

Week 1 Thursday

P3

Mapping Egypt in Time and Space

HPAR4005

Pharaohs, Phoenicians and Peoples of the
Sea

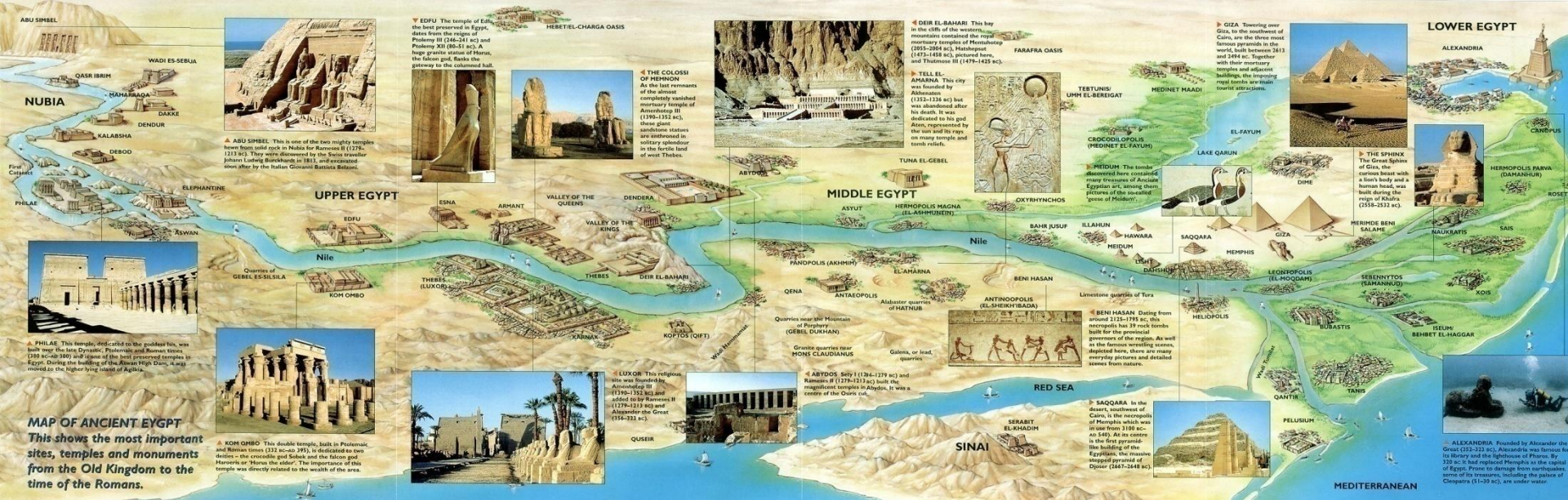
Dr. Katharina Zinn

SPACIAL AWARENESS





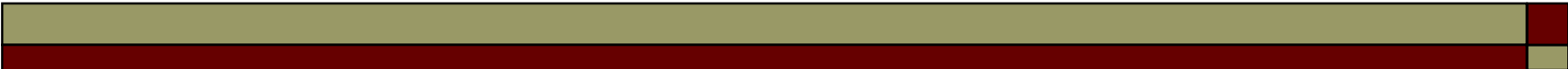
Ancient Egypt





Nile and Desert



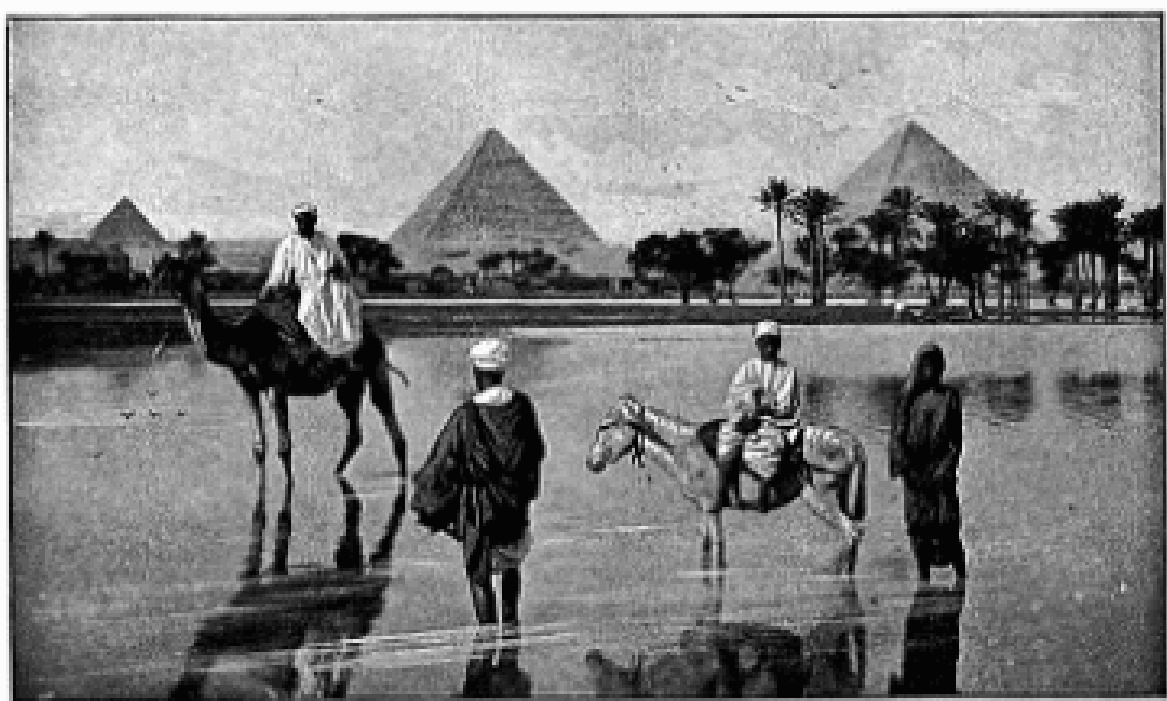


Aspects of Egyptian religion

- Most should be traced back to people's observation of environment
 - Fundamental – love of sunlight: (daily, seasonal, annual) solar cycle + wellbeing brought by the regular rhythms of nature
 - and the agricultural cycle surrounding the rise and fall of the Nile.

Geography and climate determine religion





Egypt and the sun



TEMPLE OF DUSH,
PARIS OASIS, EGYPT



Tourist-land Egypt and the sun:

Aswan Low Dam, Philae, Nile Cruise



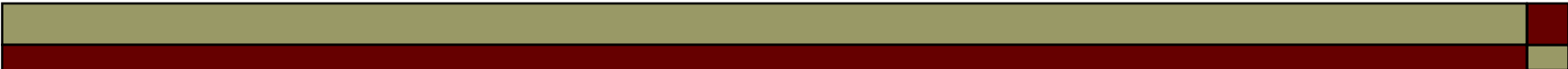
Ancient Egypt and the sun: nature forms (natural, social and religious) landscapes



الكرنك
Karnak

Karnak

W ← → E



Mapping Egypt

- ❑ Mapping exercise with the maps available on MOODLE
- ❑ Please use the empty map and add the places marked on the list

CHRONOLOGY

Chronology $\leftrightarrow$ Chronologies

- ❑ Hornung et al (2006): *It is widely accepted that chronology is the “spine” of history.*
- ❑ <https://uee.cdh.ucla.edu/chronology/>
- ❑ <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/museums-static/digitalegypt/chronology/index.html>
- ❑ Shaw: Oxford History of Ancient Egypt
- ❑ ...

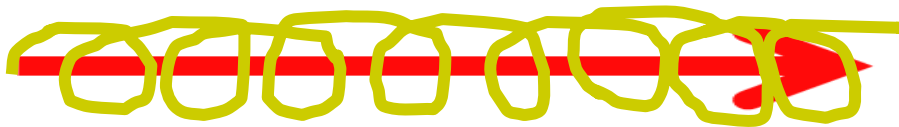
Time concepts AE

- Linear time (f.i. linear passage of generations)

- *d.t* (djet)



- Cyclical time (occurring cyclical patterns – f.i. seasons)



- *nḥḥ* (neheh)

- Both = expressions of ETERNITY

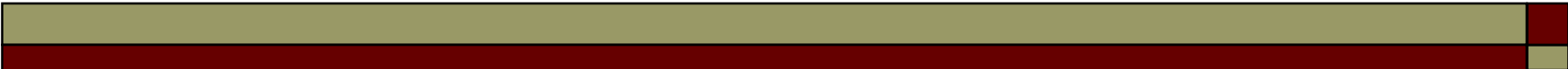
Relative vs. Absolute Chronology

relative

- relative chronological position of objects, events, and longer periods

absolute

- chronology in absolute numbers (years)
- Egypt: established back from beginning of the Late Period (// Greek chronology, Assyrian king-lists) back to the Ramesside Period (still debated)
- Earlier: several problems
 - Form of dating: 'year 3 of king X', but exact length not known, nor every Egyptian king, chronology would be no problem. However, we do not even number of kings for all periods
 - reigns overlapped (coregency, political disunity)



Making history?

- For religious and administrative purposes
 - lists of kings, sometimes with the exact length of reign
 - none of them is well enough preserved to solve every detail of absolute chronology

Palermo Stone

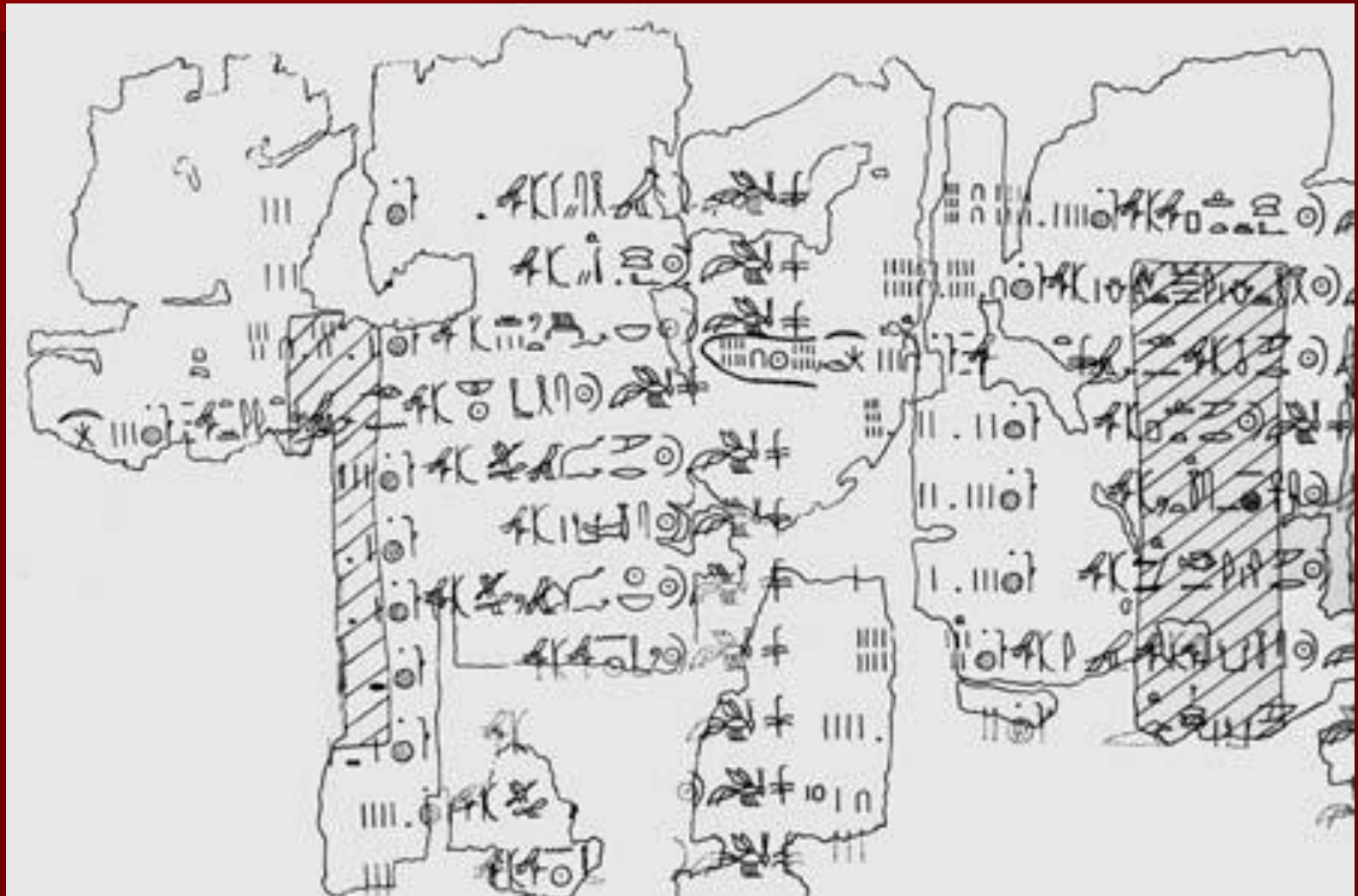
(London, Petrie Museum and Palermo)



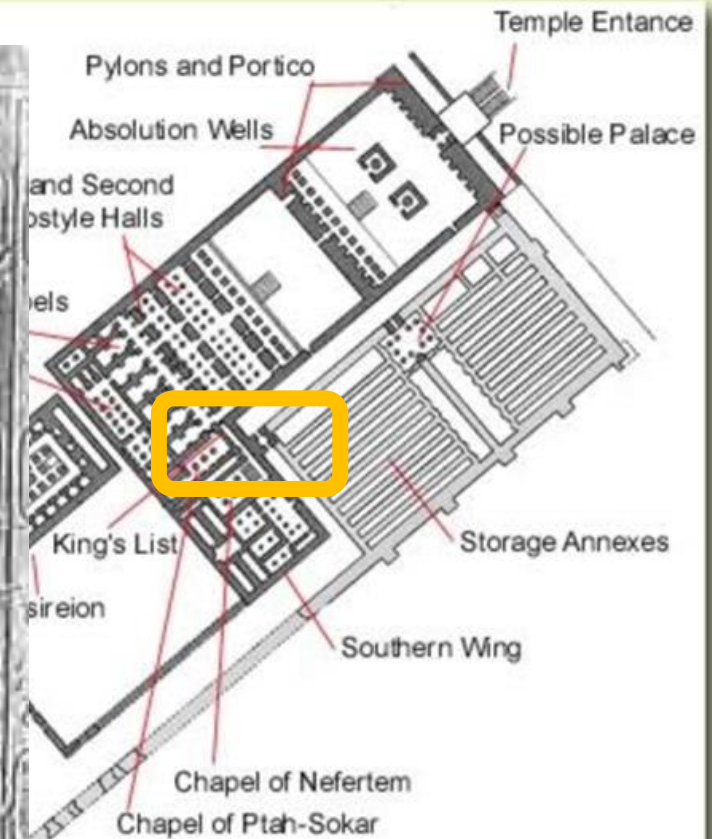
Turin Royal Canon



Sketch of Turin Royal Canon by Sir Alan Gardiner



Abydos- Temple Sethos I, King List



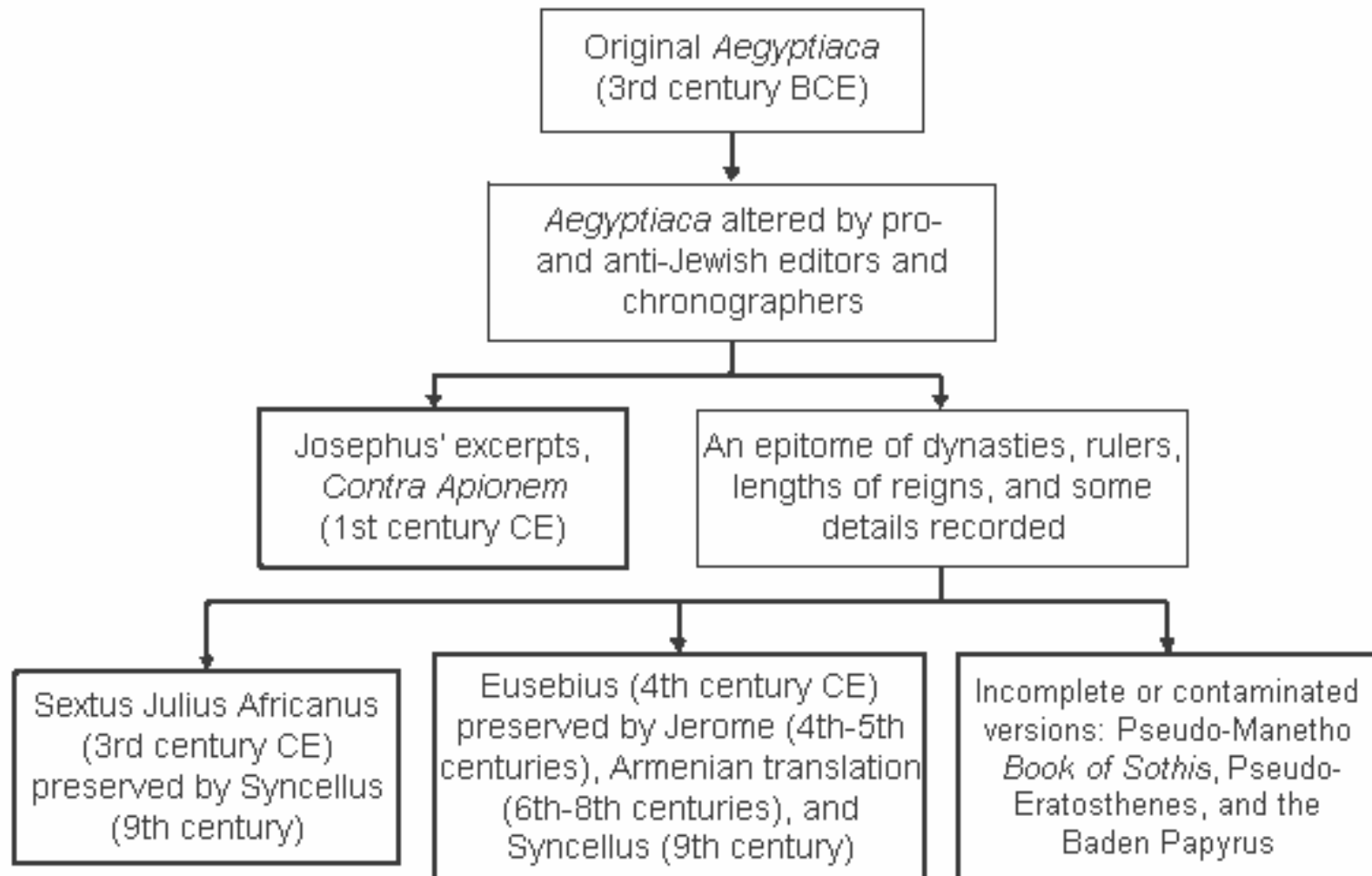
BS.117 – King List (British Museum)

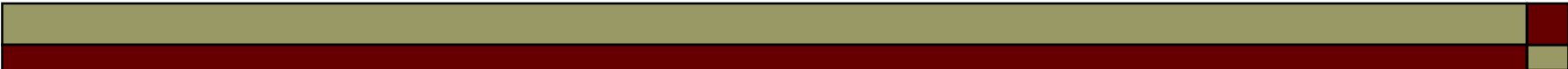


Making history?

- For religious and administrative purposes
 - lists of kings, sometimes with the exact length of reign
 - none of them is well enough preserved to solve every detail of absolute chronology
 - Kinglists in Greek
 - by a third century BC Egyptian priest named Manetho, are preserved in summaries by early Christian writers, with excerpts in other writers of the Roman Period and later, notably the Jewish historian Josephus.

Manethos Aegyptiaca

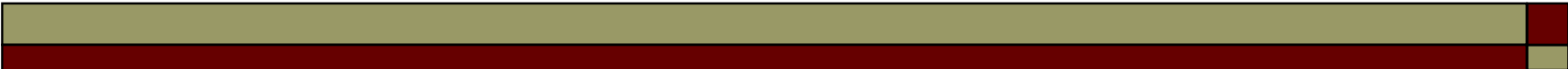




Methods of dating objects

□ TYPOLOGY

- Grouping of artefacts with distinctive style or design → developed over a period of time, mapping of gradual changes in form or motifs
 - Petrie for dating the Naqada period, from the development of the so-called wavy-handled pottery

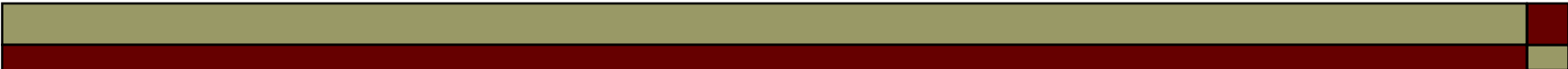


Methods of dating objects

- TYPOLOGY

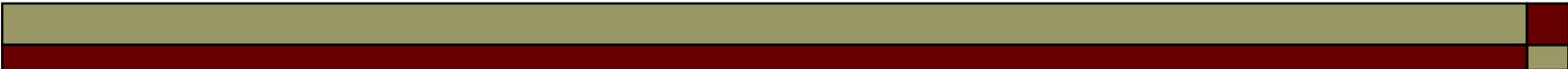
- C - 14 dating

- living organic materials contain Carbon-14 atoms, decay after death (halved after 5730 years) → measurement number of atoms in organic materials enables quantified information on the date of an item
 - accuracy margin: several hundred years
 - therefore often not useful to fix dates in historic periods
 - very useful for prehistory (in Egypt before 3000 BC)
 - published as dates 'before present' (the 'present' was fixed at year AD 1950) with indication of the inaccuracy – 3700 ± 100 BP: object produced between 1850 and 1650 BC (1950 = about 3700 years old with an uncertainty of 200 years)



Methods of dating objects

- ❑ TYPOLOGY
- ❑ C - 14 dating
- ❑ Dendrochronology
 - Tree-ring dating
 - ❑ trees produce a ring of new wood each year, similar for all trees of the same area
 - ❑ If the sequence of rings is known for a certain area → fit in all new woods found, date them very precisely



Kingdoms



□ Old Kingdom

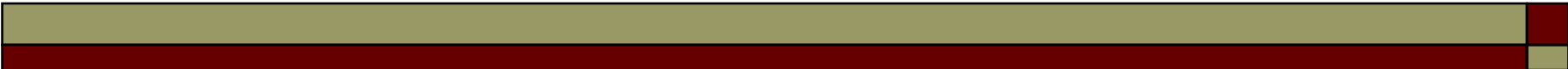


□ Middle Kingdom



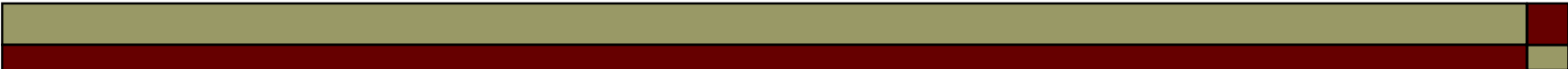
□ New Kingdom





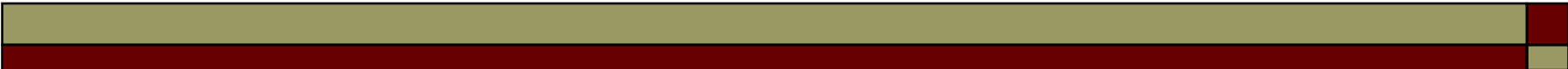
All Periods

-
- Old Kingdom
- First Intermediate Period
- Middle Kingdom
- Second Intermediate Period
- New Kingdom
- Third Intermediate Period
-
-



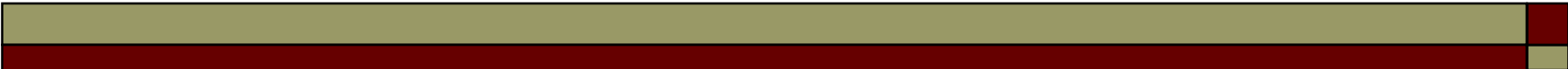
All Periods

- ❑ Pre- and Early Dynastic Period
- ❑ Old Kingdom
- ❑ First Intermediate Period
- ❑ Middle Kingdom
- ❑ Second Intermediate Period
- ❑ New Kingdom
- ❑ Third Intermediate Period
- ❑ Late Period
- ❑ Ptolemaic and Roman Period



Dynasties

- 30 Dynasties (“31 Dynasties”)
 - Until Alexander the Great
 - Then Ptolemaic and Roman Period



Periods

- ❑ Pre- and Early Dynastic Period
- ❑ Old Kingdom
- ❑ First Intermediate Period
- ❑ Middle Kingdom
- ❑ Second Intermediate Period
- ❑ New Kingdom
- ❑ Third Intermediate Period
- ❑ Late Period
- ❑ Ptolemaic and Roman Period

Dynasties

- ❑ Predyn. (5300-3000BC), 0-2
- ❑ 3-6
- ❑ 8-11
- ❑ 11-12
- ❑ 13-17
- ❑ 18-20
- ❑ 21-24
- ❑ 25-”31”
- ❑ No dynastic time anymore (332BC -331AD)

Badarian Culture (earliest farming in Upper Egypt), 4000BC



Timeline after Shaw

PALAEOLITHIC PERIOD¹

c.700,000–7000 BP

Lower Palaeolithic	c.700/500,000–250,000 BP
Middle Palaeolithic	c.250,000–70,000 BP
Transitional Group	70,000–50,000 BP
Upper Palaeolithic	c.50,000–24,000 BP
Late Palaeolithic	c.24,000–10,000 BP
Epipalaeolithic	c.10,000–7000 BP

SAHARAN NEOLITHIC PERIOD

c.8800–4700 BC

Early Neolithic	c.8800–6800 BC
Middle Neolithic	c.6600–5100 BC
Late Neolithic	c.5100–4700 BC

PREDYNASTIC PERIOD

c.5300–3000 BC

Lower Egypt²

Neolithic	c.5300–4000 BC (or c.6400–5200 BP)
Maadi Cultural Complex	c.4000–3200 BC

Upper Egypt

Badarian Period ³	c.4400–4000 BC
Amratian (Naqada I) Period	c.4000–3500 BC
Gerzean (Naqada II) Period	c.3500–3200 BC
After c.3200 BC the same chronological sequence applies to the whole of Egypt	
Naqada III/‘Dynasty 0’	c.3200–3000 BC

Map of Ancient Egypt in Prehistoric times

Showing the principal Palaeolithic, Neolithic, and Badarian Sites



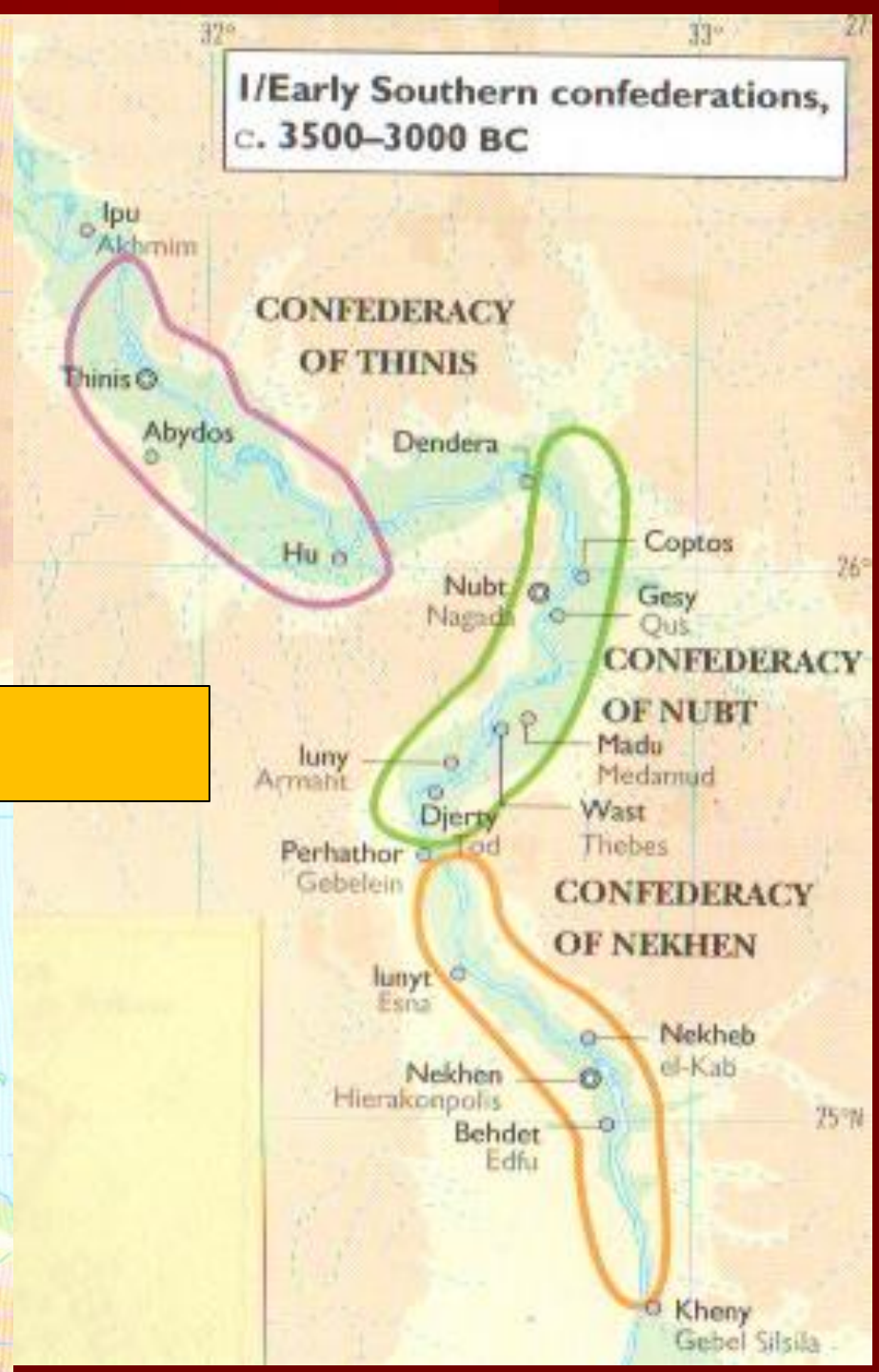
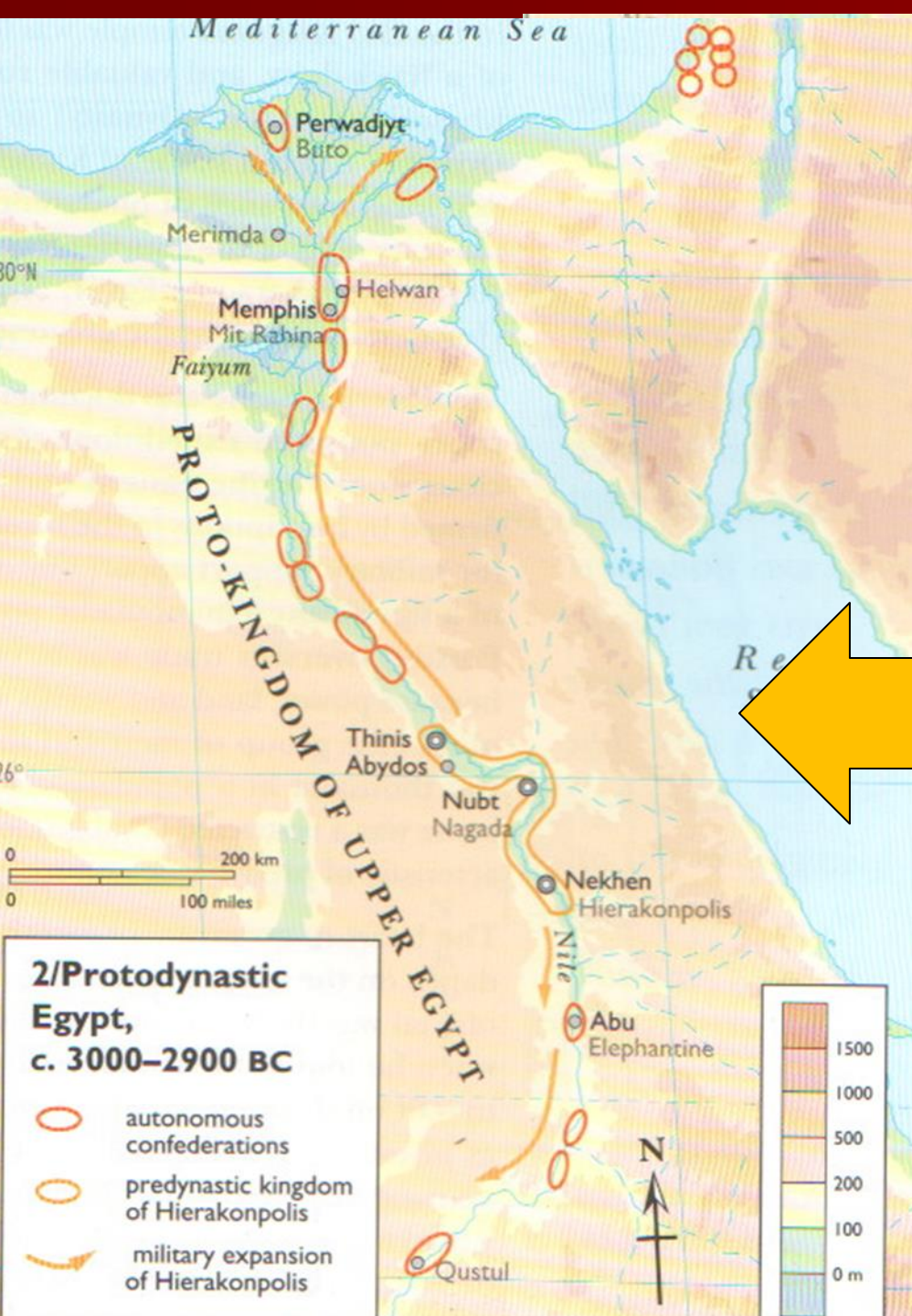
We have to look at:

Chronology

date	the cultural background	the kings	duration
before 8000 BC	Palaeolithic		
8000-5200 BC	Epipalaeolithic (Tarifian ; Qarunian - Fayum B - 6000-5000 BC)		3000 years
6000-5000 BC	Nabta Playa		1000 years
5200-4000 BC	Fayum Neolithic (Fayum A)		1200 years
4800-4200 BC	Merimde		600 years
4600-4400 BC	El Omari		200 years
4400-4000 BC	Badarian		400 years
4000-3300 BC	Maadi		700 years
4000-3500 BC		Naqada I	500 years
3500-3200 BC	Egypt in the Naqada Period	Naqada II	300 years
3200-3100 BC		Naqada III	100 years

THE EMERGENCE OF THE EGYPTIAN STATE (3200 – 2686 BC)

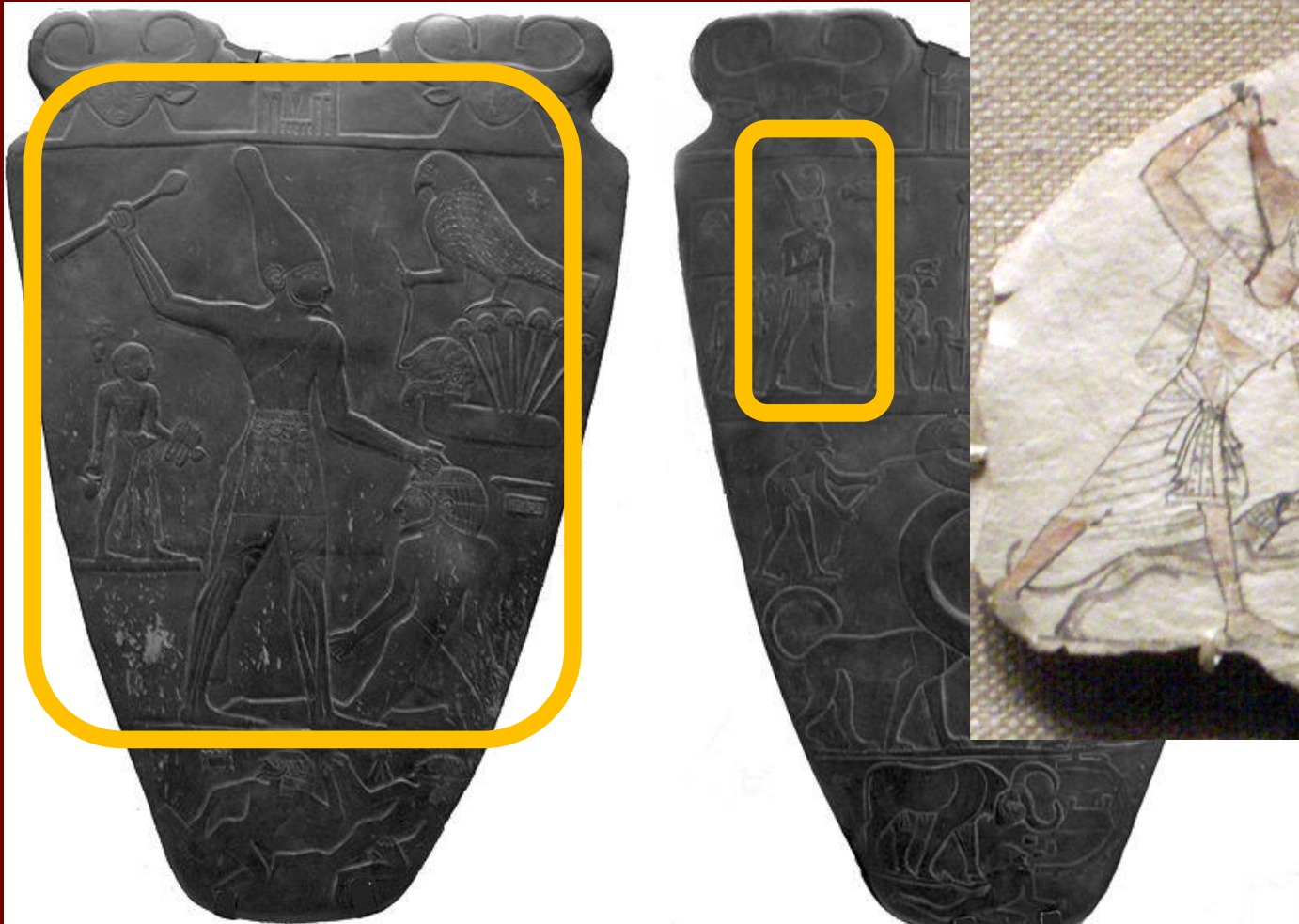
THE EARLY DYNASTIC PERIOD



Sema Tawj (unification of the 2 lands)



Narmer Palette (31st century BC), found in Hierakonpolis, now Egyptian Museum



Topos: Smiting the enemies

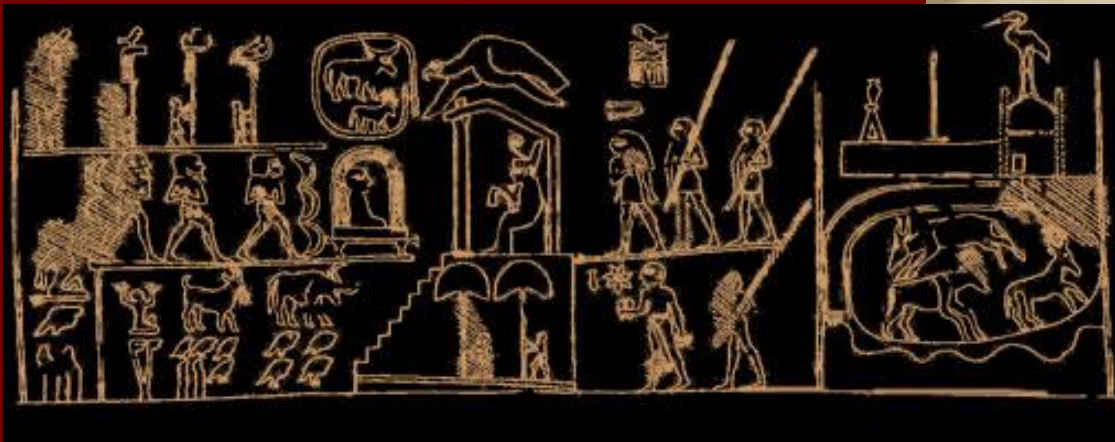
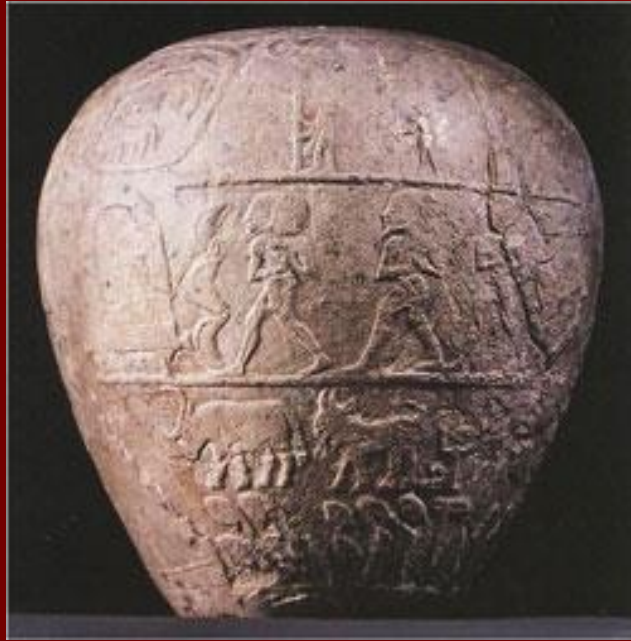
**Ivory Label King
De(we)n**



**Edfu - Graeco-Roman
times**



Narmer Macehead





Comparison structure with Narmer- Macehead



Pharaoh



- ❑ word 'pharaoh' = Egyptian per-aa = 'great house'
- ❑ Old Kingdom: was palace or court, but not king
- ❑ Only from NK (around 1340 BCE) used to mean the king himself (letter to Akhenaten - Amenhotep IV, 18th dyn.
- ❑ more common in the Nineteenth Dynasty
- ❑ Combined with name from Dynasty XXII

Who was Menes?

Scorpion II

Dyn 0



**Narmer ("Strong
Catfish")**

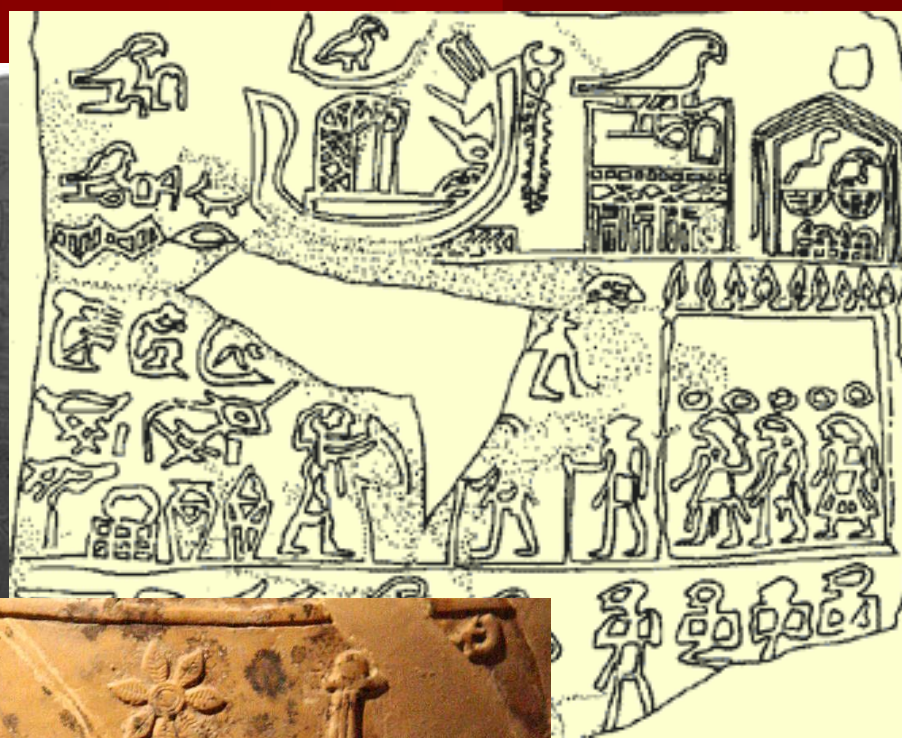
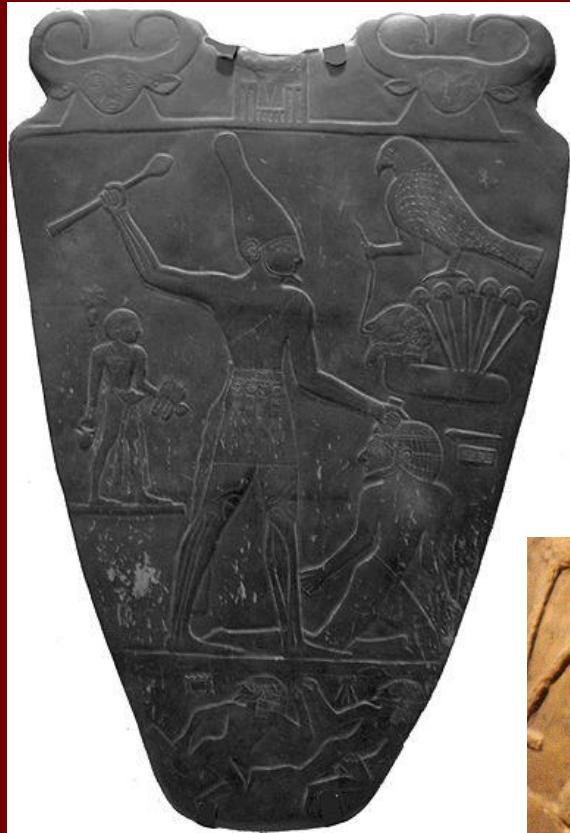
Last king Dyn 0



**Aha ("the
Fighter")**

Dyn 1





Be careful: Menes?

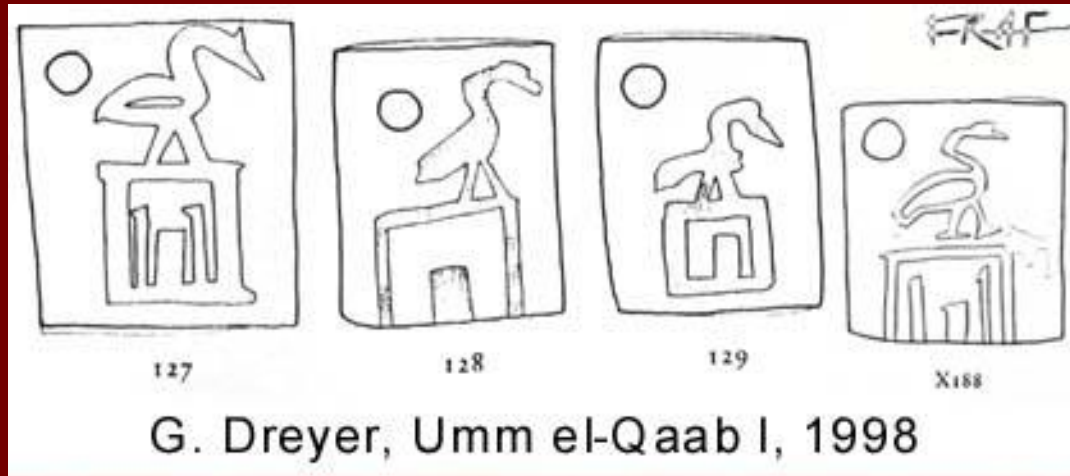
Allocated by
Petrie, recently
spread by several
webpages

Head of an
unknown king,
probably 2nd dyn.

Petrie Museum,
UCL

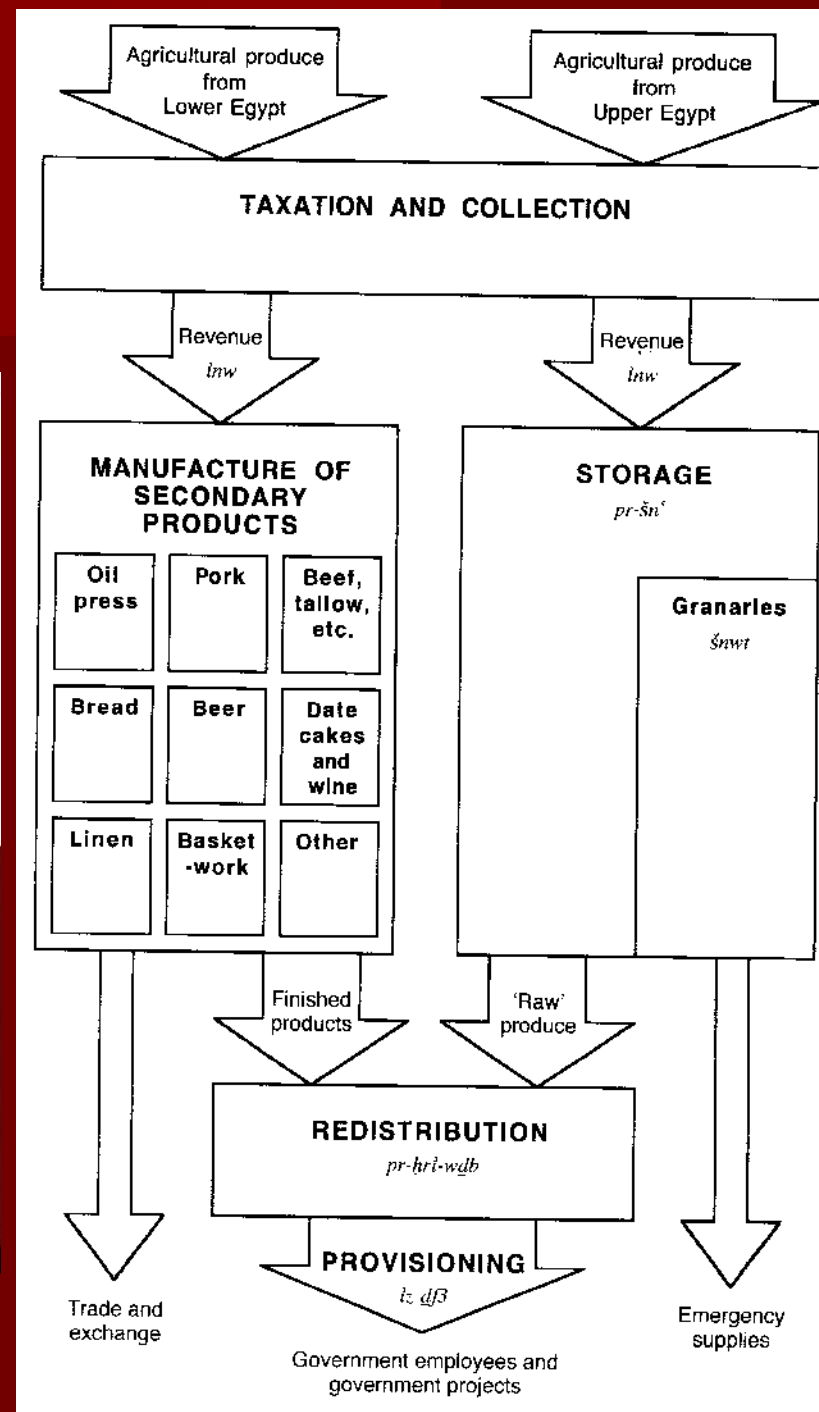


The Establishment of Authority



COURTESY GÜNTER DREYER

Tags from Cemetery U, Abydos



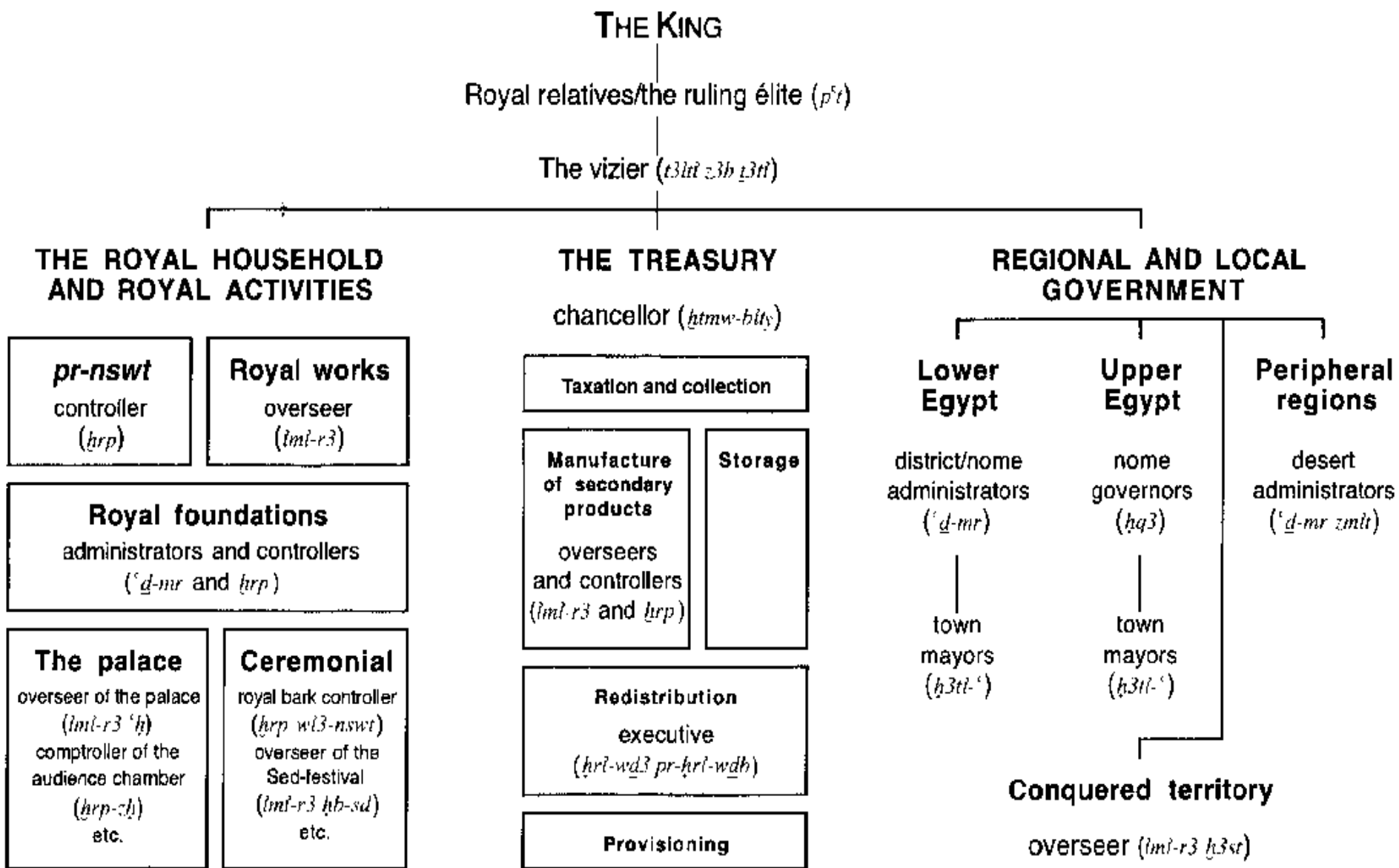
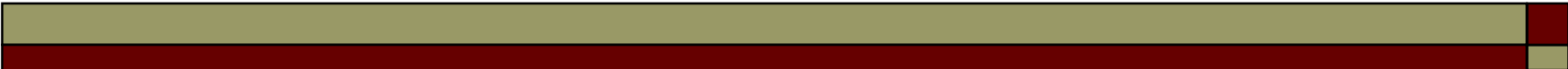


Figure 4.6 The structure of Early Dynastic administration. The chart shows the principal departments and functions of government, together with the titles of some of the major administrative officials (based upon information from contemporary sources: seal-impressions, inscribed stone vessels and Third Dynasty tomb inscriptions).



Mapping time in Egypt

- ❑ Develop a chronology of AE, either of the whole period of Egyptian history or in detail of a particular time
- ❑ Upload your chronology to the chronology forum.