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Contents

Proceedings of the Sixth Central European Conference of Egyptologists. Egypt 2012: Perspectives of Research held in Krakow

In memoriam Harold M. Hays (1965-2013) .................................................................9

Urszula Stępień
The flint industry of Tell el-Farkha in the Predynastic period
– old and new perspectives ......................................................................................11

Agnieszka Mączyńska
The Nile Delta as a center of cultural interaction between Upper Egypt and the southern Levant in the 4th millennium BC .................................25

Sakura Sanada
The implications of applying the Vienna System to published data on Prehistoric pottery in Lower Egypt .................................................................47

Magdalena Sobas
Bread mould potmarks from a Protodynastic and Early Dynastic site in the Nile Delta, Egypt. A view from Tell el-Farkha ..............................................65

Teodozja I. Rzeuska
In the shadow of Wepwawet. An early necropolis on the Gebel Asyut al-gharbi? ......................................................................................................83

Magdalena Kazimierczak
Pottery from Tell el-Murra graves. Seasons 2011-2012 .........................................101

Andrzej Ćwiek
Red and black world ................................................................................................119

Joanna Popielska-Grzybowska
Picturing the pharaoh through language – remarks on the linguistic image of the Egyptian king in the Old Kingdom religious texts ....................135

Natalia Małecka-Drozd
Notes on the origin of casemate foundation platforms in ancient Egypt .............149
Johannes Stefan G. Auenmüller
The location of New Kingdom elite tombs – space, place
and significance.................................................................171

Piotr Czerkwiński
The beard of Rameses VI..................................................195

Grzegorz First
Polykephalos – some remarks on multi-headed nature of Late
Egyptian polymorphic deities..............................................205

Maxim Kupreyev
The origins and development of the definite article
in Egyptian-Coptic...........................................................223

Wojciech Ejsmond, Łukasz Przewłocki
Some remarks on cat mummies in light of the examination
of artefacts from the National Museum in Warsaw collection......239

Mariusz Izydor Prokopowicz
The ancient Egyptian second infinitive?
‘$i\omega + $ubject + $ + infinitive’ interpreted through the Biblical
infinitive absolute and the Polish second infinitive.......................259

Mladen Tomorad, Mislav Čavka, Igor Uranić, Kristina Šekrst
Current egyptological research in Croatia..............................283

Debate

Amir Golani
More perspectives on the late prehistoric site of Qiryat Ata:
a rejoinder to Eliot Braun....................................................307

Editorial Note........................................................................321
IN MEMORIAM HAROLD M. HAYS (1965-2013)

I will never forget any of Harold Hays’ lectures. There may not have been that many of them, but each one was different from any other in its form.

We met for the first time on Rhodes at the 10th International Congress of Egyptologists, where he was speaking about Old Kingdom religious texts. Although I did not completely agree with his reasoning, he impressed me with the clarity of his argumentation.

Later, at the Old Kingdom Art and Archaeology Conference in Cambridge, the audience and I were treated to a most stylish show. The manner in which he presented his paper was something of which we Poles could only dream.

The last time we met was in Cracow at the Sixth Central European Conference of Egyptologists. Egypt 2012: Perspectives of Research in 2012. Here, Harold presented us with an even more spirited lecture reflecting his wide knowledge and open-minded perception of both the world around him and also that of the ancient Egyptians.

I remember so well when Harold said to me: ‘I am anxiously waiting for the day when you come to me and say: “I agree with you Harold.”’ But it never happened. Nevertheless, this was never a cause foranimosity between us and we both greatly enjoyed our discussions on the Pyramid Texts.

We had many plans for future collaboration and for meetings and conferences to debate our thought-provoking scholarly ideas. At every conference we would spend hours discussing the Egyptological topics that intrigued us, as well as our countries, our universities, our families and our preferences in film and literature.

The news that Harold had passed away on 30 November 2013 left all CECE participants in a state of profound sadness.

Farewell Harold…

Joanna Popielska-Grzybowska