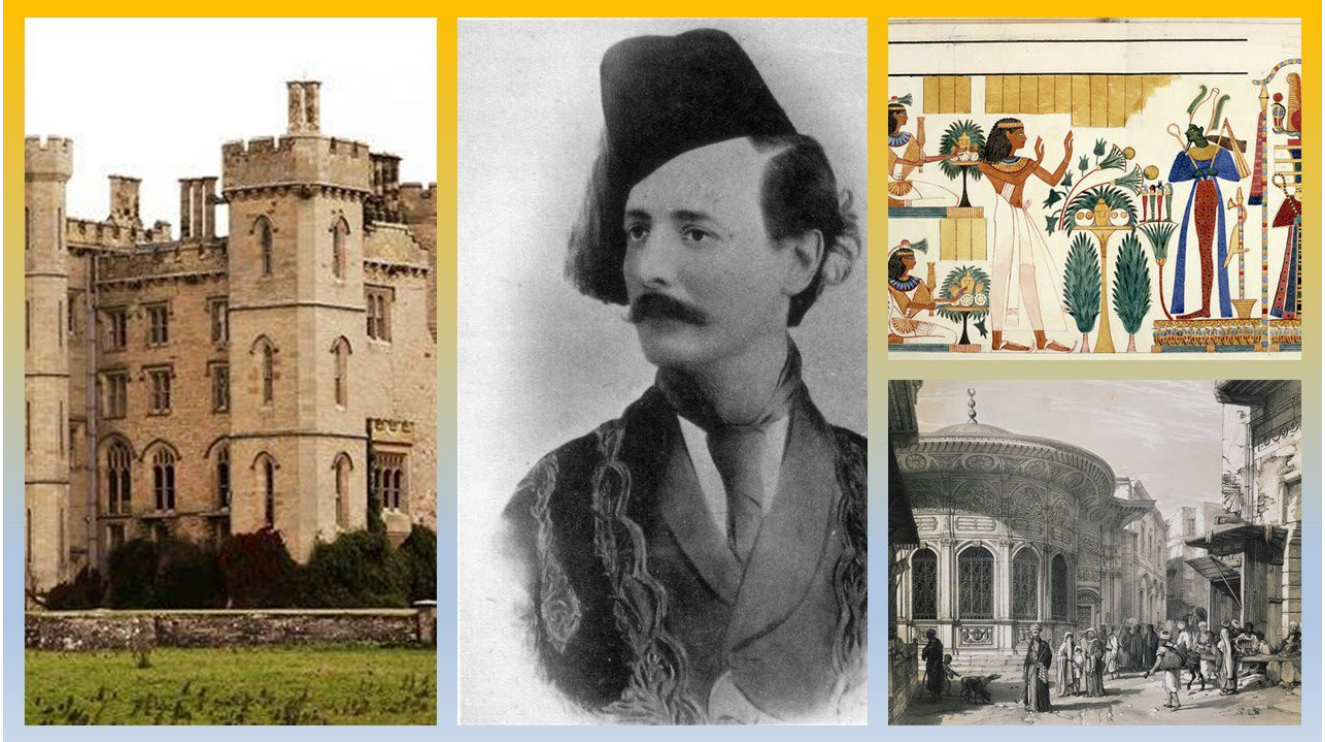


Seminar: Egyptologist Robert Hay (1799–1863) and Friends in Egypt



From Sunday, 10 April 2022 14.00
To Tuesday, 12 April 2022 16.00

Venues: The Volunteer Hall and Duns Castle, Duns

www.astene.org.uk/current-events/hay-seminar

Sponsored by

Duns Castle, Duns



The Association for the Study of
Travel in Egypt and the Near
East (ASTENE)



A Heart for Duns

Duns Taxis

Bob's Taxis. Ring 07881 613 849 or 07951 021 426

Duns Taxis. 07970 221465 Website: www.bobs-cabs.com

Woodies Taxis. 01289 547009 <https://berwickupontweedtaxi.co.uk/taxi-services-in-duns/>

Medical attention: Health and Safety

Out-of-hours care is arranged by NHS Borders. If you require urgent care **for a minor injury such as a cut or minor burn that you cannot self-care for** please contact NHS 24 on 111. Calls will be handled in different ways depending on the nature of the complaint. If you require urgent medical advice or attention out of hours (between 18:00 - 08:00 Monday to Friday and 18:00 Friday to 08:00 Monday) please telephone NHS24 on 111.

The pharmacy, GLM Romanes Ltd is at 1–3 Market Square, Duns TD11 3DB. Tel: 01361 883753. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 09:00–18:00; Wednesday 09:00–17:30; Saturday 09:00–17:00. For the latest information and location see: www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/our-services/pharmacies/glm-romanes-ltd-pharmacy-duns/

A defibrillator is available just outside the Main Entrance of the Volunteer Hall, see <https://osm.mathmos.net/defib/progress/TD/#9/55.5331/-2.5488>

Covid Measures: Volunteer Hall, Duns Castle and Duns Library

Covid–19 regulations will be strictly observed in all Seminar venues. Please note that the regulations in Scotland are different from (and stricter than) those in England, particularly with regard to the wearing of face coverings. You can find the current detailed Scottish regulations at www.visitscotland.org/supporting-your-business/advice/coronavirus/faqs

Please follow the guidelines below to minimise transmission of Coronavirus-19 and to help keep everyone safe and healthy. Please note also, however, that the regulations change frequently; any updates will be announced in the welcome sessions.

- *Face masks* should be worn in all three venues even when sitting, listening to a talk or watching a film, unless you are exempt or are eating, drinking or exercising. Speakers may remove their masks whilst giving their talks and answering questions but should stand well away from their audience. (Masks will be available in the Volunteer Hall, in case you have forgotten them!)
- *Hygiene*. Please clean hands and surfaces regularly.
- *Social distancing* is advised. Please try to keep distance from people who are not in your group and avoid crowding in the toilets and bar areas.
- *Hand sanitiser* is available at all three venues for your use.
- *Lateral flow tests (LFTs)*: We encourage you to take a lateral flow test before coming to any of the Seminar venues or events and to record the results. (Overseas visitors will already have been tested.) If you have a vaccine passport, please also download this on to your phone, as random checks may be carried out. Lateral flow test kits can be obtained from The Pharmacy, GLM Romanes, in the Market Square, Duns. For further information about LFTs, see <http://www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/community-testing/>
- *Keep safe!* **If you have any Covid symptoms, please do not come to any of the venues at all.** If you have symptoms, please self-isolate and book a PCR test. For further information, see <http://www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/community-testing/pcr-testing/> and/or www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/latest-news/2021/april/22/greater-accessibility-for-pcr-covid-19-testing-in-the-borders/. The nearest testing centre in Duns is at Southfield Community Centre, Station Road, Duns, TD11 3EL



Welcome to ASTENE

Professor Aidan Dodson, on behalf of the ASTENE Trustees

The Association for the Study of Travel in Egypt and the Near East (ASTENE – www.astene.org.uk) was founded in 1997, to provide a forum for all those interested in travellers in Egypt and the Sudan, the Arabian Peninsula, and northwards through Iraq to Turkey, Greece and the Balkans, North Africa and Iran, from the earliest times to the mid-twentieth century. In Egypt, the travellers of the 1810s, 1820s and 1830s included some of the founders of what was becoming the discipline of Egyptology, and Robert Hay was in many ways at their nexus, whether as an employer, a companion or a rival. ASTENE is thus delighted to be a sponsor of this seminar, as a venue for exploring the life of a man of immense vision, but whose achievements remain all but unknown to the uninitiated.

Welcome to the Robert Hay and his Friends in Egypt Seminar

Professor Paul Starkey, on behalf of the Organising Committee

e-mail: Robert Hay&Friends <2020DunsHayastene@gmail.com>

We are pleased to welcome everyone on behalf of the Organising Committee to this pioneering international Seminar on Robert Hay and his Friends. Robert Hay was born in Duns Castle, Berwickshire in the Scottish Borders, and first visited Alexandria in 1818. In November 1824 he set off for Egypt again to record inscriptions and make architectural plans of all the major monuments there. Hay stayed in Egypt until 1828 and lived there again from 1829 to 1834. With a wide circle of interesting friends, he employed many now famous artists and was a fine water-colourist himself.

The Robert Hay Seminar will include lecture sessions, discussions and opportunities to view exhibitions. There will be a special Middle Eastern themed Seminar dinner to be held in Duns Castle itself. The Seminar brings together experts and enthusiasts from many different parts of the world in person in Duns and via Zoom, and is a truly interdisciplinary event, with experts ranging from archaeologists to conservationists, art historians and language experts. Most of the invited speakers will be attending in person. These include our two keynote speakers, Larry Berman, the Norma Jean Calderwood Senior Curator of Ancient Egyptian, Nubian, and Near Eastern Art at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, on 'Hay's Boston Collections', and the well-known historian and writer, Jason Thompson, on 'Robert Hay and his friendship with Edward W. Lane'. See the full programme below for further details.

It has been an immense pleasure to work with the two major organisations involved in arranging the Seminar — ASTENE, and Duns Castle (and DCC700), with additional support from other local organisations including LiveBorders, Duns Library, A Heart for Duns, and Duns Film Club. We are particularly grateful for grants from the Blackhill Windfarm Community Fund specifically donated to support local participation. We are grateful to them all for their support for the Seminar, both financial and otherwise, and trust that all participants will have a fruitful and enjoyable stay in Duns.

Welcome to Duns Castle

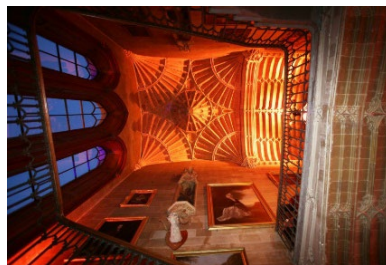
Duns Castle, TD11 3NW, Tel: 01361 883 211 Website: <https://dunscastle.co.uk/>

We at Duns Castle are delighted to welcome the participants to this event and pay tribute to the vision of ASTENE and especially Janet and Paul Starkey in making it happen. Of all the members of the Hay family who have contributed to national and international culture and governance, Robert Hay is among the most colourful but unsung with his embracing of Egyptian archaeology and his vital contribution to exploring and recording it before many of the sites and artefacts were looted or destroyed in the later part of the nineteenth century and beyond.

Duns Castle is one of the oldest castles of the Scottish Borders with its 1,200-acre estate, splendid gardens, a publicly accessible park and two man-made lakes, the Hen Poo and the smaller Mill Dam. Called 'the gem of the Scottish Borders', Duns Castle has been in the Hay family since 1696. It is an imposing 14th-century Norman Border Pele or Peel built between 1316 and 1320. In the 15th or 16th century a square wing was added to the keep; additions were made in 1698, and between 1774 and 1798.

Between 1818 and 1822, the earlier house was transformed by architect James Gillespie Graham on the instructions of Robert Hay's brother, William Hay, into a magnificent and massive Gothic baronial extension. Another brother, Alexander Hay, who was killed at the Battle of Waterloo, reputedly still haunts the Castle.

It is currently owned by the Laird, Alexander Hay of Duns and Drumelzier. He and his wife, Aline, live at the castle. It is not only an imposing estate, but it also has close ties with the Duns community.



About the Scottish Borders

Duns is the county town of the historic county of Berwickshire. It is set within beautiful countryside on elevated land between the Merse and the Lammermuir Hills. Duns serves and supports a flourishing rural agricultural hinterland, surrounding villages and settlements in a radius of fifteen miles (24 km). Duns is an attractive town; the main part being pleasantly arranged around a large central square. Duns is a diverse, friendly and vibrant Borders town with a low crime rate. It attracts people from all sectors of society, young and old, including a close-knit community of 'Dingers' (those born locally) and incomers who have made it their home more recently. There is plenty of information available about the hidden gem that is the Scottish Borders. See also <https://www.visitscotland.com/destinations-maps/scottish-borders/> <https://www.scotlandinfo.eu/scottish-borders/> <https://hiddenscotland.co/borders-accommodation/>



A Heart for Duns is a community group of volunteers which was formed to maintain and develop the vibrancy that exists in our town. As a key part of their work, they own and manage the Volunteer Hall, and are reshaping the facilities so as to best serve the needs and wishes of the Duns community. A Heart for Duns is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation: SC045056. It is a full member of the Development Trusts Association Scotland, the community-led regeneration network.



The Robert Hay Seminar Committee are most grateful for all the support received from the Blackhill Windfarm Community Fund for the Robert Hay seminar and associated events. The Blackhill Windfarm Community Fund Ltd is a charitable organisation funded by Renewable Energy Systems Ltd (RES), the operators of the Blackhill Windfarm situated to the south of Longformacus, Berwickshire. Its aim is to grant aid to community projects within the community council areas of Abbey St Bathans, Bonkyl & Preston, Duns, Gavinton, Fogo and Polwarth, and Lammermuir.

Seminar Venues

Red arrow = Volunteer Hall; Green arrow: Duns Library; Duns Castle up Castle Street



All sessions will be held at two venues: in the Volunteer Hall, Langtongate, Duns TD11 3AF, Duns. [01361 884935 https://www.heartforduns.org/volunteer-hall/](https://www.heartforduns.org/volunteer-hall/) and, secondly, at Duns Castle, Duns, about a mile to the north of the Duns Market Square. To access Duns Castle, walk or drive northwards along Castle Street. Driving route: 0.99 mi (1.60 km) (0h 4min); 13 minutes walking.

Travel information

Airports. The nearest international airports are Edinburgh and Newcastle.

Rail, bus and taxi transport. There are several websites that provide useful detail:
<https://www.rome2rio.com/s/Edinburgh/Duns-Castle>; <https://moovitapp.com/index/en-gb/public-transportation-Duns-Castle-Scotland-site-8153871-402>;
<https://www.visitscotland.com/info/accommodation/duns-castle-p182271>

Directions to Duns Castle by car

FROM EDINBURGH (coastal route)

City by-pass (ring-road) south; take the A1 (to Berwick-Upon-Tweed) past Dunbar, past Torness Power Station, turn right at Granthouse onto A6112 to Duns. Once you have entered Duns you will come to a 'T- junction' (there is a pub called The Horn at the junction), take a right turn here and follow the road. Entrance to Duns Castle is just before Duns Primary School through the stone arched gateway on the right-hand side. If the main gate is closed access is via Castle street to the east of the main entrance.

FROM EDINBURGH (inland route) (avoid this route in snow, take A1)

City by-pass (ring-road) south, between Sherriff Hall roundabout and A1 take the A68 (to Jedburgh) to Carfraemill (15 miles). Turn left at Carfraemill roundabout onto A697 (to Coldstream) for 10 miles then turn left onto B6456 to Westruther & Duns. Turn left to Duns. Entrance to Duns Castle is just past Duns Primary School on the left-hand side and New Berwickshire High School which is on the right-hand side. Please access through the stone, arched gate way. If the main gate is closed access is via Castle street to the east of the main entrance.

FROM THE SOUTH (Newcastle and East Coast route)

A1 to Berwick-Upon-Tweed then exit left onto A6105 to Duns. In Duns, turn right at roundabout by Aitchison's Garage. Follow road. Entrance to Duns Castle is on the right-hand side through stone arched gateway a few hundred yards after you have passed by the Jim Clark Museum and the local Fire Station which are on the right-hand side. If the main gate is closed access is via Castle street to the east of the main entrance.

FROM SOUTH (Carlisle and West Coast)

M6 to Carlisle then exit onto A7 (to Galashiels). A7 through Hawick and Selkirk almost to Galashiels. At roundabout, turn right onto A6091 to join A68 (stay on by-pass to avoid Melrose). At A68 roundabout turn left for Edinburgh. Exit A68 right at Earlston onto A6105 to Duns. At Greenlaw turn right at the T-junction by river then first left to Duns.

Entrance to Duns Castle is through the stone arched gateway just past Duns Primary School. Or you can continue on the road and turn left at the Horn Pub and shortly after left again in to Castle Street, a narrow road with terraced cottages. Then enter under the arch by North Lodge.

For information about Duns Castle there are several useful websites:
<https://dunscastle.co.uk/> <https://scotlandstartshere.com/point-of-interest/duns-castle/>

Seminar Registration

Registration

Registration will take place in the Volunteer Hall on the first day (10 April) between 14.00 and 15.00 and between 9.00 and 9.30 on the morning of Monday 11 April and will be followed by Welcome addresses. Latecomers can register in the first coffee break. Please try to arrive promptly, to ensure that the proceedings can begin on time.

Registration will also be possible on Tuesday 12 April between 9.00 and 9.30 for participants who are only attending for that day.

On-line Registration

Zoom links will be sent out by email on Friday 8 April to anyone who has registered via Eventbrite. There will be two Zoom links issued: one for Monday 11 April and another for Tuesday 12 April. You can log out and relog into sessions on the respective days. There is no Zoom available on 10 April.

Name Badges

Name badges for those attending in-person will be provided at the registration desk. Please wear your badge at all times during the Seminar in order to ensure access to the relevant locations. Badges are marked with a narrow strip as follows: yellow; RH committee; blue regular attendees; green: ASTENE Trustees; pale green: bursars; gold: TIOL2 committee

Internet Access

A public wi-fi service is available in the Volunteer Hall

Refreshments

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided free at the morning and afternoon breaks on Monday and Tuesday during the Seminar. Refreshments will be provided for sale in the afternoon of 10 April and a light lunch will be provided at the Volunteer Hall on 11 and 12 April.

There is also a selection of eateries in and around Duns (as of 30 January 2022):

https://www.tripadvisor.com/Restaurants-g551951-Duns_Scottish_Borders_Scotland.html
and https://www.tripadvisor.com/RestaurantsNear551951-d566296-Manderston_House-Duns_Scottish_Borders_Scotland.html

The Seminar Dinner

Join us for an exotic themed dinner in wonderful surroundings! This will be held on Monday 11 April 2022 at 19.30 prompt in the wonderful venue of Duns Castle at £35 per head (excluding drinks), open to all but to be booked via Eventbrite by noon on 1 April.

Car Parking

There is no on-site parking at the Volunteer Hall, but plenty of parking nearby, around the town and the Town Square. For those staying or attending events at Duns Castle there will be plenty of parking beside the castle.

Accommodation in Duns and the Scottish Borders

NB. Arrangements for accommodation will be the responsibility of Seminar participants, with the exception of keynote speakers. Some excellent suggestions are listed below.

Rooms in the Castle. The Hay family have made a most generous offer for Seminar participants which we are very pleased to accept, as follows: 'Most of our rooms are double; we only have one single but as we are expecting many participants to be single, we are going to charge a per person rate of £110 including light breakfast even if you are in a double room and £170 if there are two in a double room. These are concessions on our normal rates.' For further details and photographs of the rooms go to <https://dunscastle.co.uk/accommodation/>

Duns Castle Estate. The Hay family have also confirmed that cottages and other accommodation in the Duns Castle Estate will be held in reserve for ASTENE and other Seminar participants. To book a cottage on the Duns Castle estate go to dunscastleholidaycottages.co.uk

Other accommodation in the Duns area. We recommend that you book as early as possible. The easiest way to find and book accommodation is to go to one or more of the following websites and search 'Duns': <https://www.booking.com/> <https://www.airbnb.co.uk/> <https://www.vrbo.com/> <https://www.holidaylettings.co.uk/duns/>

Offers of accommodation in private homes. We have received a few free offers from friends and neighbours of suitable accommodation. For further information, please email 2020DunsHayastene@gmail.com

Seminar Logistics

Timing and Presentations

Most speakers (with the exception of the two plenary speakers) have been allocated 30 minutes for their paper, including time for questions and discussion. This means that you should aim for a presentation of around 20 minutes, leaving around 10 minutes for questions and discussion. If you are using a PowerPoint presentation, you should bring this with you on a USB stick or send it electronically to 2020DunsHayastene@gmail.com by Friday 8 April, so that it can be uploaded onto the relevant equipment in advance of your session. Please ensure that you do this in good time, to ensure that your PowerPoint presentation is working satisfactorily.

If you are showing your presentation via Zoom, please ensure you log on in good time before your session and send an electronic copy to 2020DunsHayastene@gmail.com by Friday 8 April.

Session Chairs

Speakers should contact the chair of their session in good time before the session itself. Session chairs will be instructed to adopt a strict policy on timing, as we have is a full if gentle programme, and sessions cannot be allowed to overrun.

Publication

We have arranged publication of papers given at the seminar with Archaeopress in Oxford, subject to peer review. More detailed information will be included in the final discussion and further instructions will be circulated after the seminar. The deadline for submission of papers will be 30 September 2022. Papers can be submitted in English or French and should be no more than 8000 words (including notes, but excluding the list of references), with no more than ten illustrations, including tables, figures and maps. Papers should be submitted electronically, ideally via Wettransfer to 2020DunsHayastene@gmail.com

The Egyptologist Robert Hay and His Friends Seminar Programme

(draft as of 31/03/2022 15:09. Chairs to be confirmed)

Friday 8 April and Saturday 9 April 2022

Berwickshire Art Society Spring Exhibition open in Duns Castle (further details below)

Sunday 10 April 2022

Introductory Session. Chair: Derek Janes (In the Volunteer Hall)

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 13:30 | Volunteer Hall opens (coffee and tea available) |
| 14:00–14.15 | Derek Janes, A Heart for Duns, <i>Welcome</i> and Paul Starkey, on behalf of the Robert Hay Committee, <i>Practical information</i> |
| 14:15–15.00 | Alick Hay, Laird of Duns and Drumelzier, <i>Duns Castle, The Hay Family</i> |
| 15:00–15.15 | Tea break |
| 15:15–17.35 | Film introduced by James Shirreff, Duns Film Club: <i>Death on the Nile</i> (c. 2 hours 20 minutes) |
| 17.30–19.30
(approx.). | Light refreshments for sale , accompanied by intriguing readings by Duns Players from <i>Sethona</i> (1774), a Tragedy by Alexander Dow who used to live in Eyemouth; and other Egyptian <i>miscellanea</i> . BAR from 17.30 to 19.30 |

Monday 11 April

Session 1. Robert Hay, Artist and Egyptologist I, Chair: Aidan Dodson (Volunteer Hall)

- 9:45–10.00 Aidan Dodson on behalf of ASTENE, *Welcome*
- 10:00–10.30 Patricia Usick, British Museum, London, *The Hay plaster casts at the British Museum*
- 10:30–11.00 Barbara Wills, E.R. O’Connell, L. Skinner, M. Zellmann-Rohrer, Rebecca Stacey, and D. Giles, British Museum, London, *The Hay archive of Coptic spells on leather: new work at the British Museum*
- 11:00–11.20 [Coffee break](#)

Session 2. Robert Hay, Artist and Egyptologist II, Chair: Paul Starkey (Volunteer Hall)

- 11.20–11.40 Selwyn Tillett, Vicar of St Mary Magdalene with St James, Norwich, *Readdressing Egypt Itself — Reflections* (via Zoom)
- 11.40–12.10 Gemma Renshaw, PhD candidate, University of Southampton, *Robert Hay – Amusing myself more with the picturesque* (via Zoom)
- 12.10–12.30 Caroline Simpson, The Qurna History Project, *Robert Hay and Qurna, with an Introduction to ‘Robert Hay in Egypt and his panoramas of Qurna’ Exhibition*
- 12.45–13.45 Formal Opening Reception for the ‘Robert Hay in Egypt and his panoramas of Qurna’ Exhibition (Duns Library) plus [Lunch and refreshments available in the Volunteer Hall](#)

Session 3. Robert Hay, Artist and Egyptologist III, Chair: Patricia Usick (Volunteer Hall)

- 14:00–15.00 Lawrence M. Berman, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, USA, *The Hay Collection of Egyptian Antiquities in Boston: The MFA’s ‘First Gift of Importance’*
- 15:00–15.30 [Tea break](#)

Session 4. Robert Hay, Artist and Egyptologist III, Chair: Jason Thompson (Volunteer Hall)

- 15:30–16.00 Andrew Oliver, Director of the Museum Program at the National Endowment for the Arts, retired, *The printing History of Hay's Illustrations of Cairo* (paper to be read *in absentia* by Jason Thompson)
- 16.00–16.30 Angus Hay, Military historian; *After Egypt in East Lothian*
- 16:30–18:30 Opportunity to visit Berwickshire Art Society Spring Exhibition (in Duns Castle). [CASH BAR at DUNS Castle](#)
- 19.00 for 19:30 [Seminar Dinner \(Duns Castle\)](#)

Tuesday 12 April

Session 5. Robert Hay's Friends I. Chair: Janet Starkey (Volunteer Hall)

- 9:15–9.30 Janet Starkey, Durham University, retired, *Welcome to Day 2 of the Seminar*
- 9:30–10.00 Claire Gilmour, Chair of Egyptology Scotland, *Northern Lights: Luminaries of Scottish Egyptology*
- 10:00–10.30 Aidan Dodson, Honorary Professor of Egyptology at the University of Bristol, *John Gardner Wilkinson: pioneer historian of ancient Egypt*
- 10:30–11.00 Angela Thompson, historian, East Carolina University, retired, *Frederick Catherwood*
- 11:00–11.30 [Coffee break](#)

Session 6. Robert Hay's Friends II. Chair: Claire Gilmour (Volunteer Hall)

- 11.30–12.00 Blaž Zabel & Jan Ciglencečki, Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, *James Burton's and John Gardner Wilkinson's expeditions to the Eastern Desert* (via Zoom)
- 12.00–12.30 Willem Hovestreydt, *Rameses III (KV 11) Publication and Conservation Project*, *The value and application of Hay's work to the Ramesses III (KV 11) Publication and Conservation Project*

12.30–14.00 [Lunch and refreshments in the Volunteer Hall](#), with a second opportunity to visit the ‘Robert Hay in Egypt and his panoramas of Qurna’ Exhibition during the lunchbreak (Duns Library)

Session 7. Robert Hay’s Friends II. Chair: Larry Berman (Volunteer Hall)

14:00–15.00 Jason Thompson, writer and historian, *Robert Hay and Edward William Lane: The Rewards and Frustrations of Friendship*

15:00–15.30 Paul Starkey, Professor Emeritus, Durham University, *Edward Lane and his Arabic-English Lexicon*

15:30–16.00 Discussions, information about future publications and summing up

16:00 End of Seminar

Note on the Film and Play readings (10 April 2022)

Death on the Nile (1978)

Directed by John Guillermin and adapted by Anthony Shaffer.
PG 2h 20min

On a luxurious cruise on the Nile River, a wealthy heiress, Linnet Ridgeway (Lois Chiles), is murdered. Fortunately, among the passengers are famed Belgian detective Hercule Poirot (Peter Ustinov) and his trusted companion, Colonel Race (David Niven), who immediately begin their investigation. But just as Poirot identifies a motley collection of would-be murderers, several of the suspects also meet their demise, which only deepens the mystery of the killer's identity.

A visually sumptuous and quintessentially British production, *Death on The Nile* won an Oscar® for Anthony Powell's costume design and introduced Peter Ustinov in his first portrayal as the Belgian detective Poirot. Surrounding Ustinov are a stellar cast of the time including Maggie Smith, Jane Birkin, Bette Davis, David Niven, Mia Farrow, George Kennedy and Angela Lansbury.



Duns Players read *Sethona*

Readings given by members of the excellent Duns Players www.dunsplayfest.org.uk/ including excerpts from Alexander Dow's *Sethona. A Tragedy. As it is Performed at the Theatre-Royal in Drury Lane* (London: printed for T. Becket, the Corner of the Adelphi, in the Strand. 1774).



This Tragedy was set in a mythical ancient Egypt. The advertisement for *Sethona* states 'Colonel Dow, when he sailed for India, left the following Tragedy in the possession of Mr. [David] Garrick. The event has shewn, that the reputation of an absent author could not have been trusted in safer hands. He spared no expence as a manager, no pains as a man of taste....' The play describes the plight of Sethona, daughter of Seraphis, the king of Egypt, who was to be married to the reviled Amasis, who has seized the throne after killing Seraphis and Menes, *Sethona's* betrothed.

Alexander Dow (d.1779 aged just 43) was born in rural Perthshire, near Comrie, but moved to Eyemouth, near Duns where he worked for a leading local smuggler, he then went to India rising to become a Colonel in the East India Company.

He may have travelled to Egypt too. He certainly crossed the Syrian Desert with General Sir Eyre Coote. He wrote a pioneering and important history of India, and had two plays produced by David Garrick. This portrait, now in Petworth House, a National Trust property, was painted by Joshua Reynolds in 1771.

This delightful event is being organised by John McEwen of Duns Players and Derek Janes of *A Heart for Duns*. Derek was employed by the City of Edinburgh Museums from 1985 to 2008, and when he retired became manager at Gunsgreen House in Eyemouth, where Dow lived in the early 1750s. Derek's study of the history of the house and its builder, the smuggler John Nisbet, was the subject of his PhD awarded by the University of Exeter in 2020.

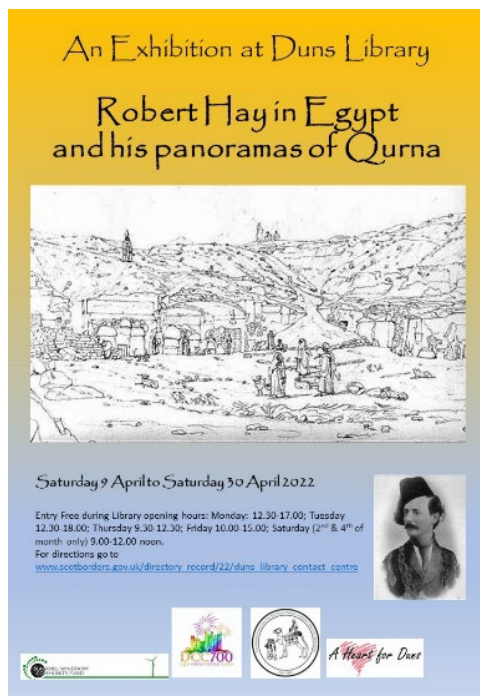
[Duns Players](http://www.dunsplayfest.org.uk/) is a non-professional troupe who create excellent theatre through the sharing and development of performance and production skills. Under the chairmanship of the actor and writer John McEwen, it has an impressive reputation for its high-quality productions of classics and new Scottish writing. From 29 April to 7 May Duns Players are organising the DunsPlayFest — live and online — nine action-packed days of live theatre, not to be missed! For more information and to book events go to <https://www.aheartforduns.org/volunteer-hall/whats-on/>

Notes on the Seminar Exhibitions

Robert Hay in Egypt and his panoramas of Qurna

An exhibition at Duns Library Museum Room, 49 Newtown Street, Duns TD11 3AU, in association with LiveBorders.

Entry FREE. 8 April–1 May 2022 Entry Free during Library opening hours: Monday: 12.30–17.00; Tuesday 12.30–18.00; Wednesday Closed; Thursday 9.30–12.30; Friday 10.00–15.00; Saturday every 2nd and 4th Saturday in the month 9.00–12.00. For directions go to www.scotborders.gov.uk/directory_record/22/duns_library_contact_centre



This exhibition, to be held in Spring 2022 at Duns Library, includes copies of two wonderful 360° panoramas of Qurna drawn by Robert Hay with the help of a camera lucida and dated to 1826, illustrating landmarks in the surrounding area such as the Ramesseum, the Colossi of Memnon, the Temple of Seti I and the Shrine of Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qurna. The originals of the two panoramas are currently held by the British Library as part of a collection known as the Hay Manuscripts (Add. MSS29812–60) and are considered highlights of the Library’s topographical collections. The accuracy of the drawings of Hay and his artist-colleagues at Thebes and elsewhere in Egypt has meant that they are still being used by archaeologists today in order to reconstruct ancient buildings that have since been damaged or destroyed.

In addition to the copies of the panoramas, several items belonging to Robert Hay and his family are exhibited at Duns Library. Robert Hay first visited Alexandria in 1818 and returned to Egypt in 1824–1828 and 1829–1934. Fascinated by ancient Egypt, and a fine draughtsman and watercolourist, he drew and painted images of its tombs and temples. He also employed a team of artists and scholars to record the monuments, art and artefacts of Egypt. This group variously included Joseph Bonomi, Frederick Catherwood and Edward Lane. Hay periodically stayed with his friend Sir Gardner Wilkinson (1797–1875), recognised as the founder of British Egyptology, who created an elaborate house for himself in a tomb on a small limestone hill called Shaykh ‘Abd al-Qurna (named after the grave of a local Muslim saint located on its summit). It was during the years 1824 and 1827–1828 that Wilkinson was studying the Theban necropolis on the west bank of Thebes and sketched its tombs; he was still living in Qurna in 1831. Even after Wilkinson left Thebes, Robert Hay and his wife, Kalitza (née Psaraki), continued to live in this unique house in Qurna. Hay even drew a picture of her standing in its courtyard. Whilst there, Hay made a number of detailed drawings of everyday scenes of the countryside around Thebes. The drawings vividly provide a detailed record of village life of that period.

The British Library generously donated a set of photographic copies of a selection of these Hay drawings to the people of Qurna in 1998. As a result, the Qurna Discovery project led by Caroline Simpson, Robert Hay junior and others raised the money for a permanent exhibition and venue in Qurna (www.qurna.org/discovery.html). In 1997 an exhibition had been developed in cooperation with the villagers themselves and entitled 'Gourna: living villages in the city of the dead', and looked at social problems encountered by this hillside community. This exhibition was shown at the American University in Cairo, and at an ASTENE conference held at the University of Cambridge. In April 2001 Qurna Discovery opened to the public in a restored part of the old mayor's house, showing Life on the Theban Hills 1826, and the Living Villages exhibition. In May 2004, the well-known cartoonist Golo was commissioned to paint 'The Qurna Mural' on the outside walls of Qurna Discovery — by then in a different venue. In 2007 it moved again to its last home on the hill. When the final hillside buildings were demolished in May 2010 the exhibitions were rescued. They have been remounted, and since 2018 they have been on view at the Balady Centre, a local craft centre in one of the new settlements to the north, together with some traditional agricultural implements and some additional exhibition panels, including a copy of a third panorama by Robert Hay sold at Christie's in 2010.

Berwickshire Art Society Spring Exhibition

Venue: Old Kitchen, Duns Castle, Duns. Entry: by donation, pay what you can!



An exhibition of artwork created by members of the Berwickshire Art Society and other local artists is to be held at the invitation of the Hay family in Duns Castle as part of the ASTENE seminar in Duns to celebrate the life of Robert Hay. This exhibition will be a great opportunity to meet local artists, and to view and buy art.

The Exhibition will be open from 14:00 to 16:00 on Saturday 9 April, Sunday 10 April and Monday 11 April, and from 14:00 to 16:00 on Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 April 2022. There will be a special opening on Friday 8 April 19:00 to 20:30 for invited guests of the Berwickshire Art Society. There will also be a private viewing for all Robert Hay Seminar delegates on Monday evening from 16:30–18:30 on 11 April (with a cash bar) before the Seminar Dinner hosted by ASTENE. The dinner is open to all and

bookable via Eventbrite by Friday 1 April.

For further information about the Berwickshire Art Society, please contact Lorraine Tait on lstait192@hotmail.co.uk

Abstracts and Affiliations in alphabetical order according to speaker

The Hay Collection of Egyptian Antiquities in Boston: The MFA's 'First Gift of Importance'

Dr Lawrence M. Berman

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In 1872, just two years after it was founded, the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, received as its first major gift of art some 4500 Egyptian antiquities collected in Egypt in the 1820s and 1830s by Robert Hay, which had been purchased in London from Hay's heirs by Samuel Aids Way, a wealthy Boston merchant. At that time, this was the largest collection of Egyptian art in America. The installation of these antiquities — mostly objects of daily life and funerary art, including seven mummies in their decorated coffins — was so successful with the public that the Trustees of the Museum were induced to pursue collecting Egyptian art directly through excavations in Egypt, so that the collection now numbers close to 70,000 objects. As a result, the Hay Collection—which had provided its initial stimulus— was somewhat overshadowed. Ongoing efforts by the Museum to make its collections more accessible, combined with a thorough rehousing and inventorying project in Egyptian storage, puts us in a better position now than ever before to consider the Hay-Way collection in its entirety. An overview of this collection reveals a number of surprises as well as a precious insight into the earliest days of Egyptology and the reception of Egyptian art in America.

Dr Lawrence M. Berman is Norma Jean Calderwood Senior Curator of Ancient Egyptian, Nubian, and Near Eastern Art at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. He is the author of *The Priest, the Prince, and the Pasha: The Life and Afterlife of an Ancient Egyptian Sculpture*. MFA Publications, 2015; and *Unearthing Ancient Nubia: Photographs from the Harvard University-Boston Museum of Fine Arts Expedition*. MFA Publications, 2018. His latest book, on ancient Egyptian portraits, will be published by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston in Fall 2022.

John Gardner Wilkinson: pioneer historian of ancient Egypt

Aidan Dodson

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This paper will consider the career of the first Egyptological knight through the lens of his contributions to the first reconstructions of the history of ancient Egypt. As resident in Egypt, he had the most comprehensive access to the monuments of any of the earliest Egyptologists, and as such was often the first to notice a number of obscure kings such as Tutankhamun, and make working hypotheses of the placement. While some of his

conclusions may seem outlandish today, they shed an interesting light on the way that these pioneers worked with the data available to them.

Aidan Dodson is Honorary Professor of Egyptology at the University of Bristol, where he has taught since 1996. He studied at Durham, Liverpool and Cambridge Universities, receiving his PhD in 1995, and was elected a Fellow of Society of Antiquaries of London in 2003. He was Chairman of the Egypt Exploration Society from 2011 to 2016, Simpson Professor of Egyptology at the American University in Cairo for the spring of 2013, and is a committee member of ASTENE. The author of over 25 books and 400 articles and reviews, he is one of the editors (with Salima Ikram and Andrew Bednarski) of *A World History of Egyptology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2021.

Northern Lights: Luminaries of Scottish Egyptology

Claire Gilmour

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The nineteenth century saw an increase in travelling in Ancient Egypt, with archaeologists, linguists, travellers, writers, artists, and collectors inspired to visit the ancient monuments. Of these, several Scottish figures stand out, including Robert Hay and his contemporaries Alexander Henry Rhind (1833–1863), and David Roberts (1796–1864). Their various records of Egypt reflect their backgrounds and motivations: Rhind, as an archaeologist, had different methods and aims than Roberts, as an artist proper. However, the work of both has been used in different ways to present Egypt to the West, and the interpretation and dissemination of their work has influenced perceptions of Egypt and steered the direction of the study of ancient Egypt in Scotland itself. This paper outlines the key developments in Scottish Egyptology in the nineteenth century, with a focus on Rhind and Roberts as context for Robert Hay.

Claire Gilmour is a PhD candidate in Anthropology & Archaeology at the University of Bristol, researching the cultural and academic impact of the study of Ancient Egypt in Scotland. She teaches Egyptology and the Ancient Near East at the University of Glasgow, is Chair of Egyptology Scotland, and works in museum collections care.

Duns Castle and the Hay Family

Alick Hay

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This introductory talk will explore the development of the house and the estate over the last seven centuries and the role of the Hay family in this since 1696, with special reference to Robert Hay.

Alick Hay was born in 1948 and brought up at Duns Castle; educated at Rugby School and Edinburgh University with a degree in Maths. He qualified as a Chartered Accountant in 1975, worked with Greaves West & Ayre, Chartered Accountants in Berwick upon Tweed, and retired in 2005. With his wife he has been running the Estate since 1975 and running the Castle as an exclusive use venue since 1987.

After Egypt in East Lothian

Angus Hay

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On returning to Scotland early in 1835, Hay seems to have lost the impetus he needed to bring his work to public attention. Indecisive, dispirited by an apparently uninterested public, taken aback by misunderstandings with his artists and overwhelmed by the high costs of publication, Hay gradually put his interest in Egypt aside until, finally, it faded entirely. Hay took over the management of his ancestral estate of Linplum, and also purchased the nearby estate of Nunraw from his sisters. He ran into continued financial difficulties, due to the costs incurred by his Egyptian adventures, as well as the high costs of managing his two estates. These financial problems resulted, following his death in 1863, of his son and heir selling both estates and moving to Italy.

Angus Hay was raised in Scotland, England and France, and educated at Ampleforth College and the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. He soldiered in Cyprus, Germany, Ulster, the United Arab Emirates and Oman. Subsequently, as a businessman, he worked in the Middle East, Russia, the Caucasus, Southern Africa and the USA. His work has included managing companies involved with shipping and logistics in the oil industry. His lectures cover a range of subjects. These include religion (Islam), military history and Scottish history. Recently, and presently, he has given lectures throughout the United Kingdom - which included: The Cavalry and Guards Club (London), The New Club (Edinburgh), The Iran Society (London), and The Travellers Club (London). Venues overseas have included: Austria, Azerbaijan, Florida (The Four Arts Society, Palm Beach), France, Germany and Italy.

The value and application of Hay's work to the Ramesses III (KV 11) Publication and Conservation Project

Willem Hovestreydt

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Although KV 11, as the tomb is known, is one of the best known and most visited tombs in the Valley, only half of it is open to visitors. The rear compartments of the tomb suffered heavy damage when one or more storm floods entered the tomb between the late 1880s and 1914. As a result, most of the decoration was destroyed and the tomb suffered structural damage as well.

One of the tasks we have set ourselves is the reconstruction of the now lost decoration. In this, we are greatly helped by the notes and drawings of early Egyptologists such as Champollion and Lefébure, which were already published in the 19th century. However, there is also a large amount of unpublished material produced among others by Sir Gardner Wilkinson, James Burton, and above all, Robert Hay. In 2019 we conducted extensive research among these papers in the UK.

The drawings and notes of Hay and his collaborators in particular, which were frequently made with the aid of a *camera lucida*, have proved to be invaluable for our project. The talk will focus on the value and the application of Hay's work.

Willem Hovestreydt is a Dutch Egyptologist and though retired, still active. He is currently part of the Ramesses III (KV 11) Publication and Conservation Project, which is sponsored by the Humboldt University in Berlin. As the name implies, we intend to investigate and publish the tomb of Ramesses III in the Valley of the Kings, and last year we completed a second successful season in the tomb. More information on the project is available at <https://www.ramesses-iii-project.com/english/the-project/>.

Robert Hay's *Illustrations of Cairo*

Andrew Oliver

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This paper discusses Robert Hay's *Illustrations of Cairo*. Drawing in part on the work of Neil Cooke and Jason Thompson, it will discuss the printing history and the individuals involved. Using images taken from the author's copy it will seek to show the manner in which the architecture of Cairo as seen in 1830 was given life by adding in the foreground people engaged in the activities of daily life. In addition, members of the seminar will receive a census of known copies in public collections.

Andrew Oliver is a retired art historian and museum administrator living in Washington, DC. With degrees from Harvard College and the Institute of Fine Arts at New York University, he was director of the Museum Program at the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency in Washington, from 1982 to 1994. Earlier in his career, from 1960 to 1970, he was a curator in the Greek and Roman Department at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Robert Hay – Amusing myself more with the picturesque

Gemma Renshaw

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Robert Hay's collection of drawings, notes and journals has been described by Egyptologists and historians as 'of the highest importance,' 'must be seen to be appreciated,' and 'the most substantial product of a great age of copying.' Yet, his work has long been largely unpublished, the majority of his collection of antiquities under-studied and not on display.

Hay visited every major site in Egypt that was known in the 19th century as well as many in Northern Sudan, copying thousands of inscriptions, making detailed drawings of Egyptian art and taking views of villages and monuments, both ancient and contemporary. Consisting of over 7000 individual folios, the range of material in the Hay archive is enormous. This lecture is an introduction to Hay and his expeditions, and a short exploration of his archive of work.

Gemma Renshaw has a BA and MA in Egyptology and is currently working towards a PhD in archaeology under the supervision of Professor Stephanie Moser at Southampton University. She is a heritage professional, working in the sector since 2007, and has mostly worked in museums and galleries. She now works for an archaeology company. Her PhD research focuses on Robert Hay's expedition archive and the impact of his work on the developing discipline of Egyptology. Other interests include Third Intermediate Period coffins, the William Henry Fox Talbot collection at the British Library and reception of ancient Egypt in museum collections, art and video games.

Hay and Qurna, with an Introduction to the Hay Exhibition

Caroline Simpson

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This presentation will focus on copies of two 360° panoramas of Qurna drawn by Robert Hay with the help of a camera lucida and other drawings he made in Qurna, dated to 1826, illustrating landmarks and local life in the surrounding area. Copies of these drawings are on

exhibition at Duns Library as part of the present Seminar. See details of this exhibition, 'Robert Hay in Egypt and his panoramas of Qurna' in the notes on related exhibitions above.

Caroline Simpson was brought up and went to school in London. Between 1963–1966 she studied at York University, BA in English and Social Studies. Lived, worked and studied in Ghana (1967–1970). Studied archaeology in London and Legon. Worked on multi-period excavations in London and the UK. Lived in Oxford 1970–1973, researched and wrote three reports on historic cities and the threats of modern development. Moved to Canterbury in 1973, had three children and was involved in archaeology and community projects. 1980–1995, Director of Canterbury Urban Studies Centre, an educational and community centre. 1994 started to research projects and live for periods in Egypt, focused on the World Heritage Site on the West Bank of Luxor, specifically the Qurnawi communities: exhibitions, articles, photographic and oral history recording, see www.qurna.org and www.gurnainthesky.org. 1999 moved to North London: many community projects, exhibitions and events.

Word Games: Edward Lane and his *Arabic-English Lexicon*

Paul Starkey

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Like his friend Robert Hay, Edward Lane returned from his Egyptian travels to a completely different way of life. His lifestyle in Britain after 1849, however, was considerably more sedentary than that of Hay; indeed, it seems to have been almost designed for lockdown. For over 25 years, Lane devoted himself to the compilation of his *Arabic-English Lexicon*, which remains an essential reference for students and scholars of pre-modern Arabic literature. Moreover, although this enterprise remains largely unexplored territory to many scholars, Lane's work occupies a unique position, as it both built on, and contributed to, an indigenous Arab intellectual lexicographical tradition. This paper will discuss some of the problems with which Lane had to grapple in compiling his work and will attempt to place it both in its Western context and in the far older tradition of Arabic lexicography itself.

Paul Starkey is Emeritus Professor at Durham University and was the first Chair of ASTENE. A specialist on Arabic literature and culture, he is Chairman of the Banipal Trust for Arab Literature and until 2018 was Vice-President of the British Society for Middle Eastern Studies (BRISMES). Following his retirement, he lectures for the U3A and other local associations in the Scottish Borders. In the summer 2021 he was the recipient of the prestigious BRISMES Award for Services to Middle Eastern Studies. An expert on modern Arabic literature and internationally recognised for his translations of Arabic novels, which have opened up the rich and dynamic field of Arabic literature to non-Arabic speaking audiences. His translation of *The Book of the Sultan's Seal* by Youssef Rakha won the 2015

Saif Ghobash Banipal Prize for Arabic Literary Translation, and his translation of *The Shell* by Mustafa Khalifa won a Sheikh Hamad Award for Translation and International Understanding in 2017. A founder member of ASTENE, he was contributor to and joint editor of *Travellers in Ottoman Lands: the botanical legacy* (Archaeopress, 2018) and a contributor and joint editor of *Pious Pilgrims, Discerning Travellers, Curious Tourists* (Archaeopress, 2020).

Frederick Catherwood

Dr Angela Thompson

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Frederick Catherwood (1799–1854) is remembered for his ground-breaking artistic and scholarly work on the Maya of Middle America, yet he spent much more time in the Middle East, primarily in Egypt with Robert Hay, than in Middle America. This is because most of his Middle East contributions, especially those for the Hay portfolio, were never published, and a significant body of his work was destroyed by a disastrous fire in 1842. Besides being self-effacing, Catherwood was unlucky. ‘It was as if some spiteful poltergeist had followed in Catherwood’s wake, destroying every page of his life’s testimony,’ wrote his only biographer Victor van Hagen, whose work on Catherwood is brief and confusing. I hope to bring greater insight into his experiences in the Middle East, particularly those involving Robert Hay, which are of extreme importance for understanding the Hay portfolio, but also to show how they later informed and enabled his Mesoamerican work. This talented, yet often ignored traveller, scholar, and artist—arguably the best of Hay’s team—deserves greater recognition here in his home nation, England, and elsewhere.

Dr Angela Thompson is an historian of Latin America and the Atlantic World and recently retired from East Carolina University. Her principal area of research is the social history of Mexico in the 18th and 19th centuries. Most of her publications deal with the history of demography, family, women, labour, epidemics and public health, and education. Additionally, she has undertaken a study of Frederick Catherwood, a nineteenth-century British artist, architect, and one of the first scholars of Pharaonic and Islamic Egypt and of the Maya of Middle America. She has lived and worked in Mexico, England, and Egypt and travelled extensively in Latin American, Europe, and the Middle East.

Robert Hay and Edward William Lane: The Rewards and Frustrations of Friendship

Dr Jason Thompson

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The meeting of Robert Hay and Edward William Lane in Cairo in February 1826 began a friendship that endured until Hay's death four decades later. Exploring their relationship reveals crucial aspects of Lane's and Hay's lives and works. Initially, the well-heeled Hay was helpful to the relatively impecunious Lane by taking him up the Nile on a second voyage to Wadi Halfa, enabling Lane to do additional work for the book he was preparing about ancient and modern Egypt. And it was Hay who purchased the Greek child slave Nefeeseh, who became Lane's wife. For his part, Lane assisted Hay in different ways in Egypt, then laboured for years to enable Hay to present his rich trove of materials to the public. His efforts were in vain, for the despondent Hay either mismanaged or lost interest in his magnificent collections. Yet, the friendship continued and grew stronger over time, generating a series of letters from Lane — who destroyed those he received from Hay — that is an indispensable source for the careers of both men as Lane went on to achieve some of his most cherished goals while Hay failed in most of his, but left a manuscript legacy of lasting value.

Jason Thompson is a writer and historian who studies the Western encounter with the Middle East, ancient and modern. His books include studies of the Egyptologist Sir Gardner Wilkinson, the orientalist Edward William Lane, a history of Egypt, and a multi-volume history of Egyptology. He received his PhD in history from the University of Chicago and has taught at the University of Maine, Western Kentucky, and the American University in Cairo. Since retiring from teaching to write full-time, he has held visiting professorships at Colby College and Bates College. He currently resides in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia and is preparing a book about Sir Richard Francis Burton.

Readdressing *Egypt Itself* — Reflections

Reverend Selwyn Tillett

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Selwyn's brief talk (given on Zoom) will give details of how his work on Robert Hay began and developed, with thanks to so many other scholars (several of you present in Duns) who have shown interest in Hay and made frequent personal enquiries about aspects of his work and career since *Egypt Itself* was first published.

Selwyn Tillett (born 1954) is an Anglican priest on the verge of retirement, currently in a parish on the edge of Norwich. Before ordination in 1981 he had read Egyptology at Peterhouse, Cambridge, and explored his interest in Robert Hay in the form of research

towards a PhD which for various reasons was never completed. *Egypt Itself*, his biography of Hay based on that research, was originally published by SD Books in 1984 in a regrettably small initial print run. A corrected, updated and much expanded second edition will be available online shortly.

He has published nothing else on Egyptological subjects, but in the 1990s pursued a parallel interest in late nineteenth-century British theatre with numerous articles (and sleeve-notes to accompany CDs) on the work of Sir Arthur Sullivan and other contemporary theatrical composers.

The Hay Plaster Casts at the British Museum

Patricia Usick

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The British Museum holds a large collection of moulds and casts of ancient reliefs and sculpture which are mainly kept in storage. From the mid to the late 19th century, following requests for replicas of the Parthenon Marbles, there was a demand from museums and collectors for copies to augment the original antiquities that they held.

The earliest discrete group of casts acquired by the then Department of Antiquities were created from moulds made in Egypt by and for the antiquarian and traveller Robert Hay between 1824 and 1834. His travel companions and paid artists included the sculptor, Joseph Bonomi, and he also employed a specialist ‘plasterman’. These moulds were taken of reliefs and sculpture from monuments *in situ* of particular interest or which were considered too difficult to remove. The moulds were sent back to Bonomi’s studio in London where he took the casts. By 1838 it was suggested that the British Museum might wish to purchase them, but Hay procrastinated over the price, eventually asking for £1001. 7s. 8p. The Trustees refused, but in 1840, after protracted negotiations, finally offered £250. By then the larger moulds and casts were deteriorating, causing Bonomi to advise Hay to donate them to the Museum in 1842. Hay agreed, but retained a number of small casts which were sent to his home in Scotland. Following his death, and further negotiations with his sons for his collection of antiquities, these casts also came to the Museum.

Patricia Usick. Following a degree in Ancient History and Egyptology at UCL, Patricia Usick received a PhD for a study of William John Bankes’s portfolio of drawings of Nubia, which were temporarily loaned to the Egyptian department of the British Museum. She subsequently published Bankes’s life and travels as *Adventures in Egypt and Nubia: The Travels of William John Bankes (1786–1855)*. London: The British Museum Press, 2002. A founder member of ASTENE, she remained at the British Museum to set up and catalogue their Egyptian archives and continues to research the archives as a Visiting Academic,

specialising in early travellers and the history of the Egyptian collections. She recently published *A Curious and Convivial Traveller: Edward Roger Pratt in Greece and Egypt 1832–34*. British Museum Publications on Egypt and Sudan 6. Leuven: Peeters, 2020.

The Hay archive of Coptic spells on leather: new work at the British Museum

Barbara Wills, Elisabeth R. O’Connell, Lucy Skinner, Rebecca Stacey, Michael Zellmann-Rohrer & David Giles

e-mails: EOConnell@britishmuseum.org; BWills@britishmuseum.org;

The Hay archive of Coptic spells on leather are an assemblage of seven leather sheets or fragments thereof bearing magical formularies. They were among the c.500 objects the British Museum (BM) purchased from Robert James Alexander Hay, son of Robert and Kalitza Hay, in 1868.

Since 2016, a project supported by the British Museum Research Fund has endeavoured to publish a model monograph presentation of these texts as archaeological artefacts, with chapters introducing ‘magical’ practice in Late Antique Egypt; the provenance and collection history; a full record of scientific analysis including radiocarbon dating; the results of new conservation approach and treatment; a complete edition and translation of the Coptic texts; and an extended discussion of the cultural context of production. The project was occasioned by the urgent conservation needs of this corpus.

With the project coming to an end, this presentation will showcase the results of the successful conservation project and detail what can be reconstructed concerning their acquisition, and the range of evidence supporting the identification of their likely provenance.

Barbara Wills is Senior Conservator at the British Museum. She is experienced in the conservation of a wide range of artefacts made from organic materials. She specialises in the treatment of human remains, objects made of leather, ivory, and plant materials, especially those from ancient Egypt. She has published widely and enjoys exchanging skills, contributing to workshops and university course units in the UK and abroad.

Elisabeth R. O’Connell is Byzantine World Curator at The British Museum. Her research focuses on aspects of Late Antique social history and archaeology in Egypt. She is the author of numerous journal articles and editor of *Egypt in the First Millennium AD* (2014), *Abydos in the First Millennium AD* (2020), *Egypt and empire: The formation of religious identity after Rome* (2022) and co-editor of *Egypt: Faith after the pharaohs* (2015), which accompanied the British Museum exhibition of the same title (2015–2016). She completed her PhD at the University of California, Berkeley (2007).

James Burton's and John Gardner Wilkinson's expeditions to the Eastern Desert

Dr Blaž Zabel & Dr Jan Ciglencečki

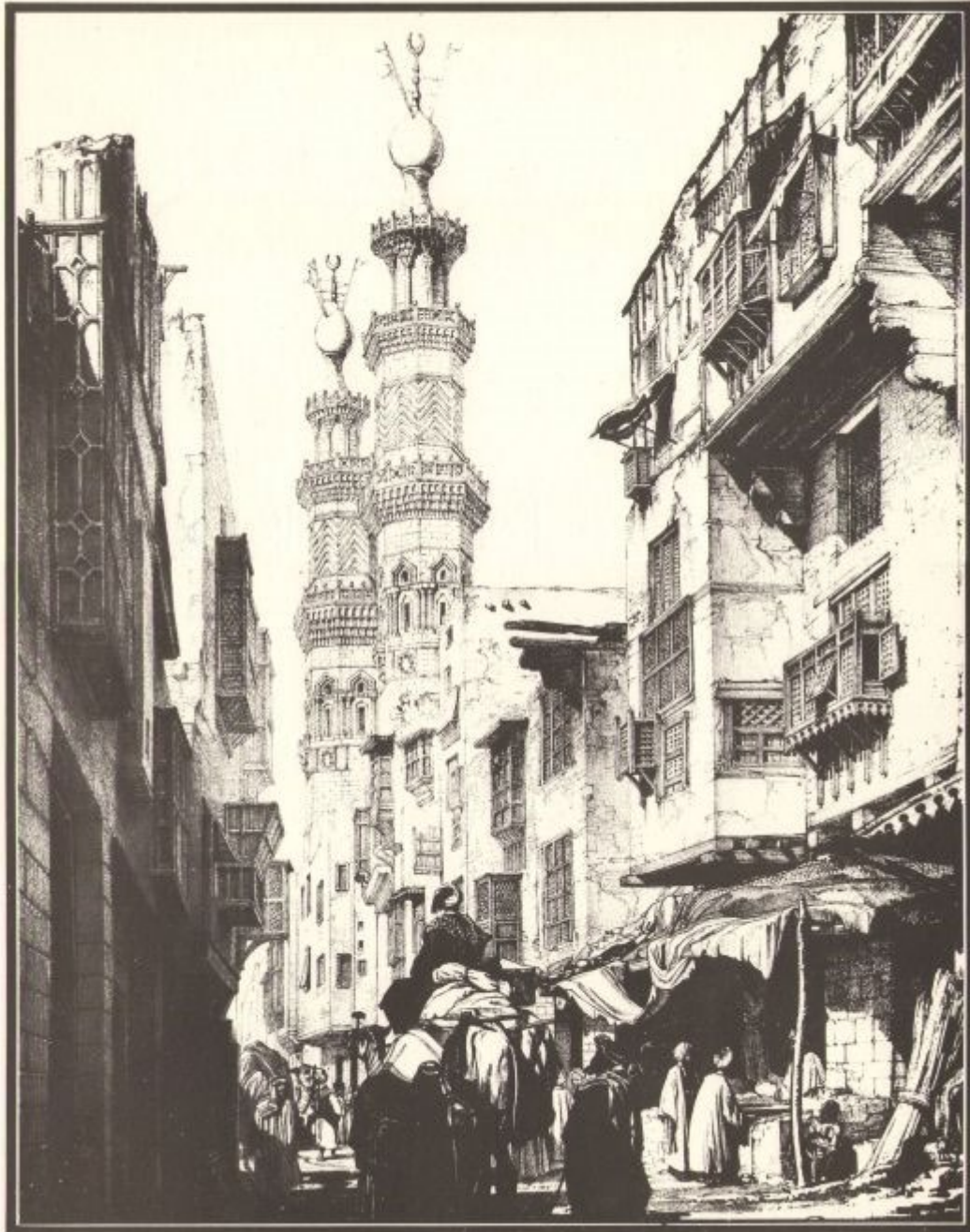
e-mails: blaz.zabel@durham.ac.uk ; ciglencecki.jan@gmail.com

Among the members of the British community that resided in Egypt in the first half of nineteenth century, many of whom were friends with Robert Hay, there were two pioneers of Eastern Desert exploration, James Burton (1786–1862) and John Gardner Wilkinson (1797–1875). Based on the archival material in the British Library (London) and Bodleian Libraries (Oxford), this paper aims to reconstruct the exact itineraries of Burton's trip to the Eastern Desert in 1822, as well as the course of the joint expedition of Burton and Wilkinson through the area in 1823, including the information from their subsequent trips. Even though Wilkinson is the better known of the two explorers as he was the first to publish his discoveries, it can be argued that Burton visited and documented many of the archaeological sites before him, and that Wilkinson has been erroneously credited as their discoverer. Furthermore, the paper suggests that their unpublished documents, which consist of dairies, notebooks, drawings, sketches and maps, are still one of the most valuable resources for the history of Eastern Desert. The documents, which have still not been sufficiently studied, often reveal forgotten information regarding Pharaonic, Ptolemaic, Roman, and Christian monuments in the area, many of which are now destroyed, severely damaged, or forgotten.

Dr Blaž Zabel, Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia has contributed papers to ASTENE conferences and publications. PhD on 'Homeric Epic and World Literature', Durham University, 2016–2020; previously Visiting Fellow at Princeton and at Harvard and M.Phil. at Cambridge 2015-2016; University of Ljubljana (additional degree) 2011-2015, BA: Classics & Art History, University of Ljubljana 2007-2012 BA, MA: Philosophy & Comparative Literature.

Dr Jan Ciglencečki, Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia is a Slovenian philosopher who has contributed papers to ASTENE conferences and publications. Interested in Monasticism in the Eastern Desert, he was Project Director of the Endangered Hermitages: Documenting Coptic Heritage in Middle Egypt and the Eastern Desert project, funded by ARCE, in 2018. This project team conducted professional photographic surveys and documentation of hermitages in the Eastern Desert, which are a significant testimony of how monks lived in remote deserts of Egypt from the fourth century onwards.

'Bab Zuwayleh' from Robert Hay's *Illustrations of Cairo*, 1840 with a caption from <https://playingintheworldgame.com/tag/robert-hay/>



B. BĀB ZUWAYLA

(Hay's caption: Bab Zuweyleh
On Stone by J. C. Bourne from a drawing by Owen B. Carter Arch[ist])

Carter's plate shows Shārī' al-Darb al-Ahmar as it runs along the southern side of the Fāṭimid walls of Cairo. In the background are the two minarets of the Mamlūk al-Mu'ayyad mosque (618-623/1415-1420) resting on top of the Fāṭimid Bāb Zuwayla towers (485/1092). The Bāb Zuwayla itself is invisible in Carter's drawing, hidden by close-packed houses with mashrabiya screens. Although shops still line the street, the houses have now vanished and the ruined Fāṭimid walls are visible. The minarets, the only elements in Carter's plate still remaining intact, are fairly accurately drawn with only slight disregard of details.

A Warm Welcome from the Robert Hay Committee 2022

e-mail: 2020DunsHayastene@gmail.com

Professor Aidan Dodson, ASTENE Trustee
Claire Gilmour, Chair of Egyptology Scotland, ASTENE
Mrs Caroline Graham-Campbell, Hay family member
Mrs Aline Hay, Duns Castle
Angus Hay, Hay family member
Robert A. Hay, Hay family member, Qurna Discovery Trust
Dr Derek Janes, A Heart for Duns, ASTENE
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Egyptologist Robert Hay (1799-1863) and Friends in Egypt

A Seminar at Duns Castle and in the Volunteer Hall,
Duns, in the Scottish Borders
from 10 to 12 April 2022

All welcome!

Association for the Study of Travel in Egypt and the Near East
AS (LNL) Charity Commission Registration Number 106/157