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I

CLASSEMENT GÉOGRAPHIQUE DES DÉCOUVERTES

§ 1. — *Mendes* (Excavations of the Institute of Fine Arts — New York University, 7th Season, 1979).

Excavation was begun on an area of the mound outside the temple enclosure with the hope of obtaining a continuous stratified ceramic sequence for the site for all periods of occupation from the Archaic up to Ptolemaic times. All ceramic material excavated was analyzed. Non-diagnostic sherds were divided by fabric and surface treatment, and counted. Diagnostic forms were divided according to type (defined on the basis of fabric and morphological attributes) and a working typology compiled for use in the field recording.

The site chosen for excavation turned out to be non-residential — probably an industrial area — and three major levels have so far been defined. Remains on the surface were a mixture of Ptolemaic pottery and terracottas, and pottery from the Late Period. The bulk of the material can be dated to the Late Period on the basis of imported wares from elsewhere in the Mediterranean and large numbers of faience amulets, scarabs and New Year's bottles. A few forms may be earlier — Third Intermediate Period or Late Ramesside. Part of a Mycenaean stirrup jar from the time of Ramesses II and three fragments of late 18th Dynasty blue-painted ware were also found.

Much of the material comes from a large, densely-packed layer of sherds over a meter thick in places. A number of sherds of imported wares with painted and incised decoration, probably East Greek in origin and dating from the 6th to 7th centuries B.C., came from this layer. Elsewhere on the site, large numbers of Phoenician

amphorae dating to the 6th century B.C. and including two with Aramaic inscriptions, were found.

A brief report on this pottery was presented to the Second International Congress of Egyptologists at Grenoble, France, in September, 1979, and will appear in the proceedings of the Congress to be published by the C.N.R.S. A more extensive preliminary report on the excavations will be published under the auspices of the American Research Center in Egypt in 1980.

Susan J. Allen

§ 2. — *Mendes* (Excavations of the Institute of Fine Arts — New York University, 8th Season, 1980).

Excavation continued in the area of the mound outside the temple enclosure which was opened in 1979. Two seasons of excavation in this area have shown that the site was built up of a series of fills, presumably dumped to prepare the area for some large building project, only scant traces of which remain. While each layer of fill is homogeneous, it is all in secondary context.

The pottery recovered this season comes from four different periods : Ptolemaic, Late, Third Intermediate, and late New Kingdom.

The Ptolemaic material was found at the foot of a massive pisé platform which cuts through the earlier layers of fill. Also found in this area was a stamped amphora handle.

The Late Period pottery is associated with a large mudbrick, subterranean building foundation containing a series of domed compartments. This structure, which measures 11 meters on a side, is cut through a layer of debris containing Late Period pottery and a large amount of slag and kiln debris. The compartments and overlying layers also contain Late material and East Greek and Phoenician sherds.

The Third Intermediate Period pottery comes exclusively from a layer of fill. It is characterized by a hard, gritty Nile silt fabric and

shapes which originate in the New Kingdom. A number of possible Cypriote or Late Mycenaean sherds were found in this level.

The late New Kingdom fills contained few sherds, most of which were very worn. These layers were composed largely of packed and rather sticky clay. Blue-painted sherds of the late 18th Dynasty continue to occur in disturbed contexts, usually on or near the surface.

Susan J. Allen

§ 3. — *Kellia* (Institut Français d'Archéologie).

La 6^e campagne de fouilles de l'IFAO sur le site des Kellia a eu lieu du 15 décembre 1979 au 15 janvier 1980. Interrompus en 1968, les travaux ont pu reprendre cette année sur le kom 34 où avait été dégagé un complexe important de bâtiments communs entourés d'un mur d'enceinte. C'est sur le secteur des deux églises accolées que les fouilles ont porté. L'antériorité de la petite église (à l'Ouest) par rapport à la grande église (à l'Est) a pu être démontrée. Entre la grande église et les bâtiments qui occupent le Nord du kom 34, une cour a fait l'objet d'un sondage. De nombreux tessons de poterie utilitaire ont été recueillis (cf. Egloff, *Kellia* III, texte p. 125 n° 204, 5 = pl. 23, 5 et 65, 2) ainsi que des morceaux de nacre et de verre. Parmi les tessons de céramique les plus intéressants on peut relever ceux d'un récipient (marmite?) à anses, enduit d'un engobe rouge et portant un décor de palmes noires et de « perles » (cf. Egloff, *o.c.*, 143 sq.) ainsi qu'un fragment de plat creux dont la paroi intérieure est ornée d'un motif végétal (bouton de lotus, palme) peint en noir et rouge-brun. Enfin, de nombreux fragments d'amphores portant une inscription grecque très cursive ont été trouvés. Ils se rattachent à une série bien connue aux Kellia (cf. Gascou, *Bulletin de liaison* III, § 29).

G. Andreu

§ 4. — *The Sphinx — Giza* (American Research Center in Egypt).

In 1978 excavations were made under the supervision of Zahi Hawass, chief inspector of the Pyramids, to investigate undisturbed deposits in the northeast corner of the Sphinx sanctuary. These deposits were not excavated in the 1926 clearance of the Sphinx and were sealed by a displaced core block from the Sphinx temple and the Amenhotep II temple. The deposits contained Old Kingdom pottery, possibly from the construction of the Sphinx temple during that period.

Also excavated was a cache of Roman pottery in the mud foundations of the Roman stairs directly east of the north forepaw of the Sphinx. From the foundations of the Amenhotep II temple, several fragments of blue-painted 18th Dynasty wares were recovered.

Mark Lehner

Susan Allen

§ 5. — *Saqqara North* (Excavations of the Egypt Exploration Society, Autumn 1979).

Excavation in the settlement area of the Anubieion, directed by Professor H.S. Smith, was concluded in November 1979 after a short season of work. On the basis of coin evidence the major occupation of the settlement appears to have taken place from c. 250 B.C. to the early Roman period and was probably unbroken. Stratified pottery has been recovered in large quantities from the whole of this period, though few vessels were intact. After a period of abandonment there seems to have been reoccupation of the site in the 4th and early 5th centuries A.D., again on the basis of coin evidence. Although few architectural traces remain, it is likely that the pottery of the surface and immediately subsurface deposits is mostly of

this period, and it should prove possible to construct a separate type-series for this phase. Thereafter, occupation seems to have ceased, though later pottery occurs a little way to the east, in an area of the temple excavated in 1977. Study and analysis will continue in Autumn 1980.

Peter French and Pamela Rose

§ 6. — *Saqqara - Tombeau de Bocchoris* (Fouilles de l'Université de Pise, 1979).

L'Université de Pise, sous la direction de Mme Edda Bresciani, a continué en décembre 1979 le nettoyage du tombeau de Bocchoris (L. 24). Pendant les travaux a été trouvée beaucoup de poterie, dont la plupart vient du nettoyage de l'extérieur du tombeau BS 2, réutilisé à une très basse époque. Toute cette poterie est à dater après le II^e siècle : on a trouvé aussi des vases et des fragments peints, avec des décorations coptes typiques. La poterie consiste en petites cruches, assiettes, gobelets, etc.

Cristina Guidotti

§ 7. — *Dahshur* (Deutsches Archäologisches Institut).

During the excavation of the pyramid precinct of Amenemes III at Dahshur, pottery of the following dates was found : reign of Amenemes III, probably the earlier part; later reign of the same king and his successors; 13th dynasty; « blue-painted » style of the New Kingdom. Leaving the New Kingdom pottery aside, the evidence of the 12th and 13th dynasty pottery leads to the following conclusions.

a) In the memphite region (Upper Egypt may differ considerably) the ceramic traditions continue in all essentials from the middle

12th (building period of the pyramid of Lahun) to well into the late 13th dynasty. The major pottery manufacturing centers must therefore have continued to function during most of the 13th dynasty. The term « Early Second Intermediate Period » for the 13th dynasty is accordingly misleading for the pottery of the memphite region, since it tends to imply the start of distinctive new traditions already at the end of the 12th or the beginning of the 13th dynasty.

- b) As opposed to the latter interpretation we suggest that the period of development of memphite pottery from the time of the construction of the pyramid of Lahun till the late 13th dynasty should be considered as a unit which can be divided into three phases : the classical phase of 12th dynasty pottery (late Sesostri II, Sesostri III, beginning of Amenemes III), the late 12th dynasty phase (Amenemes III, IV and beginning of the 13th dynasty) and the 13th dynasty or late Middle Kingdom phase.
- c) In the framework of essentially one and the same ceramic tradition — implying the continuation of leading workshops during the whole period — there can be shown to have taken place certain changes mainly in the shapes and decorative elements from one of the three phases to the next. The style characteristic of the reign of Amenemes III and his immediate successors which differentiates it from the foregoing phase consists mainly in a greater tendency towards colourful surfaces (black stripes on bright red). But certain developments in vessel shapes can likewise be recognized and accordingly used for dating purposes. Even more clearly visible is the development of vessel shapes from the end of the Amenemes III phase to the late phase comprising the main part of the 13th dynasty. Certain distinctive features of the hemispherical cups (drinking cups) or the middle sized jars can, from

the evidence at Dahshur, be shown to be sure indications of a date later than Amenemes III-IV for these particular vessels.

Dorothea Arnold

§ 8. — *El Hibeh* (Excavations of the University of Washington).

Excavations and systematic surface sampling during the first (1980) season produced ceramics and other artifacts of the Late Period through late Roman era. The pottery, of both Nile silt and marl clay wares in several fabrics, seems to resemble Upper Egyptian assemblages more closely than those of Lower Egypt, although El Hibeh has many types in common with levels currently being excavated at Mendes, Naukratis, and other Delta sites. *Terra sigillata* and other Roman wares, as well as two coins of the 3rd century A.D., suggest Roman period occupation of most of the northern two-thirds of the site. Ceramics taken from directly below an enclosure wall stamped with Twenty-first dynasty names probably belong to a sizable late New Kingdom community at the site. Two test excavations, both reaching about 2.8 meters in depth, exposed domestic architecture and artifacts of what is thought to be an overlapping sequence of early and mid first millennium B.C. occupations. No Ramessid faience or painted Mycenaean types have been identified in the 1980 season's collections. A large sample of pottery, bones, soil samples, and other materials is being exported to the University of Washington for analyses involving thermoluminescence dating, ceramic thin-sectioning, and statistical determinations of the associations between architecture, features, and other artifacts. Particular attention will be given to statistical manipulations designed to identify stylistic and functional attributes of ceramic types and to test these attributes against the spatial and temporal distributions to be expected in variability in these dimensions.

Robert J. Wenke

§ 9. — *Deir el Ballas* (American Research Center in Egypt).

Ceramics collected during the 1980 survey of the site will be correlated with those from the original Hearst Expedition (1900-1901) excavations. Of chief interest are the domestic wares from a rubbish dump exposed by «*sebakhin*» and those ceramics remaining in context from the walls and floors of the houses and palaces. The domestic and mortuary assemblages will be compared and locational analysis of domestic wares will be made to determine function and variation between discrete activity areas. The survey revealed a strong compliment of Nubian wares of both Pan-grave and Kerma Cultures.

Peter Lacovara

§ 10. — *East Karnak* (University of Toronto, May-June 1980).

Excavation continued under the direction of Professor D.B. Redford.

No work was done this year in the area of the mud-brick «*pyramid*» partially excavated in 1979. Elsewhere on the site, once modern dumps had been removed, mud-brick buildings of the Late Dynastic period were at once uncovered. Associated with these was a great deal of pottery of domestic type. As in previous seasons, there was a notable absence of stratified Ptolemaic and post-Ptolemaic pottery, and it seems very likely that the area outside the east wall of the Amun enclosure remained unoccupied during those periods.

Beneath the Late Dynastic levels much New Kingdom pottery was again found, amongst and immediately above the remains of the Akhenaten temple buildings. In places the underlying Middle Kingdom levels were again reached and useful quantities of this, probably domestic, occupation recovered, including many fragments of burnished bowls. These levels are close to the present water table.

It is hoped to arrange a study season on the material from this and previous seasons in the near future.

Peter French

§ 11. — *Qurna, Tempel Sethos'I* (Deutsches Archäologisches Institut).

Im Herbst 1979 wurde die Grabung im Sethos-Tempel fortgesetzt. Zwei weitere Topfneste sind im westlichen Teil der Umfassungsmauer freigelegt worden. Sie enthielten Keramik, die sich im wesentlichen nicht von der des Topfnestes in der NW-Ecke Tempelumfassungsmauer unterscheidet, d.h. spätzeitliche Ware (25. Dyn. - Ptolemäerzeit), teilweise gut erhaltene Gefäße aus Nilton und Mergelton (vgl. *Bulletin de Liaison* III).

Während einer Nacharbeitungskampagne, die sich im Frühjahr 1980 angeschlossen hat, wurde die Vorbereitung der Publikation, d.h. Herstellung von Zeichnungen und Photographien der Keramik aus früheren Kampagnen weitergeführt. Im Mittelpunkt der Bearbeitung stand koptische, mit Pflanzenmotiven bemalte Keramik und römische Haushaltsware.

Petra Barthelmess
Barbara Engelmann
Karol Myśliwiec

§ 12. — *Qourna — Temple funéraire de Thoutmosis IV* (Fouilles de l'Université de Pise, 1980).

Sous la direction de Mme Edda Bresciani, l'Université de Pise a travaillé en mars 1980 dans la zone du temple funéraire de Thoutmosis IV. Pendant les fouilles des édifices découverts à l'extérieur du côté Sud de l'enceinte du temple, a été trouvée « in situ » une grande quantité de poterie du Nouvel Empire. Dans l'édifice appelé

« maison des trois fours » la cuisine conservait encore beaucoup de vaisselle « in situ » : vases de plusieurs formes, amphores, assiettes avec les résidus du dernier repas, coupes, etc. On a même trouvé des vases peints, avec des décorations typiques de la XVIII^e dynastie. Toute cette poterie a un grand intérêt parce qu'elle a une datation sûre : l'édifice en effet est contemporain de la construction du temple funéraire de Thoutmosis IV. L'autre édifice, qui n'est pas encore complètement fouillé, a livré aussi de la poterie du Nouvel Empire, mais au moins postérieure au règne d'Aménophis III, du moment que dans le bâtiment ont été remployées plusieurs briques avec le sceau de ce souverain.

Cristina Guidotti

§ 13. — *Hierakonpolis* (Virginia, Museum of Fine Arts).

For the second season in a row, archaeological research at Hierakonpolis has concentrated on the Predynastic period. For the last three seasons, Predynastic investigations have focused on the following themes : (1) The completion of a topographic map at a scale of 1 : 4000 and Contour Interval of 1 m., showing the extent of Predynastic settlement and its change through time; (2) The production of larger scale maps of selected sites to show internal variation among occupational and mortuary features; (3) The selective excavation and surface sampling of Predynastic sites; (4) The quantification of all cultural material from excavated sites; (5) The development of a new system of ceramic classification based on broken, settlement pottery and the equation of this system to the older one originally devised by Petrie for whole vessels from cemeteries; (6) The systematic investigation of Predynastic palaeo-ecology, including detailed sedimentological, pedological, archaeo-botanical, archaeo-zoological and radio-chemical analyses by participating specialists and (7) The use

of on-site, multi-disciplinary seminars to promote an understanding of the many aspects and problems characteristic of regional Predynastic cultural ecology.

Of special relevance to colleagues studying Egyptian ceramics might be our use of a descriptive system based on sherds rather than whole pots and our attempts to detect a number of stylistic and metric characteristics usually ignored by traditional schemes. Our aim is first and foremost to describe the full range of ceramics, including the undecorated wares and shapes and to study functional differences within settlement sites and note micro-chronological differences characteristic of the Hierakonpolis region in Predynastic times. Preliminary results show that differences in frequency between major ware classes (*i.e.* Untempered Plum [or « Polished » Red] Ware and Straw Tempered Ware) depends more on the function of a particular area of a site than on the period considered. A related observation has revealed that settlement sites *can* contain surprisingly large numbers of finer pottery types, depending on the function of the particular area tested.

Related to our typological studies are technological studies focusing on the unusually large number of Predynastic pottery kilns found in our region. To date, two kilns, both of apparently « Amratian » date have been excavated and ten more mapped and surface sampled. cursory survey of large settlement sites, suggests that as many as 25 kiln clusters of Predynastic-Protodynastic date exist at Hierakonpolis in the desert. Mapping of sites suggests a contrastive distribution between Untempered Plum Red and Straw Tempered Ware kilns, the latter being found on upland shales and the former on late Pleistocene Nile silts. More refined, radio chemical tests are currently being applied to our pottery and soil samples and a detailed preliminary report on our work is scheduled to appear within the next year.

Michael A. Hoffman

§ 14. — *Nağ' Abū 'Id / Oberägypten, Festung* (Survey P. Grossmann, H. Jaritz, u.a.).

Die Festung liegt in einer Hangsituation rund 17 km südlich von Edfu und wurde von uns zwecks Herstellung einer Bauaufnahme erstmalig im Frühjahr 1975 besucht. Bei der bei gleicher Gelegenheit eingesammelten Keramik handelt es sich umständehalber ausschliesslich um Lesefunde. Dennoch vermitteln diese Funde, die inzwischen weitgehend durchgearbeitet wurden, ein recht einheitliches Bild, was in erster Linie mit der nur kurzfristigen Besiedlung des Platzes zusammenhängt.

Im einzelnen besteht der etwa 70 Scherben umfassende Komplex aus reiner Gebrauchskeramik, die mit einer Ausnahme keinerlei Dekoration aufweist. Feine Waren und kunstvoll geformte Gefässe fehlen gänzlich. Dagegen überwiegen bauchige, hauptsächlich aus Mergelton gefertigte Vorrats- und Wassergefässe sowie grosse flache bzw. tiefe Schüsseln aus Nilton. Daneben fällt ein reiches Sortiment kleinerer Schüsseln auf; und zwar ein paar handliche Formate aus Nilton, andere mit Knickrand aus Nilton und auch einige mit Wulstrand aus Mergelton. Hinweise auf lokale Produktion wie etwa Keramiköfen wurden nicht beobachtet.

Eine genaue Datierung der Keramik ist bisher nicht eindeutig zu geben. Dem Gesamteindruck nach gehört die Keramik der Spätzeit an. Da einige für den Zeitraum der 26.-30. Dynastie charakteristische Formen fehlen, darf an eine frühere Datierung gedacht werden. Aus historischer Sicht wäre mit der Anlage eines befestigten, doch bald wieder aufgegebenen Platzes im Raum Aswān-Edfu am ehesten unter Pije (740-713) zu rechnen, dem die Anlage von Garnisonen in Oberägypten noch vor seinem 21. Jahr zugeschrieben wird. Mit der Rückgewinnung Oberägyptens durch Psametik I. im Jahr 656 war eine weitere Unterhaltung der Garnison nicht mehr notwendig, so dass man den Platz verlassen haben dürfte.

Horst Jaritz

§ 15. — *Elephantine* (Grabung des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts Kairo und des Schweizer Instituts Kairo, 9. Kampagne 1980).

Aus zwei Schnitten, die in die Konstruktionsverfüllung der Chnumtempel-Terrasse eingetieft wurden, konnten neben mehr als 30 demotischen Ostraka zahlreiche Scherben einer bislang auf Elephantine nicht erfassten Keramik geborgen werden. Neben der bereits einen umfangreichen Formenkatalog bietenden undekorierten Keramik, zeigen die dekorierten Stücke hauptsächlich vegetabilische Formen. Sie stehen durchweg zwischen dunkelviolett (schwarzen?) Horizontalbändern oder Rautenmustern auf blassrotem, rosa oder gelblichen Grund. Als Motive des Dekors sind insbesondere zu erwähnen : in Reihen geordnete vielfiederige Blätter, senkrechte Zweige im Wechsel mit « Sternen », waagrecht auslaufenden Tupfen oder Bündeln herzförmiger Blätter sowie ein Beispiel, das eine Gans oder Ente zeigt. Bemerkenswert scheinen weiterhin : ein Fragment mit Olzweigmotiv, wie es ähnlich auf den Hälsen von « Hatra »-Vasen vorkommt, eine Scherbe mit plastischer Verzierung, die der Teil eines Bes-Gesichtes sein könnte sowie zahlreiche Fragmente dickwandiger Schälchen aus blauer und hellblauer Fayence.

Vergleichbare Keramik ist ebenso wie besonders dünnwandiges Kochgeschirr aus Philae bekannt geworden. Aufgrund vorläufig verglichenen Materials aus Nubien (ASN, AAA, Memorias), Karnak (IFAO, ceramic exchange) und Sakkara (EES, ceramic exchange) lässt sich der Grossteil unserer Scherben allerdings nur als « ptol.-röm. » bezeichnen. Ein geringerer Teil gehört offensichtlich noch in den Zeitraum der 26.-30. Dynastie, ein anderer Teil könnte jedoch schon aus der Bauzeit der Terrasse stammen, die aufgrund einer datierten Besucherinschrift im Jahr 16 v. Chr. abgeschlossen gewesen sein muss.

Der Umfang des Scherbenmaterials, dessen wichtigste Stücke (420) bereits gezeichnet sind, liesse sich durch Abtragen der aus Siedlungs- und Werkschutt bestehenden Terrassenverfüllung beliebig erweitern. Der Nachteil einer Bearbeitung besteht darin, dass das Material durch die Umlagerung des Siedlungsschuttes seines primären Kontexts beraubt ist. Vorteilhaft erscheint dagegen das Datum *ante quem* der Terrassenverfüllung. Hiernach sollte es in Zukunft vielleicht möglich sein, wenigstens zwischen noch-ptolemäischer und schon-römischer Keramik besser unterscheiden zu können.

Horst Jaritz

§ 16. — *‘Ayn Aşil, Oasis of Dakhla* (Institut Français d’Archéologie).

Excavation of the Old Kingdom town site of ‘Ayn Aşil in the Dakhla Oasis was continued by the Institut Français d’Archéologie Orientale from 17th December 1979 to 28th February 1980. Work was concentrated on the central area of the site, where at least five phases of activity, including two major building phases, had been isolated during the 1978/79 season. The later of the building phases (with a *terminus post quem* of late O.K. - First Intermediate Period, according to seal-impression evidence) was removed to expose the last of a long series of excellently preserved domestic occupations within the earlier structures. Vessels discovered *in situ* included several large storage-jars; one room was subdivided so as to accomodate a large fire-place, found packed with ash and discarded pottery bread-moulds.

Precise dating of the earlier structures and their associated occupation levels has yet to be determined, but *all* phases continue to produce pottery with forms characteristic of the late Old Kingdom in the Nile Valley. A development — or rather degeneration — of shape clearly exists within the small number of forms employed

throughout the phase pattern. Study of this development, as well as analysis of clay types, is at present in process.

A brief surface survey revealed a large pottery production area on the south-west of the site; excavation of this area will we hope be undertaken in the near future.

Lisa L. Giddy

§ 17. — *Balat : Site de Qilaa el-Dabbeh, Oasis de Dakhleh* (Fouille de l'IFAO, 1980).

La dernière saison de fouilles sur le mastaba II a permis le dégagement du début des infrastructures de cette tombe. De nombreux tessons et de nombreux vases complets furent livrés, tous des types habituels du site. Il faut cependant signaler la découverte, parmi eux, d'un petit vase globulaire à épaule carénée portant sur la panse une courte inscription hiéroglyphique à l'encre noire.

Anne Minault-Gout

§ 18. — *Oasis de Dakhleh* (Institut Français d'Archéologie).

Sans qu'il s'agisse d'une véritable prospection, une rapide prise de contact avec les sites islamiques de Dakhleh nous a amené, en février 1979, à constater l'important éventail typologique des céramiques trouvées en surface. L'état très fragmentaire des pièces ne nous permet pas, dans la majorité des cas, de leur attribuer une datation.

Si l'on excepte les poteries sans couvertes, ce sont les céramiques à glaçure alcaline qui forment l'ensemble le plus nombreux. Teintées à l'oxyde de cuivre, elles offrent une palette de couleurs variant du

bleu turquoise au vert très sombre, sur pâte sableuse de couleur crème. Une autre catégorie est revêtue d'une glaçure incolore qui donne ainsi à la pièce la couleur de la pâte. Certaines céramiques vertes peuvent être décorées de traits d'oxyde de manganèse, ou présenter un aspect côtelé.

Pendant, quelques céramiques, à défaut d'être datées avec précision, peuvent se rattacher à des traditions. C'est le cas de tessons incisés ou peints à l'engobe, sous glaçure plombifère, et à pâte rouge, qui rappellent les productions de l'époque mamelouke. Il en va de même pour de rares fragments à peinture noire sur fond blanc, recouverts d'une glaçure alcaline incolore.

Les céramiques se rapportant aux plus anciennes productions, sont représentées par des pièces incisées sous glaçure alcaline verte ou incolore, dont l'origine peut remonter au XII^e ou même au XI^e siècle. C'est peut-être dans ces périodes qu'il faut mettre une autre variété, à pâte fine et rosâtre, décorée de larges bandes d'oxydes de cuivre et de manganèse, et qui offre des analogies avec le type dit «fayyûmî». La céramique à émail stannifère est moins fréquente, mais elle figure tout de même ici, avec des tessons à décor vert et brun sur fond blanc (pâte rouge).

Les céramiques à glaçure alcaline verte, sont de toute évidence des poteries très communes dont la fabrication a duré plusieurs siècles, car elles sont attestées au moins jusqu'au XVII^e siècle; il serait donc important d'en entreprendre l'étude typologique.

Roland-Pierre Gayraud

§ 19. — *Al Qasaba, Oasis de Dakhleh* (Fouilles de l'IFAO, 1980).

En février 1980 une fouille islamique a été ouverte sur le site d'Al Qasaba, reconnu en 1979. Il s'agit d'une petite ville fortifiée, vraisemblablement abandonnée dans le courant du XVIII^e siècle, et dont

l'existence est attestée au moins dès le XI^e siècle. Son état de conservation relativement bon devrait permettre une étude d'urbanisme et d'architecture. La céramique trouvée lors des fouilles fera l'objet d'une étude ultérieure. Cependant, plusieurs points nous semblent intéressants à noter, concernant des céramiques d'importation.

En premier lieu, une céramique à émail stannifère blanc ou jaunâtre, décorée à l'oxyde de cuivre et au brun de manganèse; la pâte est beige rosé, assez tendre, et n'est pas sans rappeler les productions tunisiennes. Toutefois, l'identification n'est pas ici certaine.

Par contre, trois tessons ont une origine connue; ils ont été trouvés dans des murs (la plupart des briques crues sont composées de matériaux hétéroclites tels que bois, tissu, os ou céramique). Il s'agit d'une pièce polychrome turque de la région d'Iznik, d'une majolique florentine à décor bleu de cobalt sur fond blanc, et d'une céramique incisée sous glaçure, de la zone de Pise. Ces trois tessons datent du XVI^e siècle, ce qui pourrait donner une indication chronologique pour certaines reconstructions dans la ville. Mais plus encore, cela montre qu'à cette époque, les oasis ne sont pas imperméables au commerce méditerranéen. Bien entendu, ces quelques témoins ne suffisent pas à estimer cette perméabilité.

Ce fait est à rapprocher d'une trouvaille que nous avons faite dans le cimetière d'Al Qasr, ancien chef-lieu de l'oasis : une « qubba » était ornée d'un plat à émail stannifère, très caractéristique, fabriqué à Montelupo (Florence) au début du XVII^e siècle. Il s'agit donc d'un autre indice allant dans le même sens.

De telles indications, pour limitées qu'elles soient, semblent cependant attester une bonne répartition des importations européennes sur l'ensemble du territoire égyptien. Elles offrent, en outre, là où la connaissance des céramiques locales fait défaut, la possibilité de cerner une chronologie.

Roland-Pierre Gayraud

§ 20. — *Dakhleh Oasis*, Survey (Dakhleh Oasis Project, University of Toronto).

At the time of writing, two seasons of the survey of Dakhleh Oasis have been completed, and the third season has commenced. Preliminary reports on the survey and the study of the pottery and kilns have been published in *The Journal of the Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities*, (Toronto) Volumes IX n° 4 and X n° 4 for 1979 and 1980. The pottery which has been found may be briefly described as follows :

Indigenous material : A series of different wares, all handmade, which are quite coarse. The most common form is a conical bowl with striated exterior and frequently a blackened interior and upper exterior. These occur in a sand-tempered ware; the other wares are attested by small sherds only. Of particular interest are sherds made from a shale-tempered ware which fires various shades from cream to green, and has the appearance of a mosaic. Although this material has been found in the fill of later graves it is also associated with lithics of the Neolithic period.

Egyptian Material : The phases of Egyptian ceramics which are attested in the area surveyed so far are : Archaic, Old Kingdom, early Second Intermediate Period, and possibly New Kingdom and Ptolemaic. The Archaic pottery comes from only one burial, the Second Intermediate Period pottery from four burials and one site, while the material of Old Kingdom date occurs frequently. It may be possible to distinguish three assemblages for the Old Kingdom, tentatively ascribed to the early Old Kingdom, Dynasty Six and either the end of the Old Kingdom or First Intermediate Period. The pottery from the first of these includes two painted vessels which may be of late Predynastic date. Amongst the material of Sixth Dynasty

date are a series of sherds carrying either punctate or incised designs within triangles. The settlement which is ascribed to the Second Intermediate Period is badly deflated, but yielded two sherds of Pangrave pottery. The New Kingdom is represented by a few sherds from the site of Mut el-Kharab at the modern capital of the Oasis, where the two famous Dakhleh Stelae were supposedly found. The sherds are from the bases and sides of bread-moulds. Pottery possibly of the Ptolemaic Period has been found associated with a much ruined mud-brick temple. Much of the Pharaonic pottery is made from clays which resemble those common in the Nile Valley, though it seems unlikely that all of it was brought to the Oasis. In the Old Kingdom a sizeable amount of the pottery was certainly made in the Oasis from a coarse, shale-tempered clay.

Roman Material : The Roman pottery from the Oasis is plentiful and the result of intense agricultural activity from the 1st century A.D. onwards. The types which have been identified seem to have a fairly long lifespan and are found around the first century temple of Deir el-Haggar and also associated with late Roman, North African Red Slip Wares of the late 4th - early 5th centuries. The latter were found on the site of a village probably inhabited by Christians (33/390-17-1), in the vicinity of a cave in which some Coptic papyrus was found. From this same cave came plain wares identical to those from the village.

Christian Material : This is also amply attested in the Oasis. Characteristic of this material is a thin, brittle ware used for a wide variety of vessels frequently with ribbed walls. A wide range of vessels, both plain and painted, has been found, of types known, for example, at Esna. Apart from the late Roman wares referred to above, another fine ware comprises a medium-coarse, shale-tempered fabric which may be slipped red/burnished. The forms are mostly cups and wide

bowls; this material was found with the late Roman wares at the village referred to. Identical material has been observed at the settlement between the Temple of Hibis and the cemetery of Bagawat in Kharga Oasis, as well as at Dush, el-Ghweita, and ed-Deir el-Munira in the same oasis. A few pieces of what may be Egyptian Red Slip A ware have also been found.

Islamic Material : This material has yet to be worked upon, but includes a wide range of glazed wares as well as plain wares. One particular ware is worthy of note, it is handmade, seems to be tempered with ground vitrified clay fragments and low fired, and is used for wide jars with applied lugs. Such vessels are found set into the walls of houses.

The Kilns : One of the most important finds of the survey has been a series of pottery kilns which range in date from the Old Kingdom to the Islamic Period. All but the Islamic kilns have been described in the first two reports. During the course of the present season two sites have been found which include Islamic kilns. One of these may have had as many as fifteen kilns, and the other about 6-8. They resemble the modern kilns used by the potters at Qasr, where most of the pottery used in the oasis today is made. The kilns possess a perforated stacking platform; the holes may be restricted to the perimeter or occur evenly distributed over all of the platform. The two kilns which were cleared were preserved to a height of two meters and more.

The kilns of the Roman and Islamic Periods have yielded many pieces of unfired pottery, and in one case even a large piece of prepared clay. Undoubtedly pottery workshops were associated with these kilns.

Colin A. Hope

§ 21. — *A Survey of the Eastern Desert* (American Research Center in Egypt).

In the course of a brief survey under the auspices of the Geological Survey of Egypt, I visited a number of gold processing sites in the southern portion of the Eastern Desert. The survey offered some enlightenment on the location and date of gold processing stations and of two copper smelting sites. The dating depends entirely on surface sherds observed at the sites, and while they do not necessarily indicate the absolute limits of each site's lifetime, they do offer useful guidelines for future work.

The pottery from the different sites can best be discussed individually.

Um Eleiga. 28° 37' N — 35° 03' E. A placer mining town where Roman, Christian and Islamic wares were identified, particularly, functional pots such as storage jars and bowls. Some Nubian imports could be Roman in date. One sherd of cream slipped ware with cocoa brown floral design is an example of Early Christian pottery from Nubia. The Islamic ware consisted mainly of coarsely decorated glazed bowls in a light buff-colored clay. The glazes were light to dark green.

Samiuki. 24° 14' N — 34° 50' E. This is a copper mining and smelting site which produced a small variety of surface sherds, again functional types, as one might expect. One sharply carinated rim sherd, red slipped inside and out, could be a New Kingdom type, but this is far from certain. No other sherds could be associated with this period. The major part of the ceramic material seemed to fall into the Roman-Christian periods. These were large, functional vessels of coarse grey or reddish brown ware, probably of local (Egyptian) manufacture. One Nubian sherd was observed : a coarse brownish black ware, micaceous and straw tempered with grooved decoration.

Bir Naguib. 22° 49' N — 33° 45' E. Common at this gold washing station in the vicinity of Wadi Allaqi were cream slipped reddish brown pots, mostly storage or cooking jars. These seemed to be New Kingdom. Some local Christian ware was represented in the form of reddish brown open bowls. These were generally slipped with the same clay to cover up a somewhat gritty surface.

Abu Swayel. 22° 47' N — 33° 38' E. A copper smelting site which seems to have been operative over a long period, possibly Ptolemaic-Roman. Some water jars could be Ptolemaic, the earliest pottery seen at the site. The Roman pottery consisted mainly of a red slipped plate, collar-necked jars of a reddish brown ware, or bulbous vessels with angular lips and small, non-functional handles.

It is hoped that a long-term survey can be carried out in this area in 1981 or 1982. Its purpose would be to collect samples of pottery in the wadis and eventually excavate some of these metallurgical sites for more accurate dating and for a fuller understanding of how these outlying sites related to the principal settlements in the Nile Valley. The sites themselves would be studied from the point of view of the mining and metallurgical history of the region.

Prentiss S. de Jesus

§ 22. — *Qasr Ibrim, Nubia* (Egypt Exploration Society, London).

The 1978 and 1980 excavations at Qasr Ibrim involved the removal of nearly 4 m of bedded refuse deposits which had accumulated along the inner face of the fortification walls in Ptolemaic and Roman times. On the basis of coins, texts, and other material components these deposits can be dated to the period extending roughly from 100 B.C. to 100 A.D. The refuse contained almost no material of Nubian origin, and was evidently laid down during a period when

the fortress of Ibrim was occupied by Ptolemaic and then by Roman garrisons.

Approximately 35,000 potsherds were collected and studied from the Ptolemaic and Roman deposits. Among them it was possible to recognize 27 recurring wares (types), which collectively make up about 94 % of the total ceramic content of the Ptolemaic and Roman levels. (The remaining 6% is comprised of a large number of wares that are, individually, too poorly represented to permit the recognition and description of individual wares.) Although the wares found at Qasr Ibrim are believed for the most part to be of Egyptian, rather than of Nubian, manufacture, fewer than half a dozen of them have previously been reported from sites in Egypt proper. This appears to confirm a widely held supposition that most of the excavated Roman sites in Egypt belong to a period later than the first century A.D.

It is presumed that many of the wares found at Qasr Ibrim will eventually turn up in Egypt proper, when and if archaeologists begin the investigation of early Roman and late Ptolemaic townsites. With this thought in mind the excavator at Qasr Ibrim, W.Y. Adams, has prepared a series of formal descriptions and illustrations of the Qasr Ibrim wares, for distribution to interested colleagues. The descriptive and illustrative format is the same as that employed by Adams in his earlier studies of the Meroitic, X-Group, and Christian pottery of Nubia.

To obtain copies of the descriptions and illustrations of the Ptolemaic and Roman wares from Qasr Ibrim write to :

William Y. ADAMS
Department of Anthropology
University of Kentucky
Lexington, Kentucky 40506
U.S.A.

There is no charge for this service.

W.Y. Adams

II

INFORMATIONS GÉNÉRALES

§ 23. — *Groupe International d'Etude de la Céramique Egyptienne.*

A meeting of the editorial committee concerned with the publication of the Introductory Manual of Ancient Egyptian Pottery took place in Vienna during June, 1980. Present were : Dorothea Arnold, Janine Bourriau, Helen Jacquet-Gordon, Manfred Bietak and Hans-Åke Nordstrom. On the agenda : 1) Discussion of the problems involved in finishing the final chapters of the book. 2) Establishment of a rationally organized list of fabrics with descriptions of their characteristic aspects, based on the material cited in the different chapters and covering the whole period of Egyptian History up to Roman times. 3) Unification according to the above descriptions, of the terminology used in citing these fabrics in the various chapters. The descriptions were arrived at after inspection of the sections of sample sherds submitted by the participants, both in the original (with a binocular microscope) and on colour slides projected on an enlarged scale.

The committee anticipates the possibility of submitting the manuscript to the press in the course of the coming winter.

§ 24. — *An Exhibition of Egyptian Ceramics — A Reminder.*

Umm el-Qa'ab : Pottery from the Nile Valley before the Arab Conquest. October 6th — December 11th, 1981.
Adeane Gallery, Fitzwilliam Museum, Trumpington Street,
Cambridge.

Open Tuesdays — Saturdays 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sundays
2.15 - 5 p.m.

A loan exhibition with 250 items (Predynastic — Coptic Period) from the collections of the British Museum, the Petrie Collection (University College), the Ashmolean and Fitzwilliam Museums, and Birmingham City Museum and Art Gallery. Illustrated catalogue available.

All members of the group are especially welcome since the exhibition, designed and catalogued by Janine Bourriau, is an exposition of the group's work as well as a celebration of the pottery itself. For further details, please contact Janine Bourriau, Department of Antiquities, Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge CB2 1RB.

§ 25. — *A Ceramics Seminar.*

A seminar on «Ceramics as Archaeological Material» was held in Washington, D.C. from September 29th to October 1st, 1980 under the auspices of the Smithsonian Institution. The program included papers dealing with ancient ceramic technology and firing processes, with the analysis of ancient ceramics by the use of various techniques developed in recent years (X-ray fluorescence, neutron activation, Mössbauer spectroscopy, etc.), and with more generalized subjects such as F. Matson's «Archaeological Ceramics and the Physical Sciences — Problem Definition and Results», or Ch. Lemoine and M. Picon's paper on «Archaeological, Geochemical and Statistical Methods in Ceramic Provenience Studies». Two attractive subjects less closely connected with the central theme were R. Tylecote's «Metallurgical Crucibles and Crucible Slags», and P. Vandiver's «Egyptian Faience Technology». It is to be hoped that those who were not able to attend the seminar will soon have the pleasure of consulting these reports in print.

§ 26. — *Communication from Dave Aston (Birmingham University).*

I am a research student at Birmingham University researching for a Ph.D. in « Tomb Groups of the Third Intermediate Period : A Typological Study ». Consequently I would like to receive any information relating to the study, location and finding of any pottery from tombs of this period (*i.e.*, dynasties 21 to 25). Thanking you in anticipation of your co-operation.

Dave Aston
Department of Ancient History and Archaeology
The University of Birmingham
Edgbaston, Birmingham B15, England

III

CLASSEMENT CHRONOLOGIQUE DES INFORMATIONS INCLUSES DANS LES PARTIES I ET II

Prédynastique : 13, 20.	1 ^{er} siècle : 22.
Période Archaïque : 20.	Après le 2 ^e siècle : 6.
Ancien Empire : 4, 16, 17, 20.	4 ^e -5 ^e siècles : 5, 20.
1 ^{re} Période Intermédiaire : 20.	Copte : 3, 6, 11, 20, 21.
Moyen Empire : 7, 10.	Islamique : 20, 21.
2 ^e Période Intermédiaire : 20.	Mamelouk : 18.
Kerma : 9.	11 ^e -12 ^e siècles : 18.
Pan-Grave : 9, 20.	16 ^e siècle : 19.
Nouvel Empire : 7, 10, 12, 20, 21.	17 ^e siècle : 19.
XVIII ^e Dynastie : 1, 2, 4.	<i>Importations :</i>
Thoutmosis IV : 12.	Cyprite : 2.
Ramesside : 1, 2, 8.	Grecque : 1, 2.
3 ^e Période Intermédiaire : 1, 2, 26.	Mycénienne : 1, 2.
XXV ^e Dynastie : 11, 14.	Phénicienne : 1, 2.
Période Tardive : 1, 2, 8, 10, 11, 15.	<i>Graffiti sur jarres : 1, 3, 17.</i>
Ptolémaïque : 1, 2, 5, 8, 11, 15, 20, 21, 22.	<i>Fours à potier : 2, 13, 20.</i>
Romain : 4, 8, 11, 15, 20, 21, 22.	

IV

PUBLICATIONS RÉCENTES SUR LA CÉRAMIQUE DE LA VALLÉE DU NIL

1. — Colin Hope, « Dakhleh Oasis Project — Report on the Study of the Pottery and Kilns », *SSEA Journal* X/4, Toronto, 1980.
2. — R.S. Merrillees, « El-Lisht and Tell el-Yahudiah Ware in the Archaeological Museum of the American University of Beirut », *Levant* X, 1978.
3. — P.L. Shinnie and Margaret Shinnie, *A Mediaeval Nubian Town, Debeira West*, Aris and Phillips, Warminster, 1978. (Chapter 3).
4. — P.L. Shinnie and Rebecca Bradley, *The Capital of Kush I — Meroe Excavations, 1965-1972*, Akademie-Verlag, Berlin, 1980. (Chapter 3).
5. — Laszlo Török, « Abdallah Nirqi 1964. The Pottery Finds of the Settlement », *Acta Archaeologica Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae* 27, Budapest, 1975.
6. — Steffen Wenig, « Meroitic Painted Ceramics », *Meroitica* 5, Africa in Antiquity, Akademie-Verlag, Berlin, 1979.

TABLE DES MATIÈRES

	Page
I. — Classement géographique des découvertes	1
II. — Informations générales	24
III. — Classement chronologique des informations incluses dans les parties I et II	27
IV. — Publications récentes sur la céramique de la vallée du Nil ..	28

i
f^o
a

553