

Project Target and Budget.

Conservation and restoration..... £7,250
 Lighting, set up and admin'£4,250
 Running costs for 5 years£7,500
 Contingency£1,000

Total£20,000

The Friends of Qurna Discovery is a not for profit, voluntary organisation. It has a Community Directplus account with the Cooperative Bank.

Please Give What You Can

To support The Friends of Qurna Discovery please fill in this form and send your donation to the address below.

Name

Organisation (if relevant)

Address

Phone

Email address

Enclosed is a donation of £.....

Please make cheques payable to: The Friends of Qurna Discovery and send to the Secretary:
 Caroline Simpson, 9 Whittington Road, London N22 8YS.
 (caroline@forbury.demon.co.uk)

Or in Egypt only, credit to Savings A/c, Mrs Caroline Simpson, Credit Agricole Egypt, Luxor Branch,
 A/c 20118010850

Friends' Membership

I wish to become a Member of The Friends of Qurna Discovery and also enclose the membership fee of £5

Signature.....

Now or Never - Monuments and Mankind

الأثر والبشر

"As I said at the Opening Ceremony of these important exhibitions in April 2001, it is 'Now or Never' to safeguard the heritage of 'Thebes', the richest area of antiquities worldwide. They are under threat from unchecked modern development.

Human beings change their customs and manners according to new generations and their will for modernization, but their heritage should be protected for future generations.

Aware of their responsibilities to their contemporaries and posterity, both the Qurnawi and the Egyptian authorities faced this threat and the village of Qurna is now moving.

It is clear that without substantial aid from The Friends of Qurna Discovery it would be hard to preserve the old properties. With your help they will be handed down to posterity ensuring the celebration of this culture, history and aesthetic.

I urge you to support the project of The Friends of Qurna Discovery."



Dr. Mohamed El Bialy, long time previous senior antiquities inspector for Qurna and General Director of Antiquities for Upper Egypt, now General Director of Antiquities for Aswan and Nubia.

"The British Library houses the remarkable Hay Manuscripts of which these drawings are just a small part. We were glad to assist the people of the Theban hills and their visitors to see these treasures on site. We hope the project will be a great success and will give pleasure for many more years to come."

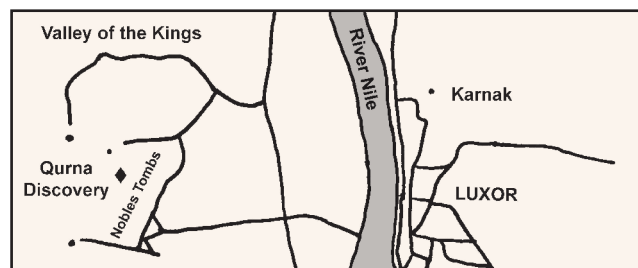
Dr Michelle Brown, previously Curator of Manuscripts, The British Library.

"The display of the history of Qurna, situated in a World Heritage Site, connects the Qurnawi to their own heritage, and contributes to the cultural survival of a unique people."

Dr Nawal Hassan, Director Center for Egyptian Civilization Studies, Cairo.

"The Theban Necropolis is one of the most important archaeological sites in the world. The Robert Hay drawings show it in wonderful detail at a very special time in its history. They deserve to be seen by all who know and love Egypt."

Professor Kent Weeks, Director of The Theban Mapping Project, American University of Cairo.



Friends of QURNA DISCOVERY



LIFE IN LUXOR DIDN'T END WITH THE PHARAOHS



The west bank of the Nile at Luxor and the hills behind have many of the world's greatest archaeological treasures, including temples and tombs of Ramses the Great, Queen Hatshepsut and The Valley of the Kings.

This World Cultural Heritage Site of the Theban Necropolis is also the site of the village of Qurna, where the Qurnawi people have lived for many hundreds of years. They have lived a fascinating life close to the monuments, the tombs, the tourists and the archaeologists. But now they are being relocated and their houses demolished.

You could help conserve and display this unique cultural heritage.

www.qurna.org

Rising from the rubble

Most of Qurna's buildings are being knocked down, but... The Supreme Council of Antiquities officials have given permission for us to carry out a very special project.

A number of buildings will be conserved, preserved, restored and opened to the public. The buildings themselves tell the story of the last 500 years of life on the hillside. They will house a series of existing exhibitions displaying Qurnawi history and society, and collections which display domestic, agricultural and social life.

What buildings and where are they?

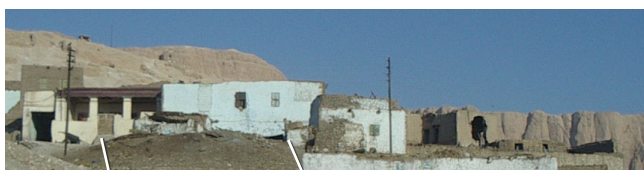
They are four properties in a line in the Tombs of The Nobles area, a little north of the tomb of Ramose.

They include a community building (zawia), a family house and a superb example of a tomb-house (bab el-hagar).

This project will ensure that this unique community's cultural heritage is preserved and celebrated for future generations.



zawia (left) in 1910



zawia family house

...with the Theban hills and cliffs of Deir el Bahari behind (2007)

What is Qurna Discovery?

Qurna Discovery is a collection of small, free entry, permanent exhibitions on various aspects of the more recent history of the Theban Necropolis.

Life on the Theban Hills 1826

In partnership with The British Library, London, this features the fascinating drawings of 19th century artist Robert Hay.

Qurna

Living villages in the City of the Dead.

This looks at the past, present and future of Qurna whose life is intertwined with the history of Egyptian archaeology and tourism.

The Bogdadi saqiya

This display is about the once all-prevalent waterwheels (saqiya) of the Theban plain. It features 19th and early 20th century photos of local saqiya and their owners and workers, and is centred around the actual wheel of the local Bogdadi family which was rescued from rotting on the plain.



Qurna Discovery in its previous home – now demolished

Become a Friend of QURNA DISCOVERY

The Friends of Qurna Discovery was set up on July 2nd 2007:

"To advance education and learning among the public with particular reference to the culture of the Qurnawi on the West Bank of the Nile at Luxor, Egypt and by support for a venue in which buildings, artefacts and documents of architectural or historical interest can be collected, displayed and made available to the public."

Chairman: Mrs Yvonne Neville-Rolfe

Secretary: Caroline Simpson

Treasurer: Robert Hay (a descendant of the 19th century artist)

You can become a Friend of Qurna Discovery for an annual membership fee of £5. Members will receive occasional newsletters, invitations to Annual General Meetings and, of course, free admission to the exhibitions in Qurna!

To keep administrative costs down, E-mail communication is preferred, but post is available.



Drawing of tomb-house (bab el-hagar) R. Hay, 1826
Courtesy of the British Library Board