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JENNIFER L. KIMPTON,
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Preliminary Report on the Work of the Epigraphic Survey

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Julien Cooper, Reconsidering the Location of Yam.

Abstract: Egyptian texts of the Old Kingdom are unfortunately vague in describing foreign geography and trade networks. From the inclusion of toponyms in expeditionary texts, one can broadly reconstruct long distance trade routes from Egypt into the Levant, along the Red Sea to Punt, and south along the Nile Valley to Nubia. Within this schema, the area designated by the toponym Yam, well known from the biography of the Aswan noble Harkhuf, has generally been held to be an extension of Egypt’s interest in Nubia, beyond the Third Cataract. However, in light of the growing amount of archaeological and textual material in the Western Desert, a reassessment and reconsideration of this view is required in the context of a ‘western’ trade partner.

Richard Breitner, Jean-Pierre Houdin, and Bob Brier, A Computer Simulation to Determine When the Beams in the King’s Chamber of the Great Pyramid Cracked.

Abstract: For more than a century it has been widely known that the beams forming the ceiling of the King’s Chamber and those of the first and second Relieving Chambers in the Great Pyramid are cracked. However, it was not known when they cracked. This paper reports the results of a virtual reality 3D computer simulation designed to determine precisely when the beams cracked. It is suggested that such computer simulations might have a broad range of applications to archaeological questions.


Abstract: The first two seasons of excavation by the Brown University Abydos Project occurred in the Abydos North Cemetery in the winters of 2008–9 and 2010–11. Our research questions focus both on specific time periods and on the longue durée development of the North Cemetery as a sacred space. Preliminary results have advanced our knowledge in important ways, particularly regarding Early Dynastic royal buildings in this area and Ptolemaic reuse of the same places. In particular, we have discovered a previously unknown monument of the type usually referred to as a funerary enclosure. This royal cultic structure is associated with pottery that dates it to the time of transition from Dynasty 0 to Dynasty 1, though no royal name has yet been discovered. Adjacent to this monument and in other parts of the site we have uncovered diverse Ptolemaic remains: finds excavated during the first two seasons included one large private tomb, parts of a hypogeum used for the burial of ibis mummies, and part of one domestic structure in an area shown by magnetometry survey to be a dense settlement site.

Luca Miatello, A Longstanding Enigma: Problem 18 of the Moscow Mathematical Papyrus.

Abstract: Problem 18 of the Moscow mathematical papyrus constitutes an exception within the extant corpus of Middle Egyptian mathematical problems, for no plausible interpretation of it has been proposed, despite the relative good condition of the hieratic text. The present philological analysis of the five lines of text, which present several difficulties, suggests that the problem concerns the calculation of the width of a garment, as application of an algorithm for the calculation of a $aH$-quantity. Such an interpretation is supported by the analysis of a Middle
Kingdom cloth in the British Museum, and provides also a plausible explanation to a problematic sentence in “The Tale of the Eloquent Peasant.”

Stefan Bojowald, “Der Matrose mit dem leeren Magen”: eine erneute Annäherung an pChester Beatty V rto 6, 4–5. 91-95
Abstract: The aim of this article is to look for a new interpretation of Chester Beatty V rto 6, 4–5, because earlier attempts, by and large, were not convincing. The approach used here assumes a text corruption, in which the order of the words imw “boat” and dmi.t “quay” has been exchanged. When the original text is reconstructed, it is strongly suggested that the departure of a ship is portrayed. The whole passage has dealt with the hard life of the sailor aboard.

Kelly-Anne Diamond, The Placement of the Sacred District Scene in the Rectangular Tombs at Elkab. 97-110
Abstract: The Sacred District scene that appears in numerous early Eighteenth Dynasty tombs at Thebes is regularly displayed on the west wall of the passage of a T-shaped tomb. With this placement, the scene creates an artistic transition, or liminal area, that the deceased must pass through before reaching the symbolic west, and the land of the dead. This article explores whether or not the same holds true for the provincial rectangular chapels at Elkab where additional examples of the scene exist. The earliest tomb to include a scene of the Sacred District is the tomb of Reneny at Elkab which dates to the very beginning of the Eighteenth Dynasty. This tomb not only provides a precursor for the numerous examples of the Sacred District that can be found in the Theban Necropolis, but also reveals a developmental stage in the Sacred District and architectural design of the tomb. While Reneny’s tomb displays the funeral scenes on the right wall of the tomb, as opposed to the usual left wall, the illustrations lead one directly to the place of burial, not the focal point of the tomb as in the majority of examples.

Maria Rosa Guasch Jané, About the Orientation of the Magical Bricks in Tutankhamun’s Burial Chamber. 111-118
Abstract: Tutankhamun’s Burial chamber is the only one where four magical bricks with their figures were discovered untouched in niches on the walls. However, three of them (on the E, W, and S walls) were not placed according to the instructions of the Book of the Dead. An investigation of the contents of the three wine jars found in Tutankhamun’s burial chamber lying on the ground to the E, W, and S walls has allowed relating them with the different geographical orientation of Tutankhamun’s magical bricks. The results of this research reveal that the djed magical brick to the South, in particular, indicates the strengthening of the Osirian protection at the end of the Amarna period.

Salima Ikram, A Re-Analysis of Part of Prince Amenemhat Q’s Eternal Menu. 119-135
Abstract: “Victual” or food mummies, encased in their own wooden coffinets, are a particular feature of Theban burials from the late Second Intermediate Period through the New Kingdom. This article deals with a group of such remains held in the collection of the Metropolitan
Museum of Art from Tomb MMA 1021, possibly the original tomb of Prince Amenemhat Q, with a focus on the method of preparation used for these mummies.

Stéphane Pasquali, A Sphinx Fragment of Ramesses II from Giza (Baraize Fieldwork, 1926).

Abstract: Publication of two pages from the Bernard Bruyère notebooks which deal with the fieldwork of Emile Baraize around the Sphinx at Giza in November-December 1926. Bruyère lists the measurement operations of the colossal statue and he mentions the discovery of a sphinx fragment of Ramesses II.


Abstract: An examination of aspects of the construction of the temple of Ramesses II at Abydos, combined with an analysis of epigraphical features of the temple’s inscriptions, confirms the impression given by texts in the Osiris temple of Seti I nearby that the younger king most likely began work on his own temple in the last years of his father’s reign. There is no evidence, however, to clarify whether a coregency between these monarchs existed or not. Nearly all the construction and decoration of the temple occurred within the first four to five years of Ramesses II’s reign with the exception of the outside walls. The doorway inscriptions in the chapels and on other temple walls demonstrate conclusively that the forms of the names of Ramesses II cannot be used as a reliable dating criterion. In fact, the supposedly diagnostic forms of the so-called nomen or throne-name - Rˁ-ms-s vs. Rˁ-ms-sw - are not reliable chronological indicators, but rather their use appears to have been influenced primarily by the format of the inscription, i.e., whether a text was in columnar or horizontal format. The appearance of various epithetical elements in Ramesses II’s cartouches were likewise influenced by similar design factors instead of ideological considerations.

Rehab Assem, Stela JE 34542, Cairo Museum.

Abstract: The publication of a stela at the Egyptian Museum, Cairo, dealing with it stylistically and discussing the text incised on its three registers. The author also presents her observations about Thay, the owner of the stela and his family. The title of the owner of the stela is rare, however, this is not its only attestation.

Waheid Shoaib, Aspects of rnpy in Ancient Egyptian Texts.

Abstract: Discussion of the term rnpy in a variety of texts especially ones from the Amarna period.

Eduardo Crivelli, Claudia Kohen, and Silvia LupoEduardo Crivelli, Two Foundation Deposits in a Domestic Context at Tell El-Ghaba, A First Millennium Settlement in the Eastern Delta, Egypt.
Abstract: Two foundation deposits were discovered at a private construction at Tell el-Ghaba, a first millennium settlement located in what was once the Eastern Delta. The creation of these deposits seems to have been a rather uncommon practice in domestic contexts. In this paper, the contents of the deposits are described, and comparisons are made. The presence of Egyptian and imported pottery and hints of a weaving practice that had already developed in the Southern Levant suggest the presence of foreign people or, at least, a foreign influence at this site.

Manal Affara, Unpublished Statue, JE 37862, in the Egyptian Museum, Cairo. 221-235

Abstract: In this study, a previously unpublished block statue of prophet of Amun P3-dj-Imn-nb-niswt-t3wy from the Late Period JE 37862 (number of excavation k 601) found in the Karnak Cachette will be examined thoroughly. Legrain, who found it in April 1905, kept a register of objects he uncovered in this location giving them the prefix “K.” As the texts from the statue were published without transliteration or translation, this study will include the transliteration and translation of the texts that are inscribed on the front and base of the statue, and on the dorsal pillar, along with discussions and comments.

(no abstract)

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