

ASTENE

ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF TRAVEL
IN EGYPT AND THE NEAR EAST

BULLETIN



NOTES AND QUERIES

NUMBER 62: WINTER 2014-15

Bulletin: Notes and Queries

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Editors: Cathy McGlynn with Emmet Jackson

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Bulletin 63 : Spring 2015

Submissions for the next Bulletin must be received by **15 March 2015**. We welcome articles, queries, replies and other related matters from members and interested readers. Please send contributions to bulletin@astene.org.uk.

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Enclosed with this Bulletin is the annual membership renewal reminder letter. If you wish to pay by Standing Order, please make sure that this has now been updated to account for the change in subscription rates announced for the 2015 membership year. The Treasurer will appreciate your help with this as it will avoid follow up reminders. Rates below and on website.

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Cover: Lawrence of Arabia commemorative carving in Wadi Rumm, Jordan. Courtesy of Anthony Sattin.

ASTENE NEWS AND EVENTS

As we reach the last days of 2014 and the New Year I am pleased to report that planning is well in hand for the next ASTENE Conference. This will take place at Exeter University over the weekend of Friday 17th to Monday 20th July 2015.

Several members have already e-mailed a synopsis of the papers they wish to present. Again, these reveal our member's wide range of interests. If you have not yet submitted a synopsis of your paper, can I remind you to e-mail it to conference@astene.org.uk before 15 February 2015 or as soon possible after this date as this will allow more time for it to be grouped – or regrouped – into the developing Session subjects and themes.

The Conference Booking Form will be made available on the ASTENE website during the first weeks of January. The Bursary Application Form will also be made available on the website at the same time. Three Bursaries will be available for 2015 to cover the cost of accommodation and meals but not travel. Two of the three Bursaries are to be associated with the Harry James Memorial Essay Prize. As this is a new competition the figure of two could reduce to one but this will depend on the number of essays submitted and their quality.

This is also the time of year when membership subscriptions are due. If you attended the AGM, or have been reading recent Bulletins you will be aware that while the cost of subscriptions has to rise again because of the increasing costs of printing and mailing the Bulletin, members can now decide whether to continue receiving a printed Bulletin or to have it e-mailed as a .pdf file. The .pdf file also means that colour images can be included. Details of the new subscription rates and Bulletin options for 2015 are on the website and members are asked to make the necessary changes with their bank for the method of payment they use.

Many members have already told us they would like to change to the .pdf version of the Bulletin because where they live the safe delivery of mail can no longer be guaranteed. Members can also download from the ASTENE website to their computer or laptop the .pdf files for all the earlier Bulletins – back to the very first issue – and these files are all

searchable, which makes them an useful asset for anybody interested in the study of travellers and travel.

A recent addition to the Bulletin part of the website has been an alphabetical Index and Bibliography covering issues 1–57 of the Bulletin from July 1995 to Autumn 2013. It is planned to update this every year.

It is hoped members are benefitting from the use of MailChimp to send out details of future ASTENE events and meetings and also those that are arranged by organisations similar to our own. By using MailChimp members can be informed of lectures and exhibitions in advance of receiving the Bulletin and therefore have the opportunity of being able to organise tickets or travel in less of a hurry. If members know of anything happening either local to them or further afield it would be helpful if they could e-mail the information to bulletin@astene.org.uk so the details can be passed on to members.

Lastly, if members have written any shorts papers the contents of which would be of interest to members, or they wish to request assistance in finding information about a particular traveller or have a question about an aspect of travel do please e-mail these to bulletin@astene.org.uk so they can appear in the Bulletin.

Chairman, Neil Cooke

MESA annual conference, 22–25 November 2014, Washington DC.

The Middle East Studies Association of North America held its annual conference from 22 to 25 November 2014 in Washington DC. MESA's conferences are always fascinating if sometimes somewhat overwhelming, with a FilmFest showing recent films from around the region, meetings of related societies held at the event (none of which, for the record, yet focus on travellers or travel in the Middle East) and a vast Book Bazaar. Over 277 sessions, each with three to four speakers, all held in 12 parallel time slots, often with over twenty sessions running concurrently, with about 1,300 contributing as speakers, chairmen and or discussants were presented. Many others came to listen and participate in workshops, seminars and lecture

panels, meet old colleagues and network with new associates – making a total of about 2,400 attendees. It is therefore not surprising to discover a few papers that related to the themes of ASTENE amongst a vast range that covered almost every aspect of the Middle East, from pre-Islamic poetry to religion, from dialect studies to ISAS and the future of Iraq and the Levant.

Some papers were directly related to ASTENE themes, but more particularly, others drew on the works of travellers to provide substance to papers on a wide range of topics. Although it was impossible to attend them all, it might be useful to highlight some of the sessions that were of interest to ASTENE. Such session themes included nineteenth-century photography and print culture; mapping Middle Eastern literatures; Ottoman medicine; Liminal bad girls of the Arab world; Lebanese spaces and places with papers on tourism; slavery in Muslim societies as depicted in Orientalist art and travel narratives; travel by Ottoman migrants abroad and so on. Other sessions covered issues of identity, space, borders and boundaries, migrants, minorities and otherness, medical issues and commercial encounters. Of particular interest was a session entitled 'Jews and Christians: the nineteenth century', with a paper by Frank Castiglione on 'Dragomans, non-Muslims and intra-imperial space in 19th century Istanbul' and another by Mohammed Gharipour in which he cited travel literature he has used as background for his current research project on Jewish holy space in Isfahan.

Papers that used books of travel included 'Domestic Slaves in the Mamluk Marketplace' by Hannah Barker who used observations of European travellers who visited Mamluk slave markets; 'Egypt's Imagined Empire: Egyptian Perspectives on Sub-Saharan Africa in the Age of Colonialism' by Omar Omar who, using the extensive archives of the Egyptian Geographic Society, offered an alternative portrait of sub-Saharan Africa to that normally seen through the lens of Egyptian travellers and explorers; 'Intertextual Representations of Modernity: Max Fruchtermann's Postcards and the Sultan Abdül Hamid II Photo Albums' by Radha Dalal; Daniel Hershenzon on 'Ransoming Muslims in early modern Mediterranean'; and Jessica Marglin on consular courts in nineteenth-century Morocco on the 'hodgepodge of jurisdictions which coexisted and competed'. Joelle Abi-Rached spoke on "'The Insane in Some Remote Lands": Madness and Civilization in the *fin-de-siècle* Levant' based on

the examination of various primary sources from Western travellers and observers of the 'Orient'. Suha Kudsiah presented a paper on al-Tahtawi's travel account. Rifa'a al-Tahtawi (1801–1873) was imam in the first large-scale educational mission sent from Egypt to France in 1826. When he returned to Egypt, he published an account that depicted his travel to Paris. Perhaps there is scope to have an ASTENE session to engage members in North America at a future MESA conference?

Dr Janet Starkey

TE Lawrence day at the Petrie Museum, 6 December 2014.

Around 50 people attended The Archaeology of Lawrence of Arabia event at the Petrie Museum/ University College, London, on Saturday afternoon, December 6, and ASTENE was well represented with about 10 of us enjoying the lectures and most staying on to watch the film.

Anthony Sattin has been touring his new book, *Young Lawrence: a Portrait of the Legend as a Young Man*, for a few months now, but he re-tells his story with such enthusiasm and a wealth of anecdote and photographs (many from the Ashmolean collection of Lawrence's own photos) that it felt as if he was telling it for the first time. It was appropriate that he spoke first, as he concentrates on Lawrence's early years, before the myth was created: by Lawrence himself; by Lowell Thomas among others; and finally enshrined in the David Lean film. The layers of accumulated legend, half truth, and interpretation which have grown up around this one man do indeed require 'archaeology' to unravel. So we were treated to the tales of the digs in which TEL took part at Carchemish between 2011 and 2014 and the metaphorical digging required to understand what motivated his actions later. And of course, Lawrence was a keen if not always successful traveller; on his first visit to Syria in 2009 to tour the Crusader Castles he was seriously mugged (having been warned by Charles Doughty not to go in July; not to go alone; and not to go on foot, all of which good advice Lawrence ignored).

ASTENE Events Manager, Cathie Bryan, followed Anthony's talk with an analysis of some of the ways in which the 1962 David Lean film diverged from the known facts of the Arab Revolt and Lawrence's role in it. It is important to understand that even if the film has become the standard crib for Jordanian tour guides, it was not particularly

historically accurate (which does not detract from how SPLENDID it is!)



Cathie Bryan (ASTENE) and Anthony Sattin photographed in the Petrie Museum.

Finally historian and archaeologist Dr Neil Faulkner of Bristol University explained the work and findings of the 'Great Arab Revolt Project'. For 9 years a team of 10 archaeologists and 20 volunteers has been surveying two weeks at a time the terrain of T.E. Lawrence's guerrilla warfare between Ma'an and Mudawwara. Most of the evidence is surface, with the physical remains relating primarily to the regular army – the forts and communication lines (the railway and stations) of the Turks. Unlike the battlefields of France there were almost no human remains and the archaeologists were not collectors of 'buttons and bullets'. But the metal detector was a key tool, revealing for example the metal tops of Wills cigarette tins which were handed out by the Allies to the tribesmen (but no treasure was found despite the persistent local belief that Turkish gold is buried out there still).

The guerrillas by definition left little trace on the landscape into which they could evaporate. But by great good fortune, at the very last moment the team found both the remains of an Arab encampment, the probable site of Faisal's northern army, and the site

of a British bivouac, identifiable generally from the topography but specifically by a broken rum jar and old bully beef cans.

Now all the material will be written up ready for publication in 2017, the anniversary of the Revolt. More broadly the project has been about understanding the form of modern conflicts, the asymmetrical powers of an occupying or mechanised invading force on one side and the local people on the other, striking swiftly then disappearing. The physical site is deteriorating so rapidly that there is little to be gained by more "excavation". But the overlapping stories of the local Jordanian people, many of the oldest of whom were extras in the David Lean film, and the passing down of oral memories will continue to provide a rich source for analysis of the nature of resistance movements and how they affect the human if not the physical landscape. The project was also about unearthing a celebrity culture – the cult of Lawrence.

So finally to the film itself. When Lawrence asks to be relieved of his command he merely says 'It's personal'. And that was very much the theme of Anthony's talk – that what drove Lawrence was a desire to do something to help the young men whom he first met at Carchemish and Dahoum in particular. Dahoum's early death highlighted the ultimate futility of all the efforts Lawrence made, even if it was really the Western politicians who undermined them. After the talks and presentations which we had had, it seemed to me that, whatever the inaccuracies of the film, it was true to the psychology of Lawrence and remains so fifty years on.

Sheila McGuirk



T.E. Lawrence Society's Thirteenth Biennial Symposium, St John's College, Oxford, 26–28 September 2014

I was introduced to the T.E. Lawrence Symposium largely as a result of outreach for *The Archaeology of Lawrence of Arabia* event. The programme looked interesting, and Tony and I were curious to see how the Symposium compared with an ASTENE conference. Everything was taken care of at the Symposium's customary venue in Oxford: a most attractive setting with a modern and comfortable lecture theatre. Officers of the Society and the members we met were gracious and friendly. The Symposium featured well-timed coffee breaks, and I frequently found myself at the Society's publication stand and the stand of Richard Knowles' Rickaro Books. I invested in several books. If you are looking for a book about Lawrence beyond current publications, this is a great resource: www.rickarobooks.co.uk

The Symposium presented ten lectures on various themes related to T.E. Lawrence. I have selected several for mention that would be of particular interest to ASTENE members.

On Friday afternoon, the 'Lawrence inspired photographic journey through Syria and Lebanon' by Society Chair Philip Neale provided an excellent introduction to the landscape and sites of Syria with a Lawrence connection.

In a first for the Society Symposium, on Friday evening we were treated to the UK premiere of a play by Stephen Massicotte, *The Oxford Roof Climber's Rebellion*. It was performed by St Peter's Players and directed by Clare Winterbottom.

On Saturday, Dr Eugene Rogan spoke of 'Arab memoirs from the Arab Revolt'. A number of diaries and memoirs of Arab participants have been published that provide an 'Arab view' of Lawrence and the guerrilla war against the Turks. The lecture surveyed a number of Arab accounts by participants of the Arab Revolt, and some accounts by those who sided with the Ottomans. In Rogan's view, 'These accounts balance the ideological motivation of Sharifian officers with the opportunism of the tribes they sought to recruit to their cause, and portray the British and French missions to the Hejaz more as protégés than as role models.'

Following a film clip from *Lawrence of Arabia*, the presentation by Prof James Chapman explored

the role of film in promoting the legend of T.E. Lawrence. From the shows of Lowell Thomas to David Lean's epic film of 1962, film arguably did more to present the personality and exploits of 'Lawrence of Arabia' to the public than Lawrence's own writings.

On Sunday, Dr. Carol Lea Clark's presentation, 'Fateful Encounter: T.E. Lawrence and Lowell Thomas', considered the impact that the meeting between Lawrence and Lowell Thomas had on both their lives. It was a case study in the creation of an early twentieth-century legend. The Lawrence legend was compared and contrasted with those of the aviator Charles Lindberg and Ernest Hemmingway. The talk was illustrated by Harry Chase photographs and artwork from Thomas's multimedia show about Allenby and Lawrence, and featured original recordings by Thomas. This was one of our favourite lectures.

The final lecture and the high point of the Symposium was 'Finding Happiness: T.E. Lawrence' in Carchemish by ASTENE member Anthony Sattin. Lawrence said he was happiest when working in Carchemish. Drawn from his new book *Young Lawrence*, Sattin's lecture examined Lawrence's early life as an archaeologist, the influences of Hogarth and his desire to distance himself from his mother as a young man. It also described his pleasure gained from the responsibility and freedom in running a team of workers and his relationship with Dahoum.

Other lectures that particularly appealed to the Bryans included 'T.E. Lawrence, Thomas Hardy and the *The Dynasts*' by American scholar Jacqueline Dillion, and Alison Jolley's 'An "acute attack of Lawrencitis": Lady Kathleen Scott's friendship with the Lawrence family'.

A very special part of the Symposium was a gourmet and sociable dinner in the impressive setting of St John's Dining Hall, preceded by a wine reception in the garden. The Bryans were delighted to have as dining companions Dr Carol Lea Clarke and Society members from Italy and Scotland. The after-dinner speaker was renowned broadcaster and best selling author, Clive Bloom.

Based upon our experiences at the Symposium 2014, I can highly recommend that ASTENE members consider attending the next Symposium in 2016, and other events that the T.E. Lawrence Society may offer. ASTENE will publicise their future events, and

is extremely grateful to the T.E. Lawrence Society for publicising our event with the Petrie Museum, *The Archaeology of Lawrence of Arabia*.

Cathie Bryan

Rifaud Study Day: the Life and Work of an Early French Traveller in Egypt, 31 October 2014.

Last October, in Paris, Marie-Cécile Bruwier and myself organized a study day at the Ecole Pratique des hautes études with the collaboration of the Musée royal de Mariemont (Belgium). The aim was to highlight the life and publications of the traveller Jean-Jacques Rifaud (1786–1852) who stayed in Egypt between 1814 and 1826. Following his journey, he published *Tableau de l'Égypte, de la Nubie et des lieux circonvoisins* (1830) including an Arabic-French lexicon, considered as the first guide for European travellers who wished to visit the country. Then he spent many years on his *Voyage en Égypte, en Nubie, et lieux circonvoisins*, comprising more than 300 lithographs depicting Pharaonic and Modern Egypt. He considered this last project as a complement to the *Description de l'Égypte*. These prints have been the object of a new richly illustrated edition by M.-C. Bruwier, A. Quertinmont and W. Claes (dir.) (*La Description de l'Égypte* de Jean-Jacques Rifaud (1813–1826), Brussels, 2014, 288 p.) which was presented during the study day.

Some lectures were dedicated to the different archive corpus, which are held in France, Switzerland and Belgium. Above all, very fastidious work has been done to inventory in public and private collections the numerous versions of prints of the beautiful plates intended to be published in the *Voyage*. This was also the opportunity to pay a tribute to the Egyptologists who studied this figure of Early Egyptology, such as Jean Yoyotte, Hermann de Meulenaere and Michel Azim.

Other lectures dealt with a more thematic approach to Rifaud's works, in relation to the various topics presented in the *Voyage*. Regarding Ancient Egypt, it was particularly interesting to point out the difference between his quite beautiful plans and views of Nubian temples and the awful hieroglyphs he copied. Rifaud is also known to combine different inscriptions to create new reliefs fragments, by taking a register from a temple and another from a burial chamber. This explains why some of the drawings of the *Voyage* could not yet be identified properly. Concerning Modern Egypt, even though he spent many years in Egypt, he shows a very

partial understanding. He depicted violent scenes such as various ways of giving a punishment, and described half-naked Nubian women, but there is no information on the state, its organisation and its growing industrialisation, in spite of the fact that Mehemet Ali had already started the modernisation of the country (Though, in his book *Tableau...*, he shows a more realist presentation of this evolution). Actually, Rifaud's strength is in the way he evokes an idea of the Egyptian population and its daily life through his colourful drawings: costumes, jewels, tools, vessels, musical instruments are quite faithfully drawn. Eventually, another interest he developed was in natural history: numerous plates depict fish, mammals, insects (with a series of scorpions he collected regularly in small bottles!), but also a large selection of the flora he saw along the Nile.

We were very happy to receive our colleagues from France, Switzerland, Belgium and Italy for this study day and to welcome a wide audience of researchers and students, who were very pleased to discover this surprising but major figure of Early Egyptology.

Hélène Virenque

Mani 2015

The upcoming trip to Mani from 21–28 April is fast approaching. Malcolm Wagstaff and John Chapman are putting together the final details with our local guide, Anna Butcher, and 19 people have signed up for the adventure. The bookings have all been made through Sunvil Travel who will be contacting all concerned in February. We will be having our usual mini conference on the last evening so anyone wishing to present a 20-minute paper (without projections) please contact Elisabeth Woodthorpe with details at elisabethwoodthorpe@gmail.com or telephone her on 01747 871 811.

OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

Museums and Exhibitions

Maps of Persia 1477–1925: A Graphical Journey through the History of Iran.

A Graphical Journey through the History of Iran presents a selection of maps—urban plans, topographic maps and sea charts—taken from “Dr. Cyrus Ala’i’s Map Collection of Persia” of over 250 maps that was gifted to the Centre for Iranian Studies SOAS, University of London in 2013. The collection includes important printed general maps of Persia and more specialist items from the early editions of Ptolemy, at the end of the 15th century, up until the end of the Qajar dynasty in 1925. Brunei Gallery, SOAS, University of London January 23 through March 21.

Conferences, Lectures and Talks

Exploring the early history of British archaeology in Turkey and Syria: British Institute at Ankara, Oliver Gurney Memorial Lecture

Join renowned archaeologist Nicolò Marchetti, as he showcases new evidence from British archaeologists between 1876 and 1920 from the excavation site at Karkemish between Turkey and Syria. In this lecture, Professor Marchetti will also present the archival research which has helped frame archaeological activities within the wider policies of their time.

Speaker: Nicolò Marchetti is Alma Mater Studiorum and Associate Professor of Near Eastern Archaeology at the University of Bologna. He is Director of the Turco-Italian Archaeological Expedition at Karkemish and Director of the School of Specialization on Archaeological Heritage.

Wolfson Auditorium
Thursday 16 April 2015 at 6.30 pm
British Academy
10 Carlton House Terrace
London SW1Y 5AH

£10 (Free to BIAA members). To book visit:
www.biaa.ac.uk/events or call 020 7969 5204

Baghdad: City of Peace, City of Blood – A lecture by Justin Marrozzi

Travel writer and historian Justin Marrozzi tells the extraordinary story of the most turbulent cities on earth, from the glories of the Abbasid cultural, scientific and intellectual triumphs to devastating hardships, including epidemics, famines, floods and bloody foreign invasions.

Thursday 19 February at 7.00pm (drinks) for 7.30pm at The Box, Kendal College Media and Arts Campus, Beeson Road, Kendal, LA9 6EL

Members of the Royal Geographical Society:
Free; Non-members £5 at the door.

Call for Papers: Borders and Crossings/Seuils et traverses: 12th Interdisciplinary Conference on Travel Writing (Queen’s University Belfast, Northern Ireland: 21–23 July 2015)

Deadline: 30 Jan 2015

The ‘Borders and Crossings’/‘Seuils et traverses’ conference returns to Northern Ireland for the first time since the inaugural event in Derry in 1998. Contributions considering past and future developments in research on travel writing – and reflecting on the evolution of the field since the first Borders and Crossings conference – are particularly welcome. Abstracts of 250 words should be sent to Margaret Topping by 30 January 2015. Papers are welcome in both English and French.

Topics may include but are not limited to:

- New directions in travel writing research
- Teaching travel writing
- Dark tourism/phoenix tourism
- Travel to/from Ireland
- Writing travel and/in minoritised languages
- Virtual travel
- Utopian/dystopian journeys
- Travel(s) in translation
- Borders and checkpoints
- Sensual geographies
- Intermediality
- The ethics of representation
- Pilgrimage
- Travel and ecology

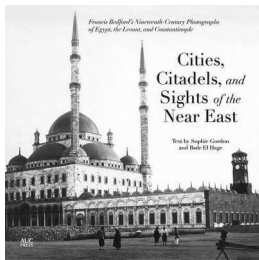
For more information and abstract submission email
Margaret Topping: m.topping@qub.ac.uk

Lawrence of Arabia – Jordan and the Arab Revolt
ASTENE member, historian and desert explorer
Eamonn Gearon will act as the guide for a Cultural

Experience tour through Aqaba, Wadi Rum, Petra,
Dead Sea, Jerash, and Amman, following the epic
historic and cultural story of Lawrence and the
Arab revolt. For more information please visit:
http://www.theculturalexperience.com/battlefield_tours/Lawrence_of_Arabia.php

BOOKS AND REVIEWS

Cities, Citadels and Sights of the Near East: Francis Bedford's Nineteenth Century Photographs of Egypt, the Levant and Constantinople, by Sophie Gordon and Badr El Hage. American University Press, Cairo 2014, 160pp, ISBN 978977 416670 9, £24.95.



This is the lavish catalogue of an exhibition of Francis Bedford's photographs that have been on exhibition in the Queen's Gallery, Buckingham Palace. Bedford was already a respected lithographer and photographer when requested by Queen Victoria to accompany the Prince of Wales on a tour of the Near East in 1862. All sorts of associations are triggered by the catalogue: the mournful Prince of Wales despatched by his mother despite the death of his father three months before, with marriage hanging over him on his return; the state of the monuments then as compared with their 'restoration' since; the beginnings of tourism; the state of affairs in Lebanon/Syria in the aftermath of the horrific Druze massacres of Christians by Druzes barely two years earlier (shades of today's warfare in the same region).

Sophie Gordon is senior curator of photographs in the Royal Collection; Badr El Hage is the author of several books of photographs of the Middle East. They have both contributed essays to the catalogue. Ms Gordon focuses mainly on Bedford's career, initially as lithographer and developing into photographer – an erudite and absorbing history of the whole mid-nineteenth

century development of the art of illustration from watercolour to photography. Astene members will be familiar with the works of such artists as David Roberts, William Bartlett, Owen Jones (and many others) of the Near East, in the case of Egypt stimulated initially by the great French publication *Description de l'Égypte*. Bedford himself was part of the movement stemming from Owen Jones' *Grammar of Ornament* and the establishment of the South Kensington Department of Practical Art (later the Victoria and Albert Museum), in his case with particular architectural emphasis. Bedford also had a notable predecessor in the world of Near Eastern photography – Francis Frith; Gordon points out, however, that while Frith seems to have been interested in the more romantic aspects of the area, Bedford understandably had more architectural interests.

The above volume is published by the American University in Cairo. I should mention, however, that rather confusingly a grander volume on the Prince of Wales' trip, entitled *Cairo to Constantinople: Francis Bedford's Photographs of the Middle East*, has been published by the Royal Collection Trust; this includes a number of photographs of the earlier part of the Prince's trip down the Adriatic coast. There is also an introductory essay by John McCarthy curiously entitled 'From Cairo to Constantinople: the perspective from Camden' and another by Alessandro Nasini on 'The Prince of Wales as a collector', highlighted in the exhibition by antiquities that included some scarabs that the Prince later had set in jewellery for the young woman he married on his return, Princess Alexandra.

The photographs are a fascinating record of the state of buildings ancient and medieval in Egypt and the Levant. An interesting photograph, for instance, from the wall of the newly completed mosque of Muhammad Ali in Cairo shows the mosque/

madrasah of Sultan Hasan set in a wonderful open space; the small building in front of Sultan Hasan is the medieval tomb of a Sufi saint demolished in 1869 to make way for the huge and rather bombastic mosque al-Rifa'i. From Cairo it was straight upriver to Philae, its dilapidations highlighted by Bedford's photographs. His inclusions of a few lounging figures always give a sense of the immense scale of these buildings, even when half submerged by piles of rubble. Then back down river to Edfu, Esna (a superb close-up of the lotus capitals on the temple pillars) and then Karnak. Here the Prince and party are photographed sitting among the fallen stones of the hypostyle hall of the Temple of Amun (with alarming cracks visible in the wall behind the party). The catalogue gives us a splendid double-page spread of the entrance to the Luxor Temple, fronted by two massive seated figures of Rameses II (Lucie Duff Gordon has not yet taken up residence behind the great entrance pylon). Then Cairo is revisited; this section depicts visits to the Northern Cemetery/City of the Dead, and then the party proceeds to the 'Holy Land', obviously a major focus of the whole trip. The trip includes visits to gentle agricultural vistas around Jerusalem, the Mount of Olives, the Garden of Gethsemane, and an exploration of Temple Mount and the Dome of the Rock (the Prince was most exceptionally allowed inside but not his photographer). Notable images include a rather bedraggled Bethlehem and a good view of Hebron, now so ferociously disputed. The party reach Damascus to find some horrific signs of the Christian-Druze strife of 1860 in which some 60,000 Christians are thought to have been killed; the Christian quarter of Damascus is in ruins, including the famous Street called Straight.

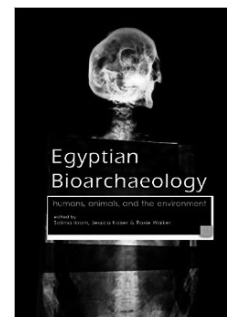
Moving west towards Mount Lebanon, the site which seems to have made the deepest impression on the architecturally minded Bedford, was surely Baalbek which he photographed in considerable detail, especially the Temple of Jupiter looking particularly unstable yet still holding a half-fallen but crucial keystone. He was clearly fascinated by the astonishingly sophisticated architecture. Presumably moving by sea rather than land, the party visited Beirut, Tripoli, Smyrna and finally Constantinople.

Several of the photographs are accompanied by banal quotes from the dutiful Prince's diary, and on his return he also commissioned the well-travelled watercolourist Carl Haag to paint some watercolours of (presumably) the Prince's favourite scenes. These are also in the exhibition. The photographs

were exhibited in Bond Street on the party's return accompanied by a substantial catalogue.

Sarah Seairight

***Egyptology from the First World War to the Third Reich. Ideology, Scholarship and Individual Biographies*, edited by Thomas Schneider and Peter Raulwing with Contributions by Edmund S. Meltzer, Lindsay J. Ambridge and Thomas L. Gertzen. Leiden – Boston: Brill, 2013, ISBN 9789004243293, viii + 296pp, €35.**



The essays contained within the volume concern a difficult period in the history of Egyptology and Oriental studies. Names in the book, however, were often household names not only for researchers of their time, but for travellers too. Georg Steindorff for instance, whom the book shows as a very critical observer of his contemporaries, was an excellent populariser, and wrote for the Karl Baedeker guidebooks. Similarly, James Henry Breasted introduced the ancient Near East to a host of interested laymen in his publications.

The history of international Egyptology has recently registered a number of published contributions, and related papers appear regularly in at least two or three major periodicals of the discipline. Also varied contributions to national histories of Egyptology have emerged in the last decade. Many recent publications include solid archive research and wide reading, and the efforts are in most cases of good scholarly standing and in almost all cases driven by enthusiasm for the subject.

More recently, no doubt due to a re-assessment of recent histories – both post-colonial and after the end of the Cold War (25 years since the fall of the Berlin wall) – an analysis of political opinion is increasingly foregrounded. Learning about the background, schooling, and even stereotypes in upbringing and scholarship of past generations is a valuable exercise, but 'catching' and upbraiding,

especially famous figures of the past, every time they 'fail' a standard imposed by subsequent generations would be a somewhat less valuable implementation of it. It may, however, be possible to say that they failed to evaluate dangers of their time – as indeed do we.

Self-reflective history of a discipline should include a political (and economic) setting in which the scholars worked and lived. Again, this is essentially a laudable effort in the historiography of scholarship. However, it may easily take a judgemental turn. *Egyptology from the First World War to the Third Reich* treads a thin line in this regard.

E. S. Meltzer opens the volume with a methodological inquiry and contribution to a debate on self-awareness and self-reflection within the humanities and in this particular case, ancient history and philology and Egyptology. He also attempts to capture the issue of complexity of individuals and their motives – and hence, he advocates avoidance of quick labelling in history.

L. J. Ambridge contributes an essay on the popular narratives and textbook-like publications by J. H. Breasted, and the influence of period colonial thinking and some racial theories that he perceives as having shaped some of Breasted's writings. Ambridge recognises the impact that the publications had on wider non-specialist audiences (such as schoolchildren but also interested visitors to Egypt). He also tries to avoid a simplistic judgement of Breasted as a 'product of his time' and yet is not entirely successful in this – perhaps more insight into Breasted's correspondence might have helped.

P. Raulwing and T. Gertzen contribute a thorough study of the German Egyptologist Friedrich von Bissing. They include a biographical study as well as a systematic treatment of von Bissing's problematic political opinions. They use both published work of von Bissing as well as correspondence and personal documents, demonstrating the extreme right-wing leanings of the man.

T. Schneider provides a study of a document known as the 'Steindorff-Liste' – it is one of the longest essays in the volume. It is a list of German and Austrian Egyptologists, compiled by Georg Steindorff after the war, and addressed to John Wilson. Steindorff divided his contemporaries into 'men of honor', those who compromised their character under the Nazi regime, and those whose

position he was not sure of or was not known to him. Arguably, it is the second category which may raise questions. Steindorff, a German Jewish scholar exiled to the US, would have felt a fully justifiable bitterness toward some former colleagues, and no doubt had considerable insight into some of the personal characters as well as interpersonal relations. On the other hand, if his bitterness led him to statements such as 'I do not know him very well, but I know him sufficiently to say he is a Nazi of first order' (as he characterised one Austrian Egyptologist) then perhaps a more cautious approach to his list might not be seen as entirely unreasonable, before a definitive verdict regarding individual characters is delivered.

Biographical sketches are provided for most figures on the list; the brief biographies are complemented by excerpts as well as full transcripts of personal assessments, comments and other archived material pertaining to the wartime activities and post-war evaluations of the listed individuals. Yet, although the individuals are contextualised to a certain extent, the perspectives on Steindorff are not equally well explained (compare a contribution by D. Raue, Der "J'accuse"-Brief an John A. Wilson: drei Ansichten von Georg Steindorff. In Bickel, Susanne, Hans-Werner Fischer-Elfert, Antonio Loprieno, and Sebastian Richter (eds), *Ägyptologen und Ägyptologien zwischen Kaiserreich und Gründung der beiden deutschen Staaten: Reflexionen zur Geschichte und Episteme eines altertumswissenschaftlichen Fachs im 150. Jahr der Zeitschrift für Ägyptische Sprache und Altertumskunde*, 345-376. Berlin: Akademie Verlag Berlin, 2013).

Finally, P. Raulwing adds an extensive, well-referenced tribute-obituary of M. Mayrhofer, a notable specialist in comparative linguistics, whose work, however, mostly concerned the post-war era.

A valuation of personal as well as institutional persecution, tragedy, and reprehensible opportunism that engulfed German scholarship in the Nazi era is needed, as is an historical assessment of active opportunism and even silent passive compliance with any authoritarian regime. However, the present volume necessitates being read perhaps preferably in context of further studies on Austrian and German Egyptology.

It is nonetheless a positive sign that several publications on the topic of politicised or at least

politically-influenced Egyptology have recently appeared and have encompassed differently-nuanced attitudes. To name but a few – David Gange *Dialogues with the Dead: Egyptology in British Culture and Religion, 1822–1922*. Classical Presences. Oxford 2013, William Carruthers, (ed.) *Histories of Egyptology: interdisciplinary measures*, Abingdon – New York 2015, and the above Susanne Bickel et al. (eds), *Ägyptologen und Ägyptologien zwischen Kaiserreich und Gründung der beiden deutschen Staaten: Reflexionen zur Geschichte und Episteme eines altertumswissenschaftlichen Fachs im 150. Jahr der Zeitschrift für Ägyptische Sprache und Altertumskunde*,. Berlin 2013. More histories of Egyptology are forthcoming.

It may perhaps be seen as a sign of the maturity of the subject that it is showing a degree of self-reflection and allows for a debate. However, it should not be forgotten that a degree of self-reflection (or lack of it) is a quality to be appreciated in the past as well. The case of J. H. Breasted, for instance, would call for more emphasis on and appreciation of self-reflections of the famous scholar.

Readings of wartime memories as well as of post-war arguments may call for a consistent recognition of a critical approach to all sources. The crimes of the Nazi regime are beyond doubt and their horror might appear to be beyond description – this is why an accusation of compliance with crimes against humanity should never be made lightly. We may no longer accept misconstrued memories, silence, and other coping strategies that were applied in decades following the war (a recommended reading on the topic is e.g. Jan-Werner Müller (ed.) *Memory and Power in Post-War Europe, Studies in the Presence of the Past*, Cambridge 2002), nor is it tolerable to bowdlerize history; yet a posthumous turn to a witch-hunt would be equally unjust.

Hana Navratilova

***Travellers, Merchants and Settlers in the Eastern Mediterranean, 11th–14th Centuries*, by David Jacoby. Ashgate, Variorum Collected Studies Series CS1045, 2014. X + 328 pages, ISBN 9781472425799. £90.00**

The format of Jacoby's book follows the well-tried system developed over many years by his publishers. They have assembled eleven of the author's articles (which will be referred to as 'chapters') which have all been published before, although separately and

in a variety of forms, chiefly journals; here they are presented bound and with a unifying title. This is clearly a book for specialist readers, and the fact that the eleven chapters were all first published in the five years between 2003 and 2008 emphasises Jacoby's very wide learning.

To convey the range of material included here, Chapters 1 to 3 and 11 deal specifically with aspects of travelling in the Mediterranean area during the period covered, while Chapters 5 to 9 are concerned chiefly with the economic, urban, demographic and artistic cultures that to some extent formed the reason for these journeys being made. Chapter 10 concerns the Catalan presence in Greece.

Members of ASTENE will probably find that they focus most readily on those aspects of Jacoby's research which are focused on the studies of travellers and settlers. Historical travel is well represented in Chapter 1 where the journey of Bishop Gunther of Bamberg to the Holy Land is assessed in relation to the pilgrimage tradition of the 11th century. As in other studies here, 'pilgrims' can readily be seen as 'travellers', but with specific motivation and known targets for their journey, rather than that of discovery of the unknown. Chapter 2 is devoted to an extremely useful summary of current knowledge of the famous but complex 'book of travels' of the rabbi Benjamin of Tudela of the late 12th century. It is now probably too much to hope that Benjamin's original text will ever come to light, but for the present this brings us fully up to date with the many problems of this fascinating traveller's text. Chapter 3 concerns the ships used by the Hospitallers, and their transportation around the Mediterranean; Chapter 5 concentrates on society and the arts in crusader Acre. The Venetians, ever-present in Constantinople, are represented in Chapter 6 with a well-informed discussion of the urban layout of their quarter of the city, as well as in Chapter 8, which is on the Venetian government during the Latin rule in the city. These are predictably less concerned with the technicalities of travel and movement.

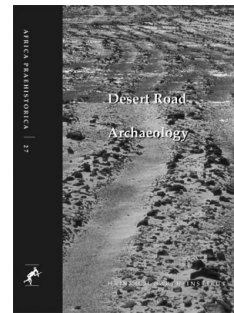
The decades from 1204 to 1261, it is rightly pointed out, have so often been neglected and overlooked that they are usually seen as an interruption during which nothing significant was produced in Constantinople. It is particularly useful in this field to read Chapters 4, 6 and 8, which give a very interesting look at the provisioning of the city during this troubled time, and at the many new details of

the buildings, leases and living arrangements in the Venetian quarter. On the question of local labour, we even have the text (not mentioned here) of a letter sent in 1214 by Byzantine labourers and fishermen to Pope Innocent III in Rome, complaining in terms comparable with a modern trade union at the lack of recognition and reward for their work; this was indeed fundamental to the life and continued rule of the city by western powers, and even to their continued presence there.

The publishers are completely correct in recognising that a thorough level of indexing is essential for a collection of specialist articles of this kind. To answer this need they have provided access to the mass of material found here in two separate listings: an 'Index of Names' and an 'Index of subjects'. The first fulfils its title well, and covering twelve pages it gives the reader a thorough service, although for some unstated reason the names of modern authors are not included. This does seem a pity, if only for the obvious reason of needing to check on recent opinions on the themes that have been treated earlier. But the 'Index of Subjects' occupies just a single page, and can hardly be regarded as adequate for covering such a broad range of materials as is contained in these eleven articles. Thus the single entry on 'commodities' has a list of 25, which includes references to such varied items as 'horses', 'pearls, precious stones, coral, jewellery', and 'iron and other metals but not gold and silver'. Should not these have been separated, and developed as entries in their own right? Some subjects are omitted completely, and a reader will not find any reference here to, for example, manuscripts, illuminated or otherwise, that are discussed in the text, the work and products of lawyers, or of the legal rights that might result. Surely these are 'subjects' which any reader might want to access? But in all other respects Jacoby's book will surely satisfy a wide range of readership, and it should be acquired by any library with relevant holdings.

Paul Hetherington

***Desert Road Archaeology in Ancient Egypt and Beyond*, edited by Frank Förster & Heiko Riemer. Africa Praehistorica 27. Heinrich-Barth Institut, Köln 2013. ISBN 978-3-927688-41-4. 78 € + p&p. Orders should be placed direct to the Heinrich Barth Institute Bookshop (www.hbi-ev.uni-koeln.de).**



There are 23 essays by a bevy of experts crammed into this 582-page opus on the ancient roads in Egypt's deserts. The book is divided into 5 parts: an Introduction; Methods, Approaches, and Historical Perspective; Roads and Regions I: Egypt's Western Desert, and Bayuda; Roads and regions II: Cyrenaica, Marmarica, Sinai, and Arabian Peninsula; Roads and Regions III: Egypt's Eastern Desert. Each essay within the various parts is considered a chapter.

31 experts have written essays relating to their work along these ancient roads that have seen the slow and sparse routes of history. One might ask: 'How much is there to say about old routes through a barren desert?' The answer is PLENTY!! From pre-history to the ancient Egyptians to the Greeks, the Romans, the Persians, the Islamic kingdoms, the Sanusi, and two great wars, mankind has trekked, built, hid, and explored the vast regions of Egypt's deserts through a series of paths, trails, and roads.

On every route there are artifacts. Some are as big as the giant aqueduct systems in use in classical times. Others are piles of watering stations or burial sites or evidence of ancient villages. But no matter where one treks there are things to find. The sand has not only buried them, but protected them: silica glass as well as broken pottery in copious quantities, flint arrow heads, spears, tools, and old oil lamps make their way to the surface as the wind blows and uncovers centuries of hidden treasures. To the archaeologist it unravels history and raises the issue of who used, dropped, or built the object.

The volume is copiously illustrated with pictures, drawings, maps and in the introductory paper a series of Boxes containing additional information on various topics related to the ancient roads and their use. The authors explore through various methods including satellite data and landscape navigation as well as good old-fashioned leg-work. They talk of the different oases, camel trade, watering stations, the coast, the interior, graffiti, and more.

One of the aims of the book is to argue ‘that the archaeology of desert roads should be established as a new, multifaceted field of research.’ Editors and contributors want to call it Desert Road Archaeology and attack it from a variety of disciplines. A million yeses to that! Having trekked these deserts for over 20 years I can safely say that kilometer by kilometer the sand yields one surprise after another. The questions are unending, but never before has mankind felt the need to understand the sands, what they bury, and what they have to tell us. Now is the time and these men and women are the ones to do it.

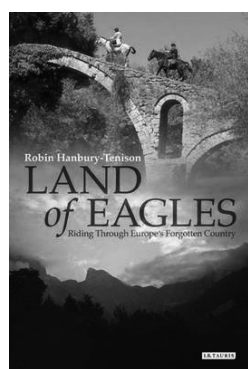
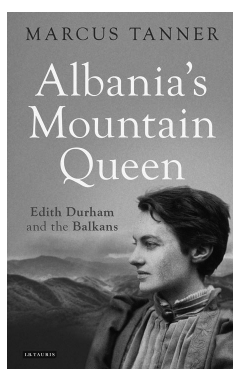
One word of caution to the scholars: do not forget those who came before, who did the research and uncovered many of the paths for the modern reader, who recreated old maps, found and photographed the Roman forts untouched after hundreds of years, who paved the way and drew the scholars to the desert to see for themselves. The credit is also theirs.

Cassandra Vivian

Author of *The Western Desert of Egypt: An Explorer’s Handbook*

***Albania’s Mountain Queen: Edith Durham and the Balkans*, by Marcus Tanner. London and New York: I.B. Tauris, 2014. Pp. x+293, illustrated, 2 maps. ISBN 978-1-78076-819-9.**

***Land of Eagles: Riding through Europe’s Forgotten Country*. By Robin Hanbury-Tenison. London and New York: I.B. Tauris, 2014 (first published 2009). Pp. xxiv+204, illustrated, 1 map. ISBN 978-1-78076-502-0.**



These books complement each other, though the biography of Edith Durham is the more instructive. Edith Durham (1863–1944), now largely forgotten, was the clever eldest child of a London surgeon. When her father died (1895) she became the nurse

and companion of her mother. Five years later Edith had a nervous breakdown. She was able to persuade her siblings to allow her annual leave, an arrangement which lasted until her mother died in 1906. Edith used these breaks to travel in the Balkans. She began her first visit with Dalmatia, though it is not clear why, and progressed to Bosnia-Herzegovina and then to Montenegro. On her second visit to the region (1901) she went into northern Albania. The third one took her from Belgrade in Serbia south-eastwards to the Ottoman/Bulgarian frontier and into Kosovo. The resulting book, *Through the Lands of the Serb* (1903), established her reputation as an expert on the Balkans. It also led to her being invited to go to Macedonia with the British Relief Fund and take charge of refugee relief work in Resen and then in Ohrid. This was in the midst of the chaos caused by the Bulgarian-inspired Ilinden Uprising in Macedonia against Ottoman rule in 1903. Operations were wound up in 1904 and Edith rode from Ohrid to Tepelene in southern Albania and then to Vlora on the Adriatic coast, a difficult and exhausting journey. By 1905, when she returned again to Montenegro, local people treated her as a celebrity – hence ‘Queen of the Mountains’. For this reason she was put in charge of Montenegro’s contribution to the Balkan States’ Exhibition in London. Next, Edith spent eight months of 1908 in the mountains of northern Albania and made another visit to Kosovo. *High Albania* came out in 1909, enhancing her reputation as anthropologist. She made further visits in 1910–13, but back pain resulting from months of hard riding and a fall made travelling almost impossible. She returned very briefly to Albania in 1921, but illness and exhaustion forced her to leave.

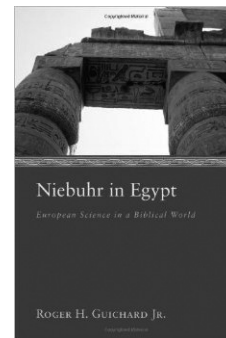
Marcus Tanner outlines Edith’s travels against the background of British attitudes to the Balkan peoples, as well as that of the kaleidoscope of Balkan politics, uprisings and wars as Bulgaria, Serbia and Greece vied to expand their territories by seizing land from the Ottoman Empire and supporting terrorism. As a result of her experiences – meeting people at all levels in Balkan society, nursing the sick and the dying, serving groups of starving refugees – she developed decided opinions about the realities of Balkan politics. She came to champion the Albanians, whose rights, she believed, were shamefully disregarded in the carve-up of the Ottoman Empire. She even challenged the assumption, widespread in Europe, that the Christian populations could do no wrong, that

the Ottoman government was sadistically cruel and that all Muslims were dreadful people. Edith's views, especially when she criticized what she saw as ruthless Serbian aggrandizement, became unpopular in elite circles. Robert Seton-Watson (1879–1951), the doyen of British Slav historians, campaigned against her, while his friend, the novelist Rebecca West (1892–1983) made a vicious attack on her work as 'pious fantasy' in the prologue to her celebrated *Black Lamb and Grey Falcon* (1941), the superficial account of a short visit to the region in 1936. As Tanner remarks, the comment could more justly apply the other way round. In fact, he has rehabilitated Edith Durham as a perceptive analyst, and valuable commentator, as well as an heroic traveller.

Robin Hanbury-Tenison's book complements Tanner's. He captures something of the immediacy of horseback travel in Albania in a way that the biography does not. He outlines Edith Durham's travels, along with those of Byron and Lear. Together they helped to inspire his ride. The book describes a journey that the author and his wife made on horseback in 2007 through some of the most difficult terrain in the Balkans, part of it a national park. Unlike their predecessors, though, the Hanbury-Tenisons were not on their own with only a guide/interpreter with them. They had a motorized back-up crew and mobile phones. Nonetheless, the author describes plenty of hard riding. There is a lot about the horses, the scenery, encounters with local people, the frustrations arising from poor maps and inadequate directions, the occasional difficulties with the back-up team, and the welcome pleasures of rare stays in hotels. It is fun to read, but I found it a bit repetitious. However, mixed in with 'the ride' there are useful accounts of Albanian history that extend those given by Tanner into the twenty-first century. The war-time experiences of SOE are put into geographical context, while Enver Hoxha's take-over of the country and its experiences under his brand of communism are summarized. It all makes for a diverting and interesting read.

Malcolm Wagstaff

***Niebuhr in Egypt: European Science in a Biblical World*, by Roger H. Guichard, Jr. Paperback published by The Lutterworth Press, Cambridge, UK, 2014. ISBN 978 0 7188 9335 4. 344 pages, twenty-four black & white illustrations. £27.50, \$55.00**



Roger Guichard, who has lived in the Arab-Muslim Middle East for thirty years and is a self-styled specialist in the European exploration of Arabia, brings to us this engaging study of Carsten Niebuhr's months in Egypt. Carsten, a German mathematician-cartographer-engineer, was part of a Royal Danish scientific expedition to Arabia Felix organized by Professor Johann David Michaelis, the foremost biblical philologist of the 18th century, who believed that the Eastern Arabic idiom of Yemen could clarify the meaning of puzzling words in the Hebrew Bible. Thus, on January 4, 1761, the members of the expedition - F.C.von Haven, a Danish philologist; Petrus Forsskal, a Swedish botanist-zoologist; Dr. C.C. Kramer, a Danish doctor and G.W. Baurenfeind, a German artist, as well as Niebuhr, sailed from Copenhagen with Michaelis's meticulous instructions and detailed 'questions' as guides to their research. On November 20, 1767, almost six years later, Niebuhr was the only member of the expedition to return to Denmark via Bombay, through Persia and Persepolis, Baghdad and Mosul, Aleppo, Jerusalem, Anatolia and Istanbul, and back through Europe via Bulgaria, Poland, and Germany. To Niebuhr then fell the task of publication: first his own books in German, *Description of Arabia* (1772) and *Travels in Arabia and Surrounding Lands* (1776–1780), with translations into French following almost immediately, and next the editing and publication of Peter Forsskal's botanical and zoological findings.

The expedition's narrative is comprehensively and ably described by Guichard. A Foreword (55 pages) and Afterword (58 pages) bracket the central episode of his story, the year spent in Egypt (215 pages), from the expedition's arrival in Alexandria, September 26, 1761 to their departure from Suez, October 10, 1762, where almost ten months were spent in Cairo, as the group was held up by a dispute between Egyptian caravan officials and Bedouin tribesmen of the Hijaz.

In Cairo, Niebuhr's curiosity and talents were unrestricted. He gave the West the first critical look at Egypt in the eighteenth century when Ali Bey al-Kabir was in power. A shrewd observer, there was hardly anything that did not interest Niebuhr, and he made good use of his time. The chapters on Government, Inhabitants, Commerce, The Delta, Manners and Customs (although curiously Edward Lane does not mention Niebuhr's *Description* in his own work), Antiquities of Egypt, Suez and Sinai are based on Niebuhr's notations. In the chapter Mother of the World, Guichard describes how Niebuhr, amidst an alien population and with a small pocket compass, two legs, ten fingers and a set of beads, made a detailed map of Cairo which remained the standard for a century. Guichard supplements Niebuhr's narrative with his own historical readings.

The author is a management consultant who makes no claim to being scholarly. He aims his book at the general reader. However, there are mistakes that should be corrected, for example, his treatment of Cairo. It was the Fatimid dynasty helped by Berbers not 'the Berber, or Fatimid, dynasty' which founded Cairo (123). Guichard's constant reference to Sultan Qaytbay as 'the greatest of {Burgi} Mamluk builders' (1, 58, 125, 150) completely ignores Sultan Nasir Muhammad ibn Qalawun, who was the greatest architectural builder and urban planner of the earlier Bahri Mamluk period. It was Nasir Muhammad who was responsible for the Nasiri canal, which 'expanded into the Western suburbs of the city', not his father Qalawun (112). Furthermore, Mongol horsemen settled the area north of the Fatimid walls, not the Bab al-Luq area (111); nor does the Darb al-Ahmar connect Bab Zuwayla with the Tulunid area (141). It is not just 'a little splash of color' but the whole Qibla wall covered in Damascus tiles that has given the Mosque of al-Aqsunqur its name as the 'Blue Mosque' (109-110). Hans Wehr's *Dictionary of Modern Arabic* appears in the Bibliography. It is a puzzle then that ibn Tughj, of the Ikhshidis, appears as ibn Toghej (123) and Azbak min Tutukh is referred to as Azbak bin Tutuh (96). The book would also have profited from better editing: in the same paragraph (115) the medieval historian appears both as Sherif Idrisi and Sherif Eddris, while Bab Zuweyla appears as such on page 140 but as Zuwayla on page 141.

These are shadows cast upon what is otherwise a compelling narrative. Guichard highlights Carsten Niebuhr's observations and achievements, valuable in themselves and as stepping stones upon which subsequent scholars and travelers

were to tread, while offering those interested in the exploration of the middle east an episode heretofore not emphasized.

Caroline Williams

Free E-Book Available:

***Egyptian Bioarchaeology: Humans, Animals, and the Environment*, edited by Salima Ikram, Jessica Kaiser & Roxie Walker, 2014,**

ISBN: 9789088902871, 237 pp.

Price: €34,95 (incl VAT / excl Shipping)

<http://www.sidestone.com/bookshop/egyptian-bioarchaeology>. Available for FREE online reading post-publication in the Sidestone E-library:

<http://www.sidestone.com/library/>.

Although the bioarchaeology (study of biological remains in an archaeological context) of Egypt has been documented in a desultory way for many decades, it is only recently that it has become an inherent part of excavations in Egypt. This book consists of a series of essays that explore how ancient plant, animal, and human remains should be studied, and how, when they are integrated with texts, images, and artefacts, they can contribute to our understanding of the history, environment, and culture of ancient Egypt in a holistic manner.

Topics covered in this volume relating to human remains include analyses of royal, elite and poor cemeteries of different eras, case studies on specific mummies, identification of different diseases in human remains, an overview of the state of palaeopathology in Egypt, how to analyse burials to establish season of death, the use of bodies to elucidate life stories, the potential of visceral remains in identifying individuals as well as diseases that they might have had, and a protocol for studying mummies. Faunal remains are represented by a study of a canine cemetery and a discussion of cat species that were mummified, and dendroarchaeology is represented by an overview of its potentials and pitfalls for dating Egyptian remains and revising its chronology.

Leading international specialists from varied disciplines including physical anthropology, radiology, archaeozoology, Egyptology, and dendrochronology have contributed to this groundbreaking volume of essays that will no doubt provide much fodder for thought, and will be of interest to scholars and laypeople alike.

ARTICLES

Bonomi's Camel

For the ASTENE Bulletin No 57 of Autumn 2013 I wrote a paper under the title James Burton's Giraffe. In it I described how Burton acquired his giraffe, how he travelled with a menagerie and servants from Egypt to Italy and then to France with the hope of selling all the animals in London. I also explained how after a couple of major disasters Burton was robbed of his chance to realise the money he needed to repay his debts – first by the death or poisoning of his giraffe at or near the port of Cette (where incidentally the father of Linant de Bellefonds was the harbourmaster) and second with the shooting of his hyena at Bordeaux after it had almost ripped off the arm of one of his Egyptian servants. To pay the bills for hotel, stabling and the surgeon, Burton has to sell his remaining animals to the Jardin des Plantes in Paris and I ended with a report of Joseph Bonomi making a visit there to see his old camel, which he had given to Burton before he left Egypt:

In November 1838 Joseph Bonomi with his two sisters and a female friend of theirs, left London to visit their family in Rome. Travelling via Paris they visited the Jardin des Plantes. J J Scoles in a letter to Robert Hay noted that Bonomi *'was mightily pleased at meeting with his old camel which he gave to Burton. He made him go on his knees twice to the surprise of the keepers and the spectators without the paling [on the public side of the fence]. The animal had almost forgotten the word 'Kish'. (13-11-1838 Private Collection).*

I am sure many members will have had the experience when reading through manuscript letters that they are only getting one side of a two-way conversation. Now, a year after writing the paper about James Burton's Giraffe, I have found a fragment of the letter from Bonomi to Scoles in which he describes visiting his old camel and includes details that were never passed on to Hay. Reading Bonomi's letters is not always easy as he often forgets to end a sentence with a full stop before starting a new one and does not appreciate the need for punctuation.

Tell Mr Burton I saw his camel this morning at the Jardin des Plantes. I made him kneel down

to the great surprise of his keeper and indeed to my great danger for he has grown so ugly both in mind and body that he attempted several times to bite me he had also forgotten kish that word that the Arabs use to make them kneel, however he obeyed twice after he got up again he galloped and danced about till he fell plump down on his side all this time surrounded (outside the railings) by wondering spectators. His proportions are altered his legs appear shorter his body unseemly enlarged and hump swelled by disease and deformity much long wool about it and on his shoulders he has a son or daughter by a Syrian mother which is beautiful brown complexion but in every other respect like the papa when young, just the age to break in. I envied the French that beast how nicely I might perform the Herat of my journey on it and ride triumphantly into Rome on its back as for the papa I was quite disgusted with his appearance and meanness nothing but long fasting penance and praying and long pilgrimages could reduce him to become a useful member of society. I am sure these animals might have rendered in a climate like France useful, to see them thus allowed for the want of a little education become a burden to society and themselves is a great pity it went to my heart (07-09-1838 RIBA ScJ 1/2/10).

During this visit to Paris, Bonomi also met with Jules Goury, the travelling companion of Owen Jones, both of whom he had known in Egypt. A few days after visiting his old camel, Bonomi travelled onwards to Rome with his sisters to stay with relatives.

Bonomi's mention of his old camel may not be the last recorded sighting as they can live to the age of 40 years and more and it was still quite young. In July 1855 Major Henry C Wayne of the US Army visited the Jardin des Plantes to look at their camels with a view to learning more about how they got on with the French climate and whether it might be possible to breed them in the United States for use in carrying soldiers and as military transportation. In the report of his visit, dispatched to the Hon Jefferson Davies the Secretary of War, in Washington City, Wayne writes that he *'found but one camel, and that not in appearance a very fine specimen; nor could I obtain from the attendants at the garden*

anything precise, or that I thought reliable, as to its habits.' (Report by Major Henry C Wayne and Lt David D Porter, 1857, republished in *Camels for Texas*, 2011.)

The condition of the camel seen by Major Wayne sounds very like a description of Bonomi's old camel; however, it is possible he may have been looking at the son or daughter, or perhaps a more recently acquired specimen. Through Wayne's efforts many camels from different countries were taken to the US in the late 1850s for experimental purposes, together with a number of Greek men to look after them. Soon after the whole idea was abandoned as the camels proved to be too docile for use by the American soldier and they also frightened the cavalry horses by their smell, a fact that had been noted by the Romans who successfully rode them into combat against horse cavalry. When Emperor Claudius invaded Britain in the year 43 CE his ships brought elephants for use in battle to scare the ancient Britons and camels to frighten the horses pulling their chariots. A few bones from a Roman camel have been found at a Temple site in Greenwich Park, London.

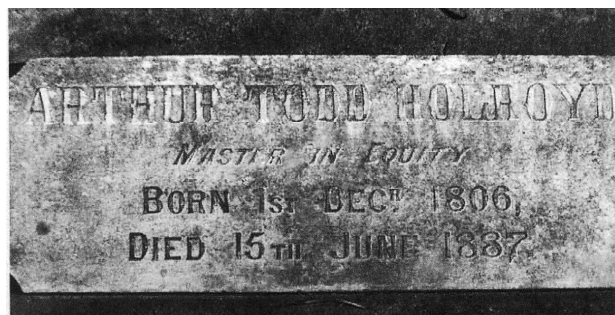
Neil Cooke

Arthur Todd Holroyd 1806–1887

Arthur Todd Holroyd was the youngest child of Stephen Todd Holroyd and Elizabeth Lofthouse. Born 1 December 1806 in London he was educated at Ripon Grammar School, studied medicine at the University of Edinburgh and Christ's College, Cambridge. On 6 June 1830, at Whitburn, Durham, he married Sophia Rachel, born 1810 in Durham. His wife died at Barnet, London, in 1868. They had a daughter Emily Sophia, born 2 May 1831 in Charles Street, Marylebone, London. She was christened 9 August 1831 at All Souls, Marylebone, London. She died 7 January 1912, in Yokohama, Japan of heart failure.

Holroyd studied Italian in Rome. In Egypt he explored above the second cataract, and became the first European to cross the Bayuda desert to Khartoum and the first Englishman to visit Kordofan. Familiar with Arabic, he travelled through Sinai, Palestine and Syria. In 1838, in London, he read a paper on his Kordofan expedition and was elected a fellow of the Royal Geographical Society. He emigrated to New Zealand in 1843, and moved to Sydney, Australia in 1844. He remarried on 5 August

1868 to Elizabeth Armstrong in Parramatta. He died at Sherwood Scrubs, Merrylands, on 15 June 1887, and is buried in Rookwood Cemetery.



ARTHUR TODD HOLROYD
Master in Equity
Born 1st Dec 1806
Died 15th June 1887

Select bibliography

Morris L. Bierbrier, *Who was Who in Egyptology*, Fourth revised edition, London 2012, p. 262;
<http://www.egypt-sudan-graffiti.be>

Some of his graffiti

Abu Simbel, Great Temple, entrance:

Abu Simbel, Great Temple, sanctuary

Philae, Temple of Isis, First Pylon, Roof

Philae, Kiosk

Semna

Holroyd
1836

Sesebi, Column

Holroyd
1836

Soleb

HOLROYD
1836

Naga, Kiosk

HOLROYD
1837

Musauwarat es-Sofra

HOLROYD
1837

Kumma

HOLROYD 1837

Edfu, Pylon roof

HOLROYD
1837

The Ramesseum

HOLROYD
1837

Medinet Habu, small temple

HOLROYD
1837

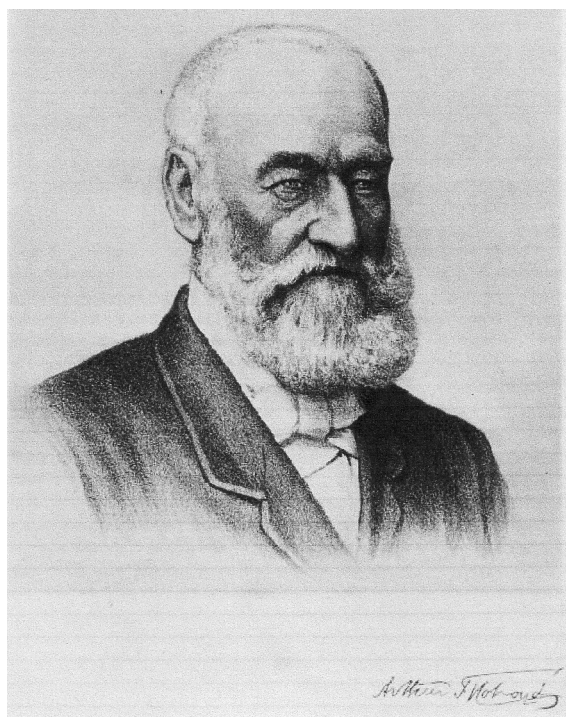
Karnak, column

HOLROYD 1837

Dendara, roof

HOLROYD
1837

Roger O. De Keersmaecker



RESEARCH RESOURCES

Travellers in the Middle East archive

Website: <http://timea.rice.edu/about.html>

The Travelers in the Middle East Archive (TIMEA) is a digital archive that focuses on Western interactions with the Middle East, particularly travels to Egypt during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. TIMEA offers electronic texts such as travel guides, museum catalogues, travel narratives, photographic and hand-drawn images of Egypt, and historical maps of Egypt and Cyprus. Subject areas include: Daily Life and Customs; Art and Artifacts; Religion and Festivals; People; Places and Architecture; Travel and Transportation; History and Politics.

In addition, TIMEA provides educational modules that set the materials in context and explore how to conduct historical research.

Egypt in the Golden Age of Travel: updated

Website: <http://grandhotelsegypt.com/>

This is the website of Andrew Humphreys, author of acclaimed book *Grand Hotels of Egypt: Egypt in the Golden Age of Travel* (American University

in Cairo Press, 2012). The blog is a repository for unused research for *Grand Hotels of Egypt*, pieces of journalism and miscellanea related to travel in Egypt from the mid-nineteenth to mid-twentieth century. It now offers a detailed overview of his forthcoming book, *On the Nile in the Golden Age of Travel*, which documents the evolution of cruise travel on the Nile.

Studies in Travel Writing

Website:

<http://www.studiesintravelwriting.com/index.php>

This site is designed to complement the journal *Studies in Travel Writing* and the work of the Centre for Travel Writing Studies at Nottingham Trent University by offering a growing resource for students, teachers and researchers in the subject.

It draws liberally on the information circulated monthly in the 'Snapshot Traveller' newsletter edited by Donald Ross of the International Society of Travel Writing and often contains information relating to ASTENE areas.

QUERIES AND REPLIES

ASTENE has received an enquiry though the website regarding Thomas Legh, who was among the founding members of the Traveller's Club in London.

Legh travelled to Egypt in 1812-13 and it is written somewhere that he returned to England with a Nubian slave boy. Does any member know where this reference can be found, or have any information about what became of the Nubian boy? Unfortunately there do not appear to be any surviving documents or pictures of Legh's travels in Egypt but it is possible that the Nubian boy is mentioned in the books, diaries or journals of other travellers who met him or came to visit Legh at his home Lyme Park.

After his return to England a painting was made of Thomas Legh wearing Turkish, Albanian or

Greek dress and standing next to his horse, with his similarly-attired servant sitting in the foreground. This can be seen at Lyme Park; however, the pale skin of the servant would suggest that this is not the Nubian boy.

If you can help, please send an e-mail to chairman@astene.org.uk so any further information can be passed on to the enquirer.

'Jaffa. King of Wadu'

A few weeks ago a pencil drawing by Joseph Bonomi came up for sale on e-Bay of all places. I tried to buy it but was just a few minutes too late for the auction deadline. It sold for £30. The drawing was among a portfolio of drawings by John Madox, which mostly appeared to comprise the original pencil drawings from which the illustrations were made for his only

published work of 1834 – ‘Excursions in the Holy Land, Egypt, Nubia, Syria, etc.’ The Madox drawings contain details for ‘cropping’ which suggests they had been put into the hands of the engraver, with whom they may have remained until and after Madox’s death in 1837, being subsequently handed down through the engraver’s family.

But what about the Bonomi pencil drawing? It is dated 1827, when for most of the year Bonomi was in Cairo and shows a man noted on the reverse as being ‘Jaffa, King of Wadu’. Jaffa is mentioned in a letter from John Madox written from Cairo to James Burton (who was then near el Armana with Wilkinson), about raising a sum of money to pay for the journey back to his people.

BL AddMss 25658 f14+15] letter dated Cairo 22 August 1827 from M [John] Madox to James Burton ‘Regarding Giaffar, the King of Wadu or ?Bergos

Dear Burton

Having stopt here a fortnight longer than I intended, daily expecting my friend Harris, of Alexandria, the list of subscribers to assist Giaffer – the Black Prince – I cannot remain any longer here without a great hazard to myself as you very well know. I therefore beg of you to take the 40 Dollars which Lord Prudhoe gave me for him and if a letter should arrive from Harris during your stay pray open it and act as requested by Mr Harris. My letters may be sent on to Bayrout [Beirut]. Addressed to Peter Abbott Esq. Giaffer should not have his subscription money – (until) only a few days before he takes his departure – he will most probably either get rid of most of it – or others that he gets acquainted (?with) may probably get it from him – at least this must be guarded against. Mr Petrache is his friend through Mr Harris – but I imagine should you be compelled to quit this country soon after me, the money may be made over to the (?English) Consulate to Mr (?Lee) but even he may be driven away – in short you will do the best for Giaffer you can – for he tells me he is determined to be off directly he gets sufficient money.

The list I have is as follows:-

Mr Harris 15 Dollars of Alexandria (who proposed it and began it)

Mr Salt 25 Dollars

Mr Barker 20 Dollars

Hayes & Co 10 Dollars

Mr Madox 10 Dollars (which I gave him on arriving at Cairo)

Lord Prudhoe 40 Dollars (at Cairo, 2-8-1827 which is the only money I have received)

Mr Burton 10Dollars at Cairo

130 (Dollars)

This is quite sufficient to take him to Darsour [?Dashur] at which place he says he is well known and will there have everything he wants. A much more ?? from Alexandria you will be enabled ?? have some dollars to buy a ?jacket. ?? but pray impress upon him the absolute necessity of travelling quiet and without ?? in short incognito if possible.

He had better (?also) have a slave, one he can depend upon – to trail him but not to let him know who he is – but all this you know better than I can direct – in short, you’ll do best you can and believe me, Yours most truly M Maddox.

I’ll see you in the course of the day.’

Looking at the pencil drawing, it might be conjectured that Jaffa is wearing the new jacket. Alas, the fears of Madox and the subscribers were justified and Jaffa was either robbed during his journey or simply squandered the money before he arrived home.

John Taylor has kindly pointed out that there is more about Jaffa in the correspondence between John Barker and John Lee in BL Add MS 47490, ff 107–113. Apparently Jaffa was a ‘prince’ and held captive in Tripoli for seven years, before getting support from the British government.

Does any member know anything more about Jaffa?



ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF TRAVEL
IN EGYPT AND THE NEAR EAST

EXETER 2015

Eleventh Biennial ASTENE CONFERENCE
Friday 17 July – Monday 20 July, 2015 at the University of Exeter, Exeter

Call for Papers

This is a full Call for Papers for the 11th biennial conference of the Association for the Study of Travel in Egypt and the Near East, to be held at the University of Exeter, Exeter, from Friday 17 July to Monday 20 July, 2015.

Deadline for abstract submission is 15 February 2015.

Please e-mail your offers of papers to conference@astene.org.uk together with a working title, a brief abstract of not more than 250 words, and the names of authors and their affiliations.

We also welcome the offer of pre-organised panels of up to four speakers on specific themes.

Participants will be informed about the acceptance of their paper by 15 March 2015.

There are Conference Bursaries offered – please consult our website www.astene.org.uk for the Conference Bursary Application Form.

As usual, contributions to the Conference are welcome that cover a wide range of disciplines and interests. It is envisaged the conference will cover many fascinating themes – including, but not limited to:

- ASTENE travellers in both directions: visitors from the Middle East in Europe (and America) and visitors from the West in the East ...
- Travels in tandem, or group travels that were not a package tour ...
- Something to write home about – what travellers chose to write about and how they related their adventures to their friends and family – what was to be omitted and what to be emphasized ...
- Solo travellers – in search of knowledge, adventures, business, leisure ...
- Professionals and dilettanti in the art of travel – what makes a traveller, a traveller's identity ...
- Tracking a traveller – in other people's notes, diaries, and memoirs ...
- ... and more.

The Conference programme will include a visit to Greenway, Agatha Christie's home.

The Conference Booking Form will be available on www.astene.org.uk in early January 2015.

Deadline for bookings 23 March 2015.

ASTENE is a Charity registered in England and Wales Charity Commission Registration No. 1067157

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ASTENE

TGH James Memorial Prize 2015

Association for the Study of Travel in Egypt and the Near East

The late Harry James will be known to many with an interest in the study of ancient Egypt. Harry spent the majority of his working life at the British Museum where he became Keeper of the Department of Egyptology. For several years he served as Chairman of the Egypt Exploration Society (EES). He also published several books and academic papers. Harry James also had a keen interest in travellers to Egypt. He recognised that their lives and activities there and elsewhere in the Middle East were integral to the study of ancient Egypt. In 1995 Harry organised a symposium at Kingston Lacy, the former home of William John Bankes where papers were read describing the lives of a number of 19th century travellers. A few years later the Association for the Study of Travel in Egypt and the Near East (ASTENE) was formed with an enthusiastic Harry James being elected its first President.

The T G H James Memorial Essay Prize has been created by ASTENE to encourage young people having an interest in Egypt and the Near East to learn about the lives and challenges of those who have travelled in the area over the centuries and also the local people they met. The Prize is open to all under the age of 25. There are two prizes: one of £250 and another of £100. Each prize also includes a 2-year membership to ASTENE and a Bursary (covering the cost of accommodation and meals but not travel costs) to attend an ASTENE Conference to collect their prize. Both winning essays will appear in the quarterly ASTENE Bulletin.

The submitted Essay should be about 3,000 words in length, and may be illustrated. It must be on a subject having relevance to the study of travel and travellers to the ASTENE area of interest – for this refer to the ASTENE website www.astene.org.uk. Importantly, the essay should not be about Egyptology, nor just be a summary of views expressed elsewhere. For example, the essay could concentrate only on the life of a less well known traveller; the ways, routes, lodging houses, customs houses, quarantine regulations, and costs of travel in the area; an historic event as seen through the eyes of different travellers; accounts of travellers meetings with Mohammed Ali or other local officials; travellers' descriptions of cities in the region; etc. The subject matter is endless but the essay should bring something fresh. The essay must be properly referenced, including noting all material gathered from the internet.

To submit your Essay, please send it electronically in MSWord before 31 March 2015 with your name and address for correspondence, to chairman@astene.org.uk using the subject heading 'T G H James Memorial Essay Prize'. You will be contacted to confirm your essay has been received. The winners will be announced at the ASTENE Conference in July 2015

<http://www.astene.org.uk/>



The Association for the Study of Travel in Egypt and the Near East was founded in 1997 to promote the study of travel and travellers in Egypt and the eastern Mediterranean from Greece to the Levant, Arabian Peninsula and Mesopotamian region. Membership is open to all.

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