

'Egyptian temples'

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EGYPTIAN TEMPLES

1913

Photographs

54a Wigmore Street.

Dr. Wyatt Smith,
c/o Messrs. Cook & Sons,
Cairo.

29 November 1913.

Dear Sir,

I am making a study of the wall sculptures in the Birth Houses connected with the following temples in Egypt,

Luxor.
Kom Ombo.
Philae.
Edfu.
Denderah.
Kumeh.
Kalabshah.
Bet el Wali.

and I am desirous of having some really good sharp photographs of the sculptures and incised reliefs in these buildings. It is necessary especially to have the inscriptions and hieroglyphs as clear as possible and the whole of them, as drawings and reproductions I find are unreliable.

In talking over this matter with Miss Murray of University College, London, she suggested that I should write to you, and ask if you could see your way and spare the time to photograph these sculptures for me. If you can do so, I should much appreciate your kindness, and should be glad if you would let me know an approximate cost of the total expenses connected with the same, and I will then communicate with you as soon as I possible can.

Awaiting the favour of an early reply,

E.J. Mackay Esq.,
Luxor, Egypt.

Faithfully yours,

C. J. S. T.

Proctor

(Myth - Smith)

ASWAN.



s.s. "EGYPT,"
8 Dec. 1913.

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My dear Thompson,

Much as I should like to help you, and proud as I should be to be able to do something for Aegyptology, I am afraid Miss Murray's lapse of memory has prepared for me the humiliation of having to confess that I am not a photographer. I have not a camera of any sort. Still I would get some tourist who is a good photographer to take the records you require if it were possible. But I am afraid it is not. Phile is under water. At Kom Ombo, Edfu, and Dendera we do not stop more than an hour. Nubia we do not visit. There remains only Luxor, and here, at any rate, a scaffold would be necessary to get opposite the sculptures and inscriptions you want, for they are high up on a wall with columns close in front of them. They are also very indistinct and not well lit. I will put your problem to Mackay and Mrs. Brunton and see what they can suggest, and report to you if their suggestions strike me as being the least likely to lead to successful results.

*Yours faithfully,
J. W. Mackay.*

Medinet Habu House,

Luxor.

December 9th., 1913.

Dear Sir.

I am in receipt of your letter of the 29th, for which
I am obliged.

I am afraid I shall not be able to photograph the birth houses you
refer to as my time is very limited. I am at present working for
Mr Robert Mond and I could not do outside work without his permission.

I have tried on your behalf to see if anyone here would take on the
job, but without success.

The temples you require photographed are so far apart that a regular
camping tour would have to be made and possibly a lot of staging
would also have to be provided.

I am still making enquiries and will refer any suitable person
that would undertake the photography to you direct.

Yours faithfully,

E. J. Mackay.

To

Birth HousesDeir el Bahri ✓

Luxor

Karn Ombo

Philae

Edfu

Denderah 2

Kummeb

? Kalabshah

? Bet el Wali

Wall sculpture
in birth house.Inscribed reliefsFor inscriptions as much as -
anything -

E. J. Mackay

Luxor