

Preface

THE preceding volumes of this series have treated mastabas in the Eastern Cemetery at Giza, and much remains to be published in that area. With the present volume we begin the presentation of mastabas in the Western Cemetery not otherwise included in Reisner's *A History of the Giza Necropolis*, Vol. 1. They have been selected on the basis of their general interest and particularly in terms of the work devoted to copying the reliefs by members of the Pennsylvania-Yale project, which is supported by a grant from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the United States Department of State and subsequently the International Communications Agency (SCC 29368), as well as a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. For facilities and help at Giza we are as always indebted to the kindness and cooperation of the President of the Egyptian Antiquities Organization, Dr. Shehata Adam, and his predecessors, and the members of the Giza Inspectorate, Messrs. Nasif Mohammed Hassan and Zahi Hawwass. The ever increasing expenses of publication have been met by the Egyptian Department Publications Fund of the Museum of Fine Arts, and we thank those who have generously contributed to its establishment and continuance.

Several of the mastabas have been selected since they were among the earliest excavated by the Expedition (Sekhemka, G 1029, in 1904-1905, by members of the Hearst Expedition; Tjetu I, G 2001, in 1905-1906; Iasen, G 2196, and Penmeru, G 2197, in 1912). They are therefore among the oldest obligations of the Expedition and share the fate of having the earliest and most incomplete records in our files.

Through misadventure the tracings of the Penmeru text represented in pls. XLVI-XLVII have been misplaced, both the earlier copies by Reisner's assistants and those from the Pennsylvania-Yale project. The statue texts are represented in this volume by photographs only, since the statues are presently difficult of

access in their sealed museum cases. We hope to supply all these texts in tracings in a later volume.

The plan of publication continues to consist of as clear a presentation of the material and its context as possible without extensive commentary. Many of the general problems and subjects have been treated in detail by Junker and Hassan in their Giza publications, as well as in numerous articles by Edel, Helck, Montet, Smith, and others. In addition, it is hoped that the means and time will be found to present the various categories of objects in the new project entitled *Corpus Antiquorum Aegyptiacarum*, which is a useful format for the presentation of the statuary and relief no longer in situ. If we are able to continue the pace of the publications in this series, we hope to be able to include indexes after a number of volumes are issued as well as to include volumes of special studies such as the anatomical material, prosopography, and other subjects.

I had hoped to include in the volume the mastabas of Seshemnofer I (G 4950), of which the reliefs had been initially published by Lepsius and of which tracings have been completed by members of the Pennsylvania-Yale project, and Seshemnofer II (G 2200-5080), of which the Reisner tracings were virtually complete and required only minor revisions. However, the finds from the burials of both require more time to prepare, and the inclusion of both mastabas would extend the length of this volume considerably and delay its publication. Hence they will be reserved for a future issue.

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