# A REPORT

# ON THE INSPECTORATE OF UPPER EGYPT.

The present paper is a brief report on the more important incidents or discoveries in the Inspectorate of Upper Egypt from November, 1942 till October, 1944, the period during which I was in charge.

## 1. INSPECTORATE OF QENA.

A .- THE SITE OF EL-GOZEIBEH.

Mohammad Effendi Nasr, the ex-inspector of the Antiquities Department had begun the excavation of the site of El-Gozeireh (almost opposite to El-Taramseh, south of Dendereh) on the east bank in 1938 but his report is not yet published. The site has been found to be a cemetery of the Vth-VIth dynasties and some of its tombs were found in good preservation, some of the brick walls of the chapels were fined with limestone blocks partly inscribed.

In April, 19/4 I asked Maurice Effendi Yousif Ḥanna, the Inspector of Qena to complete the work of Nasr Effendi and subsequently more brick constructions were found and a quantity of VIth dynasty pottery vases but no inscriptions or small antiquities. While awaiting the publication of the reports of Nasr Effendi and Ḥanna Effendi I reproduce here some of the photographs to give an idea of the site.

Photograph N° 1 (Pl. IV) shows one of the excavated tombs and N° 2 (Pl. IV) shows a part of the limestone lining of the brick walls. Most of the stones had been taken away, and only the lower courses of some walls still exist. Some of these stones were inscribed with the usual Old Kingdom scenes, photograph N° 1 (Pl. V) shows the preserved

part of the figure of the tomb-owner who is represented fishing in a small boat. One of his sons stands in front of him and points at the fish while another one (not on the photograph) is behind him. The work is excellent and is in high relief.

The owner of this tomb was an important general who held many offices in the army, the following four titles are preserved (Pl. V, 2)

- 1) Toh = Boat-captain in the Two Great Boats (1).
- 2) A The General.
- 3) and the Hi-troops (2).
- 4) > Overseer of the infantry.

There were found during the excavations of 1938 three stelae which will be the subject of a special article.

# B .- REMAINS OF A CHURCH AT QOES.

During the removal of a kom of schakh at the edge of the houses of Kous near the tomb of El-Sheikh Ali Daqiq El-Abd, remains of a small basilica were found. Some of the columns exist but most of the columns and the walls of the church have disappeared. No monuments or inscribed stones were found during the cleaning which took place in February 1943.

### C .- THE MONASTERIES OF NAGADER AND GAMULER.

There are several ancient monasteries at the edge of the desert between Nagadeh and Gamuleh. Some of them were repaired by the priests who look after them but there are others which are completely neglected and

<sup>(3)</sup> See Ahmed Fakhry, Stela of the Boat-Captain Inikof, in Annales du Service, XXXVIII, p. 38 and p. 41 foot-note 2.

used as the name of one of the sections of the army as the arrangement of the

text suggests. However, it can be explained as derived from the transitive verb \(\oplus \lambda^{2}i\) (Wörterbuch, II, p. 475) which means "to attack the opponent" and the title would be "Overseer of the assault troops".

are falling into ruin. These are, unfortunately, the most important, some of them still preserve remains of paintings and inscriptions on the walls. My first visit to these monasteries was in 1934 and when I revisited them nine years later I found that some of the walls had fallen down and that others were in danger of falling. I draw attention to their state in the hope that, before it is too late, some steps may be taken to rescue these paintings.

### 2. INSPECTORATE OF LUXOR.

A .- A CHAPEL OF MCT (OR ISIS?) OF THE ROMAN PERIOD.

During the removal of the débris of some of the demolished houses in front of the pylon of the Temple of Luxor, a headless limestone statue of Isis (?) was found standing in a brick chapel. The statue was facing east and in front of it there was on the ground a small limestone libation-table. The statue is a fine piece of work; it is made of limestone but the hands and feet are of marble. It has been removed from the place in which it was found to the garden of the Inspectorate. I refer here to its discovery without giving a description, since this will be done by Mustapha Effendi El-Ameer who was responsible for the discovery and the excavations.

The photograph which is published in fig. 6 shows the statue where it was found. I may add here that the two stelæ of Tiberius which were found in August, 1935 (1) came from a place very close to the newly found chapel; we must await the result of the cleaning before we can decide whether there is any connection between the new chapel and what is recorded on the many stelæ of Tiberius.

four others in my article but there are still more; the stela published in Pl. LII of Bungs, A Guide to the Egyptian Collections of the British Museum (1909). is of the same type.

<sup>(1)</sup> Aumed Fakhry, Miscellonea, Two New Stelle of Tiberius from Luxor Temple, in Annales du Service; XXXVII, p. 25-27 and Pl. 1. There were found other stelle of Tiberius here, I referred to

### B.—Town of Luxon:

The project of the embellishment of the town of Luxor is partly carried out and the houses which were at the side of the Temple have been pulled down and most of the débris has been removed to a level about two metres higher than the floor of the temple.

There were found under the houses many ancient important monuments (1) and the nearer we approach the level of the floor of the temple



Fig. 6.

the more we expect to find. This is the reason which has always made the Antiquities Department refuse to give up this area or a part of it before it has been properly excavated. The Antiquities Department is more anxious than anybody else to remove these mounds of débris which spoil

<sup>(1)</sup> P. LACAU, Inscriptions latines du Temple de Louxor, in Annales du Service, XXXIV, p. 17-46; see also my articles

Blocs décorés provenant du Temple de Louxor in Annales, XXXIV, XXXV and XXXVII.

the general view of the surroundings of the temple but it cannot sacrifice this important place by giving it to the Municipality before being satisfied that it does not contain anything of great importance. Municipality intends to plant a large garden at the side of the Temple and build some government offices along the street of Luxor Hotel but the Antiquities Department insists on respecting the standing buildings from the Roman Period and any other monuments which may appear in future and rightly asks that nothing should be built which might spoil the view of the temple. This difference of opinion began in 1935 and still exists. In April 1943 it was decided to build a wall around the eastern side and a part of the northern side of the mounds adding all the enclosed portion to the temple area pending a final agreement. The Antiquities Department welcomes the removal of these mounds, but this must be done by means of a systematic excavation, and it has no objection to the planting out of a garden at the side of the temple but this garden must be planned with a view to respecting all the existing buildings of importance, as is done in Rome and many other ancient towns.

### C .- KARNAK TEMPLE.

The consolidation and restoration of Karnak Temple has been carried on since 1940 by Dr. Abul-Naga Abdulla who has continued the work of Mr. H. Chevrier with great success.

During the two years which I spent at Luxor, he did the following (1):

1) He began the cleaning of the complex of buildings of Tuthmosis III to the north of the open area behind the sanctuary of Philip and found them to be a series of chambers in two storeys. The walls of the upper chambers are decorated with scenes in relief depicting the builder Tuthmosis III offering to different deities and attending to many religious ceremonies.

Abul-Naga; I refer to them here without any details or discussion.

<sup>(3)</sup> All the monuments and the works which are mentioned in this paragraph will be adequately published by Dr.

- 2) During the cleaning of these buildings and the space between them and the surrounding wall there were found an unfinished statue and another one of rose granite; pottery and other objects dating from the Coptic period were also found.
- Outside the surrounding wall be found what may be a nilometre, inscribed with the names of Ramesses II.
- 4) During the cleaning and consolidation of the southern hall of Amenophis II between the IVth and Vth pylons he found two alabaster pedestals of columns and four statues of the Osirian type. We know that this part of the temple, was built by Tuthmosis I, modified by Hatshepsut and then rebuilt by Amenophis II. The pedestals as well as the statues, which are in an excellent preservation with their colours still on them, in all probability, belonged to the hall of Tuthmosis I and were left in the foundations. Together with the statues was found a lintel broken into three pieces from the reign of Senusert I.
- A foundation-deposit from the reign of Hatshepsut was found under her southern obelisk. It consists of several bronze implements and alabaster vases.
- 6) One of the architraves of the columns in the Hypostyle Hall was broken in two pieces and one of them moved and threatened to fall down. A large scaffolding was constructed to reach the top of the columns and the broken stone was mended.
- 7) There were minor works at different parts in the temple mainly at the First Pylon, at the columns of Taharqa, in the Fourth Pylon and in the Hall of Plants (1).

#### D.—Archaeological Missions:

The War has stopped the activities of all the archaeologists who were working at Luxor. The houses of the Metropolitan Museum, the

<sup>(1)</sup> I express my thanks to Dr. Abul-Naga for all the information which he was always ready to give me and

thank him more for his kind permission to refer to his works before the publication of his reports.

French Institute, the German House and Chicago House are now closed up. The only excavation of any mission is that of the Institut français under the direction of Mr. A. Varille in the Temple of Monthu at Karnak. During the two seasons which I spent at Luxor, a great deal of work was done at the site; but in May, 1944, the Institut decided to stop the work.

#### 3. THE THEBAN NECROPOLIS.

### A.—DESTRUCTION OF THE TOMBS.

I have already referred, in my article on the Tomb of Khernef (1), to the extensive damage which happened to a large number of the tombs of Thebes between the years 1937 and 1942. The enquiry proved that there had been a great neglect and disclosed many serious and heartbreaking facts. It may be many years — perhaps never — before the full details are made known but anyhow the loss is great and irreparable. A Report will be published by Mohammad Effendi Zakaria Ghoneim, the curator of the Theban Necropolis, who was on the spot and who himself conducted a great part of the investigation and was with me during the general inspection of the accessible tombs and who has personnally supervised all the cleaning done in the Necropolis which was necessary for the enquiry. It was expected that the report of Ghoneim Effendi would have appeared in the last number of the Annales and I am assured by him that the report will be published in the near future. For this reason I give only a list of the tombs. It is necessary to mention two facts : the list published here is not final and there are many tombs which were not inspected and many others which were doubtful, it is expected that the number of the tombs can be increased. second fact is that the comparatively small number of the fragments which we could obtain has shown that there are many pieces which we could not identify and whose provenance could not be established. The thieves of Gurna know, without any doubt, many tombs still unknown

<sup>(1)</sup> A Note on the tomb of Khernef at Thebes, in Annales du Service, XLII (1944), p. 449-451.

to scholars and the officials of the Antiquities Department. The thieves were always very careful to conceal the places in the protected tombs from which pieces had been removed. They profited to a great extent from the previous consolidation and restoration done in the Necropolis and when they took away a part of a wall they put in its place a material similar to the one used by the restorers (see Pl. VI). Most of the tombs are not published and in a place like Luxor where there is no library at the moment, it is always very difficult to decide whether a damage has been done recently or many years ago. When the war comes to an end and the scholars resume their activities and the excavators return to Thebes, they will help the Antiquities Department with much valuable information.

The damage in the tombs mentioned below varies greatly, sometimes two pieces only have been taken from a tomb and sometimes tens of pieces have been ent out. The pieces which were taken away were always the well preserved heads or figures, especially those of ladies (see fig. 7 and Pl. VII).

- a) El-'Assasif:
- (1) Nos. 33, (2) 34, (3) cc of Porter and Moss, Bibliography, (4) aa, (5) Z, (6) 36, (7) 279, (8) 192, (9) 243, (10) 244 (1).
- b) The Lower Enclosure :

c) Sheikh Abdal Gurna :

d) Upper Enclosure :

sculptured stones.

<sup>(1)</sup> The last two tombs are not accessible and were not inspected but one of the thieves confessed that they were among the tombs from which they took

<sup>(4)</sup> They did not cut from the walls but took many of the pieces collected by Davies from the débris.

e) Dira' Abulnaga South.

- f) Deir El-Medineh.
  - (32) 217.
- g) Gurnet Mura'i.

There are other tombs which were damaged in a very original way. When tomb No 51 was attacked by cutting five pieces from it in 1941,

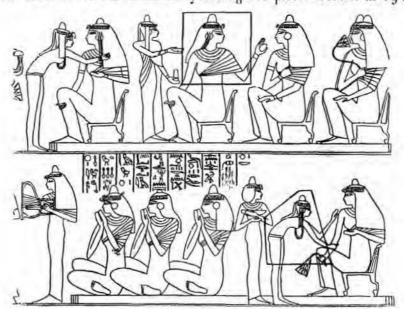


Fig. 7. - Tomb No. 38; two stolen fragments which were sold at Cairo, cf. Pl. VII.

one of the two guards of the zone was honest and he feared lest in his absence the thieves should return and cut more pieces. He knew that they were after the well-preserved heads and other beautifully coloured and preserved subjects and therefore in order to keep them away he disfigured all the faces in tomb 51 and in the following ones: (36) 31, (37) 53, (38) 45, (39) 139, (40) 342, (41) 128, (42) 54.

### B .- NEW TOMBS.

The enquiry has shown that the thieves penetrated many buried tombs. Among these tombs is the newly cleaned part of the tomb of Kheruel  $(N^a + 92)$  and many chambers and halls of the tomb of Menthuemhat  $(N^a + 34)$  which are of a great importance. Here are more tombs:

- 1) Tomb of \( \frac{1}{2} \) \( \frac{1}{2} \) at El-Assasif this is the one mentioned in Porter-Moss, \( Bibliography \) under \( cc \) at p. 190; many pieces of the walls of this tomb were cut away.
- 2) Tomb of . . . . (name unknown); this is an of Porter-Moss, ibid, p. 190, also damaged by the thieves.
- 3) Chapel of I handbered Z in Porter-Moss. ibid, p. 190. It is a part of No 34; the thieves cut out all the well-preserved figures.
- /i) To the east of the tomb of Ibi there was found a new well-preserved tomb from the reign of Ramesses II. Its owner is called ♣ ← ↓ ↓ ★; it has escaped the attention of the thieves.
- 5) A small painted tomb at Diraa' Abul-Naga south, of the 18th dynasty, of a certain Nebseni who was a goldsmith of Amun. This tomb was brought out about 1928 and was reburied. I have inspected it in 1933 and it was found undamaged in 1943.

# C) THE PROJECT OF THE EXPROPRIATION OF THE VILLAGE OF GURNA.

The removal of the whole village of Gurna is a long felt wish which seems to be in the way of fulfilment. The council of Ministers approved in September 19/13 a sum of L.E. 50,000 for beginning the scheme of the expropriation of the houses of the village, and the Survey Department began all the preliminary work and it is hoped that during this year or at most during 1946 the inhabitants will leave their present homes. The work has started with great enthusiasm and the people of Gurna seem to be convinced that they have no hope of changing the decision of the government. There is no doubt that there are some tombs under

the houses and about ten of them are worth cleaning and protection; the removal of the houses will greatly help in cleaning these tombs and will enable excavations in the different parts of the Necropolis to be carried out under better conditions.

I do not presume that the expropriation of this village will finally put an end to the danger of the illicit diggers, but it will greatly lessen their opportunities. The Necropolis will get rid of the many dirty corners along and between the tombs of El-Gurna and the tourist will be able to visit them without being molested. As for the new village, it is going to be built near the Fadlich canal east of the colossi of Memnon; it is not far enough but it is anyhow far from the ancient zone and it must be remembered that the people have to live near to their fields.

### D .- RESTORATION OF THE TOMBS OF THEBES.

The consolidation of the Theban tombs was begun many years ago by some of the excavators of the necropolis and specially by Mackay. The Antiquities Department on many occasions sent its workmen to do some work in the Necropolis but since 1934 it was found necessary that the-Theban tombs should receive better attention. In that year some restoration work was done in the tombs of Tutankhamen and Heremheb in the Valley of the Kings by the staff of the Atelier des Moulages belong-Their success encouraged the ing to the Fine Arts Administration. Antiquities Department to ask their help in restoring some of the important tombs at Gurna which showed serious signs of deterioration and needed immediate attention. From 1935 till 1938 some of the staff worked at Thebes but in the last two seasons there was an apparent neglect in the work inside some tombs which caused the indignation of some scholars and specially the late Mr. N. de Garis Davies. quently their work was stopped and the tombs were left unfinished. There is no doubt that the work in some of the tombs treated by some of the staff of the Atclier des Moulages has been well done but there are others which are really bad and specially the tomb of Rekhmire' and to a certain extent the tomb of Menna. Their work was not restoration but can be better termed consolidation and they had as example the tombs previously done by Mackay and others. An important fact is worth mentioning here. Some of the tombs restored by the staff of the Atelier des Moulages were attacked by the thieves of Gurna and some of the scenes were cut away and their places, were filled with the material used in the previous restoration. When a committee was sent in 1941 to study these restorations, it was thought that everything was done by the staff of the Moulages because the destruction of the tombs had not then been detected.

After an interval of more than four years the restoration of the tombs was resumed in February, 1943, this time on a large scale and under the direction of Mr. A. Stoppeläere who has with him assistants, two of whom were previously trained in the Theban tombs since 1934. Mr. Stoppeläere came to Thebes in February, 1943, with his staff, one for drawing and four for the restoration. Their first season was spent in working in the tombs of Menna and Rekhmire'; in the first tomb they began to remove the old restoration and at the same time tested the material employed and the methods to be followed. In the second tomb they tried to consolidate the rock at the parts which were about to fall down and cleaned with a great success some parts of the hall and restored some sections of the missing scenes. The work at Rekhmire' was stopped owing to the state of the ceiling which Mr. Stoppeläere asked to be consolidated first.

The second season was largely interrupted by the Malaria. One of the staff did not come back and the other four had to return to Cairo where they remained for several weeks. Anyhow, the work at Menna was resumed but there was no work at Bekhmire', a great part of the efforts of the Section of Restoration was directed towards the newly found part of the Tomb of Kheruef.

Criticisms were raised against the method employed in the restoration of the tombs and consequently II. E. The Minister of Education ordered that a committee should examine the work done and make recommendations for future work. The members of the committee were Mssrs. E. Drioton, A. Lucas, A. Wace, Sir Robert Greg, Mahmud Bey Sa'id, Mahmud Bey Hamza, G. Brunton, Osman Rostem and the present writer. Sir Robert Greg was unable to come and the rest came to

Luxor and worked the 24th, 25th and 26th of February 1944, and formulated the principles for restoration work in the Necropolis.

# E .- A LIST OF TOMBS FROM 335 TO 367.

The Catalogue of Gardiner-Weigall published in 1913 contained a list of tombs from No. 1 to No. 252. The work was completed by Engelbach in 1924 and we find in his Supplement the list of the tombs from No. 253 to No. 334. It is true that in the last twenty years there has not been much work in the tombs of Gurna except the excavations of the Metropolitan Museum and of the Institut français at Deir-El-Medineh, but there are many new tombs which received numbers after the publication of the Supplement. The list which I publish here was up to date in 1936 when I left Luxor, but when I returned in 1942 I could not find any list of the tombs after 367 though there are many tombs which were found after 1936, the number ought now to be about 380. In any case we should not forget that there has been no work at Thebes since 1939. I publish this list though it lacks some details for the benefit of scholars, an up-to-date list cannot be prepared in the absence of Mrs. Davies and the staff of Deir El-Medineh.

TOMB NUMBER	N A M E	PRINCIPAL TITLES.	DATE	CONSERVATION
335	Amun Nakht-	Servant in the place of Truth, Servant of the Good God and Wa'b priest of Lord of the Two Lands Amenhotep.	Ramesside	
336	Tenpet Nefer-	Sculptor.	Ramesside	
337	🚣 Ķen	Sculptor.	Ramesside	
338	Khaï	All the paintings had been removed by the Italian mission to Turin.	Ramesside	
339	☐ Huy  ➤ M □ □  Pashedu	Servant in the Place of Truth.  Servant in the Place of Truth, Servant in the Place of Truth, The necropolis workman of Amun in Karnak.	Ramesside	
340	hat Amenem-	Servant in the Place of Truth.	Ramesside	
341	<b>└── \</b> Nakht- Amun	Superviser of the offering-table.	Ramesses II	Iron door
		₹/† Chief Herald of the King.	Tuth- mosis III	Iron door
343	¥ ? ፫፫ ≦ Pah- ekmen	Child of the Nursery, This in Thebes.	Tuth- mosis III	Iron door

DATA BY	EXCAVATED OR FOUND BY	POST	1/1000 MAP	TOMB NUMBER
Bruyère	I. F., 1925	D. M.	E 3 C 8	331
Bruyère	I. F., 1925	D. M.	ЕЗС7	336
Bruyère	I. F., 1925	D. M.	E 3 C 7	33
Bruyère		D. M.	E 3 D 6	338
Bruyère	L. F., 1925	D. M.	E 3 C 6	33
Bruyère	f. F., 1925	D. M.	E 3 C 7	340
Davies	Liverpool Museum, 1924-1925	S. G.	E 4 F 3	34:
Davies	Liverpool Museum, 1924-1925	S. G.	E 4 G 2	345
Davies	Liverpool Museum, 1924-1925	S. G.	E 4 H 2	343

TOMB NUMBER	N A M E	PRINCIPAL TITLES.	DATE	CONSERVATION
344	. 1 X 11 Piyay	Scribe of the king, Overseer of the Cattle of Amenre' in the Southern City; Image: A comparable of the Cattle of Amenophis I.	Ramesside	Blocked up, in the same court as no. 19
345	The inner chamber is inscribed for Meri	Tuthmosis 1.  Custodian of the Apartment, Townson, March Scribe.		2
346	hotep Amen-	Overseer of the Boyal Harem (?) of Queen Duatuthentapet.	Ramesses IV	
347	M Hori	Scribe of the Nome.	Ramesside	.*.
348	Name lost; usurped by	Doorkeeper of the house of gold of Amun and(?)	XVIIIth dyn. Ramesside	
349	<b>¾ X</b> ∐ Thay	yard (?) Overseer of the fowl-	Early XVIIIth dyn.	Blocked up
350	Name crased	Figure 2 Scribe of the registration of bread throughout Upper [and Lower] Egypt.		Blocked up

DATA BY	EXCAVATED OR FOUND BY	POST	1/1000 MAP BEFERENCE	TOMB NUMBER
Bruyère	I. F.	D. N. N.	C 7 C 9	344
Davies	Liverpool Museum	S. G.	ЕАНа	345
Davies	Liverpool Museum	S. G.	E 4 G 2	340
Davies	Sir Robert Mond , 1927 (partially)	S. G.	E 4 G 2	347
Davies	Sir Robert Mond, 1927 (partially)	S. G.	E 4 G 2	348
Davies	Baraize, 1925	S. G.	D 4 F 10	349
Davies	Sir Robert Mond, 1927	Š. G.	D 4 F 10	350

TOMB NUMBER	N A M E	PRINCIPAL TITLES.	DATE	CONSERVATION
351	- Aabau	In May   Scribe of the Horses.	XIXth dyn.(?)	Blocked up
352	Name erased	Scribe of the granary of Amun.	XIXth dyn.(?)	Blocked up
353	Senmut	Chief Steward, etc. (see no. 71).	Hatshepsut	Iron door
354	Name missing	Title missing.	End of XVIIIth dyn.	
355	Amun - Pa-	Servant in the Place of Truth.	XXth dyn	
356	↓≣ ¥¥ Ame- nemuia	Servant in the Place of Truth.	XIX-XXth dynastics	
357	ユヤミニュ Djhouti-herme- ketef	Servant in the Place of Truth.	XIXth dyn.	
358	Merytamun	ter and sister, the Divine Consort, the Great Queen.		
359	her Kha'u An-	That Overseer of Works.		
360	<b>, У Д У</b> , Ка-	Works.		
361	_11 Hui	Painter,		

DATA BY	EXCAVATED OR FOUND BY	POST	1/1000 MAP	TOMB NUMBER
Davies	Baraize	L.E. opening out of the North wall	D 4 1 8	35 1
Davies	Baraize	L.E. of the court of no. 23	D 4 I 8	355
Winlock	Metrop. Mus.	D. B.		353
Bruyère	L F., 1927	D. M.		354
Bruyère	I. F., 1927	D. M.		355
Bruyère	I. F., 1928	D. M.		356
Bruyère	L F., 1929	D. M.		357
Winlock	Metrop. Mus., 1929	D. B.		358
Bruyère	l. F., 1930	D. M.		35 (
Bruyère	L F., 1930	D. M.		360
Bruyère	l. F., 1930	D. M.		361

TOMB NUMBER	NAME	PRINCIPAL TITLES.	DATE	CONSERVATION
362	X = K Pa-	Time W'b- priest of Amun.		
363	X = = 5	Overseer of the Musicians of Amun.		
364	¶ — [ — ] Amenembeb	offerings of all the gods of Thebes.	XIXth dyn.	
365	Nefermenu	Overseer of the wig-makers of Amun in Karnak; [ ] [ ] ] ], Scribe of the Treasury of Amun.	Tuthmosis III	lies open
366	Jar		Xlth dyn. Mentuḥotep	blocked up
367	Paser Paser	Captain of Troops; A Child of the Nursery.	Amenophis II	Iron door

DATA BY	EXCAVATED OR FOUND BY	POST	1/1000 MAP	TOMB NUMBER
				36
	×			36
				36
Fakhry	Antiquities Dept., 1931	К	D 5 B 9	36
Winlock	Metropolitan Mus., 1931	Assasif		366
Fakhry	Antiquities Dept., 1934	U, E.	D 4 C 10	36

### 4. INSPECTORATE OF EDFU.

# A) THE MONASTERY OF DEIR EL-FAKHURY AT ASFUN.

I find it necessary to refer in this report to the present state of this monastery which dates from the xith century. It had contained many religious paintings which were partly destroyed in 1934. incident this monastery was registered among the historical monuments belonging to the administration of the preservation of Arabic Monuments but its key was courteously left with one of the priests at Asfun in order to be used in feast days as before. Again in 1938 some of the remaining paintings were destroyed, and in 1940 the priest who was supposed to look after the monastery and its church tried to make some repairs and white-washed a great part of the paintings and during the time of the so-called repairs other paintings were destroyed. When the Antiquities Department in the name of the Administration of the Preservation of the Arabic Monuments took the priest to the court for the damage which he caused he said that the monastery was built by his own father and neither the Antiquities Department nor anybody else had anything to do with it. Such an amusing defence cannot be taken seriously, but the matter must be considered with a better intention from the responsible authorities. Most of the Christian monuments are badly neglected and it is in the interest of the Coptic Church before anybody else to protect the historical monuments in the ancient monasteries and churches in order to hand them to the coming generations a sacred trust from the golden days of Christianity in the Nile Valley. no doubt, a sincere wish of hundreds of millions all over the world.

### B .- TEMPLE OF EDFU :

Some cracks were detected in the eastern staircase of the temple which were apparently caused by a slight movement of earth under the foundations of this part. The system of the irrigation of the district changed a few years ago and it is feared that these cracks have some relation with the infiltration of water. The necessary precautions in

such cases were taken and it has been found that the cracks are not increasing. None of the testing plaques of Plaster of Paris have cracked up till the time of writing this report.

The modern brick wall built over thirty years ago around the temple area began to collapse at several places, a new surrounding wall was built in March-April, 1944, to replace it.

# C .- THE CEMETERY OF HAGIR EDFU:

The cemetery of Hagir Edfu which dates from the Late Period till Roman times is still used by the Copts of Edfu. They reuse the rock-cut burials and there have been always rumours current about antiquities which were found. In 19/10, the Inspector of Edfu wanted to stop the further use of the place but this was met by protests from the people who had used it for many centuries and who have no other burial ground. In 19/11, Mohammed Effendi Zakaria Ghoneim was inspector at Edfu and he started the excavation of the unused part of the cemetery. The result was not encouraging and no undisturbed burials were found. The comparatively few objects which were found in the débris date mainly from the later years of the Ptolemaic Period and early part of the Roman Period. A number of Greek and Coptic ostraca were found near the Deir which is built over the ruins of an older one.

Ghoneim Effendi began also the cleaning of the large tombs cut in the cliff without finding anything of importance. Some of these tombs, judging from their architectural details must date back to the Middle Kingdom; others are from the Ptolemaic Period.

An inscribed tomb was found and was partly cleaned: the cartouches of Ahmes I and Amenophis I could be read and give its date.

The work was left unfinished and the Copts of Edfu were also left in their difficulty till 1944 when it was decided to put an end to this matter. The work begun by Ghoneim Effendi was completed by Aziz Effendi Morkos Mansour, the work in the late Cemetery did not yield anything of great importance but the inscribed tomb has largely repaid the efforts of our two inspectors. The painted walls are covered with a thin layer of very fine mud caused by the torrents of rain and the use of the place

as a Church and will have to be carefully cleaned by a skilled specialist. Its style and subjects resemble to a great extent those of the tombs of el-Kab from the same period.

The Copts of Edfu were given a part of the ancient cemetery after it had been thoroughly examined and were permitted to continue to bury their dead in peace near their fathers and grand-fathers.

#### 5. INSPECTORATE OF ASSWAN.

### A .- THE ROCK-DRAWINGS OF ABU-SOBEIRA.

In January, 1944 the workmen of the contractor of the Esna reservoir destroyed some of the rock inscriptions and drawings which cover the face of the rock at the beginning of the valley known under the name of Khor Abu-Sobeira about one kilometre north of el-Khattara Station. Through a misunderstanding, the Department of Mines and Quarries gave the contractor a licence to cut the rock from this place which contains many petroglyphs of Predynastic times depicting different kinds of boats, animals and many human figures. Unfortunately the guard of the Antiquities Department who is responsible for this site was severely ill with Malaria as were most of our guards in Asswan Province at that period and thus the destruction of the drawings was not reported in time. It was only after three week's work that we stopped the men from destroying what remained. I do not know any publication of these drawings and if they have not already been photographed or copied by any archaeologist I am afraid that the destroyed part has been lost for ever (1).

### B .- THE TOMBS OF ASSWAN :

The Tombs of Asswan like those of Thebes are showing with progress of time the great need for proper conservation and immediate restoration.

<sup>(1)</sup> The only reference which I know is the short note published by Weighle, in Annales du Service, IX, p. 110 which

gives an inscription of Tuthmosis III and Hatshepsut recorded on the rocks near the ancient quarry.

The thin layer of plaster on some of the walls of the beautiful tomb of Sarenput are peeling off and fall to the ground. Mr. Stoppeläere and his assistants fixed them by means of wax and paper in 1943. important ceiling of the Tomb Kakemihu is greatly suffering from the white ants which devour the organic material in the mud plaster over which it is painted. It is hoped, however, to get rid of this insect by hermetically sealing the tomb for three weeks after burning a sufficient quantity of carbon dissulphides. Successful photographs of the ceiling were taken by Yousif Effendi Khafagi, the chief draughtsman of the Department who began to take true copies in colour of all the ceiling during the two months of March and April, 1944. The tombs of Sarenput and Kakemihu are not the only tombs which need some attention; in fact, all the tombs of Asswan are in great need of some care and ought to be cleaned from the accumulating sand and protected by doors.

### C .- A MODEL OF THE ISLAND OF PHILE.

The visitor of the Museum of Asswan will now find in one of its rooms an attractive model of the Island of Philæ and its temples. This model was originally made by M. Mazet in order to be displayed in 1938 at the Exhibition of Paris and after reaching Cairo it wandered from one place to the other until it found its suitable home in the Museum of Asswan since July, 1943. It is a pity that it contains some serious mistakes in the construction of the temples and also many imaginary buildings outside the temples which did not exist in ancient times. But in spite of these defects which are going to be repaired, the model is of a great benefit and is instructive to the visitors who generally come to Asswan when Philæ is under water.

# D .- THE KIOSK OF TRAJAN AT PHUR.

Since the heightening of the Asswan Dam in 1934, the Temples of Nubia have been inspected annually and the necessary repairs were done during the few months when the monuments are not inundated. The last season of work was in November, 1938. The inspectors have reported from time to time all that happened to the different temples and

asked for repairs but for various reasons nothing was done. One of the monuments which was causing anxiety and showed that it needed consolidation since 1939 was the beautiful Kiosk of Trajan the landmark of Philæ and one of the best known monuments of Egypt. I was hoping that Philæ and the different temples in Lower Nubia would be consolidated between the months of July to November, 1943, but this wish was not realized and the temples were left to their fate a year more.

An unusually strong sandstorm swept the region of Asswan on Monday, the 27th of March, 1944, and continued for about nine hours. The Kiosk was half covered with water and its south and north sides could not resist the heavy pressure of wind and waves and consequently the columns and architraves collapsed.

I was at Asswan at the time, and when the news reached me I went on the next day to verify what was reported by our guards. The other walls have resisted and no further damage occurred till the summer when the section of Architecture of the Antiquities Department performed the necessary consolidation of the standing walls. It is understood that Dr. Abul-Naga Abdulla is going to restore the falling columns and architraves next summer.

#### E.—LOWER NUBIA.

An inspection of this territory in September, 1943, showed me that several temples have begun to show disquieting signs and need consolidation, Philæ, Dabod, Kalabsha, El-Sebu', Dakkeh and several others are affected by the second heightening either their buildings or their inscriptions which are blurring through their inundation for the greater part of the year. This can be said concerning the monuments cut in rock; the plaster has disappeared with its paintings. The map which I publish here (pl. VIII) shows the height of the water now and I wonder what will happen to the temples of Nubia if the proposed third heightening of twelve metres is carried out in future.

A new cemetery at Ballana: During my inspection I heard of the finding of a new cemetery at Ballana during the digging of one of the canals for the irrigation scheme of the neighbourhood. It was agreed to modify the

project and the canal was shifted to a place far from the cemetery. Judging from the pottery found in the three tombs found by the workmen, the cemetery dates from the with-with century A. D.

The Nubians and the Ancient sites: Before the last heightening there was no aggression or encroachment from the Nubians on the lands con-But when they were forced to leave their taining ancient monuments. inundated villages most of them preferred to stay where they were born and built new villages above the water level, in many cases very They were also forced to search for close to the ancient cemeteries. new cultivable land and encroachments by building houses and cultivating land has begun on our lands in the last ten years. bought land from the Government which was a part of the ancient cometeries because most of our lands in Nubia are not registered. After studying all these difficulties, the Antiquities Department has decided to make it a principle that it has no objection to give up any land to be cultivated by the inhabitants whether it is above the high water level or under it, if it has previously been excavated in a scientific way and at the same time does not contain any standing buildings or inscribed tombs. This will certainly help the poor inhabitants of Nubia to cultivate more land and at the same time will enable our guards to concentrate on looking after the other more important sites.

## F .- THE AMETHYST QUARRIES OF THE MIDDLE KINGDOM :

The use of Amethyst dates back to the predynastic period and continued till the last days of the Egyptian history but it was greatly used and much employed during the Middle Kingdom (1).

We know that amethyst workings exist near Gebel Abu Diyeiba in the Safaga district (2), at about 40 miles north-west of Abu Simbel (3) and at

<sup>(1)</sup> Lucas, Ancient Egyptian Materials and Industries, p. 338.

<sup>(3)</sup> See, op. cit.; and G.W. MERRAY. in Cairo Scientific Journal, VIII (1914), p. 179.

<sup>(3)</sup> O. H. LITTLE, Preliminary Report on some Geological specimens from the "Chephren Diorite" Quarries, Western Desert, in Annales du Service, XXXIII, p. 80.

Wadi El-Hudi about 27 kms. south-east of Asswan (1), No inscriptions were reported from the first site and the inscriptions which were found in the second one showed that the expeditions which were sent there quarried diorite and in all probability quarried amethyst also (2). L. Nassim visited Wadi El-Hudi before 1925, he did not notice any inscriptions and it was many years later when the inscriptions at Wadi El-Hudi were discovered. It was in January 1939 when Ibrahim Effendi Abdel-'Aal of the Survey of Egypt found the beautiful stelm of Horus and informed the Inspector of Antiquities of Asswan of this discovery who went there and brought other two stela (3). The stelæ and the inscribed stones were at several places around the ancient workings which are di-The discovery of the three stelle spread among stant from each other. the 'Ababda beduins who went later on and carried away the best of the stelæ which they found. It was at the end of 1939 when our Inspector of Asswan heard of what was going on and went to Wadi El-Hudi on the 20th of December and brought two inscribed stelawith him.

A very short time afterwards, Mr. G. W. Murray was mapping this part of the desert and paid attention, as usual, to every remain from ancient times. He searched carefully the whole neighbourhood and found tens of inscriptions at different places and realized that they ought to be brought to the Museum at Cairo to be in safety and to be studied. He brought to the inspectorate four inscribed stelæ and kindly placed his trucks and his time at the disposal of some of the officials of the Antiquities Department who went to the spot in March, 1940, numbered and photographed most of the inscriptions which he showed to them and brought back many of the scattered inscribed stones discovered by Mr. Murray. It was proposed to send them to the Museum at Cairo but

<sup>(1)</sup> L. Nassin, Minerals of Economic Interest in the Deserts of Egypt, in Congrès intern. de Géogr., Le Caire, avril 1925, III (1926), p. 167.

<sup>(3)</sup> B. Engelbach, Quarries of the Western Nubian Desert, in Annales, XXXVIII, p. 369-390.

<sup>(8)</sup> The three stelle were published by ALAN Rowe, Three New Stelle from the South-eastern Desert, in Annales du Service, XXXIX, p. 187-194. All these expeditions were for amethyst and not for copper.

since their discovery they have been kept in one of the rooms behind the Asswan Museum and some of the larger stones are left in the inspectorate. Nothing was published about them and they were almost forgotten.

In January, 1943, three stells were presented to us by Zaki Bey Abdel-Hamīd, the Commandant of the Frontier Administration at Asswan and by means of different enquiries I came to the conclusion that they were among many others which were taken from El-Hudi in the autumn of 1939. In April, 23rd, 1944, I visited the site for three weeks, copied all the inscriptions from this site which number over seventy and I am studying them.

There are some drawings of early periods but the great majority of the texts were left by the missions who went there at different dates and during the reigns of several kings of the XIth, XIIth and XIIIth dynastics, those from the reign of Senusert I are the most numerous.

These expeditions went thither for bringing the \( \begin{align\*} \) \( \begin{align\*} \) The word ham is one of the words which has several meanings, natron, bronze and "a kind of semi-precious stone" are among them \( \begin{align\*} \) Mr. G. W. Murray has kindly informed me that all the ancient workings near the inscriptions were for amethyst only \( \begin{align\*} \) 1 believe that the word for the amethyst is \( \begin{align\*} \begi

<sup>(1)</sup> Wörterbuch, III, p. 162-163. It is mentioned that hsmn "Zwischen Halledelsteinen erwähnt" is from N.K.

<sup>(2)</sup> There are gold workings at a few kilometres but these seem to be from the Arab period, two arabic inscriptions were found there on the rocks. These

mines were reopened in 1902 but the scheme was given up. There are Barrytes and were worked in M. K.

<sup>(5)</sup> Information kindly given by Mr. Murray who has enlightened me on many points concerning this site, I wish to render to him here my sincere thanks.

A preliminary report on these inscriptions will appear in the next number of the Annales, I might add here that many of the heads of the expeditions who went for the amethyst are already known to us from the quarry inscriptions of Sinai and El-Hammat and other sites including some whose names were found recently in the diorite quarries.

AUMED FARHRY.

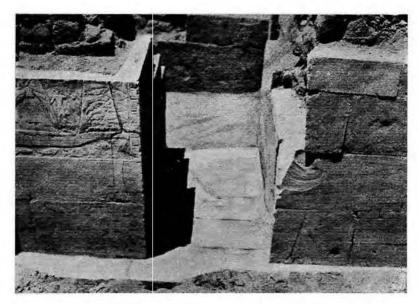
Cairo, 17 February, 1945.



1. One of the Old Kingdom tombs of El-Gozeirch



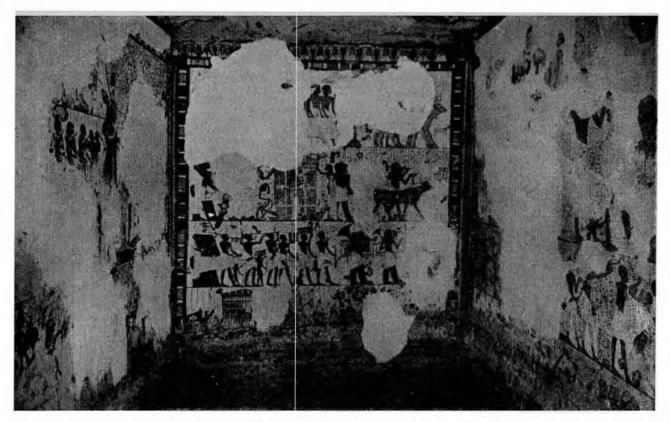
2. The brick walls lined with limestone blocks.



1. Some of the preserved scenes on the bottom courses



2. The preserved titles of the tomb-owner.

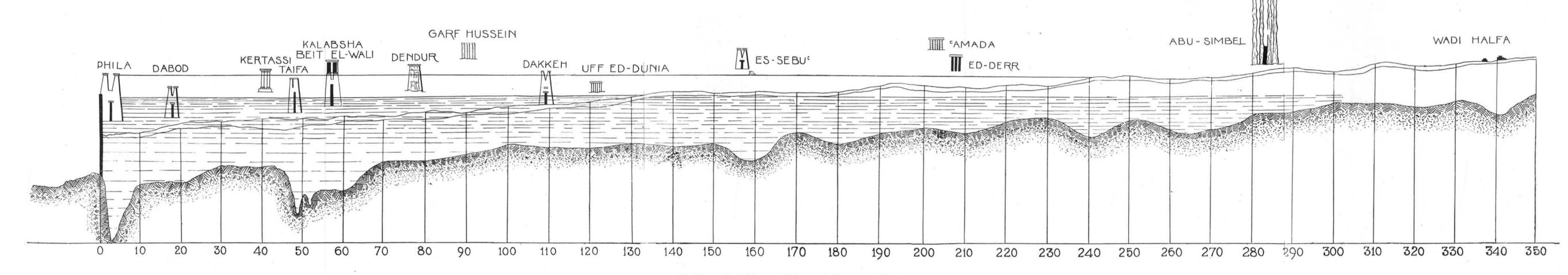


The famous tomb of Nebamun and Ipuki (No. 181) was among the tombs which have greatly suffered. The thieves filled the gaps with plaster to imitate the restoration done in the other walls of the tomb a few years ago.





Two fragments which were cut from the tomb of Zeserkare'-scneb (No. 38, Cf. fig. 7, p. 33) and were sold to a dealer in Cairo.



The high water-level of the second heightening; the distances are in kilometres..