

SCAVI DI SEDEINGA (SUDAN)



MISSIONE MICHELA SCHIFF GIORGINI
SOTTO L'ALTO PATRONATO DELL'UNIVERSITÀ DI PISA

4 VIA AMBROGIO TRAVERSARI ROMA

Soleb, 28 Febbraio 1964

Rettore Magnifico
Professore A. Faedo
Palazzo Alla Giornata
Lungarno
Pisa

Egregio Rettore,

Mi permetto di inviarLe il nostro ultimo rapporto di scavi - per quest'anno - , scritto ancora una volta nel mio pessimo inglese; conto sulla Sua grande indulgenza.

Come Lei potrà vedere, abbiamo già chiuso per questa stagione il cantiere di Sedeinga, ma abbiamo ancora un gran numero di piante e disegni da fare, tanto a Sedeinga quanto a Soleb. Se vi saranno novità, non mancherò di inviarLe un rapporto supplementare.

Partiremo da Soleb, in Land-rover, domenica 29 Marzo, sperando di arrivare a Khartoum - se Dio lo vorrà - verso il 2 di Aprile, dopo aver attraversato distese di deserto all'infinito. Rientrerò a Roma verso il 10 di Aprile, a Montignoso verso il 20. E non mancherò di farLe subito una lunga, anzi lunghissima visita a Pisa, se Lei me lo permetterà.

Con i miei migliori auguri di buona Pasqua e saluti cordiali,

Soleb 23

The clearing of the clearing continued, located in the south, we found the simple, very poor, the doorway of the grave T 3, decorated with a small and in the form of a cross.

Primitivo gruppo in the gravel "K" *Michela Schiff Giorgini*
One of the primitive graves of the group "K", which is built
built the pyramid T 1, has been excavated. *Michela Schiff Giorgini*
oval pit, whose bottom is at about 1 m.30 below the surface of the
"K". It contained a skeleton in becker-position, on his right side,
with head in West. He was wearing on one of his arms the base of
an elephant's tusk, as a high bracelet (which was unfortunately
badly damaged). The grave contained also three wood (?) needles (one
of them is fragmentary), decorated with incisions.

Till now, we have found the location of five of these graves; on their levels were gathered two sandstone palettes and one carnelian bead. These objects are of the same type as some objects

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Report on Sedeinga excavations, from the 8th to the 28th of February 1964.

Temple.

We enclosed the area occupied by the vestiges of the temple with a little wall (86 m. East-West x 58 m. North-South). This area has been also cleared of all the surface debris, which have been picked out.

We set down the position and levels of the fallen blocks the more visible, which amount to 223, in view of their study before their removal.

West Tombs.

Tomb T 1

This tomb has been entirely excavated. We must only complete the study of its superstructure and the setting down of its plan. Its architectural study have been undertaken and we know now that the stairway was primitively covered with a ceiling in mud-bricks and round bits of wood. In the burial chamber, the rock-cut floor raise a little higher in the middle of the room, forming a sort of elevated rectangular platform on which were laying three schist slabs; it seems certain that this plateform covered with big x slabs has been used as pedestal for a sarcophagus.

We are now consolidating every fragment of the bones found in the chambers, in view of their study.

Tomb T 3

The clearing of the pyramid has been continued. During this work, we found the complementary piece of the door-post fragment (T 3 s) decorated with a godhead in the figure of a monkey.

Primitives graves in the gravel "kôm" T 1.

One of the primitive graves of the gravel "kôm", on which has been built the pyramid T 1, has been excavated. This grave (F 1) is an oval pit, whose bottom is at about 1 m.30 below the surface of the "kôm". It contained a skeleton in hocker-position, on his right side with head in West. He was wearing on one of his arms the base of an elephant's tusk, as a high bracelet (which was unfortunately badly damaged). The grave contained also three wood (?) needles (one of them is fragmentary), decorated with incisions.

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(primitives graves)

found in the "W kdm" of the neolithic sites of the Fayoum; which this make us believe that our primitive graves are neolithic.

Meroitic necropole.

The clearing of tomb I T 1 has been finished. The burial chamber had been completely plundered, as we ^{had} already understood; we found only the broken bones of a skeleton, accumulated in a corner of the chamber.

The rock-cut floor of this chamber formed, in the middle of the room, a sort of elevated rectangular platform (as in the chamber of the West Tomb T 1), on which we found the bones of the feet (still in situ) of the skeleton - the feet in East - and some plaster residues with traces of colours; these were certainly the vestiges of a painted stucco which ought to have wrapped up the mummy.

Several details of the architecture of this tomb indicate that the tomb in question is contemporary to the West Tomb T 1 of the 25th Dyn.. It seems so that the meroitic necropole include, in its Northern area (Sector I), some tombs of the 25th Dyn.

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The Sedeinga work-yard has been closed on Thursday the 20th of February. Since then, we undertook to set down the plans and to make all the complementary researches, that we shall continue at the same time than our work at Soleb till our departure on Sunday the 29th of March.

Michela Schiff Giorini