



Glidden

THE FOREIGN SERVICE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

American Embassy  
Cairo, Egypt  
20 January 1948

Dear Nelson,

You probably remember very well the signet ring of Jeroboam (I believe it was) that Abbas found at the base of the wall one Friday at Tell el-Kheleifeh. It had always puzzled me that a ring of this kind should have been found in such a place, and just now I have come across something which may shed some light on it.

While looking over Alan Rowe's Discovery of the Famous Temple and Enclosure of Serapis at Alexandria (Cairo, 1946), published as Cahier No. 2 of the Annales du Service des Antiquités d'Egypte, I found a statement on pages 18-19 that he (Rowe) had found at Beisan a finger-ring bearing the cartouche of Amenophis III below the north wall of the local temple of that king, besides several faience cartouches of Ramses I below the walls of the temple of Seti I; he mentions also foundation deposits of precious materials found in the Southern Temple of Ramses III at the same place.

I don't recall whether Jeroboam's ring was found actually under the foundation of the wall, but if it was it might indicate that he was following the Egyptian custom and that this actually indicates his foundation deposit, which would definitely identify the builder of that wall, at least. In any case, I should like to receive your reaction to this suggestion.

Last June I stayed at the School while driving up to Beirut, saw Burrows and Jeffery, and was glad to see that it was flourishing again. Now, however, I hear that they are pretty well boxed in by the civil war and that the future looks questionable.

About a month ago we took a Sunday drive to the Fayyum (along with Franz Rosenthal, of whom we see much here) and had a most enjoyable visit with Albright and Henry Field the day before they left for Sinai to work in the Wadi al-Arish. It's a pity you couldn't have been with them, since I hear you are

longing to get back into the field.

We are all reasonably well and expect to stay here until February 1949, when we shall be back in Washington again.

Best regards to you and Helen,

*Harold*

P.S. I meant to congratulate you on your being elected to the presidency of HUC - may your reign be long.