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Robert Hanawalt, Founder
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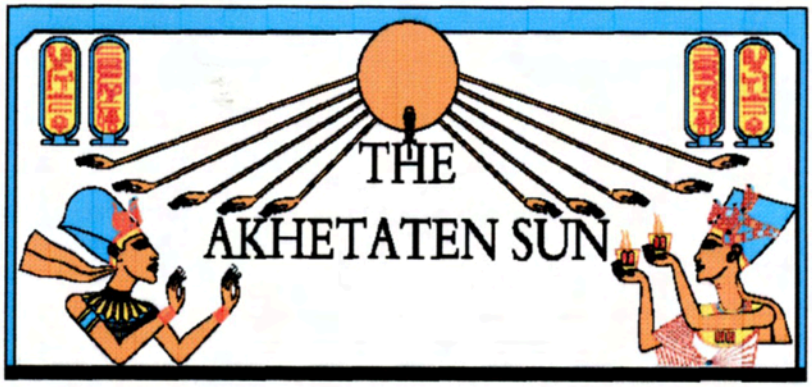

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THE PRESIDENT'S PAPYRUS

Anyone who did not attend our annual meeting in September missed a wonderful event. Of course, there was the regular membership meeting, which, as always, was mercifully short. But the real treat was the three lectures by Kristen Thompson, Bob Hanawalt and Barry Kemp, who have all spent time at Amarna. Kristen works each year with Barry assembling and identifying statue fragments. Bob worked with Barry for one season several years ago and presented an interesting talk on a unique (and incorrectly published) tomb image. Barry kept us informed on his work at Amarna. Keep on the lookout for the announcement of next years meeting and mark your calendars.

I am honored to serve another one-year term as president. However, being the only name on the ballot does tend to reduce any swelled head I might have over the competitive win. I would like to express my sincere thanks to George Livo and Anita McHugh, board members who will not be returning this year. George has been on the board since TARF was founded and after these many years certainly deserves a rest. Anita, on the other hand, though no longer on the board, will continue in her responsibility for publications. And we are all grateful for her willingness to do that.

And finally a heart felt welcome to our two new board members: Tom Cassidy and Beth Murdaugh. Your willingness to serve is greatly appreciated.

We have a lot of work ahead of us. And I believe we are in a good position to proceed.

Bill Petty

Tell el-Amarna 2003
By Barry Kemp

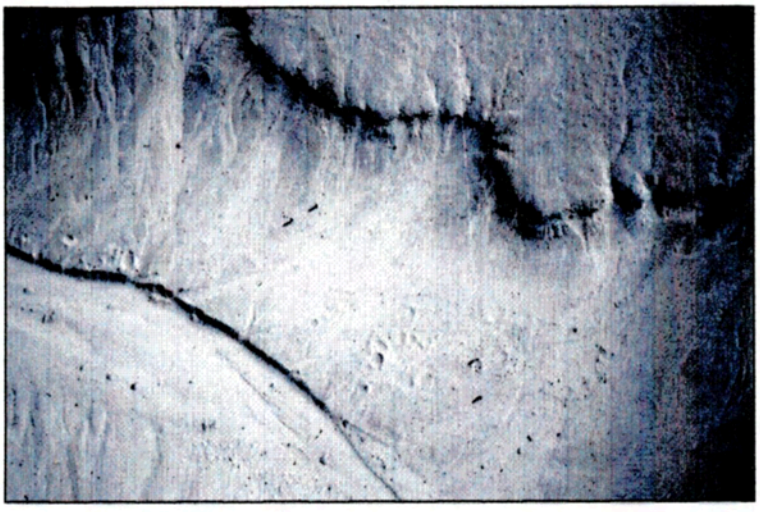
The season ran between 27 February and 15 April, 2003. The staff was comprised of: Barry Kemp (field director), Paul Buckland, Alan Clapham, Ann Cornwell, Suresh Dhargalkar, Jane Faiers, Helen Fenwick, Rainer Gerisch, Pamela Haywood, Dimitri Laboury, John MacGinnis, Gwilym Owen, Gillian Pyke, Pamela Rose, Corinna Rossi, Christopher Stevens and Kristin Thompson. The SCA inspector was Khallaf Fathi Nagib. It is again a pleasure to record our thanks for the substantial donation from the Amarna Research Foundation. Kristin Thompson added a contribution of her own to help defray the costs of refurbishing the shower block at the expedition house.

As in previous seasons, several projects were pursued simultaneously, meaning that members of the expedition were deployed in widely separated parts of the site at the same time. This requires some care with transport arrangements, and tactful discussions with our police guards. By having two pickup trucks hired with their drivers from the local villages this side of things worked smoothly and the progress of the work was not hindered. The invasion of Iraq began during the season. Local bulletins were one source of news relayed to us by our inspector and other people from the area. Mutual sadness, I think, correctly describes the atmosphere. There was no hint anywhere of hostility, nor were local security arrangements altered.

Desert Survey

The most distant of our projects is the GPS-based desert survey by Helen Fenwick of the University of Hull (assisted by Corinna Rossi). This year she struck southwards from the Workmen's Village, concentrating on the area around the South Tombs. These form a less compact group than those in the north, scattered along a low escarpment divided by narrow valleys. They include the handsome tomb (no. 25) of the god's father Ay. The only available map is a sketch made in the early 1900s by Norman de Garis Davies. Helen's new map will be properly contoured and will mark the position of each of the rock tombs as well as the large heaps of potsherds outside many of them, which mostly come from late in the dynastic period when the tombs were used again for burials. Davies also sketched the alignments of ancient roads fanning out from the tombs towards the city but only for a short distance. These and other ancient roads crossing from south to north have, in this area, now grown very faint from weathering and much recent vehicle use. Nevertheless, through repeated visits at different times of day and much squinting into the sun most of the alignments revealed themselves and were duly surveyed in. The desert surface is often covered in pebbles and what one is looking for are places where they line up, sometimes in parallel, in a way that is not coincidental. For one particularly elusive road second opinions were crucial.

Cemetery along the side of a wadi leading south-eastwards from close to tomb 25. In the foreground are mud bricks and a piece of worked stone. 18th Dynasty.



South Tombs. From right to left nos. 24 to 21.

If one works at it too hard one starts to pick out alignments that are not really there, rather in the way that early astronomers saw canals on Mars.

Alerted by the remains of cemeteries of poorer people below the North Tombs, the team kept a close watch for similar signs — basically human bones — in the south. Helen and Corinna spotted the initial clusters on their first day. Mostly they are thinly scattered to the north of the modern road leading to tomb 25, but also occur for a short distance to the south. Amongst the bone fragments are a few weathered sherds. To the north of the road, these are primarily from the New Kingdom; to the south they seem mostly to be much later and might have been washed down from the Late Period sherd dumps outside tomb 25. We looked carefully for signs of actual graves across the plain but failed to detect any. This was puzzling at first, for bones normally come to the surface only if someone has dug them up, and this should leave traces. The explanation eventually became clear. At least part of the scatter of bones and sherds has been washed out across the plain from one of the valleys or wadis, which runs between tombs 24 and 25. We followed on foot a veritable trail of bones along the floor of the wadi for a distance of around half a mile until we reached what was obviously the source, the remains of an ancient cemetery. It lies on a low desert terrace above the wadi floor. Over the years the rare but sometimes violent rainstorms have gradually washed it away. A strip of the cemetery nonetheless still survives and is marked by pits where robbers have been at work. At one point some loose mud bricks have been dug out of the ground, as well as a piece of wooden plank and at least one worked stone block. Many eroded sherds lie on the surface, a few of them with characteristic blue-painted decoration. On a brief visit two of our pottery experts (Pamela Rose and Gillian Pyke) dated them all to the 18th Dynasty (probably Amarna Period). They commented that there are a wider variety of vessels present than is the

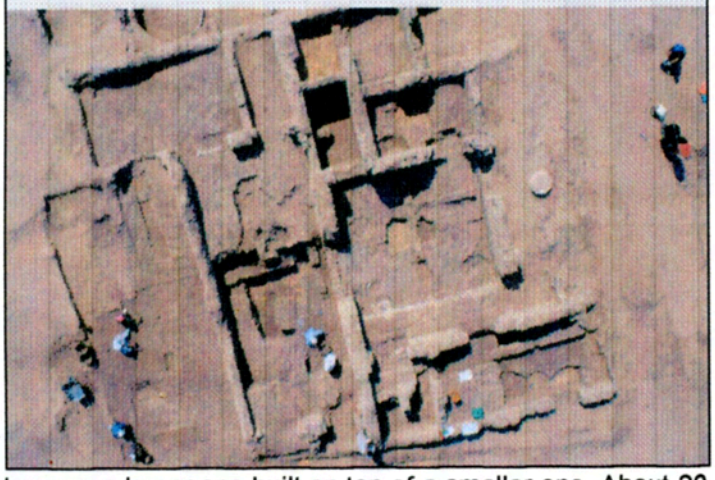
case with the northern cemeteries discovered in 2001, and that the collection as a whole perhaps points to burials of somewhat higher status. There are sherds from amphorae, for example. The position of the cemetery was added to the GPS survey and aerial photographs were taken with the aid of the helium balloon.

Pictures

People have, in the past, speculated as to where the ordinary citizens of Amarna were buried. I commented on this in my report for 2001, in explaining the significance of our finding cemeteries on the ground in front of the North Tombs. I asked: "Are there equivalent cemeteries in front of the South Tombs?" The answer we now know is "probably not in front but definitely behind". Where does this leave us? Without excavation it seems not to be possible to tell what the density of burials is and thus how many are represented. We tried a magnetometer survey on the northern cemeteries last year but it was not able to detect the outlines of individual graves. Taking all three cemeteries together, there could have been several hundred. In the case of the newly discovered cemetery, of course, an unknown part of it has been washed away. What to do next?

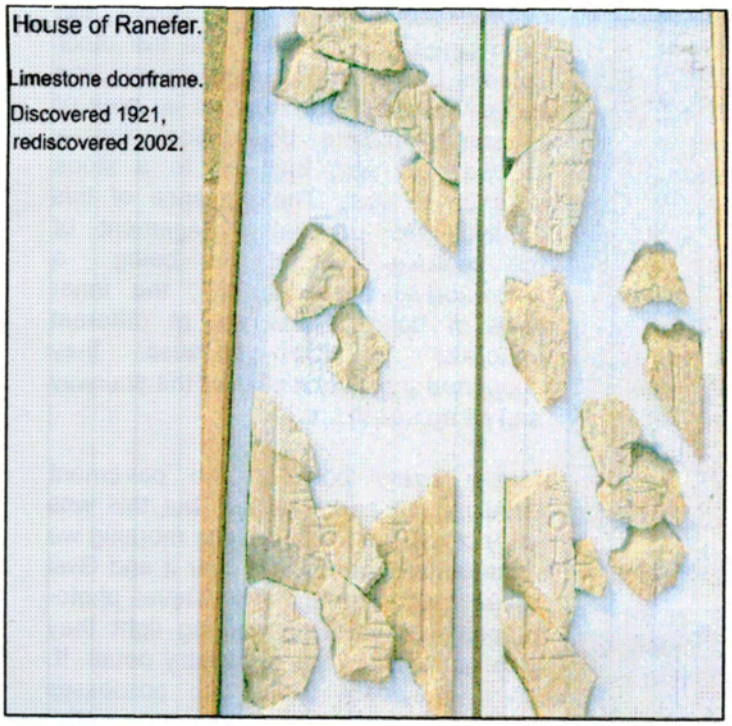
In the past cemeteries were mostly seen as important for their artefacts, with the human remains of secondary interest. Yet the human remains probably have more to tell us. During the summer I showed a series of slides of the newly discovered cemetery to a visiting colleague at Cambridge, Jerry Rose, who is Professor of Anthropology at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. He is currently working on predynastic skeletal remains from Hierakonpolis. Even from the slides he could see that many of the scattered bones are in reasonably good condition, and can be identified. He is of the opinion that a methodical collection would be a suitable first step. Obviously one could not piece together complete skeletons. The collection would be similar to one taken from, say, a Neolithic European tomb where the bodies had been previously dismembered. One should be able nonetheless to make some kind of assessment of the physical population present. We have therefore decided to apply for permission next year to begin such a methodical collection at the south cemetery, and this will include pottery and any other objects that are visible on the surface.

House of Ranefer.



Excavation

We continued the investigation of Ranefer's house but for only the latter part of the season when our archaeologists could be present. John MacGinnis took charge. He has extensive experience from elsewhere in the Middle East and uses certain Arabic words and phrases picked up in earlier years in Iraq, which intrigue our workmen. Ranefer is a big sieving operation. Every scrap of soil is passed through a large sieve, which swings, on a wooden frame and this work is supervised by Paul Buckland and Alan Clapham who, in addition to small objects, are collecting insect, bone and plant remains. You will remember that there are two Ranefer houses, a larger one built on top of a smaller one. About 20 inches of rich earth are sandwiched between the two floors, representing an uncontaminated deposit of Amarna Period soil, with more present in deeper deposits filling a pit below even the first house. The work is necessarily slow. As the fragments of the earlier walls appear they seem increasingly to belong to a house laid out similarly to the later one, but covering a smaller area. We think we have located the front entrance (buried beneath the later front reception hall), and the base of the earlier stairs to the upper storey definitely lie close to the later stairs, one of the rarer cases where they were built on the north side of the house Does this preference mean that Ranefer built the. earlier house, too, and then prospered and decided to rebuild? If so he must have moved out for a while, for the earlier house was knocked down, and whilst presumably many of the bricks were kept for re-use, the new house arose on a bed of rubble from the first one. This included pieces of orange-coloured plaster either from the walls or ceiling.



House of Ranefer.

Limestone doorframe.
Discovered 1921,
rediscovered 2002.

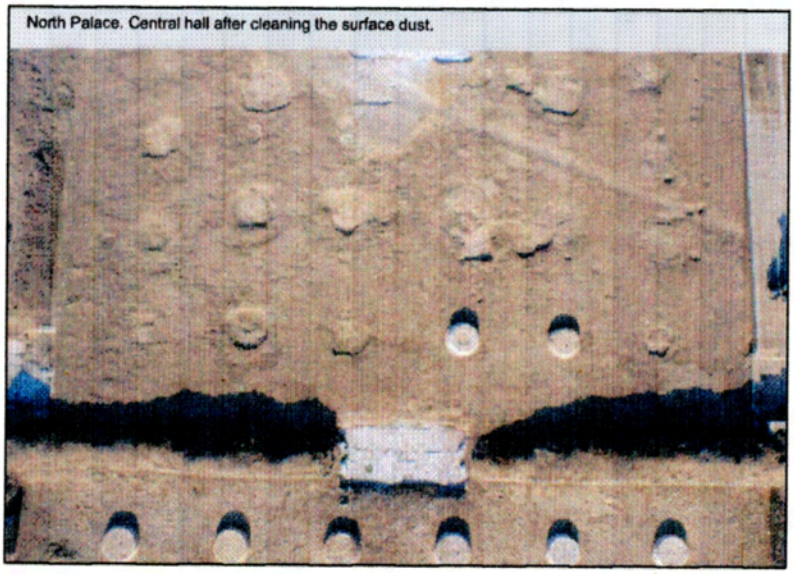
We also began to clear the 'grounds' of the house, on the north side, left largely untouched by the earlier expedition. This revealed that the area outside the house was itself paved with mud bricks in its later stage. But in one place where the bricks have worn through, a small length of an earlier wall is intriguingly visible. This will be pursued next year.

The soil contained a few objects, mostly small items of bright faience jewellery, and a short length of tightly coiled ribbon made from gold foil. Another of the natural pebbles bearing a short hieratic text came to light but as yet has not been deciphered, and the same is true for several small fragments of polished gypsum plaster also bearing hieratic. These perhaps come from the surface of a writing-board. More of the deposit in which they were found still remains to be excavated, next year, so there is hope for finding more of the pieces.

Before the archaeologists arrived I supervised a further clearance on the north side of the EES expedition house where the granary pits lie, which had been used as a dumping ground for discarded antiquities in the early 1920s. Not much more came to light: a few mud jar stoppers impressed with hieroglyphic labels and also a few more of the fragments from the granodiorite pair statue that Kristin is working on.

Building Conservation

As in previous years we employed two teams of builders to continue the work of repairing and clarifying two of the most visited buildings at Amarna, the North Palace and Small Aten Temple. Suresh Dhargalkar came to supervise but was required back in the UK for the last two weeks, and so had to hand over to me for that period. The two projects are separated by about two miles so much driving between them is required, partly to check on the supplies of materials, including the bags of crushed alabaster dust which is used in the mortar when we are working with limestone blocks and the local supply of which is sometimes a bit contentious.



North Palace. Central hall after cleaning the surface dust.

At the North Palace the work moved into a new phase. The centre of the rear part was filled with a spacious columned hall, which must have been the focus of life at the palace. It does not give that impression now, for it has been reduced to a featureless plain in which only two stone bases from the original forest of columns survive. Even the side and front walls are hardly visible. This was the main target for the season. We began by having the floor carefully swept clean of dust. Probably for the first time the remains of the brick paving - were exposed (the old photographs show

North Palace. Central Hall: new cement pads for column bases. Each one will be buried to its top surface.

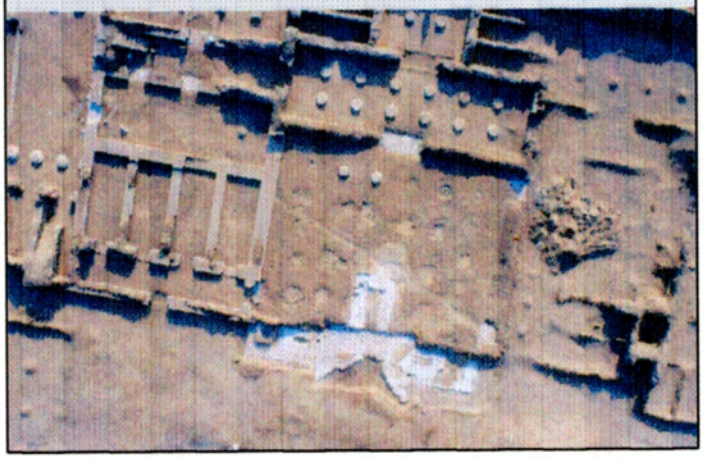
North Palace. Central Hall: preparing new cement pad for new column base.

that this was not done in the 1920s), and the ragged gaps where once the other column bases stood. Intruding into the hall on the west (the front) is an area of gypsum concrete foundation for a stairway or ramp that led to a stone veranda in front. The presence of this explains the unusual arrangement of the columns. Instead of being a conventional hypostyle hall, the inner rows of columns are set at different intervals, probably because they supported a higher roof over the stairway and its approach.

Ideally every brick in the pavement should have been planned but this was just not feasible. Instead, one morning we manoeuvred the balloon over it and Gwil Owen took a series of low-level photographs. In the early morning light they pick out most of the necessary detail. If, as is the case here, one possesses surveyed points which appear in the photographs as well, it is possible to correct digitally the distortions which are invariably present in conventionally taken photographs. One task which I plan to tackle before the summer ends is to use a program specially designed for this so that the aerial photographs can be, as it were, dropped into the plans and the details of bricks and column positions traced off.

The cleaning of the floor had one surprising result: the exposure of a strip of painted mud floor. I gave a detailed account of this in the last *Sun*. It might not look much in itself but it helps to fill a major gap in our knowledge of how the palace was decorated, given that no trace has been found of a painted gypsum floor of the kind known from other palaces. Paint on mud was evidently an adequate substitute.

North Palace. Central Hall and adjacent rooms.



Whilst this was going on a local blacksmith made a large iron ring with cross-bracing, its diameter a little larger than that of the ancient columns (which were just over 31 inches across). We have found that replacing lost ancient columns with modern replicas cast in white cement dramatically improves the 'readability' of the building in question. For the North Palace to be understandable the column bases of the central hall and the stonework of the ramp and veranda need to be put back. A sculptor in England, Simon Bradley, makes the glass-fibre moulds for bases and has the measurements for this set. The ancient builders laid their bases on a circular layer of gypsum concrete rather than directly on the bricks, and our method is similar. The iron ring acts as a

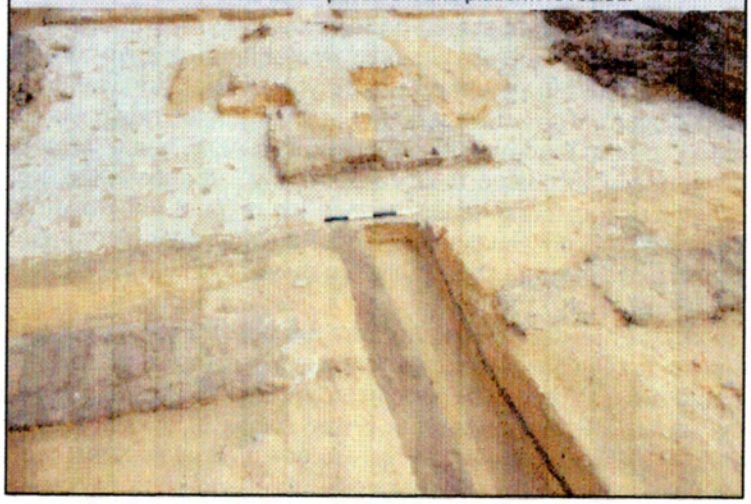
mould for a circular pad of white cement (mixed with alabaster dust instead of sand). These are easier to line up than the casts of the bases themselves and, just as importantly, easier to level. Although the brick floor seems to have survived over a large part it has actually lost much of its depth to erosion, and so has an uneven surface below its original level. Our cement pads are set to the original floor level. Although at first they stand proud of the brick surface, the intention is to bury the brick floor in dust again, up to the top surface of the pads. Only then will the new column bases be put in place.

The builders can cast one of the pads each morning, removing the iron ring at the end of the working day. They began their casting fourteen days before the end of the work, and so managed to complete thirteen of them (one stuck in its mould and had to be done again). Seven more are needed to complete the series. As for the stone ramp and veranda, its outlines are clearly preserved in the ancient gypsum layer. We cannot recreate the whole structure. As a compromise I want to mark their positions in one or two layers of new limestone blocks. At the end of the season I took delivery of a load of blocks cut at a local quarry to the nearest we can get to the ancient talatat size and these are now stacked inside the palace ready for next season. They will not, however, be laid directly on the ancient gypsum. That has now been buried in a thick layer of sand to protect it.

Stone laying was also the main task at the Small Aten Temple. We continue to repair brick walls, a job that could go on almost for ever, and this year started to fill in a missing part of the enclosure wall on the south side where, until this year, a convenient ramp allowed vehicles to be driven down inside the temple. But originally the broad gap between each of the pairs of brick pylons had been filled with stone blocks laid, as ever at Amarna, on beds of gypsum concrete. We had cleared the bed in the first pylon gateway back in 1987 (discovering in the process a faience ring of Smenkhkara buried beneath it). This showed that instead of

Small Aten Temple. First pylon: marking the door platform with new stone blocks according to the original gypsum mortar marks.

Small Aten Temple: 1st pylon gateway, the original gypsum foundation for the stone pavement and platform revealed.



Small Aten Temple. Central gateway at the 1st pylon. Replacing the original stone pavement & platform.

being simply a broad stone threshold it had supported a platform in the middle, probably reached by stairs on the west and east sides. Last year I bought a load of stone blocks for the temple and this year the builders successfully put down a layer to represent the original paving in the gateway, and in the middle recreated by means of a second layer the outline of the platform. The new stonework and its mortar always looks a bit stark at first, but in the Egyptian sunlight and after exposure to a few sandstorms, it will mellow and blend well with the rest of the site. The plan for the future is to lay stonework in a similar way in all of the gateways. Again it makes it much easier to make sense of the ruins.

Work at the Expedition House

As always most of the members of the expedition spent much of their time working on material housed in the big storerooms. Kristin, with a newcomer, Dimitri Laboury from Belgium, continued to sort through the wealth of statue fragments. Kristin is supplying her own report on this. To complement this Pamela Haywood, a geologist from the University of Toledo (Ohio), joined us to make precise geological identifications of the stones used for the statues and also for the large collection of querns of the Amarna Period, which we have in store.

The pottery experts (Pamela Rose and Amanda Dunsmore) continued their labours on the large cache of broken jars and bowls found last year, discarded by the 1920s' archaeologists despite being their main reference collection. Much time was put into gluing sherds together (done by Ann Cornwell) and then Pamela and Amanda stayed on for two weeks after the rest of us had left in order to complete the scale drawings. As a result two hundred new reference specimens have been added to the corpus, and these are being inked in by artist Andy Boyce in England. The environmental specialists kept as ever to their quiet labours of classification, and as ever just as much work was done on material from Amarna's 'other period', that of the fifth and sixth centuries AD. Then a large population of monks (and maybe nuns) took to the desert to pursue their vocation and left substantial archaeological remains that we have to treat with just as much respect as those of the reign of Akhenaten. (What if anything did they know of him?) In particular Gillian Pyke continued to make impressive progress in reconstructing painted plaster scenes of saints from the small church at Kom el-Nana, which we excavated in 2000.

I think all of us who stay at Amarna are beginning to appreciate the changes to the house itself. Through Suresh's quiet persistence we are seeing it transformed bit by bit. First the kitchen, then the showers (and drainage), and now the electric wiring. The complete replacement of the circuits and fittings began just as we left. Supervision is in the hands of a local engineer who gives excellent service to a high standard. At the moment a small expedition is at Amarna, led by Dr Paul Nicholson of Cardiff University. Paul is continuing his exploration of glass kilns first discovered by Petrie. Glass and glazing are Paul's specialities and he has made great progress when he has previously worked at Amarna in understanding the ancient technology involved. I rang Paul when he arrived and he assured me that the rewiring was finished and working. It took him by surprise. The new system is properly earthed and has standard three-pin fittings. I had forgotten to tell him this. Fortunately he was able to alert another member of his team coming a few days later who brought out a supply of three-pin plugs. They can be bought in Cairo but not yet in Minia, it seems.

And Back Home...

Just over four months have passed since returning home, time partly filled with teaching and examining. What else have I done? Amarna publication takes up much of the rest of my time, but the way it is done has greatly changed in the last few years, driven by the digital revolution. This offers to anyone so minded the means of managing all the steps preparatory to printing, and thus greater control of the process. Even the raw materials for hand-finished artwork are being discontinued by manufacturers. Letraset is history. I cannot resist taking the electronic path but it does actually increase the time required. Gone are the days of marking typescripts with blue pencil and passing on to someone else, with access to a huge copy camera, the responsibility of reducing to a standard page size colossal sheets of pottery drawings covered with bits of sticky tape and whitener. All this, complete with digital cleaning of 'dirty' drawings, is now within my reach. The GIS system I have taught myself replaces hand-finished inked-in maps and sections with digital versions. They actually take more time to prepare but are then available evermore for rescaling and other forms of reuse in a way that was hard if not impossible to

achieve before. I am left with the perhaps dangerous thought that at a time of rapid technological advance it does not do to rush too much to get things finished. I am now able to achieve better results than I could a few years ago although this means that a good deal of the artwork I have prepared in the past, including inked-in plans of the Amarna Period buildings at Kom el-Nana, are now just of archive interest for they need to be redone in digital form.

To some extent the priorities of what I do are set by the degree of readiness of individual projects, which often involve other members of the expedition. So it is that for much of the summer I have been obliged to concentrate on the 'other period'. I have just sent to press a volume on the agricultural practices and botany of the monastery at Kom el-Nana, and am nearly at that point with a companion volume on the pottery of that period. All that remains are hours and hours of digital cleaning of the pot illustrations. With luck that will be finished by the end of September and I can return to doing the same kind of job on the Workmen's Village chapel paintings, a volume (much of it written and illustrated by Fran Weatherhead) on which I made good editing progress last summer and which should alter a little the perception people have about the art of the Amarna Period. But each day through the summer I have tried to set aside a portion for Amarna Period work which is not simply editing. One job, made urgent by our progress at the North Palace, is resumption of the digitizing of all of our plans, both the big plans of whole sections and the detailed plans of individual features which can all, by this means, be slotted into place at the same scale. The other is a necessary accompaniment to the preparation of the Amarna pottery corpus by Pamela Rose. Several of the type specimens of pots derive from a huge excavation of private houses done by the EES between 1923 and 1925. It was never published. In the course of the excavation, confusion set in as to the correct numbering of the houses, so objects in museums and the pottery vessels that we have recovered from their old dump often bear the wrong house number. The archives show how the numbers can be corrected though it is not straightforward. So I have been doing this, preparing as I go a distribution map of the around 250 pots involved. The correction lists I have drawn up and the map itself also represent a step towards yet another long-term plan, that of publishing this major excavation.

This brings me to the Amarna web-site which I maintain via the McDonald Institute. I have prepared material on recent fieldwork which I will ask to have added in the autumn (I do not control the site myself). In the last year the principal addition has been an index of object numbers used during the 1921–1936 EES excavations and the page numbers where they are referred to in the *City of Akhenaten* volumes. It is, in effect, a re-issue of a list prepared by John Ruffle and Elizabeth Moignard in the 1960s and long out-of-print. A helper, Nuala Simpson, is at work adding illustration references and will in time, so I hope, add archive references, especially the negative numbers for the original photographs. The correction lists I have made for the unpublished 1923–1925 excavations lead logically to a listing of the object numbers for those seasons, with corrected house numbers. These can then be added to the master list on the web which so far has covered only objects from the published seasons. Until they are published in full this will, of course, be of interest mainly to people who work on Amarna objects in museums. But it will also given an idea of the scope of the unpublished material.

Quite independently of me the EES is now having printed a book on the paintings of Amarna, mainly those from palaces, by Fran Weatherhead. This is a project to which Fran has given many years of her time. With its mass of drawings by Andy Boyce it will be an important addition to our stock of what has been discovered at Amarna. Look out for it!

LOST MEMBERS:

Are you one of our lost members? If so, the Amarna Foundation is looking for you. If you have recently moved and haven't forwarded your new address to us, we are requesting that you please e-mail this information to Rtomb10@cs.com or to the return address of the Akhetaten Sun. Interesting and exciting discoveries are revealed in each issue. You won't want to miss receiving your copy of the Akhetaten Sun!

The Granodiorite Pair Statue from the Thutmose Workshop

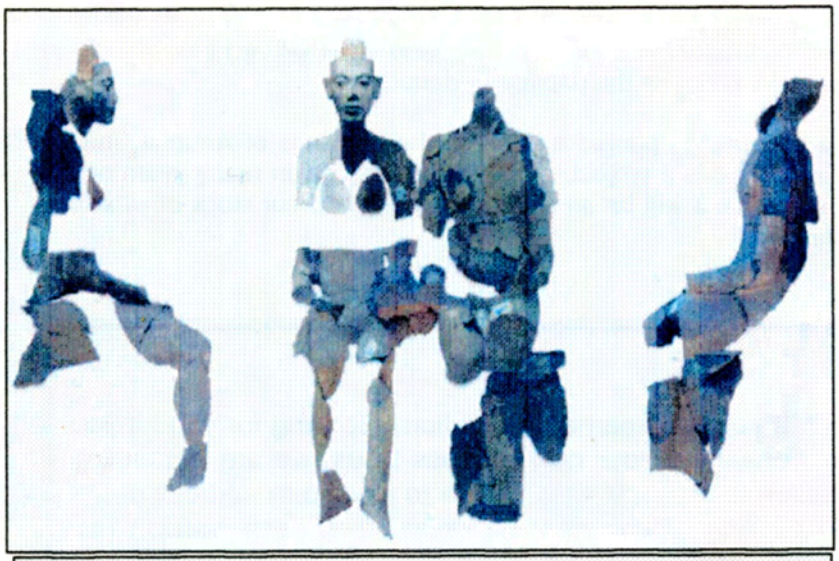
Kristin Thompson

In previous issues of the *Sun*, I have described my work over the three past seasons on the Egypt Exploration Society Expedition to Amarna. Initially, I was asked to join the team in order to register stone fragments found in two dumps left by previous excavators. Many hundreds of pieces have been retrieved from the North House Dump, buried by John Pendlebury's EES group in the 1930s, and from the South House Dump, buried by the EES team, probably in 1924.

So far the most exciting developments in my work have come from the early discovery (during the 2001 season, my first) that about two hundred pieces of shattered granodiorite belonged to a single statue. The piece is roughly two-thirds life-sized, unfinished, and depicts Akhenaten and Nefertiti seated side by side. I have since spent part of each season finding matches and joining the pieces. A hard-stone statue on such a large scale was probably a royal commission (or at least an expensive gift for the king paid for by high officials), and naturally we wanted to trace the original find spot of the piece if at all possible. Our best hope for this was a mention in a dig diary—but which dig? The EES? Or the Deutsche Orient-Gesellschaft expedition, led by Ludwig Borchardt, which worked at Amarna from 1911 to 1914?

In retrospect, it seems likely that the German expedition found these pieces in the Thutmose workshop. Nevertheless, a number of sculptors' workshops had been excavated before 1924, and we could hardly be so hopeful as to expect that our fragments would come from the most famous of all ancient Egyptian workshops. Moreover, the splendid collections of Thutmose fragments in Cairo and Berlin contain so many pieces that it has perhaps been assumed all along that Borchardt's team cleared the complex thoroughly and that all the finds ended up in the two museums.

As I reported in the previous issue of the *Sun*, I visited the Ägyptisches Museum in Berlin in July of 2002. When I first contacted its director, Dr. Dietrich Wildung (an Honorary Trustee of the Amarna Research Foundation), and told him about the statuary fragments, he suggested that the lovely granodiorite head in Berlin (inventory number 21358) might belong to our statue. It was one of the many heads discovered in the Thutmose workshop. I tried not to get my hopes up too much that he was right, but that head was an obvious place to start my investigation. After the Museum closed on the first day of my weeklong visit, Dr. Wildung kindly opened the case where the head was on display and allowed me to remove it to photograph the broken portions on the neck. At the time, I assumed those photographs would be the main means of checking whether the break at the back might match the top portion of Nefertiti's back pillar, which was fortunately among the pieces found in the Dump.



A digital assembly of the sections and pieces of the dyad, including Berlin head 21358. (Image by Dimitri Laboury and Corinna Rossi.)

Later that week, however, a crucial piece of evidence surfaced. I had finished examining all the Amarna pieces from Borchardt's excavations that were in storage in Berlin. (There were hundreds of these—enough to lead one to infer that Borchardt had indeed brought back many pieces that were not of museum quality.) In the time left, I suspected that I would be able to examine only one of the annual volumes of Borchardt's dig diary in the Museum's library.

Proceeding under the assumption that 21358 might belong with our statue, I chose the 1912/1913 volume. The entry for December 13, 1912 mentioned a large number of "black granite" pieces from a shattered, unfinished pair statue of Akhenaten and Nefertiti, seated side by side. These had been found scattered in house P47.3, a small building at the northeast corner of the complex. Berlin 21358 was found near them. The likelihood of the head and fragments belonging to the same statue seemed overwhelming. Still, I wanted to have absolute proof. Fragments of pink granite were also found in P47.3, and it seemed faintly possible that a number of statues of granodiorite and granite could have been in progress in the same building and smashed at the same time.

So likely was a match, however, that Dr. Wildung generously supplied a plaster cast of 21358. Encased in bubble-wrap, it journeyed with me in my carry-on bag to Amarna for the 2003 season. Once I was able to unpack the statue sections and fragments from the crates and trays in which they spend 49 weeks of the year, I located the back pillar and found that it matched the break on the head perfectly. It was, as Barry remarked, a once-in-a-lifetime moment. That match proved conclusively that the granodiorite fragments were discovered by the DOG's expedition on December 13, 1912, in the workshop complex of the sculptor Thutmose—exactly one week after the December 6 discovery of the painted bust of Nefertiti in another building of the same complex.

Clearly Borchardt had only mild interest in the granodiorite fragments. He took the trouble to examine them that same day, for he was able to discern that they represented Akhenaten and Nefertiti seated. In the December 14 entry, however, he mentioned the fragments again, finally dismissing them with the comment, "[The statue] is shattered into a thousand pieces; one asks oneself, who would be interested in that, an unfinished group, so smashed up." The head, in nearly pristine condition with only the end of the nose missing, was museum-worthy, however, and it went to Berlin with the DOG's share of the beautiful Thutmose heads.

At the time that the match with the cast was made, we were still assuming that all of the granodiorite fragments were gathered into the old magazine when the DOG team discovered them. Borchardt's description of sifting carefully through the sand to locate all the chips that had come from the painted bust of Nefertiti suggested that nothing had been overlooked or left behind.

We discovered otherwise, however, after I decided to look through a large collection of querns (small grindstones) that had been picked up by EES team member Delwen Samuel in 1992. One of these proved instead to be a piece of the statue base. I assumed initially that she had found it in the area of the South House Dump, since the discovery of the Dump had resulted from pieces starting to appear on the surface. A quick email exchange with Delwen, however, revealed that the "quern" had been picked up in the Thutmose complex. That find-spot was our first indication that pieces of the granodiorite statue had been left in situ by the German team.

Visiting sculpture expert Dimitri Laboury and I spent about an hour walking over the Thutmose complex. As I described in my previous article, we immediately found a larger piece of the base, as well as a number of chunks of matrix and a small fragment of what proved to be Akhenaten's right ankle. These were surface finds, and the Thutmose complex has sanded over considerably since its clearance, so it seems almost certain that more pieces are there to be found. Indeed, Barry visited the complex after my departure and found a small section of an unfinished statue base (not in granodiorite). In addition, there are many pieces of pink granite and other unworked chunks of hard stone. These may not be as interesting as parts of statues would be, but they do tell us something about the types of stone being used at the workshop. Pink granite, for example, does not figure among the Thutmose collections in Cairo or Berlin, and yet dozens of pieces, many of them fairly substantial, are littered about the complex and atop the massive spoil-heaps from the DOG excavation. It seems apparent that some sort of re-clearance of the Thutmose complex will eventually be necessary, though there has been no time yet to make specific plans about that. Nevertheless, what started as a simple project to register fragments of unknown provenance—a project relatively peripheral to the main tasks of the expedition—has quickly turned into a major focus of attention.

More work on the pair statue remains to be done. The large piece of the base that I mentioned as having been found in situ in the Thutmose complex needs to be brought to the dig house. Given how large it is, I am hopeful that at least one of the reassembled sections of the bodies will fit onto it, and perhaps other portions of the base will as well. Our ultimate goal would be to mount the pieces on a frame or support so that it can be displayed somewhat as it looks in the virtual restoration (by Dimitri and team member Corinna Rossi) illustrated here. It was made by taking digital photographs of the individual sections, and joining them via computer. Despite its shattered state, it is the most substantially preserved relatively large-scale hard-stone statue from Amarna. (There is a possibility that some partial reconstructions will emerge from work with the North House Dump fragments, but these are likely to be even less complete than the pair statue.)

The statue contributes to our knowledge of Amarna art in a number of ways. The grey granodiorite, in combination with other grey and black statuary fragments scattered in museums, suggests that the old notion of Akhenaten avoiding dark stone in favor of "solar" colors is incorrect. The pair statue provides one more example of Nefertiti being placed in a position to her husband's right; only a few cases of this were previously known. The odd positions of the missing hands, which we can deduce from the angles of the wrists, suggest that Akhenaten and Nefertiti were holding an object that extended across both their laps--a hitherto unknown pose. Apart from the small statuette of Akhenaten holding an offering tray (in Cairo), this is the first case where a head with a tenon, for the addition of a crown made separately, has been matched with a body substantially preserved enough to indicate that it was carved from a solid block of stone, with no other component parts added.

The match that proves the dyad came from the Thutmose workshop.

There is evidence to show that other unfinished pieces from the South House Dump also originated in the Thutmose complex. Indeed, perhaps all of them did. Naturally Borchardt could not have known in early 1914 that war would soon bring an end to his team's work at Amarna, and possibly he intended to do something with the fragments that remained at the magazine. Nevertheless, the EES team that inherited the German dig house seems not to have thought them worth keeping, and no indication has been found that the location of the dump where they were buried was recorded. Given that in recent decades Egyptologists have become less oriented toward museum objects and more toward thorough investigations of sites, such fragments are carefully recorded and stored. As a result, a famous site that has been thought to have yielded up all its treasures is receiving fresh attention.

Behind the Scenes of an Egyptian Expedition - Part II

Richard Harwood

Part I of this article, which appeared in the, May 2003 issue of the 'Akhetaten Sun' discussed the formal preparations and approval processes for American archaeological expeditions in Egypt.

The expedition of which I am a member is the University of Arizona Egyptian Expedition (UAEE), under the direction of Dr. Richard H. Wilkinson. As part of the Expedition's Motif Alignment Project, we have photographed, recorded, and studied the wall scenes in the tomb of Merenptah (KV 8) in the main Valley of the Kings. We also have spent parts of the past two field seasons excavating the area surrounding tomb WV 25 as part of our Western Valley of the Kings Project. This article will use our experiences to illustrate the procedures that American expeditions generally follow after Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA) and the Egyptian Security Police have given their initial assurances that the proposed project and the individual team members will be approved.[1]

In Cairo

For the past few years, all members of an expedition team have been required to appear together at the headquarters of the SCA to obtain their final paperwork. Our team members gather in Cairo no later than the day before what we call "SCA Day".

We arrive at the headquarters of the American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE) early that morning for a meeting with Madam Amira Khattab in her private office. Madam Amira, a delightful, indomitable and highly efficient lady, has been with the ARCE office in Cairo for 35 years and is the Assistant to Dr. Robert Springborg*, the Director of ARCE. It would be difficult to find any American Egyptologist working in Egypt who would not credit her with superhuman powers when it comes to weaving through the maze of bureaucratic procedures or handling miscellaneous problems from booking local travel arrangements to assisting with lost passports.

Dr. Robert Springborg and Madam Amira Khattab hold her certificate of appreciation from the University of Arizona Egyptian Expedition.

Following the formalities of strong Turkish coffee, pleasant conversation and a short social visit with Dr. Springborg, the business begins. A set fee is paid in US dollars to cover the cost of ARCE's crucial services. The fee, based on the number of members on our team, is discounted considerably because the University of Arizona is an institutional member of ARCE.

Madam Amira collects all of our passports and has one of her assistants make photocopies of them. She fills out a form for the Security Police listing our travel plans to Luxor: date, flight numbers and times, the names of the hotels where each of us will be staying, and when and how we will be returning to Cairo. Three of our team members plan to travel to Luxor by train but do not yet have their tickets. Madam Amira collects the price of the tickets from them and sends one of her assistants to the train station to buy the tickets and bring them back to the ARCE office. She makes sure we have the phone and fax numbers of the ARCE office as well as her personal mobile (cellular) phone number, just in case we have any problems and need to contact her at any time of the day or night.

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[1] Both Parts I and II of this article were originally published in *The Ostracon* and are reprinted here with the permission of the Egyptian Study Society. Both the author and ESS realize that the official procedures discussed in Part I have been changed significantly since the article was published in *The Ostracon*.

A taxi is arranged to take our team to the SCA headquarters in the crowded, rundown Cairo district of Abbasiya. Twenty percent of Egypt's Gross National Product is generated by tourism directly related to the work of the Supreme Council of Antiquities. The public, "showcase" headquarters of the SCA, in the fashionable Zamalek district of Cairo, are clean and modern. This is where foreign dignitaries are greeted and entertained. But the actual, working offices of the SCA in Abbasiya are shockingly drab and shabby.

The interior walls of the high-rise building are stained and the paint is peeling off. The tile floors and marble stairs are scuffed and worn. Small, faded prints of various antiquity sites and tinted photographs of President Hosni Mubaruk are taped on the walls. The plastic chairs and couches are badly torn and the stuffing is falling out. The building has no air-conditioning. The windows are open to the stifling heat, and an occasional table fan pushes the stale air around slowly.

Since none of us speaks fluent Arabic, Salah Metwali has accompanied us from ARCE. Fresh from having purchased the train tickets, Salah is a tremendous help in guiding us through the various offices.

An official of the SCA and Dr. Richard Wilkenson, (right) Director of the UAEE, examine the expedition's work contract.

After entering the building and climbing the stairs, we are ushered into a stark room on the second floor. Within ten minutes, a casually dressed official enters the room. We know from Madam Amira that the SCA has already approved our project. But the official reviews our file at length before finally presenting a contract to Dr. Wilkinson for his signature. It specifies where we can work, the duration of the work season, and what we can do. The contract is written in Arabic so it is reviewed carefully to make sure the dates, site locations, names of the team members and other essential elements are correct. If any of this information should later be found to be missing or wrong, we all might have to return to Cairo to get the contract corrected.

We express our thanks and are referred to another room on the sixth floor. The building has an elevator which may not have worked for many years, so we climb the stairs. The room is small and cramped, with ten women seated behind seven desks. Most are munching on hard rolls, sipping hot tea from thin, plain glasses, and gossiping about what they and their families had done the previous night. We crowd into the room and plaster ourselves against the bare walls.

The number of employees in these offices has mushroomed during recent years, perhaps owing to the fact that all university graduates in Egypt are guaranteed a government job. But government salaries are minimal and most employees have to work at least two jobs to make ends meet. To accommodate all qualified employees, the work shifts of non-essential employees are short. For example, if you spend a full day at the government-run Egyptian Museum in Cairo, you may notice that, while the Museum is open for only eight hours each day, there are two complete changes of non-administrative staff during that time.

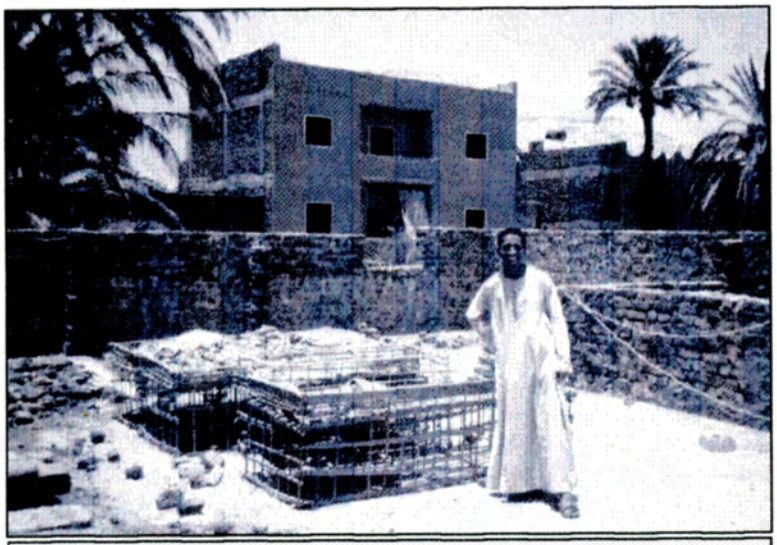
Among the women in the small, sixth-floor office, one is obviously in charge. She checks our paperwork while another fills in additional forms on the solitary, manual typewriter. No one has said a word to us, but we realize the importance of what is happening. We are in the clerical office of the Security Police and the two ladies who are actually working are preparing our security clearances. Our smiles are intended to radiate goodwill and friendship. An official enters the room. He examines, questions and finally signs the papers. We are directed back down to yet another room on the second floor.

The staff examine our passports closely and compare them with photocopies that were made at the ARCE office and with others from the SCA office. They record the information manually on still another set of forms. Something seems to be wrong. The man recording the information about my passport questions the fact that it was issued only three weeks earlier and is valid for only one year. It is not the passport I used during our previous field season, which was valid for another five years. I explain that my old passport was lost by the United States Postal System in the process of getting a visa from the Egyptian Consulate in Houston and a new, temporary passport had to be issued at the last moment. The officials confer quietly in Arabic while we all hold our breath.

Suddenly the man behind the desk stands up, gives us a big smile, and hands us back our passports. We have run the bureaucratic gauntlet in record-shattering time. What usually takes several hours at the SCA headquarters has been completed in less than one. In the taxi on the way back to the ARCE office, we are struck by a novel question for "SCA Day": What do we do with the rest of the afternoon?

Running the gauntlet has never gone so smoothly. In every previous year, at least one unexpected stumbling block had been thrown in our path at the last minute. One year, after an entire day at the SCA headquarters, we were finally issued security clearances only to discover that all the UAEE members had been assigned to the team of Dr. Kent Weeks, and all of Dr. Weeks's team members had been assigned to work with Dr. Wilkinson. It took most of the following day to straighten out the filing error. Another year, the Secretary General of the SCA who preceded the very able Dr. Gaballa Ali Gaballa decided (for some still unknown reason) to withdraw all approvals for American projects and the entire season had to be cancelled at the last minute. Last year, our security clearances remained unsigned for nearly a week, and half of our team members never did receive theirs. The reason: the head of the Security Police, who had already agreed in writing to issue the clearances, was on vacation and no one else was willing to take responsibility for signing the papers during his absence.

This year, everything had gone smoothly in Cairo. That left only one more official set of procedures before we could begin our actual work. The SCA and the Security Police had given us the green light to proceed. But we would be working in Luxor and our final approval would have to be obtained from the Antiquities Office in Upper Egypt.



The expedition's reis, Nubie el-Baset Hassan, on the roof of his home where he and his family sleep during the summer.

In Luxor

We arrive in Luxor on Friday, the equivalent of Sunday in Christian countries, when most Egyptians do not work unless they are directly involved in the tourist industry. In recent years, Thursdays have also become non-work days for government officials. So the day of our arrival is set aside for unpacking, settling into the hotel for the next few weeks, renewing acquaintances with the hotel staff and visiting friends in the Luxor area.

The following day, the team splits up to take care of preparations and to make necessary contacts. Dr. Wilkinson makes arrangements for all of us to meet the next day with Dr. Sabry el-Azziz, the General Director of Antiquities for Upper Egypt, to receive our additional paperwork and permits. Two of us take the ferry across the Nile to the West Bank to find Nubie el-Baset Hassan. Nubie is the *reis* – or foreman – of our Egyptian workmen and has worked with us for many years. We are unable to call ahead because, like most people who live on the West Bank, Nubie and his family do not have a telephone. Luckily, we find him in his home near Medinet Habu, the mortuary temple of Ramesses III. We are also relieved to find that he is not currently working with another project. .

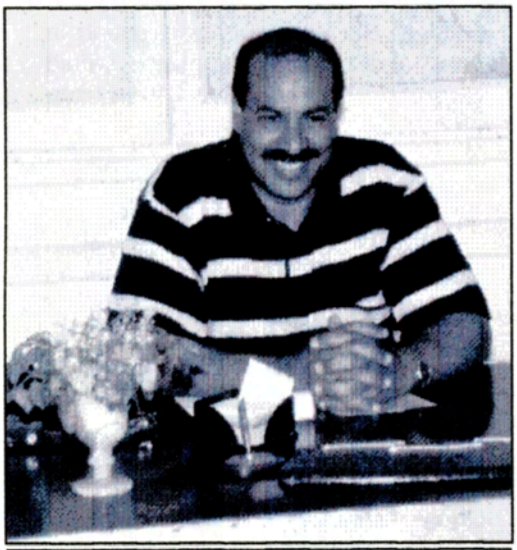
Sitting on mat-covered stone benches along the wall of the mud-floor room where he entertains guests, drinking scalding hot tea from small, thin glasses, we explain to Nubie what we will be doing this season. Together, we determine the number of workmen we will need for the physical labor of the excavation. In Egypt, archaeologists are required to hire local workmen to do most of the strenuous work which, considering the high summer temperatures and scorching sun, we are more than happy to do.

Before leaving, we take an inventory of all the equipment we have stored with Nubie over the years: flood lights, electrical cords, a camera tripod, flashlights, a military compass, T-squares, meter sticks, measuring tapes, duct tape, trowels, paint brushes, and tooth brushes for particularly fine work. After a visit and more scalding tea with Nubie's elderly mother, we head back across the river, satisfied that the preparations are going well.

The following day, we meet with Dr. Sabry el-Azziz at the *tafteesh* (the official Antiquities office) on the East Bank, located in an alley just behind the Luxor Museum. Gracious, charming and efficient as always, Dr. Sabry offers us more scalding tea. We discuss our respective families, and he catches us up on the latest news and possible position changes within the Supreme Council of Antiquities.

Almost as a casual afterthought, Dr. Sabry signs our official work papers and arranges for us to meet later that day with his associate, the Chief Inspector of Antiquities on the West Bank. Before we leave, he kindly gives us special, handwritten passes that allow us free entry into all archaeological sites in the Luxor area for the entire time we will be there.

Papers in hand, we cross to the West Bank. We select a motorboat and arrange with the driver to transport us each day that we will be working on the West Bank. For five or more people, a motorboat is cheaper than the local ferry. It is also much faster and the boat driver will be waiting for us on the West Bank to bring us back when we have finished working for the day.



Mr. Ibrahim Soliman, Chief Inspector of the Valley of the Kings.

Arriving at the *tafteesh* on the West Bank, we discover that Mr. Mohammed el-Bialy, the Chief Inspector on the West Bank, is in South America giving a series of lectures. Filling in for him is our good friend, Mr. Ibrahim Soliman, Chief Inspector of the Valley of the Kings. Mr. Ibrahim is extremely friendly and outgoing and, like Dr. Sabry, has been especially helpful to us over many years. He also understands Americans better than most Chief Inspectors. Rather than offering us still more scaldingly hot tea in the 110-degree temperature, he asks if we would like a very cold soda. If he had worn a large enough ring, we would all have kissed it at the same time.

Although expeditions can request a particular *reis*, the Chief Inspector of the area must approve the choice. While we were taking care of other matters, Nubie had alerted Mr. Ibrahim that we were in Luxor and Mr. Ibrahim had approved Nubie as our *reis*. Nubie had then hired our six workmen and a driver, Tiyeb, who had driven us the previous year. We were delighted with Nubie's choice. Unlike many other drivers, Tiyeb is very agreeable about staying with us the entire time we are working. This is particularly important in more remote areas, like the West Valley of the Kings, in case there is an emergency or if we have to send someone back to one of the villages to find a needed piece of equipment.

Prior to our arrival at the *tafteesh* on the West Bank, Mr. Ibrahim had also asked Mr. Aez ed-Din to be our project Inspector. By SCA regulation, each expedition is assigned a government Inspector who stays with the project team whenever it is actually working on-site. This is for two reasons: first, to assist in any

special matters that might come up; and, second, to ensure that anything that is found of particular value or importance is reported immediately to the proper Egyptian authorities. In order to maintain an official distance – and to avoid any possible collusion – between the Inspector and the project team, it is unusual for a project Inspector to be assigned to the same expedition for more than one field season. Mr. Aez ed-Din had been our Inspector the previous season and was well liked by the team members so we were both surprised and pleased that he had been reassigned to us again this year.

With Murphy's Law in mind, we have learned to pad the time we expect to work with a couple of extra days, just in case anything unexpected happens. It usually does, and this year was no exception. America West Airlines had lost Dr. Wilkinson's checked luggage on his short flight between Tucson and Phoenix. They eventually located the suitcase and sent it to London where, by international regulations, it was held in quarantine for several days. It was finally sent on to Egypt, only to be diverted to another country due to a sandstorm around the Cairo airport. While the contents were not absolutely crucial to this year's project – those things had been packed in carry-on luggage – the suitcase did contain several items that would be very helpful to the project. We decided to delay the start of our work for one extra day with the hope that the suitcase would arrive. This is explained to Mr. Ibrahim in answer to his polite inquiry about how the traveling had gone so far.

In the course of our conversation at the *tafteesh*, we ask Mr. Ibrahim if the third level of the mortuary temple of Hatshepsut at Deir el-Bahari is open to the public.

"No," he says. "I'm sorry. We hope to open it later this year, insha'allah." Then his eyes brighten and he asks, "You have all seen the third level, of course?"

We tell him that none of us has, other than looking down on it from the path that leads from Deir el-Medina over to the Valley of the Kings.

"Then you must see it! This afternoon is probably too hot, but Mr. Aez ed-Din can take you there tomorrow and Mr. Yassar, the Chief Inspector at Deir el-Bahari, will show it to you. You will love it! Besides", he says with a twinkle in his eye, "it will be a lot better than sitting around waiting for a suitcase that, in Egypt, may never arrive".

Plans to visit Karnak are forgotten immediately and his kind offer is accepted with great enthusiasm.

Final schedules are arranged. Mr. Ibrahim has a meeting with other Antiquities Department officials mid-morning the next day to discuss the flash-flood drainage problems in the Valley of the Kings. We arrange to come to the *tafteesh* prior to that meeting to present our passports and six photocopies of the visa stamps showing our entry dates into Egypt.

The next day, after a brief meeting with Mr. Ibrahim, a two-hour guided tour of the third level of the mortuary temple of Hatshepsut, and just minutes before the "drop dead" time for having to replace work clothes and miscellaneous equipment Dr. Wilkinson's suitcase is delivered to his hotel in Luxor. It is over a week late but in time for us to start the project with only one day's actual delay.

On the first day of on-site work, Tiyeb picks us up at the motorboat landing at 7am. His open-bed truck holds all 12 of us -- Tiyeb, the project team, the workmen, Nubie and Mr. Aez ed-Din. Tiyeb has already picked up the workmen and we drive to the West Valley in time to start work by 7:30. The Chief Inspector of the West Bank determines how early we can begin work each day, usually with the recommendation of the Inspector assigned to our project. Even the Egyptians like to begin as early in the morning as possible, before the heat of the day makes heavy work unbearable. After about noon, when summer temperatures in the West Valley can reach upwards of 120 degrees, strenuous physical labor simply is not safe for the workmen.

Back in Cairo

Following the end of the season and before leaving Luxor, Dr. Wilkinson writes a Preliminary Report of the field season that is typed, printed and photocopied at one of the Internet cafès in Luxor. Before we leave Luxor, one photocopy is given to the General Director of Antiquities for Upper Egypt, one to the

Chief Inspector on the West Bank, and one, as a courtesy, to the project Inspector. After we get back to Cairo, we deliver six additional photocopies to Madam Amira at ARCE: one copy for their files and five that they will deliver to the SCA. Within the next two months, Dr. Wilkinson will write a Final Report of the season, which he will send to ARCE to be forwarded to the SCA.

The field season has been a great success. The regulatory procedures, overseen by Madam Amira, have gone flawlessly this year; the local Egyptian workmen, hired and supervised by Nubie, have done a wonderful job; and Egyptological knowledge about tomb WV 25 has been increased as much as it can be by the work that has been done.

But the next field season is only ten months away, and the planning, application process, and fund raising has already begun anew.

[Editor's Note: For additional information on the University of Arizona Egyptian Expedition, please visit its Web site at w3.arizona.edu/~egypt.]

Dr. Robert Springborg is no longer with ARCE. As of June, 2003 the Directorship position has been assumed by Dr. Gary Scott.

Richard S. Harwood is an Associate Director of the University of Arizona Egyptian Expedition. He is a past president of the Egyptian Study Society and a past trustee and officer of The Amarna Research Foundation, Inc.

TREASURERS REPORT
For the Period Ending
September 30, 2003

TO: *Board of Trustees*
The Amarna Research Foundation

FROM: Evan H. Mitchell

DATE: September 30, 2003

At of the close of the fiscal year, which ended on September 30, 2003 The Amarna Research Foundation had cash in the amount of $10,862.74 Donations received during the year were $12,464.40, with expenses of $2,086.10 and grants made totaling $14,600.00

The five thousand dollar bequest given to The Amarna Research Foundation from the estate of Erlene P. Hansen was removed from the account and placed in a ninety day revolving certificate of deposit. The interest from this certificate will be periodically deposited in the account.

The expenses for the year by category were:

Foundation Publications including postage	$ 1,121.10
Advertising for new members	$ 940.00
Other (Bi-Annual State fee)	$ 25.00

There was no compensation made to any trustee. All served in a voluntary capacity.

Grants made this year were:

American Friends of Cambridge University	$ 9000.00
American Friends of Cambridge University	$ 2000.00
American Foundation University of Durham Amarna Royal Tombs Project	$ 1600.00
University of Arizona, Egypt Exploration Project	$ 2000.00

Further grants to The Egyptian Exploration Society and the University of Arizona that were approved at the Sept. '03 annual meeting will be paid in FY 04.

Evan H.Mitchell
Treasurer, The Amarna Research Foundation

COMPARISON OF THREE YEARS REVENUES AND EXPENSES
for
The Amarna Research Foundation

	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003
BEGINNING BALANCE	$ 2,895	$ 8,328	$ 20,084
Donations received	18,225	15,446	12,464
Transfer to Certificate of Deposit			5,000
Expenses	1,880	2,382	2,086
Grants made	10,912	1,308	14,600
ENDING BALANCE	$ 8,328	$ 20,084	$ 10,862

BALANCE SHEET
for
The Amarna Research Foundation
As of September 30, 2003

ASSETS	$ 10,862.74
Other assets	5,000.00
Total Assets	$ 15,862.74
LIABILITIES	$. 0.00
Total Liabilities	$ 0.00
FUND BALANCE	
From previous years operations	$ 20,084.64
For current year	4,221.90
Fund balance	$ 15,862.74

Notes: This balance sheet reflects cash items only, and does not include non-items such as amortization and depreciation. This balance sheet has not been audited.