KMA KELSEY MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

SPRING 2013 NEWS

KMA KELSEY MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

GALLERY HOURS
Tuesday–Friday 9 am–4 pm
Saturday–Sunday 1 pm–4 pm

INFORMATION
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The Kelsey Museum Newsletter *is sponsored by the Associates of the Kelsey Museum.*

DESIGN STEVEN DRISCOLL HIXSON

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR

After sixteen years on the job these are the last "notes from the director" I will write for a Kelsey *Newsletter*. Seeking inspiration I dug up my first effort in the spring of 1998. I wrote then, "After ten years as a curator at the Kelsey I thought I knew the Museum pretty well, but after just ten months in the Director's office I know I can never learn enough." I find now, to both my chagrin and delight, that I feel much the same. I can never learn enough about or from the Kelsey Museum. Its spectacular collections and the exciting range of projects conceived by its staff and ever-expanding research associates and friends make the Kelsey a center of learning that is always offering new opportunities.

The articles in this *Newsletter* underscore the range of Kelsey activities—excavation reports from Sudan to Italy, the current special exhibition, "Kelsey Contemporaries," which brings practicing artists' eyes to the interactions between thoughts and things in museum displays, and a comparison of Karanis as Professor Kelsey found it and as it appears today to a UCLA team of excavators. The aspects of her upcoming exhibition, "Discovery! Excavating the Ancient World," that Janet Richards chose to highlight in this *Newsletter* all speak to archaeologists' attempts to document and understand the effects of human exploitation on the natural environment in our constant search for food, whether from plants or animals. I am reminded by this of how prescient Professor Kelsey was in his holistic research plan at Karanis. Some of the earliest publications from Karanis were written by Michigan biologists on the plant remains recovered and saved there, materials Classical archaeologists have only recently begun to study seriously.

In these valedictory notes I am drawn to reflect on the importance of museums such as the Kelsey, which preserve, study, and present the remains of past societies to our current communities. In our increasingly presentist world the power of the past can be easily lost. Thinkers as diverse in time and place as William Faulkner and Confucius have reflected on the power of the past to inform the present and frame the future. Confucius writing in fifth-century BC China commended his followers to "Study the past if you would define the future." Faulkner, writing *Requiem for a Nun* in twentieth-century Mississippi reflected, "The past is never dead. It's not even past."

The future is now upon us at the Kelsey. The dean has just announced the appointment of my successor as Director. I am pleased to tell you that it is Christopher Ratté, Professor of Classical Archaeology in the Departments of Classical Studies and History of Art. Chris has been a Research Associate with the Kelsey since his arrival at Michigan from New York University in 2006 and has served as Director of the Interdepartmental Program in Classical Art and Archaeology since 2009. He has directed excavations and surveys of Kelsey-sponsored fieldwork at Aphrodisias in Turkey and Vani in the Republic of Georgia. Chris brings a wide spectrum of interests and skills to the directorship. I am sure the Kelsey will flourish under his leadership.

As we welcome Chris, we are also bidding a fond farewell to Laurie Talalay (see page 6), who has enriched our programs in countless ways for so many years.

In closing, I bring your attention to one last special exhibition that will open under my directorship. Entitled "Red Rock & Rust Belt," it is a display of photographs by Susan Webb juxtaposing the evocative ruins of ancient Petra with the disintegrating built landscape of contemporary Detroit, yet another exemplar of past and present interacting with contemporary sensibilities. I hope to see many of you there on June 30 to thank you in person for your support and enthusiasm for all things Kelsey over the years.

Sharon Herbert, Director

KELSEY CONTEMPORARIES

Since the Upjohn Exhibit Wing opened, the Kelsey Museum has been working with contemporary artists from the Penny W. Stamps School of Art & Design. Our current exhibition, "Kelsey Contemporaries: Kayla Romberger and Alisha Wessler," is the latest in our ongoing series in which artists engage with the Kelsey Museum collections, installations, structures, and display strategies.

The first two exhibitions in this series were "Reem Gibriel: Personae" (2010) and "John Kannenberg: Hours of Infinity" (2012). For her installation, artist Reem Gibriel drew on the forms of amphorae—the two-handled pottery jars so common in the ancient Mediterranean world that are displayed throughout the Kelsey's permanent installation. For the artist, the forms of these jars evoked the human figure and notions of loss and suffering. Reem re-created and displayed amphorae of her own using a special process whereby the amphorae slowly disintegrated over the duration of the exhibition, evoking the passage of time and the fragility of human existence.

Artist John Kannenberg concentrated his research on the sonic experience of museums and human experience of the infinite; his resulting project, "Hours of Infinity," used performance, video, sound, duration, gravity, and drawing to explore both of these major themes. In addition to installations of drawings at both the Kelsey Museum and the Work Gallery, Kannenberg's project culminated in "An Hour of Infinity," a live performance of drawing in the Kelsey galleries, accompanied by audio installations and musical interpretation of Kelsey artifacts. For one hour the Kelsey was transformed by this exploration of time and infinity in the context of the artifacts and galleries of the museum.

The present installment in this series features the multimedia work of two Master of Fine Arts students from the Stamps School of Art & Design and Museum Studies Program, Kayla Romberger and Alisha Wessler. These two artists use their installations to explore themes of collection, museum display, and material culture in response to the context of the archaeological museum. Displayed together, the artists' work creates a conversation between contrasting dystopian/utopian views of the relationships formed between people and objects—Romberger's work investigating the role of objects in apocalyptic fear, Wessler's the role of collection in dream and memory.

Kayla Romberger's project, "100 Ways to Avoid Dying," traces the material culture of paranoia. Responding to the underlying structures of the archaeological museum and its framework of excavation, documentation, and display, this site-specific installation exhibits the stuff of survivalists—tin cans, foodstuffs, matches, bullets, and batteries. The work confronts visitors with a series of typologies in material, labor, and potential, a document from a culture of preparation.

Objects in "From Afar It Is an Island" (photo PD Rearick).

Alisha Wessler's "From Afar It Is an Island" uses archaeology as a metaphor for excavation of the unconscious, featuring objects that occupy the indeterminate realm between dream and reality, nature and artifice. Sigmund Freud, an avid collector of antiquities, often used archaeology as a metaphor for psychoanalysis, but this exhibition goes beyond Freudian excavation of the mind and ventures into the more speculative field of psychometry, where it is believed that visions of an object's past can be revealed through physical contact. This exhibition explores the realm of the imagination, evoking curiosity and reflecting on essential human desires to collect, narrate, and interpret. The exhibition questions whether the act of transference, often occurring in psychoanalysis, can also take place in the visitor's attempt to reveal the mysterious qualities within ordinary things.

Both installations are accompanied by artist's booklets, available in the exhibition area and on request from the security desk. "Kelsey Contemporaries: Kayla Romberger and Alisha Wessler" runs until June 15.

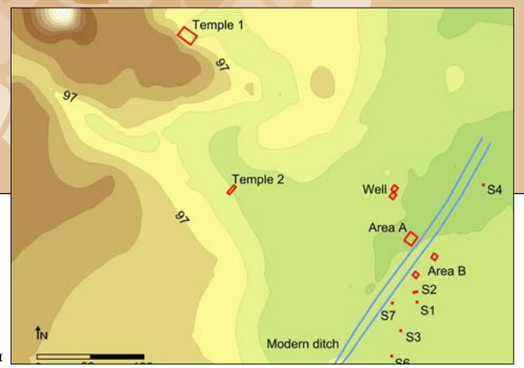
Terry Wilfong

Left to right above:

Alisha Wessler installing "From Afar It Is an Island" (photo S. Encina).

Objects in "100 Ways to Avoid Dying" (photo PD Rearick).

Kayla Romberger discussing her installation with an exhibition visitor (photo S. Encina).



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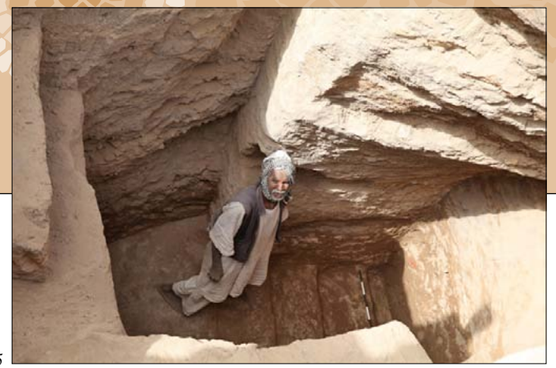
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NEW LIGHT ON THE "BLACK PHARAOHS" OF ANCIENT NUBIA

A new Kelsey Museum field project began this winter in northern Sudan (ancient Nubia). The expedition aims to investigate the Napatan Dynasty, which arose in the years around 800 BC and conquered Egypt, ruling there as the 25th Dynasty until being driven out of Egypt by the invading Assyrian army before 650 BC. Napatan kings continued to rule Nubia for centuries, eventually moving their capital upstream (southeast) to the city of Meroe, where their descendants retained control until after AD 300.

The Kelsey project is focused on the site of El Kurru, located in northern Sudan about 10 miles southwest of the famous ancient site of Gebel Barkal and of the modern city of Karima. El Kurru was the site of the first royal pyramids in Nubia and was the burial place of most of the Napatan kings who ruled Egypt. The cemetery had been excavated by George Reisner on behalf of Harvard University and the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, in 1918–19. Although the tombs had all been robbed in antiquity, Reisner recovered enough material to reconstruct a sequence of burials beginning with Nubian-style *tumuli* (round mounds of stone), continuing with development of enclosure walls, and ending in pyramids of kings and queens whose names were preserved within the tombs. Many of the objects Reisner found are now in the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

Reisner also briefly excavated remains of a settlement adjacent to the cemetery. A 1999 publication by Tim Kendall showed some of the remains Reisner identified, including a section of city wall more than 200 meters long that then included a massive double gateway, a monumental rock-cut well with stairs around its outer edge, and another section of city wall.

When I visited the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston to review Reisner's field records, I found that he had also located two structures that he called temples. Reisner never published these finds, and his notebook sketches and descriptions of structures were incomplete, which made it difficult to figure out where they might be located and what other settlement remains might be around them.

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Excavation of the settlement Reisner located at El Kurru could illuminate some of the transformations that took place in Nubia with the rise of the Napatan Dynasty. We know that in addition to pyramid burial, Napatan kings began writing in Egyptian hieroglyphs and also adopted Egyptian gods, including Amun. Why did they do this? Where did the Napatan Dynasty come from? What was the basis of their political authority? What about their local economy and longer-distance exchange? And when did they actually begin to control the region?

There are significant disagreements about the chronological development of the Napatan Dynasty, with some scholars putting the first kings buried at Kurru in the 9th century BC, while others extend the ruling line back to the 11th century. This is more than a sterile debate about chronology, as an earlier date would make a more direct connection between the collapse of the Egyptian New Kingdom control of Nubia and the rise of the Napatan Dynasty.

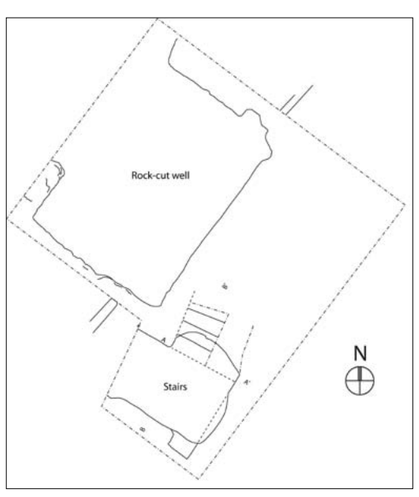
Thus, I organized a small first season that would attempt to relocate Reisner's settlement remains and to evaluate other areas that could be useful for excavation. While this might have been simple in some areas of the world, the ancient settlement at Kurru was not clearly visible in the village today. So we planned to use a variety of methods, including geophysical survey (magnetometry and resistivity), analysis of satellite imagery, detailed topographic survey, and a program of geological coring that we hoped would identify areas of ancient settlement.

2013 SEASON

Using all these methods, supplemented by the knowledge of people living in Kurru village, we were able to relocate four of the five features identified by Reisner (fig. 1).

Proceeding from the Nile bank, the first construction we relocated was Reisner's city wall. It turned out to be a solidly built stone wall, 2.4 meters in width and preserved at least a meter high. We recovered several short stretches of the wall, and they appear to line up. The material associated with the wall was mainly Christian in date, rather than the Napatan occupation we had expected, but it was all found in an ash dump against the outer face of the wall and may reflect occupation later than the initial construction of the wall (figs. 2–3).

On a rock outcrop farther from the Nile, we relocated Reisner's "palace well"—a 6 × 5–meter rectangular cut into the rock that Reisner said was 5 meters deep (we didn't excavate that deep this season). It was located within the courtyard of a family's house in the village, but they graciously allowed us to excavate so long as we refilled the excavation and rebuilt their wall when we were done. Even more impressive was the staircase around the edge of the well, which reached nearly 5 meters in depth and turned into a tunnel descending down through the rock. As our excavation of this structure primarily went through areas previously excavated by Reisner, we did not recover any clear evidence for its date (figs. 4–5).



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We also found two of the buildings Reisner called mortuary temples that might have been connected to pyramids in the cemetery. One of these structures was modest in size and may turn out not to be a temple at all. The other, however, was almost certainly a mortuary temple connected with the largest and latest pyramid in the royal cemetery, and was extraordinarily well preserved, with stone columns nearly 3 meters high. Even more extraordinary, two doorways cut into the rocky hillside led to rooms that were entirely underground. We were not able to excavate these rooms completely this season, in part because of safety concerns as the stone overhead was cracked and seemed ready to cave in (fig. 6).

SUMMARY AND PROSPECTS

We were able to relocate many of the structures Reisner found and to get a sense of their scale and state of preservation. We can now plan to excavate them fully in the seasons to come. The city wall was associated with smaller-scale mudbrick architecture inside, and careful excavation of those smaller structures will be extremely important for understanding the development of the settlement. The mortuary temple will be a major monument of Nubian architectural history, and our excavation there will be complemented by preservation and restoration for visitors over the years to come.

It is a pleasure to thank those who helped make the season such a success, beginning with everyone at the Kelsey Museum who provided administrative and moral support. The field team included Murtada Bushara and Mahmoud Suliman Bashir, our Sudanese government inspectors; a Sudanese geophysics team led by Prof. Mohamed Abdel Wahab of the University of Dongola-Wadi Halfa; Prof. Tim Skuldboel of the University of Copenhagen, who carried out the coring program; and Dr. Jack Cheng, who documented the excavation in photographs, video, and drawings.

The project was funded by the National Geographic Society and by a generous gift to the Kelsey from Kitty Picken. Work on the Kurru settlement is part of a broader project to investigate, restore, and present Kurru to visitors. Professor Abbas Sidahmed Zarroug (University of Dongola at Karima) will work to protect and restore the royal cemetery, while Professor Rachael Dann (University of Copenhagen) will investigate the cemetery area for further burials, potentially both royal and non-royal, and possibly associated structures.

Geoff Emberling, Excavation Director

Fig. 1. Topographic plan of work at El Kurru, 2013.

Fig. 2. Possible city wall.

Fig. 3. Painted Classic Christian sherds (ca. AD 1000) from ash dump near possible city wall.

Fig. 4. Plan of the rock-cut well with staircase.

Fig. 5. The staircase of the rock-cut well.

Fig. 6. The large mortuary temple at El Kurru.

PARTING THOUGHTS FROM LAUREN TALALAY

For more than a quarter of a century I have called the Kelsey my "second home." Throughout those years, there was no such thing as a boring day or an uninteresting challenge, and the accumulated detritus in my office bears witness to a constant stream of friends, visitors, docents, colleagues, and students, as well as the many projects that emerged from those associations.

Above all, it has been the people that have made my days . . . and nights . . . at the Kelsey so remarkable. If it weren't for Margaret, Elaine, and Sharon, I would never have found a niche at the Kelsey. I can't thank them enough for their friendship, scholarly guidance, and their willingness, many eons ago, to take a risk on a newly minted, unemployed PhD in Aegean prehistory. Over time, they helped create a position for me as curator and associate director.

The other denizens of the Kelsey have been equally extraordinary: Todd, Suzanne, Claudia, Janet, Terry, Alex, Sandra, Peg, Lorene, and Scott have offered friendship, humor, support, and a constant stream of creative exchanges, spicing my life with the MDR of Vitamin G (Minimum Daily Requirement of Gossip). The Museum's more recent additions—Sebastian, Michelle, Dawn, and Carl—have also been wonderful in countless ways.

My time with the docents and the docent program, which I started in 1987, has been a source of endless pleasure. Although I will now be a member of the "Order of the Retired," I am, in fact, merely moving upstairs, joining the ranks of the Museum's research associates and scientists. I'll still be around, enjoying all the fabulous aspects of this extraordinary institution and the exceptional people who have become part of my extended family.

Lauren Talalay

Sara Oas (left, U-M BA 2011) and Laura Motta flotating soil samples at Gabii to recover the carbonized seeds and plant fragments (photo courtesy of Laura Motta).

Despina Margomenou at the excavation of the Prehistoric Mound of Thessaloniki (Greece) (photo courtesy of Despina Margomenou).

EXHIBITION TO EXPLORE RECONSTRUCTION OF PAST

The exhibition "Discovery! Excavating the Ancient World," which will run from August 23 to November 10, 2013, explores all the different ways that Kelsey-affiliated scholars study, interpret, and reconstruct experience of the past, from work in museums and archives to visual interpretation to excavation to survey to the organization of our data. Showcasing the multidimensional work and methodologies of art historians, conservators, registrars, archaeologists, historians, bioarchaeologists, environmental specialists, and sound experts, the exhibition takes as a point of departure the questions we ask and the different ways in which we go about answering them.

As a teaser for the many discoveries awaiting exhibition visitors, we highlight here the work of exhibition contributors who explore plant and animal data from archaeological landscapes. The Kelsey is fortunate to be a center of bioarchaeological research in the Mediterranean region, sponsoring research from Egypt through Israel, ancient Greece, and Rome, which provides the raw data to answer many questions about ancient economies, social structure, and environmental change.

Student participation is a vital part of our exhibition and research agendas, and many thanks are due to IPCAA student Ivan Cangemi, who assisted with exhibition planning and design while holding a research assistantship at the Kelsey.

Janet Richards, Curator

Wouldn't it be nice to know how ancient cities were able to feed their growing population?

Two field projects sponsored by the Kelsey Museum offer a perfect opportunity to investigate patterns of production and redistribution of food during the emergence of urban centers in Central Italy: the excavation at the site of S. Omobono—Rome fluvial harbor and a sacred area during the Iron Age and Archaic period—and the excavation of the nearby archaic Latin city of Gabii. Animal bones and plant remains are collected from each archaeological deposit during the excavation and then analyzed in order to understand their socioeconomic context.

My work has focused on the charred plant remains recovered through the flotation of archaeological deposits. The material provides a wealth of information to reconstruct ancient farming methods and storage systems. Different techniques can be applied to the samples to answer questions about labor organization, redistribution practices, and even sociopolitical structure. At a larger scale, sites can be compared within a region to better understand the economic system.

Laura Motta, Research Associate, Kelsey Museum and Departments of Anthropology and Classical Studies

Humans have a major impact on the environment. They have caused global warming and the extinction of species. But less well understood and studied are some of the subtler effects humans can have on the environment. A mounting number of ecological, phylogenetic, and biogeographical studies suggest that vertebrate communities in the Mediterranean are shaped not only by prevailing environmental conditions and geologic history but also by human activities.

Beginning in prehistory human activities have resulted in extinctions and in important species introductions. Thus, patterns of species distribution in the region, as well as the concomitant shifts in natural habitats—in other words the whole biotic environment of the region—need to be understood as the product of a dynamic interplay between nature and human agency.

The focus of our interdisciplinary collaboration between ecology and archaeology is the distribution of Mediterranean reptiles, a group of widespread and ecologically important, yet largely overlooked, terrestrial vertebrates. We have combined information from the usually disparate fields of animal biology, archaeology, and archaeozoology to study three prominent reptile species that were introduced into distant regions through anthropogenic transportation. The reptiles are the African chameleon, the rough-tailed agama lizard, and the leopard snake. What were the historic processes that led to the introduction of these species to new areas?

Johannes Foufopoulos, Associate Professor, School of Natural Resources and Environment and Despina Margomenou, Lecturer in Modern Greek, Department of Classical Studies

My work in Egypt has focused on the Old Kingdom economy and social structure. The questions I try to answer are related to how the Old Kingdom economy worked and what was the infrastructure that supported pyramid construction. One site I have been working at is the Workers' Town, Giza, where the builders of the pyramid of Menkaure lived. My research at the Workers' Town is focused on the diet of the residents, in particular their consumption of meat. My main data set is the broken animal bones we find in our excavations that are mostly the result of ancient meals. I have found a strong correlation between status and diet at Giza. One good example of this is from a small excavation of a feature we call the Pottery Mound. This excavation is located in an area of the site with very large houses that probably housed administrators. The Pottery Mound was a deposit that was filled with pottery, animal bone, and artifacts typical of scribes.

Among the animal bone fragments in the Pottery Mound, 85 percent are from young, less than one-year, cattle. I examined the proportion of fore to hind limbs in the sample of cattle bone fragments. I expected a ratio of hind to fore limb fragments of 1.1 to 1. The ratio I found was 36.1:1. Where were all the forelimb fragments? Does this tell us something about the social structure and economy of the Old Kingdom?

These are two of the many questions my research has addressed using the Workers' Town and other Old Kingdom data sets.

Richard Redding, Associate Research Scientist, Kelsey Museum

Johannes Foufopoulos holding a lizard (photo courtesy of Johnannes Foufopoulos).

Richard Redding identifying animal bone fragments in the laboratory at Giza, Egypt. The bones in the foreground are his modern, comparative collection (photo courtesy of Richard Redding).

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EXCAVATING GABII: RESULTS OF THE 2012 SEASON AND PLANS FOR 2013

The fourth consecutive season of excavations at Gabii marked the beginning of a new three-year research cycle (2012–2014), funded by a generous grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. In 2012, more than twenty staff members and forty volunteers from across the country participated in the seven-week program (fig. 1), contributing to a very successful campaign. The undergraduate students enrolled in the Gabii Project field practicum, which was conducted in collaboration with the University of Verona, Italy, were also able to receive academic credit.

Research activities concentrated on two sectors (Areas D and F) of the excavation site, which now encompasses a one-hectare area near the center of the ancient city. As part of the fieldwork, an extensive Ground-Penetrating Radar survey was also undertaken by partners of the University of Rome III. The overall results confirmed the exceptional state of preservation of Archaic deposits at Gabii and provided tantalizing new evidence of civic architecture of the Republican period.

In Area D, which is located on the southeast corner of the dig, the excavations exposed other portions of an elite compound dating to the 7th and 6th centuries BC. The building is composed of two axial rooms surrounded by a precinct wall. The stratigraphy suggests that the room to the north was a late addition. In the 7th century phase, an open court stood in its place. The remains of two kilns (burnt daub) seem to suggest that the court was used for some kind of craft production. In the south room, a multi-phased sequence of floors has been exposed and partially investigated. Thin-sections of these deposits have been sampled to study the micromorphology and understand the nature of the occupation. Three infant burials (two *a fossa* graves and an *enchythrismos*) were found in association with the compound, according to a funerary custom well attested in Archaic Latium (fig. 2). The infants in the two *a fossa* tombs were treated as adults and buried with rich grave goods, confirming the high social status of the occupants of the compound. One of the tombs dates to the 8th century BC, the other to the late 6th century BC, providing further evidence as to the long-term occupation of the compound. Both burials find a precise parallel with other infant graves discovered in the northwest sector of the dig in 2009.

Excavations in Area F, which is situated in the west part of the site, revealed a new structure belonging to a complex that occupies an entire city block of the orthogonal layout (this was created at the end of the 5th century BC). The complex is composed of two terraces. The lower terrace, which faces the main thoroughfare of Gabii, was partially excavated by the Soprintendenza Speciale per i Beni Archeologici di Roma in the 1990s. This part of the complex features small rooms built with blocks of the local volcanic stone (*lapis Gabinus*), a series of water-related features (a possible fountain, drains), and pavement made of tufo slabs. The terrace has as its focus a monumental terracing wall, which is preserved for a height of about 3 meters (fig. 3). The upper terrace features an open court, whose back wall presents a series of buttresses (clearly added at a later stage), and a small room of unclear function. The large scale and design of the complex indicate that it was a public building, probably with a civic function (for which, at present, no precise comparanda can be invoked). Available data suggest a date in the mid-Republican period (not later than the early 2nd century BC). The lower terrace was destroyed and covered with leveling layers by the Augustan period, while the upper terrace was maintained (but the original pavement of the upper court is not preserved—probably spoliated in antiquity). This happened in the context of a larger and radical transformation of this sector of town. In the Imperial period, the domestic structures in the neighboring city block were also abandoned, and the area was occupied by a small necropolis and a large quarry.

The strategy for the 2013 campaign (June 16–August 13) is to continue the sampling of the Archaic levels in Area D, reaching the remains of hut features underlying the 7th and 6th centuries BC architecture (these remains have been identified in a section exposed by a modern drainage ditch that crosses the area). In Area F, the excavation will be expanded so as to define more precisely the limits and internal subdivisions of the mid-Republican building, elucidating its chronology and function.

To keep up with finds of the coming season, visit the Gabii Project's website: http://sitemaker.umich.edu/gabiiproject

Nicola Terrenato

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Karanis, North Temple from the south, 1920s (photo G. Swain, KM neg. 134).

Karanis, North Temple from the south, 2012 (photo Sebastián Encina).

NEW WORK AT KARANIS INVITES COMPARISONS

The University of Michigan completed excavations at the Graeco-Roman site of Karanis, Egypt, in 1935. This concluded more than ten years of work, initiated in 1924 by Francis W. Kelsey, U-M Professor of Latin. Of the more than 70,000 artifacts excavated, over 40,000 made their way to the Kelsey Museum. Besides the artifacts, the Kelsey archives hold many documents, photographs, maps, drawings, and other materials from the excavation.

The Michigan excavation was designed as a salvage project, to rescue the site as much as possible from the *sebakhim* (fertilizer diggers). The excavations focused on the central area of the site, leaving much more to be discovered. Yet once Michigan left in 1935, the site lay dormant for many years.

From October through December 2012, I had the pleasure of joining the Fayum Project at Karanis. The team is headed by UCLA professor and project codirector Willeke Wendrich, who has been excavating at Karanis since 2005. I was invited to be team registrar, the person charged with documenting and cataloguing all the finds from the field.

My primary role for the season was to catalogue the collections, enter data into the database, and pack the collections at the end of the season. This afforded me the chance to see every artifact excavated in 2012. My familiarity with the Kelsey Karanis collections allowed me to compare the finds from the 1920s with those from the 2000s. I was struck by how similar yet different the UCLA finds were from Michigan's. The kinds of materials were familiar. There were pottery, faience, baskets, coins, bone dice, glass, textiles, seeds, metals, papyrus, and animal remains (bone). These are consistent with what Kelsey's crew found. But Michigan had found more complete vessels, both pottery and glass, as well as larger fragments of textiles and papyrus.

Regardless of size, the UCLA finds were impressive and telling. There was a faience lion bowl; a faience lion figurine; the head of a duck made of bronze, used perhaps as an inlay. Several whole baskets, and even a large rope net, were found. Two sandals were excavated in the granary, one made of plant fibers, the other from leather. Three papyrus fragments, and two ostraka (inscribed potsherds) were discovered, one with clear and very neat handwriting. A cache of whole vessels was left in an oven.

The visit to Karanis gave me the opportunity to see how much the site has changed in less than a hundred years. U-M photographer George Swain had photographed the site, its buildings, the finds, and the workers for the Michigan excavation. These images comprise a large section of the Kelsey photographic archives. I tried to recreate some of Swain's images in order to document the changes. Many buildings are no longer standing. Walls have disappeared, either from deterioration or from burial in the sand. Photographs taken in 2012 will be catalogued into the archives.

The site of Karanis still has much to offer to students and scholars. The UCLA team will continue to excavate there. Though the purpose of the current expedition (research) differs from the earlier Michigan mission (salvage), the data, when combined, will begin to reveal new insights, questions, and avenues for research. The potential to have both projects speak to each other is a dream we will work to accomplish. In the future, we may develop a combined database for finds, maps, even GIS files that bridges the eighty years between excavations.

Sebastián Encina

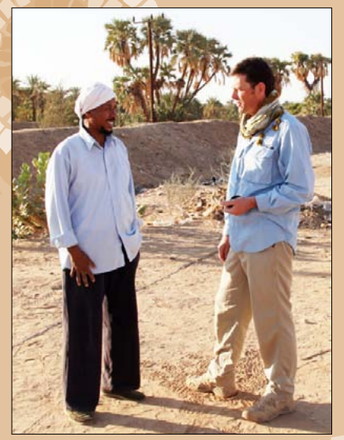
Opposite page:

Fig. 1. The Gabii Project 2012 team during one of the weekly trench tours.

Fig. 2. Andrea Brock (IPCAA student) excavates an infant burial found in Area D.

Fig. 3. Students expose the ashlar terracing wall of the mid-Republican complex.

Presenters at the January workshop on 3-D visualization in archaeology, cosponsored by IPCAA, the Kelsey Museum, and Stockholm University. Top row left to right: Henry Colburn (IPCAA), Emma Sachs (IPCAA), Lynley McAlpine (IPCAA), Jesper Blid Kullberg (Stockholm); middle row left to right: Henrik Boman (Stockholm), Angela Commito (IPCAA), Arja Karivieri (Stockholm), Neville McFerrin (IPCAA); bottom row left to right: Julia Habetzeder (Stockholm), Elaine Gazda (IPCAA)



Geoff Emberling (right) and Mohamed Abdel Wahab of the University of Dongola at Wadi Halfa discuss Dr. Mohamed's magnetometry survey of the site of El Kurru, Sudan.

IPCAA BRIEFS

IPCAA students continue their impressive fieldwork and scholarly ventures. Dan Diffendale spent the year as a Regular Member and Heinrich Schliemann Fellow at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. He excavated at Corinth in April, and in June and July will be working in Rome for the Michigan/Calabria project at Sant'Omobono. One of his projects while at the School has been to perform experimental burnt sacrifices to study the formation processes of ash altars.

Emily Holt defended her dissertation and received her PhD in Classical Art and Archaeology and Anthropology. Next year she will be on a UM-Oberlin Mellon Postdoctoral Teaching Fellowship. She is also directing a new field project beginning this summer, the Pran'e Siddi Landscape Project in Sardinia, Italy.

Jenny Kreiger will be traveling to Italy this summer to conduct preliminary dissertation research (on late antique funerary art) as a Pedley Fellow. Watch for a report of her summer's work in the Fall 2013 *Newsletter*.

Last summer Charlotte Maxwell-Jones completed her third field season of work with the pottery from Bactra, Afghanistan, working with the French Archaeological Delegation in Afghanistan and the National Museum of Afghanistan.

STAFF UPDATE

Research Scientist Geoff Emberling started a field project in El Kurru, Sudan. He also taught a course on the Archaeology of Nubia in the Department of Near Eastern Studies. He lectured in Ann Arbor, Texas, Hawaii, London, Khartoum, and Giza, chaired a session at the American Schools of Oriental Research meetings, and published articles on Nubian and Mesopotamian archaeology. In March he led a tour to Iraq through Spiekermann Travel.

Hellenistic and Roman Curator Elaine Gazda, with Julia Falkovitch-Khain and Helen Giordani, completed a Web version of last year's exhibition on Francis Kelsey. In October she lectured at Stockholm and Lund universities in Sweden. In January she organized a five-day workshop on 3-D imaging in archaeological research for IPCAA students and four archaeologists from Stockholm University. She contributed an essay about villas on the Bay of Naples to an ACLS e-book publication of Villa A at Oplontis. In June she will return to Italy to work on the villas of Oplontis exhibition, which opens at the Kelsey in January 2015.

Community Outreach Supervisor Todd Gerring will present a number of programs at public libraries this summer, on topics from Egyptian mummies to Greek mythology, as part of the Library of Michigan summer reading program, whose theme this year is "Dig into Reading." An article he coauthored with Lauren Talalay, "Eviscerating Barbie: Teaching Children about Egyptian Mummification" in *Telling Children about the Past: An Interdisciplinary Perspective*, appeared this year in Greek translation.

Research Scientist Richard Redding spent January through March at Giza, Egypt, overseeing the laboratory and working on the faunal material from a large house at the Workers' Town. He gave papers at the Bioarchaeology Conference in Cairo sponsored by the American University in Cairo and Werner-Gren, as well as at the Society for American Archaeology meetings in Hawaii, both on his Giza work. In April he kicked off a symposium on food at the Osher Lifelong Learning Center with a talk on the evolution of human subsistence.

Greek and Near Eastern Curator Margaret Root recently finished four articles on Kelsey collections and collections history. In April she spoke on seals at a conference on Technology, Society, and Economy in the Ancient Mediterranean World. Along with Lauren Talalay, she is completing a book on Kelsey Museum collectors and collections. Preparing for the "Ancient Animations" exhibition scheduled for Fall 2015, she and her student assistants have been exploring video game design, developing a digital database, and creating an animated film. In May she examined seal impressions from the Persian empire at the University of Pennsylvania.

Graphic Artist/Gifts Manager Lorene Sterner began work on Tel Anafa, volume II, part iii, as well as reorganizing and digitizing the Kedesh materials.

Academic Outreach Curator Lauren Talalay's coauthored *Prehistory of the Paximadi Peninsula, Euboea* will soon appear. Last year she contributed "The Mother Goddess in Prehistory" to the award-winning volume *A Companion to Women in the Ancient World*. A chapter on twins in prehistory will be published in *Gemini and the Sacred: Twins and Twinship in Religion and Myth*. At a conference organized by the Norwegian Institute at Athens this July, she will give a coauthored paper on the prehistory of Southern Euboea.

Graeco-Roman Egyptian Curator Terry Wilfong gave the keynote address for the Heartland Graduate Workshop on Ancient Societies at the University of Minnesota in September and the Haskell Lectures on Religion series at Oberlin College in March. He published "Dig Dogs and Camp Cats at Karanis" for the Gary Beckman Festschrift, an edition of a Kelsey Book of the Dead fragment for the Roger Bagnall Festschrift, and an essay on the photo documentation of the Karanis excavations for the *Oxford Handbook of Roman Egypt*. His book on the Kelsey's Djehutymose coffin will appear this summer.

The Kelsey Museum Associates sponsor the Museum's outreach and development activities and provide program support. The public is encouraged to join the Associates and participate in Museum activities. For more information, call 734.764.9295.

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Closes June 16

Red Rock & Rust Belt: A Tale of Two Cities
Guest curator: Susan Webb
June 30–July 21
Opening: Sunday, June 30, 2–4 pm

Discovery: Excavating the Ancient World
August 23–November 10
Opening: Friday, September 20, 6–8 pm
Associates preview: September 20, 5:30 pm

DROP-IN TOURS
Sundays, 2–3 pm
June 2 and 16
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