

Book of Abstracts



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VALLEY OF THE KINGS SINCE HOWARD CARTER



SYMPOSIUM
4 NOVEMBER 2009
MUMMIFICATION MUSEUM
LUXOR

On 4 November 1922 the steps leading to the Tomb of Tutankhamun (KV62) were found by the Howard Carter and his team, an expedition funded by Lord Carnarvon. The discovery of King Tutankhamun's tomb revealed, by all accounts, the best preserved and most intact royal tomb ever found in the Valley of the Kings, and has led to a series of successful, international exhibitions and publications focusing on the contents of the tomb.

A direct consequence of this discovery was an increased interest and enthusiasm for Egyptology, resulting in more foreign expeditions at the Valley of the Kings. Moreover, the discovery of another royal tomb continues to be the dream of all Egyptologists until this day.

The year 2007 marked the first Egyptian expedition working in the Valley of the Kings, who have unearthed a wealth of important information on the history of the Valley. In addition to their quest to find other missing royal tombs, the Egyptian expedition is currently working in the tunnel of the Tomb of King Seti I (KV17) and has revealed a lot of information on the tunnel's construction and function.

The Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA) is inaugurating the opening of Carter's rest-house, located on Luxor's West Bank, on 4 November 2009. The rest-house, built in 1910, is closely linked with all the events surrounding Howard Carter's magnificent discoveries and work. Restored and upgraded by the SCA, the rest-house will include various facilities allowing it to host a permanent exhibition telling the story of Carter's exceptional discovery. In conjunction with the inauguration, marking the 87th anniversary of the discovery of Tomb of Tutankhamun, the symposium entitled **Valley of the Kings Since Howard Carter** will feature prominent archaeologists and scholars who have conducted research related to the Valley of the Kings.

The aim of the symposium is to provide a forum for dialogue surrounding Howard Carter's discovery and subsequent research on the Valley of the Kings. The symposium organizers intend to hold future scholarly sessions at the rest-house on an annual basis, as a means to encourage scholars working at the site to discuss their finds, ideas, problems and exchange ideas.

Egyptian Expedition Work at the Valley of the Kings

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In November 2007, the first all-Egyptian team ever to work at the the Valley of the Kings began excavations at four locations:

- 1- Between KV 7 and KV 8.
- 2- To the east of KV 62.
- 3- In the so called *Valley of the Monkeys*.
- 4- Inside the Tunnel of Seti I (KV 17)

This paper will address many significant discoveries, which are enhancing our understanding of one of the most fascinating places in Egypt. Among these discoveries are the means and methods used by the ancient Egyptians to control water and protect the tombs from flash floods. Other important revelations of this expedition include the workmen's huts and magazines to the east of KV62, evidence of ancient graffiti throughout the Valley, and various tomb foundation deposits associated with cult practices.

Re-Excavating the Tomb of Horemheb (KV57)

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The tomb was discovered in 1908 by Theodore M. Davis, and was cleared under the supervision of Edward Ayrton. The results were published in *The Tombs of Harmhabi and Touatankhamanou* (1912). This volume is clearly partial. There is no mention of pottery, and many objects found were not fully published or illustrated. Some problems were unresolved until recently, including the status of the Well Shaft: there was no certainty that Davis had excavated it to the bottom. In the large undecorated room behind the sarcophagus chamber a huge mound of debris awaited investigation. It seemed, partly at least, to consist of material deposited there by the excavators and by those involved in repairing and conserving the monument at the time of the discovery and in more recent years. A tomb of such magnitude and importance clearly needed further work to ensure that all the evidence was available for a complete publication of the artifacts and an accurate section of the Shaft. The sarcophagus, too, demanded attention: skeletal material and debris remained inside, and the lid, repaired and replaced in position after the discovery in 1908, was wrongly orientated.

The Cambridge Expedition to the Valley of the Kings, funded by Piers and Jenny Litherland, was granted permission by the SCA in 2005 to carry out the projects, and the monument is now (2009) entirely free of debris. A complete catalogue was made of the objects found, including those in the Cairo Museum and elsewhere, emanating from 1908 excavation and from the work of the Cambridge Expedition. From the latter important material came to light, not least many sherds from wine jars, found in the Shaft, part of Horemheb's funerary equipment. A number bear year dates 13 and 14 of the king. This new material will prove vital in establishing the true length of his reign, hitherto a controversial matter. Dr Jacobus van Dijk is working on the docket. All the material is now to hand to begin a study of the objects and human remains found in the tomb by Davis and the Cambridge Expedition, to compare and contrast with material excavated in the near contemporary deposit from KV62 and from earlier, plundered New Kingdom tombs in the Valley. The publication will include contributions by David Aston, Edwin Brock, J. van Dijk and Roxie Walker.

The West Valley and Amenmesse Projects (1971-2009)

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In 1971 I began my KV experience with an examination of Ay's tomb (WV-23) with the aim of proposing to undertake a clearance of the tomb. That was accomplished in 1972 and in scattered years afterwards the work was advanced. Then in 1992, the Amenmesse Project was initiated, the basic aim being a full investigation of KV-10. That led to the discovery of the workmen's huts and the new tomb, KV-63.

The Tomb of Ramesses II (KV7): From the Excavation up to the Identification of the Wall Iconographical Programme

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The excavation carried out in the tomb of Ramesses II since 1993, has permitted to clear and clean almost the whole underground structure which suffered of at least twelve diluvian rains. At present, only the shaft [E] and two annexes [F1-F2] should be excavated, before commencing the important work of restoration of the tomb. First of all it is necessary to strengthen the burial chamber, the vaulted ceiling of which has no more pillars to support it. These pillars (eight in fact) shivered long time ago under the pressure of swelling marls caused by the consecutive floods. Many skillful surveyors of civil engineering have inquired about the site and some solutions have been proposed. We hope that all these solutions can be submitted to the attention of the Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA), so that this chamber could be strengthened, which will then be put in worth, according to a project on which both MAFTO and INSIGHT are working.

Along with archaeological research which brought a lot of information about the history of this burial, it was also possible, during the several expeditions to identify the iconographical wall programme of both the corridors and the chambers. These are two aspects of our work which we are going to discuss about in our speech.

Undecorated Tombs in the Valley of the Kings: The Work of the Pacific Lutheran University Valley of the Kings Project

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The goal of the Pacific Lutheran University Valley of the Kings Project is to study, document, and conserve a series of undecorated tombs located in the New Kingdom royal necropolis. The tombs under investigation are KV 21, 27, 28, 44, 45, 48 and 60. The tombs were discovered in the 19th and early 20th centuries but because of their generally small size and lack of decoration, they had been virtually ignored ever since. The very fact that they exist among the royal tombs in the Valley of the Kings, however, is evidence of their great importance. The tombs have been found to contain the remnants of burials dating from both the 18th and 22nd dynasties representing almost thirty individuals including women and children. These previously ignored undecorated tombs have many provocative tales to tell and the paper will present a summary of what has thus far been discovered.

Tutankhamun's Mask Reconsidered

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Tutankhamun's gold mask is one of the ancient world's most spectacular artworks, yet more than 80 years after its discovery the piece remains essentially unstudied. This paper draws together what we currently know about the object, focusing particularly on the details of its discovery and the materials and techniques employed in its manufacture. In the context of what we are beginning increasingly to discern about the makeshift character of Tutankhamun's burial, two key questions are posed: Was the mask actually made for the young king? And, if not, who might its original owner have been?

Towards and integrated management plan for the Valley of the Kings

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The Valley of the Kings is the repository of an extraordinary archaeological complex, and the place where one of the most striking archaeological discoveries was made. As such, Valley of the Kings exerts an irresistible attraction for every tourist wishing to visit Egypt and its treasures.

The management of the mass of tourists coming every day to the Valley has always been a challenge, which has been met with various degrees of success in the past.

The paper presents WMF's contribution to the development of an integrated management plan for Valley of the Kings, and discusses the methodology adopted for its development and the steps that are now required to ensure its implementation.

Select Figurative Ostraca from the Area of the Amenmesse Project, Valley of the Kings

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The Amenmesse Project includes KV 10, the nearby east and west workmen's huts, and KV 63. T. G. H. James, in his book *Egyptian Painting*, provides information about the Egyptian artist, his materials and his techniques. He noted that he knew no word for painter or artist and that the craftsman who marked out the preliminary drawings on the wall was an outline scribe. A scribe could use his brush to write or draw and many ostraca here under review, are expertly executed with a brush.

Ostraca (plural of Ostrakon) refers to potsherds, broken pieces of pottery, or pieces of limestone with a flat surface on which writing or images are found. While parts of texts have been found in and around the workmen's huts on both the east and west of KV-10, they have also been found in the shaft and chamber of KV-63. This communication focuses only on figurative examples from these same locations. Unlike wall surfaces where an initial drawing was done in red, with the corrections done in black to make any changes to the subject matter, some of these ostraca under study are done only in black charcoal to note or record an idea or shape rather than create a preliminary image for transference to a wall or other surface. Some of these drawings, may have been done by untrained artists to pass the time away. Others were undoubtedly executed by apprentices whose skills had not yet reached an advanced stage. Some of these contain the red and black lines showing corrections in black, over the initial drawing in red. A few show some carving has also taken place after the drawing, to teach this technique.

Whether by an untrained individual, and apprentice or a master craftsman, the ostraca from Amenmesse Project show a variety of subjects and approaches. The work of master craftsmen exhibit great skill in depicting humans, animals and other objects close to how they are perceived in the world around us. At least one of these ostraca is of museum quality.

Some Remarks on the Funerary Equipments from the Tomb of Amenhotep III (KV 22)

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The Institute of Egyptology at Waseda University has been working in the tomb of Amehotep III (KV 22) since 1989 under the general direction of Professor Sakuji Yoshimura. I have taken part in the project since the first season and have studied the funerary objects found in the tomb and its vicinity. The tomb of Amenhotep III might have contained some of the richest burial equipment of all the royal tombs in the New Kingdom. Although the remnants of the original burial assemblages are largely missing and most of the objects were uncovered as small fragments, the detailed analysis of each pieces allow us to reconstruct the original burial assemblage to some extent. By comparing the objects from the tomb of Amenhotep III stored in the museums around the world with our excavated objects, we are able to see the characteristics of the funerary assemblage of the tomb of Amenhotep III. This paper will present some characteristics of the funerary objects from the tomb of Amenhotep III by examining the objects from the excavation by Waseda University Expedition and those from the major museums around the world in order to increase further our understanding of the burial assemblage of the royal tombs of the Eighteenth Dynasty. In addition, the remains indicating the reburial of Queen Tiye in the tomb of Amenhotep III during the post-Amarna period will be discussed.

Conservation of the Wall Paintings of the Royal Tomb of Amenophis III (KV-22)

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In 1915, H.Carter investigated the royal tomb of Amenophis III. Although there is no publication on this survey, Carter noted the findings in his notebook which is now kept in the Griffith Institute, Oxford (Carter MSS). The institute of Egyptology at Waseda University initiated its comprehensive investigation of the Royal tomb of Amenophis III in the Western Valley of the Kings since 1989, including mapping, excavation, documentation, epigraphic work. Since 2001 our research has been especially focused on the conservation of the wall paintings inside the tomb which were in an undesirable condition. It is important to consider the tomb not just as part of study of Egyptology but as a World Cultural Heritage. In this respect, our future goals of the project are to complete the conservation work, recording the wall paintings as a digital archive, and also catalogue all the funerary objects originally contained in the royal tomb of Amenophis III.

Princes and Pets: Animal Mummies in the Valley of the Kings

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The Valley of the Kings is noted as the burial place of Egypt's New Kingdom rulers. Of course, additional interments of non-rulers, such as Yuya and Tjuyu (Tuyu), are well known from the site. These people were close to royalty either through blood, marriage, loyalty, or affection. However, a further group of burials have long gone unremarked: those of animals. These creatures, so key to Egyptian life whether in the practical form of food, or the sacred manifestation of a divinity, also play a role in the burials of the Valley of the Kings. This paper will explore the different types of animal mummies found in the Valley, and speculate as to their role there.

Some Remarks on the Embalming Caches in the Royal Necropolis at Thebes and Amarna

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Few tombs in the Valley of the Kings display traces of embalming caches in the surroundings of the entrance to the tomb. The best known among the embalming caches is KV54 which has preserved the material used at the embalming of Tutankhamun. Other caches are known as WVA, close to the tomb of Amenhotep III (WV22) in the western valley, and located at about 63 m from the entrance to the tomb of that king.

In the royal necropolis at Amarna, one tomb is clearly an embalming cache rather than a burial place: tomb n° 30. Even though this structure is roughly cut and unachieved, it looks very much like the cache WVA near the tomb of the Akhenaten's father. Moreover, tomb Amarna n° 30 is located about toward the same direction and at the same distance from the entrance to the royal tomb (Amarna n° 26) than WVA regarding the tomb of Amenhotep III.

Taking in account the similarities in the typology and location of these royal embalming caches and studying the possible other royal and non-royal embalming caches at Amarna and in the Valley of the Kings, it is possible to view out some rules concerning location and content of the royal embalming caches.

Who Was the Original Owner of KV 42?

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Egyptologists long disputed the ownership of KV 42. Recently, however, a consensus of sorts was reached according to which Tuthmosis III purportedly commissioned the tomb for Queen Meryt-Re Hatshepsut, his wife and the mother of his successor Amenhotep II (so, e.g., C. H. Roehrig, in *Sacred Space and Sacred Function in Ancient Thebes*, P. F. Dorman and B. M. Bryan, eds., SAOC 61, Chicago 2007, 117-19; N. Reeves, in *The Theban Necropolis, Past, Present and Future*, N. Strudwick and J. H. Taylor, eds., London 2003, 69-73). This attribution relies above all on foundation deposits of the queen discovered in front of the tomb by Howard Carter in 1921.

In this paper I shall first consider the possibility that Tuthmosis III indeed commissioned KV 42, but for his father Tuthmosis II, rather than for his wife (cf. D. Polz, *Der Beginn des Neuen Reiches. Zur Vorgeschichte einer Zeitenwende*, DAIKS 31, Berlin and New York 2007, 217-19). Then the problems associated with W. C. Hayes's sequencing of early Dynasty XVIII royal sarcophagi will be discussed.

A Museum for the West Bank of Thebes

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Under the proposed development of the archaeological zone located on the west bank of Thebes, an outline of the proposed museum dedicated to history, excavations and discoveries at Thebes-West is in progress on behalf of Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA).

The museum project was born from the need to group together, in one place, the display of the different discoveries from the West Bank of Thebes, in particular to avoid duplication and spread of site museums. It will offer visitors a comprehensive view of the history of Thebes-West and report on the extraordinary wealth of discoveries made by the Egyptian and foreign archaeological missions since the beginnings of Egyptology.

This institution, whose museum presentation and documentary will be renewed over the years based on recent discoveries or themes selected, will interest a variety of audiences, with films and lectures to both visitors and specialists. A library and a documentation center will also welcome students and researchers.

Located at the intersection of the road to the Valley of Kings and nearby the storehouses of the SCA, the museum is part of a larger project that will incorporate in its area other components such as the Houses of Howard Carter, recently restored and rehabilitated, replicas of the tombs of kings and queens, pharaonic garden with basin and an outdoor theatre for lectures and lights and sounds performances.