued to supervise the cleaning of Holscher's backfill in the back central sanctuary, coordinated the recovery of artifacts from that fill (primarily potsherds and miscellaneous granodiorite sculpture fragments), and is finishing that task as I write this. This week Yarko will photograph and Tina will plan the exposed foundations and debris sections prior to careful reburial this month. We have discovered that Hatshepsut built her stone sanctuary over an enigmatic, earlier enclosed area containing horizontal plastered layers going well below the present water table. These layers may be floor levels, or they may be something else (a mound?), and the feature seems to have gone unrecognized by Holscher. Whatever this area was, it was located behind an earlier stone sanctuary Holscher found partly built into the front of Hatshepsut and Thutmose III's bark sanctuary; it had its own mudbrick enclosure wall, and was important enough for Hatshepsut to "cap" with her new stone temple.

Elsewhere at Medinet Habu, in the north well of Ramesses III, Yarko and Ellie continued the salvage photography of every square centimeter of decorated wall surface of the first sloping corridor. This is largely complete, and Yarko and Ted Castle are now planning a new wooden platform which will extend as far as possible into the second descending corridor, also decorated, but mostly flooded, which will allow its photography as well.

In the Luxor Temple blockyard, we finished construction of a sink/basin emplacement which will contain and drain away from the blockyard water drawn by the temple guardians/*gafirs*. We have tried to be sensitive to their needs while ensuring a dry blockyard, since any moisture activates migration of salts trapped in the block fragments. Conservator Hiroko Kariya continued to treat decorated stone fragments from previous seasons, moved deteriorating fragments to the new treatment areas, and started to treat fragments from the Amenhotep III sun court earmarked for restoration on the east wall in a year. Nan Ray continued to order the blockyard the same way Ellie Smith orders our Photo Archives, tracking fragments moved from their storage mastaba platforms to treatment mastabas, making sure that every fragment has an assigned number, and painting numbers on



Artist Margaret De Jong drawing the limestone stela, small Amun temple Medinet Habu. Photograph by Yarko Kobylecky

the fragments which needed them. Later in the month Nan's husband David assisted in this process, and also helped paint numbers on the new mastabas.

Last week the Chicago House epigraphers started work in the south blockyard, beginning a preliminary catalogue of eight rows of fragments presently on the ground which will be moved to some of the new damp-coursed mastabas by the end of the season, sorted and stored by category (Amenhotep III sanctuary, porch, or sun court; Tutankhamun Colonnade Hall; Ramesses II first court; etc). On February 2 and 3 American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE) Director Mark Easton, Egyptian Antiquities Project (EAP) Director Chip Vincent, and EAP Technical Director Jarek Dobrolowski conducted on-site reviews of our Luxor Temple and Medinet Habu EAP-funded conservation projects, and were very pleased with what they saw.

In this busy season the month of February was noteworthy for an unusual density of groups and visitors, many from Chicago. Most recently the Field Museum VIP tour led by former Epigraphic Survey Field Director Peter Dorman passed through Luxor and Chicago House; on February 4 I showed them our work at Medinet Habu, while later that day Carlotta Maher (recently returned to Chicago House) and I gave them a briefing on the work of Chicago House in the library followed by a tour of the grounds. Earlier in the week Director of the Art Institute of Chicago Jim Wood and his wife

Emese joined us for dinner and later, site tours of both Luxor and Medinet Habu temples. Later, Art Institute Curator of European Decorative Arts and Classical Art Ian Wardropper and wife Sarah McNear, Curator of the LaSalle National Bank Photography Collection, visited as well. Both sets of museum officials were in Egypt doing prep work for the Boston Museum of Fine Arts Amarna show *Pharaohs of the Sun: Akhenaten, Nefertiti, and Tutankhamun*, slated for the Art Institute of Chicago from July 12 until September 24, and it was a great pleasure to share our work with them.

The Oriental Institute tours came through Luxor on February 24, led by John Larson and Robert Ritner, assisted by Emily Napolitano; we gave them a library talk and festive reception that day, site visits of Medinet Habu on February 26, and I lectured to the group later that afternoon on "The Legacy of Chicago House." They seemed to be having a terrific time, despite the initial delay in leaving Chicago due to snow.

Oriental Institute Museum Curator Emily Teeter joined the Chicago House staff from February 11 through 21 to study the three Medinet Habu magazines with me to ascertain what still remained there from Holscher's excavations of the site. We found one magazine totally empty, one full of objects from all over the west bank (including, I have recently learned, from excavations of Amenhotep III's mortuary temple in the mid-sixties), and one housing fragmentary material (blocks and some sculpture fragments) which appear to be from the



Nan Ray and workmen moving decorated stone fragments to the new storage and treatment platforms, Epigraphic Survey blockyard at Luxor Temple. Photograph by Sue Lezon

Medinet Habu complex, but which were recovered later than the Oriental Institute/University of Chicago's excavations there. The empty magazine undoubtedly held small objects excavated by Holscher which were subsequently moved elsewhere; we are trying to track that material down now. Emily's visit allowed us to focus on the problems of what is there, and to incorporate plans for its proper storage and documentation into our short and long-range program for Medinet Habu.

Finally, on the last day of the month, February 29, recently appointed President of the University of Chicago Don Randel and his wife Carol stopped by for casual drinks and dinner, to see Chicago House and relax a bit from their Cornell University tour. Carlotta and I gave them an impromptu library talk and tour of the complex, and Yarko gave them a special tour of the Photography Laboratory/darkroom facility, which they especially appreciated since both are avid photographers. They professed a real admiration for the Oriental Institute and its work, and I believe that their visit here was an excellent thing for the Institute. We've been trying to get a University of Chicago President out here for years!

Artist Sue Osgood departed Chicago House for home at the end of the month, which always signals the bittersweet beginning of the end of the season. At the same time, and after MUCH delay, Chicago House accountant Marlin Nassim gave birth to a bouncing baby boy, David. We extend our very best wishes and congratulations to Marlin and her husband Assem, and look forward to her return to Chicago House, with the little one in tow!

MARCH

March in Luxor was a month of comings and goings, signaling the rapidly approaching end of the season. Things got off to an excellent start with the arrival of our beloved Mary Grimshaw, who worked with us in the library and Photo Archives for the entire month; and stone conservator Hiroko Kariya's husband Jeffrey, who visited for a few days. Mary's arrival was timely; she helped us entertain Xerox Corporation Egypt Director Bron Curley and his wife Jennie, who took a break from Cairo to come see our operation. Since Xerox is a long-standing supporter of Chicago House and the Oriental Institute, and currently loans us a Xerox copier rent-free, Carlotta and I have been trying to get Bron, who was appointed Director year before last, here for the last two seasons.

Nan and David Ray departed the first week of March, after Nan had spent two very productive months assisting Hiroko in the organization and tracking of the thousands of fragments in the Luxor Temple blockyard. I sense a budding new career here (she's even taken summer work home with her!). I am very grateful to her for her invaluable help which put Hiroko much farther ahead in the fragment program, and



Conservators Hiroko Kariya and John Stewart discuss decorated stone fragment conservation strategy with Field Director Ray Johnson in the north blockyard, Alleyway of Sphinxes, Luxor Temple. Photograph by Sue Lezon

look forward VERY much to her and David's return next January to continue that invaluable work.

Carlotta departed on March 5, always a sad occasion, but this time I accompanied her for some development work in Cairo. We rendezvoused with Carlotta's husband David, in town attending an international Internet convention, and enjoyed a lively dinner with Sheila Kurtzer, wife of the American Ambassador to Egypt, and their son David. Artist Carol Abraczinskas left for home to resume dinosaur-bone drawing for the University of Chicago's Paul Sereno on March 7, the same day Museum Archivist John Larson arrived for a week's stay after the successful conclusion of the Oriental Institute tour to Egypt.

On March 9 Jason Ur arrived to tweak the new Photo Archives database for a few days on his way to Syria, and on March 16 our colleague Marianne Eaton-Krauss arrived for a

week's stay and research. Other visitors included Betty Winklemann (who writes ancient Egyptian detective novels under the name of Lauren Haney); former Administrator Christian Loeben and ten students; Douglas Kofoed plus four University of Chicago Graduate School of Business students; Carol Redmount and Husband Maury; and former Senior Epigrapher and Assistant Director Richard Jasnow (always a joy to have around). Many of these friends were in town for the International Congress of Egyptologists held at Giza from March 28 to April 3.

And now it's the end of the season, which hardly seems possible. We've made incredible progress on all fronts, workwise. The epigraphers and artists are putting the finishing touches on their ongoing drawings and collations, and writing their reports for the season. Artist Margaret De Jong is finishing the penciling of a small limestone stela from Deir El-Medina we found used as a chinking stone on the roof. Tina is in the final stages of cleaning Holscher's backfill in the back chamber, and has found painted inscriptions on several foundation blocks; once they are documented, she will be filling the floor in this week.

Yarko and engineer Jamie Riley finished installing the final "wharf" section in the north Ramesses III well, and with the crucial assistance of Ellie Smith finished the photography of its deteriorating reliefs last week. At the small Amun temple, Yarko, Sue Lezon, and Ellie photographed all of the walls (and roof painted with stars) in sanctuary room 2 which conservators Lotfi Hassan, Veronica Paglione, and Adel Aziz had cleaned this season, in black and white and color transparency. Up above, Dany finished the roof sealing work over the sanctuary and ambulatory for this season, and, after two very trying days, successfully transported 50 square meters of sandstone slabs from Karnak to Medinet Habu for restoration work next season, a MAJOR accomplishment!

At the Luxor Temple blockyard, while Hiroko wrapped up her treatment program for the season, the epigraphers and I began a catalogue of the decorated stone fragments piled on the ground in the southeast area. This week I will finish raising two entire rows of over two hundred fragments onto new damp-coursed storage mastaba/platforms, sorted and arranged by category. It's only a small beginning, but this work represents another major milestone in the Epigraphic Survey's documentation and preservation efforts at Luxor Temple. Also, our custom-made, waterproof tent-awnings arrived last week for placement on the steel and wooden-framed treatment mastabas. These awnings will not only protect the treated fragments from the elements, but will also provide an enclosed space which makes the treatment more effective.

In the Photo Archives, among many other tasks, Sue and Ellie coordinated the ongoing scanning of our 8x10 negatives at the Karnak Franco-Egyptian Center, and have prepared many more for scanning over the summer. Sue has also started designing a database for Helen and Jean Jacquets' photographic archive, a copy of which will be permanently housed at Chicago House, and which we can adapt for the Habachi Archive as well with Jason Ur's kind help. Helen has

finished the mockup of the plate section of her Khonsu Temple rooftop graffiti volume, a sample of which I will take back to Chicago to the Publications Office (she is scheduled to finish the text next season, and the volume will be the next to appear in our Khonsu Temple series).

The constant maintenance work required for a facility like Chicago House goes without saying, but I must remark that engineer Jamie Riley has been a godsend once again this season. Jamie not only coordinates the dozen or more different maintenance tasks ongoing at any given time, from screen replacement, automotive and plumbing maintenance, refrigerator repairs, etc, but his presence has also allowed some major improvements to be made to the house, some of them needed for a long time. This season we have taken the plunge and are raising the front enclosure wall along the Corniche by adding an extension which matches the original grillwork. One section is in place and looks as if it was part of the original design, and the pillars supporting the grillwork are all being raised as I write this. I think it's the perfect compromise measure for raising the height of the wall (which has become necessary primarily for security reasons) without sacrificing light, air, or our view of the Nile and western cliffs. It wouldn't be happening as quickly or efficiently without Jamie.

Mark Easton, Chip Vincent, and Jarek Dobrolowski will be down on Tuesday, April 11 for a brief EAP end of the season review, and we will take advantage of his presence to give Mark, who is leaving ARCE in July, a HUGE party that night, in celebration of his extraordinary accomplishments as Cairo Director of ARCE, and his unstinting kindness to Chicago House.

And then, before you know it, we will be home. Like every field director (I am reminded of Miss Kantor in particular), I always have bittersweet feelings about the end of the season, feeling like we've only just reached our stride when it's time to head back. But as the temperatures climb, and the *kamseen* winds begin to blow (as they are now), and I think of how COOL it still is in Chicago, I will admit to a touch of homesickness... It has been an intensely productive and full season, and we are all ready for the change.

APRIL

The Epigraphic Survey successfully completed its 1999 - 2000 field season on April 15. That day Tina Di Cerbo, Brett McClain, Hiroko Kariya, Yarko Kobylecky, and I oversaw the closing of the small Amun temple at Medinet Habu, a process which involved moving all equipment out of the temple for transportation back to Chicago House, cleaning the sanctuary chambers, and disconnecting the electricity. Once everything was made secure, the doors were locked and sealed by our inspector Ahmed Ezz with Supreme Council of Antiquities lead seals, the two doorways were blocked with stones, and the keys were returned to the Gurna Inspectorate. We will reopen the sanctuary when we return for our 77th field season in October 2000.

Back at Chicago House, staff members proceeded to depart Luxor while Tina began the task of closing the house.



1999-2000 Staff of the Epigraphic Survey

All ladders, scaffolding, and other equipment used at the temple sites were cleaned and packed away in our back ladder magazines, and all of the rooms in the house and library wings were cleaned, closed, and sealed (with University of Chicago lead seals) one by one. The whole process of closing, and opening, takes two full weeks, and we are extremely grateful to Tina for doing this each season.

The week before closing was busy with report-writing for the SCA, tying up loose ends, and of course, visitors. We finished our end-of-the-season audit on April 8, had an EAP conservation project review and party for outgoing ARCE Cairo Director Mark Easton on the 11th, and received old friend and Oriental Institute graduate Sandy Landis Gogol who came by with two of her children on the 12th. By that time the front wall construction on the river side of Chicago House was well underway; all of the brick piers had been raised in preparation for the new grill sections. When completed by the end of this month, the wall will be more than a meter higher with no loss of light, air, or view.

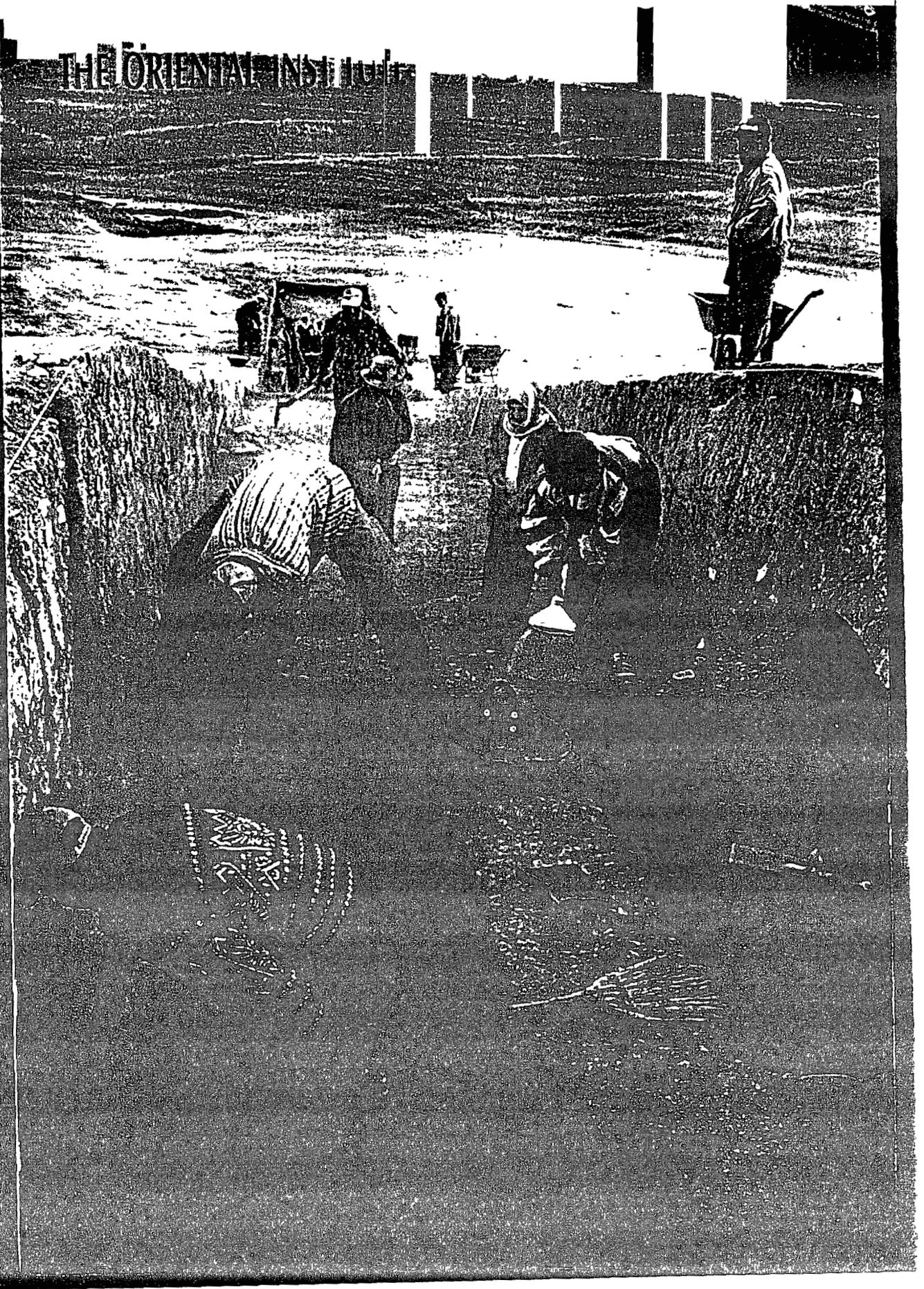
I departed Luxor on April 16 and the next day had a

meeting with US Ambassador Kurtzer about the groundwater initiatives in Luxor. We also discussed the two vacant lots on either side of Chicago House (a small one to the east and a larger one to the south), both of which are for sale. The Ambassador and I are exploring the possibility of the land-owners donating the property, or part of it, to the University of Chicago. While in Cairo I also met with Peter Janosi of the Austrian Archaeological Institute who brought the welcome news that the first volume of the Tel e-Daba excavations in the Nile delta, devoted to Labib Habachi's work there and illustrated with dozens of photographs from the Habachi photographic archives housed at Chicago House, is about to be published. Labib would be very pleased.

The Epigraphic Survey office in room 320, kindly looked after by graduate student Randy Shonkwiler during the winter, is now reopened, and I am back in room 307. Senior Epigrapher Ted Castle will be arriving back in Chicago this week.

It's good to be back! Now it's time to assess the season past, and plan for the next one. There is much to do...

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Another body of material in which we can also show significant results is the collection of stone weights that Colleen Coyle has analyzed. A set of weights consists of a large weight and fractions of that unit (e.g., a mina, a half mina, a quarter mina, etc.), with the fractions often indicated by incised marks. In her analysis of the weights, she has found evidence of several systems operating in the Diyala. This conclusion is important in viewing ancient economy as well as assessing the attempts of central administrations to regulate commerce. Some of the weights seem to be foreign to Mesopotamia, but they were needed because goods were coming from abroad and the merchants or administrators in the Diyala had to be able to make equivalents from the foreign to the local weight systems. That situation is not so unusual. Today, we have a similar mixing of weights and measures. Despite the fact that grams, kilograms, liters, meters, and kilometers are more rational, we do not abandon ounces, pounds, pints, quarts, feet, yards, or miles. And we have measuring devices and different sets of wrenches that reflect the mixture of systems.

In her work, Colleen has gained expertise in identifying stones and is now putting that skill to very good use on items such as beads, mace heads, and other stone objects. The petrographic work and related analyses using a scanning electron microscope and X-ray diffraction techniques can give crucial information that links specific items to one another by chemical markers. A set of stone objects with the same composition, especially if there is a rare mineral or element, can be assumed to have come from the same source, and most of the stones in Mesopotamia are from outside the area. Thus, if a set of objects that has been judged by style to have come from the Indus were to have a similar composition, we can say more surely that they were from that region.

We have accomplished a great deal in the past five years and are now beginning to move toward the "publication" stage, even while still finishing categories of objects. As a first step in our commitment to making this material available as soon as possible, we plan to put some of it (most likely the weights and the seal impressions) on the web with a link at the Oriental Institute home page or another University web page during the year. Some of the tablets may follow. We have just received word that the Provost's grant has been renewed for one more year. This grant will allow us to keep the staff on salary and buy a new computer to be used for web publication and digital imaging. Crucial in this work, as in our previous efforts, will be the interest and diligence of our volunteers. They have been magnificent and we hope they do not tire of us.

EPIGRAPHIC SURVEY

W. Raymond Johnson

On 15 April 2000, the Epigraphic Survey completed its seventy-sixth six-month field season. The primary documentation efforts of the survey this year continued to be focused on the small Amun temple of Hatshepsut and Thutmose III at Medinet Habu where the penciling and collating of facsimile drawings continued in the bark sanctuary and ambulatory of Thutmose III. Conservation on the rooftop was resumed, as was the cleaning of the painted reliefs inside the sanctuary. Backfill debris in the two middle chambers of the sanctuary was carefully examined

prior to repaving next season, and fragments of a colossal granodiorite dyad of Thutmose III and Amun were recovered for eventual restoration in the central chamber. The inscribed, deteriorating northern well of Ramesses III was completely photographed. At Luxor temple twenty damp-coursed storage and treatment platforms were constructed in the expanded southeast blockyard, conservation was resumed on deteriorating block fragments, a block registry was started by the epigraphers in the southern area, and over two hundred block fragments from that area were moved up off the ground onto the new mastabas.

Hatshepsut and Thutmose III Amun Temple at Medinet Habu

From 15 October 1999 to 15 April 2000 the Epigraphic Survey artists and epigraphers, supervised by senior epigrapher Edward (Ted) Castle, continued to painstakingly pencil, ink, and correct drawings of the bark sanctuary reliefs in the small temple of Amun and on the pillars of the bark sanctuary ambulatory (fig. 1).

These scenes present great challenges because of the extensive revisions that occurred after the original carving. In the inner sanctuary, sometime after the death of Hatshepsut, her figures were suppressed, appropriated, or recarved into something else, often elaborate piles of offerings, by Thutmose III. All over the Eighteenth Dynasty temple figures of the gods (with the exception of Re-Horakhty and Atum) were chiseled away by Akhenaten's iconoclasts and restored later by his successors, sometimes more than once. Further restorations and renewals occurred later under the Ptolemies. The different phases make this monument one of the most complex the Epigraphic Survey has ever tackled, and our challenge is to differentiate and communicate all of the different carved revisions in our drawings.

One new epigrapher, Briant Bohleke, who also serves as Chicago House librarian, was trained on-site this season. Marjorie Fisher also continued her epigraphic training in the studio in January, and at the wall as well. Eight new drawings were penciled at the wall by the artists for inking over the summer, and twenty-eight additional drawings were collated and checked at the wall by the epigraphers and artists (fig. 2). They will be published in the second volume projected for the small temple of Amun at Medinet Habu, devoted primarily to the Thutmoside bark sanctuary area.

The 1999/2000 season saw the fourth year of a five-year grant, generously approved by the Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA) and the Egyptian Antiquities Project (EAP) of the American Research Center, for conservation and documentation of the Thutmoside Amun temple at Medinet Habu and its later additions. This season's pri-

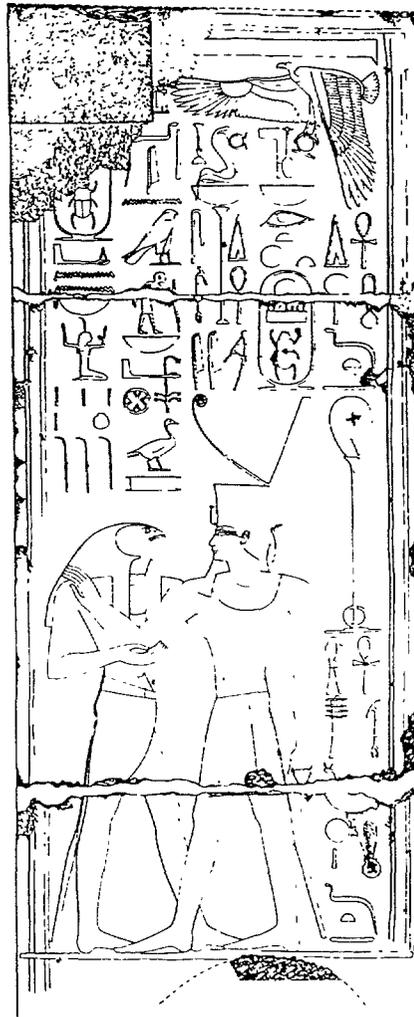


Figure 1. Inscribed pillar face MHB 130, bark sanctuary ambulatory, small temple of Amun at Medinet Habu. Facsimile drawing by Andrew Baumann and Margaret De Jong. Photograph by Yarko Kobylecky

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mary conservation work continued on the rooftop of the Thutmose temple and inside the painted chapels.

In the sanctuary, conservator Lotfi Hassan, assisted by conservators Adel Aziz and Veronica Paglione, initiated the cleaning of the painted reliefs in the southeast chamber, with wonderful results. They completed the cleaning of about 75% of the total wall surface (fig. 3) and 80% of the ceiling, which revealed yellow stars painted against a dark background. The phases of the conservation process this season were as follows:

1. Examination and documentation
2. Cleaning process, mechanical and chemical
3. Extraction of salts
4. Consolidation of the color layers and stone degradation surface
5. Repointing of the missing parts and micro- and macrocracks

Lotfi, Adel, and Veronica also replaced some of the mortar infilling at the bases of the south and east walls in the same room, which had decayed due to rising damp. They did the same in the two central chambers of the sanctuary where needed.

Stonecutter Dany Roy resumed the roofwork begun two seasons ago. On the north side of the sanctuary area, thirteen roof block slabs over the king's chamber on the north, replaced last season, were grouted with liquid mortar, which effectively sealed the area and re-activated an ancient Ptolemaic drainspout. He also cleaned, filled with mortar and crushed brick, and plugged



Figure 2. Epigraphers Brett McClain and Ted Castle and artist Sue Osgood discussing a point at the wall of small temple of Amun, Medinet Habu. Photograph by Yarko Kobylecky

with new patch stones several areas over the front, central chamber of the sanctuary and the bark sanctuary ambulatory. Where one small block over the ambulatory on the southwest side had decayed, Dany fashioned a new one complete with a beautifully carved drainspout (fig. 4). This now directs water from the upper roof area onto the lower roof and through another spout on the south off the roof altogether. In roof debris over the northeast corner of the bark sanctuary ambulatory, Dany found a small limestone stela (fig. 5) from the late Eighteenth Dynasty re-used as a chinking stone in the Ptolemaic period when the roof was first restored. It is inscribed for a "servant in the Place of [Truth]" (preserved height: 35 cm; width: 25 cm; depth: 5 cm), and was drawn by Artist Margaret De Jong.

Dany also supervised the removal of a half dozen large fragments (one weighing several tons) of a colossal granodiorite pair statue of Thutmose III and the god Amun that were found in the back-fill debris in the two central chambers of the sanctuary. When Uvo Hölscher excavated the small Amun temple for the University of Chicago in the 1930s he was able to excavate down to the foundations in these two rooms because most of the flooring was

missing (for Hölscher's excavations, see OIP 41). At that time Hölscher found the colossal statue group broken into pieces, but he removed only the broken upper section from the floor debris; he left the larger, lower section buried in the front chamber and refilled both rooms, mostly with the dirt and debris he took out of them.

Because the Epigraphic Survey plans to replace those floors with new sandstone paving slabs next season (cut and brought to the site this March), we decided to clean Hölscher's backfill and recover any artifacts he might have missed. Dany removed the lower statue fragment in the front room (with the generous assistance of Luxor SCA Chief Engineer Salaam and his workmen) and several other large pieces of the base (fig. 6). Egyptologist Christina Di Cerbo supervised the careful removal of the debris and the recovery of many more smaller granodiorite fragments in both rooms, along with miscellaneous pottery sherds, mostly medieval, including a few Coptic ostraca; Ellie Smith carefully washed and sorted much of the material. Cleaning also revealed a half dozen original, large paving blocks not recorded by Hölscher along the north and east sides of the first chamber, which angled down toward a medieval pit that his men had followed when they cleared the chamber. These blocks provide important information about the style and dimensions of the original paving stones that we can now incorporate into our restoration of the floor next season.

When we reached the foundation level of Hatshepsut's sanctuary in the front chamber, we found a pit in the center of the room that Hölscher had documented and mostly cleared. The sides of the pit, which he recorded as having been cut into virgin soil, surprisingly revealed horizontal plastered layers going well below the present water table. These layers may represent floor levels or they may be something else, and the feature seems to have gone unrecognized by Hölscher. In the back room we found the same plaster layers on the sides of a similar pit in the center of the room, also previously documented by Hölscher. Whatever this layered area was (its



Figure 3. Detail of cleaned east wall of southeast sanctuary chamber, small temple of Amun, Medinet Habu. Photograph by Sue Lezon and Yarko Kobylecky

analysis will take some time), it was located behind an earlier stone sanctuary Hölscher found partly built into the front of Hatshepsut and Thutmose III's bark sanctuary (possibly dating to the Middle Kingdom); it had its own mudbrick enclosure wall and was important enough for Hatshepsut to "cap" with her new stone temple.

We refilled both rooms with original soil against the walls (to restore the balance of salt between the stone foundations and the soil next to them, thereby prohibiting the destructive migration of those salts) and layers of clean sand and gravel. While refilling the central room, Dany built a reinforced concrete, damp-coursed footing one-half-meter thick in the center of the room. This will provide a firm foundation for the three-meter-high pair statue that we will restore to its original position after the flooring is in place next season.

Southern Well of Ramesses III

One of the priorities of the season before last was the total large-format photographic documentation of the salt-encrusted reliefs in the southern well of Ramesses III. Last summer, at our request, local SCA engineers shored up the well entryway and foyer with thick timbers to stabilize the structure, which was beginning to subside due to two deteriorating blocks on the east wall. Eventually the whole entryway will be dismantled, and the decayed stone will be replaced with new stone before reconstruction.

Northern Well of Ramesses III

In February and March large-format photography of the inscribed northern well of Ramesses III, a salvage priority for this season, was initiated and completed by staff photographer Yarko



Figure 4. Stonecutter Dany Roy fashioning a sandstone drainspout for the Eighteenth Dynasty Amun temple roof, Medinet Habu, March 2000. Photograph by Ray Johnson

Kobylecky assisted by photographic archives assistant Ellie Smith (fig. 7). This well, on the north side of Ramesses III's mortuary temple, and its mate to the south were used to obtain sacred water for purification rituals in the temple. We have incorporated these two monuments into our documentation program because of the accelerating decay of their decoration due to corrosive salts in the groundwater. The preserved area of the northern well consists of a long, descending, inscribed entrance corridor; an inscribed, descending, stepped passage to the right, mostly submerged; and a third, short, descending corridor to the right, now completely inaccessible, which attaches to the circular well shaft. The subject of the decoration is Nile gods bringing sacred water up the stairway from the well and the king being purified with that water.

The large-format photographs of both wells that we took this and last season will supplement a set of 35 mm black and white photographs of the wells taken in 1986 which document numerous details now destroyed by the salting on the walls. The scanned 35 mm negatives are being joined into full-wall montages using Adobe Photoshop software, after which the earlier photographs will be compared to the large-format photographs to determine the rate of decay of the structures from the 1930s till now.

Luxor Temple

This season marked the fifth 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 of deteriorating decorated stone fragments at Luxor temple.

Conservators John Stewart and Hiroko Kariya arrived on 16 January to resume the Luxor Temple Fragment Consolidation Project, just as engineer Mohsen Fahmy put the finishing touches on 20 new, damp-coursed brick storage mastaba/platforms (fig. 8) in the expanded blockyard. During the next three months Hiroko monitored all 1,540 fragments recorded on our computer database for stability and effectiveness of previous treatment. Ninety-four fragments (one or more faces) were treated with Wacker OH. All treated fragments, as well as those requiring future treatment, were placed under a covered area for protection. Desalination experiments were conducted on uninscribed, stray sandstone fragments to test the effectiveness of various salt-extracting techniques, and salt crystals were sampled and identified.

The first fragments to be moved to the new east storage area were a group of over a hundred fragments that join the east wall of the Amenhotep III sun court and were partially restored on the wall a decade and a half ago by John Stewart. Special thanks go to assistant Nan Ray who

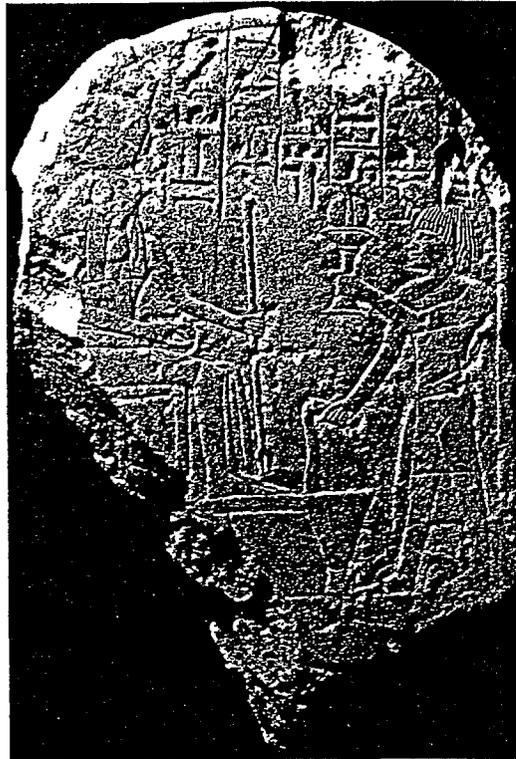


Figure 5. Small limestone stela from late Eighteenth Dynasty re-used during the Ptolemaic period as rooftop fill, small Amun temple, Medinet Habu. Photograph by Yarko Kobylecky

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supervised the tracking and moving of most of this material with Hiroko and will continue this crucial work in seasons to come (fig. 9). The remaining fragments have been moved to new mastabas and sorted into two groups: those requiring consolidation and those which are stable. Consolidation of this material was one of this season's priorities, and we hope that the rest of this important group can be restored to the wall starting next year.

During the latter part of the season the Chicago House epigraphers and I began a catalogue of the decorated stone fragments stored on the ground in the southeast area. By season's end we had successfully raised two entire rows of over two hundred fragments onto the new damp-coursed storage mastaba/platforms, sorted and arranged by category, which will facilitate analysis and reconstruction later. The primary goal of the Epigraphic Survey is to raise all of the fragmentary material at Luxor temple up off the ground over the next few years, away from the increasingly corrosive groundwater. This season's work marks the important beginning of a major new chapter in our documentation and preservation efforts at Luxor temple.

Although the EAP grant as originally written and planned would have expired this year, I am pleased to report that there is enough of a surplus in the account to fund a sixth season, and permission has been granted by the EAP to apply it to next season's fieldwork.

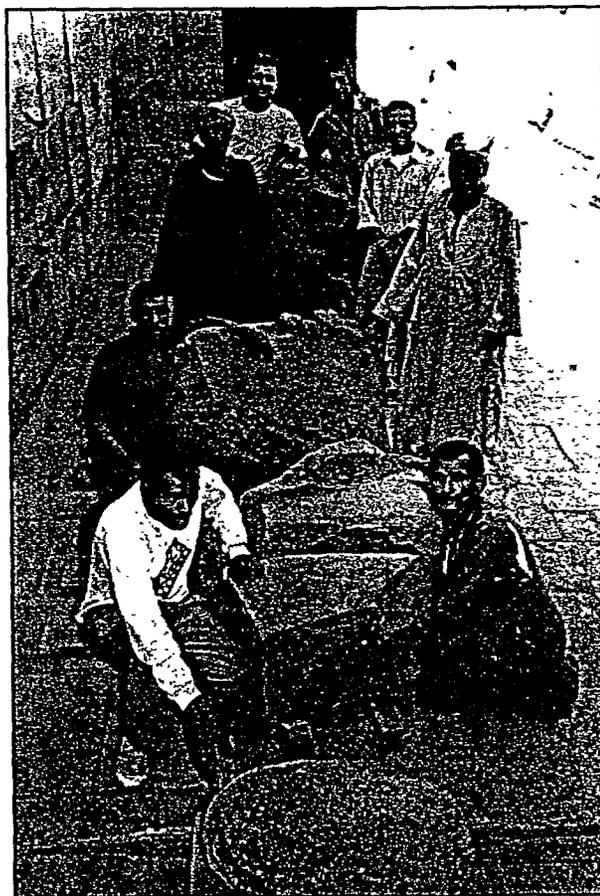


Figure 6. Dany Roy, SCA Inspector Ahmed Ezz, and workmen with granodiorite fragments of a colossal seated pair statue of Amun and Thutmose III, small Amun temple bark sanctuary, Medinet Habu. Photograph by Yarko Kobylecky

Chicago House

Chicago House reopened for the 1999/2000 season on 15 October, thanks once again to the good graces of Christina Di Cerbo, who came two weeks early to supervise the arduous opening/cleaning process. In October and the first two weeks of November epigrapher and librarian Debbie Darnell supervised the training of Egyptologist Briant Bohleke and his wife Karin Bohleke in the mysteries of the Chicago House library management. In mid-November Briant succeeded Debbie as Chicago House librarian, ably assisted by Karin, when Debbie left Chicago House to work full time on her and husband John's Theban Desert Road Project. We wish her and John all the best for that extremely important effort. Like Debbie before him, Briant now divides his time between running the library and working as epigrapher at the Epigraphic Survey temple sites. Briant was an undergraduate at the University of Chicago and received his doctorate in Egyptology at Yale University; we are very pleased to have him back with us. Karin received her doctorate in French at Yale as well



Figure 7. Epigraphic Survey photographer Yarko Kobylecky, assisted by Ellie Smith, photographing in the northern decorated well of Ramesses III, Medinet Habu. Photograph by Ray Johnson

and is putting her extraordinary knowledge of foreign languages to excellent use in the Chicago House library. Together this season they registered 570 titles comprising over 700 individual volumes, and our library holdings have now passed the 18,000 mark. Assistant Nan Ray re-inked or retyped new call number labels for all of the folio volumes this season and created new easier-to-read shelf labels for each folio cabinet, greatly facilitating use of that material. She and assistant Ellie Smith also cleaned, repaired, and encapsulated in mylar twenty maps, a process that will continue next season. Special thanks go to assistant Mary Grimshaw, who returned to us for the month of March and finished her data-entry project listing our duplicate offprints. Mary also checked the shelf-list cards and assisted the librarians in tasks that are so important to the smooth running of the Chicago House library and photographic archives.

This season staff photographer Yarko Kobylecky, assisted by Ellie Smith, generated 191 large-format negatives, which were all registered in the new, updated photographic archives database designed by Jason Ur (we are now up to a total of 17,481 large-format negatives). Jason kindly visited Luxor in March for a few days on his way to Syria to check on the database, consult with the photographic archives crew, and do any necessary "tweaking." Ellie also recorded 190 rolls of 35 mm negatives and contact sheets for the season, taken by me, Yarko, and Sue Lezon, mostly of this season's fieldwork and house construction activities. In addition to the drawing enlargements he produced for our work at Medinet Habu, Yarko also produced forty emergency drawing enlargements for the University of Memphis Karnak Great Hypostyle Hall Project directed by former Epigraphic Survey senior epigrapher Bill Murnane. Bill and his team noticed that the lowest register of reliefs on the west wall of the hall was quickly deteriorating; it was deemed prudent to start the documentation while there was still something to record. Chicago House was very pleased to be able to assist, thereby allowing the recording of that precious material to begin this year.

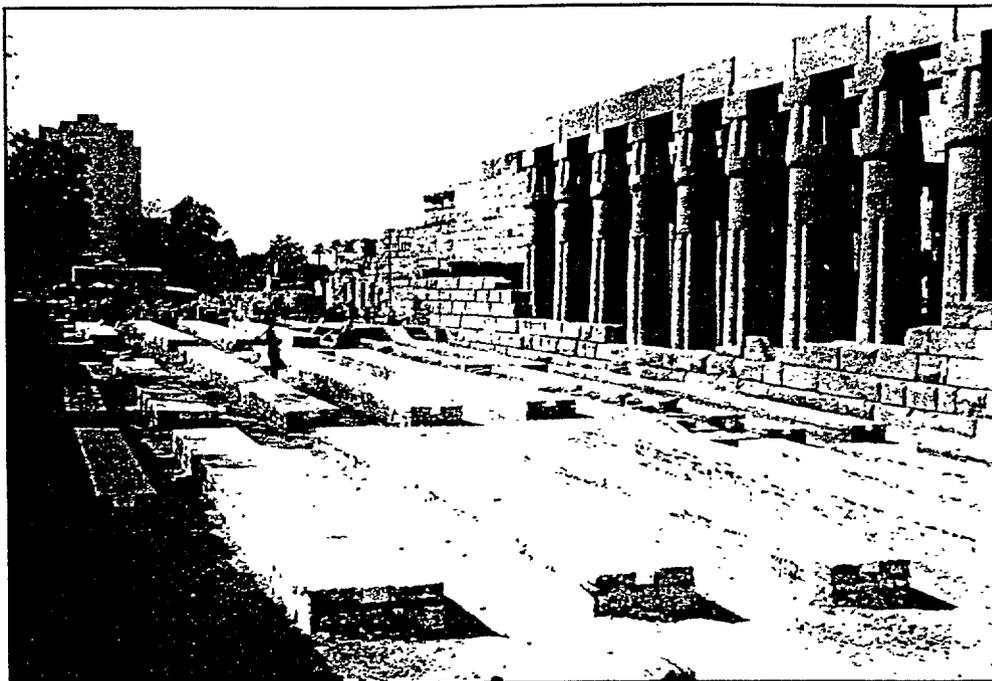


Figure 8. New storage platforms, Epigraphic Survey blockyard at Luxor temple, east. Photograph by Ray Johnson

This season photographic archivist Sue Lezon and Ellie Smith continued to coordinate the scanning of our large-format negatives onto CD-ROM at the Karnak Franco-Egyptian Center, thanks to the kindness of Director François Larché. To date, 11,629 large-format negatives have been successfully scanned and 2,455 more are being scanned over the summer while we are away; our goal is to have the whole process completed by 2001. Special thanks go to Ellie for coming out for a very full five months this season, and in particular for packing up and tracking 7,500 8 × 10 negatives for scanning at Karnak, no easy chore. During the summer Sue has been downloading 4,000 images from the photographic archive, scanned onto CD-ROM by the Karnak crew, into the formerly text-only photographic archives database. The images currently being worked with are from the early part of the twentieth century, and their inclusion in our database is particularly important, as many of these negatives have a nitrate base and are subject to deterioration. We have duplicated many of these negatives in the past, but having the images on CD and in our computer files is one more way to insure that they will be preserved for posterity. Also, making the images accessible through the database will save scholars countless hours when searching for specific visual information from among the 18,000+ current entries.

Henri Riad continued his analysis of the Labib Habachi photographic archives housed at Chicago House and continued the formidable process of organizing and identifying the hundreds of unmarked photographs, a noble task indeed and much appreciated by those of us who use that archive. This spring we received word from Peter Janosi of the Austrian Archaeological Institute that the first volume of the Tel e-Daba series, devoted to Labib's work there and illustrated with dozens of photographs from the Habachi photographic archives, is about to be published. We also received word from Steven Snape in Liverpool that the volume on the temple and chapels at Zawiyet Umm el-Rakham, where Labib worked in the 1950s, is also being prepared. This will include photographs from Labib's archive of stelae and other material that he excavated and re-

corded, but which cannot now be located. I think that Labib would be very pleased with the good use to which his archive has already been put.

Helen and Jean Jacquet continued to lend us their invaluable expertise in the library and in the field and are generously donating a copy of their own photographic archive to Chicago House; 1,650 of their personal negatives recording fifty years of work in Egypt and the Sudan were also sent to Karnak for scanning onto CD-ROM this season. These images will be downloaded into a specially designed database (designed this summer by Jason), which later will be adapted for the Habachi archives as well. Helen Jacquet was especially busy this year; she also finished the plate section mock-up of her Khonsu temple rooftop graffiti volume. While she is finishing the text this coming winter, Yarko will print the photographs that will appear in her publication, the next in our Khonsu temple series.

The constant maintenance work required for a facility like Chicago House goes without saying, but I must remark that engineer Jamie Riley was a godsend once again this season. Jamie not only coordinates the dozen or more different maintenance tasks ongoing at any given time, from screen replacement to automotive and plumbing maintenance to refrigerator repairs, but his presence has also allowed for major improvements to the house, some of which have been needed for a long time. This winter, because we are now such a full house staff-wise, Jamie supervised the conversion of a large storeroom in our smaller residence, Healey House, into a staff bedroom with bath; thanks to his expertise, and the assistance of our Chief Engineer Saleh Shehat and local contractor (and good friend) Girgis Samwell, the job was accomplished in an exemplary fashion and in record time. We also decided to raise the front enclosure wall along the Corniche, something that has been a growing necessity, by adding an extension which matches the original grillwork. Jamie supervised the beginning of that work before the end of the

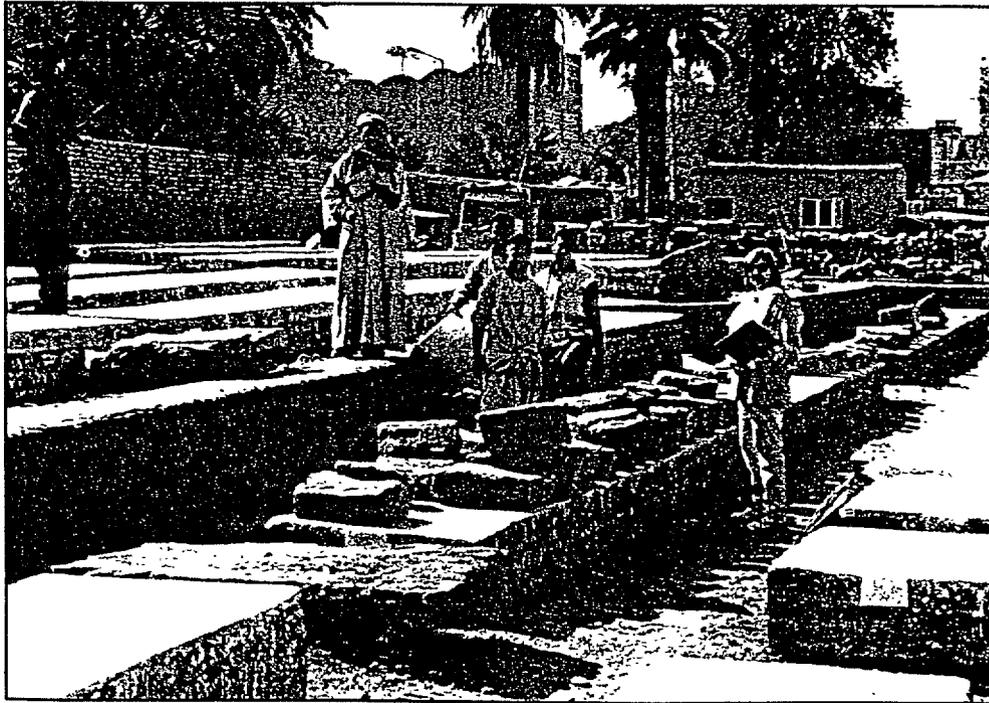


Figure 9. Nan Ray and workmen moving decorated stone fragments to new storage and treatment platforms, Epigraphic Survey blockyard at Luxor temple. Photograph by Sue Lezon



Figure 10. Oriental Institute tour members (clockwise from bottom left): Carole Yoshida, Carlotta Maher, Denise Paul, Erl Dordal, Hazel Cramer, John Larson, Bernadine Basile, Emily Napolitano, JoAnne Putz, Robert Ritner, Ray Johnson, Doris Holleb, and Marshall Holleb. Photograph by Yarko Kobylecky

season, while Girgis took over after we all left for the United States on 15 April. I returned to review the completed fence on 2 June and found it more than satisfactory; one would never know we had done anything to it. The wall needed to be raised without sacrificing light, air, or our view of the Nile and western cliffs, and this has now been successfully accomplished.

December of 1999 was a month of festivals. The holy month of Ramadan began on the 9th and ended a month later with a three-day Eid-festival, while Christmas and New Year's made the end of the month quite lively for everyone. Christmas at Chicago House was warm and full of cheer as always, with our in-house Christmas dinner (turkey and goose). We rang in New Year 2000 with our beloved Carlotta and David Maher, who flew in just for the occasion; friend and former Chicago House staff member Jay Heidel; friends Bob (Dean of the University of Chicago's Graduate School of Business) and Anne Hamada; colleagues Nigel and Helen Strudwick and Francesco Tiradritti; and longtime supporter and dear friend Donald Oster. Although we were prepared for any kind of Y2K problem (and were in close touch with the United States Embassy in Cairo about it), like most places in the world we luckily encountered no problems at all. It was an excellent beginning to the new year, not to mention the close of the millennium!

Tourism was definitely "up" this season, and the month of February was particularly noteworthy for an unusual density of groups and visitors, many from Chicago. During the first week former Epigraphic Survey Field Director Peter Dorman brought a VIP group from the Field Museum, including Director John McCarter, for a library talk at the house and site visits to Medinet Habu and Luxor temples. At the month's beginning we were pleased to welcome Art Institute Director Jim Wood and his wife Emese, who also enjoyed seeing our operations on both sides of the river, and later Ian Wardropper, the Art Institute's Curator of European Decorative Arts and

Classical Art, who, with his wife Sarah McNear, Curator of the LaSalle National Bank Photography Collection, came by with an Art Institute tour. Carlotta returned to Luxor on 4 February and for the next month was a tremendous help in entertaining the troops and educating them about the work of the Oriental Institute in Luxor. The museum tours, directors, and curators were all scouting out Akhenaten's Egypt in preparation for the travelling exhibition *Pharaohs of the Sun: Akhenaten, Nefertiti, and Tutankhamun* here in Chicago at the Art Institute from 12 July until 24 September. The Oriental Institute tour groups came through Luxor on 24 February, led by Robert Ritner and John Larson, assisted by Emily Napolitano; we gave them a library talk and a festive reception that day and site visits to Medinet Habu on the 26th. I lectured to the group later that afternoon on "The Legacy of Chicago House." They seemed to be having a terrific time, despite the initial snow delay in leaving Chicago (fig. 10). Other visitors included Donald and Susan Levy, Louise Mahdi, Henry Dixon and Linda Giesen, and old friends and supporters Mark Rudkin and Fred Giles (back in Egypt for the first time in twenty-five years).

Emily Teeter, Oriental Institute Museum Associate Curator, joined the Chicago House staff from 11 to 21 February to study the three Medinet Habu mortuary temple storage magazines with me to ascertain what still remained there from Hölscher's excavations of the site. We found one magazine totally empty, one full of objects from all over the West Bank (including, I have recently learned, objects from excavations at Amenhotep III's mortuary temple in the mid-1960s), and one housing fragmentary material (blocks and some sculpture fragments) that ap-



Figure 11. Epigraphic Survey professional staff, 1999/2000. Photograph by Yarko Kobylecky and Sue Lezon

ARCHAEOLOGY

pears to be from the Medinet Habu complex, but which was recovered after the University of Chicago's excavations there. The empty magazine undoubtedly held small objects excavated by Hölscher that were subsequently moved elsewhere; we are trying to track down that material now. Emily's visit allowed us to focus on the problems of what is there and to incorporate plans for its proper storage and documentation into our short and long-range program for Medinet Habu.

Finally, on the last day of the month, 29 February, we were very pleased to host the newly-appointed twelfth president of the University of Chicago Don M. Randel and his wife Carol to casual drinks and dinner, during which time they saw Chicago House and relaxed a bit from their Cornell University tour. Carlotta and I gave them an impromptu library briefing about our work and a walk through the complex, and Yarko gave them a special tour of the photography laboratory and darkroom facility, which they especially appreciated since they are both avid photographers. It was a wonderful way to introduce them to the work of the Oriental Institute before he had even taken office!

In closing, it should be mentioned that Chicago House now has some very young staff members. Last August, administrator Dalia Munshi, wife of financial and administrative director Moataz Abo Shady, gave birth to little Seif, who assisted his mother in the office through most of the season. At the end of February, Chicago House accountant Marlin Nassim gave birth to little David who is also assisting his mom at the office. The children add a very pleasant new element to Chicago House and are greatly cherished by all.

On a sadder note, our beloved colleague Ibrahim Sadek suffered a fatal stroke at the end of February. He was a dear friend to us all, and was of tremendous assistance with our development work in the past. No one I know lived life more fully or enthusiastically, and we will miss him very, very much.

The professional staff this season (fig. 11), besides the field director, consisted of Edward Castle as senior epigrapher; Deborah Darnell as epigrapher and librarian (to 15 November); Briant Bohleke as epigrapher and librarian; Hratch Papazian and J. Brett McClain as epigraphers; Christina Di Cerbo, Margaret De Jong, Susan Osgood, Bernice Williams, and Carol Abraczinskas as artists; Yarko Kobylecky as staff photographer; Susan Lezon as photographer and photographic archivist; Moataz Abo Shady as financial and administrative director; Dalia Munshi as administrator; Marlin Sarwat Nassim as accountant; Jill Carlotta Maher as assistant to the director; Karin Bohleke as assistant librarian; Elinor Smith, Nan Ray, and Mary Grimshaw as assistants for the photographic archives and library; and Saleh Shehat Suleiman as chief engineer. Lotfi Hassan, Veronica Paglione, Adel Aziz, John Stewart, and Hiroko Kariya worked with us as conservators, and Dany Roy as stonecutter. Jason Ur continued to act as Chicago House's photographic archives database programmer. Special thanks go to Henri Riad, Egyptologist in residence for the season, and to Helen and Jean Jacquet, whose advice and assistance are greatly appreciated. As in the past, numerous members of the Supreme Council of Antiquities kindly assisted us during our work this season, and to them we owe a special debt of thanks: G. A. Gaballa, Secretary General; Mohamed el-Saghir, General Director of Pharaonic Monuments in the Nile Valley; Sabry Abdel Aziz, General Director of Antiquities for Upper Egypt; Mohamed el-Bially, General Director for the West Bank of Luxor; Mr. Bakit, Director of Karnak and Luxor Temples; Mme Nawal, Chief Inspector of Luxor Temple; and Mohamed Nasr, Acting Director of the Luxor Museum. Our inspector this season, Ahmed Ezz, proved to be a great asset and was a pleasure to work with. The invaluable assistance of our friends allowed a truly excellent and productive season; warmest thanks and best wishes to all.

As the new millennium begins, I would like to express my thanks once again to the many friends of Chicago House whose support has allowed us to continue our vital documentation and conservation work. Special thanks must go to the American ambassador to Egypt, the Honorable Daniel Charles Kurtzer, and Sheila Kurtzer; Reno Harnish, Deputy Chief of Mission of the United States Embassy in Cairo; Haynes Mahoney, Cultural Affairs Officer of the United States Embassy; Dick Brown of the United States Agency for International Development; Exa Snow of Coopers & Lybrand, Cairo; Ahmed Ezz, EZZ Group, Cairo; David and Carlotta Maher; David and Nan Ray; Mark Rudkin; Barbara Mertz; Daniel Lindley and Lucia Woods Lindley; Marjorie M. Fisher; Tom and Linda Heagy; Donald Oster; William Kelly Simpson; Kelly and Di Grodzins; Bob and Anne Hamada; Ben Harer; Solon and Anita Stone; Roxie Walker; Louis Byron, Jr.; 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 home at the Oriental Institute. I must also express special gratitude to the Amoco Foundation, the Getty Grant Program of the J. Paul Getty Trust, and the Nuveen Benevolent Trust for their invaluable support. Thank you!

Members of the Oriental Institute are, as always, 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 is 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>

GIZA

Mark Lehner

Since 1988 we have been excavating at Giza, 350 m south of the Great Sphinx and south of the gigantic stone *Heit el-Ghurub* ("Wall of the Crow"). The concession, 650 m north-south and 250 m east-west (16 ha), extends from the bottom of the slope where Zahi Hawass has excavated the "workers' cemetery" in recent years, to the modern paved road and houses of Nazlet es-Semman and Kafr Gebel.

A substantial amount of sand accumulated over our site not long after the Fourth Dynasty and certainly well before the end of the Old Kingdom. Substantial deposits of sand blown over Old Kingdom surfaces have been noted elsewhere at Giza as well as other Old Kingdom sites at Saqqara and Abusir. Over the years, as the horse and camel stables have proliferated in the communities near the Giza Plateau, the incremental daily action of boys with pack donkeys has turned over much of the sand on our site. They take clean sand to the stables, where it is used to clean the floor, and afterwards return the sand to the site (until this season) with its new inclusions. In order to reach the third-millennium deposits in our small excavation squares, we have

Table of Status of Projects

Egyptian Antiquities Fund (EAF) Grant						
Progress to Date on Subgrants: as of October 31, 2000.						
1	Title of Subgrant (subgrant Description)	Status ***				Progress Description
		Not Obligated	Ongoing	Completed	Cancelled	
I	<u>Cycle One:</u>					
1	Ibn Barquq: Managed by (ARCE)* Period: Islamic/Mamluk Type of Activity: Documentation/ Conservation		1	Mar, 2004		Complete: SCA approval for the project. Signed Subagreement. Lamie withdrew. Ongoing: Architectural conservation on site. Next: Continuing work. Italian saw to come work on - site. Overall: Delayed.
2	Bab Zuweila Documentation: Managed by (ARCE)* Period: Islamic/Fatamid Type of Activity: Documentation				1	Photographic and architectural documentation have been finished.
3	Salah Tala'l Documentation: Managed by (ARCE)* Period: Islamic/Fatamid Type of Activity: Documentation				1	Photographic and architectural documentation have been finished.
4	Bayt Al Razzaz: Managed by (ARCE)* Period: Islamic/ Ottoman Type of Activity: Documentation / Conservation		1	Mar, 2004		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. Roof replaced. Ongoing: Discussion are occurring re: conservation design. For action area; site office bids are under review. Quotes for water, electricity and sewage. Next: Review and award of site office tender, possibly tied to conservation design. Overall : On schedule / Delayed.
5	Coptic Area Subgrant:		1			
5.1	Coptic Area: Master Plan Managed by Mallinson Architects Period: Graeco - Roman / Coptic Type of Activity: Documentation/Site Presentation				1	N/A Completed: On - site work, Final Report. Sample internal panel and sample bench installed.

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2	Title of Subgrant (subgrant Description)	Status ***				Progress Description
		Not Obligated	Ongoing	Completed	Cancelled	
5.2	Coptic Area: Implementation: Signage Managed by ARCE Period: Graeco - Roman / Coptic Type of Activity: Monitoring		1	June, 2001		Completed: Mallinson dropped from involvement. Identified sign contractor; SOW. Ongoing: Next: Negotiate and agreement for 15 signs contract. Overall: Delayed due to Mallinson
5.3	Coptic Area: Archeological Monitoring Managed by Old Cairo Group Period: Graeco - Roman / Coptic Type of Activity: Monitoring		1	Apr, 2001		Completed: Ongoing: Monitoring; Discussion w/ Greek Church. Next: Continuing; New funding. Overall: On schedule
6	ARCE Field School: Managed by ARCE Period: Pharaonic Type of Activity: Training / Institutional Building		1	Dec, 2001		Completed: Three seasons, 50 SCA inspectors were trained. Ongoing: A next season of training is delayed. Discussing plan, budget, timing with project Director. Next: Decided on dates. Overall: Delayed
7	Dar El Kutub: Managed by Dar El Kutub Period: Islamic Type of Activity: Conservation/ Publication				1	Completed: Project Cancelled
8	Luxor Temple: Managed by Chicago House Period: Pharaonic Type of Activity: Conservation		1	April, 2001		Completed: New Mastabas built to store fragments. Blocks for reinstallation have been identified for priority treatment. Ongoing: Conservation. A request for a no-cost extension for another season has been approved. Next: Chicago House will start new season 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: Evaluate this project concept. Overall : Pending

3	Title of Subgrant (subgrant Description)	Status				Progress Description
		Not Obligated	Ongoing	Completed	Cancelled	
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. Purchasing equipment to digitize.
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 Subgrant					
12.1	Valley of the Kings: Phase I; Study Managed by California Academy of Sciences Period: Pharaonic Type of Activity: Feasibility Study for flood control		1	Feb,2001		Completed: First phase of work was completed. Team submitted Final report on recommendations. Ongoing: Part II of Report under preparation. Recommendations have been sent to SCA for approval. Overall : Delayed Next: Team to return 2001 to complete prototypes for Seti I and Thutmosis III.
12.2	Valley of the Kings: Phase II; Implementation Managed by Period: Pharaonic Type of Activity: Flood control	1		2003		Completed: Recommendations received. Ongoing: Discussing with team cost proposal for design drawings, tender for local contract and supervision. Next: Receive cost proposals. Overall:
13	Conservation Lab: Managed by (ARCE)* Period: n. a. Type of Activity: Procurement/ Conservation / Training		1	Nov, 2001		Completed: Some work has been done on the specifications for the tender documents. Needs assessments survey. Ongoing: Discussions with SCA. Evaluating needs assessments survey report; discussions with consultants to detail concept. Next: Overall : On schedule.

4	Title of Subgrant	Status			Progress Description
	(Subgrant Description)	Not Obligated	Ongoing	Completed	Cancelled
14	Museum Management Subgrant:				
14.1	Museum Management: Managed by Friends of the Fulbright Commission (FFC) Period: all Type of Activity: Training / Institution Building			1	Training in US Completed: Subgrant 100% completed. 16 employees have received training in the US
14.2	Museum Management: Royal Jewelry Exhibit Rooms Managed by Friends of the Fulbright Commission (FFC) Period: Pharaonic Type of Activity: Exhibit Training			1	Completed:
14.3	Museum Management: Heterpheres Exhibit Room Managed by Friends of the Fulbright Commission (FFC) Period: Pharaonic Type of Activity: Exhibit Training			1	Completed:

5	Title of Subgrant	Status	Progress Description
	(Subgrant Description)	Not Obligated	Cancelled
II	<i>Cycle Two:</i>		
1	Bab Zuweila: Managed by Nairy Hampikian Period: Islamic / Fatimid Type of Activity: Documentation / conservation	1	30-Jul-01
	Completed: Architectural, Photographic and historical documentation and SOW for conservation, arrival of JOS cleaning system. Towers cleaned. Approval of SCA for minarets. Renewal / relocation of shops. Ongoing: Conservation work, scaffolding, replacement of stones, JOS system works well, cleans 6-10m per day. Cleaning of minarets. Next: Continuing Conservation. Overall: On schedule.		
2	Salah Tara'i: (Minbar) 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.		
3	Abdos: Managed by New York University Period: Pharaonic Type of Activity: Conservation	1	2003
	Completed: Subgrant signed. Ongoing: Team mobilized and did survey and recommendations of Shunet. Site work on boat graves Next: Boat conservation assessment Overall: Now on track		
4	Alexandria Laboratory: Managed by the Institute of Nautical Archaeology Period: all	1	
	Completed: Subgrant 100 % completed		
5	Cairo Mapping: Managed by Nick Warner Period: Medieval Type of Activity: Mapping	1	Jan, 2001
	Completed: Phase 1 Preliminary Maps received. Final columns 1-6 received. Ongoing: Phase 2 Next: Receive final maps in December 2000. Overall: Delayed		

6	Title of Subgrant (Subgrant Description)	Status				Progress Description
		Not Obligated	Ongoing	Completed	Cancelled	
6	Conservation Education: Managed by (ARCE)* Period: all Type of Activity: Training/ Institutional Building	1		31-Mar-04		Completed: SOW for the project, ARCE approval for DT2 funding. Contacts with DT2. Ongoing: Discussion with consultant to develop project Next: Submit concept to SCA. RFP is required for this activity, since it is tied to the conservation lab. Training only starts after the completion of the Conservation Lab (See Cycle One, Activity 13 above). Overall : Pending
7	Coptic Icons: Managed by Institute for Coptic Studies. Period: Coptic Type of Activity: Conservation/ Training		1	2002		Completed: Phase 1 & extensive documentation Ongoing: Director of Coptic Institute has died. Working with team to come up with new structure and advance to phase 2, which is actual conservation. Next: Sign agreement for phase 2. Overall : Delay.
8	Site Management: Managed by Period: all Type of Activity: Training	1		31-Mar-04		Completed: AUC has withdrawn their proposal. SCA approval. Ongoing: Decision made to concentrate on site management training at Saqara. Discussions with consultants to develop proj Next: Develop project Overall: On schedule.
9	Dakhleh: Managed by Dakheh Oasis Project Period: Pharaonic Type of Activity: Conservation			1		Completed: Subgrant 100% Completed.
10	Graeco - Roman: Managed by (ARCE)* Period: Graeco - Roman Type of Activity: Conservation of Mosaics	1		12-Dec-01		Completed: ARCE submitted proposal, which was delayed by SCA Approval of project from SCA. Ongoing: Discussion with Project Director to assemble new Team. Next: Submit to SCA for new team. Overall : Delayed.

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7	Title of Subgrant (subgrant Description)	Status				Progress Description
		Not Obligated	Ongoing	Completed	Cancelled	
11	Jewish Medieval Subgrant:		1			
11.1	Hayyim Capusi Managed by (ARCE)* Type of Activity: Documentation / Conservation.			1		Completed: Photographic and historic documentation of Hayyim Capusi
11.2	Maimonides Managed by (ARCE)* Type of Activity: Documentation / Conservation.		1	2004		Committee approval of new Maimonides site. Completed conservation action plan of Maimonides. Ground water study. Ongoing: CWO tending for feasibility study for Ground Water Control for Synagogue, Mosque and Church. SCA asked for approval for conservation study leading to project implementation proposal. Next: SCA approval Project proposal.
12	Documentation of Inscriptions in Medieval Cairo: Managed by AUC Period: Medieval / Islamic Type of Activity: Documentation		1	Sept, 2002		Completed: Subgrant signed in July 1996, site photography underway and scanned into database. Obtained SCA security clearance for future photography on - site. Ongoing: Photography, scanning and data entry. Next: Continuing Overall : On schedule.
13	KV 55 Tomb in the Valley of the Kings: Managed by Laila Brock Period: Pharaonic Type of Activity: Conservation				1	Completed: Subgrant 100% completed.
14	Medinet Habu: Managed by Chicago House Type of Activity: Documentation / Conservation		1	Oct, 2001		Completed: Sealing of roof against leaks. Cleaning of E. Wall Reliefs. Ongoing: Cleaning of wall reliefs. Clearance of statue fragments. Next: Start season; assemble statue. Overall : On schedule

8	Title of Subgrant (Subgrant Description)	Status				Progress Description
		Not Obligated	Ongoing	Completed	Cancelled	
15	Pest Control Netting in Old Cairo: Managed by (ARCE)* Period: Graeco - Roman / Coptic Type of Activity: Conservation	1		Dec, 2001		Completed: Ongoing: Discussion with Egyptian naturalist for management issues Next: Request SCA approval for commencement in Feb 2001. Overall : Pending
16	Sabil Nafisa Bayda: Managed by A. Dobrowolska Period: Islamic Ottoman Type of Activity: Documentation / Conservation			1		Completed: Subgrant 100% completed
17	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.
18	UV Filters: Managed by (ARCE)* Period: all Type of Activity:		1	Dec, 2001		Completed: Final Report on Lighting in the Valley of the Kings, Draft report on Coptic Museum, Graeco - Roman Museum and Islamic Museum. Ongoing: Next: Request SCA approval. Overall : Pending.

9	Title of Subgrant (subgrant Description)	Status				Progress Description
		Not Obligated	Ongoing	Completed	Cancelled	
III.	Cycle Three:					
1	Alexandria Mosaics: Managed by Dr. Kolataj Period: Graeco - Roman Type of Activity: Conservation and Presentation (?)			1		Completed: Subgrant 100% completed. Opening Jan 22, 2000.
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 received Next: Final payment in Fall, 2000 Overall : On schedule
3	EI - Muzzawaka Tomb: Managed by Dakhleh Oasis Project Period: Pharaonic Type of Activity: Conservation and Presentation			1		Completed: A decision was taken not to proceed further with this project.
4	Hierakonpolis: Managed by Milwaukee Public Museum Period: Pharaonic Type of Activity:		1	July, 2000		Completed: First, Second and Third seasons, of conservation. Delivery of equipment to ARCE. Ongoing: Draft Final report Next: Overall: Delayed
5	Institute of Nautical Archeology Managed by INA Period: all Type of Activity: Procurement of conservation equipment			1		Completed: Subgrant 100% completed.

10	Title of Subgrant (subgrant Description)	Status				Progress Description
		Not Obligated	Ongoing	Completed	Cancelled	
6	Karnak Statue: Managed by Dr. Sourouzian Period: Pharaonic Type of Activity: Documentation / Conservation			1		Completed: Subgrant 100% completed. Opening ceremony July 1999.
7	Ramesses VI: Managed by Ted Brock Period: Pharaonic Type of Activity: Conservation	1		Oct, 2001		Completed: SCA approval, concession extended for a year. Ongoing: Subgrantee Discussion Next: Sign subgrant; start December 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	Nov, 2001		Completed: Arch., Historical and Photo Doc., Structural engineering. Done repairs Ongoing: Conservation of grills, stone. Kuttab added to SOW Next: Structural issues. Overall : Delayed because of internal issues which are now solved
9	Three Houses in Cairo: Managed by United Consultants Period: Islamic Type of Activity: Conservation			1		Completed: Subgrant 100% completed. Nominated for Aga khan award in Islamic architecture.

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

		Not Obligated	Ongoing	Completed	Cancelled
1	Total number of Subgrants (41)	6	17	16	2
2	Percentage of total number of approved subgrants (%)	15%	41%	39%	5%
3	Total number of Projects (47)	7	17	21	2
4	% of total number of projects	15%	36%	45%	4%
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: No funds have been completed				
	Ongoing: Activity subgrant has been signed. Funds have been committed				
	Completed: Final Payments have been made.				
****	Projects: are separate major activities under a subgrant.				

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