

Newsletter

SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF EGYPTIAN ANTIQUITIES

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El Tod: Seldom Seen, Unfinished Business

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El Tod, a town about twenty kilometres south of Luxor, is the site of ancient temples. It is probably best known for the Tod Treasure, an array of silver, lapis lazuli and golden fragments and artifacts discovered in the foundations of a Middle Kingdom Temple in 1936. The find was divided between the Louvre and Cairo. The materials show trade contacts with Afghanistan for the lapis lazuli, and Europe for the silver. Many scholars believe the silver artifacts show Minoan handiwork. Though most sources assume the treasure was deposited during the reign of Senwosret I, Barry Kemp and others believe the material was put there later. I've always wondered what such a valuable hoard was doing in ancient Djerty. Just before Covid put a pause to travelling, I visited Tod. It's well worth the detour on your road south.



Fig. 1. Friendly crocodiles welcome the visitor to the modern town of El Tod

A narrow road, with stacks of decorated blocks on either side, leads to the site. The temple is bordered on all sides by houses of the modern town. The ancient buildings are at a lower level, so that there's a sense of a secret, sunken garden, full of tall palms.

A small shrine or temple had existed at Djerty from the Old Kingdom, and there's evidence, in the form of a beautiful granite block, that Userkaf of the Fifth Dynasty had an interest in the site. By the Middle Kingdom, Montu and Sobek were the main deities. Very fine granite blocks remain from a temple built by Senwosret I. The lower part of a large and elegant barque station, built by Thutmosis III, and refurbished by Seti I and other New Kingdom rulers, attests to the importance of the site over time.



Fig. 2. Temple of Ptolemy VIII Euergetes (c. 145 - 116BC)



Figure 3. Approaching the temple of El Tod

The first thing visitors see is a dramatically decorated pronaos, not too big, in the best Ptolemaic style. It's surprisingly well preserved, even to a 'secret treasury.' Visitors can walk part of a processional route, once guarded by sphinxes, to the remains of Senwosret's sanctuary. All around are capitals and other decorative elements from what must have been a substantial Coptic church.

The piles and piles of blocks from various building programs fascinate me. Although the Antiquities Service has worked hard to clear the site and set the many fragments of decorated stone up on benches to preserve them, hundreds more still sit on the damp sandy soil. While there's lots of fun in searching through all the blocks of Coptic Church decoration, Ptolemaic inscriptions, cartouches of Hakor, and starry skies from the Middle Kingdom, it is sad to see these valuable blocks still resting, almost at random on the earth.



Fig. 4. An unnamed Ptolemaic pharaoh makes a series of offerings to the god



Fig. 5. Granite blocks from the temple of Senwosret I, lying on sand, with benches for other blocks in the background



Fig. 6. A local dog watches over the fragments of text and reliefs yet to be located

We're Back in Person for the 2022 AGM/Symposium Weekend!

After being online for the past two years, we can once more assemble in person this year. For those still nervous about gathering together, or unable to attend in person, we will also have an online ZOOM alternative. You can register now online via the Eventbrite link on the Symposium Schedule page below.

2022 Annual General Meeting of the SSEA/SÉÉA

Every year, on the weekend of the Annual Symposium and Scholars' Colloquium, the entire voting membership of the SSEA/SÉÉA holds their ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING in Toronto to elect the Board of Trustees which governs the Society through the parent, National organization ("Head Office"), and to and pass the Society's budget and approve the financial statements. The national organization organizes the Annual Symposium and Scholars' Colloquium and all publications, including the Journal and Newsletter and maintains the database of members. All members of any chapter of the SSEA or SÉÉA are members of the national organization and entitled to vote. If you cannot attend the Annual General Meeting of The SSEA/SÉÉA, you may also send a proxy, using the form which will be mailed to you. This year's Annual General Meeting will be held both In-person and Virtually on November 4th, 2022 from 7:00pm. **A Reception for all attending will follow.** Log-ins to the AGM will be emailed out to members whose email addresses we have, but the link to the AGM is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88016539103?pwd=Y1N1SE5kNFR5TThkMmxoWTJlVjQjJyZz09>

Meeting ID: 880 1653 9103

Passcode: 711661

Schedule for the 2022 AGM Weekend

Note: Times for the Colloquium days are provisional

Friday, November 4th, 9am to 4:30pm – Scholars' Colloquium Day 1

Friday, November 4th, 7:00 pm onward – Annual General Meeting of SSEA/SÉÉA Members followed by Reception

Saturday, November 5th, 9am to 5:10pm – 46th Annual Symposium

Sunday, November 6th, 11am to 4pm – Poster Session and Scholars' Colloquium Day 2

All events will be held both In-person and Virtually. All times are Toronto (Eastern). **Please note that on Saturday night we change our clocks back by one hour.**

The Colloquium and Symposium are now grouped together as paid events - One fee pays for the entire weekend! A detailed schedule for the entire weekend is available online at www.thessea.org. Details are being added as they are decided, so check back periodically.

2022 Assemblée Générale Annuelle de la SSEA/SÉÉA

L'assemblée générale annuelle des membres de la SSEA/SÉÉA se tient chaque année à Toronto lors de la même fin de semaine que le symposium annuel et le colloque. On y élit l'ensemble des administrateurs (Trustees), lesquels gouvernent l'organisme national de la Société ("Head Office") ; aussi, on y adopte le budget de la Société et approuve les états financiers. L'organisme national organise le Symposium annuel de même que le Colloque, s'occupe de toutes les publications nationales, incluant le Journal et le Newsletter et maintient la liste des membres. Tous les membres de tous les chapitres de la SSEA/SÉÉA sont aussi membres de l'organisme national et ont droit de vote. Si vous ne pouvez être présent lors de l'assemblée, vous pouvez aussi voter par procuration (proxy), en retournant le formulaire qui vous sera envoyé. Cette assemblée aura lieu le 4 novembre à 19h00. **Une réception suivra l'assemblée.** Le lien électronique pour l'AGA sera envoyé par courriel aux membres dont nous avons les adresses. Voici ce lien :

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88016539103?pwd=Y1N1SE5kNFR5TThkMmxoWTJlVQJyZz09>

Meeting ID: 880 1653 9103

Passcode: 711661

Horaire de la Fin de Semaine de l'Assemblée Générale 2022

Note: L'horaire des journées du Colloque sont provisoires

Vendredi 4 novembre, 9h à 16h30 – Premier jour du Colloque

Vendredi 4 novembre, débutant à 19h00 – Assemblée générale annuelle des membres de la SSEA/SÉÉA. Une réception réunissant les membres présents suivra l'assemblée.

Samedi 5 novembre, 9h à 17h – 46ème Symposium annuel

Dimanche 6 novembre, 11h à 16h – Deuxième jour du Colloque et Session d'Affiches

Tous les événements se dérouleront en personne mais aussi virtuellement sous la plateforme Zoom. Tous les horaires sont à l'heure de l'Est et veuillez noter que dans la nuit du samedi au dimanche, **nous reculons les horloges d'une heure.** Le Colloque et le Symposium sont des événements payants regroupés en un tarif unique qui s'applique pour l'ensemble. Un programme détaillé du week-end est disponible en ligne sur www.thessea.org. Les détails seront ajoutés au fur et à mesure qu'ils seront disponibles, alors nous vous invitons à visiter le site périodiquement.

DIGGING IN TO EGYPTOLOGY'S PAST AND PRESENT

A Hybrid Symposium (both In Person and Online)

This year we celebrate two significant anniversaries – 200 years since the decipherment of hieroglyphs was announced by Champollion, and 100 years since the discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun. Our splendid speakers will lead us on a journey through time as we examine the development of Egyptology – from humble (and simplistic?) beginnings to present-day scientific, interdisciplinary approaches, and viewed from different perspectives.



David Roberts, 1840s

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Chris Irie (Flickr)

Beginning with the West's discovery of ancient Egypt in the late 18th/early 19th centuries, Egyptology developed from curiosity of a few antiquarians to a discipline. Andrew Bednarski talks about the landmark publication, the *Description de l'Égypte*, and the impact it had on the European public. Andrew is co-author of *A History of World Egyptology* (2021), a book on the reception of the classic *Description de l'Égypte* in the West.

Jackie Jay, co-author of the recent publication, *Archive of Thothsutmis, Son of Panouphis*, will be discussing Champollion's decipherment of hieroglyphs, his trip to Egypt with the Franco-Tuscan expedition and what followed. She is followed by former Editor of the JSSEA, John Gee, who explores some early 19th century explorers/Egyptologists and where the material they excavated has ended up.

German Egyptologist Karl Lepsius was an early proponent of Champollion's method, and Katja Goebis will discuss his work, which is less familiar to North American audiences. She is followed by Meira Gold and Peter Der Manuelian, whose talks take us to the end of the 19th century. Meira has been particularly interested in the development of Egyptology in the second half of the 19th Century, and will introduce us to some lesser known contributors to early Egyptology like Josef Hekekyan. Peter Der Manuelian, joining us via Zoom from Harvard University, will be speaking on Flinders Petrie and George Reisner and their role in Egyptology's developing field methodologies. Kerry Muhlestein, currently director of the BYU Excavation Project (most recently in the Fayoum) will delve into Grenfell and Hunt and their famous finds of papyri.

While we have heard many times about the discovery of Tutankhamun and his remarkable treasure, we hear less about the famous discovery from an Egyptian perspective, something that Okasha El-Daly will discuss. And finally, Mohamed Ismael Khaled will bring us into the present, with insights into Egyptians in Egyptology, and current work being done. His talk will be our first Sally L.D. Katary Memorial Lecture.

Online Registration is now available via Eventbrite, at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/46th-annual-sseaseca-symposium-and-scholars-colloquium-2022-tickets-406413502727>

DIGGING INTO EGYTOLOGY'S PAST AND PRESENT

Symposium Schedule, Saturday November 5

| Time | Topic | Speakers |
|----------------------|---|--|
| 9:00 - 9:10 | Welcome and Opening Remarks | |
| 9:10 - 10:10 | Keynote: <i>Bonaparte, the Description, and the birth of Egyptology</i> | Andrew Bednarski (in person) |
| 10:10 - 10:50 | The Decipherment and its Aftermath: The Franco-Tuscan Expedition to Egypt and Champollion's Critics | Jackie Jay (in person) |
| 10:50 - 11:05 | Break | |
| 11:05 - 11:35 | Mariette and the Serapeum, Early Explorers and Museums | John Gee (in person) |
| 11:35 - 12:05 | Karl Lepsius | Katja Goebis (in person) |
| 12:05 - 1:05 | Lunch | |
| 1:05 - 2:05 | Shit Archaeology: Fertilizer and the Popularization of Victorian Egyptology | Meira Gold (in person) |
| 2:05 - 2:45 | Two founding fathers of Egyptology: George Reisner's expansion of Flinders Petrie's field methods | Peter Der Manuelian (via Zoom) |
| 2:45 - 3:00 | Break | |
| 3:00 - 3:20 | Bridging Egyptology and Christian Studies: the excavations of Oxford's Grenfell and Hunt | Kerry Muhlenstein (in person) |
| 3:20 - 4:05 | Tutankhamun: The Egyptian Perspective | Okasha El-Daly (via Zoom) |
| 4:05 - 5:05 | Recent Egyptology: The Egyptians and Current Excavations | Mohammed Ismael Khaled (in person) Sally Katary Speaker |
| 5:10 | End | |

NOTE: Times assume a little time for questions following each talk

You can register for the AGM/Symposium weekend by visiting the Eventbrite link:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/46th-annual-sseaseea-symposium-and-scholars-colloquium-2022-tickets-406413502727>

Ticket prices for the weekend are:

In Person: Adult \$85, Member \$80, Student \$35, Student Member \$30

Online: Adult \$35, Member \$30, Student \$25, Student Member \$20

DIGGING INTO EGYPTOLOGY'S PAST AND PRESENT

A Hybrid Symposium (both In Person and Online)

Cette année, nous célébrons deux anniversaires significatifs – voilà deux cents ans, Champollion annonçait avoir déchiffré les hiéroglyphes et 100 ans plus tard, on découvrait la tombe de Toutankhamon. Des conférenciers et conférencières chevronné(e)s nous guideront dans le temps à travers le fabuleux voyage du développement de l'Égyptologie depuis ses plus humbles et modestes débuts jusqu'aux plus récentes découvertes scientifiques à travers diverses approches interdisciplinaires et selon différentes perspectives.

Ayant débutée par la découverte de l'ancienne Égypte auprès des occidentaux à la fin du 18ème et au début du 19ème siècles, l'Égyptologie passera de simple curiosité alimentée par quelques antiquaires à une véritable discipline. Andrew Bednarski parlera de la publication phare, La description de l'Égypte, et de son impact sur le public européen. Andrew est le co-auteur du livre *A History of World Egyptology* (2021) qui relate la réception de cette publication classique sur l'Occident.

Jackie Jay, co-autrice de la récente publication *Archive of Thothsutmis, Son of Panouphis*, discutera du déchiffrement des hiéroglyphes par Champollion, du voyage de ce dernier en Égypte lors de l'expédition franco-toscane et ce qui s'ensuivit. Elle sera suivie par l'ex-éditeur du JSSEA, John Gee, qui présentera quelques explorateurs-égyptologues du début du 19ème siècle et le fruit de leurs fouilles.

L'Égyptologue allemand Karl Lepsius fut l'un des premiers partisans de la méthode Champollion et Katja Goebis discutera de son travail qui est moins familier pour l'audience nord-américaine. Elle sera suivie par Meira Gold et Peter Der Manuelian dont les présentations nous amèneront à la fin du 19ème siècle. Meira sera particulièrement intéressée par le développement de l'Égyptologie lors de la seconde moitié du 19ème siècle et nous introduira à des contributeurs moins connus de l'Égyptologie naissante comme Josef Hekekyan. Peter Der Manuelian, qui nous rejoindra par Zoom de l'Université d'Harvard, parlera de Flinders Petrie et George Reisner, et de leur rôle dans le développement des méthodologies de terrain. Kerry Muhlestein, présentement directeur du BYU Excavation Project (plus récemment au Fayoum) plongera dans les fameuses découvertes des papyri de Grenfell et Hunt.

Bien que nous ayons entendu parler à maintes reprises de la découverte de la tombe de Toutankhamon et de son remarquable trésor, nous n'avons que rarement entendu parler de cette découverte du point de vue égyptien, ce dont discutera Okasha El-Daly. Et finalement, Mohamed Ismael Khaled nous ramènera au présent en nous renseignant sur l'Égyptologie proprement égyptienne et les travaux en cours. Sa conférence sera la première présentation du Sally L.D. Katary Memorial Lecture.

Registration en ligne est maintenant disponible via Eventbrite, à <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/46th-annual-sseasea-symposium-and-scholars-colloquium-2022-tickets-406413502727>

Membership Renewal Time

September 1 is the start of a new membership year for the SSEA/SÉÉA. If you haven't renewed for the 2022-23 year already, now is the time! You can get the form on the SSEA website, www.thessea.org.

If you are in North America, you can pay by E-transfer directly from your account. The name to enter for Recipient is SSEA. When prompted to input an email address associated with it, enter **treasurer@thessea.org**. In the message box, enter "Membership". Of course, all the old methods of payment – cheque, Paypal and credit card – are still available.

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Toronto Chapter Programme

The SSEA Toronto Chapter is happy to announce that they are returning to in person lectures (though we will still have a few virtual lectures this year as well). To kick off our lecture series, we are welcoming Dr. Daniel Potter of the National Museums Scotland who will be joining us in person to speak about: "Buying Power: Archaeologists as Dealers in Egypt and Sudan."

Please join us on Thursday, September 22, 2022 at 7 pm in Sidney Smith 2105 (University of Toronto). Attendance is free. Further lecture dates will appear on the SSEA web site 'Events' page.

In Memoriam

If you know of any of our SSEA members who have passed this year, please send their name to elainearrone@gmail.com. We would like to honour their memory in our first Newsletter of 2023.

Congratulations

If you know of a special accomplishment by one of our members this year, please send their name and accomplishment information to elainearrone@gmail.com so that we can share the good news in our next Newsletter.

The opinions expressed in the Newsletter do not necessarily represent the views of the Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities. Are you a member of the SSEA? The SSEA/SÉÉA has Chapters in Calgary, Alberta, Montréal, Québec, and Toronto, Ontario. The Chapters host lectures and events on Egyptological topics. Full Individual and Student Memberships in the Society includes a volume of the scholarly Journal of the SSEA and the SSEA Newsletter, and free or discounted admission to SSEA events. Associate Membership in the SSEA includes the Newsletter and free or discounted admission to events. Associate Membership is only open to members in provinces which have a Chapter. All categories of membership, excluding institutional members, are entitled to vote at the Annual General Meeting. To apply for membership, write to the address on the front of this Newsletter or email us at info@thessea.org. For updates, schedule changes, and further information, see the SSEA website at: www.thessea.org.