



Landscape Archaeology of the Western Nile Delta

by Joshua R. Trampier

DESCRIPTION:

Different ideas of what constitutes an archaeological site have developed over two centuries of scholarship and heritage law in Egypt, with sites often (unconsciously) conceived as lands with museum-quality pieces and striking monumental, mortuary, and/or epigraphic remains. As a result, the material record of the powerful dominates Egyptological discourse, leaving hundreds of unexplored sites in the Delta floodplain and their potential contributions to a narrative of Egyptian culture largely ignored.

Attempting to correct this, the author integrates historical maps, remote sensing data, and ancient texts to understand the dynamic landscape of the western Nile Delta. Weaving together new archaeological survey, Corona satellite images, and a targeted program of drill coring, this volume offers a palimpsest of settlement and paleoenvironment from the New Kingdom to Late Roman era. In the face of forces undermining many sites' integrity, this study adapts techniques in landscape archaeology to an Egyptian context, anticipating triage and salvage in the decades to come.

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Joshua R. Trampier received his Ph.D. in Egyptian Archaeology and Egyptology from the University of Chicago in 2010. He has worked in archaeology for fourteen years and in Egypt for over a decade. He has taught graduate and undergraduate courses at the University of Chicago in remote sensing, GIS, and ancient Egyptian culture. He is currently a Research Assistant with the Center for Ancient Middle Eastern Landscapes (CAMEL).

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