

**THE MEMPHITE NECROPOLIS, EGYPT
SITE MANAGEMENT PLAN PROJECT**

Sakuji Yoshimura

(Waseda University, Research Institute for Science and Engineering, Professor)

【Outline of survey】

The Memphite Necropolis, Egypt, is one of the most important archaeological sites listed as UNESCO's World Heritage Site. However, recently several problems causing damage to the site have become apparent and it has been recognized that proper site management plan is needed. This research project aims to propose a site management plan for the Memphite Necropolis by interdisciplinary research such as conservation science, geology, tourism, archaeology, architectural history. The planning process and order for this project consists of three parts: Documentation and Collection of Information, Management Analysis of Data, and Proposal.

【Expected results】

Documentation and Collection of Information for this project includes a review of all available previous researches in Memphite Necropolis, archaeological survey, analyses of satellite images of the area, mapping, geophysical survey, and so on. Management Analysis of Data includes the assessment of the preservation of the monuments and site, geological survey, studies on the impact of the tourism in the Memphite Necropolis. Finally, we aim to present a site management proposal by using virtual risk map of the Memphite Necropolis which enables to make simulation for several purposes for the site management. By combining the data from satellite images, archaeological data, geophysical data, and GIS data, the virtual risk map will include the information about the invisible archaeological sites and monuments in order to prevent further damages to the site by future proposals for new infrastructures.

【References by the principal investigator】

- The Institute of Egyptology (ed.), *Abusir South-I*, Kakuzando, Tokyo, 2001. (in Japanese)
- International Symposium *Safeguarding Ancient Egyptian Monuments – Preservation of Cultural Heritage in the Era of Conservations: the present practices and its future -*, Akhet Press, Tokyo, 2006. (in Japanese)
- S. Yoshimura and N. Kawai, “A new early Old Kingdom layered stone structure at Northwest Saqqara,” in M. Bárta (ed.), *Old Kingdom Art and Archaeology: Proceedings of the Conference*, Prague, May 31-June 4, 2004, Academy of Science of the Czech Republic, Prague.

【Term of project】 FY2007—2011

【Budget allocation】 18,000,000 yen

(2007 direct cost)

【Homepage address】

<http://www.waseda.jp/prj-egypt/index-j.html>