Excavating in Egypt
for 40 years
Waseda University Expedition
1966-2006

A Special Exhibition
in the Egyptian Museum, Cairo
Excavating in Egypt for 40 years
Waseda University Expedition 1966-2006

General Supervisor / Dr. Sakuji Yoshimura
(General Director of the Waseda University Egyptian Expedition)

Authors / Dr. Zahi Hawass
       Dr. Wafaa El Saddik
       Dr. Sakuji Yoshimura
       Dr. Nozomu Kawai

Publisher / Mayumi Iwaide
Cover design / Kazuya Konno
Photograph / Yoshikazu Karino, Takashi Yamada, AKHT Inc.
Edited by AKHT Inc.
Printed by TRY SHA. Co., LTD
Published by AKHT Inc.
2-4-26 Nishiwaseda Shinjuku-ku
Tokyo 169-0051
Japan

©2008 Committee for the Exhibition, "Excavating in Egypt for 40 years: Waseda University Expedition 1966-2006 "

This exhibition consists of the selected objects from a special exhibition entitled "Sakuji Yoshimura's Excavating in Egypt for 40 years: Waseda University Expedition 1966-2006," which was held in Japan from June, 2006 to September, 2008. The exhibition traveled in the following cities: Fukuoka, Kyoto, Nagasaki, Okayama, Sendai, Tokyo (Waseda), Miyazaki, Matsuyama, Sapporo, Kumamoto, and Tokyo (Ikebukuro).
Preface

Ancient Egypt has always captured the hearts of the Japanese and inspired a sense of mystery and magic in all who come into contact with this fascinating civilization, particularly the pyramids, Sphinx, and mummies. Yet, it is King Tut, the golden boy, who truly is the most important king of ancient Egypt as his tomb was found intact with magnificent objects of gold and “wonderful things,” the expression used by Howard Carter to describe what he first saw when he looked into the tomb through a hole.

Over the course of the years, we have sent many exhibitions of Egyptian art to Japan. This particular exhibition is unique because it is a story that comes from the “secrets from the sand.” It consists of masterpieces excavated by Waseda University from three major sites in Egypt. The first site is Malkata located on the west bank of Luxor where King Amenhotep III, the grandfather of King Tut, built a lake and palace for his beautiful wife, Queen Tiye, one of the most powerful queens of Egypt.

The second site is Dahshur, the location of the pyramids built by Khufu’s father, Sneferu, where new technology was employed. Satellite photos were taken of the site from the air; and, after examining these photographs, the archaeologists could observe where there was evidence for tombs on the ground. Through this technology, important New Kingdom tombs were found dated to c. 1550 B.C. I remember my friend Dr. Sakuji Yoshimura inviting me to witness his discovery at Dahshur. We both went down into the excavation to view the tombs he discovered as well as the artifacts that you will see in this exhibition.

The third site is Abusir, located south of the Giza pyramids, which has approximately 11 pyramids. I prefer to call Abusir, “the site of the forgotten pyramids,” because many people do not know this magnificent site. Yoshimura has made a unique discovery at this site, a rest house built by Khaemwaset, the son of the great pharaoh Ramses II. Khaemwaset had an interest in restoring the monuments of his ancestors, and so he built a rest house on the top of a cliff at Abusir in order to view the pyramids of Abusir and Giza on the north and the pyramids of Saqqara and Dahshur on the south.

The artifacts in this wonderful exhibition come from excavations by Yoshimura, who has worked in Egypt for many years. He has dedicated his life to searching for the secrets of ancient Egypt. Through his journey to discover these secrets, we met one another and began to work together around the Giza pyramids and the Sphinx. Over the years, we have become good friends. I truly believe that Dr. Yoshimura is a great man contributing both to Egypt and Japan; and, for this reason, I value his friendship, and I can say that he is one of the few Egyptologists who has become like a brother to me.

I know when you view this exhibition that it will be an adventure not only to ancient Egypt but also an exploration in archaeology.

Dr. Zahi Hawass
Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Antiquities
Arab Republic of Egypt
Foreword

For the past 40 years Dr. Sakuji Yoshimura of Waseda University has been leading Japanese expeditions in Egypt. Regarded as one of the foremost scholars working in Egypt, Dr. Yoshimura has made it possible for us to view artifacts from all periods of Ancient Egyptian History. This Exhibition is a celebration of Japan’s distinguished activity in Egypt and of all of the people who have worked within the framework of the partnership between Waseda University, the Supreme Council of Antiquities and the Egyptian Museum to bring us the opportunity to view these examples of the art and of culture of Ancient Egypt.

This exhibition is arranged as an open book of Ancient Egyptian History, displaying artifacts from the Paleolithic era through the Late Roman Period. The artifacts unearthed by the various Japanese missions come from important sites throughout Egypt, including Dahashur, Abusir and Thebes. The objects included in this exhibition and catalogue highlight the scope of Ancient Egyptian History and include a breadth of subject such as funerary objects, objects used in daily life, statuary and jewelry.

The cooperation and dedication shown by all of the institutions and individuals involved in making this exhibition possible has been truly exemplary. I am eternally grateful to everyone who has contributed to this project, and in particular I would like to thank Sabah Abd ElRazik, Khalifa Mohamed, Mohamed El Ashry and Tatsundo Yoshimura and all of my staff at the Egyptian Museum.

Dr. Wafaa El Saddik
General Director of the Egyptian Museum, Cairo
It was in September, 1966 when we started our first general archaeological survey in Egypt. Since then, the Institute of Egyptology at Waseda University has worked in Egypt for more than forty years. Our research in Egypt has been made possible by the Ministry of Culture of Egypt. I would like to thank Egypt for its generous support and help for many years. I am also grateful to the Egyptian colleagues and other foreign Egyptologists for their guidance and encouragement for many years. Although a number of scientific reports were published, most of them were written in Japanese which has made them inaccessible for the western scholars. Thus, we plan to publish these results in English in the near future.

Our research activities in Egypt were not always smooth, since we were the newcomers in the field of Egyptology when compared with the history of Egyptology in the west for more than 170 years since the time of Napoleonic expedition. We have endeavored to accomplish our goal by a team consisting of a number of specialists. Consequently, we have made a number of important new discoveries since the end of the last century. We believe that our field work in Egypt have greatly contributed to bring new shed light on the field of Egyptology.

This exhibition consists of the masterpieces from our excavations in Egypt for last forty years. These artifacts are a portion of the special exhibition commemorating the 40th year anniversary of the Waseda University Egyptian Expedition, which was held in Japan from July 2006 to September 2008. We have counted more than 1,300,000 visitors to the exhibition throughout Japan. I believe that this number of visitors reflects a growing interest in the Ancient Egyptian Civilization in Japan. We hope to keep contributing to the progress of modern Egyptology by continuing our excavations and restorations in Egypt.

Finally, I am grateful to the Supreme Council of Antiquities of the Ministry of Culture in Egypt, especially to Dr. Zahi Hawass, Secretary General, and to Dr. Waffa el-Saddik, Director of the Egyptian Museum, for presenting the great opportunity to hold this special exhibition at the Egyptian Museum, Cairo.

Dr. Sakuji Yoshimura
General Director,
Waseda University Egyptian Expedition
The Waseda University Egyptian expedition started its first general survey in 1966. Since then, we have conducted field work in Egypt for 40 years. I and the late Prof. Kiichi Kawamura, who was the general director of the mission at that time, were searching for a suitable site to be excavated along the Nile Valley in several times between 1966 and 1970.

The first site we chose among them was Deir el-Bersha near el-Minia in the middle Egypt. In 1970 this site was suddenly designated an area where foreigners was prohibited from entering in. So we had to select another site again. However, it was lucky for us. We were granted the permission to work at Malkata where it was easy to access because it was near Luxor and its local people are familiar with foreigners. It meant that a desirable condition for excavating the site was satisfied.

We have made a number of important results for 40 years. At first, it was often said to be beginners luck. I would have thought so too. After 10 years, I had an idea that I should not have thought so. Therefore, I introduced a method that applies modern technology to archaeology. This resolves that earth's physical elements with geophysical sensing instruments and has dozens of ways. We used five methods among them and actually tried and tested them in Egypt. Particularly, electromagnetic wave method was more useful and its result was helpful for us to achieve fame. The site of Abusir where we have been excavating was found by underground radar system using electromagnetic wave method.

Geophysical survey in the Valley of the King is being suspended before the underground radar system did not fully prove its capability in the survey due to the ongoing conservation project at the tomb of Amenhotep III. This project was an international project by a trust fund of Japan's foreign ministry through UNESCO. We have completed the second phase of the project and received a high evaluation from the Supreme Council of Antiquities of Egypt. We plan to resume the investigation in the Valley of the Kings after this project is finished.

The discovery of the site of Dalshur Noth made a great impact on the field of Egyptology because this site was the first subterranean archaeological remain found by analysis of satellite images, while some above ground sites in Yucatan Peninsula were found by the same method. This project was collaborative research with Tokai University. Another important discovery was the boat pit of the second boat of Khufu on the south of the Great Pyramid at Giza. This was found by electromagnetic ground radar. Now we are preparing for excavating, restoring and reconstructing it.

As stated above, we have five projects which have international reputation. We are deeply grateful to be involved in such projects.
Research Projects in Egypt

Malkata South

In 1971, we were granted permission to excavate at the site of Malkata South near which an Isis temple built in the Roman period is located. This area is called Deir el-Shalwit. Initially we aimed at excavating the remains of Predynastic culture. However, we uncovered an extensive stratum of Roman settlement on which we spent three seasons of excavations. In the middle of January 1974 when the third season of excavation was nearing an end, we discovered a staircase painted with the images of foreign captives at a mound called “Kom el-Samak,” about 240m north of the Isis temple. Excavation at this area yielded thousands of fragments of mural paintings which once decorated the walls of a building. On the basis of stamped mud-bricks from the building, we concluded that the building was constructed for Amenhotep III. It is assumed that the building was constructed for Amenhotep III’s Sed festival. This discovery determined the direction of research in the Luxor Area. We started investigating the monuments from the time of Amenhotep III.

From 1985 to 1988, we re-examined the architecture and mural paintings of the palace of Amenhotep III at Malkata, which was already studied by American missions. The objective of the research was to collect the data and reconstruct the details of the palace, thus obtaining materials for comparative study with the mural paintings at the “Kom el-Samak.”

Numerous fragments of painted walls and ceilings were recovered from the rooms including the Great Colonnade Hall and the King’s bed chamber. One of the most remarkable motifs reconstructed from the fragments was a succession of great vultures of the goddess Nekhbet spreading their wings, under which the names and titles of Amenhotep III were depicted.

Private tombs in the Theban Necropolis

Following the discovery of the building at Kom el-Samak, it was realized that a comparative study of the mural paintings is necessary in order to understand the character of the monument. Thus, we conducted comparative study of the mural paintings in private tombs from the time of Amenhotep III. From 1980, we carried out research at more than 20 tombs. In addition, we have made clearances and mapping in the Theban tombs 241 at al-Kholka, 128, 129, 317, 318 at Sheikh Abd al-Qurna and 333 at Dra Abu el-Naga. In the tombs at Sheikh Abd el-Qurna we discovered, hundreds of mummies and human bones. We conducted an anthropological examination on them. Valuable data on the ancient Egyptian mummification process was obtained through these examinations. These mummies seem to have been collected by tomb robbers from tombs in the vicinity in order to strip their belongings. In the course of excavations at Dra Abu el-Naga, we uncovered several unregistered tombs, including two lost tombs A 21 and A 24 which were identified in the past but became unknown thereafter. Excavations also yielded a variety of isolated objects, including funerary cones,
shabtis, and a stone statue of a man.

**Western Valley of the Kings: Tomb of Amenhotep III**

In 1989, we began working at the tomb of Amenhotep III in the Western Valley of the Kings. This project was a logical follow-up to our previous work on the monuments from the time of Amenhotep III. The re-clearance of the tomb was carried out for the first time since Howard Cater worked there in 1915. Archaeological excavations of a small rock-cut chamber called KV-A and the area between the entrance of the tomb of Amenhotep III and KV-A were also undertaken. A number of objects were uncovered during the excavations, including an intact foundation deposit for the tomb of Amenhotep III, royal funerary equipment, and ostraca.

The tomb of Amenhotep III is decorated with elaborate paintings of very high quality. However, the quality of these paintings has been compromised by their precarious condition. First, the wall paintings are badly stained by guano of bat and micro-organisms on many places. Secondly, the surface of the painted plaster has been detaching itself from the bedrock, which causes the corruption of the painted plaster. Thirdly, cracks on the walls and pillars have caused severe damage, especially as some pillar are near collapse. Further, some artificial damage was caused to the wall paintings in the past. It become apparent that the wall paintings of the royal tomb of Amenhotep III are in a seriously perilous state. They will collapse unless urgent conservation works are undertaken. Indeed, the further deterioration of these wall paintings would be an incalculable cultural loss for humanity. Thanks to Japan Funds in Trust through UNESCO, we carried out a comprehensive conservation intervention on the wall paintings of the tomb of Amenhotep III. Our team consisted of Egyptian, Italian, and Japanese conservators. We have conducted two long-term campaigns so far which were very successful.

The result of conservation work on the wall paintings made a difference in appearance as well as stability. The conservation work has contributed not only to the preservation of the monument but also is an academic contribution to Egyptology. We are currently preparing the third long-term campaign. It is hoped that the result of this very important project will be greatly appreciated by many people in the world.

**Abusir South / Northwest Saqqara**

Since 1991, we have carried out excavations on the summit of a prominent limestone outcrop in the desert approximately 1.5 km northwest of the Serapeum. The most outstanding of these remains is a monument of Prince Khaemwase, the fourth son of Ramesses II. The upper part of the monument of Khaemwase was largely quarried away in antiquity, leaving behind only foundations and some of the flooring. The structure covers an area of about 25 m by 30 m, and consists of a portico, a corridor and a cult room, arranged along an east-west central axis. In the cult room, we found two fragmental blocks of a red-granite false-door depicting a seated figure of Khaemwase. In the course of the excavations, a number of limestone blocks with elaborate relief were unearthed. In 1996, a mud-brick structure has been revealed to the northwest of the monument of Khaemwase. Several of the bricks discovered around the structure were stamped with the cartouches of Amenhotep II and Thutmose IV. More than ten stelae of Thutmose IV were also unearthed. Though the original appearance and the nature of this building are still unclear, the presence of stelae and brick related to the
Pharaoh suggest that it was a site with royal connections of some kind.

Since 2001, excavations have focused on the southeastern slope of the outcrop. In this area, we have uncovered a rock-cut chamber and a layered stone structure and its substructure. The clearance inside the rock cut chamber revealed that the chamber was never used for burial. Instead, excavations yielded a number of statue fragments made of clay, terracotta, and wood as well as pottery vessels. Remarkably, two of the terracotta statues bore the name of Khufu of the Fourth Dynasty.

In 2002, excavations on the southeastern slope revealed a massive layered stone structure probably built around the Third Dynasty and a shaft leading to two chambers to the east and west respectively. The construction technique of the layered stone structure is reminiscent of that of the Third Dynasty Step Pyramid of Djoser. Excavations in the east chamber of the shaft yielded a number of votive objects dating to the Early Dynastic Period and early Old Kingdom. The chamber seems to have been reused in the Middle Kingdom since objects from the Middle Kingdom were uncovered in the same chamber and another entrance and its forecourt appears to have been dug from the south in the same period. From 2004 to 2007, we have excavated the area on the western slope of the outcrop, yielding a number of objects originated from the summit which include the Eighteenth Dynasty pottery and faience amulets from the Late Period.

**Dahshur North**

In 1996, a joint project of Waseda and Tokai Universities started and the new site at Dahshur North was identified through computer analysis of satellite imaging data. Subsequently, we discovered a previously unknown New Kingdom necropolis at a low mound approximately 2 km north of the Red Pyramid of Snefer.

The necropolis is composed of the tomb-chapels, shaft-tombs and simple burial-pits. On the southernmost hilltop, a large free-standing tomb-chapel comparable in size to the famous one of Horemheb at Saqqara was discovered, though only the foundation bricks of the superstructure were preserved. Some stamped mud-bricks suggest that the tomb-chapel was built for "Ipay, royal butler and royal scribe." Excavations in the subterranean chambers yielded a number of fine funerary objects, including faience rings with the name of Tuthankhamun and Ankhnesenamun, and two scarabs bearing the name of Ramesses II. The most remarkable find was a granite sarcophagus in the innermost chamber. The inscriptions on the sarcophagus and jar docket suggest that its owner is "Mes, Royal scribe and Steward" in the reign of Ramesses II.

Recent excavations in the surrounding area led to the discoveries of the Rameside tomb chapel of Ta in 2004, and of the intact tomb belonging to an individual named Senu in 2005. Senu's burial was found in a deep shaft partially located under the tomb-chapel of Ta. A rectangular coffin was found in the bottom of the shaft. This coffin was fully painted in yellow, with text columns in blue. The inscriptions give the title and name of the owner, "the commander, Senu." The content and layout of the text clearly date to the Middle Kingdom. Inside the coffin, there was a linen wrapped mummy wearing a cartonnage mask. Excavations in 2007 led to the discoveries of two intact Middle Kingdom coffins of Sebukhat and Senetites and an intact New Kingdom coffin of Tjay and his son.
## Time Table of the History of the Waseda University Egyptian Expedition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1966</td>
<td>The first general survey of the Nile Valley started.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1969</td>
<td>Preliminary search for choosing concession area for excavation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>The committee for the research in Egypt was founded at Waseda University.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>Malkata South was selected as our first concession area for excavation and the first season was conducted at Malkata South.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>The third season was started at Malkata South.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 1974</td>
<td>The painted staircase was discovered at Kom el-Samak, Malkata South.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>The Waseda House was founded on the west bank of Luxor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>The Egyptian Culture Center at Waseda University was established.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>The first season of excavation was started at al-Fustat, Cairo. Prof. Kiichi Kawamura, the general director of the expedition, passed away.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>The work in the private tombs in the Theban necropolis was started.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>The first comparative study of the private tombs in the Theban necropolis was conducted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>Approximately 200 mummies were discovered at a private tomb at Sheikh abd el-Qurna.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>The first season of research at the palace of Malkata was carried out.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>The first season of the pyramid survey at Giza. A previously unknown space in the great pyramid and the second boat pit at the south side of the great pyramid were discovered by an electromagnetic radar.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>A feasibility study at the Western Valley of the Kings was conducted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>The work in the tomb of Amenhotep III in the Western Valley of the Kings was started.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>The first season of the excavation at Abusir South and a monument of Prince Khaemwaset was discovered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>The Waseda University Egyptological Society was established. The project for conservation and restoration of the second boat of Khufu was initiated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>The first season of excavation at Dahshur North was conducted and the tomb chapel of Ipay dating to the New Kingdom was discovered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>A pyramidion and a shaft was found at the courtyard of the tomb chapel of Ipay during the first season of the excavation at Dahshur North. A faience bearing the name of Tutankhamun was found.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>A granite sarcophagus of a high official named Mes from the time of Ramesses II was found in the fourth season of the excavation at Dahshur North.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>The Institute of Egyptology at Waseda University was established.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>A previously unknown rock-cut chamber was found at Abusir South. Two statues inscribed with the name of Khufu were discovered in the chamber. The conservation project for the wall paintings in the tomb of Amenhotep III was launched under the auspices of UNESCO.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>The pyramidion of Pashedu was found during the Eighth season of the excavation at Dahshur North. A layered stone structure, one of the earliest stone structures in Egypt, was discovered at Abusir South.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>An intact multiple burials dating from the Second Intermediate Period to the beginning of the Eighteenth Dynasty were uncovered, at Abusir South.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 2004</td>
<td>The tomb chapel of Ta dating to the 19th Dynasty was discovered in the Nineth season of the excavation at Dahshur North.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 2005</td>
<td>An intact burial of Senu dating to the Middle Kingdom was discovered at Dahshur North.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 2005</td>
<td>CT-scan of the mummy of Senu was conducted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun. 2006</td>
<td>The project for the reconstruction of the face of Senu was conducted by using computer graphics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 2007</td>
<td>The intact burials of Way and Sebekhit and his wife Senetites were discovered during the Twelfth season of the excavation at Dahshur North.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 2007</td>
<td>The intact burials of Tjay and his child were found during the Thirteenth season of the excavation at Dahshur North.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Objects

Text: Nozomu Kawai
1

Upper part of a painted limestone statue

New Kingdom, 19th Dynasty
Private tombs in the Theban Necropolis
Dra Abu al-Naga, W4 (−127−)
Limestone
H:21.0cm, W:19.8cm, D:12.6cm

This upper part of a statue of a man was found in the debris in the forecourt of tomb W4 (Friederike Kampp's '−127−'), discovered by the mission at Dra Abu al-Naga. The man wears a double wig with fine wavy hairs, and a tunic with pleated sleeves. Both items were worn for ceremonial occasions such as feasts in Thebes. These features and the round face of man are typical for the time of Ramesses II. On the back-pillar, the beginning of the inscription is visible, but the name of the owner is missing. Tomb W4 was used by Amenemuia in the time of Ramesses II, therefore, this statue may represent Amenemuia.

2

Foundation deposits

New Kingdom, 18th Dynasty
Valley of the Kings, West Valley
The tomb of Amenhotep III (KV 22)
Ceramic, reed, wood
Miniature pottery
a. H:5.1cm, D:6.9cm
b. H:4.9cm, D:7.7cm
c. H:4.5cm, D:7.4cm
d. H:4.7cm, D:7.6cm
e. H:4.7cm, D:7.6cm
Circular basket
f. Th:1.3cm, Diam:23.1cm
Model of sledge
g. L:13.7cm, W:7.8cm, H:4.3cm
Symbolical knot
h. L:12.4cm, W:3.8cm, Th:0.9cm

The ancient Egyptians deposited offerings and model tools during foundation rituals performed at the beginning of constructing a tomb. This set of foundation deposits was uncovered in situ in front of the entrance of the tomb by our mission. The set consists of miniature pottery, a circular basket, a model of a sledge, a symbolic knot, and a head of a calf, which was on top when the deposit was unearthed. Howard Carter also discovered five sets of foundation deposits in front of the entrance of the tomb of Amenhotep III in 1915.

3, 4

Shabti head of a Queen

New Kingdom, 18th Dynasty
Valley of the Kings, West Valley
The tomb of Amenhotep III (KV 22)
Faience
3. H:4.5cm, W:2.9cm, D:2.5cm
4. H:4.2cm, W:3.5cm, D:3.0cm

In ancient Egyptian art, yellow usually represents the color of women's skin, and brown is the color of men's skin. Because of their yellow color, these faces are probably parts of composite shabti figures of a woman, possibly Queen Tiy.
Fragments of faience bracelets of Amenhotep III

New Kingdom, 18th Dynasty
Valley of the Kings, West Valley
The tomb of Amenhotep III (KV 22)
Faience
Upper left: W.2.0cm, L.1.9cm, Th.0.5cm
Upper right: W.2.0cm, L.1.6cm, Th.0.6cm
Below: W.1.9cm, L.4.0cm, Th.0.5cm

The decoration seen on these bracelets, with lines and inscriptions of sky blue faience on a background of cobalt blue faience, was produced particularly during the reign of Amenhotep III. The inscription includes a cartouche with the prenomen of the king, and it reads: upon his throne...(upper right), ...eternity life...(upper left), ... Lord of the Two Lands, Nebmaatra...(below).

Enigmatic ostracon

New Kingdom, 18th Dynasty
Valley of the Kings, West Valley
Area between the tomb of Amenhotep III (KV 22) and KV A
Limestone
H.9.0cm, W.22.0cm

On this ostracon, marks similar to hieroglyphs are drawn in red and black pigments, but they do not form any sentences, and non-hieroglyphic signs are also included. Parallels from the workmen’s village at Deir el-Medina suggest that the marks represent individual workers, and the black and red dots are check marks. It is likely that this ostracon was used for recording the attendance of the workers who built the royal tomb.
Relief with a part of a Sokar bark (Niche)

New Kingdom, 19th Dynasty
Abusir south
Summit of the outcrop, Monument of Khaemwaset
Limestone
H.52.8cm, W.42.4cm, D.40.0cm

Sokar is the god of the Memphite necropolis. The name of Saqqara today originates from the name of this god. The sacred bark of Sokar, called Hemu, was the icon of this deity. On this relief fragment, the Sokar bark is depicted on the upper left. This bark was transported by the High Priest of Ptah during the Sokar festival, which was conducted for the rejuvenation of the deceased. The text on the right reads "4 times with Natron... Sem-priest, King's son, Khaemwaset." This relief was a part of a niche pattern of the rear wall of the portico of the Monument of Khaemwaset.

Relief showing the face of Prince Khaemwaset

New Kingdom, 19th Dynasty
Abusir south
Summit of the outcrop, Monument of Khaemwaset
Limestone
H.7.6cm, W.18.4cm, D.5.0cm

Khaemwaset was the fourth prince of Ramesses II and the High Priest of Ptah in Memphis. He is known as "the first Egyptologist" due to his deep interest in ancient Egyptian culture. This relief fragment apparently shows the face of the prince Khaemwaset, since he wears a short wig from which hangs a braided, curled sidelock, characterizing the High Priest of Ptah in Memphis. The fragment may have come from a wall of the portico of the Monument of Khaemwaset.
9

Relief showing the bust of Prince Khaemwaset
New Kingdom, 19th Dynasty
Abusir south
Summit of the outcrop, Monument of Khaemwaset
Limestone
H.35.0cm, W.80.0cm, D.43.0cm

This relief shows a man wearing a typical costume of the High Priest of Ptah in Memphis. He is performing a ritual probably to a deity. Although the face is missing, the costume suggests that the man is Khaemwaset without doubt. The partial text on the right of the figure reads “in order to praise....”

10

Relief showing water birds
New Kingdom, 19th Dynasty
Abusir south
Summit of the outcrop, Monument of Khaemwaset
Limestone
H.36.8cm, W.50.5cm, D.40.0cm

It is often observed that the Old Kingdom style was applied to the relief decorations of the Monument of Khaemwaset. This relief fragment was part of a scene of the marshland, which was a typical theme in the wall decoration of Old Kingdom mastaba tombs.
Faience scarabs and plaques with the name of Prince Khaemwaset
(Foundation deposit)

New Kingdom, 19th Dynasty
Abusir south
Summit of the outcrop, Monument of Khaemwaset
Faience

a. L:2.0cm, W:1.4cm, Th:0.9cm
b. L:2.0cm, W:1.4cm, Th:0.9cm
c. L:1.8cm, W:1.4cm, Th:0.8cm
d. L:1.5cm, W:1.3cm, Th:0.8cm
e. L:2.0cm, W:1.3cm, Th:0.7cm
f. L:2.0cm, W:1.3cm, Th:1.1cm
g. L:2.0cm, W:1.3cm, Th:1.0cm
h. L:1.9cm, W:1.3cm, Th:1.1cm

These faience scarabs and plaques were uncovered at the north-western corner of the foundation of the outer wall of the Monument of Khaemwaset. They are part of the foundation deposits. All of the pieces are inscribed with the name and title of Khaemwaset. This evidence confirms that the monument was actually built by Khaemwaset himself.

Hieratic ostracan

New Kingdom, 19th Dynasty
Abusir south
Summit of the outcrop, Monument of Khaemwaset
Limestone
H:18.0cm, W:27.2cm, Th:3.0cm

This ostracan is inscribed in hieratic on both sides. The recto has 5 lines, while the verso has 1 line. The text reads as follows: “Year 53 under Ramesses II, it is done by the Treasury scribe, Pentawret, when he was the deputy of Khaemwaset and the guardian of the Ka-house of Khaemwaset in the west of Memphis, in front of the Overseer of the granary of the temple of Ptah, together with a crew member of the treasury of Ptah, Djehutymose.” This probably indicates that the ostracan mentions the date of the construction of the Monument of Khaemwaset.
13

**Stela of Thutmose IV presenting to the god Horus**

New Kingdom, 18th Dynasty
Abusir south
Summit of the outcrop, Mud-brick structure
Limestone
H.43.2cm, W.28.5cm, D.6.7-8.2cm

The stela shows Thutmose IV offering to the god Horus. The king stands on the right, wearing the nemes-headdress, pouring water into a vessel with his right hand, and presenting incense with his left hand. On the left, Horus stands, holding a was-scepter and ankh-sign. The text includes an epithet of the god Horus, “the Lord of Letopolis.”

14

**Stela of Thutmose IV presenting to the god Nefertem**

New Kingdom, 18th Dynasty
Abusir south
Summit of the outcrop, Mud-brick structure
Limestone
H.43.2cm, W.28.5cm, D.6.5-7.5cm

The stela shows Thutmose IV performing a ritual to the god Nefertem, who is the son of Ptah and Sekhmet in Memphis. Nefertem is normally represented as a man wearing a lotus flower on his head. Here the king wears the Blue crown.
15

Blue painted pottery

New Kingdom, 18th Dynasty
Abusir south
Western slope of the outcrop
Ceramic
H. 40.0cm, Diam. 34.8cm

Although blue painted pottery was especially popular during the reigns of Amenhotep III and Akhenaten, the examples from the outcrop at Abusir south predate these kings. This is a very fine elaborate vessel, decorated with borders, figures, plants, and hieroglyphic signs.

16

Naos type stela

Late Period
Abusir south
Summit of the outcrop, Mud-brick structure
Limestone
H. 46.5cm, W. 31.6cm, D. 18.4cm

This stela resembles a naos. Inside the naos, figures of the gods Ptah and Osiris are carved. According to the text on the left, they both represent Ptah-Sokar-Osiris. The text on the front mentions that the stela was dedicated to Padineith, the son of Kaneb. On the sides of the stela, figures of the winged protective goddesses Hathor and Nephthys are depicted.
Sistrum with the name of King Amasis

Late Period, 26th Dynasty
Abusir south
Summit of the outcrop, east of Mud-brick structure
Faience
H. 20.6cm, W. 3.3-7.0cm, D. 3.0-3.6cm

This faience object represents the musical instrument called “sistrum,” which was used in rituals. Its upper part is broken. The prenomen and nomen of Twenty-sixth Dynasty king, Amasis, “Good god, Khnumibra, king’s son, Ahmose-Saneith, may he live forever,” is inscribed on both sides of the handle. “Sistras” were closely related to the cult of the goddess Hathor, and, as is seen on no. 17, a figure of goddess is often represented at the top of the handle.

Terracotta statue of recumbent lion with the name of Khufu

Old Kingdom, 4th Dynasty
Abusir south
South eastern slope of the outcrop, Rock-cut chamber AKT01
Terracotta
L. 62.0cm, W. 19.0cm, H. 28.5cm

This terracotta statue was found from the rock-cut chamber AKT01, which is located at the south eastern slope of the outcrop, and probably stored in the Middle Kingdom. Between the paws of the terracotta statue of sphinx, it bears the following prenomen of the Fourth Dynasty king, Khufu and the small figure which only remain the tip of feet. This small figure may have represent the king Khufu himself.
**Terracotta statue of a lion goddess**

Old Kingdom, 4th Dynasty  
Abusir south  
Eastern slope of the outcrop, Rock-cut chamber  
AKT01  
Terracotta  
H. 100.0 cm, W. 27.0 cm, D. 26.5 cm

On the right side of the back frame of this statue of a lion goddess, the Horus name of Khufu, “Medjed,” is inscribed, and this name should probably be attributed to the right-handside figure of a child-king who wears the nemes-headdress, and places his finger upon his mouth. On the left side of the lion goddess, we see the legs and feet of a small figure attached to the socket, and on both sides of this small figure, the prenomen of the Sixth Dynasty king, Pepy I, is inscribed. It is likely that this figure represents the king Pepy I, which might have been added to the statue during his reign.

The dimensions of this statue are the same as statue no. 19, and she holds a papyrus scepter. The right-hand side figure wears the nemes-headdress and holds his finger to his mouth. On the left side of the lion goddess, a small figure is attached to the base and the prenomen of the Pepy I was also inscribed. This statue of a lion goddess was probably made in the reign of Khufu, in the Fourth Dynasty of the Old Kingdom, since the style resembles the statue of a lion goddess, no. 19, and the left side figure was probably newly inserted during the reign of Pepy I.
**Life size wooden female statue**

Old Kingdom
Abusir south
Southern slope of the outcrop, Rock-cut chamber
AKT02
Wood, gesso
H.162.0cm, W.35.0cm, D.19.0cm

This female statue is 162 centimeters tall, and wears a sheath dress. Her eyes were once inlaid. Her hair is combed straight back from her forehead, and stretched to the back. The hair expression is well known in the statue of the royal women in the Early Dynastic Period, but her proportions indicate a later date.

**Wooden naked female statue**

Middle Kingdom
Southern slope of the outcrop, Rock-cut chamber
AKT02
Wood
H.63.5cm, W.11.2cm, D.13.0cm

This female statue is a unique type, which emphasizes the breasts in particular. A necklace is carved on the neck, and at the center of this necklace, there is a pectoral with hieroglyphic signs. The female’s head is shaven, and there eyes were once inlaid with bronze. Her body is naked, and the entire body is covered with black resin. This female statue was originally set into a pedestal, and a projection remains under the feet.
23  
*Faience model of an archaic shrine*

Early Dynastic Period  
Abusir south  
Southern slope of the outcrop, Rock-cut chamber AKT02  
Faience  
H.5.5cm, W.2.0cm, D.3.6cm

24  
*Faience object showing human faces*

Early Dynastic Period  
Abusir south  
Southern slope of the outcrop, Rock-cut chamber AKT02  
Faience  
H.3.7cm, Diam.2.7cm

25  
*Faience imitation of pot upon a pot stand*

Early Dynastic Period  
Abusir south  
Southern slope of the outcrop, Rock-cut chamber AKT02  
Faience  
H.7.6cm, Diam.3.3cm

26  
*Faience model of a ship*

Early Dynastic Period  
Abusir south  
Southern slope of the outcrop, Rock-cut chamber AKT02  
Faience  
L.5.5cm, W.6.4cm, Th.1.7cm

27  
*Faience model of harpoon*

Early Dynastic Period  
Abusir south  
Southern slope of the outcrop, Rock-cut chamber AKT02  
Faience  
L.8.7cm, W.1.4cm, Diam.1.0cm

The faience model No.23 depicts an archaic reed shrine or a carrying booth with a sign that probably represents the goddess Neith on its front part. No.24 consists of four faces of bearded men and they may represent foreigners. No.25 shows a pot stand surmounted with a pot in small scale. No.26 shows a ship with a shrine on it. No.27 imitates a harpoon, which symbolizes a weapon against chaos or evil.

28  
*Black-topped hes-jars*

Early Dynastic Period  
Abusir south  
Slope of the outcrop, Rock-cut chamber AKT02  
Ceramic  

|   | a. H.12.5cm, Maxi. diam.5.3cm | b. H.13.3cm, Maxi. diam.4.8cm | c. H.12.4cm, Maxi. diam.5.0cm |

The form of these jars is the shape of the hieroglyphic sign *hes*, which means "to purify." It is presumed that the *hes*-shaped jar was literally used for the ceremony of purification. These pottery sherds are called "black-topped" because the top of pottery was blackened by turning the vessel upside down and burning it in organic material such as straw.
29

Pyramidion
New Kingdom
Dahshur north
Western part of the tomb chapel of Ipy
Limestone
W.55.0cm × 57.0cm, H.38.0cm

Although the pyramid was originally a royal prerogative, high officials began building pyramids above their tomb chapels in the New Kingdom. This pyramidion was placed atop the small pyramid above one of the tomb chapels at Dahshur north.

30

Relief from the scene of the “Window of appearance”
New Kingdom, 18th Dynasty
Dahshur north
Tomb chapel of Ipy, shaft A
Limestone
H.34.4cm, W. 84.8cm

This relief was a part of the interior wall of a tomb chapel, and shows the scene of the “Window of appearance,” with a number of officials standing in front of a king who appears in a kiosk at the royal palace. The relief shows four high officials in a group looking towards the right. Each wears a beautiful garment and an elaborate wig carved in a different manner. They show the influence of the Amarna style.

31

Mud sealing with the “Necropolis seal”
New Kingdom, 18th Dynasty
Dahshur north
Tomb chapel of Ipy, shaft A
Clay
L.3.1cm, W.3.0cm, Th.1.5cm

This mud sealing was originally attached to a cord used to seal boxes or other objects. The impression shows the famous motif of the jackal over nine bound captives, called the “Necropolis seal,” which offered protection from the depredations of enemies and evil.
Faience ring with the name of Tutankhamun

New Kingdom, 18th Dynasty
Dahshur north
Tomb chapel of Ipay, shaft A
Faience
L.2.3cm, W.1.3cm, D.0.4cm

On the bezel of this faience ring the prenomen of Tutankhamun, "Nebkheperura," was carved. There are few objects with the name of Tutankhamun from the tombs of the officials because this king died young, probably during his ninth regnal year.

Faience ring with the name of Queen Ankhesenamun

New Kingdom, 18th Dynasty
Dahshur north
Tomb chapel of Ipay, shaft A
Faience
L.2.3cm, W.1.3cm, D.0.4cm

This faience ring bears the name of Ankhesenamun, queen of King Tutankhamun. Few objects bearing the name of Queen Ankhesenamun have been uncovered. Furthermore, it is quite unusual that both rings were discovered in the same tomb, other than the tomb of Tutankhamun.

Faience ring
bearing lotus flower

New Kingdom, 18th Dynasty
Dahshur north
Tomb chapel of Ipay, shaft A
Faience
H.1.1cm, W.2.4cm, D.2.1cm

The lotus flower was symbolic of rebirth because the flower appeared to blossom out of the water in the morning. Similar rings with the same motif were found in the tomb of Tutankhamun.
35

**Stone shabti**

New Kingdom, 18th Dynasty
Dahshur north
Tomb chapel of Ipay, shaft A
Diorite
H.22.4cm, W.9.5cm, D.8.6cm

Shabti is funerary servant figurine placed in the tomb to magically spare the deceased from menial labour in the afterlife. This shabti holds a hoe in one hand and a seed bag in the other for cultivating the land in the underworld. Although the owner is unknown due to the lack of an inscription, this type can be placed in the group of the late Eighteenth Dynasty.

36

**Scarab with the name of Ramesses II**

New Kingdom, 18th Dynasty
Dahshur north
Tomb chapel of Ipay, shaft A
Faience, gold
L.1.7cm, W.1.2cm, D.0.8cm

This ornament imitates the sacred scarab beetle, which was worshipped as the god of resurrection. From the Sixth Dynasty onwards it was a very common motif for amulets or ring-bezels. The flat underside of this scarab is decorated with a baboon and the prenomen of Ramesses II, "Usermaatra Setepenra." The gold frame suggests a hoop was originally attached to the scarab for use as a ring.

37

**Shabti of Mes**

New Kingdom, 19th Dynasty
Dahshur north
Tomb chapel of Ipay, shaft A
Sandstone
H.36.0cm, W.12.5cm, D.9.0cm

Mes was the royal scribe and steward, probably during the reign of Ramesses II, who reused and enlarged the substructure of the tomb chapel of Ipay for his own burial. This large sandstone shabti painted in pink and black was found broken into three parts around his massive sarcophagus. The shabti wears a composite Nubian wig and the elaborate dress of daily life with a broad collar depicting a Ba-bird. The Nubian wig and dignified beard reveal his high-ranking status.
Faience beads collar

New Kingdom, 18th Dynasty
Dahshur north
Shaft 17
Faience
W.26.0cm, L.47.0cm

This broad collar was found en bloc in a room of Shaft 17. It was made up of several plant-shaped beads such as the daisy flower and the cornflower. Other parallels are known from the tomb of Tutankhamun. Such elaborate collars were worn at the funerary ritual.

Jar sealing with the name of Tutankhamun

New Kingdom, 18th Dynasty
Dahshur north
Shaft 17
Clay
H.14.6cm, W.11.0cm, Th.7.0cm

This mud sealing with blue paint bears an impression of Tutankhamun’s name and epithets, reading, “Tutankhamun, Ruler of the southern Heliopolis, one who conquers all lands.” This type of mud sealing was used to seal wine jars.

Scarab with the name of Thutmose III

New Kingdom, 18th Dynasty
Dahshur north
Shaft 23
Steatite
W.1.3cm, L.1.8cm, Th.0.7cm

The scarab represents the dung-beetle, which was believed to constantly regenerate itself from the sand, and thus came to be a symbol of rebirth and renewal. Additionally, it was worshipped in connection with the sun god because the image of a beetle rolling a dung ball evoked the idea of pushing the sun up at dawn. On the underside of this scarab the phenomenon of Thutmose III, “Menkheperra,” is inscised.
**Scarab**

New Kingdom, 19th Dynasty
Dashur north
Shaft 25
Serpentine
H.3.9cm, L..8.7cm, W.6.6cm

This scarab is the largest among over thirty scarabs found in Dashur North. This large scarab expresses the symbolism of rebirth distinctly. On the back, Khepri is represented in his aspects of Ra-Horakhty and Osiris. The united moon (Osiris) and sun (Ra-Horakhty) between two Wedjat-eyes once more reflects the synthesis of the gods. The underside is decorated with a representation of Osiris. His sisters, Isis (on the left) and Nephthys (on the right), have awakened the god from the sleep of death.

**Golden finger ring with carnelian Wedjat-eye**

New Kingdom, 18th Dynasty
Dashur north
Shaft 27
Gold, carnelian
L.2.1cm, W.2.3cm, Th.0.3cm

During the Amarna period, a new style of art flourished and reached the height of its techniques and aesthetic sense. This gold ring has an amuletic bezel of a carnelian Wedjat-eye fixed with gold coils on both sides. A ring exactly the same as this one comes from the Royal tomb at Amarna. This gold ring is a hallmark of Amarna art.
Stela of Pashedu

New Kingdom, 19th Dynasty
Dashshur north
Shaft 39
Limestone
H:30.5cm, W:20.0cm, D:12.0cm

This round-topped stela was dedicated to the deceased Pashedu. Pashedu and his wife, Huy, are represented in the upper register. Pashedu gives offerings to Osiris and Isis. Huy holds a sistrum, a ritual instrument. The lower register depicts a ceremony for Pashedu's mummy enacted by his family. The mummy is held up before the god Anubis. Mes, Overseer of Horses, and a woman are lamenting in front of the mummy. Behind them, Herptah who wears priestly dress is presenting a libation and incense burner. Makhrunakht is presenting offering behind him. They were probably the family members of Pashedu.

Canopic jar

New Kingdom, 19th-20th Dynasty
Dashshur north
Tomb chapel of Ta, shaft 40
Calcite
lid: H:13.1cm, Maxi.diam.10.9cm
box: H:26.4cm, Maxi.diam.12.3cm

During mummification the viscera, with the exception of the heart, were removed, and the liver, lungs, stomach and intestines were mummified. These inner organs were placed into four canopic jars protected by the Sons of Horus. This lid represent Hapy, the baboon, who protects the lungs.
45

Ornament with amulets

New Kingdom, 18th Dynasty
Dahshur north
Simple burial (10y-0006)
Carnelian, glass, faience
L.20.0cm, W.14.0cm

This ornament is made of two strings of beads; the top string consists of red beads and the bottom one consists of tiny faience figures of gods in various shapes. It was found around the neck of a female.

46

Ornament with an Wedjat-eye and a scarab

New Kingdom, 18th Dynasty
Dahshur north
Simple burial (10y-0006)
Carnelian, schist, glass
Wedjat-eye: L.2.0cm, W.3.0cm, Th.0.6cm
Scarab: L.1.9cm, W.1.3cm, Th.0.6cm

This ornament is a bracelet consisting of amulets in the shapes of a Wedjat-eye, a scarab, and beads, and was found on a female’s right wrist.
Wooden coffin of Senu

Middle Kingdom, Late 12th-13th Dynasty
Dahshur north
Shaft 42
Wood
L. 182.0cm, H. 105.0cm, W. 57.0cm

This coffin was discovered in an intact shaft tomb. The entrance to the shaft was partially covered by the New Kingdom tomb chapel of Ta. This rectangular coffin was fully painted in yellow, with text columns in blue. One side depicts a Wedjat panel in order to allow the deceased to see the outside. The inscriptions give the title and name of the owner "the commander, Senu." The content and layout of the text is a very common style of the Middle Kingdom.
Mask of Senu
Middle Kingdom, Late 12th-13th Dynasty
Dahshur north
Shaft 42
Cartonnage
H: 88.3cm, W: 36.0cm, D: 30.0cm

This mummy mask of Senu is one of the masterpieces from Dahshur North. When the coffin was opened, the mummy of Senu wore this cartonnage mask and was entirely wrapped with linen. The mask has features such as a false beard of wood, a blue modeled wig, and a polychrome broad collar, all of which are characteristic of a Middle Kingdom funerary mask. Moreover, the feathered decoration, which is Nekhbet, is represented in full on the head. This suggests that its date is the latter part of the Middle Kingdom.
Shabti box of Henutta
Ceramic
Lid: H.10.5cm, Diam.14.2cm
Box: H.23.4cm, Diam.18.5cm

Shabti figures of Henutta
Terracotta
a. H.15.7cm, W.5.1cm  b. H.15.6cm, W.4.9cm
c. H.15.9cm, W.5.1cm  d. H.15.4cm, W.5.1cm

49
Shabti box and Shabti figures of Henutta
New Kingdom, 19th Dynasty
Dahshur north
Shaft 47
This is a set of four pottery shabtis and their container, the shabti box. The shabtis were painted in white on the lower body and in red on the upper. On the front, the inscriptions give the name of the owner, Henutta. The shabti jar is painted in the same manner and has a particular shape. The bottom is round, whereas the profile elongates from the front to the back, forming an oval mouth. It is capped with a lid in the shape of a three dimensional form of Anubis. The front of the jar shows Henutta adoring Osiris accompanied by the Sons of Horus on a lotus flower.

50
Relief showing a solar boat
New Kingdom, 19th-20th Dynasty
Dahshur north
Shaft 47
Limestone
W.73.0cm, H.24.0cm, D.23.0cm
This is a fragment from a lintel with relief, which probably originated form a tomb chapel. The relief on the face depicts a man adoring a solar boat carrying an infant boy, a baboon, the goddess Maat, and followers. The Egyptians believed that the sun god journeyed on a boat in the netherworld during the night. This relief shows the journey of the night bark before sunrise. The inscription on the upper left concerns the adoration of the god Ra-Horakhty.