

Report on the
Tenth Season of the Joint Swiss-Egyptian Mission
in Syene / Old Aswan (2009/2010)

by

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The tenth season of the joint archaeological project of the Swiss Institute of Architectural and Archaeological Research Cairo and the Supreme Council of Antiquities Aswan (SCA) in Syene/Old Aswan took place between October 16th, 2009 and April 3rd, 2010¹.

During the first half of the season the fieldwork focused on the investigation of the construction pit in Area 2 where a magazine and a study centre for the mission is to be built². The chosen area for the building is in the southernmost part

¹ We are grateful to the Supreme Council of Antiquities and the members of the Permanent Committee, and in particular to the General Secretary, ZAHY HAWASS, for granting permission to undertake the Joint Mission in Aswan. We appreciate very much the fruitful cooperation with our colleagues of the Aswan Inspectorate in this joint mission. The mission was directed by CORNELIUS VON PILGRIM and MOHAMED EL-BIALY. The fieldwork was directed by WOLFGANG MÜLLER. Team members were the Egyptologists, I. FORSTNER-MÜLLER, M. MAREE, N. MATH, V. MICHEL and L. WERLEN, archaeologists M. FINK, S. FÜNFSCHILLING, M. HEPÄ, R. HUBER, D. KELLER, S. LADSTÄTTER, S. MARTIN-KILCHER, P. MOSER, G. PARRER, L. REMBART, S. RUBIN, R. SCHACHNER and H. SCHWEIGER, numismatist H.-C. NOESKE, photographer A. KRAUSE, geomorphologist M. DE DAPPER, palaeobotanist U. THANHEISER, anthropologists J. NOVACEK, K. SCHEELEN and M. SCHULTZ and conservator E. PEINTNER. The assigned inspectors were MAHMOUD ABDELLAH, USAMA AMER MOHAMED ABDEL BASET and MOHAMED NEGM. In June 2009 work was supervised by ADEL KELANY. We are much indebted to Michael Jones for correcting the English of this report.

² For previous work of the mission see C. VON PILGRIM et al., 'The Town of Syene. Preliminary Report on the 1st and 2nd Season in Aswan' in: *MDAIK* 60 (2004), 119-148 (quoted hereafter as *1st and 2nd Season*). C. VON PILGRIM et al., 'The Town of Syene. Report on the 3rd and 4th Season in: Aswan' in *MDAIK* 62 (2006), 215-277 (quoted hereafter as *3rd and 4th Season*) and C. VON PILGRIM et al., 'The Town of Syene. Report on the 5th and 6th Season in Aswan' in: *MDAIK* 64 (2008 in press) (quoted hereafter as *5th and 6th*

of Area 2, outside of the well-preserved town-wall. After the removal of another 3000 m³ of recently dumped debris³, waste archaeological traces of prehistoric and Pharaonic occupation were encountered at the southernmost edge of the site continuing beneath the aligning street. It is deplorable that the neighbouring area further south was occupied by a leisure park several years ago with no prior archaeological investigation.

In the second half of the season, rescue excavations were conducted in three major areas (Area 58, Area 60 and Area 61). The most remarkable remains are of a house of the 13th dynasty discovered underneath a multiphase Roman cemetery with simple pit burials, and a Medieval street of rural character (see ch.4). In association with almost contemporary structures in a previously excavated area nearby, it supports the proposition of an extensive occupation of the eastbank of Aswan in the late Middle Kingdom.

Investigations in two areas to the east of the temple of Domitian (Area 3) revealed further data regarding the extent of a large granite hill in the town. Both areas are in close vicinity to three other sites investigated in earlier seasons. Beside some remains of terraced buildings at the western slope of the hill, the most significant discovery was a cluster of ten rock inscriptions, all dating to the 13th dynasty. Together with other inscriptions from local soldiers of the same date recorded in earlier seasons in areas close by, they seem to indicate a strong presence of military forces in the town and underline the significance of this prominent and widely visible granite hill.

The systematic survey of all current construction sites that come to the attention of the SCA was also continued during summer 2009. Four smaller construction pits were investigated by means of limited sondages (Areas 53 - 56). All of them were located north of the Graeco-Roman town and revealed valuable information for the reconstruction of the ancient topography as well as about the extent of the Roman and medieval cemeteries and their subsequent occupation.

Besides the current field work, the restoration and documentation of small finds, coins and lithics was continued as well as palaeobotanical and anthropological studies. The pottery studies concentrated on Ptolemaic and Roman pottery found in previous seasons in Areas 13 and 15 as well as on the Middle Kingdom pottery from Areas 45 and 58⁴.

In the temple of Isis the increasing population of pigeons made some urgent protection measures necessary. Accordingly, a pigeon repellent system was installed consisting of narrow strips of steel with repellent spikes mounted on all narrow protrusions in order to prevent pigeons from roosting on accessible ledges.

1) The development of a central archaeological zone for Aswan (Area 2)

Season), C. VON PILGRIM et al., "The Town of Syene. Report on the 7th Season in Aswan, in: *MDAIK* 66 (2010 in press) (quoted hereafter as 7th *Season*).

³ We are very much indebted to Samih Sawiris who most generously supports all efforts of the mission to develop the two registered Areas 1 and 2 in order to undertake a proper site management of these extremely important historical zones in Aswan.

⁴ The pre-Roman pottery is studied by SABINE LADSTÄTTER. and LAURA REMBART, the Middle Kingdom pottery is studied by IRENE FORSTNER-MÜLLER.

A central objective of the work in seasons 8 and 9 was initially to clean the site and reinstate it as a proper antiquities area (Fig. 2). The cleaning operation was resumed in the tenth season after an interruption of more than a year.⁵ Heavy building equipment, consisting of a loader, excavator and trucks was necessary to remove the huge amount of waste that had been deposited, mostly by the city council, since 2004.

The dire condition of Area 2 at the end of season 8 was reason enough to re-evaluate the situation. The directorate of the mission decided to assemble a master plan for cleaning, excavating and finally presenting the area to the public. The immediate first step was to build a long-needed magazine for study objects, especially pottery (currently stored in the Temple of Isis) originating from the mission's excavations in Aswan. The next step will be the closing and removing of the Sharia Gabbana Fatimiya currently separating Areas 1 and 2, thus joining both areas and creating a central archaeological zone within modern Aswan.

Excavation of the foundation pit for the magazine

The magazine will be constructed at the southern limit of Area 2. The excavation of the foundation trench is approximately 65m long and has a maximum width of 17m. No archaeological remains of any kind were found within the trench itself and the bedrock was exposed at its bottom. At the eastern end of the pit excavation was restricted by several large granite boulders (Fig. 3).

When the southern section was cleaned mud-brick structures became visible. In order to investigate these findings the section was set back 1.5m. Immediately beneath the modern waste, quarry debris and other material dating to the New Kingdom were found. A cellar or granary consisting of a narrow mud-brick wall was dated to Dynasty 18. This structure cut into earlier layers covering the north-eastern corner of a building dating to Dynasty 4 (Fig. 4). This building was surrounded by extensive layers of quarry debris. Fireplaces and working areas were scattered all over the area, often protected by huge boulders of granite (Fig. 5). The building seems to be connected to the beginnings of the Pharaonic quarry industry that was still focussed on granite-boulders like those still *in situ* at the eastern limit of the trench.

Beneath the building, the quarry debris and even the large boulders of granite, substantial layers of wind-blown sand had accumulated on top of a weakly defined surface with fireplaces and post-holes. Pottery found in layers immediately beneath the building predated quarry activity in Aswan as both the boulders and an extensive layer of quarry debris covered it. Nagada Ia/b ceramics were collected from this surface.⁶ The earliest human activity in Aswan detected up to now was short term squatter habitation along the shore of an old river branch just to the east.⁷

⁵ The cleaning of the site started on November 24th 2009, archaeological work continued until April 3rd 2010

⁶ We are indebted to D. RAUE and M. GATTO for giving a first assessment.

⁷ The branch was detected by the geomorphological survey conducted by the mission in cooperation with M. DE DAPPER. Cf. A. KELANY ET ALII, 'Canal Extension Confirmed by Geophysical Survey, Aswan Obelisk Quarry', in: *Proceedings of the Second*

In the western sector of the section a grave was found just below the modern waste (Fig. 6). It was constructed of fired bricks that covered the body in a gable-like construction and contained no datable material. The interred was lying in a supine position with the head to the west. The lower part of the body was missing. Orientation and construction of the grave hint at a Late Roman date.

Investigation of the city wall

The south-eastern corner of the city wall of Syene constitutes the most remarkable feature of Area 2. The southern and the eastern sectors of the wall meet on top of a massive granite outcrop. HORST JARITZ has proposed that a massive tower marked this crucial part of the city's defences.⁸ The eastern sector of the wall is best preserved to the east of the Temple of Isis in Area 1 where trenches dug by JARITZ proved that the city wall dates to the Late Period.⁹ This earliest part of the city wall is the core of the wall in Area 2. The wall was repaired in Late Roman times when a casing and several towers were added to the construction. While the eastern sector had been severely damaged since its prior investigation, the southern part was much better preserved.

The bastion at the south-eastern corner of the city wall

Only the south-western corner of the corner-tower and a part of the foundation of its southern face are still visible (Fig. 7). The city wall itself is no longer extant in this region, probably due to the fact that here the granite rises to a considerable level. The western wall of the tower was attached to the vertical southern face of the bedrock. As the casing was aligned to this face, it is conceivable that the bedrock constituted the stone-base of the city wall in this area. A massive granite-boulder left standing when the bastion was constructed, together with traces of lime mortar on the southern face of the granite-massif, are indications that the room, enclosed by the walls and the granite and hence showing an irregular ground-plan, was filled with granite-rubble as a levelling-course for the ground floor. Most parts of the walls making up the ground plan of the southern part of the bastion are preserved to the level of the first course of sandstone blocks. Only the eastern end of the southern wall is in better condition with two courses of blocks still standing. The reused sandstone blocks rest on top of a foundation consisting of broken granite and granite chips. The sandstone blocks were joined to each other and to the foundation and the bedrock by means of hard lime-mortar and dovetail clamps. The visible bedding joints do not correspond between blocks and thus belong to the primary use of the stones which were apparently reused here from an earlier structure. The blocks differ in size and show partly smoothed bosses on their outer faces.

International Conference on the Geology of the Tethys (Cairo 2007), p. 35-56 for the results of a GPR survey in the Birket Damas area to the east of Area 2.

⁸ H. JARITZ/M. RODZIEWICZ, 'Syene – Review of the Urban Remains and its Pottery', in: *MDAIK* 50 (1996), 116-117, fig. 1.

⁹ *Ibid.*, 237-238. For the wall found in Area 15 cf. W. MÜLLER, in *5th and 6th season*, 328.

An investigation of the casing of the southern sector of the city wall

A trench dug along the southern sector of the city wall under the supervision of H. JARITZ from 1987-1991 was cleaned of waste and re-excavated. In it the southern face of the city wall was again exposed and documented. The core of the wall consists of granite rubble with well set and crudely finished stones on the outer faces. While the casing of the eastern sector of the wall is made of broken granite and occasional reused blocks and is nowadays more or less destroyed, the casing of the southern sector was constructed more carefully. A casing of one row of reused sandstone blocks was attached to the Late Period wall in the 5th – 6th century AD. The date is derived from a crudely done inscription found in the Temple of Isis.¹⁰ The blocks used for the construction of the casing originate from a Roman temple dating to the reign of Tiberius. The reused blocks were set very carefully and joined with wooden dovetail clamps that are partly still *in situ* (Fig. 8). The construction rests on a foundation of fine granite chips. At the western end of the city wall the casing is still preserved to its original height. Twelve courses of blocks are still crowned by the last remains of the mud-brick wall that made up the upper portion of the fortification, just like its Late Period predecessor (Fig. 9). As the banking of the earlier wall is significantly more pronounced than is the case with the casing that stands more or less vertical, the gap between casing and wall had to be filled in with granite rubble, probably originating from the core of the wall (Fig. 10).

The construction of the casing changes in the eastern part of the southern sector at a distance of approximately 18m from the western limit of the site where a mud-brick wall was set against the Late Period wall prior to its encasement. This resulted in a protrusion of the casing. As the protrusion is not pronounced enough suggestion a fortification,, it must be a constructional detail that became necessary when the wall was adapted to the granite platform and the corner tower.

Foundation of an Islamic building

The foundation of the rectangular structure to the immediate west of the western wall of the corner-bastion rests on substantial layers of Late Roman pottery and this lies over the remains of the casing (Fig. 11). It was erected at a time when parts of the casing had already been removed and the city wall as such had ceased to be part of the town's defences. Hence the "tower" most probably constitutes the foundation and lowest course of the mud-brick wall of a domestic structure dating to the Islamic period, just like houses built on top of the wall further to the west. As is clearly depicted on the map of the Napoleonic expedition, the southern sector of the ancient city wall had become redundant in medieval times when a new city wall was constructed that extended the eastern sector of the wall.¹¹ The former

¹⁰ M.G. LEFEBVRE, 'Petits Monuments Du Musée du Caire', in: *ASAE* 28, 1928, pp. 34-36.

¹¹ *Description* I, pl. 31. C. v. PILGRIM, in: *1st and 2nd season*, pp. 120-121, p. 126 fig. 1.

fortifications were only preserved in those parts that were level with the vast amount of settlement debris, mostly pottery, outside and the collapse of earlier buildings inside the town. No traces of the mediaeval wall were found in Area 2. The Italian mission working in the Temple of Isis 1970-1972 saw impressive parts of the wall still standing in the approximate area of the current investigation.¹²

Regrettably the casing has been excessively robbed since its first excavation. Some of the blocks that were removed could still be saved from the waste. Blocks remaining *in situ* were severely damaged by successive phases of burning of the waste dump.

2) Areas 53 – 56: Excavations during the summer of 2009

Area 53 was a short-term investigation of a modern foundation-pit next to the eastern entrance into the *souq*.¹³ Only modern building-debris and river-sediment was found. The area was situated far to the east, outside the settled area within a branch of the river. Area 54, was situated in the northern part of the Islamic town.¹⁴ The small trench was disturbed by a large robber-pit and therefore produced limited results. In contrast to Area 31 just to the west,¹⁵ no burials or traces of such were detected. The Medieval Islamic cemetery therefore did not reach so far to the west. Area 55, a small site, situated at Sharia Shaikh Saleh just to the south of Sharia Salah Ed-Din produced extensive Islamic layers on top of Byzantine tombs.¹⁶ Area 56 (Fig. 12), situated at Sharia El Shaikh Saleh El-Komi, in the Shaikh Saleh district of the town, close to Areas 21, 33, 35, and 58, lies in the centre of the medieval town.¹⁷ Accordingly a rich stratigraphy of the medieval period was excavated. No tombs were found in this area.

3) Area 57: Inspection of illegal digging in the neighbourhood of the *Germania*

In agreement with the Aswan Antiquities Police and the concerned house owner, the mission was allowed to investigate an illicit digging in an abandoned private house at the eastern street corner opposite the entrance to the Germania Hospital.¹⁸

¹² E. BRESCIANI/S. PERNIGOTTI, *Assuan. Il tempio tolemaico di Isi*, BIBLIOTECA DI STUDI ANTICHI 16 (Pisa 1978), p. 15, pl. 1.

¹³ The site was excavated by the Egyptian members of the mission under the supervision of Adel Kelany, working from May 7th until May 10th 2009.

¹⁴ The site was excavated from June 6th until July 16th 2009 by the Egyptian members of the mission (OSAMA AMER MOHI ED-DIN, MAHMUD ABDALLAH ABDALLAH and MOHAMED ABD EL-BASET).

¹⁵ W. MÜLLER, 'Area 31', in: *7th season*.

¹⁶ The site was excavated from July 2nd until August 20th 2009 by the Egyptian members of the mission (OSAMA AMER MOHI ED-DIN, MAHMUD ABDALLAH ABDALLAH, MOHAMED ABDEL-BASSET and ADEL KAMEL EL-TUHAMI).

¹⁷ The site was excavated from September 2nd until October 18th 2009 by the Egyptian members of the mission (MOHAMED ABD EL-BASSET, ADEL KAMEL EL-TUHAMI, ADEL KELANY and MOHAMED AHMED NEGM).

¹⁸ The investigation was finished in one day by C. V. PILGRIM on November 8th 2009.

A brief examination disclosed that a shaft about 4.30m deep had been dug in the house. At the sloping bottom of the shaft a tunnel about 5.0 m in length continued in a northerly direction before it turned to the east and continued for about a further 6 meters.

In the northern section of the shaft it became evident that the shaft had cut through a layer of debris about 1.70 m thick. The layer slopes to the west and consists of burnt bricks mixed with rubble and broken stones, pottery sherds and some animal bones. In the upper part of the layer of debris two column capitals and a column base were visible at the edge of the shaft. Pottery sherds in the layer of debris indicate a date of dumping in the early Islamic era. The tunnel beneath this layer was dug in sandy-loamy soil similar to river sediments. The extremely dangerous situation, however, stopped any further soil analysis. Therefore, the theory that this indicates a watercourse is of particular significance for the topography of the town but must await additional evidence.

The following architectural elements were retrieved from the debris: A crudely made palm-leaf capital with traces of thick white plaster (Fig. 13),¹⁹ a very provincial variant of the Corinthian capital again with traces of plaster (Fig. 14) and a very plain column-base (Fig. 15).²⁰ All the building components were made of local sandstone and can be dated to the 6th century AD or later.

4) Area 58: Mamluk city quarter, Late Roman tombs and parts of a house of Dynasty 13

The small area in 48 Sharia Baimi Said in the Shaikh Saleh district measured only 50 m² (Fig. 16-17).²¹ The Archaeological remains were covered by 2.0 m of modern building debris and disturbed by two deep sanitary pits.

Pharaonic remains

As in Area 45, situated 50 m to the southwest of the site, the earliest material was pottery dating to the Old Kingdom from a layer of quarry debris immediately on top of the bedrock.²² On top of a massive layer of windblown sand that had accumulated over a long time on top of the granite an east-west mud brick wall was found. It had collapsed towards the north on top of a compact mud-floor. The collapse covered and sealed a collection of pottery from the time of the abandonment of the house. This pottery was dated to Dynasty 13 (Fig. 18).²³ The collapse in the room to the south of the wall consisted to a lesser degree of mud-bricks but contained remains of wooden beams, mostly unworked

¹⁹ P. PENSABENE, *Elementi Architettonici di Alessandria e di altri siti Egiziani, REPERTORIO D'ARTE DELL' EGITTO GRECO-ROMANO SERIE C III* (Rome 1993), p. 461. The capital conforms to type 11 of the "Palm-Leaf Capital with Smooth Leaves".

²⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 485. cat. nos 765-768. Column bases of type 19 "Simplificato a zoccolo". Cat. nos 765-766 are from the Aswan region.

²¹ Work in Area 58 started on January 21st and ended on March 17th 2010. The site is situated. The excavation was supervised by P. MOSER, M. HEPA and W. MÜLLER.

²² W. MÜLLER, 'Area 45', in: C. v. PILGRIM/W. MÜLLER, 'Report on the Ninth Season of the Joint Swiss-Egyptian Mission in Syene/Old Aswan', *ASAE*, forthcoming.

²³ I. FORSTNER-MÜLLER who is working on the Middle Kingdom material from Aswan made a preliminary assessment of the assemblage.

branches of trees, evidently components of a weak roof-construction. The only preserved original installation in this room was a stone-emplacement in the south-eastern corner of the site. Two sand-stone blocks were placed at a right angle to each other. One of the blocks, a reused door-lintel was completely coated in red pigment (probably haematite). Taking into account the findings in Area 45, where a part of a house from Dynasty 12 that was in use well into Dynasty 13, was excavated, a chronological development of the Middle Kingdom settlement of Aswan seems to emerge. While the settlement was still limited to a narrow strip along the bank of the Nile, it spread further to the east in Dynasty 13. All the evidence from the northern part of Aswan seems to indicate that the settlement was abandoned before Dynasty 18 when the town moved to the south.

A massive layer of sandy deposits with some settlement debris accumulated on top of the ruins of the house with material dating from Dynasty 18 until the Late Period. The complete skeleton of a goat was found within the upper layers of the debris.

A wall running east-west just to the south of the northern section has yet to be dated properly but clearly predates the beginning of the Roman cemetery tradition. The wall was severely damaged by several burial pits and did not give any hints concerning the building to which it once belonged.

The Roman cemetery

As was the case in nearby Area 45 and especially in Area 21,²⁴ just across the road to the south, a part of the Roman cemetery of Syene was encountered in Area 58.

Among the earliest tombs was a most remarkable structure: a tomb with a *dromos* leading down towards a supposed burial chamber, which must remain hypothetical for the time being as it was outside the excavated area. However, a similar tomb was found in Area 40 and allows a tentative reconstruction (Fig. 19).²⁵ The beginning of the staircase with three steps and a small Early Roman bowl deposited on top of the uppermost step were the only elements accessible for investigation. The staircase was only 0.6 m wide. The steps and side-walls were made of mud-bricks. The fact that the *dromos* was disturbed by later burials and the deposition of the bowl both provide evidence, that the level of the surface contemporary with the tomb was the same as the preserved top of the staircase.

The discovery of this type of tomb in Area 58, near the eastern limit of the cemetery, invites a re-evaluation of the interpretation proposed when the tomb in Area 40 was still unique in Aswan. As the location of this tomb at the shore of the river Nile is no longer as significant as it once was, it seems conceivable that the chamber tomb for multiple burials with *dromos*, vaulted burial chamber and a representative superstructure is simply typical of the Early Roman Imperial period. The fact that this type of tomb is so rare is probably due to the general scarcity of Early Roman tombs within the part of cemetery excavated to date.

²⁴ C. V. PILGRIM, in: *5th and 6th season*, p. 340.

²⁵ W. MÜLLER, 'Area 40', in: C. V. PILGRIM/W. MÜLLER, *Report on the Eighth Season, ASAE*, forthcoming.

All later burials (27 graves with skeletons were excavated) were simple pit-burials, resembling the second phase of burials in Area 45. The bodies were interred in a supine position and, with the exception of one child burial, oriented east-west with the head to the east. While the bodies had barely any grave-goods with them, only some pottery and occasional bead-necklaces or bracelets, they still showed occasional evidence of textiles. At least the lower parts of most bodies were wrapped in shrouds (Fig. 20). Only the imprints of the fibres in the mud were preserved. Even a cursory glance at the population represented in the excavated sample shows that, as was the case with the contemporaneous graves in Area 45, most burials contained young children.²⁶

The most remarkable feature of the part of the cemetery represented in Area 58 is the complete lack of Late Roman chamber-tombs with multiple burials. The small scale investigation in Area 21 showed a similar situation as in Areas 24 and 45: A very large number of bodies were put into small burial chambers with simple vaulted roofs and rectangular superstructures. The Byzantine cemetery did not extend as far to the north as Area 58 and thinned out towards the east. The predominant burial custom in Area 58 was the simple pit-burial. These graves, probably dating to the later 4th century AD,²⁷ spread over a wide area and had a long tradition as three to four major phases and several sub phases of burials were found. The fact that Area 56 was already situated outside the cemetery is crucial evidence for the limits of the Roman cemeteries of Syene in this part of modern Aswan.

The Islamic town quarter

The earliest Islamic structures were situated in the northernmost part of the site. Two mud-brick walls meeting in a corner in the north-eastern part of the site cut into the remains of an earlier east-west wall. Both phases were severely disturbed by subsequent activities. In the first well preserved Islamic phase a curved massive mud-brick wall was constructed, that ran in an approximate east-westerly direction. The wall was two and a half bricks wide and rested on a foundation of granite rubble. The inside of the building was situated to the north, a street or square lay to the south of the wall. After some time, another building was erected further to the south, thus creating a narrow street between the houses. The northern wall of the southern building was also curved and was only half a brick wide. It had a pronounced corner at its western end with an entrance. The threshold of the door consisted of sandstone slabs and fired bricks, the doorjambes were strengthened by means of fired bricks and broken sandstones. The area enclosed by the wall was filled with settlement debris and burned material. Neither the northern nor the southern building showed any signs of an

²⁶ The anthropological material is studied by M. SCHULZ and J. NOVACEK.

²⁷ A coin from one of the graves in Area 45 was dated by H. C. NOESKE to the end of the reign of Constantius II in the second half of the 4th century AD.

inner division (Fig. 21). A small protrusion at the inside of the northern wall may have been part of a vault construction.

The ground plan, although sketchy, is very peculiar and differs significantly from the findings in Area 45 and 24, where an orthogonal street grid with small shop-like buildings had emerged. Just as today, Area 58 was situated to the east of the *souq* and the shops made room for buildings with other functions. Narrow curved walls with highly irregular masonry (best described as shaped mud with occasional broken mud-bricks and stones) are an aspect of the vernacular rural architectural repertoire until modern times. Often they enclose open areas used as pens or workshops. Similar structures were excavated in Area 49 at the northern limit of the Islamic town and in nearby Area 56. The fact that the Islamic building tradition started in the northern part of Area 58 and slowly spread towards the south is probably due to the presence of the Late Roman cemetery that was still situated to the south and has been attested in nearby Area 21. Even if there were no actual tombs that belonged to the latest phase of the cemetery found in Area 58, the fact that earlier Islamic building activity was limited to the northern part is evidence for the respect paid to the cemetery which was probably still in use. As Area 58 was very small, these and any further statements concerning the development of the town are of course conjectural for the time being.

5) Area 59: Investigation of the foundation pit for the central SCA magazine

Just to the east of the building of the Aswan Inspectorate of the SCA a new central antiquities magazine is currently under construction. The Swiss Institute investigated the excavated foundation pit together with M. DE DAPPER. The site is both outside the ancient and Islamic towns of Aswan but occupies part of the northern sector of the “Fatimid Cemetery” (Fig. 22). On satellite images some minor tombs are still visible in the approximate area of the modern *taftish*. The major objective of the Institute was to document the contour of the granite in this region. The bedrock was reached at the bottom of the pit. Huge layers of windblown sand had accumulated on top of the natural granite surface. Within these layers very little pottery was found. Among the sporadic sherds was one attributed to the “A-Group” and several Old Kingdom pieces in higher layers. Taking into account the results from Area 2, traces of Predynastic and Old Kingdom activities seem to be concentrated in the southern part of the town. In the southern part of the site traces of a Roman quarry were found. A coin dating to the end of the fourth century AD gives a *terminus post quem* for this activity.

Several burials were still recognizable in the sections of the pit. The earlier burials were put in deep pits, the interred oriented in the typical Islamic way north-south with the head in the south and the face turned towards the east. One burial that had been severely disturbed when the pit was excavated was investigated more closely. Bones and parts of other burials were scattered over the area.

Most burials were put in shallow pits, some of them covered with loose mud-bricks. They were oriented east-west with the head in the east and the face turned towards the north. At least five burials of this type were documented by the mission (Fig. 23). Due to the fact that these graves are very shallow, just 1.0 to 1.5 m beneath the surface before the construction of the *taftish*, and taking into account their orientation, they most probably belonged to the colonial Christian-Jewish cemetery that was still visible prior to the construction of the leisure park “Bakar Land” just to the south of Area 2 in 2004.²⁸

6) Area 60: Salvage excavation in the new pool of the Old Cataract Hotel

The Old and New Cataract hotels are currently undergoing a complete refurbishment. The construction activities are under close scrutiny by the Swiss-Egyptian Joint mission because the area is situated close to the Gebel Tagug with its extensive, but nowadays completely vanished Pharaonic necropoleis. Another important aspect is the numerous traces of ancient quarrying activity all over the hotel-precinct.

While several other construction sites within the area of the hotel produced no archaeological results, or were dug without proper archaeological supervision, the excavation of a new swimming-pool immediately north of the New Cataract Hotel was monitored by members of the mission from the beginning (Figs. 24-25).²⁹ The pool is of irregular shape and approximately 35m long. Its maximum width is 15m. Even before excavation, ancient quarry marks were visible on several of the granite massifs around the future pool. The granite outcrop that makes up Massif 1 towers above the north-western part of the area and constitutes the last remains of a much larger outcrop being reduced to its current state by extensive Roman quarrying. Massif 2 is situated in the northeast of the area and shows fewer traces of quarrying and has more or less kept its natural surface. It projects far beyond the limits of the hotel area into the river Nile.

Massif 3 is the smallest of the outcrops and only became visible after the covering layer of modern building debris and garden soil had been removed. It was extensively quarried in the Roman period.³⁰

Pharaonic quarrying

²⁸ On the cadastral map of the Survey of Egypt (1943) the Christian cemetery is marked to the south of Area 2 with the Greek and Jewish cemeteries to the south of it.

²⁹ The investigation lasted from February 1st until February 25th and was supervised by W. MÜLLER. After some initial difficulties, the work was generously supported by the construction company. The area was visited by R. KLEMM who kindly contributed to our understanding of quarrying activity at the site.

³⁰ Cf. R. KLEMM/D. D. KLEMM, *Steine und Steinbrüche im Alten Ägypten* (Berlin 1992), pp. 306-7. The area does not have its own label on the map. It is situated next to the north of Area V and to the west of Area IV. As to the local variety of the granite, the analysis given on Area V is applicable (*ibid.*, pp. 310-311). A. KELANY ET ALII, ‘Granite quarry survey in the Aswan region, Egypt: shedding new light on ancient quarrying’, in: N. ABU-JABER/E. G. BLOXAM/P. DEGRYSE/T. HELDAL (EDS.), *QuarryScapes: ancient stone quarry landscapes in the Eastern Mediterranean*, GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF NORWAY, SPECIAL PUBLICATION 12 (Oslo 2009), p. 90 fig. 3, p.91-92. Though KELANY does not mention the quarry, it is part of his ‘Northern Quarries’ and is situated to the west of his area ‘S-2’.

Few traces of Pharaonic quarrying were found in Area 60. There were no extraction pits or similar unambiguous evidence but several shallow pits and grooves in the eroded surface between the massifs were most probably remains of soundings, where pits and shafts were excavated into the sopolith in order to reach good, quarryable granite (Fig. 26). These pits contained fragments of dolerite pounders and pottery among granite chips and dust. A preliminary assessment of the material from these stratigraphical units shows that the area was quarried throughout the whole Pharaonic period. The earliest pottery dated to the Old Kingdom. The majority was of late Middle Kingdom, probably Dynasty 13 date. While in the Old and Middle Kingdoms mostly isolated boulders were quarried, the situation changed with the New Kingdom. Typical Pharaonic quarrying started with the excavation of deep soundings into the erosion layer of sopolithic granite in order to check the quality and availability of the granite. The stone tools of the Pharaonic period did not leave clear marks like the steel tools of the Roman and Ptolemaic periods and are therefore much harder to discern.³¹ The presence of tools and pottery from Pre-Ptolemaic times is ample proof for the early start of quarrying activity in the area.

The Roman quarry

Traces of the Roman quarry are omnipresent at the site. Long rows of the typical wedge-marks were found in 49 places. It is still not clear which tool left these typical rectangular marks with a trapezoidal cross section.³² Two parts of the working process are clearly discernible from these marks: At first a groove measuring 0.1-0.15m in width was hewn into the surface. This groove was only 0.01-0.005m deep and made by means of a steel-chisel. In one case work was interrupted after the first part of the process had been finished and the groove is clearly visible (Fig. 27). The actual wedges were chiselled from the bottom of the groove. A row of horizontal wedges on the northern face of Massif 1 shows the prepared wedge-holes and the groove mentioned above (Fig. 28). In RÖDER'S illustration of the different kinds of wedge marks this detail is missing.³³ The dimensions of the wedges vary significantly (0.16-0.08 x 0.07-0.05). The cross-section ranges from trapezoidal to nearly rectangular; the depth usually corresponds to the width of the mark. Often several kinds of wedges appear within the same row and where therefore applied contemporaneously.³⁴ The wedge-irons were applied both vertically and horizontally. There are marks for successfully extracted blocks (Fig. 29) and examples where the extraction did not succeed and the prepared wedge-holes are still

³¹ *Ibid.*, pp. 323-324. B. G. ASTON/J. A. HARRELL/I. SHAW, 'Stone', in: P. T. NICHOLSON/I. SHAW (EDS.), *Ancient Egyptian Materials and Technology* (Cambridge 2000), pp. 6-7. Cf. J. A. HARRELL/P. STOREMYR, 'Ancient Egyptian quarries - an illustrated overview', in: ABU-JABER ET ALII, *QuarryScapes: ancient stone quarry landscapes in the Eastern Mediterranean*, p. 29 for a recent concise account of hardstone quarrying techniques in ancient Egypt.

³² KLEMM/KLEMM, *Steine und Steinbrüche im Alten Ägypten*, pp. 321-322.

³³ J. RÖDER, 'Zur Steinbruchgeschichte des Rosengranits von Assuan', *AA* 3 (1965), p. 518 Abb. 29.

³⁴ KLEMM/KLEMM, *Steine und Steinbrüche im Alten Ägypten*, p. 323.

visible. There are no extraction pits in Area 60 but some places where the impressions of retrieved blocks can still be seen (Fig.30).

Islamic workshops

While there was scarcely any sediment other than garden soil or modern building-debris on top of the granite surface, and only the grooves and pits produced stratified material, a proper small scale excavation was possible in a small area of the south-eastern sector of the site enclosed by the granite massifs,. The earliest finding just above the very high water table³⁵ was a massive layer of granodiorite-chips. A first interpretation, that the chips were waste from a Pharaonic workshop producing and repairing pounders, had to be abandoned due to the occurrence of Late Roman pottery within the layer. Probably the chips were rubble from a Byzantine workshop producing mortars or millstones. The darker varieties of granite or even granodiorite however do not appear in the immediate vicinity of Area 60.

While this layer of rubble still has some correlation with the stone industry of ancient Aswan, the workshop occupying the area in the medieval period marks the end of the quarry tradition in this region. The whole area to the northeast of the granite was covered with debris comprising fired and unfired clay and mud, all kinds of pigments and a high proportion of *taffla*, the local kaolinic clay. Along the huge granite boulder to the west three sandstone mortars were sunk into the surface (Fig. 31). No other part of the workshop was found within the small excavated area, the context of mortars, *taffla* and unfired “Pink Clay” clearly hints to a pottery workshop. The *taffla*, main ingredient of the typical Aswani clay was ground in the mortars. The kiln was probably situated to the south of the site.

The cemetery

The last use of the site before the erection of the Old Cataract Hotel in the early 20th century was as a cemetery. A simple pit burial with the body of a young woman lying on her right side with the head in the east and the face looking towards the south is the only grave excavated in the area. Another structure, a wall of fired bricks with a layer of unfired mud-bricks on top, approximately 0.90 m wide was probably also part of a tomb. The structure was orientated east-west, just like the burial. As it was not possible to excavate outside the limits of the area this interpretation has to be deemed conjectural. The burials are of uncertain date though significantly later than the workshop. Their orientation suggests that the graves contained not Islamic but probably Christian burials. The chronology of the Islamic phases has yet to be established.

7) Area 61: Pharaonic rock-inscriptions and Ptolemaic houses (Fig. 32)

³⁵ Water leaking from the old pool previously situated to the east of the site had probably collected on top of the impermeable stone surface

Work in Area 61 started after parts of a rock inscription came to light under the modern walls. The excavated area covers 170m². The site is situated just to the east of the “Temple of Domitian” (Area 3) on a steep hill approximately 7m higher than the temple.³⁶ Areas 16,³⁷ 36³⁸ and 46³⁹ are situated in the close vicinity further uphill to the east.

The rock inscriptions

The ten inscriptions found in Area 45 form two groups. Inscriptions 1 to 5 were located on a granite massif in the eastern part of the site (Fig. 33). With the exception of Inscription 3 all of them face westwards. Inscription 3 was the only inscription in Area 61 that was not scratched but had been chiselled properly into the hard southern face of the boulder that also carried Inscription 2 (Fig. 34). The upper part of the inscription was missing. A part of it was found reused in the foundations of the modern house. On the northernmost tableau, two Inscriptions, 1a and b, were located (Fig. 35). While it is clear that there are two inscriptions the actual borders are obscured by heavy erosion of the granite surface. The same is true for Inscription 2. Inscription 2b is significantly smaller and situated nearer to the bottom of the tableau to the north of Inscription 2a. Inscription 4 was scratched into the southernmost tableau and was, just like all other inscriptions with the exception of inscription 3, completely preserved.

Inscriptions 6-8 were situated in the north-western part of the area. Inscriptions 6 and 7 face towards the north. They were covered by the Ptolemaic and Roman buildings and therefore better protected than the inscriptions in the east of the site. While the other inscriptions were placed in a high location and visible from afar, Inscription 7 particularly was placed just above ground-level in a crevice-like protected area, surrounded by granite boulders. Inscription 6 gives an unfinished impression. Several almost illegible hieroglyphs are visible in the upper part of a small tableau. Inscription 7 on the other hand is by far the best preserved inscription (Fig. 36).

Inscription 8 is very crudely done. There is no figure depicted. Several hieroglyphic signs are discernible. The boulder on which the inscription was carved is still in situ. The inscription faces towards the east (Fig. 37). Only some preliminary assessments of the date and contents of the inscriptions will be given here. All inscriptions date to Dynasty 13. With the exception of Inscription 8 the dedicators are depicted, sometimes with members of their families, and identified as soldiers.⁴⁰

Late Period remains

³⁶ The excavation lasted from March 13th until April 3rd and was supervised by W. MÜLLER together with V. MICHEL.

³⁷ C. v. PILGRIM, in: *5th and 6th season*, pp. 313-314.

³⁸ W. MÜLLER, ‘Area 36’, in: *7th season*, forthcoming.

³⁹ *Eadem*, ‘Area 46’, in: C. v. PILGRIM/W. MÜLLER, *Report on the Ninth Season, ASAE*, forthcoming

⁴⁰ We are indebted to MARCEL MAREE who is preparing the publication and kindly provided this information.

Like in Areas 36 and 46 there are scarcely any durable domestic structures dating to the pre-Ptolemaic period. Only fireplaces and ovens survived in protected areas. The habitations of that period were of a purely temporary nature, presumably tents or huts. Such constructions were well suited for the inhabitants of a garrison town and probably left little traces on the exposed bedrock. In Area 61 an oven with a diameter of 0.5m in a niche between the granite-massifs to the east of the site resembled the typical bread-oven of the Late Period, also documented from other parts of Aswan and Elephantine Island.⁴¹ Several arrowheads of the type associated with Strata H and J in Area 15 were found in a layer of loose sand on top of the bedrock.⁴² A storage jar, still filled with yet unidentified grain, was also found lying on top of the bedrock and covered by wind-blown sand.

Ptolemaic and Early Roman domestic structures (Fig. 38)

In the Ptolemaic period a large house was built in the area. The building was set against the steep slope of the hill necessitating massive terracing work. Houses of the same type of construction and date were found in Areas 36 and 46. The house was remodelled several times and in use well into the Roman Period.

The first building phase was considerably damaged and obscured by later activities. The ground plan cannot be reconstructed but seems to have differed significantly from the later house.

The second construction phase saw a building with a peculiar ground-plan. The difference in orientation between the northern and southern parts was so striking that it seemed possible that there were actually two houses excavated in Area 61. The bricks are, nevertheless, of the same kind in both parts and some of the walls are joined. Furthermore, the northern and southern parts of House 1 share the same foundations. The peculiar design of the building was encouraged by the topographical conditions, namely the contour of the bedrock.

A massive retaining wall was built at the eastern limit of the site. This wall was probably a later addition that had become necessary because of the steep drop down to Area 3 to the west. The wall ran in a north-south direction with an orientation not found in any other part of the building. The wall is the western limit of Room 3/4. The wall converged with the eastern wall of the room and gave Room 3/4 a peculiar shape. The room is the best preserved of the building and measured 12m². The room had a mud-brick pavement that was later covered with a pavement of fired bricks. A small pot was found *in situ* sunk into the northwestern corner of the room still covered with a small bowl. The pot was filled with a water-like fluid, most probably collected modern water. The pot was anyhow hermetically sealed without any traces of humidity around it. The negative of a similar vessel was found in the northeastern corner of the room.

At a later stage of the second building phase another wall was attached to the west of the first retaining wall.

Room 6 shows a rhomboid ground plan defined by its western and eastern wall. The western wall probably shows the original ground-plan of this part of the house with the massive retaining wall attached later running further to the west.

⁴¹ W. MÜLLER, *in: 5th and 6th season*, p. 317.

⁴² *Ibid.*, p. 328.

The gap between the walls was filled in with mud-bricks. A make-shift mud-brick wall abutted the western wall of Room 6 next to the south-western corner of the Room. Scarce traces of an east-west wall attached to the eastern wall of the room, at a distance of only 0.6m from the northern wall, may be evidence for a subdivision of the available space. The room had a mudbrick pavement.

The narrow Rooms 8 and 9 (each covering an area of ca. 3.5m²) showed the same orientation as Room 6. The well preserved southern wall of Room 9 coincided with the southern section of the site. Both rooms had a mud-brick pavement.

As no doors were found for Rooms 3, 6, 8 and 9, these rooms can be interpreted as substructures used as storage facilities as in the latest preserved building phase.

Of special importance was Room 13 to the west of House 1. Due to the steep slope, the floor, probably the vaulted roof of a deeper room, was nearly 2.5m lower than the pavement in Room 6. A door to the north of the room was reached via two sand-stone steps. Traces of a wooden threshold were still preserved. The hinge of the door was situated to the east of the threshold set against the retaining wall. Due to the difference in elevation it seems rather improbable that the room should still have belonged to House 1.

Building Phase 3 saw a complete refurbishment of the northern part of the house. Room 3/4 was now subdivided by a narrow wall. Both rooms were covered by low vaults (clear height 0.7-0.8m), making them again small subterranean storage rooms.⁴³ The new east wall was shifted a little to the west while the earlier western wall was completely given up and replaced by a new wall situated further to the west, approximately on top of the westernmost retaining wall. The ground-plan was thus rectified; the odd angles were no longer necessary due to the earlier retaining walls that provided an even building ground. The inner faces of the walls were coated in fine lime plaster, which, in Room 4 also covered the floor.

Only the northeastern corner of Room 14 was preserved to the east of Room 3 (Fig. 39). The room had a carefully crafted terrazzo floor at a level approximately 0.6m above the reconstructed floor-level on top of the vaults of Rooms 3 and 4. The floor covers 0.2m of the wall to the north of it. Its eastern limit is not a mudbrick wall but the western face of a construction consisting of *muna* and mud-brick rubble, probably a bench that was coated in fine white lime-plaster. The eastern wall of the room is not preserved but was probably situated on top of a partly preserved north-south wall of building-phase 3. The original western limit of the room was lost but the floor respected a granite boulder that had not been removed prior to the construction of the building. The remains, scarce as they are, allow the reconstruction of a small rectangular room with a bench running along three or two walls. The room opened towards the north. Other examples from Syene show that sturdy terrazzo floors are only found in hydraulic installations or in small rooms with benches. These rooms have their closest counterparts in *andrones*, small banqueting rooms that were a common feature

⁴³Cf. *Ibid.*, p. 338. W. MÜLLER, 'Domestic Structures in Graeco-Roman Syene (Modern Aswan)', in: S. LADSTÄTTER/V. SCHEIBELREITER (EDS.), *Städtisches Wohnen im östlichen Mittelmeerraum. 4. Jh. v. Chr. – 1. Jh. n. Chr. Akten des Internationalen Kolloquiums vom 24. – 27. Oktober 2007 an der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften* (Vienna 2010), pp. 434, 445 fig. 16.

of Hellenistic domestic architecture.⁴⁴ The considerable size and careful construction of the building and its location in a special part of Aswan with a fine view of the Island of Elephantine, hint towards an owner of high social status.

8) Area 62: Ptolemaic-Roman city quarter and Late Period activities (Figs. 40-41)

The small site is situated in *Shona* less than 20m to the north of Area 61.⁴⁵ Due to the derelict neighbouring buildings the working area was restricted to 30m². The granite surface slopes up towards the southeast. The earliest structures found in the site were best preserved at the deepest point of the excavation in the northwestern sector.

A terrace wall made of sandstone followed the contour of the granite and thus ran in a west-south-west – east-north-east direction. It later had a mud-brick wall, one and a half bricks wide, attached to it. These structures are dated tentatively to the Late Period or Early Ptolemaic Period. No more data concerning the earliest architectural phase could be gained.

After a period of abandonment the slope of the hill, which was still remarkable, was levelled by means of a massive filling layer, consisting mostly of settlement debris, and a new building was erected. Due to the limited size of the excavation area, only two walls, meeting each other in a corner at the approximate centre of the eastern limit of the excavated area, were encountered. A door was situated at the northern end of the eastern wall. A short, narrow east-west wall abutted the eastern wall and two stepping stones allowed access to the entrance. Pottery associated with the house dated to the Early Roman Period.

The best preserved architectural remains belonged to a building dating to the Islamic Period. The most prominent part was a massive staircase made of sandstone blocks attached to the southern wall of the building. The staircase led into a wide gateway (width 1.4m) that subdivided the building(s) and left the structure via a door in the north. The gateway was paved with sandstone slabs that were mostly still preserved. Immediately after the northern entrance a narrow corridor, also paved, branched off towards the west. A room further to the north showed a small construction, a shallow, rectangular (0.9 x 0.7m) shaft with a casing of sandstone and fired bricks in its north-western corner. Other features, like a small rectangular structure attached to the northeastern corner were situated outside the excavated area.

Results of the work in *Shona*

With Area 61 and neighbouring Area 62, the overall picture of this part of ancient Syene was considerably enriched. Grand terraced houses were constructed against the steep slope of the hill in the Middle- to Late Ptolemaic period in a part of the city that was within the city wall of the Late Period but at that time only occupied by temporary habitations. The occurrence of several rock inscriptions, all of them dating to Dynasty 13, hints towards an ancient path leading

⁴⁴ *Loc. cit.*.

⁴⁵ The excavation was supervised by M. HEPA and lasted from March 17th to March 31st 2010.

from the river bank, where another inscription of the same date is still visible next to the modern police headquarters on the Corniche, up the slope to the east of the Temple of Domitian. The discovery of a small city gate in Area 46 may be evidence of the fact that this line of communication was still respected in the Late Period.

Abstract:

During the tenth season of the joint archaeological project of the Swiss Institute of Architectural and Archaeological Research, Cairo and the Supreme Council of Antiquities, Aswan in Syene/Old Aswan, four major rescue excavations and seven limited sondages were conducted (Fig. 1). The investigated sites revealed the hitherto oldest discovered traces of occupation dated to the Naqada Ia/b period as well as remains of architectural structures of the 4th and 18th dynasty immediately south of the Graeco-Roman town. The most remarkable discovery is the remains of a second domestic building of the late Middle Kingdom in the centre of Aswan and a cluster of ten rock inscriptions of the same date all related to soldiers of the 13th dynasty. Traces of pharaonic as well as Roman quarrying were investigated in the area of the Old Cataract Hotel and another quarry was studied in the construction pit of the SCA magazine scheduled to be built east of the Antiquities Inspectorate.

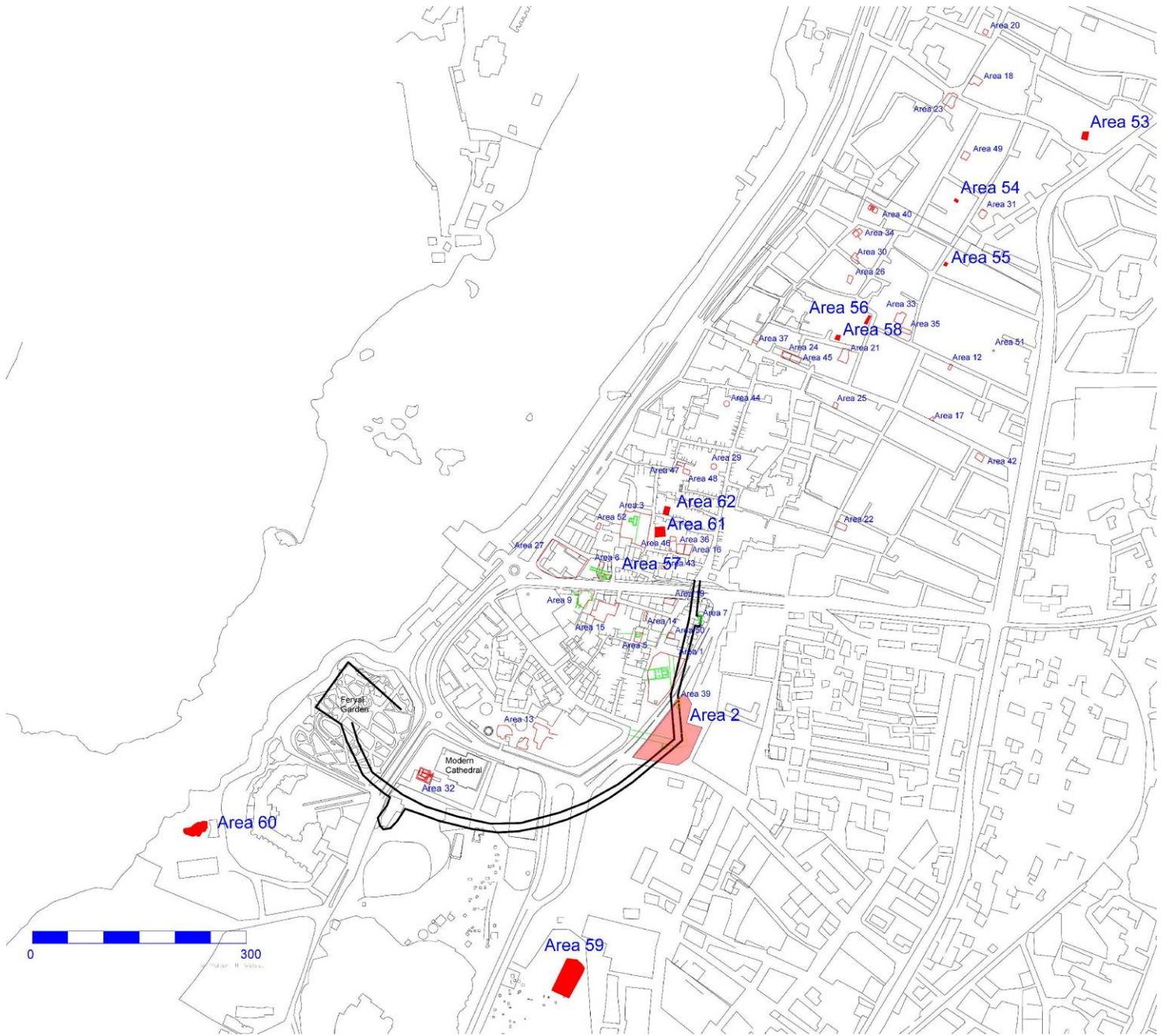


Fig. 1: Archaeological map of Aswan.



Fig. 2: Plan of Area 2.



Fig. 3: Overview of the excavated foundation pit.



Fig. 4: Area 2: Pharaonic structures.



Fig. 5: Area 2: *In situ* ensemble dating to the Old Kingdom.



Fig. 6: Area 2: Late Roman burial.



Fig. 7: Area 2: Detail of the corner-bastion.



Fig. 8: Area 2: Detail of the southern casing of the city wall. Dovetail clamp *in situ*.



Fig. 9: Area 2: Detail of the southern face of the casing with reused blocks.



Fig. 10: Area 2: Constructional detail of the Late Roman casing attached to the Late Period city wall.



Fig. 11: Area 2: View of the “tower” at the southern face of the city wall.



Fig. 12: Overview of Area 56.



Fig. 13: Palm-leaf capital from Area 57.



Fig. 14: Late Roman pseudo Corinthian capital from Area 57.



Fig. 15: Late Roman column base from Area 57.

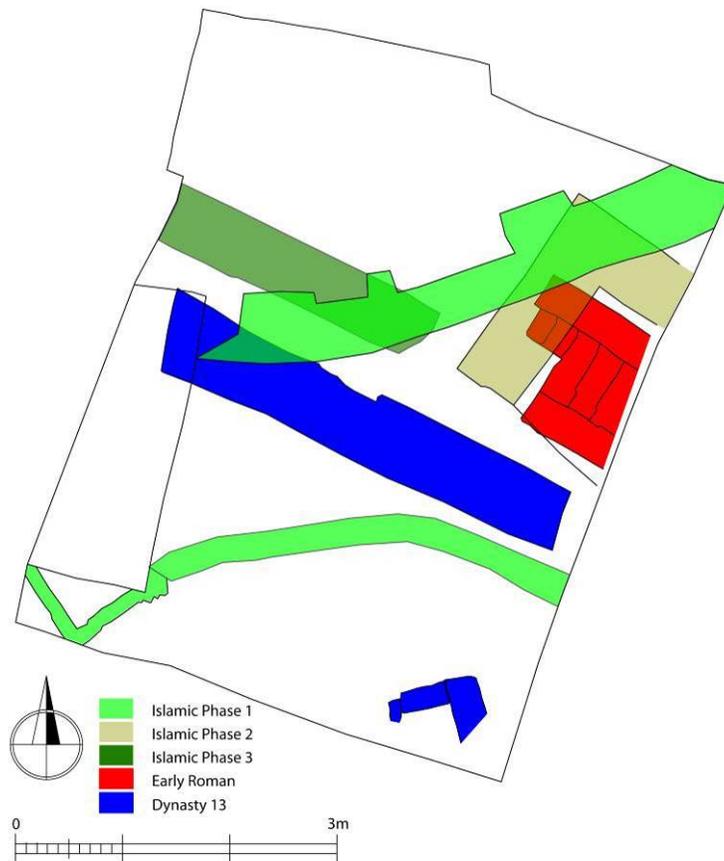


Fig. 16: Plan of Area 58.



Fig. 17: Overview of Area 58.



Fig. 18: Area 58: Structures dating to Dynasty 13.



Fig. 19: Area 58: Detail of an Early Roman tomb.



Fig. 20: Area 58: Roman burial with remains of a shroud.



Fig. 21: Area 58: Overview of the medieval structures.



Fig. 22: Overview of Area 59.



Fig. 23: Area 59: Detail of the western section.

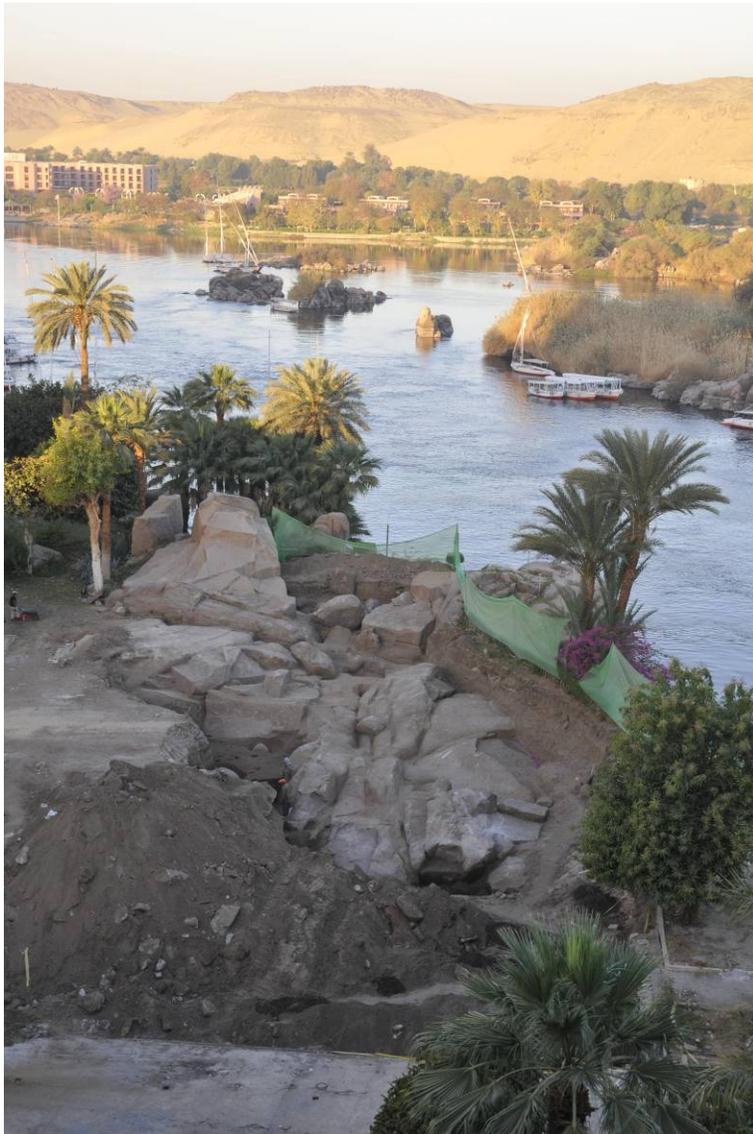


Fig. 24: Overview of Area 60.

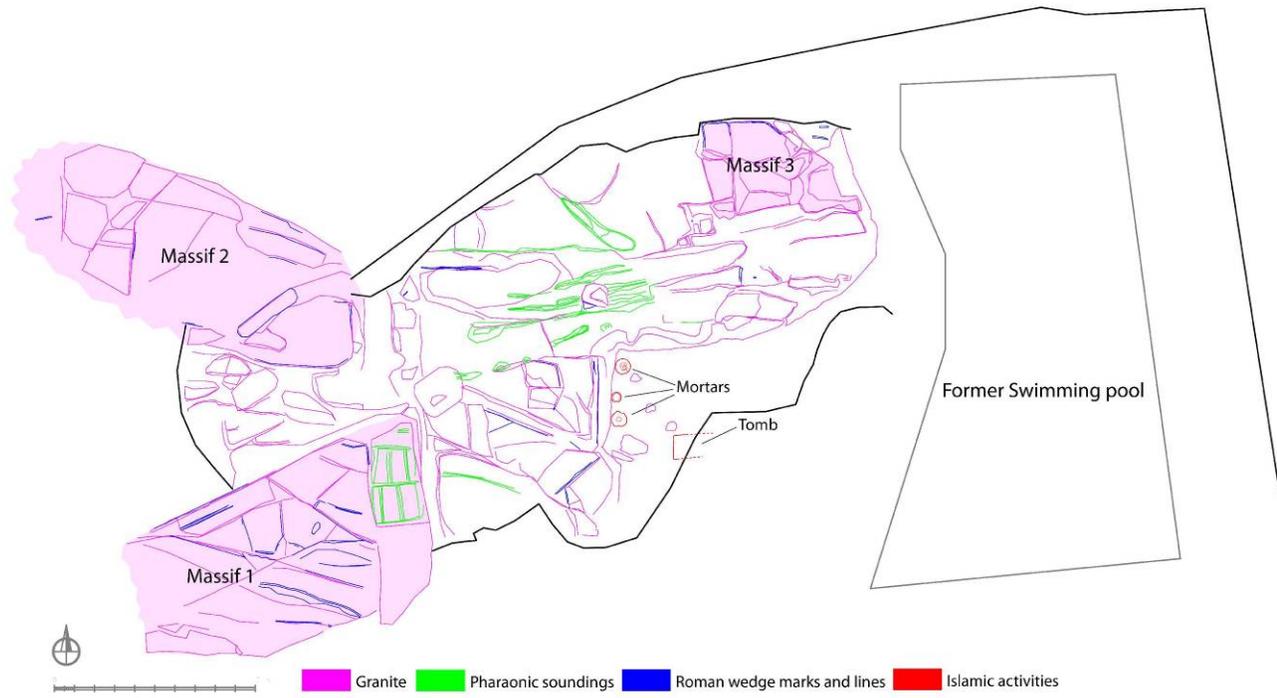


Fig. 25: Map of Area 60.



Fig. 26: Area 60: Traces of Pharaonic soundings.



Fig. 27: Area 60: Detail of Roman quarry-marks: Unfinished splitting wedge.



Fig. 28: Area 60: Detail of Roman quarry-marks: Row of wedge holes.



Fig. 29: Area 60: Detail of Roman quarry-marks: Traces of successfully extracted blocks.



Fig. 30: Area 60: Detail of Roman quarry-marks: Contours of an extracted block.



Fig. 31: Area 60: Medieval workshop-area.



Fig. 32: Plan of Area 61.



Fig. 33: Area 61: Granite massif with inscriptions 1 to 4.



Fig. 34: Area 61: Inscription 3.

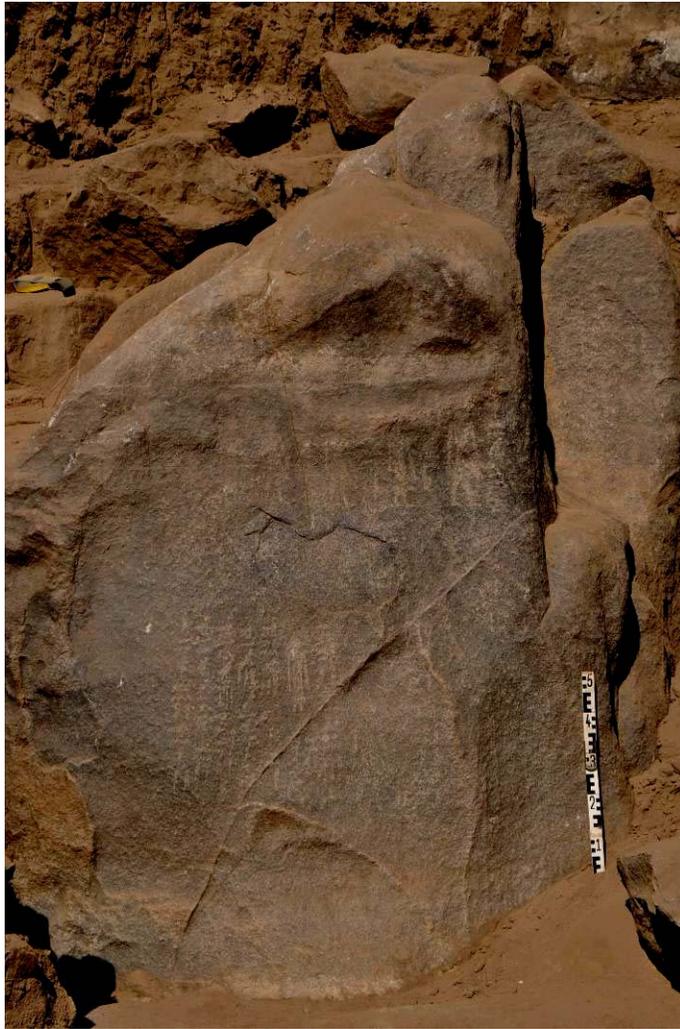


Fig. 35: Area 61: Inscriptions 1a and b.

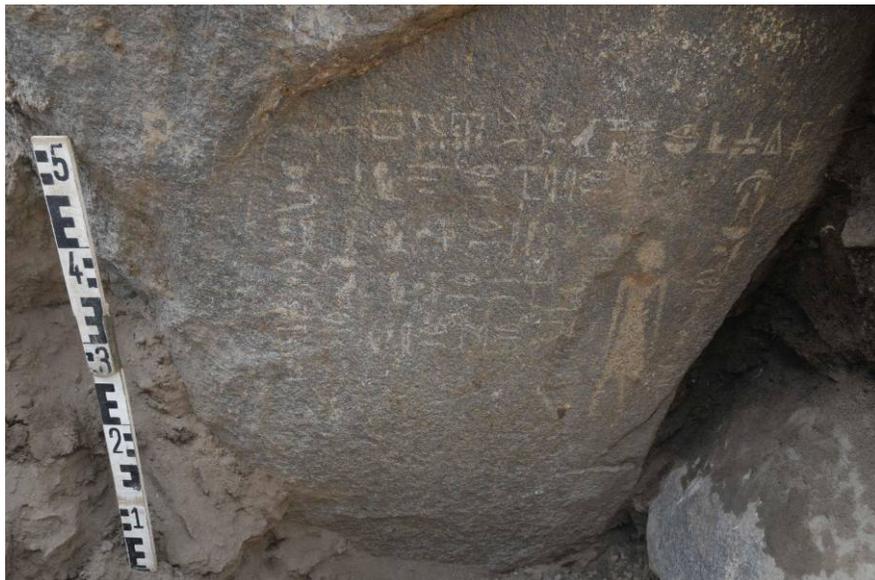


Fig. 36: Area 61: Inscription 7.



Fig. 37: Area 61: Inscription 8.



Fig. 38: Area 61: Late Ptolemaic and Roman houses.



Fig. 39: Area 61: Detail of Room 14.

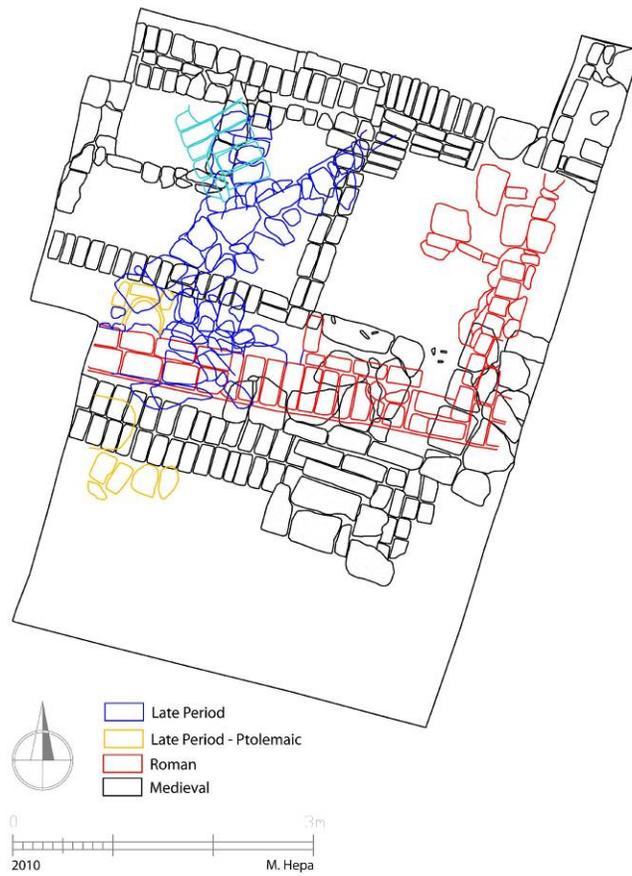


Fig. 40: Plan of Area 62.



Fig. 41: Overview of Area 62.