

Travellers in Egypt: Notes and Queries

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Conference on Travellers in Egypt and the Near East to be held 9-12 July 1997 at St. Catherine's College, Oxford

Call for Papers

A Conference on Travellers in Egypt and the Near East is to be held at St Catherine's College, University of Oxford from 9-12 July 1997. This conference will run directly after the BRISMES Conference to be held from 6-9 July at the same location, so you might like to attend both!

The interaction between the various travellers in Egypt and the Near East before the beginning of the twentieth century is fascinating, as was their opinion of the countries in which they travelled and the local people's opinions of the travellers they met. The extended Grand Tour included the Near East and Egypt. Some travellers, such as Lane and Wilkinson, stayed a substantial time exploring the culture and archaeology of the region. Poets, artists, musicians and novelists, like Flaubert and Gautier, were influenced by the Orient, and their works have often coloured Occidental impressions of the East.

The conference has been convened following a very successful and stimulating first conference held in Durham in July 1995. Sessions will include pre-nineteenth-century travellers, architectural and archaeological perceptions, influences on literature and artists such as David Roberts, the impact of Europeans on Egypt and the Near East, research resources, women travellers, the theory and philosophy of travel, and the personality and policies of Muḥammad 'Alī Pasha. There is also a plan to set up a society to pursue the study of travellers and their impact, which will be discussed in a separate session.

Please contact Mrs Deborah Manley, 57 Plantation Road, Oxford, England OX2 6JE (telephone 01865 310 284) for further information on the Conference, contributions or any suggestions for session topics; or contact Mrs Janet Starkey e-mail: j.c.m.starkey@durham.ac.uk with any contributions or offers of papers as soon as possible.



Conference on
Travellers in Egypt and the Near East
 to be held 9–12 July 1997
 at St. Catherine's College, Oxford



The Opening Session will be addressed by T.G.H. (Harry) James, former Keeper of Egyptian Antiquities (British Museum) who will give an address on the evening of 9 July.

Main Themes for Papers:

- A. The Logistics and Paraphernalia of Travel—Ways and Means
- B. Research Resources
- C. Theory of Travel
- D. The Way Forward.

We welcome papers on any of the main themes of the conference. Suggestions and offers of papers to date are as follows.

A. The Logistics and Paraphernalia of Travel—Ways and Means

Pre-Napoleonic era

Offers of papers welcome on travellers such as Ibn Battuta and the early period, Johann Michael Wansteben, Franz van Bellerbeck, Robert Huntington etc.

The Mechanics of Travel

On Waghorn [Sarah Searight]
 'John Mason Cook and Thomas Cook in Egypt'
 [Paul Smith]

Ways and Means: Subject approach.

European Oriental dress [John Rodenbeck]
 Slaves and servants [Neil Cooke]
 We welcome short 10 minute papers on support staff—dragomen, guides and interpreters

Travellers & Egyptology

James Burton [Neil Cooke]
 James Buckingham 1813–16 [Peta Rée]
 The Belmores [Deborah Manley]
 Dr A. Ricci [Patricia Usick]
 Offers of papers welcome on travellers such as Joseph Bonomi and Robert Hay etc.

Places approach

'Le voyage de Léon de Laborde et Linant de Bellefonds à Pétra en 1828' [Pascale de Bellefonds & Christina Augé]
 'Nineteenth-century travellers to Bahrain' [Michael Rice]
 On Bayard Taylor [Heather Sharkey]
 Travellers' perceptions of, for example, Alexandria, Cairo, Karnak, Aswan, Jabal Barkal; Jordan etc. welcome.

Western rediscovery of the Near East

On Budge [Robert Grierson]
 'George Percy Badger: printer, orientalist, clergyman and spy' [Geoffrey Roper]
 On J.L. Burkhart [Peter Grendelmeir]

Women Travellers

We would welcome offers of papers on Lady Jane Digby, Amelia Edwards, Lucy Duff-Gordon etc.

Personality and policies of Muhammad 'Alī Pasha

B. Research Resources

Thomas Cook Archives [Paul Smith]
 Preparation of *Who Was Who in Egyptology*, third edition [Maurice Bierbrier]
 'The old and the new DNB' (Elizabeth Baigent)
 We welcome short papers on British Museum archives, Additions and corrections to 'Kalfatovic', Sudan Archive, Durham and other little known archive material.

C. Theory of Travel

Theoretical sessions.

'Travel and Fantasy' [Derek Hopwood]
 We welcome papers on the epistological & anthropological aspects of travel writing, and on Ideas and Influences, e.g. 'Orientalism'.

'Mirror Image': Impact of travellers on Egyptian culture

'On translating Sophia Lane into Arabic' [Azza Karazah].
 We welcome papers on, for example, Egyptian travellers to Europe, theatrical troupes in Egypt etc.

Travellers and Literature

On French Romantic travellers [C. Thompson]
'East or West? Flaubert's *la Tentation de Saint Antoine*: or the question of orthodoxy' [Mary Orr]
We especially welcome papers on the impact on European literature.

Artists: Fact or Fantasy

On David Roberts [Briony Llewelyn, Peter Clayton and others]
On William Holman Hunt [Judith Bronkhurst]
'Artist-Travellers to the Holy Land in the nineteenth century' [Hisham Khatib]
'On postcards in the Louvre' [Diane Harlé]
We welcome offers of paper on artists such as David Wilkie, Edward Lear, Alma Tadema, Poynter, on the Searight Collection, V&A, and on the Ashmolean museum collections.

Scholars

including Edward Lane

Architecture: travellers and the question of style

'Islamic Buildings, European travellers and the Question of Style' [Hossam M. Mahdy]
'Muhammad 'Alī, Pascale Coste, and the neo-Mamluk style' [Nasser Rabbat]

D. The Way Forward

Should we progress to a society or not? Do we need a database?

Questionnaire: Sarah Searight is preparing a questionnaire to be given out in the Conference Packs, contents of which to be discussed at this session at the end of the Conference. This questionnaire will include a preamble, the principles of a society and its possible geographical remit. Would people want a journal, newsletter?

Conference Dinner: Michael Pearce has agreed to speak at the Conference Dinner, on Thursday 10 July. Michael Pearce, author of *The Mamur Zapt and the Spoils of Egypt* and five other Mamur Zapt novels, grew up in the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan among the political and other tensions of the time. He returned to Sudan later to teach, and retains a human rights interest in the area. He now lives in London and finds international politics a pallid imitation of academic ones. 'Pearce summons up his vanished world with a finesse that's dab, fond and droll. Impeccably done' (*Literary Review*).

Reunion evening: Some people through their researches have met the descendants of nineteenth-century travellers in Egypt; some researchers are themselves descendants of those travellers. So many of the influential and famous in our society can be found to have interesting ancestors who explored the Middle East. On the last evening of the Conference (Friday) we will be inviting the great-great-great nieces of Joseph Bonomi and Edward Lane, a distant cousin of Henry Salt, the Duke of Northumberland, and a direct descendant of Lord Belmore to a reception possibly to be held at the Middle East Centre, St Antony's College, and we then hope that they can dine with the descendants of Linant de Bellefonds, Robert Thurnburn, Charles Irby and Charlotte and Richard Rowley, and other participants of the Conference. After dinner 'Miss Amelia Edwards' will lecture on the 'exploration of Egypt in the late nineteenth century'. If you know of any other relevant descendants, please forward details to Deborah Manley as soon as possible, so that she can make the necessary arrangements.

Tours of archive resources: The Griffith Institute, Oxford. Dr Jaromir Malek is arranging a small exhibition of archive material (mss. including diaries, journals, water-colours) in 2 rooms to be available for view between 10 am and 4.30 pm during the conference; the Amelia Edwards water-colours of Egypt and papers from her collection will be available at Somerville College as a special exhibition.

Book Fair: Possibilities are being investigated and any suggestions welcome.

Conference Organisation: A meeting of the Conference steering committee was held in the Middle East Centre, St Antony's, Oxford on 22 October at 11.00. Deborah Manley was selected as local Conference Organiser; Derek Hopwood; Eugene Rogan (Organiser for the Oxford BRISMES Conference); Patricia Usick; Sarah Searight; Paul and Janet Starkey. Jaromir Malek, Neil Cooke and John Ruffle had also hoped to attend. International links include Jason Thompson (USA); John Rodenbeck (Cairo); Diane Harlé and Professor André Raymond (French), Karig (German). Neil Cooke was given the special remit to investigate possibilities of sponsorship, for example with travel companies like Thomas Cook, and would be interested in hearing of any suggestions.

The next meeting will be on 18 February 1997 at St Antony's College, Oxford.

David Roberts, RA (1796–1864)

The bi-centenary of the birth of David Roberts, RA, the prominent Victorian artist, noted especially for his illustrations of the ancient and Biblical Near East, fell on 24 October 1996. In celebration of this, the British Museum Education Service arranged a Study Day on Saturday 26 October entitled 'The Legacy of David Roberts: artist of Egypt and the Holy Land'. The general response was far higher than expected, indicating the appeal that Roberts still has. In fact the British Museum's lecture theatre was virtually full.

The first lecture was given by Hilary Williams, Department of Prints & Drawings, British Museum, and entitled 'Spreading the Image of Exotic Lands: Louis Haghe and the production of David Roberts' Lithographs'. She gave an overview of the illustrative processes that led up to the high point of the Roberts lithographs and enabled one to realise the skill of Louis Haghe that went into their production.

George Hart, resident lecturer in Egyptology in the Education Service, then examined 'David Roberts in Egypt and Nubia, 1838–39', concentrating more on the Egyptological aspects of his work than on the Islamic representations. Interesting contrasts were drawn between the lithographs (the drawings of 1838–39 that appeared in the published lithographs of the 1842–49 edition) and the sites today.

Peter Clayton, author of *The Rediscovery of Ancient Egypt: artists and travellers in the nineteenth century*, took up the story with 'David Roberts in the Holy Land, Syria, Idumea and Arabia, 1838–39'. He, having followed in Roberts' footsteps from Suez, through Sinai, the Holy Land and on to Baalbek, was able to illustrate, paralleling the lithographs with the modern sites, not only the differences in the last 150 years but also, a point better seen in Roberts' 'Holy Land', how his original artistic employment as a scene painter was put to good effect in the use of perspective.

Hilary Williams then took a broader brush to discuss 'Orientalism in Painting, Prints and Drawings in the Era of David Roberts'. Whilst appreciating that 'Orientalism' was 'in' in the Victorian period, the setting and inspiration for Roberts' long journey in the Near East became more apparent by discussing and illustrating the genre both before and after his journey.

The day closed with Peter Clayton presenting a short 'Epilogue' on Roberts' later years but especially of the Art Union Medal struck eleven

years after his death in commemoration of his work. This carried his portrait and the representation of his lithograph 'The Letter Writer', a scene that Roberts drew in the *sūq* in Cairo of a young illiterate Coptic (Christian) girl dictating a letter to an elderly literate Muslim.

Roberts died on 25 November (St Catherine's Day) 1864 and was buried in unconsecrated ground in West Norwood Cemetery (because his beloved daughter Christine and her husband, Henry Bicknell, lived in the area). First buried in the Bicknell family tomb, he was moved in 1875 to an adjacent vault and a small domed tombstone set up. This, with its short identification inset in lead letters, had deteriorated considerably over the years and the Friends of West Norwood Cemetery, with the financial support of the Mathaf and Schuster Galleries and Peter Clayton, had been instrumental in having a new stone cut to replace the almost unreadable original. On the afternoon of Sunday 27 October, a small gathering of about twenty representing the Galleries and Friends, met at West Norwood Cemetery to inaugurate Roberts' new tombstone and visit the family mausoleum and the stone of Louis Haghe—great friends in life, the two men also lie not far apart in death.

PETER A. CLAYTON

Editor's note: in view of the considerable continuing interest in David Roberts, we are planning to have a dedicated session at the July 1997 conference on this artist, at which Peter Clayton, amongst others, is hoping to contribute.

The Gentleman's Magazine as a Resource

The Gentleman's Magazine is seldom cited as a source for researchers into discovery and exploration in Egypt; it can, however, be a useful one, and one which may be found in many local reference libraries. Concerned with the interests of well-educated readers of its time, it can often produce minor gems of information it would be hard to find elsewhere.

First published in 1731, the Magazine appeared monthly until 1908. Naturally, its style and character did not remain constant, but during the early nineteenth century, when public fascination with the discoveries being made in Egypt was perhaps at its most intense, it contained much of

interest to the present-day researcher. There were reviews of many of the travellers' books, from Lord Valentia's monumental three volumes to Sir Frederick Henniker's rather lighter work; there were reports (inevitably rather belated) of events abroad; there were accounts of the doings of learned societies, as when William Richard Hamilton read, in 1831, a paper on the inscriptions on the colossal statue of Memnon at Thebes (1831, Vol. 1, 626); there were tales of the unrolling of mummies.

Of biographical interest are the lists of births, deaths and marriages. Before Civil Registration began in England in 1837, and even afterwards for vital events taking place abroad, such information is hard to come by. The people dealt with are usually the well-born, the well-known, the well-heeled, army or naval officers, professional men or clergymen—but most of our travellers fell into one or more of these categories. Death notices tend to be the most fertile of information, for often more than the bare facts are given. John Hyde, who travelled into Nubia with William John Bankes in 1819, died in India in 1825: 'He was in perfect health, a corpse, and in the grave, in the short space of 24 hours' (1825, Vol. 2, 478). More lengthy obituaries were sometimes accorded the high-born or famous. Only Giovanni Belzoni, I believe, achieved two, one when he was reported to have died in 1818, and one in 1824, when the reports, alas, had not been exaggerated (1818, Vol. 2, 477 and 1824, Vol. 1, 462).

Most of the biographical and topical items in the *Gentleman's Magazine* are culled from newspapers, and, as with all information, are only as trustworthy as their source.

YORK

PETA RÉE

Egypt Study Circle

Members may be interested to hear about the Egypt Study Circle, an international philatelic club that specialises in the stamps and postal history of Egypt. It has a library which is housed in John Davis's cottage, near Worcester, which has many books relating to Egypt in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, particularly the influence of the British military. The Egypt Study Circle published a quarterly circular since 1937 and are now on no. 175. Many of the earlier ones had very useful articles about consular post arrangements and the Egyptian post offices abroad among other interesting topics.

John Davis himself is working on a book concerning Thomas Cook in Egypt, more particularly on the postal aspect as many of the large hotels had post offices on their premises. Further information can be obtained from the Hon. Librarian, D. John Davis, Church View Cottage, Church Road, Upton Snodsbury, Worcestershire, WR7 4NH.

Architectural Drawings at the Public Record Office

The Public Record Office at Kew is now taking over all the resources of the old Public Record Office in Chancery Lane, central London. Its new splendid building—with lake, fountains, shop and café serving good school dinners—is alive with researchers excavating their own or other people's pasts. In the café men in their third age discuss the experiences of National Service they are reliving or plan their search of the sailing lists for their emigrating parents.

There are numerous helpful guidelines to using the great store of archives that contains so much history. One such guideline is *Records Information 109, Architectural Drawings in the Public Record Office*. It explains where and how architectural drawings may be filed—often buried in the Maps and Plans section or with other documents. Many drawings are now described in the published catalogues. These cover the British Isles, America and the West Indies and Africa. A fourth volume, *Europe and Turkey*, is in preparation and a typescript draft resides in the Map Room.

In the supplementary card catalogue many other architectural drawings—and views with representations of buildings—are described. Drawings by individual architects can also be tracked down.

The Appendix to 109 has details of numerous classes that contain architectural drawings. Department of Works (Works) 40, for example, lists drawings of embassies, consulates and legations overseas (1852–1952). Many other drawings are in Work 10 and photographs in Work 55.

This article gives only a pointer. You will need to visit the Public Record Office to see how far the archives can be of use in your researches. Contact: Public Record Office, Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU. ☎ 0181-876-3444; Fax: 0181-878-8905

DEBORAH MANLEY

Exhibition on Early Travellers in Egypt

to be held at the library of the Travellers Club, 106 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5ER on 19 February 1997. This will be an opportunity for EES members to view early travel books on Egypt. The exhibition will be open for one day (from 12.00 to 8.00 pm) only to members of the EES and the Travellers Club. At 12.30 and 6.00 pm wine will be served and Mr Peter Clayton will introduce the exhibition. Since space is limited admission will be by ticket only and early application is advised. Tickets are £5 each. Please contact the Secretary, Egypt Exploration Society, 3 Doughty Mews, London WC1N 2PG for further details.

Book Fairs

On Sunday 8 April 1997 there is a Book Fair at the Royal Geographical Society, Kensington Gore, London SW1 from 11 am to 5 pm specializing in Travel and Exploration. On 1 July and 14 October there are Print, Map and Ephemera Fairs at St Olave's Parish Hall, Mark Lane, London EC3. All three fairs are organised by the Provincial Booksellers Fairs Association; please ring 01763 248 400 for further details.

Dominique Vivant Denon, écrivain, voyageur, administrateur

Monday 24 February 5-7 pm
Conférence-débat à la Maison Française (tous publics), Université d'Oxford, Norham Road, Oxford OX2 6SE. Tel: 01865-274220. To celebrate the 250th anniversary of the birth of Vivant Denon (1747-1825).

Chair: Christopher Thomson, University of Warwick.

Speakers include:

'Denon, bourgeois—homme cultivé et amateur de musique' [Francis Claudon, Professor at the University of Bourgogne, Dijon]

'Denon en Italie' [Erminia Passananti, literary critic and translator, *British Centre for Literary Translation*, University of Norwich]

'Le Voyage en Basse et Haute Egypte [Jean-Claude Vatin, Maison française-CNRS]

'Denon, Ministre des Beaux-Arts de Napoléon Ier' [Elaine Williamson, Institut britannique de Paris]

A Society or not?

Dr Alix Wilkinson has some useful suggestions, viz: Societies need offices and a library, even if they start out, as for example, the Garden History Society did, with a group of friends round the kitchen table. So why not start where we expect to end, and attach ourselves to a society (or academic institution) which already has offices and a library? Most academic societies are experiencing financial difficulties and lack of membership. So, if one such society were offered a large intake of members, they might be willing to do a deal whereby a sub-section called 'Travellers in Egypt and the Near East' (or whatever) had some autonomy and a separate publication.

Deborah Manley, Peta Rée and others have been thinking along similar lines and investigating further. An excellent suggestion would be to become a corporate member of the Royal Geographical Society for £500 a year. This would enable 'members' to use the library facilities, as four tickets could be held for readers at the library desk. It would give members an entry into the wider field of travellers.

Other possible candidates are the Egypt Exploration Society; Royal Asiatic Society; the Royal Anthropological Institute; the British Society for Middle Eastern Studies (BRISMES); the Travellers Club, with its offices in prestigious Pall Mall; Middle East university centres, museums and libraries with 'Friends'. BRISMES would be useful, but it has no library or defined premises of its own. We have co-operated strongly with BRISMES for both conferences. The part-time secretary at the BRISMES office would be happy to work a few more hours on *Travellers* work, and the same programme has been used for both membership databases.

Newsletter

The idea of the Newsletter coming out several times a year has met with a good response. Possibly it should come out two or three times a year (December and September, and possibly in June); the September issue only to have a full list of names and addresses, publication information and interests, to come out after the Conference when new people/ ideas/ suggestions might have been put forward. Individual requests for information could appear in any/all issues.

Would people want a journal as well as a newsletter? Several people have indicated that the

creation of a journal specially dedicated to travellers in Egypt and the Near East would be a good idea. This would give an opportunity to publish articles on travellers, and provide information on relevant publications with a review section. An editorial board could then be established to steer the journal.

Database

MICHEL AZIM has sent some detailed comments on the idea of a database:

[...] l'établissement d'une base de données me semble être la clé de tout, et je suis tout à fait d'accord avec Mrs Patricia Usick sur la nécessité d'une vérification soignée des données qui y entreront: trop souvent, en effet, la littérature égyptologique fournit des informations chronologiques erronées qui, à force d'être indéfiniment reprises et reproduites dans les publications successives, finissent, à la longue, par être communément admises comme vraies.

Pour ma part, la base que j'établie sur les voyageurs de Karnak est organisée chronologiquement; c'est donc un *calendrier* qui permet, pour un jour dit, de voir *Qui? était Où?*. Mais une vérification efficace des informations impose bien souvent d'élargir le champ des recherches, jusqu'à suivre l'ensemble du périple de tel ou tel voyageur: en l'absence de dates précises pour son passage à Karnak, il est souvent nécessaire de définir toutes les périodes où il ne pouvait pas s'y trouver ... Parfois, ces dates ne peuvent être précisées qu'indirectement, par le témoignage d'autres personnages qui l'ont rencontré, sur place ou ailleurs: c'est dire à qu'une base de données sur les voyageurs de Karnak doit prendre en compte, inévitablement, les relations de personnages qui, parfois, n'ont qu'un rapport lointain avec le site.

Aujourd'hui ma base, loin d'être complète évidemment, comporte plus de 180 pages, et couvre la période 1589-1869; elle est doublée par une autre base consacrée aux travaux réalisés à Karnak dans la période 1721-1967. C'est donc une organisation quelque peu différente de l'excellent travail de Neil Cooke, travail que je connais assez bien puisque nous correspondons depuis de nombreuses années.

Dans certains cas il m'est apparu utile, aussi, de dresser des cartes: comment visualiser autrement, par exemple, les divers déplacements en Nubie de Salt, Bankes, Ricci, d'Athanasia, Hyde, Belzoni, Barry, Huyot, Wright, Fishewr, Curtéis, Gau,

Pearce, Jowett, Fuller, Foskett, Linant, entre le 24 novembre 1818 et le début avril 1819?

Vous trouverez ci-après un exemple, pris au hasard, du calendrier que j'ai établi, pour la période du 29 janvier au mois de septembre 1818. Sa présentation ne nécessite pas l'emploi d'un logiciel bien particulier, je me suis contenté d'un simple traitement de texte (WORKS2, sous DOS). [I've used Wordperfect 6.0 for dos which also works well (Ed.)]

Vous trouverez également une liste de personnages sur lesquels ont porté—et portent encore, avec des fortunes diverses—, mes recherches (je ne donne des dates que pour ceux qui n'apparaissent pas dans les *Notes and Queries* No. 2, p. 1720; par ailleurs, je ne mentionne pas les directeurs du service des Antiquités ou des Travaux de Karnak, ni les personnages de cette époque. [Michel Azim has sent a long list of travellers whom he is studying and a very interesting sample *calendrier des voyageurs* for the period 29 Jan 1818 to September 1818. This will be included in the September 1997 issue of *Notes and Queries* (Ed.)]

PETA RÉE has written to ask if a draft format should be available at the conference, so that each can enter their data and then send a brief summary of what each researcher holds e.g. 'Henry Salt, most dates between March 1816 and October 1827, in Alexandria and Cairo', for inclusion in the newsletter, so that individuals could approach each other?

PATRICIA USICK and the editor recently discussed the idea of a database and expressed some considerable reservations. Computerising the material would be a mammoth and costly task, though it would make the information more accessible. It might be more useful to compile a database of research sources containing published and unpublished material, giving details about possibilities of access, permission required, expertise and specialists available to help with any research.



It is hoped that the usefulness (or otherwise) of various databases can form a topic for discussion at the summer conference.

Contact List

Several new members have sent questionnaires and details are given below. Details of their relevant publications will be included in the September issue. I should be grateful to receive details of *any* relevant recently published works or any forthcoming research plans (including work which is in press and in preparation) by 1 August 1997, which will be listed in the September 1997 issue. I will also include any amendments to the contact list and any corrections. These include:

Mr Ronald Bullock
Flat 8 26 Brunswick Square
Hove
East Sussex BN3 1EJ

Dr Christian Cannuyer
rue Haute 21
B-7800 ATH
Belgium
☎/fax: 32 68 287467
Period(s): Middle Ages—Late Antiquity—16–18th century
Subject(s): The anthropology of travel; interreligious relations; customs of the Copts; Egyptomania
Place(s): Gizeh; Coptic holy places; Alexandria
Language competency: French; Dutch; English; German; Arabic

D. John Davis
Church View Cottage
Church Road
Upton Snodsbury
Worcs WR7 4NH
UK
☎: 01905 381835
Person(s) Briggs, Waghorn, Wheatley, Sam Shephard, Thomas Cook, Penasson, Meratti *et al*
Subject(s): history of postal services in Egypt
Archives sources: Egypt Study Circle library; Egypt Exploration Society
Language competency: English; French

Dr Johanna Holaubek
Institute of Egyptology
University of Vienna
Frankgasse 1
A-1090 Wien
Austria
fax: 43 1 405 43 00 90
Person(s) Austrian women travellers (life & work)
Period(s): eighteenth century onwards
Place(s): Egypt; Sudan; Austria
Archive sources: National Library, Vienna
Language competency: German; English; French

Dr D. Homes-Fredericq
Parc du Conqantenaire 10
B-1040 Bruxelles
Belgium

Archive source: Musees Royaux d'art et d'histoire,
Bruxelles
Place: Jordan

Roger.O. De Keersmaecker
Graffito Graffiti
Fruithoflaan 27 Bus 9
2600 Berchem-Antwerpen
Belgium
☎: (03) 440 46 77
Period(s): eighteenth–nineteenth centuries
Subject(s): worked for several seasons as a photographer with Professor H. de Meulenaere and Dr. L. Limme in Assasif and El-Kab, has been collecting information on graffiti by early travellers in Egypt and Nubia since 1965. At present he is working on an article on the graffiti on the Qertassi kiosk. He is happy to help other researchers on graffiti.
Place(s): Egypt; Sudan

Mr Bernard Van Rinsveld
7 Dreve des Lignages
B-1083 Bruxelles
Belgium
☎: 02-4263284
Person(s): Belgians in Egypt; King Léopold II, previously Duke of Brabant in Egypt 1854–55 and 1862–63; comte Zizinia; Mustafa Agha; B. van Rinsveld; Baron Empain
Period(s): 19th–20th century
Subject(s): King Leopold's Egyptian collection and its acquisitions
Language competency: French, English, German, Dutch

Alain Riottot
Chemin de Bassette
13 570 Barbentane
France
☎ & fax: 33 04 90 95 60 84
Person(s)/Subject(s): Alain Riottot (whose research director at Aix en Provence University is Professor André Raymond), is interested in a botanist, Granger alias Tourtechot, who was sent by the Secretary of State Maurepas to Barbary, Egypt, Cyprus, and Syria. He travelled in Egypt in 1730–32 and in 1734. A book, *Relation d'un voyage en Egypte*, was published under his name in 1745 in Paris. Alain is interested in Granger's observations on the economic, social, scientific and political situation of the countries

through which he travelled. Also interested in technology transfer from the South to the North of the Mediterranean zone.

Archive sources: Archives nationales in Paris; archives de l'académie des sciences, Paris

Language competency: English; Italian; Portuguese; Spanish; French

Antony Sattin

81 St Marks Road

London W10 6JT

☎ & fax: 0181 969 1319

Antony Sattin is at present researching for a new book about survivals from ancient Egypt, which has brought him back to travellers such as Lane and Wilkinson, who took an interest in survivals in the nineteenth century.

In particular here is a plea for research help: he is looking for incidents of nineteenth-century travellers recording customs or traditions which they believed were survivals or holdovers from ancient Egypt. He is aware that the request is broad, but so is his interest at this stage but is happy to hear from anyone with any information.

Nicholas Warner

c/o American Research Center in Egypt

2 Midan Qasr el Dubara

Garden City

Cairo, Egypt

☎: 00 202 341 6801

fax: 00 202 355 3052

Person(s): travellers and photographers in Egypt with a detailed knowledge of Cairo

Period(s) nineteenth-century

Subject: Islamic architecture in Egypt (all periods)

Place(s): Egypt especially Cairo

Archive sources: AUC Rare Books Library, IFAO Library, DAI Library

Language competency: English, French, Italian

Ms Emily M. Weeks

745 Orange St (#304)

New Haven, Ct 06511

USA

e-mail: emweeks@minerva.cis.yale.edu

☎: (203) 562 3064

Person(s): John Frederick Lewis; David Wilkie; Henry Roderick Newman; Lady Anne Blunt; E. Merrick; Edward Lear; F. Goodall

Period: 1830-1910

Subject(s): landscape interpretations; gendered geography; British artistic presence in Egypt (the Bohemian artist abroad); female travellers and artists; the pre-Raphaelite fascination with Egypt; postcards as travel narratives; issues of cultural consumption; orientalism; travel literature; the sketchbook; anthropology of tourism

Archive sources: Yale University libraries (ic Beinecke Rare Books and Manuscripts, and British Art Center); AUC libraries, various London locations as requested

Language competency: English; German; French; Arabic

French codes

It is worth drawing your attention to the fact that the French telephone codes have recently changed, with the country's 8-figure numbers gaining a further 2 digits. Under the new system the country has been divided into 5 regions, each with a new double-digit prefix for domestic calls. Paris numbers now have the prefix 01, when calling within France. The North West is 02, North East 03, South East and Corsica 04 and the South West 05. To call a French number from outside France, the first zero must be omitted. I will amend the codes in the August issue of *Notes and Queries*.

Please also note that my e-mail address has recently changed from j.c.starkey@dur.ac.uk to j.c.m.starkey@durham.ac.uk.



Interesting sources on French travel literature

Academic and cultural activity in the French language was extensive in Egypt during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and collections in Cairo are remarkably rich in French travel literature about Egypt. I am at present working on 'marginal' French travellers' accounts of Egypt, by exploring little-known primary source material and I have found a significant number of French women's accounts.

These French women's accounts of Egypt came to light during an exhaustive study of primary source material in relatively large and 'unweeded' collections of French travel literature about Egypt. A number of such collections exist in Cairo and the most remarkable of them all is the Bibliothèque de la Sainte Famille. This collection contains roughly 50,000 volumes, of which over 1,000 are by or about European travellers in Egypt, most of them French. Both the Library of Congress and the Bibliothèque nationale have come to the Sainte Famille Bibliothèque seeking access to materials not available in the United States or in France, and there is probably nowhere else in the world where such a comprehensive collection of this French travel literature about Egypt exists for consultation in a relatively open stack situation.

The Sainte Famille also has very interesting collections of primary source materials in other areas. There are eclectic collections of a variety of books, literary documents and pamphlets published in French by small publishing houses in Cairo and Alexandria during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, often bound together in collections entitled 'mélanges', information on schools and school curriculums from this period, a variety of old maps of the city of Cairo dating well back into the nineteenth century, an extensive collection of books written by members of the French expedition under Napoleon, information on French cultural activity in nineteenth- and twentieth-century Egypt, and accounts of Jesuit activities in Egypt dating back to the beginning of the eighteenth century.

The curator of the Sainte Famille collection is Father Maurice Martin S.J., to whom I am deeply indebted for his gracious help, advice and guidance. He is a specialist who has published extensively on European travellers and on Coptic Egypt. *Mélanges offerts au Père Maurice Martin S.J.*, (ed.) Christian Décobert (Cairo: Institut français d'archéologie orientale du Caire, 1992), XXI-XXIII gives a bibliography of publications by

Father Maurice Martin S.J. He is eighty years old, he knows the Bibliothèque of the Jesuit Collège de la Sainte Famille collection intimately, and he has spent over fifty years in the Middle East as the curator of Jesuit research collections in Beirut and Cairo.

The Sainte Famille is only one of a number of collections of French travel literature on Egypt in Cairo. Others include the Institut d'Égypte, a fascinating collection which is in a sad state of disrepair due to the desperate lack of funds in Egypt for the conservation of such collections. The Egyptian Geographical Society also has a collection of interest which was inaccessible when I went there due to damage from the recent Cairo earthquake.

The Institut français d'archéologie orientale du Caire has a collection as well and has been reprinting pre-nineteenth century travel accounts about Egypt for years in a series which now numbers over 30 volumes, see *Voyageurs occidentaux en Égypte* (Cairo: Institut français d'archéologie orientale du Caire, 1970-88). The Director d'Études of this institute, Dr Christian Décobert, also very graciously gave me access to the Serge Sauneron papers, a collection of notes, photocopies and folders compiled by a previous director which amounts to a census of early European travel accounts about Egypt in libraries throughout Europe and the Middle East. This collection is presently being prepared for publication by the Institute. Through all of this research I gradually became aware of a number of French travellers in Egypt whose accounts are 'marginal', or little known, and of whom a significant number were women.

Suzanne Voilquin, for example, came to Egypt in 1834 with the Saint-Simonians, a philosophical movement often described as utopian, early socialist and feminist. Her account of her trip to Egypt, *Souvenirs d'une fille du peuple ou la Saint-Simonienne en Égypte, 1834 à 1836* (Paris: Sauzet, 1866), can be consulted in Cairo at the Sainte Famille, as well as in Paris. She later wrote a series of articles about Egypt for *Le Siècle* (Paris, 1837) to help pay for her studies at the University of Paris, and these articles can be consulted at the Bibliothèque nationale in Paris. She wrote a series of letters on her travels in Russia and was also the editor of a small feminist journal in Paris.

Through Father Martin, Amin Fakry Abdelnour, and the French consulate in Cairo, where I was looking for the birth and death records of a child

born to Suzanne Voilquin in Cairo, I was introduced to Philippe Régnier of the French Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique and the University of Lyon II, Director of the Maison Rhone-Alpes des Sciences de l'Homme and responsible for the Saint-Simonian Archives at the Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal in Paris. At the Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal there are boxes of hundreds of letters to and from Suzanne Voilquin and other Saint-Simoniens in Egypt, both men and women. Philippe Régnier has published extensively on the Saint-Simoniens. He has edited *Ismayl Urbain, Voyage d'Orient suivi de Poèmes de Menilmontant et d'Égypte* (Paris: Editions L'Harmattan, 1993), which is the account of a young Saint-Simonian of mixed French and Black African ancestry who travelled to Egypt and later converted to Islam. *Les Saint-Simoniens en Égypte, 1833-1851*, by Philippe Régnier, with a preface by Amin Fakhry Abdelnour (Cairo: Banque de l'Union Européenne, 1989), is also available through the Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal. It gives biographical details on the life of Charles Lambert, and other Saint-Simoniens in Egypt. Philippe Régnier and Michèle Riot-Sarcey very kindly invited me to present my research in their seminar and facilitated my access to the Saint-Simonian archives at the Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal. This library contains a great deal of very useful information in the correspondence of Prosper Enfantin (the leader of the Saint-Simoniens in Egypt), and in the Fonds Enfantin and Fonds Eichthal archive material.

Another French woman traveller in Egypt who wrote a large number of articles and about twenty books was Jehan d'Ivray, pseudonym for Mlle Jeanne Puech (d'Alissac), later Mme Fahmy Bey. *Au Cœur du harem* (Paris: F. Juven, 1911), which can be consulted at the Sainte Famille in Cairo, is the account of her experience travelling to Egypt in 1879, as the eighteen-year old bride of a young Egyptian doctor who had just finished his medical studies in France. For about forty years, she and her husband lived in Egypt, where they raised a family of three children. She did extensive research on previous French women travellers in Egypt such as Suzanne Voilquin. Her book *L'Aventure Saint-Simonienne et les femmes* (Paris: Alcan, 1928) can be consulted in the rare book collection of the American University in Cairo; *Bonaparte et l'Égypte* (Paris: A. Lemerre, 1914) is available in the collection of the American Research Center in Egypt, in Cairo, where I am indebted to Terry Walz, Samira Haj, William Tuchrello (Library of Congress), Edmund Hall (US Embassy), Mark Easton, Ibrahim Sadek and Amira Khattab for their very helpful advice and guidance. Jehan d'Ivray

also published an article on Ida Saint-Elme, a freelance French woman writer whose pen name was 'la Contemporaine' and who travelled to Egypt in 1829. This article, 'Une Aventurière sous l'Empire' (*Les Œuvres libres*, Paris, 1936, 18e, v.184, 175-206) can be consulted at the Bibliothèque Sainte-Geneviève in Paris, as can many of Jehan d'Ivray's works.

Jehan d'Ivray was involved with the Egyptian feminist journal *L'égyptienne* (Cairo) 1/1 (Feb 1925) to 16/164 (April 1940) which can be consulted at the Sainte Famille (incomplete collection), at the Hoda Chaarawi Library (nearly complete collection) which is at the old location of the Egyptian Women's Association on Qasr al-Aini Street in Cairo, and at the Marguerite Durand Library in Paris (complete collection), which has a very helpful conservator, Mme Dezier, and is useful for sources on women travellers.

I am at present completing my PhD dissertation which focuses on little known or 'marginal' French travel accounts about Egypt and asks if they represent different or alternative ways of looking at Egypt. My work will not specifically focus on French women travellers in Egypt. However, the amount of materials by French women travellers which has turned up in these relatively 'unweeded' collections of French travel literature in Cairo (see bibliography below) suggests that the possibility exists for a major work of original research on French women in Egypt and the Middle East. I would be happy to correspond with anyone else working on this subject in order to exchange ideas and bibliographical information.

JOHN DAVID RAGAN



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Marianne North is best known for her botanical paintings of South America and the Far East, but in the 1860s she travelled in Egypt with her father. At Luxor Marianne was 'seized and carried off by the faithful Omar to see Lady Duff Gordon' who, though looking old and gray, said the air did wonders for her.

The Norths' old pilot afterwards took Edward Lear up the river, and Marianne recorded in her *Recollections of a Happy Life* (1893) that, according to Lear, the pilot described her in the following words: 'This Bint was unlike most other English Bints, being, firstly, white and lively; secondly, she was gracious in her manner, and of kind disposition; thirdly, she attended continually to her father, whose days went in rejoicing that he had such a Bint; fourthly, she represented all things on paper, she drew the temples of Nubia, all the sakkiahs, and all the men and women and nearly all the palm trees. She was a valuable and remarkable Bint!'

Potential sponsorship for publications

Dr Alix Wilkinson suggests that the Paul Mellon Foundation (16 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3JA) might support a publication with a British-artistic slant. They are currently supporting the publication of the catalogue of the exhibition at the Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester on *Captain Cook's Painter: John Webber. Pacific Voyager and Landscape Artist*. They are also publishing *A Dictionary of British and Irish Travellers in Italy 1701-1800 compiled from the Brinsley Ford Archive*. It might be useful to investigate potential sponsors in the publishing world.

'From the port of New York to the harbor of Alexandria, as the crow flies, may be roughly estimated at between five and six thousand miles; while for those who are not crows the transit, even at high pressure, would scarcely be accomplished under three weeks.'

Amelia B. Edwards, *Pharaohs, Fellahs, and Explorers* (1892), 37.



Nineteenth-century photography as a field of action

Agnes Rammant-Peeters

The way Westerners in the last century looked upon the historical heritage of Egypt seems to highly fascinate people of our own *fin de siècle*. In the summer of 1995 two meetings were organised to deal with the recent research on this field of Egyptology. The Oriental Museum in Durham chose the subject 'Travellers in Egypt': most lectures dealt indeed with the age of Romanticism, the nineteenth century. In Munich a group of Egyptologists decided to focus on 'Ägypten-Rezeption' and nineteenth-century historicism was also the main topic in their congress programme.

Different exhibitions recently held or being prepared are about the Western encounter with Egypt, either in a larger sense or focusing on a precise aspect or on a particular personality. The exhibition on Egyptomania organised in Paris in 1993 [shown in Ottawa in 1994] showed that looking onto the pharaonic heritage does not necessarily lead to balance and absolute beauty; on the contrary, artists generally preferred to create an Egypt of their own fantasy. In the case of Belgium, we would like to mention two exhibitions of rare old books in the Musée Royal de Mariemont, one in 1993 and one in 1995,¹ with many rare old publications borrowed from the large collection of the University of Namur. An exhibition on Egyptian photography of the nineteenth century started at Leuven in 1994, and was shown in an adapted version at the Museum of Photography in Antwerp and travelled to Amsterdam.

In a growing number of Egyptological publications, archaeological statements are completed by photographs and engravings of the sites. Glancing at a recent guide edited by Gallimard and translated into German by Du Mont, one would think it is a nineteenth-century book because of the many illustrations included from that era. The conclusion to be drawn from this evidence is that many cultural movements are harking back to the period before systematic excavations and mass-tourism. The reason? By some a truly scientific interest, by others a nostalgic feeling, and by still others likely a bit of both.

The visual Orientalistic documentation created by Egypt-lovers of past centuries consisted of paintings, drawings, photographic and photomechanical prints, etchings and engravings: therein old nineteenth-century photographs occupy a privileged position. More than any other source they document the pharaonic, Hellenistic, Coptic and Islamic monuments in an extensive and

accurate way. What is more, they are—at least before the invention of the gentleman-photographer's camera in 1885—the work of motivated pioneers or professional photographers. This implies that, generally speaking, accurate registration is achieved with artistic drive. This correlation was recently evidenced in the choice of title of a compilatory work on Belgian photography: *De paradox van de fotografie* by Johan Swinnen.² Egyptologists who deal with nineteenth-century photography will learn that this innovative medium is a fascinating focus where art and science meet.

In this short contribution we must confine ourselves to a few examples proving the importance of photography for Egyptology and make a few suggestions based on experiences at the Egyptological Prints Archive situated near Brussels in Belgium. Other examples are inspired by the work of colleagues whom we thank for information they recently transmitted to the Archive.³

The Egyptological Prints Archive⁴ is a private initiative where, alongside etchings and engravings on Egypt of the past centuries, efforts are mainly directed to collecting old photographs featuring pharaonic, Hellenistic, Coptic and Islamic architecture. The archive shows the items in occasional exhibits and publishes them in exhibition catalogues. A contemporary and antiquarian gallery, ART KIOSK, focusing on Orientalism, opened in Brussels in autumn 1996 under the author's direction. One of the purposes of this recent project is to track unknown photographic views, and record them in a modern medium, to be digitalized at a later stage. The final idea is to reconstitute the catalogues of some of the most important photographers of Egypt as has been undertaken for one of the most important ones, namely F. Bonfils, by the Harvard Semitic Museum. On this occasion we should mention the efforts of the American scholar Michael Wilson who put together an exhibition with a related publication entitled *Excursions along the Nile*.⁵

Collecting photographs of Egypt is not a recent occupation. In academic circles of the last century several examples can be found. The discovery of a rather neglected photo-archive in the Académie Royale des Beaux Arts in Brussels, which was constituted by its director, the sculptor, Ch. Vanderstappen (1843-1910), at the end of the nineteenth century was surprising.⁶ Unfortunately the discovery came too late for it to make a

substantial contribution to the above-mentioned exhibition on photography of Egypt.

Any well-established art academy should search in its archives for old photo-albums or portfolios. The first reason to do so is that these albums reveal worthy information. The second reason for an urgent reevaluation of this material is their critical state which is often found which is linked to the bad conditions in which they have been preserved in the past. Especially in northern Europe old photos have often been submitted to an overdose of humidity causing dampstain or foxing: the ideal rate should be 50-60% of humidity. In some cases it is necessary for the thin photo layer to be removed by a wet or dry technique from the cardboard support on which it has been glued.

The recent discovery of a travel-album of the Boeke-Cadbury family in the attic of the Allard Pierson Museum in Amsterdam illustrated a series of flagrant conservation problems. The pharaonic objects linked to the album, acquired partly on the same trip to Egypt in 1897-99, were donated to the Museum at the beginning of the century. The Egyptian objects had long been conserved but the photographic album was totally forgotten. The cardboard of the album is in such a critical state that even turning the pages has become dangerous. This led to the discussion of how to save the album which is an exceptional example of the combination of large albumen-prints and amateur photos in the same impressive folio.

Apart from conditions with the right degree of humidity, one should also avoid too much daylight. 70 Lux is ideal while the upper limit is at 125 Lux. Nowadays, even in scientific institutions, one still encounters framed photographs of the nineteenth century unprotected from the sunlight.

Positive examples of conservation or valorization of photographic archives should of course also be mentioned. By editing microfiches, the IDC office at Leiden has opened several of its photographic archives to the public. One is the edition of 500 positives made from 500 anonymous glass plates dated at the turn of the century and kept in the Allard Pierson Museum in Amsterdam. A second series concerns mostly photography of the twentieth century, the archive of Hans Wolfgang Müller (1907-91) recently gifted to the Heidelberg University. The Swiss IDC base has published a large collection of professional and amateur photographs which originate from private collections given to St Antony's College, Oxford. Thus a total of 20,000 historical photographs of the Middle East dating from the nineteenth century have become available on microfiche. Another initiative is the luxurious reprint of thirty

photographs of the Archives of the Chicago House at Luxor in three portfolios. A photo-CD exclusively dedicated to photographs of ancient Egypt has not yet been published as far as we know.

Mentioning unknown archives in periodicals can be of great help. We can think of a short article on the photographic archive of Georges Nagel (1899-1956) that contains 600 glassplates recently given to the University of Geneva.⁷ The recent discovery of 25 archive boxes in the Bibliothèque nationale in Paris with salt and albumen prints made during a trip to Egypt in 1859-60 by the Frenchman A. Jarrot, is of central interest for those studying the period of the pioneers. This collection was discovered through co-operation between Dutch and French scholars investigating the Orientalist painter de Famars Testas, a travelling companion of Jarrot. Mattie Boom published the discovery in 1994 in the *Bulletin of the Rijksmuseum* at Amsterdam.⁸

If nineteenth-century positives kept in portfolios or assembled in albums appear regularly, as shown above, large glass negatives of the past century are, on the contrary, very rare. Smaller glass plates with positives (10 x 8.5cm), the direct precursors of modern 3.5cm slides, are still kept in many academic institutions.

Glass slides from the past century, many published by the French photographer Adrien Bonfils or the English Frank Mason Good, were published towards the end of the century by editors of glass slides for the *lanterna magica*. These editors mostly bought the views from professionals who had sometimes taken them a decade or more earlier. This material should not be neglected, even if the views remain anonymous as the photographers often sold their copyright. If the original large albumen prints, which were the origin of these slides, can be traced this is of a great help since these originals bear, mostly printed in the image, the signature of the photographer together with a legend about the view. On the anonymous slides kept in Belgian collections we mostly found glued labels bearing the editor's name *Lévy & Fils* or *Mazo*, both from Paris.

Various authorities in the French capital are nowadays in charge of different important collections of nineteenth-century photographs of Egypt. One private collector, the press agency Roger Viollet, also opens its important collection on request. A search done by the French Egyptologist Traunecker on early visual material of the temple of Chonsou at Karnak revealed that the photographic prints showed scenery, plans, reliefs, engravings and even nineteenth-century paintings of

this site. This press agency also holds an important series of stereo-photographs.

To encourage the revaluation of photographic material we point out that old photographic archives are often linked to other interesting material. We have already mentioned the case of the album of Boeke-Cadbury in Amsterdam linked to a collection of antiquities. Another example is the discovery of several small pharaonic statues linked to the trip of the Belgian painter J.-B. Van Moer. These objects, together with his travel notes and aquarels, have recently come to light. Other items of the painter, a series of photographs by Beato and Désiré and some oil-paintings on Egypt are in private ownership.

In 1994, while investigating the Egyptological activities of William Fox Talbot (1800–77), we made a noteworthy discovery at the English village of Lacock. In the family estate of the inventor of modern photography we found 11 Egyptian stelae and a casting mould for *ushabtis* given to him by the Egyptologist Karl Richard Lepsius (1810–1884) probably as a payment for lessons in photography. The Prussian scholar took this training in 1842 with the prospect of a journey to Egypt a year later. It became the well-known expedition which resulted in the folio-edition entitled 'Denkmäler aus Ägypten und Ethiopien'. By bad luck the photographic views of the expedition did not work out. Our publication of one of Talbot's eleven stelae has been published in the *Göttinger Miszellen*⁹ in collaboration with our late friend and eminent scholar Professor Jan Quaegebeur (Leuven University).

There are two categories of photographs which are of central importance to the Egyptologist, namely the photographs of excavations and those of castings. Written or drawn data on the excavations of the nineteenth century are so rare that the photographs are often the only source we have at our disposal. For example, we recall a request by the Université de Lille/Charles de Gaulle¹⁰ to search for photographs of the tomb of Sennedjem at Deir el-Medina, made during the excavations by the Frenchman Maspero. These photographs should complete a study on non-violated tombs. Apparently the Dutchman Insinger and the Spaniard Toda were both involved in this work.

Nineteenth-century castings from the museum of Būlāq—the precursor of the present Egyptian Museum of Cairo—have disappeared and are only known to us by photographs which were sometimes reproduced in popular travel accounts of the last century. Thus they played an important role in the popularisation of this young science and also inspired visual artists in their Orientalist scenes. An image of the goddess Isis from behind the temple

of Denderah became known as a 'portrait of Cleopatra' through a falsely-added cartouche. The portrait made its way into different Orientalist paintings of the ill-fated Cleopatra and the cartouche eventually arrived at a workshop of an antique dealer where it was carved some decades ago into the shoulder of a Hellenistic statue kept nowadays in the Metropolitan Museum.¹¹

To those who are interested we suggest they consult the exhibition catalogue *Palmen and Tempels* (Leuven, 1994)¹² or glance at the booklet published the same year by the *Times* journalist Barry Iverson.¹³ The exhibition catalogue comments on and illustrates every important site along the Nile as viewed by the nineteenth-century traveller, i.e., before the monuments were excavated or displaced. Barry Iverson entitled his publication *Comparative Views of Egypt: Cairo one hundred years later*. The photographer juxtaposes old and contemporary views of the most famous monuments of the 'city of pleasure', as Cairo was called during the last century. Several sets betray the monstrous extension of the city to the megapolis of today. Complete districts and monuments have disappeared. Other sites, especially those featuring Islamic buildings, prove to have been restored with great care by the authorities. One concludes that such valuable comparisons argue not only for the conservation of the Egyptian architectural patrimony, but also for a revaluation of all photographic documentation on the land of the Nile.

Notes

1. M.-C. Bruwier, *L'Égypte dans la bibliothèque de Raoul Warocqué* (Mariemont, 1992) and *Égypte et regards occidentaux* (Mariemont, 1995).
2. J. Swinnen, *De paradox van de fotografie* (s.l., 1992).
3. We thank especially A.M. Donadoni, M. Raaven, Cl. Traunecker, and W. van Haarlem.
4. The Egypt Prints Archive is located at Blokkensraat 301 3060, Bertem, Belgium.
5. K. Stewart Howe, *Excursions along the Nile* (Santa Barbara, 1993).
6. See G. Mayer, *Académie Royale de Bruxelles 275 ans d'enseignement* (Brussels, 1987).
7. *Göttinger Miszellen* 145, 15–18.
8. M. Boom, 'Tekenen met licht. de fotograaf A. Jarrot en beeldend kunstenaar Willme de Famars Testas in Egypte, 1858–1860', in *Bulletin van het Rijksmuseum* 42: 3 (1994), 185–201.
9. J. Quaegebeur and A. Rammant-Peeters, 'Un relief memphite d'époque ptolémaïque de l'héritage de William Fox Talbot', *Göttinger Miszellen*.

10. A Ph.D Dissertation on the subject is being prepared by J-L. Podvin.
11. Metropolitan Museum, accession number 89.2.660. See also A. Rammant-Peeters, 'L'Affaire Cléopâtre' in the volume to be published in memory of Professor J. Quaegebeur by the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven.
12. Ed. Peeters, *Palmen and Tempels* (Leuven, 1994).
13. Barry Iverson, *Comparative Views of Egypt: Cairo one hundred years later* (Cairo: Éditions Zeitouna, 1994).

**Focus on the Orient—
ART KIOSK
—Focus on the Future**

5.12.96 to 26.1.97

**IMAU DECODED WRITING
 ENCODED WRITING ALGARDI**

The old facsimile and its digital print unveil the thoughts appearing on the Egyptian Sarcophagus—
Imau's message decoded

The painter's thoughts are seized in writings which he confides to the canvas—
Alessandro Algardi's message encoded

This exhibition in December and January will show the plates of the nineteenth-century facsimile edition of the sarcophagus of Amai (British Museum) before the restoration of the copy. A limited edition pixelprint of one of the plates will be available. In parallel are shown the monochrome writings on canvas of an Italian painter Alessandro Algardi. The link between the two parts of this diptych is expressed in the title of the exhibition.

Av. J. Volderslaan 9 B-1060 Brussels
Opening hours:
Fri-Sat 10-18H30; Sun 10-13H and by appointment
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WEBPAGE HTTP://194.7.230.219/

L'Antiquariat d'Art Kiosk

En 1988 lors de la parution d'un ouvrage sur la photographie de l'Orient,¹ je découvris subitement une affinité entre mon domaine de travail en l'égyptologie et la culture visuelle contemporaine. L'auteur de cet ouvrage Nissan Perez, conservateur au Musée de Jérusalem, étant de passage dans notre pays pour la réalisation d'une exposition de photos (Cult. Centr. Hasselt jusqu'au 22 octobre), j'ai pu lui présenter deux expositions réalisées avec des partenaires: *Palmen en Tempels* (Leuven ABB-Galerij et à présent itinérante) et *In de Schaduw van de pyramiden* (Museum voor Fotografie Antwerpen jusqu'au 19 décembre).² Une grande partie des pièces provient de l'*Egypt Prints Archive*. Cette archive est le résultat d'une double fascination: premièrement pour l'Égypte, berceau de notre culture occidentale, en second lieu pour la photographie, nourricière de notre culture visuelle actuelle. Du point de vue matériel, cette archive est le résultat d'une recherche passionnée à travers l'Europe et quelques fois même au-delà de ses limites. Le résultat de ce scrutage me procura une telle satisfaction que l'idée vint d'un lieu accessible à tous où des photographies du XIX^e siècle seraient exposées en permanence. En transformant le sous-sol d'un immeuble ancien et en le prévoyant d'un éclairage et d'une aréation adaptée, un rêve devint réalité. Le lieu pris l'apparence d'un studio d'une époque révolue.

En mémoire de l'intérêt des pionniers photographes et grâce à des techniques modernes ces photos anciennes sont inventarisées sur ordinateur et stockées sur papier sensible. La photogravure De Schutter s'est proposée généreusement pour soutenir cet aspect de la recherche sur la photographie ancienne. Après cet inventarisation, les pièces partent dans des collections privées ou dans des institutions officielles. L'Égypte occupe une place privilégiée dans le projet. Il se fait notamment que les impressions photographiques du XIX^e siècle tant des pionniers que des photographes dits 'commerciaux' contiennent une foule de renseignements sur l'état des monuments avant les fouilles ou leur éventuel déplacement.

Pour ce qui concerne notre connaissance de l'ethnographie, les photos du XIX^e contiennent des données innombrables sur les coutumes de la population, les coloniaux et les voyageurs. Maîtres en la matière—également dans le sens pure puisque la caméra d'amateur n'existait pas—ces premières générations de photographes nous ont laissé dans



des images très précises leur vues de lieux éloignés. En contemplant ces prises de vue du XIX^e siècle, on n'échappe pas à l'idée que des données telles le temps et l'espace étaient chargées d'une valeur plus métaphysique que les illusions tridimensionnelles inventées par notre technologie moderne. Les photographes d'alors se balançaient avec aisance sur la corde élastique tendue entre l'environnement attrayant et le fondement technique indispensable.

Le plus grand défi de l'antiquariat. Par son programme 'Focus on the Orient' la galerie ne pouvait se contenter uniquement du public de notre capitale aussi varié soit-il. Etant donné le thème des voyages lointains, elle diffuse ses livres à une échelle internationale par WWW.

DR AGNES RAMMANT-PEETERS

Notes

1. N. Perez, *Focus East* (Jérusalem, 1988).
2. Les photos du XIX^e siècle reprises dans le catalogue d'exposition *Egypte Omomwonden* (Vleeshuis, Antwerpen 13.10.95 jusqu'au 14.01.96) sont issues de l'Egypt Prints Archive.

Editor's note: If you look at the World Wide Web page of Art Kiosk you will find a list of antiquarian photographs, prints and books on travel to the Orient which is updated every three months. The Art Kiosk also includes the classic remains of Rome and Greece as part of the Grand Tour d'Orient, as well as Egypt, the Near, Middle and Far East.



Archives of the Dutch National Museum (RMO) in Leiden

The archives of the RMO contain material of the Dutch artist Willem de Famar Testas (1834–96), who specialized in Oriental themes, and who visited Egypt twice. On the first occasion he accompanied Prisse d'Avennes (of whom he was a distant relative) on his expedition (1858–60) and contributed to Prisse's *L'Histoire de l'art égyptien* and *L'Art arabe*.

The second journey De Famars Testas undertook in 1868 together with *inter alia*, the well-known French artist Jean-Léon Gérôme (1824–1904).

The material in the RMO archives consists of two diaries, letters and drawings. The diaries which De Famars Testas kept during his two journeys were published (in Dutch), in combination with some of his letters, in 1988 and 1992 respectively, by Dr M. Raven of the RMO: *Willem de Famars Testas Reis—schetsen uit Egypte 1858–1860* (Maarsse'n's-Gravenhage, 1988); *Willem de Famars Testas. de schilderskaravaan* (Leiden/Leuven, 1992).

HENDRI SCHUT



New Account

We have now arranged a separate account for the Newsletter and the 1997 Conference. In future please make out any cheques or other payments to the **TRAVELLERS IN EGYPT FUND** Account. We are aware of the difficulties that many potential subscribers have in sending £5 from France and other overseas locations. We hope that once the Society is placed on a proper structured footing more can be done to accommodate this problem. Meanwhile, we ask you to be patient and await the outcome of discussions in July 1997.



Travellers in Egypt

The papers from the Conference which was held in Durham in 1995 are to be published by I.B. Tauris in Summer 1997. It promises to be a most interesting volume. The final copy is due to be submitted to the publishers at the end of January by the editors, Janet and Paul Starkey. We would like to thank all those who have contributed, especially those who had the hard task of cutting their papers in order to fit the space limitations of the book. Details of the price and actual date of publication will be included in the next *Notes and Queries* as well as prepublication literature from I.B. Tauris, London.

