

[undated]
[Dr. Mueller]
SMW

The Disposition of the Nubian Expedition Notes

In 1907 the Eckley B.Coxe Junior Expedition, under the direction of David Randall-MacIver and Leonard B.Woolley, began its work in Nubia with excavations at Aniba. This site was, in 1912, taken over by Georg Steindorff who excavated there till 1914 and again, after the war, from 1930 to 1931.

As some of their work at Aniba was published only in a preliminary report, he asked R.MacIver and L.Woolley in 1922 for their notes and records to include them in his own publication of the site.

While he had their approval, the records of the Nubian Expedition - then in the possession of the University Museum in Philadelphia - could not be located until 1930, when some of them were accidentally found "during a rearrangement of collections in the Museum".

G.Steindorff gained access to the Nubian material through the courtesy of Battiscombe Gunn. B.Gunn, who worked for the University Museum from 1931 to 1933, provided G.Steindorff with information on, and photos of, the Aniba finds of the E.B.Coxe Expedition, and the notes made by R.MacIver and L.Woolley. The latter was mostly done through copies taken of these notes. In some cases, however, the originals were later sent to Steindorff, too.

The correspondence between B.Gunn and G.Steindorff indicates that this was done with the following documents:

1) Notes on P 100-149	(MacIver)	3	sheets
2) Plan and notes P 1 = An 5	"	1	"
3) Plan and notes P 2 = An 6	"	2	"
4) Inscript. and notes P 2 = An 6	"	1	"
5) Inscript. and notes P 3 = An 7	"	1	"
6) Notes on Stela 11367 (An 7) and 11368 (An 6)	"	1	"
7) Notes on Glazed Stela 14232	"	1	"
8) Copy and notes on "Greco-Ethiopian Inscript."	"	1	"
9) Notes on Graffiti referring to "Ma'am"	"	1	"
10) Aniba "General Geography"	(Woolley)	1	"
11) Groundplan P 10	"	1	"

Of these documents, both a copy and the original
were supplied

- 12) Dimensions of Anibeh Pyramids (Woolley) 1 sheet
13) Genealogy Family of Pennut (MacIver) 1 sheet

Steindorff received the originals, but no copies of,
these two

Source for 1-13: Gunn's letter of October 26, 1933

- 14) Drawings of pottery types (Woolley/MacIver) 1 card

Steindorff received the original only

Source for 14: Gunn's letter of June 30, 1933

- 15) Catalogue "Aniba 1910" (Woolley) 1 hardcover notebook

Steindorff received the original only

Source: Gunn's letter of November 23, 1933

- 16) Field Notes "Anibeh XXth Dyn. Graves 1910" (Woolley) 67 loose pages

Steindorff received both the original and a copy

Source for 16: Letters of July 19, 1930 (Jane M. McHugh)
and November 1, 1933 (B. Gunn)

being returned (Of these documents, the following are still in the Steindorff collection: 1, 4, 6 (the copy only), 7, 9, 10 (the original only), 13 (original only, no copy made), 15 (original only, no copy made), and 16

The disposition of the missing sheets is unknown. They may be among the material G. Steindorff had to leave in Leipzig (now East Germany) when he emigrated to the USA, and which included:

3 folders cemetery - tombs
pottery
folders with preliminary work on pottery
drawings
all material of the old excavation 1912/14

If these files still exist, they might be in the Egyptological Institute in Leipzig, and

Fräulein Dr. Elke Blumenthal
Ägyptologisches Institut
Schillerstrasse 6
Leipzig C 1

should be contacted.

There is no reference to notes on Areika, Karanog, and Buhen in Steindorff's correspondence with the University Museum in Philadelphia, and it seems obvious that he did not see any of them.

Dallas, December 13, 1968

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dr. Dieter Mueller", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end.

(Dr. Dieter Mueller)

[1968]

The Question of Ownership

When Georg Steindorff was working on his Aniba discoveries, he asked Randall-MacIver and Leonard Woolley, who had excavated this site previously, for their unpublished material to include it in his publication. Both gentlemen most generously gave their consent, as it was generally felt that a comprehensive study of all the available Aniba material would be more useful than separate reports by different authors.

Nothing indicates, however, that G.Steindorff was meant to keep this material permanently. Neither R.MacIver nor L.Woolley could have made such a decision, as all their notes and records were the legal property of the University Museum in Philadelphia. This is clearly stated by R.MacIver in his letter to G.Steindorff of June 18, 1922:

"You are aware however that not only the specimens, but also all notes drawings and photographs are the property of the University Museum of Philadelphia, and can only be used with the consent and approval of the Director, Dr.Gordon, to whom ... you have already applied with satisfactory results".

It cannot be ascertained now why G.Steindorff did not return these notes, nor why the University Museum never asked for their return.

After his death, all his papers were bought by the Bridwell Library, Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University. As this institution was obviously not aware of this situation, it acquired these notes in good faith.

Under the present circumstances, the right of ownership can only be determined by a legal expert.

Before reaching a decision, however, the following considerations should also be taken into account:

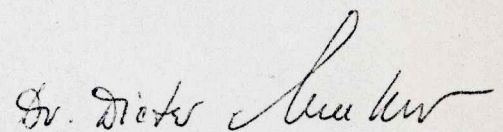
- 1) The permission to publish material collected by somebody else is a courtesy not very frequently granted, and no steps should be taken to prejudice scholars or institutions holding such material against giving such permission in the future.

2) The bulk of the material now in the possession of Bridwell Library consists of two notebooks by L.Woolley. One of them (no.15) is a catalogue of finds made at Aniba. It can hardly be used without the objects recorded there, but is of vital importance for the museum where these objects are kept.

3) This does not apply to the second book - Woolley's Field Notes listed as no.16. In this case, however, Bridwell Library also possesses a collated copy with handwritten annotations by Battiscombe Gunn and Georg Steindorff. This copy is typewritten and has drawings more carefully executed than the very cursive and sometimes almost illegible leadpencil notes by L.Woolley. Returning the original and keeping the copy seems an obvious solution.

4) The same is basically true for the single sheets, though copies do not exist in some cases. A return of all originals would be a friendly act on the part of Bridwell Library, and xerox-copies could easily be made of those sheets of which only the originals are among Steindorff's papers.

Dallas, December 13, 1968



(Dr.Dieter Mueller)

Mr. Dechard Turner, Librarian
Bridwell Library
Perkins School of Theology
Southern Methodist University

Dr. Dieter Mueller
6602 Del Norte Lane
Dallas 75225
Tel. 369-6160

December 13, 1968

Dear Mr. Turner:

I hereby submit to you the records of the Eckley B. Coxe Expedition, and two reports on them.

The first one - "The Disposition of the Nubian Expedition Notes" - might be sent to the University Museum in Philadelphia. I suggest this, because it might be of some help to the poor man who has to deal with the archives of this museum. It also shows that neither Georg Steindorff - nor, for that matter, Bridwell Library! - is responsible for the disappearance of the bulk of their records. Xerox-copies of Woolleys letter of June 29, 1929, and the two letters by Miss Jane M. McHugh of June 6 and July 19, 1930, could be included to emphasize this point.

The second report - "The Question of Ownership" - expresses strictly my own personal opinion. Needless to say, the final decision is yours.

Unfortunately, I shall be away from Dallas for the Christmas vacation, but would gladly discuss any problems with you after my return from California.

Yours very sincerely

Dieter Mueller

Enclosures:

- 1 report on disposition of documents (with 1 carbon copy)
- 1 report on ownership of documents
- 16 documents listed in first report

p.t.o.

[1968]

- 1 letter by Randall MacIver (June 18, 1922)
- 1 letter by Leonard Woolley (June 29, 1929)
- 2 letters by Jane M. McHugh (June 6, 1930, and July 19, 1930)
- 4 letters by Battiscombe Gunn (June 30, October 26, November 1, and November 13, 1933)

List of material left in Leipzig (Georg Steindorff)

SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY
PERKINS SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
DALLAS, TEXAS 75222

Bridwell Library
January 9, 1969

Mr. David O'Connor, Assistant
Egyptian Section
The University Museum of The University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Mr. O'Connor:

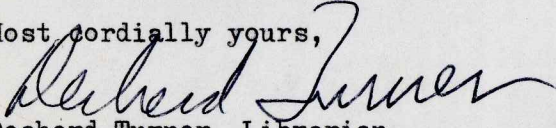
At long last I am able to render an answer^w to your letters of November 22, 1967, and September 10, 1968, regarding materials in the Steindorff papers.

I am attaching photocopies of Professor Dieter Mueller's investigations—all of which illuminate the case far better than I can.

In the light of Dr. Mueller's findings, I am returning to you all of the items in the Steindorff papers as indicated on page 2 of Dr. Mueller's statement "The Disposition of the Nubian Expedition Notes."

I hope that this will be of aid to you, and my apologies for the long time it has taken to answer your inquiry as clearly as possible.

Most cordially yours,


Decherd Turner, Librarian
Bridwell Library

P.S. In mailing these materials, I have taken the liberty of enclosing a packet of some of the materials which we have put out here at Bridwell Library from time to time. I thought you might find them of passing interest.

January 30, 1969

Dr. Decherd Turner
Librarian
Bridwell Library
Southern Methodist University
Perkins School of Theology
Dallas, Texas, 75222

Dear Dr. Turner:

Many thanks for the Aniba material and for all the trouble you and Dr. Mueller have taken about it. Clearly the bulk of our records still lie hidden in the depths of the museum here. Thank you also for the data on the activities of the Bridwell Library - I found them most interesting, and beautifully produced.

Yours sincerely,

David O'Connor
Assistant, Egyptian
Section