



ASTENE CONFERENCE

Aston University Birmingham

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ABSTRACTS of PAPERS

Adalı, Dr Selim. Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey

Ancient Travellers and Mesopotamian Literature: Two Case Studies

The knowledge and impressions of ancient travellers could find expression in Mesopotamian literary texts. This paper will present two cases to demonstrate the impact of travel information on Sumerian and Akkadian literary texts. The first case concerns the Sumerian legends of Lugalbanda. The difficulties, tragedies and myths of travelling the great distances in Mesopotamia's Zagros frontier were expressed. The second case is the travellers' knowledge of Anubanini, the Lullubian king's rock relief at the Zagros mountain pass of Sar-i-pul-i-zohab. This knowledge was expressed in the Akkadian literary text which has been dubbed the Cuthaeen Legend.

Anderson, Sonia P.

Sir John Young, High Commissioner for the Ionian Islands, and his private letter-book 1856-1857

Sir John Young, later Lord Lisgar (1807-1876), High Commissioner for the Ionian Islands from 1855 to 1859, died without issue and his private papers were subsequently destroyed. But one private letter-book, covering the middle fourteen months of his three and a half years on Corfu, has survived in transcript. It throws considerable light on the political, economic and social background to his mission in the Islands, and also covers his travels with his wife in Albania and Epirus.

Banas, Paulina. Department of Art History, State University of New York at Binghamton

***The Oriental Album*: Multiple agency, dynamic structure and the marketing of Egypt**

In 1848 the London printing house Madden & Malcolm published *The Oriental Album* featuring large-format chromolithographs representing the Nile Valley and made by the French Egyptologist Émile Prisse d'Avennes. This paper, instead of analysing Prisse's works as free standing independent images, proposes to consider *The Oriental Album* as a unique material object and to examine Prisse's plates through their contextual mode of interpretation and their dynamic relation to the narratives accompanying the illustrations, written by the British traveller James Augustus St John. Focusing on narratives, ornamental devices and complementary illustrations, the paper will shed a different light at the study of orientalist representations and will recast the meaning emerging from *The Oriental Album* as unresolved and multivocal.

Berg, Patricia. University of Helsinki

The travels of G.A. Wallin and his views on Western influence in the Middle East

The Finn Georg August Wallin (1811–1852) travelled in the Middle East between 1843 and 1850. The scholarly motive was to gather material about Arabic dialects and to achieve this purpose, Wallin took on a Muslim identity as ‘Abd al-Wālī. He travelled within Egypt, on the Arabian Peninsula, on Sinai, in Syro-Palestina, and in Persia. Wallin wrote letters and a diary, but died shortly after his return to Helsinki and did not publish the material himself. The current publication project has so far published three volumes of seven. The paper will present Wallin’s views on the Western influence in the Middle East.

Booth, Charlotte. Freelance Egyptologist

Abu Simbel through the Eyes of the Traveller

This paper will investigate the changing nature of travel and the travellers' experience to the site of Abu Simbel in ancient Nubia. In ancient times it was the site of pilgrimage until the site was abandoned and was engulfed and hidden by the sands of the desert. How was the rediscovery witnessed, and what emotions did it evoke in the Egyptians, archaeologists and sight-seers? Through the use of traveller's diaries and records, and by studying the changes at the site including its removal to its current location, the experience and perception of Abu Simbel has altered over the centuries will be identified.

Boyer, Don. D. University of Western Australia

The relative contributions of William John Bankes and Charles Barry to the early plans of Gerasa/Jarash (Jordan): evidence from the Bankes and Barry archives

William John Bankes spent ten days visiting Gerasa in 1816 and 1818, and Charles Barry made a two-day visit in 1819. The results of their joint efforts are retained in the 'Gerasa' portfolio of plans and drawings in the Bankes archive held in the Dorset History Centre, together with material on Barry held at RIBA. Argument is presented that Barry's contribution is out of proportion to the short time he spent on the site, with his ‘General Plan of the Ruins of Djerash’ — compiled from information collected by both parties - being unsurpassed in quality for many decades."

Bruwier, Marie-Cécile. Directrice scientifique Musée royal de Mariemont, Belgium

Jean-Jacques Rifaud’s lithographs in Belgium

The French sculptor J.-J. Rifaud (1786–1852) travelled to Egypt in January 1814. Appointed by the French Consul-General, B. Drovetti (1776–1852), Rifaud carried out excavations in several places all over the Valley and unearthed numerous statues. He produced many drawings. Back in France in 1827, he decided to publish an illustrated book devoted to archaeological sites and antiquities, as well as natural history, habits and customs. He intended to rival the famous *Description de l'Égypte!* Unfortunately, his work was never achieved. Only about 300 plates have been edited. His drawings are still of interest to Egyptologists.

Chapman, John. Former Principal Lecturer at The University of Hertfordshire

The Third Earl of Carnarvon’s Mani. 1839

The Greek peninsula of Mani has fascinated western visitors for centuries. In May 1839 the Third Earl of Carnarvon visited the area. The Earl’s son published an edited version of the trip in 1869 — but the actual journal manuscripts give a much more detailed account of Mani at that time. Supported by other contemporary independent accounts and recollections of the area, his journal gives fresh insights into the state of Mani, its discomforts and his unwelcome

bedfellows, its politics and superstitions — and some ideas about why his son's version is lacking in these details.

Clayden, Dr Tim. Wolfson College, Oxford

A very ancient landmark on the way to Baghdad

West of Baghdad, on the last leg of the overland route from Aleppo to Baghdad, lie the ruins of Dūr-Kurigalzu ('Fortress of [King] Kurigalzu'), founded in the first decade of the 14th century BC. Dominating the city was the ziggurat, the ruins of which are still nearly 90m high. Featured in Arabic sources, the ziggurat was a landmark for early European travellers to Baghdad, some of whom identified it as the Tower of Babylon. This paper will review various travellers' descriptions, up to 1942 when excavations began, of the ziggurat.

Cohen, Dr Susan L. Montana State University

Travellers in time and space: early archaeologists' contributions to the chronology and cartography of the ancient Near East

The discipline of the archaeology of the ancient Near East developed out of the interests of early nineteenth-century European travellers in uncovering the history — and specifically biblical history as it was understood at the time — in the physical landscape of the contemporary Middle East. In so doing, these early travellers-turned-excavators were instrumental in the creation of new understandings of both the chronology and the cartography of the ancient world. These expressions of time and space not only influenced the direction of future study of the Near East, but continue to inform the basis of perceptions in the present.

Cooke Neil. Chairman of ASTENE

Travelling Companions

James Burton set off for France and Italy in 1819. He returned from Italy and France in 1834. In between he spent 12 years in Egypt. Burton left England accompanied by Charles Humphreys although it is 3 years before he gets any mention. Imagine if your only record in history is at the end of a sentence in a letter where the writer complains of having to pay doctor's fees concerning his swollen testicles! Burton left Italy for Egypt with Charles Humphreys and Vincenzo Braico a young lad he found in Naples. In 1834 Burton arrived in England accompanied by his Egyptian servants Mohammed and Bedr, DuDu a Greek slave girl, and the long suffering Charles Humphreys. Vincenzo was dropped off in Bordeaux during the return journey. What is known about these people — including their lives before and after they met James Burton?

Cromwell, Dr Jennifer, Macquarie University, Sydney

Delivering Monastic Wine, by Boat and by Camel

Hundreds of receipts and amphorae fragments attest to the vast amount of wine delivered to the monastic complex at Wādī Sarga, located in the western desert between Assyut and Akhmim. The receipts state the date of delivery, origin and volume of wine, and the name of the camel-driver that delivered it, without reference to any other mode of transportation. The vineyards named are located mainly in the Herakleopolite and Hermopolite nomes, with the furthest vineyard 350 km north of the monastery. This paper will address how the wine — estimated at 26,000 litres per annum — was transported to the monastery.

Davis, Marlene B. College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia

Behind the Scenes: Women in ‘The Dark Moment’

Already a successful popular novelist, known even to her family by her pen-name Ann Bridge, Mary Ann O’Malley (1899–1974) fell in love with Turkey during the early stages of WWII. The wife of the British diplomat Owen St. Clair O’Malley, Bridge became friends with the Turkish diplomat, Rusen Esrel Unaydin and his wife, Saliha Unaydin, while they were all stationed in Budapest. It was there that Bridge first heard the story of the last days of the Ottoman empire and dramatic days that followed. Saliha told Bridge the personal account of her grandmother, a most remarkable woman. To Bridge, a curious mixture of traditionalist and mover and shaker, this woman represented the best of the Ottoman traditions. The two friends vowed once the war was over to tell her story. Various events intervened, so it was not until the late 1940s that Bridge began her intensive research for her novel, *The Dark Moment* (1950).

Draper-Stumm, Tara. London

Travellers from an Antique Land: The Sekhmet in the British Museum

A vast number of granodiorite statues of the goddess Sekhmet were produced during the reign of Amenhotep III, probably for his funerary temple at Kom el-Hettan. The British Museum holds the largest collection of these statues outside Egypt. The history of how they found their way into the British Museum is almost as intriguing as the story of Amenhotep’s lost temple. Nearly all the statues in the British Museum were excavated by Napoleon's French expedition or by Giovanni Belzoni and Henry Salt, and their eventual arrival in the museum raises many issues regarding provenance and meaning within a museum context.

Monday Visit

Graves, Carl

William Joseph Myers and his Egyptian Collection

Graves, Holly. Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY

Touring the Past and Present: A Comparison of Egyptian Tour Guide Books

The exoticism and mystery of Egypt can easily sway globetrotters to make the land of the Nile their next travel destination. Thorough preparation is necessary for a successful trip. Karl Baedeker’s *Egypt and the Sudan* (1908) will be compared to the modern day travel guides, Knopf Guides, *Egypt* (1995) and Eyewitness Travel Guides, *Egypt* (2003), specifically looking at iconic landmarks in Cairo: the Great Pyramids and the Egyptian Museum. We will see how a visitor’s information supply has evolved and how Egyptian travel and tourism have changed in the past 100 years.

Hagglund, Dr Betty. University of Birmingham

Intertextuality in Catherine Hutton’s *The Tour of Africa* (1821)

In 1821, Catherine Hutton published *The Tour of Africa*, with a substantial section on Egypt. Although the book is framed as a first-person narrative and told in the voice of ‘the son of an English country gentleman of good family’, it is, in fact, a compilation of existing travel accounts, including those of Pococke, Bruce, Niebuhr, Volney, Savary, Sonnini, and Legh. Extracts from these accounts are woven together without attribution, creating a text which is both factual and fictional. The paper will explore Hutton's use of her source material and pose wider questions about intertextuality in 19th-century travel writing.

Heggestad, Amanda. Belgium

Notes to Self: A comparison of public and private notes on Nile travel

In the middle of the 19th century, William Arnold Bromfield and Florence Nightingale journeyed on the Nile. Both wrote letters to loved ones at home, which would form the basis of travel accounts printed for private circulation. Both also kept journals throughout their travels, which are now available in British archives. This paper will compare Bromfield's and Nightingale's circulated accounts to the private records, in an attempt to better understand what impressions the Nile made on these travellers and what information they wished to share with others.

Holaubek, Dr Johanna. Institute of Egyptology, University of Vienna

Princess Lichnowsky and Princess Bibesco, two aristocrats and writers — their impressions of Egypt

The German Princess Mechtilde Lichnowsky (1879–1958) and the Romanian Princess Marthe Bibesco (1888–1973) were celebrated writers and outstanding personalities of their time. In 1912 Mechtilde Lichnowsky travelled with her husband, Prince Karl Max Lichnowsky, to Egypt. In 1930 due to poor health Marthe Bibesco undertook a journey to Egypt. Both of them wrote remarkable and in many ways unusual travel novels which later became great successes in their own time. This paper will analyse and compare their impressions of Egypt as well as their experiences and encounters during their trip.

Hooper, James. King's College London

The Voyage to Egypt in *The Pythagorean Way of Life* — Asceticism, the Miraculous, and the Transformation of Neoplatonism

Iamblichus depicts the eponymous philosopher as an ascetic and mystical figure, godlike and 'sent to humankind from Apollo's retinue'. Seeking 'Mysteries of a purer form', Pythagoras left Syria for Egypt, where he spent twenty-two years on a syncretic excursion. This paper will consider one tale from this voyage, when Pythagoras journeyed with an untrustworthy group of seamen. Originally intending to sell the handsome youth into slavery, they swiftly 'saw something superhuman in the lad's self-discipline'. This was confirmed when Pythagoras spent three days and two nights fasting, and supernaturally shortening the journey. The context and implications of this will be analysed.

Jackson, Emmet. Ireland

It's a long way from Tipperary: The travels of an Irish Friar, Symon Symeonis, to the Holy Land in the 14th Century

This paper will focus on the travels of the Irish Franciscan friar, Symon Symeonis, in the 14th century. This friar's comprehensive account of his travels from Ireland to Palestine provides an unmatched narrative of the economic and social position of Europe and the Middle East in the Middle Ages. This paper will examine the context of the lives of Irish friars in the Middle Ages and will give an account of Symeonis's travels from Co. Tipperary to the Holy Land, with particular reference to his time in Egypt and his journey from Cairo to Palestine.

Jones, Guy. Irish Lebanese Cultural Foundation, Ireland

On the Trail of Bishop Pococke: From Kilkenny to Lebanon

Dr Richard Pococke the Bishop of Ossary, was no ordinary visitor to the Holy Land. He travelled through the Levant identifying places, drawing important landmarks, taking notes on fauna and flora, describing in minute detail the food and way of life of the inhabitants. The trip to Lebanon in 1738 was the subject of independent studies conducted both in Ireland and Lebanon. In a privileged position of being an Irishman born and raised in Lebanon, Guy

Jones made a comparative study based on the works of Father Ignatius Saade and Professor John Bartlett; aided by a research in the Ottoman Archives and complemented by insights from the lengthy letters of Bishop Pococke to his mother written while staying in Sidon and Tripoli. This paper will consider how his visit to the Holy Land and the Levant affected his views on Irish religious diversity and how his observations counted as the most decisive support to Lebanon's territorial claim.

**Kennedy, Professor David. University of Western Australia
More journeys and travellers to Petra, 1812–1914**

At an earlier ASTENE conference, the late Norman Lewis presented a delightful and informative survey of 'Travellers, tribesmen and troubles: journeys to Petra, 1812–1914'. Since then the digitization of books, periodicals, magazines and archives has revealed a far richer list than that known to Lewis. This has all brought an immense quantity of data into the research pool. It has also made it far easier to collect, search, cross-reference and extract and left more time for the researcher to analyze and interpret. It is opportune to re-visit the subject and re-evaluate it in the light of this new data.

**Ketchley, Dr Sarah L. University of Washington, Seattle
Emma B. Andrews and the Golden Age of Egyptian Archaeology: a Diarist's Account of Exploration and Discovery in the Valley of the Kings 1889–1913**

Emma B. Andrews (1837–1922) was uniquely positioned to bear witness to the 'Golden Age of Egyptian Archaeology' yet her work has been largely overlooked. She is best remembered for her association with the millionaire lawyer-turned-archaeologist, Theodore Davis. She travelled to Egypt with Davis between 1889 and 1913, keeping a detailed journal of her travels along the Nile on the *dahabeah* 'Bedawin'. Davis was granted the coveted concession to excavate in Luxor's Valley of the Kings, funding the discovery of 25 significant tombs and deposits. This paper will explore the valuable cultural, social and archaeological perspectives Emma's diaries add to this period of modern Egyptian history.

**Koepp-Junk, Dr Heidi. University of Trier
Travel in Ancient Egypt**

Nowadays, we associate travel mainly with tourism, but this differs very much from the ancient Egyptian evidence. Who travelled in ancient Egypt and why? Was only the high society on the move? Did they travel just for fun or for economic reasons? And last but not least, how did they travel? Heidi Köpp answers all these questions and shows the means of locomotion ancient Egyptians used on their journeys, from the sedan chair of Hetepheres, Khufu's mother, to the chariot of Akhenaten and Nefertiti.

**Lebedev, Maksim. Institute of Oriental Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences,
Moscow**

From Kremlin's walls to the foot of the Pyramids: Muscovite travellers in Egypt

Among thousands of Europeans who travelled Egypt and the Near East in the 16th and 17th centuries were many Russian pilgrims and merchants, diplomats and captives. Their lives and writings are almost unknown to international researchers. However, the experience of these people greatly influenced the Russian pre-imperial society and its knowledge of the East. The main goal of the paper will be to introduce a number of Muscovite travellers, who reached the Nile Valley either on purpose or against their will and left vivid descriptions of their wanderings, Egyptian people, nature and monuments.

Llewellyn, Briony. Independent Scholar, UK

The ‘Pirrybids’ and the ‘Fairy Island’: Edward Lear in Egypt

Edward Lear was one of the most intrepid travellers of his time, travelling as much to satisfy an eager curiosity and his need to discover new subjects for his art as for the demands of his health. This paper will examine his artistic practice with reference to his drawings and paintings of the Pyramids and Philae. These two locations are used as examples to investigate the interconnections between his experience of travel and the diverse aspects of his art, in relation to his nonsense writing and drawings, his topographical water-colours and his commissioned oil paintings.

After dinner speaker

Llewellyn, Briony

Beauty and the Boodle in Birmingham: two paintings by John Frederick Lewis

Lockwood, Dr Anne. Limestone College, Gaffney, South Carolina

Gentle Britannia: Victorian Women Travel Writers in Egypt and the Near East

This study examines selected Victorian women’s writing about the Near East. While these women often claimed to be only properly deferential and well-behaved angels of the Victorian hearth, their presence in the Ottoman empire allowed them to move away from the hearth and escape, at least discursively, their domestic bind. My premise is that, despite their decided attraction to ‘Oriental’ cultures, these writers nonetheless participated in strategies of imperialist ‘conquest’ of people and places in the Near East. In highlighting this gendered Orientalist pattern, the work of Mary Eliza Rogers (*Domestic Life in Palestine*, 1862); Lucie Duff Gordon (*Letters from Egypt*, 1865, 1875); Isabel Burton (*The Inner Life of Syria, Palestine, and the Holy Land*, 1875); and Anne Noel Blunt (*Bedouin Tribes of the Euphrates*, 1879) will be examined.

López-Grande, Dr Maria. Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

Bonaventura Ubach: Travels in Sinai (1910, 1928 and 1932)

The Benedictine monk Bonaventura Ubach (1879–1960) joined Montserrat Monastery (Barcelona, Spain) in 1894. Interested in Bible and Eastern languages studies, he set off for his first visit to Jerusalem in 1906 staying at the Dominican École Biblique till 1910. During this period father Bonaventura visited Syria, Lebanon and Egypt. In 1910 he made a first trip to the mountains of Sinai, where he returned to in 1928 and 1932. Particularly interested in the Bible’s ‘Book of Exodus’, his aim was to move around the Sinai territory like the Israelites in the time of Moses. He wrote an interesting account of his Sinai journeys which will be the topic of this conference paper.

Machowski, Dr Wojciech. Jagiellonian University, Krakow

From Beirut to Petra — the journey of W. Szczepanski in 1905

Among the activities of Wladyslaw Szczepanski (1877–1927), traveller, biblical scholar and orientalist, works on archaeology, history and geography of Palestine and the Near East take prominent place. Numerous journeys to the Near East were the basis of many of his publications. Szczepanski’s first study in this field was the book, *In Arabia Petraea*, which is a beautifully written travel diary. At the same time, however, it is a valuable source of information about the life of the people of Arabia Petraea in the early 20th century, as well as on the geography and partly on the history of that region.

McClary, Richard. The University of Edinburgh
Immobile evidence of mobility: The movement of Iranian and Syrian architects into Anatolia in the early 13th century and their effect on the local architectural aesthetic

The groups of itinerant masons who travelled to Anatolia in the 13th century were instrumental in the synthesis of a new architectural aesthetic for the Rum Saljuqs. By looking at the Keykavus Hospital in Sivas and two portals in Konya, the introduction of foreign styles can be seen in brick, tile and marble. A process brought to a halt in Iran by the Mongols continued and developed in Anatolia. The movement of people around the Middle East has long been the cause of rich artistic exchange and these buildings preserve in a static form the very evidence of that mobility.

McGuirk, Russell. London

Wilfred Jennings Bramly: A Fresh Look at the Grand Old Man of Mariout

Bramly's ties to Egypt were beyond compare. His mother was born there when her father was British consul. He travelled there for the first time in 1891 with Nubar Pasha, a family friend. Associated with important surveys in Sinai and the Sudan, and a major diplomatic crisis of 1906 when he was the only Anglo-Egyptian official in the Sinai Peninsula, in WWI he led his own 'Corps of Arab Guides' to help British forces in the Eastern and Western Deserts. A list of his friends sounds like a Who's Who of Anglo-Egypt: Allenby, Wingate, de Lancey Forth, Bagnold, and many others. This paper will look at how Bramly overcame severe dyslexia to become an Egyptian legend.

McGuirk, Sheila. London

The Salutary tale of Mr Lucas, independent explorer

Louis Arthur Lucas was an independent traveller who in 1876 equipped an expedition to explore the territory between Khartoum and the headwaters of the Congo. His inexperience and the difficulties he encountered led to the abandonment of his project and his stay in Khartoum caused considerable nuisance to the authorities there and in Cairo. His travels and travails and the correspondence it generated illustrate many of the facets of travel in the Near East and North Africa in the middle of the nineteenth century including consular involvement; cultural crossed wires; what help was available locally and how very robust and lucky the survivors needed to be.

Maitland, Dr Margaret, Curator of the Ancient Mediterranean Collections, and Irving, Ross, Assistant Curator, National Museums Scotland

The Innovative Antiquarian: Alexander Henry Rhind's excavations in Egypt and his collection in the National Museum of Scotland

Sir Flinders Petrie is generally credited with carrying out the first systematic archaeology in Egypt, but Scottish antiquarian Alexander Henry Rhind pioneered similar methodology, such as the recording of detailed excavation plans, 25 years before Petrie's first visit to Egypt. In the 180th anniversary year of Rhind's birth, this paper will present new archival research exploring his innovative approach to archaeology in Egypt, the importance he placed on public education and museum display, his progressive views on the preservation of monuments, and the remarkable objects he excavated, which are now in the collections of the National Museum of Scotland.

Maitland, Dr Margaret. National Museums Scotland

Hieroglyphs from the North: Newcastle's early travellers in Egypt and their correspondence with the decipherer of the Rosetta Stone

Early travellers to Egypt from Newcastle-upon-Tyne were not typical early tourists. At a time when relations between rival Egyptologists in England and France were frosty, Newcastle scholars developed a warm, respectful friendship with the famed decipherer of hieroglyphs, Jean-François Champollion, through personal acquaintance in France, mutual interest in Egypt, and shared political sympathies. Rediscovered letters in the archives of the Natural History Society of Northumbria at the Great North Museum: Hancock contain detailed translations by Champollion in response to enquiries from his northern colleagues, revealing his developing understanding of the Egyptian script from an early and little documented period of his research.

Mansel, Dr Philip. Author and Historian

Thomas Hope: an Aesthete in the Ottoman Empire 1796–1798

Thomas Hope, son of a wealthy Scottish-Dutch banker, had already travelled round western Europe and in 1795 had moved to London to escape the French Republican invasion of the Netherlands. In 1796–1798 he continued his Grand Tour in the Ottoman empire. He recorded his tour in the drawings he commissioned from his travelling artists, now in the Benaki Museum, and in *Anastasius* (1818), the first modern novel set in the Middle East. They are particularly interesting since they show an early interest in Islamic art and Bedouin life; and an acute perception of political realities under Selim III: the rise of the Wahhabis, the role of the Greeks, the collapse of the economy. Hope recorded Egypt just before the French invasion and he subsequently became an expert on interior decoration. Unpublished material, including drawings and diaries will be included.

Marcolin, Michele. Waseda University, Tokyo

‘Never was the like done’: An early traveller from Egypt to the Levant

The recent identification by the author in Japan of the fragments of a new undocumented biographic inscription of an Egyptian 6th Dynasty expedition leader, offers a new precious window on previously only glimpsed, or ignored, aspects of the early relations of Egypt with the Levant, but it also provides a fresh and very human first-hand testimony of ancient Egyptian travelling experiences with their loads of economic, as well as emotional, values, which, for ancient Egypt, were previously known only in relation to rather different geographical horizons, or for comparatively later and more documented periods.

Monamy, Elisabeth. Oriental Institute of the University of Vienna

Eduard Glaser: An Austrian Orientalist.

Eduard Glaser is an Austrian Orientalist — almost unknown to non-German speaking scientists — who travelled a couple of times to the Near East and especially to Arabia between 1882 and 1894. In this paper, Eduard Glaser will be introduced by summarising his life and his studies, as well as his work, pointing out his four journeys to Arabia and presenting his importance in Austrian oriental research. Considering the amount and the quality of South Arabian inscriptions brought back to Europe, Glaser was definitively the most successful Austrian traveller to the Near East.

Navratilova, Dr Hana

Studying graffiti (particularly in the temples of Senwosret III at Dahshur, Egypt)

For considerable time, the site of Dahshur, Egypt, was known because of its stone pyramids. In the 1820s, E.W. Lane noticed that '[t]here is another Pyramid of crude Brick ...' and Lepsius in the 1840s numbered it XLVII, but it was only in the late 19th century when its owner became known — Senwosret III. First systematic excavations came with J. de Morgan, who stated that 'Although inscriptions were not numerous at Dahshur, they furnished, nevertheless, some historic documents of interest'. Historic documents of interest have been appearing ever since, and yet it may come as a surprise that the first to observe specific documents called New Kingdom graffiti was none other than J.S. Perring. His documentation skills were not perfect; however, as more graffiti appeared recently, it is possible to say more about Perring's discovery.

Newton, Charles. Former Curator, V & A Museum, London

On the Eve of the Auspicious Event: Stratford Canning, his artist, and Turkey just before the *Tanzimat*

Stratford Canning, in common with previous ambassadors, wanted a set of illustrations of his sojourn amongst the Ottomans. In 1809 he commissioned a talented artist, an Ottoman subject, to record their architecture, manners and customs. This series of pictures (now in the Victoria & Albert Museum) would become arguably the best and most varied visual record of the last period of traditional, unalloyed Imperial splendour. A few years later, Sultan Mahmud II was able to introduce his Westernising reforms by first exterminating the Janissaries, known as the Vaka-i Hayriye or 'Auspicious Event', thus beginning the era of modernity in Turkey.

Oliver, Andrew. Washington, DC

The American Reception of the *Description de l'Égypte*

Today some eighty sets of the first edition and forty sets of the second edition of the *Description de l'Égypte* are known to exist in public institutions in the United States. This paper will explore three interrelated aspects of the reception of the work in the United States. First, the influence that the first sets to reach the U.S. had on the public perception of things Egyptian; secondly, the range of universities, public libraries, and private individuals who purchased copies; and, lastly, the evolution of American taste for the work over more than a century and a half.

Omar, Amr. The American University in Cairo

Pascal Coste and his Years among the Persians

After his successful travel to Egypt, Tunisia and Algeria, Pascal Coste was commissioned by the *Académie des Beaux-Arts* together with Eugène Flandin to join the embassy of the Comte de Sercey to Persia (1839–1841) to survey the historical monuments in Persia.

Coste, in his joint publication with Flandin, *Voyage en Perse*, a four volumes set (1843–1854), in his personal account *Monuments modernes de la Perse* (1867) and in his travel *Mémoires* (1878), provided very precious and accurate observations, descriptions and illustrations of history, archaeology, arts, architecture, geography, social life of Persia, which this presentation attempts to show.

Pearce, Dr Ian D. North Yorkshire
Some individuals in Egypt during the 1870s

Waynman Dixon (1844–1930) was an English civil engineer who lived in Egypt from 1871 to 1877. He wrote many long letters to his family back at home. In the letters he mentioned many people, mainly Europeans, who were living and working in Egypt, or just visiting: fellow engineers, academics and artists, people in military and government positions. This paper will look into circumstances of a few of them, providing glimpses of expatriate society, the Khedive's military and modernisation ambitions, along with some personal romances and tragedies. A list of all ninety individuals mentioned in the letters will be included.

Picchi, Dr Daniela. Responsabile Sezione Egiziana e Ufficio Prestiti Mostre, Museo Civico Archeologico, Bologna
Amalia Sola Nizzoli, archaeologist *ante litteram* in Egypt and the origins of the third Nizzoli Collection

In the early nineteenth century, after the Napoleonic expedition, some women of strong personality arrived in Egypt with their husbands and family. Here, they had to reinvent themselves in a country in which was difficult to live, especially far away from Cairo. Amalia Sola, young wife of Giuseppe Nizzoli, is one of these women. She made a great contribution to Egyptology, because she was the first woman involved in field activities at Saqqara and, very likely, she was the one to discover Horemheb's reliefs, now preserved in the Archaeological Museum of Bologna. The history of the Egyptian collection of Bologna owes much, for quality and extent of objects, to Amalia and her husband, as well as to the painter Pelagio Palagi, who bought their third collection in 1831.

Pizzocheri, Dr Luca. Mardin Artuklu University, Turkey
I will describe the Orient as it is, as it appeared to me: Narratives of the first Italian mission to the Levant, 1861–1862.

The first Italian expedition to the Levant was sent by the will of King Vittorio Emanuele II of Savoy in September 1861, with the official purpose of providing Arabian horses for the Royal Stables. The mission ended in August 1862, after having touched Egypt, Syria, Mesopotamia and Iraq. Among the participants were the physician Marco Musizzano and the young nobleman, Ernesto Balbo Bertone di Sambuy, who both left vivid accounts of their experiences during their travels. This paper will present the two narratives inside the framework of the Italian mission, attempting an analysis of the travellers' perception of the Middle East.

Pollard, Dr Lucy. Suffolk
Unreliable information: dragomans and guides in Ottoman Turkey

Most travellers to Ottoman Turkey needed dragomans to interpret for them. These men were not usually ethnic Turks: often they were Greeks or other European renegades. Even merchants or diplomats who spoke some Ottoman Turkish found it useful to have dragomans, and the Ottoman authorities no doubt used them to keep an eye on the foreigners in their community. The possibilities for misunderstanding or deliberate misinformation were legion, and the job of interpreter could be a dangerous one, but there are instances of kindness and bravery by dragomans on behalf of foreigners. When travellers journeyed round the empire they might also have guides or *chiauses* (messengers) to accompany them, and they, like dragomans, figure from time to time in published accounts, giving us some sense of individual personalities, and of the interaction between them and their employers.

**Polz, Dr Daniel. Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Cairo
Artists and Painters in the German House in Thebes, 1905-1915**

The German House in Thebes was founded by Ludwig Borchardt in 1904. Borchardt's initial conception was to create a permanent place on the West Bank of the Nile which would make the exploration of monuments in the Theban necropoleis more effective and comfortable. In his foreword to the guest-book of the House, Borchardt did not restrict the use of the House's facilities to German scholars ('Gelehrte') including, interestingly, the category of 'artist' ('Künstler'), but explicitly included those of 'other nations'. The lecture will focus on this latter aspect of the German House, i.e. artists and painters who lived and worked there from the time of its inception until its destruction in 1915.

**Ree, Peta. Yorkshire
Did the Elephant ever Forget?**

In 1867, a British Military Expedition made its way nearly 400 miles through the highlands of Ethiopia to rescue the British consul and other Europeans held captive by the Emperor Theodore. This account focuses particularly on the logistics of the Expedition.

**Rindi, Carlo. University of Pisa
Giuseppe and Amalia Nizzoli: New Evidence from a previously unknown document**

Amongst the fascinating personalities who crowded up the so-called Age of the Consuls during the very first years of Egyptology, the figure of Giuseppe Nizzoli is doubtlessly one of the most intriguing as well as one of the most frequently neglected. He and his wife, Amalia Sola, played a major role in the formation of some of the most important Egyptian collections in Italy and abroad. Recently, a new manuscript document has come to light which helps to discover previously unknown details concerning a very interesting time-lapse shared by the spouses in Egypt. This paper intends to investigate this new evidence. This document, a hand-written letter, was found by the present writer. Only recently, a few studies have finally been published, shedding some light on his personal life. See for instance S. Daris, *Giuseppe Nizzoli, Un impiegato consolare austriaco nel Levante agli albori dell'Egittologia* (Naples, 2005); S. Daris, 'Un noto sconosciuto nella storia dell'egittologia: Giuseppe Nizzoli', *Archeografo Triestino* 69/4 (2009), 351–71.

**Schmidt, Heike
Wintering in the pearl of Middle Egypt — Helouan les Bains**

Because of its dry climate Egypt was considered for a long time as a perfect winter resort for invalids who wanted to escape colder habitats. Until 1870 Aswan and Luxor were their preferred destinations, but thanks to the efforts of the German Balneologist Dr. Wilhelm Reil a new location appeared on the map of Egypt that for a short period of time rivalled the most famous health resorts of Europe. The fluid history of Helouan les Bains is a tale of the rise and fall of a famous spa.

**Sheikholeslami, Cynthia May. Independent Scholar, Cairo, Egypt
J. Morton Howell, US Minister to Egypt 1922–1927 and Egyptian Antiquities**

Dr J. Morton Howell was the first US Minister to independent Egypt (1922–1927). This paper will highlight the collection of antiquities he formed while in Egypt and donated to Ohio institutions, and also discuss his role in the negotiations about rights to finds from excavations, with Egyptian authorities on the one hand and James Henry Breasted, Herbert E. Winlock, and Howard Carter, on the other. His subsequent book, *Egypt: Past, Present, and Future*, was banned by the British as being too sympathetic to Egyptian independence.

Family photographs now in the possession of his granddaughter, Mary Howell Cromer, will be shown.

Sheppard, Dr Kathleen. Missouri University of Science and Technology

‘On whose toil most of my work has depended’: Hilda Petrie’s Egypt

Hilda Petrie has been described as a field archaeologist’s ideal wife. From the start of her career as an archaeologist on their honeymoon field season, Hilda was essential to her husband Flinders Petrie’s success. She took over writing the field journals that first season in 1897 and her writing style displayed a poetic charm that Flinders’ journals had lacked. This paper will analyse some of Hilda’s writings about her first impressions of Egypt, what life was like on site, and her lifelong journeys with her husband and on her own. This analysis demonstrates that Hilda was not just an ideal wife for an archaeologist, but she was also an archaeologist herself.

Stanley-Price, Nicholas. Adviser on cultural heritage conservation, Rome

‘The Sand Kings of Oman’: a reputation retrieved

An important source for reconstructing the impact of the British presence in the Trucial States is Raymond O’Shea’s *The Sand Kings of Oman* (Methuen, 1947). But one episode, his account of exploring the Liwa oasis, was criticised by Wilfred Thesiger and others, to the extent that some even doubted the authenticity of the book and the reality of its author. The reputation of O’Shea will be re-established by documenting his life, by drawing upon other sources that verify statements made in his memoir, and by proposing how the errors criticised by others came about.

Starkey, Dr Janet. Durham University

Exploring Kufra and beyond: Ahmad Mohammed Hassanein, friend of the Rennell Rodds and of Rosita Forbes

Ahmad Mohammed Hassanein (b.1889 Cairo), was an influential figure in Egyptian politics. Educated at Balliol, he became Chief of the Diwan and Chamberlain to King Farouk (r.1936–1952). Hassanein crossed the Libyan Desert in 1921 and again in 1922/1923 when he discovered Arkenu and Ouenat on his 2200-mile journey. His close friend, Sir Francis Rennell Rodd, later President of the RGS, wrote *The People of the Veil* (1926) about his own Saharan explorations, and provided the introduction to Hassanein’s *The Lost Oases* (1925). Hassanein’s relationship with author and filmmaker Rosita Forbes, who accompanied him on his first expedition to Kufra, was enigmatic.

Starkey, Professor Paul. Durham University

Druzes, Maronites, and the enigmatic Colonel Churchill

Colonel Charles Henry [Spencer] Churchill (1807–1869) is an enigmatic figure. Appointed Staff Officer on the 1840 British Expedition to Syria, he served in Beirut and Damascus, but resigned following a Court of Enquiry and retired to Lebanon. His two major publications — *Mount Lebanon* (1853), and *The Druzes and the Maronites* (1862) — describe the inter-communal disturbances of 1860 and give an account of the various local religious groups, including the Druze. This paper will discuss the significance of Churchill as a long-term resident of Lebanon, and considers his relationship to the ‘other’ Colonel Churchill, author of *Life of Abdel Kader*, with whom he is sometimes confused.

**Tabone, Joseph Attard. Malta
Edward Lear in Gozo**

In his many wanderings in the Mediterranean, Edward Lear visited Malta six times. His stay in Gozo, the sister island, took place between 16th and 23rd March 1866. With his manservant, he went all over the island, walking about 15 miles a day. He succeeded in taking over 80 sketches and drawings. He remarked that it had been a pleasure and that the visit had been ‘successful morally and culturally, if not materially’. He described Gozo’s scenery as ‘*pomskizillious* and *gromphiberous*, being as no words can describe its magnificence’. This visit has never been described before in detail.

**Taylor, Dr Brian. Rutland
The Land that Midas Touched**

In 1780, George Baldwin, former consul, entrepreneur and agent for the East India and Levant Companies, set out from Constantinople bound for India in pursuit of his quest to promote a faster trade and communications link between that continent and the Near East via Suez. En route via Turkey's Phrygian Highlands, Baldwin and his party discovered the Midas Monument but then, near Antioch, he was attacked, robbed and wounded and most of his papers stolen. As a result, Baldwin returned to Constantinople but what became of ‘Mr.--- - a painter by profession’ and who was he?

**Taylor, Dr John. The British Museum.
The exploitation of the site of Abydos by European collectors 1815-1840**

Between 1810 and 1840 the European consuls Drovetti, Salt and Anastasi quarried the site of Abydos for Egyptian antiquities to add to their collections. They worked chiefly through agents, such as Athanasi and Piccinini and the little-known Father Ladislaus, whose treatment of ancient remains earned him the damning epithet ‘this brutal monk’. Because of the meagre documentation of their excavations this period is usually passed over rapidly in histories of exploration at Abydos. However, as modern investigation clarifies, understanding of the site the records of earlier activity can be usefully reassessed to ascertain which areas were exploited and to reconstruct a clearer picture of what was found.

**Thomas, Patrick [Poster Display]
On Robert Coster, British Diplomat (1796–1869)**

This account is an attempt to reconstruct the early life, and origin of Robert Coster and his contribution to Egyptology about which little was previously known. This account has been compiled from his letters and references held in many archives, and the brief biography in *Who was Who In Egyptology*. It is hoped that this extra information will add more to the rather colourful life of this man.

**Thompson, John. Yaşar University department of Foreign Languages, Izmir, Turkey
The Admiral’s Daughter**

In 1840 the British Admiral Baldwin Wake-Walker accepted a command in the Ottoman Navy and was accompanied to Constantinople by his family, including his young daughter. Due to a military crisis between Turkey and Egypt, many foreign travellers were involuntarily detained in Turkey for around six months. Among those was the painter David Wilkie who, during his stay, redeemed the time by drawing and painting various British residents and dignitaries including Admiral Wake-Walker and the admiral’s daughter. When I purchased a print of her portrait it set me on a quest to discover the story behind the picture.

**Tomorad, Dr Mladen. Croatian Studies, University of Zagreb, Croatia
Travel to Egypt and Orient by Croatian scholar Grga Novak during 1930's**

During the 19th and 20th centuries many Croatian travellers, merchants, wealthy citizens, and noblemen travelled to Egypt and Orient. Some of them wrote their diaries, some collected antiquities and some published newspaper articles about their travels. One of such scholars was Grga Novak, Professor of Ancient History at the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Zagreb and later member of Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts. During the early 1930s he travelled to Egypt on two occasions. His first journey to Egypt occurred during December 1932 and the first few months of 1933. His views about this journey were published in the daily paper *Novosti* during 1933, and later as a travelling diary in 1945. His second scholarly travel to Egypt occurred between 30 June and 16 July 1935 and it was published in the journal *Jadranska straža* in the same year. In this paper a short overview of the life and work of Grga Novak will be presented with a special overview of his travels to Egypt in 1932/1933 and 1935.

**Vireneque Dr H el ene. Centre Wladimir Golenischeff, Paris
A Swiss Egyptologist on her Majesty's service: Edouard Naville (1844–1926) in the Delta**

The Swiss Egyptologist Edouard Naville (1844–1926) worked in Egypt as an archaeologist on behalf of the Egypt Exploration Fund between 1882 and 1914. He carried on excavations in major sites such as Tell el-Maskhuta and Bubastis in the Delta. Thanks to unpublished letters he sent to Amelia B. Edwards and R.S. Poole and now held at the Egypt Exploration Society, we are able to know more about his methods and his collaborators, especially his wife Marguerite. This material also provides insight into the daily life during the fieldwork and the numerous editing stages of his beautiful *Memoirs*.

**Walbiner, Dr Carsten. Birzeit University, Palestine
Ulrich Jasper Seetzen in Aleppo (1802–1805)**

In 1802 the German doctor and natural scientist Ulrich Jasper Seetzen (1767–1811) set out for a long journey which would lead him into the unknown parts of the African continent. Seetzen knew that it was indispensable for such an undertaking to get thoroughly acquainted with the Muslim world, its culture, languages and traditions. He therefore decided to spend some time in the Arab lands before proceeding to his proper destination. Seetzen chose the lively commercial town Aleppo to do his intercultural and linguistic apprenticeship. From 1803 until 1805 he stayed for one and a half years in the city before journeying on through other parts of Syria to Egypt and Yemen where he met with an unexpected death in 1811. Seetzen's diaries were then published posthumously in the 1850s in four volumes. For unknown reasons the editor did not include Seetzen's description of his stay in Aleppo which only appeared in 2011. This paper will analyse and summarise Seetzen's remarks on Aleppo. This will include a discussion of how an enlightened European, free of religious prejudices, approached the Arab world before it became the target of Western colonial interests.

After dinner speaker

West, Rachel

Matthew Boulton and the Lunar Society

**Wharton, Assistant Professor Alyson. Mardin Artuklu University, Turkey
Nineteenth-Century Romantics, Romanticism and the Armenians of the Ottoman Empire**

This paper will examine the multi-layered romantic engagement of European writers and thinkers with the territories of the Ottoman empire, and particularly its Armenian subjects, over the nineteenth century. It will focus on three kinds of travel accounts. First, those of card-carrying French ‘Romantics’ who were politically involved in their own countries and who had an official role in the Ottoman empire, most notably Alphonse de Lamartine; secondly, the accounts of French writers and poets — such as Théophile Gautier — who believed in ‘art for art’s sake’; lastly, British accounts that focused on Armenian territories and society — and written with a political motivation in mind.

**Williams, Caroline. Independent Scholar
The Orientalist Collection of Shafik Gabr**

Orientalist paintings — images created by Western artists who visited Egypt in the 19th century — are now premium artefacts for Middle Eastern collectors. Shafik Gabr, an Egyptian businessman, during the past thirty years, has created one of the best such collections. The paintings provide a real sampling of the many and varied ways artists of different nationalities portrayed Egypt — deserts, markets, ancient ruins, acts of piety, portraits, genre scenes, urban architecture, and landscapes. It is a collection that begs to be introduced to the ASTENE audience.

**Zitterkopf, Ron Zitterkopf, Shawnee Mission, Kansas
Every Explorer Needs a Compass**

Every explorer needs a compass ... and much more. This paper will investigate the equipment, supplies, and medicines that European travellers used during the exploration of the deserts of Egypt in the early 19th century. Emphasis will be on the instruments for navigation and obtaining geographical information, including how they worked or were employed. Also addressed will be transportation, baggage, food, medicine, shelter and drawing supplies. Costs for the items and the expedition will be estimated. Primary contemporary sources would be George Bellas Greenough, James Burton, & J. Gardner Wilkinson.