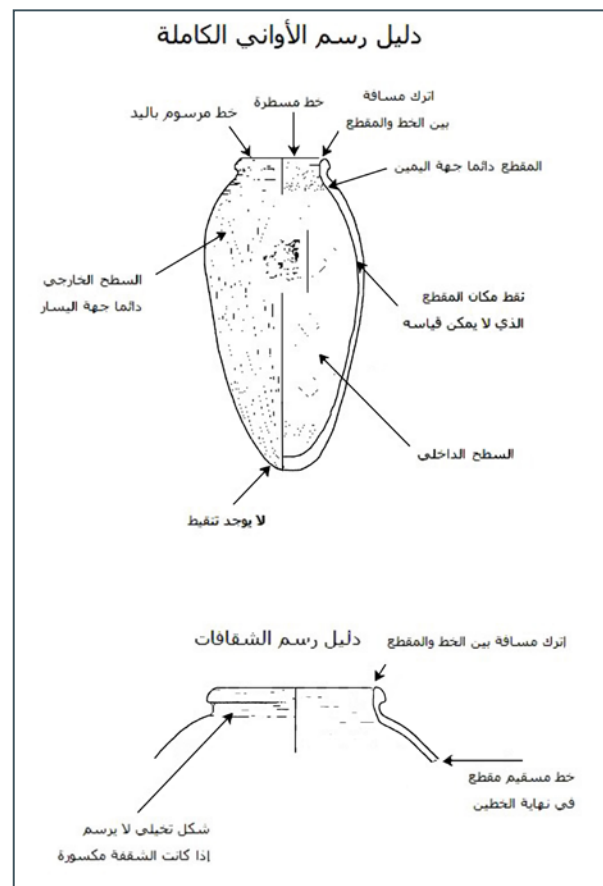
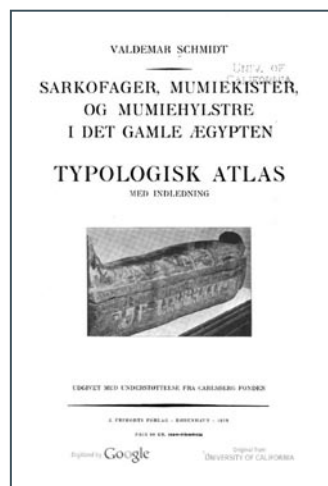


Fund Publication Projects

In addition to the Deir el-Ballas publications, the Ancient Egyptian Heritage and Archaeology Fund will undertake a number of publication projects, including a series under its own imprint, to make available and update important early Egyptological publications. The first of the projected volumes is an English translation by Ziff Jonker of Valdemar Schmidt's *Sarkofager, Mumiekister og Mumiehylstre i det gamle Aegypten*, the classic work on ancient Egyptian funerary art, at present available only in Danish.



Deir el-Ballas Pottery Manual

Following a request by the Ministry of Antiquities that expeditions provide training opportunities, we prepared a manual on the pottery from the site (detail shown at left). This was translated into Arabic by Egyptian ceramic expert Ashraf Senussi. Both English and Arabic versions are available on the Fund's website.

Oral History Project

This year we hope to add more interviews to our series on the oral history of American Egyptology, thanks to a number of generous contributions made through Facebook. The recordings will be posted on the Fund website and YouTube channel and made freely available to whoever would like to use them.



The Ancient Egyptian Heritage and Archaeology Fund is a private nonprofit organization with a mission to support the research and conservation of Egyptian history and culture. It seeks to safeguard, record and publish sites and monuments at risk from agricultural and urban expansion, looting, vandalism and climate change.

The organization will also work to foster a greater awareness of the risks to Egypt's archaeological heritage and to promote education and training in site management and protection.

To subscribe to this newsletter and help support the Fund's work, please make a tax-deductible contribution to:

The Ancient Egyptian Heritage and Archaeology Fund

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THE ANCIENT EGYPTIAN HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY FUND NEWSLETTER

Issue 5

2019

Deir el-Ballas Expedition



Cleaning the façade of the "South Palace" showing a hole caused by looters and collapsed brickwork resulting from the undermining of the structure.

From December 11th to 31st, the Ancient Egyptian Heritage and Archaeology Fund, in conjunction with the American University in Cairo, conducted a season of survey, cleaning, recording and restoration at Deir el-Ballas.

The team consisted of Peter Lacovara as director, surveyor Piet Collet, archaeologists Tom Hardwick and Victoria Jensen, together with Professor of Archaeology at Cairo University Salima Ikram and conservation architect Nicholas Warner. The work was greatly facilitated in every way by Hassaan Mohamed Ali.

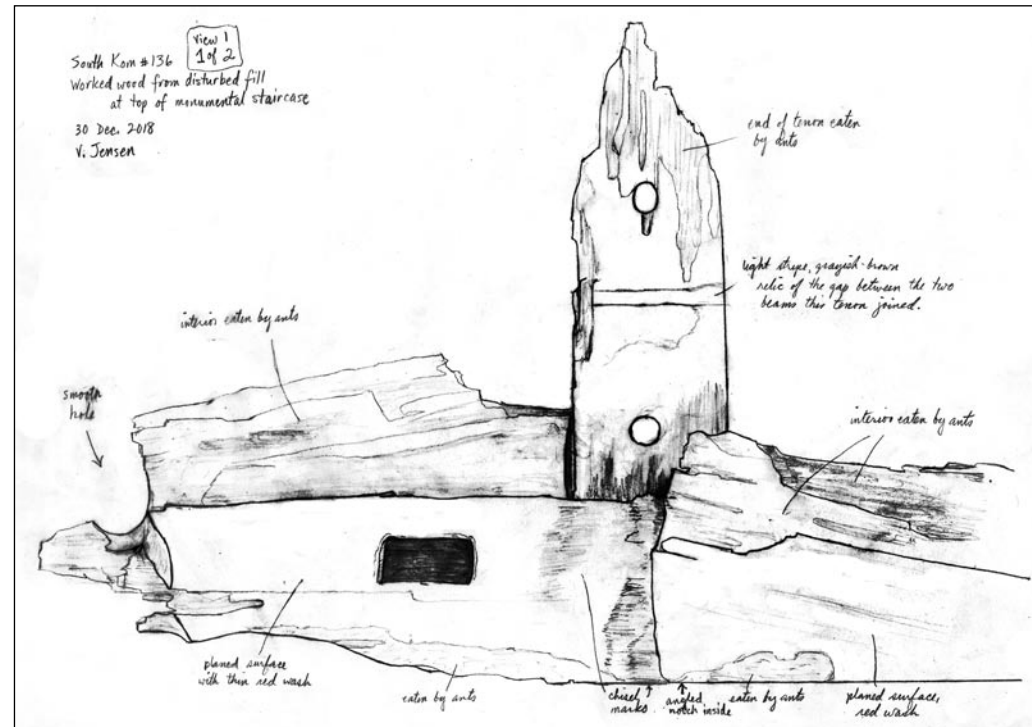
For the second season we continued the survey work at the site and restoration was started on the "South Palace". This had suffered from looters emptying out some of the casemate foundations and digging holes in the façade of the eastern wall of the platform. Significant parts of the brick facing had collapsed and the deterioration had accelerated. We were able to conduct emergency stabilization work this season on the façade and filled holes and gaps with modern unbaked mud bricks stamped with an AUC logo. These were made to the same size as the original "South Palace" bricks [ca. 47 x 22 x 12 cm.].

The top of the eastern façade of the "South Palace" was capped with geotextile mesh and new bricks to replace those that had been torn down by vandals. The stairs were cleaned, planned and photographed and covered with sand to protect them for next season. To record the current condition of the structure, it was photographed and surveyed by Piet Collet. Vicky Jensen and Tom Hardwick recorded the sherds and wooden debris recovered from the cleaning of the façade. A surprising discovery made during the work were a number of large ship timbers which had been re-used to strengthen the wall. These were undoubtedly recycled from the Theban fleet that had assembled at the site for the campaign against the Hyksos.

We are most grateful to Mohammed Hussein, Conservator of the Qena District, Nicholas Warner and Tony Crosby for their help and advice on the restoration work.

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1



Drawing by Vicky Jensen of one of the ship timbers from the façade.

At the North Palace we endeavored to clean up modern trash and debris littering the area which had come from the adjacent modern village. We would like to thank the office of the Governor of Qena for its help in cleaning up the debris. We surveyed the area around the North Palace with the Inspectorate Office of Qena to find the best place to build a protective wall around it.

Many of the ancient houses, the workmen's village and associated chapels have been entirely destroyed by the expansion of modern habitation and the town's cemetery. We worked with the Inspectorate to determine where we might have a boundary to keep the cemetery from encroaching further into the area of the ancient settlement. We cleared and surveyed one house in the area that had been exposed, then re-covered it. Fortunately, other parts of the settlement have so far been preserved under the stacks of hay used by local potters. These areas will need to be cleared, mapped and recorded in future seasons.

We look forward to collaborating with the Antiquities Inspectorate in Qena and the Ministry of Antiquities to find additional ways to protect and preserve this important site. We would like to thank Dr. Khaled El-Enany, Minister of Antiquities and Heritage; Ayman Ashmawi, Director of the Antiquities Department; Dr. Nashwa Gaber, Supervisor of the Permanent Committee of the Antiquities Department; Mostafa Hassan, General Director for the Egyptian Committee; Iyman Hindy, General Director of Qena Antiquities; Ashraf Nasser, Director of Qena Area; Maryanne Danielle, Director of West Bank Antiquities of Qena; Amr Gad el Rab, Head of Foreign Missions and Excavations of Qena; Mohammed Hussein, Conservator of the Qena Area; and our Inspector, Mohammed Shahat Shamrouk. We would also like to thank Dr. Salima Ikram, Magdy Aly and the American University in Cairo for their help and support, Dr. Pearce Paul Creasman and the University of Arizona Egyptian Expedition and Dr. Sergej Ivanov and Natasha Kharlamova for their kind and generous hospitality.

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<http://www.ancientegyptarchaeologyfund.com>

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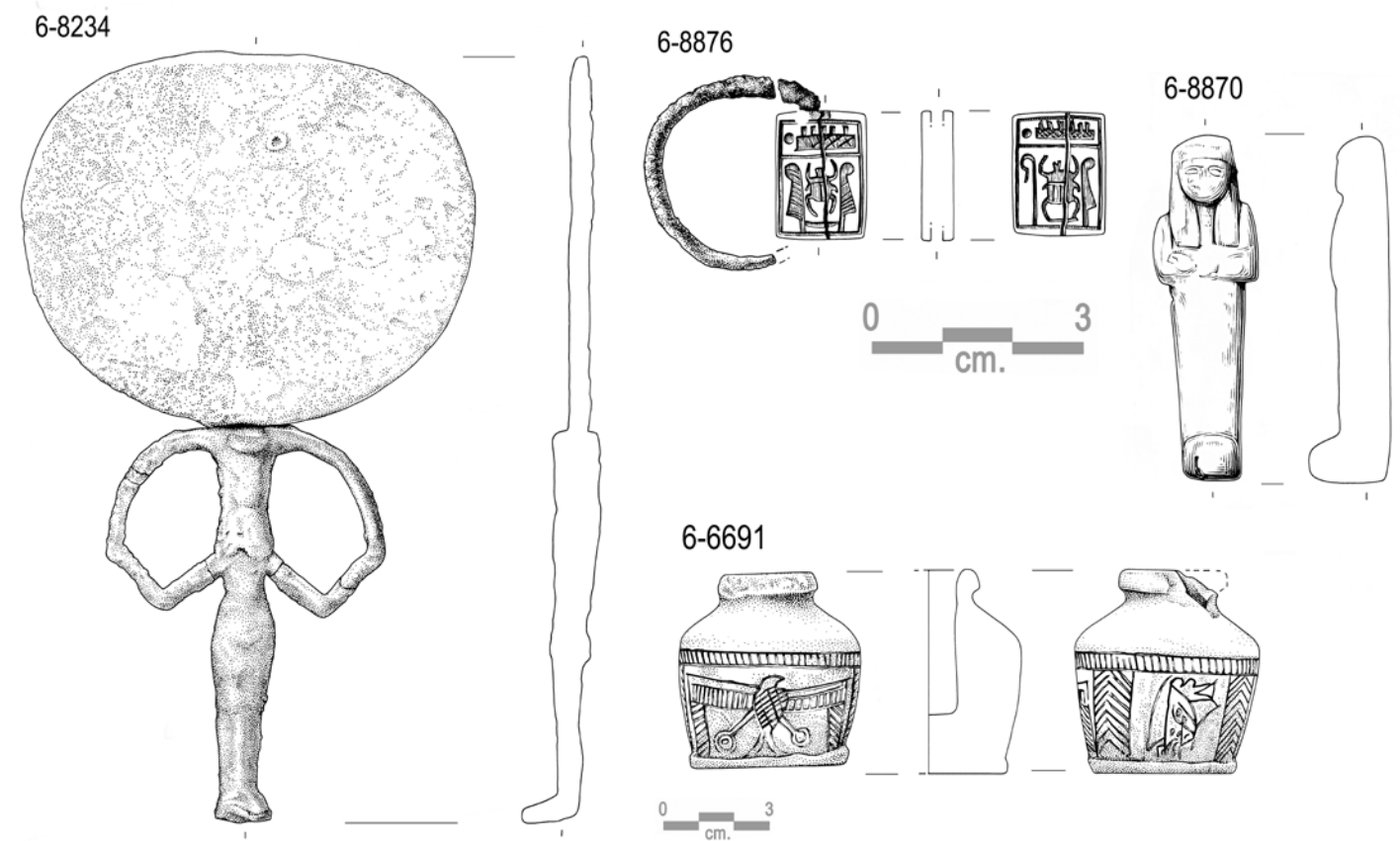
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The façade of the "South Palace" after emergency stabilization work.

Deir el-Ballas Publication

Thanks to our grant from the Shelby White and the Leon Levy Program for Archaeological Publication we have continued preparing the material from Reisner's original excavations for publication. To date Andrew Boyce has drawn over 500 objects and a selection of the pottery from the site is being worked on by Bettina Bader and Christian Knoblauch. We hope to have the first of the two volumes on the site, describing the cemeteries excavated by Reisner, completed some time next year. This is to be published by the Lockwood Press.



A selection of objects from Deir el-Ballas in the Phoebe A. Hearst Museum of the University of California, Berkeley. Drawn by Andrew Boyce.