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EDFU

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EDFU

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Nadine Moeller

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The ancient settlement of Edfu saw a long period of occupation, which encompasses almost 3000 years of ancient Egyptian history. It functioned as an important urban center as the capital of the 2nd Upper Egyptian nome from the Old Kingdom onwards. Excavations have focused on different periods and areas of the ancient tell providing a glimpse into the evolution of an early urban settlement in the Nile Valley. A cemetery with tombs dating to the Old and Middle Kingdoms lies in the immediate vicinity of this settlement.

شهدت المنطقة السكنية القديمة بإدفو فترة طويلة من الإشغالات ، شملت تقريبا 3000 عام من التاريخ المصري القديم ، حيث كانت إدفو مركز حضري هام كونها عاصمة الإقليم الثاني لمصر العليا بدايةً من عصر الدولة القديمة فصاعدا. ركزت الحفائر الأثرية على عصور ومناطق مختلفة بالتل الأثرى ، وأعطت تصورا عن بداية تطور المنطقة السكنية بوادي النيل. تقع الجبانة بمقابرها التي تؤرخ بعصر الدولة القديمة والوسطى في المنطقة المجاورة مباشرة لهذه المنطقة السكنية.

The town of Edfu (Idfu) is situated on the west bank of the Nile, halfway between Luxor and Aswan. Two names, Behedet (*Bḥdt*) and Djeba (*Dḥs*), are attested for Edfu for the Pharaonic Period. There is evidence for the former from the Old Kingdom onwards (Zibelius 1978: 79). Djeba, however, has its earliest attestation in the Middle Kingdom (Hannig 2006: 2989). This is probably also the origin of the Coptic name, which is Etbo (Gardiner 1944: 23). In the Ptolemaic Period, the town was called Apollinopolis Magna.

Location and Layout of the Site

In ancient times, Edfu was the capital of the 2nd Upper Egyptian nome and thus played an

important role within the region. The floodplain is quite wide in this part of the Nile Valley, approximately 6.7 km from the western desert edge across to the eastern one. The upstream limits of the 2nd Upper Egyptian nome lay about 13 km north of Edfu, while the downstream border was situated 15 km to the south. Several routes connect Edfu via the Eastern Desert to the Red Sea coast (Rothe et al. 2008: 94 - 97; Sidebotham et al. 2008: 38, fig. 3.1, 112 - 113). Further desert roads lead from Edfu through the Western Desert to the oasis of Kharga, which made it a strategically important starting and/or end point for trade and mining expeditions (Vernus 1979: 8).

The ancient town of Edfu is situated on a naturally elevated sandstone outcrop on the



Figure 1. Aerial view showing the Ptolemaic temple and the tell as well as the extent of the modern town.

west bank of the Nile, which provided the necessary protection from the annual floodwaters (Bietak 1979: 110). Today the Nile lies 1 km to the east of it, and we have little information on how this differs from the ancient course of the river. A detailed geomorphological study is still lacking, but first attempts have been made in order to reconstruct the river movement in the Edfu region from Pharaonic times to today (Bunbury et al. 2009: 5; Grimal et al. 2008: 243). The remains of the ancient town are located just a few meters west of the well-known Ptolemaic temple (fig. 1). They form a conspicuous mound or tell consisting of superimposed settlement layers, which encompass more than 3000 years of history

(fig. 2). The tell in its current state still rises to a height of 10 - 15 m above the level of the temple entrance threshold and stretches 365 m from north to south and 168 m from east to west. At the turn of the last century, large areas of it were destroyed by sebbakh digging. The digging for fertilizer (sebbakh) resulted in major losses of the tell, forming quarry-like empty spaces in the southern and northern parts of the site, which have been termed North and South Quarry (see fig. 3). Further parts of the ancient town also surround the temple on its southern and eastern sides. Here much of the archaeological remains are covered by modern houses and are thus inaccessible for any large-scale excavation. The exact limits of the old town of Edfu are



Figure 2. Central part of the tell.

clearly visible on satellite images (fig. 4). They will be investigated by a drill core survey in order to establish the precise development of the ancient town in these areas. A cemetery with tombs dating to the Old Kingdom, Middle Kingdom, and Second Intermediate Period is situated along the southwestern side of Tell Edfu (Bruyère et al. 1937: 2 - 17; Michalowski et al. 1950: 1 - 108; Seidlmayer 1990: 40 - 68). An important corpus of Middle Kingdom and Second Intermediate Period stelae has been recovered during the excavations, which sheds much light on the local elite of Edfu during this time (Marée 2009: 31 - 92; Vernus 1988).

Significance and Historical Context

Edfu displays all the characteristic elements of an early urban center, and currently this is one of the last well-preserved ancient Egyptian towns that has still much potential for archaeological fieldwork. The earliest traces of human activity at the site date back to the Early Dynastic Period. About thirty tombs were excavated by the local inspectorate in 1983/1984 in the area south of the tell where the new tourist shops are located today (Leclant and Clerc 1994: 427). From the Old Kingdom onwards, there is much evidence for settlement activity, which can be seen along the almost vertical cuts left by the sebbakhin along the southeastern part of the so-called North Quarry (fig. 5) and along the eastern sides of the so-called South Quarry. Numerous elements of town walls dating to the same period are visible in these

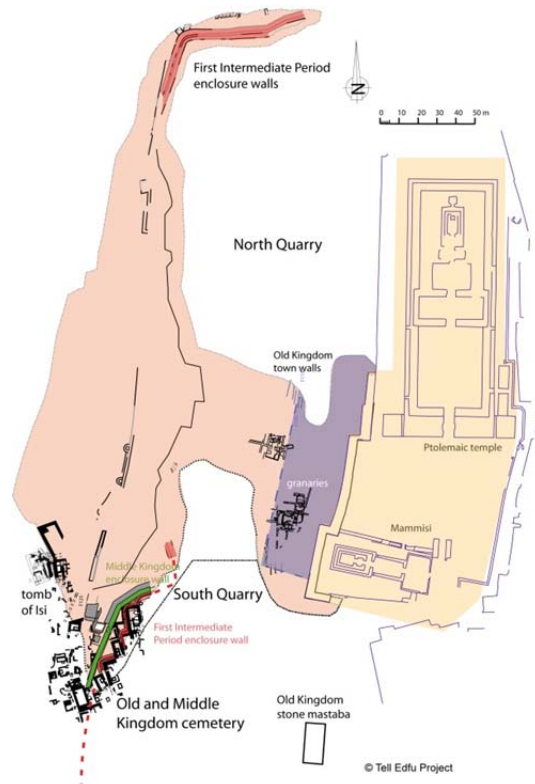


Figure 3. Plan of Tell Edfu.

areas, too (fig. 6). Contemporary to the Old Kingdom town, there is a cemetery situated in the southwestern part of the site. It consists of numerous mud-brick mastaba tombs where members of the local elite of Edfu were buried (fig. 3). The stone elements discovered at these mastabas provide information about their owners such as the short biography of the famous nomarch Isi, who became a local saint after his death (Alliot 1935: 9 - 38; Michalowski et al. 1950: 35 - 60).

The First Intermediate Period does not seem to have been a period of particular downfall for Edfu. There is archaeological evidence for a considerable expansion of the site towards the west, which can be witnessed by a series of newly built fortified enclosure walls (Moeller 2003a). This is further confirmed by the First Intermediate Period pottery that is exposed in the settlement layers along the sides of the sebbakh quarries in the

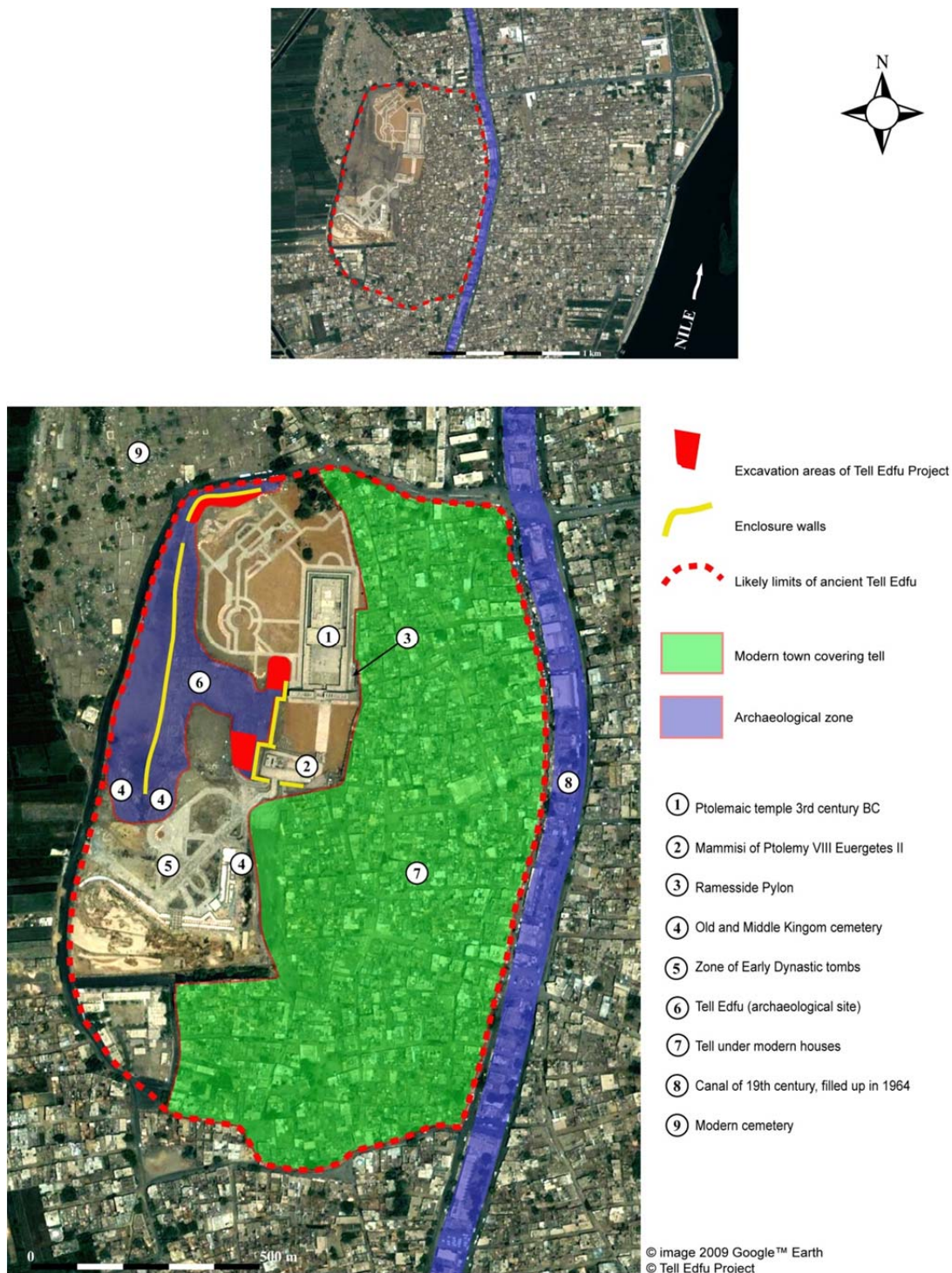


Figure 4. Google™Earth images showing possible extent of the ancient town.



Figure 5. Old Kingdom settlement layers exposed in the cuts created by the *sebbakhin*.



Figure 6. Old Kingdom town walls exposed along the southeastern side of the North Quarry.

north and south, which provide an insight into the formation of the tell during this period. This newly built town wall is not only well-preserved along the northern end of the site but also in the southwestern part where it runs over the cemetery, incorporating some of the mastaba superstructures into the wall (fig. 7; Bruyère et al. 1937: 10 - 17). The cemetery was basically cut into half, thus including some of the tombs into the town area while others remained extra-muros. The newly enclosed area seems to have been twice as large as the Old Kingdom town. It is impossible to determine with certainty

whether these walls were built because of an existing threat, which is a possibility if we can believe the text of Ankhṭifi from his tomb at el-Moalla in which he describes how he takes over the town of Edfu (Vandier 1950: 163). Local power struggles seem to have been frequent events during the First Intermediate Period.

Evidence for Middle Kingdom settlement remains have been discovered along the eastern side of the tell, close to the Ptolemaic temple enclosure wall. Here a large administrative building complex of palatial proportions has been excavated, which seems to have functioned as the residence of the local mayor (fig. 8; Moeller 2009: 150 - 151, 2010: 98 - 107; Moeller et al. 2011). This building complex was carefully dismantled during the Second Intermediate Period and replaced by a large silo courtyard during the 17th Dynasty (fig. 9). It held the main grain reserve for the town. From the early New Kingdom onwards, when the silos had fallen out of use, this area of the town was used for major refuse deposits of which large fills of debris and a thick ash layer bear witness (fig. 10). So far there is no evidence for any building in this particular area of the town during the New Kingdom. It seems that the traditional town center with the administrative buildings was moved elsewhere. The stratigraphy shows us an important hiatus from the late New Kingdom (Ramesside Period) to the Third Intermediate Period in this particular area of the town. However, further research is needed to understand the remaining parts of the tell, which have not been explored yet. It is only in the early Late Period that new buildings probably of domestic character were constructed here. At the central part of the tell, H. Henne dug several meters deep into the ground and found decorated stone blocks and two baboon statues, which might have belonged to a Saite sanctuary (Henne 1924: 19 - 29). Layers of Late Period settlement remains can also be seen along the western part of the tell where they are clearly visible in the exposed *sebbakhin* cuts along the side of the tell. They are still covered by the Ptolemaic and Roman

settlement, which occupies the current surface of the tell in this part (figs. 11, 12). The former was probably a refoundation dating to the early Ptolemaic Period (third century BCE) and might have been linked to the new temple building activities. Edfu continued to prosper during the Ptolemaic and Roman Periods and saw at least in this area an abandonment from the end of the second to the seventh century CE. Later settlement activity dates to the Coptic Period, and parts of an early Islamic cemetery were established thereafter until the site was finally abandoned around the tenth century CE (Bruyère et al. 1937: 98; Gascoigne 2005: 156).

The Old Kingdom Settlement and Enclosure Walls

Settlement remains of the Old Kingdom have been identified along the eastern side of the tell (Moeller 2003b: 7 - 9). Mud-brick walls and occupational remains with much pottery are visible in the vertical sections left by the

sebbakh-diggers (figs. 13, 14). Interestingly, all currently exposed Old Kingdom settlement remains show a conspicuously red color, which is probably linked to a severe conflagration in the area—an event that still needs to be investigated more closely in the future. The ceramics date from as early as the 4th Dynasty to the 6th Dynasty. A recently cleared area adjacent to the temple enclosure wall will be the focus of future excavation in order to find out more about the Old Kingdom town remains (Moeller 2010). The Old Kingdom town was surrounded by a fortified enclosure wall, parts of which are exposed along the southeastern side of the North Quarry running in north-south direction (fig. 6). Further elements of this wall are visible along the eastern side of the South Quarry where it turns at a right angle towards the east disappearing under later settlement layers. This provides a good indication of the approximate size of Edfu during this period



Figure 7. Enclosure walls above the Old Kingdom cemetery.

Towards the east, most of it is lost because of the Ptolemaic temple building activity that led to the clearance of parts of the ancient tell down to bedrock. The architecture of the Old Kingdom enclosure wall is characterized by several wall layers built against each other with sloping exterior sides reaching a width of around 3 meters; its preserved height lies at around 5 meters (fig. 6). The associated pottery dates them to the 5th and early 6th Dynasties (Moeller 2003a: 262). A new area of excavation focusing on the Old Kingdom settlement remains will start in 2012.

The First Intermediate Period Town Walls

A new enclosure wall was erected along the northern side of Tell Edfu during the First Intermediate Period (fig. 3). It also consists of two separate walls that were built against each other, reaching a combined width of 6 meters. Along its outer face, two buttress-like structures have been preserved (Moeller 2003a: 262 - 263). The area that was now surrounded by a wall is almost double in size in comparison to the earlier periods. It remains to be investigated whether the new wall enclosed an area that was already occupied by houses at the time, which seems to be the most likely situation, or whether it was empty space that was gradually filled by houses. In the cemetery area along the southwestern corner of the tell further evidence for an expansion can be witnessed. An enclosure wall similar in its characteristics to the Old Kingdom walls was built above the Old Kingdom cemetery cutting it into half, incorporating the eastern part into the enclosed settlement area while the western part was left extra-muros. This wall follows an unusually curved outline because it used parts of the mud-brick tomb superstructures as foundations (fig. 7), probably an indication for economic concerns and a pressing schedule. Interestingly the tomb of Isi was left unprotected on the outside. Additionally, it needs to be pointed out that the Old Kingdom town wall was still in use, because a last wall layer was added on its outside during the First Intermediate Period suggesting that

the Old Kingdom town center was enclosed by a wall forming a kind of inner-citadel.

The Columned Hall of the Late Middle Kingdom

Recent excavations along the eastern part of the tell have revealed the remains of a large administrative building complex, which is characterized by two columned halls. This building, which might have been the residence of the mayor of Edfu during the Middle Kingdom, was later replaced by a large silo court during the 17th Dynasty (fig. 8). The nature of the architecture and the associated finds, foremost a considerable number of clay sealings and pottery as well as several hieratic ostraca, strongly suggest an administrative character of this complex. Parallels for such structures are still quite rare in the available archaeological record. The closest parallel to



Figure 8. Remains of the southern columned hall of the late Middle Kingdom showing sand-stone column bases in situ (view to the southwest).

the Edfu example is the so-called Command's Building at the Middle Kingdom fortress of Buhen (see Emery et al. 1979: 47 - 48, pls. 16, 63). Six sandstone column bases have been discovered in situ in the original mud floor of the southern columned hall. They belong to a large columned hall that consisted of at least 16 columns—as far as it is possible to reconstruct its original layout. Parts of this hall are still covered by later stratigraphy in the northern and eastern areas; thus the full extent is yet unknown. The negative print

visible from the removed columns, which were all dismantled when the hall fell out of use, shows that they were octagonal and most likely made of wood. The mud floor of the columned hall has been excavated along its current exposure. It consists of approximately 25 - 30 sub-layers, which are the result of its regular renovation. The considerable thickness of this floor indicates that the columned hall had been in use for quite a long period of time. The clay sealings, which were found in association with the floor, show the typical motives of the late Middle Kingdom and were used to seal papyri, boxes, baskets, and doors, which can be recognized from their backtypes (Moeller 2012). One of them shows the figure of the king wearing the crown of Upper and Lower Egypt with a tiny cartouche in front of his face containing the throne name of Amenemhat III (Moeller 2009). The last floor layer was covered by much pottery and animal bones mixed with numerous weights made of fired clay. This corresponds to the last phase of occupation before the final abandonment of this southern columned hall. On its northern side a doorway gave access to another columned hall, which had at least two rows of five columns each, but its complete dimensions have not been reached yet (fig. 15). None of the column bases were found in situ, and only the negatives left when they were removed bear witness to their former presence. The diameter of the holes created when the stone bases were taken out of the mud floor is larger than those in the southern columned hall indicating that the columns might have been bigger. While both columned halls have a very similar stratigraphic sequence, there are some indications that the northern columned hall might have stayed in use slightly longer than the southern one. Forty-one clay sealings showing the cartouche of the Hyksos ruler Khayan have been found in the final abandonment layer covering a phase of floor renewal in the northwestern corner of this hall (Moeller et al. 2011). This is the first time that evidence for the Hyksos rulers has been found in a secure archaeological context south of Gebelein. It also suggests that there were

economic contacts between the north and south during the early Second Intermediate Period. Additionally, nine sealings with the name of Sobekhotep IV, a relatively well-known ruler from the mid-13th Dynasty, were discovered in the same context as the Khayan sealings, which has some important chronological implications. Traditionally, Sobekhotep IV and Khayan have been dated about 100 years apart from each other, which cannot be correct with regard to the new evidence from Tell Edfu.

The results of the latest excavations of this administrative building complex emphasize the important role this provincial capital played during the Middle Kingdom and early Second Intermediate Period and its close link to the central government.

The Silo Courtyard of the Second Intermediate Period

After the abandonment of the administrative building complex, some of its walls were carefully dismantled and the columns were removed in order to make space for a new installation, namely a large silo courtyard. These round granaries were made of mud-brick and have a diameter between 5.5 and 6.5 m, which makes them the largest silos so far discovered within an ancient Egyptian city center (fig. 9). They were meant to hold the grain reserve for the town; according to the associated ceramics, they functioned during the 17th Dynasty and were abandoned by the early 18th Dynasty.



Figure 9. Silos of the Second Intermediate Period.

Since the beginning of the excavations in 2005, a total of ten large silos have been excavated with several smaller ones abutting the large ones (Moeller 2010: 87 - 98). They were surrounded by a mud-brick enclosure wall of which the western and northern sides have been identified. With regard to the individual silos, it is possible to distinguish at least three different building phases with the two largest silos (Si 316 and 303) being the oldest ones (fig. 9). A series of three identical silos were added south of them (Si 393, 405, and 502). In the north, further granaries were built (Si 323, 308, and 388), and according to the stratigraphy they postdate Si 316 and belong to the last phase of use (fig. 16). They are characterized by less well-built walls and a slightly smaller diameter than the older ones. All of them were filled mainly with the demolition from their upper parts although some of them seem to show some reoccupation immediately after they had fallen out of use, which can be witnessed by the remains of several walking levels and fireplaces within them. This would also explain the complete absence of any plant remains, e.g., grain that had been originally stored here. A large number of hieratic ostraca have been found in the fill of Si 393 and Si 388. A full archaeological study of the silo courtyard is currently in progress.

Domestic Buildings of the Late Period

Walls belonging to houses of the Late Period were excavated above the silos and comprise a later settlement phase in this area. All of the wall remains that are still visible were excavated by the French mission in 1923 (fig. 10; Henne 1925: 15). During this work, the walls were cleared of their connecting stratigraphy as well as associated floor levels, which would have helped to determine the phases of use of these buildings and add information about their function as well as the period of abandonment.

These walls are relatively thin with a width of 56 to 60 cm. The buildings seem to have had rather large courtyards and smaller rooms attached, possibly all being single floor

constructions because of their relatively thin walls that would not have been strong enough to support multiple floors on the top. Related to them are numerous square magazine structures that functioned as some sort of cellar or storage space (fig. 10). They were built by cutting a square space into the ground and then lining the walls with a single course of mud-bricks laid in stretchers on all four sides. The floor was made by placing mud-bricks in form of a pavement flat on the ground. Then the inside of the walls was plastered. The maximum preserved depth of these cellars is 2 meters, but we are lacking the top and its connection to the walls of the building above. In the 2009 season, one of these magazine walls was conserved to its complete height of 2 m showing three pieces of wooden beams that belong to its original cover. There must have been a wooden trap door, which functioned as opening to the magazine, but no traces of it were preserved.



Figure 10. Late Period walls excavated by H. Henne in 1923 showing square magazines/cellars built into an ash deposit of the New Kingdom.

Ptolemaic and Roman Remains along the Western Side of the Tell

The western part of the tell is currently occupied by Ptolemaic domestic buildings, which were excavated by the Franco-Polish mission in the late 1930s (figs. 11, 12). Many questions remain still unanswered about the total length and intensity of this occupation. During the French and Franco-Polish fieldwork, the top of the tell was excavated



Figure 11. Ptolemaic settlement lying on top of the western part of Tell Edfu.



Figure 12. Ptolemaic buildings situated on top of the tell, and the probably contemporary enclosure wall can be seen to the left.

over several seasons removing an early Islamic cemetery, Coptic houses, as well as buildings of the Roman Period. The Roman phase is characterized by two installations worth mentioning here. One is a small area that has been identified as a market place (Michalowski et al. 1938: 15 - 22, pl. V). The other installation is a bathhouse, of which some remains including parts of the bathtubs are still visible on the top of the tell (Bruyère et al. 1937: 65 - 74; Redon 2009: 421 - 422). Along the southwestern side of the tell, buildings of the Roman Period were identified by numerous ostraca as belonging to a small, so-called “Jewish quarter” (Bruyère et al. 1937: 19 - 22, 145 - 149).

Most of the currently visible remains on the western tell surface belong to the Ptolemaic Period and are dominantly of domestic character (figs. 17, 18). They can be dated to the beginning of the third century BCE. This urban phase seems to be built on thick refuse layers of the Late Period and might have belonged to a phase of reurbanization at Edfu probably contemporary to the refoundation of the temple under Ptolemy III.



Figure 13. Exposed stratigraphy along the sides of the tell, which were made by *sebbakh*-digging.



Figure 14. Continuous build-up of archaeological layers that once formed a street running north-south.

A large enclosure wall occupies the top of the western boundary of the tell running north-south (fig. 12). The date is uncertain; most likely it was constructed during the Ptolemaic Period and in parts reconstructed and added to during Late Antiquity (Michalowski et al. 1938: 1). It seems to be

following the same course as the partially uncovered remains of an earlier Late Period enclosure underneath it, which was exposed by the sebbakhin but remains unstudied.



Figure 15. Northern columned hall underneath later silos (view to the east).



Figure 16. Silos belonging to different phases of use.



Figure 17. Remains of a Ptolemaic house in the foreground with the temple pylon in the background.

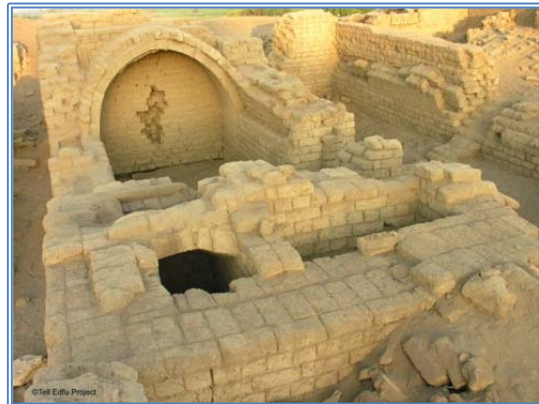


Figure 18. Lower ground level/cellar of a Ptolemaic house excavated by the Franco-Polish mission. ("Maison du Nord").

Excavation/Research History

The first official excavation at Tell Edfu was carried out by the Institut Français d'Archéologie Orientale (IFAO) in 1914 with the main aim to find Greek papyri. This work was directed by P. Lacau, P. Collomp, and L. Saint-Paul Girard; it concentrated on the southwestern part of the tell and included the investigation of a building along the southern side of the tell near the temple (Henne 1924: 1, nos. 2 and 4). Their results were never published. It was not until December 1921 that the fieldwork continued under the direction of H. Henne, who held the chair of



Figure 19. Southwest view of Tell Edfu, showing the excavation area of the Tell Edfu Project in the foreground.

Papyrology at the University of Lille. He carried out three seasons of excavations (in 1921/22, 1923, 1924) focusing mainly on the eastern part of the tell near the mud-brick temple enclosure wall as well as parts of the central tell. The remains were predominantly of domestic character dating to the Byzantine-Coptic and Roman Periods. Tombs of the early Islamic Period were also uncovered underneath the surface of the site. After a four year break, excavations resumed in 1928 directed by O. Guéraud, who conducted a short season continuing work in the same areas as Henne (Guéraud 1929). Four years later, the excavation was resumed under a new director and lasted for two seasons (1932 and 1933; Alliot 1933, 1935). M. Alliot excavated along the same areas as his predecessors in

order to reach levels below the Roman occupation. He also started to take interest in the Old Kingdom mastabas situated at the base of the tell in the southwest. He excavated among others the tomb of Isi (Alliot 1935: 8 - 38).

In 1937 Tell Edfu became a Franco-Polish excavation, directed by B. Bruyère and K. Michalowski, which concentrated their work along the so far untouched western part of the tell as well as the complete Old Kingdom and Middle Kingdom cemetery in the southwest (Bruyère et al. 1937; Michalowski et al. 1938, 1938). Work ceased in 1939 with the outbreak of World War II. No excavation was carried out until 2005 when N. Moeller (Oriental Institute, University of Chicago, see [Tell Edfu Project](#)) started up a new project focusing on

the eastern part of the tell near the Ptolemaic temple enclosure wall (fig. 19). The objectives of the Tell Edfu Project currently include the study of the various enclosure walls at the site as well as a new excavation concentrating on

the Old Kingdom settlement remains. The work of the Archaeological Institute of the University Hamburg mainly focuses on the temple (see [Das Edfu-Projekt](#)).

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The early French and Franco-Polish excavations at Tell Edfu have been published in eight volumes by the French Institute in Cairo (IFAO). There are three reports from the 1920s (Henne 1924, 1925; Guéraud 1929) and two from the early 1930's (Alliot 1933, 1935). In 1938 the excavations at Tell Edfu became a Franco-Polish collaboration. Three extensive site reports have been published about the results from this collaboration (Bruyère et al. 1937; Michalowski et al. 1938; and Michalowski et al. 1950). The final report contains the results of the last fieldwork season at the site by the Franco-Polish mission just before the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939. A colloquium featuring a selection of articles that commemorate the Franco-Polish collaboration sixty years later was held at the French Institute in Cairo in 1999 (IFAO 1999).

Apart from the Old and Middle Kingdom cemetery, almost no Pharaonic remains had been excavated until then. Two more recent publications on the cemetery data included the reevaluation of work done by the IFAO (Rzeuska 1999; Seidlmayer 1990). Additional philological studies of the numerous stelae found at Tell Edfu have been published by Pascal Vernus (1988) and Marcel Marée (2009).

The results of a survey conducted by Barry Kemp at Tell Edfu were included in a longer article on the developments of early towns in Egypt (Kemp 1977). Almost at the same time, Manfred Bietak also provided some archaeological details about Tell Edfu, which he had obtained from a visit to the site (Bietak 1979). Both archaeologists recognized the potential of Edfu for the study of a provincial town dating to the Pharaonic Period. After several seasons of new survey work on the site, which was resumed by N. Moeller and her team in 2001 (Moeller 2003a, 2003b), the new excavations have focused on the administrative settlement quarter since 2005 (Moeller 2010a, 2010b, 2012; Moeller et al. 2011).

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External Links

Tell Edfu Project

Tell Edfu Project. The Oriental Institute, University of Chicago. (Internet resource: <http://telledfu.sites.uchicago.edu>. Accession date: August 2013.)

Edfu-Projekt

Das Edfu-Projekt. Archäologisches Institut der Universität Hamburg. (Internet resource: <http://adw-goe.de/forschung/forschungsprojekte-akademienprogramm/edfu-projekt/>. Accession date: August 2013.)

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- Figure 1. Aerial view showing the Ptolemaic temple and the tell as well as the extent of the modern town.
- Figure 2. Central part of the tell.
- Figure 3. Plan of Tell Edfu.
- Figure 4. Google™Earth images showing possible extent of the ancient town.
- Figure 5. Old Kingdom settlement layers exposed in the cuts created by the sebbakhin.
- Figure 6. Old Kingdom town walls exposed along the southeastern side of the North Quarry.
- Figure 7. Enclosure walls above the Old Kingdom cemetery.
- Figure 8. Remains of the southern columned hall of the late Middle Kingdom showing sandstone column bases in situ (view to the southwest).
- Figure 9. Silos of the Second Intermediate Period.
- Figure 10. Late Period walls excavated by H. Henne in 1923 showing square magazines/cellars built into an ash deposit of the New Kingdom.
- Figure 11. Ptolemaic settlement lying on top of the western part of Tell Edfu.
- Figure 12. Ptolemaic buildings situated on top of the tell, and the probably contemporary enclosure wall can be seen to the left.
- Figure 13. Exposed stratigraphy along the sides of the tell, which were made by sebbakh-digging.
- Figure 14. Continuous build-up of archaeological layers that once formed a street running north-south.
- Figure 15. Northern columned hall underneath later silos (view to the east).
- Figure 16. Silos belonging to different phases of use.
- Figure 17. Remains of a Ptolemaic house in the foreground with the temple pylon in the background.
- Figure 18. Lower ground level/cellar of a Ptolemaic house excavated by the Franco-Polish mission. ("Maison du Nord," cf. Michalowski et al. 1938: pp. 6 - 13, figs. 4 - 8).
- Figure 19. Southwest view of Tell Edfu, showing the excavation area of the Tell Edfu Project in the foreground.