

Penn Museum
UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA MUSEUM
of ARCHAEOLOGY and ANTHROPOLOGY

May 14, 2014

Cultural Property Advisory Committee
Cultural Heritage Center (ECA/P/C), SA-5 Fifth Floor
U.S. Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20522-0505

Dear Members of the Cultural Property Advisory Committee:

We write this letter in strong support for a bilateral agreement between the United States and the Arab Republic of Egypt. This cover letter is accompanied by a more detailed report, which developed out of a social media and looting study by the Penn Cultural Heritage Center.

There is a considerable and substantial body of evidence to suggest that looting is occurring at archaeological and other cultural sites on a vast scale. At the same time, there are credible accounts that Egyptian law enforcement authorities are achieving some modest gains in their efforts to control the illicit trade. These domestic efforts are matched by a concerted international effort among historic market countries to intercept illicitly trafficked Egyptian antiquities.


A bilateral agreement also presents an opportunity for the United States to open a procedural pathway for the preservation of Egyptian cultural heritage. We encourage the United States government to offer assistance and funding through training programs for customs and border enforcement, museum and site management, and portable object documentation.

This bilateral agreement is important and should be supported by Cultural Property Advisory Committee and by the U.S. Department of State.

Sincerely,



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POSITION PAPER IN SUPPORT OF A
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT
UNDER THE CONVENTION ON CULTURAL PROPERTY IMPLEMENTATION ACT

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Prepared by the Penn Cultural Heritage Center, University of Pennsylvania²
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I. Executive Summary.

Since the 2011 Revolution, there has been an outbreak of looting at archaeological and other cultural sites throughout Egypt. This position paper presents evidence about the current state of this pillage, and, based upon our analysis of this material, we urge the Cultural Property Advisory Committee to recommend the adoption of import restrictions on archaeological and ethnological material presently at risk from the Arab Republic of Egypt. We also encourage the U.S. Department of State, when negotiating a bilateral agreement with Egypt, to use this opportunity to encourage the development of collaborative international partnerships in the areas of law enforcement, museum and site security, and cultural policy that have the potential to ameliorate some of the significant threats now facing Egypt's cultural patrimony.

When it became apparent that cultural heritage was at extreme risk following the 2011 Revolution, the Penn Cultural Heritage Center began to systematically document news articles and other social media reports of looting incidents or cultural heritage damage, with the intention of developing a research database that could be employed in a future detailed study about social responses to looting. At present, the database includes over 700 reports. Our analysis developed from this effort, and our discussion is based upon those accounts that are the most credible or can be verified through other means. Altogether, there is a critical mass of news and social media accounts that offer some insight into the state of site looting, law enforcement, and international response to the present situation in Egypt.

II. The cultural patrimony of Egypt is now in jeopardy.

It is clear from documented reports in the news and social media, eyewitness accounts at archaeological sites and museums, and domestic police reports that there is a condition of extraordinary pillage of cultural patrimony in Egypt. The evidence suggests that Egyptian archaeological, cultural, and religious sites as well as museums representative of virtually every period of Egyptian history, from the Pre-Dynastic Era through the Ottoman Era, are now in danger of looting or destruction through sectarian strife, illegal construction, or negligence. Many sites have been looted, but our social media data suggests that the group of sites in Table 1 has been targeted repeatedly or received significant attention for the degree to which the site has been damaged.

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TABLE 1. EGYPTIAN SITES WITH EXTENSIVE LOOTING.

Site Name	Governorate	Primary Historic Periods	Type of Damage	Reference
Abusir	Cairo	3rd Dynasty through Saite/Persian	Looting, damage, illegal construction, especially at the necropolis and Temple of Ptahshepses	[1]
Abu Sir al-Malaq	Beni Suef	Naqada, Hyksos, Saite, Roman	Looting of Saite and Hyksos sarcophagi at the necropolis	[2]
Abu Rawash	Giza	4th Dynasty, Roman	Looting and illegal construction at the necropolis	[3]
Dahshur	Giza	3rd Dynasty through 2nd Intermediate	Illegal construction and extensive looting, especially in and near the Pyramid of Amenemhat III, Dashur necropolis, Pyramid of Sneferu	[4]
Esna	Luxor	Ptolemaic through Roman	Looting at the Temple of Khnum	[5]
Gerza	Faiyum	Pre-Dynastic through Early Islamic	Illegal construction and looting of the necropolis	[6]
Giza	Giza	4th through 26th Dynasty	Looting and damage including 6th Dynasty tomb of Impy	[7]
Heliopolis	Cairo	Naqada I through early Islamic	Looting, illegal construction, and damage, especially at obelisk of Senusert I, Souq El-Khamis El-Gadeed, Abu el-Hol, Arab el-Hisn Temple of Ra, Gate of Ramses	[8]
Heroonopolis	Ismailia	New Kingdom through Roman	Looting and complete damage of the tomb of 19th Dynasty tomb of Ken-Amun	[9]
El Hibeh	Beni Suef	21st Dynasty through early Islamic	Looting and damage of necropolis	[10]
Lisht	Giza	12th Dynasty	Looting and damage near pyramids of Amenhemhat I and Senusret I, necropolis	[11]
Memphis	Cairo	1st Dynasty through early Islamic	Looting and damage of the necropolis	[12]
Minya	Minya	Pre-Dynastic to present	Looting of Greek and Roman artifacts	[13]
Qubbet el-Hawa	Aswan	Old Kingdom through Roman	Looting of Old Kingdom tombs	[14]
Saqqara	Giza	1st Dynasty through early Islamic	Looting around Temple of Hetepka, 6th Dynasty Pyramid of Merenre, 4th Dynasty Mastabet el-Faraun, and Coptic tombs	[15]
Tell Tanis	Sharkia	21st Dynasty through early Islamic	Looting and illegal building near Islamic textile factory and cistern	[16]

There have also been additional looting attempts reported at Aswan, Karnak, Kom el-Sultan, and Kom es-Samak [17].

Many Islamic religious sites and monuments have also suffered looting and damage. Mother-of-pearl and ivory inlays were stolen from the *minbar* of the 15th century Qaitbay Mosque (Cairo). Mamluk copper door knockers were stolen from the Qagmas al-Ishaqi and Gay al-Yussufi mosques (Cairo), which also date to the 15th century [18]. Two *qiswan* from the Qubbat Affendina mausoleum were stolen [19]. There has been a rash of violence against Sufi mosques and shrines (in many cases by Salafi extremists), especially in the Alexandria, Qalyubia, and North Sinai governorates. The Mursi Abdul Abbas mosque (Alexandria) was looted and damaged [20]. The Sheikh Hamid Abu Jarir, Sheikh Zuwaid, and Sheikh Salim al-Sharif Abu Jarir Sufi shrines (North Sinai) were all bombed and suffered varied degrees of structural damage [21]. The Sidi Gamal al-Din Sufi shrine (Qalyubia) has been completely demolished [22]. The wooden doors of the Sidi Izz al-Din Sufi shrine (Qalyubia) were set on fire [23].

Dozens of Coptic churches have also sustained various forms of damage, which includes both looting and intentional destruction. Many of these were damaged within a three-day period from August 14-17, 2013. Unfortunately, little information is available to us concerning the types of damage to specific Coptic churches or their age and contents. The Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights has compiled a list of churches and Coptic-owned facilities damaged in August 2013. By their count, 25 churches and monasteries were burned, suffering varying degrees of damage, seven churches were looted and destroyed, five were partially destroyed, and 10 were pelted with stones [24]. Damage continues especially at ancient Coptic sites. The 4th-century cave church of St. Kolta in Ansina is in constant danger of looting and damage. Looters have dynamited the church's walls to search for artifacts and additional illegal excavations take place in and around the site [25].

Looting at archaeological storage magazines has also been reported (including at facilities at several of the sites mentioned above) and is compiled below in Table 2.

TABLE 2. LOOTED SITE STORAGE MAGAZINES.

Site	Governorate	Theft	Reference
Avaris: Site storage	Sharkia	76 items missing from site storage, including pottery and jewelry from 12th to 18th Dynasties	[26]
Buto: Site storage for Buto, el-Monufia, el-Gharbia, Kafr el-Sheikh and El-Beheira	Kafr el-Sheikh	27 items stolen including 20 bronze coins from the Roman and Islamic eras; a limestone relief engraved with Greek text, a statue inscribed with a hieroglyphic text; four clay pots; one unspecified item	[27]
Dahshur: Storage for DAI, Metropolitan Museum of Art	Giza	unclear	[28]
Giza: Site storage	Giza	"Several artifacts" stolen	[29]
Hermopolis Magna: Site storage	Minya	Two Roman mummies missing	[30]

TABLE 2. LOOTED SITE STORAGE MAGAZINES, CONTINUED.

Site	Governorate	Theft	Reference
Kom el-Hitan: Site storage	Luxor	Two recently discovered statues stolen (including a head of Sekhmet)	[31]
Mit Rahina: Site storage	Cairo	238 objects stolen, including pottery and ushabtis, all but 33 items unregistered	[32]
Qantara East: Storage for Port Said, Sharm el-Sheikh, and Taba site museums	Ismailia	Approx. 800 artifacts stolen, including large collection of clay vessels, bronze coins, scarabs, amulets, wooden arrows, textiles, amphorae (approx. 300 subsequently recovered)	[33]
Saqqara: several storage magazines including those for Cairo University	Giza	84 shabtis and shabti fragments, 18 Coptic textiles, wooden objects, inscribed potsherds, amulets, jewelry, 40 small relief fragments	[34]
Wadi el-Feiran: Site storage near Sharm el-Sheikh	South Sinai	unclear	[35]

Foiled thefts have also been reported for storage magazines at Abydos, Aswan, Karanis, Karnak, Mendes, and Tell el-Basta [36].

Finally, although documented museum collections are already protected under provisions of the Convention on Cultural Property Act, it is worth noting the looting and damage that has occurred to museum locations as indicative of the kinds of objects that are targeted more generally. We have compiled a list of museums and similar institutions attacked or damaged since 2011 in Table 3.

TABLE 3. LOOTED MUSEUMS.

Name	Governorate	Objects	Damage	Reference
American University in Cairo	Cairo	145 artifacts (from excavations in Fustat), 50 replicas stolen	looting	[37]
Aswan Museum	Aswan	92 or 96 faience amulets stolen	looting	[38]
Institut d'Egypte	Cairo	10,000 books destroyed, 20,000 damaged, unknown number possibly looted	fire damage, looting	[39]
Luxor Open-Air Museum	Luxor	2 Coptic stone lions	looting	[40]
Mallawi National Museum	Minya	48 artifacts destroyed, 1041 stolen (around 800 subsequently returned/recovered) including Ptolemaic coins, jewels, mummies, statues, Roman funerary masks, Egyptian inscriptions, Greek stelae, pottery, papyri	looting, damage	[41]

TABLE 3. LOOTED MUSEUMS, CONTINUED.

Name	Governorate	Objects	Damage	Reference
Memphis Museum	Cairo	unclear	looting	[42]
Museum of Egyptian Antiquities	Cairo	54 artifacts looted (28 recovered), 70 damaged, including statuettes, items from the tomb of Tutankhamen, shabtis, jewelry, amulets	looting, damage	[43]

Looting attempts have also been reported at the Alexandria National Museum, the Coptic Museum, the Imhotep Museum, the Karanis Site Museum, and the Royal Jewelry Museum [44].

III. The Arab Republic of Egypt has taken domestic measures to protect its cultural patrimony.

Egypt has a long legislative history related to the protection of cultural property dating back to at least 1835, when Muhammad Ali Pasha enacted an ordinance prohibiting the export of antiquities and placing the government in charge of excavation, collection, exhibition, and preservation efforts. This decree was strengthened in 1869, 1874, and 1897, when laws were instituted naming the government the sole owner of undiscovered antiquities, setting punishments for illegal excavations, and regulating archaeological excavations in order to prevent smuggling. Modern laws further extended these regulations [45]. The current system is based upon Law No. 215 of 1951 on the Protection of Antiquities, which was revised and amended by Law No. 529 of 1953, Law No. 24 of 1965, Law No. 117 of 1983, and No. 3 of 2010. Key features of the present law include the following:

- Antiquities are defined as all movable and immovable objects produced by the arts, sciences, literatures, customs, and religions, from prehistoric times to the reign of Ismail, as well as any objects produced by foreign civilizations at one time related to Egypt (e.g. Greek, Ptolemaic, Roman, etc.) and found within Egypt's borders.
- All antiquities, known or unknown, belong to the state. Once discovered, these must be reported to an official and registered on an official inventory.
- A permit is required for all archaeological field research.
- Exportation of cultural property is prohibited without a permit. Movement of antiquities within the country must be authorized.
- Antiquities dealers must be licensed and must retain a register of transactions. Antiquities offered for sale must be authorized in advance by a museum.
- The Supreme Council of Antiquities, under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture, is responsible for the restoration and preservation of Egypt's cultural heritage.

Egypt has joined the most important contemporary international conventions on cultural property protection. The country became party to the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict in 1955, the First Protocol in 1955, and the Second Protocol in 2005, the 1970 UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property in 1973, and the 1972 UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage in 1974.

Following the 2011 Revolution, there has been much criticism that Egyptian police and other security forces have been unable or unwilling to stem the looting and other damage to sites and museums despite warnings or alerts from archaeologists and the Egyptian public [46]. Nonetheless, there have been significant recent successes by Egyptian law enforcement agencies in preventing and recovering stolen and looted artifacts that demonstrate the ability of domestic law enforcement agencies to take action (see Table 4).

TABLE 4. EGYPTIAN LAW ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS AGAINST ANTIQUITIES-RELATED CRIMES.

Event	Objects Involved	Source	Outcome	Reference
Shipment of illegally excavated objects intended for Jordan seized by police (2011)	5 gold and wooden masks, 40 bronze statuettes, 52 amulets, different metal parts (Pharaonic), 1 copper vessel, 4 pieces of metal armor (Islamic)	unknown	Seizure and arrest by police	[47]
Stolen and illegally excavated objects seized (2011)	4 figurines, including a figurine of Tutankhamen	2 from Egyptian Museum, 2 unknown	Seizure and arrest by police	[48]
Stolen objects, intended for illicit export intercepted at Port Fouad (2011)	22 Hyksos pots, 5 bronze Ptolemaic coins from Al-Mansheya, Ismailia	Qantara East storage	Seizure and arrest by police	[49]
Stolen objects seized (2011)	2 5th Dynasty reliefs	Saqqara storage	Seizure by Tourism and Antiquities Police (TAP)	[50]
Seizure of objects at the Cairo Airport intended for illegal export to the UAE and/or Kuwait (2012)	Early 19th c. bronze chandelier, gold-plated desk clock, set of three porcelain reliefs in a brown wooden frame, three Islamic manuscripts	unknown	Seizure and arrest by TAP	[51]
Stolen and illegally excavated objects seized along the Cairo-Suez highway (2013)	180 small amulets, 10 scarabs, 120 Ptolemaic coins, 407 bronze Roman coins, three wooden statues from the late period, limestone basin from the Old Kingdom, limestone stele of Ptah, a black granite statue of Hathor	unknown	Seizure and arrest by police	[52]
Illegally excavated objects seized at Beni Suef (2013)	5 Pharaonic coffins, 63 statues (6 made of gold), approx. 5000 coins	unknown	Seizure by "Egyptian tourism authorities" (3 suspects escaped)	[53]
Seizure at the Cairo Airport of objects intended for the USA (2013)	Coptic Christian icons (2 wooden and 1 iron)	unknown	Seizure and arrest by airport police and "airport archaeology police"	[54]

TABLE 4. EGYPTIAN LAW ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS AGAINST ANTIQUITIES-RELATED CRIMES, CONTINUED.

Event	Objects Involved	Source	Outcome	Reference
Seizure at the Cairo Airport of stolen or objects, intent to smuggle (2013)	1 Coptic Christian icon	unknown	Seizure and arrest by airport police and “airport archaeology police”	[55]
Seizure of objects at Giza intended for illicit sale (2013)	Statue of Djehuty, group of terracotta statues, 6 lanterns	Mallawi National Museum	Seizure and arrest by “Antiquities and Museums Investigation Bureau”, Interior Ministry, police	[56]
Illegally excavated objects seized at the Cairo Zawiyat Abu Mussalem (2014)	1524 objects including ancient statues, amulets and limestone false doors	unknown	Arrest and seizure by police	[57]
Stolen objects seized in Faiyum City (2014)	10 Pharaonic statues, 33 Greek coins	Mallawi National Museum	Arrest and seizure by Faiyum police, “General Administration for Tourism and Antiquities”	[58]
Objects, seized at “a port” (2014)	44 coins: 2 Greco-Roman, 4 Islamic, 2 Byzantine, 12 from the Sultan Hussein Kamel, 9 from King Fuad I, 10 from King Farouk I, 1 from 1947	unknown	Seizure and arrest by Archaeological Ports Unit	[59]
Illegally excavated objects intended for sale seized at Faiyum (2014)	3 Roman sarcophagi (including mummies), 5 Roman wooden portraits and coverings of sarcophagi depicting deceased	unknown	Seizure and arrest by TAP	[60]
Seizure of stolen objects at Al-Nozha, Heliopolis, and Cairo (2014)	Tutankhamun statue, bronze Greco-Roman Apis statue, eight ushabtis, wooden ushabti of Tuya, alabaster ushabti, ebony ushabti statue, two other Tuya statuettes, ushabti of cedar wood, and a yellow limestone ushabti	Egyptian Museum	Seizure and arrest by TAP	[61]
Seizure of a shipment intended for Belgium (2014)	11 wooden cylinder Torah cases inlaid with engraved silver, silver knife from 1890, a silver crown, and a menorah	unknown	Seizure and arrest by “Egyptian security personnel”	[62]

There are also many reported cases of civilians or Egyptian archaeologists protecting cultural and archaeological sites of their own volition. One of the most enduring images from the outset of the revolution in January 2011 shows a group of citizens forming a human shield around the Egyptian Museum in Cairo to prevent further attacks [63]. Locals repulsed armed looters at the Temple of Karnak in February 2011 and organized patrols of the site [64]. Approximately 100 archaeologists and local residents gathered at Dahshur in April 2013 to demand that the

government take action against the widespread looting of the site [65]. Local residents at San el-Hagar created a cordon around the site of Tanis to protect it; similarly, a community watch effort began to patrol the sites on Luxor’s West Bank [66]. When a bomb exploded outside the Museum of Islamic Art in Cairo in January 2014, many people rushed to help. Yasmine El Dorghamy, the publisher of a magazine about Egypt’s heritage and history, immediately bought supplies for an emergency artifact rescue, and Abdel-Hamid El Sharif, who founded the nonprofit group Egyptian Heritage Rescue soon after the revolution to train volunteers in artifact rescue management, arrived with his team to wrap and pack artifacts [67]. The number of blogs and other new media covering Egyptian cultural heritage has also increased, as archaeologists and members of the public have sought to record and bring attention to the continued looting and damage [68]. The degree to which there is public interest and intervention in actively protecting sites bodes well for long-term preservation efforts.

IV. U.S. import restrictions would be part of an international response to pillage in Egypt.

Already, there is a strong international response to the pillage in Egypt. As CPAC is well aware, countries implement the 1970 UNESCO Convention in different ways. Most states party grant reciprocal recognition to the export restrictions of other countries. Such is the system in Canada, for example, which, in 2007, intercepted a Greco-Roman bust smuggled from Egypt. Switzerland is the only country with a protection regime involving bilateral agreements similar to those in the United States. Switzerland entered into an agreement with Egypt in 2010. Major market countries such as Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Israel, and the United Kingdom have all been involved in the recovery and return of Egyptian material (the circumstances are discussed in Table 5). The United States would therefore not be alone in responding to the situation of pillage in Egypt with import restrictions.

TABLE 5. INTERNATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS RELATED TO EGYPTIAN ANTIQUITIES.

Country	Object(s)	Circumstances	Source	Seizure	Return	Reference
Belgium	26th dynasty faience shabti	This shabti was reported missing from the Egyptian Museum on 28 January 2011. It was broken into two pieces. The lower part remained in the museum while the torso was stolen and smuggled out of Egypt and sold to a Belgian citizen.	Cairo Museum	after 2011	2013	[69]
Canada	Greco-Roman marble bust	This bust was seized by Canadian authorities in 2007 and stored with Heritage Canada until its return.	unknown	2007	2010	[70]
France	5 Ptolemaic period artifacts, including head, chest, and arm of a glass statue	These objects were offered on French Internet websites.	unclear	likely post-2010	2013	[71]

TABLE 5. INTERNATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS RELATED TO EGYPTIAN ANTIQUITIES, CONTINUED.

Country	Object(s)	Circumstances	Source	Seizure	Return	Reference
Germany	A 5th Dynasty limestone obelisk, a 19th Dynasty limestone statue sarcophagus and a black granite statue	These objects were in route to Belgium when intercepted by the German customs authority in Stuttgart.	Saqqara	2009	2014	[72]
Israel	2 sarcophagi fragments: one between 10th-8th c. BCE, the other between 16th-14th c. BCE	The fragments were likely smuggled into Israel in order to launder title and were intended for shipment abroad.	unknown	likely 2011	2013	[73]
Israel	16th Dynasty sarcophagus lid	The lid was seized by the Israeli Antiquities Authority from a showroom in Jerusalem. It was modified to look like a replica, and had been taken first to Dubai before shipment to Israel.	unknown	2011	2012	[74]
Israel	90 assorted objects	These objects were seized from an antiquities dealer in Jerusalem by the Israeli Antiquities Authority.	unknown	unknown	2013	[75]
United Kingdom	3 heads and a cartouche from Amenhotep III's mortuary temple	These objects were seized when an American collector attempted to sell them at an auction house in London.	Luxor	unknown	2011	[76]
United Kingdom	statue fragment with the head of a cow	This object was recovered at auction in London following its planned sale in 2011.	Bahbit al-Higarah Temple	2011	2011	[77]
United Kingdom/ USA	98 pre-Dynastic pottery and stone vessels	In 2002, thieves looted the Cairo University Museum/Magazine in Ma'adi. An inventory after the theft counted 370 objects missing, mostly pre-Dynastic vessels. A group of objects was recovered from Bonham's in 2004. Another single vessel was recovered from Christie's auction house in London. (The U.S. Department of Homeland Security seized an additional 79 objects in this case).	Ma'adi	2005 2007	2008	[78]

V. A bilateral agreement between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the United States would promote the interchange of cultural property among nations for scientific, cultural, and educational purposes.

Even with the post-Revolution conditions in Egypt, a number of U.S. institutions have continued their research at archaeological projects in-country. This commitment demonstrates U.S. archaeologists' interest in working in Egypt and the willingness and support of the Egyptian government in seeing these international exchanges endure. Table 6, compiled from records kept by the American Research Center in Egypt, lists excavations led by U.S. institutions with the cooperation of the SCA. This list is likely not exhaustive, and some research projects may not yet have entered the field for 2014.

TABLE 5. RECENT OR ONGOING ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECTS IN EGYPT.

Site	Director(s)	Affiliation	Active Through
Abydos	David O'Connor	Penn Museum, Yale, Institute of Fine Arts (NY)	2013
Abydos Middle Cemetery	Janet Richards	Kelsey Museum of Archaeology	2013
Abydos Ramesses II Temple	Sameh Iskander, Ogden Goelet	NYU	2013
South Abydos Senwosret III Mortuary Complex	Josef Wegner	Penn, Yale, NYU	2014
Philae Temple	Eugene Cruz-Uribe	Indiana University East	2013
Amheida	Roger Bagnall, Paola Davoli	NYU, Columbia	2013
Faiyum	Willeke Wendrich, Rene Cappers	UCLA, University of Groningen	2012
Mit Rahina Field School	Mark Lehner	ARCE, AERA	2013
Hierakonpolis and El Kab Pre-Dyn. and E. Dyn. Tombs	Renee Friedman	British Museum, University of Arkansas	2013
Luxor East Bank Mut Temple	Richard Fazzini	Brooklyn Museum	2013
Luxor East Bank Mut Temple	Betsy Bryan	Johns Hopkins	2013
Luxor West Bank Medinet Habu, Luxor, Khonsu Temples	William Raymond Johnson	University of Chicago	2013
Luxor West Bank Malkata	Diana Craig Patch, Peter Lacovara	Met, Emory	2013
Luxor West Bank Tausert Temple	Richard Wilkinson	University of Arizona	2013
Luxor West Bank VoK	Donald Ryan	Pacific Lutheran University	2013

TABLE 6. RECENT OR ONGOING ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECTS IN EGYPT, CONTINUED

Site	Director(s)	Affiliation	Active Through
Memphis and Saqqara Advanced Field School	Mark Lehner	University of Chicago, AERA	2013
Sohag Red Monastery	Elizabeth Bolman	ARCE	2013
Sohag White Monastery	Stephen Davis, Gillian Pike	ARCE	2014
Timai el-Amdid	Robert Littman	University of Hawaii	2014

VI. Recommendations.

Based upon the forgoing, we conclude: 1) that there is a serious and immediate situation of serious pillage threatening the cultural patrimony of Egypt; 2) that Egyptian authorities are making an effort under difficult circumstances to address the issue of looting; 3) that other market countries have already taken measures to restrict the importation of looted Egyptian antiquities; and 4) that cultural exchanges between archaeologists and their counterparts are continuing under present conditions and can likely be enhanced under a bilateral agreement. We urge the Cultural Property Advisory Committee to recommend import restrictions.

In order to promote cultural exchange and to curtail the address some of the conditions that lead to looting, we further suggest that the following language be considered in a Memorandum of Understanding:

- Representatives of the Government of the United States of America and representatives of the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt shall make efforts to publicize this Memorandum of Understanding and the reasons for it on an updated website for the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities.
- The Government of Egypt shall use its best efforts to: secure and inventory objects pertaining to its national cultural heritage; document sites in a centralized digital inventory; educate its citizens on the importance of protecting all categories of Egyptian cultural heritage, especially at risk monuments and materials such as those of the early Islamic era and those belonging to the Coptic Christian culture; and reduce corruption that undermines efforts to protect Egyptian cultural patrimony from pillage and illicit trafficking.
- Both the governments of Egypt and the United States shall promote best practices in cultural resource management in Egypt, and encourage coordination among cultural heritage authorities, tourism authorities, and development agencies to ensure the protection of archaeological sites on land and underwater from accidental destruction, looting, or damage.

- The Government of the United States of America shall continue to use its best efforts to facilitate technical assistance in cultural resource management and security to the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt, as appropriate under available programs in the public and/or private sectors.
- The Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt shall continue the exchange of its archaeological material under circumstances that do not jeopardize its cultural patrimony and that are consistent with its current laws, such as for temporary special exhibitions and for loans of long duration for cultural, educational, or scientific purposes.
- Both Governments, recognizing collaborative efforts already underway, shall continue to develop and promote professional training programs for archaeologists, museum staff, and institutional administrators responsible for cultural patrimony, to enhance the capabilities of the museums of Egypt to care for and present their rich cultural heritage.

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