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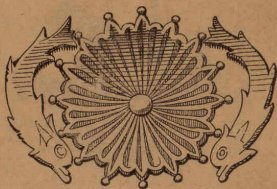
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ATLAS OF CHRISTIAN SITES IN EGYPT

BY

OTTO MEINARDUS



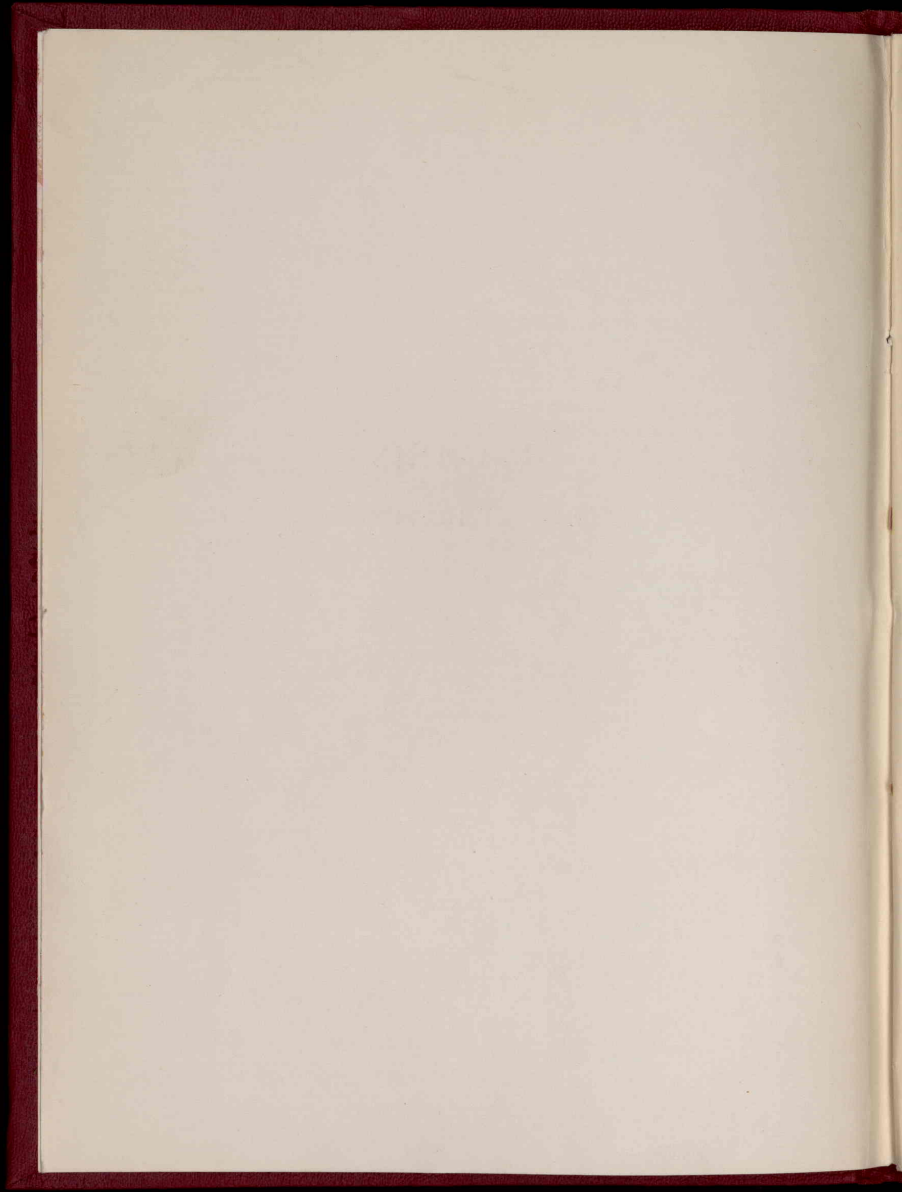
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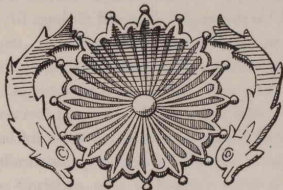
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BY
Friedrich August
OTTO MEINARDUS



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NOTICE ON MAPS OF CHRISTIAN EGYPT

The cartographical study of Christian sites in Egypt commenced with the 17th century, when use was made of the geographical material which had been furnished by European travellers, both lay and ecclesiastic, in the course of the preceding centuries. The first map of Christian Egypt is Michalet's work entitled *Les Déserts d'Égypte, de Thébaïde d'Arabie, de Syrie & etc., où sont exactement marquez les Lieux habitez par les Sainctes Pères des Déserts*. This map which claims to give the correct position of the caves, hermitages and monasteries of the Desert Fathers, though beautifully and artistically executed, does not merit serious consideration from a geographical point of view. The work of a pious artist, Michalet's map (1693) is of little or no help for the study of Christian antiquities in Egypt. Schenk's *Aegypti Recentior descriptio : Aegyptis et Jurcis, Elchibith : Arabibus, Mesre et Misri* of 1700, though a serious work from a cartographical point of view, lacks accuracy, and several Christian sites are wrongly located, e. g. St. Antony's Monastery is placed in the Wādī 'n-Naṭrūn! One of the first maps to give relatively exact positions for Christian sites, especially the inhabited Christian monasteries, is Lotter's *Le cours entier du grand et fameux Nil appelé la Rivière de l'Égypte dans l'Ecriture Sainte avec la Basse et Haute Égypte*. Pococke, who visited Egypt in and around 1737, provided important geographical information which appears on Covens et Mortier's *Carte de l'Égypte et le cours du Nil*. The inhabited monasteries are given a relatively correct position. A few years later, in 1753, Robert de Vaugondy published his *Carte de l'Égypte Ancienne et Moderne*, which is largely based upon the information provided by Pococke's map. Almost identical with regard to the Christian sites is Bonne's *Carte de l'Égypte Ancienne et Moderne* which was published by Lattré in 1762.

The most famous cartographers of the 18th century were Guillaume Delisle and J. B. Bourguignon d'Anville, yet, d'Anville's *Egypt called in the Country of Missir* of 1765 shows several serious confusions of names and places. The 18th century cartographers Samuel Dunn (*Ancient and Modern Egypt*) and Delineato (*L'Égito Antico e Moderno*) borrowed largely from Vaugondy

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and Bonne, at least as far as the Christian sites are concerned. F. L. Gúsefeld's *Charte von Aegypten* (1800) confuses the position of the two Red Sea Monasteries, whereby St. Paul's Monastery is placed north of St. Antony's, an error which was copied later by W. M. Leake's *Map of Egypt* (1818).

An interesting geographica is provided by L. S. de la Rochette's *Lower Egypt and the adjacent Desert with a part of Palestine* (1802). This map not only gives the positions of the monasteries, but also indicates the route which Sonnini took in 1778, when he went from Abù Kîr to Dair al-Barâmûs. It also marks the route which was followed by Browne in 1792 and by Andréossy in 1799. This information was largely copied by John Cary's *A new map of Egypt* (1805).

The cartographers of the early 19th century followed the principle of L. S. de la Rochette in providing routes to the Christian sites in addition to their positions. Lapie's *Carte Historique, Physique et Politique de l'Egypte* shows the routes from the monastic dependencies in the Nile Delta to the monasteries in the Wâdî 'n-Naṭrûn. Arrowsmith's map of 1832 includes also the caravan routes to the Christian desert monasteries.

Accompanying B. T. A. Evetts' edition of *The Churches and Monasteries of Egypt attributed to Abu Saleh the Armenian* (Oxford 1895) is a map which shows some of the Christian sites, though omits most of them. The first systematic treatment of Christian sites in the Nile Valley is the important work of Somers Clarke's *Christian Antiquities in the Nile Valley, a contribution towards the study of the ancient churches* (Oxford 1912). Clarke, who provides three maps (IV, V, VI) for Christian antiquities in Egypt, marks his sites merely with a cross. Thus, the reader is unable to determine whether the site is an inhabited, uninhabited or ruined monastery, hermitage or church. Moreover, the maps are somewhat incomplete and, in a few instances, also incorrect. Nevertheless, Clarke's map of Christian remains in the Nile Valley represents the kind of pioneer work upon which much of the present work is based.

In 1952, Jean Doresse provided the Coptic Museum with a *Carte Archéologique de l'Egypte Copte*. This map, which is compiled from information obtained by personal travels, hangs in the passage to the inner court of the Museum. Two years later, Charles Bachatly, secretary of the *Société d'Archéologie Copte*, published the multicolour *Carte de l'Egypte Chrétienne*, under the

auspices of the Société d'Archéologie Copte. This map, which is beautifully executed, supplies information as to the inhabited and some of the uninhabited monasteries in Lower and Upper Egypt. Yet, its most significant contribution is not its archaeological cartography. It is unique in that it indicates past and present sees of the Coptic Church. The information with respect to the former being derived from mediaeval Coptic-Arabic sources. As regards the Coptic archaeological sites in the Nile Valley, the map can be significantly improved.

In addition to the general maps of Egypt which mark Christian sites, there are several regional maps of Christian antiquities which are quite important. Proceeding from north to south, the map of the Monasteries in the Wādī 'n-Naṭrūn in H. Evelyn White's *The History of the Monasteries of Nitria and Scetis* (New York 1932) is excellent, and it provides exact geographical information as to the sites of these monasteries. My map of the Wādī 'n-Naṭrūn in *Monks and Monasteries of the Egyptian Deserts* (Cairo 1961) merely adds some of the inhabited and uninhabited hermitages. With regard to the Christian antiquities at Thebes, a useful map is that supplied by H. E. Winlock, W. E. Crum and H. Evelyn White in *The Monastery of Epiphanius* (New York 1926). The map « Christian Thebes » is largely based upon the map which appears in the above-mentioned volume. The region west of Armant has been studied by Jean Doresee who has added a map of the Christian ruins of the region to his article « Monastères Coptes aux environs d'Armant en Thébaïde » in *Analecta Bollandiana*, LXVII. Relative to our study of the Christian necropolis at al-Bagawat in the Kharga Oasis is the very superior map of the arrangement of the necropolis by Ahmad Fahry in *The Necropolis of el-Bagawat in Kharga Oasis* (Cairo 1951). Among the many maps of Sinai, Karl Baedeker's map is probably still the best one with regard to Christian sites, churches and chapels at Sinai.

The Christian sites marked on the following maps, though based upon information supplied by previous scholars and cartographers, have been almost all personally visited by the author. Thus, the various positions indicated by them have been checked and verified. I do not claim, however, to have exhausted the material; on the contrary, it is hoped, that these maps will help scholars and archaeologists to discover new sites which may be buried

under the ever-shifting sand of the desert, sites, which I may have forgotten, overlooked or even never heard of.

The drawings have been executed by Mr. Fuad Abdalla Soliman of the Ralph M. Parsons Engineering Company of Los Angeles, California.

Cairo, May 31st, 1962.

Feast of the Ascension.

Otto MEINARDUS.

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE GAZETEER

mon (i)	inhabited monastery
mon (u)	uninhabited monastery
mon (r)	ruined monastery
mon (d)	monastic dependency
mon (ch)	monastery, now used as a church
mon (hy)	hypothetical site of monastery
ch (p)	pilgrimage church (feasts)
ch (o)	church, occasionally used
ch (r)	ruined church
herm (u)	uninhabited hermitage
herm (r)	ruined hermitage
ES	episcopal see of the Coptic Church
AS	prominent archaeological site
OTS	Old Testament site
HF	site visited by the Holy Family according to tradition

GAZETEER

- AARON, *Ch. of Sinai*, V, ch (o).
 ABSHAI, *Dair*, Tod, III, mon (r).
 ABU FANAH, *Dair*, Qasr Hor, II, mon (r).
 ABU HINNIS, *Dair*, Mallawi, II, mon (ch).
 ABU HINNIS, *Ch.*, Mallawi, II, ch (p).
 ABU KIB, *Dair*, Alexandria, I, mon (hy).
 ABU LIFA, *Dair*, Fayyum, II, herm (r).
 ABU LAF, *Dair*, Danfiq, III, mon (ch).
 ABULU, *Dair*, Bawit, II, mon (r).
 ABU MINA see MINA.
 ABU NOFER, *Dair*, Dalga, II, mon (r).
 ABU SAIFAIN, *Dair*, Tammuah, II, ch (p).
 ABU SAIFAIN, *Dair*, Hawatka, II, mon (ch).
 ABU SAIFAIN, *Dair*, Higaza, III, mon (ch).
 ABU TIG, II, ES.
 ADHRA, *Dair*, Maadi, II, ch (p), HF.
 ADHRA, *Dair*, Bayad Nasara, II, mon (ch),
 ch (p).
 ADHRA, *Dair*, Gebel 't-Tair, II, ch (p), HF.
 ADHRA, *Dair*, Beni Rizah, II, mon (ch).
 ADHRA, *Dair*, Durunka, II, ch (p), HF.
 ADHRA, *Dair*, Dair Rifa, II, ch (p).
 ADHRA, *Dair*, Dair al-Ganadla, III, mon (ch).
 ADHRA, *Dair*, Akhmim, III, mon (ch).
 ALEXANDRIA, I, ES.
 ANNE, *Ch. of St.*, Sinai, V, ch (o).
 ANTONIUS, *Dair*, Wadi al-Arabah, II, mon (i).
 ANTONIUS, *Dair*, Maimum, II, mon (ch).
 ANTONIUS, *Dair*, Bush, II, mon (d).
 APA HOR, *Dair*, Minya, II, mon (ch).
 ARMAT, III, ch (r).
 ARSENIUS, *Dair*, Tura, II, mon (r).
 ASHMUNAIN (Hermopolis Magna), II, ch (r), AS.
 ASSIUT, II, ES.
 ATHRIBIS, III, herm (r), AS.
 AZAR, *Dair*, Fayyum, II, mon (ch).
 BAHARI, *Dair*, Thebes, IV, mon (r), AS.
 BAHASA (Oxyrhynchus), II, HF, AS.
 BAKHIT, *Dair*, Thebes, IV, mon (r).
 BAKHUM, *Dair*, Akhmim, III, mon (ch).
 BAKHUM, *Ch.*, Faw, III, ch (r).
 BAKHUM, *Dair*, Medamut, III, mon (ch).
 BAKHUM, *Dair*, Edfu, III, mon (u).
 BALAZA, *Dair*, Dair Rifa, II, mon (r), AS.
 BALAMUN, *Dair*, al-Qasr, III, mon (ch).
 BARAMUS, *Dair*, Wadi 'n-Natrun, I, mon (i).
 BARAMUS, *Dair*, Tukh Dalakah, I, mon (d).
 BARSHA, *Dair*, Mallawi, II, herm (u), (r), AS.
 BASTAH, Zagazig, I, HF, AS.
 BENI HASSAN, Abu Qurqas, II, herm (r),
 ch (r), AS.
 BENI SUEF, II, ES.
 BIDABA, *Dair*, Nag Hammadi, III, mon (ch).
 BILBEIS, I, HF.
 BISADA, *Dair*, Manshiah, III, mon (ch).
 BISHOI, *Dair*, Wadi 'n-Natrun, I, mon (d).
 BISHOI, *Dair*, Kafr Daud, I, mon (d).
 BISHOI, *Dair*, Barsha, II, mon (ch).
 BISHOI, *Dair*, Sohag, III, mon (ch).
 BULA, *Dair*, Red Sea, II, mon (i).
 BULA, *Dair*, Bush, II, mon (d).
 BUQTUR, *Dair*, Shou, II, mon (ch).
 BUQTUR, *Dair*, Qamula, III, mon (ch).
 CAIRO (Gizah), I, ES.
 CATHERINE, *Dair*, Sinai, V, mon (i).
 CATHERINE, *Ch. of St.*, Sinai, V, ch (o).
 CATHERINE, *Dair*, Feiran, VI, mon (d).
 CELLIA of QASR AL-QATAGI, Western Desert, I,
 herm (r).
 CYRILICUS, *Dair*, Thebes, IV, mon (r).
 DAIRUT, II, ES.
 DENDERAH, Kena, III, ch (r).
 DIMIANAH, *Dair*, Bilqas, I, mon (i), ch (p).
 DURUNKA see ADHRA, Durunka.
 ELLIS, *Ch. of St.*, Sinai, V, ch (o).
 EPIPHANIUS, *Dair*, Thebes, IV, mon (r).

- FAKHRI, *Dair*, Asfur, III, mon (ch).
 FARES, *Dair*, Kom Ombo, III, mon (r).
 FORTY MARTYRS, *Dair*, Sinai, V, mon (u), ch (o).
 FEKARA, *Dair*, Sinai, V, mon (r).
 GABRAWI, *Dair*, Abnub, II, mon (ch).
 GALACTON and EPISTIME, *Ch. of SS.*, Sinai, V, ch (o).
 GANADA see ADURA, *Dair al-Ganada*.
 GANUS, *Dair*, Bahnasa, II, ch (p), HF.
 GEORGE, St., Biba, II, ch (p).
 GEORGE, St., Mit Damsis, I, ch (p).
 GHORIAL, *Dair* (Naklun), Fayyum, II, mon (ch), ch (p).
 GIRGA, III, ES.
 GIRGIS, *Dair*, Fayyum, II, mon (ch), ch (p).
 GIRGIS, *Dair*, Qamula, III, mon (ch).
 GIRGIS, *Dair*, Dimuqrat, III, mon (ch).
 GIRGIS, *Dair*, Tomb Khunes, III, mon (r).
 HADID, *Dair*, Akhmim, III, mon (ch).
 HAMAM, *Dair*, Fayyum, II, mon (ch).
 HELWAN SCHOOL OF MONKS, II.
 HENATON, *Dair*, Alexandria, I, mon (hy).
 HOLY APOSTLES, *Ch. of*, Sinai, V, ch (o).
 HOLY GIRDLE, *Ch. of*, Sinai, V, ch (o).
 HOLY TRINITY, *Ch. of*, Sinai, V, ch (o).
 HOLY VIRGIN, *Ch. of*, Sinai, V, ch (o).
 HOLY VIRGIN (al-Bustan), *Ch. of*, Sinai, V, ch (r).
 HOR see APA HOR.
 IENASIA, Beni Suef, II, HF.
 ISHAQ, *Dair*, 'Arab al-Awamir, II, mon (ch).
 ISHAQ, *Dair*, Esna, III, mon (r).
 ISHMIN, *Bahnasa*, II, ch (p), HF.
 IZAM, *Dair*, Assiut, II, mon (r).
 JEREMIAH, *Dair*, Saqqarah, II, mon (r).
 JOHN, *Ch. of St.*, Sinai, V, ch (o).
 JOHN CLIMACUS, *Dair*, Sinai, V, herm (u).
 KENA, III, ES.
 KHANKA, I, ch (r).
 KOSSAIR, *Dair*, Qusia, II, mon (ch).
 LUXOR, III, ES.
 MAHSAMA, Wadi Tumulat, I, OTS.
 MAMUN, see ANTONIUS, *Dair*.
 MALAK, *Dair*, Akhmim, III, mon (ch).
 MALAK, *Dair*, Girga, III, mon (u).
 MALAK, *Dair*, Dabba, III, mon (ch).
 MALAK, *Dair*, Qamula, III, mon (r).
 MALAK, *Dair*, Naqada, III, mon (u).
 MANFALUT, II, ES.
 MANSURA, I, ES.
 MAQAR, *Dair*, Wadi 'n-Natrun, I, mon (i).
 MAQAR, *Dair*, Atris, I, mon (d).
 MARI MINA see MINA.
 MATARIYAH (Heliopolis), I, ch (p), HF.
 MEDINAH, *Dair*, Thebes, IV, ch (r).
 MEDINET AL-FAYYUM, II, ES.
 MEDINET HABU (Jeme), Thebes, IV, AS.
 MEIR, Qusia, II, herm (r), HF, AS.
 METANOIA, Alexandria, I, mon (hy).
 MIKHAIL, *Dair*, Hamuli, Fayyum, II, mon (r).
 MINA, *Dair*, Maryut, I, ch (r), mon (i).
 MINA, *Dair*, Ma'abda, II, mon (ch).
 MINA, *Dair*, Hiu, III, mon (ch).
 MINYA, II, ES.
 MIT DAMSIS (Mari Girgis), I, ch (p).
 MOHAREB, *Dair* (Tadros), Thebes, IV, mon (ch).
 MOUTIN, *Dair*, Assiut, II, herm (r).
 MT. ISIS, *Dair*, Asswan, III, mon (r).
 MUHARRAQ, *Dair*, Qusia, II, mon (i), HF.
 MUNEJA, *Gebel*, Feiran, VI, ch (r).
 MUSA, *Dair*, Balyana, III, mon (ch).
 MUSTURUD, Heliopolis, I, ch (p), HF.
 NARIYAH, *Dair*, Cairo, I, mon (r).
 NICHOLAS, *Dair*, Rosetta, I, mon (u), ch (p).
 OKTOKAIKATON, *Dair*, Alexandria, I, mon (hy).
 ONUPHRIUS, *Ch. of St.*, Sinai, V, ch (o).
 PANTALEEMON, *Ch. of St.*, Sinai, V, ch (o).
 PEMPTON, *Dair*, Alexandria, I, mon (hy).
 PROERAMMON, *Dair*, Thebes, IV, mon (r).
 PITUM, Wadi Tumulat, I, OTS.

- QASH AL-QATAGI OR CELLIA, Western desert, I, Surian, *Dair*, Atris, mon (d).
herm (r).
- RIFA see ADHRA, *Dair Rifa*.
- RUMANIYA, *Dair*, Esna, III, mon (r).
- RUMI, *Dair*, Thebes, IV, mon (r).
- SALIB, *Dair*, Danfiq, III, mon (ch).
- SAMA'AN, *Dair*, Asswan, III, mon (u), ch (p).
- SAMANUD, I, HF.
- SAMWIL, *Dair*, Wadi Rayan, II, mon (i).
- SAMWIL, *Dair*, Zawara, II, mon (d).
- SERRAL, *Gebel*, VI, herm (r).
- SHAIKH ABADAH, Mallowi, II, ch (r), AS.
- SHAIKH SAID, Dairut, II, herm (r), AS.
- SHANUDAH, *Dair*, Sohag, III, mon (ch).
- SHUHADA, *Dair*, Akhmim, III, mon (ch).
- SHUHADA, *Dair*, Esna, III, mon (u), ch (p).
- SURIAN, *Dair*, Wadi 'n-Natrun, mon (i).
- TADROS, *Dair*, Manfalut, II, mon (r).
- TADROS, *Dair*, Luxor, III, mon (ch).
- TAHUNA, *Gebel*, Feiran, VI, herm (r), ch (r).
- TANTA, I, ES.
- TAPOSIRIS MAGNA, Alexandria, I, ch (r).
- TELL AL-AMARNA, Dairut, II, herm (r), AS.
- THEODORI, *Ch. of SS.*, Sinai, V, ch (o).
- TOMB KHUNES see GIRGIS, *Dair*.
- TRIPHON, *Ch. of St.*, Sinai, V, ch (o).
- TUMA, *Dair*, Wadi Sarga, III, mon (r).
- TUMARA, *Gebel*, Feiran, VI, herm (r), ch (r).
- TUNA, *Gebel*, Ashmunain, II, ch (r), AS.
- UNMERCENARY SAINTS, *Ch. of*, Sinai, V, ch (o).
- ZAGAZIG, I, ES.

LEGEND



Inhabited Monastery



Uninhabited Monastery



Ruined Monastery



Monastic Dependency



Pilgrimage Church



Ancient Basilica



Inhabited Hermitage



Uninhabited Hermitage



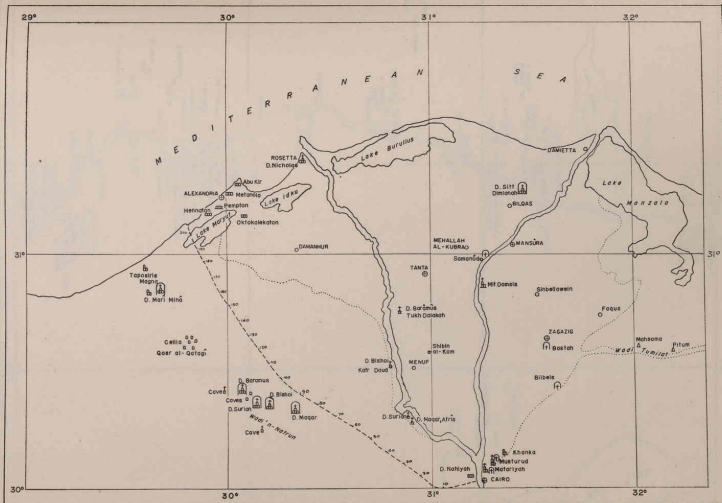
Episcopal See



Site visited by Holy Family
according to Christian or
Muslim tradition

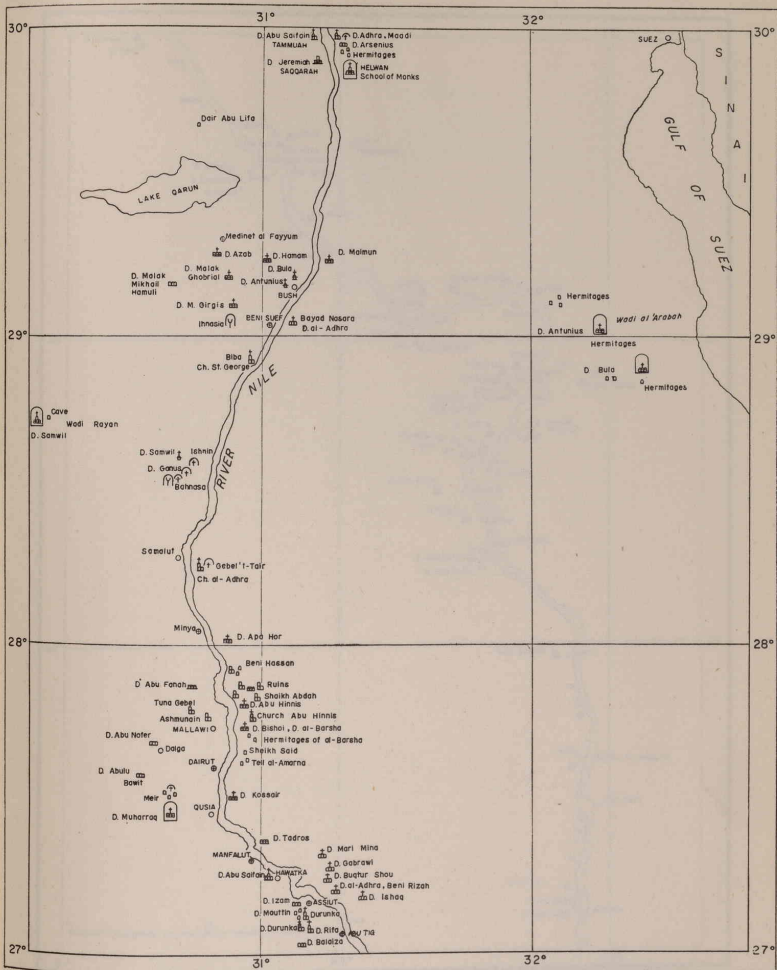


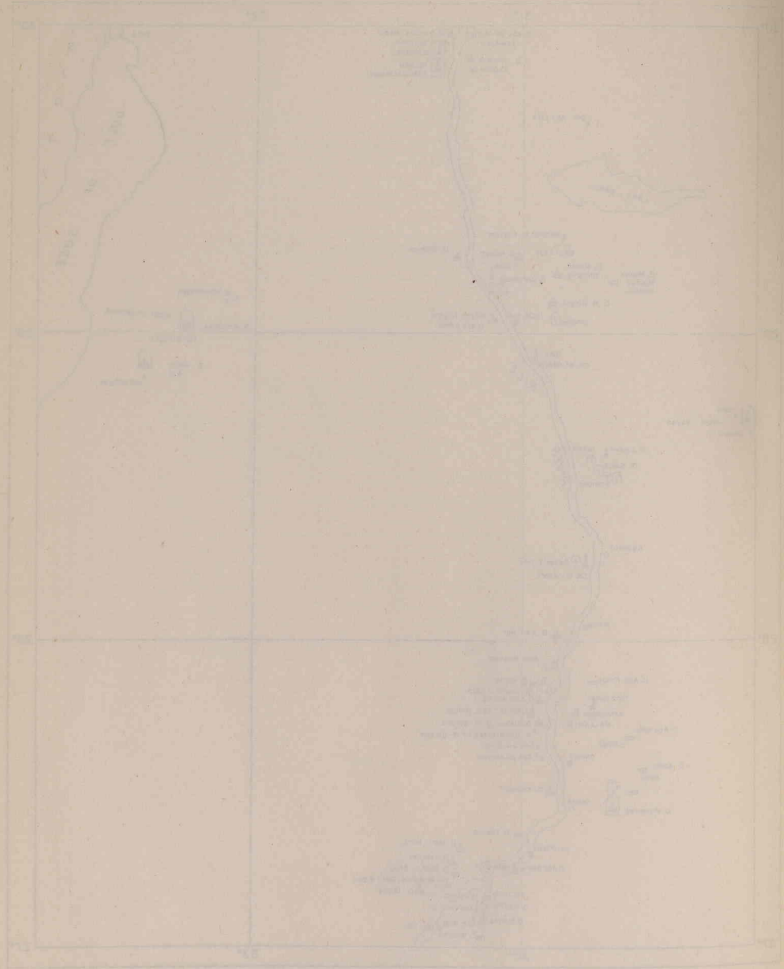
Dair



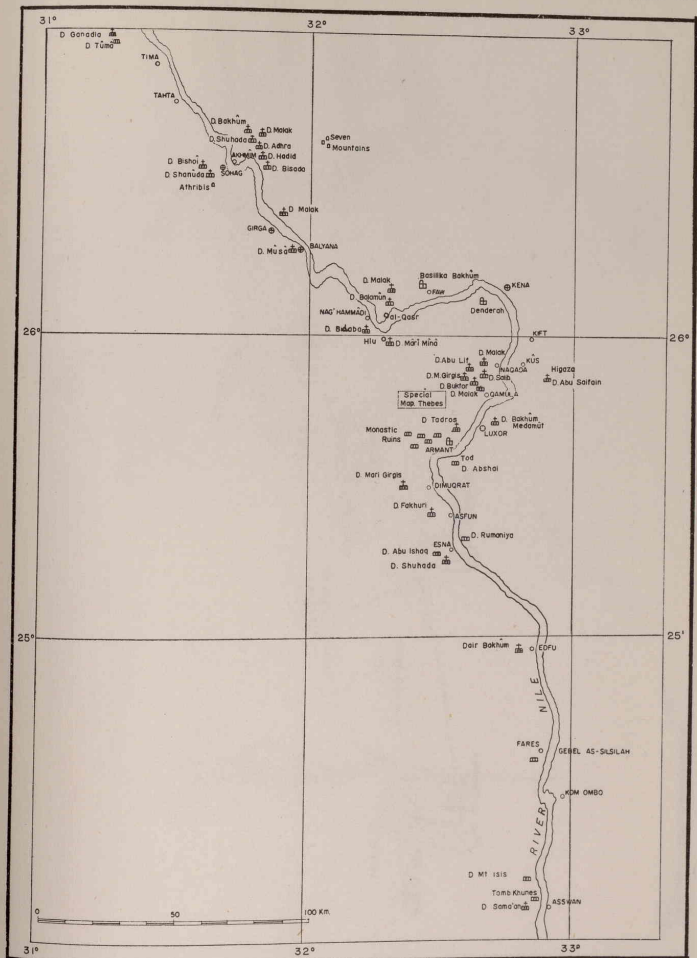
MAP I

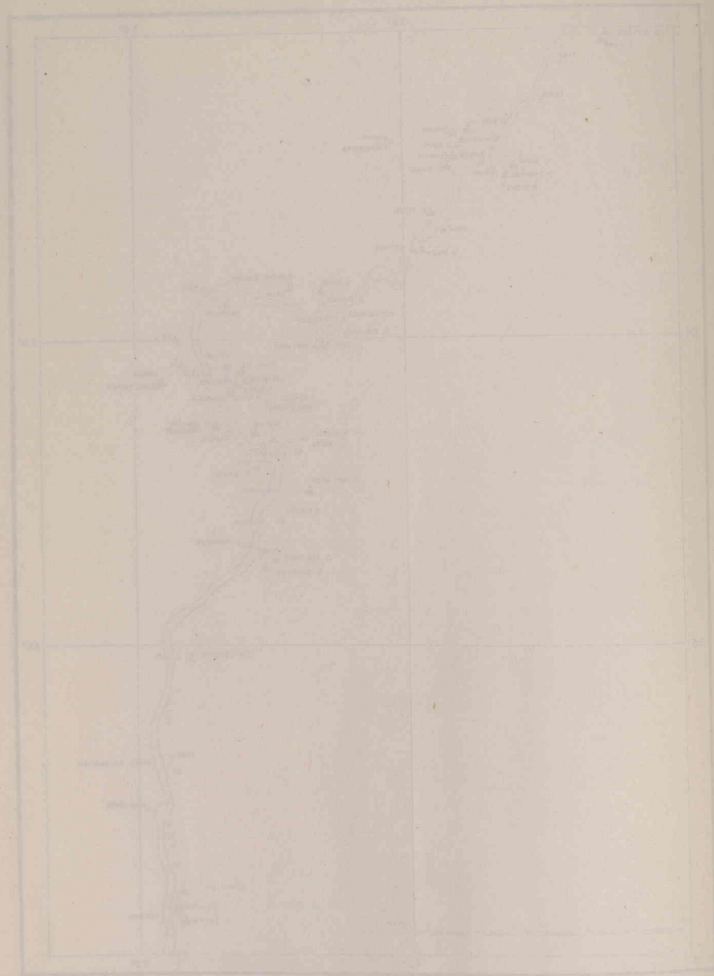


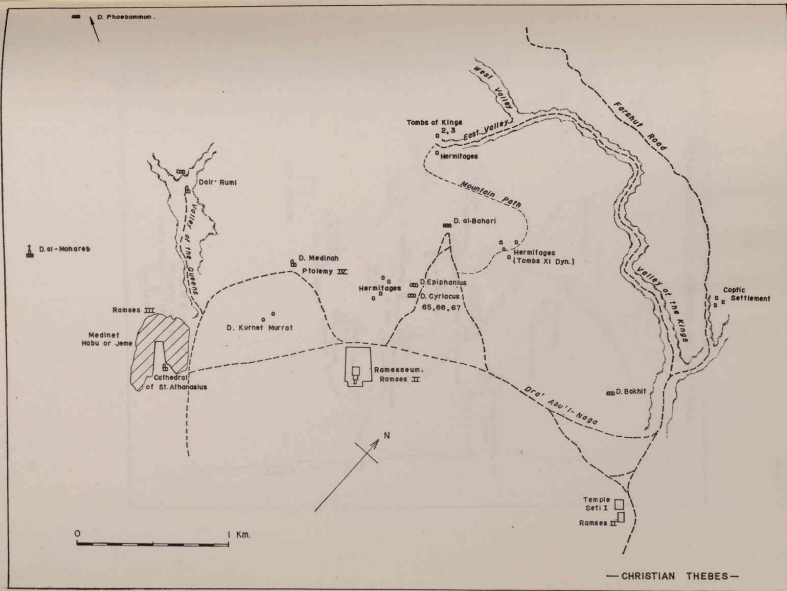




MAP III







— Contour Interval —



