The Egyptian Cultural Heritage Organisation

ECHO members survey the Southern Sinai

Interview with Prof. Fathi Salah, Director of the Egyptian National Documentation Centre - CULTNAT.

As well as regular features including ECHOnews

Reporting on how archaeology is working to protect Egypt's heritage
ECHO PUBLICATIONS ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE FORTHCOMING PUBLICATION OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST ECHO CONFERENCE ON: EGYPTIAN CULTURAL HERITAGE MANAGEMENT:

Managing Egypt’s Cultural Heritage:
Proceedings of the First Egyptian Cultural Heritage Organisation Conference on: Egyptian Cultural Heritage Management

Edited by F. A. Hassan, G. J. Tassie & J. van Wetering

This volume of the proceedings of the First Annual ECHO Conference, held in London in 2004, marks the first in a series of Occasional Papers by ECHO Publications. The papers in this volume cover many areas of cultural heritage management, from the theoretical to the practical, from cutting edge technology to simple conservation measures. The periods covered range from the Predynastic to the Coptic and Islamic periods. All the papers in this volume contribute in some way to preserving Egypt’s cultural heritage for the present and future generations. This volume is an invaluable addition to the library of anyone interested in preserving Egypt’s cultural and natural heritage.


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ECHO
Making archaeology work to protect Egypt's heritage.
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**ECHO Publications Code of Ethics:**

As the official publications of the Egyptian Cultural Heritage Organisation (ECHO), the ECHO DISCOVERER (newsletter), the ECHO EXPLORER (journal), and ECHO MONOGRAPH series will not carry any advertisements for antiquities dealers, and will not knowingly serve for the announcement of initial scholarly presentation of any object in a private or public collection acquired after 30th December 1970, unless that object can be proved to have been part of an already existing collection or can be proved beyond reasonable doubt that it has been legally exported from the country of origin. ECHO and ECHO publications condemn the looting and destruction of archaeological sites and are supporters of the: 1954 UNESCO Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict; the 1956 UNESCO Recommendation on International Principles Applicable to Archaeological Excavations, the 1964 ICOMOS International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites; 1970 UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property; the 1972 UNESCO Convention Concerning Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, the 1990 ICOMOS International Committee on Archaeological Heritage Management (ICAHM) Charter for the Protection and Management of the Archaeological Heritage; the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects; the 2001 UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage; the 2001 UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity; and the 2003 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.
From this issue onwards, every year ECHO DISCOVERER will inform you about interesting subjects relating to Egyptian and Sudanese Archaeology, new discoveries in Northeast Africa (Egypt and Northern Sudan), and keep you updated on the projects of the Egyptian Cultural Heritage Organisation (ECHO). Each ECHO DISCOVERER will focus on a subject relevant to Egyptian Archaeology, and Egyptology in general as well as Nubian and Sudanese archaeology. From this issue onwards more and more regular sections will appear to inform you about ECHO and what is happening in Egypt and the Northern Sudan:

- **ECHO News** will focus on ECHO membership matters, present and future projects of ECHO, as well as keeping you informed about the ECHO web-site: www.e-c-h-o.org
- **Northeast Africa corner** will bring you new discoveries from Northeast Africa (Egypt & the Sudan) as well as inform you about how to get around, getting away from the beaten (tourists) tracks. Local archaeological museums and other places of interest are discussed. Besides this it will keep you abreast of local developments, the SCA present and future projects and excavations, and similarly with the Sudanese Antiquities service.
- **Readers’ forum** will allow you the express your point of view, as well as being a forum where you can ask for information on all subjects relevant to the archaeology of Egypt and the Northern Sudan.
- **Reviews** will give you critical reviews on publications and events with a Northeast African subject, like books, CD-ROMs, internet sites and other media, as well as museums and exhibitions around the world. The book reviews will pay special attention to publications that focus on general archaeological theory & practice, Cultural Heritage Management, and, of course, reports on Egyptian/Sudanese excavations.

This issue takes a close look at Cultural Heritage Management (CHM) in Egypt with articles focussing on this subject. G. J. Tassie and Fekri A. Hassan, the founders of ECHO, have written an article on the present state of CHM in Egypt and what needs to be done in the (near) future to safeguard the Egyptian monuments. G.J. Tassie has also written the article that introduces the Egyptian Cultural Heritage Organisation, and the ECHO Board to you the members. He will be a regular writer in ECHO DISCOVERER with his ECHO News section that will keep you updated on the progress of current ECHO projects and its future aims. Some time ago, we were able to meet with Prof. Dr. Fathi Saleh, director of the National Center for Documentation of Cultural and Natural Heritage (CultNat), and ask him about the present and future projects of CultNat. In the summer of 2001, ECHO trustees conducted a reconnaissance survey in the Saint Katherine’s Protectorate [Southern Sinai] of the National Parks of Egypt. This work was done to assess the state of preservation of some of the archaeological sites in the area so that the Protectorate can better protect these sites by incorporating them into their conservation work and implement the teams site management plan. A short article by Joanne Rowland and Fekri A. Hassan on this work is included in this issue. Besides ECHO News, another regular section to be found in this issue, Reviews. A recently published book on archaeological heritage is reviewed here.

The up-coming issue will focus on Rescue Archaeology in Action – Egyptian Delta Sites in Danger. Recently the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities called upon the international community to assist it in safeguarding and investigating the archaeological sites of the Nile Delta as these are under treat of modern development. This issue looks at that problem and puts it in its wider context. It also discusses the friction between archaeological needs & wants, and modern demands.

Joris van Wetering & Jim Mower
Co-editors
The Egyptian Cultural Heritage Organisation (ECHO) was founded to highlight the various issues involved in cultural heritage studies, including visitor management, excavation, surveying, protection, conservation, restoration, legislation, ownership, public archaeology, site and monument records, interpretation and education. Although cultural heritage management has been practiced in Egypt for over 150 years and debates on cultural heritage issues raged even longer, it is only in the last 10 to 15 years that it has been formulated into a discipline in its own right. The ECHO Board of Trustees are pleased to welcome all ECHO’s members to being part of the first company to devote itself to not only debating matters of cultural heritage, but that actively works to protect it. Together we can secure protection for Egypt’s cultural heritage, so that future generations can enjoy and learn from it.

**Action is needed now! To help make a difference join ECHO today!**

**Benefits of Joining ECHO**

- In addition to helping to save Egypt’s cultural heritage, members will receive the **ECHO Discoverer**. Our Newsletter contains articles and information on publications, conferences, seminars, public lectures, special tours, and information on courses in Egyptian archaeology and heritage management in Egypt, Europe and the USA. The Newsletter will also provide information on archaeological events in Egypt and Egypt-related events around the world.

- Members of ECHO are entitled to discounts on various ECHO activities around the world.

- Contacts with a large network of scholars and experts ensure that ECHO will keep you well informed on news events and topics in all aspects of Egyptian archaeology.

- Receive preferential treatment on **ECHO TOURS**.

- Membership will get discounted rates on **ECHO** publications. Most importantly, your membership money goes to support cultural heritage management in Egypt.

*Making archaeology work to protect Egypt’s heritage*
Cultural Heritage Management: Who needs it?

G. J. Tassie & F. A. Hassan

Before cultural heritage can be managed, the term ‘cultural heritage’ requires definition. Cultural heritage can be considered to include elements of material culture, music, dance and oral tradition that have meaning and value placed upon them by present populations. Egypt’s legacy of cultural remains stretches back over 50,000 years of human occupation, including Palaeolithic cultures, state formation, the growth of the Persian, Greek, Roman and Arab empires and, of course, Egypt’s Pharaonic past.

Why is it important to manage this resource? What does such management involve? Today, archaeological sites and monuments all over Egypt are threatened by urban sprawl, development projects, agricultural expansion, pollution, looting and tourism. Within Egypt’s borders there are an incredible number of sites and monuments, as well as countless artefacts in museums and storerooms. All of these require constant monitoring, protection and maintenance (Hassan 1997: 90). Egyptians, although custodians of this world heritage, should not be solely burdened with the task of maintaining such a fragile and finite resource. The remains of the past in Egypt tell a complex story, vital to the understanding of human development. Such a resource requires funding from international bodies for maintenance, security and ongoing study. Although Egypt is rich in cultural heritage, it is unrealistic to attempt preservation of the entire material culture of the past (Skeates 2000: 17). Therefore, a selective policy is needed, focusing on certain elements requiring urgent preservation (Ucko 1992: xi). Traditionally, this policy has concentrated on preserving the stone-built monumental buildings of the Pharaonic and Graeco-Roman eras, especially at an international level (UNESCO World Heritage Sites [Hassan 1997: 88; Skeates 2000: 11-16]). Clearer policies in selecting a representative sample of material from all periods must be formulated. This would enable recording, preservation and protection, based on the nature and extent of the total archaeological database (Skeates 2000: 17-18). To select a clear sample within the entirety of Egypt’s cultural remains, and therefore effectively protect them, it is essential to clearly understand the condition, location and extent of each site or artefact. At present, there exists no National Register or central Sites and Monuments Records (SMRs) for Egyptian cultural heritage. The databases that do exist are unconnected islands of information lacking any central organisation.

Sites and monuments already selected for display to the public, such as the Valley of the Kings, Karnak and the Pyramids at Giza, require labour intensive site management, not only for education and tourism, but also to protect such monuments from damage caused by high visitor numbers. The primary aim of site management is to conserve the remaining archaeology, preventing or controlling further deterioration of the site. Site management should, however, be conducive to further archaeological research at the site, as well as allowing public enjoyment of monuments through visitor archaeological research at the site, as well as allowing public enjoyment of monuments through visitor flow management, visitor centres, on-site museums and information boards. The inclusion of on-site literature explaining historical importance should emphasise sensitive treatment of the area by encouraging visitors to walk on designated routes and avoid damaging the site through climbing or the removal of ‘souvenirs’. Site management allows increased revenue to be generated from tourism as visitors can be directed to official products and literature (Evans & Fielding 2000: 86). Another important area of protecting and managing Egypt’s heritage is a generally agreed code of ethics (Leblanc 2003: 66; Mayer 2003: 69); ECHO has already produced such a code for all archaeologists, Egyptologists, conservators and site managers to adhere to (see page 15).

At the World Heritage Site of Giza there already exists a site management plan, consisting of four phases. The first phase, which has already
been completed, consisted of cleaning and maintenance, control and designing management practices, including creating an entrance and exit to the site. The Sphinx was also conserved and personnel were trained in site management (Hawass 2003: 53-4) Phase 2 consists of conservation and archaeological work, especially to the east of the Great Pyramid, opening up more areas for visitors to take the pressure of the three pyramids. The third phase is the creation of a visitor management plan. In the early 1990s UNESCO (and the SCA) commissioned The Conservation Practice (TCP), a British based team of conservation architects, to conduct a preliminary study and prepare a report for the sustainable management of the World Heritage Site of Giza - The Masterplan for the Giza Pyramid Plateau and its Buffer Zone (Mabbit 1992). Including existing work in their survey, TCP conducted initial research, discussing work conducted on the Giza Plateau and surrounding environs with the Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA). TCP then proposed a management plan, highlighting the necessary removal of tarmac roads and modern structures running through the Pyramid area and the management of camel and horse stables and rides into the desert southwest of the pyramids. TCP also recommended the construction of a ring road around the Giza Plateau defining and protecting the boundary of the site. To improve the visitor experience and flow of visitors, TCP proposed a picnic area and the construction of three visitor centres; the Khufu Gate, the Sphinx Gate and the Desert Gate. These gates would relate to key themes on the Giza Plateau, organising tours and providing educational material and souvenirs (Mabbit 1992). The visitor centres were designed to allow tourists’ access to the Pyramids and mastaba tombs on foot, using special pedestrian walkways, which would be accessible to the disabled and elderly. The paths were to be built of materials complimentary to the surrounding landscape and site as a whole. A continuous bus shuttle was suggested, to run between the three visitor centres, along with a ban on all other vehicle access. To allow proper management of these changes, a new conservation laboratory and office for SCA staff was to be built in the area of the existing store buildings, complimenting the architectural style of the Plateau (Mabbit 1992). A few amendments were made to these plans, such as choosing two, rather than three visitor centres, although the plan basically remains the same. These centres will greatly increase the visitor experience of the Giza Plateau, although foreign involvement is required to help construct these centres (Hawass 2003: 56). The inclusion of the well known solar boat and demolition of the present boat museum would be worthwhile additions. The fourth phase consists of archaeological research, conservation work and careful documentation in a computer database of all tomb wall paintings, inscriptions and artefacts (Hawass 2004: 56). Estimates suggest a timescale of up to 15 years for completion of all four phases. Further sites, especially ancient Thebes and Saqqara, are in desperate need of full-scale site management plans such as that developed for Giza. Less well known sites, such as Beni Hassan, would benefit from inclusion on the tourist trail, thus easing the pressure on main tourist sites.

The First Steps in Managing Cultural Heritage
As stated above, good practice in the management of the cultural heritage resource cannot be achieved if the extent of this resource is unknown. Therefore it becomes imperative that the provision of a National Register of Sites, Monuments and Historic Buildings or central SMRs is considered. Before creating such a National Register, it is important to define cultural property. Within Egypt’s Law 117, a cultural property is defined as any movable or immovable property that is a product of any of past civilisations from prehistoric times to 100 years before the present, although there are special provisions for identifying cultural properties less than 100 years old. There also exist many international legislative tools; such as UNESCO 1972, which also includes a definition of cultural property. The second stage in creating a National Register concerns a definition of each site, including location, extent and state of preservation. In the case of Egypt, a survey of the literature to date is essential in creating a National Register, allowing assessment of the
condition, environment and history of conservation of each site already surveyed or excavated. To complement this survey, a field investigation can be carried out, designed to monitor the causes and threats of damage to cultural properties. Standardised recording forms for such work are essential, to include information required in the National register. Such an archaeological survey of Egypt is long overdue, with endangered areas, including the Delta, the Red Sea Coast, North Sinai, the edge of the Nile Floodplain and reclamation areas in the oases, being of high priority (Hassan 1997: 91). Many surveys have already been conducted, such as the Theban Mapping Project (http://www.thebanmappingproject.com/), the Giza Plateau Mapping Project (www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/PROJ/GIZ/Giza.html) and those conducted in the Delta (Bietak 1975; Brewer et al. 1996; Brink 1988; Chlodnicki et al. 1998; Coulson 1988; Spencer & Spencer 2000), these now require inclusion in the central ‘Survey of Egypt Project’ as an initial stage in creating a National Register. To this end, dissemination of archaeological and technical knowledge from around the world becomes vital, with the need for working groups and training centres to help in this process. Annual conferences on CHM, to be held in Egypt, would be an excellent way of involving all institutions currently working on heritage related projects (see ECHO News), especially those who have already completed or are engaged in survey work.

The construction of a National Register for sites and monuments will allow the establishment of a ‘sites at risk register’, focusing rescue work where it is most needed. Such a register would also allow continuous monitoring and preservation of Egypt’s heritage (Renfrew & Bahn 1991: 470). Access to any proposed Sites and Monuments Records by the academic community is vital (although access to information on the register should be properly managed to prevent further destruction of sites). Information could be placed on a database such as ORACLE, MS SQL Server or MySQL and thus presented to the stakeholders and wider audience on a web-based content management system such as ToadHMS where differential access levels can be maintained (http://toadhms.com).

Full-scale survey of Egypt’s heritage and the creation of a National Register are long term projects. These may take up to 20 years to complete. Five hundred staff working in Poland took thirteen years to complete a survey consisting of 65% of the total area and log this information into the PolishArchaeological Records (Jaskanis 1992). It is worth noting, however, that the ‘National Center for Documentation of Cultural and Natural Heritage’ (CultNat [www.cultnat.org] see pages 20-23), and the ‘Egyptian Antiquities Information System’ (EAINS [www.eais.org.eg]) are engaged in significant work along similar lines.

Heritage and the Law

There exist many international legislative tools designed to protect antiquities. These include; the 1970 UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property; the 1993 UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects; the 1964 ICOMOS International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites; the 1990 ICOMOS International Committee on Archaeological Heritage Management (ICAHM) Charter for the Protection and Management of the Archaeological Heritage; the 1972 UNESCO Convention Concerning Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, the 1956 UNESCO Recommendation on International Principles Applicable to Archaeological Excavations, and the UNESCO Protocol to the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict. National Egyptian law governing archaeology and the antiquities trade, especially Law no. 215 (31st October 1951) on the Protection of Antiquities (revised by laws no. 529 of 1953, no. 24 of 1965 and no. 117 of 1983) also exists to protect Egyptian cultural heritage. Recently Zahi Hawass, Secretary General of the SCA, established the Antiquities Reclaim Department, which actively upholds Law 117, a section of which states that antiquities not then (1983) in private collections are deemed to be public property. This repatriation of artefacts stolen
from Egypt, has been a method employed in discouraging looting, which causes archaeological material to be lost or viewed out of context.

**General Methods of Protecting Cultural Heritage**

Archaeological assessments and watching briefs are important methods useful in mitigating the effects of urban development. Such work could employ local Inspectors to conduct assessments through the production of desktop reports, engaging in initial site assessment and presenting recommendations in advance of any planned development work.

The introduction of a ‘Treasure Act’ would cut down the amount of looted treasure and also raise the percentage of new sites reported to the SCA (Skeates 2000: 42-3). Basic site management techniques include the formulation of developmental plans for tourism that minimise the environmental and urban hazards, thus promoting community involvement (Hassan 1998). However, some of these measures will require the enforcement of special new laws.

For cultural heritage management to be truly effective in Egypt, a programme of training in site management procedures and principals for existing SCA personnel is essential (Hawass 1995; 2003: 59), coupled with an understanding and targeted use of existing resources. Moreover, general capacity building is needed, both at a central and local level.

The present lack of funding and resources in Egypt is currently critical at the level of the local Inspectorate (Reid 1984: 246). Thus the need for tuition in appropriate archaeological methodology for these staff is acute, highlighted at the recent Qantara conference (Mower & Tassie 2000). Egyptology texts written in Arabic are extremely rare. Most are written in one of the three traditional languages of Egyptology - English, French or German, with the situation critical in relation to a lack of archaeology texts (Reid 1984: 235). Although many Egyptian Inspectors speak English fluently, Arabic texts are needed to explain many of the specific terms used in modern archaeology (Hawass 2003: 60). Many of the books in foreign languages are not available to the vast majority of Inspectors. The proper training of staff in archaeological techniques and the production of relevant textbooks written in Arabic are two issues that can be resolved very quickly (see ECHO News). International institutions and missions working in Egypt can help by disseminating the results of their research, devoting time to educate the local inspectors about their archaeological project and field methods, and by including young Egyptian archaeologists and scientists in their team with fuller active collaboration with the SCA (Hawass 1995; 2003; Hassan 1997; Leblanc 2003; Weeks 2003).

**Bibliography**


The Egyptian Cultural Heritage Organisation (ECHO)

G. J. Tassie

“Scholarship is by no means all that is wanted; the engineering training of mind and the senses … will really fit an archaeologist better for excavating than bookwork alone.”

(W. M. F. Petrie 1904)

Why do we need another society concerned with Egyptology, why another publication about Egypt and who and what is ECHO?

Petrie, the father of Egyptian archaeology, developed the basis of much of the archaeological methodology used in Egypt today. However, since then many advances in archaeological methods, techniques and theory have been made, although most have not been developed within Egyptology. For Egyptology, a discipline traditionally based on monumental archaeology, is a discipline that is related to the reading of texts (Midant-Reynes 2000: 1). Throughout the two hundred years of Egyptology’s history this has generally been the status quo. As Sauneron (1968: 41) declares: ‘More than any other ancient people, the Egyptians have produced a huge multiplicity of texts, therefore, whatever the importance of the strictly archaeological evidence uncovered up till now, the study and interpretation of Egyptian texts still forms the basis of most of the research that Egyptologists undertake’. Although mainstream archaeological practice has been conducted in the study of prehistoric Egypt, the study of events before the pharaonic era still lies outside of mainstream Egyptology (Guksch 1991: 38-9; Midant-Reynes 2000: 1) and these methods and practices have been slow to be taken up by traditional Egyptologists (Giddy 1999). However, Egyptology is wholeheartedly embracing many of the different areas of information technology (IT), such as geographic information systems (GIS) and computer generated graphics and animation, making many advances in these fields.

When Jean-François Champollion announced his decipherment of hieroglyphs in 1822 with his ‘Letter to Monsieur Dacier’, the birth of a new academic discipline was born - Egyptology. Further advances were made in Egyptology when the Service d’Antiquités was formed in 1858 with Auguste Mariette as its first director; the establishment by Mariette of the Cairo Museum of Egyptian Antiquities closely followed this in 1863. The aim of the subject at this point was the uncovering of monumental buildings and beautiful artefacts, but this was closely related to the reading of texts and the filling of museums with objects to marvel at. In 1892 the Edwards Chair of Egyptology was founded at University College London (UCL), and with this recognition by one of the world’s foremost universities Egyptology was given more credence. Although Petrie, as the first Edwards Professor taught archaeological methods and practice to his students, this was not a practice that was to continue. For Egyptology as a taught subject started to become detached from archaeology during the late 1920s, when the amount of artefacts that were permitted to be retained by excavators was drastically reduced (Reid 1989: 237-9). The ruling by the Egyptian courts was made in response to the discovery of King Tutankhamun’s tomb and the debacle over ownership of the bust of Nefertiti, now in the Berlin Museum (Reid 1989: 237-9). Due to the fact that the major funding bodies (museums and universities) could no longer export finds, the amount of survey and excavation in Egypt declined (Reid 1989: 237-9), resulting in Egyptology focusing on history and philology. Not until the UNESCO Nubian Rescue Campaign of the 1960s was large-scale international archaeology again conducted in Egypt. The building of the Aswan High Dam caused new archaeological incentives, those of rescue archaeology, and brought a multidisciplinary approach to Egyptian archaeology, drawing on the skills of architects, anthropologists, engineers, technicians, geologists, conservators, Egyptologists and archaeologists (Midant-Reynes 2000: 1-11). Out of this campaign came new archaeological developments that stimulated scientific advances throughout the 1980s and
1990s. But even today many sites in Egypt are threatened, especially those in areas of intensive cultivation, primarily the floodplain area of the Nile. Also, the current high land-prices in the floodplain drives locals into the low desert where so much archaeological material is just below the sand, and easily but irretrievably destroyed.

Traditionally, in the majority of universities offering Egyptology, teaching concentrates on philology and history, without a specific degree focusing on Egyptian archaeology (Bietak 1979: 156-7; Tassie, Rowland & de Trafford 2000: 99). The teaching of Egyptian archaeology as an academic discipline was not introduced into a British university until 1991, when Dr. David Jeffreys founded a degree course at UCL (Tassie, Rowland & de Trafford 2000: 99).

The theoretical developments made in mainstream archaeology in the 1960s, 70s and 80s in America and Europe, progressing through Processualism and Post-Processualism, have only started to impact on Egyptian archaeology in the last ten to fifteen years (Savage 2001: 101-106). The use of single context recording, which is commonly accepted as being the best form of recording for a deeply stratified site (Roskams 2001; Westman 1994), has also only recently been implemented in Egypt. These advances in archaeological theory and methodology need to be disseminated to young Egyptians working in the field, so that they are armed with the latest methods and theory to help in their work. Books on the various archaeological disciplines need to be made available in Arabic, as well as greater access to standard works in English, French and German.

The specialised techniques and methodology involved in archaeology today are still largely expected to be learnt in the field, by those Egyptologists wishing to conduct fieldwork (Bietak 1979: 159-60). Egyptology, as taught in many universities worldwide, is not a preparation for archaeological fieldwork; history and philology do not help you to distinguish between contexts and neither do they teach you about how to read a mud-brick bonding corpus or how to excavate intercutting pits. However, this is not to say that history and philology are unimportant, but that there needs to be more balance, with archaeology being equally as important as learning history and philology.

The founding of ECHO came out of a concept first discussed in 1996 by F. A. Hassan and G. J. Tassie, both of whom were acutely aware of the shortcomings of the current status of Egyptian archaeology / Egyptology. The gathering together of the people able to carry through the objectives of ECHO and the founding of the Board of Trustees has necessarily been a slow process. However, the need for a new organisation is now more urgent than ever. Because archaeology has changed so radically over the last twenty years, and the threats to the world’s cultural heritage have increased, there is a greater need than ever for Egyptian archaeology to keep pace with these changes and threats. One of the most important means of protecting cultural heritage is to keep the public informed of archaeological developments and potential threats to archaeology within their communities and the wider world. Another important means is to have a well-informed archaeological community. The most effective practical means of protecting cultural heritage is knowing its location and how much actually exists; for you cannot effectively protect what you do not know you have. It was also evident that specialist publications aimed at Egyptian archaeologists were also needed. Although there are many able publications dealing with matters of Egyptological interest, such as religion, history, iconography, mythology, and site reports, the Trustees of ECHO felt that there was a need for a new newsletter, journal and monograph series. ECHO Publications are aimed at relaying the methods, theory and practice of archaeology and cultural heritage management (CHM) to as wide an audience as possible. Therefore, ECHO and its publications are complementary to traditional Egyptology societies and publications.

The Trustees of ECHO all have an archaeological background and the ECHO doctrine is founded on clear archaeological theory, methodology and practice. ECHO is an organisation that aims at being a vehicle for these important topics, both on the website and in its various publications. ECHO is a non-governmental organisation (NGO), non-profit
Pollution, fertiliser and many adverse effects on the environment of Egypt, such as salinisation, caused by the constant construction of dams. These projects have led to the destruction of many archaeological sites, including the remains of ancient Egyptian civilization. The Nile Delta is the region that is most acutely threatened, as highlighted by many of the SCA’s officers at the 8th International Congress of Egyptologists (Tassie, Rowland & de Trafford 2000). As well as the destructive forces listed above, mechanical farming techniques and agricultural intensification, land reclamation (involving flooding of vast areas of land), building and development projects, and lack of money and resources are all acutely felt in the Delta (Spencer & Spencer 2000; Theroux 1997: Abdel el-Wakil 1988). The increasing need by farmers for more arable land is pressing the archaeological sites ever more as is the need for basic living and working space. Egypt’s population is increasing by a million people each year, therefore, the purpose is not only to save the sites and monuments, but also to free more space for this increase in population. Only by understanding the extent of Egypt’s cultural heritage can both these goals be met. One of the first steps in cultural heritage management (CHM), therefore, is surveying of sites (Renfrew & Bahn 1991: 473), so that the likely amount of sites and monuments can be ascertained, and a database can be built up, to facilitate the establishment of a National Register of Sites, Monuments and Historic Buildings. From this register, a Sites and Monuments at Risk project can be mounted (see article on CHM). Once this project has been conducted, land that is currently protected under Egypt’s heritage laws, if no longer required for research and not holding remains that are to be displayed, may be handed over for cultivation or development.

The emphasis of archaeological work has changed a lot since its beginnings and to preserve, understand, and record this heritage must be an international undertaking, working in unison with the Egyptian government. Many of the threats posed by the modern world will not disappear, but can be mitigated if we work together. This can only be accomplished with large-scale funding and the generous support of the public and professionals in donating funds or joining ECHO as a member. ECHO aims to make it possible for you to help make a difference.

**ECHO’s Mission Statement**

♦ To enhance public awareness and appreciation, in Egypt and abroad, of the cultural heritage of Egypt throughout-the-ages, and its contribution to world civilisation

♦ To help in the training of Egyptians in cultural heritage management, conservation, and archaeological methods, theory and practice

♦ To establish field schools throughout Egypt; to fund cultural exchanges between Egyptian universities and other universities throughout the world.

♦ To develop and contribute to cultural heritage management programmes in Egypt.
including site management, conservation and restoration, creation of a National Register, environmental protection and rescue surveys and excavations

- To actively assist the SCA in their efforts against looting and vandalism within Egypt, and to assist in, and stimulate worldwide action against the illicit trade in Egyptian antiquities

- To enhance awareness of the problems caused by illicit trade in antiquities and in the destruction of cultural heritage that it entails

- To encourage cultural tourism programmes as a means of enhancing the appreciation of the world heritage of Egypt

- To promote a greater understanding of current research amongst professional Egyptian archaeologists (from all countries), and between archaeologists and the public. This will be achieved through the publication and distribution of scientific publications and more popular works explaining the workings and findings of archaeology to the public

- To promote best practice in archaeological fieldwork, site management and the care and protection of artefacts. To realise this a series of excavation, surveying, conservation and CHM manuals and fieldguides, as well as a safety code booklet for working in the field will be produced in both English and Arabic

ECHO is committed to establishing a National Register of sites and monuments (Sites and Monuments Records [SMRs]), as this central database is of paramount importance, along with a nationwide archaeological survey, in protecting Egypt’s cultural heritage. A start has been made by ECHO Trustees working with the Egyptian authorities (i.e. CultNat) in creating a National Register. The first steps in disseminating archaeological knowledge have already been made by ECHO, for the first in a series of Archaeological Fieldguides, the ECHO Field Handbook of Excavation: Methodology and Recording Techniques, Standards and Conventions, is already in the final stages of production.

ECHO Trustees are already conducting CHM programmes throughout Egypt, participating in a survey of the Southern Sinai and making recommendations for a site management project, and helping to produce a report on Egypt’s cultural heritage: A Strategic Approach to Egypt’s Cultural Heritage. As part of ECHO’s dedication to eradicating the illicit trade in antiquities, a Code of Ethics has been produced for its members (and anyone working in archaeology or connected fields) to follow. ECHO is also preparing a cultural and environmental heritage project for the Eastern Desert and Red Sea Coast. ECHO Trustees are also helping with educational projects run throughout Egypt (for fuller details please see ECHO News). As well as Egypt, ECHO intends to expand into other areas of Africa, such as Sudan and Ethiopia, and establish a sister company called the Ethiopian Cultural Heritage Organisation (ETCHO). This company will have similar objectives to ECHO, but in regard to preserving Ethiopian cultural heritage. The Directors of ETCHO will all be Ethiopian archaeological specialists with many years experience working in Ethiopia.

Who are ECHO?
The ECHO Board is comprised of the Board of Trustees, the Board of Associate Trustees and the soon to be incorporated Board of Advisors. The ECHO Board has special units within it to help fund work within Egypt, such as ECHO Publications, ECHO Events and ECHO Tours (which will start their programme of activities during 2003). The personnel on the ECHO Board range from physical anthropologists, archaeologists, and cultural heritage managers, to designers, lawyers, bankers, and IT technicians, with Professor Fekri A. Hassan, Petrie Professor of Archaeology, UCL, as its Honorary President. These various people bring a combination of archaeological, artistic, administrative and business skills to the company. They have given their time freely for the cause, over the past three years, making sure all the legal arrangements and other areas of operation are in place. However, now the ECHO Board feels that the time is right to start work within Egypt, and is establishing the ECHO Field Unit and the ECHO Schools and Training Unit.

Discoverer I 2004
Board of Trustees:

Prof. Fekri Hassan – Honorary President – Geo-Archaeologist
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Ms Amanda Crane - Company Secretary – Web Master

The concept, launch and functioning of ECHO would not have been possible without the help and kindness of many people and their specialist skills, and the Board of Trustees wish to express their deepest gratitude to all the Associate Trustees and other people that have been essential in the founding of ECHO, especially:

Board of Associate Trustees:

Mr Joris van Wetering – Publications Co-editor – Archaeologist
Mr Jim Mower – Publications Co-editor – Archaeologist
Dr Okasha el Daly – Egyptological and Travel Consultant – Egyptologist
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Mr Paul Thomas – Information Technology – Co-founder of Short Films 4-U Ltd – paul.thomas@shortfilms4u.com
Mr Andy Vella – Original Artwork and Company Logo: VELLADESIGN – velladesign@btclick.com
Mr Scott Leaver – Web Animation: crumpled dog design – www.crumpled-dog.com

The board of Trustees would also like to express their thanks to all the other interlocutors that have made this organisation viable, and apologise for not individually naming all those responsible. The Board of ECHO would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to this most exciting new adventure in Egyptian archaeology.

Making archaeology work to protect Egypt’s heritage.

Bibliography


The Egyptian Cultural Heritage Organisation (ECHO) is dedicated to the greater understanding, protection and preservation of Egypt's cultural heritage and the dissemination of archaeological knowledge to the academic and wider public audience. ECHO recognises that archaeologists, specialist consultants and cultural heritage managers have a responsibility to practice a moral and professional code of ethics to the cultural material of the past, the public and their colleagues.

I) The Responsibility to the Cultural Heritage:


2. All archaeologists, scientists, art historians or other archaeological specialists, must refrain from giving credence to stolen or looted artefacts, by refusing to study, evaluate or examine them in any manner whatsoever, unless it is to verify that the artefacts in question are indeed stolen or looted, and as such must be reported to the appropriate authorities. These experts must also not consciously contribute any scholarly knowledge to an exhibition that knowingly allows artefacts illegally acquired after 30th December 1970 to be shown in their displays. An artefact may be considered illicit if:

a) The person in possession of it cannot produce good title to it under the applicable law.

b) An object has been acquired in - or exported from - its country of origin in violation of that country's laws.

c) The object was imported or acquired illegally from an official excavation or
monument, or originated from an unofficial, illegal or clandestine dig.

4. Archaeologists must undertake to report any dishonest or unethical behaviour, especially that which threatens any cultural materiality, such as breaches of the UNESCO, ICOMOS or UNIDROIT agreements, to the proper legal authorities.

5. Members must not engage in any illegal or unethical conduct involving archaeological material or knowingly permit the use of their name in support of any illegal or unethical activity involving archaeological matters, including, theft, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation.

6. Archaeologists and archaeological specialists should refrain from authentication and testing for any objects not curated in a public institution or where they are not open to scientific study, interpretation or display, such as those held by private individuals, salesrooms or commercial galleries.

7. The principal investigator or director must ensure that all governmental permits and necessary permissions from landowners and other persons are obtained and that the site and personnel conform to all legal requirements.

8. The principal investigator or director should include adequate plans for conservation, preservation, storage receptacles and materials and archives in their project design, and should secure funds for such purposes from the outset.

9. The principal investigator or director must ensure that experimental design, recording, and sampling procedures are adequate for the project being undertaken.

10. The principal investigator or director of a project must before any archaeological work is undertaken, carefully consider the purpose and consequences of the intended research. The methods and approaches chosen must be the most suitable for not only extracting the maximum amount of information from the archaeological material, but for creating the least amount of damage to the local or regional environment. Less intrusive methods of archaeological investigation - such as survey - should always be sought first before resorting to excavation. The objectives of the research should be adequate justification for the destruction of archaeological evidence which it will entail.

11. The recording and collecting of archaeological material must retain their provenience and identification throughout the whole archaeological process of retrieval, conservation and analysis.

12. The archaeologist shall ensure that resultant records of an investigation, along with the methods and results of any analysis, must be fully described, recorded and archived in an intelligible, readily usable and durable manner, it must be maintained in good condition and the full archive - including any artefacts and specimens - eventually deposited where it can receive adequate curatorial care and storage conditions and be readily available for study and examination.

13. The recovery and study of archaeological material must be conducted only by - or under the guidance - of fully qualified professional personnel.

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14. The principal investigator or director must develop a project digest that specifies the project objectives and takes into account all previous work and relevant research.

15. The principal investigator or director must ensure the availability of adequate and qualified personnel and facilities to carry the project through to completion. The archaeologist shall not undertake any work for which he or she is not adequately qualified and shall try to ensure to the best of their ability that all members of the team undertaking archaeological work are adequately qualified. The principal investigator or director should arrange for specialists to be contacted in the event of unforeseen archaeological issues, which they can recommend to their employers, funders or clients.

16. Archaeologists must keep themselves informed about developments in their field of specialisation.

16. When cultural heritage is under a direct threat, such as human induced - war zone or building of a dam or a natural threat such as earthquake or flooding, it is the archaeologists duty to try and protect/rescue as much of the threatened heritage as possible. Participation in a rescue project in a country where the current regime has low human rights, is corrupt, brutal, illegitimate or has UN sanctions against it, does not imply that the archaeologists working in that country support the regime as long as they do not:

   a) Offer support for the regime, either privately or publicly.
   b) Produce literature or other media proclaiming the rights of the regime.
   c) Oppress or exploit any of the people in the country or are partisan in anyway.
   d) Directly receive money from - or give money to - the regime for the work they are doing in the country. UNESCO money being channelled through the regime is, however, permissible.
   e) Participate in any political activities that support the regime.

Therefore, as long as the rescuing (surveying, excavating, conserving) of the cultural heritage and objective report writing of the analysis of the material is the goal of the project it is ethically and morally acceptable to salvage the cultural heritage within that country. The archaeological record is finite, whereas modern political regimes are transient; therefore it is the archaeologist’s duty to record as an objective view of history as possible.

17. If the country or regime where a human or naturally induced threat is occurring or about to occur cannot safely and effectively look after the artefacts, monuments and other objects of cultural heritage that are salvaged from an archaeological rescue project and as a consequence offers to share these objects with the agencies participating in the project, then these objects must be:

   a) Deposited with a national or local museum or within a teaching collection of a university on a fixed term renewable, and revisable loan. It must be understood and stated that the objects/material (archives) are recognised as belonging to the country of origin and that the intention is to eventually
repatriate the objects to that country.

Objects may not be

b) Sold to any person.
c) Deposited in private collections not accessible by the public and scholarly research.
d) Kept by the archaeologist or funding agency.

II) The Responsibilities to the Public
1. When the principal investigator or director is planning a project, due consideration must be given to the overall impact that the project may have on the local population.
2. All archaeological personnel must respect the cultural norms and dignity of the local population. Archaeologists should take into account legitimate concerns of groups whose material past may be the subject of archaeological investigation.
3. The principal investigator or director should hold consultations with the appropriate representatives of the local community during the planning stage of the project, and invite local participation in the project, giving the local population regular updates of the progress being made.
4. The project personnel should actively engage in outreach programmes through lecturing, popular writing, school education programmes, site tours, and other educational initiatives.
5. Archaeologists must present archaeology and its results in a responsible manner, to avoid and discourage exaggerated, misleading or unwarranted statements about archaeological practice.
6. The principal investigator or director must make adequate provision for continued site management at the planning stage of the project if the site is to be opened to the public.
7. An archaeologist must not offer advice, make a public statement, or give legal testimony about archaeological matters without being as fully informed about such matters as is reasonably possible.

III) The Responsibilities to Colleagues
1. ECHO is an equal opportunities organisation. Members of ECHO must not practice discrimination or harassment based on age, sex, religion, colour, national origin, disability or sexual preference.
2. The principal investigator or director of a project must provide acceptable standards of health, hygiene and safety on site and give due regard to the requirements of employment legislation. Archaeologists must ensure that adequate insurance cover is maintained for all personnel and property that may be affected by archaeological activities.
3. All archaeologists must adhere to the highest standards of ethical and responsible behaviour in the conduct of archaeological affairs, and shall conduct himself or herself in a manner that will not bring archaeology or their institution into disrepute.
4. Those in authority on a project must behave with consideration and courtesy to those under their authority, while all team members should reciprocate and strive to promote the success of the project.
5. Archaeologists should strive to make public the record and results of their research in a timely manner providing evidence to others. Yearly interim reports should be submitted to reputable journals to disseminate the latest findings, and a final report must be published.
6. The principal investigator or director is responsible for the analysis and publication of data derived from his or her investigations. If publication is not completed within 5 years of completion.
of a project then, a waiver of the rights of primacy shall be judged and evidence should be made available to researchers upon request for analysis and publication. Extenuating circumstances shall be considered by interested parties.

7. Archaeologists should communicate and cooperate with colleagues with similar interests, giving due respect to colleagues’ interests in - and rights to - information about sites, areas, collections or data where there is a shared field of concern, be it active or potential.

8. Archaeologists must give due regard and appropriate support to the training and development of all personnel to enable them to execute their duties.

9. All personnel must give the appropriate credit for work done by other archaeologists and specialist consultants.

10. All personnel must give reasonable consideration to cumulative service and proven experience of employees, colleagues or helpers when deciding rates of pay and other employment benefits.

11. Requests from colleagues or students for information on the results of research or projects should be honoured by the archaeologist if it is consistent with his or her prior rights to publication and other archaeological responsibilities.

12. Archaeologists must not commit plagiarism in electronic, written (hard copy) or oral communication.

13. An archaeologist shall not reveal confidential information unless required by law, nor use any confidential or privileged information to his or her own advantage or that of a third party.
National Center for Documentation of Cultural and Natural Heritage. An interview with its director Prof. Dr. Fathi Saleh

Joris van Wetering & Joanne M. Rowland

Egypt not only has wide-ranging cultural remains – from Pre-historic remains, through remains of the Pharaonic, Graeco-Roman, Coptic, Byzantine, and Islamic periods to modern Egypt – but also great natural resources, in the Nile Valley and Delta, as well as in the deserts, the Sinai peninsula and the different coastlines. To document this, a first and necessary step to preserve, protect and manage it, the cultural and natural heritage of Egypt, the National Center for Documentation of Cultural and Natural Heritage under the direction of Prof. Dr. Fathi Saleh was established. Recently the co-editors of ECHO DISCOVERER were able to meet with the director at the offices of the Center in Cairo for an interview.

Prof. Dr. Fathi Saleh at the offices of the National Center for Documentation of Cultural and Natural Heritage

According to Prof. Saleh, the main aim of the Center is to document and preserve the cultural and natural heritage of Egypt on a national level by creating a database using the latest technology. Today the Center works under the auspices of Bibliotheca Alexandrina with complete technical support from the recently established Ministry of Communication and Information Technology although it closely collaborates with other ministries and the cabinet
of ministers. The Center recently received a grant from the IBM foundation for IT-generated scientific research. This prestigious grant designed for the preservation of Cultural Heritage using modern technology, includes financial and technical support, and the equipment provided by IBM will remain at the Center.

The Center currently has six heritage projects it is working on: ‘the Archaeological Map of Egypt’, ‘Cairo’s Architectural Heritage’, ‘the Natural Heritage Program’, ‘the Musical Heritage Program’, ‘Egyptian Folklore’, and ‘the Photographic Heritage of Egypt’. In addition, the Center is developing with the UNESCO a series of publications on the contribution of Arab civilization in the sciences. Although the Center has been established recently, its predecessors have been working on developing databases on Cultural heritage for the past 10 years. Projects like the ‘Archaeological Map of Egypt’ started long ago, while more projects are now being instigated. So everything has now come together under the Center, helped by a grant given by IBM to the cultural heritage of Egypt, and access through IBM to the latest technology.

The ‘Archaeological Map of Egypt’ project is being undertaken by the Center in co-operation with the Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA), and half of the staff are inspectors of the SCA. According to Prof. Saleh it is very important to get the people who have practical experience involved in these projects. The ‘Archaeological Map of Egypt’ is a pilot scheme to create a national archaeological map of Egypt, implementing GIS and database technology to record Egypt’s cultural heritage. The purpose of the map is a ‘sites and monuments’ inventory; building awareness; and incorporating other archaeological and museum databases from around the world. It works on 3 levels: National, Site, and Monument level. The National level gives the location of the site on a map of Egypt and the Site level gives a map of the site, while the Monument level gives a plan of individual structures of the site. These levels give the researcher the chance to analyse a specific monument in great detail and in its wider context. So far, 300 sites have been included with bibliographic references for each site (Saleh & Grimal 2000:160). This scheme is the first real attempt at a Sites and Monuments Records (SMRs) for Egypt, and is backed by UNESCO and the SCA, and will hopefully be supported by the wider community of international Egyptologists. An initial attempt has been made with the French Archaeological Institute (IFAO) and the College de France to combine an archaeological database of French archaeological work in the past 50 years with the ‘Archaeological Map of Egypt’ database. The detailed information collected by the IFAQ in Saqqara on tombs and pyramid complexes as well as their maps will be available to the Center. Contact with American institutes will, in the near future, provide even more important information, especially for the Giza area, available to the Center to compile into the ‘Archaeological Map of Egypt’. Besides the SCA and archaeological institutes, the Center is working with the Egyptian Museum and the Center for Computer-aided Egyptological Research (CCER) to enhance the database, whereby it will be possible to link a site with the relevant artefacts that are housed in the Egyptian museum as well as with the CCER Champollion database of European museums.

Although most people will think about the Pharaonic monuments when thinking of Egypt, there is more, much more. Prof. Saleh stresses that the Center takes all aspects of the Egyptian cultural heritage into account. The ‘Cairo’s Architectural Heritage’ database focuses on downtown Cairo with its Nineteenth century

Bal el Nasr in Old Cairo
architecture that combines European and local architectural designs. Here again the Center’s all-comprising effort is evident for this GIS-generated database is not only of importance to art-historians and architects but also for the local council in regard to restoration and building projects.

A similar project, head by Professor Mohamed Awad, has being going on for years in Alexandria, and Prof. Saleh hopes that the current co-ordination between the two projects will lead to a fuller picture of Architectural Heritage of the Nineteenth century in both Cairo and Alexandria. This project is specifically aimed at creating cultural awareness among modern Egyptians, as is the database project that documents Egyptian Folklore. This enormous database incorporates local and national Egyptian legends and customs including arts and crafts, rural and urban traditions including national costumes and jewellery, and popular superstitions as well as the cults of saints. This project deals with a vast domain of information, and members of the Center go into the local communities to talk about the different subjects and to look at old records. The project is now focusing on two aspects. The current project manager has a special interest in cults around saint’s lives so one aspect that is now being documented is the history of Muslim saints, their lives and the yearly celebration of their birthdays. The other aspect of the project is at Bahariya oasis, where the entire scope of local folklore is being documented as the Center’s pilot folklore project. Other database projects that focus on the recent past of Egypt, are the ‘Musical Heritage’ project and the documentation of the cinematography of Egypt. At present the ‘Musical Heritage’ database project concentrates on traditional Arabic music and national theatre art. This corpus is being documented in three phases: basic information such as composers, lyricists, singers, modes, forms and rhythms; and detailed information such as lyrics and scores. This information will be combined in the third phase that will result in a multimedia database of the musical heritage of Egypt. Already the Center is working on a Music Encyclopedia on CD-rom of which three volumes have been published. Although at this stage the work concentrates on Arabic music, Nubian traditional music will be dealt with in the near future. Coptic music is being recorded at the Cairo-based Coptic institute.

The mountains of southern Sina'i

Elsewhere in this issue, readers can find out about the cultural heritage of the southern Sina'i where members of ECHO recently surveyed archaeological sites within the St. Katherine’s Protectorate of the National Parks of Egypt. The Center is also closely working with this Protectorate to document its natural beauties. Under the supervision of Dr. Hala Barakat, information is being documented on the habitat, the fauna and flora of the Southern Sina'i in the ‘Natural Heritage’ database project.

Egypt is a country with an enormously vast heritage of cultural and natural resources, the Center and specifically Prof. Saleh, has been working for more then a decade to preserve and document these national treasures on both local / regional levels as well as on a national level. A new project in this continuing research will be to establish an interactive multimedia Center near Cairo where the latest technology (in connection with IBM) will inform the visitor about Egypt’s Heritage.

The Center is making every effort to make the different database projects available to the public, both through the internet as on CD-rom but, sadly, not all information can be released. On the request of the SCA, the Center will not make public co-ordinates for certain unsurveyed areas, where robbing and unsupervised excavation are of great concern. This problem of registering of
sites, monuments and portable artefacts is facing the vast amount of Egyptian cultural heritage, and is the focus of the next ECHO DISCOVERER.

This article is based upon an interview with Prof. Dr. Fathi Saleh conducted by Joris van Wetering and Joanne M. Rowland, 16 July 2001, Cairo. The following literature was used: Saleh, F. & Grimal, N. 'Carte archéologique de l'Egypte' (in) Z. Hawass and A. M. Jones (eds.) Abstracts of Papers for the Eighth International Congress of Egyptologists. American University in Cairo Press – Cairo, 2000: 160, and the brochures of the Center. A link to the website of the National Center for Documentation of Cultural and Natural Heritage can be found on the ECHO website: www.e-c-h-o.org.

Illustrations:
- Photograph of Prof. Dr. Saleh, by Joris van Wetering – Cairo 2001.
- Photograph of Old Cairo, by G. J. Tassie
- Photograph of the Southern Sinai, by F. A. Hassan
Cultural Heritage Management in the Southern Sinai
An archaeological reconnaissance-survey in the St. Katherine’s Protectorate

Joanne M. Rowland & Fekri A. Hassan

Professor Fekri A. Hassan was recently invited to conduct an archaeological survey of the southern Sinai by Dr John Grainger, Director of the Saint Katherine’s Protectorate Management Unit. The protectorate runs one of the development programmes of the National Parks of Egypt and receives support from the European Union. The unit, based in St Katherine village, is responsible for the natural and cultural heritage of the region. Projects include the planting of acacia trees throughout the southern Sinai, the establishment of a Bedouin women’s craft shop, and the unit also works closely with research students and employees at the local research centre of the Suez Canal University (Ismailia). A research centre provides facilities for students and volunteers working on a variety of projects within the protectorate. The protectorate is actively involved in sending Egyptian nationals overseas for training in fields including Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and botany.

The team surveying in the Wadi Mandar
The recent research project (Summer 2001) in the southern Sinai comprised a survey of a sample of archaeological sites in the region, and was carried out by Professor Fekri A. Hassan, Dr G. J. Tassie, Dr Joanne M. Rowland, and Mr Joris van Wetering. The survey aimed to establish the present condition of archaeologically important sites and assess the extent of deterioration since they were previously surveyed, mainly in the 1970s. Furthermore, the team surveyed and acquired data on newly-located sites. The sites were assessed for their conservation and protection needs; with the aim of advising the protectorate on appropriate methods for conservation and protection of endangered sites – formulating a programme of cultural heritage management. Together with a National Park Ranger, Iman Toukhi and Bedouin guides, the ECHO team visited a large number of archaeological sites in the area, and assessed their status. The team surveyed many habitation and copper mining sites from Upper Palaeolithic sites (40,000 bp), Desert Pre-Pottery Neolithic (PPN) sites (PPNA 10,500-9,200 BC, PPNB 9,200-6,900 BC) through Timnian herder-gatherer sites (6,000-2,100 BC), Early Bronze Age I and II (EBA) sites (EBI 3,200-2,950 BC and EBII 2,950-2635 BC) to Middle Bronze Age (MBA) sites (MBI 2,155 – 2,000 BC). The team also surveyed many types of cemeteries, such as the *nawamis* tombs (Ein Huderah), ‘empty’ tombs (a cairn covering a cist surrounded by a low wall), ‘full’ tombs (where the gap between cist and wall is filled in with stones) and plain cairn tombs (Wadi Mandar).

During the summer of 2002, Professor Hassan returned to conduct further research and discuss with the Rangers of the National Park how best to protect the Archaeological Heritage of the Southern Sinai. Three of the most important sites that the team surveyed were chosen by Prof. Hassan and Dr Grainger on which to develop site management plans. These sites are Abu Madi (Desert PPNA and PPNB), Nabi Saleh, and Sheikh Muhsein (both EBI). Abu Madi is an important site because it has both PPNA and PPNB occupational remains, the most southerly so far found. This is a small site consisting of built semi-subterranean oval dwellings. The larger compound villages of Nabi Saleh and Sheikh Muhsein dating to the EBI Period have also been chosen for the site management project. These settlements consist of from 1 to 6 dwelling units, spaced 10-50 m apart. The dwelling units were made up of 10 to 22 interconnected rooms, surrounding a central courtyard. The largest dwelling unit at Nabi Saleh consists of a central courtyard 17 m in diameter surrounded by 16 rooms. Also present at Nabi Saleh are rows of adjoining round structures. The main room of these dwelling units was a ‘broadroom’ wider than it is long (usually 3 x 5 m although reaching up to 7 x 5 m), with the entrance in one of the long sides facing the courtyard.

A report on this work is currently being prepared by the team for the National Parks, and the implementation of the site management plans is due to be carried out in the near future. These plans include putting in pathways, creating
viewing platforms and constructing information boards. A visitor centre hosting information on the prehistory of the region, and housing full-sized models of some of the structures, will be instigated in this follow-up programme.

The Desert PPNA site of Abu Madi

The site of Sheikh Mushen

It is encouraging to see how the protectorate is working alongside the Bedouin to their mutual benefit. Many Bedouin are now trained National Parks’ guides, and proudly sport the National Parks badge to identify their position. The Bedouin were integral to the construction of the first eco-lodge in the protectorate area, which is near the large Timnian archaeological site of Sheikh Awad. This eco-lodge is a sustainable centre, designed by a French architect, where visitors are able to stop for a night or two on their travels. It is totally eco-friendly, with self-composting toilets and solar-powered showers. The lodge was nearing completion when the ECHO team visited and it is hoped that Bedouins may replicate it in other areas.

The site of Nabi Saleh

Nawamis in Wadi Abu Khalil

Sheikh Awad
As a keen fieldworker with over 17 years experience, I have participated and am still engaged in numerous expeditions in Europe, the Near East and Egypt and have a wide scope of knowledge on various aspects of archaeological fieldwork including excavation methodology, surveying techniques, environmental and biological archaeology, archaeological draughting, epigraphy, photography and archiving. Like other ECHO trustees, concern with standards in archaeological fieldwork is high on my agenda and this is shown in my writing and, of course, the forthcoming publication of the benchmark book on excavation methodology. This book, vol. 1 of the ECHO Monograph series, is devised to help young Egyptian archaeologists understand the standards, methods and techniques used in modern field archaeology. In addition to writing over 30 publications, my time over the last 5 years has been devoted to tackling issues of cultural heritage management, particularly its protection and recording.

ECHO is dedicated to protecting Egypt's cultural heritage, through such means as education and archaeological fieldwork and conservation. As part of ECHO's objectives, two major projects and the publication of two books are currently being prepared.

ECHO Projects:

As part of ECHO's education project, ECHO is in the process of establishing a writing competition for young Egyptian archaeologists, the writers of the best ten entries will be invited to participate in an ECHO site management fieldschool at a World Heritage Site and have their essays posted on the ECHO website. This educational programme will be developed to offer scholarships in various universities in Egypt and eventually overseas.

As part of ECHO's dedication to educational publications, a series of archaeological fieldguides are planned, and versions will be published both in English and Arabic. The first ECHO Fieldguide in the series, the ECHO Field Handbook of Excavation: Methodology and Recording Techniques, Standards and Conventions, is in the final stages of publication. This fieldguide covers every aspect of excavation on land. Other books and information leaflets are also in the planning stage. A children's book on ancient Egypt is being prepared, again there will be versions in both English and Arabic. This book will not only cover all the usual social aspects of ancient Egypt, but explain why it is important that the monuments and sites are preserved for the future and their relevance to today's society. In 2001, Prof. Hassan edited A Strategic Approach to Egyptian Cultural Heritage Management (sponsored by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), World Heritage Center (WHC) and United Nations Development Program (UNDP)), a report that this author also helped to prepare and write.

ECHO Trustees, led by Prof. Fekri Hassan have developed an action plan for the management of the sites of the St. Katherine Monastery area, declared a World Heritage Site in 2003. ECHO Trustees are also currently engaged in helping the Egyptian authorities establish a National Register of Sites and
Monuments, one of the most effective methods of protecting cultural heritage. As part of this project ECHO Trustees are creating Sites and Monuments Records (SMRs) for the Faiyum region, where 240 sites have already been entered into a database linked to a Geographic Information System (GIS) programme, this will be presented to both CultNat and the EAIS once completed. ECHO urge all archaeologists working in Egypt, or who have information on sites already excavated, to fill in the registration form of CultNat, the Egyptian National Documentation Center at this address: http://www.cultnat.org/prehistoric/home.html or give the information to the EAIS: http://www.eais.org.eg

ECHO Events:
As part of ECHO’s fund raising projects, a series of tours to sites and monuments, normally inaccessible to or are not on the usual travel itineraries are planned. The first four ECHO Tours are in the final stages of preparation, they will be run in conjunction with Soliman Travel. The four tours are entitled: 1) The Eastern Desert and Red Sea Coast, 2) The Desert Oases – The Western Desert, 3) The Rise and Fall of the Old Kingdom, 4) Egypt’s Other Land – The Nile Delta Across the Ages. There is only limited availability for these tours, so those people interested should contact ECHO at the normal address. Further details on these tours and a precise itinerary will shortly be available.


This conference, once established, will be a forum for heritage managers, conservators and archaeologists to showcase and discuss the various issues of heritage management. Future ECHO conferences will be held in a range of countries around the world in collaboration with various cultural heritage and archaeological institutions. The second conference is scheduled to be held in Egypt, the venue and exact date will be posted on the ECHO Website in due time once the details have been finalised. Managing Egypt’s Cultural Heritage: Proceedings of the First Egyptian Cultural Heritage Organisation Conference on: Egyptian Cultural Heritage Management is due to be published in summer/autumn 2009. This book covers most aspects of heritage management, from theoretical to practical approaches and covers the Predynastic to the Islamic periods.

Cultural Heritage Management in Egypt Events and News:
The First International Conference on the Management of Cultural Heritage Sites. To be held in Alexandria, Egypt from 15th to 17th September 2003. The conference is under the auspices of the Right Honourable Farouk Hosni, Minister of Culture and President of the SCA, and the conference President is Dr. Zahi Hawass, Secretary General of the SCA. Subjects covered by the conference will include: Concept plans; Concept designs; Actual state analysis; Case Studies; Rehabilitation and Sustainability. For more information, visit: www.sca.gov.eg/f/2003/15-17.html or contact: confonmang@hotmail.com

The Egyptian Antiquities Information System (EAIS) has now moved into its Third Phase after completing research for the governorates of Sharqiyyah, Ismailia, Port Said, Faiyum, North
Sinai, and Dakhalia. This means producing maps, verifying legal borders, performing site visits on all registered sites, and adding additional unregistered sites to their system. A ‘Cashiers des Sites’ is already available for the Sharqiyyah Governorate and others are due to follow soon. The EAIS are the official GIS department of the SCA and as such are in a unique position to collaborate with Amlaak and the Egyptian Survey Authority (ESA), and to provide information to local SCA inspectorates and other decision-makers and stakeholders. To further develop the link between the EAIS and stakeholders; archaeological missions, archaeologists and technical experts are asked to cooperate with the EAIS, especially working in the areas where the boundaries are about to be plotted. Those wishing to collaborate should contact - Emily Cooke at: archaeology@eais.org.eg or visit the website at: http://www.eais.org.eg where special forms are available for downloading to add sites to the growing SMRs.

Each year the EAIS holds an Annual Workshop for Heritage Management and Protection under the auspices of Dr. Zahi Hawass, Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Antiquities, and H.E. Mr. Hanu Mantyvaara, Ambassador of Finland.

The workshop aims to promote Cultural Heritage Management (CHM) in Egypt, through increasing collaboration between the SCA and other institutes, highlighting problems affecting archaeological sites as well as proposing recommendations concerning registration and protection of those sites. Over 90 people from the SCA, GOPP, ESA, universities and foreign institutes in Cairo, and external stakeholders and interested individuals attended the presentations by EAIS members and participated in a number of round table discussions.

**Heritage Management Mapping – GIS and Multimedia** was held in the New Alexandria Library, Alexandria, Egypt, from the 21st to 23rd October 2002. This event was sponsored by CultNat, The Ministry of Communications and Information Technology of Egypt and UNESCO. The conference aimed to explore and demonstrate the successful application of Information Technology in the various areas related to the management of cultural and natural heritage sites; working towards a policy of heritage mapping for the Near East and how to apply GIS and other mapping methodologies to sites already inscribed or nominated for the World Heritage List. The following issues were addressed: National inventories and heritage management mapping (HMM); Remote sensing and heritage mapping efforts; Planning heritage management mapping (HMM); Integration of natural and cultural data in HMM; Applications of HMM in conservation; HMM and public education; Developing inter-institutional partnerships; Policy support of HMM; Regional and international cooperation; Educational and institutional support of HMM. For more information, visit: www.virtualworldheritage.org

One of the major outcomes of this conference was the first workshop on the use of Information Technology and World Heritage Sites in Arab States, hosted in Cairo, Egypt from the 17th February to 4th March 2004. This workshop was funded the Flemish Funds-in-Trust, and organised by the SCA and CultNat, and included an overview of the state of recording, documentation and information management techniques. Fieldwork exercises were held at the WH site of Saqqara and included 25 representatives from Arab states. The fieldwork and also lectures were conducted by facilitators from the World Monuments fund, English Heritage, Getty Conservation Institute, the R. Lemaire International Centre for Conservation (K. U. Leuven) and the University of California at Berkeley (http://whc.unesco.org/acb/).

The Third Central European Conference of Young Egyptologists. The meeting, is to be held from the 12th - 14th May 2004 at the University of Warsaw. The conference is designed to give ‘young’ scholars (MA or PhD) a platform to present their research. The conference is divided into 5 sections: Archaic Period and Old Kingdom Studies; New Kingdom Studies; Language and Literature; Nubian Studies and Varia. The conference has a special emphasis on the importance of the research programmes run in

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Nubia concerned with rescue works in the 4th Nile cataract region. A detailed programme will be circulated before the conference. Following the example of previous years, there is help in finding appropriate accommodation, though unfortunately financial assistance cannot be given to cover the cost of your stay in Warsaw.

For further information contact the Organising Committee, which comprises: Joanna Popielska-Grzybowska joannapopielskag@hotmail.com and Olga Bialostocka olbi00@yahoo.com University of Warsaw, Institute of Archaeology Department of Egyptian Archaeology.

The Fifth Annual Current Research in Egyptology Symposium for Graduates. Is to be held at the University of Durham, UK, from the 16th to 18th January 2004. This conference is a forum for international post-graduate students to present their current research projects. Subjects covered in the symposium included:

1. Religion, ideology & cosmology
2. Hieroglyphics & philology
3. Theory & methodology
4. Fieldwork
5. Conservation & CHM
6. Society & history

For more information: http://uk.geocities.com/cre5durham2004 or contact: cre5durham2004@yahoo.co.uk.

Museums and the Making of Egyptology. Conference to be held at Swansea Egypt Centre, 19th - 20th November 2004. Some speakers are already booked, but anyone who feels they would like to present a paper is requested to submit an abstract to c.a.graves-brown@swansea.ac.uk. Further details on the conference can be found at: http://www.swan.ac.uk/egypt/infoSheetgen/Conference2004.htm

The Ninth International Conference of Egyptologists. To be held in Grenoble, France from the 7th to the 12th September 2004. This conference is under the auspices of the International Association of Egyptologists. Most Egyptological and Archaeological subjects will be covered at the conference.

The Origins 2 – Predynastic and Early Dynastic Origin of the State Conference is to be held in Toulouse, France from the 5th to 8th September 2005. The conference is open to all, with contributions invited concerning the prehistory and the protohistory of Egypt addressing the following issues:

- Craft specialisation
- Social complexity
- Physical anthropology, bioarchaeology, osteoarchaeology
- Environmental sciences in a social context
- Upper-Lower Egypt interactions
- Desert-Nile Valley interactions
- Foreign relations and long-distance trade
- Birth of writing
- Administration, centralisation and urbanisation
- Cult, ideology and iconography

For more information visit the website: Correspondence e-mail address: origines@egypt.edu
The first review of ECHO Reviews deals with an important book on Cultural Heritage that has been published recently. G.T. Tassie reviews Debating the Archaeological Heritage, written by Robin Skeates in 2000.

Robin Skeates, 2000. Debating the Archaeological Heritage

This book gives a comprehensive coverage of most of the issues with which cultural heritage management is concerned, ranging from the complex issues of defining cultural heritage through ownership to presenting cultural heritage. However, it is not a site management fieldguide and only briefly deals with many of the technological and practical problems faced in protecting and presenting cultural heritage. It is, as the title suggests, a book that debates many of the issues surrounding cultural heritage. Skeates firstly defines cultural heritage, concluding that it is elements of past material culture, music, dance or oral tradition that may have meanings and values placed upon them by present populations. The second issue it raises is that of ownership, who actually owns the past. This book gives a broad overview of legal problems of indigenous ownership, particularly in the USA and Australia where it is hotly debated, with many of the cultural remains being held in the world’s museums being requested for repatriation. The cultural heritage of Egypt chronicles all our pasts and therefore is relevant for all of us; with the Egyptian government as its legal guardian. The core of the book deals with the protection and management of cultural heritage, listing the many illegal and legal threats to cultural heritage and many of the legal documents in place to protect it. The process of turning the cultural heritage into a commodity is also debated, focusing on the issue that it cannot be hoped or wished for the whole of the past to be preserved, and therefore that the management of certain selected archaeological sites and their associated museums and heritage centres should be selected for foci of cultural tourism. This will help protect these selected sites from modern urban development, raise interest in cultural heritage management and generate economic development to many impoverished areas. The author also gives the downside of preserving certain centres as managed archaeological parks, such as the physical damage that may be done by tourists; that the monumental sites are often preserved at the expense of less visually stimulating sites. The managed parks can also separate the archaeological site from its wider landscape, or possibly arresting the local peoples development. Skeates also highlights the point that developer funded contract archaeology can lead to a lowering of standards of archaeological practises and have poorer standards of work and pay for the archaeologists involved.

The latter part of the book deals with interpreting and experiencing cultural heritage. He briefly deals with colonial, imperial and national archaeological interpretations, showing how the rulers and the ruled have different views
of the cultural heritage and how these are manipulated for the interpreters’ own advantage. He elucidates on how rulers use their interpretation of it to legitimize their claim to the land and control the rules and how the ruled use the cultural heritage to enhance their sense of identity and to stake claims to power and economic resources. Archaeology is a political discipline and archaeologists may assume the “moral right” to interpret cultural heritage due to their long years of training and studying, but as Skeates points out, it is the heritage of us all, and even ‘alternative’ perspectives such as Afrocentrics, creationists, New Agers, hyper-diffusionists and extra-terrestrials have a right to interpret it as they wish, whether or not the archaeological community agrees or strongly disagrees with them.

Skeates relates how as well as actually visiting heritage sites, people experience archaeology through film, television, museum displays, educational classes and by actively participating in fieldwork. In the West, there is a proliferation of popular and academic publications and television programmes on ancient Egypt. Most academic publications exclude the majority of the public, which means that there is a huge gap in the market to popularise it, usually filled by journalists, fiction writers and those proffering an alternative interpretation. With the advent of satellite television, a programme on ancient Egypt can be viewed virtually every night if wished. However, are these media portraying the correct image of ancient Egypt from an archaeologist’s perspective, and who is watching these programmes and reading these publications? Documentaries often have specialists giving their view on the subject, but usually these people have little control over the actual content and message of the programme. The author, based on statistical evidence, shows that it is mainly those already interested in archaeology/history, which are predominately well educated, middle-aged, middle-class people that watch these documentaries, read the publications and visit heritage sites and attend educational classes. Films such as The Mummy and Raiders of the Lost Ark are not meant to be taken seriously, but along with the Osirion Mystery, and other alternative interpretationists works, are the view many people have of Egyptology. Many commercial companies exploit Egypt’s image for their own capital gain, such as Cleopatra Soap and Ramesses Condoms, amongst many others. If a small percentage of the profits from this unrestricted use of Pharaonic images were given to the protection and preservation of Egypt’s cultural heritage it would make a considerable difference in the fight for their survival.

Skeates highlights the need for on-site museums and visitor centres and properly managed pathways through the sites and monuments. This is an area where Egypt is sadly lacking and in need of site management on a national scale. Although there are site management plans in place for Giza and certain parts of Luxor, many heritage sites in Egypt are not particularly visitor friendly. Many sites do not have any information boards telling the tourist what they are looking at or any literature available about the site. Although the majority of tourists will have their own tour guides, the visitors like to have a souvenir of the site and often like to read about what they are seeing during and after they have visited the site.

This book could have expanded on certain areas of cultural heritage management, including education and capacity building both for the professionals and public, conservation, restoration and preservation issues. Most importantly Skeates does not debate fully the importance of National Registers or Sites and Monuments Records (SMRs), and how heritage can only be protected and managed if the extent of the cultural heritage is known. Nonetheless, this is an important book in raising awareness of the central issues involved CHM and is a must for anyone studying or interested in cultural heritage matters and will be a well used book in my bookcase.
BARBARA ADAMS 1945 - 2002
A PERSONAL REMEMBRANCE

James Mower

Barbara Adams died on 26 June 2002 after a long battle with cancer. On that day the Egyptological community lost one of its leading lights. Many of us lost a valued and trusted friend. Having been lucky enough to have known and worked with Barbara during the last few years of her life, it is with sadness, but also with great pleasure, that I offer this personal remembrance of her to ECHO members. This piece is not intended as an obituary, one has already been written, appearing in national newspapers, by Barbara’s friend and colleague, Harry Smith (Emeritus Edwards Professor of Egyptology, UCL). Rather my intention is to tell of my own encounter with Barbara, and through this try to communicate the love for all things Egyptian that this rare person inspired in all she met.

Barbara Adams is probably best known in Egyptology / Egyptian archaeology for the extraordinary and lasting effect she has had on the Petrie Museum of Egyptology at University College London. Barbara joined the museum as an assistant in 1965 when the collection and museum premises still required repair, conservation and cataloguing. With typical energy and enthusiasm Barbara set about transforming this significant collection into a worthy academic resource. Promoted to Curator in 1984, she secured loans to improve museum conditions and reconstruct certain exhibits, as well as recruiting an army of loyal volunteers and staff. Barbara’s inspiration to her colleagues and selfless dedication to the museum eventually resulted in one of her most important contributions to the Petrie and to Egyptology – the foundation of The Friends of the Petrie Museum. This helped the museum to receive

Peter Ucko and Barbara Adams.

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designated status from central Government in 1998 as well as secure its place as a museum of national importance. It was at the Petrie that Barbara’s long-standing passion for the ancient site of Hierakonpolis developed. Having been fascinated with Pre- and Early Dynastic material during her time with the collections, restoring some important artefacts from Hierakonpolis itself by hand, Barbara eventually joined newly re-opened excavations at the site directed by Michael Hoffman in 1979. Many seasons work developing a detailed knowledge of this significant part of Egypt’s past eventually led to her co-directorship of excavations at the site from 1996 until her death. It is during this time that I first met Barbara Adams.

I can only write about Barbara as a friend. Many others who worked with her over the years, both at the museum and in the field have written their own obituaries, eulogies and farewells. I would not presume to do her extraordinary career justice here. I would direct our members to the recent piece ‘In memory of Barbara Adams’ by Harry Smith, appearing in The Friends of the Petrie Museum Newsletter No. 25. One can list her achievements, impressive as they are, but these capture little of the generous, warm-hearted and humorous person we all knew. I first met Barbara at the Institute of Archaeology, UCL, when she joined the department from the Petrie Museum in 1998/9. I had been working at the Institute during my study for a master’s degree. Barbara and I had stuck up a friendship as I worked with the director of the Department, Professor Peter Ucko, on an update to his Predynastic Egyptian Figurines research.

One of my many tasks had been to track down records from past excavations listing figurines that matched one or more of the many categories to which Professor Ucko had assigned these ancient clay figures. He recommended I speak to Barbara, whose encyclopaedic knowledge of the relevant texts would be of great assistance. Tracking her down in her office, I introduced myself and Barbara began to help me piece together a list of texts and illustrations that could supplement the body of work I had already gathered. Her help was invaluable. Peter and Barbara worked closely together pouring over notes and published works from Sir Flinders Petrie’s excavations, to more modern explorations in Egypt. As the months passed, Barbara and I became firm friends, found we shared a sense of humour and spent many lunchtimes talking about the project, our own diverse interests in archaeology, and telling each other jokes! At this time, I had no idea how well known and respected she was in Egyptological circles. This was soon to change.

During 1999 Barbara took me to one side and asked if I would like to join her excavations at Hierakonpolis. Excited by the prospect of working on a cemetery site, and never having visited Egypt before, I was honoured to accept. When I eventually made my way to the site for the beginning of the season as an excavation supervisor and junior physical anthropologist, I found Barbara holding court at the dighouse with a pot of tea and a box of sugar free biscuits....

My memories of that season are many and varied. The beautiful landscape, the laughter and fun we all shared while working hard in the field and living at the partially constructed dig-house. During the season, we had the opportunity to visit the Cairo Museum, the Museum in Luxor, the German excavations at Abydos and many other sites I will never forget. It was during these visits that the respect and affection shown towards Barbara by Egyptians and western scholars alike demonstrated to me that I was truly lucky to be working for such a talented professional. During the season, Barbara remained hard-working, generous and good humoured, despite ill health. Her concern for her Egyptian workers was reflected in their respect for her and concern that she should be satisfied with their work. Barbara had known many of the Egyptian team I worked with since they were children.

Barbara’s work at Hierakonpolis during those four seasons produced some unique discoveries, including some impressive pottery funerary masks, the remains of the earliest elephant found in North Africa.... and an Egyptian Predynastic Figurine to add to Peter Ucko’s catalogue! This work saw the German Archaeological Institute honouring Barbara with a Corresponding Membership in 2000. I remember her showing me the letter and asking
‘why would they want me to join?’ This was typical of her humility.

On Tuesday 3 September 2002 a celebration of Barbara’s life and work was held at UCL. This occasion saw friends and colleagues from around the world pay tribute to this unique and irreplaceable individual, who brought her passion and love for Egypt to so many. The evening drew to a close with a taped interview that Barbara had given to Sally McDonald of the Petrie in 2000. It was wonderful to hear her voice again, especially her laughter, before saying goodbye to a friend for the last time.

I will always be grateful to Barbara Adams for the opportunities she offered me. I will never forget her friendship. We will all miss her.
THOUSANDS OF SITES IN DANGER OF DESTRUCTION!!!
A NEW DAM IN THE NILE RIVER – UPPER NUBIA’S FOURTH CATARACT REGION

Joris van Wetering

Thousands of years of African cultural heritage in an area known for millennia as Nubia will be destroyed by the construction a dam in the river Nile that will flood an area of 175 km. Once the dam is completed, the floodwaters will submerge the archaeological heritage that gives important insights about the beginnings of humanity, the rise of civilization, the spread of Egypt’s golden empire of the New Kingdom or the spread of Christianity and Islam. The only way to preserve that archaeological heritage is to investigate it as completely as possible, and investigate it NOW because the first phases of the dam construction are already under way and the first group of locals have already left their ancestral lands to be re-settled elsewhere!

THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MEROWE DAM IN NUBIA IS DUE TO BE COMPLETED IN AUGUST 2007, ALLOWING 4 YEARS FOR A RESCUE PROJECT. ECHO IS SUPPORTING THE BRITISH MUSEUM BACKED CAMPAIGN TO SAVE THE CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE OF THIS REGION AND IS, LIKE MANY ORGANISATIONS AROUND THE WORLD IN A RACE AGAINST TIME TO SAVE THE CULTURAL HERITAGE AND HISTORY OF NORTHEAST AFRICA.

ECHO NEEDS YOUR HELP TO RAISE FUNDS TO SUPPORT THIS IMPORTANT RESCUE PROJECT AND SAVE THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE OF NUBIA, NORTHEAST AFRICA!

CHECK THE ECHO WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION AND HOW TO HELP!
Membership Subscriptions: The last year has seen ECHO membership steadily grow. Due to administrative set backs subscriptions have been wavered until September 2006 when we will contact members with subscription renewal details. New members can join ECHO by either e-mailing Janet Johnstone Membership Secretary at egyptianheritage@yahoo.com or by letter to 14 Vincent Road, Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey, KT1 3HJ, United Kingdom.

Members’ Skills: It is apparent that many of our members have skills and experience in a variety of diverse fields, which could benefit the organisation. We have already drawn upon the artistic talents of Claire Venables who has redesigned the ECHO graphics and produced the artwork and layout for our ECHO Travel Brochure, ECHO Leaflet and Newsletter, while Amanda Crane has created the ECHO Website and taken over as the Web Mistress while also providing valuable database information. ECHO now has a skills database to which we invite members to add their hidden talents and help ECHO. We would be grateful for your input and involvement; you can always contact Janet Johnstone at the above address.

ECHO Charity: ECHO has been formed as a charitable company and registered in this capacity with Companies House. Charitable status is at present being sought from the Charity Commission and within the next year we are hopeful that this will be granted.

ECHO’s Website (www.e-c-h-o.org): The website has recently been redesigned to make navigation easier. To keep informed about the latest CHM news in Egypt log on regularly to look at the News section. News on ECHO Tours and all other ECHO activities are regularly updated. Back issues of the ECHO Discoverer in pdf. format will be made available on-line once the next issue has been published. A fuller version of the ECHO Code of Ethics can be found on the website as well as the list of World Heritage Sites inscribed by UNESCO.

WHO WE ARE, THE WRITERS

F. A. Hassan – is the Petrie Professor of Archaeology at UCL and specialises in prehistoric cultural dynamics and geoarchaeology.

G. J. Tassie – specialises in early Egypt and as a keen fieldworker who has participated in many projects in Egypt and is dedicated to improving excavation methodology.

J. van Wetering – is a prehistorian and archaeologist specialising Egyptian state formation and Predynastic settlement patterning.

J. Rowland – is an Egyptian archaeologist who has worked at many sites in Egypt and is at present directing a survey of the central Delta.

J. Mower – specialises in public archaeology, particularly archaeology and the media, where he has worked on such programmes as Time Team.

J. Johnstone - is an expert in ancient Egyptian clothing and has acted as a consultant to many TV programmes.
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