



UNIVERSITY OF  
LIVERPOOL

# Hidden Figures in the Garstang Museum of Archaeology

An Investigation





# HIDDEN FIGURES IN THE GARSTANG MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY: AN INVESTIGATION

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## *FRONT MATTER*

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Every attempt has been made to ensure the accuracy of the material contained within. Any faults remaining are solely the responsibility of the author.

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The cover photo is of the head of Augustus excavated by John Garstang at Meroë in 1910. It is now in the care of the British Museum [1911,0901.1]. Image courtesy of the Garstang Museum of Archaeology.

## *ABBREVIATIONS*

BSA British School at Athens

EEF Egypt Exploration Fund

GMAA Garstang Museum of Archaeology Archive

SCA Special Collections and Archives

UOLL University of Liverpool Library

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Figure 1 Bomb damage at the Liverpool Museum, 4 May 1941. A member of the Auxiliary Fire Service carries a coffin from Garstang's excavations at Esna, 1906. © National Museums Liverpool.

## Introduction

The Garstang Museum of Archaeology is one of four collections at the University of Liverpool cared for by the Museums and Galleries department, the others being the Art Collections, the Heritage Collections, and the Popular Music Archive. The Garstang is the oldest of the four, founded in 1904 as a teaching museum for the Institute of Archaeology.<sup>1</sup> It retained its purpose after the Institute was integrated into the University as a School in 1948, and on the centenary of its creation in 2004 it was renamed the Garstang Museum of Archaeology after the key founder of archaeology at Liverpool, John Garstang. It is still closely associated with and integrated into the Department of Archaeology, Classics and Egyptology, where it continues to serve its original purpose as a teaching collection. It is also open to the general public on Wednesday and Thursday each week: it is attractive

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<sup>1</sup> Its strict status as a museum collection has, however, been debated. See: ME James 2012 “Who is to say they will not demand our shirts next...”: A

review of the Loan Collection of the Institute of Archaeology at the University of Liverpool, 1904–1930. PhD thesis, University of Liverpool

as one of the foremost Egyptology collections in the North West. The current Curator, Dr Gina Criscenzo-Laycock, was appointed in 2013.

In July 2021, the Museums and Galleries department hired two Collections Assistants, based in the Victoria Gallery & Museum, to work on decolonisation following the murder of George Floyd, the Black Lives Matter movement, and the need to look introspectively at institutional histories, especially in a heritage context. Since then, research has been conducted into the background of major donors to the University of Liverpool Art Collections, which was concluded at the end of October. The Curator of the Garstang Museum provided a list of six individuals connected to their collections in need of further research and investigation, which has led to the following report, research for which began at the beginning of November.

## **Early history of the Institute of Archaeology**

The formal study of archaeology at the beginning of the twentieth century was relatively rare, and offered by few institutions, however interest in the subject was growing among the merchant elite of Liverpool. They had been courted by John Garstang (1876–1956), a young archaeologist who had been Flinders Petrie’s research student during the turn of the century, working for two seasons at Abydos, an ancient city near the Nile.<sup>2</sup> From 1901–02 Garstang excavated at Ar Raqāqinah with the support of these Liverpool benefactors, and from 1902–04 at Beni Hasan.

Garstang quickly embedded himself in the academic community in Liverpool, and at the age of 26 he was appointed as an honorary reader in Egyptian archaeology at University College, Liverpool. The next year, in 1903, the University College received a Royal Charter and independence. Riding this new wave of energy, Garstang led the foundation of the Institute of Archaeology on 23 June 1904. According to Ramsay Muir, “he set forth on Sundays, in a black coat and silk hat, to call on merchant princes to fire them with enthusiasm for archaeology, and to get their help in defraying the cost of an expedition or in founding a chair.”<sup>3</sup>

A committee was appointed to run the Institute, formed from “those who during the preceding years had come to take an interest in the development of archaeological studies within the University.”<sup>4</sup> Garstang’s Liverpool benefactors became the Institute’s first vice presidents: Ralph Brocklebank (1840–1921), Sir John Brunner (1842–1919), William Johnston (1841–1917), and John Rankin (1845–1928).<sup>5</sup> They were all ship owners other than Brunner, a chemical industrialist. An example of a general committee member is Emily Rathbone, to whom Garstang wrote in 1905 asking her to renew her “kind and most useful subscription.” He told her about the new staff and the need for specialist equipment: “Your help would be very welcome indeed to this end, or for any special purpose, but whatever may be your decision please be sure of my undiminished gratitude in the first

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<sup>2</sup> MS Dowers 1995 *Flinders Petrie: A Life in Archaeology*. London: University of Wisconsin Press, 255–263

<sup>3</sup> R Muir 1943 *An Autobiography and Some Essays*. London: Lund Humphries & Co, 80

<sup>4</sup> FC1/1 *Untitled manuscript of early history of the Institute with handwritten corrections, n.d.*

<sup>5</sup> GMAA FC1/1 *Untitled manuscript of early history of the Institute with handwritten corrections, n.d.*

instance for your kindness which helped us so much to make this start.”<sup>6</sup> The Institute’s declared intentions were to secure “specialist teaching in the various branches of Archaeology,” support excavations of ancient sites, and provide “collections of antiquities... of direct use in the teaching of History, Classics, Architecture and the Applied Arts, and other allied subjects.”<sup>7</sup>

The Institute was first located at 40–42 Bedford Street, which was close to the University estate. It was outfitted by Elizabeth and Emma Holt, the widow and daughter, respectively, of the ship owner George Holt Jr. In 1906 Sir John Brunner funded an expansion to 38 Bedford Street, and in 1913 Sydney Jones gifted 44 Bedford Street. In 1921 the Institute moved to completely new premises at 11 Abercromby Square.<sup>8</sup> During the First World War, the staff of the Institute were engaged on a variety of war work: Newberry worked at the Ministry of Munitions before being appointed assistant secretary to the Director of National Service for London and the South-east Region; Bosanquet volunteered for the Serbian Relief Fund; and Garstang volunteered as a driver and then worked for the French Ministry of War as a representative of the Red Cross.<sup>9</sup>

The Institute was able to offer a diploma and certificate in archaeology, and contribute courses that would make up a bachelor’s degree. Some notable students include Herbert Walter Fairman, professor of Egyptology at the University of Liverpool from 1948–74, Walter Bryan Emery, professor of Egyptology at University College London from 1951–71, Mahmud Hamza, director of the Egyptian Museum in Cairo, and Sami Gabra, professor of ancient Egyptian history at Cairo University. In the interwar period, the excavations of Robert Mond were associated with the Institute, as were Garstang’s activities as director of the British School of Archaeology in Jerusalem and director of the Department of Antiquities in Palestine.<sup>10</sup>

The Second World War brought the activity of the Institute to a halt, and the retirement of Garstang in 1941 and Droop and Blackman in 1948 meant the University had to re-evaluate its future sustainability. On 8 July 1947 University Council took the decision to merge the Institute into the University, creating the School of Archaeology, later known as the School of Archaeology and Oriental Studies, and then under its present name, the Department of Archaeology, Classics and Egyptology.<sup>11</sup>

## Development of the museum

From the opening of the Institute of Archaeology it has had a museum collection, although for a period of time this was called a loan collection (loaned by lecturers to the Institute for the purpose of teaching). The history of this collection has been covered extensively by Mac Eugene James in his PhD thesis and appendices (see Select Bibliography, accessible via British Library EThOS).

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<sup>6</sup> RP X.1.200 *John Garstang to Emily Rathbone*, 27 June 1905

<sup>7</sup> UOLL, SCA PUB/2/2/1/1 *Preliminary Prospectus 1904–05*, p4

<sup>8</sup> On the Institute’s premises, see: PUB/2/2/1/1 *Preliminary Prospectus 1904–05*, p5, *Annual Report 1906–07*, p17, *Annual Report 1907–08*, p28

and PUB/2/2/1/2 *Annual Report 1913–14*, p9, *Annual Report 1921–22*, p17

<sup>9</sup> PUB/1/1/1/2 *Annual Report 1915–19*, pp6-12

<sup>10</sup> FC1/3 *The School of Archaeology and Oriental Studies: Its History and its Collections*, May 1985

<sup>11</sup> FC1/1 *Memo from Stanley Dumbell to H. W. Fairman*, 28 October 1954

It is worth noting that some objects that were displayed originally remain in the collection today, such as the sarcophagus of Userhat, excavated at Beni Hasan.<sup>12</sup> The management and running of the collection was the responsibility of the assistant secretary during the years of the Institute, and subsequently the departmental secretary. A good portion of what was previously in the collection has been donated to the City of Liverpool or National Museums Liverpool. This happened during peacetime and during the Second World War, when artefacts were distributed around various locations for safekeeping but then left on permanent loan.

## Eugenics, Flinders Petrie, and colonialism

Systematic archaeological fieldwork in British Egyptology began in the 1880s with the British occupation of Egypt, the establishment of the Egyptian Exploration Fund (EEF), and changes to the French-controlled Egyptian Antiquities Service ending the French monopoly on excavation permits. Its development is also linked to Flinders Petrie, who is regarded as the “father of scientific archaeology”.<sup>13</sup> Sheppard has summarised the early development of the subject thusly: “Driven by violent colonial practices and a pervading sense of cultural superiority, British Egyptology focused on the appropriation and interpretation of a culture not its own, while at the same time oppressing and silencing indigenous voices and labour.”<sup>14</sup>

Petrie was a eugenicist who believed in the merits of ‘superior’ genetics over ‘inferior’ genetics.<sup>15</sup> He carried out much of his analysis on racial grounds, characterising certain racial groups as more capable of certain activities than others, such as his development of the “New Race” theory at Naqada, even when the evidence was against him.<sup>16</sup> His theory was disproved by the next excavator at Naqada, Jacques de Morgan, in 1897.<sup>17</sup> According to Challis, “Petrie changed his mind about the New Race but not about the effect and importance of race migration in Egyptian history as his racial thinking was fundamental to his views on historical and personal development.”<sup>18</sup> One collaborator of Petrie on racial theories in Egyptology was Archibald Henry Sayce, an Oxford professor. Sayce used Petrie’s *Racial Photographs from the Egyptian Monuments* to write *The Races of the Old Testament* in 1891.<sup>19</sup> The views Sayce expressed in his writings can be considered white supremacist and antisemitic.<sup>20</sup>

The Institute of Archaeology at the University of Liverpool was strongly linked to British colonialism and took its place in a developing intellectual field dominated by the likes of Petrie and Sayce. Garstang, the most important figure in the early Institute, had been Petrie’s research student and had been mentored by Sayce since

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<sup>12</sup> Garstang Museum of Archaeology 2014 *The Texts of the Coffin of Userhat (E.512)*. <https://garstangmuseum.wordpress.com/2014/09/02/the-texts-of-the-coffin-of-userhat-e-512/>

<sup>13</sup> M Gold 2019 *Victorian Egyptology and the Making of a Colonial Field Science, 1850–1906*. PhD thesis, University of Cambridge, 1

<sup>14</sup> K Sheppard 2021 *British Egyptology*. In R Nyord and W Wendrich (eds) *UCLA Encyclopedia of Egyptology*. Los Angeles: UCLA

<sup>15</sup> D Challis 2013 *The Archaeology of Race: The Eugenic Ideas of Francis Galton and Flinders Petrie*. London: Bloomsbury, 67–69

<sup>16</sup> Challis, 170

<sup>17</sup> Challis, 175

<sup>18</sup> Challis, 185

<sup>19</sup> Challis, 138–139

<sup>20</sup> Challis, 143–144



attending Oxford.<sup>21</sup> Sayce became a Vice President of the Institute from 1905 and participated in Garstang's excavations at Meroë, in Sudan. He contributed to the excavation reports in the *Annals of Archaeology*, the Institute's journal, including the following paragraph that was typical of his views on race:

After the partial destruction of Meroë in the first century of our era, the court and priesthood themselves became more and more African. The kings married negresses, and their offspring grew more and more negroid, while the royal power, for that very reason, passed from the hands of the king to those of the queen. The later architecture of the north-western palace, with its painted chamber, is thoroughly barbarous, and the royal race ceases to be depicted with Hamitic features. The sculptures and hieroglyphs of the later pyramids are grotesquely African, the names of the sovereigns are written either in Meroitic letters or not at all, and the mythology and gods of Egypt are a mere tradition, imperfectly understood. When Meroë fell in the fourth century of our era it had practically ceased to be Ethiopian.<sup>22</sup>

It is probable that Garstang believed in some of Petrie and Sayce's theories on race in ancient Egypt, but does not appear to have dedicated much scholarly time to propagating them.



**Figure 2** Visit to Sudan excavations. Left to right: Colonel Edward C. Cidwinter, Lord Kitchener, Sir Reginald and Lady Catherine Wingate, Prof. A. H. Sayce, and John Garstang. Courtesy of Garstang Museum of Archaeology.

The Institute's connections to colonialism extend beyond eugenic thought. As has been noted, the development of British Egyptology was only possible because of the colonial occupation of Egypt. As Reid explains, "Already in the 1870s indigenous would-be Egyptologists were seeking careers in the

<sup>21</sup> AM Greaves (ed) 2015 *John Garstang's Footsteps Across Anatolia*. Istanbul: Koç University, 19

<sup>22</sup> AH Sayce 1912 Second Interim Report on the Excavations at Meroe in Ethiopia – Part II: The Historical Results. *Annals of Archaeology* 4, 64

Antiquities Service. The French and the British, however, excluded them from Egyptian archaeology almost as effectively as Lord Cromer excluded Egyptians from effective power in national affairs.”<sup>23</sup> From the 1920s, Indigenous Egyptians were gradually allowed into the Antiquities Service, and had total control with political independence from the 1950s. Thus, the free reign of the early excavations of the Institute of Archaeology were only possible because of colonisation and the subjection of the Egyptian people to the British. Although Egyptians participated in the excavations, such as Saleh Abd El Nebi, they were background figures and were not given much recognition or credit. In addition, since 1951 there has been a near total prohibition on taking antiquities out of Egypt.<sup>24</sup>

A case study in the Institute’s connections to colonialism is Thomas W. Gann, a medical doctor who from 1908 was an honorary lecturer in central American antiquities. Gann was the chief medical officer of British Honduras, now Belize, and an amateur archaeologist who carried out a number of Mayan excavations. His connection to the Institute gave him credence and allowed him institutional support. His excavations were highly destructive and involved the use of dynamite; Wallace notes his techniques were “very much out of step with contemporary archaeological field methods and ethics.”<sup>25</sup> His focus was on excavating the most attractive and valuable items. Gann’s collection, which was given to the Institute in 1908, was later transferred to the City Museum and may have been destroyed during the Blitz.<sup>26</sup>

Garstang was not exempt from these practices, although his excavation techniques were far advanced, as Stevenson describes: “At first, he did implement a fairly altruistic philosophy for the distribution of finds... A more business-orientated approach, however, was adopted thereafter, as Garstang established division parties hosted in Liverpool’s Adelphi hotel. At these events archaeological finds would be divided into lots, spread across up to a dozen tables and allocated to his patrons by means of a tombola. Garstang’s efforts by this time were explicitly more commercial ventures than archaeological research exercises.”<sup>27</sup>

While I have found no evidence of Garstang carrying out research that propagates Petrie or Sayce’s eugenic views, it is likely that his scholarly thought was influenced by them through his close association to them. British Egyptology developed against the backdrop of the British Empire and colonial violence and oppression, and indeed was only possible because of it. The Institute of Archaeology is not exempt from this, as the case study of Gann’s excavations in Belize demonstrate.

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<sup>23</sup> DM Reid 1985 Indigenous Egyptology: The Decolonization of a Profession? *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 105.2: 233–246, 234

<sup>24</sup> A Stevenson 2019 *Scattered Finds: Archaeology, Egyptology and Museums*. London: UCL Press, 259–260

<sup>25</sup> C Wallace 2011 Reconnecting Thomas Gann with British Interest in the Archaeology of Mesoamerica: An Aspect of the Development of Archaeology as a University Subject. *Bulletin of the History of Archaeology* 21.1: 23–36, 25

<sup>26</sup> Wallace, 29

<sup>27</sup> Stevenson, 12–13

## Persons of interest

### Winifred Blackman (1872–1950)

Winifred Susan Blackman was an ethnographer and anthropologist of Egypt. She was born in Norwich, the daughter of a vicar. Salima Ikram, professor at the American University in Cairo, has noted that “Information about her early life is meagre.”<sup>28</sup> The family moved to Oxford in the early part of the twentieth century, and between 1912 and 1915 she studied a diploma in anthropology at the Pitt Rivers Museum. Her younger brother, Aylward Manley Blackman (1883–1956), later followed in her footsteps and studied Egyptology at Oxford. Winifred volunteered as an assistant to the curator of the Pitt Rivers, Henry Balfour, between 1912 and 1920, where she worked on various cataloguing projects.<sup>29</sup> She was also employed as the librarian of the social anthropology department and assistant to Robert Ranulph Marett, reader in anthropology.<sup>30</sup>

In 1920, she was appointed as a research student by the Oxford Committee for Anthropology, which allowed her to carry out research in rural Egypt for the first time. Between 1922 and 1926 she led the Percy Sladen Expedition to Egypt, during which she was able to collect most of the material for her one and only monograph, *The Fellahin of Upper Egypt*. The book was a success and caught the attention of Sir Henry Wellcome: from 1927 to 1933 she received small grants from the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum to collect ethnographic material. Between 1933 and 1939 she lived and worked in Cairo, working on various manuscripts, none of which were ever published. At the outbreak of war, she moved home to Liverpool, and the family then moved to Wales. She never returned to Egypt, and after the death of her sister Elsie in 1950 she suffered a breakdown and died later that year.<sup>31</sup>

Winifred’s younger brother Aylward became professor of Egyptology at the University of Liverpool in 1934, and retired from that position in 1938. A large archive of her research notes was thus deposited in the Department of Archaeology, Classics and Egyptology. This was transferred to the Garstang Museum of Archaeology and recently to the University of Liverpool Library. A collection of ethnographic material she collected in Egypt is held by the Garstang Museum. In addition, the ethnographic material she collected for Henry Wellcome is split across the Science Museum, British Museum, and the Pitt Rivers Museum.

### Robert Carr Bosanquet (1871–1935)

Robert Carr Bosanquet was professor of classical archaeology at the University of Liverpool from 1906 to 1920. He was born in London – his father was involved in poor relief work. He attended Eton College as a King’s Scholar, where he played in the Eton wall game and was joint editor of a humour magazine called *The*

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<sup>28</sup> WS Blackman 2000 *The Fellahin of Upper Egypt*. Cairo: American University in Cairo Press, v

<sup>29</sup> A Petch n.d. *Winifred Susan Blackman*. England: The Other Within

<https://england.prm.ox.ac.uk/englishness-Winifred-Susan-Blackman.html>

<sup>30</sup> Blackman, v

<sup>31</sup> Blackman, vi-xi

*Parachute*, as well as being Captain of School. He was awarded the Newcastle Scholarship to attend Trinity College, University of Cambridge, from which he graduated with a first-class degree in both parts of the Classical Tripos in 1894. He received the Craven travelling fellowship in 1895 and travelled across Europe, excavating at Melos, Greece, in 1896. In 1898 he was involved in excavations at Housesteads on Hadrian's Wall.<sup>32</sup>

In 1898, Bosanquet was appointed as assistant director of the British School at Athens, and the following year he became director. At the BSA, Bosanquet developed a suggested programme for teaching students, which influenced generations of archaeologists. He worked on excavations in Crete, and in 1904 turned his attention to the Greek mainland, especially Laconia. On the death of his father in 1905, he inherited a Northumbrian estate, and moved back to Britain in 1906.<sup>33</sup> In autumn 1906, Bosanquet was appointed as professor of classical archaeology. The funding for the position came from Elizabeth and Emma Holt, widow and daughter of the ship owner George Holt Jr, respectively. The ship owners Alfred Booth and Charles William Jones also both contributed to the funding for the position.<sup>34</sup> On his appointment, he wrote to his mother: "They have made me a Professor, and I am going to grow a grey beard and live up to the part."<sup>35</sup>

Bosanquet joined the Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments in Wales and Monmouthshire in 1908, which occupied his time and focused his research in Wales.<sup>36</sup> He also helped organise the short-lived Liverpool Committee for Excavation and Research in Wales and the Marshes. He served as a special constable during the 1911 Liverpool transport strike, which involved fatal riots. During the First World War he volunteered for the Friends Emergency Committee and then as an agent for the Serbian Relief Fund. In autumn 1920 he resigned, and his position was taken over by John Percival Droop.<sup>37</sup> He left a teaching collection of items in the care of the Institute.

Bosanquet died in April 1935 – his collection on loan to the Institute was purchased by the University from his estate, by agreement of his son R. C. Bosanquet, for £200.<sup>38</sup> The following tribute was printed in the Institute's *Annual Report*:

The Institute and the University owe a very great deal to him for the excellent work he did from 1906 onwards, in organising his Department, and arranging for it to take its proper place in the work of the School of Classics. No small part of the credit for the foundation of the Annals belongs to him, and it is to him that the Institute owes the inception of its magnificent collection of Classical slides. To keep the collection as complete and up-to-date as possible is one of the chief cares of his successor. The Institute owes Professor Bosanquet a further debt of gratitude for the

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<sup>32</sup> ES Bosanquet (ed) 1938 *Robert Carr Bosanquet: Letters and Light Verse*. Gloucester: John Bellows

<sup>33</sup> ES Bosanquet 2004 *Bosanquet, Robert Carr*. Oxford Dictionary of National Biography <https://doi.org/10.1093/ref:odnb/31976>

<sup>34</sup> PUB/2/2/1/1 *Annual Report 1905–06*, p8

<sup>35</sup> Bosanquet, 163

<sup>36</sup> PUB/2/2/1/1 *Annual Report 1908–09*, p11

<sup>37</sup> PUB/2/2/1/2 *Annual Report 1919–20*, p10

<sup>38</sup> FC1/3 R. C. *Bosanquet to J. P. Droop*, 5 February 1936

use for fifteen years of the valuable collection of Greek and Roman antiquities he had formed, and left on loan in the Institute on his retirement. The thanks of the Institute are also due to Mrs Bosanquet and her son, Mr C. Bosanquet, for the gift of a number of pamphlets on archaeological subjects which will be a valuable addition to the Library.<sup>39</sup>

### James Grant Bey (1840–1896)

James was a Scottish surgeon and Egyptologist. He was born in Methlick, Aberdeenshire, and received his medical education at the University of Aberdeen. He worked in asylums in Aberdeen and Banff until he moved to Alexandria in 1866 to assist in treating a cholera outbreak. He returned briefly to Banff but settled permanently in Cairo in 1868. He served in a number of medical positions for the British Consulate in Cairo and the Egyptian government railways, and he was granted the honorary military title of ‘Bey’ in 1880. He also operated a clinic for travellers and colonial officials in the city.<sup>40</sup>

Grant’s introduction to Egyptology was as a friend of Charles Piazza Smyth, on whose behalf he remeasured the Khufu’s pyramid in 1872 alongside Wayman Dixon, an engineer.<sup>41</sup> He first met Flinders Petrie in 1880 and introduced him to his ra’is Ali Gabri. In his autobiography, Petrie recalled: “Though I only had a very slight introduction to Dr Grant, he and Mrs Grant received me with the greatest kindness, and made me free of their house, so that for years it was my place of call in Cairo.”<sup>42</sup> Grant amassed a large collection of Egyptian objects in his home, which was well known among the archaeological community there.<sup>43</sup> He died in 1896 in Bridge of Allan, Stirling. Petrie recorded the following tribute to him in his autobiography:

Above all there was Dr. Grant, who cared for my health, and sometimes came out for a night of work at the Great Pyramid. We went in and examined the chambers of construction, and I had a terrifying time when he fainted in the well; to raise a very heavy man, barely conscious, up a shaft of seventy feet with scanty foothold, when at any moment he might sweep me away down to the bottom, was a risk not to be forgotten. The pyramid theorists were a continual amusement to the Grants and myself; one of them tried to file down the granite boss in the ante-chamber to the size required for the theory.<sup>44</sup>

Grant’s widow was Florence Sabina Grant (née Gibson; 1858–1946) who was originally from Liverpool. She was an original subscriber to the Institute and member of its General Committee. In 1905, she contributed £20 for the purchase of books on Egyptology for the Institute’s library, to be called the Grant Bey Memorial Shelf.<sup>45</sup> She was likely responsible for the gift of Grant objects to the University’s collections, although I have been

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<sup>39</sup> PUB/2/2/1/4 *Annual Report 1935*, pp16-17

<sup>40</sup> *British Medical Journal* 1896 Obituary – Dr James Andrew Sandilands Grant Bey, LLD. *British Medical Journal* 2, 427-428

<sup>41</sup> Gold, 77-79

<sup>42</sup> WMF Petrie 2013 *Seventy Years in Archaeology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 20

<sup>43</sup> Gold, 80-81

<sup>44</sup> Petrie, 26

<sup>45</sup> PUB/2/2/1/1 *Annual Report 1904–05*, p8

unable to locate the precise date of this gift. A collection of over 4,000 items was given to the University of Aberdeen by Grant after his death.

### Richard Wyatt Hutchinson (1894–1970)

Richard Wyatt Hutchinson was an archaeologist who worked as lecturer in classical archaeology at the University of Liverpool from 1948 to 1952. He was educated at Birkenhead School and St John's College, Cambridge, serving as an officer at the end of the First World War. After the war, he was a Foundation Scholar and Craven Student at Athens. He worked as the Curator in Crete for the British School at Athens (BSA) from 1934 to 1947, although he served in the British General Headquarters at Cairo from 1941 to 1945 during the occupation of Crete. The BSA in Crete was based at Knossos Research Centre and during his stewardship there, Hutchinson earned then nickname 'Squire of Knossos'.<sup>46</sup> His interest in Cretan prehistory led to the publication of his most important monograph in 1962, *Prehistoric Crete*.<sup>47</sup>

After working at the University of Liverpool, he worked as a lecturer at the University of Cambridge. He gave a large collection of over 1,200 items to the British Museum.<sup>48</sup> Some of his papers, such as an archaeological day book for 1938–40 [KNO 68], are held by the British School at Athens. To the University of Liverpool, he gave a collection of stamp and cylinder seals.

### Saleh Abd El Nebi

Saleh Abd El Nebi was an Egyptian who worked with Garstang on a number of excavations as head of works (or ra'is). Garstang recorded that he came from a place in Egypt called Awidat. In 1899–1900, he was one of the workers on Flinders Petrie's first season at Abydos, which may have been where he first met Garstang.<sup>49</sup> He was the chief foreman during Garstang's excavations at Beni Hasan from 1902–04, where his portrait was painted by Harold Jones. A sketch of this portrait was also published in the *Illustrated London News*.

In his report on the excavations at Beni Hasan, Garstang wrote the following (implying El Nebi also worked at Reqaqnah):

Many of these men had worked for us at Reqaqnah, and have subsequently joined our expeditions to other places up the Nile as far as Dakke in Nubia. Several of them took an intelligent interest in the excavation, the results of which astonished them not a little. Some of them have proved reliable and helpful; in particular Saleh Abd El Nebi, of Awidat, chief foreman, a man of tact in

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<sup>46</sup> VR Desborough 1970 Richard Wyatt Hutchinson, 1894–1970. *Kadmos* 9.2

<sup>47</sup> RW Hutchinson 1962 *Prehistoric Crete*. Baltimore: Penguin, front matter

<sup>48</sup> British Museum n.d. R W Hutchinson. <https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/term/BI-OG62351> Accessed 13 January 2022

<sup>49</sup> S Quirke 2010 *Hidden Hands: Egyptian workforces in Petrie excavation archives, 1880–1924*. London: Duckworth, 250

dealing with his comrades and resourceful in emergency, has been the loyal and constant helper in many seasons' arduous work.<sup>50</sup>

El Nebi also worked on the excavations at Meroë in Sudan between November 1910 and February 1911. He “occupied his usual position as head foreman” and took charge of 40 trained Egyptians, each of whom oversaw a group of native labourers.<sup>51</sup> His story has been researched by Amara Thornton, who was able to identify his seal and signature in the GMAA.<sup>52</sup>

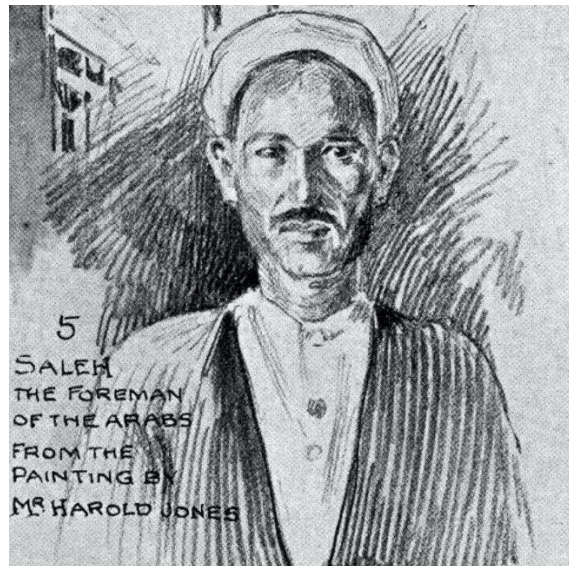


Figure 3 Sketch by A. Hugh Fisher, 1904.<sup>53</sup>

### Elizabeth Smith (d. 1927)

Elizabeth Smith was an important contributor to the development of the museum at the Institute of Archaeology. She was the wife of another benefactor, James, and from 1908 both of them sat on the General Committee. James (1831–1923) was a wine and spirits merchant, who was born in Paisley, Scotland, the son of John and Margaret (née Bryce). In 1836, the family moved to Kingstown, County Dublin, and in 1851 to Liverpool.

and came to Liverpool at an early age.<sup>54</sup> He managed to build a successful business – but did experience a shock with the failure of Barnes Bank. The headquarters of his business was at Central Buildings, North John Street,

<sup>50</sup> J Garstang 1907 *The Burial Customs of Ancient Egypt: As Illustrated by Tombs of the Middle Kingdom*. London: Archibald Constable & Co, 25

<sup>51</sup> J Garstang 1908 Second Interim Report on the Excavations at Meroe in Ethiopia. *Annals of Archaeology and Anthropology* 4, 46

<sup>52</sup> A Thornton 2020 Saleh Abd El Nebi: A Portrait. <https://research.reading.ac.uk/curiosi/saleh-abd-el-nebi-a-portrait/> Accessed 13 January 2022

<sup>53</sup> *The Illustrated London News*, 16 July 1904, p13

<sup>54</sup> HJ Tiffen 1935 *A History of the Liverpool Institute Schools, 1825–1935*. Liverpool: Liverpool Institute Old Boys' Association, 158



and he also had outposts in Manchester and Birmingham.<sup>55</sup> Elizabeth and James Smith lived together at The Knowle, a house in Blundellsands, Crosby.

**MEDOC.—VIN ORDINAIRE.**  
Per Dozen.  
Bots. 1 Bots.  
Pure BORDEAUX—an excellent light  
Dinner Wine. The quality of this  
wine will be found equal to wine  
usually sold at much higher prices... 13s. 7s. 6d  
**JAMES SMITH & CO., WINE MERCHANTS,**  
**26, MARKET-STREET, MANCHESTER.**

Figure 4 A typical newspaper advert for James Smith & Co.<sup>56</sup>

Elizabeth is credited on a number of occasions with helping arrange the museum collections. She assisted in organising the finds from Meroë in 1910, and in 1911 the *Annual Report* noted: “Mrs James Smith has devoted much time to the classification and arrangement of antiquities, both in the Department and at the Museums.”<sup>57</sup> Her husband was an art collector and gave much to various institutions during his life, and after his death. For instance, in 1895 he gave a drawing by William Holmes Sullivan entitled *Calpurnia Entreating Caesar not to attend the Senate* to the Walker Art Gallery.<sup>58</sup>

After James’ death in 1923, he bequeathed most of his personal art collection to the Walker Art Gallery. This included: 30 pictures and drawings by George Frederic Watts, four sculptures by Auguste Rodin, three pictures by Adolphe Monticelli, 100 watercolours and six oil paintings by Daniel Alexander Williamson, three pictures by William Lindsay Windus, engravings by Albrecht Durer, and etchings by Seymour Haden, J. McNeill Whistler, and Samuel Palmer. Following the bequest, Herbert R. Rathbone told the *Liverpool Echo*: “The first time I went to Mr Smith’s houses and saw these Williamson pictures I was simply amazed at them. I did not know their authorship, and thought at first that they were by Turner. Then Mr Smith explained to me that they were by Williamson, of whom, up to that time, I had never heard. Mr Sydney Jones, who also saw the pictures, was impressed by them in exactly the same way. When the public of Liverpool and the country in general have the opportunity to seeing these pictures all together I have little doubt they will form the same opinion of them as was formed by Mr Smith and confirmed by G. F. Watts and Jozef Israëls.”<sup>59</sup>

James’ total estate was valued at £122,510. Other than his bequest to the Walker, he set up two scholarships called Margaret Bryce Scholarships, one for local children at Liverpool Institute schools, and another for local children attending the University of Liverpool. Part of his will was only to become operative on Elizabeth’s death, which occurred in 1927.<sup>60</sup> The following year, his book collection was donated to the University of

<sup>55</sup> *Liverpool Echo*, 16 April 1923

<sup>56</sup> *Sporting Chronicle* 28 October 1896 p1

<sup>57</sup> PUB/2/2/1/1 *Annual Report 1910–11*, p11 and  
PUB/2/2/1/1 *Annual Report 1911–12*, p18

<sup>58</sup> *Globe*, 19 June 1895

<sup>59</sup> *Liverpool Echo*, 29 June 1923

<sup>60</sup> *Yorkshire Post*, 6 July 1923



Liverpool Library: 850 books and some manuscripts in total, which are now held in Special Collections and Archives.<sup>61</sup> In addition, his archaeological collections were left to the Institute of Archaeology. The objects came almost exclusively from excavations by Garstang, and therefore had a recorded history. It was noted that “the quality of the collection is very high.” It contained “a fine series of scarabs, beads and amulets, and, above all, a series of large gold earrings from an untouched Eighteenth Dynasty tomb at Abydos.”<sup>62</sup>

The *Annual Report* recorded the following tribute to Elizabeth Smith in 1927:

By the death of Mrs Smith the Institute has suffered a great loss. From the year 1909 she had been an active member of the Committee of the Institute in which she manifested her interest in many ways. After visiting with her husband the excavations at Abydos in 1907 she gave consistent assistance to the care and classification of the Egyptian antiquities that accrued to the Institute as a result, and the number of these will now, in accordance with her late husband’s will and her personal wish, be greatly increased by the addition of many choice specimens, which will be found duly labelled and in good condition thanks to the care she bestowed upon them. To the Department of Methods and Practice in Archaeology she gave help assiduously and unstintingly for many years and of late had undertaken, and completed before her death, the entire arrangement and indexing of the photographs and lantern slides belonging to that Department.<sup>63</sup>

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<sup>61</sup> Special Collections and Archives n.d. James Smith Books.  
<https://libguides.liverpool.ac.uk/library/sca/jamesmith>

<sup>62</sup> PUB/2/2/1/3 *Annual Report 1928*, p15

<sup>63</sup> PUB/2/2/1/3 *Annual Report 1927*, pp18-19

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