

Dakhleh Oasis Project
New York University
Excavations at Amheida 2009
Topographic work

The topographic work carried out during the 2009 excavation season continued on the basis of what was already elaborated in 2007 and 2008.

It was necessary to replace one fix point, called S200, at the top of the temple area (4.1).

TOPOGRAPHIC ASSISTANCE IN THE FIELDWORK

Following the evolvement of the work on the field, daily updates were prepared in Area 2.1 to provide total stationed references (fix points, section and Photogrammetry) in order to assist and facilitate the work of the archaeologists as excavations progressed at the eastern entrance of the villa, B1.

The result of the work generated a comprehensive 2D plans of the area, reflecting the architectural situation visible on the ground.

Considering the lack of architectural structures in Area 4.1, the work there was mainly focused on providing fixed points according to the staff's needs and on measuring the outlines of some of the pits.

Fix points were also necessary in the areas where the magnetometer investigations were done: 50 sticks in the western area of Amheida, outside the current limits of the SCA protected territory, and 20 in a square North of area 2.1.

SITE SURVEY

We continued the surface mapping of the site in the areas not yet excavated.

The area surveyed, roughly 65 by 65 meters, is located south of area 2.1 and it is delimited toward the east by a 35 meters N-S oriented wall, most probably constituting the perimeter of the city, and toward the West by a 4.5 meter-wide street oriented north-south.

The map reveals a regular district characterized by big buildings, some of which with pillars in their center, and several vaulted rooms already visible on the surface. A taller building, preserved toward the North, suggests the presence of a second floor on some of this edifices.

GRAPHIC ELABORATION OF COLLECTED DATA

Using the data collected during the previous season, this year we were able to elaborate the 3D MODEL of three different archeological phases discovered in the buildings of area 2.1: the villa, the school, and the thermae.

All the Photogrammetry was imported in a 3D MODEL recreating a realistic and virtual view of the archeological site.

We have also started extruding the walls of all the buildings identified in the city to elaborate a movie recreating an imaginary virtual walk along the streets of ancient Roman Trimitis.

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