

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-08302-7 - A Report on the Antiquities of Lower Nubia: (the First Cataract to the Sudan Frontier) and Their Condition in 1906–7

Arthur Weigall

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE LIBRARY COLLECTION

Books of enduring scholarly value

Egyptology

The large-scale scientific investigation of Egyptian antiquities by Western scholars began as an unintended consequence of Napoleon's invasion of Egypt during which, in 1799, the Rosetta Stone was discovered. The military expedition was accompanied by French scholars, whose reports prompted a wave of enthusiasm that swept across Europe and North America resulting in the Egyptian Revival style in art and architecture. Increasing numbers of tourists visited Egypt, eager to see the marvels being revealed by archaeological excavation. Writers and booksellers responded to this growing interest with publications ranging from technical site reports to tourist guidebooks and from children's histories to theories identifying the pyramids as repositories of esoteric knowledge. This series reissues a wide selection of such books. They reveal the gradual change from the 'tomb-robbing' approach of early excavators to the highly organised and systematic approach of Flinders Petrie, the 'father of Egyptology', and include early accounts of the decipherment of the hieroglyphic script.

A Report on the Antiquities of Lower Nubia

The career of Arthur Weigall (1880–1934) encompassed Egyptology but also stage design, film criticism and journalism. After studying in Germany, he worked at Abydos with Flinders Petrie, but in 1905 he was unexpectedly promoted to Chief Inspector of Antiquities for Upper Egypt, when Howard Carter was forced to resign. His work in Egypt, especially in the area of Luxor, focused on the conservation of monuments and the prevention of shipping of artefacts abroad, until 1911, when he returned to London. This 1907 book on the condition of the monuments between the First Cataract and the Sudanese frontier arose from his work as inspector, and is intended as 'a preliminary description of monuments and ancient remains which require to be thoroughly studied'. Unlike Weigall's travellers' guides to Egypt, this is a factual and technical work, drawing attention to the threats to monuments from neglect, plunder, and the Nile floods.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-08302-7 - A Report on the Antiquities of Lower Nubia: (the First Cataract to the Sudan Frontier) and Their Condition in 1906–7

Arthur Weigall

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Cambridge University Press has long been a pioneer in the reissuing of out-of-print titles from its own backlist, producing digital reprints of books that are still sought after by scholars and students but could not be reprinted economically using traditional technology. The Cambridge Library Collection extends this activity to a wider range of books which are still of importance to researchers and professionals, either for the source material they contain, or as landmarks in the history of their academic discipline.

Drawing from the world-renowned collections in the Cambridge University Library and other partner libraries, and guided by the advice of experts in each subject area, Cambridge University Press is using state-of-the-art scanning machines in its own Printing House to capture the content of each book selected for inclusion. The files are processed to give a consistently clear, crisp image, and the books finished to the high quality standard for which the Press is recognised around the world. The latest print-on-demand technology ensures that the books will remain available indefinitely, and that orders for single or multiple copies can quickly be supplied.

The Cambridge Library Collection brings back to life books of enduring scholarly value (including out-of-copyright works originally issued by other publishers) across a wide range of disciplines in the humanities and social sciences and in science and technology.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-08302-7 - A Report on the Antiquities of Lower Nubia: (the First Cataract to the Sudan Frontier) and Their Condition in 1906–7

Arthur Weigall
Frontmatter

[More information](#)

A Report on the Antiquities of Lower Nubia (the First Cataract to the Sudan Frontier) and Their Condition in 1906–7

ARTHUR WEIGALL



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-08302-7 - A Report on the Antiquities of Lower Nubia: (the First Cataract to the Sudan Frontier) and Their Condition in 1906–7

Arthur Weigall

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge, CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.
It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108083027

© in this compilation Cambridge University Press 2015

This edition first published 1907

This digitally printed version 2015

ISBN 978-1-108-08302-7 Paperback

This book reproduces the text of the original edition. The content and language reflect the beliefs, practices and terminology of their time, and have not been updated.

Cambridge University Press wishes to make clear that the book, unless originally published by Cambridge, is not being republished by, in association or collaboration with, or with the endorsement or approval of, the original publisher or its successors in title.

The original edition of this book contains a number of colour plates, which have been reproduced in black and white. Colour versions of these images can be found online at www.cambridge.org/9781108083027

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-08302-7 - A Report on the Antiquities of Lower Nubia: (the First Cataract to the Sudan Frontier) and Their Condition in 1906-7

Arthur Weigall

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

A REPORT

ON THE

ANTIQUITIES OF LOWER NUBIA

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-08302-7 - A Report on the Antiquities of Lower Nubia: (the First Cataract to the Sudan Frontier) and Their Condition in 1906-7

Arthur Weigall

Frontmatter

[More information](#)



Vase from a 'Pan-grave' at Töshkeh.
[Grave H.] Full size.

A. E. P. W.

Frontispiece.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-08302-7 - A Report on the Antiquities of Lower Nubia: (the First Cataract to the Sudan Frontier) and Their Condition in 1906-7

Arthur Weigall
Frontmatter

[More information](#)

DEPARTMENT OF ANTIQUITIES



A REPORT

ON THE

ANTIQUITIES OF LOWER NUBIA

(THE FIRST CATARACT TO THE SUDAN FRONTIER)

AND THEIR CONDITION

IN 1906-7

BY

ARTHUR E. P. WEIGALL

CHIEF INSPECTOR OF UPPER EGYPT, DEPARTMENT OF ANTIQUITIES



OXFORD

PRINTED AT THE UNIVERSITY PRESS

BY HORACE HART



1907

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-08302-7 - A Report on the Antiquities of Lower Nubia: (the First Cataract to the Sudan Frontier) and Their
Condition in 1906-7

Arthur Weigall

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

PREFACE

THIS report does not pretend to be a finished work. It is simply a preliminary description of monuments and ancient remains which require to be thoroughly studied at a later date. The material was rapidly collected during the ordinary course of the writer's inspections, and has been put together without reference to more than the half-dozen books which happened to be accessible. Few of the questions have thus been 'worked up'; and no doubt errors will be found by the Egyptological reader. The copying of the inscriptions, the writing up of the text, and the preparation of the plates has occupied little more than two months, in which the greater part of the days was spent in walking over the country. With regard to the copies of the graffiti it must be distinctly understood that no attempt at great palaeographical accuracy has been made. These copies are intended only to guide the interest of the archaeologist in the direction of the originals. The final copy of every inscription, and the final record of every fact must be made by the archaeologist, and not by an inspector, whose time for such work is so limited.

Thanks are due to Mr. Somers Clarke for having placed his notes at the writer's disposal; to Mr. M. MacDonald, Director General of Reservoirs, for much assistance and advice; to Mr. Bird for the use of several photographs; and to Mahmud Effendi Muhammed and Mahmud Effendi Rushdy, of this Department, for their energetic work under somewhat trying circumstances.

The report was ready in December, 1906, but its dispatch to the printer's was delayed for several weeks owing to various causes; and it was still in manuscript when the final conference on the proposed raising of the Aswân Barrage was held. The MS. was then shown to Sir William Garstin, and the writer was asked by Monsieur Maspero to draw up the preliminary proposals for work in the threatened territory. These were presented to Sir William Garstin; and, when the raising of the Barrage had

been decided upon, a large sum of money was voted for archaeological work. Arrangements have now been made for the undertaking of very extensive works in that part of Lower Nubia which will be flooded; and thus one *raison d'être* of this report no longer holds. When, therefore, the writer mentions an excavation or reparation which in his opinion ought to be undertaken, it must be understood that the question now lies with persons whose opinions are of far more value.

Apart from the preservation of the antiquities endangered by the raising of the water, however, there still remains the question of safeguarding those which are in danger from other causes. But here again one of the objects of the report has already been attained: an Egyptian inspector has been appointed to watch the interests of this Department in Lower Nubia, and a scheme is under consideration for the thorough patrolling and guarding of the ancient sites.

The writer may perhaps be permitted to express here his very sincere gratitude to Sir William Garstin and to Monsieur Maspero for their interest in this small and hurried effort on behalf of the antiquities of Lower Nubia.

A. E. P. W.

LUXOR,
July, 1907.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
INTRODUCTION	1
THE HISTORY OF LOWER NUBIA	4
THE 'PAN-GRAVES'	25
DESCRIPTION OF THE ANTIQUITIES OF LOWER NUBIA	33
From the Barrage to Dabôd: West Bank	33
From the Barrage to Dabôd: East Bank	33
Konosso Island	34
Dawûd Island	34
Bîgeh Island	34
Philae	37
El Hesseh Island	56
Dabôd	56
From Dabôd to Tâfeh: East Bank	59
From Dabôd to Wâdy Hedîd: West Bank	60
Wâdy Hedîd and Kertassi: West Bank	61
From Kertassi to Tâfeh: West Bank	64
Tâfeh	64
From Tâfeh to Kalâbsheh: West Bank	67
From Tâfeh to Kalâbsheh: East Bank	68
Kalâbsheh and Bêt el Wâli	68
From Kalâbsheh to Dendûr: West Bank	76
From Kalâbsheh to Dendûr: East Bank	77
Dendûr	78
From Dendûr to Gerf Huseñ: West Bank	80
From Dendûr to Gerf Huseñ: East Bank	81
Gerf Huseñ	81
From Gerf Huseñ to Dakkeh: West Bank	83
From Gerf Huseñ to Kubbân: East Bank	85
Dakkeh	85
Kubbân	89
Kûrteh	92
Derâr	92
Mahâraqa	93
From Mahâraqa to Es Sebû'a: West Bank	95
From Mahâraqa to Es Sebû'a: East Bank	97

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-08302-7 - A Report on the Antiquities of Lower Nubia: (the First Cataract to the Sudan Frontier) and Their Condition in 1906-7

Arthur Weigall

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

viii

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Es Sebû'a	97
From Es Sebû'a to 'Amâda: West Bank	100
'Amâda	101
From Es Sebû'a to Derr: East Bank	107
From 'Amâda to Anâybeh: West Bank	108
Derr	109
From Derr to Kaşr Ibrîm: East Bank	112
Anâybeh	115
Kaşr Ibrîm	119
From Anâybeh to Abu Simbel: West Bank	123
From Kaşr Ibrîm to Abu Simbel: East Bank	124
Abu Simbel	128
From Abu Simbel to Adendân: West Bank	138
From Abu Simbel to Adendân: East Bank	138
PLATES	143

LIST OF PLATES

PLATE

- Frontispiece.* Vase from a 'Pan-grave' at Tôshkeh.
- A. Fragments of pot, of black-polished ware, from Tôshkeh. Thin delicate ware, black-mouthed, from 'Amâda.
- I. Shellâl Station. Natives on river bank near Korôsko. Natives on river bank near Koshtâmneh.
- II. Native boat. Nubian negro. Nubian sheep. Women and girls at Dakkeh.
- III. Native boats. Water-wheels.
- IV. Water-wheel. Modern graves, with waterpots at the head. Nubian huts and earthen bins for storing grain.
- V. Types of Nubian houses.
- VI. Village of Gerf Ḥuṣên. Villages near Gerf Ḥuṣên. Houses near Medîk.
- VII. Part of village of Dakkeh. Near Es Sebû'a. Near Gerf Ḥuṣên in winter. Near Dendûr.
- VIII. Archaic carving, showing door of house with ram's skull above it. Simple form of design in whitewash over door of house (Ḳûrteh). Complicated form of design in whitewash over door of house (Ḳubbân).
- IX. Houses at Ḳubbân. Mosque near Korôsko. Village and palms of Ḳûrteh. Palms of Ḳûrteh.
- X. West bank near Gebel Addeh. Near Tomâs. Near Gebel Addeh. Dakkeh.
- XI. Durra field near Tomâs. Near Abû Hôr. Near Koshtâmneh: evening. High water near Kalâbsheh.
- XII. Bîgeh Island and the Barrage from Philae. Temple of Bîgeh: native houses in the foreground. Philae from Bîgeh. Bîgeh from Philae.
- XIII. The Kiosk at Philae: from the south-west, at low water. The Kiosk from the south-east, at low water. The Kiosk at high water: from the north-west.
- XIV. Philae:—Court of the Temple of Isis: the stele of the Twelve Schoinoi. Temple of Hathor: Bes dancing. Second Pylon, showing stains above high-water level. West Colonnade, showing high-water level.
- XV. South-west corner of Philae. West side of Philae: the falling quay wall. West side of Philae, from the north. West side of Philae, from the south.
- XVI. Philae:—Temple of Arsnuphis: inscription of Ergamenes. Osiris chamber: reliefs on west wall. Temple of Dabôd a few years ago.
- XVII. Temple of Dabôd from the south-west, the south, and from the north-east. Greek inscription at Dehmîd.
- XVIII. Rock inscriptions between Philae and Dabôd and at Dehmîd.
- XIX. Rock inscriptions at Umbarakâb and Dehmîd.
- XX. Ḳertassi Temple, from the south and west.
- XXI. Stele from Dehmîd. Inscription of unknown king at Umbarakâb. Temple remains at Wâdy Hedîd. Fortress of Ḳertassi. Inscriptions and shrine in quarry at Ḳertassi.

- PLATE
- XXII. Greek inscriptions, &c., in quarry at Kertassi. Tâfeh-Kalâbsheh Road: Church of Sittêh Kasmâr. Tâfeh Temple: south front. Tâfeh-Kalâbsheh Road: rock with inscription of Taharḳa.
- XXIII. Roman house at Tâfeh. Roman pavilion on cliffs to south of Tâfeh. The Caravan Road behind Kalâbsheh. North end of the Bâb el Kalâbsheh.
- XXIV. Kalâbsheh Temple: Inscription of Silko. Part of statue with Greek inscription. Specimen of reliefs. Doorways to the Adytum and Sanctuary. Doorway to the Sanctuary.
- XXV. Trees in the water near Kalâbsheh Temple. First Court of the Temple. View of the Temple from the back.
- XXVI. First Court and main building of Kalâbsheh Temple.
- XXVII. Dîmri: Pot from contracted burial (Roman). Sketch-plan of buildings on cliffs above Tâfeh. Coptic inscription from Tâfeh. Sketch-plan of Roman house at Tâfeh. Tumulus behind Kalâbsheh. Specimens of heads from the Kalâbsheh Temple reliefs. Inscriptions at Tâfeh, Khartûm, on the Kalâbsheh-Tâfeh Road, and in the Bab el Kalâbsheh.
- XXVIII. Temple of Abû Hôr: Greek inscriptions. Quay wall. Ruins of Temple. Stairway in quay.
- XXIX. Roman Temple at Abû Târfêh. Dendûr Temple from the river. Main building of Dendûr Temple.
- XXX. Temple of Dendûr.
- XXXI. Figure of Petisis and wife: south side of Dendûr Temple. Rock tomb or shrine at the back of Dendûr Temple. Doorway on the south side of Dendûr Temple. Figure of Pehorus and Demotic inscription at Dendûr Temple: north wall of Pronaos.
- XXXII. Inscriptions at Abû Hôr, Marîyeh, and Dendûr.
- XXXIII. Prehistoric drawing on a rock near Dendûr. Roman mill cut in the rock near Dendûr. Plan of Temple of Dendûr.
- XXXIV. Cartouche of Kakarâ on rock at Gerf Ḥuşên. Fortified town of Sâbagûra. Modern pottery lying near Sheik's tomb on hill above Gerf Ḥuşên.
- XXXV. Temple of Gerf Ḥuşên.
- XXXVI. Temple of Gerf Ḥuşên from the river, from the north side, and from the south side.
- XXXVII. Drawings and inscriptions at Gerf Ḥuşên.
- XXXVIII. Ware from Gerf Ḥuşên and Kirsh. Drawings and inscriptions south of Gerf Ḥuşên Temple.
- XXXIX. Koshtâmneh Fortress: Serpentine wall, west side. Internal walls. North-west corner of fortress.
- XL. Temple of Dakkeh: Looking down from Pylon on Sanctuary and ruined Pronaos. Showing ruined Pronaos. Showing Pronaos complete, a few years ago.
- XLI. Temple of Dakkeh from north-west, as it was a few years ago.
- XLII. Temple of Dakkeh: Looking from the Sanctuary. Pylon and ruined Pronaos. Relief in Sanctuary. Temple from the south.
- XLIII. Fortress of Kubbân, from the south, the south-east, and the river. Temple south of village of Kubbân.
- XLV. Village of Kubbân, with fortress in the distance. Stele at Kubbân. South-west corner of Kûrteh Temple. Kûrteh Temple.

LIST OF PLATES

xi

- PLATE
- XLV. Temple of Maḥâraḳa: From the east, a few years ago. From the south-east.
- XLVI. Temple of Maḥâraḳa: From the south and the north-west. Ruined spiral staircase. Leaning wall, upon which are the Egypto-Roman reliefs. Byzantine fortress of Meḥendi.
- XLVII. Rough stone enclosure near Es Sebû'a. Ramesside stele near Es Sebû'a. Dromos of Es Sebû'a Temple. Temple of Es Sebû'a.
- XLVIII. Temple of Es Sebû'a: Back of statue of Rameses II. Court of Temple, filled with sand. West side of Pylon. Shrine of Amenophis III.
- XLIX. Cartouche of an unknown king at Medîk. Inscription at Agâybeh.
- L. Rock inscriptions at the north terminus of the Medîk-Tomâs Road. Rock inscriptions and drawing at Sayâleh.
- LI. View from hill behind Korôsko.
- LII. Inscribed stone from 'Amâda. Inscribed rocks at 'Amâda.
- LIII. Inscriptions on rock to north of 'Amâda Temple. Sketch-plan of 'Amâda Temple.
- LIV. Inscription on rock to north of 'Amâda Temple. 'Pan-grave' at 'Amâda. Inscriptions at Tomâs and Derr. Mediaeval pottery from Tomâs.
- LV. Temple of 'Amâda: Front view. Relief of Thoutmosis IV. From the south.
- LVI. Inscriptions at Tomâs.
- LVII. Inscriptions at Tomâs.
- LVIII. Inscriptions at Tomâs.
- LIX. Inscription at Tomâs. Shêkh Daûd, near Tomâs. Derr Temple.
- LX. Sketch-plan of ruins at Anâybeh. Plan and section of pyramid tomb at Anâybeh. Sketch-plan of Temple of Derr.
- LXI. Ḳaṣr Ibrîm: Interior of the church. Views from the south, from the water's edge, looking north-east, and from the river.
- LXII. Temple at Ellesîyeh. Inscription of Kakarâ and Seânrá, at Ibrîm. Ḳaṣr Ibrîm: the church from south side, and the north gateway.
- LXIII. Brick pyramid at Anâybeh. 'Pan-graves' at Tôshkeḳ.
- LXIV. Inscriptions at Tonḳâleh and Ibrîm. Stele of Rameses.
- LXV. Inscriptions at Tôshkeḳ. Archaic drawing.
- LXVI. Stele on rocks, Tôshkeḳ. Inscriptions on the shrine of Gebel Agg, Tôshkeḳ.
- LXVII. Inscriptions, &c., at Ermênneh. Drawings of animals, &c., at Tôshkeḳ. Plan of two tombs at Tôshkeḳ.
- LXVIII. Byzantine Monastery of Ḳarânko. Steles and inscriptions at Abu Simbel.
- LXIX. Temple of Abu Simbel: The Colossi. Temples of Abu Simbel, from the river.
- LXX. Abu Simbel: First Hall and Façade.
- LXXI. The Smaller Temple at Abu Simbel.
- LXXII. Abu Simbel: First Hall: third and fourth figures on the north side. Statues in the Sanctuary.
- LXXIII. Abu Simbel: Asiatic captives on side of Colossus. Inscription on side of door, Temple of Abahûdeh.
- LXXIV. Fortress of Gebel Addeh. Gebel Es Shêmsḥ. Fortress of Gebel Addeh, from the south. Mediaeval Cemetery to east of fortress of Gebel Addeh.

- PLATE
- LXXV. *Addenda.* Inscription on a cliff near the great inscribed rock, 'Amâda. Whitewash decoration over doorways at Kubbân and Kalâbsheh. Drawings at Medîk, 'Amâda, and Shaturmêh. Inscriptions near Tomâs. Pottery from near Es Sebû'a Temple. Inscription in Dakkeh Temple relating to the Dodekaschoinos.
- LXXVI. Ware from El Kab.
- LXXVII. Ware from El Kab, Komir, Edfu, and Genemiyeh.
- LXXVIII. Ware from Genemiyeh and Zenigla.
- LXXIX. Ware from Zenigla, Elephantine, and Dabôd.
- LXXX. Ware from Morgos, Kalâbsheh, Gerf Hûşên, south of Gerf Hûşên, Kirsh, Koshtâmneh, and Dakkeh.
- LXXXI. Ware from Dakkeh.
- LXXXII. Ware from Kubbân, Kûrteh, and Maḥâraḳa.
- LXXXIII. Ware from Maḥâraḳa, Melahât, Es Sebû'a, and Es Sebû'a to Korôsko.
- LXXXIV. Ware from Es Sebû'a to Korôsko, Rêygeh, and Shablûl.
- LXXXV. Ware from Shablûl. Graves at Shablûl.
- LXXXVI. Ware from 'Amâda.
- LXXXVII. Ware from 'Amâda and 'Amâda to Tomâs.
- LXXXVIII. Ware from 'Amâda to Tomâs, Diwân near Derr, Tômas, and Anâybeh.
- LXXXIX. Ware from Anâybeh.
- XC. Ware from Anâybeh.
- XCI. Ware from Anâybeh.
- XCII. Ware from Anâybeh, Segîsereh, Musmus, and Tôshkeḳ.
- XCIII. Ware from Tôshkeḳ and Farêḳ. Graves at Tôshkeḳ.
- XCIV. Ware from opposite Abu Simbel and Gebel Addeh.

MAP.—From the First to the Second Cataract.